

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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Magazine

McGOUGH NATURE PARK CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

Story by Bob Griffin, Publisher - Photos by Bill Woerner, local photographer

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 just across the bridge from Indian Rocks Beach, on the Intracoastal Waterway 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 may take between 45 and 60 minutes. Bicycles are not allowed on the trails or boardwalk. - Continued on page 6



Also in this Issue:

Concerned About Hackers?

Is your electronic information safe? Get some tips to safeguard your online accounts

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Air Conditioning

Don't we all love having it this time of year! But, it wasn't always so. Who invented it and how does it work?

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The Hurricane Of 1921

That storm was the last time a hurricane made land fall in Pinellas County.

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Meet Julie Marcus

She is the Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections. There is always news about voting these days. Do you know what she and her department do to make voting secure and easy?

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CREDITS



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INDIAN ROCKS BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER

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

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

We hope you enjoyed our magazine. We want your input. Did you like this issue? What suggestions do you have for future articles? Call or email us 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 NOVEMBER!

CALENDAR OF HOLIDAYS & EVENTS

We are trying to bring back our calendar of events, but, as always, this is subject to change.

SEPTEMBER

- Francis Wilson's TWO BY TWO opens 2
- 20th Annual Gekofest in Gultport 4
- Labor Day 6
- Schools Closed 6
- Rosh Hashanah 6-8
- City Commission Budget Meeting 8
- Buc's First Season Game 9
- Patriot Day 11
- Market in the Bluffs 11
- Grandparents Day 12
- City Commission Meeting 14
- Yom Kippur 15
- National Clean Up Day 16
- St. Patrick School Fun Fair 16-19
- Backwater's Trolley Ride 18
- International Peace Day 21
- Autumn Begins 22
- City Commission Budget Meeting 22
- Clearwater Taste Fest 24
- Florida Orchestra Season Opener 24
- Off Shore Boat Races 24-26
- City's Electronic Waste Disposal Day 29

OCTOBER

- City Occupational Licenses Renewal 1
- Calvary Blessing of the Animals 3
- Fire Prevention Week 3-9
- IRB Rotary's Visitors Day 6
- Public Schools closed 8
- Market in the Bluffs 9
- McGough Park Garage Sale 9
- Columbus Day 11
- Indigenouness Peoples Day 11
- City Commission Meeting 12
- Clearwater Jazz Holiday 14-17
- Stone Crab Season Begins 15
- Buddy Walk Largo Central Park 16
- Oktoberfest on the Beach 23
- Bluffs Wine Walk 23
- Botanical Gardens Pumpkin Fest 23-24
- Owl-O-Queen McGough Park 29
- IRB HallowFest City Hall 30
- Indian Rocks Historical Fall Luncheon 30
- Sea Turtle Nesting Season Ends 31
- Halloween 31

THE COAST GUARD STATION SAND KEY'S NEW COMMANDING OFFICER

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

Senior Chief Timothy Abrams replaced Commanding Officer CWO Tracy Randall at the United States Coast Guard Station Sand Key on June 18 when CO Randall retired.

Originally from Charlotte, NC, 42-year-old Abrams joined the Coast Guard in 1998 at the age of 19. He has served in Morgan City, LA, Galveston, TX, Camp Lejeune, NC, Charleston, SC, and recently at St. Petersburg, FL. In addition to these bases, he has served on several ships, including the USCGCs Dauntless, Heron, and Pompano. His last move though was only 25 miles, from downtown St Petersburg to Sand Key.

The Coast Guard transfers people and commanders every four years, up from the previous three-year tours. CO Randall served two tours - six years in Sand Key.

"Tracy Randall is a friend and mentor," Abrams say. "It's an honor to relieve her."

In Sand Key, he supervises 35 active Coast Guard men and women and 34 Reservists.

"There are also over 300 active Coast Guard Auxiliary," Abrams adds. "They are volunteers, but we could not do our job without them. The main difference between St Petersburg and Sand Key is the Intracoastal Waterway, he explains. "We patrol all of the Intracoastal in Pinellas County."

In addition to the Intracoastal, the Coast Guard Station Sand Key station keeps watch over 4,000 square miles of the Gulf of Mexico. It is 80 miles of coastline and up to 50 miles offshore. They operate one 45-foot Medium Response Boat, two 29-foot Tactical Response Boats, and one 24-foot Shallow Water Skiff. They refer to their boats as "assets."

The Sand Key Station was established January 29, 1975. They originally operated out of a houseboat located near the Clearwater Marine Aquarium. The Coast Guard station was established on Sand Key ten years later - February 13, 1985. That is when the name was officially changed from Station Clearwater to Station Sand Key.

"We interact with many local groups and authorities, such as, the Clearwater Marine Aquarium, local police, The Sherriff's department, fire departments and others," Abrams says. "We will be involved in the Clearwater Beach Offshore Power Boat Races in September," he adds.

During hurricanes, the Coast Guard has a variety of responsibilities. Most importantly, they protect their boats and people. Some boats are pulled out of the water and stored on land.

During Hurricane Irma, the Sand Key station remained occupied monitoring communications during that storm. After the storm passed, they returned to their zone to do whatever is necessary.

Abrams lives in Lakewood Ranch near Bradenton with his wife, Erica and their two children, ages 16 and 19. He loves Florida, whether that be Bradenton, St Petersburg, or Sand Key. "I hope to stay in this area when my four years are up."

The Sand Key Station is located at 1375 Gulf Blvd, just south of the Shoppes on Sand Key.



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Did You Know



HISTORIC BELLEVUE BILTMORE BRICKS The Greater Largo Library Foundation is selling original bricks from the Historic Bellevue Biltmore Hotel. The hotel was built in 1897 and frequented by locals and tourists from all over the country.

Each one-of-a-kind brick is \$50 each plus tax, and comes with an attached commemorative plate and can only be purchased from the Greater Largo Library Foundation. Own a piece of local history or they make unique gifts.

The funds raised will go toward programs and services of the Largo Public Library. The mission of the Greater Largo Library Foundation is to support the Largo Public Library through cultivating funding resources and advocating for the library to enhance innovative library services for the community's educational and social enrichment. Learn about the Largo Public Library at largopubliclibrary.org. To buy a brick, contact the Foundation at (727) 586-7398. For more information or visit our website at www.gllf.org.

PROTECT YOUR HOME The meter box in front of your home contains more than the meter. Inside is a valve, also called a curb stop, that — in an emergency — can shut off all the water to your home. In the event of a water emergency, having quick access to this valve is critical.

Next time you are working in the yard, take a few minutes to clean the sand out of this box and check your meter. If it's moving and all your faucets, hoses and appliances are off, you may have a leak costing you money.

GOLF TOURNAMENT RETURNS The 2021 Pelican Women's Championship (an LPGA event) returns to Belleair November 8 - 14. They hope to allow spectators at this event. For details, visit pelicanlpga.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Tampa Bay Network to End Hunger works hard to ensure our neighbors have the food they need to survive. They could not do what they do without the help of volunteers! Whether you can volunteer once a week, once a month or once a year, individually or with a group of friends, family or colleagues, whatever your commitment, every hour of assistance helps ensure hungry neighbors have access to food.



Thanks to dedicated volunteers, TBNEH provided over half a million meals to hungry neighbors last year across three counties. Volunteers donated 50,000 hours to help distribute food to families, seniors, and kids facing hunger in our community.

Many different types of volunteer opportunities are available. Visit Networktoendhunger.org or call 813-344-5837.

and More...

ART IN THE PARK

Continuing the effort to add public art to Indian Rocks Beach, a sculpture was dedicated in the City's Pocket Park. Donated by Crabby Bill's, the sculpture was purchased from the Randolph Ros Collection at a cost of \$3750. Additional sculptures will be added to various park locations in the future.



The Crabby Bill's family donated \$25,000 to the city. In addition to the sculpture, \$10,000 will be used to sponsor HallowFest. The remainder will be used for enhancement projects and public art.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS Indian Rocks Calvary Episcopal Church is hosting their annual "Blessing of the Animals," Sunday, October 3. Your pet does not have to be a cat or a dog. "We've seen them all," says Father Jon. "Birds, snakes, turtles—you name it." Find them at 3pm on the north side of the Church in the parking lot.

MORTON PLANT HOSPITAL'S SEWING ROOM Morton Plant Hospital has a sewing room where for more than 80 years, volunteers have made items to enhance the patient experience.

Recently, they looked at what volunteers could make to best meet the patient's needs. Now, the sewing room is producing stretcher blankets for pediatric patients, teddy bears for the Emergency Department, chemo hats, newborn hats, heart pillows and the newest addition - twiddle muffs designed to help prevent dementia patients from pulling out their IVs.

If you have buttons, ribbon, yarn or fabric you want to donate to the sewing room, please contact Volunteer Resources, 727-461-8010. Additionally the sewing room can always use volunteers; the ability to sew is not a prerequisite. Visit baycare.org/hospitals/morton-plant-hospital/volunteering.

ELEVATE CHEMICALS

The most active part of hurricane season is here and now is the time to elevate any dangerous chemicals onto higher shelves to properly safeguard them. During storms, water can flow into garages, sheds, kitchens, and bathrooms reaching chemicals, such as fertilizers, paints, automotive fluids, pesticides and cleaners. Elevate them or get rid of those you no longer use.



You can take them to the Household Electronics and Chemical Collection Center, operated by Pinellas County, 2990 110th Ave. N., St. Petersburg. To see what the facility accepts, visit pinellascounty.org/solidwaste/hec3 or call (727) 464-7500.

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MCGOUGH PARK Continued

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 more information on this and other parks in Largo, visit LargoNature.com or PlayLargo.com. Call McGough Park directly at 518-3047.



Photos by Bill Woerner, Local Photographer

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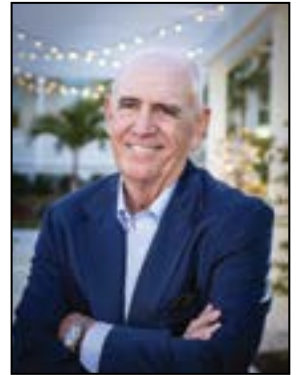
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RISK, INVESTMENTS AND RETIREMENT

by Ray Ferrara, ProVise Management Group

Throughout your working years, hopefully you were diligent in saving and investing for retirement. In those early years, it made sense to take a lot of risk because you were investing long term and had no immediate need for cash. As you got closer to retirement conventional wisdom says to take less risk and that generally means bonds and cash. But in today's world, cash is earning next to nothing and bonds are selling at high prices because of lower interest rates. Bond prices rise as interest rates go down and conversely, they go down when interest rates rise. Given that many believe that interest rates will rise significantly over the next couple of years, bonds may not be as conservative an investment as they have been in the past. As we write this in early August, the stock market is setting records and it too is high. So, what is an investor in retirement supposed to do?



First, as a Registered Investment Advisor practicing at a fiduciary standard of care, it is important to understand your risk tolerance. We use a tool with a series of questions to measure this and the lower the score the more conservative you are. However, it is only one element of risk that is important, we also need to know your risk capacity.

Risk capacity, i.e., your ability to take risk, is determined by the cash flow of your investments. If you are adding to your investments, your risk capacity is higher than if you are withdrawing from your investments. You may have a high-risk tolerance, but if withdrawing from the portfolio, maybe you shouldn't take the risk as you could diminish your nest egg as a result.

We believe that in retirement there is no need to take any more risk than that required to maintain the lifestyle to which you have become accustomed. In short, if risk does not add potential value to your lifestyle, why take it? In reality, people rarely run out of money. Instead, if your portfolio declines because of the added unnecessary risk, you cut back on how and where you spend money. In short, you cut your lifestyle. Who wants to do that?

As always, we offer a one-hour complimentary consultation to prospective clients. Why not chat with us about your risk tolerance and capacity.

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Investment Advisory Services may be offered through ProVise Management Group, LLC.

IMAGINE CLEARWATER

Imagine Clearwater is an investment in the redevelopment of Downtown Clearwater and its waterfront – including construction of a new 4,000-seat covered amphitheater in Coachman Park – that will be a must-see destination point in the Tampa Bay area.

Designed to connect the waterfront and the Downtown Clearwater community, Imagine Clearwater includes an expansive park and recreational spaces, a gateway plaza and bluff walk that connects the park to downtown, a bay walk promenade overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway, a lake area with picnic shelters, and an ocean-themed play area with an interactive pop-jet water feature.

The additions to Coachman Park also include the amphitheater which will accommodate a year-round performance schedule that promises to continue the city of Clearwater’s reputation as a premier location for diverse live entertainment. Construction has already started and is slated to take around two years.

Here are some renderings of how it will look in the future:



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Real Estate News

IRB BIDDING WAR IS HELL Homebuyers and Sellers Battling It Out

By Gordon Obarski, Real Estate Broker Gordon Realty House



According to military strategist Sun Tzu in his Art of War: "The supreme art of war is to subdue the enemy without fighting." Obviously General Tzu hasn't tried buying a home or condo in Indian Rocks Beach lately, where fierce bidding wars are more common than not. In January, 20% of IRB's single-family sales likely involved multiple offers, since they closed above asking price. By April, that number ballooned to 57%, settling down

to 55% in June with back-up buyers still queued up around the block.

As of mid-August (8/13), only 4 Indian Rocks single-families were actively listed in MLS—none listed longer than 7 days. Little inventory and historic price increases have buyers and sellers squarely at odds. Minimizing casualties requires both to start with the "right price"—somewhere between what the seller expects to get and what the buyer is willing to pay—figures usually far enough apart to keep the battle raging.

ADVICE FOR SELLERS (Like you need any!)

Your strategy is plain and simple: Maximize profit. You want to leave the closing table with the most amount of cash in hand and with the least amount of aggravation. Stress has a way of reducing profit. The highest offer, after months of haggling, legal fees, increased capital gains, etc. may not turn out to be as lucrative as initially thought.

ADVICE FOR BUYERS

Priced out. Burned out. On the outside looking in. Does that describe you? Multiple battlefield losses have fatigued some would-be homebuyers enough to give up looking altogether. But, those who hunkered down, locked and re-loaded may very well benefit in the long run. A few things to keep in mind...

Over half of buyers who "win the deal" pay over asking price. Just be sure to have a contingency plan if the appraisal falls short. Know exactly how much leeway you have before the deal doesn't make economic sense. Be sure the appraiser is aware of multiple offers upfront. Fierce demand and no supply can influence valuations.

Other than making the deal contingent on financing, check all others, like the sale of your current home, etc., at the door. If your offer comes in second, shut up and sit tight. First-position buyers of higher-priced properties have been known, on occasion, to run scared and change their minds, moving #2 to #1 overnight.

Nationally, bidding wars eased up a "blip" April-June, which is also loosely the case in IRB. However, when one war-torn buyer gives up and quits looking, two more show up to bid on the few available listings. The U.S. is estimated to be 3.8 million single-family homes below demand causing prices to rise at the highest rate since '05. Those awaiting a slowdown and the magical appearance of more listings may be a little disappointed if/when that doesn't occur until '22 or '23. Some more parting words of wisdom from General Sun Tzu: "In the midst of chaos, there is also opportunity."

Source: Stellar MLS, Redfin Survey, Freddie Mac, Case-Shiller Index

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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 that 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 and change the state of nutrients across the shelf and suppress 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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100 WOMEN WHO CARE OF PINELLAS COUNTY

They presented Cindy's Pets with a donation of \$11,650 in July. Cindy's Pets provides and delivers pet food for the pets of senior citizens in Pasco County participating in the Meals on Wheels program, thereby assuring that both the seniors and their pets have plenty to eat. The group will also receive a \$5,000 matching grant from the Richard M. Schulze Foundation.

100 Women Who Care of Pinellas County is a philanthropic group that provides an avenue for women to join together to bring financial support to local, charitable organizations that have a 501(c)(3) status. Members commit to attending four meetings per year (one per quarter) and pledge to donate \$100 to an elected charity at each meeting. For each meeting, the members have the opportunity to nominate a charity, three of the nominated charities are then randomly selected to give a 5-minute presentation, a vote is taken, and then checks are written directly to the winning charity. Since February of 2013, the group has given \$318,850 to local charities.

Contact Brenda George at 727-515-1868 for more information or visit their web site at www.100womenpinellas.org.

GREENTOWN KIDS

Submitted by Allie DeVore

We hope everyone had a fun summer here in IRB or wherever their summer travels took them! To celebrate the new school year, GTK hosted a Back to School Icees in the Park event with Kona Ice and our families, friends, neighbors, and Greenies. We fundraised for our organization, collected gently used kids clothing for Clothes for Kids, and school supplies for Stuff the Bus to help support local children in need and create a more sustainable school year. GreenTown Kids is stoked to be sponsoring a local sea turtle nest on the beach through the Clearwater Marine Aquarium! You can call the Clearwater Marine Aquarium to sponsor your own nest and help protect more sea turtles. October is coming up and we are looking forward to having Hallofest back in our lives! GreenTown Kids is excited to announce we will be partnering with the City of IRB for this year's pumpkin patch. Stop by Kolb Park on October 30th from 11-1 to pick out a free pumpkin to bring home for Halloween!

To become a Greenie or support our 501c3 nonprofit, please visit www.greentownkids.org.

BELLEAIR GARDEN CLUB

The Belleair Garden Club is accepting donations for their annual "Junk & Jewels" Fundraiser on Saturday, September 4, from 10 am to noon at the Belleair Garden Club, 903 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Belleair.

Other first Saturday drop off dates include: October 2nd, November 6th and December 4th from 10 am to noon at the Belleair Garden Club. All will be member staffed.

Eclectic junk, jewelry, house wares, artwork, books, handbags, scarves, hats, belts, shoes and table top décor will be accepted. Items that will not be accepted are: furniture, electronics and appliances. Other items accepted on a case-by-case basis.

The Belleair Garden Club, a non-profit organization in its 71st year, raises funds to support scholarship and historic preservation programs in the community.

For information about donating to the "Junk & Jewels" fund raiser or membership, contact Jan (727) 412-2344 and/or www.belleairgardenclub.com.

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Community News

ACTION 2000

Submitted by Diane Flagg

MARK YOUR CALENDAR - October 23, 2021, NOON TO 6PM, KOLB PARK in IRB. Our 19th year of Oktoberfest is underway. The beachy version of our German festival is coming in October. We look forward to bringing our community together for a great event in Kolb Park.

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

Emcee Mark Ralston will be our music DJ and announcer. We will also feature 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 we will be serving cold Sam Adams Beer and Miller lite, along with wine. A very special thank you to Crabby Bills, our event and beer sponsor. Along with Crabby Bills, we would like to thank our special event sponsors Tampa Bay Newspaper, Clearwater Gas and Attorney Patrick L. Smith Esq. and many more business sponsors that continue to support our non-profit organization and our community. Our sponsors are highlighted on our website and Facebook and promoted on the day of event. We could not have this community event without them. Please support our sponsors whenever possible. We encourage anyone wanting to contribute and to be a part of this signature event to contact us by visiting our website.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank Becky and Bob Griffin for always allowing community non-profits to have a voice in their News Magazine and for being longtime sponsors of Oktoberfest. IRB Action 2000 is a non-profit community organization for over 20 years striving to preserve and beautify our unique small town making it a place for all to enjoy. For more information about our non-profit, to volunteer, or join us, please visit our website www.irbaction2000.com, or e-mail us at info@irbaction2000.com.

We have monthly meetings the second Monday of the month, at 6:30pm at IRB City Hall Auditorium. All are welcome!

BELLEAIR WOMEN'S REPUBLICAN CLUB

They will hold their annual 9/11 remembrance at the September meeting on Friday, September 10, at Belleair Country Club, One Country Club Lane, Belleair. Social time starts at 11:30 am, with lunch at noon.

Speaker Captain Matt Bruce, radio talk show host of "The Captain's AMERICA—Third Watch" is a combat wounded Vietnam Veteran, a retired fire-rescue captain, and a first responder to the World Trade Center on 9/11/2001. He has also filled many other service and patriotic roles and will speak about his 9/11 experiences, the importance of remembrance and the need for constant vigilance to keep America free.

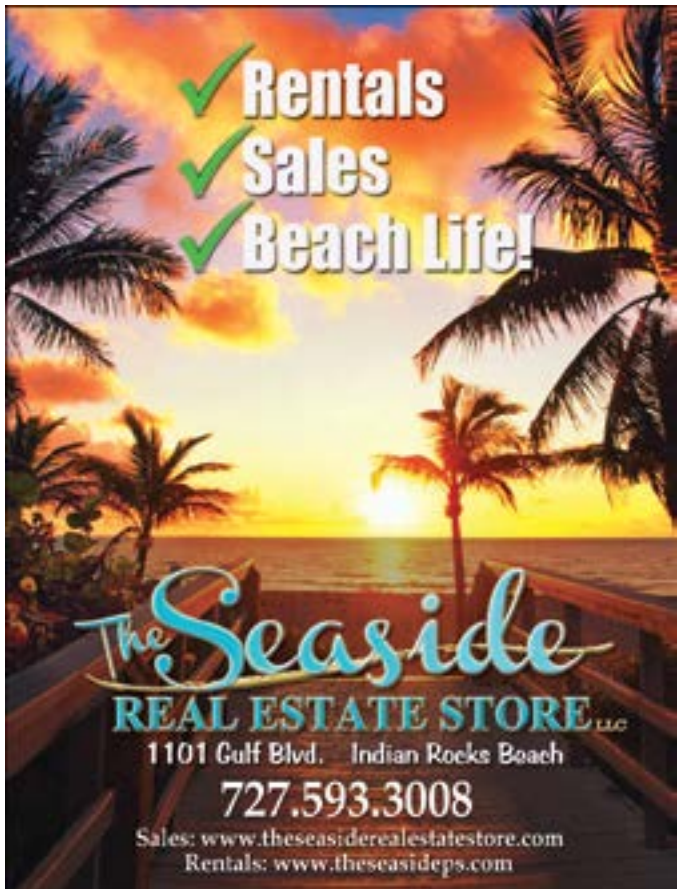
The cost of the meal is \$26. Advance reservations must be made by mailing a check to: BWRC Treasurer Robin Schenck, 301 Belleview Blvd., Belleair, FL 33756. No walk-ups allowed.

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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.

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. Other tools such as the ones noted below, come into play after the occurrence of 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.

Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District encourages you to check your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors each month to ensure they are working properly and that the batteries are still functioning. Make sure you have an escape plan in place for when things go bad.

Life Safety is our business, and your safety means everything to us.

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Restaurant & Bar News

ANECDOTE RAISES MONEY WITH MANGOES

What happens when you make beer with mangoes? If you are Phillip Anderson, owner of Anecdote Brewery, you make money for the Beach Food Pantry.

While bike riding on 11th Avenue, Anderson and girlfriend Kristin, saw a big mango tree in Alex Dorman's front yard, with a sign that said, "take one." They did. Later, they came back and asked Dorman if she would donate a bunch—and they would make beer.



Together, they came up with the idea to use the beer as a fundraising event for the Beach Community Food Pantry.

"I saw the tree and the sign, then we met Alex," Phillip said. "We took a bucket full - about 15-20 pounds."

"Making mango flavored beer is not hard," Phillip explains. "You sanitize them, remove the center seed, chop them, and mix them in at the end of the brewing process."

The special fundraising event, held Saturday, August 7, raised \$545 for the Food Pantry.



BBA MEETS AT CRABBY BILLS BBA members and guests enjoyed food and drinks while making new business connections at The Original Crabby Bill's. J.T. Corrales, Director of Business Development for the restaurant cut the ribbon to celebrate joining the association. The BBA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to help local businesses connect with each other and the community.

BACKWATER'S IS 21 Backwater's on Sand Key was 21 years old on August 17 and just like last year, there was be no big anniversary party, due to COVID and employee shortages. They hope it will return next year.

They are however still planning to host their annual "Trolley Trip," September 25th.

"Our annual trolley trip heads to St. Pete Beach and many of the famous beach bars like Jimmy B's, Caddy's, and several others," says owner Larry Edger. "Guests pay \$35 for the cost of the private trolley, snacks and water. It's a chance to see other places all in one afternoon."

People must sign up at Backwaters - see a manager or bartender for information. "We have been doing this for 17 years except for 2020 of course due to Covid-19"

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Restaurant & Bar News



MAGGIE MAE'S WINS BEST BREAKFAST, AGAIN! For the 12th straight year, Maggie Mae's in both Belleair Bluffs and Sand Key share the People's Choice Awards of "Best Breakfast" in all of Tampa Bay, as voted by readers of the Tampa Bay

Newspapers. They have won that award 12 years in a row, so you know it must be good.

Find them in the The Shoppes on Sand Key and in Belleair Bluffs at 2961 West Bay, next to Bonefish Grill. See their menu at MaggieMaesOnTheBluffs.com.

CONGRATULATIONS Other area restaurants awarded the "People's Choice" as Best include:

- BEST Fine Dining: Salt Rock Grill (Redington)
- BEST Waterfront Dining: Backwaters (Sand Key)
- BEST Seafood: Keegan's Seafood Grill (Indian Rocks)
- BEST Steak: E&E Stakeout Grill (Belleair)



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 they 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.

GUILTY SEA PUB The Original Crabby Bill's is adding a new restaurant to their portfolio, one block south of their main restaurant on Gulf Blvd. They are completely remodeling in the space formerly occupied by Los Mexicanos and opening a sports bar.

"It is going to be called 'Guilty Sea Pub and Sports Bar'," says owner Matt Loder. "We are updating the building, inside and out. It has not been remodeled since 1990. We are working with the architects, now. It is exciting, but it will take a few months as materials are in short supply."

RESTAURANT NEWS WANTED If your restaurant has news or an upcoming event, we want to include it in this Magazine. E-mail details to Bob@GriffinDirectories.com or call 727-430-8300.

Restaurant & Bar News

CABANAS COASTAL GRILL

The Original Crabby Bill's Family Brands has opened a new restaurant in Clearwater Beach inside Winter the Dolphin's Beach Club. It offers the delicious fare, with a local flair, that you would expect from Crabby Bill's. Serving lunch and dinner, you can dine inside, at the bar, or on their covered patio.



The menu features locally sourced and sustainable ingredients including their signature seafood, chicken, pasta dishes, seasonal specials and plant-based options. For a true island-style outdoor dining experience, head out back to the tiki bar - Cabanas Beachside - that offers light fare with a variety of appetizers, sandwiches, salads, and burgers, plus special kid-friendly favorites. Cool off on a warm day with one of their signature "Island Paradise" frozen drinks like Pineapple Mango Madness or the famous Cabana Banana. Find them at 655 S Gulfview Blvd., Clearwater Beach.

HURRICANE EDDIES Construction has finally started on the new "Hurricane Eddies", formerly known as The Red Lion Pub. It has been gutted and now they are putting it back together. Owner, Tom George, says he expects to finish work and reopen in about 90 days. They are targeting November. The upgrades include keeping the red phone booth.

INDIAN ROCKS CAFE

Jeff Tacy and Jean Murphy met on May 1st and 12 days later signed a lease on a small space in Indian Rocks Beach. Now, they are both a couple and partners in the Indian Rocks Café, a small coffee shop between Surfside Produce and Groupers on the Beach. They opened June 16th.



Indian Rocks Cafe is a specialty coffee-pastry-smoothie breakfast and lunch restaurant. They serve coffees, latte, espresso, cappuccino, mocha, hot chocolate, hot or cold tea, and fruit smoothies. Plus, breakfast items like pastries, bagels and multi-grain breads. They also offer breakfast or lunch sandwiches, veggie wraps, and various fruits.

"I owned a Mexican restaurant in Asheville," says Jeff. "Jean has a background in business. We both wanted to do something different for a change."

"Our motto is 'Fast, Fresh and Healthy'," says Jean. "Our goal is to provide quality customer service, beverages and food items to the local and visiting community. We're a counter-service café with indoor and outdoor seating. We have dine-in, takeout and online ordering."

Their Grand Opening celebration is scheduled for Saturday, September 4 from 8am-6pm with a food drive and raffles. All proceeds will go to the Church of the Isles (COTI). Donated food will go to the Beaches Community Food Pantry.

Find Indian Rocks Café at 1401 Gulf Blvd, in the corner of the shopping center. They are open from 8am to 2pm, seven days a week. See their menu at www.IndianRocksCafe.com or for take out, call 475-9949.



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NEW BOOK BY AREA RESIDENT

Clearwater Beach resident author Richard S. Hillman recently published his third novel The Condo. Here is a review by Jon Michael Miller:

"The Condo is a wry, ironic depiction of high-end condominium living on the Gulf Coast of Florida. Stan and Barb, successful New Yorkers, seek early retirement from the pressures of their professions as an advertising executive and a fashion model. So, they sell their brownstone in the Village and move to the coast near Tampa Bay. They are close to another NY couple, who also make a move to Montgomery, Alabama to become engaged in the struggle for racial equality. The two couples, intimately entwined, soon discover that the complexities they flee from are impossible to escape.

The narrative centers around Stan's irrepressible need to become involved with community affairs, in this case, the homeowners' association. Stress abounds even in Paradise—much of it comic with some underlying threats and a few surprising plot twists involving the Cuban Mafia, a Norwegian beauty, a transsexual, and some crazy tennis players. It's hard to imagine a more thorough and accurate presentation of the slings and arrows of upscale condo life. The accuracy and humor resonate."

"...an easy read, perfect for beachside or a long flight." Readers' Favorite
" ...echoes of Carl Hiaasen and Randy Wayne White." Goodreads

The Condo as well as Hillman's FAPA-awarded novel Tropical Liaison and its sequel Finding Rafael are available from Amazon at: amazon.com/author/richardshillman.

When not reading or writing, Hillman can be found on the Clearwater Beach tennis courts or kayaking to Caladesi Island. He and his wife Audrey live happily in a Clearwater Beach condo

INDIAN ROCKS RED TIDE UPDATE

By Mayor Cookie Kennedy
Recently, I had an opportunity to view the Red Tide in the Sheriff helicopter. We flew from Anclote Key to Tierra Verde and around Tampa Bay. Flying over Anclote Key we located an algal bloom where a distinct line of demarcation could be seen along the Gulf of Mexico. After our ride, I met with Kelli Levi with Pinellas County Public



Works to discuss the harmful algal bloom. Normally, the Red Tide organism lives in the ocean with low concentration and not harmful to sea life. This year contributing factors led to an outbreak of the harmful algal bloom. The lack of rain in Tampa Bay at the beginning of summer and a leak at Piney Point releasing approximately 215 tons of nitrogen known as ammonia could be contributing elements.

Now, with the continued rain showers the salt content has come down in Tampa Bay. However, with the rain comes fertilizer run off, grass clippings, and pet waste too. Over 3 million pounds of dead fish were removed from Pinellas County beaches due to Red Tide this year. Indian Rocks Beach eliminated 4000 pounds of fish in just one day. We will continue to monitor, review data, and water quality. At present concentration of Red Tide is not present in Indian Rocks Beach..

KY LEWIS - THE ULTIMATE FISHERMAN

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

Ky Lewis considered by most to be the best fishing charter captain in Clearwater, once was rated the number 1 skipper on Florida's West Coast and in the top 10 skippers in the state. Every fisherman has a fish story; Lewis has a thousand.

Lewis (78) was born and raised on a boat in Clearwater. Well, that is what he says, actually he was born in Morton Plant Hospital. He attended Admiral Farragut Naval Academy in St. Pete and Clearwater High School.

His father Bart Lewis was always on the water. Born in Philadelphia, he bought his first fishing boat about 1938. It was called the "Romana." In the Navy during World War II, he was Port Manager of Guam. Later he managed the Port of Tampa and owned one of the first charter boats in Clearwater. It was docked on the mainland in front of the old auditorium.

Lewis's parents married in 1940. His mother fished with his dad working the lines when he had a charter. They charged \$15 per day, per trip — ALL DAY! After one trip, when his mother made \$3 in tips, they partied on the boat for two days.

In the 1950s, his dad bought "The Hydeaway" - a personal, 34 foot runaround boat. Lewis's dad was always taking friends and family on the boat, up and down the coast. Lewis and his dad, mom and brothers made several trips on the "Hydeaway" from Clearwater all the way to Philadelphia.

"Sometimes we simply ferried friends from the Biltmore over to the Sand Key Cabana Club," Lewis recalls. "Back then, there were no bridges to Sand Key, just a sand road."

"I remember Sand Key when it was all just sand dunes with one dirt road down the middle," says Lewis. "We would go there to swim and used to find lots of unexploded bombs and hundreds of brass, 50-caliber shell casings from the war planes practicing shooting and bombing the bunkers built on the beach while they were getting ready for WWII. They flew from a landing strip at the Belleview Biltmore." Lewis laughs as he recalls, "my brothers Dusty and Fred, and I would bring all these things back to our house on 1336 Indian Rocks Rd in Belleair, which upset my mother."

Lewis started fishing on his dad's 26-foot Chris-Craft named "The Barky" out of Island Yacht Harbor. At the age of 19, he received his Captain's License and started his own charter fishing business. The next year, he bought his first boat, a 34-foot six-pack (meaning it held six people) from a local, Jake Kort. It was already named "The Daisy Mae" and turned out to be the first of many "Daisy Mae's."

In 1965, Lewis bought "Daisy Mae II," a 47-foot Carolina sportfisherman. Offshore in May of 1972 on "Daisy Mae II" at 5 am with 40 MPH winds and 15-foot seas, a friend woke Lewis to tell him they were sinking. All seven people aboard ran to the bridge while Lewis called out a mayday, which was answered. When he tried to respond, a wave washed them all overboard. They stayed in the water until that afternoon when the party boat "Double Eagle" stumbled across them.

Two weeks after losing everything, Lewis bought a 53 ft. Pacemaker - "Daisy May III". It was a beautiful boat, but it had been worked too hard, so he sold it to build the "Lil Abner" - a 32 foot Seacraft. It was fast and fun, but too small for the offshore fishing, so he sold it to a mate.

In the 1960s and part of the '70s, Lewis spent winters in the Florida Keys, summers in Panama City, and spring and fall in Clearwater. In the early 1970s Lewis and others started working with Bureau of Sport Fisheries and the Old Salt Club to help learn what was happening in the waters offshore. Due to the cost of fuel and the size of their boats, they only fished about 70 miles offshore, which was 40 fathoms, so they were very helpful in the research.

Also, in the mid-1970s, Lewis and his wife Nancy started the West Coast Billfish Championship Tournaments. They created more tournaments because they could book more charters and win more money, which they did for sure! By now, he was fishing farther offshore - up to 150 miles and 800 fathoms. That is where Lewis caught Spearfish and Swordfish along with Blue and White Marlin, Sailfish, Tuna, Dolphin, and Wahoo.



Lewis and passengers with the West Coast Marlin record catch at 637 pounds, caught by Mark Adams in an Old Salt Loop Tournament.

In 1975 Lewis built the "Daisy Mae V" from scratch at Ross Yacht. Ten years later, he built a 44 Torres in the Florida Keys on Stock Island, which was the "Daisy May VI." That boat turned out to be one of the best tournament boats ever with Lewis at the helm. He held the West Coast Marlin record for a short time with a 637 pounder, caught by Mark Adams during the Old Salt Loop Tournament. That was an eventful trip when after traveling 130 miles offshore, gale force winds struck with ten foot seas. Several participating boats had to be towed in by the Coast Guard. Daisy Mae VI was fine.

He also had the first West Coast Grand Slam catching a Blue Marlin, White Marlin and Sailfish in a St. Petersburg tournament. He has placed and won tournaments in Pensacola, Panama City, Tarpon Springs, St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Useppa, Marathon, Key West, and the Bahamas.

"I remember hanging around the marina as a kid and seeing the Daisy Mae return with what seemed like every fish in the gulf," said Marv Siple, a Captain himself today. "Ky was always there - a fixture. If you didn't know him, you at least knew of

him. There was ALWAYS a story! Fun times!"

Today, at age 78, after 59 years of fishing, Lewis has retired from the rat race of fishing charters, but still fishes in some tournaments. He and Nancy moved to Inglis (north of Crystal River) and live on the Withlacoochee River. He still gets calls for charters but now specializes in backwater inshore fishing and airboat ecology trips.

The Clearwater Historical Museum has a small version of the "Daisy Mae" parked on the grass outside the entrance on South Ft. Harrison. Capt Zack Lewis, Ky's son, found the boat. They felt it was doubly fitting to pay tribute to such a well known, and colorful fixture of the fishing and waterfront community. There is an exhibit inside featuring Ky Lewis and some of the fish he caught.

You can reach Lewis by email at CaptKyLewis@AOL.com. Look for Ky Lewis's book coming next year! ■



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. ■

TIPS TO KEEPING YOUR CYBER WORLD SAFE

By Dena Perkins, Threat Angler

You have probably seen at least one, if not several, stories about cybersecurity breaches in the news. These threats are increasing over time. It can be scary to think about your personal information being stolen and you may feel powerless to combat the threats. Even for the technology savvy individual or those with a technology savvy friend or family member, technology is changing so rapidly, it is impossible to keep up with the latest cybersecurity threats and countermeasures.

While there is no perfect solution, there are some high impact, no cost solutions available. The single most effective and economical solution is what is called two-factor or multi-factor authentication. Two-factor authentication requires two types of credentials for authentication when logging into an app or Web site. This is most often in the form of the traditional username and password, plus a code received via text, phone call, or mobile application - the code is the second factor.

Most computers and web applications, such as a bank, email, or social media websites, requiring authentication provide a two-factor authentication as a no-cost feature. A Google search will often lead you to the instructions for your web application. For example, you can search "two-factor authentication on gmail account."

If a website requires authentication but does not offer a two-factor feature, find an alternative website if possible. If you cannot find an alternative, use a different username and password for less secure websites. Ensure your password is 12 or more characters long without any dictionary words and utilizing upper case, lower case, numeric, and special characters. Change this password at least every 90 days and use a calendar reminder to help you remember. Never write down your passwords. With two-factor authentication enabled, you can still be just as vigilant with passwords, but the need is less.

Most websites also allow you to see active and recent account authentications to check whether your accounts have been hacked. If you see authentications from geographic locations you have not accessed your account from, disconnect those authentications, change your password, and report this to the web application owner. You can search Google for phrases like "see recent activity on gmail account" for instructions.

You should not need to feel scared to use technology. Adopt basic cybersecurity practices like using two-factor authentication and be vigilant in monitoring the activity on your accounts. Report suspicious activity promptly to the website owner. Following these simple steps will mitigate a great deal of the risk.

Threat Angler is a local cybersecurity company based in Indian Rocks Beach. They service businesses of all sizes and enjoy helping those in our community and providing information about cybersecurity. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or if they can be of assistance, www.threatangler.com.



Threat Angler owners John and Dena Perkins with their family

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Business Briefs



WILLIAM DEAN UPDATE

The Tampa store should open this fall, but no date has been finalized. New offerings for both the Tampa and Belleair Bluffs stores are being developed. Shown here is the new croissant cube which is currently available in the Belleair Bluffs store. Croissants, breakfast pastries, eclairs, pastries, quiche, sandwiches and salads as well as charcuterie are being added

to the Belleair Bluffs menu starting in this month.

GALLERIA MISTO IS MOVING ONLINE The retail art gallery, next door to E&E Stakeout has closed and gone online.

"Unfortunately, we could not survive the pandemic," reflects owner Loise Del Basso. "We reluctantly came to the conclusion that going online with the gallery was our best move. The last seven years have provided an excellent jump start to my career as a full time artist. I am looking forward to delving back into my art studies and doing what I love, producing a growing inventory of my own, and taking on additional commissions."

The new website, www.GalleriaMisto.com, is under construction, and she plans to continue her framing services. You can still reach her at Louise@GalleriaMisto.com.

SPEEDWAY NOW MOBILE In August, most of the Speedway gas stations changed to be Mobil including the one on the corner of Walsingham and Indian Rocks Roads. 7-Eleven bought Speedway in this market and changed the gas supplier to Mobil. You can now toss away your Speedway Rewards cards.

NOT YOUR ORDINARY BEACH SHOP

Sea Gypsy Beach Shop opened in June on the north end of the Gulf-To-Bay Realty building. The store is a family affair, operated by new

Indian Rocks Beach residents Kristie, Jeff and daughter Gracie Jenkins. They relocated here in April from South Carolina. They sell beach essentials and clothing, plus they rent bikes.

"We have a bit of everything you need for the beach," says Kristie. "We plan to rent paddle boards and golf carts soon," says Jeff.

Find them at 2701 Gulf Blvd. or call 474-3053.



BUSINESS NEWS WANTED If your business has news you would like to share with the readers of this 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.



HAIR LOSS SOLUTIONS

A mother-daughter duo has been finding hair loss solutions that work since 2012. Now their Everyday Beautiful moved into a new Belleair location last month. Owner Laurie Chism says "Women having thinning hair is a very common problem no one likes to talk about. It's almost like we feel we should be ashamed, but that is far from the truth. Male patterned baldness is actually a female gene. And it does not have to be something that anyone should be scared to face; we don't have to be ashamed of it."

The store finds solutions that work for your needs since each person's solution is a little different. For women thinning around the top, a topper is the perfect solution. They specialize in creating custom made pieces for both for men and women and the majority of their pieces are custom-made for the individual client. They also carry ready to wear wigs.

Find Everyday Beautiful at 2310 West Bay. Get more information at www.EverydayBeautifulWigs.com.

MARKET IN THE BLUFFS

A monthly farmers market will open in Belleair Bluffs next month on the street in front of Belleair Bluffs City Hall (Sunset Blvd). The once a month market will offer handmade items, plants and other fun items. Each month will have some different vendors.

The first one is tentatively scheduled for September 11th from 10am until 2 pm. They are currently looking for vendors who sell handmade items. If you are interested, contact Karen at eventsbyjk@aol.com. Follow their Facebook page for updates, www.facebook.com/Marketinthebluffs.



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MEET YOUR SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS - JULIE MARCUS

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

These days, even when there is not an election underway, there is a lot in the news about voting. But when there is an election, Julie Marcus, the Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections, and her team are responsible for making sure people are properly registered and informed about the voting process. It doesn't matter if it is a municipal election in one of our small towns or a big Presidential election, held every four years, the responsibilities remain the same.

Marcus, 45, has dedicated her 18-year career to ensuring equal access to voter registration, ballots, and the integrity of the entire electoral process.

"The first time I remember voting was in 1996, when Bill Clinton ran against Bob Dole," recalls Marcus.

Originally from Rochester, NY, Marcus' interest in the process goes back to her days in college, at the University of South Florida, where she studied Political Science. Marcus graduated from USF where she was also President of the National Political Honor Society.

While at USF, then Supervisor of Elections Dorothy Ruggles, invited Julie to be part of a new initiative to reach high school students. The opportunity was for Marcus to create a new voter outreach department and it was her introduction into the Supervisor of Elections Office.

"The objective was to educate young people about the electoral process, register them to vote, and encourage civic engagement," Marcus said. "There has been an increasing turnout among the 18-26 year-olds in this county—partially due to these programs," Marcus adds.

Marcus launched her career in public service in 1998 by working as a district secretary with Frank Farkas in the State House of Representatives.

In 2002, Deborah Clark, then Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections, appointed Marcus to develop and manage a new voter outreach department within her organization. During this time, Marcus developed the "Vote in Honor of a Vet" program. The program, which aims "to encourage voter participation among our senior high school voting-age population, as well as teach them about the sacrifices our veterans have made so we may continue to live in a democratic society" received the "Superior Award" from the National Association of County Information Officers.

Marcus was appointed Deputy Supervisor of Elections in 2007. As part of her new role, she led an advisory committee tasked with recommending the optical scan voting system that is still in use today. Five years later, Clark appointed Marcus Chief Deputy Supervisor of Elections—that is second in command. This added greatly to her workload, including managing personnel and a multimillion dollar budget, plus ensuring laws are followed.

"Since 2016, cybersecurity has been on the forefront of our administration," Marcus said. She spearheaded rapid changes in this domain from a wide perspective, including a cybersecurity framework involving technological, physical, and human elements.

Cybersecurity is not limited to the Internet. It includes physical security of the equipment and information, and security

of people. "Security starts and ends with our people. From teaching prevention to training and planning for how to react and respond to a threat, our people are our number one asset. They are our front line to ensuring our cybersecurity apparatus is strong," Marcus explained.

Each employee is required to follow strict security protocols and access to certain areas of the building is restricted. Election equipment is always under visual security, from the moment it leaves the warehouse and goes to remote polling locations, until it returns to the County's warehouse.

In addition to threat prevention, detection, and response, recovery is a critical element in the process. "We have to be able to recover from an attack or threat," Marcus explains. "This is more than having everything simply 'backed up' or 'in a cloud' somewhere." Marcus cannot elaborate any details though because laws protect information regarding Supervisors' cybersecurity systems.

The State of Florida recently joined the Electronic Registration Information Center, or ERIC. "We are part of a 32-state consortium. We share information about registered voters to protect the integrity of the process. ERIC helps keep the voter rolls clean."

In 2019, Clark retired before her term expired. Governor Ron DeSantis appointed Marcus to serve the remainder of her term. In 2020, Marcus was elected as Supervisor of Elections—and was sworn in on January 5, 2021.

Over her 18-year career with the Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections Office, she has administered more than 320 municipal elections and 25 countywide elections. She has conducted 15 machine recounts,

12 manual recounts, 37 post-election manual audits, and implemented two new voting systems.

Marcus oversees 45 full-time employees, housed in three offices throughout the County. The main office is in Largo (off Starkey Road). Other offices are located in downtown Clearwater and St. Petersburg.

The next big county-wide election is November 8, 2022, although there are many municipal and primary elections before that.

If you want to know more, register to vote, find dates of future elections, volunteer to be a poll worker, or have other questions about the process—visit the County's official election web site at www.VotePinellas.com.

NOTE: To prepare for this article, and to witness the process first-hand, I volunteered to be a poll worker during the November 2020, Presidential General Election. ■



VOTING FAQs

REGISTERED VOTERS

The numbers are always changing, but as of August 1, 2021 there were over 700,500 registered voters in Pinellas County. During the last several elections, in our county, there have been slightly more registered Democrats than Republicans. The numbers total 248,500 Democrats - 35.4%, 245,500 Republicans - 35.0%, and 206,500 No Party Affiliation voters - 29%. Florida is a "closed primary state," which means during a primary, a qualified voter is entitled to only vote the ballot of the political party with which the voter was registered 29 days before the election.

VOTING BY MAIL

Voting by mail provides voters the flexibility and convenience to vote from their homes. Ballots may be mailed back or dropped off at any of the three County Election Offices. Any registered voter may request a mail ballot by calling the Supervisor's office at 727-464-VOTE (8683) or visiting votepinellas.com. A mail ballot must be requested at least ten days prior to any election.

In Florida there is no difference between an Absentee Ballot and a Mail Ballot. These two terms describe the same ballot because Florida voters no longer need an excuse to vote by mail. Mail ballots are issued for all elections held in the county.

Notify the Supervisor's office of any changes to your address. You can make that change online. The Post Office cannot forward ballots as the candidates are unique to different areas.

After you have completed the ballot. Make sure to sign the envelope. State law requires that a mail ballot envelope be signed by the voter and the signature will be compared to the signature on file. If there are any discrepancies or you forget to sign it, you can correct it by 5 pm on the second day after the election. Mail ballots must be received by the Supervisor of Elections no later than 7pm on Election Day. Remember, the later you return your ballot, the less time you will have to cure any signature problems.

You may request a mail ballot for a family member. Call the Supervisor's Office and provide your name, address, and date of birth. Requests must be signed. You can also do this online. You can designate (in writing) a person to pick up a mail ballot for you beginning nine days before an election. Your designee will need a photo ID and a signed note from you, as well as a completed affidavit. Visit www.votepinellas.com for details.

If you requested a mail ballot but changed your mind and want to vote in person, you can still do that. Take your ballot (the entire kit) to your polling place. Poll workers will cancel the ballot and give you a new ballot on site. You cannot use the mail ballot in a polling place. If you do not have your mail ballot and the elections staff cannot confirm that your ballot was NOT received, you will be allowed to vote using a provisional ballot. The provisional ballot will be counted when your eligibility has been confirmed.

Mail ballots are collected daily as they arrive and can be opened and processed beginning 22 days before an election. The first results you hear released on Election Day are the partial results from the mail ballots. On election day, mail ballots are added to the election totals. ALL eligible mail ballots are counted, the same as in person ballots and early voting ballots.

During the last Legislative Sessions, changes to our election process were signed into law. These changes are working their way through the courts. Depending on the results, some of the above may change. For information or answers to other questions, visit www.VotePinellas.com or call 727-464-VOTE.

AIR CONDITIONING

Who invented it and how does it work?

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

We all know it is hot this time of year, all you have to do is go outside. Haven't we all wondered how people lived here without air conditioning? People in their 60s remember life in Florida with no A/C in their house or their car. They drove with their windows down, went to the local swimming pool a lot, and slept with a fan in each bedroom. They were just used to it. Today, every house, every business and every car has an air conditioner. Where did this magnificent invention come from?

Actually, air conditioning has its roots in ancient times. The Egyptians experimented with the hanging wet cloths over their doorways. Ancient Rome discovered that the circulated water moving through their aqueducts cooled the air. In about 180 A.D., the Chinese invented a hand-cranked rotary fan to move the air and produce a breeze.

In 1758, Benjamin Franklin and Cambridge University Professor John Hadley gave a presentation on the effects of evaporative cooling. They noted that evaporating certain liquids, especially alcohol, on the surface of water can cool an object to the point of freezing.

In the 1790s, Robert Morris experimented with "ice pits" built into large Philadelphia homes. They were a hole in the ground filled with ice in the winter that provided cooler temperatures in the spring and maybe summer until they completely melted. George Washington liked the concept so much he had one added to his home in Mt. Vernon. When they built the White House, John Adams had one added in 1800.

In 1820, Michael Faraday, an English inventor, performed experiments using ammonia, which was very volatile, to create cool air. Later, ammonia would be used in the first modern air conditioning units.

In the 1830s, Dr. John Gorrie, regarded as the "father of refrigeration," experimented with forms of "air conditioning." He was born in the West Indies but grew up in South Carolina—both areas are known for sweltering temperatures. In 1833, he moved to Florida's Apalachicola area where he was a physician at two area hospitals. His medical research involved the study of tropical diseases and it was the current belief that "bad air" caused these diseases. He urged the draining of swamps and "the cooling

of sick rooms" to clear the "bad air." He designed a method of cooling rooms with ice in a basin suspended from the ceiling. Cool air, being heavier in nature, flowed down across a patient and through a hole in the floor. Unfortunately, ice was not common in the 1830s. It had to be bought from northern farmers and shipped on boats and trains to the south.

After 1845, Gorrie gave up his medical practice to pursue refrigeration projects. In 1851 he was granted a patent for a machine to make ice. That machine is on display at the Smithsonian Museum today. Due to a variety of money and health problems, his work ended, and he died in 1855.

In 1881, when President James Garfield was on his deathbed, Naval Engineers tried Gorrie's concept and used a box filled with cloths soaked in melted ice water and allowed air to pass through the box. It lowered the ambient room temperature by 20 degrees. Unfortunately, it required an enormous amount of ice, but it proved that Dr. Gorrie had been on the right track.

The interest in air conditioning faded away for about 45 years until Willis Carrier invented the first real air conditioning unit in 1902. Carrier was an engineer by trade. In response to an air quality problem at Sackett-Wilhelms Lithographing & Publishing Company, Willis created and submitted drawings for what later become recognized as "the first modern air conditioning system." The installation of that system is known as the birth-place of air conditioning.

After years of refinement, Carrier was granted Patent #808,897 for an "Apparatus for Treating Air." It was designed to humidify or dehumidify air, and to heat or cool water. In 1915, Carrier, with the help of six associates, chipped in \$32,660 and formed Carrier Engineering in New York, specializing in the manufacture and distribution of heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC). During the Great Depression, Carrier Engineering merged with two other companies and formed the Carrier Corporation.

The Great Depression slowed residential and commercial construction, and the use of air conditioning. The company moved to Syracuse, New York and eventually became one of the largest employers in Central New York. In 1939, Carrier invented a small air conditioner,



known as an "Igloo," which gave people a glimpse of the future. It became popular during the 1950s post-war economic boom and today is a staple in most American homes. Air conditioning has contributed to the success of large movie theaters, shopping malls, airplane travel and even cools computers and the servers that power the Internet.

Understanding how an air conditioner works is fairly simple, and it may surprise you to learn that there is no single part of an air conditioner that makes the air cool. Instead, it takes advantage of a basic scientific process known as "evaporative heat" - when liquid converts to a gas, it absorbs heat. An air conditioner forces specialized liquids to do this over and over again, absorbing heat and expelling cool air in the process. It's actually a simple, but ingenious, concept.

To be effective, air conditioning must control temperatures, humidity and air circulation/ventilation. It also cleans the air. That is why you have to periodically clean the filter. Here is how it works:

1. The air conditioner pulls in warm air usually through a grille in your room.
2. A fan blows that warm air over the cold, evaporator coil full of the liquid refrigerant.
3. Since the refrigerant is cooler than the air, the warm air's heat is transferred into the refrigerant, leaving the air cool.
4. A dehumidifier removes the air's excess water leaving it cool and now dryer.
5. The cool air is sent back to the room through the ducts in your house.
6. The hot refrigerant, which is now a gas, is processed releasing the unwanted heat outside. The newly-cooled refrigerant (once again a liquid) is ready to return back to the evaporator, and chill more incoming air.

That's the basics covered! ■

Community News

BEACH ART CENTER

Submitted by Patricia Thomas

Our Gift Shop will be getting a new look for Fall. Mid-September will see an exciting new stock of local art, jewelry, cards, pottery and paintings, all created by local artists.

Art Galleries - Consider entering your artwork in our next Gallery Show titled "Books and Music." Theme description and entry requirements can be found on our website. Take-in dates for this show are Sept 6-8, between 10 am- 3:30 pm. The entire community is invited to come see this exciting show Mon - Fri from 9am - 4pm, September 13th - October 22nd.

Inspirational Collage Workshop - Saturday, September 25th, 1 - 4 pm. Instruction provided by Wendy Davis. You will make a mini art creation using collage papers (tissue, magazine pictures, old art, books, music, etc.), acrylic paint, and an inspirational word or phrase to inspire your creative direction. Take home a small work of art on canvas. Beginner level, Age 12+, Fee: \$46 (materials included)

Fabulous Flamingos in Watercolor Workshop - Saturday, October 9, 9am - 4pm. Join award winning artist, Heather Ripper for an afternoon of painting bright, vibrant, fabulous flamingos, the iconic birds that are synonymous with Florida. Explore a rich palette of colors, and various watercolor techniques, while painting these fun and elegant creatures! All levels of experience are welcome. Fee: \$100, Materials list is available on our website

In September, it's "Back to School" for:

- Acrylics - Monday afternoons
- Oil Painting - Tuesday mornings
- Pottery Exploration - Tuesday and Friday mornings
- Fired up for Pottery - Tuesday evenings & Thursday mornings
- Water Media - Tuesday afternoons
- Watercolor - Wednesday afternoons

In October, the following weekly classes begin 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 - across from Kolb Park. Find details on classes, registration, gallery shows, and gift shop at beachartcenter.org. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

42ND CLEARWATER JAZZ HOLIDAY- October 14 - 17

Due to construction at Coachman Park, this year's event will be in the BayCare BallPark, an open air stadium venue in Clearwater. General Admission open seating is available with a seat. A very limited number of low-cost Standing Room Only tickets are available which grants attendees access to roam the stadium and viewing areas including the grass outfield berm behind the stage, the Tiki Bar, and various concourse high-tops and picnic tables. Blankets are permitted in the berm seating.

Headliners include: Kool & The Gang, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Gloria Gaynor and Snarky Puppy.

Ticket Options are: General Admission Open Seat, General Admission Standing Room Only, 4 Day and Weekend tickets (General Admission), VIP Hospitality Table of 2 or 4 seats.

See the full lineup and purchase tickets at clearwaterjazz.com.



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We would love for you to visit Living Hope Church! You can plan your visit by filling out an online RSVP to our services. When you visit, we will have a small gift for you at Guest Services. We look forward to meeting you soon!

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 11633 137th Street N., Largo
 Near the closed Burger King Restaurant
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www.LivingHopeChurch.org



INDIAN ROCKS BEACH

Kolb Park
 1507 Bay Palm Blvd, 18B
www.irbaction2000.com

23 OCT **12pm to 6pm**

2021 OKTOBERFEST

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23RD

COLD BEER - MUSIC - FOOD VENDORS - GAMES

German Music & Dancers Emcee Mark Raiston **BEE**

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

Gas **2000** **Crabby Tilly's**

Community News

Protect Our Watershed

Skip the fertilizer!
Lawn runoff spoils our summer fun.

Only rain down the drain,
keep grass clippings on the lawn.

June 1 - Sept 30

Pinellas County Watershed, where we LiveWorkPlay.
www.pinellascounty.org/watershed

Pinellas County is proud to partner with the Association with Disabilities Act. To learn accessible formats of this ad, please call 727-444-4062 (T) 711 (V) 711.

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.

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, 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.

This year's 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

Holiday Lights Returns - 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. In line with tradition, the Gardens will sparkle with 1 million, twinkling, LED lights in a multitude of colors. Vibrant laser lights and lighted figures round out our display to wow guests of all ages.

INDIAN ROCKS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Submitted by Linda Dalina

The Indian Rocks Historical Museum will be closed for August and September. Once we open again in October we hope to have the new 2022 Plein Aire Cottage Artists calendar available for purchase. Also in October, we will be honoring our IRB City workers with a "thank you " luncheon. They really keep our building safe and sound for your visits. And the "big" news, we are planning our Fall Potluck Luncheon to be held on Saturday, October 30th at noon. Due to the number of people and the limited space in the Museum, we will be holding the event outside in Chic a Si Park. Our speaker will be Terry Fortner and will be presenting a fun and informative talk. So, bring a dish to share, invite your friends and neighbors and enjoy the outdoors. We look forward to seeing you.

We are always looking for volunteer hosts, if you are interested, please contact Carol McGlaughlin through the Museum phone number 727-593-3861. We would love to have you.

FRANCIS WILSON PLAYHOUSE

They are excited to announce TWO BY TWO, opens September 2 and runs the 18th in the theatre. Set sail with Noah and his colorful family in this rollicking musical comedy. Created for funnyman Danny Kaye, this intimate epic features music by Richard Rodgers (OKLAHOMA) and lyrics by Martin Charnin (ANNIE). It's a musical of biblical proportions and the perfect vessel for the rebirth of the Playhouse.

Watch for MAMA MIA in the theater October 28 – November 14.

Call the Box Office Monday - Friday 10:30am to 5pm, 727-446-1360.

Francis Wilson Playhouse

GRAND REOPENING OF LIVE SHOWS!

TWO BY TWO

MUSIC BY RICHARD RODGERS LYRICS BY MARTIN CHARNIN
BOOK BY PETER STOKER

September 2nd - 19th, 2021

Set sail with Noah and his colorful family in the rollicking musical comedy TWO BY TWO. Created for funnyman Danny Kaye, this intimate epic features music by Richard Rodgers (OKLAHOMA) and lyrics by Martin Charnin (ANNIE). It's a musical of biblical proportions and the perfect vessel for our rebirth of the Playhouse after a catastrophic year. Book your passage now for this amazing return to live performances on our stage, and remember to arrive Two By Two.

FrancisWilsonPlayhouse.org - 727-446-1360 - Clearwater

Community News

ROTARY CLUB OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH

Submitted by David Kline

BIG GAME RAFFLE TIME! - It is that time of year when football excites the masses. It also heralds the beginning of IRB Rotary's biggest fundraiser, the Big Game Raffle.

Once again, one lucky winner will be on their way to Los Angeles to attend football's biggest event, the 56th renewal of football's world championship. The Grand Prize is two tickets to Big Game 56, four nights lodging and \$1000 cash. Cash prizes will also be awarded for 2nd through 5th place winners.

Tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for 5 tickets. Tickets can be purchased by calling David Kline (727-418-1673).

The drawing for the winning tickets will take place on December 12th at the halftime of the Buccaneers-Bills game. The location of the drawing will be announced in the near future.

The Big Game raffle, along with our other fundraisers, support the good works that our club does throughout the community. When you invest in Rotary, you help to change lives!

"VISITORS DAY" AT IRB ROTARY - Many citizens probably have little idea what Rotary is and what it does. That is not unusual, Rotary spends very little in publicity and advertising. We prefer to use the funds raised to improve lives, locally and globally. The responsibility of Rotary education falls to the local clubs.

We know there are many people in our community who have the talent and desire to help make the world a better place for those less fortunate, but do not know how to go about it. That is where the Rotary Club of Indian Rocks Beach comes in.

IRB Rotary announces our first 'Visitors Day', to be held on Wednesday, October 6, starting at 7:00 am at Jimmy Guana's in the Holiday Inn, IRB. Yes, we know that is a little early, but we are a breakfast club. Our early meeting time allows those of our club to attend the meeting and get off to their day at the end of the meeting, at 8:15 am.

Breakfast will be offered at no cost. There will be no obligation to join or participate. Our goal is to show the community who we are and what we do to create positive change in the world. We are "People of Action". Please contact David Kline (727-418-1673) with any questions.

TASTE FEST AT CLEARWATER MARINE AQUARIUM

AMPLIFY Clearwater is hosting their annual Taste Fest at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium September 24th, from 6 to 9pm. The evening features 30+ local restaurants from all over the Clearwater area, as well as wine and craft beers. Taste Fest will be waste-free this year! Sponsors include Clearwater Gas System, BayCare, Bob Heilman's Beachcomber and more.

"Taste Fest is a fun and exciting night, full of delicious food, entertainment and engaging in what this community has to offer," remarked Amanda Payne, President & CEO of AMPLIFY Clearwater. "AMPLIFY Clearwater is proud to be working with local restaurants to make this year's Taste Fest one to remember."

AMPLIFY Clearwater is pleased to announce that this event is in conjunction with Clearwater Offshore National's VIP Party and Meet & Greet! The VIP Party and Meet & Greet will also be held at CMA prior to Taste Fest. Come meet the incredible drivers of the Clearwater Hooters Offshore National's teams, and enjoy complimentary unlimited food and drink. This is a special ticketed event. Visit amplifyclearwater.com/TasteFest.



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

PLATINUM SPONSORS

The Original **Crabby Bill's**
21 CENTURY 21
FARMHOUSE 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



DROP "OFF" YOUR DRAWERS for Clothes To Kids!

Each year Clothes To Kids distributes more than 65,000 pairs of underwear - that's a lot of undies! We need your help!

HOW CAN YOU HELP?
Donate new packages of underwear to one of our three stores or shop our Amazon Wish List today! Every pair counts!

SIZES MOST NEEDED:
Girls Bikinis - Size 6,12,14,16
Boys Boxers - Size S,M,L,XL
Womens Bikini - Size 5,6,7,8,9,10
Mens Boxers - Size S,M,L,XL

Clearwater Store: 1099 N Hercules Ave, Clearwater, FL 33765, 727-441-8090
St. Pete Store: 2808 34th St S, St. Pete, FL 33711, 727-448-9090
Tampa Store: 5011 N W Hillborough Ave, Tampa, FL 33634, 813-436-6400

Scan to shop our Amazon Wish List!

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FUN FAIR

Celebrate Good Times... Come On!
• September 16th – 19th 2021 •

Games for All Ages
Silent Auction • Raffles AND MORE!

- Delicious Food • Beer Garden
- Dessert Emporium • Entertainment • Rides
- Community Flea Market • Margaritaville Booth

Fun Fair Hours:

- Thursday: 6 pm – 10 pm
- Friday: 6 pm – 11 pm
- Saturday: 11 am – 11 pm
- Sunday: 11 am – 6 pm (Rides open at 12 pm)

Always Night Specials Friday Sept 17

TICKET OPTIONS

- 4-day ticket unlimited ride/beer \$75.00
- Thursday-Friday, 4-day ticket \$25.00
- Saturday-Sunday, 2-day ticket \$25.00
- Food & game tickets \$8.00 ea.

Buy your own Inland/Outdoor Flea Market Space Contact for Details
www.stpatrickcatholic.org
• Saturday: 9 am – 3 pm
• Sunday: 9 am – 3 pm

TAMPA BAY'S PREMIER SHOWBAND
REVEREND BARRY FUNK
PERFORMING AT 7:00 PM SATURDAY + SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18th

QUINCY'S FREE FUN FAIR HOT DOGS!

Community News

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St. Patrick Catholic School, 1501 Trotter Rd., Largo, is hosting their 55th Annual Fun Fair - "Celebrate Good Times, Come On!" Fun Fair 2021 Thursday, September 16th - Sunday, September 19th.

This year's theme reflects the hope of all after a year of suffering through the pandemic. Along with the carnival rides and games, Fun Fair will once again offer a Silent Auction, Raffles and food specialties such as, Sausage and Peppers, Fried Dough, Hamburgers, Desserts, Hot Dogs and Pizza. In addition to all of these choices, you can savor the Homemade Egg Rolls, and Mexican specialties prepared by the St. Patrick School parents.

Enjoy your meal with a beer or margarita in the Beer Garden or sit center stage to enjoy the weekend long free entertainment, highlighted with a DJ for Alumni Night, Friday the 17th and Reverend Barry and the Funk, Saturday Night the 18th. The rent your own table Flea Market is Saturday and Sunday from 9 am to 3 pm, indoor and outdoor spots are available.

Ride bands and food and game tickets can be purchased at pre-sale discount prices. If you would like to be a sponsor or provide a donation for the Silent Auction visit stpatrickcatholic.org or email pruppel@stpatrickcatholic.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.

BELLEAIR BEACH LADIES LUNCH CLUB

Proudly celebrating sixty-two years in existence, members of the Belleair Beach Ladies Luncheon Club look forward to their annual season beginning October 12th, at the Beachcomber Restaurant. Meetings this past season were interrupted by the Covid virus and reservations for the few meetings that were held had limited seating, but President Linda Christian and her Board members did an outstanding job enabling them to attend some lunches.

This year the ladies will support the efforts of Shepherd's Village, a local organization providing development, housing and growth opportunities for single mothers.

For further information about becoming a member, please call Lois O'Donnell, Past President, 727-595-1349.

CLEARWATER JAZZ HOLIDAY

WE'RE BACK Experience It!

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IRON BELLY • BOB LUTZ • MARIO MARIANO • CLAY TAYLOR
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FRANK WATKINS • ELLIOTT SIMON • ERIC MARSHALL • JIM COOK
BARRY ANGELO • JIMMY LINDSAY • BOB DYLAN/BLT
ERIC MARSHALL (FEATURING THE JACKSON 5)
LUCY WOODWARD • LEMON CITY ERG
JOE MARCINI BAND (FEATURING)
THE BIRD BEATS • JIMMY TAYLOR
HARVEY WINSTON • ERIC CLAPTON
GUMBI GATIZ & THE ELECTRIC BEMBOZVUS
GURIA WEST AND THE GENTS "THE LAST HERMAN" • ANIELLA
CLEARWATER JAZZ HOLIDAY / RUTH CCKERO HALL
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PATRIOT DAY September 11

For some people Patriot Day is confusing because there are two separate holidays with very similar names. For many years, cities and states in the Northeast, especially Boston, celebrated Patriot's Day on April 19 (later the third Monday in April). It was in recognition of the anniversary of the American Revolutionary war Battles of Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775. They were the first battles of the War and have been honored since 1894 in Massachusetts. Some states have declared it a holiday and many schools are closed. As part of Boston's celebration, they hold the Boston Marathon and the first Boston Red Sox game of the season on that day.

But, here is where it gets confusing. After the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and Washington on September 11, a day of remembrance was established, called Patriot (singular) Day. It is to honor the memory of the people killed in the September 11 attacks of 2001. While Patriot Day is not a federal holiday there are many observances held throughout the country. Schools and businesses generally remain open,

Patriot Day was established in the memory of the 2,977 people who died that day. A bill was unanimously passed and signed by President George W. Bush declaring September 11th an official day of mourning. By presidential decree, the American flag is flown at half-staff on all government buildings and individuals are encouraged to do the same. There is a moment of silence held at 8:46 am (EST) each year.

More recently, there is a movement to also declare this a National Day of Service and Remembrance. People are encouraged to volunteer on that day to honor those who died. This year is the 20th Anniversary of the attacks.

BUGLE PLAYER KEN DEKA DIES,

Ken Deka, well know for playing TAPS on the beach at sunset, passed away Friday, August 13, at his daughter's home in Michigan.



From December of 2014 until the Pandemic, Deka played TAPS exactly at sunset at the water's edge in Indian Rocks Beach's County Park. Earlier this year, Deka was diagnosed with terminal cancer and moved to Michigan to be closer to family. Ken lived in Largo, and always arrived at the beach about an hour before sunset for a walk on the beach. Many locals would recognize him and stop him for a quick chat and to thank him for his nightly ritual.

Deka and his brother were both military veterans, serving in Vietnam in the late 1960s. He never played in a band and learned to play the bugle as a kid. "I liked it because it was loud," he explained. "While in the military, I always noticed the crowd's reaction whenever someone played TAPS."

"In the military you hear TAPS every night - my favorite time of the day," Deka continued. "For me, it was always a nice, quiet, peaceful time. It gave me a minute to stop and think and appreciate that 'Freedom is not Free'. A lot of guys did not make it home alive."

"I did not get serious with the bugle and playing TAPS until after my brother died," Deka adds. "The sunset is beautiful to watch and TAPS is a beautiful song to go with it. The perfect way to end the day and to remember someone you love."

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