

DEC/JAN 2017 Shore News

South Patrick Residents Association www.spranews.com

SANTA'S SLEIGH RIDE

SPRA's annual Santa's Ride will take place on December 12th, 13th, and 14th and will depart from Fire Rescue Station 62 on Sea Park Avenue. Santa will ride his sleigh atop the fire engine throughout South Patrick Shores, including Tortoise Island. Santa will leave Fire Station 62 at about 6:00 pm. Here's when you can watch for Santa in your area:

- **December 12th - Area 1, 2, & 3:** NE 3rd to Exeter St. east of S. Patrick Drive; Arlington residences will view Santa at Berkeley & 3rd Ave.; Melody Estates residences will view Santa on Sea Park; North end of Melaleuca Dr. will view Santa at Sable Palm & Melaleuca.
- **December 13th - Area 4:** South Patrick Park; South Waterway; Tortoise View; & Tortoise Island
- **December 14th - Area 5 & 6:** Moorings; Sleepy Lagoon - Red Sail Way; Lighthouse Landing & North Waterway; Waterway Townhomes will view Santa at Ibis & Skylark.

CHRISTMAS BOAT PARADE ON GRAND CANAL

The annual Christmas Boat Parade will be hosted by the Banana River Sail & Power Squadron on Saturday, December 17th. The participating boats will gather at the north end of the Grand Canal. At about 6:00 pm (sundown) the parade will commence and then travel south down the Grand Canal, around Lake Shepherd, and continue down to the south end of the Grand Canal. Unless there are extreme weather conditions, the parade will be held as planned. There are several locations along the canal where residents can view the Christmas boat parade. Please observe no-parking signs in these areas as a courtesy to residents living near the public areas. You may contact Area 5 Director Bob Cahall for more information at bcahall@spranews.com.

BURGLARIES

There have been several beachside burglaries reported where thieves entered homes on the water. Some homes had left their doors unlocked, but thieves also tried to enter homes through force. The thefts were often during the daylight hours. In addition, some cars have been broken into, with most having left their doors or windows unlocked. Make certain you

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notify the Sheriff's office at the South Precinct to report any suspicious activity or theft. YoSheriff South Precinct: Email: southprecinct@bcso.us; 1515 Sarno Road, Building B, Melbourne, Florida 32935; Emergency Calls: 911; Non-Emergency: (321) 253-6683 you may also contact SPRA so we get the word out to residents by contacting Laura Walko atlwalko@spranews.com

President's Message

HURRICANE MATTHEW CLEAN-UP UPDATE

Hurricane Matthew left a swath of downed trees and uprooted vegetation. After several weeks, Ayn contacted the County regarding when we could expect the piles to be removed, "as they can have a direct impact on the IRL system during rainstorms. Further, there is the legitimate concern about safety with regard to line of sight for little children or walkers on the sidewalks. In some instances, the only place to pile debris is on the sidewalks, or else it goes into the street or onto unreachable places on properties. I have trimmed more than a few palm fronds that struck out into the street along Sandpiper Drive in order that traffic flow was not impeded, as well as cleaned up in front of others' residences."

The County's response was as follows concerning the yard waste pickup in our area: "Brevard County Solid Waste Department is monitoring FEMA qualified contracts with many private hauling trucks to remove the vegetative debris from neighborhoods all across Brevard. There is estimated over 325,000 cubic yards of such waste in Brevard County. This yard waste has to be picked up and delivered to the landfill or temporary debris collection sites. The process is long and ongoing but will be accomplished in the quickest

**SPRA Community Meeting • David Schechter Center
Monday, January 9, 2017, 7:15 p.m.**

By Ayn Samuelson

time possible. As we work through this issue, we appreciate your patience. You may get some additional information at <http://www.brevardcounty.us/SolidWaste/Home> In addition, FEMA requirements are the reason that the recovery is slow; for the county to get reimbursed for the recovery event, every load must be documented by a monitor and weighted. While this is a slow process, it will save the taxpayers of Brevard County over five million dollars. At the above-referenced website, you can click on a link to FAQ about the storm clean up."

SPRA understands the need to save dollars, but if FEMA can't deliver services that we need in a more efficient manner, one must ask the question as to whether FEMA was really the right choice and manner in which the County meets its obligations to taxpayers. In a return email from the Solid Waste Department, clean-up along the canal system began on November 2nd, and will continue southward.

Some residents have complained about the residue left behind after pick-up, so let's all get outside and help clean-up what's left in the streets, even across the street from you in front of your neighbor's home. If we all pitch-in, then we can reduce the impact on the Lagoon system and make a difference.

ELECTIONS : WHAT'S THE IMPACT?

Elected Offices: The November General election brought an excellent turn-out in Brevard County of nearly 78% of

registered voters turning their ballots. Our re-elected and newly elected officials are as follows: Marco Rubio was re-elected as U.S. Senator; Bill Posey was re-elected as U.S. Representative D8; Debbie Mayfield was elected as Florida State Senator D17; Thad Altman was elected as Florida State Representative D52; Tina Descovich was elected to School Board D3. Tax Collector, Sheriff, Appraiser, and Supervisor of Elections were elected in the primary election, and Clerk of Courts was re-elected in the General election. Others elected are: Randy Fine was elected as State Representative D53, Tom Goodson was re-elected as State Representative D51, three new County Commissioners were elected in D1, D3 and D5, and a new school board member was elected in D4. All of these individuals represent us in their respective offices, because their decisions affect each one of us. It is the citizens/residents' responsibility to provide a voice, other than those of staff members and colleagues, so that other input and pertinent information can be provided to them to make better decisions on our behalf.

Referenda: Two key state amendments were the Medical Marijuana (Amendment 2), that passed by nearly 71% and the Solar Choice (Amendment 1) that failed to pass, as it received only 45% of the 60% needed to become an amendment. The Brevard County ½ cent sales tax "Save out IRL" passed by 62%. The sales tax will go into effect early next year. As with all amendments and referenda that pass, we rely on those in charge to properly implement them in



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order to achieve their stated purpose. Again, it is important to stay informed and to contact elected officials and county staff regarding any questions, concerns or other issues related to implementation and the results that occur. The Board of County Commissioners adopted Ordinance No. 16-15 for the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan and Trust Fund. The Ordinance called for creating a Citizen Oversight Committee. The Committee structure consists of 7 members and seven alternates representing seven fields of expertise.

Community News

STATE OF FLORIDA HIGHLIGHTS

State Attorney Phil Archer: (1) Tech Support Scam. Bad guys are coming up with new ways to scam you out of your money. Their latest trick is a Tech Support scam that puts a big warning screen on your computer, claiming that if you do not call the support number, your whole hard disk will be deleted in 5 minutes. A warning audio tone is also played in the background, which again warns the user that their system is infected. There are variations of this scam that claim they

are your Internet Service Provider, or claim to be Microsoft, that you need an urgent update you need to call in for, or they show you a blue screen that claims your computer needs to be repaired. There is always a number to call, and these scammers will try to put hundreds of dollars on your credit card. If you see error messages on your work computer screen, follow policy and contact your IT person. If you see this on your home computer, ignore the message! Do not call the fake tech support number!

(2) New IRS Scam. There is a new IRS scam making the rounds. They send you a phony IRS CP 2000 Form and claim the income reported on your tax return does not match the income reported by your employer. This is meant to get you worried. To confuse you further, the bad guys claim this has something to do with the Affordable Care Act. You might receive emails with attached phony forms, text messages and even live calls to your phone about this! You need to know that the IRS will never initiate contact with you to collect overdue taxes by an email, text message or phone call. If you get any



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emails, text messages, snail mail or even phone calls about this, do not click on anything, do not open attachments, do not reply, and if it is a call, hang up the phone. If you receive a CP 2000 Form in the mail and doubt it is legit, you can always call the IRS at 1-800-366-4484 to confirm if it's a scam.

State Legislature: Brevard Legislative Delegation Meeting. Chairman Tom Goodson has tentatively scheduled the annual Brevard Delegation Meeting for Friday, December 16th from 1pm to 4pm at the Brevard County Commission Chamber in Viera. This is a time during which proposed bills can be presented and during which citizens can present issues before the entire local, legislative delegation. Please note that this is a tentative date. You may contact Chairman Goodson at his district office to confirm the date and to answer any questions about the meeting. His district office phone number is (321) 383-5151.

BREVARD COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS

Brevard County Emergency Management Accredited: The highest honor for emergency management, full accreditation status, has been awarded to Brevard County Emergency Management by the national Emergency Management Accreditation Program, in recognition of the department's ability to bring together personnel, resources and communications from a variety of agencies and organizations in preparation and response to disasters. The emergency management program uses the accreditation to prove the capabilities of their disaster preparedness and response systems.

Parking Commercial Vehicles: County Code Sec. 62-2117. Commercial vehicles, equipment, and trailers are not allowed in residentially zoned properties on small acreage like SPRA. For purposes of this section: Commercial vehicles and heavy equipment means commercial, industrial or agricultural vehicles, equipment or machinery, ... including but not limited to: semi-trailers; tractors for semi-trailers; trucks; step-vans; box trucks; construction equipment; cement mixers; compressors; forklifts; buses; tow trucks; dump trucks; trucks with roll-back beds; trailers; any other similar vehicles, equipment and machinery classified as commercial by the manufacturer; and pickup trucks, passenger vans, and cargo vans used for commercial purposes. Commercial motor vehicles or heavy equipment shall be permitted to be parked, stored or located on developed BU2, GML, IU, IU-1, PBP and PIP zoned property. Please speak with your neighbors before you report any code violation to the County, as they might not be aware of the County ordinance.

Beachside Sewer Line Replacement: On November 15th several tanker trucks were seen in the South Patrick Community Park on Sea Park. Brevard Utilities reported that a small break occurred at the NW corner of N. Riverside Dr. and Malibu Lane, and that this break has been repaired with no discharge to any water body. SPRA also asked about the future pipe replacement for the line that has failed several times causing large sewage spills. The design of the replacement of the pipe between Banana River Driver and Desoto is currently underway. After completion of the design the replacement will begin. The total cost of the replacement is expected to

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be in the \$2.5 to \$3.0 million range. Because of emergency actions taken by the Board of County Commissioners to waive bid requirements, we hope to have this pipe replaced in 6 to 8 months, instead of 1 to 1 1/2 years without the emergency actions.

NATURAL RESOURCES: Lagoon Pollution Prevention

(1) Yard Clippings: To prevent the contamination of waterways, avoid blowing lawn clippings into the street or dumping them down the storm drain. Once it rains, those leaves and grass clippings and yard waste are washed into the Indian River Lagoon. The nutrients contained in the waste cause algae blooms that decrease the amount of light and oxygen in the water and sometimes result in fish and sea grass kills. To prevent yard clippings from entering storm drains do not pile yard waste and tree branches on storm drains. If possible, wait to put them out until the night before your yard trash pick up and make sure that they are placed on the grass, not the driveway or any other any impervious surfaces. If you

use the plastic bins, avoid placing them on or near storm drains because in a rainstorm, they can spill into the drain. It is recommended to leave grass clippings on your lawn after mowing and reuse other yard waste as mulch, by spreading them under bushes and flower gardens. The nutrients in yard waste make them the best and cheapest fertilizers your lawns and gardens can receive. Composting is another way to reuse leaves, grass clippings and other small cuttings. By mixing these items with household wastes such as vegetable and fruit scraps, eggshells and coffee grounds, you create a perfect medium for improving soil structure, promoting soil fertility and stimulating root development in plants. A few composting sites are listed below.

- US Environmental Protection Agency - Composting
- USA Natural Resources Conservation Service - Composting
- Compost Info Guide - How to make better compost

(2) Use Florida Native Plants in Landscaping: Florida native plants are recommended for landscaping because these



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plants have adapted to Florida's soils, water, and pests, and they require less fertilizer than exotic plants. It is important to match the plant species to the conditions in your yards. To learn more about native plants and which ones will work best in your yard, visit the Native Plant Society's website at www.fnps.org. There are two chapters in Brevard County, and they are always willing to give interested people more information.



AREA DIRECTOR REPORTS

AREA 1 ►

KREATHA HASTON • 536-5137 • khaston@spranews.com

- Please nominate yards of the month to be featured in the Shore News.

AREA 2 ►

CHRIS DAVIS • cdavis@spranews.com

- Area 2 recently held a meeting at Sea Park on November 5th that was rescheduled from the Saturday of Hurricane Matthew. We were able to replant the raised garden box at Sea Park Fire Station with donations of plants and soil from residents and the hands of children. We dispersed information on how to become a SPRA member, shared our page on Facebook (South Patrick Shores Families), and shared the advertising rates. (Photo)

- We held our 2nd tree trimming in the area between SE First and Seagull, the entrance to the park, on October 29th. Once again, we thank the residents who showed up, as well as Jacob Smith from Final Cut Tree Works for volunteering his time and tree service to cut and trim, but also to haul away the debris. Our faithful volunteers have allowed us to trim and maintain what the county will not. Our next work day for this area will be January 28th next year starting at 8:00 am. We will be on the walkway to the entrance to the park between SE First Street and Sea Park Blvd. Please come to lend your hands to the community project.

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• Area 2 held a Ocean Blvd island weeding on October 22nd and we were able to clean up what the hurricane left behind. We planted a few fox tails that a generous neighbor gave us, but we weren't able to keep them alive. We will try again in the near future as fox tails are on the approved list of trees that can be planted in the islands.

• I urge all residents to contact me or the county with street light outages, dips or holes in the roads, or any other dangerous issues that need to be repaired for the safety of our citizens.

• A soccer ball hit our bulletin board at Sea Park where we also post information and updates. It still works but has a cracked screen. The park supervisor will be notified for repair.

• We cannot stress enough that we must all lock our car doors. Opportunists will continue to see what may be available in your unlocked cars, if left unlocked.

• We have nearly 100 members on our Facebook page, and this has been our best, real time, form of communication. On this page, we have shared various types of information from lost dogs and people, to community events, hurricane updates, and bridge openings, to community opportunities and volunteering.

• Are you wondering how you can help or be part of South Patrick Shores community? Here are a few ways: 1) No matter what area you are from in SPRA, you are welcome to join us on South Patrick Shores Families to learn what events we are

posting and what is happening in the neighborhood. 2) You can help us weed the islands on Ocean Blvd, pick up trash at the beach, water the raised garden box at Sea Park, and be the eyes and ears of our community. 3) Please slow down while driving up and down our streets. We have many children and senior citizens, and our speed should be well below 25 MPH. Feel free to reach out to me if you'd like to discuss more ways to make improvements in SPRA! 4) Please report anything suspicious to the Brevard County Sheriffs Office. South Precinct: Email: southprecinct@bcso.us; 1515 Sarno Road, Building B, Melbourne, Florida 32935; Emergency Calls: 911; Non-Emergency: (321) 253-6683

AREA 3 ►

LILLIAN SKINNER • askinner@spranews.com

RICK MARIANI • rick.mariani@yahoo.com

• One of our residents informed SPRA about the light at Berkeley Street and SR 513.

• She indicated that the wait for the light to change turning from Berkeley onto SR 513 is often 4.5 minutes, and this is without heavy north/south traffic flow along SR 513.

• She also stated that the light used to be "tripped" according to traffic flow, but that appears no longer to be the case. This issue was reported to D4, County Public Works and Traffic Control.

• Two speed humps were recently constructed on Berkeley St. with approval from our D4 Commissioner and Public Works.



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Ideally this will slow down traffic on the roadway.

- I referred the rectangular hole in the sidewalk close to the intersection of Sea Park and South Patrick to be repaired. To date this repair has not been completed, but I will contact Public Works to expedite.

- Thanks to the efforts of Congressman Posey we know that the Air Force is proud to tell us about their sewage and waste water treatment efforts in launch areas at Cape Canaveral, but what is missing is information about the waste treatment on Patrick Air Force Base. We want to be good neighbors and partners in our efforts to clean up the Indian River Lagoon.

- The street light at the end of Dover and 4th has been repaired. Thanks to FPL for the repair this is a very dark area. It took longer this time due to the hurricane.

- Also I would like to thank our residents in Area 3 for their patience in waiting for the pickup by Brevard County of the mess left behind by Hurricane Matthew, there is still a multitude of wooden fence that will be picked up as they get to it. We will look forward to our neighborhood returning to normal.

- May you have a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and happy holidays to all.

AREA 4 ►

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

- Please do not block streets with your parked vehicles. The Sheriff's department non-emergency number can be contacted if people can't get through or if emergency vehicles would be unable to get through.

- Happy Holidays to all.

AREA 5 ►

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

- A robbery was reported by one of our neighbors. The thieves stole a TV and miscellaneous items. They got in through an open door. Many neighbors were at home at the time, but no one saw anything. It is possible that the robbery was done by boat. There was also a truck sitting along Thrush Drive, but it may have been a worker waiting on the crew for a neighbor's dock repair.

- Two very nice Christmas wreaths were donated for the entrance way wall by Ray and Diana Rosenkaimer. Donations are always appreciated.

- The bulletin board is to be used to post items that are of interest and benefit to the community. Notices for community events, lost and found items, and community announcements are acceptable. Classified postings of items to sell, such as cars or boats, or offering merchandise or services, should not be posted.

- A Shore News box has been added providing copies of the newsletter.



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- Lawn of the month nominations are needed.
- Wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

AREA 6 ►

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

- Area 6 is looking good after the cleanup from Hurricane Matthew.
- Hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING SAFETY TIPS

- Online shopping has transformed the way companies conduct business and how shoppers purchase goods. However, with that convenience and accessibility comes the potential for increased risk. There are some easy steps you can take to ensure safer shopping.
- Shop from secure retailers only. Shop online from websites that begin with “https” rather than just “http.” The “s” means secure and those sites have an added layer of data protection to ensure your information is transmitted directly to the retailer.
- Use a credit card to shop online, not a debit card. When you use a credit card, you essentially are spending the bank’s money, not your own, as you are with a debit card. This means that banks will likely fight fraudulent credit card charges more aggressively.
- Buy from secure companies that require a “CVC code” during checkout. Companies that require the three or four

digit code on the back of your credit card often have higher fraud- control policies and usually work with payment processors that have stringent fraud-protection control.

- Protect access to your credit card information. Don’t allow anyone other than trusted family members to make purchases on your behalf using your credit/debit card. Don’t send or store credit card information via emails or on unprotected sites.
- A great way to reduce your risk of online shopping fraud is to set spending alerts on your credit card. Consider setting up an email or text alert to notify you when more than \$500 is spent at any particular store or online site, so you are aware of any large purchases that are made instantly. Most banks have this easy to set-up feature.
- Avoid making any purchases from pop-up windows or emails. Visit store sites directly for products you’re interested in. A common scam involves placing links into emails that appear to click through to shopping sites. You find out they are fraudulent after submitting your payment information and will never receive the items you ordered.
- Avoid giving out your Social Security number unless absolutely necessary. Banks, utility companies and health care providers might need this number but make sure you are the one initiating the request that warrants the SSN request.

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SAND ON THE BEACH

In an email to our D4 Commissioner, a few questions were asked regarding the emergency funding for placing additional sand to protect some 13 structures impacted along ocean frontage. The questions were: Who pays for the sand on the beach for the 13 residences that were impacted? Do those residents pay anything toward the cost?

The Natural Resources Department answered the following: "The Recent action by the Board was to protect 13 properties through emergency protective sand berms on the beach. This work is to prevent damage to homes which are at risk of being undermined and potentially falling onto the public beach. We expect the bulk of this work will be funded by FEMA category B, emergency protective measures. The local share, expected to be 12.5% will be from the Tourism Development Office beach improvement budget. This fund is collected from hotel rooms and is specifically for maintaining the beaches. In many cases the property owners are also funding additional sand placement on their own, to provide further protection, but this was not required. The Tourism Development Council has always supported and recommended placing sand on the beaches to support a healthy beach ecosystem, maintain the recreational beach, promote tourism and provide storm protection to the upland. The tourism tax supports this work. In the most recent case the County Commission has continued this effort to protect both the recreational beach and barrier island tax base."

SATELLITE BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY –

751 Jamaica Blvd., 321-779-4004

Adults

December 5-9 – Friends of the Library will hold a Children's Book Sale in the lobby. Purchase a gently used book for a special child. Hours may vary, check at the library.

Mondays 10:00am-12:00pm – Master Gardeners in the lobby to answer your gardening questions. Service offered by the University of Florida and the Agriculture Center. 633-1702.

Children & Teens

Wednesdays at 3:30pm – Junior Builders Club. Stories and free building with LEGOS for ages 5+.

Thursdays at 11:00am and 3:30pm – Story Time Alphabet Adventures for ages 3+. Final class is December 15.

Saturday, December 3 at 2:30pm – The Nutcracker with Ballet Esprit. Tickets required, pick up at Youth Services. Ages 5 and up.

Saturday, December 17 at 1:00pm – Read to a Dog with the Space Coast Therapy Dogs. Sign-up required. Limited participation for ages 5+.

Monday, December 19 at 3:00pm – Rave About Your Fave. Sunshine State Book Club (Grades 3-6). Discuss your favorite SSYRA books over snacks.



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