



# St. Pete Beach eNews

*The Official Electronic Newsletter of St. Pete Beach*

**May 30, 2014**

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Summer Dive In Movies

June 13

Finding Nemo

Doors open at 8pm, cost \$4

Aquatic Center

## 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

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Historic Preservation

June 5, 3:30p

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City Commission

Workshop

June 10 4p-5:30p,

Regular meeting at 6p

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Planning Board

June 17, 4p

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@spb\_gov.

**-MASTER PUMP STATION PUMP REPLACEMENT** - The City is now under construction to replace four pumps at the wastewater Master Pump Station. The old pumps failed late last year and need to be replaced. The Master Pump Station has been on bypass pumping until the engineering could be completed, a contractor selected and all of the parts ordered and on site. The project is expected to take three months and be completed in early September 2014. The Master Pump Station is a critical piece of the wastewater collection system. Literally all of the City's wastewater flows through this Station (2.67 MGD) to the City of St. Petersburg Northwest Water Reclamation Facility. Total project cost is \$928,039 and is being funding from the Wastewater Enterprise Fund, which secures its revenue through wastewater user fees.

**-WORKSHOP HELD ON EGAN PARK PROJECT** - On Tuesday May 27<sup>th</sup> Steve Hallock, Director of Public Services presented plans for the Egan Park Project to the Commission and residents. It was decided the project would be phased in over the next 2 years, since in addition to grant money received, CIP funding will also be needed to complete the project in its entirety. It was also decided the moving of the boat ramp will be delayed to a future date.

**-LIBRARY NEWS & EVENTS** - Monday, 5:30 pm, An Evening at the Movies, *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*; Tuesday, 11:00 am, The Internet and Medical Information, Thomas Gadacz MD, A.S.P.E.C.; Wednesday, signup begins for summer reading programs (adults, teens, children, listeners) Thursday, 11:00 am, Mother Goose Story Time for ages 0-3 (summer); Thursday, 4:00 pm, *I Want to Be a Skeeter Reader*, reading therapy dog for beginning readers; Friday, 11:00 am, E-Reader Hour, staff help getting library e-books for Kindle, Nook, iPad, etc.

**-MASTERS TENNIS** - Every Monday at 10am at Lazarillo Park, come out and join a fun group in a newly adaptive form of tennis. It is Free and we provide the equipment. Call us at 727-363-9245 for more details.

**-FROM THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE** - Please lock your car doors and stow valuables out of sight. Check out the [Sheriff's website](#) for access to programs and services to learn how to protect yourself, your family and your possessions. To contact our Community Policing Officer call 582-5721.

**-FAMILY FUN DAY AT THE POOL** - on Sunday, June 22nd from 12-3pm. Come enjoy music, family fun, slides, pool basketball, pool bingo and much more. Regular admission applied for entry in the event.



**-COMMISSIONER FINNERTY SPOKE AT AMERICAN LEGION POST 305** - Commissioner Terri Finnerty spoke on Memorial Day at the annual ceremony held at American Legion Post 305. She spoke about her hometown hero, Gunnery Sgt. John Basilone, known as Manila John. Basilone was killed on February 19, 1945 the day the USMC invaded Iwo Jima. He was the only enlisted Marine in World War II to receive the Navy Cross, Purple Heart and Congressional Medal of Honor. She also traced the history of Memorial Day and talked about how this holiday has lost some of its significance. She made suggestions as to how we can, as a country, commit ourselves to doing everything possible to aid and honor our fighting men and women who are making tremendous sacrifices to protect the freedoms we have all come to enjoy every day.



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**-DOMINICK "RICK" FALKENSTEIN IS SWORN IN AS DISTRICT #2 COMMISSIONER** - After interviewing four candidates to fill the remaining 10 months of the District #2 term which became vacant when Commissioner Jim Parent resigned; the Commission selected Mr. Falkenstein. On Tuesday, May 27, 2014 he was sworn in as Commissioner.



**A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR MARIA LOWE - MONDAY, 26 MAY 2014, TRASHY TRASH** - Memorial Day proved to be a booming beach day for our city. Visitors from near and far frolicked on our beaches and bathed in the warm sun. Unfortunately, with the large numbers of people came a large amount of litter, some of which was left in mass quantity on our beach and around our trash bins. A good bit of media attention followed and I am grateful of the awareness brought to this serious issue so that our community can respond appropriately. So what is the city doing about this?? A WHOLE LOT!!! The good news is that the city was already aware that we had some "cleaning up" to do!! The city has began a three pronged process: 1) Policy 2) Public Notice 3) Enforcement.

Nearly two months ago, our planning board began the process of review regarding our beach ordinances. The main focus of this ordinance is to give clear and concise guidance for visitors regarding use of the beach. Remember, many hotels, restaurants, and bars own a portion of the beach but all of the beach has public access requirements. So any solution must be a collaborative public/private solution to keep our beaches well monitored. The planning board meets on 17 June 2014 to consider this issue. Once the policy is updated, the city and businesses can work together to ensure signs mark the boundaries to give public notice to all patrons of the beach about what is NOT allowed on the beach such as alcohol, litter, and pets. Once the signs are posted, the Sherriff's Office can then begin enforcement.

Another aspect of keeping our beaches clean is keeping up with the pick up!! Our waste management teams worked non-stop for 14 HOURS last Saturday!!! WOW...I was so impressed with their dedication to keep our trash cans empty. However, even that was not sufficient to maintain pace with the amount of disposal. But rest assured, the City Manager is already on top of this issue! The waste management teams will increase pick up frequency on the weekends and especially on holiday weekends to help keep our trash bins and dumpsters empty!

What about you...What can you do?? Our city is graced with many, many volunteers who use their own time to walk the beaches with trash bags to pick up the rubbish...THANK YOU!!! Our hotels send their employees out on the beaches to pick up the waste. Our Sheriff's Deputies patrol the beaches and even pick up litter along the way. We must ALL be committed to our roles as COMMUNITY STEWARDS OF THE BEACH!! Our beaches are our most valuable assets and it's going to take all of us to keep them beautiful for generations to come.

**-TUESDAY, 27 MAY 2014, COUNTY COMMISSIONER KAREN SEEL VISITS ST. PETE BEACH** I had the pleasure of sharing lunch at the Tradewinds Beach Resort with Pinellas County Commissioner Karen Seel. We discussed beach renourishment and the dilemma our city faces about the Corps of Engineers request for a perpetual easement at T-groin #5 that could lead to a decrement of 10% of our allocation of beach renourishment sand. Commissioner Seel is dedicated to our coastal beaches and I felt encouraged by the County's commitment to our shorelines. THANK YOU COMMISSIONER SEEL for taking the time to visit St. Pete Beach and listening to our concerns!



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## **MAYOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUED. . .**

**-WEDNESDAY, 28 MAY 2014, BARRIER ISLANDS GOVERNMENT COUNCIL** - The Mayors and Commissioners of the Barrier Islands gathered at Archibald Park in Madeira Beach for a seaside Big C Bonanza. Mayor Palladeno and his staff at Madeira Beach created a festive setting for the serious discussion topics facing our coastal communities. Mayor Bill Queen of North Redington Shores keeps abreast of pedestrian safety concerns while also working with our very own Dr. Finnerty to establish the Big C Website designed by St. Pete Beach's Digital Eel. Take a look at their fine work at [www.barrierislandscouncil.com](http://www.barrierislandscouncil.com). The council also received an update from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission about upcoming changes to protected waterways for the manatees. To see how this may affect your boating outings, please see their website [www.myfwc.com](http://www.myfwc.com)

**-THURSDAY, 29 MAY 2014 DON CESAR TEAMS WITH TAMPA BAY WATCH** - Bravo to the Don Cesar who invited Tampa Bay Watch to create a conservation trail to inform guests about the waterways!! The trail features information placards at various locations about Sea Turtle Nests, Sting Ray Safety Tips, and Manatee. To help with the grand opening, students from Campbell Park Elementary in St Petersburg took a field-trip sponsored by the Pinellas Education Foundation to the pink palace where they were the first to visit the trail and share in the ribbon cutting. Mural Artist, Damir, painted two walls in the children's area with scenes inspired by the hotel and beach sunset....GO VISIT!!



**-FRIDAY, 30 MAY 2014 SHERIFF BIKE PATROL** - Have you seen them yet?? Deputy Mancusi and Deputy Kohmann have completed the Sherriff's bike patrol course and are now out on our city streets bobbing and weaving amongst the tourists and motorists to keep our city sidewalks safe!! Lenny's Surf Shop won the bid to provide the bikes to the city which was paid by a grant that the Commission approved. Lenny out did himself with the new gear and sophisticated bikes that our Community Police are now riding around the city! We kept our contract local and boy did it pay off with quality service. Be careful Lenny, they may be fast enough now to spot your flag fluttering!!!

