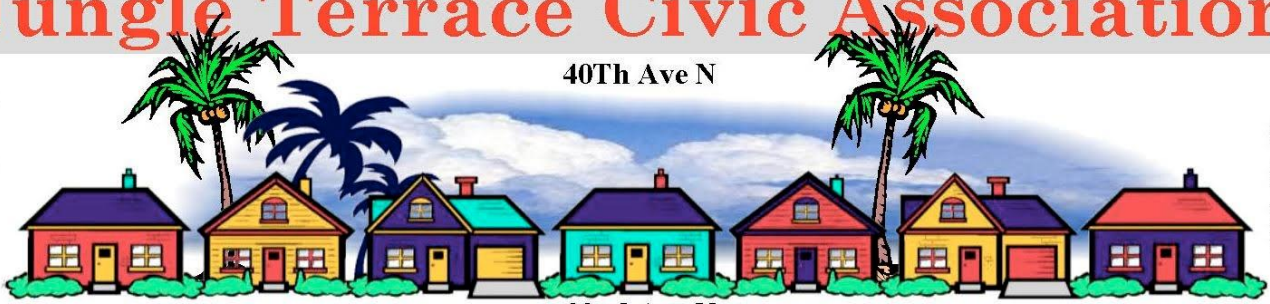


Jungle Terrace Civic Association

40Th Ave N

Boca Ciega Bay



66th St. N.

22nd Ave N

68 Years Advocating for Jungle Terrace Neighborhood!

4th Quarter 2022

www.Jungle-Terrace.org

NO October Meeting

“Letter of Intent” to sue City

by Jungle Terrace and The Real Environmental Preserve Our Parks
for violation of Walter Fuller Park Master Plan requirement: No more impervious
surface. City poured 5,250+ square feet of concrete without notification + approval.
https://jungle-terrace.org/Data_Files/JT_22_Concrete_INTENT_Letter_to_City-Notice_of_Claim.pdf

72 Attending July Jungle Terrace meeting!



State Rep. Linda Chaney shares success, including \$21 Million for District!



Councilman Copley Gerdes and Dr. Ed address large group.



**“The Pickleball Instructor” Robert Eanell
Addresses the severe shortage of courts for
Pickleball.**



**Joe Lacki, Architect,
President St. Pete Pickleball Association,
shows Councilman Gerdes how to get
6 courts in place of 4.**

Speaking on 7 areas provided 3 weeks in advance, Councilman Gerdes:

- 1. Science Center progress. \$5 Million in Grants. \$8 Million to renovate.**
May cost city \$350,000 (of \$748 Million Budget, \$37 million increase) for Education.
Tear down to build Pickleball Center. Opposed by neighborhoods and Pickleballers.
Not seem interested in what neighborhoods want in their best interest.
- 2. Jungle Lake Management. Continuing major issues . . .**
Is there a contract with a Lake Management company?
Yes. Lost treatment company, not notice for 2 months. (Lake overgrown 7th time.)
“Jungle Lake only lake with 2 Baffle Boxes.” (We have been asking for 2 more!)
Nothing on constant flow of pollutants to Boca Ceiga Bay, or need to
“Protect Boca Ceiga Bay” from Red Tide, Algae Blooms, Sea Grass kills.
- 3. January Board letter: WF to be Pickleball-Only-Facility ~ at request of Parks and Rec. Update on WF and city as a whole regarding Pickleball. Details on New Courts and Shared Courts, Citywide and JT.**
“Building 6 courts at Bartlett Park and at Lake Vista on southside.”
“City did study, Tennis and Pickleball courts equally used.”
Uproar from Pickleball Players! 40-50 players on PB courts, **empty** Tennis.
Note: City looked at tennis courts only for one week. Half the times no use.
SPPA did 12 day study of 4 locations in city ~
794 Pickleball Players to 46 Tennis players including 6 children.
City Summer League 110 Pickleball Teams, c. 330 Players.
More PB Leagues than any other sport in the city!
- 4. Albert Whitted Airport talk of “repurposing.”**
Past Referendum: 73% Yes to keep as airport “forever”
in ballot language. Council sense on new referendum.
Still in talking stages.
- 5. Porter Property on 22nd Ave N – why is city opposed to mixed use to include a Crystal Lagoon? Progress report.**
Nothing specific.
- 6. Coliseum Sound System Upgrade**
Report/Proposal, 3 options, world-class audio expert.
No movement.
- 7. Band Shell Rebuild Williams Park and Sound System**
No decisions made.



Bee Master Derek Lewis, 70 Years, demonstrates BEE HOTEL that Jungle Terrace installed in Volunteers Garden in W.F. Park.



On TV! Derek, Walter Fuller Park, Volunteers Garden.

<https://www.baynews9.com/fl/tampa/news/2022/08/17/life-long-beekeeper-shares-expertise>

35% of our food requires Bee pollination.

Solitary Bees, in contrast to Honeybees, live as individuals.

Aka **Pollinator Bees**, they are efficient pollinators!

"Busy as a Bee" best applies to **Solitary Bees**.

They dedicate their short lives to pollinating
as they are building, provisioning, and sealing breeding cells.

Stingless, they are very peaceable. Ideal pets.

Free "Honeybee Trap Box" delivered. Gathers bees to move to hive.

Or install a low cost BEE HOTEL!

Contact Bee Master Derek Lewis, kered42@gmail.com, 786-630-0793

Jungle Lake

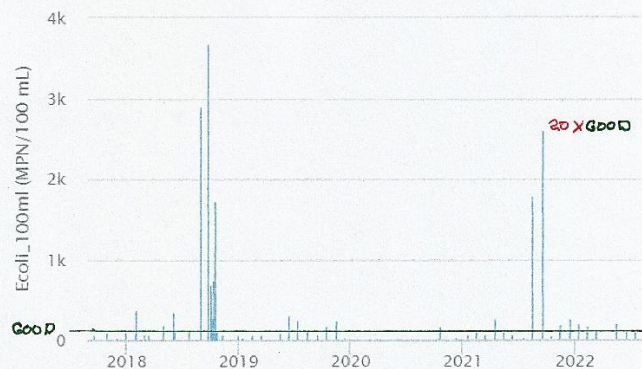


SWFWMD Staff (SouthWest Florida Water Management District) Amber and Jamie on the right, tour Jungle Lake with Dr. Ed and State Rep. Linda Chaney, to address lake issues.

https://www.stpete.org/residents/public_safety/recreational_water_quality.php

COSP_CoastalWQ : T16-43 Walter Fuller Park Outfall (T16-43 Walter Fuller Park Outfall)

Historic Chart for Ecoli_100ml at COSP_CoastalWQ : T16-43 Walter Fuller Park Outfall



● Ecoli_100ml (MPN/100 mL)
Result Ranges [Chart to 4,000]
Below 126 – Good
126-410 – Moderate
Above 410 – Poor

USF Water Institute Pinellas County
<https://www.pinellas.wateratlas.usf.edu/maps/coastal-water-quality-map/>

Our New Community Police Officer ~ Chea Lance



My name is Officer Chea Lance, pronounced “Shay”. I am your new Community Police Officer, and I will be attending your meetings and handling any issues that are in your neighborhood.

I've been a police officer for 10 years, with a background in gangs, human trafficking, and special weapons and tactics. Please be free to reach out via phone or email in case there are any concerns. I look forward to meeting you in person!

My cell phone number is 727-748-7377

My email is Chea.Lance@Stpete.org

JCTA Awards

Newsletter of the Year Award 2004

City Beautification Award 2010

Mayor's Neighborhood Award 2012

ENTWINED Sculpture 2013

Pinellas TRAIL “Enhancement Award” 2014

Mayor's JTCA PROCLAMATION 2015

Keep Pinellas Beautiful - Runner Up -

Volunteer Group of the Year 2017

Council of Neighborhood Associations

CareFest Award - Every Year

“Senior Hall of Fame” Award and

“Key to the City”: Dr. Ed 2017

Mayor's “Best Project” Award 2018

Mayor's “Best Partnership” Award 2018

Mayor's “President of the Year” RU 2018

Mayor's “Website + Newsletter” Award 2018

Honorable Mention



Bench Swing on the Bay by Waterfront Parks Foundation

<https://waterfrontparksfoundation.org/>



Jungle Terrace wants one for Jungle Lake!~!

Will YOU Donate??

https://www.paypal.com/donate?token=Gbd8dCJq3XbhXuAZP8-XCsUJHVbv2_HXZ_Rb3EWS8f5WZ3g9Jz5ko8W5y0qUGXltD1_eOLVV6p8GtQW4

Mural for PARC by famous VITALE Brothers

Great news...The Vitale Brothers, prolific muralists in St. Pete will be creating a mural on PARC's Bert Muller home. This will be a part of the SHINE Mural Festival in October. Parc Center for disabilities will be "highlighted" during the festival because this project is being 100% donated by the Vitale Brothers. We are excited about this opportunity to have our exposure to our community elevated by this great event and by this generous donation. Just wanted to keep you in the loop!

Michelle Detweiler, President and CEO

St. Pete Director of Communication Resigns Citing ‘bullying’ (hostile work environment)

Gave up her \$127,000+ job . . . had to be bad!

"citing a “culture of bullying” ...

"hostile work environment, lack of communication or guidance and overall culture of bullying..."

<https://www.tampabay.com/news/st-petersburg/2022/09/01/st-petersburg-city-communications-director-resigns-immediately-citing-bullying/>

Deputy Mayor Stephanie Owens Resigns her \$217,000 job. Letter surfaces by Campaign workers of similar treatment.

Follow the link below to view the article.

https://tampabaytimes-fl.newsmemory.com/?publink=4d7a684b7_134860b

"She created a “hostile work environment” and “culture of bullying” while providing little communication or guidance."

Taylor’s accusations are **similar to those made in a letter signed by some of Welch’s former campaign staff**. Prior to being appointed by Welch to serve as deputy mayor and chief of policy, Owens was Welch’s campaign manager and transition director.

The letter, with signatures removed out of fear of retaliation, was provided to the Tampa Bay Times by a former campaign staffer who was one of the people who signed it. A high-ranking campaign worker who read it at that time confirmed its authenticity. The letter begins with praise for Welch’s campaign and his 15-point victory in the August 2021 primary election.

"Since the majority of the team was formed in May of 2021, the campaign’s central leadership has been vested in our campaign manager, Stephanie Owens," the letter reads. "Over the course of the past four months **under her leadership, the campaign internally has devolved into a toxic work environment that has taken form in instances of aggression, rudeness, deception, deep unprofessionalism and a general negativity to people both inside and outside** of the campaign."

"Each of us have stories and experiences that have compelled us to pen this letter."

Mayor Welch has some explaining to do

St. Petersburg Deputy Mayor Stephanie Owens resigned Friday after she was accused of creating a “culture of bullying.” The move likely saved Mayor Ken Welch from having to fire her, but the resignation cannot be the end of this story. The allegations and the fallout raise a lot of questions. Among others: Why did the mayor hire Owens into the No. 2 job in the administration, and why didn’t he move sooner to remedy the situation? Did he not know what was going on, or did he not think it was that serious? Either way, there’s a lot of explaining to do.

News spread Thursday that city communications director Janelle Irwin Taylor had resigned from her \$127,000-a-year job after only seven months. In a letter to the mayor, Irwin Taylor wrote that she had complained about Owens’ behavior, but not enough was done to address the matter. “I have determined that the disclosed hostile work environment, lack of communication or guidance and overall culture of bullying, all related to my direct supervisor, were not adequately addressed, and thus warrant my immediate departure from this administration,” Irwin Taylor wrote.

On Friday, Welch suspended Owens, who soon after announced her resignation effective Sept. 9. In an email to city staff, Welch said many of the right things about ensuring a “high standard of civility and professionalism.” But this isn’t some rogue city employee working in a far-flung office whom the mayor never sees. This is his only deputy mayor, the person he has said he works most closely with to run the city, accused of bullying another high-level administrator, Irwin Taylor. Where was the oversight? Where was the intervention? And why did Welch hire Owens in the first place? She was Welch’s campaign manager and transition director before he chose her to serve as deputy mayor and chief of policy after he won the election last year.

But several members of Welch’s election team were upset that Owens created a toxic work environment during the campaign — and that they complained to Welch at that time.

This story is still evolving. The details will matter — who knew what and when, and what did they do or not do with that information? But it doesn’t look good. It never does when a deputy mayor resigns under a cloud like this. The mayor is only eight months into his term, and he has a chance now for a hard reset, to lead from City Hall, to be present, to show the city and his staff what he stands for. But to begin to get there, Welch must facilitate a full airing of what happened, including his own role. Anything less will raise even more questions.

Follow the link below to view the article.

https://tampabaytimes-fl.newsmemory.com/?publink=2114d95c7_134860b

HELP by County on Pinellas Trail

County scoured bank and trimmed trees from 35th Avenue all the way to the ditch and the hill of first vagrant site. Mowed tight to the fence also.... all the way to the end of the white building.

Thanks to all VOLUNTEERS for participating and cleaning up for a year to inspire them to do this!!



Mosquito Assessment of Jungle Lake by County Mosquito Control

Plenty of gambusia (mosquito) fish at Walter Fuller Jungle Lake

See 5 sec. Video here. https://jungle-terrace.org/Data_Files/minnowsMOV.mp4

Techs set a trap for three days in a row.

1st day = 1 mosquito

2nd day = 0 mosquitoes

3rd day = 1 mosquito

(Should have use me for bait!)

“Not showing a problem at this time.”

Jungle Country Club Creek

Renamed from Ditch #9

“Steve of the Jungle” Elftmann advocated 2+ Years for the re-designation.

<http://junglecountryclubhistoryproject.blogspot.com/p/blog-page.html>



West side luminaries under the new "Jungle Country Club Creek" sign. Dr. Ed Carlson (president, Jungle Terrace Neighborhood Association), Steve Elftmann (board member, Azalea Neighborhood Association), Dominick Griesi (president, Azalea Neighborhood Association), Robert Blackmon (former district 1 council member and mayoral candidate), Copley Gerdes (with daughter, district 1 council member), David and Catie Anderson (Jungle Prada tour guides), James Giering (South Pasadena historian).



REEF & REEL ~ New Business in Jungle Terrace



Living in “The Sunshine City” of St. Petersburg is a dream come true. From the fine dining and nightlife of downtown to the world class beaches on the Gulf of Mexico, this city truly is paradise. A wide variety of fishing rivals the best in the country. Catching tarpon and snook in Tampa Bay or grouper and snapper in the Gulf, St Pete is a fisherman’s dream... on the beach or the boat. There is a new one stop shop in town to take care of everything you need.

Reef & Reel Store is open at 3350 Tyrone Blvd N. This fishing superstore is the largest in Pinellas County, and one of the largest in all of Florida. Starting from the jaw-dropping murals on the exterior to the custom interior featuring a 34-foot rod wall that holds over 200 rods, this store is like nothing you have ever seen. The open concept floor plan makes it very shoppable and comfortable to be in. Fully stocked with all the best brands in the industry for apparel, accessories, and tackle, including Reef & Reel’s custom clothing line that has been spreading like wildfire throughout the country.

“Our Reef & Reel apparel started as a small dream of our owner, who lives locally in the St Pete area, just making a few t-shirts and hats. As positive feedback on the designs continued to roll in, we decided to expand on the line. We added a large array of performance fishing apparel, rain gear and cold weather options like sweatshirts and jackets. The line just continues to grow and honestly, the sky is the limit. The women’s apparel that we offer has been wildly popular and met with great feedback. There is an entire section dedicated to women’s apparel, so we make sure we are taking care of everyone. We even have gear for youth anglers and fishing themed onesies for the little ones!”, says Kevin Sampl, the General Manager of Reef & Reel.

The store is stocked up with the best performance fishing products in the industry from Penn, Daiwa, Shimano, Okuma, Temple Fork, Bubba, Aftco, Olukai, Costa, Howler Brothers to name a few. We even have frozen bait if you need some before heading out. There is everything and anything you need for a great day on the sea or the sand. The staff is very professional and knowledgeable and makes sure you are set up for success. Seasoned pro or a beginner, the staff at Reef & Reel will take care of you.

Reef & Reel is taking things a step further with community engagement at this new store location. There are **weekend classes and seminars**, ranging from specialty fishing applications like fly fishing and deep dropping, all the way to beginner classes for kids or someone that just wants to learn how to fish.

Reef and Reel is also very active with donations for fundraisers and community events. “Reef & Reel is a unique experience and our relationship with our community is what sets us apart.”

This isn’t the bait and tackle store that your grandpa brought you to. Reef & Reel is doing it differently, in a great way. Come check out our new store!!!

Giant Snail invasion grows

Giant African land snails — “one of the most damaging snails in the world” — have infiltrated the county’s second-largest city, New Port Richey, and its immediate surroundings. State agriculture officials say they have already captured more than 1,000 of the fist-sized invaders since identifying the first intruder on June 23.

“Let me assure you: We will eradicate these snails,” Florida Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried said.

This is not Florida’s first skirmish with the pests. The state thwarted two previous yearslong incursions around Miami-Dade County, first in the late 1960s and early 1970s, then again between 2011 and 2021. The last battle cost \$23 million.

Giant African land snails eat hundreds of types of plants and sometimes even the stucco or plaster off buildings, which provides calcium to harden their shells. They can carry rat lungworm, a parasite known to cause meningitis in people — making the snails a real threat to humans, not just a nuisance. Scientists have not detected rat lungworm in any of the snails caught in Pasco.

The biggest snail was 4.5 inches. Snails were found on 29 properties. But the battle ground is wider: The state set up a “quarantine” area from U.S. 19-Ridge Road intersection, east to Little Road and south to Trouble Creek Road. They warn residents not to move the snails or materials such as plants, soil, compost and yard waste without a compliance agreement from the agriculture department.

There are 30 workers on the state's strike team. Two dogs are part of the effort. The dogs are trained to sniff for snails and to alert their handlers when they catch the scent by sitting down. No one wants the dogs to bite a snail and get sick.

The state is putting out pesticide to kill the snails. The bait is called metaldehyde. It upends the African land snail's mucus production, triggering lethal dehydration. State workers warn homeowners before they apply the pesticide.

A Pasco resident first detected the invasion. They saw large snails in their yard and told U. of FL. Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, which alerted the state.

Giant African land snails entrench themselves quickly. One snail can generate more than 2,500 eggs in a year!

The snails look similar to a variety popular in the European pet trade, he said. It's illegal to import or keep giant African land snails as pets here without a permit, according to the state. But authorities have caught people trying to bring the pests into Florida, including some that look like the snails they're now finding in Pasco.

The war will not end anytime soon. The state can only declare victory, in this case "eradication," two years after the last live snail is caught, Fried said. "We will do whatever's necessary."

For more information about the snails, including how to identify the pests, visit the state's snail website at bit.ly/3A1kBg0.

Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried advised people not to touch the snails under any circumstances. Anyone who believes they have spotted a giant African land snail is asked to call the state's hotline at 1-888-397-1517.

