INDIAN ROCKS BEACH

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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WHY DID TALLAHASSEE BECOME OUR STATE CAPITAL?



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

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

We all know Tallahassee is our State Capital. But why was a spot at the northern end of the state, over 600 miles away from the southern tip, chosen? Ironically, at the time, everyone thought it was very centrally located,

When the Spanish owned Florida (1513 to 1763) very few people lived here. Those that did, lived along the coast—primarily in St Augustine, Key West, and Pensacola - all areas with a military forts. In 1763, through a trade, the British acquired Florida. St. Augustine became the central colony of East Florida and Pensacola the western colony.

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

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

- Continued on page 6

Also in this Issue:

- page 10

Beth Warmath

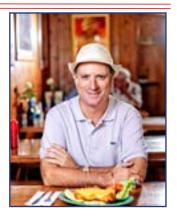
Meet the artist that is transforming the old Red Lion building, inside and



out into the new Hurricane Eddie's.

Frenchy's Restaurants

Meet Mike Preston, the man behind the Frenchy's restaurants. He opened his first one forty years ago. - page 20



Helping the World - A Beach at a Time

Ocean Allies educates the public and businesses about the importance of our ocean's health. - page 26

Beach Community Food Pantry

After being closed during the early parts of the Pandemic, the BCFP is open again, and has expanded. Its mission is just as important today as it was when it opened 17 years ago.

- page 24

CREDITS



This newsletter is published by GRIFFIN PRODUCTIONS, Inc. and is mailed to every occupied residence in Indian Rocks Beach's zip code 33785. We are not associated with the City of Indian Rocks Beach.

PUBLISHER

Bob & Becky Griffin

ART DIRECTION

Becky Griffin

SALES

727-430-8300

CONTACT INFO

P.O. Box 1314

Indian Rocks Beach, FL 33785 727-430-8300

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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 JANUARY!**



CITY NUMBERS **CITY HALL 595-2517**

Mon - Fri, 7:30am to 4pm 1507 Bay Palm Blvd www.Indian-Rocks-Beach.com

CITY MANAGER Gregg Mims 595-2517 MAYOR - Cookie Kennedy

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Mon-Fri 10-5pm, Sat 10-1pm IRB HISTORICAL MUSEUM 593-3861

Wed - Sat, 10am to 2pm IRB HOMEOWNER ASSOC.

Mary Beth Dunn, President - IRBHome.com

BEACH ART CENTER 596-4331 1515 Bay Palm Blvd., Mon-Fri 8:45am to 4pm IRB ROTARY, Bruce Sobut, 403-4060 Meets at Jimmy Guana's every Wed. 7:15AM ACTION 2000 Diane Flagg, President Meets 2nd Mon each month City Auditorium LITTLE LEAGUE 409-5024 **IRB WELCOME CENTER** 595-4575 **BEACH FOOD PANTRY** 282-4085 1615 First St. **BEACH THRIFT STORE** 444-0339 Tue, Wed, & Sat, 10am to 2pm, Thu 4 to 7pm

PINELLAS COUNTY INFO 464-3000 COMMISSION OFFICES 464-3377 Karen Seel 464-3278

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Republican, District 66 1940 West Bay Drive, Ste 4, Largo nick.diceglie@myfloridahouse.gov Governor Ron DeSantis

Ron.DeSantis@myflorida.com

FLORIDA UNITED STATES SENATORS: Marco Rubio 202-224-3041

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Charlie Crist202-225-5961 696 1st Ave N., Suite #203, St. Pete www.Crist.House.Gov

CALENDAR OF HOLIDAYS & EVENTS

As always, this is subject to change

27

NOVEMBER	
Property Tax Bills Mailed	1
Community Clean Up	1-3
Keep Pinellas Beautiful Cleanup	6
Belleair Bluffs City Garage Sale	6
Food Truck Rally McGough Park	6
Taste Of IRB	6
Harvest Fest Art Show Dunedi	
Electronics Chemical Event Largo	
Daylight Savings Time Ends	7
City Commission Meeting	9
Veterans Day Public Schools Clos	
City Hall Closed	11
LPGA Ladies Golf Tournament	
Veterans Boat Parade Market in the Bluffs	13 13
Beaujolais Nouveau	18
Festival Of Trees	19-21
Suncoast Jazz Festival	19-21
	20-21
Heritage Village McKay Boathou	
	22-26
Turkey Trot Run	25
Thanksgiving Day	25
	25-26
Black Friday	26

Holiday Lights Open Botanical Gardens 26

Shop Local Day

Hanukkah Begins Hurricane Season Ends	28 30
Lighting Of IRB Holiday Tree Santa At Heritage Village St Jerome Winter Wonderland IRB Christmas Street Parade Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Island Estates Lighted Boat Parade Santa At Heritage Village Rotary Super Bowl Drawing City Commission Meeting Ugly Christmas Sweater Day Santa At Heritage Village IRB Lighted Boat Parade Indian Shores Lighted Boat Parade Public School Closed Public School Closed Winter Begins Calvary's Candlelight Service Christmas City Hall Closed Kwanzaa Begins Boxing Day Dog Park Permits Expire IRB Skate Park Permits Expire	3 4 4 4 5 7 111 12 14 15 18 19 0 -4 25 26 26 31 31
Island Estates Lighted Boat Parade Santa At Heritage Village Rotary Super Bowl Drawing City Commission Meeting	11 11 12 14
City Commission Meeting Ugly Christmas Sweater Day Santa At Heritage Village	14 15 18
Indian Shores Lighted Boat Parade Public School Closed 20 Winter Begins	19 0-4 21
Christmas City Hall Closed Kwanzaa Begins	25 26
Dog Park Permits Expire	

Fire Works Downtown St Petersburg 31

AND THAT FOLKS IS A WRAP....

By Becky Griffin

As many people do at the end of the year, we have been taking some time to plan the next steps in our lives. We are in our 16th year of publishing the Indian Rocks Beach Neighborhood News Magazine - 94 issues, and have decided now is the right time to take a breath and start to slow down.

Starting in January, we will no longer be producing this publication, but have no fear, it is not going away. We are turning it over to Bob's daughter and son-in-law Lora and Pete Magnani who live in nearby Dunedin. Over the last two years, they have been working with us learning the ins-and-outs of what we do and how we do it.

While this will be their publication, they are not planning to make any changes and we – well primarily Bob – will continue to write some stories. The look and feel will stay the same, the only real change will be the names and contact information on the inside cover. We will be available to guide and help them in any way needed and we expect the Indian Rocks Beach Neighborhood News Magazine to continue for a very long time.

For now, Bob and I will continue to publish the Clearwater Beach and Belleair Area News Magazines and our other publications. Eventually, Lora and Pete will take over those publications as well.

To our advertisers, many of which have been with us since day one, thank you for your many years of support. You will be receiving a letter in the mail introducing Lora and Pete along with their contact information. All ads and renewals will go through them.

Bob and I are excited to start the beginning of this next chapter in our lives. We are in the process of buying a second home in North Carolina - where both our parents were raised - and becoming true "snowbirds." We will be able to work from there during the summers. Of course, we will also continue to travel and enjoy extended stays in our travel trailer.

We have enjoyed publishing this magazine and getting to know each of you as readers, advertisers, neighbors, and friends. We hope you will be as welcoming to Lora and Pete as you have been to us.

Don't think you are rid of us though. You will still see us around town, we aren't leaving. This is where our family and friends are - it will always be home.







Did You Know



FIRE CHIEF TO RETIRE After nearly fifty years in the fire service, Pinellas Suncoast Fire and Rescue District Chief Mike Burton is retiring. Chief Burton started his career as a firefighter in St. Petersburg, where he worked for 24 years and rose through the ranks to Assistant Chief. He then served as Fire Chief in Grand Rapids, MI, Greenville, NC, and Tamarac, FL before taking the top job at PSFRD, which covers Indian Rocks Beach, Indian Shores, Belleair Beach, and part of unincorporated Seminole. Chief Burton's last day is December 3rd.

Chief Burton plans to spend more time with his three children and seven grandchildren (shown above). One of his granddaughters intends to follow in his footsteps, so he is careful to remind people that the correct term is "firefighter," not "fireman."

December 3rd is also Dave Martin's last day. He is retiring after 12 years as PSFRD's Finance Director.

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

For more information, visit TheARCTBFoundation.org.

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

SANTA SATURDAYS Capture a memorable moment with Santa while experiencing an "old fashioned holiday" at Heritage Village - take a "selfie" with Santa or a picture of the entire family. Santa will be waiting to hear from you on the front porch of the McMullen-Coachman Log Cabin, Pinellas County's oldest existing structure! The park will include antique and classic cars "dressed up" for the holidays, a



holiday scavenger hunt, and sweet treats such as steamy hot chocolate, gourmet coffees, and other goodies. This event is sponsored by the Friends of Heritage Village (Pinellas County Historical Society) and the Pinellas Model A Restorers Club. December 4, 11, and 18 from 10am to 2pm.

Heritage Village is located at 11909 125th Street N. in Largo.

and More ...

50/50 RAFFLE WINNERS

Oktoberfest 2021 is in the books. It was another successful event for Action 2000 with near perfect weather and a great attendance. This year's 50/50 raffle winner was Indian Rocks Beach residents



Rob and Uta Langhans, who live on 20th Avenue. They won \$5000.

They are shown here receiving the money from Bob Linderman and the Oktoberfest raffle team.

HELP WANTED We are looking for someone to manage the setting up and taking down the annual Christmas Billboards. It is not much work; it only takes a few hours. They go up after Thanksgiving and they come down right before New Year's Day. This can be a person (or organization). If you are interested, please call Bob Griffin, 727-430-8300.

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

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

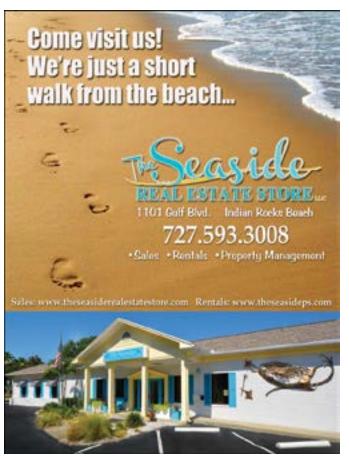
SAY NO TO **CLOG REMOVERS** Αll the chemicals in clog removers are not good for our waters. If you have a clogged drain use a plunger or make your own clog buster with equal parts of baking soda and vinegar. Add a half cup of baking soda down the drain. Let it sit for a bit, then add a $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of vinegar. The bubbly reaction should



clear the drain. It's important to remember - what you put down the drain has to go somewhere and will ultimately end up in our water supply

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS IN JANUARY Read this issue, and others, online at www.BeachNewsletters.com and follow us on Facebook at Neighborhood News Magazine - for ongoing local news updates.





WHY TALLAHASSEE? continued

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

The name Tallahassee is based on a Muskogean Indian word, "Talawa", meaning town and "Ahassee" meaning "old." Together it is "old town" or "old, abandoned fields," in honor of the Apalachee settlement previously there. The U.S. acquired Florida in 1821 and sent then retired General Andrew Jackson there to "run the Spanish and the Indians out." He was Florida's only

military governor and was charged with

creating a government.

Jackson again designated St. Augustine the Capital of East Florida and Pensacola the Capital of West Florida. He also chose the mayors, judges, and sheriffs to run the cities. Three months later, he handed the reigns over to William DuVal, the first civilian governor of the Florida territory. Governor DuVal decided the territory only needed one capital. Emissaries of the two capitals were tasked with finding a suitable location to build the new capital midway between St. Augustine and Pensacola. At the time, the Apalachicola River was the dividing point between east and west Florida. Few people lived in the middle and southern parts Florida, so those area were not even a consideration.

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

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

Together, Williams and Simmons found some flat land, near today's Cascades Park about a half of a mile south of the current Capitol building, and determined it was a good place to build the new capital. They liked its elevation, the location was beautiful, and they noted "the water is plenty and good." Chief Neamathla of the Creek tribe lived nearby. Williams and Simmons made a deal with him to peacefully acquire the area. Later, Neamathla recanted threatening to kill all the Americans. DuVal had a regiment of U.S. Army soldiers remove Neamathla and ordered all those Indians to a reservation on Egmont Key.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Primarily growing cotton, plantations with names like Wacissa and Lipona sprang up in the area surrounding the capital. Farmers shipped their crops through Tallahassee to Port St. Marks (20 miles to the south), then on to other markets around the country. By 1840, Leon County would be the most important agricultural center in the Florida Territory, producing over 5 million pounds of cotton a year – half of the cotton in the territory.

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

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

A Look at Tallahassee Today

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

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

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

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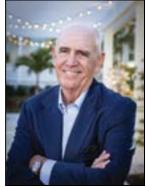
DOCUMENT RETENTION KEEP OR SHRED?

by Ray Ferrara, ProVise Management Group

Not every document should be digitized, but not every document needs to be kept either. Do you know what to shred or keep and how and where to keep it? To help we have put together a checklist.

A lot of what to keep or shred is a personal choice. Some of us just can't throw anything away and that is why digitizing lets you declutter.

The rules vary as to what, when and where to keep documents. You generally should keep a tax



return and the supporting documents for at least three years since this is the audit time period unless you under reported your income by 25% or more, then you will need them for at least six years. Of course, there is no statue of limitations for a fraudulent return.

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

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

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

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

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

V. Raymond Ferrara, CFP®, Chair and CEO ProVise Management Group, LLC 611 Druid Rd E, Suite 105, Clearwater, FL 33756 727-441-9022, info@provise.com



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

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

HERITAGE VILLAGE EVENTS

McKay Creek Boat Shop Exhibit - Sunday, November 21 from 1-4pm. Heritage Village is excited to announce the grand opening of the newly created McKay Creek Boat Shop exhibit. This exhibit explores the life and times of local boat builder Clark Mills as well as the importance of pram sailing in the community. Enjoy live music from the Kitchen Boys featuring banjo player, Tim Roont and fiddler, Peter White. Come HUNGRY, there will be food trucks with plenty of tasty delights!

<u>Historic House Concert Series</u> - Every First Saturday of the month from noon to 1pm. Join Heritage Village and Radio St. Pete, Sunshine 96.7FM for their Historic House Concert Series, featuring live, local musicians on the porch of the 1852 McMullen-Coachman Log Cabin. Enjoy a FREE show during the beautiful fall Florida weather while grabbing a bite to eat at the featured food truck. Can't make it in person? These events are on Facebook Live as well as recorded and re-broadcast on 96.7FM.

Speaking of History - Second Saturday of the month at 2pm. This series, in partnership with the Florida Humanities, highlights historic and cultural presentations focusing on Florida. Join them in the Heritage Village Pinellas Room or on Zoom November 13 at 2pm for presenter, Art Levy. For more than a decade, journalist Art has traveled the state, interviewing prominent Floridians for a Florida Trend magazine feature called "Icon." The resulting interviews were compiled in a University Press of Florida book titled, "Made in Florida: Artists, Celebrities, Activists, Educators, and Other Icons in the Sunshine State."

<u>Author Talk Series</u> - Join Heritage Village Operations Manager, Monica Drake, for a chat with local Authors. This series is in partnership with local publishing company, St. Petersburg Press. Upcoming Authors/Books:

Nov. 19: Peter Kageyama, For the Love of Cities: Revisited

Dec. 3: Josh Ginsburg, Tampa Bay Scavenger

Feb. 18: Tom Gribbin, The Last Florida Boy

March 18: Melanie Bowman & Meredith Gaunce, Traveling St. Pete: A Girl's Guide

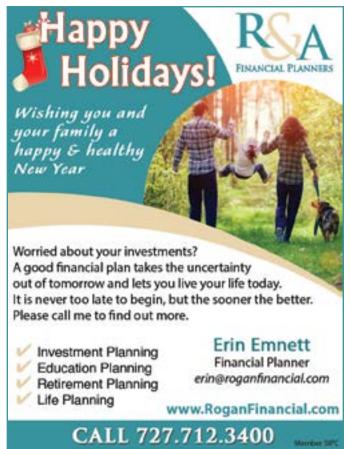
April 15: Midge Trubey, Rock doesn't Roll on an Empty Stomach

Farm City Day - Saturday, November 13, 11am – 2pm. The Pinellas County Farm Bureau will sponsor a Farm City Day Celebration at Pinellas County's Heritage Village. This is the kickoff for Farm City Week, celebrated nationally during the week leading up to Thanksgiving. It was created to educate citizens about agriculture and to enhance links between rural and urban dwellers. Hands on activities will be available!

ROC Day Tampa Bay - Saturday, January 8, 10am-1pm. Join the spinners of Pinellas Weavers Guild to celebrate Roc Day as part of your New Year's celebrations. The annual event is held at the McMullen House (also known as the Fiber Arts House). Guild members demonstrate fiber crafts including weaving and spinning, answer questions about fiber crafts, and share stories. Enjoy mini-classes and demonstrations, tell funny holiday stories, recruit new spinners and weavers, and generally have a fun time. There will be vendors selling fiber and spinning equipment, and a fiber exhibit by members. Roc Day, also known as St. Distaff's Day, is the traditional time for women to put away their holiday baking pans and get back to fiber. The name comes from the distaff used in spinning linen, also called a roc - the medieval symbol of women's work.

Heritage Village is located at 11909 125th Street North, Largo. It is free and open to the public. Donations to the Friends group, the Pinellas County Historical Society (PCHS), are always welcome. For more information on how to support PCHS and Heritage Village, visit www.pinellascountyhistoricalsociety.org.





HURRICANE EDDIE'S BRINGS NEW ART TO THE BEACH

By Lora Griffin Magnani

The new paintings on the face of the old Red Lion—now called Hurricane Eddie's - is nearing completion. It is the result of a combination of owner Tom George's ideas and artist Beth Warmath's talents.

Warmath, born in Memphis, began her artistic journey drawing the woods, lakes, and fields of Tennessee with crayons and colored pencils. She earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Memphis and started her professional career as a graphic designer. She eventually relocated to Florida and transitioned into creating large scale murals for businesses and public art displays.

The iconic facade at Frenchy's Rockaway Grill was her first local composition, followed by a mural for Jimmy Guana's restaurant inside the Holiday Inn Harbourside.



The cyclone-themed piece on the exterior of Indian Rocks' Hurricane Eddie's is her fifth work for restaurateur Tom George, the last being Prohibition Kitchen in Dunedin.

Her work on Hurricane Eddie's began in September; she hopes to complete it by November with help from contributing local artists John Comer, Ilona Fries, Terri Gray and Hanna

Warmath. The mural begins on the north side of the building depicting the calm before the storm and flows to the south into a hurricane. It also includes a red lion handing keys

to "Gator", Eddie's trademark image. Numerous local pedestrians have stopped by Hurricane Eddie's to chat with Warmath about the progress. One couple even brought her donuts.

Her art is not limited to the outside. There will be more of Warmath's colorful painting inside the restaurant, as well.



Warmath's passion is using her talents to bring beauty to unattractive spaces. "My lifework is to make the world a beautiful place by painting over the unsightly concrete walls, buildings, and undesirable areas with beautiful color. This brings communities together, and I give back by morphing my naturalistic art into the surrounding area."

In addition to her full-time career as an artist, Warmath has taught mural camps at several schools and art centers. She also contributes to public art projects and creates wearable art.

Hurricane Eddie's owner Tom George tells us he hopes to be open by the end of the year. He has been delayed due to problems acquiring the necessary equipment to finish the kitchen and the stainless steel for the bar.

In the meantime, he is sponsoring a Beach Clean Up on Indian Rocks Beach Saturday November 13th at 8:30am, with an after party on Hurricane Eddie's patio. They will be serving hamburgers and hot dogs. All are welcome to help clean the beach and celebrate after.

If you'd like to contact Beth Warmath, e-mail her at WarmathWalls@Gmail.com.



THANKFUL FOR THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

By Karen Williams Seel, Pinellas County Commissioner

I so look forward to the holidays every year. It's a chance to slow down a little, spend time with family and friends and enjoy the fun and beauty of this special time of year. And even though COVID-19 is still impacting our lives, there is so much to be thankful for this holiday season.



I am thankful for my family and grateful that they are healthy and happy. I am also

thankful for my friends and co-workers who add so much to my life. You all are a blessing to me. I am thankful to live here in Pinellas County with its beautiful land and seascapes to enjoy year-round. And I am thankful to be able to serve you as a Pinellas County Commissioner.

I am also thankful to see so many of our traditional holiday events resuming this year. With the proper precautions, these events are safe and add so much to the season.



One of my favorites is the Florida Botanical Gardens' Holiday Lights in the Gardens. The 35-acre gardens in Largo will absolutely glow with more than one million environmentally friendly LED lights, laser lights and Florida-themed displays. Holiday Lights in the Gardens will be open nightly from 5:30 to 9:30 pm beginning

on Friday, Nov. 26, through Jan. 2. For more information and a listing of nightly entertainment, visit flbgfoundation.org.

Holiday boat parades are back again this year. Be sure to find your spot along the Intracoastal to cheer on your favorites in the many boat parades scheduled around the county.

Speaking of parades, take the whole family out to enjoy the many community parades and festivals throughout the season. An up-to-date listing of holiday events is available at visitstpeteclearwater.com/topic/2021-holiday-event-guide.

Be sure to protect yourself and your family by following CDC guidelines when attending holiday events. Visit cdc. gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays/celebrations.html, to learn about the latest recommendations.

I hope you are able to get out and enjoy the holidays in beautiful Pinellas County. I can't imagine a better place to spend them than the place we call home. We can all be thankful for that.

All my best to you and your family this holiday season.

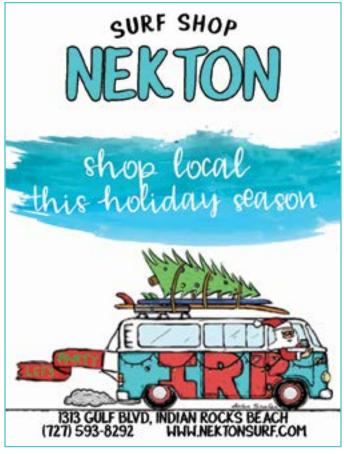
WINTER WONDERLAND

St. Jerome Early Childhood Center will host a Winter Wonderland Saturday, December 4th.

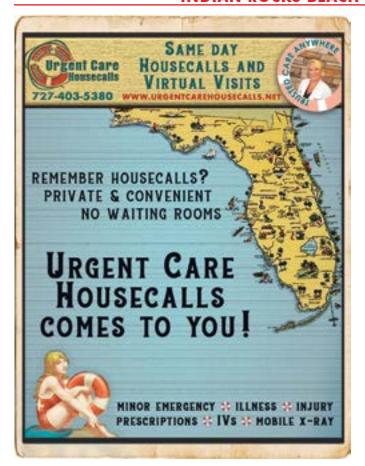
The Marketplace begins at 5pm in the Parish Center with food & drink and vendors selling homemade crafts including doll clothes, jewelry, Christmas decorations and more. Vendor participate is \$40 payable at the ECC office.

The drive-through light display and Live-Nativity begins about 6:30. The property will be a festive display of Christmas lights and inflatables, fire trucks, music, dancing, and snacks. The Living Nativity will have a live "holy family" and real animals! While there is no admittance fee, Jolly Elves will be collecting donations.











INDIAN ROCKS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Submitted by Linda Dalina

The Indian Rocks Historical Museum is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10am until 2pm. Stop by and experience the history of Indian Rocks Beach. And, we have the 2022 Plein Aire Cottage Artists calendars for sale. They make great holiday gifts.

The Museum is always looking for volunteers to be greeters during our open hours. You will meet some really nice people and learn about IRB history. If interested or want more information, e-mail info@irbmuseum.com. Visit our website at www.irbmuseum.com and our Facebook page.

ACTION 2000

Submitted by Diane Flagg

We just celebrated our 19th Oktoberfest festival, which was a very successful community event. Of course, this project would not have been possible without the help of our city and staff members, and all the volunteers that honored us by dedicating their time and efforts to help us with the event.

This type of volunteerism is what makes Action 2000 and IRB so special.

A huge thanks to Crabby Bills for their generosity as Event sponsor, our Beer Sponsor and being a food vendor. Pipo & Betty, from the Crabby Bill family brought the perfect dessert, delicious apple strudel.

Our gratitude to Baystar Restaurant Group for being a Platinum Sponsor and our Brats vendor.

We thank Event Sponsor Patrick Smith, Attorney at Law, a resident of Indian Rocks Beach for his generous sponsorship, and to our favorite local newspaper, Tampa Bay News for always supporting our community.

There are so many more sponsors that supported this event, too many to individually mention but all are important contributors who showed their support. All our sponsors make this event a reality. We are blessed and truly grateful.

All monies from this event goes back to our community in the way of beautification and preservation projects.

Another focus of our organization is promoting volunteerism and planning clean up and beautification projects in our city. We schedule approximately four per year.

A recent clean up at 17th and 18th Avenue Park lead by Shawn Stover, Executive A2K Board Member attracted over 30 volunteers to help for a few hours in the morning.

We hoped you notice the difference, and we encourage anyone who would like to make a difference and volunteer for our planned clean-up projects to visit our website and sign up. If you would like to get on an e-mail list to know when our clean-ups are scheduled, please let us know.

Together we can make a difference! For more information, please visit our website at www.irbaction2000.com

2022 will be here before you know it, and there is not a better way to bring in the new year than with a Cottage Calendar by The Plein Aire Cottage Artists. The calendars have their original beach cottage paintings displayed. They make great holiday gifts and can be purchased at www.irbaction2000.com/shop

I hope the new year brings us together as a community as we continue to take pride in making IRB the best town ever. From all of us at Action 2000 we wish you a Happy Holiday Season, and health and happiness for the coming New Year.

SUNCOAST CONCHOLOGIST SHELL CLUB

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

INDIAN ROCKS HOLIDAY EVENTS

The following are Holiday events that will be taking place in the City of Indian Rocks Beach.

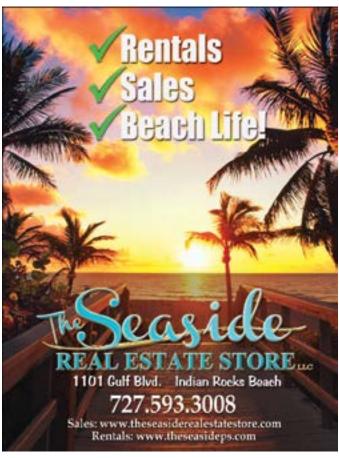
<u>City of IRB Christmas Tree Lighting at 12th Ave. Park,</u> Friday, December 3rd – 7pm with the assistance of Action 2000 and the Original Crabby Bills.

<u>City of IRB Christmas Street Parade</u> Sunday, December 5th. Entry forms are posted on the city's website. The line-up converges at noon along East Gulf Blvd. and at 1pm will begin to weave throughout each "finger" ending at Kolb Park.

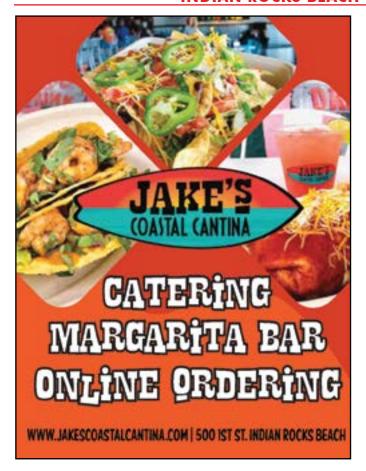
<u>City of IRB Christmas Boat Parade</u> Saturday, December 18th. Entry forms are posted on the city's website, and must be turned in by December 3rd. This event will begin at the Holiday Inn Harbourside starting at 7pm.

For more information, visit www.indian-rocks-beach.com.











2021 ANNUAL INDIAN ROCKS PRESERVATION AWARDS

Since 2007, IRB Action 2000 and the Plein Aire Cottage Artists have presented the Annual Preservation Awards to residences and businesses that are dedicated to the spirit of maintaining and preserving properties reminiscent of the small town atmosphere of Indian Rocks Beach. Over 40 properties have been honored.

The Preservation Awards as well as the new "Walk Indian Rocks Beach" historical tour are a ideal way to educate and encourage protection for places that are vital to the history and traditions of our community.

Here are this years awards:







LOCAL AUTHOR'S FIRST NOVEL

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

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

Her novel RIVER AVENUE is

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

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

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

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

Learn more about Jan Walton at janmwalton.com.

PIER 60 SUGAR SAND FESTIVAL RETURNS IN 2022

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

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

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

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





Curbside Take Out &

Call Ahead Seating:

727-593-2032

1701 Gulf Blvd, Indian Rocks Beach





Restaurant & Bar News



MEET PIPO & BETTY They are the inspiration for The new Cuban Cafe owned by the Crabby's family. "Getting back to our roots, we decided to rebrand the Cafe into Pipo N Betty's. My father is Pipo and my mother is Betty," says Maria Loder. "Growing up, the kitchen was the heart of our home. The best memories were made while my mother was baking

and my father sipping his coffee. This tradition continued as my own children were growing up. We want to share this experience. Step into our kitchen and enjoy homemade traditional Cuban pastries and locally sourced coffee."

The new Pipo N' Betty's Cuban Cafe is open from 7am to 2pm daily at 435 Gulf Blvd. The menu includes freshly brewed coffee, espresso and tea from Joffrey's Coffee & Tea Co. and fresh baked Cuban pastries and bread! They cannot wait to welcome you into their kitchen.

TEMPORARILY CLOSED Caddy's Indian Shores is closed for remodeling, with a construction fence around the building. They are replacing the entire deck and making improvements to the building. They hope to reopen before Thanksgiving.

CAFÉ LARGO SOLD
Owners Dominique and
Kathy Christini recently
sold their popular French
restaurant and have retired.
He wants you to know, "our
35-year journey has come
to a close and we wanted to
convey our greatest thanks
for the many years of doing
what we love. Your support

has been tremendously appreciated."

New owners Linus and Yvonne Richenbach are from Switzerland and Chef Linus will be serving some of the old favorites as well as some of his specialties. It has not been confirmed when they will reopen.

The website will remain the same: cafelargorestaurant.com and the phone also remains the same: 727-596-6282. The new email address is Info@cafelargorestaurant.com.



COCO'S CONSTRUCTION C O N T I N U E S

Coco's Crush
Bar & Grill is still
remodeling the old
18 On The Rocks.
This will be their
second location,
their first is in
Clearwater Beach.
Plans call for some

major changes to that building and the interior as been completely demolished.

Look for the new location at 2405 Gulf Blvd, Indian Rocks Beach to open in a few months. Visit CocosCrushBar.com to get a sneak preview of what they have to offer.

Restaurant & Bar News

NEW SUSHI RESTAURANT

Sekushi Sushi owner Frank Manella, tells us construction is going well on his new sushi restaurant in Belleair Bluffs at the north end of The Plaza. He still hopes to open in November. Manella says, "the restaurant will have a full bar with plenty of outside dining and a dedicated area for curbside pick-up."

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



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

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

CRABBY EMPLOYEE WINS AWARD Crabby Bill's employees Sandy Cheek and Doug Williams were recently nominated for the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association's Rose Award. The award is for crucial people within the hospitality industry that have gone above and beyond their call of duty to provide great service. Sandy is one of five that won the award! Congratulations to a very

deserving lady whose exemplary service to ensure guests are happy does not go unnoticed!

ONE YEAR OLD Beach Waves Grill, one of the city's newest restaurants not only survived the pandemic, it is celebrating the end of their first year in business.

They are open for lunch and dinner, seven days a week, next to Café de Paris at 2300 Gulf Blvd. See their menu at BeachWayesGrill.com.

JIMMY GUANA'S MANAGER RETIRES After 22 years, Ken Peterson, Food and Beverage Manager of Jimmy Guana's in the Holiday Inn Harbourside, has retired.

"It is time to learn how to play golf," Ken smiles. "I was fortunate to have been employed at this local landmark, which is located in the best beach city in Florida. Indian Rocks Beach is a very special place and Jimmy Guana's is a very special restaurant. I will miss all my area friends and organizations."

The new manager is Lisa Mirochna.





www.LivingHopeChurch.org





NEW CMA EXHIBIT OPENS

Legends from the Deep



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

TURTLE HATCHLINGS & RED TIDE

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

MOVE OVER

From the Desk of Sheriff Bob Gualtieri

First responders regularly put themselves in harm's way to serve others. Law enforcement officers, firefighters, and paramedics respond to vehicle crashes and other incidents to render aid. Their frequent presence on the side of a busy roadway is one of the most dangerous parts of their jobs.

According to the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, last year alone there were 159 crashes as a result of a driver failing to move over. Fortunately, none of those crashes resulted in a fatality, but four victims suffered incapacitating injuries.

While the dangers of working along busy roadways have always been present, the Mover Over Law has not. Enacted in 2002, it requires that drivers move over as soon as it is safe to do so for any authorized law enforcement, emergency, or service vehicles displaying any visible signals while stopped on the roadside. This includes road rangers, public utility vehicles, and tow trucks. Although there is some version of the law in all 50 states, many motorists are still unaware of it. In 2020, more than 12,000 violators were issued citations for failing to move over in Florida.

Take some time to familiarize yourself with the requirements of the law to make sure that you are not putting first responders and other service providers in danger:

- On multi-lane roadways, vacate the lane closest to the stopped authorized vehicle. If you cannot safely move over, slow down to 20 miles per hour below the posted speed limit.
- On two-lane roadways, slow down to a speed of 20 miles per hour below the posted speed limit. If the speed limit is 20 miles per hour, travel at 5 miles per hour.
- Always be cognizant of other vehicles that may be attempting to move over or slow down.

Staying alert behind the wheel and following a few simple rules could prevent serious injury and save lives.

CALENDARS ON SALE NOW

The Plein Aire Cottage Artists 2022 calendar is available now! Get organized and bring cheer to your home or office with colorful happy images of the special IRB cottages and seaside. Each month features beautiful different, painting by one of our talented local artists – Helen Tilston, Mary



Rose Holmes, and Violetta Chandler.

Our "Save Our Cottages" calendar is a fan-favorite year after year. Loved for its vibrant colors at the top and monthly grid below, it's perfect for gifting at the holidays and stuffing into a stocking for a Christmas morning surprise.

The calendar is available at local businesses: Kooky Coconuts, Crabby Bill's, The Frame Factory, Cookie Cutter Salon, Welcome Center, Island Cove Beads, Ippolito's Deli, Café de Paris, Beach Art Center, IRB Library, IRB Historical Museum and online at www.irbaction2000.com/shop. Proceeds benefit local nonprofit organizations.







FRENCHY'S RESTAURANTS - 40 YEARS OF SEAFOOD AND FUN

By Bob Griffin

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

With these resources in place, Frenchy's became "famous" for its fresh Super Grouper sandwich, leading to the opening of five more restaurants: Frenchy's Saltwater Café in 1989, Frenchy's

Rockaway Grill in 1991, Frenchy's South Beach Cafe in 2003, Frenchy's Outpost Bar & Grill in 2013, and Frenchy's To Go in 2020—plus the Frenchy's Off The Hook gift shop, located next to the Original Baymont Café.

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

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

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

For more than 30 years, Frenchy's Stone Crab Company has worked with independent crabbers that focus only on the Florida stone crab. With the support of these professional crab

boat captains – many who've been crabbing for Frenchy's for over 20 years - they harvest, cook and ship stone crabs fresh, never frozen from October 15 to May 15.

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



to the opening of five more The first Frenchy's restaurant - Baymont Avenue

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

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

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

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

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

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



The original Frenchy's restaurant on Baymont Avenue, today

FOUNDATION FINANCES BEACH-ACCESS MATS FOR AREA BEACHES

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

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

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

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

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

"Some people can't even get beyond the curb at beaches in our area," says Michael Ciafone, a local activist with mobility challenges who has for years been advocating for local cities to install mobility mats. "Seniors and people pushing strollers also use the mats to walk on the beach because it's more stable. Everyone should have the chance to get to the beach and participate in family activities."

According to one popular brand,



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

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

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







Business Briefs



YELLOW BANKS REOPENS FOR ITS 70TH

YEAR Yellow Banks Groves, our closest source for citrus, orange juice and ice cream, has reopened for the 2021-2022 season - their 70th year. It is still owned and operated by John Buck. They are now taking orders for their "Honeybell" oranges and grapefruits.

Read their entire history online at YellowBanks.com Find them just over the bridge at 14423 Walsingham Rd.

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

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

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

BEST TAMPA MOVER

AWARD Big Moving Man's Company was named the Best Mover in TAMPA Magazines' 2021 Best of the City list. More than 200,000 votes were to cast determine the winners in 81 categories.



Owners, Josh and Brooke Anderson, experienced a terrible 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.

"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.

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

HOPE AND LOVE This new Veterinary Hospital opened in October just across the bridge in Largo. It is owned by Dr. Tiffany Gisel, DVM.

"We strive to offer the best care and medical guidance to support our pets' needs," says Dr Gisel. "Our motto is 'Welcome to the Family.'"

They are located at 14308 Walsingham Road, just across from Yellow Banks Grove. Get more information at www.HopeandLoveVet.com.



NEW FITNESS CONCEPT COMING TO LARGO When Indian Rocks Beach resident Dan Burke purchased Get Fitness in Largo, June 2000, he had his eye on expanding. He wanted to create a fitness environment that was much more inclusive, and as a cycling enthusiast, he wanted to add Spin classes.

In October, Get Fitness opened the new Surge Studio - right next door - a new concept in high intensity group training and technology driven spin classes. The studio is perfectly suited for the fitness enthusiast with heart-pumping music and inspirational lighting to spark enthusiasm. Burke spared no expense in the very best Precor equipment and technology. But Surge Studio isn't just for those already physically fit, it is also for anyone wanting to try something new and different from a typical HIIT or CrossFit session.

"It's a new fitness concept that we believe will catch on in a big way," Burke says. "Precor Studio 7 Training modules are all segmented workouts with a warm-up, fantastic workout, and a cool-down theme which can be modified for any fitness level." Precor is the premier fitness brand in the industry and offers boutique-style training programs and equipment.

Get Fitness also switched all their cardio equipment to Precor. This allows gym members to track their training efforts by instantly tapping on their Apple Watch. Members can also access visual workouts, Live TV, Netflix, Spotify and more to watch and listen while burning calories all on one touchscreen. Members can personalize workouts while staying connected on one device.

Burke is adding a smoothie bar inside Get Fitness. Surge Studio will be announcing new membership opportunities soon. Those that are already members of Get Fitness will have a chance to add on to their current workout routines and new members will be able to have dual membership at both Surge Studio and Get Fitness.

COASTAL THURSDAYS Julie Folden and Coastal Properties invites you to stop by their office every Third Thursday for a neighborhood party.

November 18 is their "Coastal Thankful Event" and is also a food drive for the Beach Community Food Pantry. Bring a non-perishable food donation and enjoy appetizers and desserts while browsing Coastal Thanksgiving recipes.

December 16 is their "Coastal Holiday Party," complete with Santa and photos in the Coastal Cruiser.

Coastal Properties is located at 1201 Gulf Blvd. in Indian Rocks Beach. Call 727-493-1555 for more information.





BEACH COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY NOT ONLY SURVIVES THE PANDEMIC - IT EXPANDS

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

The Beach Community Food Pantry (BCFP) has long called Indian Rocks Beach home, but it serves more than just Indian Rocks' families, it helps needy families off our beach as well. It started in 2004 - 17 years ago - as an outreach mission of Calvary Episcopal Church.

Over the years, many in our community have helped manage BCFP. The first were Carol Beauchamp, Deacon Dennis McManus and Father Bob Wagenseil. Over the years, Harvey Brillat, Chuck Pond, and David Kline stepped in. Now it is managed by Connie Curran.

Carol Beauchamp is credited with noticing the need for a food pantry. "One day while I was at a service in Calvary Episcopal Church and a man walked up to the front doors of the church," Carol remembers. "He asked me if anyone had any food. That touched me so much, I asked Father Bob if there was anything we could do."

From there, members of the Church set out to create the Beach Community Food Pantry. The Church donated a small room. Church members volunteered. Soon, others in the community volunteered. People and area organizations started donating food and money, and their time.

Over the years, there have been many changes - but the need remains. Harvey Brillat was BCFP's first true manager. "I reorganized the volunteers into an efficient business like entity," remembers Harvey. "We had a qualified management team, a sustainable source of prepackaged non-perishable food and the means to connect with the community for support and fund raising."

"We had a new name and a new system," Harvey continues. "Among church members, we had a motto: 'I can-one-can every week.' We told people our 'Food comes from the Heart'. Patrons [food recipients] were allowed to pick out the food they wanted. We had no computer. Food was delivered from a Tampa warehouse in a school bus that belonged to nearby Church of the Isles."

During Harvey's time, BCFP served approximately 40-50 families or about 250 people per month.

Today, BCFP is open two days a week: Wednesday mornings (10am-noon)

and Thursday evenings (5-7pm). Abòut 35 volunteers rotate through various the shifts. Others collect food from area sources on Mondays and Tuesdays.

C o n n i e Curran, BCFP's Director for the past four years, estimates she works 40-50

hours a week managing the nonprofit. Connie states, "There is a lot more than just opening the doors. There is paperwork, bookkeeping, and scheduling of volunteers."

The Covid-19 Pandemic has been financially hard on many families. When it first hit, many lost their jobs (temporarily or permanently) when many business closed. Unfortunately, when it was needed most, BCFP was forced to close for several months. Those charged with the operation of the non-profit knew that they would reopen and decided to use the down time to remodel, expand and purchase new refrigeration equipment.

C&P Construction, a local company, removed a wall and doubled BCFP's available space. Another local company tiled the floors. Then, an area resident donated money to buy two new commercial freezers—a value of \$8,000.

The new space is named after longtime volunteer Peggy Pond, who passed away this year. "Peggy loved this place," says her husband Chuck Pond. "She started volunteering here back in 2006, shortly after it opened.

Publix regularly donates food to BCFP. When you approve an extra dollar at the cash register, it is used to buy discounted food from Publix. They deliver the food in several pallets each Spring and Fall.

Many are surprised to learn BCFP offers meats, all of which must all meet FDA requirements. There is a constant need for donations of packaged and canned foods and frozen meat. They also need toiletry item--such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, and deodorant.



The best donation item though is money. Using donated money, they can buy far more than you for the same amount because they receive discounted prices from other area non-profits.

The Beach Community Food Pantry is a community venture if there ever was one. In addition to the individuals who donate money and time, many area businesses, including Plumlee Realty, Crabby Bill's, Century 21 Beggins, and Slyce Pizza, donate too. Most local organizations, including the Indian Rocks Rotary, Indian Rocks Beach Homeowners Association, and Action 2000 do also.

As Father Jon Roberts of the Calvary Episcopal Church explains it, "the Church's mission - to love God with all our heart, mind and soul - is complemented by the other command, to love our neighbors as ourselves. We do not define our neighbor, but we are defined by our neighbor. If we truly love and care for them, by feeding them with a bit of nourishment for instance, then we are simply living up to our calling. Calvary has been the proud parent and partner to our neighborhood, providing both the space and resources to help operate the BCFP. We welcome all who wish to join in that basic challenge to care for others, To love our neighbor as ourselves."

The Beaches Food Pantry and Calvary Episcopal Church are located at 1615 1st Street, just east of Guppy's Restaurant.

Learn more about the Beach Community Food Pantry on the church's website www.CalvaryIRB.org. If you would like to donate (time or money), please contact Connie Curran at 595-2374.



We *invite* you to participate in our food drive supporting the local beach food pantry.

Bring a non-perishable food donation.

Door prizes will be available and refreshments will be served!

We will provide recipe cards for our favorite dishes that can be made for the upcoming holiday.

Bring your favorite recipe to add to our collection!

Nov When 18 | 4:30 - 7:30

Where INDIAN ROCKS BEACH







Recent Solds by Julie Folden: 1512 GULF BOULEVARD • 9815 HARRELL AVE Unit#302 • 60 GULF BLVD Unit#202 • 534 173RD AVE E • 60 GULF BLVD Unit#209 • 152 DEVON DRIVE • 315 BELLE ISLE AVE • 344 173RD AVE E • 16450 GULF BLVD, #764 • 447 18TH AVE • 312 HARBOR DR • 604 GULF BLVD Unit#402 • 4525 COVE CIR Unit#909 • 3964 SOUTH CIR • 311 HARBOR VIEW LN

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

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

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

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

Many Clearwater Beach businesses are founding member of Ocean Allies and continue to support it. Their board members include Sheridan Boyle, City of Clearwater, Sustainability Ordinator, Kistina Alspaw, Clearwater Region Chamber of Commerce, Karen Jubrail, Clearwater Marine Aquarium. Trish Rodriquez, Clearwater Ferry Service and Alan Mock,

Publisher, Resort Magazines. They continually work to inspire entire communities to make simple switches to protect the marine ecosystems vital to human health and hearts of the world.

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



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

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

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

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

Certification also results in considerable cost savings including:

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

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

costs.

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

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



Business Briefs



ZEN IS TEN ZEN Massage & Yoga is proud to be Indian Rock's go-to spot for massage and yoga! This December, owner Hope Wayat is celebrating ZEN's 10-year anniversary and for the first time, won Tampa Bay Times Best of the Best for Best Yoga and Best Massage! Everyone at ZEN is honored and

excited to receive this award and acknowledge they couldn't have done it without the community's support. They would like to thank the thousands of wonderful clients who have helped grow and cultivate ZEN. Come to a yoga class, book a massage, or just stop in to say hi and help them celebrate.

NEW WINE BAR OPENING The owner of Slyce Pizza is opening a small wine bar at the other end of the same plaza as Slyce. It has been under development for some time, and owner Jack Bennett says it should open in December.

SURF SHOP EXPANDS,

The Island Surf Shop got bigger when the longtime surf shop, near Slyce Pizza, expanded into the space next door. Owner Bob Kopald offers a lot more than surf and skim boards, they also sell clothing and beach related gear. Check them out at 309 Gulf Blvd.



MASSAGE OFFICE RETURNS TO LARGO Long-time massage therapist Lisa Gecelosky, LMT has moved her office back to Largo. As of mid-September, you can find her inside Salt Essentials Wellness, 1600 Missouri Ave N. in Largo.

Recently voted #1 in Alternative Medicine in Tampa Bay Newspapers Readers' Choice Awards, Gecelosky offers massage therapy and cupping, Reiki, and reflexology and has 25 years of nursing experience.

Gecelosky is an independent business and Salt Essentials does not book her appointments. All her services can be booked online at LisaGMassage.com or by calling 727-412-1444.

SOLD OUT, "The Walk," a new development of 32 townhomes, being built on Gulf Blvd. at 24th Avenue, is now sold out. A few units are still pending, but all units are under contract. Being built by Taylor Morrison Development, who also built "The Cove" at 7th Avenue, "The Walk" is the largest development Indian Rocks Beach has seen in many years. It will add a significant amount of money to the City's tax base through real estate taxes.

RECORD BREAKING TRAVEL This summer, St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (PIE) celebrated the biggest month in the history of PIE with 262,681 passengers flying in July 2021. The airport will soon serve 64 non-stop destinations overall, the most in their history.







GREENTOWN KIDS

Submitted by Allie DeVore

Fall is here, which means it's time to garden again! We've been busy getting the IRB Community Garden back in working order. This season, our Greenies planted a crop of herbs, lemongrass, yellow corn, bi-color corn, sweet peppers, tomatoes, Swiss chard, collard greens, kale, romain, orange and purple carrots, succulents, sunflowers, and wild flowers. We can't wait for the harvest! GreenTown Kids is excited to be taking over as community garden coordinator. If you're interested in planting with our kids & families or having your own garden box in the community garden, contact Allie at greentownkids@gmail.com. We're looking forward to helping the garden grow and thrive! Thanks to everyone who donated used beach toys to our beach toy box drive in September! With your help, we're able to keep the Take-a-Toy, Leavea-Toy beach toy box program sustainable and available for the whole community to enjoy. You can donate or enjoy the toys at 4th, 8th, 17th, 22nd, 24th, and 27th beach accesses. GreenTown Kids had a blast handing out free pumpkins at IRB's Hallowfest this year and holding our second annual home pumpkin decorating contest!

Mark your calendars with the following dates:

- Nov. 6th IRB's International Coastal Cleanup: Supplies Tent at 18th Ave. beach access, IRB (10am-12pm). All ages welcome to participate and help us as we Give Thanks for a Clean Beach!
- Nov. 6th Taste of IRB Chic-A-Si Park (3-9pm). Come enjoy the best food around the beach and buy a 50/50 raffle ticket with 1/2 the proceeds going to the winner and 1/2 to benefit GreenTown Kids, thanks to the IRB HOA!
- Dec. 1-15 Sustainable Holiday Donation Drive for gently used toys, kids clothing, and blankets. Email us for details.

GreenTown Kids is a 501c3 nonprofit organization for kids, families, and supporters, dedicated to serving Indian Rocks Beach and the surrounding communities as we strive to make a positive impact on our environment and inspire lifelong stewardship of the Earth. Become a member, donate, or contact us at: www.greentownkids.org; e-mail: greentownkids@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY DENTAL CLINIC

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

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

BELLEAIR GARDEN CLUB

The Club is accepting donations for the 2022 annual "Junk & Jewels" fundraiser on Saturday, November 6th, from 10am to noon at the Belleair Garden Club, 903 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Belleair. The final first Saturday donation drop off date is December 4th from 10am to noon. They will be member staffed.

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

The Belleair Garden Club, a non-profit organization in its 71st year, raises funds to support historic preservation programs and education scholarships for horticulture and botany studies for post high school students.

For further information about donating to the Belleair Garden Club and the "Junk & Jewels" fundraiser, contact Jan (727) 412-2344 and/or www.belleairgardenclub.com.

BELLEAIR WOMEN'S REPUBLICAN CLUB

Belleair Women's Republican Club will have its annual Christmas meeting on December 3rd at Belleair Country Club, One Country Club Lane, Belleair. Social time is 11:30 until noon, when the program begins, and Christmas music will add to the festive gathering. There will be a voluntary collection for Guardian ad Litem Foundation Late Shelter Children, and the staff at Belleair Country Club will be presented with thank-you gifts from BWRC.

The cost of the meal is \$28. Reservations must be made in advance by mailing a check to be delivered by November 29th to: BWRC Treasurer Robin Schenck, 301 Belleview Blvd., Belleair, FL 33756. No walk-ups can be accommodated.

100 WOMEN WHO CARE OF PINELLAS COUNTY

They presented \$12,100 to Showered and Empowered on September 30, 2021. Showered and Empowered provides the access of mobile shower and laundry facilities to the homeless community of the Tampa Bay area. 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 \$330,950 to local charities. The next quarterly meeting (with options of both Zoom and live) will be 7:00-8:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 18, 2021, at Cove Cay Golf Club, located at 2612 Cove Cay Drive in Clearwater. There is a social time from 6:00-7:00 p.m. at the Cove Cay restaurant, where drinks and snacks may be purchased. Contact Brenda George at 727-515-1868 for more information or visit www.100womenpinellas.org.





FLORIDA BOTANICAL GARDENS

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

WEST PINELLAS LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL

Submitted by Troy Sanders

Registration for West Pinellas Little League Baseball is now open! The Spring season runs from late February to early May, 2022. Players aged 4 - 14 are welcome to join the fun!

To play, volunteer or donate, please visit www.westpinellaslittleleague.org. Sign up now

ROTARY CLUB OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH

Submitted by David Kline

DO YOU HAVE YOUR TICKETS YET? The Big Game Raffle Grand Prize Drawing Day is fast approaching.

Once again this year, 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 winner will be awarded two tickets to Big Game 56, four nights lodging in a beautiful vacation bungalow, and \$1000 cash. Cash prizes will also be awarded for 2nd through 5th place winners.

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

The drawing for the winning tickets is December 12th at the halftime of the Buccaneers-Bills game (around 5:30 pm). Once again, our friends at Slyce Pizza Bar, 311 Gulf Blvd, IRB, are hosting the festivities on the patio. Join us for the fun and excitement of drawing the winning tickets!

The Big Game Raffle, along with our other fundraisers, support the good works of the Rotary Club of Indian Rocks Beach and Rotary International. When you invest in Rotary, you help to change lives!

AN OPEN INVITATION...Many of our citizens probably have little idea what Rotary is and what it does. That is not unusual, since Rotary spends very little in publicity and advertising. We prefer to use the funds we raise to improve lives, locally and globally. The responsibility of Rotary education falls to the local clubs.

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

We invite you with the spirit and desire to make a difference in the world today, to visit us at one of our weekly meetings. We meet at Jimmy Guana's Restaurant in the Holiday Inn, Harborside, 401 2nd St., IRB. 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.

Is it time for you to become one of the 'People of Action'? Contact David Kline (727-418-1673) with any questions.

BEACH ART CENTER

Submitted by Patricia Thomas

There is always something new at the Beach Art Center. We have been adding some new options to our schedule of creative art classes. Here are just a few.

Art on the Rocks – For these sessions, materials are included, and you will receive step by step instruction. Advanced registration is required.

November

- 6th Christmas Ornaments –Mandala Art with Natalia Londono, \$38, 6pm
- 19th Seashell Mosaic on Glass with Shawn Dell Joyce, \$38, 6pm
- 20th Kids Holiday Craft Fun with Joyce Scalzo, \$38, 10am

December

- 3rd Clay Night with Karen Great opportunity to try pottery \$38, 6pm
- 3rd Twinkling Palms Create a holiday twinkling palm sunset, \$38, 6pm
- 10th Colorful Pet Portrait Paint a wonderful personal gift \$38, 6pm
- 11th Vintage and Holiday Card Making, \$38, 1pm Workshops with Special Guest Instructors

November

20th - Fearless Yupo with Suzanne Natzke, 9am – 4pm \$100

December

- 4th Black Scarf Magic with Sara Pinkerton, Painting on silk fabric. 1 4pm, \$44
- 4 & 5th Painting Waves with Special Effects, 2 Day Workshop with Robert J Simone 9:00 4:00pm each day, \$225

January

8 & 9th - Figurative Painting with Watercolor with Carol Carter. 2 Day Workshop 9am – 4pm each day, \$350 You can find all the details of these classes and our full selection

of drawing, painting and pottery classes on our website, www.beachartcenter.org. We are open Monday-Friday from 9am-4pm for you to drop in, view our current Gallery Show or to get answers to any questions you have.

Fine Arts Holiday Show & Sale – Nov 8 – Dec 17

All works are created by local artists and make a fantastic gift (even if it's for yourself). You are welcome to come view our shows during all open hours at the Beach Art Center.

Gift Shop News – the Gift Shop is currently closed for some maintenance work. Keep in mind that the Gallery is open and works are available for sale.

Holiday Hours – the BAC will be closed Dec 23 – Jan 2.

BELLEAIR BEACH LADIES LUNCH CLUB

Proudly celebrating sixty-two years in existence, members of the Belleair Beach Ladies Luncheon Club began meeting again. 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 some to attend.

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

