

# December 2019, Coconut Telegraph

Important Information in this issue you won't want to miss!

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## Recent LGPOA Meeting Update

There will be extra law enforcement protection provided on LGI over the New Year's holiday peak times.

Linda Soderquist has served as our island Environmental Chairperson for many years. Two candidates are being considered for her replacement, we encourage members to volunteer on the [LGPOA.org](http://LGPOA.org) website if you'd like to be involved.

Adequate marina spaces for LGI property owners continue to be the focus of the Planning Committee. Richard Leydon, Jr. is drafting a letter to the county regarding LGI's participation in the public access expansion next to Eldred's.

The board has been in communication with the homeowners on the south end regarding boaters settling on the beach. Paul Holmes mentioned there has been less boaters of late. The board will continue to monitor the situation to encourage the delicate balance between public and private use and the environment.

Regarding the unfinished home on the south end, the owners are working on the home. They have cleaned up the site and put a barrier around it.

The board is aware that the county's five-year plan includes mainland sewer hook up for the entire island. We are monitoring the plans' status and will keep members informed.

Richard Leydon would like to form a committee to evaluate information and gather statistics regarding the ongoing red tide problem. Anyone interested please contact [twrhonda@gmail.com](mailto:twrhonda@gmail.com).

Full minutes from the meeting can be found at [LGPOA.org](http://LGPOA.org).

### **\*Island Wide Garage Sale Results**

We had ten sales at the Island Wide Garage Sale on the Friday after Thanksgiving this year. Sadly, attendance by islanders was down. Hopefully next year will be better!

### **\*Kids Marine and Fishing Clinic Cancelled**

The clinic was cancelled due to red tide in the bay. The organizers are looking at Easter weekend to reschedule. If you or your family has participated in a clinic in the past, please take a minute and jot down your child's experience, I'd love to share them in the next telegraph at [twrhonda@gmail.com](mailto:twrhonda@gmail.com).

### **\*Update on Damaged Navigational Marker**

Richard Leydon Jr., Navigational Chair, called and alerted his contact at Charlotte County of the damaged marker in the bay by Hideaway. It is scheduled for replacement.

### **\*How can you REDUCE Red Tide in our area?**

Islander Barry Hurt has helped create and serves on the science advisory board for a plan to help naturally reduce red tide in Charlotte Harbor Estuary. It's called the ABC Plan, A Billion Clams for a healthier Charlotte Harbor.

Very interesting information and how to donate can be found at [www.clamrestore.com](http://www.clamrestore.com).

Please join the LGPOA in supporting a fellow islander with his passion to reduce red tide in our area.

**\*Who do you call if you find an animal that's hurt?**

The Wildlife Center of Venice will help you if you've found an animal in need at 941-484-9657. If you'd like more information or want to make a donation you can do so at [www.wildlifecenterofvenice.org](http://www.wildlifecenterofvenice.org). And lastly, if you are interested in helping the center with LGI animals please contact [twrhonda@gmail.com](mailto:twrhonda@gmail.com).

**\*All About the Poison That Kills Exotic Trees - new contact information**

Tired of **Brazilian Peppers and Australian Pines** on your property? Element 4, a biodegradable poison that is sprayed on the cut limbs of the plant, is the answer. The park service uses the product to eliminate exotics and LGPOA has purchased Element 4 for our use. You can either spray the poison on the stumps or "skirt" the tree before cutting it down. Skirting is cutting a ring around the base of the trunk and spraying the poison on it while it still stands. The tree will die and be easier to remove.

Contact Jennifer McCullough at [RummysWay@gmail.com](mailto:RummysWay@gmail.com) or call 303-809-0493 to make an appointment. Bring a plastic spray bottle to contain it in. Texting or calling would be best, as Jennifer doesn't check her email very often.

**\*The Osprey Gazette - School Project About Our Island**

Neesa, the editor, is a fifteen year-old islander that's been coming to LGI since she was six. She's working to earn elective credit in her 9th grade year over her family's (fall/winter into early spring) stay on the island. She intends to interview an island resident for each edition, include a featured plant/animal/shell and perhaps a book review (good beach read) plus much more. You can get your copy from plastic holders she's put up on island bulletin boards, at the library or "subscribe" to be on her email list. If you would like to submit contributions, offer

comments or ideas, or be added to her email list, please direct the information to her on email at [theospreygazette@gmail.com](mailto:theospreygazette@gmail.com).

**\*Do you know which LGPOA district are you in?**

- District 1: 8000 – 8288
- District 2: 8292 – 8538, including: 8542, 8550, 8556, 8560, 8564, 8568, 8570, 8576, 8578, 8586
- District 3: 8594 – 8888, including: 8546, 8554, 8558, 8562, 8566, 8574, 8582, 8590, excluding: 8802-8818 (even #'s)
- District 4: 8890 - 9134, including: 8802-8818 (even #'s)
- District 5: 9140 – 9394
- District 6: Hideaway Bay
- District 7: 9420 – 9646, excluding: 9494, 9498, 9502
- District 8: 9660 – 9908, including: 9494, 9498, 9502

**\*New Year's Eve festivities**

Island contractors sponsor the New Year's Eve potluck, lighted golf cart parade and band at the golf cart shop as a thank you to islanders. It is not an LGPOA event. There will be signs on island bulletin boards shortly with more details or you can call the participating contractors for more information.

**\*Environmental**

Water Quality Volunteers Found!

Two volunteers stepped up to replace Linda Soderquist of her Water Quality duties. They will begin training in 2020 for this important job.

Turtle Permit Update

Laura Dallas and her family won't be holding the permit in 2020. Please extend a huge thank you to them for all their hours of work collecting data, organizing schedules and preserving and encouraging education about our precious turtles and turtle nests. Islanders are completing the steps necessary to acquire the permit for Little Gasparilla Island for 2020.

**\*Little Gasparilla Island Fire and Rescue (LGIFR)** (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:

With winter residents returning, I would again like to offer to help with burning yard debris to anyone who wants help.

A reminder to everyone if you are going to use your grill or fry a turkey, please do not do so under the house. And if frying a turkey, make sure it is completely thawed and dry before you place it in the grease.

On two separate occasions over the past couple of weeks there has been furniture and household garbage burned. **DO NOT BURN ANYTHING EXCEPT WOOD OR YARD DEBRIS.** Continuing to do this will cause county and state officials to stop all burning on the island. LGIFR has been contacted again by Florida Division of Forestry warning of instating a complete and permanent burn ban for LGI due to calls they've received.

The beach has changed with recent weather, be cautious of old pilings, pipes and other items sticking out of the sand and hidden just below the surface of the water.

LGIFR would like to thank everyone who took time to help with moving the fire station and all the equipment. We would not have been able to do it without all of you!

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Please feel free to email me at [twrhonda@gmail.com](mailto:twrhonda@gmail.com) with any information you'd like circulated in the next month's Coconut Telegraph by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month. Content is reviewed by board members for approval.

Happy Holidays to all!

Rhonda Olson