

68 Years Advocating for Jungle Terrace Neighborhood! 3rd Quarter 2023 <u>www.Jungle-Terrace.org</u>

> Meeting Monday, July17, 2023 Walter Fuller Center-7891 26th Av N ~ 7 pm "HALL of HONORS" David Johnson Councilman Richie Floyd "7 Researched Areas" State Rep. Linda Chaney "Accomplishments" Robert Blackmon "Science Center Success"

#### Jungle Terrace Donates FLAG for Walter Fuller Ball Park



HELP Jungle Lake Restoration Project VOLUNTEER 2 hours Saturday mornings in July, 8:30am "Weed the Lake" of water lettuce... wading or from shore. Meet Swim Pool Parking Lot. Acegang1@aol.com

### Jungle Terrace and SoUL Re-Vegetate Jungle Lake

With the assistance of the City, State Rep. Linda Chaney, Keep Pinellas Beautiful, Jungle Terrace and Stewards of Our Urban Lakes kicked off 3 year project to revegetate Jungle Lake to protect Boca Ceiga Bay. Help us at our next event. Planned, organized, and led by President Jim Bays of <u>www.SoULinc.org</u>.



Preparing each plant for planting.



Planting the Floating Wetland Island.



Volunteers loading plants in canoe.



Planting Jungle Lake – ReVegetation for plants to clean up the water.



Mike Perry anchoring Floating Wetland Island.

Success!

Thank You **Jim Bays**, **Stewards of Our Urban Lakes**, **Inc.** for developing the "Jungle Lake Restoration Plan."

Thank You, State Rep. Linda Chaney for ongoing championing Jungle Lake.
Thank You Councilman Copley Gerdes and City of St. Pete Public Works and
Lake Manager for working together to find initial funding for the Restoration.
Thank You Keep Pinellas Beautiful, for providing Canoes and Volunteers.
Thank You Jungle Terrace Civic Assn. for years of caring and determination.
THANK YOU all VOLUNTEERS for hours and hours of making this happen!!



Pat DePlasco, KPB, Rep. Linda Chaney, Jim Bays, SoUL



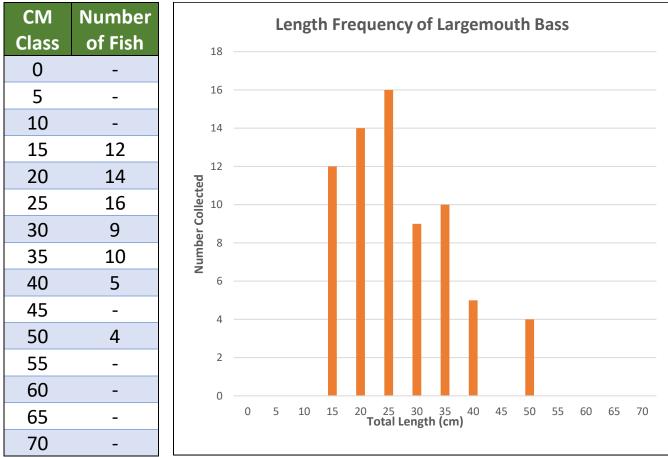
Measuring and Geo-locating each of the 10 plots.

### Fish and Wildlife Commission SURVEY of Jungle Lake Fish Healthy Fish Population

Waterbody: Jungle Lake, St Petersburg FL

Sampling Date: 5/2/2023

**Summary:** Jungle Lake at Walter Fuller Park in St Petersburg was sampled on 5/2/23. The entire perimeter of the lake was sampled using boat mounted electrofishing equipment. The sampling effort was divided into 600 second perimeter transects with fish being weighed and measured after each transect. All Largemouth Bass seen were collected, while a representative subset of all other species was collected. Additional fish seen but not collected were noted.



Distribution and quantity of Largemouth Bass (left) and the length frequency of all Largemouth Bass sampled (right).



70 Largemouth Bass were collected, weighed, and measured. The CPUE for bass 1.64 fish/min, with most fish being between 15-25cm in length. The largest bass ranged between 40 and 55cm, which are quality fish for a small lake in terms of angling opportunity. An abundance of small panfish indicate the bass population has plenty of forage.

**Future Efforts:** The fishery could benefit from the addition of catchable Channel Catfish which would improve bank fishing opportunities for subsistence anglers.

# **Large Mouth Bass**



# Bluegill



## **Redear Sunfist**



**ABC** Action News features Jungle Lake Restoration

# "Community Works Together to Save Neighborhood Lake" ву <u>Robert Boyd</u>

https://www.abcactionnews.com/news/region-pinellas/community-works-together-to-save-neighborhood-lake

PINELLAS COUNTY, Fla. — After years of a lake in limbo, a significant restoration plan is in place for one St. Pete Lake, thanks to the local community.

For the past few years, the non-profit organization, Stewards of Our Urban Lakes has been helping local communities like Jungle Terrace Civic Association transform their favorite waterways from a problem into a success.

"By not having a decent plant cover or thick plant cover what you get is algae growing," said Jim Bays, with Stewards of Our Urban Lakes, referring to Jungle Lake.

"At one point, this was one of the worst water quality lakes in the state, and our goal is to make it the best," said State Representative District 61 Linda Chaney.

Local resident Dr. Ed Carlson contacted Chaney about Jungle Lake in 2020. "And I got very concerned because it discharges directly into Boca Ciega Bay," said Chaney.

"The community is the ones that stayed with it for the last five to seven years and kept looking and looking for a solution to the problem," said Carlson.

The community, city, state, and local non-profits, like Stewards of Our Urban Lakes and Keep Pinellas Beautiful, all work together to establish and execute the Jungle Lake Restoration Plan.

"We have to find the right species of plants that can adapt to the water level range within the lake," said Bays.

In May, dozens of residents got into the water and helped Bays add 600 plants of seven different species. The goal is better filtration.

"So we can see what plants grew best at one-foot, two-foot, three-foot depth levels, and then we'll plant more of those plants, plants that didn't do well we won't," said Carlson.

"They were up to their thighs, their waist, digging in; they were really enthusiastic; they were out here all day," said Chaney, who helped with the volunteer efforts.

For Stewards of Our Urban Lakes, this marks the 6th lake they've worked to restore in Pinellas County, and they say each and every project starts with a community who cares.

"You have to just keep turning over rocks and turning over rocks until you finally turn over the rock that has the answer in it," said Carlson. "So persistence is the key. If we had given up two years ago, it wouldn't of happened; if we had given up five years ago, it wouldn't of happened, but we never gave up."

### Bike Trail along 71<sup>st</sup> St. N from Tyrone/30<sup>th</sup> to 54<sup>th</sup> Av N \$ 1.3 Million



### St. Pete Bike Club Co-Adopts Trail Mile 9 with Jungle Terrace



12 Large Bags of Litter!

# Oak Trees JTCA stimulated planting PICKLEBALL COURTS





**DOG PARK OAKS** (Replacing ancient Magnolias)



Super Appreciation to Kathy Markiewicz, Parks & Recreation Department !!

And, Jungle Terrace Volunteers for taking special care of the new Oak Trees for several years.

# Florida Lake Management Society Spring Workshop April 27, 2023



#### Jungle Lake Restoration Plan

Jim Bays, Stewards of Our Urban Lakes (SoUL) Inc.

Jungle Lake is a 10-acre artificial stormwater management pond within Walter Fuller Park in St. Petersburg, Florida, conveying runoff to Boca Ciega Bay. Converted from an open retention pond to a flow-through wetland pond in the mid-1990s, Jungle Lake treatment performance is less than expected in comparison to similar stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs).

Stewards of Our Urban Lakes, in partnership with **Jungle Terrace Civic Assn.**, the City of St. Petersburg, and Keep Pinellas Beautiful, is embarking on a multiyear, volunteer-based project to improve performance by restoring and expanding coverage by emergent, floating-leaved, and submersed aquatic vegetation.



#### **REPAIRS at Walter Fuller Park**



### Kenneth City PICKLEBALL Kickoff!~!



Bill Chief Mike Vieno Dr. Ed City Council Bonnie Noble



Ambassadors Bill, Karla and Dr. Ed kicked off Pickleball for Kenneth City at their "Sounds of Spring Festival"!

Dr. Ed played with City Council Member Bonnie Noble with her large Parrot Claudia on her shoulder the whole game.

Bill called to inquire about BRIDGE card lessons. "No."

'When ready for Pickleball, I will help...' Lady went wild!

In two weeks, two dual use courts, nets, paddles, balls.

First organized sport for Kenneth City!! Thanks Lani Looker, Photographer!

# Local group proposes to purchase, revive Science Center in west St. Pete



Just in: 2023 Florida Legislature appropriated another \$1.5 Million for the Science Center!~! Thank You, Rep. Linda Chaney and Senator Daryl Rouson!!

A local St. Petersburg organization has offered to purchase the long-shuttered former Science Center of Pinellas County with plans to reactivate and reimagine the facility for STEAM-based learning.

The facility, which debuted in 1959, played a pivotal role in many Pinellas County student's lives for the 55 years the facility was in operation. For decades, the center offered after-school and weekend classes for students from kindergarten through middle school in subjects such as biology, chemistry, electronics, and astronautics. At its peak, about 22,000 children visited the Science Center each school year.

<u>The St. Petersburg Group</u>, led by Irv Cohen and Joe Hamilton, proposes to purchase the 3.89-acre Science Center located at **7701 22nd Avenue North** from the City of St. Petersburg. "The Science Center will be a space where hands-on, discovery-based learning and STEM enrichment fuel inquisitive minds and enthusiasm for all things science," states the proposal. "It will be an invaluable asset to the Pinellas County area and provide an interactive, classroom-supportive, family-friendly environment for generations to come."



In response to the unsolicited proposal, the City of St. Petersburg issued a Notice of Intent to Dispose of City-owned Real Estate earlier this week. The notice invites alternative proposals from private developers, or anyone interested in undertaking the lease, purchase, or development of the site. Proposals must be submitted to the city by 10:00 am on Tuesday May 23rd, 2023. (Date passed with no other proposals.)

The group's revitalization plan for the Science Center calls for installing eight STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) modules, sponsored by local businesses, on the first floor of the building. <u>Pathfinder Outdoor Education</u> and <u>Water Warrior Alliance</u> have been identified as two of the eight local groups operating modules at the new Science Center.

With help from Pinellas County Schools and Pinellas Education Foundation, potential programming topics for the modules range from the environment, marine biology, and medicine to cutting-edge technology topics such as blockchain and virtual reality. The second floor of the Science Center building will be rentable space for STEM-related organizations or non-profits.

Additionally, the outside space includes room for outdoor adventure courses, agricultural education, and alternative farming. There is also potential for outdoor event rentals.



WHEN OPEN, THE SCIENCE CENTER OFTEN PARTNERED WITH NASA TO INSPIRE AND ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO PURSUE CAREERS IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH (STEM)

The estimated total project cost is \$10.6 million. The St. Petersburg Foundation and partners <u>have</u> <u>secured \$7 million</u> in federal and state appropriations. (Now \$8.5 million. The Governor had a 9 page veto list and the Science Center wasn't on it - he knew what a priority it is for me and our community  $\heartsuit$  Rep. Chaney)

The proposal has commitments for ongoing support from State Representative Linda Chaney, State Senator Daryl Rouson, and U.S. Congresswoman Anna Paulina Luna. The remainder of the required funds will come from New Markets Tax Credits and donations.

In 2019, the City of St. Pete purchased the Science Center from CareerSource Pinellas \$3.15 million. However, the city was not interested in reviving the Science Center. Instead, the city planned to use a portion of the property to expand the capacity of the neighboring Northwest Water Reclamation Plant.

A groundswell of support for saving the Science Center, led by then City Council member Robert Blackmon, emerged. Now, with a majority funds secured and a commitment from The St. Petersburg Group to spearhead the revival, the Science Center will soon see new life in St. Petersburg.

"The time is ripe for a reactivated, reimagined Science Center for the 21st century," states the proposal. "Through the collaborative network of program providers this initiative is pulling together, the Science Center will provide a unique opportunity for learners to experience the thrill of discovery and grasp the possibilities of a better future through knowledge."



**Rep. Linda Chaney ABC Action News for Jungle Lake** 

#### **Petition Filing for Linda Chaney**

She so helps Jungle Terrace, Science Center, PARC, Our Beaches... Print, Complete, Mail to L. Chaney, 4020 Park St No, SP 33709 District 61: 34<sup>th</sup> St. to the Gulf, St. Pete Beach to No. Redington Beach

<b>CANDIDATE PETITION</b> Notes: - All information on this form becomes a public record upon receipt by the Supervisor of Elections. - It is a crime to knowingly sign more than one petition for a candidate. [Section 104.185, Florida Statutes] - If all requested information on this form is not completed, the form will not be valid as a Candidate Petition form.	
I,	the undersigned, a registered voter
(print name as it appears on your voter information card) in said state and county, petition to have the name of Linda Chaney	
placed on the Primary/General Election Ballot as a: [check/complete box, as applicable	ē]
Nonpartisan	Party candidate for the office of
(insert title of office and include district, circuit, group, seat	number, if applicable)
Date of Birth or Voter Registration Number (MM/DD/YY) Address	
City Pinellas	State Zip Code Florida
Signature of Voter	Date Signed (MM/DD/YY) [to be completed by Voter]
Rule 1S-2.045, F.A.C.	DS-DE 104 (Eff. 09/11)

#### "WEED the LAKE"

Volunteers accomplished 4x what we hoped for.

"Weeded" out Water Lettuce the entire length of the ditch, and all the way along both sides of south water finger...

past Swim Pool to Park Staff shed.

From adult plants with many attached... to single baby plants. Goal: Minimize or Eliminate need to spray them.



Get the "hiders"!

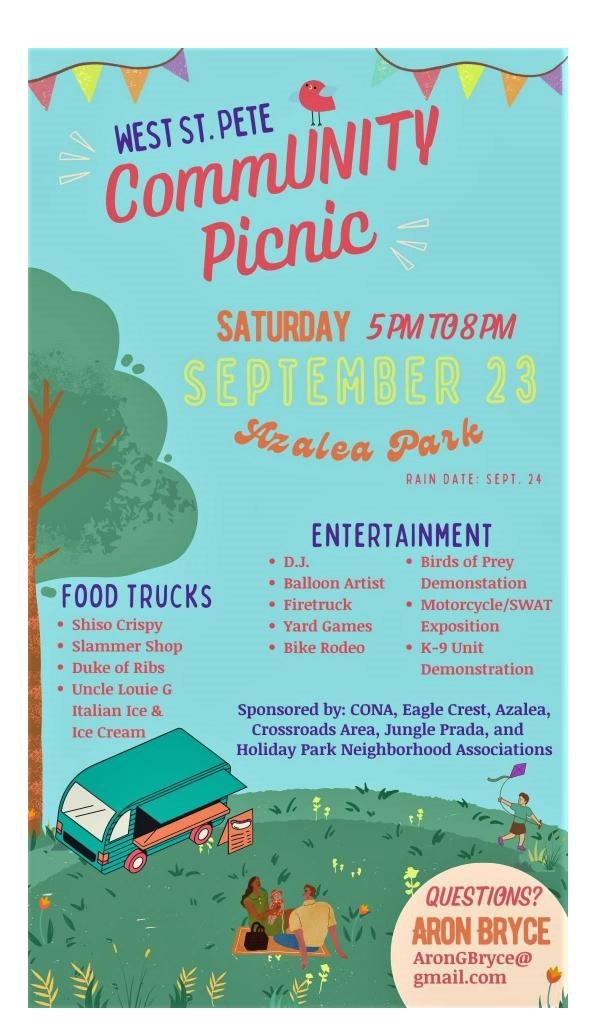


A Family of Water Lettuce.



Ah! Shade after a successful endeavor.

**VOLUNTEER** ~ 3 month project. <u>Acegang1@aol.com</u>



The West St. CommUNITY Picnic is **Saturday, September 23rd** from 5pm-8pm at Azalea Park. The rain date is Sunday, September 24th.

This event is meant to do one thing— bring us together! This picnic is open to the public, **completely free to attend** and meant for all of St. Pete! It is a family-friendly, leashed dog-friendly event that you won't want to miss!

Some of St. Pete's best food trucks will be there! Shiso Crispy, Slammer Shop, Duke of Ribs, and Uncle Louie G's will all be providing delicious bites, so bring your appetite!

St. Pete Police motorcycle unit and SWAT truck on site for attendees to see up-close. St. Pete Fire Rescue will have a firetruck for folks to see inside and learn about.

K-9 unit demonstration, so you can see just exactly how the dogs do their jobs. Birds of Prey demonstration to learn about various species, and see them in-person.

Yard games including jenga, corn hole, and connect 4 will be available to play. There's plenty of seating, a balloon artist and a DJ playing music throughout the picnic!

This is the first time so many different west St. Pete neighborhoods have come together for something like this! An absolute blast for everyone!

This is a true, grassroots community event that will bring together our police, fire, small businesses, local nonprofits, and a host of other partners. And, there is more to come!

Save the date and come on out! Saturday, September 23rd, 5pm-8pm, Azalea Park!

Facebook Event Link: https://www.facebook.com/events/220725564235777



Walter Fuller Sunrise