

LIDO KEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION LIDO KEY MATTERS JULY 2018

Events Calendar

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

October 13 November 17

December 15 January 19

February 16 March 16

April 20 May 18

“Meet and Greet” Happy Hours

Meets the second Tuesday of the
month: locals to be determined

Presidents Letter

Good morning from sunny, hot and humid Lido Key.

As I sit here in my condo having my morning coffee looking out the window I can't express how lucky and blessed Cindy and I are to be able to live here. Yes, we are in the so called dog days of summer, but fall is coming fast and with that, cooler weather inevitably will be here. We are not having any rain to speak of so far this summer and that makes it much hotter. Still it is the best place in the world to live.

I know I write all the time on how incredibly busy things are on Lido and the City. Here is a mid-summer update on what is going on around here.



The first update is that we have just completed the off shore power boat races over the 4th of July, and due to the lack of beach and the dates of the races (Saturday and Sunday before the 4th) attendance was not as strong as in years past. I met with the County beach staff prior to races to see what type of protection they were planning to use to stop people from walking and hanging out in the little bit of sand dunes we have left. I was very please on what they did. They put orange barrier fencing up around them and had staff, as well as the Sarasota police department and EMS on site for the two days of the event. After the races were over, along with the actual holiday, there were multiple beach volunteer clean ups which several LKRA members participated in.

Now on to more serious matters. As most of you know already we met with senator Marco Rubio in June at the beach and he informed those who attended that the feds appropriated their share of the funds for the beach renourishment. I proclaimed him an honorary member of the LKRA. This now secures all the funds necessary (along with state and city) to proceed with project. Within a few days of that good news we then found out the actual permit was approved by the FDEP!!

Although this is the best new we could have expected we are not out of the woods yet. Siesta has refiled in civil court, the suit that was held in abeyance while the DOAH case was being ligated. Enough said on this matter as there is an article in this newsletter about this. Please keep in mind we need donations to continue to fight this battle. **PLEASE DONATE. (GO TO: www.LKRA.org, click on Lido Key Sand Matters Legal Fund)**

We are very close to having our association set up as a not for profit (501c3) which will make your donations tax deductible. We are waiting on the paperwork to come back from the IRS. Stay tuned for that announcement.

An update on the Lido Pavilion. The process continues with City staff and the developers are going through the Development Review Committee. I brought up the plans for the Lido Pavilion at the CCNA (Coalition of City Neighborhoods Association) meeting and there are many people from the main land that are very upset after seeing the plans. There is an online petition to sign if you are in opposition of what is planned. The website is <https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/save-lido-pavilion/?i=0>

Once the DRC signs off on the application, it will go to the Planning Board next. Once there, they will hear arguments for and against the project. After that process, it will go before the City Commission for final approval or disapproval. There will be public input at both Boards. I will keep everyone up to date as this progresses.

Just a few other projects that are going on:

Saint Armand's parking lot is scheduled to be completed December 2018

10th and 14th streets roundabouts on US 41 scheduled to be completed sometime 2019

The roundabout on Gulf Stream in design as I write.

There are many projects going up around the city

The final site plan for the Bay Front to go before City Commission in September

I could go on and on, there is so much.

In closing, I want to thank my Board for all their time and effort they put into our Organization. I hope everybody is enjoying the summer, wherever you are spending it, and be safe.

Until meet again

Warmest Regards

Carl Shoffstall

LKRA President

BEACH RENOURISHMENT

The final permit to complete the major renourishment of Lido Beach was issued by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection on June 20th.

Federal and state funding tied to the permit was confirmed shortly thereafter. US Senator Bill Nelson originally announced \$13.5 million in Federal funding assistance for the project. To confirm the urgency of the situation, United States Senator Marco Rubio visited Lido on Saturday, June 16th. Senator Rubio told those of us who met him at the Lido Pavilion on a humid Saturday morning, that the erosion was the worst he has seen in Florida.

At this point we are crossing our fingers, hoping and praying we are collectively lucky, and manage to make it through this storm season with minimal damages.

PAVILION SITE PLAN REVIEW

The Development Review Committee (DRC) recently completed a review of the proposed Lido Pavilion site plan. The next step in the process will be a public hearing by the Planning Board at an upcoming meeting yet to be scheduled, most likely in September.

ST. ARMANDS GARAGE

The new 510 space St. Armand's parking garage is under construction. As of this writing we remain hopeful of its completion in December or January. The garage will contain public restrooms. The \$15 million bond issued to pay for the garage and nearby improvements will be paid back by parking fees. Initial parking rates in the garage will be 50 cents per hour. It is hoped that the garage will cut down on visitors circling the circle and neighborhoods looking for parking. In the meantime, we encourage drivers to park on-street along John Ringling Boulevard and Boulevard of the Presidents and also in the Fillmore Lot behind Crab and Fin. From those locations, it's a short healthy stroll to the shops and restaurants on the Circle.

NEW LIGHTING ON BEN FRANKLIN DRIVE

Due to age and frequent outages, city staff is looking into replacing the street lighting on Ben Franklin Drive within the next couple of years. We are looking into ways to enhance turtle nesting season while providing adequate street lighting. For the first time in my career it appears solar powered lights maybe less expensive and of equal or better quality than traditional lighting. As we strive to minimize future sea level rise we are hopeful that solar lights adjacent to the Gulf of Mexico would be a great location for a carbon reducing demonstration project. We will be working with the Lido Key Residents Association to review all options.

Paul Caragiulo
Commissioner

Sarasota County

Hello Lido Friends,

As many of you may know, Tourist Development Tax (aka Bed Tax) is used as a funding source for beach renourishment projects. Tourist Development Tax is a five percent tax for any lodging services (hotels, vacation rentals etc.). Beach renourishment is just one of the uses for this revenue source which generates approximately \$20,000,000.00 per year. Other uses for the tax include both baseball facilities, rowing, marketing, events and arts and culture.

The Board of County Commissioners' August 22 budget workshop will include a discussion of TDT funding and provide the opportunity to examine future needs in a public forum.

Any proposed changes to TDT allocation for FY20 would first go to the Tourist Development Council for their consideration, prior to the BCC taking a formal vote.

Have A Great Summer!

Paul Caragiulo



We have some pretty exciting news for this issue. As you probably know, we did get the FDEP permit for the long range shoreline protection project. The Army Corps of Engineers has also funded the Federal share of the project. We are working with them to move this project forward and expect construction in late summer/fall of 2019.

We are also working on the plans and specifications for the emergency project using sand from New Pass and that project will begin in the Fall 2018.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

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

Sarasota City Engineer

Neighborhood and Development Services (941) 954-4181

Jay Elsasser

LKRA Beach Committee

Beach Update

Between now and the end of the year:

With little to no remaining beach to protect Lido, this hurricane season will be particularly tense. Please be well prepared.

The emergency beach renourishment is still on track for implementation after turtle season and probably near the end of the year. This sand will come from New Pass and will also help to alleviate navigation hazards in New Pass. In the meantime, and at significant expense, some of the properties along the beach either have or are in the process of installing lines of sand bags and trap bags to temporarily help protect their properties and Lido from continuing erosion and storms. Many thanks to the City of Sarasota for the emergency renourishment and making the trap bags possible.

Spring of 2019 or later:

For the major Army Corps of Engineers renourishment project, the decision from the DOAH hearing held in December and the follow-on motions have come in. As a result, on June 18th we were granted the permit from FDEP to proceed. The Civil case that Siesta filed last year, which was put on hold pending the DOAH hearing, has come out of abeyance and the preliminary motions are being heard on Monday July 23rd. Additionally, Siesta has announced that they have hired an attorney to see if they can find any reasons to file a case in Federal court. While we are confident in our perspectives for each of these, a great deal of money still needs to be raised to cover the legal costs. Information about how to donate to the LKRA Legal Fund can be found on the LKRA website (www.LKRA.org).

Regarding the potential timing of the Corps project, if all goes well the earliest we could reasonably expect for work to begin is Spring of 2019, although we could just as easily be looking at Fall of 2019 or later.

Mote Marine: Lion Fish Derby

On July 7 and 8, divers boarded their boats, plunged into the Gulf of Mexico and removed 545 invasive lionfish during the fifth annual Sarasota Lionfish Derby, which concluded today, July 8, at Mote Marine Laboratory.

The Sarasota derby, part of REEF's 2018 Lionfish Derby Series Presented by Whole Foods Market, was organized by Mote, a world class marine science institution, and Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF), which helps study and address the lionfish invasion. Non-native lionfish have invaded Atlantic waters from South America to North Carolina, including the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico, and lionfish derbies are part of an effort to reduce their populations while monitoring and studying the invasion. Four upcoming derbies in the REEF series are accepting registration at: reef.org/lionfish/derbies

The Sarasota derby, which officially launched July 6 with a captains' meeting, drew six teams that contended to catch the most lionfish, the largest lionfish and the smallest lionfish in Gulf of Mexico waters ranging from Collier to Escambia County.

On July 8, cash prizes ranging from \$150 to \$1,000 were awarded to teams who won or placed in each category during an awards ceremony in Mote's WAVE Center. Mote's Membership & Special Events Coordinator Sam Byrd thanked attendees and participants: "We've been looking for new opportunities to address this serious invasion in the southwest Florida region, to complement the wonderful work of REEF and others who have done so much for lionfish monitoring, research and education. Each lionfish derby increases our enthusiasm for this worthy cause, and we thank everyone who came out and participated."

During the derby, top local chefs from Indigenous Restaurant, Michael's on East, Mattison's Forty-One, Modern Events/Tableside Restaurant Group and the Deep Sea Diner, located inside Mote Aquarium, prepared unique and tasty dishes for a lionfish cooking competition. Lionfish derby teams and members of the public tasted the dishes and voted to elect the top three:

First Place: Chef Jamil Pineda of Michael's on East, serving pan-roasted lionfish with date and roasted pine nut chutney, with curried shrimp bisque, beech mushrooms and garlic Swiss chard
 Second place: Chef John Mancini, Deep Sea Diner, serving lionfish cake with chipotle aioli on a bed of spaghetti cucumber
 Third place: Chef Steve Phelps, Indigenous, serving Everglades baked lionfish with tarragon Parmesan breadcrumbs

The public also enjoyed a raffle and watched lionfish be counted and measured by REEF staff and dissected by Mote scientists. Collecting data on local lionfish populations year after year helps scientists study population dynamics, behavior and adaptations over time.

Surrounded by curious visitors, Mote Staff Scientist Dr. Jim Locascio leaned over a tray containing a large lionfish and dissected the predator to examine its stomach contents. "This is a nice-sized lionfish, and I see at least four small fish in its stomach. Lionfish are voracious predators and they have the ability to destabilize populations of native species. We can sample their stomach contents and use DNA analyses to understand the diversity of prey and see what species are being affected — in particular, which native sport or food fishes are hit the hardest."

The public can help document the lionfish invasion by reporting sightings through REEF, U.S. Geological Survey or the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). FWC has a Report Florida Lionfish app available for smartphones, and their Lionfish Challenge rewards those who harvest the species. REEF also has a free Lionfish Sightings App for iPhone, which allows people to track and record lionfish sightings all around the invaded region.

Lad Akins, Director of Special Projects at REEF, said: “While the lionfish invasion may seem insurmountable, we are finding that derbies like these and ongoing removals by the dive community are having a significant effect on reducing lionfish populations and allowing native marine life to recover. Even non-divers can help by asking for lionfish at their favorite restaurants and supporting invasive species regulations.”

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.

IT WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE.

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.

Potential Future Meeting Speakers Dilworth

Beth

Tom Barwin

Selby Gardens

Mote Marine Plans

Tod Kettering, Hurricane Preparedness

Candidate Forum, February

Stevie Freeman-Montes, Sarasota Sustainability

Heidi Brandt

Membership

Official 2019 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.

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. **PLEASE GO TO: www.LKRA.org, click on Lido Key Sand Matters Legal Fund**







Kylie Wilson

Shorebird Monitoring, Sarasota Audubon Society

First I want to give a HUGE thank you to all the people who came out to help July 4th weekend for the Boat Races. The skimmer colony did fantastic! Saturday was pretty slow and we had more than enough help but I would rather have too many volunteers than not enough so thank you to all who came. Sunday had better weather and therefore a bigger crowd. Still, the Skimmers had a large space that was kept open throughout the day so they were able to go to the water. This would have been impossible without the help of our volunteer Bird Stewards, old and new! With the help of the 24 volunteers that came out we were able to educate over 400 people!! That is AWESOME!

We have a lot of chicks - around 100 in June's count - that should be flying by the end June! My last count on adults was 779. I've attached a couple photos (the first one with the chick eating a fish was taken by a volunteer, Jane Ellison - (got to give credit where it's due)



FIRST FLORIDA HOSPITAL HAVING AHA ACCREDITATION FOR CARDIAC CARE EXCELLENCE

Sarasota Memorial Health Care System's heart program is the first in Florida and fourth in the nation to receive the American Heart Association's (AHA) Cardiovascular Center of Excellence accreditation, a comprehensive level of designation for cardiovascular care.

"Reaching this highest level of accreditation demonstrates your exemplary dedication and commitment to cardiovascular excellence in your communities," Michele Bolles, national vice president of Quality & Health IT for the American Heart Association, stated in a notification letter to SMH today. "Your cardiovascular team was required to demonstrate excellence in cardiovascular care, including early patient and community engagement, external support, and scientific, evidence-based, guidelines-driven care during critical health events when patients needed you the most. This is the epitome of a true System of Care."

As an accredited Cardiovascular Center of Excellence, Sarasota Memorial's cardiac team demonstrated that it met or exceeded standards established using multidisciplinary treatment models for all types of cardiovascular patients. The standards include 24/7 cardiovascular services, comprehensive training for all staff caring for this patient population, a strong internal and external systems-of-care approach to deliver services and extensive community outreach to help its population recognize and participate in cardiovascular health.

SMH underwent rigorous reviews by the American Heart Association's accreditation review team. During the reviews, cardiovascular quality improvement specialists reviewed the hospital's policies, procedures and operations to ensure appropriate diagnosis, treatment and education protocols were in place and executed for cardiovascular patients. The facility also had to demonstrate efforts to increase community awareness of the importance of cardiovascular health.

Key areas in which SMH demonstrated its commitment to accreditation-required treatment standards include:

Demonstration of patient and community engagement across the region

Collaboration with community-based cardiologists and clinics to provide smooth transitions of care

Sustained delivery of guideline-driven, evidence-based care

Robust interdisciplinary team that has ownership and empowerment of the program

"The designation is a wonderful testament of the skill and dedication of Sarasota Memorial's entire cardiovascular team," said Sarasota Memorial CEO David Verinder. "They are committed to providing multidisciplinary treatments centered in current scientific research and ensuring the best outcomes for our patients."

Cathy Antunes

Save Lido Key Pavilion

Sarasota residents must be able to access and enjoy our public beaches. Lido Beach Pavilion has a long history of offering free & affordable, family friendly beach, amenities, and an ocean front swimming pool. This legacy is under threat! The City Commission is being asked to approve major conditional use and site plan changes which will transform Lido Pavilion into a late night tiki bar, destination restaurant and private \$100/day cabana facility, creating an exclusive club atmosphere and monopolizing parking. The proposed changes are a de facto privatization and are incompatible with a public beach amenity. Sign and share the petition to oppose these changes!

Today the snack bar and pool at Lido Pavilion seats 100 patrons, leaving plenty of parking for those who just want to use the beach (about 300 cars). The proposed site plan change includes a 39 seat tiki bar, a 200 seat restaurant, and 15 private cabanas (for up to 90 people) renting for \$100 a day. Employees will need parking, as well as the pool patrons who don't fork over \$100 for a cabana. The applicants plan raising pool fees for non-cabana renters. Parking demands would surge even more if special events, like weddings, take place on the proposed lawn. The changes are untenable due to parking issues alone. When asked, the applicants said they have not studied the impact their plan will have on traffic or parking.

Over-improving Lido Pavilion will detract from the laid back, accessible beach experience that Sarasota visitors and residents appreciate and expect at Lido. Unreasonable fees and monopolized parking will prevent Sarasota families from enjoying a facility that belongs to them. The applicants, Troy Syrett and Gavin Meshad have connections to other businesses in Sarasota. Mr. Syrett operates the Daiquiri Deck. Mr. Meshad's father, attorney John Meshad, is the registered agent for One Palm LLC, which owns the Aloft Hotel. Hotels have been eyeing the Lido Pavilion as a adjunct site for their guests. They want to be like the Ritz Carlton, which offers its guests access to the Ritz Carlton Beach Club on Lido.

Appropriating Lido Pavilion for the benefit of a private business by pricing out the public and consuming the public's parking is back door privatization and damages the public. Approving changes which will make our public beach facility a means of lining the pockets of insiders and squeezing out the public is an affront to hard working Sarasota families struggling to make ends meet. We deserve a facility which works for the public. Lido Pavilion must not become the Aloft Beach Club!

Advocates for Lido Beach Pavilion need your help. We are asking City of Sarasota residents and Lido Beach visitors - visitors from Sarasota County, the state of Florida, the US and beyond - to sign this petition and share it with others. Tell the Sarasota City Commission to say no to government use, major conditional use and site plan changes to Lido Beach Pavilion. Sign the petition, Share the petition!

This petition will be presented to the Sarasota City Commission.

1. E-mail the City Commissioners and share your thoughts at commissioners@sarasotafl.gov
2. Like our facebook page to stay up to date on this issue:

<https://www.facebook.com/Save-Lido-Beach-Pavilion-...>

3. Schedule one on one meeting with City Commissioners to discuss the problem and voice your opposition. You can call City Hall at 365-2200 to schedule.
4. Look for the "Save Lido Pavilion" presentation on youtube. Watch it and share it with your friends on social media or via e-mail. Ask them to take action and share it.

Write to individual City Commissioners to express your opinion and/or request a meeting at the following e-mail addresses:

Mayor Liz Alpert (District 2) (currently supports the plan) liz.Alpert@sarasotafl.gov

Vice Mayor Jen Ahearn-Koch (At-Large) (currently opposes the plan) jen.Ahearn-Koch@sarasotafl.gov

Type to enter text

Commissioner Willie Shaw (District 1) (currently opposes the plan) willie.Shaw@sarasotafl.gov

Commissioner Hagen Brody (At-large) (currently supports the plan) hagen.Brody@sarasotafl.gov

Commissioner Shelli Freeland Eddie (District 3) (currently supports the plan)
shelli.FreelandEddie@sarasotafl.gov

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

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2019 LKRA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

2019 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:** _____

Questions? Contact Heidi Brandt: heidimbrandt@gmail.com. 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

RETURN FORM TO:

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

NOTE: 2019 DUES IS \$30.00

DONATIONS to LEGAL FUND NEEDED:

To donate, go to www.LKRA.org, click on Lido Key Sand Matters Legal Fund