

July 2019, Coconut Telegraph

Important information you don't want to miss.

***Police Protection for Memorial and the 4th of July**

***Environmental Update**

***LGIFR Update**

LGPOA 4th of July Picnic

From Vice President, Rhonda Olson:

The picnic will be held Thursday, July 4th from noon to 2pm on the Placida Condo's grass lot. There will be hamburgers and hotdogs cooked up by our very own fire chief!

Side dishes or desserts are very welcome but not required for attendance. Hamburgers, hotdogs, baked beans, potato and corn salad, plates, silverware and water will be provided.

Non-members are welcome to join on site (\$40).

Bring a chair, a dish to pass and a beverage other than water if you'd like.

To allow everyone to cool down, LGIFR will be on site to spray water, there will be corn hole boards available and LGIFR T-shirts will be sold as well.

****Police Protection**

From Vice President, Rhonda Olson:

The police protection that the LGPOA hires was on Little Gasparilla Island over Memorial weekend. They provided a police presence to show people we do have rules and gave warnings to people not following them. The LGPOA has communicated with our sheriff to schedule times for more police protection over the fourth of July.

****Environmental**

From Florida Wildlife Commission Permit holders for LGI, Laura, Lena and Ava Dallas:

There are more than 120 sea turtle nests currently marked and staked out on island from Don Pedro State Park to the southern end. Turtles nests will begin hatching this month. It is imperative that lights are OUT on the beach as hatchlings can and will disorient with any artificial light. They head away from the ocean and toward any house with lighting, phone flashes/lights or flashlights.

What can you do to help this turtle hatching season?

- 1. Please turn off exterior lights (and pull shades/draw curtains) on your beach front homes.**
2. Use only red filters for flashlights or phones - there's an app for that.
3. Cover any holes that you may dig or that you see on the beach.
4. Remove all beach furniture and take away any trash.
5. Keep your dog leashed on the beach and remove your dog's excrement as well. We see a lot of dog excrement bags sitting on the beach full ---not sure why.
- 6. Do your best to help with rental houses on the island as the renters come and go quickly and re-education with each rental is important.**

Please contact Cindy @ cagrife@gmail.com if you need brochures for your rental property/cleaning staff/property managers etc.

****Little Gasparilla Island Fire and Rescue (LGIFR) Update** (The LGPOA is not affiliated with the LGIFR, we just want to keep you up to date on all island activities.)

From LGIFR Fire Chief, Bill Underhill:

Fireworks

The Independence Day festivities are among us. As in the past, fireworks are allowed along the BEACH, but be sure to point them over the Gulf of Mexico. All litter from the fireworks must be disposed of properly please. Try to clean up the mess that night and come back in the morning to double check.

Due to weather conditions fireworks that launch into the air of any sort will not be allowed on the interior of the island or on the bay side.

Boats

Please check your boat before putting it in the water. To date three boats have completely or near completely sunk on the island this year. The causes have been lost plugs, broken wires, nonfunctioning bulge pumps etc. A few minutes spent checking the boat before using it and a few dollars to replace a pump or some new wiring can save thousands of dollars.

Emergency Access Points to the Beach

This holiday will likely be a busy one, DO NOT block the emergency access point to the beach. This has been a problem this year. Both golf carts as well as tents and chairs must be kept clear of the access, and NO HOLES are to be dug in front of these accesses.

Special Charlotte County Sherriff's Information for the Holiday

CCSO (Charlotte County Sheriff's Office) would like to remind everyone the legal age to operate a golf cart is 14 and it will be enforced due to prior problems.

Hide Away Bay Beach Club does not allow gas power carts and operators are to be 16. If you are passing through their property respect these rules. If you are 14 or 15, please stay on Grand Avenue.

CCSO will have one duty officer as well as one additional special detail officer on island during the holiday. This is in addition to the police protection the LGPOA provides.

Remember

Everyone have a wonderful 4th, be safe and take a minute to remember those who won our independence and those who continue to protect it.



Please feel free to email me at twrhonda@gmail.com with any information you'd like circulated in next month's Coconut Telegraph by the 25th of each month. The content is reviewed by board members for approval.

Rhonda Olson