



Letter from The President:

Hello Everyone,

Letter from the President:

Well summer is here for sure. Be sure to drink plenty of water and stay hydrated. In just a few days July 4th will be here, and we will be celebrating the birth of our country. Enjoy the day and pause and be thankful for this great country.

The Association has been busy. I wish all of you would come to a board meeting and hear just everything we discuss. Some activity is not reported here for privacy reasons. As always, we are monitoring the activities of our county government to find the impacts to us. There are several activities we are monitoring including the building of a cell tower that should be about the height of the Eiffel Tower. We are also monitoring the request to rezone some land to increase the density to allow more affordable housing. There is also the move to do some modification on US1 related to rising sea levels.

A little closer to home, the building committee is hard at work. Thanks to a call, we found a house that was very close to construction which had not been approved by the board. We contacted the appropriate people, got a copy of the drawings for the house, and found the house would not meet the current setbacks for that property. Work has stopped and they are in the process of resubmitting drawings with proper setbacks. We are also working on having some clean up on some property here in the Gardens. We are ordering a new No Wake buoy to be installed on Sawyer canal. As you all know, it sometimes takes some time to get anything delivered so be patient with us. We have two issues as related to Drost Drive. The first is speeding and the second is the parking along Drost near the marina.

There are some miscellaneous things happening. The board is also working on how to best handle signage for events. We try to post both board meetings and happy hours a week in advance. With our current signage we cannot do that if they fall in the same week. With the help of Leigh Anne Schuler, we will adapt the signs to double sided. We will be updating our website to make things a little easier to find. If you have any ideas do not hesitate to let me know. Work will begin soon. Unfortunately, no new word on the restaurant. The last we heard was permitting was the issue. We do see activity happening though. We are discussing how to effectively update our current directory. Two options are being considered: 1) create a new directory and 2) provide a listing of owners new since the last directory was printed in 2020.

Lastly, there are two things related to next month's board meeting. The social hour has been discontinued until fall because of lack of participation. You are still welcome to come to the board meeting but there will not be a social hour. The date of the next board meeting has been postponed for one week; it will be July 18th.

Deed Restriction Committee

The committee has been formed and work has begun. You should begin to hear more from this group in the weeks ahead. This is one of the most important things that the board will do this year. Why should we care? Our deed restrictions are the only thing that kept mini houses from being put next to the sheriff's building, modular homes from the being built, two story houses blocking your view. I could go on and on. Drive through many of the neighborhood near by and see what can happen without deed restrictions. Our deed restrictions keep the Gardens one of the most sought out places to live.

Opportunity to Join the Association

If you have never joined the association, we have a deal for you. If you are new to the Gardens or just have never joined the association for whatever reason, now is the time to join! For first time members, you can join for half price been now and the end of the year. What a bargain! For only \$37.50 this year, you can help us keep the Association running and the Gardens being the best place to live. If you just have not gotten around to renewing your membership, it is never too late; you can renew your membership at any time.

Kathy



Next Board Meeting:

**7 pm Monday, July 18th Board Meeting, Ken and Susan
Kurdzeil's home. 21072 Sixth Ave. E.**



***Remember that fireworks are only permitted in Monroe County on July 4,
New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day. Please do not set off fireworks at any
other times, be kind to our pets who are very afraid of them.***

County-sponsored Independence Day events include:

Key West

Since 1976, the Rotary Club of Key West has presented the Key West's annual fireworks show. Staged from the Edward B. Knight Pier overlooking the Atlantic Ocean where White Street meets Atlantic Avenue, fireworks begin at 9 p.m on July 4. For information, visit keywestrotary.com. Monroe County-owned Higgs Beach is a great place to watch the display.

Big Pine Key

The Lower Keys Rotary Club will host Independence Day festivities starting at 5 p.m. on Sunday, July 3, at Monroe County-owned Big Pine Community Park, mile marker 31. There will be vendors, food, beverages, games, family activities, and entertainment. Fireworks will begin at about 9 p.m. Admission is free, but no coolers, pets, or personal fireworks are allowed. Visit [facebook.com/LowerKeysRotary](https://www.facebook.com/LowerKeysRotary) for more information.

Marathon

A full day of beachside activities begins with a patriotic parade starting at 11 a.m. from Marathon High School to Sombrero Beach and fireworks starting at approximately 9 p.m. hosted by the City of Marathon and the Rotary Club of Marathon. Patriotic music can be heard on 104.1 US1 Radio to go along with the fireworks display. Boaters are encouraged to watch from offshore. Visit [floridakeysmarathon.com](https://www.floridakeysmarathon.com) for more information. Monroe County operates the Florida Keys Marathon Airport in Marathon.



Happy Hour will be July 21, 2022 - 5 pm

Please join us ***Thursday, July 21th at 5 pm*** for Happy Hour at the KOA on Sugarloaf. The menu for all Thursday nights is now Soft Tacos and Loaded Nachos. It was good, tested last night! It is also Trivia night beginning at 6 pm.



Cudjoe Rain report for June 2022 was 8.36 inches. The first 15 days of June we had 6.30 inches which was really nice, the grass greened up and things were growing and the birds and lizards were so pleased to have water to drink. The second half of the month was way down to just over 2 inches to come up with the months total. This beaming heat with no breeze hasn't helped. hopefully July will give us more rain...without storms of course.

~ Peggy Jent



Calendar of Events

***Lots of fun events around the Keys coming up can be found
at <https://fla-keys.com/calendar/>***

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