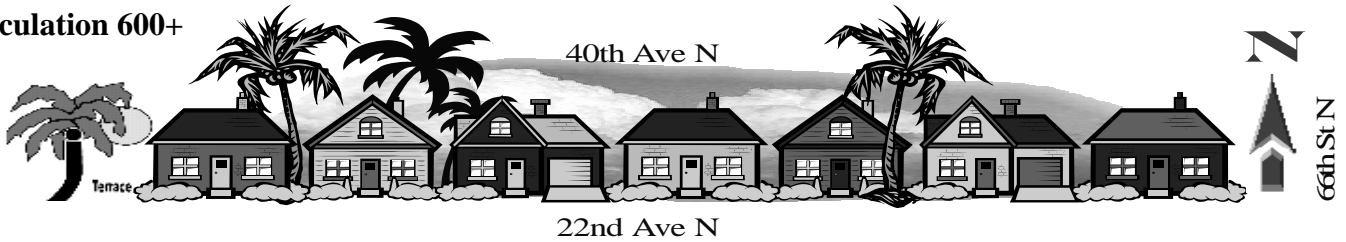


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Boca Ciega Bay



Jungle Terrace Civic Association

Awarded 2004 Newsletter of the Year

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The next JTCA Meetings will be on
Monday July 16th. and August 20th.
 Meetings are 7:00 PM Sharp, held at the
Walter Fuller Youth Center, 7891 26th Avenue North

Meeting AGENDA's

July **August**

- Dr Gene Webb (SPPD) to speak about Police technology. (see BIO pg 9)
- Speaker to be announced at the July meeting.
- Vote on Amendment to JTCA Bylaws

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Proposed Amendment to the JTCA Bylaws by Dr Ed Carlson

Dr. Ed Carlson is proposing an amendment to the Jungle Terrace Bylaws. The proposed changes are listed below. They were read at the June 18th meeting and will be voted on at the July 16th meeting.

To see the full text of the Jungle Terrace Bylaws, please visit www.jungle-terrace.org

Proposed BYLAWS Amendment

To Amend the BYLAWS of JTCA to require a minimum of 20 members to be present for a vote, and that to vote, a member must have been a member for 4 months, in addition to the other requirements in the BYLAWS of Jungle Terrace Civic Association.

The BYLAWS that deal with amending BYLAWS, and the ones to be amended:

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

The bylaws, or any part thereof may be amended in the following manner: The proposed amendment may be presented only by

a Regular Member in good standing. The amendment must be offered at a regular meeting, in writing, and signed by the proposer. It shall be read by the Secretary at the next regular meeting of the membership held after receipt of said proposed amendment. If approved by majority vote of the Regular Members in good standing at such meeting, said amendment shall take effect immediately, unless otherwise specified.

ARTICLE VI MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS SECTION IV. QUORUM

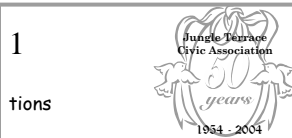
A quorum shall consist of a majority **minimum of 20** of the members in good standing. ~~However,~~ the requirement ~~hereof~~ may be, from time to time, changed by the Board of Directors, as they may deem advisable.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP AND AREA SECTION I. REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

Regular Members shall be either property owners or bonafide

Bylaw Amendment (Continued on page 3)

Annual Membership Dues Due in January



Nonprofit, 501 (C) 3, Tax Exempt
 Member: Council of Neighborhood Association

July / August 2007

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**Jungle Terrace Civic Association
Minutes of Membership Meeting
May 21, 2007**

The meeting started at 7:00 pm. There were 37 people present.

Community Service Officer Patterson discussed a sexual offender and predator notebook. Crime statistics were given and everything in the area looks good. Questions were asked and answered. **Major Michael Puetz** discussed the panhandling and homelessness issues and traffic problems in our area. **Councilman Herb Poulson** also discussed the panhandling and homelessness issues.

Steven Zachem discussed a letter from Jungle Prada Neighborhood Association to Councilman Poulson regarding the Chabad Center. Discussion was held regarding the proposed surplus of the community garden on 22nd Avenue North near Azalea Middle School. Many questions were asked and answered by Councilman Poulson and **Rabbi Korf** about the proposal. It was moved and seconded to vote on recommending the City of St. Petersburg surplus the community garden property on 22nd Avenue North to put up for sale. A ballot vote was taken and the vote was 9 for surplus of the property and 17 against.

Ron Russell read the Treasurer's Report. It was moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. It was passed unanimously.

Scott Hartzel, local author, spoke about some of the history of St. Petersburg and the tales that float around. He also spoke of how much

(Continued on page 4)

**Jungle Terrace Civic Association
Minutes of Membership Meeting
June 18, 2007**

The meeting started at 7:10 pm.

Ron Russell read the Treasurer's Report. It was moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. It was passed unanimously.

It was moved and seconded to accept the Minutes as printed in the May/June Newsletter for the months of March and April. It was passed unanimously.

Steven Zachem discussed the CONA meeting from May.

Community Service Officer Patrick McGovern discussed the crime statistics and there was not much activity in the area other than 60 car accidents. Questions were asked and answered. There was much discussion about the increase in graffiti and the Pinellas Trail.

Mildred Everth, of Anderson McQueen Funeral Homes, a neighborhood business, spoke about the importance of end-of-life planning, pre-planning and the benefits of doing so.

Bonnie Tilby, also of Anderson McQueen Funeral Homes, discussed the many community events they hold, pet funerals, and the availability of their conference room for various community meetings.

Anderson McQueen provided some cookies for the meeting.

Bob Miller discussed **Ed Carlson's** proposed amendment to the By-laws. (The text for the proposed amendment can be found on page 1)

(Continued on page 8)



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(Continued from page 1) **Bylaw Amendment**

residents of the area between 22nd Avenue North and 40th Avenue North; and between 66th Street North, West to Boca Ciega Bay. All Regular Members shall be entitled and limited to one vote in said association **after an initial period of 4 months.**

SECTION VI. VOTING

B. VOTING MEMBERS

Only Regular Members in good standing are entitled to vote **after an initial period of 4 months.** Each Regular Member in good standing is entitled to only one vote in each matter coming before a general membership meeting **after the initial period of 4 months.**

SECTION III. MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING

Any member shall be considered in good standing if dues have been paid. **For voting purposes, new members are considered "Members in Good Standing" after an initial period of 4 months.** Members who have not paid on time shall be contacted and encouraged to submit dues to the Treasurer. Any member who has not paid dues by the end of April shall be considered not in good standing and dropped from the membership.

####

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Dr. E. Eugene Webb (Gene) City of St. Petersburg, Florida Police Department

Information and Technology Services Division

Dr. Webb is the Manager of the Police Department's Information and Technology Services (ITS) Division. The Information and Technology Services Division is responsible for the Police Department's computer systems, data networks, wireless networks, information storage, computer based mapping, mobile computers and information security. The Division provides information and network support to over 800 Police Department employees including 400 mobile data terminals in our police cruisers.

Dr. Webb has been with the City of St. Petersburg for 22 years and in his current position with the Police department for just under 1 year. In his tenure with the City he has been responsible for the City's wide area private fiber optic network, radio communications systems, voice and data systems and was instrumental in the development of the City's cable television channel 15 and the acquisition of the City's broadcast television station channel 35. He was a member of the original Grand Prix development group, the stadium design team and the Florida International Museum design and construction team. Dr. Webb was member of Governor Childs Telecommunication Tax task Force and a recipient of the Davis Productivity award from the Florida Department of Revenue. He has also been an active participant in the development of cable television, telephone and cellular franchises and ordinances for the City.

Dr. Webb has a BE in Electrical Engineering from the Indiana Institute of Technology, an MBA from The Florida Institute of Technology and a PhD in Management Science from California Coast University. He is former member of the adjunct faculty at the Florida Institute of Technology.

Currently Dr. Webb and the ITS team at the Police Department are implementing a new computer aided dispatch system, automated records system and advance network to improve information access. These new systems will speed accurate dispatch of 911 calls for service, improve officer safety and provide advanced analytical tools and information exchange to assist the agency in investigative and crime prevention activity.

Dr. Webb can be contacted by telephone at 727-893-7970 or by e-mail at gene.webb@stpete.org

Handyman's Corner by Wally Guthrie



Paint Brush Maintenance. How do you properly prepare a paint brush before you paint?

Wet the brush before you paint! To minimize the crusty buildup on the bristles and make brush cleaning easier, dip the brush in water, then shake out (pat dry) excess before you paint with latex paint. If you are using an oil based product, dip brush in the solvent you'll ultimately use to clean it (e.g., mineral spirits), then spin it dry. This keeps it useable longer before it needs cleaning during the job, and makes it easier to clean at the end of the day. When painting in hot, dry weather, occasionally dip brush in water or spirits during painting to keep it fresh.

(Continued from page 2) **Minutes May 21, 2007**

help he had from friends and family of those in his books, from stories to photographs.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. It was passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.





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Annual Membership Dues Due in January

If you wish to join the Jungle Terrace Civic Association, please take a moment to fill out this membership form and bring it to the next meeting or send your dues to the address below. Please include **\$15.00** - per household for membership, due in January of each year. If you can donate more than the membership dues, it would be appreciated. We are a Nonprofit 501(c)3 Tax Exempt Civic Association.

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Eagle Crest Civic Association Presents The
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Join your neighbors at the Battle of the Italian Chefs, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., Saturday, July 21, 2007 at the Azalea Recreation Center, 1600 72nd Street North, St Petersburg.

Three neighborhood chefs will prepare signature spaghetti sauces for sampling in a stirring competition aimed to raise money and awareness about the Associations' lawsuit against the City of St. Petersburg.

Live music, door prizes, beverages, desserts, live entertainment, and of course, a delicious spaghetti dinner with all the trimmings!!!

We will sell raffle tickets to win 2 tickets to Universal Studios.

"This is going to be quite the competition, said chef David Colella. My secret signature red sauce has been in the family for generations. I challenge my rival chefs to top my sauce for flavor."

Roberto Alvarez, president of *Learn a Language*, will be on hand to teach us all useful Italian phrases like "More sauce, please".

Advance ticket purchase is \$20 per person and includes dinner, salad, bread, wine, dessert and a drawing for a door prize.

Doors open at 6 pm, festivities last until 9 p.m. **Tickets must be purchased in advance**, and all proceeds benefit the Eagle Crest Civic Association Legal Fund. Call 381-2900 or visit

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7242 34th Ave N	2	768	\$159,900	66
8095 32nd Ave N	2	1,148	\$169,900	52
3400 71st St	3	1,102	\$177,900	74
7642 33rd Ave N	3	1,215	\$179,000	51
2092 74th St N	3	1,100	\$182,900	3
6960 30th Ave N	3	1,132	\$189,900	23
8015 29th Ave N	3	1,475	\$210,000	91
7930 25th Ave N	3	1,531	\$215,000	11
3000 76th Way N	4	1,605	\$225,000	95
8224 27th Ave N	3	962	\$250,000	0
8200 Yardley Ave N	2	2,142	\$300,000	97
8120 22nd Ave N	3	2,144	\$324,900	83
Average	3	1,282	\$206,600	59

The sold prices have not been included to protect the privacy of the Buyers. Please call for additional information. The information sited in this ad is obtained from the MLS system, Realtors, owners, and the public records. The properties have been listed and sold by various participants in the MLS System.

(Continued from page 2) **Minutes June 18, 2007**

Ron Russell discussed the possibility of additional amendments to the Bylaws and forming a committee to look into that. There was additional discussion of proposed amendments to the Bylaws. There will be a vote on the above proposed amendments to the Bylaws at the July 2007 meeting.

Bob Miller then discussed our need to find an editor for the newsletter as the November/December newsletter will be his last.

Steve Zachem discussed the speaker for the July meeting, Dr. Gene Webb of the City of St. Petersburg Police Department.

It was moved but not seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Ron Russell discussed the City of St. Petersburg evaluating Walter Fuller Park's playground to make it handicapped accessible for handicapped children. **Tom Killian** discussed the City of St. Petersburg's progress on a playground on the east side of Tyrone Blvd.

Steven Zachem discussed the progress of the alley vacations in the area between 71st Street North, 38th Avenue North and Tyrone Blvd. which has been in the Neighborhood Plan for some time.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. It was passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Golfer: "Think I'm going to drown myself in the lake."
Caddy: "Think you can keep your head down that long?"

Golfer: "Do you think my game is improving?"
Caddy: "Yes sir, you miss the ball much closer now."





St. Petersburg Community Garden

By Tom Killian

Located at the corner of 22nd. Avenue N. and 79th. Street N. is the cities Community Garden. The Garden, started in 1983, brings together neighbors who enjoy growing vegetables, flowers and herbs. The Grow Boxes measure 5'x30'x8" deep. The cost for a 6 month rental is \$27.00. Rental begins in March and end in August or begin in September and end in February. The city supplies water from wells and provides mulch and fertilizer for all the plots. Many of our Jungle Terrace members have used the garden over the years as well as the Azalea and Jungle Prada Associations. There are 48 garden spaces available. Only one is vacant as of this moment. If you wish to rent a space please contact Sally Marvin at the Azalea Community Center for information 893-7150. At our May 21, 2007 monthly meeting the Jungle Terrace Civic Association voted 17-9 to reject the Chabad Jewish Center of St. Petersburg's bid to buy the greenspace area that includes the Community Garden. ***



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The annual Green Thumb Festival

is one of the bay area's largest plant and landscape festivals, offering a huge variety of plants and trees, garden art, landscaping and conservation seminars, tool sharpening, water and soil testing, a flower show and more. Held this year on April 29th and 30th, it was bigger than ever.



It's a good idea to bring a wagon to the festival.



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Here JTCA member Linda Sessions and JTCA President Steve Zacheman man the Jungle Terrace Civic Association tent. The goal was to solicit new Jungle Terrace Neighborhood members.

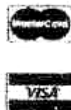
Lot's of things to see at the festival. There was a display of "Garden Railroads" (Right), tool sharpening, Pinellas County Extension display and much more. With all the trees and open area, Walter Fuller Park is an ideal location for this event.

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Pinellas Trail Fires

By **Bob Miller**

I walk the Pinellas Trail from 22nd. Ave. to the 38th. Ave. bridge and back several times a week for exercise. It's almost 3 miles round trip. Pinellas County did a great job of cleaning it up a month or two ago. I'm not sure the contractor assigned to maintain it has done anything since though.

Recently I noticed a couple of areas where it was obvious that fires had occurred. Two locations were burned within a week of Memorial Day. Seeing these I started to notice other

fire locations. Some looked old but there are 6 - 8 locations between 22nd Ave. and 38th Ave. I took some pictures and added them below. I went to Fire Station #9 located at the corner of 5th Ave and 66th St and asked if they were aware of the fires. They were aware and said the fires were likely set but they didn't know who was doing it. I told them I would let our neighborhood association know. Maybe there is someone that can add some information to the mystery. If you do, you can contact the fire station at 9th Ave and 66th St, our community policing officer at 551-3183, or talk to one our board members. Any info you have will help put a stop to this nonsense. ****



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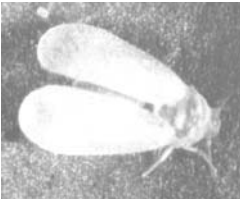
Don Rogers
a Jungle Terrace Resident



This Months Gardening Tips

By Dean Hall, President
 Floridian Pest & Turf Management
 July 2007

WHITE FLIES



White flies are abundant on many plants, especially hibiscus. The adult of this pest is a small, snow white, gnat like insect about one sixteenth of an inch long. There are three peak broods of these adults each year. They usually occur in March-April, June-July and September-October. People usually are concerned when they see the adult Whiteflies. However, these insects as adults do not feed on or damage plants. It is best to

wait three weeks after seeing adults to start treatments, so to get the young or larva that have hatched. The young do the damage by inserting their beak into the leaf and feeding on the sap in the leaf. Orthene and bifenthren are two materials for control. You must spray on the underside of the leaf for best results. You control the young, not adults.

CREPE MYRTLES

If your crepe myrtles haven't bloomed, you probably had a heavy infection of powdery mildew. Neutral copper is a good fungicide for the control of powdery mildew. Apply on a weekly basis or until control is obtained.

POINSETTIAS

Remember to cut about six to eight inches off the terminal growth of your poinsettias. Add magnesium sulfate to deepen the color. On medium sized plants, use one half to one cup. Don't forget to fertilize after removing the tip growth. Use any good mixed fertilizer such as a 6-6-6.

PALM TREES

Now is the best time of year to set any type of palm. The hot weather and the rain showers will aid the palm in becoming established in a very short period of time. Apply a soluble fertilizer once or twice a week.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Check all perennial chrysanthemums for spots on the leaves. This fungus will cause excessive leaf drop if the plants are not sprayed with Daconil or a similar fungicide. Applications of the fungicide should be made at least every two weeks.

FIGS

Figs are ripening now. Cover the plants with light netting to prevent birds from ravaging the fruit. Apply an all organic fertilizer and spray on a biweekly basis with neutral copper to prevent rust on the leaves.

ST. AUGUSTINE GRASS

Chinch bugs are absolutely devouring all forms of St. Augustine grass. Even my St. Augustine had to be sprayed. If the population is exceptionally intense, then repeat the insecticide application in about fifteen days. (FOLLOW LABEL DIRECTIONS)



SOD WEB WORM

Although it is a little early for sod web worms watch the lawn closely. This is a small caterpillar three fourths of an inch long. Its color is greenish, and covered with small, dark, inconspicuous spots.

(Continued on page 14)



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(Continued from page 13) **Gardening Tips**

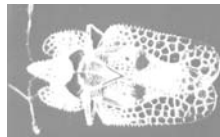
The adults are small, dingy brown moths with a wingspread of about three fourths of an inch. The Sod Webworm feed at night and lies dormant in the grass at or near the soil during the day. They rest in a curved position. Partly chewed grass and the presence of frass “fecal pellets” are signs that this pest is attacking the lawn. Further search will usually find the caterpillar. They are not hard to find. They get their mane “webworm” because they leave many webs in areas where they have been working. These webs are easy to see early in the morning when the grass is covered with dew. My experience is they become more active in damaging lawns after rains.

CITRUS TREES

Citrus in particular, will need fertilizer this month. The application applied at this time will help to mature the fruit later in the year. Citrus may also need an application of a pesticide for the control of rust mites. This pest will cause the fruit to turn a rusty brown, if not controlled.

SYCAMORES

Sycamores may become infected with lace bug later in the month. This insect can be controlled with malathion or bifenthrin. If your tree is large, you may need a certified pest control company to do the job.



AZALEA

Azaleas and other plants may have an iron deficiency. Try a product called Ironite. It has worked wonders with my plants and lawn too. It is available in a number of garden centers. The material is dry but readily soluble in water.



E-MAIL ME YOUR LAWN AND SHRUB QUESTIONS AND I WILL TRY TO ANSWER THEM. dean@flbugs.com

Know Your Ropes.....naval terms in everyday conversation

by **Wally Guthrie**

Naval expressions date back decades or even centuries with surprisingly practical origins. So why is Navy lingo so popular? Could it be that people like to use words that make sense? You hear these old expressions and there’s something colorful -- and practical -- about them. Here are a few more that have migrated into popular usage.

Cup of Joe. In 1914, Secretary of the Navy Joseph Daniels banned alcohol on all U.S. Navy ships – a prohibition that continues in effect to this day. From that time on, the strongest drinks permitted aboard Navy ships was coffee. Hence, a cup of coffee became known as a “cup of Joe.”

Three Sheets to the Wind. If the “sheets” (the rope lines used to control the sails) are loose on a fully rigged ship, the sails flap and flutter in the breeze and are said to be “into the wind.” A ship in this condition appears “drunk” because it shudders and staggers aimlessly in the water, not unlike one who has had too much to drink!

Know the Ropes. This was a phrase printed on a seaman’s discharge papers to indicate that he know the functions of all the rope lines on the ship. ***



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Jungle Terrace Web Site

We have a web site for the Jungle Terrace Civic Association. It is at URL www.Jungle-Terrace.org. It is available for viewing to anyone that has internet access. The web site has important organizational information, a Neighborhood map, the softcopy Newsletter and much more. The Newsletter and map are in PDF format.



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Questions contact Webmaster Bob Miller at BluegrassBob@earthlink.net

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The Jungle Terrace Internet Discussion List

Jungle Terrace has an Internet discussion list that is available to all neighborhood residents free. If you have a computer you can join. Learn what is happening today. When you sign onto the list, you can then participate in discussions concerning things that are important to our neighborhood. Help us solve problems and make our neighborhood the best in the city. To join the list, send an e-mail to Steve Plice at steveplice@verizon.net



ZODIAC REPORT

Astrological Sign:

July 2007

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Leo (July 21-August 21)

4th Independence Day



☾ Last Quarter	7th	12:54 p.m.
● New Moon	14th	8:04 a.m.
☽ First Quarter	22nd	2:29 a.m.
☾ Full Moon	29th	8:48 p.m.



Astrological Sign:

August 2007

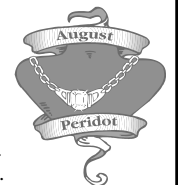
Leo (July 21-August 21)

Virgo (August 22 to September 22)

14th VJ Day



☾ Last Quarter	5th	5:20 p.m.
● New Moon	12th	7:03 p.m.
☽ First Quarter	20th	7:54 p.m.
☾ Full Moon	28th	6:35 a.m.



Nothing is called "second-hand" any more, except "second-hand smoke." Why is it not called "pre-owned" smoke?

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2008 Partnership Art Grant

By: **Tom Killian**

At our January 15, 2007 meeting the Jungle Terrace Civic Association voted to pursue a Art Grant through the cities Neighborhood Partnership Grant Program. Our association has received previous grants for our neighborhood plan, signs and landscaping, signs and monuments for our Industrial Park. The Art Grant differs from our previous grants because we work with both the Partnership Office and with the cities Art Director **Ann Wykell**. Many of you met Ann when she spoke about different art designs at our February meeting. We have an art committee of knowledgeable people who I enjoy working with. They are **Dr. Ed Carlson, Linda Carlson, Richard Meredith, and Skip Mitchell**. Our proposed site for the project is on 22nd. Avenue

N. and 79Street N. in front of the Azalea Middle School. I have met with the Azalea Principal **Teresa Anderson** twice and explained our project. We need county approval even though the project will be on city right of way. The project will be lighted at night. Our committee, **Ann Wykell**, and the Partnership office selected the location because of its visibility and that 9,000 cars pass by daily. Our committee has visited 29 different art projects in St. Petersburg to get ideas. The committee has put in over 100 hours already visiting sites, vendors, meetings, and computer time. We were required to do an artist call and get resumes of prospective candidates. We have gotten two resumes to date. Sculptor **Robbie Robbins** has submitted his resume and his project proposal "Quantumly Entwined". **Charlie Parker**, owner of the St. Petersburg Clay Company, is working on a curved wall showing the history of our area. We will be asking for a \$25,000.00 grant for our lighted project. We plan to match the grant by doing a major lighting survey of our area and by time spent in organizing the project. Visit our website www.Jungle-Terrace.org/files/Art_Letter.pdf to see information on the project.

Each year the city makes available \$250,000.00 for neighborhoods to apply for grants to improve their areas. This year we are hoping that this amount will be available. With the budget cuts that are coming from Tallahassee this year our city will have to cut programs and services. We are all hoping that our Art Project will not be cut. I want to thank all of my committee people for their help and ideas. ***

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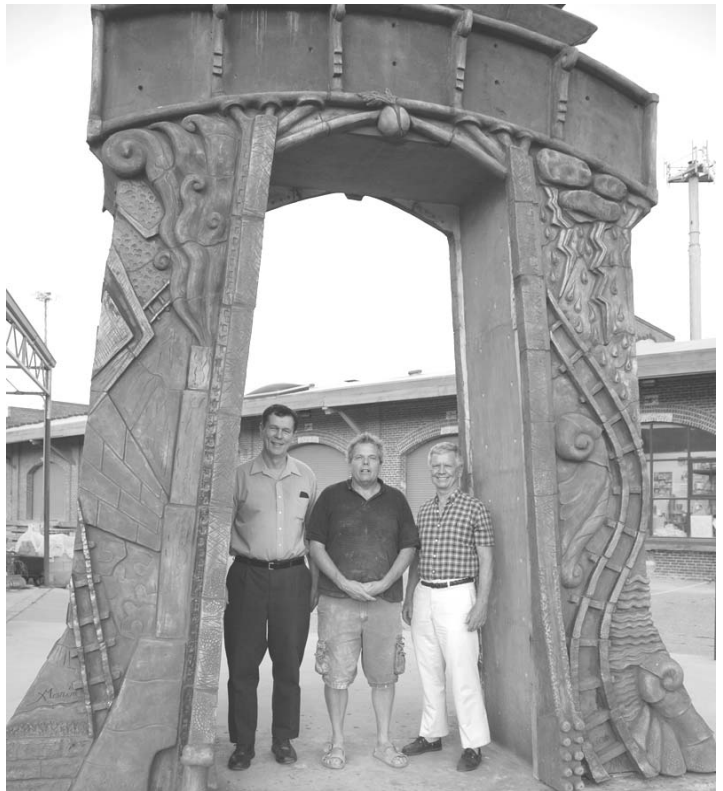
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Robbie has owned a home and resided in St. Pete.*



Tom Killian, Charlie Parker, and Ed Carlson.

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Newsletter Articles

Do you have a letter, issue, article, or recipe you would like to publish in the JTCA newsletter? We welcome letters, comments, and contributions from our neighbors.

We would like to invite you to create articles that will inform our neighbors about items of interest relating to our neighborhood. Some suggested subjects are Pinellas Trail, Tyrone Corridor, Tyrone Square Mall, the Dog Park, Pool and Tennis Courts, Soccer League, Azalea Little League, Walter Fuller Park, the Devil Rays Complex, History of Abacrombie Park, our Linear Park 30th. Ave. N., the two schools in our area, Walter Fuller Center, Mobile home park on 34th. Ave., recipes, etc.

Photos are welcome. We can also take photos for your article. Articles and photos can be in soft-copy (preferred) or hard copy.

Send to: **Bob Miller**

Bluegrassbob@Earthlink.net

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Articles will not be accepted which in any way is considered to be lacking in judicious good taste or moral propriety, or which demeans any particular race, language, religion, or political view. Articles of a controversial political nature will not be accepted. Advertising of a controversial political nature will not be accepted. Advertising found to contravene truth, exaggerate the description of a product or service, or containing fraudulent statements will not be accepted. Advertising is accepted with the conditional understanding that the sponsoring company and principal beneficiary of the advertisement is ultimately responsible and liable for its content. We reserve the right to reject or revise all copy submitted, or to cancel advertising at any time.

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(CASA)	898-3671
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Codes (get a case number)	893-7373
Elderly Information	893-7101
Garbage Collection Inf.	893-7334
Graffiti	893-7394
Library - St. Petersburg College	341-7199
Mayor's Action Center	893-7111
Mosquito Control	464-7503
PARC (Pinellas Assoc. for Retarded Children)	345-9111
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Rodent Control	893-7360
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Azalea Elementary	893-2187
Azalea Middle	893-2606
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Social 6:45 P.M. Meeting 7:00 P.M.

- February 19th
- March 19th
- April 16th
- May 21st
- June 18th
- July 16th
- August 20th
- September 17th
- October 15th
- November 19th



December -No Meeting

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Household Hints

by **Wally Guthrie**

Did you know that you can sterilize household sponges in the microwave?

University of Florida researchers have determined that “nuking” kitchen sponges and plastic scrubbers for two minutes in the microwave oven can knock out the bacteria and viruses that cause food-borne illnesses.

Placing the sponges in the dishwasher for cleaning is not enough, the research finds. To thoroughly decontaminate them and not just clean them, they should be placed in a microwave.

But there are precautions to be taken:

Thoroughly wet the sponge before sterilizing it; otherwise, it will likely burst into flames;

Ensure there is no metallic content in the sponge;

Use caution when retrieving the sponge as the sponge will be hot after microwave exposure.

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