



St. Pete Beach eNews

The Official Electronic Newsletter of St. Pete Beach

May 23, 2014

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Pass-A-Grille Community
Design Fair
5/29 & 5/30 9a-4p
Commission Chambers

POOL INFORMATION

Water temp. always 82°!

HOURS

Adult Lap Swim
Monday-Friday
7a-10a

M-Th 11a-4p (1 lane)
6-7p (3 lanes)
Fri. 11a-6p

Open Swim
Mon.-Fri.
10-11a

(Activity Pool Area Only)
M-Th 11a-4p, Fri 11a-6p

Sat. 10a-3p
Sun. 12-3p

Water Aerobics
Tues./Wed./Thurs.
10:15-11am
\$5 SPB Res./\$6 Non-Res.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Held at City Hall

City Commission
Egan Park Improvements
Workshop
May 27, 5p,
Regular meeting at 6p

Board of Adjustment
May 28, 2p

CITY OFFICES CLOSED
MONDAY, 5/26
FOR MEMORIAL DAY

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@spb_gov.

-EGAN PARK IMPROVEMENTS WORKSHOP MEETING - With the assistance of the Trust for Public Land (TPL) the City purchased a 0.68-acre parcel (9001 Blind Pass Road) located adjacent to the City's Egan Park in 2009. The purchase price for this property was partially offset by a \$200,000 Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant recommended by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and approved by the National Park Service (NPS). One of the stipulations of accepting this grant money was that the City will make park improvements to the property.

City staff put together an initial concept in 2009 to utilize for various grant applications and we were successful in receiving another grant from SWFWMD in the amount of \$243,750 for the project. In November 2013 the City Commission authorized the City Manager to accept a proposal from Land & Water Engineering Science (LWES) to assist the City in finalizing a conceptual design for the Egan Park Improvement project. This preliminary work has now been completed and a **City Commission Workshop has been set for Tuesday, May 27th at 5pm in City Hall** to discuss the project. As always, we encourage the public to attend and provide input.

-PASS-A-GRILLE COMMUNITY DESIGN FAIR - Drop by the Commission Chambers in City Hall any time between 9a-4p on May 29th and May 30th - kick off introduction at 9am both days. Help chart a course for Pass-A-Grille with Design Standards and more. Read more about the project [here](#).

-LIBRARY NEWS & EVENTS - Monday, library closed in honor of Memorial Day; Tuesday, 10:30 am, Book Discussion Group film, *Mystic River*; Thursday, 11:00 am, Mother Goose Story Time for ages 0-3; Thursday, 4:00 pm, *I Want to Be a Skeeter Reader*, reading therapy dog for beginning readers.

-ROBOTICS TEAM - On Saturday, May 17, The St Pete Beach Lego Terrestrial robotics team competed in World Robofest at Lawrence Tech University in Detroit Michigan. They competed against 31 other teams from Korea, India, Canada, and other states in the US and finished in 9th place!

The team consisted of (l to r) Shane Fort, Alex Carroll, Charlie Kidder and Kayla Oates. The program and trip would not of been possible without the tremendous support we received in the community. Special thanks to Lorraine Huhn, Hurricane Restaurant, Riptides, Swigwam, Ricks Reef and finally to Jim and Leslie Parent. The Recreation Department will be continuing the program with the next being the Robotics summer camp and many new classes beginning in September for all abilities.



-QI GONG CLASS AT WARREN WEBSTER IN PASS-A-GRILLE - The St. Pete Beach Recreation Department has added a new class at the Warren Webster facility in Pass-A-Grille, 1500 Pass-A-Grille Way. Qi Gong is an ancient Chinese health care system that integrates slow graceful movements, breathing techniques and deep relaxation. Class is held every Tuesday 8:30-10am. The cost is only \$10 per class. Join anytime. For more information call Joyce Lockwood at 727-433-9237 or email lockwoodjoyce@yahoo.com.

-PASS-A-GRILLE WAY RECONSTRUCTION - The City Commission decided to fund preliminary planning for Pass-A-Grille Way reconstruction from Cabrillo Ave to 19th Ave this year. This preliminary work has been completed and a public meeting was held on Wednesday, 4/2/14, at the Warren Webster. Prior to beginning any actual design engineering for the project, City staff is encouraging people to provide input on the project. We invite them to [review the initial presentation and complete a public input form](#).



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A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR MARIA LOWE - Summer is upon us! Some schools have already **started** summer vacation; some snowbirds are already flying north; and the thermometer continues to rise!! Summer time brings a new pulse to beach tourism and local residents wake for earlier morning dog walks to beat the heat. But before we settle into the cozy humidity of lazy summer days, I want to take a moment to reflect on this coming holiday weekend -- Memorial Day.

Memorial Day originated to commemorate military service members who gave their lives to protect and defend our nation. We enjoy our freedoms and liberties because of the sacrifices of these men, women, and their families. As our flags fly at half-staff on Monday, please take a moment to pause in respect. As a veteran myself, I have experienced the loss of life firsthand on the battlefield. While the grief is poignant, I find myself grateful for every opportunity to walk our beaches with my toes in the sand as I say a wistful "thank you" in memory of my friends and colleagues that no longer enjoy the sun on their face or the hugs of their kids. I miss them. I attempt to honor them by living a vibrant life taking advantage of all the freedoms they protected for you and for me. This weekend, please raise a toast to those who gave the most!!

Though Memorial Day is not specifically set aside as a day to commemorate our public servants, their sacrifices are no less significant than those in military service. While our military protects our nation abroad, our local public safety teams keep our homes and roads safe. Thus, I want to extend a heart felt "THANK YOU" to our City of St Pete Beach Firefighters and our Sheriff's deputies. In the past two weeks alone, our firefighters and Sherriff's deputies have responded to two severe traffic accidents: one where a life was saved and one where two lives were lost. Our firefighters revived a motorcyclist on our city streets and saved his life. But only a week later, our firefighters and deputies responded to an accident on the Bayway Bridge where the lives of two men were tragically lost upon impact as a result of a head on collision. I am incredibly proud of our public safety teams. I admire their tenacity in persevering in their duties no matter how traumatic the event. Please take a moment to extend your regards to these men and women and let them know how much their efforts are valued.

Finally, I offer a reminder of caution. Please do not drink and drive...car, boat, motorcycle!! Please rest before a long voyage so you are alert on the busy roads as you travel. Please protect yourself with sunscreen from our sunshine rays!! Happy Memorial Day!!

Maria Lowe
Mayor SPB

MAYOR'S EVENTS OF THE PAST WEEK:

16 MAY 2014 GUY HARVEY OUTPOST: RUM FISH GRILL "TANKED" DEBUT - Keith Overton's team at Rum Fish Grill out did themselves as they welcomed many locals to share the evening premier of "Tanked" on Animal Planet where their new fish tank was featured. Guy Harvey himself was present to participate in the festivities as his master piece artwork invited guests to visual delights. Gabriel shared his ten year old perspective of the fish tanks, "OUTRAGEOUSLY, TOTALLY WICKED, AWESOME"!!! So if you get a chance, you may enjoy an evening on the large decks with a few tasty appetizers!! Our family sure did!!



17 MAY 2014 SUNCOAST LEAGUE OF CITIES - Gerald and I enjoyed an evening with our regional colleagues at the Tampa History Museum learning about the progress made by the Florida League of Cities in the last state congressional session. One highlight included recognition of U.S. Representative Bilirakis for his efforts in reducing the burden of flood insurance.

21 MAY 2014 CAFE SOLEIL RIBBON CUTTING - Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce hosted another fine afternoon event to welcome the newest business in Dolphin Village - Cafe Soleil. The pastries were impeccable and the French cafe setting was inviting!!! Lauren and her family represent the entrepreneurial spirit of our small business community that keeps our city unique with high caliber specialties!!