

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

including Sand Key and Island Estates

Magazine

Pier 60 - Twenty-Five Years of Sun, Fun, and Fishing



Clearwater Beach is one of the few beach-front communities that still has a fishing pier. Most have been destroyed during storms, plus the Department of Natural Resources and the Corp of Engineers have strong building restrictions for new or rebuilt piers. Our popular sunset spot celebrated its twenty-fifth year last month.

Continued on page 7

Also in this Issue:

Meet Sheriden Boyle

She is Clearwater's new Sustainability Coordinator and was the guiding force behind last summer's "Go Strawless Challenge." - page 14

Help a Foster Child

Do you know what Guardian ad Litem does? This wonderful organization could use your help. - page 8

Infant Swimming Resource Class

While the process may be difficult for parents to watch, learning to save themselves in the water is a necessity for children, even more so in Florida. - page 11

Meet the Interns

A new group of Foreign Exchange students has arrived at the Clearwater Beach Chamber of Commerce - page 12



CREDITS



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CLEARWATER BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Inside, you will find articles and local information about the nearby area inside. We call it Neighborhood News because it is primarily about your neighborhood, Clearwater Beach. It is mailed to the entire 33767 zip code including Island Estates and Sand Key - a total of about 5,000 households - six times a year.

You can pick up another copy at the Beach Chamber Office, The Beach Rec Center, Island Estates Print Shack, Shorty's Gourmet Deli, Sand Key Realty or the Island Estates UPS.

We hope you enjoyed our newsletter. We want your input. Did you like this issue? What suggestions do you have for future articles? Call or email us with your comments, or take our online survey at beachnewsletters.com.

Thank you for reading,
Bob & Becky Griffin, 727-430-8300
bob@griffindirectories.com

SEE YOU AGAIN IN AUGUST!

CITY NUMBERS

CITY HALL	562-4250
600 Cleveland St, Ste 600, clearwater-fl.com	
MAYOR OFFICE	562-4050
MAYOR - George N. Cretekos - Seat 1	
CITY COUNCIL	562-4050
Jay Polglaze - Seat 2 ● Bob Cundiff - Seat 3 ● David Albritton - Seat 4 ● Hoyt Hamilton - Seat 5 (Vice-Mayor)	
CITY MANAGER	562-4040
William Horne	
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER	562-4040
BUILDING PERMITS	562-4567
HUMAN RESOURCES	562-4870
PLANNING & ZONING	562-4567
PUBLIC SERVICES	562-4950
PUBLIC UTILITIES	562-4600
PUBLIC UTILITIES EMERGENCY	462-6633
CLEARWATER GAS	562-4980
SOLID WASTE	562-4920
PIER 60	462-6466
MARINA	462-6954
BEACH REC CENTER	462-6138
BEACH LIBRARY	462-6138
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BEACH AQUATIC FACILITY	462-6020
POLICE NON-EMERGENCY	562-4242
FIRE DEPARTMENT	562-4334
POLICE HOTLINE	562-4080
NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISON	562-4554

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	447-7600
429 Poinsettia Avenue, Clearwater Beach	
POST OFFICE ISLAND ESTATES	449-8732
SAND KEY PARK	588-4852
Shelter Reservations, PinellasCounty.org/park	
CLEARWATER AQUARIUM	441-1790
249 Windward Passage, Island Estates	
JOLLEY TROLLEY	445-1200

CLEARWATER YACHT CLUB	447-6000
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CLEARWATER SAILING CTR	517-7776
CARLOUEL HOMEOWNERS ASSN	
Sue Williams, President 446-4471	
ROTARY, CLEARWATER BEACH	
Sharon Skinner 515-1532	
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CLEARWATER GARDEN CLUB	316-5504
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ISLAND ESTATES WOMEN'S CLUB	
Lynne McCaskill, President 430-1911	
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY	
Linda Owens 260-894-0270	
CLEARWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY	
Allison Dolan 754-8017	

PINELLAS COUNTY INFO	464-3000
COMMISSION OFFICES	464-3377
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Ron.DeSantis@myflorida.com	

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www.Rubio.Senate.gov	
Rick Scott	202-224-5274
www.RickScott.Senate.gov	

AREA UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE:	
Charlie Crist	202-225-5961
696 1st Ave N., Suite #203, St. Pete	
www.Crist.House.Gov	

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

Father's Day	16
National Garbage Man Day	17
Juneteenth	19
National Selfie Day	19
St. Pete Pride Parade & Festival	19-23
Summer Begins	21
Sunset Run Sand Key Park	21
Tampa Bay Home Show Tropicana	21-23
Jazzy Junk Sale	22
Take Your Dog To Work Day	24
Clearwater Chamber Awards Dinner	25
Electronic Waste Disposal Day	26

JULY

Independence Day	4
Fire Works Coachman Park	4
National Fried Chicken Day	6
World Chocolate Day	7
MLB'S Allstar Game	9
Sunset Run At Sand Key Park	19
Pitch-For-Pink,	19

Grouper Week Begins	26
Parents' Day 4th Sunday	28
National Chicken Wing Day	29
Electronic Waste Disposal Day	31

AUGUST

Sunset Run At Sand Key Park	2
Tax Free Shopping Days	2-6
Grouper Week Ends	4
Beach Pool Closes For Season	11
Property Tax Trim Notices Mailed	12
Cool Art Show St Pete Coliseum	13-14
Public School Begins	14

SEPTEMBER

Labor Day Public Schools Closed	2
Grandparents Day	8
Patriot's Day	11
Autumn Begins	23
City's Electronic Waste Disposal Day	25
Bast Friday	27
Off Shore Super Boat Races	27-29
Rosh Hashanah Begins	29

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Did You Know



5K RUNS ARE BACK

The Sunset 5K Runs held in Sand Key have begun. The four separate beach runs are held behind the Sheraton Sand Key on the beach at 7pm. Registration begins at 6pm on site. The Kid's Fun Run begins at 6:45pm.

The remaining dates are: June 21, July 19 and August 2. Run in one, two, or run in all. A single

race (no shirt) is \$20 advance, race day \$25. A single race with shirt is \$25, race day \$30. Complete series cost \$50 with shirt, race day \$60. You can register online at SignMeUp.com/130284.

RCS PINELLAS 90 CAMPAIGN RCS of Pinellas is raising funds and food donations to help end summer hunger. They plan to feed school children over their 90 day summer break. During the summer, many children who are not in school also do not have access to school provided breakfasts and lunches. It takes 131 pounds of food to feed a family of four during the summer. Unfortunately, donations drop off during the summer as people are busy traveling. This campaign kicked off June 1 to raise awareness. See RCSPinellas.org for more information. Call 584-3528 to make a donation

PAINTING CLASSES The Clearwater Community Sailing Center (CCSC) is now offering painting classes for \$15 per session. There is no need to sign up in advance and you pay as you go. Students should bring their own materials.

The classes are being held at 9:30am on Tuesday mornings. For information, call the CCSC at 727-517-7776 or the instructor at 727-533-6958.

POOLS OPEN The City's Aqua Center Pool is open! Through August 13, you can swim Monday - Friday from 10am to 7pm and Saturday - Sunday from 10am to 5pm.

CLOTHES NEEDED Clothes To Kids is gearing up for the annual clothing rush for Back to School. What does that mean? To serve 100 children, in need, in Pinellas & Hillsborough PER DAY they need: 500 New Underwear, 500 New Socks, 500 Tops, 400 Pants, 100 Shoes and Dresses for Girls. Yes, you read that right, 100 per day!

They would love new and gently used clothing donations. Cash donations also help them purchase clothing when inventory is low.



Families needing clothing can make an appointment to shop at the Tampa, St. Pete, or Clearwater store.

Donations may be dropped off from 9 am to 4:30 pm Monday - Friday at any store: Tampa - 5011-H W. Hillsborough Ave., Clearwater - 1059 N. Hercules Ave. and St. Pete - 2168 34th St. S. Cash donations are also needed. Call 441- 5050 or visit clothestokids.org.

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CAPITOL THEATRE AWARDED

Capitol Theatre was honored with the "Built Environment Award" at the Annual Future of the Region Awards hosted by the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council.



Photo credit: Jeff O'Kelley

Built Environment Awards honor a project that demonstrates best practices, promotes compact development or redevelopment in existing urban areas, preserves history, beautifies public spaces, contributes to a unique regional identity, improves the health and well-being of people and has innovative infrastructure that deliver multiple benefits. "The Capitol Theatre is a shining jewel in our downtown area," said City Commissioner Hoyt Hamilton when accepting the award for the City.

TAX FREE SHOPPING DAYS Even though school just ended, plans are already underway for the kids' return to class. If you will need new clothes and school supplies, mark your calendar for August 2-6. That is when the state will wave Sales Tax on many school items - from notebooks to computers; shirts to shoes. Of course many stores, will be offering discount sales prices at the same time. The list of items is rather long, so visit FloridaRevenue.com/BackToSchool, to see what is included.

JAZZY JUNK SALE Come find great stuff, while providing needed funds for the operation of the Clearwater Free Clinic Saturday, June 22nd, at their "Jazzy Junk" yard sale benefiting the Clinic's numerous programs.

The sale will be held from 10am - 3pm, at the Clearwater Free Clinic located at 1218 Court Street, Clearwater in the west parking lot. Donations of merchandise will be accepted at the clinic's community room entrance from June 17-20th between 9 and 5. Volunteers are needed to man the booths and provide donated goods. Contact Meredith Reagin at 727-443-3504 or e-mail mregain@clearwaterfreeclinic.org.

KICK THE PLASTIC HABIT

In the U.S., we use 102 billion plastic bags a year. 12 million barrels of oil are required to manufacture them. Even more oil is required to bring them to market. The bags, which are used to bring purchases home from local stores, have a



useful life of about one hour. Unfortunately, they have an actual life of FOREVER. While area grocery stores collect them for "recycling," they just properly disposed of them. No company is recycling the bags - recycling costs more than the cost of making bags from scratch. Bring your reusable bags with you when you shop and think twice before bagging produce. Most of the time it doesn't need it.

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS IN AUGUST Read this issue, as well as others, online at BeachNewsletters.com.

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Pier 60 - A Look Back, continued

Actually, the Pier we now call Pier 60 is the third pier to be built at that location. Records show the City of Clearwater acquired the land around 1898, but did not build a pier there for many years. Instead, they just built picnic shelters there. After Clearwater built the Clearwater Beach bridge in 1927, more people discovered the beautiful beaches. The popularity of fishing rose and the next year, the city built the first Clearwater Beach pier as a tourist destination.

Constructed by Willard Moore, who also built the Calvary Baptist Church, the pier was built with wood, on hundreds of pilings. In addition to picnic shelters, the project included a larger beach pavilion where visitors could change into or out of their bathing clothes.

The popular fishing pier was declared unsafe in the late 1950s and the City decided to build a replacement, this time out of concrete, next to the old wooden one. To great fanfare, the new pier opened June 29, 1962. To help prevent beach erosion, a jetty was installed at the south end of the beach. It worked, maybe a little too well. The sand began accumulating behind the jetty moving the waterline farther and farther out, until eventually the concrete pier barely reached the water. The City had to lengthen the pier to almost double its original size.

The Pier became known as Pier 60 because it appeared to be an extension of Highway 60's Memorial Causeway. During the 1960s, it was the place to be and be seen. Many attractions appeared nearby including Everingham's, a popular small restaurant. A large dance hall was to the south where the public parking is today. Joyland, to the north, included a swimming pool. A large trailer park was directly on the beach where the Hilton sits today.

In the late 1980s, The Pier included a small extension of the Clearwater Marine Aquarium. It had two tanks, each with a sea turtle, including Mo who was considered to be the oldest sea turtle in captivity. There were other sea life exhibits in the bait house and in the nearby aquarium.

By the early 1990s, the concrete pilings were cracking and sand from newly built jetties was piling up under the pier. The city decided it was again time for a new pier. With the help of the Penny For Pinellas revenue, they were able to build today's million dollar pier with another million dollars in amenities.

"Because of construction restrictions issued by the state, the new pier had to be built exactly on the same footprint as the old pier," says Gary Johnson, Public Works Director of Clearwater. "There was talk of making it a double-decker, or having a two-level observation deck, but the cost of that was way out of the budget."

While the structural design of the pier was left up to City Engineers, in May of 1991 a Blue-Ribbon Panel was formed composed of citizens, designers, and city councilmen who

submitted ideas for the pedestrian amenities. A contest was held requesting ideas with a \$1,000 prize going to the winner.

It was decided the design theme would be a Tropical Seascape to include a new pavilion, shops, concessions, bait house, observation deck, and a nearby children's playground. Before the new pier opened, the buildings at the entrance of the pier were removed and replaced with a grassy play area for children and families.

The new pier opened April 16, 1994- Twenty-five years ago. Its opening celebration was incorporated into the annual Sun-N-Fun festival. Admission to the pier was free for a few days and included a fishing contest.

Since 1995, from two hours before, until two hours after sunset, Pier 60 is host to a daily sunset festival, weather permitting of course. The celebration includes artisans, crafters, street performers, and the star of the show – Clearwater Beach sunsets. On Friday and Saturday evenings, a free family-friendly movie is played under the stars at the Sunset Cinema. The list of upcoming movies can be found at www.sunsetsatpier60.com.

The pier sustained some minor damage during Hurricane Irma. Those repairs, done last year, presented a good opportunity to do a little facelift. The bait house received a new roof, windows, siding and an air conditioner. Crews also renovated the pavilions by repairing the columns and replacing/repainting the roofs. It was the first time anything had been renovated since it had been built.

Today's Pier 60 is 1,080 feet long. The water at the end is between 10-12 feet deep. Last year, even with the construction, over 129,000 people paid to walk or fish on the pier. It costs \$1 per person to walk to the end of the pier. Children pay \$5.25/day, seniors \$6.75/day, and adults pay \$8/day. There are also weekly, monthly and annual fishing passes. Already this year, over 116,000 people have paid to walk or fish on Pier 60.

The large playground area, located on the east end is for everyone to enjoy. ■



ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE WHEN SOMEONE CARES

By Erin Emmett, President Guardian ad Litem Foundation



The Guardian ad Litem Foundation of Tampa Bay is an advocate for children, young adults, and families impacted by abuse and neglect in Pinellas and Pasco Counties. These children in foster care need more help than our system provides. Through their collaboration with community partners, the Guardian ad Litem (GAL) staff and volunteers work to support these children. I have been fortunate enough to see the wonderful work these people do over the last five years as a volunteer, board member and for the last three years as the Board President of Guardian ad Litem Foundation of Tampa Bay.

I became aware of GAL through my work with Junior League of Clearwater Dunedin. Part of our community focus was children aging out of foster care. GAL representatives spoke at our meetings and I became interested in helping to fulfill their mission.

Every year in the Tampa Bay area, thousands of abused and neglected children are removed from their families and home. GAL volunteer child advocates represent the best interests of these children as their voice in court. The volunteer's only interest is the child's best interest. They help them in and out of court making sure their needs are met by the system; often they are the only consistent adult in a child's life. At any time, over 1,000 kids are waiting for a volunteer advocate. GAL is working hard to help more kids in the Court system and to help them find a permanent home.

The GAL Program is central to fulfilling society's most fundamental obligation - protecting a child's right to be safe, to be treated with dignity and respect, and to learn and grow in a safe loving family. GAL volunteers are caring adults, there to protect a child's rights at one of the most vulnerable times in their lives.

Through my work on the Board of Directors I have seen the difference this program can make. One recent foster child participating in GAL graduated as the valedictorian of Boca Ciega High School with a 4.6 GPA. He has been accepted into both Yale and Stanford.

While being a GAL child advocate is a wonderful experience, not everyone has 10-15 hours a month to dedicate to the job. However, you can still help by supporting us behind the scenes working with The GAL Foundation.

During my time as President, I have seen exciting changes. We have almost doubled the number of Board members, which helped us to double our amount of fundraising and increase our local community business partnerships. While the State provides the program's basic funding, the Foundation provides the extra funding needed to fill the gaps. These changes have allowed us to increase the amount spent on the children's education and private tutoring.

As a Financial Adviser, I spend my days helping people navigate challenging life events, which is very rewarding. But my work with GAL has allowed me to give back in a special way. Our Foundation is helping children, who have been dealt a tough hand through no fault of their own, as they face difficult life challenges. I see how we are making a difference in so many of their lives.

Do you want to get involved? Volunteer opportunities are flexible to meet your skills, interests, and time commitment. For information about GAL and volunteer opportunities, visit herotoachild.org, e-mail iamfourthechild@galf6.org or call 727-464-6528.

Together, we can make an even greater impact in the lives of these abused and neglected children. If you would like to talk more about any of this, feel free to contact me, Erin Emmett, 727-712-3400, erin@roganfinancial.com. Because it really is true, "Anything is Possible When Someone Cares"

Category	NATURAL GAS COSTS	ELECTRIC COSTS
Water Heating	\$287.30	\$651.11
Cooking	\$76.05	\$172.35
Heating/Furnace	\$253.50	\$574.50
Clothes Drying	\$84.50	\$191.50
Spa Heating	\$292.25	\$670.25

SUGAR SANDS RECORD YEAR

This year, Clearwater Beach's Sugar Sand Festival saw more than 200,000 visitors over its 16 day run, an average of over 12,000 people daily! Last year's estimated attendance was 120,000—up 65% this year. The event was voted "Best Festival" during the Bestie Awards presented by the Visit St Pete/Clearwater for two years in a row.



For a job well done, Lisa and Steve Chandler were awarded the Key to the City of Clearwater with the following inscription, "In appreciation of your ingenuity, determination, and enthusiasm bringing the Sugar Sand Festival to Clearwater and Pinellas County."

I can't think of any greater honor than being given the Key to the City of Clearwater by Mayor George Cretekos and Council," says Lisa. "Clearwater is our home, the Sugar Sand Festival is our passion project. This was another reminder that giving back is always in style."

Steve says, "Lisa and I were both raised in Clearwater. We are grateful to call Clearwater our home and feel it is our responsibility to give back to the community."

Over the last twenty-years, in addition to the Sugar Sand Festival, which is Lisa's creation, the husband and wife team have operated several tourism businesses including the daily Sunsets at Pier 60, Festival Pier 60 Concessions, the Barefoot Beach House, and the weekly Sunset Cinemas. Congratulations to Lisa and Steve Chandler and all the volunteers that make Sugar Sands so successful.

SUNSET CINEMAS SCHEDULE

Sunset Cinema provides free movies on the beach every Friday and Saturday. Beach towels, blankets and low lawn chairs are welcome. Movies begin at dusk. Popcorn and beverages are available on site. See the schedule online at www.SunsetsAtPier60.com or call 449-1036.

JULY

- 5- DUMBO (PG)
- 6- PITCH PERFECT 3 (PG-13)
- 12- THE LEGO MOVIE 2: THE SECOND PART/ PG
- 13- FIVE FEET APART (PG-13)
- 19- THE MIGHTY DUCKS 1 (PG)
- 20- LITTLE (PG-13)
- 26- THE MIGHTY DUCKS 2 (PG)
- 27- MIRACLE (PG)

AUGUST

- 2- CHRISTOPHER ROBIN (PG)
- 3- THE UPSIDE (PG-13)
- 9- LILO & STITCH (PG)
- 10- SHAZAM (PG-13)
- 16- UGLY DOLLS (PG)
- 17- HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON: THE HIDDEN WORLD (PG)
- 23- BUNYAN AND BABE (PG)
- 24- OCEAN'S 8 (PG-13)
- 30- WONDER PARK (PG)
- 31- ROBIN HOOD (PG-13)



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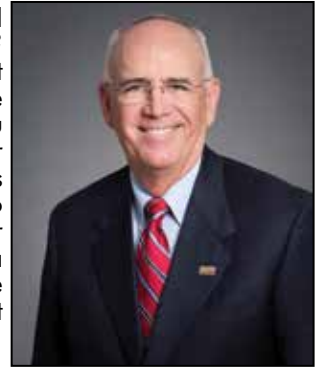
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ARETHA, PRINCE, TOM AND...YOU

by Ray Ferrara, ProVise Management Group

What do these famous musical artists all have in common? They all died leaving their vast fortune in a very messy state of affairs. It is not a club you want to join. Franklin with four children, Prince with six siblings and Petty with a wife and two daughters from a former marriage either died without a will or had a trust with language open to interpretation that subsequently led to a lawsuit.



With something as basic as a will and/or living trust, why would such wealthy and hopefully well advised people not have a will? In Franklin's case, she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, so it was not sudden. She had time and that may have been the problem, she thought she had more time and procrastinated. Prince was "only" age 57 before his drug overdose. No need to hurry at such a young age. Petty had a will and a trust, but the language is now left to interpretation by a judge.

What does all of this mean to you? It means if you do not have a properly drafted estate plan or you have not reviewed it in the past five years, NOW is the time to call your advisors (lawyer, accountant and financial planner) together to obtain their collective knowledge and recommendations.

It would all be easy if it was just about "having" a will, living trust, power of attorney, health care surrogate, and living will. A simple estate plan leaves the estate to the surviving spouse and then equally amongst the children. However, things are often not that simple. Maybe one of the children isn't prepared to handle the inheritance, another may be in a shaky marriage, maybe a family business is involved and children need to be treated differently, maybe there is a special needs child and the list goes on.

Having documents is one thing, but making sure that they say unequivocally what you want is another. Will you leave the estate directly to the children, or perhaps better in a trust with liberal terms of distribution and which might provide asset protection from creditors or in a divorce?

Most of our clients have found it beneficial to discuss these difficult decisions with us before visiting a lawyer. We always offer a complimentary consultation so join our club instead of Aretha, Prince and Tom's.

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WHAT TO EXPECT

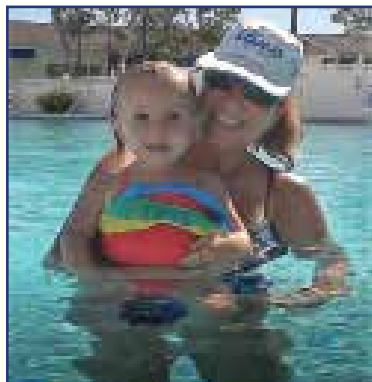
By Rebecca Geiger

The comment I get from parents most often when it comes to lessons is: "I have wanted to do this for a while, but it seems so brutal." Well, it is. Knowing what to expect makes it easier on your child and you though. The main thing to know is that even with a good instructor, there will be tears. This is often mistaken as fear, but is actually anger. Extreme anger to be sure, but anger can be a great motivator when used appropriately.



So let's dive in to what is happening in the child's mind. Children do not know fear. Fear is knowing that an action has a consequence which usually causes pain or discomfort. If children had fear we could be much less concerned that they would attempt to "swim" without knowing how. They are also accustomed to being rescued, knowing if they cry loud enough and long enough, mom, dad, grandma, grandpa, etc. will step in and save them. Swimming lessons prepare them for the worst case scenario, should they fall in when you are not there to save them. Explaining this to them is all but impossible. To your child, this is a foreign concept.

By giving children lessons, group or private, you are placing that discomfort squarely on the shoulders of the instructor. Instructors are trained for this. They do not take the child's frustrations personally and can provide a detached place for the child to vent those frustrations and anger while allowing you to continue enjoying your time in the pool with the child during non-lesson times. All of their negative emotions are directed at their feelings for the teacher, not the water. This is important. We never want them to have a dislike of water, yet we need them to respect it.



There are many options for parents: "Mommy and Me" classes, Infant Swimming Resource (ISR), group, semi-private, or private lessons. The one that is right for you will depend on your comfort level and the speed at which you want your child to progress. Keep in mind, if your child can see you, it will double their learning time. If you are in the water with them it will triple it. The reason for this is simple. Your child is literally

hardwired to cry/whine at a pitch that is excruciating for you. This is a survival mechanism. You are correspondingly hardwired to respond to their discomfort as quickly as possible to prevent your own discomfort. If they can see you, their mind will be focused on why you are not stopping what is upsetting them, giving you extreme discomfort by watching them without interfering. This is a hindrance to everyone while developing this vital skill.

Accepting this can help you make the best decision for your child, and you. No matter which decision you make, please make sure your child learns to save themselves in the water!

I am known as Miss Becca to my students and specialize in Drowning Prevention Education through lessons and group presentations to children and their adults. Please contact me at (813)363-9133.

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CLEARWATER BEACH CHAMBER'S EXCHANGE STUDENT-INTERNS

By Bob Griffin

The BEAU Institute, a non-profit educational exchange organization was started by Clearwater Beach Chamber member Philippe Beau. Students take a variety of business courses at the Institute and apply the knowledge gained during their internships in Clearwater Beach, downtown Clearwater and downtown St. Petersburg. They are always so thankful to the host companies for providing internships for the students. Interns typically work 32 hours a week at a host company learning, shadowing and interacting in the business. At the same time, the experience helps the students learn about the US business culture, as well as about our country and its people.



This Clearwater Beach News Magazine and Tropics Boat Tours co-sponsored French intern, Clotilde Corgnet in 2016. During her time here, I took her on sales calls, to story interviews, tourism events, and meetings. She enjoyed her time with me and I likewise. After she returned to Paris, we became Facebook friends.

This spring, Becky and I went to Paris. From Facebook, Clotilde saw we were there. She contacted me and offered to show us her city. We met at a typical café and ate and talked. Then it was her turn to teach us. She took us to her neighborhood

- District 19, and we walked her streets and canals. We talked lifestyle, politics, sports, customs and food. It was a wonderful experience to reconnect and have her be the teacher this time.

New Interns have recently arrived at the Chamber. They are:

Thibault Kayacan:

I am 21 years old and I have come from France to work and learn as an intern at the Clearwater Beach Chamber of Commerce. This is my first time visiting the United States and I look forward to discovering your culture. I am currently a student of a business school called "ESC PAU," and my goal is to specialize in the field of marketing and communication in order to create my own business.



Aurore Boulet:

I am currently a student at the Pau Business School, I would like to continue my studies with a lot of international experiences. For me, the best way to learn a foreign language is to immerse yourself in the country. Later I would like to work in the field of supply chain and logistics.



Anthony Schott:

My Name is Antony. I'm from a small town called Waltenheim with only 300 people. I love the American culture. I'm a Cavs fan even if LeBron is not here, I'm staying loyal.



A fund-raiser is held each year to help raise money for scholarships, welcome host companies and provide lodging and supplies for the students. beauinstitute.org.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH ST. PETERSBURG'S NEW PIER?

The entire Pier District – 26 acres of downtown waterfront – is now an active construction site, with 175 workers on site each day. Massive cranes, giant drills, tractors and other equipment are seen throughout the project, and buildings are rising, offering a preview of what the vertical pier will look like when complete.

The fourth floor of the Pier Head building has been poured, and the fifth floor was poured at the end of May. The Discovery Center glass walls are in place and the roof has been poured. The roof of the Pavilion has also been poured, and construction is well underway with Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille.

One of the most exciting developments isn't a building at all. It's the planting of what will be over 500 new trees within the Pier District. The Pier will also be adding over 5 acres of green space throughout.

The second week of May saw the beginning of the foundation work for the Janet Echelman Sculpture. Giant drills are moving earth to make way for the casings that will hold the massive structure.

In the Pelican Parking lot, construction is underway for support of the solar Solar PV panel covered parking canopies. The entire Pier District will be filled with sustainable measures, including new breakwaters to mitigate erosion and protect seagrass beds, eco trams and electric vehicle charging stations, and all LED lighting, just to name a few.



The Pier Marketplace is an area near the entrance of the Pier that will showcase kiosk and tent vendors and their products and services (rendering shown here). Seven market stalls and up to 20 tents will be available to lease at this location. Recently, three information sessions were held for businesses interested in vending opportunities at the Pier Marketplace. Applications are available and interested parties should visit the Marketplace page on the www.newstpetepier.com website. The Pier District is a beehive of activity these days, and it won't be long before residents and visitors alike will enjoy all the new Pier has to offer.

Keep up with the latest at newstpetepier.com!

1973.

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MEET SHERIDAN BOYLE, OUR NEW SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

Cities around the country have been hiring Sustainability Experts, and local cities have followed suite including St Petersburg, Largo, even the County has one. Now the City of Clearwater has hired one, too. Over 100 people applied for the new Clearwater Sustainability Coordinator position - Sheridan Boyle (25) was chosen.

Boyle did not have to relocate for the job, as she already worked in Solid Waste. Since the promotion, she works in the new City Hall offices on Cleveland Street. Her first day was May 13.

"Sheridan Boyle grew up in North Pinellas County and fully understands what we treasure in our communities," says City Manager Bill Horne. She was hired to be the city's Sustainability Coordinator. In this role, she will guide our sustainability initiative called *Greenprint* and inspire us to become a more resilient community. She will become part of the network of Sustainability Coordinators throughout Tampa Bay and the nation."

This is Boyle's dream job. "It is really a lifestyle and a passion," she says. "I want to contribute sustainable initiatives that can add to the identity of Clearwater."

Boyle grew up in Oldsmar before relocating to Asheville, North Carolina, where she worked with cats, dogs and bigger animals, such as goats, horses and cows at an animal rescue. After returning to the Clearwater area, she was hired by the City of Clearwater as a Recycling Specialist. She held that position for about a year. Last summer she headed up the City's "Strawless Summer Challenge." With the help of many organizations including this News Magazine, 90% of the beach restaurants agreed to stop handing out plastic straws, unless requested.

One newly created Clearwater Beach organization that was very involved in the summer strawless challenge was Ocean Allies (see OceanAllies.com for information about this group). Boyle was the group's city liaison.

"Sheridan brings a great deal of enthusiasm and practical knowledge to the Sustainability Coordinator position. Her contacts within the City of Clearwater and the community have enabled her to hit the ground running," says her new boss Jim Halios.

"Sheridan's primary role will be to review, update and implement the initiatives set forth in Clearwater's *Greenprint*. The *Greenprint* document details the need for Clearwater to reduce its carbon footprint, but it gives little details about what it should do about the rising sea levels and other issues," Halios concludes.

Some parts of *Greenprint*, like the city's plan to make its streets more friendly to alternative modes of transportation, are already underway," Boyle explains. "Other things, like green building energy, are going to take a little more work."



Solid waste is one of the most dangerous jobs in the country. Refuse and recycling material collectors are listed as two of the most dangerous jobs in the United States, even more dangerous than Firefighters and Police Officers, she explains.

As far as recycling, it is hard to put a finger on the participation rate in household recycling. The city gives everyone a curb side container. Some people infrequently put it out by the curb only when it is full. Some people never use it. The city likes to measure a "set-out rate". For most cities any number over 50% is good.

There seems to be a lot of confusion about what to recycle and what not to recycle. "There are two types of people out there," Boyle says. "Those who do it correctly—and those who don't. I look forward to working with both."

PLASTIC: There is a big recycling problem caused by China—or should we say Americans. China used to buy and process our plastic recyclables. In 2016, they imported two-thirds of the world's plastic waste. Eighteen months ago, China refused to accept them anymore claiming the contamination rate was too high. When all was functioning at its best, only nine percent of the globally produced plastic was recycled. The remainder ended up in landfills, incinerators, or floating free and polluting the environment.

"We need to improve the quality of our recycling and explore alternative end markets here at home—in the U.S.—in Florida—and in Tampa Bay," Boyle says. "Many people try and recycle things that should not be recycled. Like lawn clippings; or lumber; or plastic furniture. People need to learn the differences in plastics—they are numbered on the bottom."

GLASS: There are issues with glass recycling now, too. Glass is a complicated material when collected in the single stream method (everything in one cart or container). Glass is heavy, making transportation and fuel expensive. It breaks and the shards get in the system and damage the machinery. In addition, broken glass can accidentally get mixed in with paper, plastic and metal streams—lessening their quality. The city and the industry are trying to come up with alternative plans."

PLASTIC BAGS: When they get in the system it causes big problem. So is rope and string. These "tangles" get wrapped around the rollers at the processing plant and stop the system.

Boyle sees all this as her job - her mission. Her plan is to help the citizens of Clearwater understand sustainability - and to help us all leave a smaller footprint. Visit www.MyClearwater.com/Recycle to see all the City is doing now. ■

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Bar & Restaurant News



ROUNDABOUT PIZZA OPENING SOON According to owner Frank Chivas, the new Roundabout Pizza store, located on the northeast corner of the Clearwater Marina Building, is "almost ready to open." It will focus on take-out and delivery, but have a small amount of on-site seating.

MORE CRAFT BEER Clearwater Brewing Company on the mainland, north of Cleveland at 1700 N. Ft. Harrison, is open Wednesday through Sunday. Owned by four friends who share a passion for brewing, they opened in an old renovated gas station. Visit ClearwaterBrewingCompany.com for upcoming events.

CAPTAIN'S PIZZA MOVES Captain's Pizza, previously located on Mandalay Avenue, near the Hilton, has moved. They now share a location with Pan Filo's at 656 South Gulfview Blvd. They have inside seating at Pan Filo's, plus they deliver everywhere in Clearwater Beach, until 4am! Call them at 446-1799.



CLEARWATER BEACH WINNERS The 10th Annual Taste Fest of Clearwater Beach was once again a big hit. The annual booth awards went to:
 Taste Island Grill - for their Renaissance Garden theme
 Sea-Guini, Opal Sands Resort - for their Beach Party theme, show above
 Island Way Grill - for their Kentucky Derby theme.

COUSINS MAINE LOBSTER Though not open yet, this chain with dozens of locations will be serving lobsters very soon. All the lobster served originates in Maine. The menu even offers traditional lobster rolls on split top rolls that are also shipped from Maine.
 They are located in the Residence Inn building, across from the Hyatt Regency, at 309 Coronado Drive. If you can't wait, they have locations open in Orlando and Naples. Visit www.CousinsMaineLobster.com.

IRISH 31 This chain of Irish Bars is opening a new location at 478 Poinsettia Avenue.

CLOSED The Salad Shop at 476 Poinsettia Avenue, next to the new Parking Garage, has closed after only a few months.

Bar & Restaurant News

LIGHTNING HONORS LOCAL RESTAURATEUR

The Tampa Bay Lightning honored Frank Chivas, owner of Baystar Restaurants (including Marina Cantina, Salt Cracker, Rumba and the new Havana Poke) as the 43rd Lightning Community Hero during Game 2 of the Columbus Playoffs. Chivas received a \$50,000 donation from the Lightning Foundation and the Community Heroes program for his works with the Clearwater Marine Aquarium, Chi Chi Rodriguez Youth Foundation and Clearwater Youth. The money was divided and given to four charities.



BACKWATER'S 19TH ANNIVERSARY Save the date - Backwaters on Sand Key is planning their 19th Anniversary Celebration. Always popular, this party will last for three days, August 23-25th.

CLEARWATER WINE - CORRECTION The last issue mentioned Sherry Manning was a partner in the recently relocated Clearwater Wine Bistro. Sherry, Kristi's mother passed away a few years ago. Kristi Lam is the sole owner. The Mediterranean & Mexican menu features fresh, vibrant & delicious locally-sourced ingredients. With the best sangria on the beach, 50 wines by the glass & 14 craft beers on tap, the new Clearwater Wine Bar & Bistro is a "can't miss" destination.

Kristi says, "We love the energy of the emerging Poinsettia Avenue area. We have awesome foot traffic, both human & pup, generated by our wonderful neighbors in the North Beach Parking Plaza & Island Dog Outfitters, which is directly across the street. If you're ready for a local experience on the beach, stop by soon. Our house policy is that you might walk in as a customer, but you'll leave as a friend! Life is better with you!"

TRIVIA Ryan's Café wants you to come play trivia. Starting this month, they are offering free trivia from 7-9pm every Thursday. Bring your team for a chance to win prizes. They serve food, beer and wine during the games. Check them out at 432 Poinsettia Avenue.

GROUPEUR WEEK RETURNS This local county-wide event is designed to draw attention to grouper and to the fact that Pinellas County is one of the main suppliers of this delicacy for the east coast of the United States. You can find it on the menus of most restaurants near the beaches and during this week, many of those restaurants have specials grouper entrees and sandwiches. Grouper Week runs July 26 to August 4.



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How far in advance do I need to call you?

If you're moving out-of-state, we recommend calling at least a month in advance for the best pricing. If you're moving in-state or locally, it would depend on the size of your home. Larger homes should try to book 3 weeks in advance, this way there is ample room in the schedule. Smaller homes are easier to squeeze in because they don't require as much time.

Do I need to do anything before you arrive?

Though we offer packing services, the best advice we would give: be prepared to move! For example, have your boxes sealed and clearly labeled, the bedding off your bed, and remember where you put the TV remote control! There's a section on our website labeled "tips." We encourage everyone to read it.

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Just bring your prescription medications to the front desk of the CPD headwaters at 645 Pierce Street during normal hours (7:30am to midnight) and police personnel will assist you with the drop box.

Please, do not flush drugs down the toilet. Medicines that are flushed or poured down the drain contaminate our food and water supplies. Most medicines are not removed by wastewater treatment plants.



ROSEMARIE SWISSHELM BONNINGTON (1933 – 2019)

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

Rosemarie Swisshelm Bonnington passed away last month at the age of 87. We were lucky enough to have interviewed her last year for her Swisshelm Real Estate Agency's 50 Anniversary. Below is part of the original article.

Rosemarie worked in Florida real estate for over 50 years. She probably was the longest active Realtor in Pinellas—and maybe even in Florida. She acquired her real estate license in 1968. She and her real estate firm were well known by area long-timers.



Born in Hamburg, Germany in 1931, Rosemarie moved to Chile, with her parents after World War II. When she eventually came to America, she moved to Clearwater where she met and married her first husband, Jim Swisshelm, a real estate broker who previously owned a large Ohio agency. They opened the Swisshelm office in 1982. Jim passed away in 1991.

In 2002, Rosemarie married her second husband, Doug Bonnington. Retired, he was never in the real estate business, but he encouraged her to continue the Swisshelm agency with that well established name. Doug eventually died, also.

"I out-lived two husbands and most of my competing Realtors," she used to say.

Running an office on Mandalay Avenue, Rosemarie specialized in the north end of the beach, especially the Carlouel area. "The first house I ever sold was in Carlouel," Rosemarie told us. "It went for \$16,000—house and lot. Many people were amazed that we got that much for it."

The Carlouel subdivision is relatively small. It only has about 200 homes. "I have sold the same home many times, seeing the prices soar," she would chuckle. "Back then you could buy a lot on the gulf for \$10,000. Now there are no open lots on the beach in North Beach or Carlouel. And if there was one, it would be in the millions."

"Living and working here, we had many friends. Howard and Jean Hamilton who owned the Palm Pavilion, Dagwood Cartoonist Dean Young, Bob Heilman and his wife owners of The Beachcomber Restaurant, and others."

Rosemarie was a longtime member of the Clearwater Beach Chamber of Commerce. In 2006, she was selected Citizen of the Year.

"As a founding member of the Beaches Chamber of Commerce, Rosemarie was instrumental in the rebirth of Clearwater Beach as a worldwide destination," says Sheila Cole, former President of the Beaches Chamber. "Her knowledge of international travel was key for businesses and tourists."

Also, Rosemarie is a longtime member of the Clearwater Beach Rotary. She was one of its first female members 20+ years ago.

In 2012, Rosemarie was honored by the National Association of Realtors as a Realtor Emeritus, for her then 40 years of service.

"Rosemarie has been a good friend to both Clearwater Beach homeowners and would-be buyers. Her knowledge of real estate helped a lot of future homeowners. She was also a great help to visitors who only speak German, her native language," Anne Garris, longtime resident.

Clearwater Beach will miss Rosemarie Bonnington and her constant smiles.



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People in Our Community

Arthur Deegan, Island Estate Resident

By Ann Garris

Back in 1979, no one on Island Estates was surprised when they heard that longtime resident, Arthur Deegan, was one of the small group of men who petitioned their Bishop to build a Catholic Church on Island Estates. Arthur's interest in the church as well as his community, had always been evident. As the church was being built, he worked with those islanders interested in the church to choose the name St. Brenden, and, as he says, "watched every brick or stone as it went into the building."

He was also active in the Island Estate's civic association, served on a host of City Government committees and was involved in activities at his church. He and his wife, Pat, were always there when a member of the congregation was in need of help of any kind.

The Deegans' house was the fourth one built in 1972, when the last 1/2 mile of the mangrove clusters in the middle of Clearwater Bay had been turned into land and sectioned into streets and building lots.

"The Realtor was showing us a small, triangular lot," says Pat. "But I spotted this larger lot, with water views on two sides. I'm glad we bought this one."

The Deegans came to Clearwater after a lifetime of service and participation in communities and churches. Dr. Deegan first studied in a seminary, but instead of becoming a priest, he went on to earn a Master's Degree and then a doctorate in Business Administration at the University of Michigan. From there he proceeded to a career as a consultant in strategic planning and Management by Objectives, helping businessmen to successfully create and build their businesses. Along the way, he spent 3 years as an officer in the Army's Counter Intelligence Corps in Detroit, Michigan.

Later, serving as vice president of the Island Estates Civic Association Board, led to Art's involvement in the City's "Blue Ribbon Task Force" for long-range planning on Clearwater Beach and Island Estate in 1990, his experience in planning making him the logical person to head that important project.

In 1990, Dr. Deegan was elected to the office of Clearwater City Commissioner where he worked on regulating the oversized signs in the City, along with other beautification projects. He was also instrumental in bringing in Steinmart Department Store to replace Maas Brothers at the Harborview Center. He smiles when he talks about a woman who came to City Hall to point her finger at him and accuse him of "trying to turn city hall into a religious center."

"Then," says Arthur, "After a professional career, I began to spend time as a facilitator for bible study, helping people to better understand some of the things they read in the Bible."

That interest led him to begin to write down his thoughts on some of the Bible themes. Thus, in their beautiful waterfront home on Clearwater Bay, Arthur and Pat Deegan are enjoying retirement. Their two daughters live in Clearwater, and their son is not far away, in Gainesville, Florida.

In his retirement, so far, Dr. Deegan has written four books about his faith; "The Bread of Life Discourse," "The Appearances of the Risen Christ," "The Hidden Life of Mary," and "I believe in the Holy Spirit."

FROM THE DESK OF SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI

Boating Safety

You can never be too prepared when you take a journey out onto the water. In Pinellas County, boating is one of the top and most frequent activities in the spring and summer months. However, according to the U.S. Coast Guard, thousands of boating accidents happen every year throughout the country. The most recent report from 2017 shows that there were 4,291 recreational boating accidents in the United States resulting in 658 deaths, 2,629 injuries, and \$46 million in property damages.

Out of the victims who drowned, 84.5 percent were not wearing a life jacket, and alcohol use was the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating accidents. This means that preventing death and injury when taking your boat out is as simple as wearing a life jacket and not operating your vessel under the influence.

Aside from these two very important safety rules, we do advise Pinellas County citizens to also follow the following tips during boating season.

1. Complete a safe boating course: Florida law requires boat operators born after January 1, 1988 complete an approved boater education course and receive a Florida Boating Safety Education ID Card. Enrolling in a boaters' safety course is also a great way to learn the rules of the water and familiarize yourself with basic boating principles. Visit the National Safe Boating Council website at safeboatingcouncil.org for links to several approved online courses.

2. Make a pre-departure checklist: Before you set sail, use a pre-departure checklist to make sure you have all the necessary equipment on board, including: life jackets,

sound producing devices, distress signals, fuel and oil, fire extinguishers, a radio, anchor and dock line, basic toolbox, first-aid kit, and flashlights. Florida law requires that one personal flotation device (PFD) per passenger is readily accessible on the vessel at all times, and that children under age six must wear PFDs while underway.

3. Watch for manatees: The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission provides a Pinellas County manatee protection zone map. Reduce your boating speed in the required areas from April 1st to November 15th. The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Marine Unit regularly monitors and enforces these zones. The rules and restrictions can change, so it is important to stay informed.

4. Get a free vessel safety check: The U.S. Coast Guard offers complimentary boat examinations to ensure you have the proper safety equipment required by state and federal regulations.

5. Make a float plan: Inform your close friends and family members about the details of your trip, including the name and address of the trip leader, boat type and registration, the names of all the passengers, and the trip itinerary. Also, make sure more than one person on board is familiar with the boat's operations and general boating safety in case the primary navigator is injured or incapacitated in any way.

6. Don't drink and boat: Remember, operating any vehicle—including a boat—while impaired by drugs or alcohol is illegal and can result in lives lost and thousands of dollars in fines. Just as you would before a night out on the town, designate a sober captain before you head out on the water.

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SUMMER FERTILIZER RESTRICTIONS BEGAN JUNE 1

From June 1 - Sept. 30, Pinellas County residents may not apply fertilizers containing nitrogen or phosphorus to lawns and landscape plants. Fertilizer runoff can pollute rivers, lakes, bays and the Gulf of Mexico, cause algae blooms and lead to fish kills. Pinellas County is one of 90 Florida communities that have summertime fertilizer restrictions.

As the rainy season approaches, everyone in Pinellas County is reminded nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizers are prohibited. Phosphorus is restricted year-round without a proper soil test as Florida soils are naturally abundant in phosphorus.

Limiting fertilizer use prevents additional pollutants from entering storm drains and water bodies such as rivers, lakes, Tampa Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. Excess nitrogen and phosphorus can cause harmful algae blooms that can lower oxygen levels and lead to fish kills. Treatment to remove excess nutrients cost taxpayers millions of dollars each year.

Follow these Florida-friendly lawn care practices:

- Look for fertilizers with "0-0" as the first two label numbers.
- Apply iron, to keep lawns green without increasing growth which will lessen the amount of mowing required.
- Use compost to enrich soil.
- Set lawn mower blades between 3.5 to 4 inches for St. Augustine grass for deep roots that resist fungus and pests.
- Buy plants adapted to Florida's hot, humid climate.
- Hire lawn care professionals that display Best Management Practices decals on their vehicles.
- Sweep or blow grass clippings back in your yard. Do not direct them in the road, stormwater system or water bodies.

Visit, www.befloridian.org. Read the ordinance at: pinellascounty.org/environment/watershed/fertilizer.htm

BEACH ART CENTER

By Barbara Parker


Safe Travels to All our Winter Friends! Thank you for a great winter and we will see you next fall! Stay connected with us while away - visit our social media sites like Face Book and Instagram to keep up with what's going on. Keep up with all the exciting growth, as we continue to expand our services and engage in special events and projects at the center and with-in the city.

Creative Kids Camp - For 9 weeks, through August 9th, campers will alternate working in our gallery space and pottery studio, learning about the style of famous artists and applying that to their work in clay, watercolors, pastels, mixed media and more. The price remains the same as last year: Full-day sessions \$200/week (Members \$185) and Half-day sessions \$100/week (Members \$92.50).

Classes - We will be open all summer. A few upcoming highlights...


- Limited Series - Classes offered for four weeks sessions building on the next. Upcoming is "Absolute Beginners" in June, taught by Shawn Dell Joyce, the founder and former executive director of a nonprofit NY plein air school.
- Art on the Rocks - Single class session, offered 6-9pm. All materials and instruction are included, and you leave with a completed project. Upcoming sessions include
- June 15th, "Seashell Encrusted Picture Frame". Get ready for Father's Day or just enjoy an evening with Shawn Dell Joyce. Mom's (or Dad) you can bring a child for free.

Visit www.beachartcenter.org for more information on these and other events at the art center. The Beach Art Center is located at 1515 Bay Palm Blvd, Indian Rocks Beach, (727) 596-4331.



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TWENTY YEARS WORKING ALONGSIDE SOME OF THE BEST IN GOVERNMENT

By Karen Seel, Pinellas County Commissioner

For me, this year marks twenty years of working for you as a county commissioner. During these years, I've had the privilege and pleasure of working alongside some of the most dedicated and talented people in local government.

Pinellas County recognizes these employees through a video series that highlights the contributions of these hard-working individuals. The videos are debuted at our Board of County Commissioners meetings and, as I recently watched one of them, it struck me that our employees do have wonderful stories to tell about themselves and their roles with the county.

So, over my next few columns, I'd like to share some of their stories so that you, too, can get to know some of our wonderful employees. I want to start with Scott Rintz, a Safety Specialist with Pinellas County's Risk Management department.

Scott's job is evaluating workforce safety at various locations throughout the county. According to Scott, his role is to make sure our employees go home to their families every night.

One of Scott's many objectives is to make sure employees wear safety gear while they're on the job. From operating an excavator to operating a quick-cut saw or chainsaw, he evaluates every tool and technique workers employ and assures that the proper safety equipment is being used.

The importance of wearing the correct personal protection equipment, also called PPE, hit close to home last year during Pinellas County's response to Hurricane Michael in the Panhandle.

Scott had recently been reviewing different types of safety helmets and recommended a new type for Pinellas County Utilities workers. The helmet provides full face coverage and that made all the difference to one Utilities worker when a

huge branch from a downed tree he was cutting fell, hitting him and sweeping him off his feet and to the ground about eight feet away. When his team got to him they found that he was unconscious. The worker survived because of Scott's selection of the full face helmet.

According to Scott, he's proud to work for a county that puts a large emphasis on safety.

Scott also helps others save lives by leading CPR classes and provides the full the gamut of OSHA training classes for employees.

His efforts are part of the county's commitment to certify 100% of the Pinellas County workforce in OSHA safety within the next few years.

Recently, he's also offered classes in treating someone who is bleeding extensively. Scott says the idea came to him after the active shooter incident in Parkland, where high school students were gunned down. His class incorporates the use of bandages, instruction on how to take and elevate and compress, and the use of tourniquets to stop bleeding until EMS arrives.

Scott says it's gratifying to see how his efforts have directly impacted the lives of his coworkers and he is proud of the work he does, helping people go home to their families every day.

I, for one, am very happy that we have Scott Rintz in our court protecting the lives of our employees.

You can view the video story about Scott and our other employees by visiting Pinellas County's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/user/pcctv1.





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Business Briefs



MEET THE GRANGERS

Berangere and Gilles Granger recently bought Belleair Opticians. Jim Dundee has not left yet—but he will later this year. The Grangers are both from France. They moved from Paris to Harbor Hills, just south of West Bay Drive, four years ago. They love talking about their world travels and sharing the differences between the French and American cultures, food and wine.

About a year and a half ago the Grangers learned Dundee was retiring and they formed a partnership. Dundee agreed to stay around to show them the ropes of running the Optical business and to introduce them to his clientele. But, the Grangers are not new to this industry; they were in this business for many years in Paris.

“We bring our passion of beautiful and well-made designer frames from Europe—mainly France and Italy but even the U.S.,” Gilles explains. “We offer exclusive brands available only here at our shop in Pinellas,” he adds. “Our goal is to serve our customers with the best quality and designs available. We promise to provide a personalized service based on your lifestyle and vision needs and to offer a unique shopping experience”

“Thanks to our past experience in the ophthalmic industry as researchers, we are delighted to bring our competencies and know-how about lens technology,” says Berangere. “We are able to explain the pros and cons of very complex high-end glasses which your eyesight deserves.”

The Grangers moved the shop in The Plaza 100 a few doors down to a larger space next to Belleair Coffee. The new space offers a more modern space with a beautiful touch boutique and now an eye doctor. Belleair Opticians has been recognized as a “Essilor Expert”, a rare recognition Tampa Bay.

“We love our loyal customers,” both the Grangers say. “And we look forward to meeting new ones.”

Belleair Opticians is located in The Plaza at 100 N. Indian Rocks Rd. Visit www.BelleairOpticians.com or call 584-0730.

MARINE MAX TOP SELLER Popular boat manufacturer Sea Ray, the world’s leading creator of superior quality pleasure boats, recently celebrated 60 years in business. At the birthday party held in Texas last month, MarineMax Pompano was named the Top Selling Sea Ray dealer in the world—for the seventh consecutive year. Marine Max, the nation’s largest recreational boat and yacht retailer, is headquartered in Clearwater. For more information, visit MarineMax.com and SeaRay.com.

CLOSED Nicoles Boutique, in Belleair Bluffs, closed May 31. Wanda Matuska owned and operated the store since December of 1986—33 years!,



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Business Briefs



CLEARWATER MARINE AQUARIUM CONSTRUCTION

Phase one - the parking garage with 400 parking spaces is complete and open. The rest of the expansion will: 1. Triple the Rescued Dolphin Habitat space – Consisting of 5 areas, with approximately 1.5 million gallons of water. This enhanced, more natural habitat will be home to non-releasable dolphins Winter, Hope, and Nicholas. 2. New Hospital Facilities and Expanded Education area – Total new guest space of 103,000 square feet, with more hospital facilities for rescued marine life. The estimated time frame of the expansion is 2-3 years. They want you to know, during the project the guest experience is still great

NEW BILTMORE REAL ESTATE OFFICE Biltmore Real Estate, with offices in Indian Rocks and Countryside, is opening an office in Belleair Bluffs at 784 Indian Rocks Road North, next to Chez Collette Bistro. It should be open by June 1st and will service Belleair, Belleair Bluffs, and the Belleair Beaches. They are now hiring “energetic” realtors. Call Jim Mayes, Broker at 727-260-5164.

PROTECT YOUR BOAT The weather experts are calling for a “slightly busier than average” 2019 hurricane season with 12 to 14 named storms, including five to seven hurricanes and two to four major hurricanes of Category 3 or higher. Boat owners know the issues of securing their boat, and trying to eliminate damages from swinging and the movement caused by storm force winds. Once the storm hits, thoughts of “I hope it holds up this time” are enough to make one sick until the storm passes.

Luckily, a unique and proven product that quickly and easily secures your lift and boat for hurricane conditions - SwingStopper, designed by Paul Wartens - is available. Produced in Ft. Lauderdale, it provides proven protection and has been FEA tested to withstand Category 5 Hurricane conditions, creating one solid structure between the four corners of the lift and its piling.

Michael Atwell, owner of Clearwater based, Propwash, LLC, recently teamed up with Paul and SwingStoppers LLC to bring this product to our area. Atwell says, “The success of this product over the past decade is unmatched in terms of ease of use, value, and peace of mind with regards to protection of vessels and property.”

Propwash LLC also provides complete marine management services including storm protection products, monthly management services, detailing, and general, overall care of your assets. For more information, call Atwell at 727-512-4156.

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TIME TO THINK ABOUT HURRICANE SEASON AGAIN.

By Tom Smith Owner of GHD Construction Services



In past articles, I have written about what new homes offer today with the increased Florida and Federal Building codes. As an industry in Florida, we are constructing homes that meet or exceed the 150mph wind speeds, to insure the best amount of safety and security for new homes. Some homes can be retrofitted to add some of these features, yet other homes remain susceptible to high tides and severe water damage.

What can be done today for the homes along our beautiful coastal island communities?

Everyone is now aware that hurricane resistant windows and doors should be a "must" for any home. Those are the areas that will be first to fail when the high wind and water comes our way. Although pilings cannot be installed in existing homes with any practicality, they are very helpful in keeping the stability of the home sound, especially along the beaches. Then as I have mentioned in the past, the most important item for homes is that they are raised above FEMA standards, to keep the flood waters from ruining the home and furnishings. Sorry, but as I see homes playing the game of FEMA's 50% Rule, I can't help but wonder why families are investing hundreds of thousands of dollars to re-build a home on grade. Not a good investment or decision!

Many of our home customers today are inquiring about whole house generators for their new homes. My wife and I are personally installing one in my new home, as it makes sense to protect against power failure, especially if you live in beach communities where power is the most likely to

fail during a storm. A natural or propane gas system that fuels the generator can actually have enough power for the entire home, including air conditioning. I'm told by the gas company, that they do not turn off the gas after a storm, as it is necessary for hospitals and other first responder needs. Sure a gas generator can be temporarily used from your garage for the refrigerator and a few lights, but having the entire home uninterrupted after a storm is a major plus.

As I write these thoughts on building a strong home, it's funny, but I remember one of the favorite books that my mother read to me was the "3 Little Pigs." I don't know why this is in my memory 67 years later, but I guess it rang a bell in terms of building a home substantial enough to keep that "Big Bad Wolf" from destroying a home. Our wolf is the potential Florida hurricane. We all know it's coming, but we can't predict what year we will experience it. I just returned from a trip to the British Virgin Islands 2 weeks ago, and in addition to the devastating pictures that I saw on TV, there is still many signs of the devastation caused by the strength of the wind and water there from Irma and Maria. Very eye-opening.

If you are considering remodeling or building a new home, maybe some of the items listed above might give you cause to reflect on what items you want to install.

GHD Construction Services, Inc. has constructed 6,500 homes since 1971, and announces our GHD Coastal Homes for the Pinellas Beaches. Come visit our "Key West" Home at 239 144th Ave. N, Madeira Beach. If you have any questions pertaining to new home construction, feel free to come by the GHD model, call at (727) 954-8345, or email to: tweisser@ghdcsi.com. Meanwhile, look us up on our web site at www.GHDCoastalHomes.com.



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Business Briefs



DEMO NEARS COMPLETION

The Harborview Center demolition is almost complete. The structure has been taken down, the debris has been hauled away and recycled and the ground

has been leveled. The entire project will be completed by early August and the area will be sodded until there is redevelopment of the area.

LES PARTNERS LOUNGE CLOSSES Located next to Publix at 144 Island Way, the Lounge and the adjacent liquor store lost its lease. The lounge is closed, the liquor store will close at the end of the month. Both have been there since Publix first opened.

NEW LOOK The Belleair Bazaar Shopping Center, more commonly known as the Bonfish Plaza, has a new owner who is planning a complete \$1 million makeover. The entire facade will be refaced including a new roof, signage and décor. The face lift should start soon at the west end by Westshore Pizza, working towards the other end over a few months.

The plaza, sold in August to Cardinal Point for \$7.75 million, was constructed in 1969, and was one of Belleair Bluffs' first shopping centers.

ROLLS AND TREATS This small new store opened in the Clear Sky shopping center at the south end. They serve Ice Cream and Nitrogen Ice Cream, Boba Tea, Dragon Breath and Smoothies. Give them a try. 490 Mandalay Avenue.

BEST HEALTH FOOD STORE Nature's Food Patch, a family-owned, natural food grocer in Clearwater was voted Best Health Food Store in Tampa Bay by the Tampa Bay Times during their recent "Best of the Best" campaign. The Patch also won runner-up for Best Grocery store. The results were officially announced in a special section of The Times in June. Nature's Food Patch is located at 1225 Cleveland Street on the mainland. Visit NaturesFoodPatch.com.

SUMMER FERTILIZER RESTRICTIONS BEGAN JUNE 1

From June 1 - Sept. 30, Pinellas County residents may not apply fertilizers containing nitrogen or phosphorus to lawns and landscape plants. Fertilizer runoff can pollute rivers, lakes, bays and the Gulf of Mexico, cause algae blooms and lead to fish kills. Pinellas County is one of 90 Florida communities that have summertime fertilizer restrictions.

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Limiting fertilizer use prevents additional pollutants from entering storm drains and water bodies such as rivers, lakes, Tampa Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. Excess nitrogen and phosphorus can cause harmful algae blooms that can lower oxygen levels and lead to fish kills. Treatment to remove excess

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THE PLAZA'S OWNER DIES

David Berolzheimer, owner of Belleair Bluff's The Plaza 100 died on May 17, 2019. He was 84. Then a Largo resident, he purchased the shopping center in 1973. 46 years later, the stores in the Plaza and the property itself have been remodeled and upgraded.



During a recent interview, David told us, "The Galleries art store and a restaurant called Scruples were my first new tenants. Scruples later became Eugen's restaurant, which was changed to E&E Stakeout, as it is today."

The oldest existing tenant in The Plaza is Jim Dundee with Belleair Optical. He is retiring soon. "I remember many of the old stores that are not here anymore," says Jim. "Dave has been a good landlord and was and always will be a dear friend," he added. "He treated The Plaza like his second home."

"Dave was there to see me through my very nervous purchase of my first business, initially as my landlord. But through the years he became a confidant and was always there to steer me in the right direction" Jim continued. "My office will never seem the same without Dave in my backroom having our daily chats. 'Always in my chair' Dave had the merchants' best interest at heart and strived to make this a place people wanted to come. The plaza will miss Dave's many walk-throughs of his beloved Plaza 100," Jim concludes.

Brian and Cheryl Franzese, owners of Bella Vino remember him fondly as well. "Dave was a hard-working, dedicated, well respected businessman in the community. As a landlord, Dave was a man of his word and always looked out for his tenants' best interests. Because he was a proud man, his Plaza 100 was always well maintained - in fact the most well-kept shopping center in the community. Dave enjoyed fine wine and fine champagne, so we had many wine conversations with him over the years. He will be missed and always remembered."

Every December, David hosted a free Christmas Concert featuring members of the Florida Orchestra. It was a holiday favorite and always attended by many local residents. He was active in the community. In addition to his family, friends and Plaza family, his loss will be felt by many in the Belleair Bluffs area.

"Dave was an enormous presence in the City of Belleair Bluffs community. He purchased the 100 Bluffs Plaza in 1973 and has watched the city grow and change over the years," says Debra Sullivan, Belleair Bluffs' City Administrator. "He would stop by often to share stories, offer suggestions to make Belleair Bluffs a more bike friendly, event friendly, visitor friendly city. He loved the city and wanted to ensure that more and more people learned to love Belleair Bluffs as he did. We honored him last year at our Holiday Event as the Annual Tree Lighter, as a business owner who was so invested in his tenants and the city. Everyone that knew him adored him. I am blessed to have had him take time to visit city hall often and share his knowledge and experiences with me. He will be missed by so many."

"Dave was one in a million," says Bonnie Starr, his long-time companion. "We were together for 45 years, since 1974. Although we never married, he was a man I could not live without."

"His tenants at The Plaza were his friends," Bonnie went on. "He never considered them tenants. He liked them as much as they liked him. He will be greatly missed."



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THE COAST GUARD AUX CELEBRATES 80TH ANNIVERSARY

June is a very significant month for the Coast Guard Auxiliary, both nationally and locally. Nationally, the Coast Guard Auxiliary is celebrating its 80th anniversary and locally Flotilla 11-1 Clearwater is celebrating their 69th anniversary.

On June 23, 1939, Congress passed legislation that established the Coast Guard Reserve, its volunteer civilian component, to promote boating safety and to facilitate the operations of the Coast Guard. Groups of boat owners were organized into flotillas and these into divisions within Coast Guard Districts around the country. Members initially conducted safety and security patrols and helped enforce the provisions of the 1940 Federal Boating and Espionage Acts. Then in February of 1941, a military reserve was created and the volunteer Reserve was renamed the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

On June 20, 1950, fourteen men, working with the captain in charge of the Seventh Coast Guard District, chartered the Clearwater Flotilla. This initial group offered their volunteer service in the four traditional Auxiliary cornerstone missions of public education, operations, vessel examination, and fellowship. The public education program yearly trained hundreds of boaters in seamanship, piloting, rules of the road, and weather, among other topics. Specially qualified coxswain and crew members conducted search and rescue missions in their own boats and supported Coast Guard missions. Auxiliary pilots and air observers searched for boaters in distress, floating hazards, pollution spills, and ice-locked vessels. Communication watchstanders handled distress calls at Coast Guard and Auxiliary radio stations. Vessel examiners conducted Vessel Safety Checks under which recreational vessels are examined for properly installed federally required equipment and systems.

Fast forward 69 years and you'll find the 67 men and women who are members of the Clearwater Flotilla continuing to support the Coast Guard in the four traditional cornerstones plus a lot of additional missions. They're instructing safe boating classes at their new headquarters at 510 North Ft Harrison Avenue; they're on patrol working with Air Station Clearwater and their C-130's practicing aerial search and rescue training missions; they regularly patrol the waters in and around Clearwater with Coast Guard Station Sand Key; and they're regularly at Belleair and Seminole boat ramps inspecting boats for needed safety gear.

The National Coast Guard Auxiliary will be celebrating their 80th anniversary in Orlando during their national conference in late August. The Clearwater Flotilla will be waiting for 2020 to celebrate their big SEVEN OH.

The National Coast Guard Auxiliary can be found at www.cgaux.org and the Clearwater Flotilla can be accessed at uscgauxClearwater.com.



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CLEARWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM IS NOW OPEN

The Clearwater Historical Society opened the Clearwater Historical Society Museum and Cultural Center at South Ward School in downtown Clearwater on June 15. Enjoy the setting of the historic school while exploring exhibits that tell stories of the area's tourism, leisure, sports, trains, restaurants and schools.

"With a dedicated team of volunteers and support of local business and government, we've been able to prepare the property and exhibits for this opening," said Allison Dolan, President of the Clearwater Historical Society. "We started on this journey in 2016 and this opening is just the beginning," she said. "The team is planning more exhibits, assembling a research library and creating a meeting and event space for the community."

The Clearwater Historical Society, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) non-profit with a mission to educate, collect, preserve, exhibit and promote the people, culture and events of Clearwater's rich past and to create a place where the community comes together to explore Clearwater's past, share its present and imagine its future.

Museum hours are Thursday through Saturday 10 am to 2 pm. Admission is free. The Clearwater Historical Society Museum & Cultural Center always accepts voluntary donations.

The Clearwater Historical Society Museum and Cultural Center is located at 610 S. Fort Harrison Ave, Clearwater 33756. Parking is available along Mulberry Alley, between the museum and First United Methodist Church. Additional parking is available behind the museum, accessible via N. Hamilton Crescent.

For information, to volunteer or donate, call 727-754-8019, e-mail clearwaterhistoricalsociety@gmail.com, visit clearwaterhistoricalsociety.org or like the society on Facebook @ClearwaterHistoricalSociety.

CLEARWATER COMMUNITY GARDENS SUMMER PLANT SALE

Saturday & Sunday, June 29th & 30th

Clearwater Community Garden's (CCG) HUGE Summer Plant Sale is Saturday and Sunday, June 29th & 30th, from 8am to 5pm. Proceeds support the CCG and their activities to help create a healthier and happier Clearwater. CCG is a local 501c3 not for profit organization. This is their final plant sale of 2019.

More than 500 plants will be for sale, organically grown from seed at the gardens and priced under \$5. Plants include more than 35 varieties of vegetables, herbs, and flowers. Additionally, for the first time they will be selling their CCG-PLUS an organic composted soil. The plants sell quickly, so Saturday morning is the best time to assure that you can get a good look at all of them. There will be plenty of free on street parking.

All plants are reasonably priced, organically grown, and come from their own seeds or local gardeners. They are more likely to do well than plants bought elsewhere. Many knowledgeable gardeners will be on hand to answer questions and give advice. This is a great way for you to spruce up your flower and vegetable gardens with locally grown plants.

The sale is located on the property of Clearwater Community Gardens at 1277 Grove Street at the corner of N. Betty Lane in Clearwater. It is just north of the large vacant property across Cleveland Street from one of our sponsors, Nature's Food Patch. FREE tours of the gardens and Honey Bee colony viewing are also available.

For more details visit clearwatercommunitygardens.org or facebook.com/ClearwaterCommunityGardens.

A NEW MIX OF FUN ON CLEARWATER BEACH

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Help Strike Out Breast Cancer



CLEARWATER THRESHERS vs. FLORIDA FIRE FROGS
 Friday, July 12 | Game begins at 6:30pm | Gates open at 5:30pm | Survivor Walk at 6:15pm
 SPECTRUM FIELD | 601 N. Old Coachman Road | Clearwater

The 14th annual Pitch for Pink will start with a familiar and heartwarming moment before the first pitch is thrown, as Threshers players invite survivors of breast cancer to walk on the field. Proceeds will benefit breast health services and programs at the hospitals of Morton Plant Mease.

- First 1,000 women will receive a commemorative Pitch for Pink Ladies sun hat, courtesy of Banquet Masters
- Auction featuring autographed pink game jerseys worn by Threshers players, autographed pink bats, gift certificates, spa packages and more
- Postgame fireworks sponsored by Banquet Masters

Ticket Information:
 Ticket prices \$8, \$10
 Group packages are available
 BayCare team members can purchase tickets via payroll deduction on the BayCare Intranet through the Local Event Tickets Calendar for Team Members. Deadline for payroll deduction is June 11.
 Tickets can also be purchased at Threshersbaseball.com or (727) 467-4457.
 For more information on donating silent auction items and raffle prizes, or sponsorship opportunities, contact Robert Stretch at (727) 712-4410 or pr@threshersbaseball.com.

Morton Plant Mease Health Care Foundation

LOCAL CLEARWATER CHAMBERS PLAN TO CONSOLIDATE

The Clearwater Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Clearwater Beach Chamber of Commerce are proud to announce this initiative to unify the two organizations into one entity bearing a new brand.

The target date for consolidation is January 1, 2020. Over the period of months remaining in 2019, the Chambers will assemble a comprehensive plan that embraces all members and anticipates needs across all industries. The Board of Directors of both Chambers are confident this unification will result in a tangible increase in value for the benefit of all area businesses.


The CEOs and Directors of each respective Chambers' Board anticipate a geometric increase in value with new opportunities organic from the blend of business and tourism stakeholders. "It's all about creating value for members. Chambers facilitate meaningful connections for members and having these memberships consolidated will be a tangible catalyst for the North Pinellas business environment." said Carol Hague, CEO of Clearwater Regional Chamber. Jason Zelenak, Chairman of the Clearwater Beach Chamber of Commerce agrees that focusing on expanded opportunities for our members is the goal of this initiative. In agreement, Clearwater Regional Chamber Chairman, Mike Sutton, adds, "We encourage the members of both Chambers to become engaged and continue to build long lasting relationships that will help promote your business and brand. By taking advantage of these unique opportunities, members can directly benefit from the best of both Chambers and what their respective communities offer."

"I believe this move will be highly beneficial for business community as a whole," said Amanda Payne, CEO of the Clearwater Beach Chamber. "Working together will help ensure the long-term success of the missions of both organizations. Bringing our organizations together will allow us to offer even more resources to our businesses and the community."

In addition, this will create economies of scale and efficiencies, legislative leverage and a larger base of hundreds of member businesses that will be part of this unique network.

While the comprehensive plan for unification is being built over the remaining months of 2019, each Chamber will continue to execute its individual strategic plan and scope of work according to budget. It is essential we continue business as usual for 2019 while crafting the vision for 2020 unification. We trust that our members will continue to support the efforts of each chamber throughout the months until consolidation comes to fruition. As we plan for our 2020 target date, unification of these two organizations should prove a smart economic move from a cost-saving standpoint, as well as increased return on investment for members.

Questions can be directed to: Carol Hague, President and CEO of the Clearwater Regional Chamber of Commerce 727-461-0011 x239, chague@clearwaterflorida.org or Amanda Payne, President and CEO Clearwater Beach Chamber of Commerce, 727-447-7600, amanda.payne@beachchamber.com







Dale Chihuly Persian Ceiling (detail)
2008, 12 x 10'

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BOB GUALTIERI NAMED SHERIFF OF THE YEAR

Pinellas County Sheriff Bob Gualtieri is be the recipient of the 2019 Ferris E. Lucas Sheriff of the Year award from the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA).

The award, given annually by the NSA, recognizes a sheriff who has made outstanding contributions to law enforcement and the criminal justice profession, demonstrates exceptional service to his or her community, and has contributed to the betterment of the NSA. The prestigious national award is awarded to any active sheriff who has performed the duties of his or her office in the highest professional manner as well as enhance the Office of Sheriff. The award is given in memory and honor of Ferris E. Lucas, who served as President of the National Sheriffs' Association (1944-1946) and Executive Director of the National Sheriffs' Association (1964-1982).

"Sheriff Gualtieri embodies what this award was created to recognize," said NSA Executive Director Jonathan Thompson. "Not only are there no limits or obstacles for him in keeping his community safe but he has continually answered the call as a national leader on the biggest issues facing law enforcement across the country."

Sheriff Bob Gualtieri began his law enforcement and public service career as a detention deputy working in the Pinellas County jail in 1982. After attending the police academy, he joined the Dunedin Police Department as a patrol officer and later rejoined the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office as a law enforcement deputy. Over the next 15 years, Sheriff Gualtieri served in many components of the agency, including several years conducting domestic and international drug trafficking investigations as part of a DEA task force.

Sheriff Gualtieri earned his bachelor's degree from Eckerd College in St. Petersburg and his law degree from Stetson University College of Law. After graduating and being admitted to the Florida Bar, Sheriff Gualtieri entered private practice. Sheriff Gualtieri is admitted to practice law in all Florida courts, before the U.S. Supreme Court, as well as the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and the U.S. District Courts in the Northern, Middle, and Southern Districts of Florida.

Sheriff Gualtieri returned to the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office in 2006 as general counsel and was appointed chief deputy (second in command) in 2008. Sheriff Gualtieri served in that dual role until he was appointed sheriff in 2011. He was sheriff elected in 2012 and re-elected in 2016, respectively.

Following the school shooting at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School (MSDHS) in February of 2018, Governor Scott appointed Sheriff Gualtieri to serve as the chair of the MSDHS Public Safety Commission. The commission is tasked with analyzing information from the shooting and other mass violence incidents around the state to provide recommendations and system improvements.

During Sheriff Gualtieri's years as sheriff, he established multiple new initiatives in Pinellas County, many of which are being replicated by other jurisdictions: Pinellas Safe Harbor, an emergency homeless shelter and jail-diversion program, Adult Pre-Arrest Diversion program, Intelligent Led Policing Division, Mental Health Unit, Risk Protection Unit, Operation H.O.M.E. (Habitual Offender Monitoring Enforcement) a countywide effort to reduce teen crime, and School Guardian Unit.

Sheriff Gualtieri is active in many organizations and serves on the Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board, and the boards of directors for the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Suncoast and the Pinellas Sheriff's Police Athletic League. He has also received many awards and recognitions for his effort to improve public safety, including being named 2014 Sheriff of the Year by Crisis Intervention Team International for his work on mental health issues.

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Organizational News...

SAND KEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

They are a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving life on Sand Key by researching issues, distributing information and representing members' views and positions. They participate in The Barrier Island Government Council, The Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Assn., and maintains contact with city/state departments impacting Sand Key.

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm, Clearwater Community Sailing Center and are open to all residents of member condominiums and businesses. There are no meetings in July or August. E-mail President Brian Pelfrey at skcainc@aol.com.

ISLAND ESTATES CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Members are Island Estates residents and business owners, with a mission to promote the safety, welfare, spirit, and unique lifestyle of the Island Estates community. They meet monthly on the second Monday.

If you haven't already done so, please renew your membership and pay your 2019 dues. The cost is \$50 per year, and with that you get discounts at dozens of nearby businesses and free admission to the Spring and Winter Socials. Visit MylslandEstates.org/Membership.

For information, contact President Mike Anderson 777-2787, President@MylslandEstates.org, or visit myslandestates.org.

ISLAND ESTATES WOMAN'S CLUB

The Island Estates Woman's Club (IEWC) held their annual Scholarship award ceremony at Bon Appetit Restaurant in Dunedin on Tuesday May 21st with a total of \$33,000 awarded in scholarships. The IEWC Scholarship is a charitable trust and is supported by generous members, friends and local businesses with donations. The Rita O'Neil Memorial Scholarship and the Marie Wadsworth Memorial Scholarship are provided by the generous family and friends of Rita O'Neil and Marie Wadsworth to help outstanding Clearwater High School women attend an undergraduate college.

The IEWC Charitable Trust winners were Maria Ansara, Haley Bellack, Rachel Hoff and Emma McPhilamy. The MDA Scholarship is from an anonymous member and the winners were: Giselle Gonzalez, Tillie Palma, Kiara Reckenwald, Riley Melvin and Madison Saul. The Rita O'Neil Memorial Scholarship is awarded to Elena Shaw and the Marie Wadsworth Memorial Scholarship is being awarded to Lindsey Belcher.

Lynne McCaskill, in her last official duty as president introduced the incoming and outgoing board members and committee chairs. Lynne dedicated herself for the last 5 years as a wonderful IEWC president! Under Lynne's leadership the club made countless numbers of friends, raised a lot of money and had a lot of fun! Lynne introduced Karen Stevens as incoming president. Karen has been Vice President and has put together many fantastic programs and field trips over the years. Lynne concluded the luncheon with best wishes for a wonderful summer and the anticipation of a great 2019-2020 season.

The next luncheon will be in September. For membership information or to join, visit islandestateswomensclub.org or contact Joan Landreth, Membership Chairperson at 727-804-3165 or President Karen Stevens at 727-642-4711 or Vice President Linda Dorn 727-808-2255.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

The Clearwater Chapter meets monthly on the third Wednesday at the Dunedin Golf Club, 1050 Palm Avenue at 11:30 to socialize. Lunch begins at noon. Programs normally pertain to the Constitution or Revolutionary history. New members and guests are always welcome. Call Jim Phillips at 447-1616 or email to JPhillips1936@icloud.com.

CLEARWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Society still seeks donations that tell the story of Clearwater. Examples include vintage clothing, photographs, memorabilia from events such as the Fun 'N Sun festival and Jazz holiday, maps, yearbooks and class pictures from local schools, as well as items related to old Clearwater businesses, neighborhoods and organizations.

The Plumb House Museum, 1380 S Martin Luther King Ave, is under repair and not open for tours.

For information, artifact donations, and additional volunteer activities, email clearwaterhistoricalsociety@gmail.com, call (727) 754-8019, visit website at clearwaterhistoricalsociety.org, or like us on Facebook @ClearwaterHistoricalSociety.

Membership is \$10 for individuals, \$5 students, \$20 family, \$35 for families, \$150 corporate, \$250 life and \$500 patron.

ISLAND ESTATES YACHT CLUB

The Island Estates Yacht Club is a social club on Island Estates. They have various social events throughout the year.

July 20: Country Western Party

August 10: (TBA)

September 14: A Progressive Dinner

New members are always welcome, please contact Rear Commodore Barbara Loubier at 224-3163 or email BLoubier@InnisBrookResort.com.

CLEARWATER COMMUNITY WOMAN'S CLUB

The Clearwater Woman's Club is part of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. The volunteer service club was established more than 40 years ago. General Meetings are held the third Tuesdays of each month, at 11am, at the Clearwater Downtown Library. For more information about the club, contact Martha Hickey at 813-765-6219, www.ClearwaterCWC.org.

DAUGHTERS OF AMERICAN REVOLUTION

DAR is celebrating their 129th Anniversary this year. The Clearwater Chapter meets monthly on varying dates at the Belleair Country Club. Social hour begins at 11am followed by lunch at 11:30am. Everyone is invited to join.

RSVP for meetings with Diane Richardson at 871-9773 or BradSkate@AOL.com. Contact Cathy Athanson at 510-7135 or Dubinwv41@Gmail.com for more information.

CLEARWATER GARDEN CLUB

They meet on the third Saturday of each month at 10:30am, at their Clubhouse on Seminole Street. Meetings are \$5 for members; \$8 for non-members. They also hold demonstrations on the third Saturday each month.

The President for 2018-19 is Albert Latina. Call 316-5504, e-mail ClearwaterGardenClub@Gmail.com, or visit ClearwaterGardenClub.com, for information.

CLEARWATER BEACH ROTARY

They now meet at The Columbia Restaurant in Sand Key on the second and fourth Thursdays at 6pm. Visit ClearwaterBeachRotary.com for more information and dates. To join, call Sharon Skinner at 515-1532.

Organizational News...

MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS

The Clearwater Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars meets for lunch on the first Tuesday of each month at the Belleair Country Club. Social hour begins at 11:30am followed by lunch and a short program. Members are retired active duty Military Officers, their spouses or widows. To RSVP, or to join, call LTC. George Smith at 786-5578.

FRIENDS OF THE BEACH REC CENTER & LIBRARY

Friends of Clearwater Beach Library, Recreation Center and Pool meet the third Tuesdays at the Rec Center. Contact President Linda Owens at 260-894-0270 or the Library at 562-4970, or email FriendsOfClearwaterBeach@gmail.com.

BELLEAIR BEACH LADIES LUNCHEON CLUB

They meet on the second Tuesday of the month, October to May, at area restaurants. You do not have to live in Belleair Beach to join. Membership is open to area residents at \$15 a year. RSVP for lunch with Sue Edmunds at 596-5710.

THE NAVIGATORS

A mens club at St Brendan's Catholic Church of Clearwater Beach, they have numerous fund-raising events to gift to charities. St Brendan's is located at 245 Dory Passage, Clearwater. Behind Publix on Island Estates. Contact Dennis Murphy (313) 590-3754, the organization's President, for more information or to donate.

BELLEAIR BEACH ISLAND GARDEN CLUB

Membership is \$20 per year; guests are welcome. Contact Marjorie Rose at rosemarjorie38@yahoo.com.

NEWCOMER CLUB

You do not have to be new to the area to join this club. But if you are—this club is for you. Since 1966, this social club has helped relocated residents, and others in the area, develop new friends. The ladies meet monthly at different locations for lunch with guest speakers. Leisure activities include two book clubs, card groups, dining out, lunch groups, craft groups and trips to various venues and activities.

- July 2: Seabreeze Island Grill in Redington Beach
- August 6: Clearwater Country Club

Lunch begins at 11:30am. There are guest speakers at every meeting.

Mary Petrovich is the current President. Please RSVP with Ginny by calling 365-3493 or Mary Jane at 352-263-5518. Visit WelcomeNewComerClub.com.

CLEARWATER COMMUNITY SAILING CENTER

Summer Camps are held weekly Monday through Friday, from 9am to 3pm from June 3 to August 9th.

Camps include:

- Little Puffs (ages 5-7) morning and afternoon
- Pram Camp
- Windsurfing Camp
- 420 Camp (two person boats)
- Water Adventure Camp for campers 10 and up.
- Teenie Greenies for beginning sailors, 5-7

Prices vary and are lower if you are a member: Most camps are \$280 per week for members; \$305 for non-members. Youth Membership is \$190/year, Individual Adult \$400 and Family Memberships cost \$525.

For more information, call 517-7776 or visit ClearwaterCommunitySailing.org.

CLEARWATER YACHT CLUB

Chartered in 1911, Clearwater Yacht Club is one of the oldest Yacht Clubs in the country, continuing the long-standing tradition of yachtsmen the world over. You don't need a boat, to join in the fun at Clearwater Yacht Club in Clearwater Beach. Most of their members don't have a boat. Their social activities center around regular parties in their restaurant or at their Tiki-Bar out back.

Their ARC Fun Day brought in record donations - they raised \$15,000 this year for the ARC Foundation! Over 245 ARC friends, participated and enjoyed boat rides, balloon hats, live music and dancing, a BBQ lunch, and free t-shirts. Over two dozen sponsors were on the back of the shirts!

May parties included a Kentucky Derby, Cinco de Mayo and a Spring Fling. Upcoming parties include a Father's Day buffet and tiki hut party, their Island Day Away on Three Rooker June 22, and the 4th of July celebration. Friday night Prime Rib with live music and dancing continues all summer.

Their Summer Membership program began May 1. It has no initiation fee and monthly dues are \$150, with no food minimum. Summer members can use the pool, tiki bar, dining room and other amenities, including participating in weekly parties. Best of all, you can meet new people. It is a great way to see for yourself how much fun it is, with no obligations. You can end your membership whenever you wish, or convert to a permanent member in the Fall. Call Tom at the Yacht Club's office, 447-6000. Learn more at ClearwaterYachtClub.org, or e-mail Office@ClearwaterYachtClub.org.

CLEARWATER BEACH ASSOCIATION

They meet the first Tuesday of the month at the Chapel By-The-Sea, except during the summer. Quarterly happy hours are on going. October 12 will be their North Beach Pub Crawl. This neighborhood association promotes projects of a civic, recreational and entertainment nature and be a voice to City Government on issues that affect our community. Membership is \$25 per household. Checks made payable to CBA should be mailed to 294 Windward Passage, Suite 408, Clearwater, FL 33767 or visit their website to pay by PayPal.

Contact President Sam Hutkin at Hutloan@AOL.com, or visit ClearwaterBeachAssoc.com for information.

BELLEAIR GARDEN CLUB

They meet at the Belleair Garden Club at 903 Ponce de Leon Blvd in the Town of Belleair on the first and second Wednesdays of each month. The first Wednesday meetings are a tea and general meeting. They also plan field trips throughout the year. They are on summer break until October with the exception of the pot luck lunches the first Wednesday of each month (11:30am). This is always open to non-members too.

They elected new officers recently for 2019-20. The new president is Carol Frecker. She will serve for two years. Annual membership is \$50 per year per person. Couples pay \$75. Seasonal members \$30. Guests are welcome. Email Kathleen_Hardwick@MSN.com or visit BelleairGardenClub.com.

BELLEAIR SOCIAL CLUB

They meet at 9am every Tuesday in the back of Panera Bread for coffee and socializing. They also meet for dinner at different restaurants on the first and third Sundays, and for lunch on the second and fourth Wednesdays each month.

This organization is open to all seniors, living in the area. There are no dues and couples are encouraged to join the fun. Call Marilyn Daminato, 585-9633.

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\$835,000



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\$1,479,500 | SANDPEARLIVING.COM



NEW PRICE
1200 GULF BLVD #102, CLEARWATER
2 BD | 2 BA | 1,621 | GULFFRONT
\$875,000



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1620 GULF BLVD. #502, CLEARWATER
3 DB | 2.5 BA | 1,942 SQ FT
SOLD FOR \$1,000,000



SOLD
1520 GULF BLVD. #902, CLEARWATER
3 DB | 2.5 BA | 1,942 SQ FT | \$965,000
SOLD FOR \$965,000



SOLD
298 SKIFF POINT #201, CLEARWATER BEACH
2 BD | 2 BA | 1,400 SQ FT
SOLD FOR \$325,000



SOLD
11 BAYMONT ST #507, CLEARWATER BEACH
3 BD | 2.5 BA | 2,181 SQ FT
SOLD FOR \$1,575,000



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Featuring... MERIDIAN ON SAND KEY



MERIDIAN ON SAND KEY - 3 Bedrooms | 2.5 Bathrooms | 2530 Square Feet

Resort style amenities inclusive of its stunning modern classic lobby offering concierge, one site management, club room, fitness center and more. **New price! \$999,000**



**Another One SOLD
by Brian Pelfrey!**

**MERIDIAN ON SAND KEY
1200 Gulf Blvd #305
3BR/3.5BA/2743sf
Sold for \$1,019,500**