

Shore News Holiday Issue

South Patrick Residents Association
www.spranews.com

SPRA MEMBERSHIP ALERT!

The SPRA Membership Year begins with the Shore News Holiday Issue. So, it's time to begin your SPRA Membership and become involved in the issues that impact our community. SPRA has worked to represent residents' interests since 1965 in government policies, providing information, and making improvements. SPRA also keeps Members updated during the year with emails and information as issues arise.

The \$16.00 Annual Membership Dues helps pay for printing and distribution of the Shore News and supporting projects like signs, landscaping, safety issues, and the annual Santa's Sleigh Ride. The Membership Form found, can be cut out and sent in the printed envelope found inside the Shore News. Or you may pay by using the PayPal option on the website at www.spranews.com under SPRA Membership. Join us at SPRA meetings to share your ideas and concerns and to support our community.

SANTA'S SLEIGH RIDE: December 11th, 12th, & 13th

SPRA's Santa's Sleigh Ride will leave Fire Rescue Station 62 on Sea Park Avenue at 6:00 PM each evening, and Santa will ride his sleigh atop the fire engine throughout South Patrick Shores. Watch for Santa in your area and enjoy the fun!

- **December 11th 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. can view Santa at Sable Palm & Melaleuca Drive.
- **December 12th Area 4:** South Patrick Park; South Waterway; Tortoise View; & Tortoise Island
- **December 13th Area 5 & 6:** Moorings; Sleepy Lagoon – Red Sail Way; Lighthouse Landing, North Waterway; Waterway Townhomes can view Santa at Ibis & Skylark

Santa's Sleigh ride is sponsored by SPRA and Brevard County Fire Rescue Station #62. We provide volunteers to decorate and to provide Santa's candy. Donations and support are welcome. Contact: [Bill Davis at bill.d@im.solutions](mailto:bill.d@im.solutions)

2023 CHRISTMAS BOAT PARADE: December 16th @ 6:00 PM The Banana River Sail & Power Squadron (America's Boating Club South Brevard) will sponsor the Saturday, December 16, 2023 Christmas Boat Parade. All classes of boats are welcome to participate, and no registration or fees are charged. To begin the Parade, boats will proceed to the staging area at the north end of the Grand Canal and fall into line in time to start by 6:00 PM. The Satellite Beach Patrol Boat will announce the start of the parade at 6:00 PM on VHF 71 and will lead the parade, followed by the Santa Claus boat, Story Time. Communications will be on VHF channel 71, and VHF 16 will be monitored.

The Parade route follows the Grand Canal Southbound and will circle Lake Shepherd Clockwise. The Parade ends just north of Mathers' Bridge in the Banana River. Participants should: Obey all Rules of the Road; Maintain a safe distance between boats; Proceed in single file; and Maintain a speed of 4-5 mph, or as directed by the Patrol Boat. For more information call 321-220-7775.

SPRA ADVERTISERS: SPRA features Ads online at spranews.com. A customer can be linked to an advertiser's website when clicking on an Ad online. Ads in the Shore News are mailed to 4,400 addresses, posted on the website, and run for one year. Ad sizes vary from a 1 business card size to a 1/3 page size. Visit Advertising in the Shore News on the website for more information. Contact asamuelson@spranews.com

SPRA WEBSITE USEFUL LINKS: Visit the Useful Links page at www.spranews.com in order to find Brevard County government information such as the Sheriff, Appraiser, Tax Collector, Supervisor of Elections, County Commissioners, as well as other information. In addition, you can find your SPRA Area Director's name and contact information under SPRA Officers & Directors, along with other useful information on the website.

SPRA Annual Community Meeting • David Schechter Center
Monday, February 12, 2024, 7:15 p.m.
SPRA, PO Box 372357, Satellite Beach, FL 32937

GOLF CART & LSV LAWS

Both Golf carts and LSVs (low speed vehicles) are not legally permitted to be driven on any sidewalks in the South Patrick Shores (SPS) unincorporated Brevard County area. This is considered a serious safety issue. As per County ordinance, golf carts also cannot be driven on our County roadways in SPS. LSVs and golf carts are not identical.

- A LSV is one with a top speed greater than 20 MPH, but not greater than 25 MPH, which may be operated on roadways where the speed limit is 35 MPH or less. Florida requires that LSV's must be registered, titled and insured, operated by a licensed driver, and properly equipped with a list of safety equipment. The County doesn't require additional regulations for LSVs other than the state statutes. (Fla.Stat 316.2122)
- A Golf cart is a vehicle designed for operation on a golf course, for sporting or recreational purposes, and is not capable of exceeding speeds of 20 MPH. As of October 1st 2023, the driver of a golf cart must be at least 15 old and have either a valid learner's permit or a license in order to operate a golf cart on roadways in Florida. South Patrick Shores doesn't have sidewalks that are designated as multi-use sidewalks, as none of them meet the requirements for both approved size and location. In addition, signs are mandated to be posted along roadways stating that they allow golf carts to share such roadways with vehicles. (Fla.Stat. 316.212; County 106-73)

BOAT MINIMUM WAKE ZONES IN CANALS

It is critical to run your boats at slow speed with minimum wake in the canals to protect lagoon life and property. Slow speed/slow speed minimum wake zone: Slow speed/slow speed minimum wake means that a vessel must be fully off plane and completely settled into the water. The vessel must then proceed at a speed that is reasonable and prudent under the prevailing circumstances so as to avoid the creation of an excessive wake or other hazardous condition. Waters of the county/waterways of the County: Mean any navigable waters of the United States within the territorial limits of Brevard County and all inland lakes, rivers, and canals under the jurisdiction of the county. Watercraft traffic shall not exceed slow speed. In addition, be alert for hazards from submerged pipes and dredging equipment, which can damage your boat. Brevard County ordinance Chapter 122 and Fla.Stat. Chapter 327 deal with waterways.

NORTH GRAND CANAL PROJECT

Brevard County Natural Resources Management has provided an update on the progress of the North Grand Canal Project, that began in 2017. The Project is expected to run at least through the end of the 2025 term. To date, some 300,000 cubic yards of muck has been removed from the canals. This is calculated to approximate 63% of the previously computed volume of the estimated muck deposit removal. Gator Dredging will continue through the inner canal of Tortoise Island to complete canals M and P before the end of the dredging season on November 30th of this year. Gator had a late start in mid June in the Spring, as the permitted dredging season normally runs from March 15th through the end of November each permitted dredging season.



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MEMBERSHIP FORM



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The SPRA community gives a voice to your interests, informs residents, and makes improvements in our South Patrick Shores unincorporated area. SPRA Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday, at 7:15 PM inside the north entrance at the David R. Schechter Community Center, 1089 S. Patrick Drive. Our meeting Dates and Agendas are posted on the SPRA website at **www.spranews.com**. **Membership Dues** are still \$16.00 per household. Fill out the SPRA Membership Form, and place the Form and Dues in the envelope provided OR use PayPal on the SPRA website Membership Page. Your Contributions are appreciated. Thank you for your support!

Name _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Please write your check to SPRA & mail to PO Box 372357, Satellite Beach, FL 32937-0357

☐ Annual Dues \$16.00 per household ☐ Additional Donation


South Patrick Residents Association 501 (c) (4), PO Box 372357, Satellite Beach, FL 32937-0357

SOUTH WATERWAY ENTRANCE LIGHTING

In July 2021, SPRA made a request with the District 4 Commissioner's Office to ensure greater safety at and near the entrance of South Waterway by adding lighting. Street lighting at the entrance to the community was non-existent, and it was very dark at night, with vehicles missing the turn, hitting the island, and going into the ditch. There is also a school crossing in this location, and lighting would help with visibility for pedestrians and bicyclists using the crosswalk in the early morning and after dark. FDOT completed the required photometric analysis to identify the most optimal light pole locations. They decided to place two light poles on the west side, due to the transmission line along the east side. FDOT forwarded their design to FPL to secure the full design and construction estimate in order that that funding could be requested. The project was successfully completed in August 2023.


PINEDA WATER MAIN LINE

The Pineda water main line was completed and is in working condition, and the main line was connected to the piping running along SR 513. All of the piping and connections have been made and pressure tested. The Contractor worked on restoration of the disturbed areas along the Pineda and North Waterway. Chlorine was added to the Pineda Booster Pump Station, and this will help with chlorine residuals at the north end of the beachside area.



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SR 513 DRAINAGE DITCH



A portion of the east side South Patrick Drive (SR 513) drainage ditch, south of Ocean Blvd., recently had roadside ditch and shoulder maintenance completed by one of the FDOT contractors. FDOT plans to contract with a different contractor starting early next year, at which time, they will complete work in other areas along South Patrick Drive. This maintenance may help to minimize flooding concerns in streets to the east of SR 513.

US ARMY CORPS FUDS


Naval Air Station Banana River Off-Base Disposal Area Status Update: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) collected 9.3 miles of ground penetrating radar data (GPR) this year. They are in the process of evaluating that data to determine the next steps in their Remedial Investigation. In addition, they are coordinating with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to respond to their required comments on the USACE workplan. Once the data analysis is complete, that information will be shared with our community. They are moving forward with the investigation where they have been granted property right-of-entry. Although, the lack of rights-of-entry will limit the understanding of site conditions, USACE will describe the nature and the extent of Navy-related environmental concerns based on where they searched. All property owners who received a right-of-entry form from USACE and have not yet signed it, can still do so to allow USACE right-of-entry to their property. For more information, call: 800.710.5184, email: FUDS.Florida@usace.army.mil, or visit: www.saj.usace.army.mil/BananaRiver

COSTS OF INSURANCE, TAXES & EXPENSES


Costs of property insurance have risen, with no end in sight, and Florida is encouraging newly formed insurance companies to extend property owners offers to re-write their insurance. The goal is to depopulate/reduce the number of policies written and held by government-backed Citizens Property Insurance. If an extended offer from a Florida approved insurance company is not over 20% more expensive than Citizens, the insured must accept the policy offer. In addition, auto and other vehicle insurance costs continue to increase, while local property taxes have risen due of high assessments and the added school millage increase. Finally, inflation in other critical consumer areas continues to rise adding more costly burdens on individuals and families.

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