

# TERRACE TALK



The Newsletter of the Hampton Terrace Community Association est.2016

Volume 1

2nd Edition

Fall

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## HTCA MONTHLY MEETINGS

The HTCA meets the **1st Tuesday** of each month at **7pm** at **Seminole Heights United Methodist Church** in the fellowship hall located in the lower level of the church. Enter through the covered door on the parking lot side of the building. **ALL are welcome!**

**ARE YOU ON THE HTCA E-BLAST LIST?**  
[info@myhtca.org](mailto:info@myhtca.org)

# CELEBRATION...

## HTCA's 1st year as association full of excitement and success

Who would have thought? One year later and the Hampton Terrace Community Association is still standing. NO - the HTCA is thriving and so is our wonderful neighborhood!

We are so very grateful to our sponsors and our neighbors and community for embracing the HTCA and working to make our neighborhood an even better place.

Many folks over the last 12 months have asked..."Why are there two associations in the neighborhood?" Well, friends, we will explain that question right here.

We formed the HTCA to bring the community together and to do what we could to better the quality of life in Hampton Terrace. We envisioned a Neighborhood Association that not only cared deeply for its residents, BUT was a conduit to building and nurturing community pride.

Over 2 years ago, a group of individuals came together in an attempt to work with the other association to become involved as volunteers. Try as they might, it simply did not work. It was clear early on that the possibilities of working together was simply a pipe dream with no positive end in sight. With that, we got to work to establish a second chapter of Neighborhood Watch because the need for communication



Neighbors participate in one of many lake and street clean-ups was paramount to the safety of our neighborhood. We revitalized the Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful chapter and took on the median and sign as well as neighborhood cleanups beyond the lake. As result of these efforts, we heeded the call, created a **NEW NON-DUES BASED** association and accomplished something that many had hoped for, but few believed could happen. We stand today, a welcoming association for **EVERYONE** who lives in Hampton Terrace and beyond, no matter your affiliations. First, and foremost, the HTCA will forever be grateful to the following individuals who stepped up to take on the challenges and **Please see CELEBRATION Page 14...**

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## VOLUNTEER, a word worth it's weight in gold

By Brian D. Frey

HTCA President and Co-Editor, Terrace Talk

VOLUNTEER! The word in itself can promote panic and uncertainty! But, hey...don't let the word scare you at all...allow it to inspire you! The backbone of any non-profit association or organization is the volunteer! We simply cannot exist without YOU.

Thousands of volunteers around the globe assure that organizations are able to save money and in turn use the monies saved in labor to provide better and more productive services to their recipients.

In your community, being a volunteer for a neighborhood association has immense value. It allows the impossible to become the possible, it allows for programs and projects to take flight, it helps make the work load lighter for fellow volunteers and it helps an organization to be successful. In turn it is a personal investment into what makes a neighborhood unique, welcoming and vibrant. The return on the investment can be amazing. You have all heard

the old cliché "it takes a village". Well, as cliché as it may be, it is absolutely true.

My Co-Editor and I feel that our articles this quarter, parallel. Volunteers make the world go 'round. We are an ALL VOLUNTEER Board and association and we need YOU! Your neighborhood needs YOU! Why not join us today and help to make a difference? Let us know by emailing [info@myhtca.org](mailto:info@myhtca.org). You will be glad that you did!



HTCA Board Members pose with leadership at Sulphur Spring Elementary after delivering donations for the 2nd Annual Backpack and School Supplies drive



## Prolific Passion- Supporting children in need through education

By Bill Truett

HTCA Vice President and Co-Editor, Terrace Talk

Another summer has gone by and now it's back to school for all. I'm so thankful that I live in a neighborhood where giving back to our neighbors and those in need is a #1 priority. One excellent example is the yearly **HTCA School Supply Drive for Sulphur Springs K8 Community School**. Recently, HTCA attended the welcome back event I asked the Principal, what can we do as a community to help? Her reply was simple - help us demonstrate to these kids they have a future. She explained that the school is the result of a program called

**The Sulphur Springs Neighborhood of Promise (SSNOP)**. SSNOP is collaborative effort of residents, educators, service providers, government agencies, business leaders and funding partners who have joined together to implement an educational program in which children thrive academically. **The goals are to create a culture that promotes the caring, nurturing**

**and successful education of children and to offer support services for the family and community in positive and productive settings.** To find more about this effort please visit [www.ssnop.org](http://www.ssnop.org).

### What can we do? What can YOU do?

There are a few ways that HTCA and you can help. The school year has just begun and we are still getting information; however, we can outline a few ideas.

**Volunteer to Read** - over the next few weeks HTCA will have more information regarding a program through YMCA Reads.

**Career Awareness**-We also need residents to speak to the students grades 6-8 regarding careers. I plan to speak regarding starting your own business. If you would like to speak regarding your career, please email me at [VP@myHTCA.org](mailto:VP@myHTCA.org). I strongly believe we as a community can help and the Sulphur Springs K8 Community school needs us.



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### The Hampton Terrace Community Association (HTCA)

is a Florida not-for-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of social activities and community awareness. Hampton Terrace is defined as the neighborhood of over 500 rental and privately-owned residences bordered Hillsborough Ave. to the south, Nebraska Ave. to the west, Hanna Ave. to the north and 15<sup>th</sup> St. to the east. We are not a political or religious organization, and membership is open to all residents. Donations made to the HTCA are welcomed.

### TERRACE TALK

Terrace Talk is the newsletter of the Hampton Terrace Community Association. Terrace Talk welcomes unsolicited, politically neutral manuscripts, though we cannot guarantee their publication. All submissions are due the last day of the month before publication, and may be sent to [info@myhtca.org](mailto:info@myhtca.org).

### ADVERTISING IN TERRACE TALK

We accept print ready digital advertisements at the following rates:

\$25- business card  
\$50- 1/4 page  
\$75-1/2 page  
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# Lake Roberta cleaning & beautification efforts polish the jewel in crown of Hampton Terrace

**By Bill Truett**

The end of summer is approaching and it's great to see Lake Roberta at full bank; we had many of the ducklings to survive this year; and the wild mallard ducks are here to stay! It's wonderful to see all the residents, the associations and our Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful chapter (KTBB) hard at work to keep the lake and the median clean.

I'm also happy to report that Becky Epperson and Alex Franceschi are now heading up our KTBB efforts. They will announce future cleanups and will also develop ideas to present to HTCA and the community about median improvements. Stay Tuned.

Over the past few months, HTCA has been in contact with the Storm Water Division. They are listening to our concerns about the flooding and trash. Recently, the HTCA learned the city is considering a project to dredge the lake back to the elevation observed during the 1950s and 1960s. This will allow the lake to hold more water. They are also reviewing the storm drains and how the water enters and exits the lake. An idea that is being considered is to add one additional outlet to move the water out of the lake during heavy rain events. They are also reviewing options to catch more of the trash and debris. As always, there is no timetable, but the



Photo courtesy of the Burgert Bros. Photographic Collection 1948 continued with the Annual Fish-A-Thon at Lake Roberta.

HTCA will continue to follow this closely and will keep you informed.

The long awaited sidewalks on Idlewild are finished. Neighbors are clearly enjoying a safer walk down Idlewild.

## This is a mortgage ad.

### Ingredients

- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup butter
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 1/3 cups mashed overripe bananas

### Directions

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C) & lightly grease a 9x5 inch loaf pan.
- In a large bowl, combine flour, baking soda and salt. In a separate bowl, cream together butter and brown sugar. Stir in eggs and mashed bananas until well blended. Stir banana mixture into flour mixture; stir just to moisten. Pour batter into prepared loaf pan.
- Bake in preheated oven for 60 to 65 minutes, until a toothpick inserted into center of the loaf comes out clean. Let bread cool in pan for 10 minutes, then turn out onto a wire rack.

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# ON THE BEAT

## Tampa Police Department unveils NEW approach to Neighborhood Meetings



**NEIGHBORHOOD  
CRIME WATCH**  
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Tampa Police Department  
**813-231-6130**

By Sid Roberts

HTCA Neighborhood Watch Chair

Recently, TPD announced a new approach to the neighborhood meetings. They will still offer Roll-Calls but the neighborhood meeting will take place for each sector. The meetings will be held at Spring Hill Park located at 1000 E. Eskimo Ave in Sulphur Springs and the dates for the remainder of 2017 will be Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 9, and Dec. 14. **ALL** residents are invited and encouraged to attend to voice comments and concerns.

Do you have security cameras? Would you like to help TPD solve crimes in your area? Register your cameras with TPD's project record! This program allows TPD to identify homes where residents have cameras that monitor the streets, alleyways and properties. This does not allow TPD access to your cameras but it informs them that there are cameras present in case of a crime being committed in the area. You can find out more info and register your cameras on their website at [www.Tampagov.net/police/project-rec](http://www.Tampagov.net/police/project-rec).

Always be mindful of your surroundings and a friendly reminder; **ALWAYS** lock your car doors.

**ALL** HTCA Neighborhood Meetings begin with a Tampa Police Officer providing community crime updates. The first 15 minutes of each meeting is dedicated to Neighborhood Watch.

**Become a BLOCK CAPTAIN**  
email [info@myhtca.org](mailto:info@myhtca.org)

**TPD NON-EMERGENCY #**  
**813-231-6130**

## SAFETY ON A BUDGET- Easy do-it-yourself tips that won't cost you much

By Brittany Loubier

Most would agree that home safety is a priority concern. While hi-tech options are certainly available to anyone who may want to delve into that world of wireless or wired camera systems, they can also be very costly. Here are some helpful hints that may help to deter criminal activity, and make your home and surroundings a bit safer.

-Light the area around your home, particularly around your vehicles and doors.

-Secure your shed or garage and secure items **INSIDE** too by locking them to the

shed itself or to a heavy object (ex. chain a bike or mower to a cinder block or the rafters).

-**Lock** your car doors! Create a routine to lock the car twice each time you get home.

-**Do** not leave anything valuable or dangerous in your vehicles. One day you **MAY** forget to lock the doors...make sure if that's the night someone tries your door, there's nothing worthwhile for them to find.

-**When** you get something new, don't leave the box out for pickup for more than a day. Break it down and put it

into your recycling bin. If it won't fit, ask a neighbor if you can "borrow some space" in their bin.

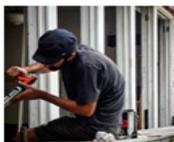
-**Have** packages delivered to your place of employment or leave a note to have them brought to a neighbor's house if you are not home. As a last resort, place a box, bench, or planter on your porch to have packages placed inside of.

**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING.** Call **911** for emergencies or crimes in progress. If you see suspicious activity, call the **non-emergency number 813.231.6130**. Your neighborhood depends on **YOU!**

[Sash & Stile]

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## *Gardening Corner* – add **Color** to your landscape with foliage

By Autumn Schwab White

Editors note– Autumn and her husband Chuck own DragonFly Landscaping a local Seminole Heights Business and are regular contributors to our newsletter. We are very grateful.

**Emerald, kelly, forest, moss, sage, lime, army, olive...** there are seemingly endless shades of green in the landscaper's palette, and varying these hues across the landscape is key in capturing depth and layering. To some, the lush shades of green are enough, while others long for magenta, celadon, deep purples, fiery reds and oranges, and pops of yellow! Adding flowering plants is one way to add colors other than green, but most are seasonal bloomers and annuals need to be freshened up quarterly. What if you want more?

**There are several ways to add more color (other than green) to your landscape.** Vibrant pots and flowering ornamentals are obvious choices, but there is also a rainbow palette of plants with bright (non-green) foliage that the homeowner or landscape designer can tap into for added color.

The brightest section of the foliage palette lies in the tropics, and many of them can be used here in subtropical

southwest Florida. The cordyline or Ti (pronounced 'tie') plant comes in numerous varieties and is a great way to add sprays of magenta, pink, purple, limes, hot reds, pastel pink-green, and purple-blacks. Similarly, the croton can add fiery reds, yellows, oranges, limes, and sometimes shades of pastel pinks. Most of us have seen the more common varieties of tropicals at our local big-box improvement stores (i.e. Red Sister Ti, Petra Croton), but a request at a smaller local nursery may allow for a larger scope of colors (for example, Florica, Jackie, and Black Magic Ti plants... Sloppy Painter, Shoestring, and Iceton crotons.)

**There are also numerous ornamentals that can add swaths of color to your landscape.** Loropetalum is a gorgeous purple/green that holds a graceful shape with delicate leaves (bonus: it blooms tiny magenta flowers). Gold mound duranta (a lime green/yellow variety of duranta) shines bright against



Foliage colors burst forth in gardens throughout the Heights

deep greens of viburnum and other common landscape hedge plants. Mona lavender (not a true lavender) is a dark purple/green with a tiny lavender flower. Pink and white caladiums, hot purple Persian shield, the new black-purple leaves of the black diamond crape myrtle, thai roselle hibiscus, purple and variegated grasses... among so many others. Additionally, many commonly used landscape plants come in a variety with a white/green variegated leaf (schefflera arboricola 'trinette', ligustrum sinense variegatum, 'fire and ice' and 'snow queen' hibiscus.)

**Please see GARDENING page 13**

# The Great Pumpkin Festival Fall Event returns October 28th



By Brian Frey

This October, join the HTCA and help usher Fall into Hampton Terrace by attending the “Spooktacular” **2nd Annual HTCA Great Pumpkin Festival**. The HTCA is already busy planning this year’s event and to say that we are excited about this years festival is an understatement. WE ARE ELATED. Last year, over 150 neighbors and friends joined us for pumpkin painting, balloon animals, contests, costumes and fun! This year, we expect even larger attendance! Pumpkin Painting will return, along with Cotton Candy, Sno Cones, Games and Prizes for the kids the now infamous Adult Pie Eating Contest and our Pet Costume Contest. Plus, Face Painting and Balloon Animals and MORE. The HTCA is look-



ing for volunteers to help as well! If you are interested let us know by sending an email to [INFO@MYHTCA.ORG](mailto:INFO@MYHTCA.ORG). Plan your costumes now and mark your calendars to join us **October 28th from 2pm to 6pm at 1224 E Clifton Street.**



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!**

JOIN US AT  
1224 E. CLIFTON STREET

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2ND ANNUAL GREAT  
PUMPKIN FESTIVAL  
SATURDAY OCTOBER 28TH  
2PM TO 6PM

# COMMUNITY CORRAL

## Wellswood- A community just beyond the river

By Kitty Wallace

### Wellswood Association Secretary

Wellswood is a neighborhood with a proud history. It is one of Tampa's FIRST "planned communities" and our neighborhood has been in existence for over 60 years. Wellswood is centrally located, convenient to shopping, hospitals, the stadium, parks, library, zoo, and downtown. A few of the first residents still reside in the neighborhood and there are many second and third generation families as well.

Wellswood, originally known as Wells Park, is derived from the Wells family who originally purchased the 640 acres in the 1800's. The boundaries are Hillsborough Avenue to the north, Hillsborough River to the east, Dr. Martin



Luther King Jr. Blvd. to the south, and Armenia Avenue to the west. The Wellswood Civic Association, founded in 1949, is a registered 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization and represents nearly 1200 homeowners. The Wellswood Civic Center which was

deeded by the family (James F. & Edna Wells Wishart) is the heart of neighborhood activities and kept for posterity by the Wellswood Civic Association. The center is solely maintained by residents through income derived by civic association membership and build-

ing rentals. Annual events include a Community Flea Market, Spring, Fall and Holiday festivities. To find out more about Wellswood and private rental opportunities of the community center, please visit our website [www.wellswoodcivic.com](http://www.wellswoodcivic.com).

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## ANN McDONALD FUND Collection begins in October



The HTCA will once again begin collecting for the Ann McDonald Fund in October. In 2016, the Fund

was set up in the name of beloved former neighbor and community advocate Ann McDonald. The Fund serves families and or individuals within the neighborhood that are in need during the holidays.

The HTCA also asks for submissions of names of neighbors that may benefit from the fund. The identity of the neighbors may remain totally anonymous to the public.

With the funds, the HTCA determines along with the identified family, the need for gifts, food, clothing or bill payments that may be necessary for what can be a very challenging time of the year. Last year, the HTCA raised over \$1500 in cash and in-kind donations and helped to make the holidays a bit easier on the very appreciative family that was chosen.

Neighbors were incredibly generous in 2016 and we look forward to another great Fund drive. To contribute you may write a check to the HTCA, denoting monies to the fund and send to HTCA P.O. Box 9631 Tampa, FL 33674-9631. A link for donations will be made available on Facebook and the HTCA Website as well.

# NEIGHBOR PROFILE– The Russo's Published Poets in our midst...

By Gianna Russo

Since the boys grew up and left home, there have been three of us in the marriage: me, my husband Jeff, and Shadow Garden. After all, she's been with us since the beginning.



Jeff and Gianna Russo

Early 1995: I was a divorced mother of two little boys when I found her. I wanted a house to settle into and the neighborhood was one of the few I could afford. A Tampa native, I had forgotten all about Hampton Terrace, but as my sons and I turned off Nebraska Avenue, I dimly remembered my parents driving me and my sisters around Lake Roberta at Christmastime to see the pretty lights.

I bought her. Small and built in 1928, she needed some TLC, but had everything on my wish list. She was a bungalow with wooden floors, a fireplace, a big porch. A few weeks later, Jeff and I got engaged. We were married Thanksgiving Eve, 1995, in front of the fireplace in the large front room.

We settled into the neighborhood our realtor had called "transitional." Teaching at Blake Magnet School, I rose early. I'd drop my sons, Anthony and Frank off at Villa Madonna before sunlight, then head to Blake. There were always women prowling Nebraska Avenue. Once, eight-year-old Frank observed, "there are a lot of hitch hikers on this street."

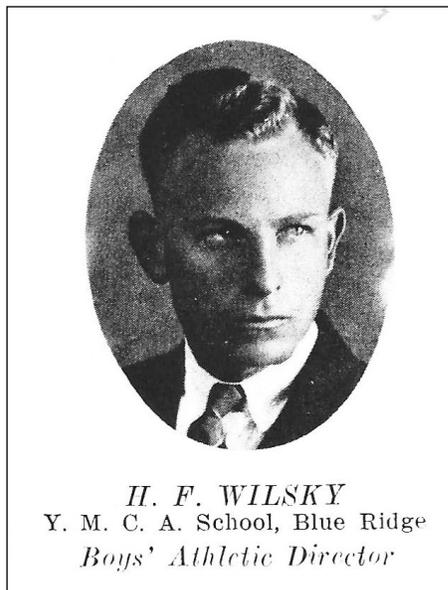
The first owner of our house was Howard F. Wilsky, Boys' Athletic Director at Hillsborough High School. In the thirties, residents turned over nearly every year. In the forties, there were odd combinations of people who seemed to be related or married or living together.

Jeff and I are both writers and have been teachers. Jeff has a Ph.D. in English. He taught at both The University of Tampa and University of South Florida. For the past eight years, he has been an independent strategist working with businesses and individuals. He creates branding strategies, writes, edits, and designs websites, among other things. A true renaiss-

sance man, he also practices the martial arts, likes to build and tinker, once taught ballroom dance, studied flamenco, writes poetry, and has a deep curiosity for science, philosophy, politics and literature. He's also a member of the Carrollwood Business Association and the Krewe of Venus, Tampa's second oldest krewe. Born in Akron, Ohio, he fell in love with Florida as a kid on annual summer vacations and returned here for graduate school.

I was born here. I graduated from Hillsborough High. I earned a B.A. in interdisciplinary studies and an M.A. in English from University of South Florida and, as of this summer, a Master of Fine Arts in poetry from The University of Tampa. In 2009, I published my first full poetry collection, *Moonflower*. It won a Florida Book Award Bronze medal and a Florida Publishers Presidents' Award Silver medal. My poems and essays have appeared in literary magazines across the country.

I taught at USF for several years. Blake Magnet School of the Arts opened in 1997. I was the first director of the creative



writing program, writing the 12-course curriculum that got accepted by the state. I taught at Blake for 10 years, founding Yellow Jacket (Blake's mascot) Press, an all-volunteer, non-profit poetry press that publishes small collections of poetry by Florida poets.

We are now in our 13<sup>th</sup> year and have published over 30 poets.

After ten years at Blake, I worked as the Curator of Education at the Henry B. Plant Museum and later, as a grant writer from Academy Prep.

**continued on Page 9**

# PREPARING FOR THE WORST

## Are you ready for Hurricane Season?

By Brian Frey

Hurricane Season is in full swing and the daunting thought that Hurricane Irma or any other hurricane may strike at the state of Florida, already has many people planning quickly to meet the potential of a nasty storm head on. But, knowing that Tampa Bay itself has not felt the impact of a large Hurricane in many years, residents are probably not as well prepared as they should be. We have all seen the devastating effects of powerful storms such as Hurricane Katrina and most recently Hurricane Harvey that have devastated the Gulf Coastal cities like Galveston, Corpus Christi, and inland to Houston.

The Terrace Talk team decided that in light of the potential land fall of Irma, providing print space and posting helpful tips and information to our community would be the best idea under the circumstances.

**KNOW your evacuation area.** Hampton Terrace is technically NOT in an evacuation zone, that said the closest evacuation center is Middleton High School located at 4801 N 22nd Street. Please note that pets are NOT allowed at this evacuation center.

**PETS are sometimes, regretfully after thoughts** when it comes to being prepared to house them in an emergency. Most shelters do NOT welcome pets! Plan how to keep your pets secure as you plan your own arrangements for evacuation should you need to.

### HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS TIPS



#AreYouReady  
#HurricaneSeason  
#HurricanePreparedness

#### Before the Storm



#### Update Your Contact Info

Go online or call to make sure we have your correct contact information for faster service after the storm.



#### Review Your Emergency Plan

Review your plan with everyone in your household and make sure you all know the safest place in your home. Review where you'll go if there's an evacuation. Don't forget your pets.



#### Have a Hurricane Survival Kit

Have enough supplies to be self-sufficient for two weeks.

**Here are some critical items to have on hand:** Non-perishable food, bottled water, prescription medicines, batteries, pet food, baby supplies, first-aid kit, battery powered flashlight and radio, can opener, fuel, emergency generator.



#### Keep Your Landscape Free of Debris

Remove threatening objects that can potentially become projectiles. Prune your plants and trim your trees, make sure there aren't any dead sections and check for signs of damage or disease.



#### After the Storm



#### Stay Safe

Stay away from downed power lines and avoid floodwaters. Use portable generators safely. Be sure to follow us for restoration updates on Facebook.com/tampaelectric and Twitter.com/tampaelectric.



For more information:

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To report an outage, call 1-877-588-1010, visit [tampaelectric.com/outages](http://tampaelectric.com/outages) or text OUT to 35069.



**YOU may be shelter for someone else.** Are you prepared to help others? That too is a consideration as well. Above is a gathering of tips courtesy of TECO. These are basics in your preparedness for the potential of a damaging Hurricane. Remember hurricanes spawn other issues as well such as tornadoes, flooding, and power outages.

**STAY ALERT**  
SIGN UP TODAY for ALERT TAMPA. Visit- [Tampagov.net/emergency-management/alert-tampa](http://Tampagov.net/emergency-management/alert-tampa).

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# The Seminole Heights UMC Pumpkin Patch

## OPENS OCT 1st

**HOURS- M-F & Sun 12-8pm, Sat 9-8pm**

Bring the family and  
find the perfect  
pumpkin at the  
perfect pumpkin patch!

**6111 N Central Ave**

# THERE'S NO STOPPING THE GROWTH

## 7venth Sun Brewery and Mortar & Pestle arrive in Seminole Heights

By Brittany Loubier

**7venth Sun** is Seminole Heights' newest brewery and is the younger, larger sibling of the original in Dunedin, which opened in late 2011. Located at 6809 N Nebraska Ave, the grand opening was August 12th. The building originally housed an ice rink and at 18,000 square feet there's plenty of room to meet friends as well as host larger special events. Known throughout the area (and even nationally) for their experimental beers, a unique aspect of this new facility is the presence of foeders, humongous oak barrels, for aging beers



in. The brewers/owners have years of experience, having worked for Anheuser-Busch, Cigar City, and Sweetwater in the past. On a visit, you can expect to see 16+ taps of beer, plus offerings of kombucha and mead. Although there is not on-site food, there is a restaurant next door and food trucks are present often. You're also welcome to have food delivered or bring your own. The tasting room offers several pour sizes, flights (small tastes of several beers), and free samples too if you're just not quite sure. The bartenders are very knowledgeable so if you describe your likes and dislikes they'll be happy to make recommendations. Styles include citrusy & bitter IPAs, sour fruit beers, roasty chocolatey stouts, and even easy drinking lighter beers. There's truly something for every taste

at 7venth Sun!

### Mortar & Pestle

is a unique service-oriented new business that opened last



month at 6310 N. Florida Ave., just south of Trip's Diner and across the street from Angry Chair Brewing. The 2-building complex houses a full-service pharmacy as well as a coffeehouse and restaurant. Hours start early, at 7am, and they stay open late too. Unlike many late-night venues in the neighborhood, this one has options for those who don't drink alcohol, including coffee, tea, craft sodas, hot chocolate, and even milkshakes!

**Continued next page...**

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**SEMINOLE HEIGHTS  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**JOIN US THIS SUNDAY**

9:30 a.m. Casual  
11:00 a.m. Traditional

6111 N Central Ave



**“THE RUSSO’S” continued from page 9**

In 2011, I was hired as instructor of English at Saint Leo University. I teach academic and creative writing and direct the Sandhill Writers Retreat.

Jeff and I have gone through joys and tribulations in our house. The day of the Columbine massacre, I was at school when I heard the news. My first thought: *that could be us*. Horrified, I drove to a plant nursery and purchased boxes of flowers and herbs. I wanted to transform the world, starting with my own yard. It was the only antidote I could think of against the violence.

At home, Jeff said, “Take the whole yard.” That’s how our back yard turned into an oasis of herbs, blue sage, purple Mexican petunias, bromeliads, ginger and tropical plants. The garden continues to bring us happiness. The losses and sadness we’ve inevitably experienced give us shadow. Shadow Garden.

**GARDENING CORNER continued from page 6**

As with any installation or landscape plan, the “right plant in the right place” mantra is always central. Make sure you not only add color to your landscape with this palette, but that you understand the plant material’s mature size, common pests or diseases, maintenance needs, and sun/water/temperature requirements to ensure that they not only survive, but thrive in your outdoor space.

with this palette, but that you understand the plant material’s mature size, common pests or diseases, maintenance needs, and sun/water/temperature requirements to ensure that they not only survive, but thrive in your outdoor space.

**7VENTH SUN AND MORTAR & PESTLE continued from page 12**

The space is airy and comfortable and includes small and large tables, a bar, and big couches for lounging with friends. The dinner menu offers diverse choices and is beautifully presented and delicious. .

The desserts are fantastic works of art and large enough for two to share. The mango meringue cookie is especially delicious! Their brunch menu includes waffles, pancakes, shrimp & grits, sandwiches, and more. There is a paved parking lot and the owners ask that you respect their neighbors by following parking rules posted by the city and NOT parking in anyone’s yard or within 10 feet of a home’s driveway.

For more on all aspects of the business and to view menus, see [www.mortarandpestlefl.com](http://www.mortarandpestlefl.com)

**CELEBRATION continued...from page 1**

The HTCA 1 Year Anniversary Meeting attracted over 70 neighbors and some truly amazing dishes. It was great to see such amazing support!

everything that goes with them. **Brian Frey, Bill Truett, Sid Roberts, Michelle Benningfield, Grant Connor Mehlich, Jim Burdett and Victoria Strange** were instrumental in the formation of the HTCA. Without the perseverance of each of these individuals, their talents, their financial gifts and their endurance, we would cease to exist. We are also grateful to our Board of Directors and their tireless work and dedication, both past and present members— **Susan Dinning Lane, Mona Roberson, Kelly Honan, Brent Williams, Alex Franceschi, Chris Corey, Becky Epperson, and Lesly Longa**. Then there is YOU our neighbors, friends, family and business partners. Without your belief in us, without your volunteer hours, your talents and gifts we could not continue the important work that we set out to do. It is important to list our accomplishments as well. They are exhilarating and meaningful.

- Formed the association officially with the State of Florida in May of 2016
- Incorporated Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful and Neighborhood Watch into the HTCA with 5 roll calls to date
- First Backpack and School Supply Drive in July 2016
- First (brick and mortar) meeting August 2016— Seminole Heights United Methodist Church
- 2 Pancake Breakfast Fundraisers in September 2016 and March 2017, combined over 100 in attendance
- HTCA Welcome Wagon makes their first deliveries; over 60 to date
- The Great Pumpkin Festival— an annual Fall Festival was produced in October 2016 with over 140 in attendance
- The Ann McDonald Fund— a fund established to help neighbors in need during the holidays was established in October 2016 and our first family chosen for December— over \$1500 raised
- Metropolitan Ministries Food Drive November 2016
- Toys for Tots Collection Drive— December 2016
- Elections for Officers of HTCA, December 2016 at our Cookie Exchange Meeting
- HTCA unveils new neighborhood Flag Design in March 2017
- Hampton the Bunny made his official appearance at the Hampton Terrace Easter Egg Hunt in April 2017

- Paint Your Heart Out held in April 2017
- 1st Toastin' the Terrace Mixer takes place at c.1949 with over 80 in attendance.
- TERRACE TALK newsletter debuts in May 2017
- TO DATE we have conducted 6 coordinated neighborhood clean-ups, and numerous individuals have taken it upon themselves to do alley and lake clean-ups as well
- 2nd Annual Backpack and School Supply drive in July 2017 tripled the donations from last year
- TO DATE we have conducted 12 monthly meetings and participated in a community wide roundtable for Heights Neighborhoods.

There has been so much work accomplished for our neighborhood and so much more on the way as we continue into our 2nd year .

When we ratify our Bylaws at the September meeting, we will be applying for our 501c3 designation. This will enable the HTCA to function as an IRS recognized Non-Profit Charitable Association and open us to greater fundraising opportunities that help us to continue to give back to our community.

**For the HTCA**, it is not about being officially recognized by the City of Tampa; we are already recognized for our good work and we are proud of the relationships we have with the city , the Tampa Police Department and other partnering neighborhood associations. As we continue to grow and flourish, we will never lose sight of our mission to be positive and inclusive and to work to assure that Hampton Terrace remains a relevant, contributing and welcoming neighborhood for everyone.



Neighbors receive their HTCA Welcome Basket from the Welcome Wagon!

### **THE HTCA IS GRATEFUL TO OUR BUSINESS PARTNERS**

**Seminole Heights UMC-**  
Pastor Matt Horan  
**AutoWorks of Tampa-**  
Bob Noriega  
**Publix-** Chuck Kaelin  
**Hampton Station-**  
Troy Taylor and Mike Strack  
**Van Wert Real Estate Services-**  
Kathy Lea Van Wert  
**The Comfort Authority-**  
Steve Cox  
**Health Mutt-** Kendra Konze  
**Southshore Insurance**  
**Professionals-** Michelle Mosher  
**Fintech Mortgage-** Erik Butzek  
**Urban Bungalow-** David Hansen  
**Cleanse Apothecary-** Greg Curtis  
**Jet City-** Jessica Conlon

**Sash and Stile-** Chris Poulos  
**Urban Tales**  
**Four Paws Sake**  
**Any Home Inspection Services-**  
David Counts  
**Tampa Tire-** Nezar Alela  
**Lvl Up-** Shara LaColla  
**The Real E'Spire Team of**  
**Pineywoods Realty**  
**Sulphur Springs Sandwich Shop**  
**Xtreme Taco**  
**The Rabbit Hole**  
**Seminole Heights Mechanic Shop**  
**Seminole Heights City Wine Bar-**  
Jayme Kosar  
**The City of Tampa**  
**Tampa Police Department**  
**Tampa Trans. & Stormwater**  
**Services**  
**Tampa Dept. of Parks & Rec.**

## NUMBERS TO KNOW

- ⇒ **Tampa City Council:** 813-274-8131
- ⇒ **City of Tampa Code Enforcement:** 813-274-8211
- ⇒ **Electric Power Outage or Safety Concern (TECO 24hrs):** 1-877-588-1010
- ⇒ **Hurricane Information Desk:** 813-274-7700 (during an emergency only)
- ⇒ **Neighborhood Enhancement:** 813-690-4631
- ⇒ **Emergency Drainage/Flooding (24 hours):** 813-274-3101
- ⇒ **Tree Hotline/Emergency - Illegal Tree Removal (24 hours):** 813-258-8733 - Fallen Tree: 813-274-8615 - Fallen Tree: 813-931-2168 - Fallen Tree: (after hours Midnight to 7:30 AM): 813-274-3101
- ⇒ **Wastewater Emergency Repair/Sewer Backup (24 hours):** 813-259-1693
- ⇒ **Water Department Emergency Services (24 hours):** 813-274-7400

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### SEPTEMBER

30th 8am to 11am

HTCA PANCAKE BREAKFAST– Seminole Heights UMC

### OCTOBER

3rd-7pm

HTCA Monthly Meeting

Seminole Heights United Methodist Church– lower level

3rd

Ann McDonald Fund Collection Begins

29th

THE GREAT PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

2pm to 6pm 1224 E Clifton Street

31st

HALLOWEEN

### NOVEMBER

4th– 9am to 11am

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP

7th-7pm

HTCA Monthly Meeting

Seminole Heights United Methodist Church– lower level

8th

Metropolitan Ministries Thanksgiving Food Drive

Email [info@myhtca.org](mailto:info@myhtca.org) for drop off locations in the neighborhood

**HTCA ELECTIONS COMING UP IN DECEMBER!**



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# HTCA PANCAKE BREAKFAST

## September 30th

### 8am to 11am

**Seminole Heights UMC-6211 N Central Ave.**

Join the HTCA for our **Fall Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser.**  
 TICKETS are **\$8.00** for adults  
 and **\$5.00** for kids 10 and under  
 Contact [info@myhtca.org](mailto:info@myhtca.org) for more information!



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**813-579-6358**

**[www.thecomfortauthority.com](http://www.thecomfortauthority.com)**

If you need a maintenance on your AC, make sure to let us know you're our Hampton Terrace neighbor and we'll be sure to give you the HT rate of \$129 (normally \$189).

Lic: CAC1818057