

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

including Sand Key and Island Estates

Magazine

BIRDS OF A FEATHER DIED TOGETHER

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

Every spring, all types of birds leave South and Central America, to return to their nesting grounds thousands of miles away. Their amazing trek crosses the Gulf of Mexico and some continue on without resting. Others stop for a brief respite on the Florida's Gulf Coast.

The waters and fish of the Gulf of Mexico act as a "food factory" providing the necessary nutrients birds need to survive the trip. Many land here to rest and refuel before continuing, others build nests and have offspring.

This process is reversed in the Fall when migrating birds head south to escape the cold. If you are



"Rosetta Spoonbill" by John James Audubon. Inset is a portrait of a women wearing a hat made with spoonbill feathers.

interested in following these travels, there are many live bird migration maps online including BirdCast.info. During both trips, the birds congregate in areas called "rookeries." The Pinellas County peninsula has always been an important rookery for many types of birds such as ducks, hawks, egrets, herons, spoonbills, storks and the ibis. For hundreds of thousands of years, the Florida peninsula has been an important landing stop for these migrating birds. Unfortunately, not too long ago that it almost all came to an end.

Continued on page 6

Also in this Issue:



Karen Seel Returns to Private Life

A County Commissioner, Seel finished her last term on the Commission after serving 23 years. - page 30

Why Do We Have Christmas Trees?

Where did the tradition of decorating trees in the house for the holidays come from? - page 32

Don't Miss These Holiday Events!

The Holidays are in full swing and area organizations have lots of fun things planned for you and your family.

We have a list of the upcoming festivities that you don't want to miss.

- pages 20, 21 & 24



CREDITS



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

We are not associated with the City of Clearwater.

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

BeachNewsletters.com

If you are interested in advertising, we offer resident, multi-city and annual discounts. Ads need to be reserved one month in advance.

E-mail: bob@griffindirectories.com or visit beachnewsletters.com for more information.

© 2022 Griffin Productions, Inc.

CLEARWATER BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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

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

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

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

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

SEE YOU AGAIN IN FEBRUARY

CITY NUMBERS

CITY HALL	562-4250
600 Cleveland St, Ste 600, www.clearwater-fl.com	
MAYOR OFFICE	562-4050
MAYOR - Frank Hibbard - Seat 1	
CITY COUNCIL	562-4050
Mark Bunker - Seat 2 Kathleen Beckman - Seat 3 David Allbritton - Seat 4 Lina Teixeira - Seat 5	
CITY MANAGER	562-4040
Jon Jennings	
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER	562-4040
BUILDING PERMITS	562-4567
HUMAN RESOURCES	562-4870
PLANNING & ZONING	562-4567
PUBLIC SERVICES	562-4950
PUBLIC UTILITIES	562-4600
PUBLIC UTILITIES EMERGENCY	462-6633
CLEARWATER GAS	562-4980
SOLID WASTE	562-4920
PIER 60	462-6466
MARINA	462-6954
BEACH REC CENTER	462-6138
BEACH LIBRARY	462-6138
VISITOR INFO CENTER	442-3604
BEACH AQUATIC FACILITY	462-6020
POLICE NON-EMERGENCY	562-4242
FIRE DEPARTMENT	562-4334
POLICE HOT LINE	562-4080
NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISON	562-4554

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

CLEARWATER BEACH MARINA	562-4955
CLEARWATER YACHT CLUB	447-6000
830 Bayway Blvd S.	
CLEARWATER SAILING CTR	517-7776
CARLOUEL HOMEOWNERS ASSN	
Sue Williams, President 446-4471	
CLEARWATER BEACH ASSOCIATION	
Sam Hutkin hutloan@aol.com	
CLEARWATER GARDEN CLUB	316-5504
ISLAND ESTATES CIVIC ASSOCIATION	
Mike Anderson, President 777-2787	
ISLAND ESTATES WOMEN'S CLUB	
Trisha Rodriguez, President 262-620-3866	
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY	
Linda Owens	260-894-0270
CLEARWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY	
Allison Dolan	754-8017

PINELLAS COUNTY INFO	464-3000
COMMISSION OFFICES	464-3377
Dave Eggers, Beach/Island Estates 464-3276	
Vacant Sand Key 464-3278	
STATE:	
Senator Ed Hooper, 727-771-2102	
Republican, District 16	
3450 East Lake Road Ste 305, Palm Harbor	
Hooper.Ed.web@flsenate.gov	
Representative Nick DiCeglie 727-588-7090	
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
www.Rubio.Senate.gov	
Rick Scott	202-224-5274
www.RickScott.Senate.gov	
AREA UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE:	
Vacant	202-225-5961
696 1st Ave N., Suite #203, St. Pete	
www.Crist.House.Gov	

CALENDAR OF HOLIDAYS & EVENT

Find Holiday Events on pages 20,21, and 24

DECEMBER

Death By Chocolate Largo Central Park	2
McGough Park Yard Sale	3
Ride & Run With The Stars	3
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	7
Bluff's Business Assn Mixer	8
Gift & Plant Sale Botanical Gardens	9-10
Clearwater Lighted Boat Parade	10
Peace Memorial Concert	11
Florida Holiday Halfathon	11
Island Estates Civic Assn Clean-up	11
Gingerbread House Day	12
Belleair Gift Deliveries	14-16
Ugly Christmas Sweater Day	16
Indian Rocks Lighted Boat Parade	17
Indian Shores Lighted Boat Parade	18
Hanukkah	18-26
Winter Begins	21
Public School Closed for Holidays	23
Christmas Day	25
Kwanzaa Begins	26
Boxing Day	26
City's Electronic Waste Disposal	28
Fireworks Sand Key Park	31
First Night St Petersburg	31

Happy New Year!

JANUARY

New Year's Day	1
Relia Quest Bowl Game Tampa	2
Tarpon Springs Epiphany	6
Heritage Village Roc Day for Spinners	7
Downtown Dunedin Art Show	7-8
Peace Memorial Church Concert	8
Bucs Final Regular Season Game	8
NCAA Football Finals	9
Girl Scout Cookies Online Only	9
Public Schools Reopen	9
Johns Pass Seafood Festival	13-15
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	16
Public Schools Closed	16
Florida's Arbor Day	20
Martinis + Matisse	21
In The Water Boat Show St. Pete	19-22
Chinese New Year	22
City's Electronic Waste Disposal	25
Gasparilla Invasion	28
Tiny Bubbles Fundraiser	28

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! WISHING YOU ALL THE BEST IN 2023!



FOR SALE
879 Harbor Is, Clearwater Beach
\$2,995,000



FOR SALE
11000 & 11050 E 5th St, Treasure Island
\$3,500,000



FOR SALE
115 Devon Dr, Clearwater Beach
\$3,195,000



SOLD
485 Harbor Dr, S, Indian Rocks Beach
\$2,450,000



SOLD
Clearwater Beach - \$1,100,000



SOLD
Treasure Island - \$393,000



SOLD
Clearwater - \$460,000



SOLD
Clearwater Beach - \$995,000



SOLD
Clearwater Beach - \$1,400,000



SOLD
Clearwater Beach - \$2,450,000



SOLD
Tampa - \$2,000,000



SOLD
Treasure Island - \$1,600,000



SOLD
Clearwater Beach - \$520,000



SOLD
Clearwater Beach - \$1,775,000



SOLD
Clearwater - \$650,000



SOLD
Clearwater Beach - \$665,000



SOLD
Clearwater Beach - \$988,800



SOLD
Clearwater - \$1,100,000



SOLD
Clearwater Beach - \$875,000



SOLD
Treasure Island - \$1,500,000

Contact me today for your complimentary home valuation & to discuss our unique customized marketing strategies to sell your home.

TARA BEHESHTI

#1 Coastal Single Agent in Clearwater Beach 2020-2021

COASTAL CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

TTBeheshti@aol.com • 727.417.6620



Your Full Service Plumber in Pinellas

SINCE 1951

CLEARWATER PLUMBING

INC.

Service is our Salesman

Save flooring and landscaping - ask about pipe relining

Quality materials & workmanship for all jobs big or small!

follow us on Facebook

\$13 OFF ANY SERVICE
limit one per customer

Residential Commercial Industrial

Water Heater Experts!

www.clearwaterplumbingonline.com

2101 Calumet Street - 727.446.8355

Did You Know



NEW NAME SAME GAME The Outback Bowl has a new sponsor and name - "ReliaQuest Bowl." It will have that name for at least the next four years. ReliaQuest is a Tampa based tech company.

Once known as the Hall of Fame Bowl, the game became the Outback Bowl in the 1990s, when Outback Steakhouse became the sponsor. Outback Steakhouse was the longest running NCAA football bowl sponsor, until now.

Not much else will change besides the name and logo. The bowl game

will be on New Year's Day game, except this next game, which will be January 2nd. January 1, 2023 is a Sunday and the Buccaneers will be playing in the stadium.

IT'S ALMOST COOKIE SEASON The world-famous Girl Scout Cookies are coming but some things have change. There is a new cookie and you can buy it online.

A new cookie was added to the menu this year - Raspberry Rally. It is dubbed "the sister cookie of Thin Mints" - as it is dipped in chocolate. It will only be available online in limited numbers.

Cookie selling season officially runs January through April. But in January, you can only order them online at www.GirlScouts.org. Sales vary by area. Normally, we see girls in front of grocery stores in February.

HANUKKAH The eight day Jewish "Festival of Lights," Hanukkah begins at sundown the evening of Sunday, December 18, and ends at sundown Monday, December 26. In addition to the nightly lighting of the Menorah, families celebrate with many traditional foods, foil-wrapped chocolate coins, gifts music, and a game played with a dreidel, which is a square-spinning top.

Hanukkah begins four days before the new moon, which is the darkest night of the month and is usually close to the winter solstice, the longest and darkest time of the year. The festival normally falls between late November and late December.

ROC DAY

Saturday January 8th, join the Pinellas Weavers Guild members as they celebrate Roc Day. They will demonstrate fiber crafts including weaving and spinning, answer questions about



fiber crafts, and share stories at Heritage Village's McMullen House. Roc Day, also known as St. Distaff's Day, was the day women traditionally put away all their holiday baking equipment and got back to weaving. The distaff, also know as a roc is a tool used in spinning. It is designed to hold the unspun fibers, keeping them untangled and easing the spinning process. In medieval times it became the symbol of women's work.

30 Years in Island Estates

Island Estates Mobil

Family Owned & Operated

FREE Road Service
when purchasing our interstate battery

Same OWNERS and Same GREAT Service

Think of us as your alternative to going to your dealership. We can service any make and model

10% OFF Service Orders
when you mention this ad
not including gas, batteries or tires
\$50 maximum discount

Towing Services Available
50 Island Way, Island Estates, 446.1566

and More...

TURTLE SEASON IS OVER

Pinellas County's sea turtle nesting season has ended for 2022. Along the twenty-one miles of beaches patrolled, biologists from Clearwater Marine Aquarium's Sea Turtle Conservation Program reported 313 nests – up from 281 last year and 222 in 2020. Most were Loggerhead sea turtle nests.



During the 200 day season, the team observed 173 disorientation events including both adult and hatchlings. A disorientation event occurs when sea turtles follow artificial light, instead of celestial light, and end up in hotel bathrooms, pools, and parking garages. It is deadly for sea turtles and completely caused by humans.

Education is key to reaching tourists and the estimated 900 new Florida residents gained daily. Simple acts like knocking down sandcastles, filing holes in the sand, switching to wildlife friendly light bulbs and fixtures, and disposing of trash properly can help save sea turtles and make a positive impact on the loggerhead sea turtle population.

TIME FOR HOLIDAY BOAT PARADES Tis the season, there are several lighted boat parades in Tampa Bay, the closest are:
 Dunedin - December 3
 Clearwater - December 10th
 Madeira Beach - December 10th
 Indian Rocks Beach - December 17
 Treasure Island - December 17
 Indian Shores & Redington - December 18

FLORIDA'S ARBOR DAY - JANUARY 20 Most states celebrate National Arbor Day in the spring, the last Friday in April, but Spring comes early in Florida. Florida's Arbor Day is celebrated on the third Friday in January to coincide with our local tree planting season – this year January 20th. We use this day to highlight the many benefits trees provide to our state, county, city, and you. Celebrate by planting a tree that day. Many cities and agencies have tree giveaways that day.

PICKING A CHRISTMAS TREE This year, 30 million households will deck the halls with a real Christmas tree. While choosing your tree, lift it up a few inches, then drop the trunk on the ground. If the tree loses more than a few brown needles, pass on it and choose another.



To get the most out of your jolly purchase, trim the trunk promptly after purchasing to ensure it gets water and stays alive longer, then refill the tree stand every day.

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS FEBRUARY 1 If you need another copy of this newsletter, you may pick up one up at the Beach Chamber Office, The Beach Rec Center, Shorty's Gourmet Deli, Sand Key Realty or the Island Estates UPS. Call 430-8300 if you need more than a few. Read this issue, and others, BeachNewsletters.com and follow us on Facebook for ongoing local news.

UNITED TAXI
777-7777
 Commitment to Community

Home of the
TAMPA AIRPORT
 1-4 People **\$40.00**
Special Rate

727-777-7777
 www.Go777Taxi.com

SLAUGHTER
PLUMBING
 RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
727-596-5663
 Family Owned since 1958

24 Hour
 Emergency
 Service

All Plumbing Repairs
 Water Heater Repair & Replacement
 Faucet and Fixture Repair & Installation
 Water & Sewer Line Replacement
 Sewer & Drain Cleaning

\$10 OFF Any Service!
 not combined with other offers

Licensed • Bonded • Insured • Senior Discounts • Estimates

RF11067209
 C9501

Serving All of Pinellas County
 for 50 years

12920 Walsingham Rd Largo

THE PLUMERS, Continued

The abundance of these waterbirds did not go unnoticed. Northern hunters traveled to Florida to harvest birds, not for food or survival, but for feathers which translated into money - lots of it.

In 1880, Jean Chevalier, a well-known taxidermist and hunter arrived in Florida with the goal of hunting waterbirds for their prized plumes. At the time, plume feathers were selling for more than \$20 an ounce, which is about \$580 today. Four egrets produced one ounce of feathers.

He arrived by boat and landed near the coast of south Pinellas County in an area known as Maximo Point - it is one of the largest rookeries in Florida. The area was owned by a Cuban fisherman, Hernando Maximo, and Lechevelier bought 120 acres of the Maximo Rookery.

Lechevelier began harvesting plumed waterbirds sending the feathers, and sometimes the entire bodies, of thousands of birds to the milliners in New York and Europe. The milliners used the waterbird's colorful plumes to create the latest hat fashions that the 19th Century women demanded. Lechevelier eventually expanded his hunting area from Tarpon Springs to the Everglades, and almost single-handedly wiped out most of Florida's exotic birds. This led to him becoming known as "Florida's most notorious plumer."

The best time to kill the birds was when their eggs hatched. The birds would still have their valuable "courtship" plumes and they were "sitting ducks." They not only shot them, but they also trapped and poisoned them. When they did shoot them, they carefully used small-gauge guns, such as a .22 caliber, so as not to damage the feathers. The birds were then prepared and shipped to milliners.

Wearing hats displaying large and colorful exotic feathers was a symbol of pride and distinction—it was quite the thing in the "Gilded Age" of the 1890s. Every man wanted to be seen with an elegant woman on his arm, which included feathered hats.

What wasn't talked about though was that to provide those hats, they killed birds by the hundreds of thousands. The slaughter was massive. At the height of the hat trade, they needed five million birds a year. By 1900, it was estimated in the Gulf area, only 10 percent of the original population numbers remained.

The ethics of the issue began to be discussed by women who were the leaders of the "American Progressivism" movement. Many socially prominent women agreed killing birds to wear as a symbol of fashion was immoral. These women were not in positions of power, but they had the

attention of their husbands.

The women formed social clubs; one especially popular group in cities and states along the Gulf Coast was the Audubon Society.

The name came from John James Audubon, an artist specializing in bird paintings. He died in 1851, over 50 years before the group began to use his name. His most famous paintings are of roseate spoonbills and egrets.

Katherine Tibbetts, a well-connected St. Petersburg widow made it her mission to protect the area's birds. She formed the first Women's Club in St Petersburg that championed local causes ranging from sidewalks to sanitation and in 1895, formed one of the first Audubon clubs.

A statewide Audubon club formed and their first meeting in Maitland (Orlando) on March 2, 1900 is considered "Florida's first environmental group." Its members, many of whom were winter residents, were determined to save their beloved birds. They were passionate, well-connected activists who knew how to get things done; this was the beginning of today's Audubon Society. By 1905, there was the National Audubon Society, representing the entire United States.

They met with and recruited President Theodore Roosevelt who would become known as one of the great environmentalists of his time. Previously as Governor of New York, he had signed many bird protection laws.

Roosevelt became involved in the movement, especially along the Gulf Coast. He created one of the first bird sanctuaries on Pelican Island, two and a half acres off Florida's East Coast. He later designated millions of acres of federal land to be protected sanctuaries.

President Roosevelt also changed the narrative by calling those collecting plumage "bird butchers" in hopes women would quit buying feathered hats.

Local, state, and national laws were enacted to protect the birds. "Plumers" got another new name - "poachers," but enforcement of these new laws fell to the Department of Agriculture, and it had a very slow start with virtually no enforcement officers.

Guy Bradley was hired in 1902 to be one of the Florida's first Audubon wardens. He covered from the Ten Thousand



Islands on Florida's west coast to Key West. In 1885, the then 15-year-old Bradley along with his older brother had served as scouts for plume hunter Chevalier on a trip to the Everglades. On their expedition, they killed 1,397 birds of 36 species. After that, Bradley wrote, "I used to hunt plume birds, but since the game laws were passed, I have not killed a plume bird. For it is a cruel and hard calling, notwithstanding being unlawful." He was murdered by poachers in 1905.

Laws required Florida's hunters to pay for licenses. This helped fund the purchase of habitat lands. With the help of Washington, and these funds, bird sanctuaries were created - eleven on the Florida's Gulf Coast alone. Florida became known as a "Sportsman's Paradise".

During the Great War (WWI), conservation took a back seat. Bird populations were not a priority. There was little food and most of it was rationed. Hunters saw pelicans as an easy target, something like chickens but larger, and during the war years, people ate them. One pelican could produce "enough food for a week."

Towards the end of the war, President Wilson signed the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which protected hundreds of bird species—including the pelican. It remains one of the strongest laws protecting wild North American birds.

Today, Florida has many laws protecting the birds and we have the Florida Fish and Wildlife department to enforce the laws (www.MyFWC.com). Most of the cities and towns in Pinellas County are declared to be bird sanctuaries. The Audubon Society has two clubs in Pinellas county: ClearwaterAudubonSociety.org and StPeteAudubonSociety.org. If you are interested in getting involved, their Web sites list their local events and activities.

Over time, the birds have come back and most have repopulated their species. We have the visions of Kathern Tibbetts, the early Audubon Society, and President Theodore Roosevelt to thank for that.

They knew conservation is for the future.

Give yourself the gift of



BUY 4

TREATMENTS

GET 4

TREATMENTS FREE

Schedule a complimentary
consultation today!

Call 727-518-7100



Proudly serving Belleair Bluffs for 16 years!

2894 West Bay Drive, Belleair Bluffs, FL 33770 • Visit [RadianceMedspa.com/Covid19](https://www.RadianceMedspa.com/Covid19)

CoolSculpting® is FDA-cleared to treat visible fat bulges in 9 areas of the body. Some common side effects include temporary numbness, discomfort, and swelling.

ISLAND Market
 Two GREAT Locations
 East of Shephards
 646 S. Gulfview Blvd.
 888-787-3789 x 601
 At Surf-Style
 311 S. Gulfview Blvd.
 888-787-3789 x 145
 Clearwater Beach's Own Grocery Store

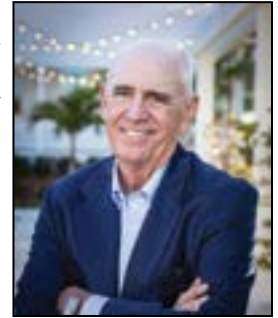


ISLAND Liquor
 Clearwater Beach's Largest Liquor Store
 321 Coronado Drive | 888-787-3789 x 501
 660 S. Gulfview Blvd. | 888-787-3789 x 602
 PARKING AVAILABLE at all locations
 Largest Selection in Clearwater Beach

NO FINANCIAL PLAN IS A PLAN

by Ray Ferrara, ProVise Management Group

No plan is a plan, but certainly not the best alternative. Without a written plan it is hard to stay focused on what success looks like. Life is complicated with moving parts that can easily distract us away from our goals and objectives. What should be in a financial plan?



Begin by developing a Net Worth Statement. It should be divided into Current Assets (checking, savings, CDs, life insurance), Long Term Assets (investments, retirement accounts, business interests, rental real estate), and Personal Use Assets (home, auto, personal property). Liabilities should be divided into short- and long- term.

Next, develop a budget and cash flow analysis. You will likely find you are spending more than you realize.

What is your tolerance for risk? Are you okay with rolling the dice, or are you super conservative? Is your risk tolerance consistent with meeting your goals? Even though you may be willing to take risk, do you really need to do so to have a successful plan? Taking too much risk is just as bad as taking too little.

Now analyze your investments. Is the portfolio reflective of your risk tolerance given the asset allocation? Do you have the investments saved in the most tax efficient manner? Should you use individual securities, mutual funds, exchanged traded funds, alternatives, etc.? Are there better investments than the ones you own?

Will the saving and investments grow sufficiently to meet your short- and long-term goals? Education planning for children/grandchildren? A new residence or second home? Big vacation? Start your own business? Retirement?

Do you have an asset protection plan? What about an estate plan – will, living trust, power of attorney, health care surrogate, and living will? When did you last update it? What about your insurance for vehicles, home, real estate, personal liability, umbrella, health, disability, and life? Is the plan properly integrated? Have you had them professionally reviewed?

Financial planning is not a one and done. It is a continuous process. But only you can start the process. People spend more time planning for a vacation than they do for financial planning. With the new year upon us why not start fresh. Take advantage of our complimentary one-hour consultation to learn more about a personal financial plan. We offer a money back guarantee – if unhappy with the plan, just return it and we will refund your money.

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

Financial planning for your life and your lifestyle



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.

HARRY'S
CHOP SHOP
 Barbering
 at its **FINEST!**




Men's Cut \$20
 Women's Cut \$20 & Up
 Wednesday Senior Day

Owner Dawn Rice
1143 COURT ST.
727-442-5600
 near Missouri Ave. Open Tuesday-Saturday
 Saturday 8-2

MEMORIAL GARDEN FOR WINTER THE DOLPHIN

On the 1-year anniversary of her death, CMA reveals rendering for Winter's Memorial Garden

On the one-year anniversary of Winter the Dolphin's passing, Clearwater Marine Aquarium released plans for a memorial garden in honor of the late Dolphin Tale star.



Winter's Memorial Garden will be located outside the main front entrance to CMA for public access. "It was important that we create an inviting space that is accessible to all who may need a quiet moment of reflection," said COO Lisa Oliver.

The garden and winding pathway will feature a statue of Winter as she emerges from a water fountain. Surrounded by sustainable Florida landscaping, the calming pathway invites guests along its pavers towards CMA's entrance or to sit upon the benches flanking the statue and water feature.

Winter is woven into the fabric of Clearwater Marine Aquarium," said CEO Joe Handy. "We are so thankful for the lives she's changed, both human and marine mammal. Her legacy will live on as we continue to support animals in need. Like Izzy and Apollo, our most recent additions to the CMA family. This Memorial Garden is a tribute to Winter and her admirers who continue to inspire us each day."

The Garden is planned for completion by the Spring of 2023.

Winter commemorative merchandise is available for purchase at the CMA. All proceeds fund their mission to rescue, rehabilitate, and release. Your support allows them to give the gift of a second chance.

Winter the Dolphin passed away at the age of 16 on November 11, 2021 due to a gastrointestinal abnormality. At just 2-months-old, she was found alone with crab trap rope bound so tightly around her tail flukes that they eventually fell off during rehabilitation due to a lack of blood flow. Orphaned at such a young age and with her life-changing injury, Winter was deemed unable to survive in the wild and placed at Clearwater Marine Aquarium for managed care. Without her tail flukes, Winter taught herself a new way to swim causing her to develop degenerative changes in her spine such as scoliosis.

The team at Hanger Clinic heard of Winter's condition and developed a prosthetic and prosthetic liners, called WintersGel, specific to her needs. Her story become a Blockbuster movie, Dolphin Tale (2011) and Dolphin Tale 2 (2014), reaching and inspiring millions all over the world. Dolphin Tale not only brought awareness to Clearwater Marine Aquarium, the exposure gained from both movies resulted in a \$2 billion economic impact to Pinellas County. According to Tourism Economics and a forecast study performed by the University of South Florida St. Petersburg College of Business, 2.2 million room nights were booked and over 44,000 jobs were supported over a four-year period from 2012-2015.

Her impact to veterans, adults, and children experiencing limb loss as well as anyone fighting through their own life challenges continues through CMA's Inspire Program. Learn more at www.cmaaquarium.org.

Shorty's ON THE DECK
PASTA DISHES
GROUPER SANDWICHES
GOURMET DELI
CATERING

Hungry?

BREAKFAST ALL DAY
plus Lunch & Dinner

7 DAYS A WEEK 7AM - 11PM

Full Service GROCERY
Beer, wine, special coffees, snacks & more

In the Shoppes at Sand Key next to Backwaters
1261 Gulf Blvd., Clearwater Beach

727-596-5100

Facebook: [shortysclearwaterbeach](https://www.facebook.com/shortysclearwaterbeach) Instagram: [shortysclearwaterbeach](https://www.instagram.com/shortysclearwaterbeach)

Christmas 2022
at Chapel by the Sea

Chapel By The Sea

December 15 at 7pm
Carols by Candlelight
A moving concert presented by music director, Brent Douglas and the Chapel Choir, followed by a wine and cheese reception.

December 19 at 7pm
Service of Hope & Remembrance
A special service to light a candle in honor or memory of loved ones.

December 24 at 4:30pm & 7:30pm
Christmas Eve Services

Visit chapelbythesea.net for more information.
chapelbythesea.net | 54 Bay Esplanade | 727.446.0430

Buying? Selling? Leasing?
 Call Laura, the Beach Ambassador and make the process like **A DAY AT THE BEACH!**



813.431.2754
 BeachAmbassador@gmail.com

COASTAL CHRISTIE'S
 REAL ESTATE

Laura Yeager
 REALTOR



Backwaters
 WATERFRONT GRILL & TAVERN

“WHERE LOCALS EAT AND DRINK!”

THANK YOU PINELLAS!
“BEST SEAFOOD RESTAURANT”

22 YEARS SERVING THE TAMPA BAY AREA
 FRESH SEAFOOD, HAND CUT STEAKS & WATERFRONT DINING
 HAPPY HOUR 2-6 PM EVERY DAY
 WEEKLY SPECIALS AND LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
 1261 GULF BLVD., SAND KEY • 727-517-7383
 WWW.BACKWATERSONSANDKEY.COM



Celebrating 8 Years in Clearwater Beach



Kilwins

“Sweet in every Sense since 1947”

391 Mandalay Ave ♦ Clearwater Beach
 (727) 400-6802 ♦ www.kilwins.com/clearwaterbeach

THANK YOU CLEARWATER VOTERS

By Frank V. Hibbard, Mayor, City of Clearwater

In early November, Clearwater voters overwhelmingly approved a referendum for the city to sell two waterfront parcels to developers to build a \$400 million project with two towers of apartments on the former City Hall site, and a hotel and conference center on a portion of the former Harborview site. Both projects overlook the city’s downtown waterfront bluff and in my opinion are the best opportunity to move both our downtown and the bluff forward.

The first failed referendum is why I ran for office in 2002. I feel that revitalizing downtown and the bluff properties is the most important priority for this city, and I wanted to take a moment to thank the residents for agreeing. Thank you for taking the time to learn about the project, attend meetings and ask questions, and for trusting the city and the members of the City Council to do what is best for downtown redevelopment.

I truly believe this is a catalytic project. I feel like this project will bring more developers and more interest in our downtown. In addition to the referendum, the city’s \$84 million investment redeveloping Coachman Park will be opening in July 2023, and we are also working to create more public parking to support these projects by purchasing a portion of the Peace Memorial property and planning to build a 550-space parking garage on Osceola Avenue.

I am confident that downtown is headed in the right direction and that other projects will soon follow. The bluffs development will be the first of many projects that change the landscape of downtown. I have always believed that Downtown Clearwater will be just as successful as other local downtowns, and I want to thank the voters for having faith in us and making their beliefs known at the polls.

FLOWERS MAKE HOLIDAYS SPECIAL

Flowers have always been a top gift choice for any occasion. People appreciate the beauty and ephemeral nature of flowers as a unique investment in memories, according to research by The Michael Cohen Group. In fact, 92 percent of women can remember the last time they received flowers; and 97 percent of men and women recall the last time they gave a floral gift. This is never truer than at the holidays.



Great holiday arrangements begin with greenery. In ancient cultures, people believed that bringing foliage into the home during the season was lucky and guaranteed the return of vegetation in the spring. Even today, green remains a staple in holiday décor. Christmas has a way of conjuring feelings of nostalgia. We think of Grandma’s house, a cozy fireplace, cookies baking, a great feast and wonderful times with friends and family.

Flowers and plants are the finishing touch that make the holidays complete. Incorporate a scented pine or other greens into a centerpiece or table arrangement. Accent the greens with flowers that complement the home’s décor.

Ask your florist for a bunch of evergreens, cypress or mistletoe to place throughout your home – over the threshold, in the foyer or on the mantel. Line a mantel or dining table with small evergreen topiaries or “baby” Christmas trees decorated with bows or flowers. Florists carry a wide selection of poinsettias in pink, peach, white, plum and speckled or marbled varieties, in addition to the traditional red.

REDUCE, REUSE, AND RECYCLE RIGHT THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Between Thanksgiving week and New Year's Day, people generate 25 percent more waste than they do on average. But there's good news: almost 80 percent of what is thrown away during the holidays can be recycled or reused.

To help you prepare for the holidays, the Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste created an online Holiday and Gift-Giving Guide to help you host a sustainable party, gift low waste items, and provide you with the "dos and don'ts" of holiday recycling. Visit the guide at www.pinellas.gov/holiday-and-gift-giving-guide.

The following items will contaminate recycling, so they **SHOULD NOT** be placed in your recycling bin. Reuse or donate these items (or place in your garbage container):

- Christmas lights
- Garland and tinsel
- Foil wrapping paper
- Ribbons and bows
- Bubble wrap
- Batteries
- Plastic air pillows
- Foam products
- Paper & plastic plates
- Plastic bags

Here are items that **CAN BE** placed in your recycling bin:

- Wrapping paper (paper only)
- Cardboard boxes
- Paper boxes
- Paper cards and envelopes
- Catalogs
- Glass bottles and jars
- Plastic bottles and jugs
- Aluminum, tin and steel cans

For more information about recycling in Pinellas County, visit www.pinellas.gov/recycleguide and search the Where Does it Go? Search Tool at www.pinellas.gov/wheredoesitgo find the best way to reuse, recycle, or dispose of items you're looking to get rid of.

DON'T BE A VICTIM OF A SCAM

Three Signs you are being scammed

1. You are told to act immediately. Imposters want you to act before you have time to think and may pretend to be a relative in need, a utility company or even your bank.
2. They ask for your personal information or codes. Never share codes or personal information when contacted unexpectedly by phone, text, email computer alert or social media.
3. You're asked to pay in an unusual way. Be wary if you are asked to pay by wire transfer, gift card codes or payment apps such as zelle or venmo.

Remember, if it plays on your emotions or sounds too good to be true, it is likely a scam.



Over 25 Years of Experience!

Affordable Care Assistance When You Need It

<p>Personal Care <i>Bathing, Grooming Meal Preparation</i></p> <p>Light Housekeeping <i>Dusting, Vacuuming, Sweeping Dishes, Laundry, Linens</i></p> <p><i>One Time, As Needed, or Daily Care Available 24/7</i></p>	<p>Transportation <i>Appointments, Errands & Events</i></p> <p>Companionship <i>Conversation, Reminiscing</i></p> <p>In-Home Respite Care <i>Break for Primary Caregiver</i></p>
--	---





727-787-8677 • 813-884-6100
CarePlacementHH.com

Pinellas County Lic #200962000 • Hillsborough Lic #200962465

RMF

Care Management, Inc.

Problem Solver for the Elderly

**Patient & Family Advocacy
Consulting
Care Management
Crisis Intervention
Placement Services**

(Skilled & Assisted Living Facilities)



"Our nursing team has provided professional guidance to our clients and their families for over 25 years."

Ruth Fanovich
RN, LHRM & Owner

727-787-8677 RMFHomeCare.com

The Locals Best Kept Secret!

Ryan's **Island Cafe**
Clearwater Beach, FL

Google
2000+ Reviews
4.9 ★★★★★

SERVING BREAKFAST & LUNCH



TRY OUR WORLD FAMOUS EGGS BENEDICT

432 Poinsettia Avenue, Clearwater Beach

727-240-4799

BRING THIS AD IN FOR 1 COMPLIMENTARY MIMOSA!

* With purchase of an adult breakfast or lunch. One per person. Must be 21 or older with proper ID. Wauson's restaurant. Expires 7/07/22.

Business Briefs

ALLORI BLOW DRY BAR This new Belleair Bluffs salon will blow you away, literally.



"Allori Blow Dry Bar is a luxurious experience for all to enjoy. From our Signature Blow outs to letting us get you glam ready for a big night. We do it all," says owner Lori Lenhart. "We offer full-service hair and make-up for your big day. We also have waxing services and eyelash applications from strip lashes to extensions. All our stylists are hair extension specialists and can put in or remove your extensions as needed."

Lenhart opened Allori Blow Dry Bar in October. She and her husband are recent transplants from Gainesville. Find this new salon at 2917 West Bay Drive. Schedule online at alloriblowdrybar.com or call them 333-7035. They offer Membership Packages for two to four blowouts a month.

OFFICIAL RIBBON CUTTING Premier Sotheby's International Realty hosted an official ribbon cutting at their 2933 West Bay Drive in Belleair Bluffs. The grand opening event featured cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a raffle.

"We are thrilled with the growth that we have seen in this highly desirable market," said Kristine Newell, senior vice president of Premier Sotheby's International Realty. "This new location creates more opportunities for success to further strengthen the company's presence in the Tampa Bay region."

"I am fortunate to work with a talented team of global advisors dedicated to providing elevated service experiences" said Kathleen Ogilve, managing broker of Premier Sotheby's International Realty's Clearwater office. "The new office's high visibility and central location will allow us to further serve the area's valued customers."

HOLLY JOLLY HOLIDAY MARKET

The merchants of The Shoppes in the Alley, at 596 Indian Rocks Road N., in Belleair Bluffs present their annual Holiday Stroll on Saturday, December 3 from 5 to 9pm.



Come sip, shop and be merry with all. The shops will be open late for this holiday event, and The Alley will be packed with different vendors. There will also be food, drink, gifts, art, music and more! Bring the family because there will be something there for everyone.

JW MARRIOTT EXPECTED TO OPEN NEXT MONTH

"We are moving ahead on schedule," says Bill West, VP of Development for the Patel Group, who owns the hotel and also the Wyndham Hotel in Clearwater Beach.

JW Marriott is expect to open in January of 2023. The JWM will have 162 hotel rooms and 36 "furnished residential units." It will have a waterfront restaurant and bar, spa, meeting rooms, ballrooms, a gym and a swimming pool on the 11th floor.

The new hotel is located at 691 South Gulfview Blvd, just west of the Sand Key Bridge.

Book Online Now!
ClearwaterBeachAxe.com

FUN FOR ANYONE!
WE HAVE IT ALL RIGHT HERE.




5 Private Axe Throwing Lanes

State-of-the-art Projection Targets with Interactive Games

Multiple TV's | Food & Drinks



483 Mandalay Ave Unit 201 (727) 475-9058

Happy Anniversary



COASTAL AIRE DESIGNS – Two Years

This month it has been two years since Chelsea Allison opened Coastal Aire in the Antique Alley. They have a lot more in their barn-like store than you can imagine. Drop by and wish her a Happy Anniversary.



CLEARWATER BEACH FITNESS – Three Years

To celebrate the milestone, owner Juan Garcia expanded his facility. Find them just two miles north of Belleair Beach at 795 Bayway Blvd, at the north end of Sand Key Bridge. ClearwaterBeachFitness.com.



BELLA VINO WINE & CHEESE – Seventeen Years

Brian Franzese, and his wife, Cheryl opened the wine market in The Plaza in 2005. They work supporting many Belleair Community charities and are hosts of the Tiny Bubbles event held in January at the Sheraton Sand Key.



MAGGIE MAE'S CAFE – Fourteen Years

The restaurant located at 2961 West Bay Drive, owned and operated by Allen Edger and his father, Larry opened in January, 2009. It is consistently voted the best of the best by the locals. They also own Maggie Mae's in the Shoppes at Sand Key.



JIMMY'S FISH HOUSE – Fifteen Years

Clearwater Beach resident Jeff Keierleber remodeled the Ramada Inn at 521 South Gulfview Blvd. on Clearwater Pass and reopened it as a Holiday Inn in 2007 with his signature restaurant, Jimmy's Fish House, known for its seafood and some of the best sunsets around.



ROBERT YOUNG JEWELERS – Thirty Years

Robert Young, one of Belleair's best known jewelers, opened his store in 1992 but has been designing jewelry for 51 years. He is located north of The Plaza at 250 Indian Rocks Rd.

Get a Taste of Sand Key

SHERATON
Sand Key Resort
Clearwater Beach

RESERVATION
727-595-1611
1160 Gulf Boulevard
Clearwater Beach, Florida 33767

BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

Dine In or Carry Out
DELICIOUS ITALIAN, GREEK & ALL AMERICAN DISHES

727-441-3353
GONDOLIERPIZZA.COM

674 GULFVIEW BLVD
CLEARWATER BEACH

DELIVERY WITH

TUTTEROW DANCE ACADEMY: ITS MORE THAN DANCING



Tutterow Dance Academy has partnered with the City of Largo for the past 46 years. Founders Gayle and Phyllis Tutterow, originally from Indiana, moved to Largo for retirement. After just a few short months, they decided they wanted to continue to teach dance and asked the Largo Recreation Parks and Arts department about holding classes. In the fall of 1976, they began teaching in Largo.

Nine-year-old Debbie Kennedy started taking those classes with the Tutterow's at the City of Largo. Falling in love with dance, Debbie started assisting in classes for Gayle & Phyllis. At the age of 16, Phyllis asked Debbie if she would like to choreograph a jazz piece for a class. When the piece was done, Phyllis decided to use it in a summer competition where it won third place grand champion. That was the beginning of Debbie's choreography.

Over the years, Debbie continued training through dance conventions, classes in New York City, and at teacher training events throughout the US. She also taught for Gayle & Phyllis, becoming an assistant director.

Gail Tutterow passed away and in 1999 Phyllis moved to Indiana to be with her son. Debbie continued the legacy of Tutterow Dancers academy with the City of Largo.

Many times, Kennedy has been asked are you going to change the name? She always say, "no because I feel like I am continuing the legacy the Tutterows and I'm very proud to be a part of it and to have touched so many people's lives, sharing the art of dance."

Debbie married husband Ron in 1986. Ron is now the Emcee for all Tutterow recitals and performances. He has helped with props for many of the dances and has supported this dance life. It is truly a family affair.

Debbie and Ron have two daughters, Brittney and Brielle. Brittney has danced since she was 3, competing in multiple competitions and began teaching at Tutterow when she was 18. She is the current Assistant Director and her Choreography has won numerous awards and grand championships.

Brielle has been dancing since the age of 2 1/2 is working as the studio's office manager.

Tutterow has about 300 dancers a season, ages 2-18, offering classes for boys and girls in Ballet, Tap, jazz, contemporary, hip hop, lyrical and musical theater. They have a

competition team for students who want to enhance their training with additional performances, competitions & workshops. They also hold auditions each year for the company. This year's company team consist of 94 dancers ages 4-18. They will attend four regionals, one convention/workshop and Nationals in Nashville this Summer. Kennedy has always felt that she wanted to offer opportunities to their students that were more than just competitions. She explains, "I don't think 5-10 years down the road the dancers are going to remember which trophy was or what, but they are going to remember other opportunities like: traveling to Europe and dancing for the troops and families in Germany, performing at France's Euro Disney, having a ballet class at the Berlin Ballet Company and London's Royal Ballet Company, performing on Royal Caribbean's Navigator and Oasis Of The Seas, Dancing at Disneyland and Disney World, and in the Macys Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City."

They were scheduled to go back to Germany to dance for the troops and their families, perform in Croatia and tour Spain in July 2020 but because of COVID, that trip was canceled.

In July 2024, they will be traveling to Hawaii and performing at the Ala Moana Center, have a hula lesson, enjoy a Waikiki starlight luau, and tour Pearl Harbor. We are very excited for that!

They love being a part of Largo and sharing their love of dance with so many people. Previous students who have continued in the performance arts have gone on to dance at Disney, Busch Gardens, Sea World, Universal Studios, they have opened Dance studios, choreographed Royal Caribbean cruises, been actors on television, and performed on cruise ships.

Having dance in your child's life not only teaches them dance techniques, it also helps with focus, memory, coordination, self-confidence, teamwork, commitment and builds self-esteem.

You can see their company dancers at the Holiday Stroll tree lighting event at Largo Central Park on Saturday December 2nd at 6:45 pm. They also hold end of the year recitals for the entire studio in May. Please check the website www.tutterowdancers.com or Facebook Tutterow Dance Academy in April if you'd like to purchase tickets to the May recitals. If you have questions regarding enrolling in a class, call the studio at 727-585-1232

Clearwater's Hottest Venue

BROWN BOXER

NORTH BEACH

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

ARCADE

ARCADE LOCATED ON 2ND FLOOR

LIVE MUSIC NIGHTLY **KITCHEN OPEN DAILY 11AM -2AM** **HAPPY HOUR MON-FRI 11AM-7PM** **CLEARWATER BEACH'S #1 PUB EXPERIENCE** **FAMILY FRIENDLY**

The Brown Boxer Pub & Grille located right on North Beach's main strip known as Mandalay Avenue, is the hottest destination on Clearwater Beach! Boxer North offers something for everyone from locals, to tourists, sports fanatics, foodies, kids & families, and even the hottest nightlife the Beach has to offer!

The flagship location on North Beach is two-floors with 4 dining areas and 5 bars of fun, excitement, and entertainment, plus some of the best pub food you can find on Clearwater Beach! All sports games from the NFL, MLB, NHL, NBA, NCAA, and more, are displayed on over 60 TVs! Live Bands will have you dancing the night away downstairs, while upstairs features some of the Best DJs from the Tampa Bay Area and beyond, all of this 7-nights a week! They also have weekly events such as bingo, family feud, karaoke, trivia and more, not to mention monthly events like comedy shows! For families and kids, and the kids at heart, they have a full size arcade showcasing some of the hottest and newest arcade games available. Check out their Facebook, Instagram and website for more information, there's always something happening at Boxer North!

So come on down, enjoy some food, play some Connect-4 Basketball or Skee-Ball while watching your favorite sports team, maybe even win a prize at bingo or trivia, sing your heart away at karaoke night, or maybe laugh out loud on comedy night. Then stay and dance the night away to your favorite songs whether you want to hear it live from the band downstairs, or the hottest remix from the DJ upstairs, the choice is yours, but one choice you will never regret is coming to Brown Boxer North Beach! Open til 3am nightly! Be sure to visit them, you won't be disappointed!!!

483 MANDALAY AVE CLEARWATER BEACH, FL (727) 441-6000 THEBROWNBOXER.COM

pizza | wings | salads | beer

CLEARWATER'S *newest* HOT SPOT

WE, THE PIZZA
with
SUNSET VIEWS



Directly across the sand on the ground floor of the newly restored Hyatt Hotel



727.437.4040 | wethepizza.com
301 Gulfview Blvd, Clearwater Beach



YOUR LOCAL GETAWAY STARTS HERE!



Cabanas
beachside bar & grill

**GREAT FOOD
GREAT DRINKS
GREAT SERVICE**

(727) 451-1134
655 S. Gulfview
Clearwater Beach, FL, 33767

@CabanasCoastalGrill | www.cabanasgrill.com

Bar & Restaurant News



MIO'S CAFE A new Mediterranean cafe opened in the Shoppes at Sand Key. Mio's Café opened in mid November in the previous location of Basimo Coffee Café. Owned by Chef Bora Caliskan, who is from Turkey, the food and service is authentic Middle Eastern with a focus on Greek. Caliskan, who operated a similar café in downtown St. Petersburg, offers a true Turkish breakfast with many specialty coffees, some of which are organic.

They are open for breakfast and lunch, dinner is only served on the weekends. Find them at 1261 Gulf Blvd., Sand Key.

SEÑOR TEQUILA'S BY THE BEACH

A fun, new Mexican restaurant has opened in the previous location of Alati, a Greek restaurant. An open air Mexican restaurant serving lunch and dinner until 10pm most nights opened just last month.



Find them on the backside of the parking garage, just south of Baymont Street at 486 Poinsettia Avenue in North Beach. This is their second location, the first one is in Tampa's West Chase area.



COCO'S CRUSH INDIAN ROCKS

The construction of the second Coco's Crush Bar and Grill is now moving full steam ahead. They have completed most of the outside with new landscaping, and new driveways. The construction is on schedule to be completed by mid-December. The only holdup may be permits and licenses. Those will determine the actual opening day.

The Indian Rocks Beach location is being built in the previous location of 18 On The Rocks at 2405 Gulf Blvd. Indian Rocks Beach.

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

TWO MINUTES TO SAVE A LIFE

Two minutes. That is all it takes to file a Boat Float Plan. What's a Float Plan you say? Then you are the very person the Coast Guard Auxiliary needs to talk with.

How many times have we all heard about boaters who have gone missing and rescue agencies such as the Coast Guard and Florida Fish and Wildlife have no idea where to begin their search and rescue operation? What is hard for the family and the rescuers to accept is searching for many days and finally finding the missing boat or boater, but too late to save them. Or even worse, not finding them at all.

A Float Plan is nothing more than something in writing advising people when and where you are leaving the land, what kind of boat you are in, where you are going, and when you expect to return. Float Plans can be quite extensive or very simple; they can be left at home with friends or family and they can also be left on the dashboard of your vehicle at a boat ramp if you trailer your vessel. Most marinas and boat ramps have frequent patrols by law enforcement officers. Any vehicle in the parking lot after the closing hour is checked and if it has a Float Plan on the dashboard indicating the boat should have returned by then, an alert is immediately sounded. No time is lost and the rescuers, thanks to the Float Plan, have a very good idea of where to begin their search efforts.

Having a missing loved one is very stressful, and the family may be too shaken to remember where the boater said they were going or if that information was even shared with them. A Float Plan is the simplest way for boaters to help their family – and themselves. It only takes two minutes to do.

Two minutes to save a life – and it might be your own.

For more tips and safety information, attend a boating safety course with the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Clearwater Flotilla. The next class is on October 22 and 23. You can see the whole class schedule and can register at: www.clwboatingsafety.com/boater-class-registration.

Contact the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Clearwater Flotilla, for boating safety classes at: www.clwboatingsafety.com or by email at clwtr.auxboating@gmail.com or call 727-469-8895.

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

LOVE THE LIFE YOU LIVE EVERYDAY
LET ME HELP YOU MAKE YOUR MOVE

AMBER DAVIS
 1596 Island Way
 Clearwater Beach
 Florida 34707

SERVING ISLAND ESTATES AND THE BEACHES
CALL AMBER TODAY
727-743-2722

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
 Florida Properties Group

REAL ESTATE = REAL INVESTMENT

Happy Holidays!

R&A FINANCIAL PLANNERS

Wishing you and your family a happy & healthy New Year

Worried about your investments?
 A good financial plan takes the uncertainty out of tomorrow and lets you live your life today. It is never too late to begin, but the sooner the better. Please call me to find out more.

Erin Emmett
 Financial Planner
erin@roganfinancial.com

www.RoganFinancial.com

CALL 727.712.3400

The Bait House
 Tackle & Tavern

In the Clearwater Marina

Great Food
 Cold Beer
 Bait
 Charters

Fabulous Sunsets, too!

Serving Clearwater Beach for over 60 years!
 45 Causeway Blvd. Clearwater Beach
 Restaurant 446-8134 • Charters 647-2930
www.ClearwaterBaitHouse.com

Turn your travel dreams into reality

Celebrity X Cruises™

Book your Celebrity cruise to
Europe, Caribbean, Alaska
 All Inclusive Offer

For specials or booking offers
 Call Joyce Moore (727) 252-4171
 or E-mail: Cruising@salethe sea.com

Florida License 180951

Home of the ORANGE CRUSH!

COCO'S

CRUSH BAR & GRILL

The Original - Great food & drinks plus Live Music nightly!

North Beach - The best seafood menu in Clearwater!

Now two great locations for you in Clearwater Beach
 The Original - 317 Coronado Drive
 North Beach - 423 Poinsettia Avenue (formerly Cooters)

CLEARWATER FREE CLINIC HONORS DR. LOUIS MICHAELOS

The Clearwater Free Clinic dedicated its beautiful ophthalmology suite in honor of physician volunteer Dr. Louis Michaelos. Dr. Michaelos is credited for starting the Clinic's eye program in 2002. With direction and support from Dr. Michaelos, a storage closet was equipped and transformed into the Clinic's first dedicated eye room.

Since 2002, Dr. Michaelos has volunteered his services at the nonprofit medical facility, caring for patients while building relationships that resulted in securing medical supplies and equipment and building community partnerships to provide cataract and retinal eye surgeries— all free of cost.

When asked about Dr. Michaelos' service, CEO Jeannie Shapiro said, "Dr. Lou is an extraordinary volunteer whose medical practice has always involved giving back to the community. He has been passionate, committed, and responsible for expanding the Clinic's Eye Program into the vital and comprehensive program it is today. It is an honor to recognize him with this special tribute."

Over the past 20 years, thousands of Clearwater Free Clinic patients have received specialized eye care because of Dr. Louis Michaelos' commitment to the uninsured in community.

In their 2022 fiscal year, the Clearwater Free Clinic had 152 eye appointments to support patients who would otherwise not be able to get the care they needed.

TINY BUBBLES AND BIG REDS Hosted by Bella Vino Wine & Cheese Market

Saturday, January 28th 2023, Tiny Bubbles and Big Red's 17th Annual Grand Tasting is Pinellas County's top wine tasting event and features a dazzling array of some of the world's finest champagnes, sparkling wines and "BIG reds." Set in the spacious Sheraton Sand Key ballroom, guests will enjoy an extraordinary evening complete with live music by Back Seat Drivers, and culinary stations including a massive artisan cheese display.

The event features over 100 premium wines, Champagne plus Cabernet, Syrah, Red Blends, Bordeaux, Brunello, and more. Special pricing available for featured wines.

Tickets are available at Bella Vino, online at BellaVinoWineMarket.com or by calling 727-584-5552.

GASPARILLA INVASION January 28

The 106th Annual Gasparilla Invasion takes place in Tampa on Saturday, January 28th. If you are new to the area, you may not know about this annual event. Primarily, this is a tongue-in-check pirate invasion of the City of Tampa conducted by the mythical pirate Jose Gaspar. It has been a tradition since 1905.

The "Gasparilla Pirate Fest" is one of the country's largest outdoor celebrations. In the morning, hundreds of pirates invade by water on a fully-rigged 165 foot pirate ship followed by hundreds of private boats. After the successful invasion, the pirates celebrate with a parade featuring about 50 floats containing pirates throwing beads and candy to the spectators.

You can watch the invasion along Bayshore Blvd and the Tampa Convention Center from 9am to about noon. The parade begins at 2pm. Then there are after-parties and live music. It is a full day of fun. Visit www.GasparillaPirateFest.com.

A few years ago, after many complaints about the raucous behavior during the parade, the Tampa began holding a Children's Gasparilla parade, more suitable for families a week earlier. The alcohol-free event will be on January 21.

Moonlight
AUTOMOTIVE

727-446-1800

Dependable Service for the Road Ahead!

Complete auto repair in a friendly atmosphere with a courteous, professional staff to help you with any questions or concerns.

10% OFF REPAIRS
new clients when mentioning the ad 1/27/23

All Repairs:
12 months, 12,000 miles warranty

FREE ESTIMATES

Moonlight Automotive - 727-446-1800
1172 Turner Street, Clearwater

BELLEAIR MONTESSORI CLOSES - A FAMILY LEGACY ENDS

It all started in 1949 when Evelyn Eshbaker Twedt opened her first nursery school, "Tiny Tots Private School," on Clearwater-Largo Road. She only had eight students and the school remained there until 1953 when Twedt had an offer to build a school in Belleair Estates.

Twedt officially opened the new "Tiny Tots Private School" in Belleair, 70 years ago with an enrollment of fifteen children ages eighteen months through first grade. Twedt eventually saw a need to expand and between 1958 and 1967 two large room additions were built.

Joan Kirk, Twedt's daughter, took over the school in 1967 and decided to integrate the Montessori teaching method into the current curriculum. She already had an Elementary Education degree and obtained her Montessori certification. After completion of the course, the name of the school was changed to "Belleair Montessori Academy." Over the next five years, more additions were completed, which provided room to accept older children. Montessori equipment was purchased from Holland and slowly each room was equipped with the materials. By the mid-1970s "Belleair Montessori" offered children ages 4-14 an education based on the Montessori teaching method. During the 1980s, there was a shift in its private school enrollment and the school was forced to eliminate their middle school grade levels. There seemed to be a need to care for younger children, so Kirk began offering childcare for one, two and three-year-olds.

Kirk's daughter, Cathie Hernandez, joined the school when in 1979 when she graduated from the University of Florida with a degree in Elementary Education. Together, they managed the school from 1984 to 2010, when Kirk retired. She now lives with her husband in Dade City.

Hernandez decided in September of this year to close the school. There were several factors that impacted her decision, the most important one is a need to spend time with her family. Her parents are in their late 80s and her mother has health issues, which has made it clear, she needs to be available to assist them. Hernandez also has four grandchildren and she would like to have the opportunity to spend time with them as they grow up.

The day the school closed, Hernandez said, "Today is a bittersweet day for me. After 38 years of working at Belleair Montessori Academy, I am retiring. Today is the last day the school will be open. I feel the community that was created at Belleair Montessori to be a second family and cannot express in words the depth of my gratitude for all the thousands of families that trusted us to educate and care for their children. While I will be closing the doors on this chapter of my life, I feel blessed to have been a part of this amazing family legacy my grandmother created seven decades ago."



Cathie Hernandez and her mother Joan Kirk. During different periods, both women managed the school, originally opened by Hernandez's grandmother.

CLEARWATER BEACH, FLORIDA

In Celebration of Our 96th Year

Growing up there was only one thing better than spending the day at the beach ... going to the Palm Pavilion. Since its earliest day, The Palm has been a special place where family and friends come and create memories to last a lifetime.

Join us for a meal, an appetizer, dessert, drinks and a sunset. There's live music every day, as long as we can find the extension cord.

Palm Pavilion Beachside Grill & Bar

10 Bay Esplanade • North Clearwater Beach • 727-446-2642 • www.palmpavilion.com



AREA HOLIDAYS



Through January 1 **ENCHANTMENT ST. PETE**

Tropicana Field, St Petersburg

This event, dubbed as the "World's Largest Christmas Maze," will include a light maze, Christmas market, ice-skating trail, and a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus. Tickets, on sale now, are \$60 with discounts available for kids, seniors and groups. Get more information on their FaceBook page.

Through January 4 - 5:30 to 9:30 **HOLIDAY LIGHTS IN THE GARDEN**

Florida Botanical Gardens, 12520 Ulmerton Rd , Largo

The Gardens will sparkle with 1 million, twinkling, LED lights in a multitude of colors. \$5 suggested donation.

www.FLBGFoundation.org

Through January 2 - 6 to 11pm **HOLIDAY LIGHTS IN THE PARK**

Largo Central Park

This family-friendly annual tradition presented by the City of Largo features a spectacular holiday light display, stunning carousel, and seven-story Ferris wheel that offers a breathtaking bird's-eye view of the 70-acre Largo Central Park and more than two million dazzling LED lights. Park admission is free. Rides and food may be purchased.

December 2 - 6 to 10pm **CHRISTMAS AT THE PLAZA**

100 N. Indian Rocks Road, Belleair Bluffs

This popular annual event includes music, food and sidewalk shopping. The merchants are ready to welcome you with special holiday deals.

December 2 - 7pm **DEATH BY CHOCOLATE**

Largo Central Park

The Rotary Club of Largo's annual fundraiser supports local youth and empowerment initiatives. Patrons enjoy dessert samples from local restaurants and businesses while the annual holiday lights in Largo Central Park are on full display. The event includes live entertainment, a silent auction, and complimentary champagne and coffee.

December 3, 10 and 17 10am-1:30 pm

SANTA SATURDAYS HERITAGE VILLAGE

11909 125th Street N., Largo

Come tell Santa how good you've been all year long. Each Saturday will feature fun craft activities, a holiday scavenger hunt, food trucks, music, and more!

www.PinellasCounty.org/Heritage

December 3 **HOLIDAY STOLL AND SHOP**

Antique Alley, 580 Indian Rocks Road N. Belleair Bluffs

Enjoy the Alley shops, vendors, artisans, antiques, and local fare. This is a family and dog friendly event.

December 3 - Opens at 5pm **LARGO CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING & HOLIDAY MARKET AND STROLL**

Largo Central Park

Stroll through the light displays and watch performers from around the globe perform. The tree lighting is at 6pm. Santa will be on-site from 7 to 8:30pm. Food and beverage vendors.

www.Largo.com

December 3 - 8am to 2pm **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

St. Jerome Catholic Church
10895 Hamlin Blvd., Largo
727-596-9491

Children of all ages can enjoy breakfast, face painting, kiddie-crafts, and a visit with Santa. Open to the entire community.

www.stjeromeearlychildhoodcenter.org

December 3 **HOLIDAY TOUR OF HOMES**

See seven decorated Allendale historic homes and enjoy music and holiday snacks. This is the Florida Orchestra Guild's largest fund-raiser. Tickets are \$25 in advance; \$30 day of. Call or text 254-1176 for tickets.

December 3 **THE NUTCRACKER**

The Palladium

Enjoy St. Petersburg Ballet's annual Production with over 75 dancers ranging in age from 5 to 72 performing the full length *Nutcracker* ballet. General admission is \$27.

www.MyPalladium.org

December 4, 2-7pm **MIRACLE ON CLEVELAND STREET**

Cleveland Street at Osceola Avenue

Family friendly holiday street festival, live entertainment, train rides, and bounce houses. Plus Santa.

December 9 - 6pm to 10:00pm **HOLIDAY SPIRIT OF LIGHTS FESTIVAL**

Cleveland Street from Osceola Avenue to East Avenue

Stroll Downtown Clearwater's holiday lights and experience holiday festivities with free activities including glow in the dark putt-putt mini golf, train rides, bounce houses, crafts, face painting, festive carolers, live music, The Grinch, Elsa, Ana, Olaf, reindeer, and Santa.

December 9, 6 - 9pm **40th BOLEY'S JINGLE BELL RUN**

North Straub Park

This run features 1,500 luminaries, 15 bands, three glow zones and thousands of merry runners, walkers and joggers. Registration is \$30 in advanced, \$35 race night. Children under 12 are \$25/\$30. Call 821-4819 Ext 5200.

RunSignUp.com/BoleyJBR

December 10 - 11am **SANTA'S HOLIDAY REVUE**

Central Park Performing Arts Center

This fast-paced, rollicking musical takes a joyous around-the-world tour of the dances, songs and stories from Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and many more. Students will sing, clap, and tap along as they learn new and old traditions, customs, and folklore.

December 10 - 11, 2 to 8pm **MERRY BEACH MARKET HOLIDAY FESTIVAL**

R.O.C. Park, 200 Rex Place Madeira Beach

Over 100 local vendors for holiday shopping, live entertainers and performers throughout the day with food & beverage stands located throughout the festival.

timbchamber.org/merry-beach-market

DAY EVENTS



December 10

CLEARWATER YACHT CLUB HOLIDAY BOAT PARADE

The Clearwater Yacht Club is hosting the annual Lighted Holiday Boat Parade that will gather in Mandalay Channel, and proceed up the channel, around Island Estates, under the Memorial Causeway bridge, and along the south side of the causeway toward the beach marina, finishing with judging at Clearwater Yacht Club. Contact them at 727-447-6000 for sponsorship information or to participate.

December 10 - 11, Times Vary NORTH POLE EXPRESS

Largo Central Park

Ride the miniature train through the light display, then head over to the North Pole at the Largo Feed store. There you will be able to play games, make crafts, and visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus.

Admission is \$25 per person.
Call (727)-587-6740 ext. 5014 for more information.

December 11

PEACE MEMORIAL CONCERT

Peace Memorial Church, 110 S. Ft. Harrison Ave, Clearwater

Enjoy *Suncoast Bronze Ringers* at 3 pm in the sanctuary. The amazing hand-bell choir entertains with a program of holiday music.

December 11 - 3 to 8 pm CANDLELIGHT TOUR OF HOMES

Old Northeast St. Petersburg

This year's Tour will highlight homes built during the Roaring '20s. Period attire, 1920s music, and vintage automobiles will help transport Tour attendees back 100 years to when St. Pete and the burgeoning Old Northeast neighborhood were just beginning to "roar." Food trucks will be selling various refreshments

Hosted by Historic Old Northeast Neighborhood Assn.

www.Honna.org

December 13, 4pm

MAKING SPIRITS BRIGHT PARADE

Local businesses and residents alike are welcome! Lineup at 3:30 pm at Island Way Grill then travel from North Beach to South Beach over the bridge to the Historical Society, and back to Island Way.

December 15 - 22 HOLIDAY SPARKLE

Opera Central, 2145 1st Ave S. St. Petersburg

This holiday extravaganza is an extra special festive double feature with the lush sounds of their 20-piece orchestra. The program begins with a full-staged production of Gian Carlo Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*.

This one-act English opera has a heartwarming message that resonates with all ages. The second presentation includes world-class singers performing an array of holiday music.

www.stpeteopera.org

December 16 UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER DAY

This was started in 2011 by ugly Christmas sweater lovers to lighten up the busy holidays and show off absurdly, ugly sweaters. Well yours proudly.

December 16 - 5 - 8:30pm DINNER WITH SANTA

Station Square Park 612 Cleveland St.

Family friendly Christmas celebration featuring dinner with Santa complete with food, games, crafts, movies, music, and a Christmas Jewelry Fair.

December 17 LARGO OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS PARADE

This neighborhood parade, hosted by the Rotary Club of Largo, is held in Downtown Largo - the perfect way to ignite your Christmas spirit!

December 17 - 7pm INDIAN ROCKS BEACH HOLIDAY BOAT PARADE

The parade starts at the Holiday Inn Harborside and heads north. Watch the beginning behind Jimmy Guana's.

December 18 - 26 HANUKKAH

This eight-day Jewish celebration commemorates the rededication during the second century B.C. of the Second Temple in Jerusalem.

December 18, 9am PET PAWRADE

Clearwater Historical Society

Bring your furry friend to participate in the "paw-rade"! There will be awards and pet-friendly vendors. Suncoast Animal Shelter will be on-site as well with adoptable pets!

December 18, 6:30pm REDINGTON / INDIAN SHORES HOLIDAY LIGHTED BOAT PARADE

Viewing locations include Seabreeze Restaurant, Indian Shores City Hall, or Salt Rock Grill.

December 23 - January 8 PUBLIC SCHOOLS CLOSED

If you need a kid's holiday camp, you should reserve space now.

December 26 - January 1 KWANZAA BEGINS

This week long celebration honors African heritage.

December 31 FIRST NIGHT ST. PETE

Downtown St Pete

The Annual New Year's Eve Celebration of the Arts: First Night St Petersburg rings in the New Year with eight hours of family friendly music, dance, and Interactive Art Park. FirstNightStPete.com.

December 31 LIGHT IT UP CLEARWATER

Bring in the New Year with fireworks. See them from Sand Key or anywhere along the southwest end of Clearwater Beach. www.LightItUpClearwater.com.





ORGANIC reverence

Spiritual Light Catalyst

Spiritual Healing Channel & Reiki Master

- PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, MENTAL HEALING
- NEGATIVE ENERGY CLEARING
- SOUL COACHING
- ORACLE READINGS •SAGE
- CBD •AROMATHERAPY
- ORGANIC ESSENTIAL OILS
- CRYSTALS •JEWELRY •INCENSE

Wellness & Metaphysical Boutique

1797 Clearwater Largo Rd
Clearwater, FL 33756
PH: 727-399-7038
www.OrganicReverence.com

BOOK A FREE ENERGY HEALING CONSULT!

DECEMBER SALES 20-50% OFF STOREWIDE!



jane iredale
THE SKINCARE MAKEUP



HOT AIR BALLOONS VISIT ST. CECELIA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St. Cecelia Catholic School (SCS) students learned that the sky's the limit when it comes to adventure thanks to a very special visit from Air Hound Adventures LLC, a hot air balloon company out of Orlando. The company brought a retired hot air balloon and basket with them so the children could get a close-up view of something they usually see flying in the air. The educational experience covered such things as the science of hot air flights, how air balloons are built, the balloonist's prayer, how to fly the balloons, how the burner works, and what type of fuel is used as well as how weather plays a large part in flying the balloons. Students asked questions during the presentation and were able to walk into a balloon filled with cool air.

"This is the best day ever," remarked one of the students after walking into the balloon. When back outside of the balloon, the company then filled the balloon with hot air so the students could see the balloon fully inflated. "Wow I never knew how big a hot air balloon was," remarked another student. "I wish we could go up in it!"

SCS is an International Baccalaureate (IB) School for grades PK3-8th grade and teaches students to go above and beyond academic success by developing students to become thinkers, open-minded, communicators, risk takers and much more. The presentation by the hot air balloon company certainly hit upon all of the IB learner profiles as well as being the best STREAM (Science, technology, religion, engineering, art and math) lesson. Students left having a greater appreciation for hot air balloons and the adventure that could be derived from a flight in one of the beautiful balloons. It's a 360-degree-view of the world that gives a different perspective of our beautiful planet.

We are thankful for this experience and pray for the safety our new balloonist friends. "May the winds welcome you with softness. May the sun bless you with its warm hands. May you fly so high and so well that God joins you in laughter and sets you gently back into the loving arms of Mother Earth."

41ST ANNUAL JOHN'S PASS SEAFOOD FESTIVAL

The John's Pass Seafood Festival is Friday January 13 through Sunday the 15th. It is being held in the historic John's Pass Village & Boardwalk in Madeira Beach from 11am to 6pm each day.

For years this celebration of fresh gulf seafood was held in October, but recently it was moved to mid-January.

The three-day event features arts and crafts, live music and of course seafood. The entire village will be open for shopping, too.

Parking can be a problem, and they will open remote parking areas with bus service, but the best way to get there is by taking the Beach Trolley.




A&D
Aesthetic & Implant Dentistry
Creating Artistry and Health in a Smile

- General Dentistry
- Dental Implants
- Laser Dentistry
- Pinhole Gum Rejuvenation
- Porcelain Veneers
- Clear Liner Braces
- ZOOM In Office Whitening
- Oral sedation
- CAD/CAM Technology for same day Porcelain Crowns, Veneers and Bridges.
- Facial Rejuvenation (Botox/Xeomin, Juvederm, Microneedling, Laser Facial Peels, etc.)
- Free Consultations and Second Opinions

New Patient Promo \$59.00
(Uninsured patients only. ADA codes D0150 exam, D0220, D0230, D0274, D0330 x-rays)

Ask about our neighborhood discount.



Aleksander Precaj, D.D.S.
(Island Estates resident)
727.754.5605
294 Windward Passage, Clearwater Beach, FL 33767

American Dental Association Member • National Dental Certification Board • Florida Dental Association • West Coast Dental Association • Academy of General Dentistry

TOYS-FOR-TOTS - COLLECTING TOYS FOR ALMOST 75 YEARS

The Toys-For-Tots program started in 1947 and was the brain-child of Marine Corp Reserve Major Bill Hendricks, and his wife Diane. Diane was the real inspiration for the program; she had a few handcrafted dolls and asked Bill to take them somewhere that supports children in need.

After searching his own town of Los Angeles, he reported to her that he could not find a place like that. She instructed Bill to "start one." That first year Major Hendricks and the Marines in his reserve unit collected and distributed 5,000 toys. The rest as they say is Toy history.

Later, in his civilian job, Hendricks was Director of Public Relations for Warner Brothers Studios. He was friends with many celebrities, who supported the effort. Walt Disney was a personal friend and designed their first poster, which featured a miniature three car train with Santa in it. The design became the official logo for the program.

In 1991, Toys-For-Tots' Foundation incorporated as a non-profit so the Marines could continue to stay involved. Presently, the Toys-For-Tots Program distributes 18 million toys to approximately seven million less fortunate children—each year!

The basic mission of the program is still the same. All year, members of the U.S. Marine Corp collect new unwrapped toys and distribute them to children in need at Christmas. The goal is to bring the joy of Christmas and send a message of hope to America's less fortunate children.

2020 was the hardest year in the program's history. The post office, who had always been a partner in collecting toys, not participate. Then of course the Pandemic prevented people from shopping and dropping off toys.



Locally, Ed Zaleski, heads up the Toys-For-Tots efforts in Pinellas County. Ed a past Marine lives on Clearwater Beach in Island Estates. He has been doing this for 11 years. In Pinellas County, there are over a hundred donation outlets and Toys-For-Tots provides toys to over 9,000 kids.

You can volunteer to be a collection site, or find drop off locations by visiting www.St-Petersburg-FL.ToysForTots.org, and entering your zip code. Every official donation location is listed. Please only donate new, unwrapped toys. Books and handmade toys are also desired. You can donate in Memory or Honor of an individual anytime throughout the year. Instead of fruitcakes, consider donating to Toys For Tots this year in recognition of your clients, business associates, family members or friends.

The DEADLINE to contribute for this season is December 15th, but you can donate all year long. If you would like to volunteer, visit St-Petersburg-FL.ToysForTots.org or call Ed at 301-332-9663.



GREATFLORIDA
INSURANCE

PROTECTING YOUR INVESTMENTS
FOR 15 YEARS

Home

Boat

Umbrella

Auto

Motorcycle

Flood







Kristin Asbury
Faron Estep

12998 Walsingham Rd.
Largo, FL
(727) 595-6000
Indianrocks.greatflorida.com
mygreatflins@gmail.com

New Winter Membership Promotion
 November 1 - March 31
Membership - Your Gateway to the Best of Florida



NO initiation fee
Dues \$250
 a month with NO minimum spending



Waterfront Dining, Monthly Parties, Heated & Chilled Pool, Holiday Events, Tiki Hut, Day Boat Docking, Game Night, Entertainment, Dancing, Best Sunday Breakfast

830 Bayway Blvd., Clearwater Beach
 (727) 447-6000 | office@clearwateryachtclub.org

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU UPDATED YOUR MEDICARE POLICY?
 YOUR MEDICARE NEEDS CHANGE OVER TIME - CONNECT WITH ME TO MAKE SURE YOUR PLAN COVERS YOUR NEEDS TODAY.



YOU STILL HAVE TIME TO MAKE CHANGES
ANNUAL OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR MEDICARE ENDS DECEMBER 7TH
CONTACT ME TO LOOK AT 2023 PLANS.

Call now for a free consultation **727.501.1444**



I am an Independent agent that works for you.

Linda Bullerman CLTC

Disclaimer: We do not offer every plan available in your area. Any information we provide is limited to those plans we offer in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE to get information on all of your options.

Clearwater's 12 Days of Christmas

STROLL OF TREES - MONTH OF DECEMBER

Stroll the Clearwater Historical Society Museum and participating hotels/restaurants with our live Christmas trees donated by Bear Valley Farms.

CLEARWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM TREE LIGHTING

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1ST, 2022 6-8pm

- 6:00 pm Mrs. Claus arrives - meet and photos
- 6:30 pm Mrs. Claus reads 'Twas The Night Before Christmas story
- 7:00 pm Tree lighting
- Hot cocoa, apple cider, cookies available
- Holiday singer
- Arts and crafts for the kids

MAKING SPIRITS BRIGHT PARADE & AWARDS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13TH, 2022 4 pm START

Holiday Parade line up at Island Way Grill, North Beach, South Beach then over the bridge MLK turn to Fort Harrison past Historical Society for Parade Float judging and back to Island Way Grill.

HOLIDAY MOVIE IN THE PARK

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16TH 2022 6-8pm

CLEARWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

- *Dr. Seuss' The Grinch* movie shown on an 80ft inflatable screen.
- Bring your blanket and pillows for an outdoor movie night complete with popcorn, candy, Kona Ice truck and Kawa Wagon on site
- Photo opportunities with Grinch and Cindy Lou Who

MARKET MARIE, MUSIC AND MIMOSAS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2022, 9am - 1pm

CLEARWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

- Mini Market Marie in the park area with vendors
- Surprise appearance with Santa and photo opportunities
- Crafts for kids

"PAW"RADE OF PETS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2022, 9am - 1pm

CLEARWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

- Suncoast Animal Shelter to be on hand finding pets at the holiday their "Fur"-ever home.
- Photo's with the Grinch and Santa.
- Pet parade and awards, pet friendly vendors, pet treats, water station. Market Marie Local vendors.
- Donations can be made to the Clearwater historical society museum.

BELLEAIR COUNTRY CLUB'S 125 YEARS CHRONICLED IN NEW BOOK

Belleair Country Club, in celebrating its 125th anniversary as Florida's First Golf Course, has published a compelling 180-page picture-laden coffee table book written by award winning author Hal Bodley.

The book, a comprehensive narrative and visual presentation of what has made this club so intriguing, was unveiled to its members at a festive signing event on October 27.

"For me, this book is a dream come true," said Bill Conway, who served as Belleair Country Club's head golf professional for 31 years before retiring in 2004. "The history of this club is amazing, fascinating. For me, there are so many memories that come to life on these pages."

The story of its founding by Henry Plant in 1897, its challenges, and a constant drive to excel required amazing, if not surprising research, and hundreds of interviews by Bodley.

Learning that the club's first three golf professionals were United States Open winners is a fitting example. Or how

important legendary golf course architect Donald Ross was to Belleair. And that so many celebrities walked the grounds.

And not so coincidentally, this book is being published not only as part of the club's 125th anniversary, but as the \$9 million restoration and renovation of the famed West Course is being completed.

Without Plant's sprawling Belleview Hotel, the Great White Queen of the Gulf, there would not have been the

golf courses. Yet without the golf courses, the hotel and resort would not have been so renowned. They went together which makes the special relationship in this history so compelling and so detailed on the book's pages.



The spectacular days when the likes of Walter Hagen and Gene Sarazen competed on the two pristine courses, and where U. S. Presidents played, to today's renovation of the west course that has been returned to much of the design the legendary Ross created, all come to life in this volume.

Bodley is the dean of American baseball journalists who was a founder of USA TODAY. A former Belleair Country Club president who has written five best-selling books, he did over 150 interviews during the two years of research required to completely trace the amazing history.

It is all about what has made Belleair Country Club, a members only private club located on Florida's West Coast, so unique.

Copies of the book can be obtained by contacting: Courtney Cochran, Belleair Country Club, One Country Club Lane, Belleair, FL 33756. E-mail courtney@belleaircc.com or call 727-461-7171 for more information.



Hal Bodley

Clearwater Beach's Best Restaurants

 <p>727.330.1750 saltycrabbarandgrill.com 462 Mandalay Ave.</p>	  <p>727.210.1313 crabbysdockside.com 37 Causeway Blvd.</p>
  <p>727.608.2065 crabbysbarandgrill.com 333 S. Gulfview Blvd.</p>	  <p>727.216.8085 saltyisland.com 437 S. Gulfview Blvd.</p>



www.beachsidehospitalitygroup.com



don't forget to participate in
THE BEACHSIDE BEACH STROLL CHALLENGE

Community News...

CLEARWATER YACHT CLUB

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

Their Winter Membership program begins November 1 and runs through March 31. It has no initiation fee and monthly dues are \$250, with no food minimum, just lots of fun in the Florida sun. Winter members can use the pool, tiki bar, dining room and other amenities, including participating in weekly parties. Best of all, you can meet new people. It is a great way to see for yourself how much fun it is, with no obligations. You can end your membership whenever you wish, or convert to a permanent member in the Spring. Call the Yacht Club's office, 447-6000. Learn more at ClearwaterYachtClub.org, or e-mail Office@ClearwaterYachtClub.org.

They are creating Cruisers Landing with the Commodores Walk. Buy a Brick engraved with your name and the year you joined CYC to cement it in history forever. The bricks are \$100. Additional bricks are available for \$75 to highlight your boat and its name, which will be located next to your name. Call 447-6000 for more information.

Upcoming Holiday Events include: Thanksgiving Buffets, CYC Lighted Boat Parade and Party, Breakfast with Santa, Holiday Mingle Jingle, and New Year's Eve.

WELCOME NEWCOMERS CLUB

This club is open to the women of Pinellas County; all are welcome to come and socialize. They meet at local country clubs or restaurants on the first Tuesday of each month with programs, activities or speakers of interest. Please contact Judy at 512-789-5686 for the location of the next event.

ISLAND ESTATE WOMEN'S CLUB

They end the calendar year with a Holiday Luncheon at Carlouel Yacht Club, surrounded by outstanding Christmas decorations, and a holiday musical chorus. December is a time for giving and their Holiday fundraiser is for Clothes To Kids a wonderful local non-profit that provides new and gently used clothes to low-income or in crisis school-age children, free of charge. The club collects new and gently used clothing and shoes, as well as, monetary donations to purchase clothes and shoes when our inventory is low.

They invite you to welcome the New Year with old and new Friends. The IEWC planned events are always listed at: www.islandstateswomensclub.org.

Upcoming Events include:

- Tues, Jan 17 – Luncheon, Dunedin Golf Club
- Thur, Jan 26 – Field Trip & "5 O'clock Somewhere", Trolley Pub Crawl
- Sat, Feb, 4 to 9 – Cruise, Brilliance of The Seas
- Thur, Feb 16 – "5 O'clock Somewhere", O'Keefe's Tavern
- Tues, Feb 21 – Luncheon, Harold Seltzer's Steakhouse
- Thu, Mar 2 – "5 O'clock Somewhere", Stirling Wine, Dunedin
- Thur, Mar 9 – Field Trip St. Pete Ferry Ride & Lunch in Tampa
- Tues, Mar 21 – Luncheon – Scholarship Fundraiser – Belleair Country Club, Belleair

You don't need to live on Island Estates to be a member. Pay online or print the form and mail it with a check. Contact Membership Chair Patti Jucha at pattijucha@yahoo.com.

LARGO ART ASSOCIATION

They meet weekly at the Largo Community Center (400 Alternate Kean Rd, Largo). It is a gathering of local artists to paint and network. They have open studio, juried member shows and periodic demonstrations. If you are interested, join on Fridays between 10am and 2pm. Call 727-518-3131.

SAND KEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

They are a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life on Sand Key. Founded in 1991, current membership includes sixteen condo associations and 7 businesses researching issues, distributing information and representing the views of residents at city, county, and state levels. They participate in The Barrier Island Government Council and The Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association and also holds a corporate membership with the Clearwater Community Sailing Center.

SKCA members can also take advantage of deep discounts when using the Sailing Center.

They hope to resume in person meetings in the near future, but due to COVID 19 sub-variants, the Board will continue to meet via "Zoom" video conferencing so interested members can also attend. Please check their website for any changes to this meeting policy.

Meetings are scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month. Look for a "Zoom" link in the e-mail announcing each month's agenda, or obtain the link on their website at sandkeycivicassociation.org.

Finally, they are inviting residents to contact them as they need new Board members starting 2023.

Contact the secretary at skcainc@aol.co, with questions.

CLEARWATER ART ALLIANCE

Enjoy a stroll in downtown Clearwater while learning about the city's vibrant public art scene. During the hour long walk, you will see at least 20 art installations including sculptures, murals, art wrapped signal boxes, pavement art and storm drain murals. Tours are organized by the Clearwater Arts Alliance. The afternoon walks are timed to end just prior to the monthly Downtown District Sip and Stroll event. Only those pre-registering online can get a 50% discount for Sip and Stroll.

Every third Saturday at 10:30 am and 4 pm, meet your guide at the Ring Canopy Sculpture in front of the Old City Hall at 112 S Osceola Ave. Free parking available at old city hall lot. The walk covers the Cleveland St. corridor and nearby areas

For information visit www.clearwaterartsalliance.org.

TAMPA BAY WATCH

Tampa Bay Watch is now accepting internship applications for spring 2023 at both locations: Estuary Adventures at Tampa Bay Watch in Tierra Verde and the Tampa Bay Watch Discovery Center on the St. Pete Pier.

Their internships provide currently enrolled and recent college graduates with practical, hands-on experience and valuable skills related to estuarine ecology, marine science, and environmental education. Multiple intern positions in different areas are available.

Visit www.tampabaywatch.org for details and requirements.

We care about results, not awards. Which is apparently how you get both.

Morton Plant Hospital has been named one of the top 100 hospitals in the U.S. eight times.*

At BayCare's Morton Plant Hospital, we don't spend a lot of time worrying about awards. We're too busy giving our patients high-quality medical care. Morton Plant Hospital is well known for its advanced medical technologies and outstanding patient care, with more than 50 specialties represented among our medical teams. We can easily connect you with a top specialist if needed, plus you have access to the entire network of BayCare doctors and services. And BayCare has been recognized as a top performing health system in the country for the fourth year in a row.* Just a few of the reasons why BayCare's Morton Plant Hospital is your better choice for health care.



Learn more: MortonPlant.org



*Fortune/Merative™ (formerly Fortune/IBM Watson Health)

JEWELRY STORE - COIN SHOP - GOLD BUYERS

SAINT PETERSBURG JEWELRY & COINS WE BUY GOLD!

Buying : Selling

GOLD, SILVER, BULLION, JEWELRY, WATCHES, DIAMONDS

FREE VERBAL APPRAISALS - JEWELRY REPAIR

9601 BAY PINES BLVD.

Saint Petersburg, Fl 33708 (1/4 Mile East of Walmart) **727-547-3553**

saintpetersburgjewelryandcoins.com

ST. CECELIA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE

FEBRUARY 8, 2023 ♦ 8:30 AM-6:00PM



- 2020 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL
- IB WORLD SCHOOL
- TECHNOLOGY ENRICHED
- HONORS CLASSES
- CHRIST CENTERED
- FOREIGN LANGUAGE
- S.T.R.E.A.M. PROGRAM
- FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE

St. Cecelia Catholic School
1350 Court St., Clearwater
(727) 461-1207
Pre-K3 through 8th Grade
www.st-cecelia.org

REAL ESTATE

REAL INTEGRITY

REAL SERVICE

ANN MARIE KRZESINSKI, REALTOR®

(727) 254-2568

RealEstateAnn@gmail.com



COLDWELL BANKER

Community News...

COMMUNITY DENTAL CLINIC

Be sure to Save the Date for their popular Reds, Whites & Bites event, Saturday, March 25, 2023, in a new location: the newly renovated Kapok Special Events Center!

Sample fine wines and excellent “bites” in a beautiful setting filled with old-world charm. Stroll among statues in well-appointed gardens. Enjoy music and dancing with friends. Take a chance to win exquisite bottles of collectible fine wine.

This wonderful evening provides critical support for the Community Dental Clinic and its mission to provide urgent dental care for the low-income, uninsured adults of Pinellas. Sponsorships are available, contact 727-216-6155 x 5.

MILITARY ORDER OF WORLD WARS

The Clearwater chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars meets first Tuesdays at the Dunedin Golf Club, 1050 Palm Blvd., Dunedin.

Social hour is at 11:30 am followed by lunch and a short program. Active duty, retired, or former Military officers and their spouses, or widows, are invited to attend. The MOWW welcomes those interested to RSVP for lunch, by calling Richard Gouin at 727-789-6754.

CLOTHES TO KIDS

They have seen a significant increase in the number of shoppers being served this year and anticipate this number growing more in the year to come. Families in our community are experiencing homelessness and unforeseen difficult situations. School aged children are in need of clothes. Each shopper may receive up to 22 pieces during their shopping trip, this requires a consistent flow of new and like new clothing donations to provide our mission. Clothes To Kids provides more than 13,000 wardrobes to low-income and in crisis school aged children, PreK-4 to 12th grade, FREE of charge. Please check your closets and help the children in Hillsborough and Pinellas by donating today!

Clothes To Kids needs the following clothing items:

- **Boys:** pants and shorts sizes: 4-16, Boys Tops: S to XL
- **Girls:** pants and shorts sizes: 4-16, shirts size: S to XL, pants sizes: 8 through size 20, dresses size: 14,16,18
- **Shoes:** Youth Boy sizes 9 – 6, Mens sizes 7 – 12, Youth Girl – size 10 - 5

Looking for a rewarding volunteer experience? CTK has openings in Clearwater, St. Pete, and Tampa. Call Nikki at 813-616-6430 x 1003 to discuss positions and hours.

FLORIDA ROAD RACE SERIES

December 11th, get in the spirit and jingle all the way to the finish line at the Florida Holiday Halfathon & 10K. In their 22nd year, this race has become a Holiday tradition as you join Santa, elves, and other runners at this festive point to point race and get a beautiful Holiday-themed medal.

The Halfathon’s flat, fast and visually varied course starts in Madeira Beach and ends at Largo’s Taylor Park, while the 10K starts in Seminole City Park and joins the Half course with the same finish line at Taylor Park. Run through exclusive residential and commercial areas in the beach communities, along smoothly paved Pinellas Trail, and through shaded public parks. Visit www.floridaholidayhalfathon.com.

Community News...

CHAPEL BY THE SEA

Christmas at Chapel by the Sea is magical! The Chapel glimmers with flickering lights and fills the hearts of visitors with the spirit of the season. December events include:

The first is the Family Advent Celebration Day, December 11 at 11am, after Sunday service. Families gather for lunch, hot cocoa, nativity crafts, a visit from Santa, and optional Santa photo.

December 15th at 7pm in the Sanctuary, Carols by Candlelight is a beautiful evening concert. The talented choir gives a moving performance of group medleys and solos performing the holiday classics. Following is a reception filled with laughter, wine, cheese, and hors d'oeuvres. The Chapel's talented new Music Director, who is sure to delight audiences.

For anyone who might be missing loved ones this time of year, the Chapel offers a special candlelight service of Hope and Remembrance. Visitors can light a candle for a loved one they wish they could be with or would like to pay honor to. There is an Angel Tree - write the names of loved ones and hang an angel in their behalf.

Christmas Eve services at 4:30 pm and 7:30 pm. The earlier service has a family focus, the later service is more traditional with lots of music and a string quartet.

To join the Family Advent Day Celebration or find out more about any of the other holiday festivities, visit the chapelbythesea.net.

ISLAND ESTATES YACHT CLUB

They have been busy the past few months and are looking forward to the end-of-the-year events and 2023.

Dunedin Golf Club was the scene for October's Oktoberfest. The event had twenty-seven members and nine guests. DGC's General Manager Chuck Croasmun and staff provided excellent German-inspired appetizers – German meatballs and German cheese board – and buffet including schweinebraten, chicken schnitzel, bratwurst, sauerkraut, and spätzle. The meal was topped off with Black Forest cherry cake followed by an enjoyable evening of a lively game of Family Feud.

The Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner was held on Saturday, November 5 at Dunedin Golf Club. The theme was a French Une Soirée En Noir Et Blanc (A Black and White Evening.) After the meeting, where 2023 officers and board members were elected, a delicious meal was served that included cognac shrimp, beef bourguignon, chicken roulade, finished off with French sweets, cheese, and dessert. Afterwards our social directors recognized all those members who made 2022 a fun year by either hosting or helping out with events.

IEYC's December and January events are

- Change of Watch, December 3rd, Belleair Country Club
- New Year's Day Brunch, also at Belleair Country Club
- A Day at the Races at Tampa Bay Downs January 21st.

The 2023 schedule of events is in the process of being finalized. The Website will be updated when they are available. Please check www.islandestatesyc.org for more information.

PEACE MEMORIAL CONCERT SERIES

All concerts are the third Saturday at 3 pm in the sanctuary at 110 S. Ft. Harrison Ave. The season series will continue with more programs January through March.

December 11, *Suncoast Bronze Ringers*
Amazing handbell choir entertains everyone with a program of popular and sacred holiday music.

CHRISTMAS AT PEACE MEMORIAL

Suncoast Bronze Ringers
The 3rd Sunday of Advent, Dec. 11 – 3 p.m.
Pealing the popular and sacred sounds of Christmas!

A Service of Lessons and Carols
The 4th Sunday of Advent, Dec. 18 – 10:30 a.m.
Choir, soloists, congregation, strings, and organ

The Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas Eve, Dec. 24
Children's Tableau – 4 p.m.
A Candlelight Communion Service – 7 p.m.



PEACE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
110 S. Fort Harrison Avenue, Clearwater 33756
800 | 479-8846 peacememorialpresbyterian.org



A TASTE OF CLEARWATER

Hyatt Regency Clearwater Beach Resort and Spa is more than a residential-style escape just steps from the Gulf. Visitors savor locally sourced fare at SHOR American Seafood Grill, enjoy creative, Latin-influenced dishes plus drinks and a sunset eight floors up at Tropico Rooftop Cantina or celebrate happy hour at OffSHOR. Three hours free parking with \$50 purchase at any of our outlets, plus show your Florida ID for 20% off your bill. For more info, visit hyattregencyclearwater.com or call 727 373 1234

SHOR AMERICAN SEAFOOD GRILL
and **TROPICO ROOFTOP CANTINA** at
HYATT REGENCY CLEARWATER BEACH
RESORT AND SPA
301 South Gulfview Boulevard
Clearwater Beach, Florida, USA, 33767



KAREN SEEL RETIRES AFTER 23 YEARS AS A COUNTY COMMISSIONER

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

When you are a County Commissioner, the job owns you. You plan weeks in advance to have a day off or dinner with friends. Karen Seel has lived that for twenty-three years. Now that she has officially retired, she can relax and enjoy life with family and friends.

To list everything Seel has accomplished during her time in public office and on the boards she has lead or served on would fill this entire magazine.

For twenty three years, Seel represented you, District 5, on the Pinellas County Commission, which is most of the upper and middle county from the Bay to the beaches including Belleair Beach, Belleair, Clearwater, and Clearwater Beach.

In today's political world, twenty three years is almost unheard of. She spent twenty-six years, in serving in office because prior to the County Commission, she on the Clearwater City Council for three years. She comes to public service naturally as her father, Don Williams, a well-known local architect, had previously served eight years on the Clearwater City Council.

Seel was born Karen Williams at Morton Plant Hospital, and was raised in Clearwater. She attended Clearwater High School (1976), the University of Florida (1979), where she received a Master's Degree with honors in Business Administration, and the Thunderbird School of Global Management in Glendale, Arizona (1981). She also studied at the University of Oxford, England and La Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara, Mexico.

After finishing her education, Seel worked a variety of jobs that took her from Houston, Texas to Saudi Arabia and managed her father's architectural firm as its controller. Eventually she returned to this area and 38 years ago married her husband Ron Seel. They settled in Clearwater's Countryside area.

She got involved in many local groups: Girl Scouts, PTA, Libraries and women's groups, but she wanted more. In 1996, she ran for a seat on the Clearwater City Council—and won. While serving, Governor Jeb Bush tapped her to fill an open seat on the Pinellas County Commission in 1999.

The next year, she ran for her seat and was elected to a four-year term. What followed was four more terms, for a total of twenty-three years. (1999 to 2022). Twenty-three years—in a high-profile, sometimes difficult job. She served as Chairman of the Commission four times.

She considers US19 her most rewarding and notable achievement. She saw the need for better traffic flow on US 19,

which connects the north and south ends of Pinellas County to more smoother. She wanted to cut travel time between Tarpon Springs and the Skyway Bridge. She worked on improving that important highway practically every week of her twenty-three years. Because of that project, many associates nicknamed her "The Queen of US 19."

"I do not recall the first time Karen and I met and started working together, but obviously it would have been when she was first on the Clearwater City Commission and I worked for Congressman Bill Young," says George Cretkos, former Mayor of Clearwater. "She was instrumental in directing the US 19 project, for which Congressman Young and former North County Representative Dick Kelly helped to securing state and federal funding."

"As an elected official in Clearwater and Pinellas County, Karen Seel's integrity, character, and perseverance is praiseworthy. She put the public's interest first, and we are a better community because of her service and dedication."

Another of her major achievements is the Gateway/Roosevelt Connector. While not complete, she pushed to get that project started. When finished, it will connect U.S. 19 and the Bayside Bridge with I-275. The goal is to reduce commuter traffic on Pinellas' busiest roads.

"Penny For Pinellas" was the beginning of decades of contributing and adding many millions of dollars to Pinellas's infrastructure. Seel was involved in creating the concept and helping get it approved by the voters.

Seel served on the Tourist Development Council chairing it four times. She helped to create the Bed Tax tourists pay. Originally, the tax was one percent and was only used for Pinellas County's tourism marketing. Today, the tax is six percent and pays for a wide variety of infrastructure projects and tourism venues such as the Clearwater Marine Aquarium and beach renourishment.

Other achievements she is proud of include storm water and future resilient planning, health and human services, transportation, and beach renourishment.

In her mind though, there are many projects left unfinished. There are more US 19 over-passes to build, transit issues to solve, the High Point Community Park, 2-1-1, Community Gardens in our many parks, the Pinewood Cultural Center, which includes Creative Pinellas, Florida Botanical Gardens, and Heritage Village.

"Pinellas County owes so much of our progress, especially in youth services,



Karen Seel and family at her first Investiture in 2000

mental health, housing, transportation and economic growth, to her leadership, incredible vision and courage, says St. Petersburg Mayor and previous County Commissioner Ken Welch. "For two decades, I've admired her courageous and informed approach to problem-solving. She never hesitated to take on some of the most difficult issues and worked to create impactful and inclusive progress for Pinellas County. She is a model of public service."

Karen has been married 38 years to her husband Ron Seel. They have two adult sons and now two granddaughters. They moved to the Town of Belleair in 2013.

As Seel describes it, "If I had to reflect on my time on the Commission, and my role, I think of myself as 'Community Connector.' I got to know a lot of people in many different roles and places. I was always good at bringing those people together and getting things done. I have tried to live by the Golden Rule—do unto others, as you would have them do unto you."

Seel's last day on the Commission was November 21st. Former State Representative Chris Latvala has assumed her seat. He ran unopposed.

While preparing to leave, and cleaning out her office, she realized a lot of history was walking out the door. "I had files and binders and so many papers and pictures," Seel recalls. "Thank goodness we have an archives department at Heritage Village to preserve it." That too is something she helped to develop.

"Karen Seel has contributed an article to almost every single issue of this News Magazine since it began," says Publisher Bob Griffin. "That is 100 articles over 17 years. We want to thank her for her contributions to our publication and to Pinellas County."

Seel's favorite past times are taking walks, reading and traveling. She and her husband own a second home in the Sanoma area of California. She is hoping now she will find more time to do those things.

Marina Market & Food Hall

Eat. Drink. Fish. Party.



BAYSTAR

RESTAURANT GROUP



Salt Cracker
Fish  Camp



BAR TIKI
CMB



Marina Cantina
tequila bar and grille

ROUNDABOUT
Pizza

POKE
Havana

A food-lover's dream
with three levels of beautiful
waterfront views at the Clearwater Marina.

Visit BaystarRestaurantGroup.com for all locations & details

CHRISTMAS TREES - WHERE DID THE TRADITION COME FROM?

Many assume it is a religious symbol, but Christmas trees date back thousands of years before the beginning of Christianity. In fact, early Christian leaders protested having the trees and all decorations during the religious season.

Long before Christianity, plants remaining green in the winter were prized. During the dead of winter, they were a reminder, things would grow again. Just as we decorate our homes today, prehistoric people hung evergreen boughs over doorways and windows. They believed it kept away witches, ghosts, evil spirits, and illness.

In the Northern hemisphere, the Winter Solstice - the shortest day of the year - is near Christmas. Primitive people celebrated that day because their Sun God, who they believe had become sick and weak, would soon get well. Egyptians celebrated it by filling their homes with green palms; early Romans used evergreen boughs. Druids, priests of the ancient Celts, and Scandinavian Vikings also decorated their temples with evergreens, their symbol of everlasting life.

Germany is credited with starting the Christmas tree tradition in the 16th century. Devout Christians had decorated trees in their homes. Some built wood pyramids, decorated with evergreens resembling trees. It is believed, the 16th Century Protestant Martin Luther, was the first to add candles.

In the New World, pilgrims tried to stop "pagan mockery," preaching against "heathen traditions of Christmas carols, decorated trees and joyful expressions of the sacred event." In 1659, Massachusetts passed a law making observance of December 25th, and hanging decorations, a penal offense.

In 1848, Queen Victoria and Prince Albert appeared in the popular Illustrated London News standing with their children around a Christmas tree. Victoria was very popular, causing the Christmas tree to be widely accepted in Britain and when

it appeared in the Philadelphia's Godey's Magazine and Lady's Book, among the U.S. elite. Still, most 19th Century Americans found Christmas trees an oddity.

With an influx of immigrants, Pennsylvania's German settlers had the first recorded displayed Christmas tree in 1830s. But, it was still considered a pagan symbol and not accepted by many Christians. By 1847, Pennsylvania had community trees and by the 1890s, residents began using tree ornaments shipped from Germany. This caused the popularity of Christmas tree to rise all over the United States.

Europeans liked small, four feet trees, but Americans preferred trees that reached to the ceiling. The German and Irish decorated their trees with apples, nuts, cookies and brightly colored popcorn interlaced with berries and nuts. Americans decorated their trees with homemade ornaments.

In the early 20th Century, electricity brought Christmas lights, making it possible for the trees to glow all season. Trees began to appear in town squares and having a Christmas tree in every home became a new American tradition.

President Franklin Pierce arraigned for the first White House Christmas tree in the 1850s. President Calvin Coolidge held the first National Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony on the White House lawn in 1923. This year's Capitol Christmas Tree is a 78-foot tall Red Spruce from Pisgah National Forest in North Carolina. The tree's nickname is Ruby

The tree in New York City's Rockefeller Center dates back to 1931 and is probably the best-known U.S. tree. The first tree, small and unadorned, was placed there by construction workers. Two years later, another tree was brought in, this time covered with electric lights. The tallest one, a Norway spruce, was displayed in 1948 and measured over 100 feet. Today's Rockefeller tree has over 25,000 lights.

Maggie Mae's
Wishing you and your family a
Happy Holidays!

15% Off Your Next Visit
Two Locations Serving You:
Maggie Mae's Bluffs, 2961 West Bay Dr., Belleair Bluffs
Maggie Mae's Waterfront, 1261 Gulf Blvd., Sand Key

Dine In Only - Offer Expires January 31st, 2023.
May not be used with any other promotion or coupon.

SHERIFF'S CHRISTMAS SHARING PROJECT HELPS FAMILIES IN NEED

By Laura L. Sullivan, Public Relations Specialist

The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) wants every child to experience the joy of the holidays. For the past 28 years PCSO's Ride & Run With The Stars has raised money for families in need. Last year's event raised \$72,000 for the Sheriff's Christmas Sharing Project, assisting 539 kids and 217 families. Members from around the agency help identify families that need a little help to have a happier holiday season.

Community Policing deputies (CPOs) develop in-depth knowledge of the communities they serve and often know the personal situations of the families they encounter through the year. "Community policing deputies select families within their assigned area who they have established a relationship with," said CPO Corporal Will Lawson. "Each family is vetted by specific criteria." They can't have received help from the Christmas Sharing Project in the past two years, nor can they have any felony convictions.

Deputies reach out to local community centers for suggestions too, and some families are identified after they are victims of crimes or other unfortunate circumstances. "Last year there was a family that lost everything in a fire," Corporal Lawson said. "We were able to provide them with Christmas items, Publix gift cards, and gas cards from Wawa."

CPO Corporal Tom Goldberg talked about one of the families that they'll help this year. "We have a single mother who has three kids, and one has a rare but serious medical condition. The child had to have a liver transplant at three and now at eight years old he still has many medical issues. The mother is unable to provide gifts for Christmas, so we'll help by providing gifts and a meal to the family so they can enjoy the happiness of the holiday as best as possible."

The help that the Sheriff's Christmas Sharing Project brings to families makes an incredible difference in people's lives. "We meet so many folks who have been hit hard by the pandemic, loss of a job, loss of a family member, and even by the economy," said Corporal Goldberg. "This program puts smiles on their faces and joy in their hearts."

The program also helps remind people that the PCSO does so much more than law enforcement. It is one of many ways in which the PCSO serves the community. "This program helps deputies bridge the gap between law enforcement and the community," said Corporal Lawson. "It helps the public see that deputies are caring people."

After raising funds at Ride & Run With The Stars, PCSO members get to shop for the families in need. "It is truly an enjoyable experience," said Corporal Lawson, who has been participating for 14 years. "I get to play Santa for a day." He said that delivering the gifts to homes is "absolutely one of the most enjoyable days of work." Wish lists include many of the things all kids hope for: bikes, video games, computers, board games, and of course toys. But families also ask for necessities like clothing and shoes.

You can help make a difference along with the PCSO by registering for Ride & Run With The Stars, Saturday, December 3rd at 8 am at Fort DeSoto Park for family fun runs and rides as well as a competitive 5K chipped race. Bid on items in a silent auction, and see Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive in a helicopter, along with other family-friendly events. You can register at www.rideandrunwiththestars.com.

PURCHASE A 6 MONTH MEMBERSHIP
GET 1 MONTH FREE

PURCHASE A 12 MONTH MEMBERSHIP
GET 2 MONTHS FREE

Clearwater Beach Fitness

795 Bayway Blvd.
 Clearwater, FL 33767

Scan here!

[clearwaterbeachfitness](https://www.instagram.com/clearwaterbeachfitness) 727.286.8918 Clearwater Beach Fitness

1 on 1 Personal Training • Nutrition Coaching • Online Training App

SALVATION ARMY PROVIDES LOVE BEYOND CHRISTMAS

Familiar Red Kettle Campaign and the Angel Tree Program Begins

The familiar Red Kettle Campaign of The Salvation Army will soon be in full swing. The Christmas season represents the organization's busiest and most important fundraising time of the year. Every dollar raised through the Red Kettle Campaign remains in the community and allows The Salvation Army to deliver life changing programs and services throughout the year.

Thousands of families continue to struggle in the current economy, and many live from paycheck to paycheck. The Salvation Army is there, not only at Christmastime but all year round to help when times are tough; when people are forced to choose between paying the rent or the utility bill, when families need help putting food on the table, or when children need school supplies or new clothes for the school year. The generosity of the community during the Red Kettle Campaign provides essential funds for the Army to Love Beyond Christmas, and step in the gap in times of crisis.

"From its humble beginnings in 1891, when a Salvation Army Captain used a crab pot to collect funds in San Francisco, the Red Kettle Campaign has grown into one of the best recognized charitable campaigns anywhere," said Major Stephen Long, Commanding Officer of The Salvation Army in Fort Lauderdale. "Thanks to the support

of donors and corporate partners, the money raised will help The Salvation Army help people in crisis, often at the very worst times of their life."

Red Kettles will be stationed outside area stores and local businesses, Monday-Saturday, from the beginning through Christmas Eve. "With fewer and fewer people carrying cash, we're also offering several cashless ways to donate," said Major Long. "Donors can give on their smartphone, using Apple Pay, Google Pay, PayPal, and Venmo at the red kettle."

Along with The Salvation Army's iconic Red Kettle Campaign, the Angel Tree Program is one of The Salvation Army's best-known Christmas efforts. More than 100,000 children across Florida will experience the joy of opening presents on Christmas morning thanks to generous donors and the help of The Salvation Army.

"The Angel Tree program provides toys and clothing to children and families who are struggling to afford Christmas gifts this year," said Major Ted Morris of The Salvation Army of Clearwater.

The Salvation Army Angel Trees are located at Achieva Credit Union branches, Countryside Mall, and participating Walmart's along with other businesses during the holidays. The trees are decorated with paper angels, each representing a child or senior who – without this program –

may not receive a gift at Christmas.

The Salvation Army is issuing a rallying cry for Americans to "Love Beyond." The organization's message is simply that when we love beyond late bills, love beyond shelter, and love beyond Christmas, we can provide hope and help for millions who need it. Love Beyond is also a symbol of the resources and programs that so many people rely on year-round when they turn to The Salvation Army for assistance.

The Salvation Army annually helps more than 23 million Americans overcome poverty, addiction and economic hardships through a range of social services. By providing food for the hungry, emergency relief for disaster survivors, rehabilitation for those suffering from drug and alcohol abuse, and clothing and shelter for people in need, The Salvation Army is doing the most good at 7,600 centers of operation around the country.

Angels will be available for adoption throughout December. Volunteers are needed to sort and pass out the items to families who will come to collect them on distribution day.

For information about adopting an Angel or current volunteer opportunities, call The Salvation Army at 727-698-5264 to learn how you can give or get involved this holiday season. Visit SalvationArmyUSA.org.



Tangled up in the holidays?
Don't let your recycling get tangled up too!

THROW THESE HOLIDAY TANGLERS IN THE TRASH (OR RECYCLE ELSEWHERE):

- Christmas Lights
- Garland & Tinsel
- Foil Wrapping Paper
- Ribbons & Bows
- Bubble wrap & Plastic Air Pillows
- Plastic Bags & Sandwich Baggies

Tampa
St. Petersburg
www.stpa.org

Pinellas County

Hillsborough County

#RecycletheHolidays



Dr. Priya Nayyar, MD.
Tampa Bay's Premier Dermatologist



Dr. Brandon Shutty, DO
Harvard trained board certified Dermatologist



DERMACLINIQUE
DERMATOLOGY • COSMETICS • SKIN CANCER

It is with great excitement we announce that **Dr. Priya Nayyar MD** has completed the acquisition and assumed ownership of Dr. Kathy L Anderson's dermatology practice located on 510 E Druid Rd. in downtown Clearwater.

Dr. Nayyar, a New York City board certified dermatologist and fellowship trained Mohs and cosmetic surgeon, is the owner and medical director of **Dermaclinique**, a premier dermatology, cosmetic and skin cancer center. This will be Dermaclinique's second office location, with its first being in St. Petersburg. Dr. Nayyar is widely regarded as a leading expert in the field of dermatology. She is trained in the treatment and management of high-risk skin cancers as well as advanced dermatologic laser and cosmetic procedures, including hair restoration and upper eyelid blepharoplasty. She is known for providing the highest level of care to all her patients, and she takes pride in achieving extraordinary results for both surgical and cosmetic patients.

Dr. Nayyar is thrilled to welcome **Dr. Brandon Shutty, DO**, to the practice as well. Dr. Shutty is a Harvard trained board certified dermatologist, who specializes in general dermatology, cosmetics, and laser procedures. Dr. Shutty has been serving the Clearwater / Palm Harbor community for over 6 years and is accepting new patients at our Clearwater location.

Medical Dermatology Services

- Acne
- Contact Dermatitis
- Eczema
- Hair Disorders
- Mole Evaluation
- Nail Conditions
- Psoriasis
- Rosacea
- Skin Cancer
- Warts

Surgical Services

- Mohs Micrographic Surgery
- Torn Earlobe Repair
- Removal of cancerous and noncancerous growths

Cosmetic Services

- Morpheus8
- PRP Therapy
- Botox
- Dermal Filler
- IPL
- CO2 Laser
- Laser Hair Removal
- Tattoo Removal
- Blepharoplasty
- Lip Lift
- Thread Lift
- Chemical Peels
- Sclerotherapy

Mention this ad & receive **10% OFF** the follow rejuvenating procedures:

CO2 Laser

- State-of-the-art non-surgical skin rejuvenation treatment.
- Heat produced by the laser tightens your skin by softening wrinkles, smoothing out scars and minimizing pores.
- Stimulates collagen production
- Reveals a smoother, brighter complexion and long-lasting results

Intense Pulsed Light (IPL)

- Treats sun damage, freckles, and age spots
- Vascular lesions/redness from rosacea
- Laser hair removal
- Minimal downtime

Morpheus8

- Microneedling device with advanced radiofrequency technology
- Tightens, Lifts, & Smooths Skin
- Stimulates the production of collagen
- Facial & Body contouring

Injectable Fillers

- Smooths moderate to severe facial wrinkles
- Rebuild facial structure
- Volumizes while maintaining a natural appearance
- Lasts 12-18 months



Dermaclinique St. Pete | 3085 Dr Martin Luther King Jr. St. N | St Petersburg, FL, 33704

Dermaclinique Clearwater | 510 E. Druid Rd. Suite A | Clearwater, FL, 33756

Tel: 727-888-0900 | Fax: 727-233-3838 | thedermaclinique.com

Community News...

GFWC CLEARWATER COMMUNITY WOMAN'S CLUB

GFWC Clearwater Community Woman's Club (CCWC) is accepting 2023 Daisy Grant applications. The Grants were established to award grants to local charities in Pinellas County. To be eligible for a grant, the charity must be open to Pinellas County residents, must be a 501C organization, and the funds must be ear-marked for a specific project of no more than \$2000. In 2022, *Advocates Against Human Trafficking*, *Clearwater Historical Museum*, *Harbordish*, and *Voices of Aphasia* each received a grant of \$1000.

A grant application, with instructions, is available for download at www.ccwcFlorida.org. Applications must be sent by USPS, and postmarked by January 11, 2023. Grant recipients will be notified by February 15, 2023.

For information, e-mail Kay Estock at Info@ccwcFlorida.org. CCWC has been serving Clearwater and Pinellas County for over 50 years. Their mission is to enhance lives in their community through friendship, volunteerism, and education.

HOPE VILLAGES OF AMERICA

Their Blue Jean Ball will be Saturday, February 25 at 7pm. It is being held at Cove Cay Golf Club, 2612 Cove Cay Drive, Clearwater. Please save the date and make plans to join us for a night of dinner, dancing, and denim. Tickets and sponsorships are available at hopevillagesofamerica.org.

CLEARWATER BEACH ASSOCIATION

Join them as they continue to search for ways to preserve our community with its family-oriented residential beach paradise lifestyle. They need your help and participation in promoting and preserving their beautiful island through social and community connections. Annual dues are \$35 per household, or \$100 per business.

CBA, Inc, is a not-for-profit, non-partisan, non-sectarian organization promoting projects of civic, charitable, recreational, and/or social natures on Clearwater Beach through:

- *Monthly meetings, first Tuesday (except July and August)
- *Semi-Annual clean-ups of adopted McKay Park & Rec Center
- *Annual Pub Crawl as a social and membership event
- *Supporting Clearwater Beach Library and Rec. Center, and events at both (Easter Egg Hunt, movies, Trunk-or-Treat, etc.)
- * Gestures of appreciation such as taking food to the Beach Lifeguards, the police and fire personnel.
- * Protecting neighborhood interests by inviting City officials to meetings and sending representatives to City Council meetings on issues. Sending a representative to the Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition.

CBA has been serving the Clearwater Beach community since 1944. It is Clearwater's oldest civic association. Learn more at: www.clearwaterbeachassoc.com/history-of-cba/

Upcoming events:

- December 3 – Holiday Party, 6:30 pm, Chapel by the Sea Fellowship Hall, potluck, music, games
- December 6 – CBA Annual Meeting, 6:30pm, Chapel by the Fellowship Hall
- December 10 – Annual Holiday Party – 6-9pm
- December 17 – Lighted Bike & Santa Parade. Start at Kit & Gary's home on Acacia Street – 6-8:30pm
- January 3, 2023 Monthly Meeting, 6:30pm, Chapel by the Fellowship Hall.



Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Remember: More than a third of home decoration fires are started by candles. Forty-two percent of decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.

Following are a few simple tips that will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season

Holiday decorating

- Water live Christmas Trees daily to avoid drying out
- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both. Use them as instructed.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

Holiday Entertaining

- Never leave holiday cooking unattended
- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

Before Heading out or to Bed

- Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed.
- Turn off all light strings and decorations.

New Year's Resolution

Check your smoke alarm batteries. Better yet, invest in a 10 year battery powered smoke alarm, so you never have to change the batteries. They make great Christmas gifts for your all your loved ones.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire,
electrical and related hazards

Community News...

FLORIDA BOTANICAL GARDENS EVENTS

Holiday Lights in the Gardens: Now open through Sunday, January 1, 2023, from 5:30-9:30 pm, free to the public, suggested donation \$10. Celebrate the warm glow of the season in the beauty of nature with over one million twinkling LED lights and family-friendly entertainment, synchronized music, and light displays. Beat the crowds - come Monday-Thursday. Enjoy free activities for children in the Enchanted Forest from Dec 15 to Dec 31st. Preview the weekly Entertainment Schedule, map of the event, and more at: www.flbgfoundation.org/holidaylights.

Gift & Plant Sale: Friday, December 9, 5:30-9:30 pm, and Saturday, December 10, from 10 am -10 pm. Suggested donation: \$5 per person, children 12 and under free. Shop the annual market of over 45 local vendors with an assortment of tropical plants, orchids, herbs, bromeliads, citrus, bamboo, begonias, and fruit trees. Specialty vendors will offer unique clothing, jewelry, garden art, ceramics, doggie treats, honey, body lotions, and candles. The Florida Botanical Gardens Gift Shop will offer exquisite botanically-themed products. View vendors and an event map at flbgfoundation.org/gpsale22.

BELLEAIR GARDEN CLUB

A non-profit organization in its 72nd year, The Belleair Garden Club welcomes new members to join and participate in The Club's community sponsored year-round special events. October through May programs and presentations are offered the first Wednesday of the month. The annual membership fee is \$75 a person, or \$100 a couple.

The Belleair Garden Club's education programs and participation events include horticulture, beautification, and gardening. Club members contribute to the Town of Belleair E-Blasts offering landscaping techniques that create a Florida Friendly Yard and include the Town of Belleair Park, Recreation, and Tree board, helping to design, manage and promote our many parks. In addition, a scholarship program assists students in botany, ecology, and similar fields.

Persons interested in membership, are encouraged to attend a meeting as a guest. Meetings are held at the Belleair Garden Club, 903 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Belleair, Florida.

- December 7th, 1 pm, RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS presented by Judith Overcash
- January 4th, 1 pm, COMMUNITY GARDENS OF CLEARWATER presented by Howard Warshauer
- February 1st, 1 pm, VEGGIE GARDENING IN THE TAMPA BAY AREA presented by Sandy Huff, Master Gardener and Author

FRANCIS WILSON PLAYHOUSE

• **BEST OF RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN Feb 4th, 2023**
From 1943 to 1959, Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II dominated the world of musicals. Re-live memorable musical moments from hits such as Oklahoma!, Carousel, Allegro, The King & I, South Pacific, Flower Drum Song, Cinderella, State Fair, The Sound of Music and many more.

• **TURN OF THE CENTURY March 11th, 2023**
A musical celebration of the Gilded Age (1890 -1920) featuring songs from Broadway, Vaudeville and Operetta. Sing along to the lilting melodies of Jerome Kern, Victor Herbert, Rudolf Friml, Irving Berlin, George M. Cohan and more! From Hello, My Baby to Ah, Sweet Mystery of Life to Give My Regards To Broadway.

The Francis Wilson Playhouse is located at 302 Seminole St, in Clearwater. Box Office hours are Monday – Thursday, 10:30 – 5:00pm. E-mail BoxOffice@FrancisWilsonPlayhouse.org or visit franciswilsonplayhouse.org.

jiffy lube multicare™

WE DO MORE THAN JUST OIL CHANGES.

- Oil Services
- Battery Services
- Tune-up Services
- Cooling System Services
- Jiffy Lube Multicare Signature Service Oil Change
- Brake Service
- Suspension Services
- Drivetrain Services

\$25 OFF FULL SYNTHETIC OIL CHANGE

\$15 OFF ANY JIFFY LUBE SIGNATURE SERVICE™ OIL CHANGE

EVERY JIFFY LUBE OIL CHANGE INCLUDES THESE COMPLEMENTARY SERVICES DURING A BETWEEN VISIT:

- FREE Oil Check And Top Off
- FREE Washer Fluid Top Off
- FREE Tire Pressure Check & Fill
- FREE Battery Check
- FREE Transmission Fluid Top Off
- FREE Power Steering Fluid Top Off

4301 EAST BAY DR | CLEARWATER | (727) 536-0755

Sunset Cruises
off Clearwater Beach

2 SHEA
CRUISELINES

Complimentary Champagne Toast
Beer and Wine available
(727) 798-1269
www.clearwatersunsetboat.com

SCAN ME

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Magazine

Wishing You
and Your Family



Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year!

Bob and Becky Griffin

Community News...

CLEARWATER BEACH LIBRARY EVENTS

Adults

- Holiday Centerpieces with Flowerama: Thursday, Dec. 1, 2:30-4:30pm. Create unique holiday floral centerpieces with Clearwater florists. Materials provided. Registration required
- Mahjong Mondays: 2-4pm except 12/26/22, 1/2/23, 1/16/23
- Shell Crafters: Monday, 11am-1:30pm
- Beach Book Club: First Monday of Month (4-5pm)
December Book - *Migrations* by Charlotte McConaghy
January Book - *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson
- Coastal Landscaping: Drought, Sand, & Salt Tolerance: Thursday, Jan. 12, 2-3pm. Liza Ryan, IFAS Master Gardener Volunteer, discusses best practices and ideas for coastal beach landscaping. Passionate about Florida native plants, she will discuss the unique ecosystem here, which are salt, drought, and sand-tolerant plants. Registration recommended.
- Classic Film Club: Last Thursday of the Month, 3-4pm. Like a book club, but on a pre-selected movie you can watch on your own prior to attending. There will also be time for conversation with your fellow cinephiles about films you recently enjoyed.

Youth/Families

- Gingerbread Beach Hut Workshop: Wednesday, Dec. 14, 4-6pm. All ages are welcome to create a unique gingerbread beach hut. Registration required: One hut per family.
- Sunshine Storytime: Monday, Dec. 19 & Monday, Jan. 9, 11-11:30am. Energetic storytime with dancing, stories, rhymes, crafts, and silliness! Geared towards kids 6 and under.
- Interactive Family Movie Afternoon - Lilo & Stitch (PG): Thursday, Jan. 4, 2-4pm
- GIANT Sidewalk Coloring: Wednesday, Jan. 18, 4-6pm. In honor of the Children's Gasparilla Parade, join them for a GIANT chalk coloring at the Beach Library on the channel-side sidewalks of pirate ships, mermaids or your own masterpieces.

If you have questions, please come visit the Beach Library! The Beach location's hours are Monday & Tuesday 10am-5pm, Wednesday 1-7pm, and Thursday & Friday 1-5pm.

HERITAGE VILLAGE SANTA SATURDAYS

Come see Santa and get your picture with him at Heritage Village, 11909 125th Street N. in Largo on three separate Saturdays - December 3, 10, and 17 - from 10am to 2pm.

Santa will be waiting for you on the front porch of the McMullen-Coachman Log Cabin, Pinellas County's oldest structure. If you are too shy to tell Santa what you want, there will be a special mailbox for you to drop off your letters. The mailman will deliver all Santa's mail to the North Pole before Christmas Eve.

After your visit, enjoy some sweet treats and ice cream. Get more information at www.SantaSaturdays.com.

BEACH ART CENTER

Both the Gift Shop and Galleries are brimming with original work and gift items just in time for the holidays. The Gift Shop is restocked with new items including ornaments, cards, artwork, pottery, jewelry and much more. The Galleries also feature stunning artwork, pottery and gift items.

Gift Certificates are available and can be used to gift an Art Class, Workshop, or our fun "Art on the Rocks." You can purchase Gift Certificates or shop in the Gallery and Gift Shop Monday - Friday from 9am-4pm at 1515 Bay Palm Blvd, Indian Rocks Beach or call (727) 596-4331

Saturday, March 4th, 2023 is their Boots & Brushes Country Gala. They had a blast last year, country music, great food & drinks, amazing community and a lot of fun!



Meridian on Sand Key

1200 Gulf Blvd #603, Clearwater, FL 33767
3 Bedrooms | 2.5 Bathrooms
2500 Square Feet | Absolutely Gorgeous Views
Offered for \$2,200,000

NOW UNDER CONTRACT!

1200 Gulf Blvd #305, Clearwater, FL 33767
3 Bedrooms | 3.5 Bathrooms
2743 Square Feet | Beach Elevation Gulf Views
Offered for \$1,950,000



Grande on Sand Key

1180 Gulf Blvd #405, Clearwater, FL 33755
2 Bedrooms | 2.5 Bathrooms | Den
1952 Square Feet | Gulf & Intracoastal Views
Offered for \$1,500,000



Cabana Club

1582 Gulf Blvd #1607, Clearwater, FL 33767
2 Bedrooms | 2 Bathrooms
1390 Square Feet | Direct Gulf Front Views
Garage Space #44 | Offered for \$1,100,000



Clearwater Waterfront

500 N Osceola Ave PH-G, Clearwater, FL 33755
3 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms | 2-Story
2452 Square Feet | Panoramic Views
Offered for \$1,350,000

BRIAN PELFREY

Owner/Realtor®

727-871-0871

Brian@SandKey.com

BrianPelfrey.com



**WHETHER YOU'RE LOOKING TO BUY OR SELL, CALL BRIAN PELFREY TODAY
TO SEE WHY HE WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE TOMORROW.**

**SAND KEY
REALTY**