



LIDO KEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION LIDO KEY MATTERS AUGUST 2020

Events Calendar

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

NEXT MEETING: October 17th.

ZOOM MEETING???

**“Meet and Greet”
Happy Hours 5-7 pm**

**The second Tuesday of the month
at: TBD**

Presidents Letter

Good morning to all members of the Lido Key Resident Association:

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer in these trying times. I am hoping we will be returning to somewhat normalcy in the near future (I can only hope). I am happy to announce that the beach shoreline protection project is progressing very well after a little bit of a slow start. Cindy has been sending progress pictures, as well reports from Alex Davis – Shaw (City Engineer). The project is to have sand placement done by November of this year, with the groins being completed at the end /beginning of the New Year. Our friends over on Siesta Key are not cooperating with us even after we have prevailed in several court cases (we do have one coming up sometime in the fall again). We will be reaching out to everyone again to look for donations to help in our ongoing legal fees. I also want to thank everyone for your donations as well as Ocean Properties (Mark Walsh) and Damion Oriordan (Ritz Carlton) for their continued help. With everyone’s help, we will see this through.

August 23, 2020

As I stated in a previous letter, the pool pavilion is ready to open soon. Speaking with Parks Director Jerry Fogle yesterday, he told me next month is the anticipated opening date (actual TBD) with the renovations of the bathrooms to be completed around the 1st of the year. On another note regarding the pavilion, the Arts Alliance of Sarasota County, along with the cooperation of the City, are looking over several phases to paint murals on the walls of the of the pavilion (see article in newsletter).

In news from the mainland, some of the projects are the roundabouts ongoing construction, the debate on the relocation of the Unconditional Surrender, as well as the construction of new developments. The election primary held on August 18th moved Liz Alpert and Terry Turner to the November 3rd runoff for the District 2 Commissioner.

I could go on about things that are happening, but I only have so much space in the Newsletter. These are very trying times for all of us, and I am not sure when, or if, things will ever get back to some somewhat normal. I hope and pray that everyone that is a member and your family and friends stay safe.

On a final note, I am sad to report a friend, past member, and past president of LKRA, John Lambert passed away last week. He was very instrumental in getting myself and Cindy involved with the association. May he rest in peace and watch over Lido Key.

Until we meet again,

Carl Shoffstall

President LKRA

carl@floridaplaystructures.com

cell: 813-967-2687

home/fax: 941-7061217





US 41-Fruitville Rd. Roundabout: Update

.The eagle eye perspective in the photo below shows how the US 41-Fruitville Road intersection is morphing into a roundabout. A significant step in the process was made earlier this week when work crews shifted the northbound lanes (on the right side of the photo) to the newly completed east half of the roundabout. The center and a portion of the west side of the roundabout will now be constructed, requiring WB Fruitville Rd. to remain closed between Coconut Avenue and US 41. EB Fruitville Road will be open to traffic.

Advisory: Please watch your speed. Drivers are zipping through this area much faster than the posted 25 mph speed limit. This is an active work site, and the reduced speed is for the safety of all, particularly the construction workers.

The US 41-Fruitville Road roundabout is beginning to take shape. The project remains on schedule to be completed in the fall. The roundabout will improve traffic flow and significantly reduce the number of potential vehicle and pedestrian conflict points, making it much safer than the old, signalized intersection. Plus, it will greater enhance connectivity with our beautiful bayfront.

More information about the project, including the latest information about possible road closures, is available at www.US41FruitvilleRoundabout.com



Parking Reminder: Downtown & St. Armands

With local businesses ramping back up as they adapt to the COVID-19 pandemic, and with several of our downtown restaurants utilizing temporary outdoor café permits to extend their seating into parking spaces, we wanted to remind residents and visitors about our City's many public parking options.

Motorists can take advantage of at least two hours of free parking in our City-owned downtown parking garages and on most downtown streets. Convenient parking is also available in metered spaces on Main Street and Palm Avenue, where you get 10 minutes free for quick stops to pick up dry cleaning or a cup of coffee and can pay as little as 25 cents for the first 25 minutes of parking. We've seen lots of increased parking activity in recent weeks as the City has gotten back to business, with many drivers utilizing both paid and free parking options.

In the popular St. Armands shopping district, our new and award-winning St. Armands Garage, located on North Adams Drive next to Sarasota County Fire Station No. 3, is an easy walk to St. Armands Circle and costs only 50 cents an hour. On-street metered spaces are available around the Circle, and other, less expensive options are available a little further away, including in the Fillmore Lot (75 cents an hour) or about a block away on North or South Boulevard of the Presidents, where there are no time restrictions or costs.

For maps and more information about parking throughout the city, visit [SarasotaFL.gov/parking](https://www.sarasotafl.gov/parking).

2020 Census: Deadline is Sept. 30

The deadline to complete the 2020 U.S. Census has been moved up to Sept. 30, so time is running out!

Those who haven't yet fulfilled their civic duty and completed this year's census form, either by paper, phone or online, may soon receive a visit from census takers at their homes.

These friendly, trained workers will be following proper safety protocols (i.e. wearing face masks and practicing social distancing) and will be educating and informing citizens on how to complete the census and assisting as necessary.

It's essential that we have a full and accurate count of all the individuals living in our city. Responses help to determine the allocation of federal funds for things like education, health care, job assistance, infrastructure and more for the next 10 years! Failing to have a full representation of our city population can mean a difference of millions of dollars for vital programs and services over the next decade.

If you haven't yet completed the census questionnaire, you should know that it takes just a few minutes and is safe and secure. Your personal information is not released to any federal, state or local agency or law enforcement for 72 years.

Our city's Complete Count Committee, an assembly of community organizations and partners chaired by Vice-Mayor Shelli Freeland Eddie, has done a terrific job of reaching out to various segments of our community to raise awareness about the census and its importance. But ultimately, each of us has a responsibility to take a few minutes out of our day and participate. Do so today by visiting my2020census.gov. We are counting on you, Sarasota!

Coon Key MURT - Update

The Coon Key Multi-Use Recreational Trail (MURT) project is headed into the home stretch.

Crews recently finished installing a water main below the John Ringling Boulevard right-of-way and are wrapping up testing on the new utility line, a much-needed upgrade to the aging infrastructure. Next up will be new irrigation, landscaping, the planting of hundreds of new trees and the construction of the 10-foot-wide multi-use path on the north side of the road, to match the already completed south-side trail. No significant traffic impacts are expected, outside of an occasional short lane closure for truck deliveries to the site.

The project is expected to be completed by this fall, at which time we'll have safer connectivity from our downtown to St. Armands Circle and the barrier islands for runners, walkers and bicyclists. Not only will it be a fun and scenic route for exercise and recreation, but it will also provide an alternative mobility option for those who choose and are able to walk, jog or bike to St. Armands and Lido Beach. Obviously, fewer cars means less traffic, cleaner air and healthier lifestyles.



BREAKTHROUGH FOR CORAL RESTORATION

August 12, 2020 – Sarasota, FL – For the first time in Florida or Caribbean waters, restored massive corals were observed spawning—part of sexual reproduction that could result in the next generation of coral offspring—thanks to Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium's innovative efforts to restore Florida's Coral Reef.

Over the past few nights, Mote coral scientists observed restored colonies of mountainous star coral (*Orbicella faveolata*) on a reef near Cook Island, hoping to capture the brief moment during the evening where the coral release their gametes (eggs and sperm) into the water column, a process known as spawning. On Aug. 9, to the delight of Mote scientists, a coral colony known to be gravid (containing gametes) released its gametes in an extraordinary display. Further cause for underwater celebration came on Aug. 10, when five more colonies spawned. This is the first time that restored massive corals have been documented to spawn on Florida's Coral Reef.

These colonies were restored to the reef as small microfragments in 2015 as part of Mote's science-based restoration strategy. Read the story announcing that several of these colonies were identified to be gravid [here](#).

The documentation of the presence of gametes and of spawning in colonies of restored mountainous star coral is a first for massive corals in Florida and the Caribbean. This key species is listed as threatened under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, and is one of the most critical reef-builders on Florida's Reef Tract, helping to form the backbone of the entire reef system.

Corals reach sexual maturity not at a certain age, but a certain size. Growing at less than 1 centimeter per year, mountainous star coral might take decades to reach sexual maturity. Through the Mote-pioneered methodology of microfragmentation-fusion, these slow-growing corals can have their growth process sped up significantly, with these corals reaching sexual maturity in just five years.

Mote's science-based coral restoration strategy not only creates viable colonies of coral at an accelerated rate, but also concentrates on genetic varieties (genotypes) of corals that are resistant to common stressors found in the ocean environment. These mountainous star coral colonies have endured a global bleaching event in 2015, a Category-4 hurricane (Irma) in 2017, and the 2019 outbreak at this site of stony coral tissue loss disease, which has affected millions of reef corals across Florida's Coral Reef and beyond.



A restored colony of mountainous star coral releases gametes into the water column. Credit Joe Berg

July 2020



August 2020



Alex-Davis Shaw

Below, please find the weekly update for the Lido Beach Project, We have had reports of some people trying to get into the active construction area. This is not safe and can impact the productivity of the project.

Please share with others that we need to keep people safe and, to do that, they need to stay out of the active construction area. The Contractor will open areas as soon as he can safely. Thank you very much for your help with this.

LIDO KEY HURRICANE AND STORM DAMAGE REDUCTION PROJECT WEEKLY PROGRESS UPDATE:

Dredge and beach fill placement activities have been ongoing since July 18, 2020. Progress began on the south end of Lido Key beach south of the Sarasota Sands Resort near Ted Sterling Park and will advance northward along the shoreline to conclude at a location near the Lido Key Beach Recreation Trail parking area.

Current Location:

Approximately 1000 linear feet of beach within the current "work zone" is temporarily fenced and closed for construction activities from South Lido Shores (Station (sta.) 40+500) to Key Towers South (sta. 41+500).

The south staging area in Ted Sperling Park continues to be the active construction staging area with a construction equipment travel corridor located landward of the dredge pipeline installed on the beach.

Pedestrian sand access ramps over the pipeline continue to be added as northward construction progress is made and sections of the newly filled beach are opened to the public. Additionally, the north staging area, which is the parking lot between the Lido Beach Pool and the Lido Beach Resort is closed to the public and will be closed through the remainder of the project.

Week Ahead:

Progress is expected to continue north from the current location extending to the Beach Club (sta. 40+300). Areas south of the current "work zone" will continue to be opened to the public as they are completed.

The active "work zone" construction areas on the beach and off beach staging areas will be cordoned off and/or fenced to keep the public away from equipment. We appreciate your understanding.

Please see the weekly Projected Progress Map dated August 19, 2020 for the location of the current "work zone" on the beach and a projected construction timeline for future beach fill areas on Lido Key. All projected timelines shown are estimates and are subject to change due to unforeseen weather and equipment delays.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you

Alex DavisShaw, P.E., PTOE, F.FES

City Engineer

Public Works

City of Sarasota

(941) 954-4181 (Office)

(941) 404-9859 (Cell)



Andrea Knies

Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County

Lido Pavilion Murals

The Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County has formed a community task force to guide the creation of a series of murals on the Lido Beach Pavilion. These murals will showcase the history and spirit of Lido Key while highlighting key factors in the development of the City of Sarasota. Local artist Tim Jaeger has been selected to lead this project which will include opportunities for the community to participate in the painting. 10 spaces on the pavilion have been identified for possible murals, these will be completed in phases as funding permits. The first phase of murals is scheduled to be finished by October 1, 2020. The task force is actively seeking donors to help offset the cost of the project. If you or your organizations wish to participate as a donor, contact the Arts and Cultural Alliance at director@sarasotaarts.org.

Andrea Knies, APR
Communications Director
Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County

Timothy Fanning

Sarasota Herald-Tribune

‘Unconditional Surrender’ statue may have new home

On Wednesday, members of Sarasota’s Public Arts Committee unanimously recommended permanently removing the “Unconditional Surrender” sculpture from the bayfront, relocating it about four miles from its prominent home on Gulfstream Avenue to the Sarasota Sahib Shriners’ campus at 600 N. Beneva Road.

The Shriners have enthusiastically agreed to pay to move, maintain and keep the 26-foot-tall statue. If the City Commission agrees in September, Sarasota could loan the sculpture to the nonprofit. “All you have to say to us is; ‘Guys, you can take it,’” said Gary Fields, the CEO of Sarasota Sahib Shriners, a nonprofit that works to provide transportation and health care to children at hospitals or clinics. The nonprofit is largely made up of military veterans who want to see the large reproduction of the iconic image of a World War II sailor kissing a woman on V-J Day in 1945 remain in Sarasota, Fields said.

Fields also noted that the nonprofit could hold onto the sculpture temporarily — at least until the construction of a roundabout on Gulfstream Avenue and U.S. 41 is completed. “If they’re willing, interested and up to the challenge, let’s give it to them,” said committee member Emmett Gregory.

The committee reversed a decision it made last month to temporarily place the statue in storage until a permanent location could be found. The decision to recommend moving the “Unconditional Surrender” came after yet another lengthy discussion about its place in the city and its prominence along the Sarasota bayfront.

Wednesday’s discussion also saw enthusiastic support from the veteran community — with many pointing to the “Unconditional Surrender” as a symbol of the end of World War II and a tribute to military veterans.

Opponents, mostly women, said the sculpture is a reminder of a sexual assault and urged the committee to remove it.

Time lapse showing our sand coming back!

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/tnGQeboGMzhwBX4rv9DZAKanyERimeIuS/view?usp=sharing>

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

Editor: Bruce Abramowitz

Contributing Articles: Carl Shoffstall, Thomas Barwin (City Manager), Stephannie Kettle (Mote Marine), Alex-Davis Shaw (Sarasota City Engineer), Heidi Brandt, Bruce Abramowitz, Jay Elsasser, Andrea Knies (Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County), Kylie Wilson (Audubon Society), Timothy Fanning (Sarasota Herald-Tribune)

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Printer Liaison: Cindy Shoffstall

Maintain & Finalizing Mailing List: Cindy Shoffstall

Kylie Wilson Program Coordinator, Bird Monitoring & Stewardship

I fibbed last week when I said we had so many nests. Upon closer inspection, the majority of birds I thought to be nesting were actually brooding chicks. We are down to just a few true nests left. Friday I caught a glimpse of these birds on eggs. Then Saturday, a new chick emerged! So, if these final nests continue to hatch soon, the nesting season will likely be over by mid-September. This means we will need volunteers for Labor Day weekend! I have added the additional dates into the schedule.



^A trio of young chicks that were waiting for a parent to return and keep them shaded



^These **Snowy Plover** chicks are the first to hatch in Sarasota County since 2017. The two chicks were being raised by Dad

Now, for the biggest and best news I have to share with you guys! We have a Snowy Plover chick that is nearly fledged!! Here is the story: Ms. Shady was the last Snowy Plover to nest on Lido and she made her nest under a chick shelter. I thought her nest was predated. She was not observed on the nest and the eggs were gone - it was the same day that a juvenile Herring Gull was seen predated some of our last Least Tern chicks. But, the following week when I was removing the Least Tern posting, these 2 little Snowy Plover chicks ran out in front of me!! The two chicks were being raised by Dad; mom left after they hatched. This is a common thing with Snowy Plovers, sometimes mom does all the incubating and dad does the chick rearing.



^Midday it is easy to see how many birds are incubating or brooding. The majority of these birds are on young chicks and only a few have eggs left.



^One Skimmer with a one egg nest on Friday..



^The egg hatched the next day!



^A fluffy butt Skimmer chick down by the water.

Kylie Wilson
(941) 266 - 5407
kylie.wilson@audubon.org
fl.audubon.org

Heidi Brandt

Membership

We've had 5 new members since our last meeting in February. We'd like to encourage everyone to tell their neighbors and friends about LKRA and to join. It's \$30 / year and you can join online (lkra.org) via credit or debit card, or send a check to LKRA PO Box 884 Sarasota, FL 34230. I know we haven't had any in-person meetings since February, but we still encourage people to keep up with their membership. We miss you all and can't wait until the day we can resume in-person meetings!

In the meantime, we hosted a City Commissioner Candidate forum via zoom in July and plan to host a membership meeting maybe in October. Stay tuned! If you have any questions whether or not you paid 2020 LKRA dues please don't hesitate to contact me. heidimbrandt@gmail.com

When filling out your application, write legibly and fill out all the blanks. Please put your condo number with your street address. Please provide your EMAIL ADDRESS and PHONE NUMBER in order to receive our regular updates and notifications of things pertaining to Lido Key. You can have additional email addresses if a husband and wife both have their own emails.

ONLINE PAYMENT LINKS FOR LEGAL FUND DONATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP

<https://lkra.org/membership>

<https://lkra.org/donate>

Cindy Shoffstall

Newsletter

WE HAVE HAD MANY REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS THAT THEY WOULD PREFER TO RECEIVE NEWSLETTERS AND OTHER INFORMATION THROUGH EMAIL AND NOT THROUGH THE POST OFFICE..

THE BOARD HAS DECIDED THAT UNLESS YOU NOTIFY US THAT YOU WOULD PREFER A HARD COPY BY MAIL, ALL CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE EMAILED.



John Lambert 1931-2020

I wanted to let everyone know that **John Lambert** passed away in Sarasota. He was a past president and a very active board member of LKRA. He helped Carl and me to get involved in the Association and his accomplishments for Lido are way too many to list. He will be missed.

2021 LKRA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

2020 DUES: \$30.00 Annually Per Household

PLEASE PRINT:

Member Name: _____

Spouse/Partner: _____

Condo (if applicable): _____

Email Address: _____

Lido Key Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mailing Address (if different): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #1: _____ Phone #2: _____

PLEASE CHECK HERE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A HARD COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER BY MAIL TO YOUR MAILING ADDRESS ABOVE _____

Have a question? Call Carl Shoffstall: 813-967-2687. Or email membership director

Heidi Brandt: heidimbrandt@gmail.com. Mail Membership Form and check to the address below. Membership meetings are held the 3rd Saturday in the months of; October, November, January, February, March, and April.

Additional information available on our website: www.LKRA.org

RETURN FORM TO:

LIDO KEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 884

SARASOTA, FLORIDA 34230

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Director – Beth Dilworth

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