

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

including Sand Key and Island Estates

Magazine

WHY DID TALLAHASSEE BECOME OUR STATE CAPITAL?



Florida's first civilian governor William DuVal. In 1824, he designated Tallahassee to be Florida's Capital.

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

We all know Tallahassee is the State Capital. But why did they pick a spot not more centrally located? At the time it was chosen, they thought they were.

When the Spanish owned Florida (1513 to 1763) very few people lived here. Those that did, lived along the coast—primarily in St Augustine, Key West, and Pensacola - all areas with a military forts.

In 1763, through a trade, the British acquired Florida. St. Augustine became the central colony of East Florida and Pensacola the western colony.

Twenty years later (1783), through another trade, the Spanish reacquired Florida, but really did little to settle or develop the area. This led to skirmishes with the newly formed United States, and its states Georgia and Alabama. The Spanish continued the tradition of managing Florida from St. Augustine and Pensacola, although instead of colonies they were renamed "missions."

The distance, by land, from Pensacola to St. Augustine is 400 miles. But for them, travel by land was hard. The Spanish used the old Indian trails—they were renamed "mission' trails." To move people and supplies to the missions west of St. Augustine, the Spanish used a common road called the "El Camino Real" roughly translated to "Royal Road." The only alternative was by river to the Gulf of Mexico.

- Continued on page 6

Also in this Issue:

Frenchy's Restaurants

Meet Mike "Frenchy" Preston. He open the first Frenchy's restaurant opened forty years ago.

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Park Celebrates 30 Years

Originally owned by the Blondie comic strip creator Chic Young, who lived in Clearwater Beach, the land was bought then donated to the City of Largo by former Largo Mayor George McGough

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The Hurricane Of 1921

100 years ago, this storm is still the last time a hurricane made land fall in Pinellas County.

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Fall is a Good Time to Landscape

Do you have some landscaping projects on your to-do list? Make sure you avoid these top landscape mistakes

- page 27

CREDITS



This newsletter is published by GRIFFIN PRODUCTIONS, Inc. and is mailed to every occupied residence in Clearwater Beach's zip code 33767 - about 5,000 households.

We are not associated with the City of Clearwater.

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CLEARWATER BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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

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

We hope you enjoy our newsletter and 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.

Keep up to date with your local news; follow us on Facebook at Neighborhood News Magazine.

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

SEE YOU AGAIN IN DECEMBER!

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CITY HALL	562-4250
600 Cleveland St, Ste 600, www.clearwater-fl.com	
MAYOR OFFICE	562-4050
MAYOR - Frank Hibbard - Seat 1	
CITY COUNCIL	562-4050
Mark Bunker - Seat 2 Kathleen Beckman - Seat 3 David Allbritton - Seat 4 Hoyt Hamilton - Seat 5	
CITY MANAGER	562-4040

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER	562-4040
BUILDING PERMITS	562-4567
HUMAN RESOURCES	562-4870
PLANNING & ZONING	562-4567
PUBLIC SERVICES	562-4950
PUBLIC UTILITIES	562-4600
PUBLIC UTILITIES EMERGENCY	462-6633
CLEARWATER GAS	562-4980
SOLID WASTE	562-4920
PIER 60	462-6466
MARINA	462-6954
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BEACH LIBRARY	462-6138
VISITOR INFO CENTER	442-3604
BEACH AQUATIC FACILITY	462-6020
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FIRE DEPARTMENT	562-4334
POLICE HOTLINE	562-4080
NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISON	562-4554

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

CLEARWATER BEACH MARINA	562-4955
CLEARWATER YACHT CLUB	447-6000
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CLEARWATER SAILING CTR	517-7776
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Sam Hutkin hutloan@aol.com	
CLEARWATER GARDEN CLUB	316-5504
ISLAND ESTATES CIVIC ASSOCIATION	
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ISLAND ESTATES WOMEN'S CLUB	
Trisha Rodriguez, President 262-620-3866	
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY	
Linda Owens 260-894-0270	
CLEARWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY	
Allison Dolan 754-8017	
PINELLAS COUNTY INFO	464-3000
COMMISSION OFFICES	464-3377
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AREA UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE:	
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696 1st Ave N., Suite #203, St. Pete	
www.Crist.House.Gov	

CALENDAR OF HOLIDAYS & EVENT

OCTOBER		
Stone Crab Season Opens	15	BBQ Historical Society 6
Amplify Chamber Awards Dinner	20	Taste Of IRB 6
Trunk Or Treat Beaches Rec Center	20	Daylight Savings Time Ends 7
Clothes 2 Kids Kick Back One Event	21	Pelican Women's LPGA Championship 8-14
Chalktober Art Fest Each Walk	21-24	Veterans Day 11
Stone Crab Festivals	22-24	Sangria Festival 13
Food Truck Block Party	22	Peace Memorial Church Concert 14
Bluffs' Wine Walk	23	Suncoast Dixieland Jazz Classic 19-21
Octoberfest on the Beach	23	Festival Of Trees 19-21
Pumpkin Fest Botanical Gardens	23	Hispanic Farmer's Market 20-21
Electronic Waste Disposal Day	27	Electronic Waste Disposal Day 24
Museum Expo Historical Museum	30	Thanksgiving Thursday 25
Halloween	31	Turkey Trot 25
Sea Turtle Nesting Season Ends	31	Black Friday 26
		Holiday Lights Botanical Gardens 26-30
NOVEMBER		Hanukkah Begins 28
Property Tax Bills Mailed	1	Hurricane Season Ends 30
All Saints Day	1	
All Souls Day	2	DECEMBER
Tunnel To Towers 5k	6	Holiday Lights Botanical Gardens 1-31
Harvest Fest Art Show	6-7	Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day 7
Rise Against Hunger	6	Island Estates Lighted Boat Parade 11
		Peace Memorial Church Concert 14

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Did You Know



NEW CITY MANAGER Jon Jennings, has been hired as the new Clearwater City Manager. He replaces the late Bill Horn. He comes to Clearwater from the city of Portland Maine, which is the state's largest city. For the last six years, he has been the Portland's City Manager/Chief Administrative Officer. He begins employment in Clearwater on November 8.

SANGRIA FESTIVAL - NOVEMBER 13 Downtown Clearwater is hosting an all-day Block Party on Cleveland Street with two stages for continuous life music and sangria, wine and beer from local brewers. There will also be food vendors and other merchandise. The event is from 1 until 11pm. Volunteers are needed and vendor space is still available. www.clearwatersangriafestival.com.

THE FESTIVAL OF TREES IS BACK The Long Center in Clearwater will once again have hundreds of beautifully decorated Christmas trees and wreaths November 19-21. All trees and wreaths are available for sale and will benefit the non-profit ARC of Tampa Bay.

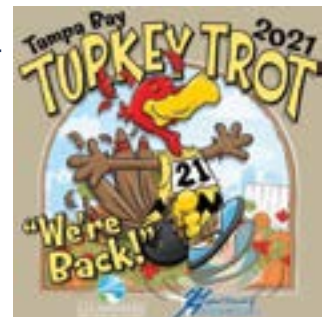
For more information, visit TheARCTBFoundation.org.

CANCELLED CITY EVENTS The City has elected to not hold a Boo Bash at BayCare Field this year. They normally do this every Halloween to give parents an alternative to their kids trick-or-treating. They also will not be hosting the "Miracle on Cleveland" this year Both are due to the ongoing Pandemic. There will be other holiday events held downtown throughout December.

WATER RESTRICTIONS Pinellas County seasonal reclaimed water restrictions are in effect through Tuesday, Nov. 30. For north county customers irrigation is entirely prohibited on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays and the reclaimed water system will be shut down on these days. Enforcement of watering restrictions is currently being intensified to encourage responsible use of reclaimed water. Addresses ending in an even number (0, 2, 4, 6, or 8) may water on Tuesday and/or Saturday. Addresses ending in an odd number (1, 3, 5, 7, or 9) may water on Wednesday and/or Sunday

SMOKE ALARMS FOR THE DEAF There are smoke alarms and alert devices that alert people who are deaf or hard of hearing. These devices include strobe lights that flash to alert people when the smoke alarm sounds. Pillow or bed shakers designed to work with your smoke alarm also can be purchased and installed.

TURKEY TROT The Tampa Bay Turkey Trot will be held on Thanksgiving morning, Thursday, Nov. 25 with the first race beginning at 7 am in the areas surrounding Clearwater High School at 504 N. Hercules Ave., Clearwater. Register at runsignup.com/tbtt.com.



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PINK AMBULANCE FOR BREAST CANCER MONTH

In support of Breast Cancer Awareness month, Sunstar has again wrapped one of their ambulances in pink for the month of October. Wrapping this ambulance helps spread the message that early detection saves lives. The ambulance is in service and used throughout Pinellas County for 911 calls, as well as at events and standbys. They are also raising money through an internal "pink hat and shirt" sale, donating all proceeds to the Florida Breast Cancer Foundation.



SAY NO TO CLOG REMOVERS All the chemicals in clog removers are not good for our waters. If you have a clogged drain use a plunger or make your own clog buster with equal parts of baking soda and vinegar. Add a half cup of baking soda down the drain. Let it sit for a bit, then add a 1/2 cup of vinegar. The bubbly reaction should clear the drain. It's important to remember - what you put down the drain has to go somewhere and will ultimately end up in our water supply.

CONGRATULATIONS MCPO ABRAMS Timothy Abrams, Commanding Officer at the United States Coast Guard Station Sand Key, was recently promoted to Master Chief Petty Officer (MCPO). The rank of MCPO is the ninth and highest enlisted rank. They are considered experts in their field specialty.

BOAT PARADE PLANNED

Clearwater Beach's holiday lighted boat parade will be held this year. There was no boat parade last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For the first time, The Island Estates Lighted Boat Parade is being managed by the Clearwater Yacht Club (CYC). On Saturday, December 11, the parade will begin at dark and the route will basically be the same - beginning just north of the Clearwater Memorial Bridge near the Clearwater Marine Aquarium. You do not have to be a CYC member or even live in Clearwater Beach to have your boat in the parade. More details will be available as the event gets closer. To participate or if you have questions, please email to Hoyt Nichols at HoytNichols.CPA@gmail or call 447-6000.



OUR NEXT ISSUE IS IN DECEMBER If you need another copy of this newsletter, you may pick up one up at the Beach Chamber Office, The Beach Rec Center, Shorty's Gourmet Deli, Sand Key Realty or the Island Estates UPS. Call 430-8300 if you need more than a few. Read this issue, and others, online at BeachNewsletters.com and follow us on Facebook for ongoing local news.

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WHY TALLAHASSEE? continued

Even though it was still under Spanish control, in 1818 during the First Seminole War, United States General Andrew Jackson burned an Indian village in the Panhandle called "Anhaica." The capital of the Apalachee Province, it was rebuilt and renamed Tallahassee.

The name Tallahassee is based on a Muskogean Indian word, "Talawa", meaning town and "Ahassee" meaning "old." Together it is "old town" or "old, abandoned fields," in honor of the Apalachee settlement previously there.

The U.S. acquired Florida in 1821 and sent then retired General Andrew Jackson there to "run the Spanish and the Indians out." He was Florida's only military governor and was charged with creating a government.

Jackson again designated St. Augustine the Capital of East Florida and Pensacola the Capital of West Florida. He also chose the mayors, judges, and sheriffs to run the cities. Three months later, he handed the reigns over to William DuVal, the first civilian governor of the Florida territory.

Governor DuVal decided the territory only needed one capital. Emissaries of the two capitals were tasked with finding a suitable location to build the new capital midway between St. Augustine and Pensacola. At the time, the Apalachicola River was the dividing point between east and west Florida. Few people lived in the middle and southern parts Florida, so those area were not even a consideration.

In June of 1823, Pensacola's Col. John Lee Williams traveled along the Gulf of Mexico to St. Marks, a small colony due south of today's Tallahassee area. Waiting there was Dr. William H. Simmons, who had traveled by horseback from St. Augustine, 205 miles away. Today the area where they met, is still called Midway, Florida.

Together, they traveled to the Indian Village destroyed by Jackson. It was almost exactly half-way between the two existing capitals. Picking that area as the state's new capital was truly a "matter of convenience." They chose to keep the name Tallahassee.

Together, Williams and Simmons found some flat land, near today's Cascades Park about a half of a mile south of the current Capitol building, and determined it was a good place to build the new capital. They liked its elevation, the location was beautiful, and they noted "the water is plenty and good."

Chief Neamathla of the Creek tribe lived nearby. Williams and Simmons made a deal with him to peacefully acquire the area. Later, Neamathla recanted threatening to kill all the Americans. DuVal had a regiment of U.S. Army soldiers remove Neamathla and ordered all those Indians to a reservation on Egmont Key.

In November 1824, the Legislative Council met for the first time in Tallahassee in a small log cabin built for that purpose. At that same session, the Council created the county of Leon, presumably name for Juan Ponce de Leon, who discovered Florida.

That same year, the U.S. Congress authorized Florida's first Federal Highway connecting St. Augustine with Tallahassee. Called the "Bellamy Road," it was named for its architect, John Bellamy. It ran from St. Augustine to the Ochlocknee River, slightly west of Tallahassee.

The city was incorporated in December of 1825; its first elections were held in January of 1826. At the time, it was estimated that 12,000 people lived in Florida, and half of them were either slaves or Indians—or both.

William DuVal served as Governor for 12 years—longer than any other Florida Governor. During Florida's first 80 years, its Governors provided their own housing or lived in area hotels. DuVal lived in a very small house on the site of today's Florida A&M University and worked for what he called "a poor-man's wage."

When they chose the Tallahassee area as Florida's capital, a city had to be built. This created a new economic area, referred to as "Middle Florida." It encompassed the land south from Georgia to the Suwanee River and west to the Apalachicola River.

Settlers started moving to the area immediately. According to the Niles' Register, in April 1824, "the first wagon, with a small party of persons and their effects, arrived on the spot where Tallahassee now stands." By the fall of the next year, twenty farms were created, and it is estimated 2000 people had moved into the county by 1826.

The United States offered settlers 160 acres in the Florida territory, if you agreed to live on it and clear at least five acres for farming. The fertile area attracted immigrants from Virginia, South Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Tallahassee soon became

known as a wild and dangerous place to live. The city filled with new citizens and politicians, gained a reputation for "vice, intemperance, gambling and profanity." Author Ralph Waldo Emerson visited Tallahassee and wrote that it was "a grotesque place rapidly settled by public officers, land speculators and desperados."

Primarily growing cotton, plantations with names like Wacissa and Lipona sprang up in the area surrounding the capital. Farmers shipped their crops, through Tallahassee to Port St. Marks (20 miles to the south), then on to other markets around the country. By 1940, Leon County would be the most important agricultural center in the Florida Territory, producing over 5 million pounds of cotton a year – half of the cotton in the territory.

By the mid-1830s, railroads began to crisscross Florida. One ran from Jacksonville to Pensacola and another down to Cedar Key. The "Tallahassee Railroad" connected Tallahassee to St. Marks—which facilitated shipping of cotton and other crops.

A Yellow Fever epidemic hit the city and wiped out many of the troublemakers, as well some upstanding citizens. Tallahassee suffered a fire in 1843 that wiped out most of its downtown. By the time of the Civil War, a new city had been built using new building standards requiring masonry construction.

A Look at Tallahassee Today

The city's population as of 2019 is over 195,000 people. It has seen a lot of growth in recent years—mainly in the areas of government and the research services associated with it and Florida State University. A growing number of retirees are finding Tallahassee an attractive alternative to South Florida's high housing prices and urban sprawl.

Tallahassee's Capital Building is the third tallest capitol building in the US.

The area Williams and Simmons choose for the first capital building, which no longer remains, was renamed "Centennial Field" when Tallahassee reached its centennial year. It was the site of Florida State University's first football game and today it is a city park with a bandstand.

CREDIT: Some of information for this article was found in the book: Thompson, J. Kent. *Remembering Florida's Forgotten Coast*. Lulu Press, 2015 ■



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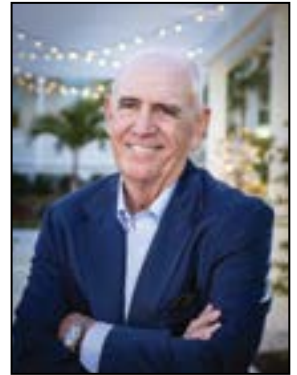
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**DOCUMENT RETENTION
KEEP OR SHRED?**

by Ray Ferrara, ProVise Management Group

Not every document should be digitized, but not every document needs to be kept either. Do you know what to shred or keep and how and where to keep it? To help we have put together a checklist. A lot of what to keep or shred is a personal choice. Some of us just can't throw anything away and that is why digitizing lets you declutter.



The rules vary as to what, when and where to keep documents. You generally should keep a tax return and the supporting documents for at least three years since this is the audit time period unless you under reported your income by 25% or more, then you will need them for at least six years. Of course, there is no statute of limitations for a fraudulent return.

Estate documents, including a will, living trust, power of attorney, healthcare surrogate and living will should always be kept in their original form. As an example, if using a power of attorney for a real estate transaction many governmental agencies will require the original.

Keep these estate documents in a safe place like a fireproof and waterproof safe. Do not store them in a safety deposit box at the bank as the documents may be needed to get into the box in the first place. If you have a Do Not Resuscitate (DNR), it should be kept on the refrigerator.

You always want to keep originals of your birth certificate, Social Security and Medicare cards, marriage certificate, prenuptial agreement, divorce papers, citizenship card, current passport and driver's license to name a few.

When it comes to investment statements it is best to keep the current year's statements, but you can probably trash these if you get a summary statement at the end of the year. You should keep this for at least three years with your tax records. Real estate closing documents and mortgage documents can be digitized, but you always want to keep the original of the deed. Title to autos, boats, motor homes, etc. should stay in original form.

Our checklist includes all of these and other records. It recommends the length of time to keep them, whether to keep them in original or digital form and suggests where to keep them. To get your copy of our checklist either call our office at 727-441-9022 or email us at info@provisem.com.

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The information herein is general and educational in nature and should not be considered legal or tax advice. Tax laws and regulations are complex and are subject to change.

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DANGER LURKS FOR PETS AT HALLOWEEN TIME

Halloween can be great fun for trick-or-treaters but Pinellas County Animal Services reminds pet owners that family pets face some scary dangers of which their humans should be careful.



- All but the most social dogs and cats should be kept in a separate room away from the front door during peak trick-or-treat visiting hours or parties. Too many strangers can be scary and stressful for pets.
- When opening the door for trick-or-treaters, take care that pets don't dart outside.
- Chocolate in all forms is very dangerous for dogs and cats. Symptoms of significant chocolate ingestion include vomiting, diarrhea, hyperactivity, increased thirst and even seizures.
- Candies containing the alternative sweetener xylitol can be poisonous to dogs. Even small amounts can cause a sudden drop in blood sugar, which leads to depression in dogs, lack of coordination and seizures. In cases of significantly low blood sugar, liver failure has been known to occur.
- Ingesting tin foil and cellophane candy wrappers can pose a choking hazard or cause intestinal blockage.
- Wires and cords from electric lights and other decorations can be dangerous. If chewed, pets could experience damage to their mouths from shards of glass or plastic, or receive a possibly life-threatening electrical shock.
- A carved pumpkin certainly is festive, but do exercise extreme caution when adding a candle. Pets can easily knock a lit pumpkin over and cause a fire. Curious kittens run the risk of getting burned or singed by candle flames.
- Popular Halloween plants such as pumpkins and decorative corn are considered to be relatively nontoxic, yet they can produce gastrointestinal upset should pets ingest them. Intestinal blockage could even occur if large pieces are swallowed.
- Dress up can be a big mess up for some pets. Consider a pet's personal preferences. If a pet is dressed up, make sure the costume isn't annoying or unsafe. It should not constrict the animal's movement or hearing or impede its ability to breathe, bark or meow. Try on costumes before the big night. If a pet seems distressed, allergic or shows abnormal behavior, opt out of dress up.
- Dogs and cats should always have proper identification. If for any reason a pet escapes and becomes lost, a collar and tags and/or a microchip can increase the chances that a pet will be returned.

Pinellas County Animal Services is located at 12450 Ulmerton Road in Largo. Normal hours of operation are Monday to Friday from 9:30 am to 6 pm, with the adoption center closing at 5:30 p.m. Saturday hours are 9 am to 1 pm and services include adoptions.

For information on how to adopt, donate or volunteer at Pinellas County Animal Services call (727) 582-2600 or visit www.pinellascounty.org/animalservices.

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Chapel
By The Sea

**November is
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Every Sunday in November the Chapel is collecting non-perishable food donations to benefit Hope Villages of America (formerly RCS).	Saturday, November 6th 10am - 12pm is the Rise Against Hunger Fundraiser. This year's goal: 20,000 packaged meals and \$6,800.
--	--

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LOCAL AUTHOR'S FIRST NOVEL

Clearwater Beach author, Jan M, Walton has been writing fiction since her teen years. RIVER AVENUE though, is her first novel. Walton coaches people in developing their personal stories as a Guided Autobiography instructor, certified by the Birren Center for Autobiographical Studies.



Originally from Michigan, Walton lived and worked in New York for decades and now savors the beach life in Clearwater.

Her novel RIVER AVENUE is the story of a boy who must decide what kind of man he is when his family is forever changed. It takes place in 1930 in a hardscrabble western Pennsylvania town where life revolves around the rough labor of mining and burning of coal to make "coke" for the Pittsburg steel mills.

Dan, the oldest of seven children growing up on River Avenue, is the quiet peacekeeper in his family, staying out of the way of his domineering father. Dan's emotional center is his loving but distracted mother. When she deteriorates in grief after the death of her five-year-old son, Dan supports his mother's slow efforts to rejoin their family life. On the day he is most hopeful for her recovery, she disappears. Dan struggles to hold life together for his siblings as he seeks answers about his mother. When Dan uncovers devastating secrets his parents kept from each other, he must confront their tyrant father.

Older Dan reflects on the life-altering choices he made and the man he became to save his family.

RIVER AVENUE has received 5-star reviews from readers on Amazon. It is available on Amazon and Barnes&Noble.com.

Learn more about Jan Walton at janmwalton.com.

PIER 60 SUGAR SAND FESTIVAL RETURNS IN 2022

The Pier 60 Sugar Sand Festival returns to bright and beautiful Clearwater Beach in the spring of 2022! Event organizers are thrilled to announce the festival's return on in 2022. From architectural masterpieces created from Clearwater's famous sugar sand to concerts, performers and daily entertainment, the Pier 60 Sugar Sand Festival is a fascinating event attracting visitors from around the world each year. The festival returns to Clearwater Beach in 2022 for its eighth and biggest year yet with the theme "SANDimals, An Animal Adventure."

The festival will again stretch for 17 days - April 8 to 24, 2022. This will allow more time to see it, and give those visiting for Easter a chance to see this incredible and affordable festival.

General admission will be \$12 per person, free for children 3 years old and younger. Discounted tickets for military personnel, police officers, firefighters, teachers and healthcare workers can be purchased for \$10 each on "Frontline Fridays," which are April 8, 15 and 22. These discounted tickets will be available at the gate only with proper identification. All other tickets can be purchased online at SugarSandFestival.com beginning in December 2021.

Out of an abundance of caution due to the ongoing pandemic, the festival was cancelled in 2020 and 2021. Event organizers are preparing a festival that is safe and fun for everyone. Safety guidelines will be announced closer to the event.

Business Briefs

LOCAL FASHION DESIGNER EXPANDING

Donna Kay Malloy and her family relocated to Belleair Bluffs from Ft. Myers Beach In 1983. What initially attracted her to the Bluffs was its designation as a "Bird Sanctuary" and its proximity to the beach. As an artist, both are common themes in her acrylic paintings - nature and landscapes.



After an art exhibit, she was approached by a Canadian manufacturer who wanted to reproduce her original artwork into wearable art. Fast forward to today and she has a private label: "Seaside Art Studio." The ready-to-wear, machine washable clothing line features a variety of styles including long or short sleeved dresses, reversible travel dresses, turtleneck and ballet neck tops, straight skirts with matching scarves, flattering long vests, workout wear, and men's wear. Manufactured by Le Galeriste, the factory is in Montreal, Canada and each item is custom ordered.

Seaside Art Studio has added popular household items such as shower curtains, pillows and tote bags.

Plans are underway to feature Malloy textile designs in area boutiques. In the meantime, you can order directly from her: www.legaleriste.com/seaside.art.studio or 727-254-2562.

The holidays are fast approaching. Give the gift of an original wearable art design this season.

NEW PARKING GARAGE The city knows beach parking is a problem and the owners of Pier 60 Hotel know it better than most. They have a partnership to build a new multi-level parking garage on the corner of South Gulfview Blvd. at Hamden Drive.

Jeff Keierleber, owner of the Pier 60 hotel, is building a new hotel just to the east of Pier 60 Hotel and the parking garage will be used by both hotels and beach visitors. Work has not yet begun on the hotel but they have started work on a new parking garage across the street.

PARTY WITH A PURPOSE Patchingtons, the Belleair Bluff's ladies wear store is once again standing up to domestic violence and bringing awareness and support to our community. One in four women will become a victim to domestic violence in her lifetime, and for more than 21 years, Patchington has been bringing awareness to domestic violence and has contributed over 350,000 garments to local thrift stores to aid victims of Domestic Violence.

During the week of October 26 through November 1st, make a donation of \$10 or a new personal care item and receive 25% off your purchase. All donations from the Belleair Bluffs store will benefit Hope Villages of America,

Find them at 280 Indian Rocks Road N., or Patchington.com



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Business Briefs



HEADLINES IS NOW "MY SALON"

In August, Tasha Johnson sold Headlines Salon in the Belleair Bluff's Plaza to Alison Hall. Hall, who owned a salon east of the Belleair Bluffs on West Bay Drive, changed the salon's name to My Salon, but nothing else has changed.

CAPPELLO RETURNING Cappello & Co Jewelry once was in Belleair Bluff's The Plaza, but relocated to a Seminole location on Park Blvd. Now, they are coming back to The Plaza.

Owner and Belleair resident Joe Cappello is moving back, into the space previously home to Galleria Misto, next to E&E Stakeout. Construction has begun with a goal of a November opening.

"I plan to be open by the holidays," says Cappello. Call him at 585-5700 for more information.

FREE GLAUCOMA SCREENING In honor of World Sight Day, Belleair Opticians and its local sponsors St Luke's Hospital, Belleair Coffee, and Lions Club, are offering a FREE glaucoma screening on Thursday, October 14th. Enjoy a cup of coffee with your screening.

Glaucoma is a (multi-factorial) complex eye disease that damages the optic nerve over time, leading to vision loss or complete blindness. More than 3 million Americans are living with glaucoma, yet understanding and awareness of the disease is low.

According to the American Optometric Association (AOA, 2014), 72% of Americans don't know glaucoma typically has no early warning signs or symptoms. That is why it is important to also have a regular eye exam with your Eye Care Professional.

Please make your appointment by calling 584-0730. Screening starts at 10am. Space is very limited. Take the opportunity to bring your old glasses in for donation and help people conserve sight throughout the world!

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT October begins open Medicare enrollment. This year there are many new plans and options available and it can be very confusing. Independent agent and longtime resident Linda Bullerman works with different companies and is authorized to offer many options and plans. Consultations and services are free. Call her direct, 727-501-1444.

BOAT SLIPS AVAILABLE The new Marriott Courtyard on East Shore Drive has 50 boat slips on the Mandalay Channel that can be rented hourly to go to area restaurants. They also are available for daily rent with your hotel room.

A limited number are available long-term, monthly or annually for private or commercial boats.

"We have had far more people inquire about renting spaces than we have space available," says the hotel manager.

The Marriott, which plans to open mid-November, is using the company Oasis to handle the slip rentals.

BUSINESS NEWS WANTED If your business has news you would like to share with the readers of this News Magazine, e-mail Bob@GriffinDirectories.com or call 727-430-8300.

Business Briefs

BIG MAN'S WINS #1 BEST MOVER

Annually, readers of the Tampa Bay Times vote on the best businesses in Tampa Bay. Big Man's Moving Company, based in our community, has won the #1 Best Mover in Tampa Bay 2-consecutive years!

Owners, Josh and Brooke Anderson, experienced a terrible local move themselves which fueled their desire to start a moving company. Using wedding gifts to purchase their first truck in January 2017, the fleet has now grown to 7 trucks.



"Reinvesting into our business has always been a top priority. 5 of our 7 trucks are brand new, and this offers reliability for our customers." Big Man's Moving has completed 3800 successful local, statewide, and out-of-state moves and offers packing services.

"Neighbors have given us a chance, had a great experience, and told their friends. Their word of mouth and recommendations have been instrumental in the success of our business. We are grateful to have over 400 5-star reviews," says Brook

"Honestly, this award is dedicated entirely to our team. They are good, honest people who genuinely care and work very hard," says Josh. "The greatest challenge and reward in business ownership has been finding the right people with a positive attitude and mindset." Big Man's movers are all full-time, W2 employees covered by workers compensation.

Contact Big Man's Moving Company at Bigmansmoving.com or call 727-772-3458.

NEW HISPANIC FARMERS MARKET The new Clearwater Hispanic Farmers Market is a unique farmers market that creates a Hispanic cultural experience and vegetables, fruits, flowers, and plants with a twist. Enjoy Hispanic folklore dance groups and children singing, cultural encounters through Latin cuisine, craft-makers, talavera art, and so much more. Upcoming dates are Oct. 16 – 17 and November 20-21 from 9am – 3pm at 710 Court Street, Clearwater.

SENIOR ASSISTANCE Trusted Senior Solutions, a family-owned and operated company founded by Largo natives provides personalized daily living assistance and home care for people who need help, but want to remain in their own home. Services include: emotional support and companionship, non-Medical 24-Hour live-in care, running errands, social outings, transportation to doctor and hospital visits, meal planning/preparation, and grocery shopping.

They hire experienced and compassionate caregivers and only select the top 5% that apply. All caregivers are employees of Trusted Senior Solutions, receive a level 2 background check, and are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Caregivers are provided with extensive training through The Institute for Professional Care.

Trusted Senior Solutions recognizes the value of living at home surrounded by all that is familiar and comfortable. They know that an individual's peace of mind, comfort, and independence is accomplished through their attention to detail, quality, companionship, and care. Call (727) 472-7516 for more information or visit www.trustedseniorsolutions.com.

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KICK ONE BACK

All children need shoes that fit. Many children we serve come in with shoes that are too small or too large, have holes and no support. Shoes are part of the school wardrobe that every child gets when they shop at Clothes To Kids. Each year, they distribute more than 13,000 pairs of shoes.

What is Kick Back One? A fun evening of networking, live music, food and open bar on October 21st from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Hyde House. Kick One Back will greatly help raise awareness and funds needed in order to give each kid a pair of shoes that fit!! Purchase a ticket at: www.clothes-to-kids-inc.networkforgood.com/events/33253-kick-one-back-2021.

Clothes To Kids was founded in 2002 with a mission of providing new and quality used clothing to low-income or in crisis school-age children, free of charge. Students eligible for free or reduced priced lunch qualify to "shop" at Clothes To Kids. Clothes To Kids is privately funded and relies on donations of clothing and funding from the community to sustain operations. Since its inception, Clothes To Kids has distributed more than 160,000 wardrobes to children in need at its three stores. Tampa - 5011-H West Hillsborough Avenue, Clearwater - 1059 North Hercules Avenue and St. Pete - 2168 34th Street South. Cash donations are tax-deductible and can be mailed to 1059 N. Hercules Avenue, Clearwater, FL 33765 or dropped off at any CTK store. All donations are gladly accepted Monday through Friday, 9am to 4pm. For more information about our mission visit www.clothestokids.org.

OKTOBERFEST ON THE BEACH

Mark Your Calendar - October 23, Noon to 6pm, when the 19th Oktoberfest on the Beach returns. The beachy version of the German festival will be held in Kolb Park in Indian Rocks Beach, across the street from City Hall.

Although the event this year may be a bit scaled back, they plan to have the same fun and excitement of past years. There will be a special silent auction for, an original Plein Aire Cottage Artist painting by Indian Rocks' very own artist, Mary Rose Holmes. Don't miss your opportunity to bid on it at the Action 2000 booth.

Emcee Mark Ralston will be the music DJ and announcer. There will also be German musicians and dancers to keep it lively.

The popular Oktoberfest games will continue with the Keg Throwing Contest, and Stein Carrying Contest...great enjoyment whether you're participating or a spectator cheering on the winners. The grand prize 50/50 raffle is a big draw, and the winner does not have to be present to win.

Food vendors will line the street, and of course it wouldn't be Oktoberfest without having brats and much more to feast on. A new addition to the Crabby Family, Pipo N Betty's Bakery will be selling some of their signature desserts too!

From noon to 6pm they will be serving cold Sam Adams Beer and Miller lite, along with wine. Sponsors are highlighted on their website and Facebook and promoted on the day of event. This community event would not happen without them.

For information about the event, or to volunteer, visit irbaction2000.com, or e-mail info@irbaction2000.com.

CLEARWATER COAST GUARD AUXILIARY BOATING SAFETY CLASSES

Virtual Classes, A New Way to Learn

During the last quarter of 2021, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 11-1, with operations based in Clearwater will be conducting a training program for people interested in improving their knowledge of boats and associated topics. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, all sessions are conducted over the Internet using Zoom. These classes are not your standard webinar sessions where students sit at their computers and are lectured at. And they're not animated cartoon sessions where you have to keep pressing enter to get to the next topic.

The classes being offered by the Clearwater Coast Guard Auxiliary are conducted on Zoom with the same instructors they would have had in the classroom and includes lots of questions and answers. In addition, because they're on the Internet, there's no commuting to a classroom – the students can be anywhere in Florida!

The Boat America virtual class consists of six lessons: Know Your Boat, Before Getting Underway, Navigating Your Boat Safely, Operating Your Boat Safely, the Legal Requirements of Boating, Boating Emergencies and Enjoying Water Sports with Your Boat. All materials are included in the cost of \$40 per participant.

When this program is completed with a passing grade of 80 or better, a certificate of achievement will be issued. Within approximately three weeks following successful fulfillment, the State of Florida will issue a permanent boating card. The National Association of States Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) approves all of the program's content. As an additional bonus, boat owners may be qualified for a

discount through local insurance agencies. Successful accomplishment also meets the State of Florida requirements for operating a boat by persons born after January 1, 1988.



All sessions are held on Saturday and Sunday mornings, from 9am to 2pm. The dates of the program are:

- October 23 and 24
- November 20 and 21
- December 18 and 19

Join the hundreds of members of the boating public who have graduated with honors from these courses. Contact the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Clearwater Flotilla, for boating safety classes at: www.clwboatingsafety.com or by email at clwtr.auxboating@gmail.com or call 727-469-8895. Also, find us on Facebook at #clearwatercgaux.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is a uniformed civilian volunteer component of the United States Coast Guard created by an Act of Congress in 1939. The Auxiliary, America's Volunteer Guardians, supports the Coast Guard in nearly all of the service's missions.

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100 YEARS AGO - THE HURRICANE OF 1921

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

October is the 100th anniversary of the last hurricane to directly hit Pinellas County. There have been close calls since, but this was the last storm that made landfall here—meaning a part of the eye passed over the county.

100 years ago, storms were not given names. Naming hurricanes started in 1950, before that, hurricanes were referred to by the date, or area they did the most damage. Because of that, records refer to it as “The Hurricane of 1921” (locals called it the “Tarpon Springs Hurricane”).

The storm, as many do in October, formed in the Western Caribbean. It moved northeast towards Tampa Bay. The storm made landfall on October 25 when the eye of the hurricane passed over Tarpon Springs.

Although it was before storm rankings were created, it is estimated the hurricane was a Category 3 and produced sustained winds of approximately 115 miles per hour. Due to the reverse clockwise circulation, most damage and flooding happened after landfall—south and inland in the Tampa area. Much of the storm’s surge was diverted into Tampa Bay through the shipping channel. Eight people died.

Every city on the west coast of Pinellas County had flooding. The barrier islands were underwater. Major flooding was reported in Tampa and Oldsmar and as far south as Bradenton and Sarasota.

Before the storm, Caladesi Island was connected to Honeymoon Island. The hurricane separated them, creating the pass—appropriately named “Hurricane Pass” navigation charts—that still exists.

The front page of the then *St. Petersburg Times* reported that Pass-A-Grille was virtually wiped out, killing 150 people. The American Red Cross and U.S. Navy rushed pine caskets and relief supplies to the area—but no bodies were found. The next day, the same paper printed a

retraction; Pass-A-Grille was still there. In truth, Pass-A-Grille was reported to have five to seven feet of flood waters. A hotel, beach pavilion, and numerous cottages were destroyed, but no one died.

The Indian Rocks Beach Pavilion (later named the Brandon Pavilion) was knocked off its foundation. The Casino in Gulfport was destroyed (it was rebuilt). All the wooden buildings at the Pinellas County Fairgrounds in Largo were uninhabitable. The St Pete Beach Hotel was destroyed.

Many buildings on Clearwater’s mainland were severely damaged, including the Clearwater Icehouse, the City’s Power Plant, a movie theater, and a hotel. Residences, large and small, were damaged or destroyed. Newly installed electric and phone lines were downed, leaving the city with no power or phone service for months.

The City of Oldsmar was devastated by storm surge, estimated to be six feet. Many homes there were demolished, but fortunately no one was killed. Numerous cattle reportedly drowned.

Years later, a Oldsmar resident, who survived the Hurricane of 1921, recounted how four to five feet of water surrounded their home. The family brought the farm’s chickens and cows onto the front porch to keep them from drowning.

Six public piers in downtown St. Petersburg were knocked down. The City rebuilt one—the Million Dollar Pier, which reopened in 1926. Tides in St. Petersburg were reported to be eight feet above normal, capsizing and sinking many ships and fishing boats in the harbor.

The offices of the *St Petersburg Times* were underwater forcing the staff to work by the light of oil lanterns to get the next day’s issue out.

Two people died in St Petersburg—one by heart attack and another when a roof landed on him.

In Tampa, the storm surge was much higher—ten to twelve feet—with sustained winds of 75 miles per hour. In downtown Tampa, most of the damage was the result of flooding, with the worst being on Bayshore Blvd.

Businessmen recently had begun building bridges across the Intracoastal: Indian Rocks, St Pete Beach, Clearwater Beach, and in Seminole. Every one of them were knocked down except the Indian Rocks Beach bridge. It was shorter and stocky, helping it to survive, although a fish house that broke loose became lodged underneath it. It stayed there about a week.

It is surprising so few people were reported killed. That is primarily because very few people lived here. The Census of 1920 reports only 28,300 Pinellas County residents. Compare that to the 2020 Census with 959,107.

A main casualty of the storm was the area’s agriculture. Crop damage was extensive as 90 percent of county’s the land was farms and citrus groves. They estimate 50-70% of the produce lost was worth \$1 million.

Other casualties were tourism and real estate. If word spread Pinellas County had been devastated and it was likely to have more hurricanes, people would stay away.

Local officials and Realtors—and later the media—attempted to cover up the truth by downplaying the damage, all to protect Tampa’s image as the “Year ‘Round City.”

On October 28, ten days later, the *Tampa Tribune* printed a story saying everyone agrees the storm was a one time event and “all are working together to rebuild the devastated areas, with a firm conviction that there will not be another storm of such severity during the life of anyone now living.”

And it seems they might have been right. ■



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DROWSY DRIVING

From the Desk of Sheriff Bob Gualtieri

On September 5, 2008, 8 year old Ronshay Dugans was on the way to an after-school program when the driver of a cement truck fell asleep behind the wheel and crashed into the back of her school bus. Ronshay was killed. Two years later, the Florida Legislature passed the Ronshay Dugans Act that designated the first week of September as "Drowsy Driving Prevention Week."

A survey conducted by the National Sleep Foundation, found at least 50% of adults have admittedly driven while drowsy, and 20% have fallen asleep at the wheel. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration there are about 100,000 reported crashes involving drowsy driving; the number is likely significantly higher since it is difficult to determine whether a driver was drowsy at the time of a crash.

Like drunk driving, drowsy driving kills. Prescription medications, lack of sleep, work, undiagnosed disorders like sleep apnea, and jet-lag can cause drowsiness. Drowsiness impacts your reaction time, decreases awareness of your surroundings, and impairs your judgment.

Before hitting the road, make sure you get enough sleep (seven to nine hours for adults, eight to ten for teenagers) and confirm that any medications you take don't cause drowsiness. For longer trips, schedule stops every 100 miles or two hours and ask a friend to tag along to help you stay awake and focused.

Once you're behind the wheel, monitoring yourself for warning signs of drowsiness is crucial. Some common warning signs are frequent blinking, difficulty focusing on the road, having trouble remembering the last few miles driven, drifting from your lane, and the feeling of restlessness or disconnected thoughts. If you notice yourself experiencing any of these pull over to a safe place to get some rest, stretch, or get a caffeinated beverage. Once you feel alert and refreshed it's safe to continue driving.

Crashes caused by drowsiness are 100% preventable. The rush to get to where you're going is not worth risking your safety and the safety of others. Taking the time to check your alertness could save you from a potentially life changing accident.

FIRE PREVENTION FACTS

Did you know if a fire starts in your home, you may have as little as two minutes to escape? With proper preparedness, you can help keep your family and friends safe from fire.

From 2017 to 2019, an estimated 2,770 civilian fire fatalities occurred from 1,900 fatal fires in residential buildings and 368,500 residential building fires. National estimates for that time period show civilian fire fatalities in residential buildings accounted for 77% of all fire fatalities

Fire safety measures include those that are intended to prevent ignition of an uncontrolled fire and those that are used to limit the development and effects of a fire after it starts.

There are many ways to increase the fire safety of a product, from its design to the material use and its application. Using flame retardants remains one of the most effective ways to prevent or slow ignition. Flame retardants are a critical tool that helps to inhibit a fire.

Codes and Standards establish minimum performance requirements for how a product responds to ignition sources such as flame, spark or other heat sources. Properly placed smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors pay a vital role in reducing fire deaths and injury.

Check your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors monthly to ensure they are working properly and the batteries are functioning. Have an escape plan for when things go bad.

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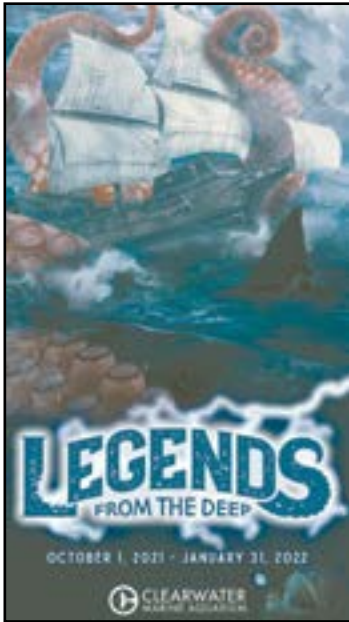
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NEW CMA EXHIBIT OPENS

Legends from the Deep



Clearwater Marine Aquarium proudly announces the opening for its newest exhibit, *Legends from the Deep*. The exhibit is set to run through January 31, 2022.

Legends from the Deep will occupy the fourth floor of CMA's newly expanded visitor center previously dedicated to the most recent exhibit, Whales: Living with Giants. Guests will be immersed into the amazing and mysterious wonders that lurk beneath the surface of our oceans through this multi-media exhibition that highlights living, prehistoric, and mythological creatures.

"This exhibit brings these creepy and really mesmerizing animals to life for our guests

in a way they haven't experienced before," said COO Lisa Oliver. "You find yourself immersed in what may seem to be a fictional place that is in fact very real. We hope guests have a lot of fun exploring the exhibit but also that they learn something about these animals along the way," said Oliver.

Guests will learn how pollution, entanglement in fishing gear, and vessel strikes are negatively impacting these creatures of the deep and how they can have a role in affecting change in human behavior to protect all marine animals.

Clearwater Marine Aquarium is also collaborating with virtual reality entertainment group Immotion to bring a fully immersive VR theatre complete with motion-platform seating to CMA during the exhibit. "The Legend of Lusca" will have visitors aboard a mini-submarine and on an action-packed undersea dive with a surprise or two along the way.

Clearwater Marine Aquarium recently underwent an \$80 million expansion project complete with a visitor center and 1.5 million gallon dolphin habitat that opened to the public in October 2020.

The exhibit is included with the price of admission. The VR Dive is an add-on experience that guests can purchase in advance or on-site. Visitors can book tickets and learn more at cmaquarium.org.

TURTLE HATCHLINGS & RED TIDE

According to The Clearwater Marine Aquarium, there is no scientific evidence at this time that suggests newly emerged hatchlings or nests are negatively impacted by red tide events. Hatchlings likely do not spend much time in any areas with high concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (the red tide organism) because they are constantly moving (or being moved). Additionally, the primary route of lethal exposure to brevetoxin for sea turtles is through ingestion of food containing brevetoxin. Hatchling sea turtles subsist on internalized yolk for at least a week or so before they begin feeding. By then, they are well away from near shore areas where red tide blooms often persist. Hatchlings could be exposed to brevetoxin in aerosols and may experience some irritation to their respiratory track but, at present, we do not have any indication that this causes mortality of noticeably affects behavior.

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Bar & Restaurant News



BACKWATERS TAKES A TRIP ON THE TROLLEY

Thirty people started their day with Bloody Marys at Backwaters around 11:30 on Saturday, September 18th. They boarded a chartered Jolly Trolley and headed for one of the oldest restaurants the area, Woody's on Blind Pass. By starting there they were able to visit other places along that strip including The Toasted

in

Monkey, 82 Degrees, Oyster Shuckers and Buoyos. From there they went to Ricky T's, Sloppy Joe's across the street and some went to the VIP for Mexican food next to Ricky T's. Then they headed off to John's Pass to visit The Hut, Hooters and several more while a few people went to the VFW at John's Pass. The last stop around 6 PM was the Dog and Parrot on Indian Shores where we could also get some whole belly clams at DJ's Clam Shack! Great trip with plenty of fun, dancing, eating and our their Trolley party!

LITTLE ANTHONY'S This new pizza spot is replacing Extreme Pizza. Its storefront is still under construction but should open in November. Find them at 407 Mandalay, across from The Hilton.

STONE CRAB SEASON FESTIVALS RETURN

Stone Crab claws will return to area restaurant menus on October 15th. The Red Tide's effect on this year's season is still unknown, but as of now, the conditions look good for a normal harvest. Supplies and costs won't be known until fisherman have their traps in the water. Clearwater Stone Crab festival weekend will be October 22-24.



Cooter's Restaurant and Bar is hosting their 28th Annual "Crab Fest" Friday through Sunday. Their event features "Boat Loads" of fresh stone crabs and Snow Crab—all at deeply discounted prices. They will also have live music, commemorative T-Shirts, and food and drink specials. Find Cooters at 423 Poinsettia Avenue, www.Cooters.com.

The Palm Pavilion is holding their Stone Crab Festival inside their beach-front restaurant Friday through Sunday. They too will have live music, souvenir T-Shirts and lots of discounted Stone Crab Claws (while supply lasts). Find them at 10 Bay Esplanade, near the Fire Station.

Frenchy's will celebrate the arrival of Stone Crab Season with Frenchy's Stone Crab Weekend, however, like last year, the traditional "Block Party" on Baymont Street has been cancelled due to Covid-19 concerns. Discounted claw prices and collectible merchandise will be available at all six Frenchy's locations.

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Bar & Restaurant News



CAFÉ LARGO CELEBRATES 35 YEARS Chef Dominique Christini and his wife Kathy opened their French café that specializes in classic French cuisine in 1986. They have won many awards through the years and have created the perfect spot for a romantic dinner or an evening with friends.

They are located in a quiet courtyard in the Galleria Plaza at 12551 Indian Rocks Road, in Largo, just north of Anona Elementary School.

See their menu online at CafeLargoRestaurant.com.

BLINKER'S CHANGES OWNERSHIP Owners Gary and Sandy sold the restaurant to Russ Wanner. Find Blinkers at 476 Mandalay Avenue across from Pelican Plaza.

CRYPTO STREET This small restaurant is opening soon in place of Cousin's Maine Lobster. The new concept will have Crypto Currency decor while serving American food with a Latin flair including hearty sandwiches, homemade soups, premium ingredient charcuterie boards, salads and serving fine wines and specialty beers. They are projecting to open this month.

NEW SUSHI RESTAURANT

Sekushi Sushi owner Frank Manella, tells us construction is going well on his new sushi restaurant in Belleair Bluffs at the north end of The Plaza. He still hopes to open in November.

Manella says, "the restaurant will have a full bar with plenty of outside dining and a dedicated area for curbside pick-up."



The restaurant has already started accepting reservations for private holiday parties. See their web site and menu online at www.SekushiOnTheBeach.com.

Manella has another sushi restaurant Sekushi on the Beach, located at 524 Mandalay Avenue, Clearwater Beach.

CLOSED Extreme Pizza, 407 Mandalay Avenue

RESTAURANT NEWS WANTED If you have news or suggestions for this newsletter, let us know. Our email is Bob@GriffinDirectories.com or call us at 430-8300.

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ADDING A CHILDREN'S GARDEN TO FLORIDA BOTANICAL GARDENS

The Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation (Foundation) is excited to share the plans to build a new children's garden at the Florida Botanical Gardens. The 2+ acres site, located along McKay Creek, will feature a 600 sq. ft outdoor classroom, nature-themed play experiences, exploratory trails, a "Roots and shoots" potting area and Florida-Friendly gardens and exhibits.

In 2019, their fundraising effort commenced with an initial goal of \$1.5 Million to design, construct, operate and provide an initial programming budget. The Foundation intended to build the Garden in phases as fundraising efforts occurred. During this time, a wonderful donor, the Majeed Foundation came forward with encouragement and a donation of \$1 Million to build the entire children's garden, future enhancements and endowment.

Out of St. Petersburg, the Majeed Foundation has been instrumental in bringing positive change to the Tampa Bay community, through sponsorship of botanical beautification projects, food donation initiatives, and support of the arts, including the world-class Dali Museum. The Majeed Foundation was created by the generosity of Kamal Majeed, Ph.D, & Najla Majeed.

This new addition to the Florida Botanical Gardens will be named the Majeed Discovery Garden in recognition of the Majeed Foundation's generous gift and because the purpose of the Garden is to start kids on a path of discovery of nature and the environment.

Construction of the Majeed Discovery Garden is slated to begin in January, 2022, and be completed by late summer.

The new Majeed Discovery Garden will be under the auspices of the Pinellas County Parks and Conservation Resources department for general and landscape maintenance. Educational programming will be managed by the Foundation with support from the Pinellas County University of Florida/IFAS Extension Service.

Fundraising efforts will continue through the completion of construction as the Foundation must raise an additional \$500,000 to complete the garden due to a significant rise in construction costs.

To view the plans and for information about the Foundation and how you can support the new Majeed Discovery Garden visit the Foundation's website: www.flbgfoundation.org/childrensgarden. For information about the Majeed Foundation, visit: <https://www.majeedfoundation.org>.

CLEARWATER FREE CLINIC: A SAFETY NET FOR UNINSURED FAMILIES

What does it mean to be a safety net? At the Clearwater Free Clinic, it is to serve the low-income, uninsured families in our community with comprehensive medical and mental healthcare. Clinic patients struggle to make ends meet even without the high costs of health insurance premiums and copays. This means that accessible healthcare is often out of reach. Many patients are working either full-time, part-time or are self-employed, which can disqualify them from government-funded, community-based healthcare resources. Others may have lost their job and their health insurance along with it. With health conditions and without any other options, where would you go for your care?

It is common for the uninsured to rely on emergency rooms for access to medications or treatment for non-emergent health problems. This is where the Clearwater Free Clinic comes

in! The Clinic is a medical home for the uninsured; nearly any service needed is delivered by CFC staff, volunteers, or community partners who donate life-saving procedures and diagnostic testing that are not available at the Clinic's facility. Yes, this includes just about every specialty! We work to keep the community moving by providing follow-up and preventative care through an integrated healthcare approach. Quality is not sacrificed because we do not charge a fee for services. In fact, many Clinic patients who were previously insured say they receive better care here than they ever did at a traditional doctors' office!

We are proud to have been a part of the community's health care system, helping our uninsured neighbors for 44 years. Want to know how you can help? Visit www.clearwaterfreeclinic.org to donate, volunteer

RED TIDE ORIGINS & SOLUTIONS AS DEEP AS THE GULF ITSELF

By Karen Williams Seel, Pinellas County Commissioner

This year's red tide outbreak reminds us of the fragility of our coastal environment and its inhabitants. Seeing the thousands of tons of dead marine life taken by the blooms is heart-wrenching. Why these blooms keep happening and what makes them worse some years is a question scientists have been researching for years. Some of those scientists are right here in Pinellas County, specifically at the College of Marine Science at the University of South Florida and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, both with facilities in St. Petersburg.

I was fascinated to learn about a 2016 study authored by researchers from both institutions that investigated a way to predict seasonal blooms of *Karenia brevis*, the most common organism that causes red tide in Florida and the Gulf of Mexico. The study reviewed 23 years of Gulf of Mexico loop current data and the current's interaction with the West Florida Shelf, the shallow underwater shelf that follows the west coast of Florida from the Keys to the Panhandle.

The study found in years when loop currents in the Gulf interacted with the slope of the shelf near the Dry Tortugas it created, what the authors called, a "pressure point" that set the circulation of the shelf in motion. The motion can lift inorganic nutrients from deeper depths across the entire shelf, changing the state of nutrients and suppressing blooms.

The study also found that there is a consistent pattern between the duration of the pressure point loop current occurrences and the severity of *Karenia brevis* blooms. Years with major blooms tend not to have prolonged pressure point contact near the Dry Tortugas, whereas years without major blooms tend to have prolonged contact with the pressure point. This identified cycle suggests that "resetting," or I might call it

"redistributing," the nutrients of the West Florida Shelf by this circulation pattern suppresses bloom formation.

A 2019 study conducted by researchers from the same institutions supported this conclusion, finding that the intense red tide bloom of 2018 was confirmed to have begun offshore due to the same circulation patterns noted in the 2016 study.

While man-made sources of nutrients do add to the intensity and duration of a bloom, research shows that the ecology of the Gulf is complex and is influenced by a multitude of factors that can result in devastating red tides or beautiful clear, blue water lapping at our sandy beaches.

Either way, Pinellas County and our partners work hard year-round to avoid or mitigate the impacts of red tide every day by implementing projects and programs to improve water quality, monitoring and assessing environmental conditions, and through outreach and engagement with our community.

If you would like to read the 2016 study, visit <https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/2016JC011938>. The 2019 study is also available by visiting <https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1029/2018JC014887>.

To learn more about the local research being conducted by the University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, and the Florida Wildlife Commission, visit <http://ocgweb.marine.usf.edu/> and <https://myfwc.com/research/>. And to learn more about Pinellas County's efforts to mitigate red tide locally, visit <https://www.pinellascounty.org/redtide>.

As always, if you have comments or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at kseel@pinellascounty.org.



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FRENCHY'S RESTAURANTS - 40 YEARS OF SEAFOOD AND FUN

By Bob Griffin

There have been Frenchy's restaurants on Clearwater Beach as long as most of us can remember. Frenchy's Original Café on Baymont Avenue has been here the longest—40 years in October.

The Baymont Avenue restaurant was the beginning of the Frenchy's legacy that today consists of five Frenchy's restaurants, three Clear Sky restaurants, a gift shop with many custom items, a waterfront hotel on East Shore Drive, a seafood market that ships fresh seafood and stone crabs all over the United States, and a fleet of fishing boats and processing center.

Famous for their grouper sandwiches, today, the name Frenchy is synonymous with Clearwater dining. The restaurants' laid-back atmosphere and food is not only enjoyed by visitors, but a favorite of locals, too. With all the choices out there, that says a lot.

Michael "Frenchy" Preston is the man behind the Frenchy's empire. He was born in Quebec, a French-speaking province of Canada. When he was in middle school, his family moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan. Preston grew up in a bilingual household, and when his new Michigan friends heard him speaking French with his mom, they started calling him "Frenchy" and it stuck.

Shortly after high school, Frenchy, and some friends, took a vacation to Clearwater Beach. He loved it so much he decided to stay and got a job at a local restaurant. He worked hard learning every job as he progressed from dishwasher to manager. After eight years in the industry, he was ready to make his dream a reality – opening his own restaurant.

Frenchy's goal was simple: to have a friendly, laid-back place where people could come to enjoy a cold drink and fresh seafood. In 1981, Frenchy's Original Café, the quaint restaurant on a tiny side street on the north end of

the beach, opened its doors to the beach community. The Café became an instant success, with lines of people stretching out the door, daily.

To ensure a constant source of fresh fish to his Café, Frenchy purchased a fleet of fishing boats and eventually opened Frenchy's Seafood Company.

With these resources in place, Frenchy's became "famous" for its fresh Super Grouper sandwich, leading to the opening of five more restaurants: Frenchy's Saltwater Café in 1989, Frenchy's Rockaway Grill in 1991, Frenchy's South Beach Cafe in 2003, Frenchy's Outpost Bar & Grill in 2013, and Frenchy's To Go in 2020—plus the Frenchy's Off The Hook gift shop, located next to the Original Baymont Café.

For the last four decades, the Frenchy's restaurants have been regarded as the place to go for delicious, fresh-from-the-Gulf seafood (and stone crabs) at reasonable prices - in a fun and casual beach atmosphere.

Probably the best known and most visited is Frenchy's Rockaway, named for its address - 7 Rockaway Street – directly on the beach. "Rockaway" as it is known by locals will be 30 years old in November.

Located in Palm Harbor, Frenchy's Stone Crab Company is the only processing plant solely dedicated to Florida stone crab claws. Their state-of-the-art facility cooks the fresh catch the same day it is harvested to provide the freshest claws possible.

For more than 30 years, Frenchy's Stone Crab Company has worked with independent crabbers that focus only on the Florida stone crab. With the support of these professional crab boat captains – many who've been crabbing for Frenchy's for over 20 years - they harvest, cook and ship stone crabs fresh, never frozen from October 15 to May 15.

Their fresh seafood is shipped overnight to other restaurants, seafood markets, dealers, caterers, supermarkets and distributors



The first Frenchy's restaurant - Baymont Avenue

around the country. You can order seafood from Frenchy's Stone Crab Company and have it shipped fresh overnight to your front door.

Frenchy partnered with Dan Shouvin to open Clear Sky Beachside Cafe on Mandalay Avenue. That popular restaurant led to three more - Clear Sky on Cleveland, Clear Sky Draught Haus in Dunedin, Clear Sky Club Haus in Palm Harbor and soon a future Clear Sky in Seminole.

In 2010, Frenchy continued building his Clearwater Beach enterprises with the purchase of the former Olympia Motel, located on East Shore Drive. After months of extensive renovations, Frenchy's Oasis Motel opened, boasting a 15-unit waterfront property, classically designed in retro style of the 1960s, offering fantastic modern accommodations.

37 years ago, Frenchy held the first Stone Crab Festival in Clearwater Beach, corresponding with the opening of Stone Crab Season (October 15th). The street party became so popular, it expanded into a three-day festival with live bands closing the street. Unfortunately, this year's festival, planned for October 22-24, will not have a street party. Due to Covid concerns, it is being held inside each restaurant.

Frenchy has done his part for the local community, too, donating to many area causes and hosting an annual tennis tournament for charity.

"Michael is an amazing success story-- from being a dishwasher to becoming a restaurant icon," says Mayor Frank Hibbard. "The best thing about Frenchy is that he remembers his roots and has given back to organizations like big brothers and big sisters. He wants to help people succeed and live the American dream." ■



The original Frenchy's restaurant on Baymont Avenue, today

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FOUNDATION FINANCES BEACH-ACCESS MATS FOR AREA BEACHES

People come from near and far to enjoy Tampa Bay’s world-class shoreline, which boasts some of the most beautiful beaches in the world. Now, a team of local activists is calling on city leaders to make Tampa Bay’s beaches the most accessible in the world by offering to fund a much-needed amenity: mobility mats.

Residents and visitors with mobility issues have long had difficulty accessing the waterfront. According to the CDC, 28% of adults in Florida live with a disability. Mobility challenges, the most common type of disability, affects 1 in 7 U.S. adults.

The Forward Foundation, a private foundation based in Clearwater, is partnering with Help Us Gather (HUG) and the Disability Achievement Center, two local nonprofits that serve individuals with special needs, to give area cities a unique offer: a blank check to every beach-facing city in the Tampa Bay area interested in installing a mobility mat.

Mobility mats are non-slip pathways that help individuals with mobility challenges avoid getting stuck in the soft, uneven sand, allowing them to access the beach safely and easily.

“Human equality is one of the cornerstones of our foundation, and right now people with mobility issues do not have equal access to Tampa Bay’s beaches,” says Robin Lally, Co-President of the Forward Foundation. “We want to see beaches that everyone can enjoy and the Forward Foundation is willing to write a big check to fund it. We are hoping this will be an offer the cities can’t refuse.”

“Some people can’t even get beyond the curb at beaches in our area,” says Michael Ciafone, a local activist with mobility challenges who has for years been advocating for local cities

to install mobility mats. “Seniors and people pushing strollers also use the mats to walk on the beach because it’s more stable. Everyone should have the chance to get to the beach and participate in family activities.”

According to one popular brand, MobiMat, only about 30 public parks and beaches in the state of Florida have a MobiMat installed. MobiMat reps say the average cost to purchase and install one of their mobility mats ranges from \$4,000-\$20,000.

“We have seen firsthand how important mobility mats are in creating equity for every person in our community,” says Jody Armstrong, Director of Outreach at Disability Achievement Center in Largo. “Cities that install mobility mats prove how much they value being inclusive for residents and visitors alike.”

Help Us Gather (HUG) is part of a 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in Clearwater, Florida. HUG’s mission is to advocate for inclusion and connect individuals with disabilities to social events and activities. For more information or interview requests, contact HUG at (727) 489 - 5885 or email events@helpusgather.org.



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TOP 10 LANDSCAPE MISTAKES

By Randy Lee

1. Ignoring the curb appeal of the home. Curb appeal makes a statement about your home- it's the first thing people see and it's meant to draw people in.
2. Over watering the landscape. This includes the lawn, trees, flowers and shrubs. Over watering is worse than under watering. In the summer months you may want to turn your irrigation system off completely.
3. Not budgeting in advance or not having a realistic budget. Projects always cost more than you think and you may need another 30% as a contingency fund. Do the landscape design in stages- one area at a time if needed but do it correctly.
4. Choosing the wrong plants. I see this all the time. You must take into consideration shade vs. sun and dry vs. wet conditions. Right plant right place or your landscape will fail.
5. No fertilization plan. Trees, shrubs and sod need constant care and fertilization. Without a plan your landscape will not thrive. Sod also needs insect, weed and fungus control. Find a licensed spray company.
6. Planting too deep. This is a common mistake of home owners. Planting too deep suffocates the root system of plants and trees. Always plant at grade level- this means where the soil level is prior to planting.
7. Making patios and decks too small. A common mistake I see all too often; again proportion here. Always make larger than you think and remember where furniture will need to go and the space that it will take up.
8. No landscape lighting. Many beautiful landscapes have no lighting and cannot be viewed at night. Most of

our designs now incorporate LED lighting for nighttime viewing and for security concerns. Don't let your landscape go to bed after dark!

9. Not accounting for privacy. They say hedges make great neighbors! Areas where you want privacy-bedroom windows, around the pool and hot tub and driveways need to be thought out in advance, what materials to use and how to make these areas more private when designing the landscape.

10. Not hiring a landscape designer that can put a plan in motion. Make sure the contractor is qualified-licensed, bonded and insured is a good place to start. Make sure they have the knowledge to design a comprehensive plan for you and your family. I have many clients that call after landscaping many times and spending lots of money- do it right the first time.



CHECKLIST

- Fertilizer ban ends October 1
- Last chance to fertilize and prune before winter
- Start of the dry season- normally
- Strong storms may last into November
- We plant winter flowers the beginning of November

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Community News...

CLEARWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Learn about local culture, automobiles, and history at the unique Tampa Bay Area Museum Expo. Downtown Clearwater's own Clearwater Historical Society Museum and Cultural Center hosts the expo from 10 am – 2 pm on October 30.

The event's purpose is to raise community awareness of the role Tampa Bay's museums play in showcasing the area's special character. Admission is free.

"Without museums, we would lose our heritage and history," said Alex Casano, the Events Coordinator for the Clearwater Historical Society. "The pandemic challenged many organizations, including museums. This is a chance for the community to reconnect with them."

Participating organizations include Gulf Beaches Historical Museum, Tampa Bay Automobile Museum, St. Petersburg Museum of History, Dunedin History Museum, The Collection on Palmetto, Largo Area Historical Society, Seminole Historical Society, Palm Harbor Museum, Tarpon Arts, Seminole Historical Society, author Joshua Ginsburg and Heritage Village. The Clearwater Historical Society museum will also be open during the event.

FALL BBQ - Join the Society's Fall Family Fun BBQ 10 am – 2 pm on November 6. Food is served from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

In addition to the food, enjoy a classic car display, live music, the museum's Clearwater Let's Eat restaurant exhibit, a blow-up slide for the kids and old-fashioned games under the oaks and among the historic buildings.

Dairy Kurl is serving frozen treats. Cal's Soulfood Express is cooking up the BBQ and is featuring serving tables to speedily dish up their delicious food.

Tickets are available at \$12 for members, \$15 for non-members, and \$6 for children under 10. Buy tickets by October 30 from clearwaterhistoricalsociety.org, a board member, Turner Printing, (829 Belleair Rd., cash or check only), or the museum, 610 S. Ft. Harrison Ave., on Saturdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Social distancing and current COVID-19 procedures will be in place.

The Clearwater Historical Society Museum and Cultural Center is located at 610 S. Fort Harrison Avenue, Clearwater. Parking is available at the museum as well as in the lot across from the First United Methodist Church at 411 Turner Street on the corner of Fort Harrison Avenue and Turner Street.

Call or email Clearwater Historical Society at clearwaterhistoricalsociety@gmail.com or 727-754-8019. For more information visit amplifyclearwater.com/TasteFest.

CLEARWATER BEACH LIBRARY & RECREATION

Pickleball - Mon., Wed., Fri., 8 am to noon. Tue. & Thu., noon to 3 pm. Free

Pickleball Lessons with Dan, \$15 per half hour or \$25 per hour. Call Dan at 462-6138 to schedule.

Cardio BEST - Mon., 9:15 a.m.

Private Tennis Lessons - \$50/hour private lesson. \$25/hour semi-private lesson, call 462-6138 to schedule.

Yoga - Tue. & Thu., 9:15 a.m.

Personal Training with Kim, 45 minutes sessions 462-6138

Group Tennis Lessons - Monday evenings- call 462-6138.

DALI MUSEUM

Their most surreal fundraising event of the year, Sueños de Dalí – "The Art of Fashion" is Saturday, October 23, 8pm.

Join them as their spectacular building and gardens transform into an experience like no other, with live music, themed bars, curated cocktails and tantalizing treats. Designed in tribute to the art of the notorious Salvador Dalí and the current special exhibition featuring photographer Lee Miller, the Museum celebrates The Art of Fashion. Costumes are encouraged.

All proceeds support the Museum's vital mission as a not-for-profit arts and education organization. If you are unable to attend, donations are welcome.

Cost: General \$150 | Members \$140 | VIP \$600. VIPs receive early entry, a champagne toast, private entertainment & more.

CLEARWATER GARDEN CLUB

Don't miss their exciting "Welcome Back" celebration of gardening and The Club. This year, the 1st meeting of the season will be bigger and better than ever and outside in the yard. Learn about the exciting programs and field trips scheduled and hear best practices from gardeners who will help you with questions about gardening in this zone.

The following will be represented at the event:

- Wilcox Nursery and Landscape will discuss container gardening and will bring many beautiful plants and containers for your perusal or purchase.
- Dance It @ The Clearwater Garden Club, will have a dance presentation and show off some dance outfits.
- Florida's Native Plant Society will be represented

The event takes place outside in the garden at The Clearwater Garden Club located at 405 Seminole Street and the corner of Ft Harrison Ave. Saturday October 16th from 10 am to Noon. Light refreshments will be served and FREE Parking is available on site. The event is FREE. Please take the time to ask about a Garden Club membership.

The Garden Club is celebrating 71 years as one of the oldest Clearwater Not-for-Profit organizations. Their Mission is to educate members and the public in the fields of gardening, horticulture, botany, landscape design, artistic design, conservation of natural resources, civic beautification, garden therapy and environmental and nature studies. For information, visit facebook.com/ClearwaterGardenClub or clearwatergardenclub.com. Contact Laura Daniel, Program Chairman, clearwatergardenclub@gmail.com.

SAND KEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

The Sand Key Civic Association Government Council and The Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association and also holds a corporate membership with the Clearwater Community Sailing Center.

At this point, due to the COVID-19/Delta variant situation, the board continues to meet via zoom video conferencing so interested members can also attend. Our meetings are scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month. Please look for a registration link in the email announcing each month's agenda, or obtain the link at sandkeycivicassociation.org. Contact the secretary at skcainc@aol.co, with any questions you may have.

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OCEAN ALLIES HELPING THE WORLD...ONE BEACH AT A TIME

The Ocean Allies organization began in Clearwater Beach and has spread throughout the state and nation. The non-profit is dedicated to merging the goals of conservation with tourism and business by educating the public about ocean health, ocean debris and the real-life benefits experienced by businesses that become "ocean friendly."

Ocean debris has become a tragic problem for the oceans, marine life, and even humans. The worst offender is plastic. Ninety percent of the garbage floating in the ocean is plastic. Small changes like switching away from Styrofoam to compostable take-out containers can make a big difference, because once Styrofoam enters our waterways it stays for a very, very long time - it takes 500 years to decompose. It will quickly break apart into little balls though, which float, and many times are consumed by fish and other marine animals.

Ocean Allies was founded by Clearwater Beach's Sheri Heilman, owner of Heilman's Beachcomber Restaurant. Since its inception in 2018, hundreds of hotels, restaurants and other businesses have joined the effort to conserve and protect the environment. Those who agree to adapt most of its principals receive an Ocean Allies Certification.

Many Clearwater Beach businesses are founding member of Ocean Allies and continue to support it. Their board members include Sheridan Boyle, City of Clearwater, Sustainability Ordinator, Kistina Alspaw, Clearwater Region Chamber of Commerce, Karen Jubrail, Clearwater Marine Aquarium, Trish Rodriguez, Clearwater Ferry Service and Alan Mock, Publisher, Resort Magazines. They continually work to inspire entire communities to make simple switches to protect the marine ecosystems vital to human health and hearts of the world.

Sheridan Boyle explains the concept. "It is about witnessing the effect our collective choices have on our surrounding ecosystems and the other animals we share our loved places with. It shows that even in the smallest of ways, we can make a massive impact when we work together."



Founder Sheri Heilman with some examples of "Ocean friendly" take out containers

Ocean Allies started with an initial meeting of environmentally concerned community members. At first, they limited their efforts to Clearwater Beach because of its proximity to the water and that it receives so many visitors from around the world. It quickly became apparent; ocean debris is a global issue, and every community contributes to it. Thus, there was a need to expand Ocean Allies efforts. The team developed initiatives in communities across Tampa Bay.

"Our vision is to take what we accomplished in Clearwater Beach and provide a model to other beach communities—worldwide," adds founder Heilman. "We believe in connecting tourism, businesses, residents, and conservation with strategies that allow all to thrive, while maintaining jobs and increasing the protection of our communities, oceans, environment, and marine life."

The list of certified Ocean Allies businesses has continued to grow over the years. "We have seen the wonders that ocean friendly initiatives have on business, tourism and overall community pride," says Heilman.

Certification also results in considerable cost savings including:

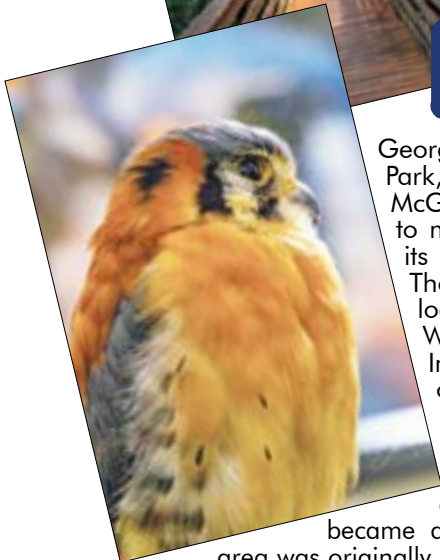
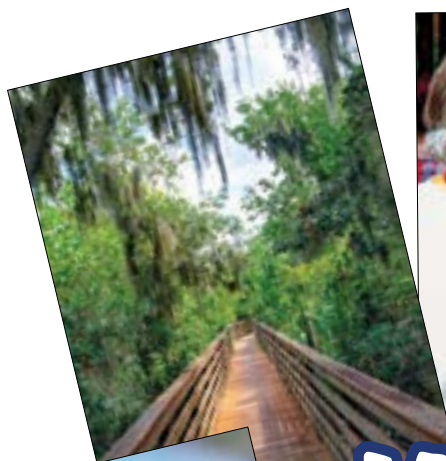
- Decreased waste costs
- Purchasing of less products
- Saving on repairs to dishwashers, drains, and pipes.
- Decreased electricity use
- Less litter on your property
- Buying products through the Co-op which lowers costs.

"It is an honor to be the "only" hotel on Clearwater Beach to be Ocean Allies Certified and CMA-Sea Turtle Friendly," says Juli Norberg of the Hampton Inn and Winter's Dolphin's Beach Club in South Beach. "We were officially certified on August 16th. Contributing to preservation of our environment is very important to our team, ownership and our beloved beach."

Ocean Allies recently participated in The Big Clean Up, October 11-16, held all over Pinellas County.

In addition to cost savings, businesses find the process increases morale among the staff and improves the businesses brand image when promoting Ocean Allies programs. They encourage everyone to get involved and enhance community involvement. Get more information, see a list of participating restaurants, hotels and other businesses, or make a donation to their cause at OceanAllies.org. To join the team and start the process to their cause certified, email to Support@OceanAllies.org. ■





MCGOUGH PARK

George C. McGough Nature Park, commonly called McGough Park, is also known to many as "Turtle Park" for its large turtle population. The 26-acre park is located on the Intracoastal Waterway across from Indian Rocks Beach north of Walsingham Road, at 11901 146th Street North, in Largo.

This is the 30th anniversary since it became a Largo public park. The area was originally owned by Chic Young, the creator of the Blondie comic strip, who also lived in Clearwater Beach. Former Largo Mayor George McGough bought the low-lying acreage from Young and donated it to the City of Largo.

The Park has miles of nature trails, including a comfortable rubberized walking trail that is a great way to see the natural beauty of Florida. One trail is a 1,200-foot tree-lined boardwalk a few feet above the natural habitat of Florida. There you can escape the hustle and bustle of city life while you stroll through the shady oak hammock and mangroves along the Intracoastal. A casual walk through the park can take 45 and 60 minutes. Bicycles are not allowed on the trails or boardwalk. The City of Largo built the park's Nature Center in 1990. It houses live animal exhibits of snakes and the Birds of Prey program that is home to twenty-two rescued, non-releasable birds, including owls, hawks, and even an eagle. Recent additions include red morph Screech Owls and a Barred Owl. Volunteers can be seen taking the birds out of their cages (while wearing special gloves) in the mornings.

The animals that reside there usually arrive injured. After they have been rehabilitated, they are unable to care for themselves in the wild.

The fully staffed educational center offers environmental education programs some of which are guided nature walks, "Look Alive" bird shows, and a Nature CSI.

There are also hands-on children activities.

The Park has a butterfly garden, though they call it a pollinator garden because not all that frequent the garden are butterflies. Bees are just as common and are incredibly important, too. The pond at the park entrance is full of hundreds of turtles usually sunning themselves on the bank or the floating platforms. Visitors may feed them, which will really get them moving. You can buy turtle food at the information desk.

If you and your family would like to spend the afternoon in the park, there are four picnic shelters, bathrooms and a playground area that includes a children's zipline. The picnic shelters, playground and even the inside classroom can be reserved for special functions and are popular places for children's birthday parties.

The Park is free to visit but the birds of prey are cared for by a volunteer group – Friends of Largo Nature. 100% of the money they raise is used to feed the birds and to provide for their veterinary care. Food costs alone are over \$1000 per month and continue to increase as more birds arrive. Additional costs include vitamin supplements, handling and transport equipment, and the maintenance of the bird enclosures. There are donation boxes in the park or you can visit www.natureparkfriends.org to make an online donation or find mailing information if you prefer to send a check.

McGough Park is open Tuesday through Sunday, from sunrise to sunset. No dogs are allowed in the park, including service dogs, as it disrupts the resident birds.

For information on this or on the other Largo park, visit LargoNature.com. Call McGough Park directly at 518-3047. ■



Photos by Bill Woerner, Local Photographer

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25 Causeway Blvd, Clearwater

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
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| Roundabout Pizza | Bar Tiki | Taco Willy's |
| Blowfish Sushi | Shuck It Raw Bar | Cool Cookie |
| Salt Cracker Charters | Causeway Bar | Beach Shoppe |
| Harbor Barber | Remax Realty | Pirate's Pantry |



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- Waterside Heated Pool & Tiki Hut

NO initiation fee *First Time Members Only*
Dues \$200 a month & NO spending minimum

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(727) 447-6000 | office@clearwateryachtclub.org

SUNCOAST CONCHOLOGIST SHELL CLUB

There it is! That beautiful seashell on the beach. Their intricate colors and shapes draw your attention to their beauty. You cannot walk on the beach without noticing them. Do you enjoy the beach as a resident, or as a Winter visitor? Have you ever wondered where the seashells come from and how they are created, do you have a collection, or want to know more about them?



If so, you may want to join the Suncoast Conchologists. What is a conchologist? According to Webster, it's "a student of or a specialist in conchology; one who collects shells."

This educational organization is a shell club that brings together people who share their common interest. You'll meet beginners and experienced shellers alike, enjoy interesting and educational shell programs, and share in the camaraderie of field trips.

Suncoast Conchologist is accepting new members. They have monthly guest speaker to learn about shells, and a shell display every month along with refreshments. You will have a chance to meet other people who love seashells and are just beginning to learn about them, along with meeting some of their expert members and scientists.

During the year, they have field trips that take you to grass flats to look for shells, Seashell Museum tours, fossil shell finding, and various activities. They will help you learn about the shells that you find on our beaches, as well as exotic beautiful shells found all over the world. Throughout the year, they participate in Shell Shows and Shell Competitions providing you with the opportunity to discover new shells and meet new friends who are also shell lovers.

Join them on the first Tuesday of the month, excluding December, June, July, and August at Grace Lutheran Church, 1812 N Highland Avenue in Clearwater.

Yearly membership is \$20 or \$25 for a family and includes an e-mail copy of their club newsletter, Suncoast Shorelines. In May, they end their club year with a picnic and in December, they celebrate the holidays at their "Holiday Shellabration."

If you would like to join them or need more information, text, or contact Debi McCreary at 727-480-4939, or email suncoastseashells@gmail.com. You can also visit suncoastconchologists.org.

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- Poolside Mens
- ONYX Boutique
- Sand Key Sunsets Beach Store

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Clearwater Beach, FL 33767**

We are conveniently located at the Shoppes on Sand Key—Just a short walk, drive or trolley ride over the bridge to fabulous shopping.

Costa - Maui Jim - Oakley - Ray-Ban - La Blanca
 Trina Turk - Camilla - Sea Folly - Luli Fama - Brighton
 Pandora - Uno de 50 - Coolibar - Olukai - Naot - Olukai
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 Tommy Bahama - Southern Tide - Barefoot Dreams
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OPEN 9AM-10PM DAILY
 **727-595-6391**

PEACE MEMORIAL CONCERT SERIES CONTINUES WITH A JAZZ PROGRAM

November 14, Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church welcomes Heather Thorn on the xylophone and vibraharp. Heather has been a favorite at the Suncoast Jazz Fest. She will bring a talented back-up band including Eddie Metz and present a delightful jazz program.

Seating is first come, first served and no tickets are needed but an offering will be taken (\$5-\$10 suggested). Doors open at 2:30 to avoid congregating at entries. The concert begins at 3pm.

CDC Covid-19 protocols at the time of concert will be followed. Also, to minimize risks, all must show full immunization (at least 14 days since final dose), a COVID-19 PCR negative test result within 72-hours, or a negative COVID-19 antigen test result within 6-hours prior to entering. Masks indoors and valid government issued ID required to verify required immunization status. If you cannot attend, there will be an online concert option for a small charge on their Web site.

Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church (the pink church in downtown Clearwater) is located at 110 S. Ft. Harrison Avenue, at the corner of Pierce Street and Ft. Harrison Avenue. There are four parking areas: 1)West and behind the church off of Pierce Street 2)East across Ft Harrison Avenue in the large County lot - reserved for church events on Sundays 3)In the lot north of the church's fellowship hall and 4)West in the City Hall lot.

For information, visit peacememorialpresbyterian.org or call Music Director Timothy Belk at (800) 479-8846.

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH

Kolb Park
1507 Bay Park Blvd. 188
www.iractivities2000.com

23 OCT **12pm to 6pm**



2021 OKTOBERFEST

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23RD

**COLD BEER - MUSIC - FOOD
VENDORS - GAMES**

German Music & Dancers
Emcee Mark Raiston

Stein Carrying @ 2:00pm & Keg Toss @ 3:00pm
Plein Aire Cottage Artist Painting Auction
50/50 Raffle Drawing

Gas BEE

INDIAN ROCKS ACTION 2000 The Original Crab Tails

October 22-24, 2021



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A Clearwater Beach Tradition!

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Save the Date!

Saturday, March 12, 2022
6:30pm

Reds Whites & Bites

6th Annual Wine Event & Fundraiser

Benefitting the Community Dental Clinic

Honorary Chairs
Michael & Kristina Piazza

Achieva Credit Union Headquarters
Dunedin, Florida

Fine Wine – Gourmet Food – Wine Drawings

For information & Sponsorship Details
Call the Community Dental Clinic at 727-216-6155 x5
Or visit: www.communitydentalclinic.net

Calling All Family & Friends!

Food Truck Block Party

October 22nd
6 - 8:30

Food Trucks
Fellowship
Music
Face Painting
Bounce House
Balloons
and MORE!



54 Bay Esplanade
chapelbythesea.net
727.446.0430



Community News...

BELLEAIR WOMEN'S REPUBLICAN CLUB

The speaker for the November 5th meeting, held at Belleair Country Club, will be Skyler Alexander, North Pinellas Political Activities Director and President of the Sunrise Leadership Republican Club. The topic will be political activism and how people can become involved in Pinellas County political activities. Reservation must be made by mailing a check to be delivered by November 1st

The cost is \$28. Reservation checks should be delivered to: BWRC Treasurer Robin Schenck, 301 Belleview Blvd., Belleair, FL 33756. No walk-ups can be accommodated.

BEACH ART CENTER

The Gift Shop got a new look for Fall with exciting art, jewelry, cards, pottery, and paintings, all by local artists.

Art Galleries - The Gallery Show titled "Books and Music" will be open Mon - Fri from 9am - 4pm, through October 22nd. The entire community is invited to come see this exciting show.

In October, the following weekly classes began again:

- Water Media - Monday mornings and afternoons
- Oil Painting - Tuesday evenings

The Beach Art Center is located at 1515 Bay Palm Blvd, Indian Rocks Beach. Find details on classes, registration, gallery shows, and gift shop at beachartcenter.org.

FLORIDA BOTANICAL GARDENS

Pumpkin Fest - Every year, this family-friendly fall event has seen a wonderful turn out from the community. As they move into their fifth year, they are exploring ways to give more to its loyal attendees, starting with an expansion to a two-day event. This year's Pumpkin Fest will take place on Saturday, October 23rd and Sunday, October 24th from 12-4 pm.

Trick-or-treat! Come dressed in costume and take part in the TaleBlazer Scavenger Hunt to receive candy for an early Halloween celebration.

The event will reinstate pumpkin carving, as well as a pumpkin patch! So be ready to celebrate with the Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation, and see what other fun additions are in store.

www.flbgfoundation.org/pumpkinfest.

Annual Holiday Lights - They are proud to announce the dates and times for its annual Holiday Lights in the Gardens event. This year's celebration will begin on Friday, November 26, 2021 and conclude Sunday, January 2, 2022. The Gardens open every evening from 5:30 to 9:30pm for viewing. Admission is a suggested donation of \$10 per person, over the age of 13. The Gardens will sparkle with 1 million, twinkling, LED lights in a multitude of colors. Vibrant laser lights and lighted figures round out the display to wow guests of all ages.

ISLAND ESTATES CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Causeway cleanup - October 16th as part of The Big Cleanup, 8 to 10am, meet at the entrance to Island Estates to assist with cleanup along the causeway.

Annual Town Hall - November 8th 6pm at Island Way Grill. All Island Estates residents are invited to attend.

December will be the holiday parade followed by the Winter Island Estates Civic Association members social at Island Way Grill.



Say Hello to Birthday Wishes...



CLEARWATER BEACH FLOWERS

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CLEARWATER BEACH'S NEW ICE CREAM SHOP!



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Hershey's Scooped Ice Cream
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472 Poinsettia Ave, Clearwater Beach

Community News...

BELLEAIR GARDEN CLUB

They are gearing up for their "Junk & Jewels Sale" and are now accepting donations for the big fundraiser to be held in January, 2022. Donations are accepted at the clubhouse, 903 Ponce de Leon Blvd in Belleair.

On the first Saturday of each month through December, you just drive up and we help unload your donations. Please come from 10 am to 12 noon. Proceeds from the January Sale support our scholarship and historic preservation programs. With any questions, call Jan at 727-412-2344.

The Belleair Garden Club, a non-profit organization in its 71st year, raises funds to support scholarships for post high school students and historic preservation programs in the community. During the summer, social activities are presented and in October regular monthly club meetings are held. COVID safety practices are in place.

CLEARWATER BEACH ASSOCIATION

The Clearwater Beach Association is a community organization of residents and business owners. Our mission is to promote civic, recreational, and social projects while improving and enriching our community. We are dedicated to providing a strong and unified voice for our neighborhood. Feel free to contact CBA President Samuel Hutkin's at hutloan@aol.com

Membership is \$35 annually per household. Business membership is \$100 annually. Donations are welcome. Sign up at www.ClearwaterBeachAssoc.com/Membership

Schedule for the upcoming months:

November 2, 2021 Tuesday - Monthly meeting, 6:30 pm in the fellowship hall at Chapel by the Sea, 54 Bay Esplanade.

December 7 Tuesday - Monthly meeting as well as Annual Business Meeting and election, 6:30 pm in the fellowship hall at Chapel by the Sea, 54 Bay Esplanade.

December 11 - Holiday Party

December 18 - Lighted Bike Parade

CHAPEL BY THE SEA RISE AGAINST HUNGER, 2021

The annual Rise Against Hunger fundraiser, hosted by Chapel by the Sea is November 6th, 2021 in the hall of the chapel.

Rise Against Hunger is an organization aligned with the United Nations' Sustainable Goal #2: Zero Hunger. Chapel by the Sea has proudly contributed to this effort for many years. The organizers always aim for each food packing event to produce 20,000 meals for communities in need. Last year, due to the epidemic, the crew at Chapel by the Sea was dramatically reduced to 13 volunteers, yet was still able to produce 10,000 meals that went to Haiti as part of a shipment totaling 285,000 meals.

This year, the goal is, once again, to donate the full 20,000 meals. Each meal costs \$.34 so the chapel will need to raise a total of \$6,829.92 to cover materials and the cost of transport.

If you're interested in volunteering your time or donating, please visit chapelbythesea.net, call the office at 727-446-0430 or email churchoffice@chapelbythesea.net. Text "give" to 727-222-1336 and click on Rise Against Hunger to contribute. This is a great opportunity for adults and kids to serve and give back to the those in need.

FRANCIS WILSON PLAYHOUSE 92 SEASON

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Tickets on Sale Now!
FrancisWilsonPlayhouse.org

October 28 – November 14, 2021
Francis Wilson Playhouse

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Tunnel to Towers Foundation

TUNNEL TO TOWERS 5K RUN & WALK CLEARWATER

FOLLOW THE FOOTSTEPS OF 9/11 HERO, NEW YORK CITY FIREFIGHTER STEPHEN SILLER, AND ENSURE WE NEVER FORGET THE SACRIFICES OF OUR NATION'S FIRST RESPONDERS AND MILITARY HEROES.

SATURDAY
NOV 6, 2021
STARTS 8:30AM

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OR EMAIL EMAILCLEARWATER@TUNNEL2TOWERS.ORG

Community News...



Indian Rocks Beach Homeowners Association
& The City of Indian Rocks Beach

PRESENT THE Return of
TASTE OF IRB
Nov 6th 2021
3PM till 9PM
Chic-A-Si Park
4th Ave N & 2nd St
Indian Rocks Beach

Showcasing the Area's
Unique, Delectable Restaurants

Musical Guests
NORTH & SOUTH

PLATINUM SPONSORS

The Original Crabby Bill's
21 CENTURY 21
KOKOSMUST TITLE
DISCOUNT LOANS

FOOD BEER WINE MUSIC

Please NO COOLERS OR DOGS. Proceeds support various IRB Community Projects
www.IRBhome.com Like us on Facebook Follow us on Instagram @TasteofIRB

CLEARWATER BEACH REC CENTER

The Clearwater Beach Recreation Center will be having their annual Trunk or Treat celebration on Wednesday, Oct 20th from 6-8 pm. There is no cost. It is just like trick or treating only out of the trunks of our cars in the parking lot.

The Rec Center will host a sweet swap program. Kids can bring in Halloween candy and turn it in for a chance to win prizes. The candy collected will be sent to US troops overseas. Call the recreation center at 727-462-6138 for details.

GFWC CLEARWATER COMMUNITY WOMAN'S CLUB

The Woman's Club is partnering with Clearwater Department of Health and The Church of the Good Samaritan to conduct a free Covid-19 vaccine drive on November 11 and December 9 from 2 to 6pm. The vaccines will be given in The Church of the Good Samaritan church hall at 2165 NE Coachman Road, Clearwater.

Moderna, Pfizer, and Johnson & Johnson vaccines will be administered. The first dose of the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines will be given on November 11 and the second dose on December 9. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is a single-shot vaccine and will be available on both days. Booster shots will also be available for those who meet the criteria.

No identification is required and the shots will be administered by qualified medical personnel. Participants will receive an official Vaccination Card and a \$20 food voucher with both the first and second shots. The vouchers can be redeemed at any grocery store.

Participants should plan on waiting for between 15 to 30 minutes after receiving their shots.

For further information, please contact the Clearwater Health Department at 727-824-6900.

MID-PINELLAS DEMOCRATIC CLUB

The pandemic caused them to cancel last year's picnic, but they are resuming their Annual Politics In the Park Potluck picnic on October 23, 11 am – 2 pm in John Taylor Park, Largo, at 1100 8th Ave SW, Largo. Statewide and local Democratic office holders and candidates will be on hand to meet voters and speak. Register at largodemocrats.org.

BLUFFS WINE WALK

Saturday, October 23 - 3 to 7pm, sip, smile and shop with over 40 businesses eager to welcome you back. Enjoy wine tastings, live music, food and fun with friendly people. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$30 day of the event. Get your tickets now - this event will sell out.

Guests may choose from three convenient check-in locations where they will receive 20 wine tasting tickets, a complimentary wine glass, a wristband and a map showcasing all of the wine walk stops.

Guests may walk or take the Jolley Trolley to participating businesses along Indian Rocks Road and West Bay Drive in Belleair Bluffs. A docent on the trolley will announce each stop and identify business locations.

Businesses without a physical location are set-up in key high traffic locations and will be included in the wine tasting and all event activities. Anyone can attend however, only 21 and up can purchase a ticket and participate in the wine tasting. Sponsored by Tampa Bay Newspapers. We encourage a pet friendly environment with responsible owners. For tickets and more information, visit bbastrong.com/winewalk.html. Businesses that would like to participate as a wine stop can contact Bonnie Trembulak at 727-686-8797.



CLEARWATER
Family Fun Day
BAR-B-QUE
Historical Society

Nov. 6, 2021
10 am – 2 pm

Food Served 11:30 am – 1 pm
ON THE MUSEUM LAWN
610 S. Fort Hamilton Ave. Clearwater

Cat's Soulfood EXPRESS
DAIRY KURL

FISH, BBQ, SIDES
ICECREAM

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM BOARD MEMBERS, ONLINE AND BY PHONE UNTIL OCTOBER 30, 2021
PAY ONLINE AT CLEARWATERHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG OR CALL 727-754-8019

\$12 MEMBERS \$15 NON-MEMBERS \$6 CHILDREN UNDER 10

CLASSIC CARS, GAMES, LIVE MUSIC, MUSEUM EXHIBIT

CHEVROLET
Palm Pavilion
CLEARWATER

CHALKTOBER ART FESTIVAL

AMPLIFY Clearwater is pleased to announce this year's Chalktober Art Festival is being held twice in October on October 14th-17th and October 21st-24th. The two-weekend long artistic celebration offers those of all ages an opportunity to experience top-notch chalk art, at your favorite hot spots on Clearwater Beach & Downtown Clearwater.

Artists will begin their work on Thursday with the goal of a Saturday completion for weekend enjoyment! October 14th– October 17th will be held in Downtown Clearwater, while October 21st – October 24th will be on Beachwalk Clearwater Beach. Chalktober Art Festival will kick-off with an Experience Chalktober event on October 14th from 5-7pm, downtown Clearwater along Cleveland Street.

For information, visit amplifyclearwater.com/chalktober.

HELPING PEOPLE SMILE AGAIN

The Community Dental Clinic provides quality urgent dental care at no cost for disadvantaged adults in Pinellas County, improving their overall health & well-being. Since September 2020, they performed over 10,000 free dental procedures totaling more than \$1.5 million in dental care.

They help those in our community who do not have insurance or the resources to seek the care they desperately need – people like Bill, a 62-year-old US Navy veteran who lived on a steady diet of baby food because it was too painful to chew. Bill lost 20 pounds on his dental pain diet, and his job due to the pandemic, before he was referred to the CDC. They performed critical cleanings, fillings and one extraction to eliminate his pain and improve his overall health. Free from dental distress, Bill is able to find a new job and get his finances back on track. Despite the challenges, he is smiling now – no more pain and no more baby food! The Community Dental Clinic is located at 1008 Woodlawn Street, Clearwater. Reach them at 727-216-6155 or visit www.communitydentalclinic.net.

BORROW IT, LOVE IT, RETURN IT! OVERDUE FINE FREE!

Beginning October 1, borrowers who keep library items past their due dates will no longer be charged overdue fines. Existing overdue fines prior to October 1 will be eliminated, however charges for lost and damaged items will remain on borrower accounts. Loan periods and the number of items that can be borrowed will stay the same.

If items are not returned by the due date, accounts will be blocked. When items are ten days overdue, borrowers will be billed the replacement cost of the item(s) plus processing fees. Borrowers with blocked accounts are not able to borrow any library materials, including electronic items via Libby/Overdrive. When items are returned in good condition, accounts are unblocked, and all fees are removed.

Borrowers with blocked accounts may continue to use research databases, computers in libraries, and participate in classes and events.

Details about the new policy can be found on the PPLC website and member library websites. Pinellas County libraries encourage borrowers to return their items on time, without the fear of fines. Special collections housed in the East Lake and Palm Harbor libraries are still subject to overdue fines.

For more information, visit pplc.us or contact your local library.

Feel the full power LIVE

fo THE FLORIDA ORCHESTRA
Michael Terasaki, Music Director

Upcoming Fall Concerts:

- Symphonic Fantastique**
Oct 23 & 24
- Fly Dance Company**
Oct 30
- Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto**
Nov 6 & 7
- Pictures at an Exhibition**
Nov 13 & 14
- Music of Elton John & Billy Joel**
Nov 19
- FINAL FANTASY VII: REMAKE**
Nov 20 & 21
- Mahler's Symphony No. 5**
Dec 4 & 5
- Holiday Pops**
Dec 10 - 12

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NEW LISTING!

ANOTHER ONE
LISTED
BY
BRIAN PELFREY



CABANA CLUB - SAND KEY - \$1,100,000
1582 GULF BLVD #1208, CLEARWATER, FL 33767

Direct Gulf front views from this totally updated 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom condo located in the beautifully remodeled Cabana Club. Cabana Club is a Key West style complex that is gated with secured entry doors, impact windows, new stucco and paint along with new flooring in the hallways, a Geothermal heated pool and fitness room with amazing direct Gulf front views.



ANOTHER ONE
SOLD
BY
BRIAN PELFREY

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1430 GULF BLVD #805
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Listed & Under Contract in
3 Days with Multiple Offers.

**SOLD for the full asking
price of \$699,000**

**SAND KEY
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