

# SUNSHINE LINES

## Beautiful News From Bay to Beach



## News You Can Use

### Affordable Healthcare Navigators Can Help You

The Affordable Care Act will enable 23 percent of uninsured people in Florida to gain access to quality, affordable healthcare. Central to this goal is the creation of the Healthcare Insurance Marketplace. Through the Marketplace, eligible people will be able to enroll in a health plan to get coverage. Pinellas County navigators are available to assist you in looking for and enrolling in health coverage options through the Marketplace.

Navigators will assist consumers with enrollment into healthcare plans before open enrollment ends. Come to the Clearwater Main Library, 100 N. Osceola Ave., from noon to 4 p.m. Dec. 3, Jan. 14, and Jan. 21 for assistance. To learn more or to make an appointment, call (727) 464-8411, or you can log on to [pinellascounty.org](http://pinellascounty.org) or [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov).

### Championship Beach Bash is Coming to Clearwater Beach

The Tampa Bay Sports Commission and the College Football Playoff National Championship invite football fans to the Championship Beach Bash at Pier 60 Park on Clearwater Beach from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 8. This free, family-friendly event will create a pep rally-type atmosphere on the beautiful sugar sand of Clearwater Beach. The Championship Beach Bash will feature a "Kids Zone" with games, inflatables, live music and more.

### Holiday Closure: Utility Customer Service Offices

The city's Utility Customer Service office and drive-through window will close Thursday, Dec. 15 at 3 p.m. for a department holiday party. Normal office hours will resume Friday, Dec. 16. The department wishes all of its customers and citizens a bright and beautiful holiday season.

Residents have several other ways to pay their bills during this time. Options include paying by phone, on the city's website, by direct debit or by mail. To learn more, visit [myclearwater.com](http://myclearwater.com), and select "Utility Customer Service" from the dropdown list of city departments.

### Rains and Drains

Temperatures are cooling down, making it more pleasant to tend to yard work. Be sure to properly dispose of grass clippings, leaves and other vegetative debris when maintaining lawns. If you own a lawn or gardening service, be careful not to blow clippings into the street, toward catch basins or down storm drains. Residents should not pile trash on or near catch basins. While stormwater often travels through pipes under roads just like sewage, it is not treated at a wastewater treatment plant. Instead, stormwater carries grass and leaves from lawns directly into ponds, lakes, rivers and bays and can clog storm drains.

Because water runs off of yards, it is also important to reduce the amount of pollutants on properties. Trash, debris and pollutants in yards – such as fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides – can wash into the stormwater system, polluting the environment and causing blockages in storm pipes. The city encourages the reporting of malicious illicit discharge. If you see someone improperly disposing of dangerous materials, call the Engineering Department at (727) 562-4750 or visit [myclearwater.com/stormwater](http://myclearwater.com/stormwater).

## Get into Hot Water with Cool Savings!

Now is the perfect time to get into hot water with an energy-efficient residential gas spa or pool heater from Clearwater Gas System. For a limited time, Clearwater Gas System is offering residential pool heater rebates on various makes and models. The rebates are in addition to our already reduced pool and spa heater pricing. Clearwater Gas System does not compete with online pricing and vendors. Certain restrictions apply. Call (727) 562-4980, ext. 7454, for details.



## Recycle Your Leftovers

Will you be giving that turkey fryer a workout this holiday season? If you plan to use one to cook up this year's holiday bird, bring the leftover oil and grease to the city's fats, oils and grease recycling drop-off center at the Solid Waste/Recycling Department, 1701 N. Hercules Ave. This facility is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This free program is available to all city residents. Last year, about 400 gallons of fats, oils and grease were recycled.

Recycling household oil is much easier than one would think. Allow the leftover grease or oil to cool, and when it's at room temperature, place it into a plastic bottle or glass jar. Bring it to the drop-off site and pour it into the receptacle. Fats, oil and greases that are poured down the drain can cause costly sewer backups and blockages, which then lead to sewer spills. If you see or smell something you think might be a sewer spill, report it immediately by calling (727) 562-4960 Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. After hours, report the spill by calling (727) 462-6633.



# Clearwater Happenings

## Color Run, the Happiest 5K on the Planet

Saturday, Dec. 3, 9 a.m.

Coachman Park and surrounding roadways  
[thecolorrun.com/clearwater](http://thecolorrun.com/clearwater)



## Outback Bowl Beach Day

Friday, Dec. 30, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Hilton Clearwater Beach, 400 Mandalay Ave.  
[outbackbowl.com](http://outbackbowl.com)

Join the teams, their marching bands and cheerleaders as they enjoy the sun and sand at the Hilton Clearwater Beach next to Pier 60.



## Winter Holiday Camps

Clearwater recreation centers will offer winter holiday camps in November and December this year. These action-packed camps are for children in first to eighth grades. Each week campers will enjoy a variety of fun activities to keep them entertained while making new friends. Dates and times are as follows:

### Thanksgiving Camp

Nov. 21-23 (7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.)

\$54 with card, \$60 without

\$15 with scholarship (must be Clearwater resident)

### Winter Holiday Camps

Session 1: Dec. 19-23 (\$90 with card, \$100 without)

Session 2: Dec. 27-30 (\$72 with card, \$80 without)

\$25 with scholarship (must be Clearwater resident)

Register at your nearest recreation center.

## Miracle on Cleveland Street

Saturday, Dec. 3, 5 to 10 p.m.

Cleveland Street

Ruth Eckerd Hall presents Clearwater's premiere holiday festival that transforms downtown into a winter wonderland. The event includes a free concert starring The Fixx.



## Santa & Suds Run/Walk & Street Party

Sunday, Dec. 11, 3 p.m.

Cleveland Street and over the Memorial Causeway

Bridge and back

[clevelandstreetdistrict.com](http://clevelandstreetdistrict.com)

## Light It Up Clearwater's Midnight Fireworks on Clearwater Beach

Saturday, Dec. 31

Clearwater Beach

Come to the beach and enjoy New Year's Eve fireworks, compliments of the Clearwater Beach Chamber of Commerce and sponsors.



## Solid Waste and Recycling Holiday Collection Schedule

### Christmas and New Year Holidays

There will be no collection schedule changes for this year's Christmas and New Year holidays. The city's solid waste and recycling services will be business as usual. For more information about collections or services, call the city's Clearwater Solid Waste/Recycling Department at (727) 562-4920.



**CLEARWATER**  
BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL · BAY TO BEACH

[myclearwater.com](http://myclearwater.com)



Para información en español, llame al (727) 562-4682.  
Sunshine Lines is produced by the city of Clearwater  
Public Communications Department

### Your Leadership Team

#### Mayor Councilmembers

George N. Cretekos  
Doreen Caudell  
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Bill Jonson  
Hoyt Hamilton  
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#### City Manager City Attorney