

REMEMBERING AL SKINNER

Al Skinner, SPRA area 3 director, passed away recently, but our community will remember him fondly for his involvement over several decades in helping to make our South Patrick Shores community a better place in which to live. Those who knew Al will remember his quiet manner and dedication.

Al served on numerous county committees and as an active area director over those years. He was also known for his special program, organizing the SPRA December Santa Fire Truck Ride throughout our area. SPRA is extending the invitation to any individuals who want to continue Al's Santa Ride legacy. Robert, the liaison at the fire station for the Christmas fire truck ride, is ready to work with him or her. Please contact Ayn Samuelson at the email or phone listed above to express your interest in continuing this community project.

AREA 3 SPRA DIRECTOR NEEDED

SPRA needs an Area 3 Director. This is a rewarding experience where one can be involved in working on behalf of their local community, where we all live and play. Please contact Ayn Samuelson at <u>asamuelson@</u> <u>spranews.com</u> for information.



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Presidents message LAKE SHEPARD BOAT RAMP

SPRA was informed that the July 7, 2015 County Commission Agenda included an agenda item that would impact our area, specifically the Lake Shepard boat ramp. Agenda Item VI concerned parcels throughout Brevard County that are owned by the county and designated as "surplus" real estate. This is property that can be sold to buyers who live adjacent to some of these properties, as well as some that could be placed up for sale through a bidding process. Agenda Item VI, C1, listed the Lake Shepard Public Boat Ramp, that has been an integral part of the community since it was first developed. The following email was sent to County Commissioners, the County Manager and the Parks & Recreation Department to remove our boat ramp from the agenda item. It is as follows:

Dear Commissioners:

Please be advised that Agenda Item VI C1 includes the public boat ramp located on Lake Shepard that was set aside for the use of local residents beginning in the 1960's. This .12 acre parcel (Tax ID 2609389; 381 N. Point Ct., p. 598 of 704; #5 on Table 2) was designated for public use in an area of residential zoning and housing, used on a regular basis by the public, as it is the only boat ramp located in the South Patrick Shores area.

It is essential to note that in 2000, the South Parks & Recreation referendum included plans for a boat ramp along the south side of the Pineda, just north of Tortoise Island to service the South Patrick Shores beachside area; however, due to several issues that arose, the promised boat ramp was never built. This left residents who voted for this referendum frustrated and angry.

Then, several years ago, SPRA worked with Brevard Continued on Page 2

Monday, August 10, 2015 • Next SPRA Community Meeting 7:15 p.m. • David Schechter Center • No July Meeting



By Ayn Samuelson

Continued from Page 1

County Parks & Recreation Department, at which time the county invested some \$100,000 to redo the seawall and ramp area on behalf of residents. This was a public process that involved many residents and county officials.

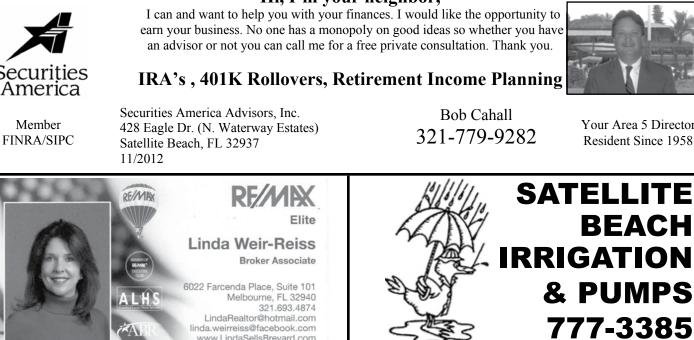
Due to the facts presented, it is critical to thoroughly discuss the issues surrounding this property, located in the heart of South Patrick Shores, prior to any consideration to sell it.

Thank you for your well-measured response.

Respectfully, Ayn Marie Samuelson, President, SPRA SPRA also extends a heartfelt "thank-you" to Kreatha Haston, Area 4 Co-director, for contacting the County Commission, to residents who also called or emailed the county, and to another resident who spoke before the County to spare the Lake Shepard boat ramp. Mission accomplished, as this agenda item was pulled from the list.

NORTH GRAND CANAL MUCK PROJECT

Cleaning up the lagoon is a worthy goal, but how it is implemented is critical. Thus, on behalf of South Patrick Shores residents, SPRA expressed strong concerns that we need to have assurances regarding the impacts of the muck dredging project and to ensure that the 10 acre sediment deposition site will be returned to an excellent condition after the North Grand Canal (NGC)



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project is completed. These concerns are listed below:

1. Partnerships with Unincorporated Residents & Cities:

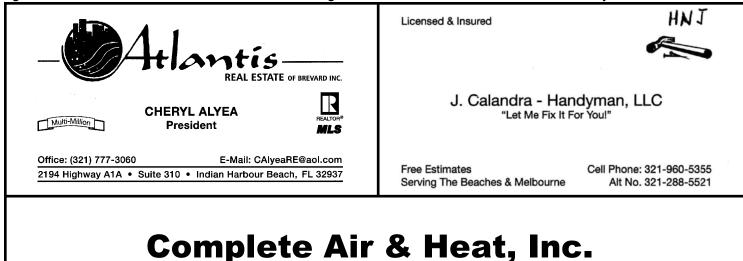
• Ensure that the NGC Project is a stand-alone project that will be completed within two years. The NGC project is defined as the North Grand Canal and all associated finger canals from the north side of Samson's Island to the Pineda Causeway. The design phase will involve future public meetings intended to inform the community of the project goals, develop time-frames and coordinate the project design and management. A preliminary project time frame is projected to include dredging and sediment management activities over a two (2) year period, from start to finish. The project is not expected to include waterway closures but will most likely include restricted boating access in project areas during active dredging activities.

• It has been stated by the County that partnership agreements will be crafted between and among the

County, Satellite Beach, and Indian Harbour Beach for muck dredging south of the NGC project. These southern Grand Canal projects will be separate from the NGC project. After the NGC project is completed within two years, the southern projects will begin. There will be no further muck deposition on the 10 acres, as that would negatively impact those along the NGC project, subjecting them to further impacts along the waterway. The cities must also become partners and be responsible for muck deposition projects outside the unincorporated area and within their own jurisdictional boundaries.

2. Noise: The current buffer provides noise relief. Residents need a limit on decibel levels and assurances that they will not significantly increase from current levels. A decibel survey prior to, during and post project will demonstrate compliance.

3. Visual: Keep as large a buffer of vegetation as feasible around the periphery throughout the process. Provide architectural drawings/renderings of the project as viewed from North Waterway and Tortoise Island



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with design engineering drawings review to ensure they match the renderings.

4. Odor: Actions should be taken to minimize odor.

5. Restoration: Plans for restoration will be important with community-approved landscape, architectural renderings.

6. Science: Composition of the muck should be sampled for Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) and RCRA metals from appropriate sampling locations, and sampled for herbicides/pesticides prior to dredging to ensure a level of safety for residents.

7. Lagoon Health: Similar problems will recur unless muck-producing inputs are reduced. This will require choices such as: a street sweeping program, stormwater system upgrades, replacement or slip-lining of sanitary sewer lines; stopping sewage dumps, and assessing industrial discharges into the IRL. FIT has been allocated a \$1 million research grant for this purpose.

SR A1A SIDEWALK & CROSSWALK At Ocean Blvd.

The A1A and Ocean Blvd. connecting sidewalk issue that has been discussed over several years, since I first brought up the issue at the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization (TPO). I pushed for an feasibility study regarding connecting the sidewalk from where it currently ends on the east-side of SR A1A, to where it should end at the Ocean Blvd. Crossing on A1A. The location of Sandpiper Towers presented serious challenges to that goal without negatively impacting that property.

From the Florida Department of Transportation: The Space Coast TPO formally requested to replace the existing right turn lane with a safe pedestrian sidewalk adjacent to the Sandpiper condos located on the east side of the intersection of SR A1A and Ocean Boulevard. An FDOT Supplemental Amendment (SA) was processed to have the design team for the resurfacing project perform





a study to analyze the feasibility of adding this sidewalk. The study would determine if a safe sidewalk could be accommodated that meets the criteria. There are some severe constraints at this location, including very tight Right of Way and steep slopes at the Sandpiper Tower condo driveways.

The Department looked into the sidewalk request and investigated all possible alternatives to accommodate the request and meet the design, safety, right-of-way, and legal constraints of the location. Based on the survey collected, the design alternatives developed, and the Right of Way staff input, a summary of the major challenges that would result from removing the right turn lane and adding the requested sidewalk found it was not feasible to add the sidewalk at this location.

FDOT understands that this is a priority for SPRA and the Space Coast TPO and FDOT will continue to explore

other options. The Department will perform a pedestrian study to evaluate adding a midblock pedestrian crossing south of the Sandpiper condos, as well as adding sidewalk on the west side of SR A1A across from the Sandpiper condos up to Ocean Blvd. This will allow the pedestrians to safely cross SR A1A from the east side to the west side of SR A1A, utilize the provided sidewalk up to Ocean Boulevard, then cross back to the east side of SR A1A at the signalized intersection. If the study warrants a mid-block crossing and our Traffic Operations Department approves, this alternative will be optimum since it will not have any impact to the Sandpiper Condos. Finally, it should be noted that the Department will be providing a sidewalk on the east side of SR A1A from the intersection of Ocean Blvd. all the way up to the beach access north of SR 404/Pineda Causeway (approximately 2,000 ft.). This improvement is one of several pedestrian improvements that the Department incorporated in the SR A1A project which is expected





to significantly enhance the overall pedestrian facilities and safety in the area. There will be a meeting held after the project's Phase II (60%) plans are submitted to bring everyone up to speed with the project and all the improvements added to it. This could be a good opportunity to discuss the Sandpiper condos sidewalk topic. That meeting has been scheduled for August 12th.

SPRA's Response :

As president of South Patrick Residents Association (SPRA) in the unincorporated portion of the county, our organization has been pursuing answers to the possibility of the east side SR A1A sidewalk for several years, starting from the time I sat on the Space Coast TPO CAC. During that time, I met on site and spoke with several individuals from FDOT. Your findings regarding Sandpiper Towers are not unexpected, and I appreciate whatever you can do to ensure pedestrian safety and to provide a sidewalk on the east side of SR A1A from the intersection of Ocean Boulevard to the beach access north of the SR 404 / Pineda Causeway. SPRA looks forward to further progress on this project. Respectfully, Ayn Marie Samuelson

AREA DIRECTOR REPORTS: AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2015

AREA 1 >

KREATHA HASTON • 536-5137 • khaston@spranews.com • There are no issues to report.

AREA 2 🗲

BEN HAYNER • bhayner@spranews.com

• The north entrance wall along the South Patrick Community Park has been vandalized with spray paint. Vandalism is illegal. Please report any shenanigans you see in the neighborhood or at the beach to local authorities. Our local law enforcement has been responsive and helpful when called upon. The Sheriff's office has a specific program for the inmates to paint over graffiti.

• Jerry Douglas, YOM, has been spending many hours on improvements, and the yard looks great.

AREA 3 🗲

• Area 3 needs a co-director. There are no other issues to report.

AREA 4 >

MARILYNN COLLINS • 773-8490 • mcollins@spranews.com KREATHA HASTON • 536-5137 • khaston@spranews.com

• Work has been progressing on the entrance to South Patrick Park. Many thanks to residents Hilde Banziger, Judy Ackerman, and Lisa Gardner for their hard work in



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removing all the old mulch from our entrance medians. It was a long, hot job, and the results look terrific. Residents were stopping by to give their thumbs up.

• Thanks, again, to Judy Ackerman for coordinating the work on our entranceway wall. The brick has gotten a power wash and the column tops have a fresh coat of paint as does the concrete blocks supporting the wall. Our thanks also goes to resident Johnette Kramer for generously providing the water and hose to facilitate the power wash. Funding for the improvements was provided by SPRA.

• Investigation is being done as to a new entrance sign or to installing letters that read South Patrick Park on each wall as was originally installed by the developer when South Patrick Park was first built.

• With our rainy season in full swing, please take care to keep grass from growing into the swale curb in front of your home. The swale curb needs to be clear to maximize the flow of drainage water during storms and to help avoid flooding of the streets.

• If you have any suggestions or ideas for further beautification, please call Marilynn or Kreatha, your Area 4 co-directors.

AREA 5 🗲

BOB CAHALL • 779-9282 • bcahall@spranews.com

• A big thank you to resident Jim Martelli for repairing the letters for our North Waterway Estates entrance way

wall. Jim did a fantastic job cutting, painting and hanging
9 new letters for our wall. I have already gotten calls saying how nice the new letters look. S.P.R.A. consists of all volunteers who give of their time and talents freely.
Lawn of the month nominations are welcome, and be sure to provide me with both the names and address of you nominee.

• Hoping everyone is having a great summer and wishing all a wonderful Labor Day.

AREA 6 🗲

CLYDE BERRY • 779-3129 • cberry@spranews.com

• Thanks to all for yard of the month recommendations.

SPRA AGENDA June 2015

1) The SPRA Meeting was called to order.

2) Treasurer's Report was sent to the SPRA Board.

- 3) Area Directors' Reports
- Area 1: No report

• Area 2: A South Patrick Community Park wall has graffiti written on it. The Sheriff's Department has a number to call at the farm to have inmates repaint the area. Ayn will get that number to Ben.

• Area 3: SPRA needs a director for Area 3. The YOM needs to be located. Kreatha will expedite.

• Area 4: The entranceway needs sprucing up, especially the wall that needs to be gently pressure washed and the caps painted. A committee will look at clearing



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and cutting back some plant growth. A contractor with a proper license and insurance must be used. Cost estimate is \$650, which will be approved either at a later meeting or by approval of the SPRA board via email before the August meeting.

• Area 5: Discussion of North Waterway Estates lettering ensued. Ellen stated that she had the name of a business that crafts durable lettering and that she would send Ayn the information.

• Area 6: No issues to report.

4) Ongoing Business:

• A list of assurances regarding the North Grand Canal muck removal and deposition project was discussed. It will be published in the next Shore News and sent to the County. This is a result of the successful muck meeting outcome held in April 2015

The Community Relations Committee is working with our SPRA Treasurer on a working contact list for future communication for information and socialization.
5) New Business • Robert, the liaison at the fire station for the

Christmas fire truck, called because he wanted to let SPRA know of the need to make repairs to the equipment. SPRA needs a new SPRA liaison to work with Robert and Randy Pitts to determine what repairs need SPRA decides to accomplish. Robert would like to meet with the SPRA liaison before July 28th or after August 28th.

• Please be working on your choices of YOM for Aug/ Sept Shore News. The YOM photo is for Area 1.

There will be no July 2015 meeting.

• There were no other issues for the good of the community.

• Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Community relations & events BREVARD COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS:

1) Brevard County Millage Rates: The Brevard County Commission approved the proposed rates for Brevard County on July 21st, approving the agenda item 4-1



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and adopting the county manager's recommended FY 2015-2016 ad valorem millage rates. These rates will be applied to the assessed value of individual properties within Brevard County to generate revenue. The voted aggregate FY 2015-2016 operating millage will bring in more revenue than last year, without counting revenue from new construction. It is important to note that these millage rates may be reduced at future public hearings, but they may not be increased above these voted millages.

FLORIDA STATE HIGHLIGHTS:

State Attorney Phil Archer: (1) Fake Loan Scams occur when con artists offer bogus loans to people with poor credit histories who need cash. They use legitimate-looking websites and loan applications and promise to deliver unsecured loans. The scam works when victims provide their banking and personal information in the hopes of receiving a loan. Victims are asked for an upfront "good faith" or "security" payment. The scammers disappear with the victim's money, social security numbers and bank account information. Be aware of the warning signs:

• The lender doesn't do any credit checks and guarantees you will get the loan, even if you have past financial problems.

• You are offered an interest rate significantly lower that what is available from legitimate lenders.

• Once you are "approved" for the loan, the lender demands upfront fees for processing or paperwork. Loan repayments aren't required for an extended period of time.

(2) Gas Pump Skimmers. There was a recent statewide sweep of more than 6,000 Florida gas stations. Of the dozens of skimmers found, five were located here in Brevard County. Some gas station credit card skimmers are external devices attached over a real credit card slot at a gas pump. Other devices are implanted internally through the front panel of a gas pump. In either case, as customers swipe their credit/debit cards, the device saves and stores their card information.

To avoid becoming a victim, familiarize yourself with these tips:

• Use the gas pump closest to the front of the store. Criminals often tamper with pumps furthest away to avoid being seen.

• Inspect the gas pump dispenser to ensure the tamperevident security seal has not been broken or tampered with. If you use a debit card at the pump, run it as a credit card to protect your PIN.

• Monitor your bank account often to look for fraudulent transactions. Report any suspected theft to law enforcement.

State Legislature: Scammers Pose as Government Officials: Every year, consumers lose billions of dollars to scammers claiming to be government officials with





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the IRS, Medicaid, Medicare, Veterans Affairs, local law enforcement, immigration services and others. Consumers should always beware of unsolicited phone calls or emails requesting financial or personal information. These scammers attempt to get money or personal information for the purpose of identity theft by faking their identities. Recently, the <u>Department</u> <u>of Agriculture & Consumer Services</u> (DACS) has experienced an increase in complaints related to government impostors. Follow DACS simple tips to help protect yourself.

• Be wary of anyone requiring payment by a method that's difficult to track, such as wire transfer, money order or by sending cash via an overnight courier.

• Do not give checking account number or social security number in response to solicitations from unknown individuals.

· Confirm the identity of the person requesting

information.

• Be wary of unsolicited emails. Cyber criminals may use the names of government agencies or law firms and spoofed email or web addresses to add legitimacy to their scams.

Consumers who believe fraud has taken place can contact the DACS consumer protection and information hotline at 1-800-HELP-FLA.





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~ AREA 1 ~ Bill & Nancy Burdette, 219 NE 2nd Street

~ AREA 2 ~ Jerry Douglas, 204 SE 2nd Street

> ~ AREA 3 ~ No YOM

~ AREA 4 ~ Bob & Nichole Dougherty, 325 Apollo Drive

~ AREA 5 ~ Jane Daubenspeck 421 Skylark Blvd

~ AREA 6 ~ Sharon & Edward Klinglesmith, 404 Red Sail Way

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