DUNEDIN MAY/JUNE 2025 ISSUE 13 MAY/JUNE 2025 ISSUE 1

THE MAN WHO BROUGHT SAILING TO THE YOUTH OF PINELLAS COUNTY



By Pete Magnani, Publisher

In the 1940s, long before PlayStations and iPads, options for keeping children occupied were limited. Clark W. "Clarkie" Mills devoted many years of his life to ensuring local youth had a safe and exciting way to spend their time outdoors.

Mills was born in 1915 in Jackson, Michigan, and his family moved to Clearwater when he was three years old. As a young boy, Mills was constantly tinkering, helping his father with household repairs and carpentry. He was also always interested in boats. Mills became a member of several boating clubs and built his first boat at age 10.

When World War II began, Mills was drafted into the Navy and was stationed at a Philadelphia Navy yard. Two years later he was sent to the Panama Canal Zone, where he developed his boat building skills. Upon his return to the states, he opened Mills Boat Works at 985 Douglas Avenue in Dunedin. Mills began building "Snipe" sailboats, sleek-hulled vessels designed for racing. He also built his reputation.

- Continued on Page 6



Also in this Issue: Dogs on Women

the Beach

Most dogs love the beach, but not all beaches are for dogs. - page 15

Tools to Ease the Stress of Change

Hypnotherapist Mercedes Locke gives tips for reducing the weight of making life adjustments.

- page 8

Women in Wrestling

Dunedin High School alumni Olivia Goodnow is helping to pave the way for young women in wrestling.



Visit Us Online

- page 12

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DUNEDIN NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS MAGAZINE

Inside, you will find articles and local information about the nearby area. We call it Neighborhood News because it is primarily about our neighborhood, Dunedin. This magazine is printed every other month and direct mailed.

Do you need another copy? Ask for them at the Chamber of Commerce, History Museum, Community Center, Library, and the UPS on Main St. We hope you enjoyed our magazine. We want your input. Did you like this issue? What suggestions do you have for future articles? Call or email us.

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

Thank you for reading,

Lora & Pete Magnani 813-239-6862 Pete@MagriffProductions.com

> SEE YOU AGAIN **IN JULY**



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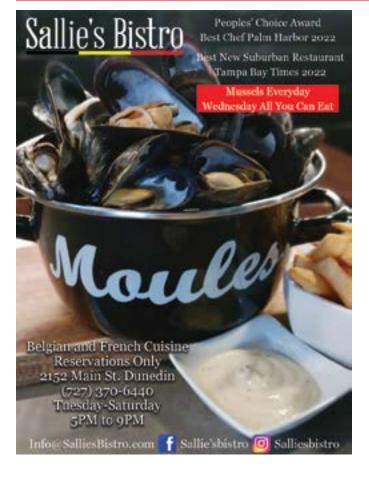
CALENDAR OF HOLIDAYS & EVENTS

As always, this is subject to change.

JUNE

Stone Crab Season EndsIMay DaySea Turtle Nesting Season BeginsISea Turtle Nesting Season BeginsIChamber of Commerce Golf TourneyIHurricane Prep Expo City HallIHog Hustle 5k Hale CenterITampa Bay Chalk Art Fest St. PeteIDerby DayICinco de MayoITeacher Appreciation DayICity Commission MeetingITeacher Fest Edgewater ParkIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII		o Fertilizing June-September urricane Season Begins ity Commission Meeting -Day Anniversary elmont Stakes ag Day .S. Army Birthday BQ and Jazz Fest Clearwater arket Marie Coachman Park ather's Day ikki Glaser at The Sound ity Commission Meeting uneteenth ummer Solstice ingo Starr at the Sound t. Pete Pride Parade /imbledon Begins	156744 14415 15992180 2283
Dunedin Rotary Sprint Triathlon17City Commission Meeting22Decades by the Docks Coachman24Memorial Day26Last Day of Public School29Dunedin Pride Begins30Taste of Clearwater Coachman Park31	Ki Cin In Fi D	iwanis Midnight Causeway Run ity Commission Meeting idependence Day reworks at TD Ballpark ity Commission Meeting unedin Causeway Cleanup ILB All-Star Game	3 4 4 12 15







424 Virginia Lane Next to the Stage at Pioneer Park In "Downtown" Dunedin, Florida (727) 400-6038

Did You Know



SEA TURTLE NESTING SEASON From May 1st through October 31st, Loggerhead Sea turtles successfully nest and hatch along Pinellas County beaches.

Sea turtles can be disoriented by lights visible from the beach causing hatchlings to become attracted inland. When this happens, they most often die of dehydration, predators, or are run over by motor vehicles. Occupants of beachfront properties are asked to minimize the use of lights that shine directly on the beach. Information about turtle-friendly beach lighting from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission can be found in the Sea Turtle Lighting Guidelines on MyFWC.com.

DISCUSSION OF A PINELLAS COUNTY MAYOR

During a commission work session last month, Pinellas County Commissioner Chris Latvala proposed discussion on whether or not the county should continue to be led by a commission-appointed county administrator, as it has since 1964, or if an elected county mayor would be more appropriate. Although most Florida counties utilize a county administrator, several, including Orange, Miami-Dade, and Jacksonville counties have a mayor.

Commissioners agreed to a discussion on the matter. If a measure were placed on the ballot next year and passed, the mayor would take office in 2028.

LETTER CARRIERS FOOD DRIVE Every second Saturday in May, letter carriers in more than 10,000 cities and towns across America collect the goodness and compassion of their postal customers, who participate in the NALC Stamp Out Hunger National Food Drive the largest one-day food drive in the nation.

Led by letter carriers represented by the National Association of Letter Carriers (AFL-CIO), with help from rural letter carriers, other postal employees and other volunteers, the drive has delivered more than 1.82 billion pounds of food the past 30 years.

Carriers collect non-perishable food donations left by mailboxes and in post offices and deliver them to local community food banks, pantries and shelters. Nearly 1,500 NALC branches in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands are involved.

To donate, just place a box or can of non-perishable food next to your mailbox before your letter carrier delivers mail on the second Saturday in May. The carrier will do the rest. The food is sorted, and delivered to an area food bank or pantry, where it is available for needy families.

One in ten Americans face hunger every day in America. This drive is one way you can help those in your own city or town who need help. Visit NALC.org/community-service/food-drive for more information.

and More...



HONORING THE FORMER MAYOR

The Dunedin City Commission was pleased to present the Key to the City to Tom Anderson in April. Anderson served on the city commission from 1990-1994 and as mayor from 1994-2002. He was a member of the Florida House of Representatives from 2002-2010. He was also a member of the Pinellas Planning Council, Pinellas County Sheriff's Advisory Board, Downtown Dunedin Development, and the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council.

Anderson cast the deciding vote in 1995 to abolish the Dunedin Police and affiliate with the Pinellas County Sheriff's office. This controversial decision saved residents millions in tax dollars. He was also focused on utility rates, safety, and keeping the Blue Jays in Dunedin.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE LIBRARY The Dunedin Public Library was established in 1895 thanks to the generosity of Christopher and Nathaniel Bouton, wealthy industrialists from Chicago, IL, who wintered in Dunedin and eventually made it their home. Nathaniel Bouton owned Dunedin's public meeting hall, and on April 25th, 1895, he transferred ownership to the Dunedin Library Association to establish a public library and free reading room. His brother, Christopher, donated the first 200 books from his personal collection. From that time forward, the building became known as Library Hall and was located on the waterfront in what is now Edgewater Park.

The Library has occupied six different buildings and has been at its current location at 223 Douglas Avenue since 1996. A second location, the Dunedin Friends Branch, opened in the Dunedin Community Center at 1920 Pinehurst Road in 2007.

PINELLAS TRAIL RULES Pinellas County had a recordbreaking tourism season in 2024, with over 15.4 million visitors. The increase, combined with the explosion in popularity of electric bikes, scooters, and skateboards has led to a surge in traffic on the Pinellas Trail. Many pedestrians and riders are not aware of the basic rules of the trail.

The Pinellas Trail is open from 7am-sunset every day, and alcoholic beverages are prohibited. Users must obey all traffic controls, signals, and the posted speed limit. The maximum speed allowed is 20 miles per hour. Riders under 16 must wear a helmet, and motorized vehicles (except electric bikes, electric wheelchairs, maintenance, and emergency vehicles) and horses are prohibited. Keep right, pass on the left, and warn before passing. Animals must be kept on a leash no longer than six feet.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US! This is the third anniversary of the Dunedin Neighborhood News Magazine. The publishers would like to thank the readers and advertisers for your support over the years.

We strive to promote local organizations and businesses. If there is anything you feel should published here, email Pete@MagriffProductions.com.





Clark Mills, Continued

At the time, The Clearwater Optimist Club was a civic organization centered around providing activities for local children. This included organizing soap box derby races in town. The premise of the derby was a simple car that could be built by the average father and son as a bonding experience culminating in a downhill children's race. The mostly flat landscape of the area did not lend itself well to races that depended on gravity for propulsion. The vehicle would be used once or twice and before long usually ended up as firewood.

In a 1947 speech to the club, Major Clifford McKay, manager of the local radio station TWAN, laid out a four-point plan to curb juvenile delinquency. His plan included the creation of a baseball diamond, swimming pool, recreation center, and a sailboat competition for young people. McKay's idea for a youth racing competition was born out of his son's love for sailing and both of their frustrations with the soap box derby. McKay believed a sailboat would hold a child's interest much longer and teach them responsibility and self-confidence. The idea was well received by the Optimists, and the next day McKay contacted Mills.

McKay wanted Mills to design a vessel that would cost less than fifty dollars, could be crafted from two regular sheets of plywood, and use a bed sheet for a sail. Mills accepted the challenge and got to the drawing board. His first designs featured the standard pointed bow. Unfortunately, those were not able to keep under the \$50 requirement. Mills squared the bow off to accomplish the goal, and the Optimist Pram was born.

The skiff had a length of seven feet, nine inches and a width of three feet, eight inches, the largest Mills could get out of two sheets of plywood. The sail had an area of about 35 square feet. The pram was steered by a rudder and had a daggerboard, which is a removable keel that added necessary stability and safety in a boat designed for children. Though one sailor could safely operate it, it was designed for a crew of two. Mills sold the plans for \$2.50 each.



First Optimist skipper Clifford McKay, Jr.

Pram racing immediately became popular, with races being sponsored regularly by the Optimist Club. The club also sponsored the first statewide regatta. Mills donated twenty-nine prams for the club's first fleet which were used for early races. In April 1949, a fire swept through the Sea Scout Base where the boats were stored, destroying all but nine. Clearwater residents responded generously, donating enough to replace the twenty burnt vessels and add twenty-two more.

Races were also sponsored by the Dunedin Boat Club, which sponsored the first statewide regatta. Mills donated twelve prams to the City of Dunedin. One of the original twelve has been preserved and is on display at the Dunedin History Museum.



1963 Windmill

Soon, Mills began to consider that the youngsters that had developed a passion for sailing by racing in Optimists and set to work designing a boat for teenagers that has outgrown the original pram. He knew the Snipes he built would be too expensive for the target families, so he reworked the original Optimist into a new boat called the Windmill.

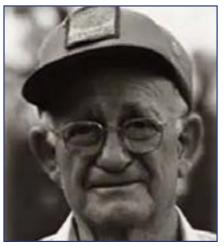
The Windmill could be built out of four sheets of ordinary plywood, had a pointed bow, and two sails. The design resulted in a significantly faster vessel but could still be constructed at home by young sailors from a set of plans. It had a length of 15.5 feet and a width of 4.75 feet. Like the Optimist, it was designed to be crewed by two sailors.

Mills continued designing and building boats of various styles, but his true legacy lies in the boats he designed and crafted for the wellbeing of area youth. Never collecting royalties, his designs have spread all over the world,

with most current Olympic sailors starting out at an early age with his pram design. Today there are more than 500,000 Optimist prams sailing in over 120 countries.

Mills remained in the Clearwater area and passed away on December 11th, 2001, at Morton Plant Hospital at the age of 86. In 2017, he was inducted posthumously into the National Sailing Hall of Fame.

Those interested in Mills' work can visit The McKay Creek Boat Shop at Heritage Village, 11909 125th Street in Largo. Built in 2012 from the plans of one of Mills' boat works, the museum has several of his boats on display, as well as photographs and memorabilia. Woodwright Brewing Company, located in Mills' first shop at 985 Douglas Avenue in Dunedin, also has an Optimist Pram and other Mills memorabilia on display.



NOT JUST FOR THE WEALTHY: ESTATE PLANNING FOR ALL

By Edward Castagna Jr. Esquire

Estate planning isn't reserved for the elderly or ultra-rich - it's for everyone with a vision for their legacy. Whether you're a young parent, part of a blended family, a small business owner, or someone passionate about charity, a thoughtful plan ensures your wishes are honored when you're gone.

For parents, an estate plan names guardians for young children, securing their future if tragedy strikes. Blended families benefit by clarifying inheritances, preventing disputes, and fostering harmony. If you have a special needs child, a trust provides lifelong care without jeopardizing government benefits. Even young adults starting out need plans to designate assets like savings or digital accounts, avoiding legal limbo.

Small business owners can use a revocable living trust to retain continuity. This flexible tool lets you manage assets during your lifetime while designating successors to seamlessly take over, ensuring your business thrives without interruption. Unlike a will, a revocable trust avoids probate, saves time and costs, and keeps your affairs private.

Wealth isn't the point; intention is. Want to support your church or a specific charity, like a local animal shelter or cancer research? Estate planning directs donations to causes close to your heart, ensuring your values live

on. A trust can specify how funds are used - say, for a church's youth programs or a charity's medical outreach, guaranteeing your wishes are carried out precisely. Without a plan, state laws decide asset distribution, often ignoring your deepest priorities.

Estate planning also empowers you during life. A living will outlines medical wishes if you can't speak. Powers of attorney assign trusted people to manage finances or care. These steps ease burdens on loved ones, regardless of your age or net worth.

Start today. Consult an attorney, draft a will, and explore trusts. Estate planning lets you protect your family, sustain your business, and leave a lasting impact on your community, whether that's through your children's future or a charity's mission. Your legacy reflects who you are, not just what you own.



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laimee Lyon Photography







CHANGE IS WHAT YOU MAKE IT

By Mercedes Locke, CHt, CCHt, CTHt

Change is hard, right? Or is it? I mean, we've all heard that before, even in our own heads as we face change. However, the truth about change is that it is constant and inevitable. Change is going to happen a lot in our lives, so why approach it as if it is hard? I see clients suffering with this way all too often. They express desire for change, but before they take one step forward, they've scared themselves out of it by bemoaning how hard it is going to be. Here are three tips I offer those who are struggling to make lasting changes, big or small.



1. **Rename it**. Words matter. Use empowering language when facing change. Reframing the words we use around change helps us to also reframe our thoughts about change. It is easy to fall victim to thinking change is hard when we are repeating that phrase to ourselves and others. What if we replaced "hard" with "challenging," or better yet, "interesting"? Our actions will follow our thoughts, so rather than preparing to battle change by believing it is "hard," instead sail through it easily by focusing on positive language to describe it. Just watch what happens when you decide change is no longer "hard" but instead is "fun and exciting!"

2. Chunk it. Focusing only on the big picture of change can make it seem overwhelming and daunting. However, a powerful strategy when facing big change is to chunk it down into smaller, much more manageable pieces. Take moving, for example. That's a big change with lots of steps and actions. If you allow yourself to get stuck thinking about all you need to do to complete a successful move - packing, organizing, moving, unpacking, etc. - you may feel very stressed. But, if you focus on just one small, actionable step - like getting boxes - you are more apt to feel like you can easily complete that step and move onto the next one. We all like to check items off our to-do list, so make a long list with lots of items to check off and you have turned something that was once hard into something that helps you feel confident, successful and accomplished! Soon you will see that lots of small changes add up to big ones over time.

3. Gain to lose. Change can feel difficult if we are focusing on what we will lose when we change. Turning instead to what you will actually gain by making the change can really get you through the discomfort, and even help you stay motivated to stick with it. Take quitting smoking, for example. Thinking about giving up what you enjoy about smoking makes you feel like you are losing too much by quitting. It takes our rational thoughts about how bad smoking is for us and changes them into justifiable reasons why we cannot quit. So, ditch the thoughts about what you'll be missing out on and turn instead to that which you will gain. By putting the focus on all the benefits you are offering yourself, you are much more likely to feel excited about staying on track.

The next time you are facing change, remember, you are in the driver's seat. How you react to the change means a lot. Now you have a few tools in your toolbox to successfully navigate what changes life may throw at you.

If you would like to learn more about how hypnotherapy can offer you solutions to creating long lasting and meaningful change, go to MercedesLockeHypnotherapy.com and book a free phone consultation today.

Bar & Restaurant News

WINNER WINNER BRISKET DINNER Congratulations to Chef Cameron Capri and Q Southern BBQ, at 664 Main Street, on winning first place in the inaugural "Battle Smokehouse" category at the Tampa Bay Wine and Food Festival held at Curtis Hixon Park on April 11th. Celebrity Chef and talk show host, Robert Irvine, of "Dinner: Impossible, Worst Cooks in America," and "Restaurant: Impossible"



on the Food Network was the host of the evening. Brisket was the name of the game in this competition.

Chef Capri's smoked Texas-style brisket, burnt ends, mac & cheese, homemade spicy pickles, and sweet guava pickled onion sandwich took the #1 spot over Chef Bryan Jacobs, of Liberty Smokehouse in Tampa, who made a Brisket Bao (Vietnamese sandwich with an American BBQ twist).

Q Southern BBQ celebrated their five-year anniversary in February and recently announced that they will be opening a new location at 3780 Tampa Rd in Oldsmar. Follow the new restaurant's progress on Face book or QSouthernBBQ.com. Their Dunedin hours are Thursday - Saturday Noon-9pm and Sunday Noon-8pm. For catering, take-out orders, and questions call (727) 734-7227.

PIZZA AND A SHOW Corvo Bianco Wood Fired Pizza has a new venue for their fresh food, Ruth Eckerd Hall. Guests can try one of their signature pizzas or made-to-order items including cheeseburgers, salads, charcuterie plates, and more. Corvo is also bringing back their brunch menu on Saturdays and Sundays from 11am-2pm. They have a Bloody Mary and Mimosa Bar, pancake and sausage dippers, the Kevie pizza, a bacon, egg, and fresh mozzarella, pizza sprinkled with everything bagel seasoning, and more.

Corvo Bianco is located at 901 Curlew Road and are open Wednesday-Sunday with happy hour Wednesday-Friday. Follow them on Facebook for specials and to find the location of their mobile food truck. Visit CorvoBianco.pizza for hours of operation.

PRIDE LUAU The Honu, at 516 Grant Street, is hosting their annual "Ladies Pride Luau" on Wednesday June 4th from 6-9pm. Tickets are available on the Chamber of Commerce website at DunedinFL.com, They are \$40 and include a Luau Show with Hula dancers, a signature drink and festive swag. There will be a limited menu and a Luau Dinner plate for purchase. Follow them on Facebook for more specials and upcoming events.

KITCHEN REOPENS Hurricane Eddie's on the Dunedin Causeway announced that their kitchen has officially reopened. This location began serving food right before Hurricane Helene, but after the storm surge they had to start over. The menu includes their famous wings, 1/4 pound hot dogs, deli sandwiches, burgers, wraps, grouper sandwiches, and more.

Corvo Bianco is located at 300 Causeway Blvd. Follow them on Facebook or call (727) 221-0001 for more information on specials and entertainment.

RESTAURANT NEWS WANTED If your restaurant has news or an upcoming event we can include in this News Magazine, please e-mail Lora@MagriffProductions.com or call (813) 361-7376.







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FROM CLUTTERED TO COVETED: HOW ONE COUPLE'S DOWNSIZE LED TO A BIG WIN

By Alison Ross Tompkins, Broker Associate for Coldwell Banker

When Bob and Maureen decided to sell their Clearwater home of 30 years, they felt overwhelmed. "Where do we even start?" Maureen sighed, staring at the boxes stacked in the garage. The thought of downsizing - and staging their home to sell - felt like climbing a mountain.

That's where I came in. As a Senior Real Estate Specialist, Broker Associate, and professional stager, I've guided countless



homeowners through this exact transition. I assured them, "We'll take this one step at a time."

Step One: Less is More

The first challenge? Years of accumulated treasures. With my vetted resources, together we created three categories: Keep, Donate, and Sell. Maureen had a hard time letting go of her beloved family collections - until she realized her daughter would appreciate the crystal, her nephew liked her father's camera and gem collection, and her granddaughter even found a doll that she cherished. A win-win all around!

Step Two: Staging Magic

Once we had streamlined their belongings, it was time to showcase their home's beauty. I took down the lovely decorator window treatments that were now faded, dusty and out of date. I hired my flooring company to remove the wall-to-wall carpeting and polish the hardwood floors underneath. Maureen teared up when she saw the sunlight pouring through the windows and reflecting from the floor. She laughed and said, "This is exactly how the house looked when I first fell in love with it. What a great memory. We moved furniture around to create positive energy flow, added fresh flowers, and removed a bush that allowed more curb appeal." Bob added, "Why didn't we do this years ago?"

Step Three: The Big Reveal

When their home hit the market, the results were instant - multiple tours were scheduled, two offers in the first weekend! The buyers raved about how spacious and inviting the home felt. Maureen beamed, "We thought this would be stressful, but it's been the best decision we've made."

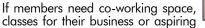
Bob and Maureen are now happily settled in a beautiful, right-sized home. Their story is proof that downsizing isn't about losing, it's about gaining freedom.

Thinking about selling? Let's make your transition just as smooth, and maybe even fun! Call me today for a free consultation!

AlisonRoss Thompkins, Broker Associate for Coldwell Banker, has been in sales and Real Estate for 30 years. Reach her on her cell at (727) 729-9942 or at the Belleair/Dunedin offices at (727) 581-9411.

Business Briefs

CHAMBER WELCOMES NEW TEAM MEMBER Kayla Knutson, the "Hub Coordinator," is the newest member of the Dunedin Chamber of Commerce's staff, and the final person to complete the Chamber Team's transformation. She holds a degree in English Education and is fluent in Spanish. Over the past 14 years, she has spent her time empowering women and teaching business skills through her work at Mary Kay Cosmetics.



ideas, and have a strong desire to be a part of the "entrepreneurial community," she can help. She is also the main contact for space rental such as the Board Room.

Kayla is excited to continue building community and connection here in Dunedin through her work at The Hub. Please feel free to reach out to her at Hub@dunedinfl.com for any of your business needs.

HISTORIC HOTEL TO BE REBUILT After back-to-back hurricanes, owners of the iconic 68-year-old Thunderbird Beach Resort at 10700 Gulf Blvd on Treasure Island announced due to the catastrophic damage the property would be demolished. Over 80% of the resort was severely damaged. This is not a "goodbye," though, for the Thunderbird's loyal patrons, but a "see you later."

"We are committed to rebuilding the Thunderbird Beach Resort with the same heart, soul, and charm that guests have come to love - while enhancing the property to be more resilient to the challenges posed by severe weather. The resort's iconic name and neon signage will remain, and our redesigned beachfront resort will continue to offer direct beach access and the welcoming atmosphere that has defined the Thunderbird for decades," owners Avi and Gilad Ovaknin said. They plan to share progress updates on the Thunderbird Beach Resort Facebook page.

LOCAL BUSINESS RECOGNIZED Congratulations to VIP Property Home Watch of Dunedin on earning an accreditation for its Home Watch services from the National Home Watch Association. Home Watch is a visual inspection of a home or property, looking for obvious issues at vacation and/or primary homes while owners are not in the residence. All principals of NHWA Accredited Member companies are background-checked, insured, and bonded.

Owners Pierre and Johanne Marciszewski, say they are Canadian at heart but have been American souls for many years. Since their youth, Pierre and Johanne spent their vacations in Florida and now live here year-round. Pierre and Johanne have owned residences in Pinellas County for over thirteen years.

VIP Property Home Watch serves many Pinellas communities and beaches. They can be reached at (727) 424-2988 or VIP. Property.Surveillance@gmail.com. Learn more from their website, VIPPropertyHomeWatch.com.

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WRESTLING - NOT JUST FOR THE BOYS ANYMORE

By Lora Magnani, Publisher

Wrestling is one of the oldest sports in history, dating back nearly 5000 years to the Sumerians. For the Greeks, wrestling was a science and a divine art, and it represented the most important training for young men. During the Ancient Olympic Games, wrestling was the decisive discipline of the Pentathlon. It was the last event to be held after the discus, javelin, the long jump and the foot race. The winner of the Pentathlon was the only crowned athlete of the Games.

It wasn't until the 2004 Athens Olympic Games that worldwide wrestling would acknowledge female wrestling as an Olympics sport. Women's wrestling has seen significant growth since then, with figures quintupling since 2013. In the 2023-2024 school year the number of female high school wrestlers more than doubled from the 2021-2022 school year, from 31,654 to 65,257.



One of those trailblazing women is a Dunedin native Olivia Goodnow, a Dunedin High School (DHS) graduate (Class of 2013) who teaches autistic students at DHS and San Jose Elementary. Her passion for wrestling began before she entered high school.



When asked what got her started in the sport, she replied "I became interested in wrestling my 8th grade year when a family friend, Marc Allison, introduced me to it. He was the head wrestling coach at DHS at the time and asked me to be a wrestling manager. And that was it, I have been involved with the sport ever since." This last school year (2024-2025) Olivia was named the Head Coach of the Varsity Girl's Wrestling team.

Wrestling is part of the Goodnow household. Her husband Kyle Goodnow, also a DHS graduate (class of 2012), started wrestling his freshman year. He was also brought on by Coach Allison. Kyle won the state championship his senior year at 170lbs. Kyle and Olivia have been married since 2018 and are parents of four - Ava, 11, Levi, 10, and twins Easton and Nolan, 6. Kyle is currently the Boy's Junior Varsity Wrestling Coach at DHS.

"I think I can speak for both of us when I say our favorite part of the sport is the family it creates. It is a much smaller community compared to most sports in Florida. And, once you're in, you are a part of the wrestling family for life," Coach Olivia states. "I also love how competitive the sport of wrestling is, and how it involves no other equipment besides your mind, body, and the strength you have worked hard to obtain."

Wrestling is one of the fastest growing women's sport in the country. When asked what she hopes the sport will bring to these young ladies or what they might gain from it, Coach Olivia responded "I think it is so important for young girls to know they are strong and can accomplish hard things. Wrestling is extremely physical, but it is even more mental. Allowing young girls to push their physical and mental toughness to their limits and put blood, sweat, and tears into their sport will challenge them to practice a tremendous amount of resilience and create good habits for later in life."

During the off season (March-October), coaches Olivia and Kyle, along with coaches Alex Lebhar, Colin Grantham, and Luis Ayala, run the Talon Wrestling Club (TWC) so the kids can practice all year. They use the wrestling room in the DHS gym as their practice facility. The club is open to boys and girls from kindergarten to high school with any level of experience. Find the club on Facebook under Talon Wrestling Club or reach out to any of the coaches for more information. It is only \$25 a month and a great way for kids to get started in wrestling. Over the summer, they travel to tournaments and camps around the state. They try to get all their athletes plenty of mat time and different coaching perspectives. "So far, there has been an amazing response from our athletes and parents and we hope to continue to grow our numbers in the next few months," said Coach Olivia.

All the Goodnow children wrestle with the TWC. "They love it!" says their proud mother. "They have grown up around the sport and on the mat. It has been fun watching them learn to love wrestling as much as we do. We are excited to watch them grow year by year and see the progress they make as they too become leaders in the wrestling room."



NEARLY A CENTURY ON THE WATER: DECOMISSIONING THE DUNEDIN BOAT CLUB CLUBHOUSE

By Commissioner Rob Walker

On Friday, April 11th, city officials, club members, local business leaders, and community residents gathered along the peninsula for a heartfelt ceremony marking a significant moment in Dunedin's maritime history the official decommissioning of the Dunedin Boat Club Clubhouse. The event only honored not the building itself but the legacy



of the Dunedin Boat Club, which has been a cornerstone of our boating community since its founding on September 3rd, 1929.

As proclaimed by Mayor Maureen "Moe" Freaney and the City Commission, April 11th is now recognized as Dunedin Boat Club Day, a tribute to the nearly 100 years of history that the Club and its members have contributed to our city. The proclamation acknowledged the Club's foundational role in promoting sailing and community spirit in the waters that surround Dunedin, beginning with its original charter in 1929.

At the heart of the celebration-and the commemoration-was the Clubhouse itself, a storied structure built by its own members in 1938. Recognized in 2008 for its historical significance locally and across the state of Florida, the Clubhouse is the oldest boat club building on the west coast of Florida and one of the oldest buildings in all of Dunedin. As noted in an article that appeared in this very newsletter two years ago, the Clubhouse has long stood as a symbol of camaraderie, resilience, and a shared love for the sea.

Sadly, in the fall of 2024, that historic structure suffered catastrophic damage from back-to-back hurricanes Helene and Milton. The one-two punch of these powerful storms made restoration impractical, and the Dunedin Boat Club, in consultation with city officials, made the difficult decision to decommission the Clubhouse.

During the ceremony, speakers emphasized that this is not the end of the Dunedin Boat Club's legacy—but rather a new chapter. Like the tide, the Club has experienced its share of ebbs and flows. In 1984, a revitalized membership brought fresh energy and vision to the organization, launching a new era of exploration, racing, and celebration on the water. Today, with more than 400 active members, that momentum continues strong.

The city reaffirmed its support for preserving the memory and impact of the Clubhouse through a Historical Landmark designation, as well as its commitment to helping build a resilient future for the Dunedin Boat Club. Plans that include the design of a new building are already being developed and considered for how best to honor the site and support the Club as it continues to shape boating in Dunedin for the next generation.

As the sun set over St. Joseph Sound on April 11th, toasts were made, stories were shared, and a solemn but hopeful farewell was offered to a building that has served as both a literal and symbolic home to thousands over the decades.

The sea remains, the spirit remains - and the legacy of the Dunedin Boat Club lives on.

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Community News

STUDIO 1212 ART GALLERY

Submitted by Collen Baxter

Studio 1212 Art Gallery at 234 Monroe Street in Downtown Dunedin, Florida announces a new Exhibit titled "Playing." Free and open to the public, join the award-winning artists at their opening reception on Sunday, May 18th from 1-4pm. Enjoy a light buffet with wine and other beverages while viewing the fine art. This show will be open to the public through July 6th, Wednesdays through Sundays from 11am-3pm.

This charming boutique gallery also offers unique gift items such as small art originals and prints, hand-made jewelry, note cards, journal notebooks, and tote bags. View additional art and gallery sponsored events at Studio1212.org.

COAST GUARD AUXILIARY FLOTILLA DUNEDIN

Submitted by Gordon Thomas

Boat America Course - Saturday and Sunday 9am-1pm Must attend both of these days.

- May 3rd and 4th
- June 7th and 8th

Basic Navigation Courses - 9am-noon Saturday only

- May 24th
- June 28th

All courses are given at the Dunedin Marina, 51 Main Street, second floor on the north side. Call (727) 736-1191 or email PublicEducation1110@gmail.com for further details.



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STIRLING ART STUDIOS AND GALLERY

Artist Fran Failla will be exhibiting at Stirling Art Studios & Gallery during the month of June. The theme of the exhibit is "Old World, Tin and Metaphor."

The Second Saturday reception will be held June 14th from noon-3pm. Enjoy light appetizers and wine while meeting the artist and viewing the exhibit.

The studio is located at 730 Broadway on the second floor. Visit StirlingArtStudiosandGallery.com for more information.

CLEARWATER YACHT CLUB (CYC)

Save the date for ARC Day on Saturday, May 10th from 10am-2pm at CYC. The Arc Tampa Bay serves individuals with a range of intellectual and developmental disabilities including autism, seniors, and those with intense behavioral issues.

ARC Day is a fun outing for the clients of The Arc Tampa Bay where Clearwater Marine Aquarium gives pontoon boat rides, CYC opens the pool, JR Connections preforms, and generous sponsors throw a BBQ on the Tiki Deck.

If you would like to donate or volunteer at ARC Day, please reach out to the CYC office at (727) 447-6000.

DUNEDIN FINE ART CENTER

Submitted by Cassie Combs

Join the Dunedin Fine Art Center for our annual Trashy Treasures weekend, May 16th-17th from 6-9pm! To kick off this year's Trashy Treasures art "garage sale," the Dunedin Fine Art Center will be hosting Trashy Treasures: Bargains & Brews Night, a silent auction party that showcases the best of best Trashy Treasures finds! Guests will enjoy an evening of live music, family fun, a free drink, and complimentary food from local restaurants and community partners such as Clear Sky Draught Haus, Lane's Lemonade, SaltBlock Hospitality, and more.

This lively evening offers an exclusive opportunity to bid on select artworks and features some of the most desirable pieces donated for the big Trashy Treasures sale. Grab a bite and mingle with Tampa Bay's vibrant community and fellow art enthusiasts. All proceeds from Trashy Treasures support local artists and enhance DFAC's exhibition and education programming.

Tickets cost \$16 for members, \$20 for non-members, and \$10 for children. Each ticket includes complimentary food and one free beverage from our full bar. For tickets, visit DFAC.org/event.

Trashy Treasures: The Big Sale is on Saturday, May 17th, entry is free. Members get in early at 9am, doors open to everyone from 10am-2pm. Membership cards are required to get in early. If you don't have your card, contact nicholas@dfac.org to get a copy.

This is Tampa Bay's Most Beloved Art Garage Sale featuring art, art supplies, frames, books, & more! Join us for a chance to purchase once-loved art, art supplies, books and so much more at DFAC. This annual event is Dunedin's biggest rummage sale and is a wonderful opportunity to purchase decor for your home, revamp your art supplies, or grab a book.

All proceeds from Trashy Treasures support Dunedin Fine Art Center's education/exhibition programming and operations, enabling us to fulfill our mission.

Visit DFAC.org for more information.

KNOW THE RULES ABOUT WOOFS & WATER



By Lora Magnani, Publisher

One of the most relaxing and uplifting things to see is a dog frolicking in the waves, wagging its tail so proud of the stick it just retrieved. It is also great to see the many newcomers moving to or just visiting the Pinellas beaches again. It feels like things are getting back to normal. With that being said, dogs are not welcome on all beaches, and this is unclear to some.

In Pinellas County, non-service dogs are generally prohibited on beaches, unless designated dog-friendly. Violating the ordinance can result in fines up to \$500 and up to 60 days in jail per offense. The pet can also be taken into custody and turned over to Animal Control. Additional fines include failure to clean up after pets and not having pets on leashes. It is also a second degree misdemeanor for intentionally misrepresenting a pet as a service animal.

Don't worry though, there are plenty of places you can take your water-loving dog and still get to enjoy the Gulf. Honeymoon Island State Park in Dunedin, is one of the state parks that has a designated "Dog Beach." It is located at the southernmost point of the park and has views of Caladesi Island and Hurricane Pass. The beach is shallow enough for pups to wade and play while cooling down in the crystal-clear water, just be sure to keep them on a sixfoot leash. The park and dog beach are open 365 days a year from 8am until sunset.

Fort DeSoto Park, just south of St. Pete Beach, is a county park that has been named one of the best dog parks in the south by Southern Living magazine. The Paw Playground is a fenced off area where pups can play off-leash, it has separate areas for small and large breeds, with its own private beach. It also has K-9 friendly water fountains and cooling stations. Dogs are welcome anywhere in the park, provided they are on a six-foot leash, except the main beaches. The Paw Playground is located next to the Fort, is open year-round (except on Christmas and Thanksgiving) from 7am to sunset, unless otherwise posted. The park also has many amenities such as camping, playgrounds, picnic areas, lifeguards, and much more.

Many causeways are pet friendly, such as Tarpon Spring's Fred Howard Park, with a mile-long stretch before the park where dogs are welcome. Another dog-friendly spot is North Clearwater Beach. North beach begins at Somerset Street and has public parking. However, North Beach has no restrooms, showers, or spots to discard your poop bags. For more information, visit Pinellas.Gov/dog-parks.



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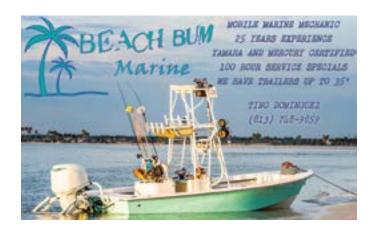
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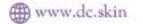
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