

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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Magazine



Beach Sand— Where did it come from?

Sand is something most of us who live near the beach take for granted. We hate it when the kids track it into the house or car, but we love it when it is time to go to the beach. The Sand on our Gulf Beaches has been around for a long, long time; longer than anyone can remember. Actually, longer than humans have existed. Have you ever wondered where it originally came from? **Continued on page 7**

Also in this Issue:

Tour the new St. Pete Pier

200 people a day are working hard to finish
- page 14

Meet Olivia

She is a breeder for the Southeastern Guide Dogs and is helping to provide guide dogs to those in need.
- page 22

Chief Burton

Last fall, after Hurricane Michael devastated Mexico Beach, PSFRD Chief Michael Burton and a team of Pinellas County first responders were there to help.
- page 10

Circle of Heroes

Located on Pinellas's Veteran's Reef, the first of its kind, offshore underwater Veteran Memorial is now open.
- page 17



CREDITS



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COMMISSIONERS —

Ed Hoofnagle Vice Mayor

Diane Flagg • Phil Hanna • Nick Palomba

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PHONE (BUSINESS) 800-483-5000

WATER 464-4000

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LITTLE LEAGUE 409-5024

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AA & AL-ANON MEETINGS 595-1038

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PINELLAS COUNTY INFO 464-3000

COMMISSION OFFICES 464-3377
Karen Seel 464-3278

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Charlie Crist 202-225-5961
696 1st Ave N., Suite #203, St. Pete

www.Crist.House.Gov

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER		
Labor Day	2	Coffee With A Cop 8
Schools Closed	2	City Commission Meeting 8
Public Hearing To Adopt Budget	3	Yom Kippur 8-9
Rock The Ribbon Run	7	Homeowners Happy Hour 10
Grandparents Day	8	Cool Jazz Concert Calvary Church 11
Mondays With Mayor Kennedy	9	A2K Oktoberfest 12
City Commission Meeting	10	Superhero 5K Run 12
Patriots Day	11	Chemical Collection Seminole High 12
Homeowners Happy Hour	12	Columbus Day 14
Narrows Nature Walk	14	Indigenous Peoples Day 14
Speaking of History Heritage Village	15	Public Schools Closed 14
Household Electronics Event Largo High	21	Stone Crab Season Starts 15
COTI Pastor Liz's service/Farewell Brunch	22	Clearwater Jazz Holiday 17-20
Autumn Begins	23	Keep Pinellas Beautiful Beach Cleanup 19
Sheriff's Annual Golf Tournament	23	Intracoastal Waterway Clean Up 19
A2K Service Saturday	24	Hallowfest City Hall 19
Clearwater Bast Friday	27	Johns Pass Seafood Festival 19-20
Offshore Super Boat Races	27-29	Narrows Owl-O-Queen 25
HOA Pub Crawl Hippie Fest	28	Clearwater Blast Friday 25
Rosh Hashanah	29-1	Keegans Stone Crab Event 25-27
OCTOBER		Beachwalk Chalk Walk 25-27
City Occupational Licenses Due	1	Clearwater Stone Crab Festivals 25-27
Narrows Community Garage Sale	5	3-Bridge Run Coachman Park 26
COTI Meet and Greet Rev. Wilson	5	Country Jubilee 26
Blessing of Animals Calvary Church	6	Kona Windsurfing Challenge 26-27
City Commission Meeting	7	Halloween 31
		Sea Turtle Nesting Season Ends 31

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER

Inside, you will find articles and local information about the nearby area. We call it a Neighborhood Newsletter because it is primarily about your neighborhood, Indian Rocks Beach. This newsletter is printed every other month and mailed to every occupied house in the city.

Do you need another copy? Ask for them at USA Grocers, CVS Drug Store, Beach Welcome Center, City Hall, Indian Rocks Beach Library.

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 NOVEMBER!

WHAT IS THE FLORIDA HUMANITIES COUNCIL?

By Keith Simmons

The Florida Humanities Council (FHC) is the statewide affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). FHC was organized, in part, to better promote the humanities and its various disciplines—history, literature, philosophy, ethics, etc.—in Florida. Since 1973, we have done exactly that.

Through a grant program and a number of public programs, we seek to increase the public's engagement with the ideas, which are essential to the human experience. As an example of our work, during the past two years, FHC has invested over \$80,000 in small grants to organizations across west central Florida. From this region alone, over 14,000 people attended a Smithsonian traveling exhibition; 3,500 area students participated in a poetry recitation contest; and 2,100 residents attended a lecture or community conversation. These programs are typically free and open to the public.

In order to complete this work, the Florida Humanities Council relies in several funding sources, including the NEH and the Florida Legislature. During the 2019 session, FHC's state appropriation—which we approved annually for years—was not renewed. This resulted in a 25% decrease in our budget. Consequently, we will have to reduce the number of programs made available to the public.

Despite this loss, we are able to remain in operation. We also remain committed to our core mission: to provide access to the humanities—to the stories and ideas that make us human—to all Floridians, wherever located.

The Florida Humanities Council is also determined to make a stronger case to the Legislature during the next session.

We will also seek funding from the business community and private foundations. A critical component of this process is to rally support for the humanities. We join other Floridians in asserting that the humanities are essential for a functioning democracy.

There are several ways you can join. Visit floridahumanities.org and:

- Sign up for ENews to keep updated on everything going on with FHC.
- Tell us the programs, stories, and ideas that inspire you and help you to fall in love with our state.
- Contribute to our efforts to provide humanities programs, which are free and open to the public by becoming a member or if you are already a member, please consider an additional gift or getting a friend to join.



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Did You Know



SCOUTS EARN 64 MERIT BADGES The Scouts at Troop 431 - Blessed Sacrament Parish, Seminole - are back to regular meetings after a busy summer. Fifteen scouts returned from a great week at Camp Woodruff in the north Georgia mountains and five scouts spent a week at Camp Flaming Arrow near Lake Wales. They completed a total of 64 merit badges at the two camps to be awarded at an upcoming Court of Honor. Two scouts were part of a local group who spent two weeks at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. There, they spent 12 days on the trail hiking, adventuring and assisting in conservation projects.

CLEARWATER BEACH'S SUPER BOAT RACES Now in its 11th year, the Super Boat Races have a new sponsor, Hooters! The first race was in 2008, and since, a lot of water has passed under the hulls of the many speed boats. This year's race is Sunday, September 29, with boats on display near Harborview Marina on September 27-28. Come on down and see the boats. It is FREE.

RUN FOR THE RIBBON Morton Plant Hospital and their Foundation are holding the now annual Rock the Ribbon Run on Saturday, September 7 at 6pm. The various runs (5K and 10K runs) start at Morton Plant, cross over the Clearwater Memorial Causeway Bridge and end back at the Morton Plant Campus with a post-race party.

The race is to raise support and awareness for prostate and breast cancer programs. Proceeds from the event benefit their hospital's programs and will stay in the local community. Register at MortonPlantMeaseFoundation.org. Call Liz Howard if you need information at 462-3508.

BLESSING OF THE PETS This year, Calvary Episcopal Church is expanding their Blessing of the Pets event to be the Blessing of the Animals and Wildlife Awareness. There will be food and wildlife presentations and pet adoption organizations. Join them October 6th at 3pm at the church, 1615 1st Street, in Indian Rocks. Everyone is invited.



WE HAVE A WINNER
Indian Rocks Beach resident Steve Fischer won our recent Grouper Trivia Contest. His email was randomly chosen from the 22 that got all five questions correctly, including what a Grouper Sandwich costs at Crabby Bill's today - \$15. Steve won a \$100 Crabby Bill's gift certificate.

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and More...



40 YEARS OF JAZZ Next month is the 40th Anniversary of Clearwater Jazz Holiday and they have been making posters, T-shirts and more since that first year. Pictured here is Cary Stiff, one of the two Jazz Holiday founders holding an original shirts from that first music festival forty years ago.

JOHNS PASS SEAFOOD FESTIVAL The annual Johns Pass Seafood Festival has been moved to a different weekend. In the past it was always Halloween weekend, this year it will be one week earlier, on October 19-20. It is an arts and crafts show with lots of fresh seafood to eat. Parking is difficult, so we recommend taking the Beach Trolley. Get more information at JohnsPassSeafoodFest.com.

MUSEUM CLOSED The Indian Rocks Beach History Museum is closed during September, but private tours at \$5 per person (minimum four people) can be arranged by calling Terry at 727-593-5921. They now accept debit or credit card membership dues online at irbmuseum.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Seaside Seabird Sanctuary needs people to greet visitors, feed the birds, help with maintenance, work in the gift shop and answer calls regarding injured birds. If you have a desire to help, call 391-6211 or just stop by. They are located at 18328 Gulf Blvd., Indian Shores.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT WIND ENERGY?

Humans have harnessed the power of wind for centuries - pushing boats down rivers or across the seas, pumping water, and grinding grain. The earliest windmills were in Persia in 600 AD. In the 1920s and '30s, U.S. farms in the Midwest used wind turbines as their primary source of energy. Throughout the twentieth century, the use of wind energy declined, but now a resurgence is underway with dropping costs and heightened performance. In 2015, a record 63 gigawatts of wind power were installed around the world, almost half in China. It is estimated, the wind energy potential of Kansas, North Dakota and Texas could meet the electricity demands of our entire country.



32 wind turbines recently installed offshore near Liverpool, England are owned by Lego - yes the toy maker. Each is double the height of the Statue of Liberty with blades that have a sweeping diameter nearly twice the length of a football field. A single rotation of one turbine generates one household's daily electricity use. The project supplies power for all 466,000 Liverpools residents.

Today, 314,000 wind turbines supply 4 percent of the global electricity. With new, quieter, cheaper designs, look for that number to continue to climb.

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

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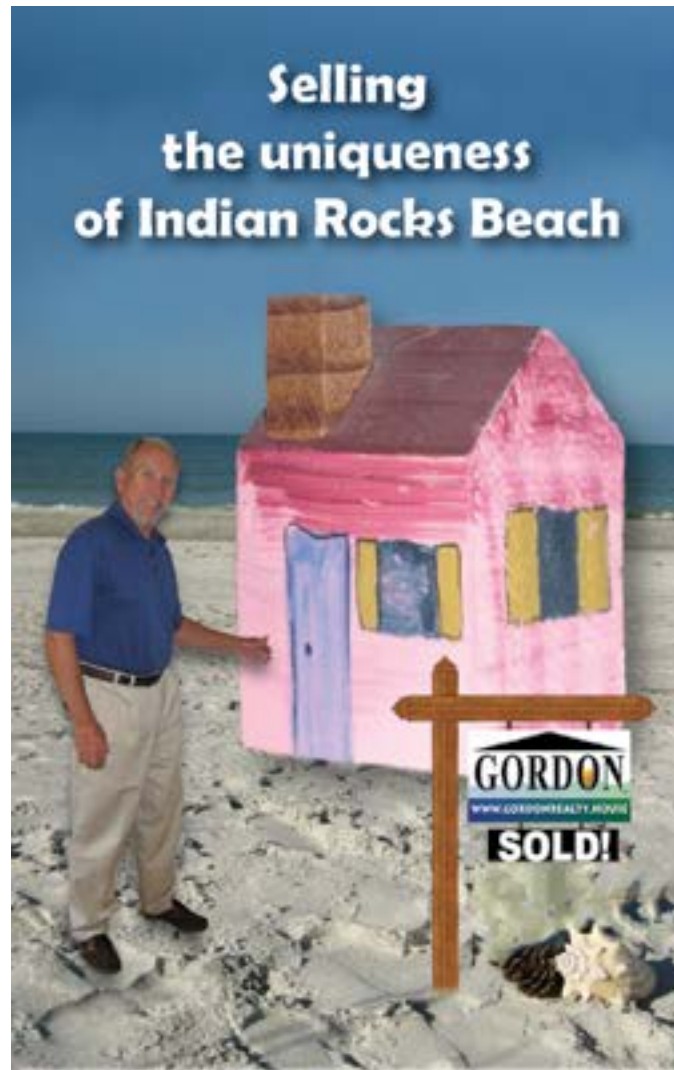
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Real Estate News



IRB'S "UNIQUE" HOMES How uniqueness affects value

By Gordon Obarski, Real Estate Broker Gordon Realty House

One of the best things about Indian Rocks Beach real estate is the uniqueness of its properties. Let's face it...if a buyer is looking for a stamped-out tract house that is a clone of the neighbors' and comes with a bunch of deed restrictions, IRB is not the place. Each street and property has its own unique personality but when "unique" goes too far left of center, marketability is almost certain to be negatively impacted.

Buyers from up north often come to IRB from suburban, cookie-cutter neighborhoods and have a tough time accepting too much "uniqueness." They are not warm to a 3-bedroom home that was turned into a 1-bedroom to accommodate the wife's 300 pairs of shoes, her china doll collection and three of Grandma's armoires. Nor will they be all that excited about a garage conversion or the willy-nilly addition of a room that steps down and requires a trip through the laundry room to access it. IRB's cottages are our "calling card" but buyers in this market won't go for a vintage home that's been accidentally stripped of its Old Florida character during the modernization process. Over half of U.S. homeowners plan to invest in renovations over the next two years but, generally speaking, no improvements are better than cost-cutter ones.

I firmly believe there is a buyer for every property as long as "unique" doesn't cross that fine line into "strange" or "weird" and even "bizarre." How tough would it be to find the right buyer for the world's largest 10-story treehouse with 80 rooms or the totally see-through, transparent house with "lots of light"? A buyer with no fear of heights is a must for the house crafted from a water tower, 100 ft. in the air. How would you like to be the real estate agent in Malibu whose active listings include a Skateboard House with ramped up walls and a Flintstone house replica...yabba dabba doo? It might take a little doing to find a buyer who "fits" the buyer profile of the skinniest house—just under 60" at the widest point. Nailing down a time for a showing on one of the 165 private residences aboard the MS the World, the largest, privately owned residential yacht, could be fun, since it's constantly on the move to different ports. And, I shudder to think how an inspection on the 11,500 year-old house in England would go!

Not that any property in Indian Rocks even comes close to these extremes but it's important to recognize that as a home gets more "unique," the number of possible buyers shrinks. Due to the higher price range of IRB homes, we start out with a shallow pool to begin with and too much "uniqueness" could drain the pool bone dry. A unique home requires unique marketing. An open house is not just a 3-hour come-look-see; it's an "event" built around the home's unique features. Word-of-mouth, especially through social media, can be a friend or a foe, so it must be used very cautiously. The seller must accept the fact that a high percentage of "lookers" will not like what they see and try hard not to be offended. If there was ever a time to sell a property that is more than a little unique, it's now...with only 25 single-families for IRB buyers to choose from...half of which have been on the market 120 days or more.

Source: Stellar MLS (8/19/19)

SAND'S BEGINNINGS, continued

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

For eons, powerful rivers, constant winds, and changing water levels created - and moved - our sand. No grain of sand is new; each is millions of years old and the creation of constant scouring, polishing, tumbling and traveling of different types of rock.

Hundreds of thousands of years ago, Florida was much larger. At one time, you could walk on land another 75 miles west of today's Florida's western edge. Then, the water rose and most of Florida was under water. Only the area near Lake Wales (Bok Tower) was above the waterline, eventually the waters receded to where it is today.

While it was underwater, the waves pounded the rocky Florida surface creating infinite grains of sand. The withdrawing waters caused erosion and carried the sand to the Gulf of Mexico, depositing it on our land and also at the bottom of the sea.

Glaciers and rain continued the process of erosion. Each drop of rain is the equivalent of a hammer blow - miniscule but mighty over time - turning rocks into granules. Every river emptying into the Gulf of Mexico carried various amounts of sand and sediment in its water. This sediment makes up the bottoms of today's lakes, rivers and seashores.

The Gulf's sand never stops moving. Whether you live in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, or Texas - the beach is always different every day. Sand shifts with the help of winds, rain, currents and even the moon's tides.

Quartz is the second most prevalent mineral on Earth and dates back to the Pleistocene' times (beginning 2.6 million years ago and ended about 12,000 years ago). Found inside almost every type of rock, quartz is in all of our area rivers. Sediment containing crushed quartz has been deposited in the Gulf for millions of years. It is the chief particle found in beach sand - the part that blinds you on a sunny day.

Most of the sand on Florida's beaches originated from the Piedmont and Appalachian highlands. Eroded rock washed southward down the Apalachicola and Tennessee rivers which once reached the Gulf of Mexico. The currents distributed the mountain-made sand across the panhandle and eventually here.

So, when you stroll the beach, you are really walking on mountains. You are also walking on sea life, too, since the sand is mixed with coral, fossilized marine life,

and pulverized mollusk shells.

"Florida's Gulf Beaches might be the whitest in the world, with a special sparkle and glitter," wrote Rachel Carson. "The dry sand squeaks under our feet. The beaches are another world - warm, drowsy, and white - yet filled with color, unequivocally inviting, which is why, in recent history, they have been awash with human activity (i.e. tourism)."

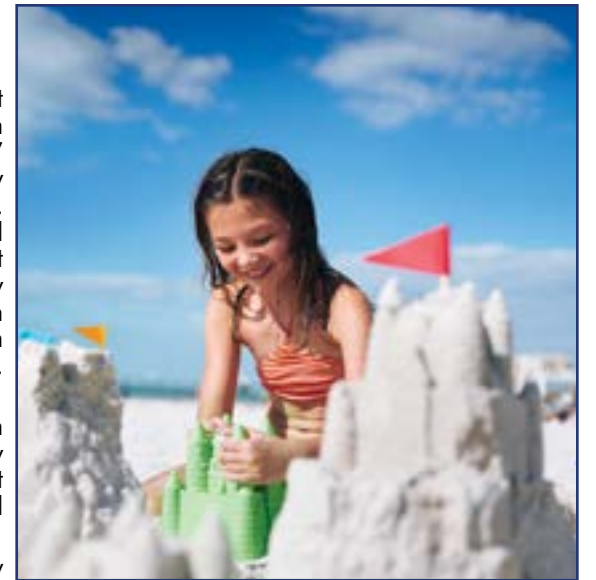
Pinellas beaches have been recognized recently by a variety of media and people, as the best beaches in Florida, the United States, and even the world.

"Sugar-like" is a word commonly used to describe the look and feel of the sand on Pinellas Beaches. Lisa Chandler, Clearwater Beach resident and business owner created The Sugar Sand Festival, featuring sand sculptors made from Clearwater Beach's sand.

"Sand color and consistency is determined by the sand's components. Corals and shells control the texture and color of sand. Most Florida beaches are made up of quartz crystals mixed with coral and shells. However, not Clearwater Beach," Chandler explains.

"Clearwater Beach's sugar sand is one of the purest and whitest sands anywhere in the state of Florida! This is because sugar sand is primarily quartz crystal with barely any shells or coral, giving it a colorless tone and a 'sugar' like feel," says Chandler. And best of all, when you sink your toes into our sand, it's cool to the touch! No shoes required," adds Chandler.

One of the most famous rankers of area beaches is Dr. Beach, a.k.a



beaches on a variety of criteria including beach width, beach material, condition, softness, slope, color, smell, wildlife, pests, trash, litter, views, buildings, urbanization, access, amenities, and more. As you can see, it goes well beyond the quality of the sand and is designed to feature beaches where people like to also walk, enjoy scenery, play sports and other activities.

Various beaches on Florida's West Coast have won the coveted honor of Best Beach. The award is never given to the same beach twice. In 2005, Ft. De Soto won the top honor, 2008 Clearwater's Caladesi Island won it and in 2017, neighboring Siesta Key, just 50 miles to the south of Pinellas was the winner. Clearwater Beach is sure to be soon.

Another media-sponsored contest that Pinellas Beaches likes to brag about is Trip Advisor's "Travel Choice Awards." Clearwater Beach has won it four times in the last decade - 2012, 2016, 2018 and again in 2019.

"Soft sand, clear water and balmy temperatures are the common threads among these award-winning beaches," says Trip Advisor's Brooke Ferencski. "The Florida beaches stake the claim as the most decorated beaches in the United States." This is the fourth year in a row a Florida Beach topped the U.S. list.


Clearwater Beach recently won a similar contest sponsored by "USA Today."

If you are looking for the best beaches in the world for your next vacation, you do not have to go far - the best beach sand in the world might be right here in Pinellas County.



Stephen Leatherman. He is an American geoscientist, coastal ecologist, and author. Every year, since 1991, Dr. Beach surveys and ranks over 650 U.S.

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OPPORTUNITY ZONES - TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE?

by Ray Ferrara, ProVise Management Group



The investment world is full of "opportunities" that are currently fashionable and the hot new investment. They go all the way back to the tulip craze in the Netherlands in the 1630s. Today's new opportunity is a Qualified Opportunity Zone Fund.

These funds were authorized under the tax act passed in December 2017 and allow an investor to defer capital gains and in some cases eliminate them entirely if the fund is held for a ten year period. There will be good and not so good programs, but the promoters will make them all seem foolproof. So what should you consider in evaluating different funds?

Talk with your financial, tax and legal advisors to see if the fund makes sense for you. Consider that in order to get the full benefit you must hold the fund for ten years. When you sell an asset with a large capital gain you must reinvest the money within 180 days.

How do you separate the wheat from the chaff? Like most real estate investments, it is about location. But it shouldn't be about one location. Multiple locations are better and diversifying between different types of real estate is desired over single use.

Look for a sponsor with experience in development, not someone new. You need to review the sponsor's audited financials because they will need to be around for at least ten years. A larger enterprise will likely have more resources than a smaller one.

Do they have a strategy and can they actually explain it? Does the strategy make sense? Can they execute the strategy? Do they have a good team of financial and legal advisors?

Real estate often is done with borrowed money. The more leverage, the greater the risk. Is the loan interest fixed? For how long? If the interest is variable, what are the terms for it to increase/decrease?

Then there is a matter of fees. Some of the early programs we have seen are loaded with fees. If the fees are too low, that may seem attractive, but are they reasonable enough to sustain the sponsor?

Once all of this is done, circle back and talk to your advisors once again. Get a second opinion from a third party. If you would like to discuss Qualified Opportunity Zone investments please call for a one hour complimentary conversation.

V. Raymond Ferrara, CFP®, Chair and CEO
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Investment Advisory Services may be offered through ProVise Management Group, LLC.

A LOOK TOWARDS THE FUTURE FROM THE PAST

By Karen Seel, Pinellas County Commissioner

Recently, the executive director of the St. Petersburg Museum of History, Rui Farias, asked me to pen a letter for a time capsule the museum was burying. I gladly accepted. What a fun thing to contemplate. What would I want future residents to know about Pinellas County from way back in 2019? Here's my letter to be read in 2119:

July 23, 2019

Dear Future Residents of Pinellas County,

As Chair of the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners, I am writing on behalf of our current residents to send you greetings from the past. Just a few days ago, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of a transportation milestone: the Apollo 11 mission landing on Earth's moon. The words of astronaut Neil Armstrong as he stepped on the moon—"one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind"—still resonate today. The achievement, to us in 2019, is still a marvel to be admired. No doubt, many achievements in space have been made since, with many more to come.

In 2019, Pinellas County has a population of approximately 970,600 and one of the largest challenges we face is transportation. The car is still the main mode of transportation; linking where we live, work, and play. Unfortunately, no matter how far we widen our roadways, there always seem to be a few thousand too many cars around at rush hour. Long lines of traffic snarl our highways, bridges and streets for hours each day. Our mobile devices have programs designed to help us avoid these "traffic jams," though they rarely help as much as we'd hope.

We tackled the challenge of space travel fifty years ago, and today Pinellas County is working to resolve our earth-bound

transportation issues.

Pinellas County experienced most of its development in the 1950s, when the car was king, and our transportation capacity exceeded our residents' needs. But, in 2019, we know that we must redevelop our housing and work centers around new modes of mass transportation.

Within the last ten years, there has been much lively debate among our residents about light rail and bus rapid transit systems. Recently, we have engaged diverse partners with new initiatives to use transportation as an economic development driver. Just as the space program sparked a modern technological renaissance, we believe that smart investments in our local transportation infrastructure can improve both physical and economic mobility and give us a safer and better-connected Pinellas.

As I write this, we have already made strides in our transportation network. Our Advanced Traffic Management System is reducing commutes by timing traffic lights to ease congestion on our major roads. We are on our way to completing the 75-mile Pinellas Trail Loop, which will provide a safe pedestrian and bike path that circles our entire peninsula. For long-term planning, the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners founded Forward Pinellas to inspire and assess solutions for the future. Like Armstrong did on July 20, 1969, we're taking those small steps while aiming for a giant leap towards a smooth and seamless transportation system.

If you are reading this letter, you know the outcome of our efforts. I wish I could be there to see if the choices we made in 2019 succeeded in making Pinellas County the best place to live, work, play and visit.

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CHIEF MICHAEL TACKLES HURRICANE MICHAEL'S DAMAGE



Pinellas County's First Responder Team & PSFRD's Chief Michael Burton

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

Ironically, two Michaels hit the Panhandle last fall. The first one, a hurricane, wreaked havoc and destruction; the second, a first responder, arrived afterwards to help with recovery efforts.

When Hurricane Michael slammed into the Florida Panhandle on October 10th as a Category 5 storm, Mexico Beach, a community similar to ours, was devastated by its 160 mph winds. The storm, the first Category 5 storm to strike the United States mainland since Hurricane Andrew in 1992, has been ranked as the third most intense storm in recorded history. The most intense storm, 1969's Hurricane Camille also hit the Florida Panhandle, west of Pensacola.

Hurricane Michael came ashore southeast of Panama City and headed north through Panama City and into southern Georgia. Its wide path affected many cities, both large and small.

Michael Burton is the Chief of the Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue, which serves Indian Rocks Beach. In Burton's early days, as part of the St Petersburg Fire Department, he was dispatched to Miami after Hurricane Andrew. "That was my first exposure to a big hurricane," Chief Burton says. "I was part of a team of twenty from Pinellas. We set up a base camp in Miami at the Southwest High School and helped where we could."

Burton could not believe the level of Andrew's damage and destruction. He noted at the time, Florida did not have a plan and limited organization, making handling a major hurricane's disaster recovery difficult.

During the 2018 hurricane season, Burton volunteered to lead any team necessary. In early October, when it became certain Hurricane Michael would hit Florida, Burton and a small Pinellas

team were put on standby.

Three days after the hurricane hit Mexico Beach, Burton and his team of firefighters met at Countryside Mall at 2 am to caravan to the disaster site. The team consisted of five fire trucks, two emergency vehicles, and twenty firefighters (nineteen men and one woman). In addition to Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue, they came from stations in Palm Harbor, East Lake, Largo, Safety Harbor, St. Pete, and Lealman Fire Districts.

"Our mission was 'unspecified,'" recalls Burton. "We drove through the night to the state's Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee and then on to the Tallahassee airport. There, we gassed up the trucks and headed to Springfield and Callaway, both small towns, east of Panama City."

"The Florida Division of Forestry plays a major role in hurricane recovery. They are the ones to tell us where the problems are and what to expect," explains Burton.

"The first thing we discovered was there was very limited to no cell phone service. Without cell phone service we struggled to communicate with one another," Burton recalls. "Plus, we had no GPS. When we were told to report to a house or building, we did not know where it was. Add to that most of the road signs had blown down! We had to go 'old school' and use paper maps."

When his team reached Springfield, they found the fire station was all but destroyed and they could not stay there. Temporarily, they set up in a nearby abandoned drug treatment center. The State supplied a generator, and they hooked up portable toilets. "It became our home-away-from-home," says Chief Burton.

The Florida Fire Chiefs Statewide Mutual Aid Plan calls for the initial responders to be self-sufficient for the first three days, so as

not to add additional burdens on the local communities. "That means food, water, and shelter," explains Chief Burton.

The local firefighters were glad to see the Pinellas team, especially because they had for their own families, houses and vehicles to care for, too. "They needed our moral support as well as our physical help."

The Pinellas contingent provided medical help wherever needed and arranged transportation of the injured without the high level of emergency transport services we normally enjoy. Because of the curfew imposed by the county, stores like Wal-Mart and Home Depot closed at 5pm to allow employees time to get home. This was a problem for Burton's crew who needed supplies around-the-clock.

The public's outpouring of love included donating food. "I have never seen more junk food in one place," Burton recalls. "We got cookies, cereal and sodas donated by nearby communities. A local restaurant, Mission BBQ, fed us an unlimited amount of BBQ!"

"Communications ended up being our biggest challenge. We finally got a few cell phones working, but the coverage was really spotty. We had to relay messages from one unit to another, almost like smoke signals," Burton chuckles. "Verizon was the main carrier in the area, but their towers were all down. The AT&T system worked much better. Our crew shared phones to call home and stay in touch with their families," Burton adds.

Most of the Pinellas crew planned to be there for seven days but it quickly became eleven, but no one minded. That is what they do - help in big emergencies.

"One day, what happened in Mexico Beach may happen here in Indian Rocks Beach," Chief Burton explains. "If that were to happen, someone from another city will come help us."

WHERE DID CALADESI GET ITS NAME?

by Terry Fortner
Caladesi! The derivation for this beautiful name has never been absolutely determined.

This barrier island represents the "real Pinellas" replete with towering Slash pine trees, ancient live oaks, acres of mangrove forest, clear, clean water and beaches, teeming with wildlife, especially sea life and birds.

Did ancient tribes, whose burial and ceremonial grounds evidence that they were the first humans to walk the island paths, call it this? Or maybe "Cayo d'Desi" is named for a fisherman with a seasonal rancho in the frontier days of Florida? No one now knows for certain.

Caladesi's charms captivated one man so entirely, that he chose to make it his lifelong home. Swiss immigrant Henry Scharrer homesteaded it in 1888, marrying Kate McNally in a moonlight ceremony in the palm grove near his island home. In February of 1895 a daughter, Myrtle, was born. Scharrer befriended a crew of fishermen from Cuba who visited each time they were in the area. Over many years of interaction, gifts and knowledge were exchanged. Henry learned the Spanish name for what locals called "Hog Island" or "Scharrer's Island" and began to reference his home place as Caladesi, which he translated as meaning "beautiful bayou." He kept this name alive in oral tradition until it was made official in December 30, 1926 (United States Board on Geographic Names).

Essential to any story of Caladesi Island is Gerald Rehm, Mayor of Dunedin, who in 1964 organized a civic campaign that resulted in Caladesi Island being preserved as a state park in 1967. Without Jerry Rehm's direct assistance in every phase of the lengthy and difficult negotiations, it is unlikely that Caladesi would have been preserved. The people of Florida are indebted to Mr. Rehm for this. We might take inspiration, too, as we are in desperate need to protect less developed habitats in our crowded state.

There are many people that acted to preserve Caladesi in the past so that we can protect it into the future. Dedicated Park Managers, Rangers, and volunteers serve daily to maintain the habitat, wildlife and history of our treasured Caladesi.

Long live Caladesi! A particularly remarkable, special place, with a unique name! If you want to know more, read *Yesteryear I Lived in Paradise* by Myrtle Scharrer Betz, 2007 edition. A Timeline Addendum extends the history told to before and after the narrative itself.

THE ALLEY'S UPCOMING EVENTS

September means school is back in session and Mom and Dad need a little break! The Alley will be open from 5-9 on Friday September 20th, featuring a fashion show, wonderful local musicians, outside vendors and of course all the shops will stay open late. It is your chance to shop, relax, and unwind at your favorite shopping destination and support local. Hope to see all our friends for this fun filled event!

The Fall Antiques and Artisans Market is Sunday Oct 27th from 10-4. It has been held for over 30 years with Collum Antiques, Alley Antiques, and Victoria's Parlor still part of this event and all the new shops being brought into The Alley.



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Restaurant News



CASA ITALIA NOW OPEN The newest restaurant in town opened in July with little promotion, but great crowds. "It took longer than expected, but I think it is worth it," says Tony. In the location of the former Stephano's Italian Restaurant, it looks nothing like its predecessor, inside and out, boasting a modern Tuscan feel. Casa Italia is open Tuesday through Sunday for dinner only beginning at 4pm. Find them at 2699 Gulf Blvd. See their menu at CasalItaliaRestaurant.com.

CRABBY BILL'S OPENS IN ST. PETE The Crabby Bill's Family Brands newest venture, Crabby Bill's Fish Camp, located at 10316 Roosevelt Blvd. N. St. Petersburg, is a family friendly restaurant offering daily specials and happy hour. The menu includes seafood with a southern element, and focuses on sustainability and eco-friendly ingredients. Of course they have your favorite Crabby classics, along with some unique twists. Restaurant hours are Monday-Thursday 11am-10pm and Sunday 11am-9 pm. To get in contact, call (727) 202-8954 or visit www.crabbybillsfishcamp.com.



THE GLOBE This small restaurant on Indian Rocks Road is in the strip center across from Publix, near Anona Elementary is reopening as the Globe. It was previously Europa and before that Boris Garden.

While owned by Nick & Despina Mitsides, who used to own Belleair Bluffs' Venus Restaurant, their son Dino Mitsides, (not shown), is the manager.

The restaurant will be open 7am to 3pm. Breakfast served American style, will be available all day. They will offer many vegetarian and vegan menu items, too. They hope to be open by the time you read this. Find them at 12125 Indian Rocks Road N.

CLOSED

Lighthouse Donuts - After 20 years they closed August 1st. The property is owned by the (LLC) that owns Aqua Prime.

Subway Sandwiches on Walsingham Rd near Starbucks
Shipwatch Grill just across the bridge in Shipwatch

AQUA PRIME KICKING THE PLASTIC Aqua Prime Seafood & Steaks is proud to announce they are going plastic free. With a restaurant in Indian Rocks Beach, they know we all rely on the oceans every day for our jobs, our community, and our future. To reduce the footprint they are leaving for generations to come, they are removing Styrofoam, plastic to-go containers, plastic soufflé cups, and plastic silverware from Aqua Prime. They had previously removed plastic to-go bags and plastic straws. They will soon be certified by both Sea Turtle Conservancy & Ocean Friendly Restaurants.

Restaurant News



MAGGIE MAE'S WINS BEST BREAKFAST, AGAIN Maggie Mae's Restaurant was Voted #1 Place for Breakfast in the area by the readers of the Tampa Bay Newspapers. That makes seven times in the last 9 years. They also came in third for best lunch. Congratulations to the team that makes that happen! Maggie Mae's is located at 2961 West Bay Drive, next to Bonefish. They serve breakfast and lunch, seven days a week.

ANTIDOTE BREWING COMING SOON Still under construction, a new craft brewery called Antidote Brewing Company will be opening in Indian Rocks Beach. Owner Philip Anderson plans to brew ales and lagers on site and sell growlers to take home. "We are now shooting for a November opening," says Phillip. It is located at 321 Gulf Blvd. between Slyce Pizza and the CVS store.



DA POLLANI'S IN LARGO Da Pollani's Ristorante Italiano opened in June in the former site of Mario's Pizza, at 13688 Walsingham Rd. Owner Falino Pollani is certainly Italian and the food is very authentic. Enjoy a full menu with a kids' menu. 12" Pizzas range from \$12 to \$20. They are open for lunch and dinner, delivery is available through delivery apps.

BAKED BATATA AND MORE This new small Indian Rocks Beach restaurant is under construction at 321 Gulf Blvd, next to the Beach Zone. It is named for the white sweet potato "batata," which is native to South and Central America, Cuba, and the southern West Indies. Construction has just begun, so it won't be opening for a few months. Watch this space.

LARGO'S HUNGRY HOWIES IS 30 Opened in 1989, the Hungry Howies Pizza store in Largo has been serving pizzas to Indian Rocks Beach residents from their Walsingham Rd. location for 30 years. Bill Kaiser, is co-owner and manager and has been there the last 20 years. In October, nationwide, Hungry Howies donates to Breast Cancer Research and has raised millions of dollars for research. Call Bill at 596-1400 or order Online at www.HungryHowies.com.



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ST. PETE PIER CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

JULY 2019

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

The St Pete Pier closed to the public on May 31, 2013 - over six years ago. Skanska USA was awarded the contract to build the new one. Skanska, a worldwide construction company, is based in Sweden. Their U.S. operations is headquartered in New York with four Florida offices including Tampa.

On June 21st, Skanska USA employees gave me a personal tour of the St. Pete Pier™ - from end to end. I met with Kenneth Duty,



Kenneth Duty and the Future Teak Restaurant

Project Executive of Skanska USA. Duty has worked for Skanska for thirteen years and commutes daily from Lithia (Brandon area). He has supervised many Florida projects including the building of Tampa's International Plaza. He supervises 100 to 200 workers a day, many of whom work for subcontractors. Skanska did not do the initial demolition, which involved cutting and/or pulling out about 1400 pilings. Skanska installed 425 new ones. "The pilings that were removed were 14x14 inches square," Duty explained. "The new ones we installed were bigger - 24x24 inches. They are set along the same path as the original foundation with a minor offset to miss the portion of the previous pier's piles that remain cut-off below the

mudline."

Oddly enough, some of the old pilings were left to stick up out of the water in front of Tampa Bay Watch's new Discovery Center area. They will be used as part of a natural reef for undersea life.

The seawall was replaced and extended to the north towards historic Spa Beach, which will remain primarily unchanged. The area under the roadway was drilled to test ten basic zones for strength under the mudline.

The new pier is 3122 feet in length—just 178 feet shorter than the former pier. The approach is no longer a straight line; it is accentuated with several angles.

In front of the St Pete Museum of History will be a large exhibit area and walkway covered with solar panels that will provide both shade and energy. This new vendor Marketplace will be active Friday through Sunday—all year.

A nautically themed children's play area, designed by one of North America's premier playground designers is strategically located near the Pier Splash pad, Welcome Center and Spa Beach. There will be a food vendor and restrooms close to the play area and a tram stop nearby. The widely anticipated art by renowned sculpture artist, Janet Echelman, will be draped across the roadway near the play area, too.

Just beyond the artwork, a new parking lot provided by Duke Energy has covered parking, which also will contain a series of solar panels providing electricity.

Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille, a major seafood restaurant company based in Sanibel, is halfway down the pier route next to the Duke Energy Parking Lot. The one-story 10,000 square foot building has 2,000 square feet of balcony facing the water. Off to its south will be approximately twenty public docks for boaters to use when visiting the pier.

In the middle of the pier's roadway will be Discovery Center operated by Tampa Bay Watch. With inside and outside exhibit areas, stadium seating facing the city is being built for special water-related presentations.

The primary feature of the project at the Pier Head is a restaurant, actually three restaurants, owned by local businessman Chuck Prather, owner of Birchwood Inn and Birch and Vine Restaurant on Beach Drive.

It will be three levels with three distinctively different tropically themed concepts: the Driftwood Café, Pier Teaki and the fine dining, Teak. The top floor will be a rooftop bar with a 360-degree view of Tampa Bay and the city, offering fine dining. Most will be complete when the pier is finished, but the fourth-floor Teak restaurant won't open



until possibly next summer. A bait shop also at the Pier Head will be operated by Alan Kahana who will also operate the Pavilion at Spa beach. As with the old pier, there is a trolley system that will constantly run from Bayshore Drive to the Pier Head.

"The new St. Pete Pier and Pier District will be a waterfront destination for everyone to enjoy, no matter your age, income, or ability, says Mayor Kriseman. "From an environmentally friendly kids playground to a variety of restaurants and cafes, there will be spectacular views, and lots of shade. I'm looking forward to cutting the ribbon on the new St. Pete Pier."

The original target date for the Grand Opening of the St. Pete Pier™ originally was late last year. Weather and other design factors caused the date to move first to this fall and now into early 2020.

To get all the information about the pier's progress and amenities, visit the official web site at www.NewStPetePier.com. Be sure to sign up for occasional updates on the Contact Us page.

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WHAT ON EARTH DID I JUST HIT?

By Earl Chambers, Goodyear (C & E) Tire and Auto Service

While driving the other day, I saw what looked like a wrench in the road. The next thing you know I hear this thump, clunk and a bang. What was that? Then, my TPMS tire light in the dash came on. I was already late and now I have a flat tire. I stop in a safe flat parking lot and put on my spare tire (The Donut). It looked a little low on air, so I had to stop to fill it - just a note, spare tire pressures should be checked yearly as it loses air over time. I dropped my flat tire off at C & E Tire and Auto for a quick fix. Then I get the call from Ken, my tire is not repairable - there is cut 2 inch cut in it and it has to be replaced. "It appears there is a wrench inside your tire, that may have caused the problem," he said. That afternoon my new tire was on and my car was back to normal again. As far as the wrench, it's on display at C & E Tire and Auto in a jar known as "the things that go bump in the road."



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Goodyear (C & E) Tire and Auto Service is at 11901 Indian Rocks Road N. Call 596-9551 - no Appointment needed.

ORANGE CRUSH WINS IT ALL

The Senior Softballer League recently completed their Summer 2019 season and the "old guys" on Orange Crush won the Championship and bragging rights. The Fall Season begins September 10 and there is always room for more players living in Indian Rocks Beach.

They still are looking for more players—men and women—but there are new rules. The starting age has been moved up to 65 and you must be a resident of Indian Rocks Beach. Existing players are grandfathered in.

Senior Softball now has five teams and over 50 players. They recently donated \$500 to the West Pinellas Little League that plays on the same field. New teams are setting up now. If you are 65 or over and interested, call Earl Ewesson at 813-220-8589. Get more info at www.IRBSSL.com.

SOLID WASTE TO RAISE FEES

Pinellas County Solid Waste received approval to increase the disposal rate for municipal solid waste, commercial and yard waste by an average of 6 percent, beginning on Oct. 1. The approved disposal rate for municipal, commercial and yard waste will increase from \$37.50 to \$39.75 per ton.

Solid Waste anticipates requesting two more increases—each at 6 percent—over the next two years to begin offsetting the loss of revenue from the contract and to avoid the possibility of dramatically higher percentage increases in the future.

NATION'S FIRST UNDERWATER VETERANS' MEMORIAL OPENS

By Pete Magnani

The "Circle of Heroes" officially opened August 5th on the Veteran's Reef, one of Pinellas County's forty-two artificial reefs scattered offshore between St. Pete Beach and Tarpon Springs. This is the first phase of the Circle with twelve concrete life-sized statues representing men and women of the United States Armed Forces. The statues making up Circle of Heroes were made possible thanks to the generosity of private businesses, community donors and Pinellas County.



The dedication ceremony, held on boats above the reef, featured speeches by Congressman Gus Bilirakis, Neysa Grzywa of Deep Sea Valkyries, and Vietnam Veteran Dave Miller, who also volunteers at Bay Pines VA Hospital. Dr. Heyward Mathews, professor of Oceanography and SCUBA instructor at St. Petersburg College for nearly fifty years, was in the water wearing full SCUBA gear. He cut the ceremonial red ribbon that was stretched between two boats to officially open the memorial. Afterwards, more than 30 divers descended forty feet into the Gulf of Mexico for the "First Dive" on the Circle of Heroes site.

The Circle of Heroes is the brainchild of Dr. Mathews. He conceived the idea ten years ago and has been the driving force behind its completion. Mathews also co-founded the Clearwater Marine Aquarium and the Pinellas County Artificial Reef Program.

In addition to honoring those who served, the monument will be a destination for organizations like the Arizona based Deep-Sea Valkyries, which uses SCUBA as an alternative therapy for combat-wounded veterans. The statues will also attract recreational SCUBA divers from around the country.



The project is not complete. Another twelve statues will be installed in 2020, including one honoring Seaman Apprentice William Flores, who was killed in 1980 when the USCG Cutter Blackthorn collided with a tanker and sank in Tampa Bay.

"This underwater exhibit featuring our nation's heroes will also help sustain marine life in our Gulf waters by serving as an artificial reef," said former Congressman David Jolly, whose non-profit, Brighter Future Florida, is spearheading the campaign to complete the memorial. "I also thank my uncle, Dr. Heyward Mathews, for creating the concept, and for his dedication to growing the dive community and tourism in our region," Jolly added.

In addition to its benefit to veterans and recreational divers, the Circle will serve as a haven for many types of sea life, from coral and marine fauna to sharks and Goliath Grouper. Mooring balls have been installed to prevent the need for boaters to drop anchors, which could damage the statues. This first-of-its-kind underwater memorial is located about 10 miles west of Clearwater Beach.

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WHAT DROWNING LOOKS LIKE

By Rebecca Geiger

Drowning is the number one cause of accidental death for children in Pinellas County.

- 20% of drownings occur while someone is actually watching it happen.
- 70% of drownings occur at non pool related events.

One of the newest viral stories on the Internet right now highlights the first statistic. A five year old boy drowned in a pool full of adults. I have taught several children who almost drowned but were resuscitated prior to hiring me. Each event happened at a family pool event. How could this happen?

The Internet and TV are deceiving. If you look up drown or drowning images online you will see images of people flailing, water splashing, mouths open appearing to be yelling. That is distress, and while they do need help, they are not drowning at that point. In reality, drowning is completely silent. If someone is drowning the only indication will be the look of sheer panic in their eyes. The victim will be unable to get their head above water and even if they do, it will not clear enough for noise to get out. If you see anyone looking like a tadpole going up and down without actually accomplishing anything, they are drowning. Grab them!

Meanwhile, 70% of drownings occur at non-pool related events. A child slips away from the group and is gone before anyone even realizes that there is a danger. For children with Autism the statistics are even scarier due to their desire to "wander" or "elope" from areas where there is a lot of commotion. They are drawn to water which is why drowning accounts for over 90% of deaths of autistic children under the age of fourteen. In all of these cases, parents/guardians report never hearing a thing. The child finds a way past a barrier and is not found until the body of water is searched.

There should always be a designated individual watching children!

Anytime there is even one child in a pool, an adult should be keeping an eye on them. Programs such as Pool Watcher, Pool Guardian, Parent on Duty, and Tagged In, just to name a few have started to gain traction in the public. These use a lanyard and a card to designate who is responsible at any given time. I have seen a stuffed animal or balloon used the same way. It is simply a tangible notification among the adults of who is watching. If it is a pool related event, the adult should switch off every 15 minutes, but looking at the statistics above this is just as important at non-pool related events.

I have hundreds of Tagged In lanyards and would be happy to supply you with as many as you would like free, just contact me.

I am known as Miss Becca to my students, specializing in "Drowning Prevention Education" for children and adults for more than 20 years through private lessons and presentations. Please visit TaggedIn.org or call (813)363-9133.

OPERATION KID FLOAT

To ensure kids always wear a PDF while on a boat, the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office has partnered with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to support Operation Kid Float — a boating safety education program that provides youth life jackets at no cost throughout Pinellas County. Families can borrow one or more for the day and return it after the trip.

Operation Kid Float kiosks can be found nearby at:

- Belleair Causeway Boat Ramp: 541S Belleair Causeway
- Bay Pines Boat Ramp: 9600 Bay Pines Boulevard, Bay Pines
- Park Blvd Boat Ramp: 18651 Gulf Boulevard, Indian Shores

Florida law requires that one personal flotation device (PFD) per passenger be readily accessible on the vessel at all times, and children under age six must wear one while underway.

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THE COAST GUARD EXCHANGE ON SAND KEY

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

There is a grocery store on Sand Key with great prices and no taxes. The only problem is you are not allowed to shop there - unless you are active duty or retired military personnel or a member of their family.

The store is a small Coast Guard Exchange (CGX) at 1375 Gulf Blvd. It is smaller than a typical convenience store and run by Seminole resident Glenda Miller. Previously, Miller held wine tastings in other CGX stores until the manager of the St Pete / Clearwater CGX (at the airport) hired her as a cashier. Seven years ago, when the Sand Key job opened, it was offered to her.

It is a typical exchange store and sells beer, wine, liquor and cigarettes. They also sell uniforms and a variety of personal items. Because it is located on the Sand Key Coast Guard base, they carry a lot of toiletries and personal items for those who live on site.

The CGX acts as their personal convenience store, carrying soda, water and snacks. "We carry a lot of high-protein snacks for the young people," says Glenda.

In addition to the products they sell in the store, other items can be ordered such as, logoed clothing, golf bags, and umbrellas. They even offer Goodyear tires. The CGX stores in Tampa, Clearwater and Downtown St Petersburg are bigger. The St Petersburg store is the largest and has the most inventory.

The advantage of the CGX is that the prices are low. They are not extremely low, but it beats most other retail stores in the area and products are tax free. That makes it 7% lower right there.



"Basically, our customers come from about a five-mile radius - people from Clearwater, Belleair Beach, Indian Rocks, Largo and Seminole."

"Having been here seven years, I have gotten to know a lot of people," Glenda says. "Some of them are snowbirds and I only see them in the winter. But they know we are here."

"The CGX at Sand Key provides a great resource to our veterans in the area as well as our members serving actively at Station Sand Key" says BOSN3 Tracy Randall.

The Sand Key CGX is open Monday-Friday from 9am to 4pm. It is closed Saturday and Sunday. To reach the exchange, call 596-8744 ext #3. Get more information about all the exchanges at www.ShoppingCGX.com.

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Business Briefs



DUCK'S FIREWOOD Why would you want to buy firewood now? "Because there won't be any when it gets cold," says Jeff Tremble, owner of Duck's Firewood in Largo. "My yard is full of it now, but I sell out every year."

Tremble has been selling firewood out of his yard on Hamlin Blvd for over five years. It all started when he cut down a big oak tree in his own yard, cut the wood, split it, and sold it. Then landscapers, and even the county, started bringing him fallen trees. He turned it into a home business.

"I only sell Florida Oak—after it has been split and dried," he emphasizes.

Tremble sells a wheel barrel full for \$30. That is about 100 pounds. When you buy, you get the sixth one free. You do not have to buy it all at one time. Call him at 595-6087 or just drop by 11396 Hamlin Blvd, just one mile south of Walsingham Rd.

REDINGTON MIXED USE PROJECT Allen Goins of AG Development and Belleair Shores Mayor Bob Schmidt are teaming up to build a new mixed-use retail center in North Redington where the Wine Cellar once was. The first phase, a one-story 14,800 square foot building facing Gulf Blvd called "Redington Village" broke ground in August with hopes of opening before the end of the year. Planned shops will be Dunkin Donuts, Burrito Social Restaurant, Marcos Pizza, and Edin Nails Studio 400. Later, a seven-story condominium building will be built to the east.

Schmidt Investments of South Florida is the primary investor. Allen Goins owns a home in Indian Rocks Beach and has been involved in city development plans including a Publix project that was voted down by residents.

ENGEL & VOELKERS MOVES Indian Rocks residents Steve and Kelly Kepler moved their real estate office one block east to 2510 West Bay Drive. Look for the white building across from Wells Fargo. Call them at 461-1000.



BILTMORE NOW OPEN The Biltmore Real Estate Company, with offices in Indian Rocks and Countryside, has a new office in Belleair Bluffs at 784 Indian Rocks Rd. N., next to Chez Collette Bistro. Opened on June 1st, the office services Belleair, Belleair Bluffs, and the Belleair Beaches. They still have room for one or two more energetic Realtors. It is owned by founder and Broker Jim Mayes, 727-260-5164.

BUSINESS NEWS WANTED If you have news for this newsletter, please contact us. E-mail news to Bob@GriffinDirectories.com or call 727-430-8300.

Business Briefs

IRB CROSS FIT If you are ready to get active, call Melanie LeBlanc, who just opened a new Cross Fit excise gym on Indian Rocks Beach. She offers exercise classes, both in her studio and on the beach. She teaches regular beach classes, open water swim workouts, paddle boarding workouts, Hoverball and beach volleyball. "Our goal is to be outdoors and as active as possible," Melanie adds.



See her web site at www.IRBCrossfit.com and find her on FaceBook. Her new studio is located at 321 Gulf Blvd, just south of the CVS store. Call Mel at 403-0466.

MARINE MAX PARTNERS WITH MJM YACHTS MarineMax welcomes MJM Yachts to their lineup as the official dealer for the West Coast of Florida as well as Stuart and Palm Beach.

"MJM Yachts has a history of building one of the most technologically advanced powerboats on the market today," states Brett McGill, MarineMax Chief Executive Officer and President. "They specialize in Express Cruisers that are fast, stable, and fuel efficient, with a strong Epoxy composite construction. We see a great opportunity to showcase MJM Yachts and their products in some of the most popular Florida boating destinations."

FOCUS GRAPHIX A small family run business on West Bay Drive just east of the Pinellas Trail, Focus Graphix is celebrating their tenth year. Run by Sand Key residents Ferenc and Valarie Wahl and Victoria Wahl Martin, Focus prepares and sells custom printed and embroidered T-shirts, hats, novelty items and banners. They work for individuals, organizations and many nearby businesses, big and small. You can order one or thousands. "I have been using their services for years," says Bob Griffin, Publisher of this News Magazine. Find them at 1025 West Bay Drive, next to Hammerhead Hardware. For more information, call 216-6757 or visit www.FocusGraphics.com.



CLOSED AND ALREADY REOPENED The Bluff's Billy the Tree on Jewel Avenue closed and has already been replaced by the Painted Pear Studio. It is a artists' studio where you can buy art, have it framed and or even learn to paint. They offer classes and group paints with wine. They are located at 2617 Jewel Road, behind the Belleair Market.

BLUFFS ANIMAL HOSPITAL HAS NEW OWNERS Meet The Bluffs Animal Hospital's new owners. Shown here, they are Doctors Patricia Entoma, Patrick Brady, and Kristen Heatherly. While they may be new owners, they are not new to the Hospital and they are not planning any changes. Find them still at 320 Indian Rocks Road North in Belleair Bluffs.




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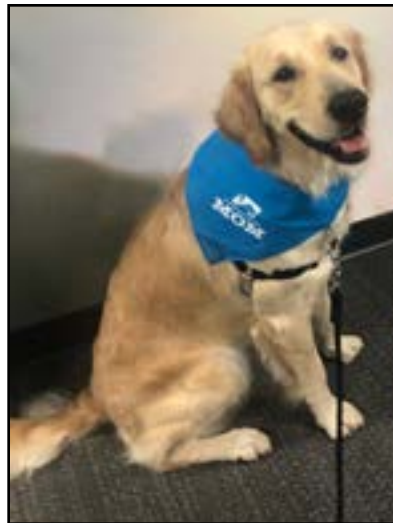
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Olivia

RAISING A SOUTHEASTERN GUIDE DOG BREEDER

By Erin Emmett

Meet Olivia. She is a Breeder for the Southeastern Guide Dogs, and I am lucky enough to be her Breeder Host mom. Two years ago, my company, Rogan and Associates, became aware of the needs of Southeastern Guide Dogs and spent a day there to determine how we could help fulfill their mission. Since that initial visit, two of our financial planners, including myself, have become volunteer Breeder Hosts.

A Breeder Host is a volunteer who has a Breeder Dog living in their homes. We take the dogs to the Southeastern Guide Dog campus as needed for breeding and whelping. As a host, we donate our time and financially support our dog in order to help Southeastern Guide Dogs provide guide dogs to people with vision loss and emotional support dogs to returning veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and other disabilities.

A guide dog transforms lives. These skilled dogs are smart, fit, and highly trained. For the first year of their life, they participate in innovative puppy education with expert trainers in a volunteer's home. Once they are matched with a visually impaired individual, the dog and its student spend twenty days on the Southeastern Guide Dogs' campus training together. Certified instructors provide students with individualized, hands-on training. All of this is provided at no cost to the individual, but graduates must be financially capable of caring for a healthy and active guide dog.

Most of the dogs in the program are Labradors, but Olivia is one of a handful of Golden Retrievers. During her career as a Breeder, she can have up to four litters of guide dog puppies (male Breeders typically have 6-8 litters). After that, she will be retired, which usually happens by age six. I will be allowed to officially adopt her then. Until then, Southeastern Guide Dogs owns Olivia and has guidelines I must follow. They determine her diet, provide wellness exams, and restrict her activities. She cannot go to a dog park or be exposed to non-neutered male dogs and she must stay within 75 miles of the Southeastern Guide Dogs campus. Even after I adopt her, she will have eye, health and wellness exams every two years at the Southeastern Guide Dogs Genetics and Research Center.

Olivia first lived with a Southeastern Guide Dog Puppy Raiser just like the guide dogs, but she was chosen to be a Breeder because of her superior genetics, excellent health, and gentle temperament. If she hadn't been selected to be a Breeder, she would have gone on to be a guide dog. She will be two years old this October and has not had a litter yet, but we are hopefully she will have her first one this fall. She will have all her puppies on campus and after they are born, she will stay there for up to three months. Once her puppies are weaned and ready to go live with their own Puppy Raiser, she will come home with me.

I was matched with Olivia in March and since then, she has brought much joy and fun as our family pet. Even though she was already 15 months old when I brought her home, she immediately bonded with my family and loves being part of our day-to-day lives providing lots of doggy kisses. She also enjoys her visits to the Southeastern Guide Dog campus in Palmetto and staying with all her Breeder friends when needed.

All guide dogs and services are provided free of charge and Southeastern Guide Dogs receives no government funding. Because of this, they depend on an army of volunteers, like me, to be able to provide dogs to those in need. In addition to Breeder Hosts, they need volunteer Puppy Raisers. Puppy Raisers have a team to work with that teaches them how to raise a future guide or service dog. Other volunteers are "co-raisers" and puppy sit when raisers are traveling.

If you don't have the time to devote to being a Puppy Raiser or a Breeder Host, volunteer opportunities are available on their campus and High School students may obtain Bright Future hours through their work with the organization. It is expensive to raise these dogs and provide for their healthcare, so to raise funds they sponsor Walkathons, Pet Parades and other activities and are always looking for volunteers and participants, too.

They accept cash donations and their Web site lists many items they need. Donating an item is as easy as clicking on the items of need and buying it directly through your Amazon account. It will then be delivered directly to their campus. All donations are tax deductible.

Campus visitors can enjoy a guided walking tour that provides an in-depth overview of their state-of-the-art facilities and a peek at what happens behind the scenes. The campus is located at 4210 77th Street East, Palmetto. For more information, call 941-729-5665 or visit www.guidedogs.org.

Some of the Rogan and Associates Financial Planners staff visiting the Southeastern Guide Dog Campus



Olivia and I at the office.

If you would like to talk more about this, feel free to contact me, Erin Emmett, 727-712-3400, or erin@roganfinancial.com.

Organizational News...

ROTARY CLUB OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH

Submitted by David Kline

Are you ready for some Football? The eagerly awaited 100th season of professional football is kick off. The Rotary Club of Indian Rocks Beach is also ready for some football, as it kicks off it's 17th edition of our Big Game Raffle

Once again, the Big Game Raffle will award five prizes. The Grand Prize - two tickets to pro football's biggest game, on February 2, 2020 at the Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, 4 nights lodging at a Miami Gardens home, and \$1000 cash. Second through fifth prizes are: \$1000, \$500, \$300 and \$200.

Raffle tickets, \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20 are now on sale from any IRB Rotarian, or by calling David Kline at 727-418-1673.

IRB Rotary's Grand Prize drawing party is Sunday, December 8, from 2:30 - 5:30 pm. Our friends at Slyce Pizza will be hosting the event with complimentary food and drink specials. We invite the community to join us for this festive occasion.

100% of the net proceeds from this annual event, "Rotary Runs the Beach," and our Pancake Breakfast support the following causes. By participating, you support these organizations.

- Polio Plus: Rotary's initiative to eradicate polio from the globe: www.my.rotary.org/en/take-action/end-polio
- Holiday Meals: In partnership with Publix, the Pinellas County Sheriff's office and the Beach Community Food Pantry, provides meals to the needy—Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter
- Beach Community Food Pantry: a local, faith-based initiative to support our area's food-challenged: www.bcfoodpantry.org
- Pinellas Education Foundation: www.pinellaseducation.org
- Gift of Life International: www.giftoflifeinternational.org
- Habitat for Humanity
- Ridgecrest Elementary: trips for financially challenged students
- Rotary's ShelterBox initiative: www.shelterbox.org
- Rotary's Camp Florida: www.rotaryscampflorida.org
- Ready for Life: www.readyforlifepinellas.org
- Dictionary Project: www.dictionaryproject.org
- Rotary Youth Exchange
- Navy Seal Foundation: www.navysealfoundation.org
- IRB Family Sailing Association:

To learn more about these local, national and global organizations, please visit www.indianrocksrotary.org.

FRIENDS OF THE DOG PARK

Submitted by Wendell Schott

As the dog days of Summer '19 wind down (not a moment too soon) our canines will soon be in their playful glory once again. It's been a tough season for all including Fido with many mornings not even dropping below 80 degrees. ... One of the most controversial topics of our community recently has been coyotes. With a number of pet killings by coyotes in recent weeks, please keep an alert eye on your beloved furry friends. There's a letter posted on the IRB Dog Park bulletin board to hopefully educate many about these animals as to their importance to the landscape of Florida. Pinellas County Animal Services can also provide additional information. A few important pet points: (1) Some coyotes may prey on cats and small dogs; (2) Keep pets inside, especially at night; (3) Keep dogs leashed where required including the grounds outside of the Dog Park; (4) Do not leave pet food outdoors and (5) alert your neighbors and let them know that the County will not trap or remove coyotes. Stay safe. Wishing Happy Tails to You!

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Organizational News...

CHURCH OF THE ISLES

Submitted By Marty Synnot

For nearly three years Church of the Isles has been in transition, with our wonderful Part-Time Transition Pastor, Rev. Elizabeth Mitchell Clement, shepherding a congregation of dedicated but sometimes burdened individuals from a place of uncertainty into a new stage of looking forward and outward – becoming a community of worship and mission on this island of God’s beauty and beyond. Pastor Liz has been an incredible COTI Ambassador and is known by many throughout Indian Rocks Beach, but alas, her time with us is drawing to a close. On September 22nd she will lead her last service. Please join us for worship (9 am) and a Farewell Brunch.

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 5th, 3-5pm for an Open House Meet-n-Greet for our new, settled pastor, the Rev. Dr. Shelly Wilson. Rev. Wilson (Shelly) will be part-time at COTI and at Trinity UCC in St. Petersburg. This will be a new adventure for all of us.

Shelly Wilson, recently resigned her position as Senior Minister at United Church of Gainesville. Previously, she was the pastor of High Country United Church of Christ in Boone, NC, a church with 200 members she founded in 2002. She has been a pastor for 36 years.

Shelly completed a Master of Religious Education at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, NC, a Master of Theology at Duke Divinity School with a focus on homiletics (preaching), and her Doctor of Ministry at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC with a concentration in spiritual formation. She is a Registered Nurse with a particular interest in geriatric and faith-based nursing.

Save the date: Sunday, December 1, 3pm. Sing-Along Messiah. (watch for more information)

BEACH COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY (BCFP)

Submitted by David Kline BCFP Director

The summer has been a busy one for BCFP, as we continue to serve those in our community who routinely struggle with food insecurity. Although we are based in Indian Rocks Beach, the majority of our clients come from areas throughout Pinellas County. We have no restrictions other than recipients must reside in the County.

Our clients visit us every other week to “shop” for food products. Although our clients do not have to pay for any food they receive, BCFP offers a unique environment where we allow them to choose the type of meat, produce, canned goods, cereal, pasta, etc. that they prefer. Many other food pantries assemble a box of food which may include items that the client may not like or use, which may ultimately be discarded.

Thanks to donations from our friends from the Silly Sinatra’s signing group, we are now providing eggs to all clients, which has proven to be very popular. Thank you Silly Sinatra’s!

We would like to express our thanks to the community for their support. We are exclusively funded by private donations of food and money. Food donations from our friends at RCS Pinellas, Publix, Crabby Bills’ and the US Postal Service, NS monetary donations from Slyce Pizza Bar and the Doubletree Resort in Redington Beach and numerous donations from the community in general.

We could not do what we do without the support of our volunteers. A huge thanks to all who serve our mission. We are in need of additional volunteers to assist with:

- Distribution of food (Mon/Wed, 10am-noon Thu, 5-7 pm)
- Pick up of food inventory from regional food banks at RCS and Feeding Tampa Bay. We have a van, we just need drivers.
- Stocking of our inventory during opening hours

Make a difference in the lives of our clients by donating food, money or time - we welcome your participation. Volunteering is not difficult and the personal satisfaction is very gratifying. Contact David Kline e-mail kline22@tampabay.rr.com or 727-418-1673—text or call.

Organizational News...

ACTION 2000 INDIAN ROCKS BEACH (A2K)

Submitted by Julie Hoofnagle

County Park Beautification Project - IRB Action 2000 (A2K) is back at the IRB County Park with a Beautification Project September 14th from 9 to 11am. The County Park is located between 17th & 18th Avenues along Gulf Blvd. Our project partners include the City of Indian Rocks Beach, Keep Pinellas Beautiful, IRB Chairs and Kona Ice. To volunteer please email Julie Hoofnagle at julie@irbaction2000.com.

Oktoberfest on the Beach - Mark your calendars. The A2K 18th annual Oktoberfest on the Beach will be held on October 12th from 11am to 7pm at Kolb Park. This beachy version of the German tradition has become one of the premiere festivals in Indian Rocks Beach.

The Oktoberfest festival includes fun activities for the kids, a stein carrying contest and keg toss for the adults, a silent auction and a 50/50 raffle. Featuring live entertainment ranging from traditional polka to pop and contemporary, arts and craft booths, a great variety of food and of course, lots of beer – this is an event you won’t want to miss.

Want to be a part of this event that reaches over 5,000 visitors? We are still seeking sponsors, silent auction donations and volunteers. Learn more at www.oktoberfestonthebeach.com and our Facebook page [OktoberfestIndianRocksBeach](https://www.facebook.com/OktoberfestIndianRocksBeach).

All funds raised go back into the community. Want to see how A2K funding has been put to work? Go to our website and click on the Newsletter header for our Annual Report. This year, A2K has pledged \$50K to upgrade the Kolb Park Gazebo in celebration of our 20th Anniversary. Construction begins after Oktoberfest 2019.

Monthly Meeting - We invite you to join us for our September and October meetings on Monday, September 19th and Monday, October 14th at 6:30pm at the Beach Art Center. Learn how you can help to preserve and beautify Indian Rocks Beach and enjoy a fun, meaningful way to make new friends. For more information visit www.irbaction2000.com or on Facebook at [Action2000IRB](https://www.facebook.com/Action2000IRB).

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Submitted by Joe McCall

IRB Community Socials continue at the following restaurants:

- September 12th – Guppy’s on the Beach
- October 10th – Aqua Prime Seafood & Steaks Restaurant

These FREE Happy Hours are the second Thursday of each month from 6-7:30pm. Visit www.IRBhome.com or our Facebook page for details.

Indian Rocks Beach Pub Crawl – sponsored by Plumlee Gulf Beach Realty, September 28th from 4 - 10pm. Dress in your best Hippie costume and celebrate 1968. 50 years later in downtown Indian Rocks Beach! Registration is open, at www.IRBhome.com or download the form and mail it. Cost is \$20 or \$25 on the day of. On crawl day pick up your wristband/registration packet between 3 and 6pm at Plumlee Realty. Visit all pubs in downtown IRB including Plumlee Registration, JD’s, PJ’s Oyster Bar, Crabby Bill’s, Jimmy Guana’s, Off the Grid and LuLu’s Oyster Bar. There will be a raffle for \$350 in gift certificates, a 50/50 drawing, a Hippie costume contest, and awards party at Crabby Bill’s Loading Dock at 9pm (Must be present to WIN!).

Spooktacular Home Awards - Residents will have an opportunity to show off their decorating skills again this Fall with the best decorated Halloween House. Homes must be entered by October 11th. Voting is Oct. 14th – Nov. 6th. Keep checking www.IRBhome.com for details.

Taste of IRB - Sponsored by C21 Beggins, November 9th from 3 to 9pm at Chic-a-Si Park. Once again more than 20 local restaurants will be offering their specialties while you mingle with friends and neighbors listening to live music.

IRB Holiday Home Tour - December 14th. Watch for details.

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The cherished and timeless Bay Area tradition celebrates its 40th anniversary October 17-20th along the waterfront in beautiful Coachman Park.

Chicago, Alison Krauss, Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue, Boyz II Men, Robert Randolph & The Family Band, Yonder Mountain String Band, and The Soul Rebels are among the many artists gracing the big stage for the 40th rendition of the annual celebration.

"It's definitely another exciting and diverse lineup with something for everyone," shares Steve Weinberger, Clearwater Jazz Holiday Foundation CEO, as he describes this year's programming.

"We are also looking forward to what is sure to be a memorable 40th Anniversary Tribute." Steve explains the special set is a tribute to jazz vocalists and will feature many artists special to the tradition and who have previously played the fest including Karen Benjey, Erica DiCeglie, Valerie Gillespie, Fred Johnson, Theo Valentin, and Belinda Womack.

"But equally as exciting to us is what happens outside of those four days throughout the entire year," Steve says.

Particularly in recent years, the Clearwater Jazz Holiday Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that produces the festival, has worked to increase awareness of the substantial cultural impact it brings to the community all year long.

Steve adds, "When you attend and support Clearwater Jazz Holiday, you are part of something very special – a growing giveback in the form of year-long programs, special funding and learning experiences that are enriching the lives of people of all ages and from various socio-economic backgrounds. We are very proud of the impact and it is truly rewarding to see the difference we are making together."

Among those initiatives are:

History of Jazz Education Outreach Program - Interactive, musical presentations by local musician mentors offered to local schools (including Title I) and other special groups covering the culture, history, and feel of jazz and its evolution as a unique, American art form. The Foundation has impacted over 26,000 students with this innovative program and has adapted it to also provide meaningful experiences to older adults in our community, memory care centers, as well as organizations and schools

or under-served communities.

Young Lions Jazz Master Sessions - A one-of-kind instructional experience with master class sessions connecting jazz students with university jazz educators and local professionals. This program, which involves group performance and instrument breakout sessions, started as a one-off main event every December but is now also offered throughout the entire year with in-school visits.

My Journey with Jazz Program - Music mentoring program in a unique game format where students learn about important people, places and music that shaped the history of jazz. It delivers a fun and meaningful experience to after-school and summer programs in economically challenged



or under-served communities. What started as a pilot effort at the Clearwater Neighborhood Family Center has grown to serve many others including Mattie Williams NFC, High Point NFC, the Greater Regional Area Youth Development Initiative, Union Academy NFC, Sanderlin NFC and the Pinellas Sheriff's Police Athletic League. Participating students are excited to play an instrument after experiencing the program, and thanks to a new CJH initiative - Build-A-Guitar® in collaboration with Palm Harbor based company Best Corporate Events - the Foundation is able to donate guitar kits to the centers. The Foundation has started providing group lessons at some centers as well.

Unique, event-based learning experiences - Collaborations with education partners such as The Art

Institute of Tampa, St. Petersburg College, and United Way's Operation Graduate are creating exciting learning opportunities for students to participate in all facets of event production including operations, stage and production, marketing, journalism, photography and videography, design and even culinary. These opportunities also highlight the value and rewards of networking and philanthropy.

Special Funding - The Foundation has a long history of providing special funding in support of youth music and jazz education including annual contributions to Middle School and High School jazz ensembles and band programs who participate in CJH's History of Jazz Education Outreach Program, Young Lions Jazz Master Sessions, and School Give Back Program. The Foundation also offers scholarships to graduating High

School seniors who demonstrate a unique music background and/or aspiration for careers involving music as well as to students pursuing careers in other aspects of music event production. For years, the Foundation has also provided special funding to Ruth Eckerd Hall's youth jazz program and provides performance opportunities for those students throughout the year and at the festival.

Speaking of performance opportunities, CJH is known for showcasing and promoting talented young musicians at its events throughout the year, creating opportunities for them to learn, build confidence, and develop fans. You can catch some of these incredible Young Lions at the festival this year.

Multi-Grammy winner trumpeter John Daversa will be featured as part of the University of Miami's Frost Jazz Ensemble and is also sitting in with the Ruth Eckerd Hall / Clearwater Jazz Holiday Youth Jazz Band. Tampa Bay based sensation James Suggs will perform, too, as part of a Young Lions Jazz Master Sessions student showcase.

Steve adds, "James has been special to our Young Lions initiatives and we are thrilled he is part of the lineup and helping to increase the awareness of these important programs. These opportunities are invaluable for the students."

To learn more about Clearwater Jazz Holiday and the Foundation's outreach initiatives or to buy tickets visit www.clearwaterjazz.com.

OKTOBERFEST IS OCTOBER 12

Save the Date!

The Annual Indian Rocks Beach OKTOBERFEST will take place on Saturday October 12th from 11AM to 7PM at KOLB Park in Indian Rocks Beach. This one day event gets bigger and better every year and is fun for ALL AGES! Free Admission! Lots of delicious traditional OKTOBERFEST food and drinks, MUSIC, many specialty craft vendors selling their items to start your holiday gift shopping. From 11AM to 2PM is the KINDERFEST event for children to enjoy, bounce houses, face painting and fun games. Afternoon events include the Keg Toss and Stein Carrying Contests. German Music by Vince Demor from 11AM to 1PM. The Erica DiCeglie Band will also perform your favorite songs starting at 1PM. Make sure to visit our world famous Silent Auction, set up inside IRB City Hall with better than ever items up for bid and "buy now" pricing, open from 11AM to 5PM. Last year's winner went home with over \$5K from out 50/50 Raffle. Make sure you purchase your tickets. Be sure to spend the day with us on Saturday, October 12th. For vendor and sponsorship opportunities please visit the A2K website: www.oktoberfestonthebeach.com. Thank you to the City of Indian Rocks Beach and all of our Sponsors and Donors who make this event happen. All proceeds raised at Oktoberfest go back into the IRB community.

IRB Action 2000, Inc. (IRB A2K) is dedicated to working with residents, businesses and City officials of Indian Rocks Beach to seek positive solutions to accommodate future changes which preserve/revitalize/enrich our unique small town qualities in a cost effective manner which is both beneficial and equitable to all.

www.irbaction2000.com or on Facebook - Action2000IRB. Action 2000 - "Keeping IRB Beautiful"

DISCOVER THE ISLAND 2019

Come to Egmont Key State Park on Saturday, November 9th and Sunday, November 10th and join the Egmont Key Alliance "Discover the Island" fund-raiser, while you enjoy one of Tampa Bay's gems!

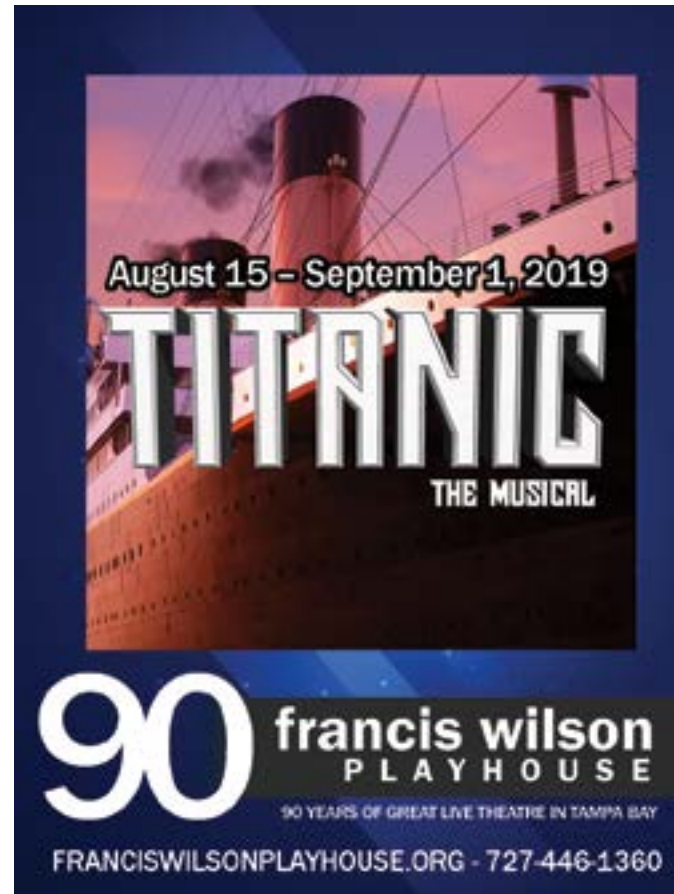
The 161-year-old lighthouse is still working to guide ships into Tampa Bay. Come see its majestic spiral staircase and participate in the many activities sure to enlighten all ages. See Civil War re-enactors, stroll the island on our self-guided walk with interpretive sites along the way, including nature, wildlife, military and history. There will be guided walking tours, a silent auction and a viewing of the lighthouse. There will be live birds of prey from Boyd Hill Preserve, The Egmont Shanty Singers, presentations on history and wildlife and a Florida flag history presentation.

Food, drinks and souvenirs will be available for purchase on the island. Shuttle ferries will be leaving Fort DeSoto Park from 9am to 2pm, with the last ferry returning to Fort DeSoto at 4pm.

Day passes include the ferry: Adults \$25, Young Adults 12-18 \$15, Youth 6-11 \$10 and 5 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased at the Bay Pier boarding site starting at 8:30am. Follow the brown "Egmont Key Ferry" signs to the location.

For more information, visit EgmontKey.info. Look for the "Discover the Island" link at the left side. If you still need additional information, call 813-361-7563.

Discover The Island is the 18th annual fund-raiser for the Alliance, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, Citizen Support Organization of Egmont Key State Park.



August 15 – September 1, 2019

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FRANCISWILSONPLAYHOUSE.ORG - 727-446-1360

Organizational News...

FRIENDS OF THE INDIAN ROCKS BEACH LIBRARY

Submitted by Michelle Gardner

The Friends of Indian Rocks Beach Library organization is sponsoring Play and Grow Music with Ms. Shalini Karnani, a program of song, dance, and stories for ages 1-8, but parents are also welcome to join in on the fun.

Play and Grow Music program will be held from 11:00 to 11:30 am on September 6th and 20th at the Indian Rocks Beach Library located at 1507 Bay Palm Blvd.

GREENTOWN KIDS

Submitted by Allie DeVore

"We need to protect the oceans like our lives depend on it. Because they do!" (Miles, 7)

Seven year old, Miles, founder of Kids Saving Oceans and member of GreenTown Kids, opened the Ocean Friendly Restaurant Info Session with a heartfelt speech to all the restaurant and community members in attendance. During June and July, dozens of local kids wrote and delivered letters to IRB restaurants, challenging them to reduce their environmental impact by going Ocean Friendly. An estimated 9 trillion pieces of microplastic are in Tampa Bay alone. Restaurants use an estimated 5,800 gallons of water per day. Roughly one-third of fish populations are over-fished.

For these reasons and many others, GreenTown Kids – an environmental nonprofit for kids and their families – decided they could not just stand by. They partnered with the Suncoast Surfrider Foundation, Kids Saving Oceans, and Broke N Bored Grill (one of the first certified Ocean Friendly Restaurants on the Gulf coast). Every IRB restaurant was invited to learn all about Surfrider Foundation's Ocean Friendly certification program.

During the meeting, restaurateurs from 18 on the Rocks, Guppy's, The Original Crabby Bills, Jakes Cantina, Lulus, and Ready Set Yo learned what it means to be a certified Ocean Friendly Restaurant. Restaurateurs left with a call-to-action from GreenTown Kids to lead the way in protecting our oceans for generations to come.

Ocean Friendly Restaurants is a nationwide program that offers restaurants an easy way to show their commitment to making sustainable choices for our ocean. One restaurant, one customer at a time, the program increases awareness and drives change in behavior, reducing our plastic and resource footprint. The certification focuses on reducing single use plastics, increasing water conservation and energy efficiency, and promoting sustainable seafood. The certification was established to be attainable by any size restaurant – from ice cream shops to fine dining.

The Summer Challenge runs through September 30th. Restaurants are encouraged to commit to certifying Ocean Friendly by September to be part of the annual GreenTown Kids' "Eat for the Environment" community event on October 23rd. Visit GreentownKids.org/OFR; or surfrider.org/programs/ocean-friendly-restaurants.

Mark your calendars

- Sept. 25: Make your Home Green Member Meeting (6pm City Hall)
- Oct. 12: Kinderfest at Action 2000's Oktoberfest (11-2)
- Oct. 19: Coastal Cleanup Event (18th Ave Beach Access, IRB)
- Oct. 23rd: Eat for the Environment (TBD)

Join the fun - make a difference! greentownkids.org; greentownkids@gmail.com



Saturday, Oct 12, 2019
Begins at 8:30am

BAM!

SuperHero 5K

Walk & Stroller Roll

Along the beautiful Safety Harbor Waterfront

KAPOW!

Details, Registration & Sponsorship Opportunities at:
www.thesuperhero5k.com

Foundation of Tampa Bay

superheroes FOR THE CHILD

Every child needs a hero but abused children need superheroes.

Organizational News...

IRB WOMEN'S TEA

The Women of IRB will present the 2nd Annual IRB Women's Tea at Church of the Isles on November 2nd, in support of three charities: Kimberly Home, Beach Community Food Pantry, & Pinellas Hope and Human Trafficking.

Come meet a new neighbor, share interests, and learn about our beach community. There will be an inspirational speaker and afternoon tea will be served. They are still looking for table sponsors! For inquiries please e-mail Womenofirb@gmail.com.

Tickets are \$10 and all proceeds go to the charities. Purchase ticket through EventBrite: www.eventbrite.com/e/2nd-annual-irb-womens-tea-tickets-66355213229?aff=PR

We hope to see you there - hats and fascinators are encouraged

THE BEACH ART CENTER

Submitted by Barbara Parker

The BAC invites you to reserve the evening of Sat, Jan 11, 2020 for a special gallery showing by the Plein Aire Cottage Artists. We are honored to be hosting a showing of "Save Our Cottages, Artists with a Cause." You will have an opportunity to meet the artists Mary Rose Holmes, Violetta Chandler, and Helen Tilston, marvel at their new works and enjoy the first IRB screening of the completed, award winning documentary. The Gallery Reception is free and open to all. Tickets for the screening, held in the City Hall auditorium, will soon be available for purchase.

• September: "Water Works" - The representation of water in the art is up to the artist's imagination. Open to all 2D/ 3D artists, the Gallery Reception, Friday, September 6th is free and open to all.

• October: "Picture My Book" - Artists select a book and are challenged with creating artwork based on the book's title or theme. Gallery Reception: Oct. 18th, free and open to the public.

• November: "Holiday Show" - This festive show provides a wonderful opportunity to purchase unique one of a kind holiday gifts for friends and family. The show runs November 18th through December 19th. Gallery Reception: Nov 22nd is free.

Our adult classes are back, Pastels, Nocturne Plein Aire Painting, Pottery, Acrylics and Watercolor. On Tuesdays, the Ukulele Group meets at the BAC to play and sing at 5pm, the public is welcome.

• Sat, Sept 7th, 10am-4pm. "Push Your Reset Button." Candy Schultheis and Lorraine Potocki will awaken your creativity and enliven your senses by engaging you in a unique way to begin your painting using an intuitive method. Then, the painting will guide you through the creative process using the movement, texture and emotions of abstract expressionism. To enhance the creative experience, in addition to your own painting, the group will work on a collaborative piece emphasizing art-composition, mood, balance and harmony. There is lots of individualized instruction, and positive critique session with audience participation.

• Sat. Sept 28th, 9am – 4pm. "Colored Pencils & Illustration Techniques". Returning artist, Sylvia Shanahan, will explore four different creative colored pencil techniques. Pick your subject or choose from several copyright free photos. Students will learn the do's and don'ts of copying photos, art, etc. Bring your own photograph if you wish. With the holidays coming this will be a great way to make your own cards and gifts!

• "Art on the Rocks" 6pm-9pm. BAC provides the supplies and you bring your friends, BYOB and snacks!

1. Shawn Dell Joyce, Wed, 9/18 "Van Gogh's Sunflower" and Tue, 9/24 "An Evening with Bob Ross."

2. Mary Spires, Tue, 10/3, create a "Tulip Watercolor Giftbag".

Call us at (727) 596-4331 or check us out at beachartcenter.org and follow us on Facebook IRBBAC to get all our events.



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Sept 27-29

Presented by STEETE CLEARWATER

Save the Date! The 2019 Hooters Clearwater Offshore Nationals are racing back.

Visit ClearwaterNationals.com to see our full event schedule including: parades, block party, fireworks, VIP events, beach activities, events in Coachman Park and all the Race Times.

Watch them fly by at 150mph from Pier 60!

ClearwaterNationals.com



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SHERIFF BOB GUALTIERI

24TH ANNUAL

Charity

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, September 23, 2019

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1 Country Club Lane, Belleair, FL 33756

8:30 a.m. Shotgun Start

Register and pay online at
pcsoweb.com/charity-golf-tournament

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COUNTRY JUBILEE IS A FALL TRADITION AT HERITAGE VILLAGE

The 41st annual Country Jubilee is back again at Pinellas County's Heritage Village, located at 11909 125th St. N. in Largo, on Saturday, Oct. 26, from 10am to 4pm. The event is sponsored by the Pinellas County Historical Society. All proceeds go to support the operation of Heritage Village. The event offers visitors a wide variety of crafts; live bluegrass, folk, rock and traditional country music along with stepping into the past to enjoy old-timey fun-filled family activities.

Cornucopia of Crafters - More than 85 craft vendors will sell home-created items, including: candles, soap, doll clothing, honey, smoked almonds, paintings, photography, jewelry, stained glass, handmade holiday decorations, and much more.

Fantastic food - Visitors can choose from pulled pork sandwiches smoked in the Village's own smokehouse; hot dogs, sausages; chicken platters, pizza, Greek dishes; kettle corn, and more. For dessert – delicious, brownies, pies and cookies will be available along with many other choices.

Musical offerings - Bluegrass, folk, Country and many other styles of musical entertainment will be offered at the bandstand, starting at 10 am. There will be a Jam Session 10 am to 4 pm in front of the Walsingham House.

Entertainment/Demonstrations - Back by Popular Demand for the 41st annual Country Jubilee, children will have an opportunity to build a wooden 210 PWS-Minnow or a PWS Spritsail from a kit via Seaworthy Small Ships, Inc. After the construction of the boat the children may sail it in a small pond near the Boat House. Supplies are limited so get there early before they sail away. A \$2 Donation is requested for each boat.

At the Train Depot, the Morse Telegraph Club Florida Chapter will be demonstrating how people communicated with Morse code. Four Men and Their Trains, a local train enthusiast club, will run "G" scale model trains all day at the Train Depot.

Free event parking and free shuttle buses are located at 119th Street between Ulmerton and Walsingham roads. A cash donation of \$5 for adults, 12 years and older, is suggested for admission. Children under 12 enter free.

ORAL CANCER IS ON THE RISE

This year in the US, approximately 50,000 people will be diagnosed with oral or oropharyngeal cancer. Worldwide, new cases will exceed a tragic 640,000.

Oral cancer screening is a short and painless exam. Your dentist simply checks the inside of your mouth for red or white patches or mouth sores. Your dentist also feels your neck and the tissues in your mouth to check for lumps or other abnormalities.

Early detection is the key. There is an 80 - 90% survival in stage 1 or 2 versus 20 - 30% in stages 3 or 4.

Common symptoms of mouth cancer:

- One or more painful or painless mouth ulcers that refuses to heal
- White or red patches over the inside linings of the mouth or tongue
- A swelling in the mouth that refuses to go away, after 3 weeks

Common risk factors:

- Tobacco use
- Drinking alcohol in excess
- Excessive exposure to harmful U.V. rays of the sun
- Viral infections including human papillomavirus (hpv)

Excerpt from Oral Cancer The Silent Killer, Neal M. Solar, DMD, Community Healthcare Digest • Apr-Jun 2019 www.chdigest.com



VISIT THE NEWLY OPENED CLEARWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER

Thanks to a tremendous effort from volunteers and community sponsors, the Clearwater Historical Society is happy to announce that the Museum and Cultural Center at the former South Ward School is now open.

Take a jaunt to downtown Clearwater to explore Clearwater's history in the setting of the 100-year-old school. See exhibits that tell the stories of the city's tourism, sports, leisure, schools, citrus growing, and restaurants.

"It's so exciting to see our vision become a reality," said Allison Dolan, president of the Society. "And it's doubly wonderful to know this was done solely by volunteers, community sponsorship and donations. I can't thank our volunteers and the community enough for making this possible."

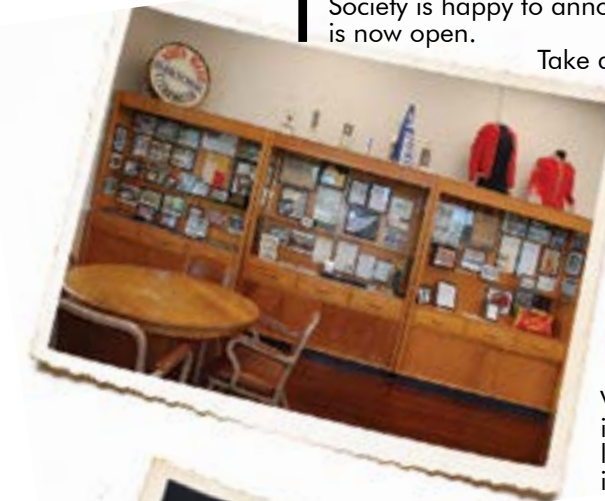
"This is just the beginning," she continued. "New exhibits and renovation of the other buildings on the campus are planned," she said. "And we always welcome new volunteers to help us as we continue to grow. Come join us. It's fun."

Volunteers are needed to serve as museum docents and historical character interpreters. Museum docents start out staffing a reception desk and can learn more about the museum to gain the ability to lead tours. Character interpreters portray real-life people who helped build Clearwater and are costumed for their era. Other exciting volunteer roles are also available, including outreach ambassadors, artifact entry, event hosts, and special projects.

Museum hours are Thursday through Saturday 10am to 2pm. Admission is free and donations are gratefully accepted.

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.

Become a part of the museum by joining the Pioneer Donor program. Pledge \$1,000 and have your name forever recorded on the museum's Pioneer Plaque.



For information on the Pioneer Donor program, artifact donation needs, or to volunteer, visit clearwaterhistoricalsociety.org, e-mail clearwaterhistoricalsociety@gmail.com, like us on Facebook and Instagram at ClearwaterHistoricalSociety, or call (727) 754-8019.

Photos courtesy of Clearwater Historical Society

CENTURY 21®

Thank YOU IRB!

21



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