

SEASON  
GREETINGS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

# LIDO KEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION LIDO KEY MATTERS DECEMBER 2020

## Events Calendar

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

**NEXT MEETING: Jan. 16, 2021**

**Zoom Meeting connection to be emailed**

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

**The second Tuesday of the month at: Lido Key Holiday Inn Kokomos, Holiday Inn March 10th, at 5 PM**

## Presidents Letter

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

I have just finished my almost every morning walk with Cindy and our dog Sparki and doing it at 5 am to 6am it is very quiet and gives me time to reflect on how blessed we are to live in the greatest place Lido Key. The year 2020 has been very distressing and I am hopeful everyone's life 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 has completed the sand placement portion of the project and this past week the tilling was completed. In January, construction of the groins will start and hopefully will be completed sometime in April. Cindy has been sending progress pictures as well as reports from Alex Davis – Shaw (city engineer).

My Christmas present to my wife was a helicopter ride this past Saturday and I must say the weather was incredible. We flew over Myakka State Park then to Venice and finally up the coast and over our beach. It was an amazing sight to see (all the sand).

We had the oral arguments presented in November to the Courts and are awaiting the verdict soon. I also want to thank everyone for your donations, as well as Ocean properties (Mark Walsh) and Damion Oriordan (the Ritz Carlton) for their continued help. With everyone's help, we will see this through.

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 completed sometime in the spring of this year.

In news from the mainland, some of the projects are the ongoing construction of the roundabouts, the debate on the relocation of the Unconditional Surrender statue, as well as the construction of many new developments.

We have a new City Commission in place. The newly elected commissioners for District 3 is Erik Arroyo and District 1 is Kyle Battie. The reelected commissioner for our District 2 is Liz Alpert. The new Mayor is Commissioner Hagen Brody. And Jen Ahern Koch remains.

Also, our City Manager Tom Barwin (article in our newsletter) is retiring and Deputy City manager Marlon Brown was offered the position which he accepted. Pat Robinson, with the Sarasota Police Department, will be taking the Deputy City Manager position

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 somewhat normal. I hope and pray that everyone that is a member and your family and friends are safe.

Until I see you again

Be Safe

Carl Shoffstall

President LKRA

129 Tyler Dr #102

Sarasota, FL 34236 813-967-2687 cell 941-7061217 home/fax [carl@floridaplaystructures.com](mailto:carl@floridaplaystructures.com)



**Liz Alpert, Esq.**

**City Commissioner**

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As we navigate the holiday season this year in new ways, I wish for all of you that no matter the circumstances you are able to make it a happy and healthy one. Many of us have lost loved ones, creating a hole in our hearts that will be hard to fill, but in time will be easier to accept. At the City we have used our efforts to encourage the wearing of masks, washing hands, and social distancing. With the approval of vaccines, we are hopeful that with continued vigilance the COVID-19 virus will be brought under control in the next several months.

With a new year coming and a new City Commission, we'll be looking forward to continuing to work toward providing our best representation for all of you.

Please feel free to contact me any time with your ideas, concerns, and questions.

Sincerely,  
Liz Alpert, City Commissioner, District 2

[liz.alpert@sarasotafl.gov](mailto:liz.alpert@sarasotafl.gov) or 941-228-5979.

**Alexandrea DavisShaw**

**City Engineer**

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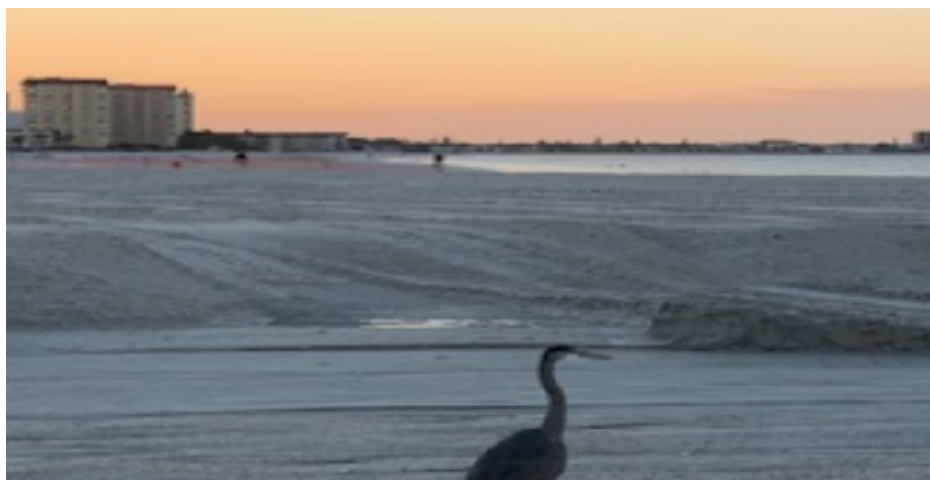
Cottrell completed the dredging and nourishment of Lido Key. They are currently demobilizing pipeline and performing some final grading the next few days before they till the beach. Late this week or early next week they will till the beach. They plan to start the groin construction in January. Thank you all very much for your patience during the renourishment phase of the project.

Thank you,

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

City Engineer, Public Works

City of Sarasota. (941) 954-4181



## Thomas Barwin

## Retiring Sarasota City Manager

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### Transition Time

As my work as your City Manager sunsets, I want to thank all who have signed up to peruse Weekly Briefs each week, because it means you care about Sarasota and its future, just as I have since arriving in 2012.

I would be remiss if I did not extend my sincere appreciation and thanks to our hard working Public Information Office, Jan Thornburg and Jason Bartolone, for producing each week's outstanding edition of Weekly Briefs. I have received much positive feedback due to its succinct informative quality, which is a real tribute to Jan and Jason considering they are usually juggling two dozen other communications issues.

It has been an honor and pleasure being your City Manager. Working closely with the City Commissioners and you, I tried my best to help guide the community in the right direction.

We have linked up a "years in review" memo and my recent SNN City Report video for anyone interested. I'm a bit biased, but we got a lot done together, and there are even more exciting initiatives underway. With exceptional leadership staff in place, and our 700 conscientious City employees getting it done every day, led by the very experienced Marlon Brown, appointed this week by the City Commission as interim city manager and soon-to-be city manager, Sarasota won't miss a beat.

I've never lived in a community where so many people say they love living where they live. And I agree, which is why Sarasota has become our home and Mar and I plan to stick around. The grandkids also love our parks and Lido Beach, just as we do.

Thanks for all you have done or might do to strengthen our community, even if it's just picking up a piece of trash. Place, unity and community still matters a lot, perhaps as much or more than ever.

For those who may wish to get in touch with me in the future, my personal email is [tobarwin@gmail.com](mailto:tobarwin@gmail.com).

Take care, be safe, and all the best to you and yours for a wonderful holiday season and in all of your future endeavors.



**Marlon Brown****Interim Sarasota City Manager****Greetings members of the Lido Key Residents Association.**

I am Marlon Brown the Interim City Manager of your “top best places to retire and top best places to live” city. Although I am new to the position, and hopefully soon to be appointed permanently, I may not be new to many of you with whom I have awesome relationships and have fellowshiped. I have interacted with the Association on many occasions in my previous role as Deputy City Manager, attending many of the neighborhood meetings and being intimately involved in your many projects. I must admit (but shh, please do not tell the other neighborhood associations) that LKRA is one of my favorite Associations; very well respected, very well organized, very involved and very well attended by you. As a testament to that respect, the very presence of elected officials at your meetings indicates the level of importance given to what is being discussed at the meetings.

Honestly, this is my first foray into penning an article for your “#1 readers’ choice/world renowned” newsletter. I can use my limited number of words to highlight the number of amazing projects or to highlight present/upcoming issues related to your Association, such as the beach renourishment/protection project, hotel houses or the Ben Franklin solar streetlight replacements, but I am sure I will just be regurgitating information you are already in-the-know about. So, I will take this opportunity to share a little about my vision for the City of Sarasota organization. Just to remind everyone, my responsibilities are for implementing the policy directives of the City Commission and for the operations of the City organization to ensure that we are providing a high level of quality services that translates into a city that is special which everyone can enjoy and love.....period!!

One of my first actions out of the box was to hire away from the Sarasota Police Department, Deputy Chief Pat Robinson, to appoint him as your Deputy City Manager. Pat is Sarasota born and raised, serving 20 years with the Police Department, well respected and well known in the community. If you have not yet met him, I will make sure to drag him along “kicking and screaming” to your next Association meeting so you can pepper him with your tough questions and concerns. You were never easy on me, so I do not expect you to give him a pass. With the hopeful expectation that the City Commission will permanently appoint me as the next City Manager on Tuesday January 19, 2021, my focus will then be on the structure, effectiveness, and efficiency of the organization; do I have the right personnel in the right positions in leadership/managerial roles? Are we right sized in providing the same or higher level of service to you? Are there positions that are not necessarily needed in a governmental structure for providing the basics for health, safety, and quality of life? Is the budget to be presented to the City Commission for adoption fiscally responsible based on needs not wants? Do we have too many “irons in the fire” (projects/ programs/initiatives) that are creating inefficiencies and confusion making us ineffective? As you can see, there is a lot here for me to digest and consider and it will take some time to iron out. Analogies that come to mind include; turning a ship around, eating the elephant one bite at a time, running a marathon vs. a sprint, and so on.

As I work on these items, I ask for your support, your help, and your prayers but while doing so I commit that our organization/personnel will be responsive, will be respectful, will be honest and will be accountable. Remember, our organization (the City of Sarasota) is a part of the community and that means we will listen and apply common sense principles to arrive at common ground solutions to be the best run city. I thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year. Please continue to be safe and continue to take all necessary precautions to remain healthy. Enjoy the Holidays.

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## Citywide public health emergency extended through January 1, 2021

The City of Sarasota has extended its declaration of a local citywide public health emergency through Jan. 1 following a weekly review, as required by the City Charter, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The [emergency order](#) was issued Friday by Interim City Manager Marlon Brown, in consultation with Mayor Hagen Brody and City Attorney Robert Fournier.

The City's temporary street closure program allows additional space for outdoor dining to help restaurants and retailers severely impacted by the pandemic. The following temporary closures are scheduled for 3:30 p.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday: Lemon Avenue, from Main Street to State Street and Main Street, from Mira Mar Court to South Palm Avenue.

Face coverings [are strongly encouraged](#) in all indoor and outdoor public spaces in the City limits, whenever proper social distancing cannot be maintained in accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. A list of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) about the face mask ordinance is available at [www.SarasotaFL.gov](http://www.SarasotaFL.gov). For questions, [email mandatory.mask@sarasotaFL.gov](mailto:email.mandatory.mask@sarasotaFL.gov).

### Additional resources

A state-run, **walk-up** [COVID-19 testing site](#) is available at Robert L. Taylor Community Complex, 1845 34th St., every day from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. or until daily testing capacity is reached. A state-supported, **drive-thru** COVID-19 testing site is available at the Sarasota Kennel Club, 5400 Old Bradenton Road, daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or until testing capacity is reached.

Testing is open to everyone, regardless of residency or symptoms, and no appointments are necessary.

A Sarasota-specific call center for questions and concerns about COVID-19 is now available through the Florida Department of Health in Sarasota County: 941-861-2883. Subject matter experts are available Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The most current, official information on COVID-19 in Florida can be found at [www.FloridaHealth.gov/COVID-19](http://www.FloridaHealth.gov/COVID-19). A 24/7 hotline is also available: 1-866-779-6121.

### Roundabouts/Traffic – Reminders

Fruitville Rd.: The opening of the US 41-Fruitville Rd. roundabout has gone well. In fact, the project team says drivers are adapting much quicker than expected. It could be that this is the third roundabout on US 41 to open since April and we're getting the hang of it! Drivers are still urged to slow down and yield to pedestrians and vehicles already in the roundabout.

Boulevard of the Arts: During construction of the US 41-Fruitville Rd. roundabout, traffic patterns were realigned at Boulevard of the Arts, including the addition of protected left turns at the US 41 intersection. Please note: The Florida Department of Transportation has informed us the intersection will revert back to its original configuration soon -- with just one left arrow at the intersection for northbound US 41 to westbound Boulevard of the Arts.

## Scott Ashby

## CCNA and City News

The 41-Gulfstream Roundabout construction project was presented. The pre-construction phase, which will not change traffic flow, begins soon. The contract is for 450 days, which is a reduction of 100 days, so the work will go well into 2022. The shifts in traffic pattern will begin in May, 2021, and will continue for a year. They will use the 'crossover' concept, like the I 75 University Blvd interchange work that was done in the last year or so. The FDOT engineers feel that traffic will flow freely, with no signals.

For those who missed the Dec 16 virtual public meeting that explained the details, click on this link or copy and enter it in your browser. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XVNmAf4zNfA&feature=youtu.be>

CCNA voted to support a developer who is proposing a mixed-use arts development on the North Trail on land owned by the county. It could be a live-work type community and is strongly supported by the Arts Council and neighborhood associations in the area.

The water flooding issue at Gulfstream and Sunset was also discussed. It's been a problem for years and will be brought up again by city staff.

A presentation was made by the developers of the proposed condo at the Gulf Beach Resort and Coquina on the Beach properties at our last members zoom meeting. They're asking for a rezoning to be able to increase the height of the building to 135', so they can offer a wide array of amenities to their residents, among other things. There was a Community Zoom Workshop to get residents input on Tues Dec 1. To review their presentation and reactions to the various citizens comments, click on this link or copy and enter it in your browser.

[https://sarasota.granicus.com/player/clip/10549?view\\_id=99&redirect=true](https://sarasota.granicus.com/player/clip/10549?view_id=99&redirect=true)

**On a purely personal note**, not in any way connected with my involvement with LKRA and the Board, I make the following comments the proposed condo development above. The rescinding of the historical designation was not legitimate and based on facts.

A 135' building at that point on Ben Franklin is completely out of proportion to all of the buildings in that several block area, and across from a completely different type residential area. It should not have been zoned even at the height allowed.

The price range and scope of luxurious, really high-end amenities is completely out-of-step with our lifestyle, community engagement and the general quality of life on Lido, especially at that point on the island. These folks don't have a clue about our neighborhoods and resident interaction and such. The condo should be on Longboat Key. The only thing they kept stressing was luxurious amenities. They didn't hear us at all. The hotel branding makes it even more suspicious.

In such high-end properties would not these be second or even third homes, and the owners would not typically be using them for extended stays. As a result, they won't tend to be engaged and participants in the neighborhood and community, like so many of us are. Besides, they have so much going for them in their building, they won't have to go outside.

Listen to the comments at the Community Zoom Workshop noted above and hear what a number of other locals said much more eloquently and effectively.

Finally, I also have friends and neighbors who are in favor of this project, and we'll all go along with what works out. It can't hurt property values. But, many think that the developer should not be able to come in here, change our zoning and disrupt our community without any resistance at all. We didn't allow the Pavilion to be privatized. This can be even more significant.

**ST. ARMANDS BATHROOM PLANS REMAIN IN FLUX**

Despite merchants' eagerness to bring public restrooms to St. Armands Circle, the St. Armands Business Improvement District continues to struggle to finalize construction plans for a bathroom structure in the commercial district.

At a Nov. 18 meeting, the BID discussed its long-gestating efforts to build public restrooms, an effort that dates back nearly five years. The group has produced a design and earned the city's approval earlier this year to put a facility with three bathrooms in the median at John Ringling Boulevard and South Washington Drive.

As the group sought a contractor to build the project, however, it received some disconcerting news. BID Operations Manager Brandy Wiesner said the initial construction quotes the group received exceeded \$500,000 — well above the \$300,000 the BID budgeted for construction.

Wiesner said the city is not scheduled to formally unseal the actual construction bids until early December. Still, officials have already taken some steps to respond to the higher-than-expected quotes. The city revised its bid request to ask respondents to provide two alternative prices — one with some design features removed, the other with one of the three bathrooms eliminated.

At the Nov. 18 meeting, the board discussed another possible cost-saving measure: scrapping the selected design altogether and using a shipping container to create a bathroom facility. Wiesner highlighted examples of other projects that repurposed shipping containers and said the prefabricated structures could be designed to better complement the aesthetics of the Circle.

Wiesner said the shipping containers could save money on construction and flood-proofing. She estimated the total cost of the project using shipping containers would be around \$200,000. If the BID decided to change its plans, the group would have to get new approvals from the city's Board of Adjustments — and possibly from the City Commission itself.

The shipping container pitch didn't win over Diana Corrigan, executive director of the St. Armands Circle Association. Even with the proposed enhanced design, Corrigan said she believed the container did not meet the standards of St. Armands.

Others in attendance Nov. 18 were more open to the idea. Earlier this year, BID board member Gavin Meshad expressed some hesitance to move forward with the restroom project considering the economic environment associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. "Given the direction of our economy, retail and so forth, I wonder if spending half a million dollars on a restroom is really as important as it was a year or two ago," Meshad said.

Meshad wanted the BID to continue its consideration of the initial plans, but he was unhappy with the rising costs and the prospect of losing some design elements. He said it was prudent to explore the shipping container alternative and suggested that alternative solutions to the Circle's public restroom shortage could arise in the future, eliminating the need for a fixed facility.

At the conclusion of the Nov. 18 meeting, the BID agreed to continue evaluating both the permanent structure plans and the potential viability of the shipping container alternative. Until the construction bids are unsealed, the group held out hope the costs would be more in line with the budget than the quotes indicated.



## Mote Science Education Aquarium Break Ground

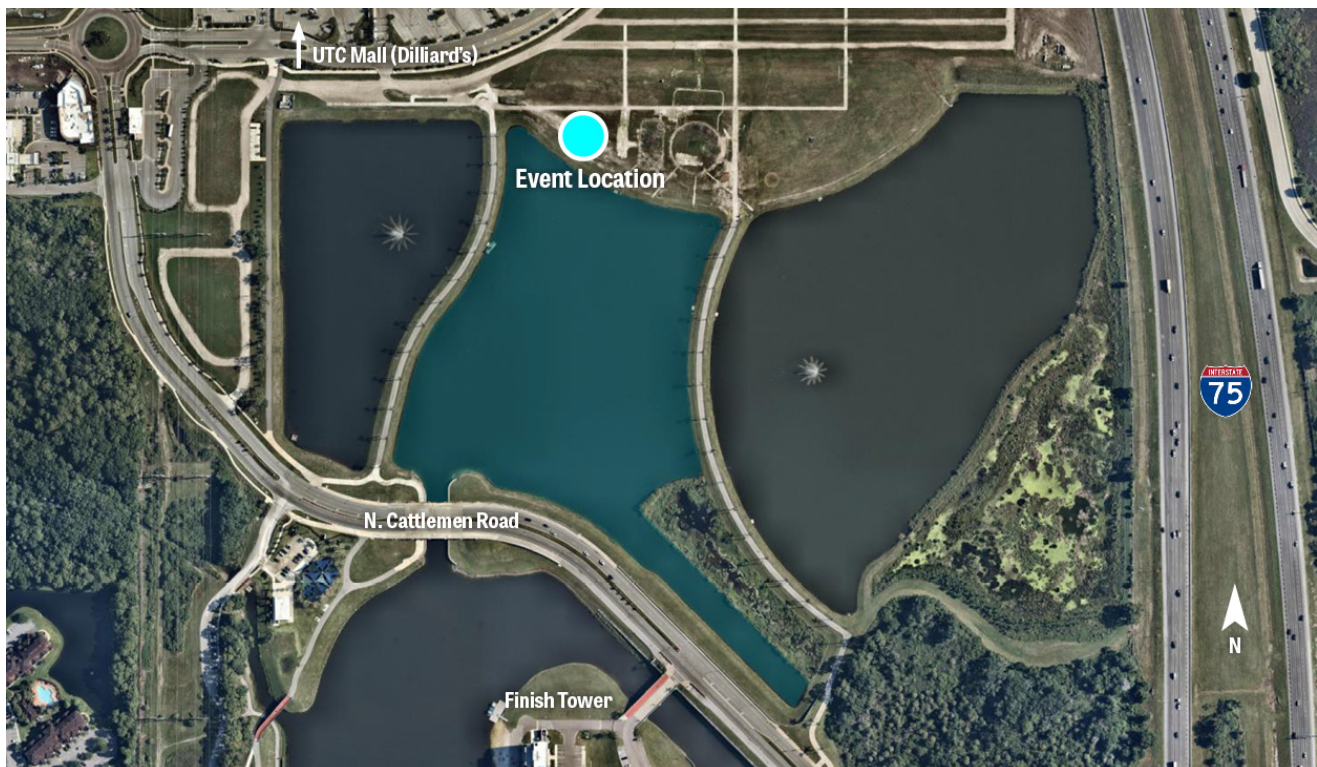
Background on Mote SEA:

Mote SEA will be an iconic, 110,000-square-foot hub of marine science education and outreach located at Nathan Benderson Park, a nexus site for Sarasota and Manatee counties and the southwest Florida region. It will feature more than 1 million gallons of exhibits with marine life and scientific displays from around the world and is projected to double the attendance of the current Mote Aquarium. Its projected economic impacts include \$280 million from construction alone and \$28 million per year from operations. Mote SEA will have interactive state-of-the-art STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) teaching labs and will offer educational programming to over 65,000 students from Sarasota and Manatee county schools free of charge. The rebirth of Mote Aquarium on mainland Sarasota County will lead to the next step in the evolution of Mote's City Island research campus into an enhanced International Marine Science, Technology & Innovation Park. This will provide Mote researchers, science and technology entrepreneurs and their international partners much-needed facilities for expanded intensive research and allow Mote's best and brightest to excel in addressing the significant threats facing Earth's oceans.

Learn more at [moteoceansforall.org](http://moteoceansforall.org)

Where: Future site of Mote SEA

Near the middle auxiliary pond at Nathan Benderson Park. North of Cattleman Road, south of UTC Mall. See map below:



**CITY EYES PAID PARKING INCREASES ON ST. ARMANDS**

City staff is pursuing authorization to increase paid parking rates on St. Armands Circle by up to 50 cents per hour and expand the program to Saturdays, though it's unclear when the proposed changes will go to the City Commission for discussion.

The city has been preparing potential adjustments to the St. Armands paid parking program since the summer, working in consultation with a consultant and Circle stakeholders. Parking Manager Mark Lyons indicated the proposed adjustments are a response to St. Armands paid parking revenues falling short of projections.

As part of a bond agreement used to fund the Adams Drive parking garage, the city is required to take action to increase parking revenues if those revenues are insufficient to fund the bond payments.

A formal plan is not yet publicly finalized, but the city intends to keep the maximum hourly rate flat at \$1.50 per hour, Lyons said. The plans call for an increase in the rate for more remote on-street spots from \$1 per hour to \$1.50 per hour, though some spots on Boulevard of the Presidents would remain free. The rates for the Fillmore Drive parking lot and Adams Drive garage would increase from 50 and 75 cents per hour to \$1.

The hours of operation would run from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., starting one hour later than the current 9 a.m. activation time. Drivers would get 10 minutes of free parking before payment is required. Lyons said some of the changes were designed to create greater continuity between the St. Armands and downtown paid parking programs.

In addition to those changes, which Lyons said the city is pursuing as soon as is feasible, staff is also exploring an expansion of paid parking to Saturday after the end of the traditional peak tourist season in 2021. At an August meeting of the St. Armands Business Improvement District, Lyons said the city intended to stagger the start of Saturday paid parking based on input from the St. Armands Circle Association, a merchants group.

Although staff initially intended to present the parking changes to the commission shortly after new board members took office in November, Lyons said the city is holding off as it continues to work with St. Armands merchants to build support.

Lyons said the proposal to expand paid parking to Saturday remains a point of contention for some businesses, but he said it was important for helping the city's parking revenues hit the necessary benchmarks.

"Saturday makes the big difference in the revenues," Lyons said.

## Jay Elsasser

## Lido Beach Update

The dredging continues to add more sand to the South end of Lido to make up for some loss from recent storms. The sand placement portion of the project will likely have been completed by the time you read this.

Material for the two groins at the South end of Lido should start to be delivered in December and work should start in January. Approximately 58 dump trucks and 212 tractor trailer loads of material will be delivered. The hours of delivery will be 9pm to 6:30am.

On November 18th, video oral arguments were presented before a three-judge panel of the FL 2nd District Court of Appeals regarding the Siesta appeal of the civil case. Lawyers for LKRA, the City of Sarasota, and Siesta Key were present. We are currently awaiting a decision before it is sent back to the circuit court.

Please consider contributing to the LKRA Legal Fund this year. LKRA is a 501(c)(3) Corporation and donations are Tax Deductible. <https://lkra.org/donate>

We hope all of you are safe and wish everyone a healthy and happy holiday season!



**December 10, 2020**



**November 2, 2020**



**November 11, 2020**

## Sarasota Memorial Hospital

## Covid-19 Information

Sarasota Memorial Hospital (SMH) continues to monitor the latest COVID-19 developments and update procedures and policies as necessary.

The best thing we can do as a community is to stay informed and take common-sense precautions to guard against this and other viruses: mask use, hand hygiene, physical distancing and staying home when you're sick. **Wearing a face covering — ideally a mask — is recommended when you may come in close contact (6 feet or less) with someone from outside your household, especially for a prolonged period (10 to 15 minutes or more) and especially indoors.**

[Click here](#) for the latest COVID-19 news releases from Sarasota Memorial, and [click here](#) for our daily coronavirus patient update.

For the latest coronavirus-related information and blogs from SMH experts, [click here](#).

### **MASK POLICY**

SMH has instituted a mandatory, universal mask-wearing policy for all staff, providers, patients (over age 2) and visitors in its facilities.

The federal [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) recommends using cloth masks or cloth face coverings in public places](#), especially where physical distancing (6 feet) may not be possible at all times. Face masks or coverings are not recommended for children younger than 2.

### **COVID-19 Testing at SMH**

Sarasota Memorial Hospital is not a community test site for COVID-19. Currently, SMH provides COVID-19 testing for admitted patients and has expanded pre-procedural COVID-19 testing.

For people who do not have symptoms, or have mild to moderate symptoms that do not require hospitalization, free community COVID-19 testing sites are available at various locations through the [Florida Department of Health \(FDOH\)](#). Some local physician offices also can help arrange testing for a fee through third-party laboratories. Talk with your doctor or prescribing physician about where you can go to get tested. If you do not have a doctor or have questions about the FDOH testing sites, call the Sarasota County coronavirus call center at 941-861-2883

### **COVID-19 Resources**

Sarasota County COVID-19 Call Center  
941-861-2883

SMH Coronavirus Hotline 941-917-2277

SMH Clinical Trials Info 941-917-2225

SMH COVID-19 Survivors Support Group  
941-917-2660

[SMH COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ](#)

[CDC's How to Select, Wear & Clean Your Mask](#)

[SMH Guide to COVID-19 Care at Home](#)

[Face Mask Use & Re-Use How-to, SMH Video](#)

[Pregnancy, Birth & COVID-19 Q&A](#)

Florida Dept. of Health Hotline  
866-779-6121

[CDC Information](#)

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**Vaccines for COVID-19**

Limited COVID-19 vaccine distribution has begun in Florida. Although Sarasota Memorial was not among the first 5 hospitals that received the initial allocation from the state, SMH has the capacity, equipment and plans in place to begin administering the vaccine to our staff as soon as supplies become available. Large clinical trials, involving tens of thousands of participants, have shown that the Pfizer vaccine is safe and effective, and we know it will be a vital tool in helping to end the pandemic.

Because vaccine supplies are limited, the federal and state governments have developed recommendations for a phased rollout, with healthcare workers and residents of long-term care facilities among the first groups to get the vaccine. We are awaiting details from the state as to exactly when SMH will receive its first shipment of vaccines and the quantity, but we expect that we'll be able to begin administering it to our staff in the very near future.

Once we have further information from the state, we will share it here on this webpage ([smh.com/COVID-19](#)); check back for future updates. For answers to the most common questions about COVID-19 vaccines, [click here](#).

For information on vaccine distribution to the general public in Florida, contact the Department of Health: Call 866-779-6121, [email COVID-19@flhealth.gov](mailto:email.COVID-19@flhealth.gov) or for updates via text messaging, text FLCOVID19 to 888777.

For vaccine-related information from the federal government: [Click here for info from the CDC; click here for info from the FDA](#).

**COVID-19 Treatment Clinical Trial**

[Regeneron REGN-COV2 Antibody Cocktail](#): SMH is participating in Phase 2/3 of a multi-national clinical trial testing Regeneron Pharmaceuticals' REGN-COV2, a new dual-action antibody cocktail to treat COVID-19.

We are enrolling both hospitalized patients with the novel coronavirus and those who have tested positive for COVID-19 but aren't sick enough to be hospitalized. Enrollment is time-sensitive. For study specifics and eligibility questions, please call the SMH Clinical Research Center at 941-917-2225 (8am-3pm, Monday-Friday)

## COVID-19 Prevention Clinical Trial

**Regeneron COVID-19 Prevention Study:** Sarasota Memorial Hospital is enrolling healthy adults in a clinical trial testing whether Regeneron Pharmaceuticals' REGN-COV2 experimental antibody cocktail can prevent infection by the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19. This is a randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind clinical trial. Enrollment is time-sensitive. To qualify, participants must have no symptoms and must have been in close contact (typically residing in the same household) with an infected person in a 96-hour window prior to receiving the REGN-CoV-2 antibody treatment or placebo. For more information and eligibility questions, please call the SMH Clinical Research Center at 941-917-2225 (8am-3pm, Monday-Friday).

## Monoclonal Antibody Therapy for High Risk COVID-19 Outpatients

Sarasota Memorial is among a number of hospitals that have been allocated a limited supply of monoclonal antibody therapy for non-hospitalized patients who have been diagnosed with a mild-to-moderate case of COVID-19 within the past 10 days, and have a high risk for severe disease or hospitalization. [Click here](#) to learn more.

## Convalescent Plasma Donations

Convalescent Plasma: Sarasota Memorial is using convalescent plasma transfusions to treat COVID-19 infections in our hospitalized patients. We encourage those who have tested positive for COVID-19 and fully recovered to contact SunCoast Blood Centers about making an appointment to make a plasma donation. Call 941-993-8119 or [email covid19@suncoastblood.org](mailto:email_covid19@suncoastblood.org). Potential donors must be symptom free for 14 to 28 days and must meet current blood donation protocols.

## Prevention Steps

The best way to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 is to stay informed and to use the [same common-sense precautions](#) you take to guard against other illnesses, including wearing a face covering in public places and where physical-distancing isn't possible, and practicing hand hygiene and physical distancing. For more tips, check out the CDC's [Guideline for Hand Hygiene in Health-Care Settings](#).

**MASKS SAVES  
LIVE**





From Card Fool [click here](#)

**Scott Ashby**

## **The Greatest Generation . . . Possible in 2020?**

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For the umpteenth time, I just put down Tom Brokaw's book, 'The Greatest Generation'. It should be required reading today for every citizen in this country. Even if I only review a few of the stories on each pass, I am always tremendously moved and emotional and so appreciative of what those folks did to give us all the chance to live in this country today. As the jacket says, they came of age during the Great Depression and the Second World War and went on to build Modern America.

I wasn't even 10 years old before the war part was over and in our extended household, my step-father and an Uncle served, so I'm mainly going on what the adults said and what I read at the time and since then, 'The Greatest Generation' being a prime example.

For one thing, it's important to observe that this generation came from all walks of life, every possible religious or non-religious background, every ethnicity, political persuasion or educational level or any other identity you want to assign, and they worked hand-in-hand, on the battlefield and on the home front to achieve victory.

It's also sad to say, but there were some that would return home to a life of inequality and limited opportunities to live the life they were fighting for, but it didn't keep them from doing their part.

From everything you read, regardless of how strong their views were, they worked side-by-side for the common good. They didn't think what they were doing was that special, because everyone else was doing it too. As has been written many times, they led everyday lives of duty, honor, achievement and courage and they gave us the world we have today

There was heroism on the home front as well, with rationing and other inconveniences of life, with women in factories and many other life changes, but no one seemed to question the reason for taking these actions.

Perhaps it's times like these and all that they did, that make us think of American exceptionalism.

In any event, fast forward to today. That was 80 years ago, and certainly a different time and way of life, but it still raises the question: with the current state of our discourse and sense of community, would we be able to pull off such a feat?

We are so divided and polarized that we don't talk to or listen to anyone who doesn't see things our way. On BOTH sides of the divide, the entrenchment is so severe and absolute, that when someone, even within our own group, questions an action, approach or philosophy, or suggests a different method or viewpoint, especially one that is more moderate, they're drummed out of the movement . . . they're considered the vilest of miscreants, the lowest form of humanity. Compromise is unacceptable. End of discussion.

Which begs the question: what would it take, or is it even conceivable, for us to come together and pull as one, as they did back in the 40's . . . could we do the things today necessary to meet such a challenge. It's hard to say . . . but everyone reading 'The Greatest Generation' would be a start.

Scott Ashby



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

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**Membership**

Official 2021 membership starts on January 1st. **THE YEARLY MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR 2021 is \$30.** The membership application is on the next page of this newsletter. Please feel free to email me with any questions [heidimbrandt@gmail.com](mailto: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.

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**Heidi Brandt: [heidimbrandt@gmail.com](mailto: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.**

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