

LIDO KEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION LIDO KEY MATTERS

November 2024

Events Calendar

All Membership Meetings held at Lido Beach Resort 8th floor, 10:00 on the 3rd Saturday of the month:

NEXT MEETING: TBD Jennifer Romanicki, Selby Gardens ?

**"Meet and Greet"
Happy Hours 5-7 pm**

**The second Tuesday of the month at:
The Daiquiri Deck
December 10th, at 5 PM**

Presidents Letter

Good afternoon to LKRA members

It has been about 5 weeks since we had Helene and Milton Hurricanes and WOW what can I say. To say it was catastrophic is a major understatement! As I sit here writing this article for our newsletter looking out the window of our rental apartment (80 degrees and not a cloud in the sky) on the mainland, I have a hard time thinking of what has transpired over the last five weeks. Our little slice of paradise was severely damaged and has displaced the majority of residents on Lido as well as St Armands and Lido Shores. The entire west coast of Florida has been devastated.

The City is doing an outstanding job of getting the debris cleaned up and we all need to be patient with the process. Cindy and I have lived on Lido for 20 years and have never experienced or seen this amount of damage to Lido. We are hoping to move back into our condo sometime before thanksgiving.

We have been going back and forth to Lido as our place is getting renovated and every day, I see progress as residents and businesses are starting to get their places fixed. The restaurants and shops are starting to reopen. They really need our support, so I am asking everyone to please do so.

We had our first Meet and Greet at the Daiquiri Deck this past Tuesday and we had 60+ people attend. The DD were very much appreciative to have us.

We had to cancel our first two member meetings of the season due to the storms and are working to reschedule our presenters.

November 17, 2024

Stay tuned for updates of when we will resume the meetings. Jim Ludwig will be updating the website with all the information on all events as well as Cindy will be sending out emails. We are still planning on having many social events as well as meetings as the season will be getting underway.

On a solemn note, one of our long time residents and board member Beth Dilworth passed away right before the storms. Beth is the person that got me involved with the LKRA. She will truly be missed.

I hope everyone can return soon and hopefully we all will get back to normal asap and again enjoy this most wonderful place to call home weather it be your permanent place or your winter one.

At most times, I end with saying be safe and I hope to see you around the Key. THIS TIME I REALLY HOPE TO SEE YOU AROUND THE LIDO KEY!!

Carl Shoffstall

President

LKRA

[813-967-2687 cell.](tel:813-967-2687)

941-706-1217 home/fax

carl@floridaplaystructures.com

Mark Smith

Sarasota County Commissioner

Sarasota County Park Update Post Hurricanes

Nicole Rissler, Director of Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources stated in a November 14th email that, "currently South Lido Park remains closed. It had significant impacts from both hurricane Helene and hurricane Milton with lots of debris being pushed up into the natural area. We have contractors working to clear debris from the parking lot and around the park as well as in the natural area.

Please note that the Ted Sperling, nature Park and kayak launch area has been reopened to the public. I will touch base with staff on timing for reopening the beach portion, but I do believe it will still be a couple weeks out."

I received an email from The Florida Department of Health in Sarasota County (DOH-Sarasota) that stated they, "issued a health alert for the presence of red tide near Ringling Causeway/Bird Key Park, North Lido Beach, Lido Casino Beach, Siesta Key Beach, Nokomis Beach, North Jetty Beach, Venice Beach, Service Club Beach, Venice Fishing Pier, Brohard Park Beach, and Manasota Key Beach. This is in response to a water sample taken on November 12, 2024." At Lido Key red tide was reported on Nov 12th at concentrations less than 1,000 - 10,000 cells per liter. This is considered "very low".

DOH-Sarasota advises residents and visitors to look for informational signage posted at most public beaches and/or check current water quality status at [water-quality-status-dashboard](#).

Sarasota County Hurricane Milton Debris Collection Report stated that as of November 12th since October 13th a total of 1,119,070 cubic yards of debris had been collected. Of that 1,119,070, 1,006,810 cubic yards were vegetative debris. These totals do not include debris collected in the cities of Sarasota, Longboat Key, Venice, and North Port.

Mark Smith

Sarasota

County Commissioner

mhsmith@SCGOV.net

[941\)861-](tel:9418615390)

[5390](tel:5390)

Assistant; Megan

Cavazos

Liz Alpert, Esq.

It is an understatement to say we've had an historic year. Four natural disasters within four months! The massive rain event in June which caused creeks and rivers to flood proper0es that had never experienced flooding. Then, of course, there was Debby, Helene, and Milton. As residents of a barrier island, you know better than anyone how devastating these events were. My heart goes out to all of you who suffered and are s0ll suffering with your loss.

As I am writing this, there is another potential hurricane on the horizon. I can only hope it will stay far away from here. Also, as I am writing this, we are still in the process of cleaning up the debris caused by these hurricanes. The initial estimate is that it would take 12,000 truckloads to clear it all. We have 40 trucks working seven days a week to remove the debris as quickly and efficiently as possible. Our goal is to complete the process within 90 days.

As you know, there was also an election this year. I was re-elected for a third term as your City Commissioner from District 2. I am very grateful for your support and your faith in me and I will work hard to earn your continued support.

As always, I am available via email at liz.alpert@sarasotafl.gov or [941.228.5979](tel:941.228.5979).

Mayor Liz Alpert, Esq.

Street

Phone: [941.954.4115](tel:941.954.4115)



Earle Kimel

Sarasota Herald-Tribune

What to do with all of the sand?

Guidelines on how to remove sand left behind by Hurricane Milton is collected and whether it's on private property or a public beach, in part because the sand could contain nails, debris and other contaminants.

What can you do with sand from your property?

State guidelines allow for clean sand collected from a public beach to be simply returned to the beach above the mean high water line. Sand from private property must be disposed of by a contractor.

The city of Sarasota has separate sand clearing guidelines for residential customers – the latter of which also includes condominiums and hotels. “The big question we’ve been receiving from residents is what can we do with the sand,” city of Sarasota spokeswoman Jan Thornburg said. “The good news is we anticipate a lot of it will meet FDEP guidelines and we’ll be allowed to return it,” to the beach.

Residential customers can place sand at the right-of-way in front of their property, while ensuring that the sidewalks and roads are not obstructed.

Mike Lang

Sarasota Herald-Tribune

Business customers in the city of Sarasota should contact the city public works engineering department to determine if sand can be processed and returned to the beach.

The person to contact there is Angelia Cagan at Angelia.Cagan@cityofsarasota.com 6153. Written approval from the city of Sarasota is required.

Sarasota County’s policy is still evolving in collaboration with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. “As the guidance and resources develop, we’ll be working with the community,” a county spokeswoman said via email.

Earle Kimel

Sarasota Herald-Tribune



Mike Lang

Sarasota Herald-Tribune

Red Tide Alert

Observer Staff

Red tide alert issued for Sarasota County beaches

A red tide alert has been issued for several Sarasota County beaches.

The Florida Department of Health in Sarasota County has issued a health alert for the presence of red tide near Ringling Causeway/ Bird Key Park Beach, North Lido Beach, Lido Casino Beach, Siesta Key Beach, Turtle Beach, Nokomis Beach, North Jetty Beach, Venice Beach, Service Club Beach, Venice Fishing Pier, Brohard Park Beach and Manasota Key Beach.

This is in response to a water sample taken on Nov. 12. The public is advised to exercise caution in and around this area. Guidance includes:

Do not wade or swim in or around red tide, which can cause skin irritation, rashes, and burning/sore eyes.

Remain cautious and stay away from red tide locations, especially if suffering from chronic respiratory conditions.

Residents of beach areas are advised to close windows and operate air conditioners. Make sure the air conditioner filter is maintained according to manufacturer's specifications.

Do not harvest or eat shellfish or distressed or dead fish from these areas.

Keep pets away and out of the water.



Nikesh Patel

Sarasota City Engineer



which should take our new beach from offering protection from a 25 year storm. Fortunately our beach did well with the

ing the recent hurricanes regarding the beach. We don't could be able to discuss after the new year regarding an



Debbie Comer

In Memory of Beth Dilworth

We are sad to announce the passing of Beth Dilworth on October 8, 2024. Beth was a longtime resident of Lido Key, and served on our LKRA Board of Directors for many years.

Beth's strong commitment to her community and LKRA will always be appreciated and remembered. As a Board member, Beth planned programs, and served as Secretary and Membership Chair for many years.

Beth's love for the well-being of Lido Key, kept her abreast of action and activities, and in communication with people, organizations, commissioners, and City leaders. LKRA deeply appreciates the time and dedication Beth shared with all of us.

We share our sympathy with her family. Beth will be missed, however, her community spirit lives on.

St. Armands Store Opening Update.

St. Armands Circle Association

The list of open merchants is update biweekly: StArmandsCircleAssoc.com

Follow Us On Social Media! [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)

15 South by Napule	Les Ciseaux Salon and Spa
Arcade Monster	Lido Beach Resort
Aquasandz Nails & Spa	Longboat Key Club
Bennington Tobacconist	Lynches Pub
Big Olaf Creamery	Merci Boutique
Binjara Traders	The Met Fashion House
Blue Dolphin Cafe	Michael Saunders & Co. (opening soon)
Cha Cha Coconuts	Pepper Palace
Cilantro Grill	Sahara (opening Friday!)
Coldwell Banker (opening Nov 12)	Sarasota Memorial Urgent Care Center
Columbia Restaurant	Shore Restaurant
Cotton Club	Settimi's Gelato
Crab & Fin (opening Dec 1)	Speaks Clam Bar
Daiquiri Deck	St. Armands Key Lutheran Church
Ephesus Mediterranean Delights	Venezia Italian Restaurant
Foxy Lady	Zota Beach Resort
Gauthier Salon	
Ivory Coast (opening soon)	
Kathy Groob Art Studio	
KRB Coastal Salon and Extension Bar	



ST. ARMANDS
CIRCLE



Mote Marine Hurricane Milton Update

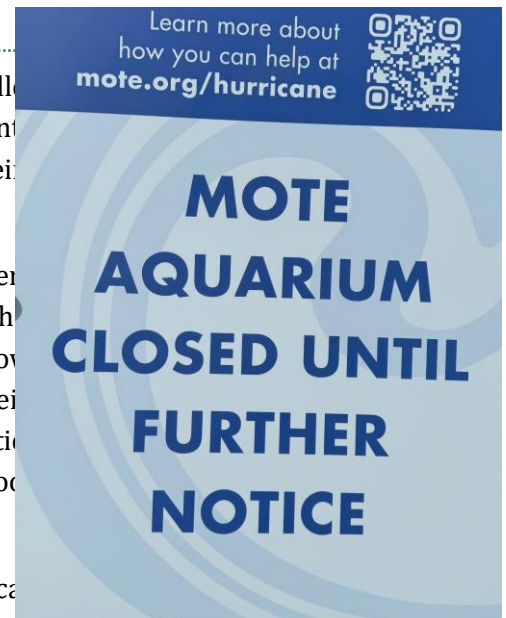
Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium (Mote) faced an unprecedented challenge on the region, just days after Hurricane Helene had already caused significant damage on occasion, showcasing commitment to aquatic life and conservation amid their storms.

During recovery and stabilization efforts from the impacts of Hurricane Helene and protective measures in advance of the arrival of Hurricane Milton, which affected many of their neighbors in the community, were already dealing with their own homes from Hurricanes Helene and Debby, and the fear of devastation of their incoming Hurricane Milton. Yet Mote staff displayed an unwavering dedication being of the animals in our care in both pre-storm preparations and swift, coordinated research laboratories and animal care facilities.

With limited time, and resources already stretched thin by impacts of Hurricane Helene, Mote made to successfully relocate two manatees to a partner facility out of the direct forecasted path of the hurricane and transport endangered sea turtles, alligators, birds, river otters, as well as other key species, to Mote Aquaculture Research Park 13 miles inland. These efforts were made possible through the tireless work of Mote's expert staff with support from numerous partners. Staff worked around the clock to ensure laboratories and animal care facilities were secure, animals were as safe as possible, and emergency severe weather protocols were followed. Their success was evident in the survival of the overwhelming majority of diverse marine and coastal animals in Mote's care. However, as with any environmental catastrophe of this scale, not all outcomes were as hoped.

In the face of this disaster, a heartbreaking loss occurred with two beloved North American river otters, Huck and Jane, tragically passing away during the hurricane. Despite every effort to ensure their safety, including medical intervention, the unprecedented nature of the back-to-back hurricanes and the resulting stress presented health issues that unfortunately could not be overcome. The loss of these otters is deeply felt, not only by Mote staff, but by the broader community as well. For years, these otters have been more than just residents at Mote — they were beloved ambassadors of our mission, teaching visitors of all ages about the importance of freshwater coastal ecosystems and conservation. Their playful antics, intelligence, and charm made them instant favorites, bringing joy and inspiration to aquarium guests. Their loss is a reminder of the severity of the storm's impact, but it also strengthens the Mote family's resolve to protect and care for the animals who continue to thrive under our watch.

"Mote's legacy of science-based marine conservation and highest quality animal care continues to thrive, thanks to the dedication of our staff, volunteers and trustees, along with the unyielding support of the broader community," said Dr. Michael P. Crosby, Mote President & CEO. "While we face difficult days ahead, alongside our equally resilient and recovering community, we will emerge from this crisis stronger with a renewed commitment to our vital mission of restoring and conserving our shared marine and coastal ecosystems through excellence in research and translation of our science to enable a more ocean literate public." Mote's facility recovery efforts from these back-to-back events will have a substantial and sizeable cost. If you are in a position to support disaster recovery, please donate online at mote.org/hurricane or call [\(941\) 388-4441 X352](tel:9413884441).



Exciting news!!!

We are having another: LKRA BEACH PARTY!

Save the date! Friday, April 4 / No Rain Date

Where: Lido Beach Resort

Time: 5:30-9:30 PM

If it rains, it will be inside same night!

More details to come!!



Kathy Kussy

Chair LKRA Election Committee

LKRA Elections information

Annual elections for the LKRA board are conducted each February. Our bylaws require that anyone wishing to run for the board must notify Kathy Kussy at kwkussy@mail.com or a board member no later than November 30. The five board members whose terms are ending, Carl Shoffstall, Jay Elasser, Kathy Kussy, Bruce Abramowitz, and Diane Sterner, have all agreed to run for reelection so we have the same number currently running as are open. If we need to do a ballot election they will be sent out in January by email or mail if necessary. Ballots can be returned by mail or brought to the February membership meeting. Only one ballot per household will be accepted. The Board members for 2025 will be announced at the February breakfast meeting

For those who are not interested in a board position at this time but might be interested in the future, or those of you who would like to help out by serving on a committee, let us know of your interest. We are always eager to get others involved and there is always a lot to do.

OUR APPRECIATION TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE CREATION, PUBLICATION, AND DISTRIBUTION OF THIS NEWSLETTER

Editor: Bruce Abramowitz

Contributing Articles: Carl Shoffstall; Liz Alpert, Mayor; Bruce Abramowitz; The Observer Staff; Rachel Burns, Executive Director St. Armands Circle Association; Nikesh Patel, Sarasota City Engineer; Earle Kimel, Sarasota Herald-Tribune; Kathy Kussy, Chair LKRA Election Committee; Debbie Comer

Maintain & Finalizing Mailing List: Cindy Shoffstall





2025 HOUSEHOLD MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Proudly Encouraging Meaningful Community Involvement Since 1972

Membership Dues: \$30.00

(PLEASE PRINT)

☐ Lido Key Resident or Property Owner

☐ New ☐ Renewing

☐ Associate Member

☐ New ☐ Renewing

Member Name: _____

Email: #1: _____ Phone #1: _____

Spouse/Partner: _____

Email: #2: _____ Phone #2: _____

Local Address: _____ Unit: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mailing Address (if different): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

LKRA sponsors Meet & Greets on the 2nd Tuesday each month. This neighborhood happy hour runs from 5 - 7:30 at the various locations with exclusive pricing on drink and food options. LKRA holds Membership meetings with guest speaker(s) on the 3rd Saturday of October, November, January, February, March, and April at 10:00 am at the Lido Beach Resort. Our Annual Breakfast precedes the February Meeting. Again in 2025 LKRA will throw a Beach Party (April 4th). Our newsletter *Lido Key Matters* (published 3-5 times a year) is emailed to all members and is viewable our website.

Questions? Email Jim Ludwig lidokeyresidents@gmail.com or visit www.LKRA.org.
Join and pay for membership with a bankcard at [Join \(lkra.org\)](http://Join(lkra.org)).

Please mail completed Membership Application and your check made out to:

LIDO KEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 884 SARASOTA, FL 34230

ONLINE PAYMENT LINKS FOR SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP

[Household membership](#)



2025 CONDO ASSOCIATION, HOTEL OR BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Proudly Encouraging Meaningful Community Involvement Since 1972

Membership Dues: \$50.00

(PLEASE PRINT)

☐ Condo Association, Hotel or Business ☐ New ☐ Renewing

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Website: _____

Contact Name #1: _____ Phone: _____

Position: _____ Email: _____

Contact Name #2: _____ Phone: _____

Position: _____ Email: _____

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Questions? Email Jim Ludwig lidokeyresidents@gmail.com or visit www.LKRA.org.
Join and pay for membership with a bankcard at [Join \(lkra.org\)](http://Join(lkra.org)).

Please mail completed Membership Application and your check made out to:

LIDO KEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 884 SARASOTA, FL 34230

ONLINE PAYMENT LINKS FOR SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP

[Hotel/business membership](#)

BOARD MEMBERS and COMMITTEES

President – Carl Shoffstall CarlS@Floridaplaystructures.com Scholarship Fund, CCNA Board Member

Vice President – Jay Elsasser jay@JABETECH.com, Beach and Dunes

Secretary and Events Committee – Katherine Kussy KWKUSSY@gmail.com Bylaws, Scholarship,

Treasurer – Jim Ludwig, jhludwig@comcast.net Chair of Hotel House Committee, Website, CCNA Board 1st Vice President, Membership, Scholarship

Director Newsletter – Bruce Abramowitz bruceabramowitz@gmail.com

Director and CCNA alternative representative - Jasbir (Jessie) Hayre jessiehayre@gmail.com

Director and Special Events- Diane Sterner Sun2day@gmail.com

Director – Rhonda Daniels rhondadaniels26@yahoo.com Membership

Director -Tim Malaney lidotim@yahoo.com

Director - Scott Ashby rscottashby@aol.com

Ex Offico - Michael Jaspan michael@safemoneyadvisory.com

Newsletter Mailing & Delivery: Cindy Shoffstall cindys@floridaplaystructures.com

THE BOARD HAS DECIDED THAT UNLESS YOU NOTIFY US YOU WILL RECEIVE NEWSLETTERS AND OTHER INFORMATION THROUGH EMAIL AND NOT THROUGH THE POST OFFICE..

