



# Sunset Beach News

Sunset Beach Neighborhood

Sunset Sally

Feb – Mar 2011

The Sunset Beach Civic Association Newsletter

www.sunsetbeachfla.org



## Notte Italiana!

(Come join us for Italian Night)

**Tuesday February 8, 2011**

**Social 6:30 PM Dinner 7 PM**

Treasure Island Community Center

The legend continues with our annual Italian Night Dinner & Food Drive. Buy your tickets in advance by contacting Kristy Andersen at 727-642-5589 , Baybottomnews@gmail.com. Price is \$8.00 per ticket. Tickets are selling fast! Get yours today!

**BRING YOUR APPETITE AND PREPARE TO HAVE A GREAT TIME!!!**

The Sunset Beach Civic Association received a thank you letter from the St. Pete Free Clinic for our donation of food to the Food Bank. Working together, with our Association and other donors, the Food Bank can have a positive impact on our community.

"On behalf of the Food Bank staff and the clients that receives your donations, we say thank you, and we hope that we can count on your support again next year." Ken Murphy, Food Bank Director, St. Petersburg Free Clinic.



Please help by bringing non-perishable, non-expired food items to the Italian Night. Let's make a BIG donation to the St. Petersburg Free Clinic from the Sunset Beach Civic Assoc..

March 7th—TI Community Center—6:30PM .. Don't miss our State of the City with Mayor Bob Minning. We will also nominate & elect new Board of Directors for the Sunset Beach Civic Association. If you are interested in Joining the Board of Directors for this upcoming year please contact one of the Board of Directors listed on page 3.

### Sunset Beach Rummage Sale, Saturday March 19th

Do you suffer from Too Much Clutter in your life? Start your Spring Cleaning Early. The Annual Sunset Beach Rummage Sale is right around the corner.

The highest compliment I can receive is the referral of your family & friends. Thank you Sunset Beach for your continued support.

Who do YOU know that is buying or selling Real Estate NOW ???

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## A Message from the President

Sunset Beach Residents & Guests:

Another Snowbird Season is upon us as residents from Canada, the Northeast, and the Midwest are arriving, fleeing the cold to enjoy things many of us take for granted, swelling our population by 75% by some estimates. The trip from 1500 miles and more, often by car, is well worth it, a chance to leave the snowdrifts behind, bask in Florida sunshine, and take in a glorious Sunset Beach sunset.

You've probably heard the jokes about Snowbirds - but you won't hear them here. We love our temporary residents. Florida has always welcomed snowbirds, who first arrived by train in their own personal luxury cars in the 1880s, then by automobile after it was invented at the turn of the century. The automobile opened up tourism to middle class travelers who camped in parks, and were dubbed Tin Can Tourists.

While you're here, we invite you to enjoy all Sunset Beach has to offer, a way of life that has all but disappeared in most parts of Florida. We hope you join us in our Civic Association functions, and consider purchasing a membership. The vigilance of our members and residents is what has helped us maintain the quality of life here - white sand beaches, native birds, sea turtles, Gulf seafood, and a slower pace of life.

Now grab a cold one and slip on your flipflops. Before you head to the beach turn on the TV and take a good look at the faces of folks shoveling out from under many feet of snow. Next year, if their dreams become reality, they could be here as well, your neighbors on Sunset Beach.

Truly,

Kristy Andersen

**The Sunset Beach Civic Association is a neutral non-political entity. While we encourage community interest and participation in governmental affairs, the SBCA does not collectively endorse candidates for public office, nor do we stand by any particular political opinion.**



## District 4 Commissioner's Corner

Hello Sunset Beach!



The commission is unusually busy for this time of year so we'll jump right in. First of all, the city is going to get new beach access signs, paid mostly by a grant relating to the 1993 oil spill. This grant does not include anything south of the Sunset Vista Park. The Beach Stewardship Committee suggested that the city pay for the Sunset Beach access signs so that the whole city looks alike. The details are still being worked out and the cost looks like it is going to be about \$25,000. Secondly, the city is looking to redo its off street parking regulations. The P&Z board has held several meetings on this and the commission gets its first crack at it on Tuesday, January 25th with a special workshop. This will not be the last public hearing on this. Third, our downtown redevelopment special area plan is finally moving along. It looks like there will be no request for any height increase, but there will be a request for some density increase, mostly for hotel uses. I say request because if the state and county go along with the plan, the voters (you) will have to approve a density increase. Last for now, the upcoming election in March. District 3 commissioner Carol Coward has been re-elected as no one is running against her. It is her second appointment. District 1 commissioner Phil Collins is running against Dominique Reiter of the Chamber of Commerce. More important to Sunset Beach residents are the 10 charter amendment questions. Yes, we will have a local election this March. The city is going to get a fact brochure about the 10 questions.

Until next time,

Alan Bildz

Commissioner, District 4

## City Of Treasure Island

Mayor Robert Minning [rming@mytreasureisland.org](mailto:rming@mytreasureisland.org)  
Commissioner Alan Bildz [abildz@mytreasureisland.org](mailto:abildz@mytreasureisland.org)  
City Hall [cityhall@mytreasureisland.org](mailto:cityhall@mytreasureisland.org)  
(All City Hall emails will be Sent to ALL Commissioners)  
[TITV615@mytreasureisland.org](mailto:TITV615@mytreasureisland.org)

SBCA [www.SunsetBeachFla.org](http://www.SunsetBeachFla.org)  
City of Treasure Island [www.mytreasureisland.org](http://www.mytreasureisland.org)  
Pinellas County [www.pinellascounty.org](http://www.pinellascounty.org)  
State of Florida [www.myflorida.org](http://www.myflorida.org)

**Stay Informed!**

Thank  
You

Thank you to Karl Kerr for distribution and all our volunteers who helped keep our tradition by putting out the luminaries on Christmas Eve. It was a great group effort. A special thank you to Donna Zwolski and Cindy Walker (below) for tackling all the streets that had no volunteers.



### Sunset Beach Officers And Board of Directors

<b>Kristy Andersen</b> 727-642-5589	<b>President</b> Baybottomnews@gmail.com
<b>Karl Kerr</b> 678-8202	<b>Vice President</b> kkssbch@yahoo.com
<b>Pam Tushaus</b> 813-629-0659	<b>Treasurer</b> p.tushaus@verizon.net
<b>Kim Driscoll</b> 360-7939	<b>Secretary/Newsletter</b> kdriscoll@verizon.net
<b>Judy Anderson</b> 367-9106	<b>Director</b> judyanderson@charter.net
<b>Eric Corson</b> 289-2780	<b>Director/Beach Clean up</b> edcorson@gmail.com
<b>Barb Driscoll</b> 367-5863	<b>Director/Beach Clean Up</b> vegas491@aol.com
<b>Patrick Fitzgerald</b> 459-1955	<b>Director</b> tramore2@aol.com
<b>Elizabeth Saunders</b>	<b>Director</b> elizabethisland@gmail.com

(Advertisement)

## PREMIER CHOICE- FLOOD INSURANCE THAT PAYS YOU

***Flood Insurance Rates Are Going Up 4%  
In October, but Premier Choice  
Clients Will Hardly Notice***

"We're the only flood insurance agency that offers cash rebates back to all our customers," explains Jeff DeNight, owner of Premier Choice Rebate Flood Insurance, an insurance agency that sells nothing but flood insurance. He also co-owns Bentley DeNight Insurance Services, a full service, independent, Trusted Choice agency that offers business, auto, home, commercial, life, boat, motorcycle, RV and umbrella policies.



"If you buy your flood insurance through Premier Choice, you'll get at least 7% (before fees and taxes) of your annual premium back in the form of a rebate check. We give the money **back to our new customers** at inception and then again every subsequent year they renew... **forever**," Jeff says. This rebate can add up to thousands of dollars over the life of your home or business flood insurance policy. Premier Choice Flood Insurance mails the rebate check roughly two months after your flood policy goes into effect or renews. The company sends you a check rather than taking the money off the premium so you can have the cash in your hand and spend it however you choose- clothes, dinner out, or a show.

**You get 7% of your premium back the first year. The rebate increases 1% annually for 5 years. The second year you'll get 8% back, the third year you'll get 9% back, and so on. In the sixth year and every year following, customers get a 12% rebate.**

***Does that mean that Premier Choice Flood Insurance policies cost more than other flood insurance policies?***

"Absolutely not" says Jeff. FEMA is the only flood insurance provider, so the premium is the same no matter what flood insurance agency you use. The policies written by his agency are exactly the same as those written by other agencies; Their policies are underwritten and supported by the federal government through FEMA. The only difference is that Premier Choice Flood Insurance gives you money back.

FEMA pays a commission to the agencies that write their policies. Jeff and his agency are sharing that commission with their customers.

Jeff says Premier Choice can afford to share its commission with its customers since all the owners are hands-on and they run a lean, efficient operation. Besides, Jeff says, things are tough for everyone, and if his company has a little to share with the community, they are happy to do so. "With the economy the way it is, we thought it would be nice to give something back, especially since insurance has such a negative connotation," Jeff says. Maybe not anymore.

***Contact Premier Choice Rebate Flood Insurance,  
6524 1st Ave. North, St. Petersburg at 343-6341.***





*Winter Meeting January 10th—We acknowledged one of our long time members and residents at our Winter Meeting. Happy 75th Maurice!*



Our 3rd Annual Christmas Stroll was a great success and fun for all! The merriment stops kept us all singing! Thank you to all merriment participants.



**SUNSET BEACH T-SHIRTS  
Tanks Tops & T-shirts**  
To purchase Sunset Beach T-Shirts,  
Please call Kim Driscoll at 360-7939, or  
Judy Anderson at 367-9106.

**What's Fun to do on Treasure Island?**  
Check out the Treasure Island Chamber of  
Commerce website for up to date information:  
[www.treasureislandchamber.org](http://www.treasureislandchamber.org).

**Treasure Island Market Place**

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[www.sunsetbeachcottages.net](http://www.sunsetbeachcottages.net)  
Great Deals for Locals!

Members will be elected to the Board of Directors at The State of the City on March 7th at the Community Center. At this time three Board members will be stepping down. That will leave six Board members. We can have up to eleven, so please think about running for the Board, and bring all your new ideas for the upcoming year.

Bring this form to the next event, or mail to SBCA, PO Box 9496, TI, FL 33740



## We Want You for SBCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We are looking for active new board members for next year. Please fill in your name and contact info if you are interested in serving on the new board of directors for the SBCA for this upcoming year.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership fees pay for our events and especially our luminaries. Please join us! Gather your family or friends and fill out the form below. Bring to an event or mail to address listed on the form. If you have any questions please feel free to contact any Board Member.

Please make checks payable to the Sunset Beach Civic Association and mail to: **Sunset Beach Civic Association, PO Box 9496, Treasure Island, FL 33740.**



### Sunset Beach Civic Association Membership Form 2010/2011 SBCA Membership Opportunities

Individual	\$6.00
Household	\$10.00
Non-Resident Guest	(Same as Individual. Or Household)
Bronze	\$25.00
Silver	\$50.00
Gold	\$100.00 or more

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Membership (Check one) Individual  Household  Bronze  Silver  Gold  Guest

## Mark your Calendars SBCA /TI Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
<b>February 8th</b>	6:30 pm	Italian Night	TI Community Center
March 7th	6:30 pm	State of the City	TI Community Center
March 19th	8 am - ?	Sunset Beach Yard Sale	
April 14th	6:30 pm	BBQ	TI Lions Club
May 2nd	6:30 pm	Year End Pot Luck	Sunset Beach Pavilion

\*Dates and locations subject to change. If changes are made they will appear in a newsletter or membership will receive email update.

**The Dogs of Sunset Beach,  
Meet Brie Mumford.**

If You would like to feature your dog in a future newsletter  
contact Jerri at [jdetillio@aol.com](mailto:jdetillio@aol.com).

Brie Mumford was rescued from a kill facility at 6 months old. She had only one day left to live.

Now at 4 years old, this beautiful Belgium Shepherd/Husky mix loves her life. Brie is a herding dog who loves to run and play with all the dogs of Sunset Beach and swims like a fish in her salt water pool.

She loves to get the paper on the weekends in the car along with her cat Bacardi and she herds Bacardi home each evening so they can play the night away.

Brie is very sensitive and sometimes gets her feelings hurt. To cheer her up, Brie and Tom sing together. Loudly!

Brie can be a picky eater so Nancy cooks scrumptious homemade dog food, and she's happy to share her recipe. Sometimes we all get a bite!



Brie & Tom Singing

Brie, Nancy and Tom Mumford  
60 83rd Ave.



**Beach Cleanup**

Beach Cleanup has doubled for your pleasure! Eric Corson will have a beach cleanup at the North end meeting at 11AM at the Brown Pelican Lot, (across from Ka'Tiki), for those that like to sleep in. Barb Driscoll will have one at the South end meeting at the Pavilion at 9AM for the early risers! Beach clean-ups are the second Saturday of each month. So residents, grab your friends and pitch in!

**See you Soon!**

**Sales on Sunset Beach**

Address	Date	Sold for
8706 W. Gulf Blvd.	12/23/10	\$1,300,000
7650 Bayshore Dr. #1006	12/30/10	\$450,000
114 88th Ave	01/05/11	\$516,500
110 90th Ave.	01/14/11	\$365,000
7600 Bayshore Dr. #601	01/17/11	\$500,000

Information provided by Dawn Fader, Keller Williams Realty, St. Pete Beach, FL.

**727.244.8372**

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The cottages on Sunset Beach were the perfect spot for a family vacation. At the time of this photo, the newly-planted Australian Pines on 90th Avenue fail to provide much shade for this boy eating a banana."



Photo taken between 1940 & 1950. Reprinted with permission from *Tampa Bay's Gulf Beaches*, by R. Wayne Ayers. Available from the publisher online at [www.arcadiapublishing.com](http://www.arcadiapublishing.com) or by calling 888-313-2665.

### Australian Pines by Barb Driscoll

The Australian Pine is native to Australia, Southeast Asia and the South Pacific Islands. It was first brought to the United States beginning in the late 1880s, and was spreading in Florida by the turn of the century. In spite of its common name, Australian pine is **not** a true pine but rather a flowering tree.

They were widely used as a windbreak, and were planted in the mistaken belief that the trees could prevent erosion. "Despite claims to the contrary, Australian pines actually increase erosion by crowding out and replacing native plants with deeper roots. The shallow roots of the Australian pine allow the land to erode from beneath and make these trees prone to wind-throw during storms. These trees are worthless at holding soil."

The [Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council](http://www.floridaexoticpestplantcouncil.org) rates Australian pine as a Category I plant. This category is **defined as** an "invasive exotic that is altering native plant communities by displacing native species, changing community structures or ecological functions, or hybridizing with natives." Some dogs are allergic to the tree. The next time you look at a stand of Australian pines try to see them not as stately trees swaying gently in the sea breeze, but as trespassers that are taking something from us.

Now the **GOOD NEWS** - Florida has a variety of native vegetation that will not only fill the Australian pine's void in your landscape but will also enhance the beauty of your property. To take the place of the Australian Pine think about the Buttonwood Tree; Pigeon Plum Tree; Seagrape and the Cabbage Palm (Sabal)-our State Tree and many others. Plant your first line of defense - trees for shade then go from there with lots of native under story plants that will not only look great but will encourage wildlife. There are lots of wonderful native plants out there just waiting for you to use them.

**Be a Florida Native Gardener and Enjoy!**

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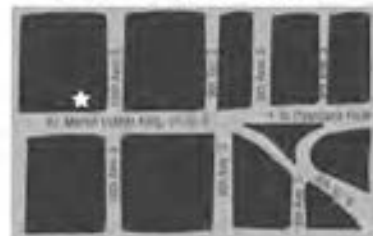
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