

Week in Review • Nov. 18 – Nov. 25, 2019



HARVEST LUNCHEON AT WOODMONT

Thanks to the members of the Woodmont Clubhouse Association for once again treating City elected officials, the City Manager, directors and other senior staff to a holiday luncheon last Monday. The food was delicious (the highlight, as always, was Maryrose Owen's banana pudding 🍌🍌), the decorations lovely and the hosts gracious as ever. And we're happy to note that the Association paid their \$1 rent for the property in full and on time!



PLANNING COMMISSION CELEBRATES 60 YEARS

At last Tuesday's City Council meeting, Mayor Jurado and the Council congratulated Executive Director Melissa Zornitta on the 60th anniversary of the Planning Commission - Hillsborough County and expressed appreciation for the great partnership the Commission has with the City.



WELCOME OFFICER GUAY

We were thrilled to welcome another new officer - and her parents - into the Temple Terrace family on Friday. Officer Brittany B. Guay was sworn into the Temple Terrace Police Department. Thank you for your service to our community!

A FOND FAREWELL – AND CONGRATS

Hours after the City gained a new officer, we said goodbye to IT Director Bob Keel. Bob served the City for 30-1/2 years, navigating the tremendous changes in technology through the decades. On Friday, we celebrated his retirement and congratulated Sally Cabrera, who recently was named the new head of the IT team.



WORKING AT THE CAR WASH... 🚗

Thanks to all who treated themselves to a clean car on Saturday and helped the Temple Terrace Mayor's Youth Leadership Council fund projects and activities – including a trip to Washington, DC, to participate in the Close Up - Washington D.C. Educational Programs this spring.

BOARD VACANCIES

The City Temple Terrace is seeking applications for a number of Citizen Board Vacancies including the Police Officers' Retirement Pension Board, the Board of Adjustment and the Municipal Code Enforcement Board. For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office. Applications can be completed online at tinyurl.com/TTBoards.

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

Open Mic Night

The first Open Mic Night was held at the Temple Terrace Library last Tuesday. Thanks to all the local authors and poets who read their work – and thanks as well to the appreciative audience. Feedback was very positive and, by patrons' request, the library will be offering Open Mic Nights in January and April.

Library Tour

Students from Riverhills Elementary School received an exciting pre-holiday treat on Friday when Ms. Susan gave them a special tour and story time.

After School Art

After listening to the Native American folktale *Arrow To The Sun*, the children at After School Art made a rain stick using paper towel tubes, rice, peas, foil and colorful duct tape. They then drew Native American pictographs on the outside.



LIGHTFOOT ACTIVITIES



The senior field trip last week took some back to a place they visited as teachers and even as Girl Scouts back in the day. Old McMicky's Farm is one of the staple field trip destinations for elementary students in the Bay Area and the Farm staff were thrilled to see a bus load of previous attendees make a return trip. Several of the group reminisced about visiting in their younger years, or taking their classes there when they were teachers. The weather was beautiful and all enjoyed a hay ride, seeing the farm animals, and even milking a goat.

AT THE REC COMPLEX...

Great American Teach-In

Some of the staff at the Family Complex participated in the Great American Teach-in last Thursday. Head Tennis and Racquet Sports Professional Manny Mariani made the quick journey next door to Lewis Elementary. He told the kids a little about what he does here at the Parks & Recreation Department and gave them a taste of how Tennis and Pickleball are played. For some of these kids, it was the first time they had ever held a tennis racquet. This type of exposure to different sports and physical activity is important for the younger generation to begin and maintain a physically active and healthy lifestyle for an entire lifetime. Leisure services staff also went to Lewis and Riverhills Elementary Schools. Staff talked to the kids about what we do as a department and the different programs we offer. The approximately 350 kids also got to try some sports.

Spin Cycle

The Fitness Center received our new spin bikes! The bikes are available for our special interest instructors to supplement their classes if needed, as well as for a new Cycling class that will launch in January. There will be two free trial classes taking place in December to give interested patrons a taste of what Cycling classes are all about.

RELAY FOR LIFE

Registration for the 2020 Relay For Life of Temple Terrace has begun! Make plans to support this great cause while fostering a sense of community in the City. Relay For Life is a grass roots, community-based team event. It will be held at Greco Middle School, 6925 E. Fowler Ave., on May 1 from 6pm to 6am. The City's goal is \$5000.

Troy Tinch, Chief Kemp and Karl Langefeld were the "winners" of the dollar wars. This week we have raffle tickets on sale for \$1 each to win a chance to pie one of our 3 lucky volunteers. You can buy a ticket and put it into the bucket of the person you want to pie for a chance to win. Our goal for this effort is \$500 – so contribute early and often!

The 50/50 raffle tickets are on sale now, with the raffle scheduled for some time in December. Just in time for holiday shopping – or giving. (Or just keep the cash. We won't tell!)

The 2nd Annual Chili Cook Off will take place Jan. 24 in the Utility Billing Office. Registration forms to enter the chili cook off were sent via email by Kristina Stamm. You also may stop by Utility Billing to pick up a copy. \$25 registration fee. Winner receives a Visa gift card, bragging rights and a trophy. The deadline to register is Jan. 17.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Have a wonderful – and safe – holiday. Especially if you will be deep frying your turkey, check out these tips from our Temple Terrace Firefighters and their area counterparts to ensure that everyone makes it to the feast intact. <https://www.wfla.com/community/holidays/local-fire-departments-provide-holiday-safety-tips/>



GOVERNMENT DAY REFLECTIONS

At Tuesday's City Council meeting, Ray Madrigal, Director of Experiential Learning at Florida College and the students who took part in Government Day at City Hall were recognized for their participation. Dr. Madrigal noted that our Government Day activity is the top rated experiential learning opportunity at the College. He shared one of the student's evaluations of the activity. Here's an excerpt:

"I genuinely loved every moment of Government Day. If I am being completely honest, I do not always have the best self-esteem when it comes to most things, specifically when speaking in front of others. That being said, I always try to challenge myself to reach new limits. I do not believe you will ever learn if you are not always pushing yourself to be better. I felt that my participation as Mayor in Government Day was the perfect way to challenge myself. I am so grateful that I had this experience, and I strongly encourage anyone who is seeking a challenge that comes with great fun to participate in this event next year.

...As the daughter of a disabled United States Marine Veteran, I have always been taught that service to your country is something extremely valuable. I have seen the repercussions of what it means to give a lifetime of service to your country; I know what it means to sacrifice your own time for something of a greater good, even if that greater good is not always appreciated by others... My participation in government day was able to shed a new light onto my perspective. Not only do our military members give immense sacrifices for our nation, but so many other government officials give great sacrifice as well. I think before this experience I thought that politicians and government officials were all grumpy fogies. I did not realize how big of a job they have, even in our local communities. It was refreshing- and it made me beam with pride experiencing their dedication and commitment to our town's well-being."

BRING ON THE HOLIDAYS!

City Hall is getting in the holiday spirit! Send your department's festooning photos to lhayes@templeterrace.com.

Also note that there are collection boxes for the Potter's House Community Development Toy Drive at City Hall. New toys, electronic devices and bikes will be accepted through Dec. 17.



SAVE THE DATE

Winter Wonderland will be held on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 5-8:30 in Woodmont Park and the first fairway of the Temple Terrace Golf & Country Club. Staff is invited to help create decorations for the Temple Terrace Christmas tree – and enjoy a slice of pizza or two – in the staff room on the 2nd floor of City Hall at noon on Wednesday, Dec. 4. And then come see your creations on the City tree when it is officially lit at 6pm during Winter Wonderland.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- School Support Committee : Nov. 25, 4-5pm at City Hall
- City offices closed: Nov. 28 – 29 (Rec Complex open 8am-4:50pm on Nov. 29)
- City Council meeting: Dec. 3, 6pm at City Hall
- Winter Wonderland: Dec. 7, 5-8:30pm at Woodmont Park