



2017

www.broadwaterfl.org



The Broadwater Breeze

News and information for the Broadwater Community in St. Petersburg, Florida

Broadwater Featured in Living Local Video

Living Local Broadwater is a video produced by the City of St. Petersburg showcasing our wonderful neighborhood. Shay Brumbaugh and her crew did a great job capturing the essence of Broadwater with the help of **Mike & Debbie Zito, Gerry & Lynne Moore, Mel & Priscilla Williams, Mike & Maria Roesner, The Joyner Family, Mike Milvain, Tom Ando and George Canizares**. The seven and a half minute video will run at various times on St Pete TV or you may find it on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/bY5244DWjTQ>.

Volunteer For Carefest Sept 30th

Carefest is an annual community service day that encourages people to become more involved in their community all year. Community projects are identified and then carried out the morning of September 30th. Broadwater has participated the last 6 years and will do so once again in 2017 and volunteer hours count toward our 38th St S improvement grant. **Our volunteers will be working the registration tables at Lake Vista Park. There is also a project within Broadwater to help out a widowed neighbor whose home needs windows and gutters cleaned and some light pressure washing. If you are able to volunteer or have any questions, please email infolink@broadwaterfl.org or call Tom at 727-638-1421.** Your participation shows the city leaders that Broadwater cares so join your neighbors and show your community spirit!

Halloween Party October 14th

We are planning our annual Halloween Party for Saturday October 14th at the Canizares Estate overlooking Boca Ciega Bay. This is a fantastic event for the entire family!! We plan to have Sean's House of Horrors and many more activities for kids of all ages. More information is coming soon via infolink and Nextdoor. If you would like to be part of making this fun event happen please contact Jennifer

Nyitray at 727-560-2324 or jennifer.nyitray@raymondjames.com



Spooky creepy eeky

38th St South Improvements

It is hard to believe that one year ago we were just taking pledges for this project. What a difference a year makes!! This beautiful new entrance to 48th Ave S is a testament to what Broadwater is all about. The diligence of **John Sokol, Mike Zito** and the rest of the committee members along with great cooperation from the City of St. Petersburg and the two bordering residents were the key ingredients to a successful project. The monetary support from caring residents and a city grant funded the improvements and our volunteers are keeping this area looking great. Thank you to all who made this a reality!



SAVE THE DATE

General Meeting

Thursday Sept 7th at 7:00 PM

SPC Allstate Center 3200 34th St. S

Featured Program: Home Insurance Update,
Skyway Marina District Update
& meet the Getaway Owners

Sept. 9: Haz Mat Mobile Collection at SPC
Sept 30: Carefest

Oct 14: Halloween Party

Nov 1: Board of Directors Meeting

Nov 3: Winter Broadwater Breeze Deadline

Nov 7: Election Day

Dec 9: Broadwater Holiday Party

Dec 16: Broadwater Holiday Boat Parade

Scene In Broadwater

Do you have a great picture of life in Broadwater? Please share it via email infolink@broadwaterfl.org and you may see it in the Broadwater Breeze or on the website so others can see all that Broadwater has to offer!



Beautification Award Fall 2017

Congratulations!

Mike Rabenau & Maryann Marnell 4401 37th St S



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OF BEST BINGO HOST:
ALEXIS DE LA MER

Flamingo

From The BCA Board

Volunteers are the life blood of any community and we are lucky to have so many amongst us in Broadwater. The residents who serve on the Skyway Marina District committees and volunteer for our many events are greatly appreciated! The more participation we have the more we are able to do. The Living Local Broadwater video recently showed off what we have known for years, Broadwater is a special place to live and it does not happen by mistake. It takes wonderful, caring people who take pride in maintaining their properties and watch out for their neighbors making Broadwater safer, stronger and more attractive to folks looking to move to St. Petersburg. Please consider volunteering for Carefest, Neighborhood Watch, Helping Hands or any of our annual events. We hope to see you at our next General Meeting on Sept. 7th as our featured speakers will discuss the latest home insurance changes coming at the end of September. We will also meet the owners of the Getaway Restaurant who are excited to bring their business to Maximo Marina. Our next Broadwater event will take place on Saturday October 14th when the Canizares Estate will be taken over by goblins and ghouls. If you have not experienced the Broadwater Halloween Party make it a point to be there this year. Also mark your calendars for our Annual Holiday Party on December 9th and Annual Lighted Boat parade on December 16th.

Tom Ando
BCA President



2020-2030 Referendum Vote: November 7, 2017
www.stpete.org/penny

can be found at www.votepinellas.com. There are also two referendums to vote on. One is the Penny for Pinellas vote that will seek approval to extend the 1% sales tax that has been in place since 1990. The funds from this tax, which applies to the first \$5,000 of a single purchase, are used only for long-term capital infrastructure projects in Pinellas County and 24 surrounding communities including St. Petersburg. Additional information can be found at www.pinellascountry.org/penny. There is also a referendum to approve a privately funded one-story parking garage for the Vinoy. The improvements **do not** involve taxpayer funding and will add 270 new parking spaces behind the hotel. The parking garage will be available for hotel guests, attendees of on-site events, people in the community who use The Vinoy's facilities and diners who visit the hotel's restaurants, which are open to the public. As a historic part of downtown St. Petersburg, portions of The Vinoy property are subject to deed restrictions and require approval from the City's residents for construction. The additional parking is expected to help alleviate the shortage of spaces downtown. Additional information can be found at www.VinoyImprovements.com. Be sure to vote on November 7th!



If you are new to Broadwater and have not been formally welcomed by Welcome Aboard, please email us at the link below so that we can let you know about all of the things that make Broadwater such a great neighborhood and provide you with some welcome gifts. Any resident can let our Welcome Aboard ladies know about a new resident via email at infolink@broadwaterfl.org or by calling Maria Roesner at 498-6899 or Mary Lisan at 215-962-8814.

A Warm Welcome to our Newest Neighbors

Jonathan & Mariana Kind 4179 38th Way S
Michael Coleman & Shane Kuppler 3872 42nd Ave S
Frank & Rhonda Runyon 3820 46th Ave S
Christine & Shirley Scarborough 4000 40th St S
Patrick Lee & Gregory Riffell 4101 40th Way S
Christopher & Nicole Stott 3840 46th Ave S
David Parrish & Kenneth Sadler 3900 46th Ave S
John & Susan Knab 4360 39th St S



John and Susan love the area for the great boating and the easy access to downtown St Petersburg and the beaches. Stop by and say hi, they would love to meet their new neighbors!

Elections & Referendums

On November 7th we will cast our votes for mayor of St. Petersburg as well as three City Council seats. Candidate information



Exclusive Broadwater Coupon

10% off on all **INSECTICIDES**

And

25% off on all **PLANTS**

Offer Expires September 15th, 2017

(4501 34th. St. S. participating store only. Bring in your ad to redeem discounts)

Mobile Haz Mat Collection September 9th 9 AM – 2 PM

It's time to clean out your garage of unwanted chemicals, bulbs and electronics. Pinellas County will hold a mobile collection event on at the **SPC Allstate Center at 3200 34th St S.** Free to residents. Call 727-464-7500 or visit www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste/mobileoptions.htm for more information.



The Skyway Marina District

We should start seeing the beginning stages of the Phillips Development and Wawa projects along with 13 new bus shelters and low level lighting. Maximo Marina expects to be finished with the south phase in December to coincide with the opening of the Getaway. Mari-

na Village is under new ownership and the Skyway Mall is under new management so expect to see improvements in the near future. Much of what is happening in the district can be attributed to our Broadwater volunteers who serve on the various committees. We thank them for their time and energy that drive the success of the Skyway Marina District. Come to the General Meeting on September 7th to learn more and meet the owners of the Getaway.

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Your dues support this publication and all of the social activities of the Broadwater Civic Association. Thanks to our 320 paid members (60%) so far in 2017. If you have not paid in 2017 you may download the form at www.broadwaterfl.org under the Contact Us Tab. **Please be sure to fill it out completely even if your information has not changed.** This will insure that we have your information up to date. If you are not sure if you have paid for 2017 please contact Tom Ando at t.ando@turtlese.com or 727-638-1421.



BROADWATER REFERRAL LIST

Connie Beckman maintains a list of referrals from Broadwater Residents for various home services. The list, which is available at www.broadwaterfl.org, is updated regularly. We are tracking the number of positive referrals for each contractor. **We ask that you review the current list and email Connie at conbek@kenbek.com with the name of any of the contractors on the list that you have utilized and would recommend.** You may also email her with any new referrals for home services you have utilized and would recommend. Please include the company (or individual's) name, phone number, and service type. You may still request referrals via infolink but we suggest you use the referral list and Nextdoor Broadwater first. If you do not have access to the internet, Connie may be reached at 727-867-3088.

Connecting with Broadwater

Broadwater has several tools to stay informed and also network with neighbors. We encourage you to use these tools to keep up to date with everything going on in Broadwater.

Website: www.broadwaterfl.org **should be your first stop** if you are looking for event information and answers to neighborhood or city questions. The Resources and Useful Links Tabs is a great place to start when you need answers.

Nextdoor Broadwater is a free private network, limited to just Broadwater subscribers, that connects Broadwater neighbors. **You are able to post events, items wanted or for sale, crime and safety alerts, recommendations for local businesses and more.** Nextdoor is also a great place to post about lost or found pets and suspicious activity you may see. To join, request invitation by emailing your name and address to infolink@broadwaterfl.org. **For tips on how to adjust your Nextdoor settings go to www.broadwaterfl.org and look under the Resources Tab near the top of the home page.**

Broadwater Infolink is an email service used to communicate information to residents of Broadwater usually once or twice a week. Infolink emails are sent via Mailchimp which is a mass email service that allows us to reach over 400 subscribers in one shot. **To subscribe go to www.broadwaterfl.org and click on the Contact Us tab or email your name, address, phone number to infolink@broadwaterfl.org** Your information will be kept confidential so you will not receive spam or advertising e-mail. **If you have registered for Infolink and have not received any emails recently, please email us at infolink@broadwaterfl.org to let us know.**

Trash and Recycling Reminders

Trash Collection for the week of Sept 4th will be Tuesday & Thursday. Recycling will be Wednesday. Trash Collection for the week of Nov 20th will be Monday & Wednesday.

Visit www.stpete.org/sanitation for much more information

Keeping Our Canals Clean

Yard clippings should not be blown into the canal or left in the gutter where they will end up in the canal. **In order to protect our waters let's be proactive and make sure that we and our lawn services are aware of and follow the Best Practices guidelines. If you observe illegal activity you should make the person aware and if it continues you should report it to Pinellas County.** Together we can keep our waters clean. For more information visit www.stpete.org/city_departments/stormwater_operations/index.php

Please discourage your dock company from using 38th St S for barge parking or any type of activities.

THE Real Estate Report

Prepared exclusively for the Broadwater/Maximo neighborhood by Sharon Simms, CIPS, CLHMS, CRS

Third Quarter 2017

KNOW YOUR COVERAGE

There are many misunderstandings out there about homeowners insurance - misconceptions that can lead to expensive mistakes.

According to a survey by insurance marketplace **InsuranceQuotes**, homeowners tend to overestimate the amount of flood protection they have. Fifty-six percent of respondents still mistakenly believed that a standard homeowners policy covers flood damage. For millennials ages 18 to 36, the percentage rose to 67 percent.

Meanwhile, more than one third of respondents thought auto insurance would cover items stolen from their car, but actually homeowners or renters insurance would cover those.

Most homeowners underestimate their coverage for dog bites: Regarding potential lawsuits filed by someone bitten by a policyholder's dog outside their property, few knew they would be protected by their homeowners policy.

DEAR NEIGHBORS,

In the first six months of last year there were 16 waterfront sales in Broadwater; in the first six months of this year there were 7 waterfront sales. (As of press time, there were 11 sales year-to-date.) This reflects a shortage of inventory rather than a lessening of demand, which is typical overall in the Pinellas County market. There are currently only 5 waterfront homes on the market (and 4 of them are under contract).

In contrast to that, there were 8 non-waterfront sales in the first six months of last year in Broadwater; the first six months of this year there were 9. There are 2 currently on the market (and both are under contract). 🏠

Seawall Contractors

We all know that you should hire a licensed contractor to do any seawall work. Mark Liebel with Duncan Seawall in Sarasota offers an additional recommendation: he suggests you hire a company with a Marine Contractor's state specialty license. Just because a company is a general contractor, that does not necessarily mean that they are familiar with marine construction. Also be sure that they are properly insured - and that the insurance is in their name, not from someone else's company. 🏠

When is a primary not a primary?

One of the big races in the primary this year is for mayor of St. Petersburg. Did you know that if a candidate receives more than 50% of the votes in the primary, that he wins and there is no general election for mayor? So - it's important that you vote in the primary.

Are you away for the summer or on vacation? Absentee ballots or mail ballots cannot be forwarded. You should call the Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections at (727) 464-6108 to arrange for them to send your absentee ballot directly to your summer address, if that's the case. August 23rd is the deadline to request a ballot to be mailed. The primary election is August 29th. 🏠



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Statistically Speaking

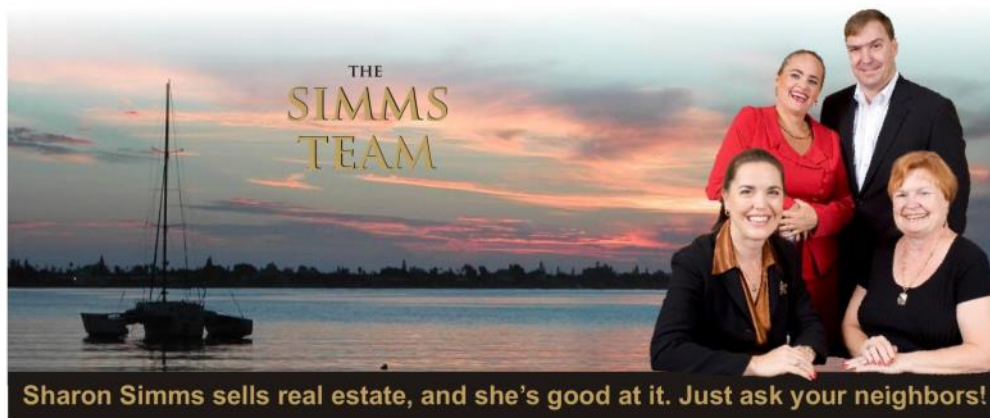
These figures show the current market and the recent Broadwater sales history according to the Multiple Listing Service (MLS). Prices vary by size, condition and location, so the \$/square foot has a tremendous range and is "nice to know" rather than a useful criteria.

Broadwater:						Waterfront					Non-Waterfront						
	#	\$ Low	\$ High	Average	\$/SF		#	\$ Low	\$ High	Average	\$/SF		#	\$ Low	\$ High	Average	\$/SF
Avail 8/14/17	5	442,500	879,000	727,060	262-304		0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pnd 8/14/17	2	659,000	849,000	754,450	231-321		2	349,900	399,900	374,950	169-195		2	349,900	399,900	374,950	169-195
Sold YTD '17	11	540,000	1,000,000	646,834	221-335		10	233,718	375,000	337,435	105-184		10	233,718	375,000	337,435	105-184
Sold 2016	21	285,000	1,412,500	606,669	158-352		17	152,500	370,000	289,509	64-187		17	152,500	370,000	289,509	64-187

Many people ask me about market activity in neighboring communities as well. Here is a look at what's happening on the waterfront* in some other popular areas:

Waterfront	Active & Pending as of 8/14/17				Sold YTD 2017				Sold 2016			
NEIGHBORHOOD	#	\$ Low	\$ High	#	\$ Low	\$ High	#	\$ Low	\$ High	#	\$ Low	\$ High
Broadwater	7	442,500	879,000	11	540,000	1,000,000	21	285,000	1,412,500			
Bayway Isles	9	998,000	2,349,000	6	859,000	1,350,000	9	650,000	1,500,000			
Causeway Isles	10	489,000	949,000	10	440,000	707,500	14	375,000	1,145,000			
Pasadena Yacht/Country Club	16	739,000	2,890,000	12	509,000	2,850,000	21	550,000	1,825,000			
Pinellas Point/Bahama Shores	6	579,000	2,998,000	3	835,000	1,200,000	3	521,100	1,325,000			
Snell Isle/Coffee Pot/Old NE	21	749,900	5,500,000	18	820,000	4,075,000	26	550,000	4,500,000			
St. Pete Beach/Pass-a-Grille	37	589,000	6,000,000	51	516,000	5,395,000	72	425,000	4,100,000			
Tierra Verde	20	699,000	6,400,000	15	737,000	2,450,000	21	460,000	2,600,000			
Treasure Island	36	499,000	3,500,000	61	400,000	2,825,000	53	395,000	1,895,000			
Venetian Isles	13	660,000	1,775,000	23	575,000	1,300,000	31	535,000	945,000			
Yacht Club Estates	5	729,000	1,800,000	15	580,000	1,750,000	17	450,000	1,500,000			

*This includes only "navigable water to the Gulf" properties - not lakes, ponds, etc.



NO MORE FOREVER HOMES?

Taylor Morrison Homes released data recently that more than half (58%) of prospective Millennial homebuyers expect to change where they live over time. 56% of all home buyers share this feeling. Are you in your forever home, or just somewhere along the path?

MARKED APPRECIATION

Realtor.com released data comparing some home features that appreciate differently than others. While homes generally appreciate between 3 and 4 percent each year, there are certain features that create greater appreciation than others. For example, homes smaller than 1,200 sq ft appreciated on average 7.5% a year for the past five years. Larger homes (more than 2,400 sq ft) only rose by 3.8%. Open floor plans appreciate 7.4% a year. Modern and contemporary styles appreciate 7.7% a year. Interesting stuff!

MEET THE TEAM:

Sharon Simms,
Team Leader

Tami Simms,
Director of Marketing
& Concierge Services

Amy Dinovo,
Strategic Execution Officer
& Client Care Manager

Rob Johnson,
Certified Residential Specialist





Broadwater Helping Hands

If you or a neighbor in Broadwater needs a helping hand, please contact Kristen Mory at 727-688-9597 or kristenmory@yahoo.com. We have a wonderful group of volunteers and professionals who can assist you with a wide range of services. If we are not able to provide you with the needed services, we can at least help you find the resources you need. If you would like to be a Helping Hands volunteer, please contact Kristen. Broadwater Cares!

Be Street Safe

*submitted by Lucas Cruse, City of St. Petersburg
Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator, Transportation
& Parking Management 727-892-5274,
Lucas.Cruse@stpete.org*

As the days are getting shorter and the kids are going back to school, it's a good time to revisit being safe on our streets. First and foremost, we should all follow the speed limits and be courteous to others when driving. Remember that the people you encounter on the street are your neighbors and are also people with families that care about them. Avoid blocking crosswalks and come to a complete stop before making a right turn on red. At 20 mph, 90% of pedestrians will survive a crash, but at 40 mph only 10% of pedestrians will survive. The seconds saved by speeding or driving aggressively are not worth risking someone else's life. By law and for your safety, you should walk on the left side of the street when there are no sidewalks, facing traffic. While pedestrians may have the right of way at intersections and in crosswalks, you should always check twice to ensure that approaching motorists both see you and are going to stop before stepping out into the street. While not required by law, it is a good idea to also wear bright colors and possibly carry a light when walking at night. When bicycling, the most important thing you can do for your safety is to be predictable. Bicycling predictably means: ride in a straight line on the right hand side of the road, signal your turns, and obey traffic signs and signals. Bicycles are legally considered vehicles and you are the safest when you pedal along as a part of traffic. At night, it's also a requirement of the law that your bicycle be outfitted with front white and rear red lights. Go ahead and turn those lights on in flashing mode to be more visible during the day. Learn more about City's efforts on transportation safety and Complete Streets at http://www.stpete.org/transportation/complete_streets.php

Hurricane Season and Your Pool

*submitted by Darlene Ladous,
Owner Pinch A Penny Pools*

Yes, it is that time of the year again, Hurricane Season. In the newspaper and on television, you will learn how to prepare your family and home for a storm. However, what about your pool? We wanted to offer some simple tips that can help!

Before a storm, remove all patio items (furniture, plants, toys, etc.) to prevent them from becoming projectiles in strong winds. Do NOT throw these items in the pool, as chemicals can damage these items and removal is difficult. If there is a chance the pool motor or other permanently plumbed electrical equipment could be submerged, shut down the power at the breaker panel. Sandbag the equipment if possible.

Shock the pool before the storm (preferably with Liquid Chlorinating Shock), and have extra shock so that you can easily shock the pool after the storm passes. Try to circulate the water as much as possible before the storm, but leave enough time to turn the pump off at the circuit breakers before the storm hits. Adding a floating chlorinator with tablets is a good idea in case you lose power and cannot run the pump. An extra dose of All in One Algaecide is a good idea as well to further prevent algae. If your pool overflowing from heavy rains is a concern, drain some water from the pool before shutting down the pump. However, don't drain below the bottom of the skimmer.

After the storm, immediately remove branches and other debris that may have gotten in the pool to prevent clogged lines. If you lost power during the storm, remember to reset your circuit breaker and timer when electricity is restored. Empty the pump and skimmer baskets, and return the pool water to its proper level. Clean your filters, shock the pool, and circulate continuously until the water clears.

Bring a water sample to Pinch A Penny to have it analyzed and re-balanced as soon as possible. We do not advise using the pool until you have it tested, because heavy rain will dilute sanitization chemicals and can wreak havoc on the pH which can cause eye and skin irritation.

At this time of the year, we all hope for a quiet hurricane season. However, a severe storm can happen and we must all be prepared. A few simple steps in Pool Preparedness can save a lot of time and money after the storm. We wish you all a wonderful and safe fall season, and call or stop by our store at 4102 34th St S or call 727-866-0464 if you have any questions.

Please remember to turn your irrigation off during wet weather or better yet install a rain sensor



BLOCK CAPTAINS

We are still looking for a new Block Captain for the north end of 45th St S (4200-4388). If you live in or near this block and would like to be a Block Captain please contact Tom at t.ando@turtlese.com or 727-638-1421. Broadwater has 23 Block Captains who are your street level representatives in Broadwater. Each street or area has a Block Captain assigned to be **your first contact for neighborhood questions** or concerns. Block Captains also hand deliver the Broadwater Breeze and can collect your 2017 membership dues. Thanks to all of our Block Captains for their time and efforts to make Broadwater a great place to live!! If you do not know who your Block Captain is, go to www.broadwaterfl.org for a complete list.

BROADWATER NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

We have very little crime to report in the past few months so it shows that we are being proactive and extra observant for any potential criminals looking for opportunity. Do not leave valuables in your vehicle overnight and continue to lock your vehicles and garage door when unattended. We also ask that you do not give work to individuals that solicit door-to-door. You are taking a risk if an uninsured person is injured on your property. **Report anything suspicious to the police at 893-7780 (store this number in your cell phone). Remember if calling the police even crosses your mind, do so!**

The Broadwater Neighborhood Watch provides a presence that helps deter crime as well. Thanks to Brian Dault and all of our volunteer patrollers for giving their time to help keep Broadwater safe! **We do need more patrollers so if you wish to join please contact Brian at bdaultgbc@gmail.com or 727-424-9696.**

We have a team of Community Service Officers that can be reached at 727-551-3181. You will need to leave a message and an officer will respond to you. Officer Stanley Maybell is our direct contact for the team. There are also many useful tools and you have the ability to report crimes such as theft, criminal mischief, harassing phone calls, lost property, identity theft, or vehicle burglary online at www.stpete.org/police

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Contact Information

BOARD MEMBERS	PHONE	E-MAIL	ADDRESS
TOM ANDO (PRESIDENT)	638-1421	t.ando@turtlese.com	4532 38TH ST S
EVELYN HILL (VICE PRESIDENT)	864-4188	BroadwaterInfo@aol.com	4416 46TH AVE S
VICKI LINKOVICH (TREASURER)	215-0397	mslink@tampabay.rr.com	4316 44TH ST S
JENNIFER NYITRAY (SECRETARY)	560-2324	jennifer.nyitray@raymondjames.com	4531 38TH WAY S
CHARLIE PHILLIPS	420-6149	charlesphillipsjr@live.com	3812 46TH AVE S
MARK EWIN	866-3254	mark.ewin@yahoo.com	4281 48TH AVE S
LEE KRUEGER	515-3437	lkrealtor@aol.com	3830 46TH AVE S
JOHN FERGUSON	906-9303	john@myfloridaescape.com	4130 39TH ST S
MARGARET STONE	623-4005	grammymargaret@outlook.com	4000 40TH WAY S
MIKE ZITO	813-727-7035	Mikepzito@gmail.com	4369 48TH AVE S
SHARON SIMMS	866-0048	sharonsimms@ssimms.com	4372 48TH AVE S
SUE SHOEMAKER	215-9361	shoe408@aol.com	3888 38TH WAY S
GERRY MOORE	498-7554	gnm23430@gmail.com	3896 42ND AVE S
KRISTIE WAGNER	614-207-9848	kwagner127@gmail.com	3785 42ND AVE S
JUDITH SCHLEICHER	866-3720	jpsstpete@gmail.com	4401 48TH AVE S
JEFF JOYNER	501-6164	jeff@jeffjoynerassociates.com	4533 38TH ST S

Where the Sidewalk [Literally] Ends

submitted by Edie Creter

In the spring of 2013 I wrote a pictorial Breeze article (Where the Sidewalk Begins . . .) after my first visit to Clam Bayou Nature Preserve, accessed at the end of 34th Avenue S (off 37th Street S) behind the Wal-Mart/Ceridian area. In the 4 years since that article, a new south side has been built and there is an addition to the north side. Finding an updated map of St. Petersburg's portion of Clam Bayou Preserve was challenging. Phil found a recent photo on Google Earth. He added numbers to the photo that correspond to specific areas mentioned in this article. A 2014 map is at http://www.stpete.org/parks_and_recreation/city_trails/docs/bikemap2014.pdf.

The northern portion (at bottom of the map) has added a small bridge (#1 on map) that leads to a grass-trampled trail winding around to the right until you find a small boat/fishing dock (#2 on map). Although it is tempting to jump in for a quick dip, swimming is discouraged in bayou waters. On our way out we meet up with two bicycle policemen just finishing up their trek through the north trails.



Today is our first visit to the newer south portion of the Preserve and we have no idea what to expect. This south side includes bathrooms, a parking area, a roundabout, a picnic table shelter (all in area #3 on map) and a kayak/canoe launch (#4 on map) (within carrying distance from the roundabout). At the head of the trail we meet a woman peacefully reading her summer novel and eating lunch under the shade of the new picnic shelter. She has come by car to just enjoy her surrounds.



This south portion of the Preserve has been left almost entirely as a natural coastal habitat. Egrets, ibis, osprey and owls greet walkers and bicyclists. Unlike the cement trails on the north side, the trails here are wood and end in natural pine needle underbrush or at picturesque bridges over the marsh/bayou water areas (#5 on map). No concrete here. I would guess 98 percent of the trails are handicap accessible, staying on either the concrete paths in the northern section or the wood trails in this newer section.



The trails continue expanding southward along the bayou, allowing many different directions to explore. One direction leads to an elevated switchback trail (#6 on map) with an observation deck. From atop that deck, a beautiful overview of Boca Ciega Bay awaits you. Today when we reach the top lookout, one gentleman in a dress suit and tie has already taken his place ahead of us on the bench. He is deep in paperwork and thought and so we take our photos and leave quietly.



Today we meet only walkers, of both speed and leisurely varieties. We are the only ones on bicycles. We talk to a "regular." She's here for her daily jog through the Preserve and told us she has made fast friends with the maintenance man and looks forward to his greeting as she enters the parking lot. Another couple we meet is a grandfather with his young granddaughter exploring together.

We ride to the southern-most trail where a very big surprise awaits us. The trail literally ends out over Boca Ciega Bay (#7 on map)! We were not expecting anything so grand. Can't ride any further, but still there is something interesting to see. Looking straight down into the Bay at the end of that bridge, you will see several man-made oyster domes (off area #7 on map). They look like cement donuts. Most likely these were handmade and placed here by Tampa Bay Watch, a non-profit organization that performs a variety of habitat restoration and estuary protection activities throughout Tampa Bay.



The area is officially named the "Ecosystem Restoration and Stormwater Treatment Projects for the Clam Bayou Nature Preserve." Since the 1940s, dredging and filling and stormwater runoff have degraded the bayou. In an effort to improve it, habitat restoration and stormwater treatment projects were built by the Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Program of the Southwest Florida Water Management District in partnership with the Cities of St. Petersburg and Gulfport and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

The projects were done through the cooperation and funds of over 21 local, state, and federal agencies as well as various environmental and civic groups and over 500 volunteers. Clam Bayou Trail connects to the Pinellas Trail in Childs Park, and runs through Clam Bayou and along 37th St. South to the Bayway, where you can connect with the Pinellas Bayway bike routes to Fort De Soto, the beaches, or the Sunshine Skyway Bridge.



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