

# CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FL, CELEBRATES ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

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HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

of Florida

in the House of Representatives

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the people of St. Pete Beach, FL, as they celebrate the city's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this weekend.

It is an honor to represent this beautiful beach community that is home to one of our Nation's finest beaches and picture perfect sunsets. The residents there take tremendous pride in their city, which has just the right combination of parks, shops and cultural offerings.

St. Pete Beach is a barrier island with a permanent population of just over 10,000. It was incorporated in 1957 with the consolidation of the towns of Pass-a-Grille, Don Cesar, Belle Vista and St. Petersburg Beach. Today it is a popular tourist destination when its population doubles during the winter months. Visitors flock to St. Pete Beach to enjoy its 38 acres of public parks and 39 acres of public beaches.

This is also a fiercely patriotic city as flags fly on homes throughout the community. The people there have also led a seven-city effort to collect items to send our troops serving overseas. They want our soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen, and coastguardsmen to know they are loved and appreciated.

Madam Speaker, as the city prepares for its festivities this weekend, let me commend Mayor Ward Friszolowski, Vice Mayor Michael Finnerty, Commissioners Linda Cheney, Ed Ruttencutter and Harry Metz, and all the city's employees for their dedication to governing and managing one of our Nation's finest hometowns and vacation destinations. St. Pete Beach reminds us of all that is right in Florida and why it is such a great place to live, to work and to play.

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