Hello Neighbors,

September was a busy month and one that finally saw us usher in fall! I don't know about you but taking a break from the summer rains and heat will be a relief. I just hope that the later comes soon!

With Halloween right around the corner, I want to wish you all more treats than tricks! This is one of my family's favorite times of year and one that provides a fantastic opportunity to reconnect with your neighbors and the community. Just remember to stay safe and watch out for those little ghouls and goblins roaming the streets on Halloween night.

Till Next Time!

Brandi

2nd Annual District 2 Town Hall

The 2nd annual St Pete District 2 Town Hall was held on September 23rd at Fossil Park Rec Center. We had an amazing turn out and I just wanted to take a moment to thank all who attended.

Topics discussed included public safety, tiered stormwater rates, flood insurance,
Top Golf and more. Residents shared their concerns on various topics and enjoyed time socializing with some great expo participants beforehand. I want to thank the following for attending and sharing their information and knowledge with our residents.

**Expo Participants Representing City of St Pete & The Nonprofit Community:**

Major Shannon Halstead - St. Pete PD  
Noah Taylor, Floodplain Manager  
Elizabeth Abernathy, Planning and Zoning/ Vision 2050  
David Flintom, Mayor's Action Center/ See, Click, Fix  
Jeff Donnell, Sanitation/ Compost Bins  
Aaron Carmella, Storm Water Rate Change  
Sean King & Brandon Dysard, Habitat for Humanity  
Rhonda Sanborn - Florida Craft Art  
Dr. Chris Simoniello - 2020 Embrace the Gulf

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**Business Spotlight: Power Design**

**POWER DESIGN STATS:**

**CAMPUS FEATURES:**

- 16,000 SF state-of-the-art
Power Design is one of the leading electrical contractors in the United States. Founded in 1989, Power Design has operated as a family-run business built on an unbending foundation of quality service and loyalty to our employees and customers. Located right here in District 2, Power Design is among Fortune Magazine’s top 100 workplaces with more than 300 active projects, a 36-acre campus, a 100,000-square-foot distribution center, and accumulative revenue exceeding $2 billion dollars.

Health and wellness for their employees is a top management goal. Employees are encouraged to balance their work and personal life with many onsite amenities to make this goal attainable. From the spacious gymnasium and fully equipped workout room to the healthy food options in their onsite cafe, employees have many options to

BEST PRACTICES & TRAINING CENTER

- 900+ person onsite team
- Proximity to the experts
- Systems & technology experience center and prefabrication facility coming soon

- 12-member training department dedicated to employee development
- 11 hands-on interactive Best Practices exhibits
- 5 simulation labs showcasing prefab, fire alarm, distribution, tunnel form construction and more
- 4 state-of-the-art classrooms with touch enabled technology
- 3 mock multifamily units simulating various stages of construction
- $7 million invested in training in 2018; $7.6 million projected in 2019
supplement their healthy lifestyles. Their campus even features a lakeside walking trail that is inclusive to the neighboring businesses and residential community.

Power Design’s management understands that safety comes above any and all other business objectives, without exception. The policy at Power Design is to provide safe equipment, adequate tools and training, and all necessary protective equipment to meet and exceed safety standards. Their employees can electronically access all safety and quality control information via their proprietary Best Practices app and website.

We are so happy and honored to have a company like Power Design call St Petersburg and more specifically District 2 their home! To find out more click HERE

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**Legislative Delegation Meeting**

On September 12th, the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation (the Florida House and Senate members presenting the residents of Pinellas County) met to hear from over 60 concerned citizens regarding issues that they hope to see addressed in the 2020 Legislative Session.

I had the pleasure of speaking about the current state of food insecurities in our community including the numerous food deserts located right here in St Petersburg. Thousands of residents live with food
This is an issue I am passionate about and I will continue to work on with members of our delegation. No child should go to bed hungry or suffer from the health risks associated with the lack of access to healthy foods. For more information click [HERE](#).

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St. Pete - October Movies In the Park

**Thursday, October 3rd 2019**  

*North Straub Park, 350 Bayshore Dr. NE*

Movies in the Park started ten years ago with the Waterfront Parks Centennial Celebration. Over the past decade, Preserve the 'Burg has presented more than 80 FREE movies on Thursdays in May and October in what has become one of the city's most beloved traditions.

Buy food and drinks from a variety of local vendors or pack your own picnic. Blankets and low-profile chairs are recommended. Secure on-site bicycle valet is available thanks to Coast Bike Share. Arrive early to enjoy the music. Pay-what-you-can donations are accepted to support Preserve the ‘Burg’s mission to protect and celebrate the things that make St. Pete special.

Music starts at 7, movies at dusk.

Movies are free! However, pay-what-you-can donations are appreciated.

**SAVE THE DATES:** October 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31! (Another Five Thursday Movie Month!)

**October 3 - The Odd Couple** (1968) G - Music by the Botomatics  
**October 24 - Raiders of the Lost Ark** (1981) PG - Music by Gloria West and the Gents  
**October 31 - Scooby Doo & the Spooky Scarecrow** followed by the original 1925 *Phantom of the Opera*  
Music by Vince Di Mura

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Park Conservation & Preservation Amendment

The City of St. Petersburg prides
itself on the robust measures it uses to protect its waterfront and park property, including within the City charter.

Where Are We Now?
Currently, the City charter protects City-owned waterfront and park property from being sold, donated or leased without a City-wide vote, with the exception of utility and recreational purposes. The charter protection maintains parklands but creates challenges when receiving certain grants from organizations for conservation and preservation efforts due to the requirement of a citywide referendum each time.

What’s Coming?
In the upcoming November general election, there will be a vote on the ballot to amend the City charter to expand the existing utility and recreational exceptions to include conservation and preservation purposes. Conservation and preservation work is already being done on St. Pete’s waterfront and park property. This amendment to the charter would streamline the process for accepting grants from government agencies for solely conservation and preservation purposes, like restoration of wetlands and surface waterways, by no longer requiring a referendum each time.

What Does This Mean for You?
If adopted, the charter amendment would:
- Broaden the City’s ability to receive funding from other organizations
- More effectively protect the natural integrity of City-owned waterfront and park property
- Enable activities like restoration of wetlands and surface waterways
- Eliminate the need for a public vote for conservation and preservation purposes. Six or more affirmative votes from City Council would still be required for approval.

To view the Facebook post, click HERE
To view the Twitter post, click HERE
To view the City’s Website click HERE

Affordable Housing: A Community Conversation and Roundtable Discussion PT 2

Please join myself and County Commission Chair Karen Seel as we host a panel of community leaders for a continued discussion on affordable housing solutions. This second conversation will follow up on questions addressed in the first session held on July 9th and will focus on county and city collaboration along with other topics derived
Panel to include:
Watson Haynes / Pinellas County Urban League
Whit Blanton / Forward Pinellas
Veatrice Farrell / Deuces Live St Pete
James Dates/ West Care
Kathryn Driver/ Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas
Matt Lettelleir/ St Pete Chamber of Commerce
Imam Askia Muhammad Aquil / Community Leader
Joe Farrell/ Pinellas Realtor Organization
Rob Gerdes/ City of St Peters burg Neighborhood Affairs Dept

Affordable Housing: A Community Conversation and Roundtable Discussion PT 2

Thursday, October 3, 2019
6:30 to 8:30 PM

The Sunshine Center Auditorium
330 5th St N, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Please note: This is a public meeting held per Florida Sunshine Laws. This meeting will be recorded. Each member of the public who wishes to speak during the Q&A portion will be given 2 minutes to ask a question or make a statement.

For more information click HERE

To hear the entire recording of Part 1 held on July 9, 2019 click the video above.

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