



**LIDO KEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION  
LIDO KEY MATTERS  
APRIL 2018**

### Events Calendar

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All Membership Meetings  
held at Lido BeachResort 8th  
floor, 10:00 on the 3rd Saturday  
of the month:  
October 20 2018

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**“Meet and Greet”  
Happy Hours**

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The second Tuesday of the month  
May 8, 5 pm Holliday Inn

### Presidents Letter

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Hello to All Members

Another season has come and gone (they seem to go faster every year). It was a very successful one in which we signed up 50 new members. All our meetings were very well attended. The slates of topics for the presentations were diverse and all had some impact on Lido Key.

The most important one is the Army Corps of Engineers beach renourishment project. In this edition of our newsletter there are article's by the City Manager and the City Engineer regarding what is going on now,

April 27, 2018

as well as the interim post hurricane renourishment project that will hopefully be completed by year's end.

The pool pavilion project is also in the cities development review process as I am writing this letter. As soon as I hear anything on any of these issues I will be sending all members the outcomes.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their donations to our legal fund. It is unfortunate that we have to do this, but it has to be done. Again thank you one and all.

I know a lot members have already have returned to their summer homes. As for us who live here year round, I look forward to seeing you.

I hope everyone has safe and great summer and will see when you return

Until we meet again

Carl Shoffstall

LKRA President

813-967-2687

**Tom Barwin**

**City Manager**

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As of this writing we continue to await the Administrative Law Judge's decision on the December 2016 FDEP recommendation to issue the City and US Army Corp a permit to protect Lido Key with a much needed beach renourishment project and long term maintenance and funding strategy. We expect the Administrative Law Judge's determination sometime in May.

Meanwhile we learned last week that the City of Sarasota has been qualified to receive emergency funding to help replace shoreline lost during Hurricane IRMA. These funds will be helpful in covering the costs of this fall's emergency beach stabilization project we are pursuing as rapidly as possible. We hope to learn the amount of the funding assistance we will be eligible for within the next few weeks.

I would like to thank City Engineer Alex Davis-Shaw for her ongoing efforts to protect Lido in both the short and long term. We also appreciate Lido residents for their patience as we work through the legal and regulatory issues which have come into play over the past 18 months. We will move forward with the interim renourishment this fall and hopefully complete a resolution of the legal process for Lido Key's long term shoreline stabilization needs within the next year.

Look forward to seeing you around town and at the beach!

**Alex DavisShaw**

**City Engineer**

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HI:

Regarding the Emergency project. FEMA contacted the City and are working to process our request and provide us with the dollar amount they will cover for Irma damages. We hope to know that amount in the next week or two. The survey of the borrow area was completed in late March and APTIM is processing this data and will provide us with the volume of sand available for the project. We should also have that information in the next week or so as well. Once this is completed, APTIM can provide this to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to request a Notice to Proceed with the project. We are still on track to start construction in fall.

For the long range project, we are still on hold waiting for the hearing determination..

Thanks

Alex

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

**Paul Caragiulo**

**Sarasota County Commissioner**

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Hello to my Lido Beach Friends,

On April 21, I was very fortunate to be part of the celebration to open a beautiful new children's playground at Ted Sperling South Lido Park. The playground was made possible by The Where Angels Play Foundation and is named in honor of Christopher and Jarrod Ditmars of Sarasota, two brothers whose lives were tragically cut short. The playground was constructed by volunteers in just two days with support from our own Parks Department. Mr. & Mrs. Ditmars were both present at the celebration and spoke of the many fond memories they have of their children at South Lido Park making the site the perfect choice for the playground that bears their names. It is a wonderful place to take your kids and grandkids.

## Mote Marine:

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### **INTENSE RED TIDE CAN THREATEN STONE CRABS, MORE RESEARCH NEEDED**

Florida red tide algae toxins can stress and even kill sublegal stone crabs — young adults whose claws are growing toward legal harvest size — according to preliminary research results published recently in the scientific journal *Marine Environmental Research*, indicating a strong need for continued studies.

Mote Marine Laboratory scientists led the project in collaboration with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI). The study was inspired in part by questions from stone crab fishermen. Some of the fishermen from the Gulf Coast were asking why their traps were relatively empty during six months of red tide. Some reported catching crabs that looked lethargic. Scientists designed an initial study to learn more.

The stone crab fishery, centered along west Florida, was valued at \$31.3 million in the 2016–17 season, but since 2000 the average annual commercial harvest has declined by about 25 percent. Mote scientists are investigating multiple potential challenges that might contribute to this decline.

Scientists know that elevated concentrations, or blooms, of the Florida red tide alga *Karenia brevis* produce toxins that can kill fish and sicken or kill sea turtles and marine mammals. However, red tide impacts remain more mysterious in crabs and other crustaceans. According to FWRI, at least some crustaceans may die during red tide, but it's unclear whether the killer is red tide toxicity, decreased oxygen related to algal bloom dynamics, or both.

So far, research suggests that red tide exposure can alter some crustaceans' feeding behavior and movement. If stone crabs encounter red tide for more than a week, do their reflexes show signs of stress and does their chance of survival decrease?

Mote scientists undertook the first study to answer this question. In late 2017, project partners brought 36 stone crabs from New Pass, Sarasota, to Mote's City Island research campus. They kept 12 crabs in tanks with filtered seawater, 12 in tanks with high levels of toxic *K. brevis*, and 12 in tanks with a low-toxin strain of *K. brevis*. All *K. brevis* was grown in a controlled setting: Mote's phytoplankton culture laboratory.

All crabs in the study were sublegal — young adults with claws too small for harvest. Sublegal crabs represent the next year's harvest; what was learned from them is applicable to management of the fishery.

Over nine days, the researchers monitored their sublegal crabs for any decreases in feeding, indicating stress. They also tested the crabs' reflexes — retracting an eye stalk or leg, closing the mouth and other movements in response to touch or pressure.

Over the full experiment, crabs exposed to toxic red tide had the worst reflex scores and appetite, indicating greatest stress. Crabs exposed to the toxic red tide also experienced the greatest mortality. Stone crabs impaired by red tide could become more vulnerable to predators. Even more concerning: Prolonged exposure to toxic red tide appears to kill them outright.

In this study, crabs exposed to high-toxin *K. brevis* were nearly four times likelier to die than those in seawater alone. In the high-toxin group, crabs began to perish within three days, and more than half died after nine days.

**Liz Alpert**

**Sarasota City Commissioner**

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**Lido Beach Pool and Pavilion**

There has been a lot of misinformation and mischaracterization about the planned improvements at the Lido Beach Pool and Pavilion which has been causing concern in the community. My hope is that I can provide some clarity about what is really happening.

The actual plan is to renovate the existing buildings, including the restrooms, and to add additional and improved seating to the patio area. In the current configuration of the seating on the patio, there is plenty of room to add more tables and chairs so that there is room for 200 seats. Right now approximately 92-152 seats exist depending on how many the bench seats can accommodate. A new restaurant is NOT being built. There will be table service, but there will also be a walk-up counter as there is now. A thatched roof will be added over the open patio area to provide more shade. In addition, just off the patio there will be a 30-seat Tiki Bar.

For those who would just like to sit or bring their own food, there will be picnic tables with umbrellas in the open area just West of the patio where the existing picnic tables are located. The tables will not extend out onto the beach.

In the pool area, there will be cabanas that can be rented for the day. However, they are only one option at the pool. The pool can still be enjoyed without having to rent a cabana. There will be seating, some shade, and a splash pad for children. There will be a charge for access to the pool, just as there is now.

The green area in front of the pavilion will have three age-appropriate playgrounds and picnic tables with umbrellas, so that parents can sit and watch their children play. There is no charge for the playgrounds or any of the amenities outside of the pool area.

The value of the improvements will be tracked and expected to be significant. This public/private partnership is expected to create a positive cash flow for the City. The entire facility, including the bathrooms, will remain open and accessible to the public as it has always been.

As always, if you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Liz Alpert, Esq.

Vice Mayor

District 2, City Commissioner

Phone: 941.954.4115

Email: Liz.Alpert@SarasotaFL.gov





## Camille Schwabe

## Vice President

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### Volunteering

Five members volunteered last month at All Faiths Food Bank. The plan is to continue the monthly Wednesday outing through the summer. Stay tuned for the monthly reminders

## Bessie Reina

## Florida Department of Transportation

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### Barrier Island Traffic Study

The Barrier Island Traffic Study's goal is to identify recommendations that accommodate increased traffic demand during peak tourist season. The study is in Phase II which consists of gathering observations, data analyses, and identifying needs. Input from the public and stakeholders in the study area has been instrumental in vetting the observations and drafting preliminary recommendations. The draft recommendation list is being further refined with additional input from the study's technical advisory committee. To date, the draft recommendation list includes intersection improvements, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, wayfinding, transit, parking, and ITS. We anticipate wrapping up Phase II in late Summer and beginning Phase III late Summer/Fall. Additional information on the study and the draft recommendation list can be found here: <http://www.swflroads.com/sarasotamanateebarrierislands/>

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**TAX SCAMS**

The Dirty Dozen is more than a classic 1967 war movie – it's also the government's list of the 12 most common tax scams. This year's dirty dozen list includes con jobs that range from stealing your personal information to convincing you to file questionable tax returns. For more detailed information on each of these scams and how to protect yourself, follow this [link](#) to the Internal Revenue Service's website.

Identity Theft: Taxpayers need to watch out for identity theft especially around tax time. The IRS continues to aggressively pursue the criminals that file fraudulent returns using someone else's Social Security number. Though the agency is making progress on this front, taxpayers still need to be extremely cautious and do everything they can to avoid being victimized.

Phone Scams: Phone calls from criminals impersonating IRS agents remain an ongoing threat to taxpayers. The IRS has seen a surge of these phone scams in recent years as con artists threaten taxpayers with police arrest, deportation and license revocation, among other things.

Phishing Schemes: Taxpayers need to be on guard against fake emails or websites looking to steal personal information. The IRS will never initiate contact with taxpayers via email about a bill or refund. Don't click on one claiming to be from the IRS. Be wary of emails and websites that may be nothing more than scams to steal personal information.

Frivolous Tax Arguments: Don't use frivolous tax arguments to avoid paying tax. Promoters of frivolous schemes encourage taxpayers to make unreasonable and outlandish claims even though they have been repeatedly thrown out of court. While taxpayers have the right to contest their tax liabilities in court, no one has the right to disobey the law or disregard their responsibility to pay taxes. The penalty for filing a frivolous tax return is \$5,000.

Fake Charities: Be on guard against groups masquerading as charitable organizations to attract donations from unsuspecting contributors. Be wary of charities with names similar to familiar or nationally known organizations. Contributors should take a few extra minutes to ensure their hard-earned money goes to legitimate and currently eligible charities. IRS.gov has the tools taxpayers need to check out the status of charitable organizations.

Tax Return Preparer Fraud: Be on the lookout for unscrupulous return preparers. The vast majority of tax professionals provide honest high-quality service. There are some dishonest preparers who set up shop each filing season to perpetrate refund fraud, identity theft and other scams that hurt taxpayers.

Falsifying Income to Claim Credits: Don't invent income to erroneously qualify for tax credits, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit. Taxpayers are sometimes talked into doing this by con artists. Taxpayers should file the most accurate return possible because they are legally responsible for what is on their return. This scam can lead to taxpayers facing large bills to pay back taxes, interest and penalties. In some cases, they may even face criminal prosecution.

Abusive Tax Shelters: Don't use abusive tax structures to avoid paying taxes. The IRS is committed to stopping complex tax avoidance schemes and the people who create and sell them. The vast majority of taxpayers pay their fair share, and everyone should be on the lookout for people peddling tax shelters that sound too good to be true. When in doubt, taxpayers should seek an independent opinion regarding complex products they are offered.

Falsely Padding Deductions on Returns: Taxpayers should avoid the temptation to falsely inflate deductions or expenses on their returns to pay less than what they owe or potentially receive larger refunds. Think twice before overstating deductions such as charitable contributions and business expenses or improperly claiming credits such as the Earned Income Tax Credit or Child Tax Credit.

Excessive Claims for Business Credits: Avoid improperly claiming the fuel tax credit, a tax benefit generally not available to most taxpayers. The credit is usually limited to off-highway business use, including use in farming. Taxpayers should also avoid misuse of the research credit. Improper claims often involve failures to participate in or substantiate qualified research activities and/or satisfy the requirements related to qualified research expenses.

Inflated Refund Claims: Taxpayers should be on the lookout for anyone promising inflated refunds. Be wary of anyone who asks taxpayers to sign a blank return, promises a big refund before looking at their records or charges fees based on a percentage of the refund. Fraudsters use flyers, advertisements, phony storefronts and word of mouth via community groups where trust is high to find victims.

And, as always, watch out for people impersonating IRS officials: Many taxpayers have encountered individuals impersonating IRS officials – in person, over the telephone and via email.





**Bayfront 2020**

In 2014 Bayfront 20:20 was established as a long-term initiative to envision a world class destination along the Sarasota Bayfront. Since then they have been working with more than 100 stakeholder organizations to outline a set of guiding principles for how the property should be developed, and what should go into the site itself.

The group is a public/private, community-based initiative whose purpose is to promote and benefit all of Sarasota County's diverse communities, creating a legacy along the Bayfront in the heart of Sarasota that promotes a sustainable region for the next 50-100 years.

On February 17, 2015, the Sarasota City Commission adopted the Vision Statement for the Sarasota Bayfront 20:20 Project, which includes establishing a cultural and economic plan for the Bayfront,

Developing Sarasota's bayfront into a thriving, vibrant and accessible public destination is a community endeavor. Substantial time and consideration must be given to ensure the creation of a prime waterfront location that reflects the uniqueness of the Sarasota community.

In early 2016, the Sarasota Bayfront Planning Organization (SBPO) was formed and has embraced the development of a master plan for the bayfront's future. Their emphasis on common aspirations inspired The Patterson Foundation to strengthen this endeavor by providing \$300,000 in catalytic funding, which helped to encourage stakeholders throughout the community to contribute \$2.1 million. Throughout this journey, there have been numerous milestones worth acknowledging and celebrating.

SBPO consists of a professional managerial staff and a nine member board, from multiple sectors, who contribute their vast leadership and managerial experiences. The Patterson Foundation strengthened this process, providing consulting expertise to help guide SBPO's formation and board selection. In November 2016, SBPO held its first board meeting — thereby kickstarting a transparent, community-focused process toward a master plan for the space.

In October, 2017, following a thorough application and review process, SBPO selected professional firm Sasaki to develop a master plan for the bayfront's future. Sasaki brings a proven track-record of successful waterfront redevelopment projects to our region and will work over the next year on a roadmap to bring our community's aspirations to fruition.

Even with the progress made over the last year, the journey ahead will continue to demand considerable time, effort, and consideration — both from those directly engaged in the work as well as the citizens and stakeholders guiding it.

## Sarasota Memorial Hospital

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### **What are Advance Directives?**

A living will allows you to document your wishes concerning medical treatments at the end of life.

Before your living will can guide medical decision-making two physicians must certify: You are unable to make medical decisions, You are in the medical condition specified in the state's living will law (such as "terminal illness" or "permanent unconsciousness"), Other requirements also may apply, depending upon the state.

A medical power of attorney (or healthcare proxy) allows you to appoint a person you trust as your healthcare agent (or surrogate decision maker), who is authorized to make medical decisions on your behalf.

Before a medical power of attorney goes into effect a person's physician must conclude that they are unable to make their own medical decisions. In addition:

If a person regains the ability to make decisions, the agent cannot continue to act on the person's behalf. Many states have additional requirements that apply only to decisions about life-sustaining medical treatments.

For example, before your agent can refuse a life-sustaining treatment on your behalf, a second physician may have to confirm your doctor's assessment that you are incapable of making treatment decisions.

### **What Else Do I Need to Know?**

Advance directives are legally valid throughout the United States. While you do not need a lawyer to fill out an advance directive, your advance directive becomes legally valid as soon as you sign them in front of the required witnesses. The laws governing advance directives vary from state to state, so it is important to complete and sign advance directives that comply with your state's law. Also, advance directives can have different titles in different states. Emergency medical technicians cannot honor living wills or medical powers of attorney. Once emergency personnel have been called, they must do what is necessary to stabilize a person for transfer to a hospital, both from accident sites and from a home or other facility. After a physician fully evaluates the person's condition and determines the underlying conditions, advance directives can be implemented.

One state's advance directive does not always work in another state. Some states do honor advance directives from another state; others will honor out-of-state advance directives as long as they are similar to the state's own law; and some states do not have an answer to this question. The best solution is if you spend a significant amount of time in more than one state, you should complete the advance directives for all the states you spend a significant amount of time in.

Advance directives do not expire. An advance directive remains in effect until you change it. If you complete a new advance directive, it invalidates the previous one.

You should review your advance directives periodically to ensure that they still reflect your wishes. If you want to change anything in an advance directive once you have completed it, you should complete a whole new document.

**Heidi Brandt**

**MEMBERSHIP**

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Official 2018 membership starts on January 1st. 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.

Right now we have 990 total members. We've had 50 new members just this season, which is the highest number of new members for a while!

**SUBJECT: LKRA LEGAL FUND CONTRIBUTIONS**

We were up to 55% of households donating to the legal fund, which is up 10% since our January meeting.

Heidi

**PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR NEWSLETTER!!**

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Submit your letter in 150 words or less to the Editor at [carl@floridaplaystructures.com](mailto: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

**CINDY SHOFFSTALL**

**NEWSLETTER**

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

IT WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE.

## **2018 LKRA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

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**2018 DUES: \$20.00 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:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Have a question? Call Beth Dilworth at 941-388-2865. Send Membership Form and Check to Address Below. Memberships Meetings are held the Third Saturday in the months of October, November, January, February, March and April.**

**Additional info available on our website – [www.LKRA.org](http://www.LKRA.org)**

**RETURN FORM TO:**

**LIDO KEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION, PO BOX 884,  
SARASOTA, FL 34230**

**NOTE: 2019 DUES IS \$30.00**

## **BOARD MEMBERS and COMMITTEES**

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President – Carl Shoffstall CarlS@Floridaplaystructures.com

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

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Director Membership – Heidi Brandt heidimbrandt@gmail.com

Director Newsletter – Bruce Abramowitz bruceabramowitz@gmail.com

Director – Beth Dilworth

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Director - Kim McDaniel mcdanielkj@comcast.net

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

Editor: Bruce Abramowitz

Contributing Articles: Carl Shoffstall, Cindy Shoffstall, City Manager Tom Barwin, U.S. Representative Vern Buchanan, County Commissioner Paul Caragiulo, City Commissioner Liz Alpert, Heidi Brandt, Beth Dilworth, Hayley Rutger at Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium, Stacey Dagget at Sarasota Memorial Hospital, Paul Robbins, Jay Elsassea, Bessie Reina, Florida Department of Transportation and Bruce Abramowitz

Newsletter Design and Layout: Bruce Abramowitz

Printer Liaison: Cindy Shoffstall

Maintain & Finalizing Mailing List: Cindy Shoffstall



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*\*\* Social Media pages are NOT monitored 24/7 \*\**