



LIDO KEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

LIDO KEY MATTERS

JULY 2019

Events Calendar

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

**NEXT MEETING:
October 19**

"Meet and Greet"
Happy Hours 5-7 pm

**The second Tuesday of the month at: Lido Key
Holiday Inn
Kokomos, Holiday Inn
Starting in the Fall**

Presidents Letter

Good afternoon to all members of the Lido Key Resident Association.

I want to wish everyone and your families a happy Fourth of July holiday. We had a safe and very successful Grand Prix boat race here on lido. It has been a very busy this off-season as far as red tide has gone away. Season is rapidly coming for this next year. The weather for the last few weeks has been hot humid and very rainy (we really needed the rain as we are below average rainfall for the year).

To review some of the more, important issues that are ongoing at this time are the civil court case that was held this past Tuesday and it went from 1 pm until 7pm. Arguments were presented for both sides (see article in newsletter). The court is looking for written closing arguments from both sides no later than august seventh. The positive news is the Army Corps of Engineers are pushing forward for a possible start date September to October of this year (keep your fingers crossed).

An update on the lido Pavilion: is the concession for company that will run it is going out to bid for to take on concession for the next 5 years. The city staff said It is not going to change from what is there now. The city is looking into fixing the range hood as well as new roof and bathrooms.

I cannot be more proud or say enough about the people that volunteer their time to make this association one of the largest and most recognized in the City of Sarasota. I want personally to thank the LKRA board members, Mark Wash (Ocean Properties) and his staff, John Havarias (Lido Beach resort GM), Damien Oriordan (Ritz Carlton GM) and his staff for all their support of our association.

It is my honor to serve as your president of this association and to be able to live in one of the most beautiful places anywhere. I hope everyone has a very safe and happy summer whether you go to another home or you are here.

Until I see you again
God Bless

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Liz Alpert, Esq

Sarasota Mayor and City Commissioner

As I'm writing this, Tropical Storm Barry is forming in the Northern Gulf of Mexico. Other than an increase in rain, we are fortunate that it will not affect our area. However, it reminds us of the importance of not only emergency planning, but the ongoing planning that we are doing in the City to respond to climate change, sea level rise, and the increased potential for more and stronger hurricanes. The recent renourishment of Lido Key beaches is one of the protective measures the City has taken due to the extreme erosion that had taken place. We are aware that even with this renourishment, the sand in place now will eventually be eroded over time or quite suddenly if a particularly strong storm hits us. That's why we are looking at the long-term solution for periodic beach renourishment, so that we never come as close as we did before to losing all of our beach.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact me at:

liz.alpert@sarasotafl.gov or 941-228-5979.

Liz Alpert, Mayor

Stevie Freeman-Montes

Sustainability Manager

City of Sarasota Considering Ordinance to Regulate Some Single Use Plastic Items on Public Property

According to Keep Sarasota County Beautiful data, 52,733 plastic and polystyrene (commonly known as Styrofoam™) pieces were found on our County beaches during cleanups from 2013 to 2017. These pieces enter our waterways and break into small pieces, called microplastics, resulting in negative impacts on our wildlife. In addition to educational campaigns and efforts to encourage community members and businesses to voluntarily transition away from single-use plastics, the Sarasota City Commission is considering an ordinance on July 15 that would prevent food service establishments operating on public property from distributing or using polystyrene materials. It would also require food service establishments operating on public land to only provide single use straws if specifically requested by the customer. The goal is to help encourage the reduction and reliance on single use plastic materials. The City understands that single-use products can be necessary for many community members, especially those living with disability, to meet basic needs or live independently. It is the intent of this policy to raise awareness of the often-unnecessary distribution of disposable items and to reduce local plastic pollution in our waterways. For more information on this ordinance contact

sustainability@sarasotafl.gov

Stevie Freeman-Montes

stevie.freeman-montes@sarasotafl.gov



Tom Barwin

City Manager

Even during the summer in the city, Sarasota's Lido Key continues to be one of the most interesting geographies on the Gulf Coast. At its center is the unique, John Ringling inspired, St. Armand's circle. Beautifully landscaped, filled with quality shops, dining establishments and dotted with Ringling sculptures, it is one of America's most unique business districts.

Just a mile away one can transition from the commercial world and enter the world of nature and the deep blue sea. Head north from St. Armand's Circle and in minutes you will be to City Island and Ken Thompson Park, which has been the longtime home to the Mote Marine Science Laboratory and aquarium.

Founded in 1955, Mote was recruited to City Island by Sarasota's leaders in 1978 and is now one of 130 marine laboratories in the United States. Mote has evolved to become one of America's leading, independent marine laboratories, by combining marine science research, with public education and public outreach. 200,000 visitors per year continue to visit Mote's modest aquarium where over 100 marine species are on display. The Mote science campus employs over 200 including over 30 PhD's and is supported by over 1,000 dedicated volunteers.

As one of America's leading research institutions studying red tide, ocean acidification and coral reef restoration, Mote's presence has benefitted our community and area wildlife in many ways and all one has to do to see examples is to circle back from Motes campus, to Lido Beach.

Lido beach is especially interesting this time of year. Walking north on Lido Beach from the pavilion area one can observe the increasing number of sea turtle nests which have been marked for protection with sticks and orange screening by Mote volunteers. This ongoing effort is helping preserve the logger-head sea turtle population. The public is very supportive of the effort to protect the sea turtle nesting areas as the eggs prepare to hatch each fall as Sarasotans root for the thousands of sea turtle hatchlings to return to the Gulf and survive.

Even more interesting are the sea bird nesting areas on Lido that are cordoned off by Mote and the Audubon Society volunteers to protect the sea bird nesting areas. Lido has one of the largest concentrations of Black Skimmers in the state. This threatened species, with their long wing spans, orange webbed feet, and orange and black bills, miraculously skim the water's surface, bills open, for food. Between rest and skimming they often put on daring, Blue Angel quality air shows with synchronized, rapid climbs, dives and swoops above the water's edge, teaching their youth to frolic as they fly. It is a fun, inspiring and fascinating scene. It may be summer in the city but some of Satasota's best nature shows are now underway, and they remain free to this day.

Please feel free to email me at thomas.barwin@sarasotafl.gov



Brynn Mechem.

Staff Writer: Longboat Key Observer

MOTE MARINE VIRUAL REALITY PODS

Those looking to swim alongside humpback whales or head into outer space now have the chance with the addition of virtual reality pods at Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium.

Now nestled in the aquarium's exploration gallery, the pods ask users to put on a virtual reality headset and sit in an automated chair. The user is then transported to an alternate reality of their choosing.

"It's just an opportunity to expose our guests to a new type of technology," said Stephannie Kettle, Mote public relations manager. "Swimming with humpbacks is not something that we can showcase here at our aquarium, so it's the best way to see them."

The aquarium, which got the pods from Immotion, a United Kingdom-based company, offers nine experiences. Two of the nine feature live-shot film, while the others feature computer-generated images.

Visitors can swim through a shipwreck in the Bahamas, fly with a dragon or ride a ghost train. Each experience lasts four to five minutes and costs \$6.

While there are nine experiences now, Evan Barniskis, assistant vice president of the aquarium, said Immotion is creating new experiences.

"As soon as they're developed, we will get new experiences to offer," he said. "Just because people come now to experience the pods, if they come back in six months, there may be a whole new set of different experiences for them."

In fact, Immotion crews recently finished filming a shark experience in the Bahamas, and plan to add two more subsea CGI experiences. Barniskis said he also hopes to work with Immotion to create a video about the aquarium in the future.

Kettle said the aquarium is using the pods as an opportunity to experiment with interactive technology so that when the aquarium expands, it can offer more virtual experiences to its guests.

The pods are now open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily.



Andrew Vac

Lido Key Improvements

SARASOTA POLICE STATIONED ON LIDO KEY

The City of Sarasota Police stationed the following listed officers on our island. They are assigned to Lido Key, St. Armand's Circle & Bird Key. Our area is "Zone-10." These officers are on a rotation and do not work every day.

Below are their cell phone numbers. If an officer cannot be reached, the non-emergency (dispatch) number should be used 941.316.1199. In a true emergency, please call 911.

Day shift – Officer Steven Mayforth	941.993.8620
Day shift – Officer Scott Patrick	941.993.7996
Night shift – Officer Jay (Chris) Childers	941.724.2726
Night shift – Officer Derek Conley	941.702.3751



Paul Robbins

Lido Beach Litigation Update

The Civil Suit hearing took place Tuesday 7/23. The evidentiary portion was completed.

The written closings for the LKRA, the city of Sarasota, and the Siesta Key Association are due by Wednesday August 7th. Since there will be no rebuttals, all that will be left is the Judges decision.

Sten Spinella

Staff Writer: Longboat Key Observer

Speed hump project beginning July 15 in St. Armands

This process was supposed to start on July 8 but was postponed because of bad weather.

Last year, the Florida Department of Transportation agreed to implement the speed humps after a coordinated push from the city of Sarasota and the St. Armands Circle Association. Brian R. Rick, communications specialist at FDOT, said the city and the association came to FDOT with the problem of cars going too fast in the circle.

A statement from FDOT said to expect nighttime/overnight lane closures from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. once work is underway.

FDOT plans on studying the effects of the speed humps, which mimic elevated pedestrian crosswalks in how they slow motorists. If raised crosswalks are deemed viable once the speed humps are removed, FDOT hopes to eventually install raised crosswalks, though such a project would take time and require funding, Rick said.

“At the end of a year they [the speed humps] will be removed and the intent is to have a raised pedestrian crosswalk and raised intersections within and adjacent to the circle,” Rick said. “Now a raised crosswalk also facilitates the same objective, which is to get vehicles to slow down.”

A release from FDOT focused on the safety aspect of the speed humps.

“These speed humps are designed to encourage motorists to slow down when driving through the circle, enabling pedestrians to safely cross the road and reducing the number and severity of crashes,” the release read. “Unlike speed bumps that are often seen in large apartment complexes, speed humps provide a gentle transition and traffic calming environment, which can reduce speeds from 15 to 20 mph.”

Diana Corrigan, executive director of the St. Armands Circle association, said three pedestrians have been hit in her 20 years in the area, “And that's three too many,” she said.

The speed humps are made of recycled synthetic rubber. At \$40,000 the project costs roughly \$5,000 per speed hump. FDOT is paying for the project.

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

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Heidi Brandt

Membership

Official 2020 membership starts on January 1st. Our updated membership total is 845 members. Many of you have already paid. If you are unsure of your current status, contact us for an update. THE YEARLY MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR 2019 is \$30. The membership application is on the next page of this newsletter.

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.

Subject: LKRA Legal Fund Contributions

We were up to 63% of households donating to the legal fund. PLEASE GO TO: www.LKRA.org, click on Lido Key Sand Matters Legal Fund.

ONLINE PAYMENT LINKS FOR LEGAL FUND DONATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP

<http://www.lkra.org/lido-key-sand-matters-legal-fund.html>

<http://www.lkra.org/membership-1.html>

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR NEWSLETTER

Submit your letter in 150 words or less to the Editor at carl@floridaplaystructures.com and get your letter and/or picture printed in an upcoming newsletter.

Editor reserves the right to shorten submissions as necessary and, in case of multiple submissions, the Editor will make a final decision on which letter(s) to print.

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.

BOARD MEMBERS and COMMITTEES

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