

### A WINTER WONDERLAND ON WHALE HARBOR



The Sablich Family on Whale Harbor Lane always goes all out with their fabulous Christmas display. This year's was the biggest and best yet. And they supported a very worthy cause, too. See the article and picture inside this issue.



Lots of fun

#### AND THEY HIT THE BIG TIME

CBS 4 Weatherman Craig Setzer broadcasts live from out front.





The crowd was huge every night

#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

City Election Info - March Waterway Cleanup - February General Meeting: The Candidates will be there

#### **AGENDA**



LICIA General Meeting Thursday, Feb 15th, 7:00pm Abiding Savior Church 1900 SW 35th Avenue

- Pre-meeting: Sign In & Dues Payment
- 1. Opening Statement (President)
- 2. Opening Statement: (Vice President)
- 3. FLPD Report
- 4. Code Enforcement Report
- 5. Candidates Forum/Debate \*
  - -Dean Trantalis, Mayoral Candidate
  - Ben Sorensen, Commissioner Candidate
  - Warren Sturman, Commissioner Candidate
- 9. Old Business:
  - Airport Noise Committee
  - New River Preservation Committee
  - LIWMD Report
- 7. Drawing Members in Good Standing only
- 8. Adjournment
- \*Mayoral Candidate Bruce Roberts was invited, but was unable to attend this meeting

Note: Previous meetings minutes and treasurer's reports are are approved at the monthly Board of Directors Meetings.

General Meetings are held four times per year, on the third Thursday of the months of February, May, August, and November Regarding LICIA Meetings: - Audio recordings of all meetings are made for the purpose of creating minutes. All attendees at LICIA General Meetings must sign in at the front desk. Effective February, 2018, all General Meetings are now held at Abiding Savior Church. Board of Directors /Committee meetings are held at Abiding Savior Church.

#### From the Editor's Desk

By Geoff Rames

- Electronic Version: There is always an e-copy of the newsletter, including past editions, available on our website www.ourlicia.com
- Thanks to the contributors to this issue: Audrey Edwards, Bob Franks, Dick Cahoon, Carol Sablich, Susan Sheridan Garlitts
- Treasurer's Reports and previous meetings minutes should be available soon at www.ourlicia.com, as soon as a couple of technical issues are resolved.
- Many thanks to our advertisers, including the mayoral and commission candidates, who have supported this newsletter with their paid advertising.

# PLEASE NOTE - FEBRUARY 15 GENERAL MEETING LOCATION: ABIDING SAVIOR CHURCH 1900 SW 35th AVENUE



It's that time of the year

### Association dues are due

Our fiscal year runs from November through October. With the new fiscal year comes the need for all members to contribute their annual dues of \$20. Your contribution helps LICIA in our efforts to improve and protect our neighborhood. Why not take a minute right now to write a check and mail it to our PO Box. Plus, by paying your dues, you'll be a **Member in Good Standing**, meaning you may serve on LICIA Committees & you can vote in the November Election.

To mail your dues, use the handy coupon found later in this newsletter

You may also pay your dues at the General Meeting

LICIA encourages you to submit articles for the newsletter. Letters & articles may be submitted by email to: <a href="mailto:grames.licia@gmail.com">grames.licia@gmail.com</a>

All submitted materials will become the property of the association and may be printed in this newsletter or reprinted by any other interested publication. Deadline for submission: 25th of month prior to publication. Lauderdale Isles Civic Improvement Association, Inc., PO Box 121255, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312

DERDALE ISLES LAUDERDALE

Adve	rtising Rates:	Our newsletter is published	quarterly
	One Time	Half Year	<u>Full</u>
Year			
Full Page	\$100	\$190	\$360
Half Page	75	142.50	270
Qtr Page	50	95	180
Bus. Card	25	50	100
		Year Full Page \$100 Half Page 75	Year       Full Page     \$100     \$190       Half Page     75     142.50

Make checks payable to LICIA & send to our PO Box address prior to publication. The deadline for submission is the 25th of the month prior to publication. Newsletter is published quarterly in Feb, May, Aug, & Nov. Must be paid in full to receive discount. Ad must be ready-to-go as jpg or pdf. All ads must be acceptable to LICIA. Members in good standing (paid dues) are allowed a free, two-line ad per person for personal property, subject to space availability.

#### **Vice President's Corner**



**Bob Franks** 

Old school boating meets today's technology. While nothing beats good boating skills and making good decisions, we now have some good

technology in our palms to assist.

Going back in time, boating navigation was based on dead reckoning using a compass, a watch, and a sextant. Today, along with the plethora of marine navigational instruments, we have our smart phone. A smart mariner will use whatever tools are available to make smart decisions, based on good information.

I always have my smart phone up and running when I am planning a trip and navigating the ICW or offshore. First, go to "Windy" app, and check the weather. What are the wind and sea conditions? This app shows predicted weather seven days out, so do I go boating on Saturday or Sunday? How about current wind and rain? Go to "My Radar" app and see the weather real time. Want to know what the tides are? Go to "Tides Near Me" app.

Want to have a good navigational charting program with free NOAA charts, get the "MX Mariner" app. This program will allow you to have navigation charts for the whole USA. Very useful when your boat GPS is not working well. Also good at night around the "triangle" where the New River meets the

ICW, to determine, what side of the day markers you should be on.

You are offshore and see a large ship or yacht coming toward you, but you don't know the name of the ship to call. No sweat, use the "Marine Traffic" app to identify the ship and call him on Channel 16,13,14. This will make your outing much more pleasurable. This app will also tell you many details about the ship/yacht. I also use this in the ICW to identify yachts, and see who is coming up or down the river at any given time.

Want to know about ship traffic in and out of Port Everglades? Go to: <a href="https://pevvesseltraffic.broward.org/webx/">https://pevvesseltraffic.broward.org/webx/</a>. This will show departure and arrival time of ships in Port Everglades.

One app promised by Brightline is to see when the railroad bridge near Andrews Avenue will be opened/closed. Nobody likes to get stuck near the Jungle Queen. This app is not available yet, but will find a place on my phone when it comes out.

Nothing beats old school navigational skills, but I sure like having all of this information in the palm of my hand.

Fair winds and following seas. Capt. Bob



IF YOU SEE ME, REPORT ME: 1-866-392-4286



# THE FEBRUARY 15 LICIA GENERAL MEETING CANDIDATES FORUM

As you know, the January Primary Election resulted in March runoff elections for Mayor and District IV Commissioner. We have invited the remaining candidates back for one more time, as this election is the most important one in Fort Laudedale in over nine years. We have heard about failing infrastructure, over-development, the WAVE streetcar boundoggle, and bursting sewer pipes. But closer to home, our two critical issues are Airport Noise and Short Term Vacation Rentals. Some of the candidates have done their homework on these issues, and some have not. At this meeting, they're going to be asked tough questions so you know how they stand on the matters that affect you.

Have a question for the candidates? To keep the meeting moving along and to prevent repetitive questions, if you would like to ask a question of a candidate, please send that question to LICIA President Audrey Edwards, at ttbnatb@aol.com. We will not announce the name of the person who posed the question (unless you want us to). Questions should be submitted to Audrey no later than Monday, Feb 12th.

The meeting will also feature a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate to Flanigan's - for Members in Good Standing only.

This will be another great meeting, don't miss it!

## Mayoral Candidates **DEAN TRANTALIS**

**Dean won 46.3% of the primary vote**He will be at our meeting

#### **BRUCE ROBERTS**

Bruce won 31.3% of the primary vote

Just before press time, Bruce advised he will not be

attending our meeting

## District IV Commissioner Candidates BEN SORENSEN

**Ben won 42.1% of the primary vote**He will be at our meeting

#### **WARREN STURMAN**

Warren won 31.1% of the primary vote
He will be at our meeting

#### WE HAVE HAD MANY REQUESTS TO REPRINT THIS ARTICLE FROM THE MAY 2017 ISSUE

# CODE ENFORCEMENT: DOCKS

To rent or not to rent, that is the question...



W.S.

You've just got to love Nextdoor:

- "It's OK to rent out your dock in Lauderdale Isles."
- "You can't rent your dock in Lauderdale Isles"
- "Dock for rent in Lauderdale Isles"

If you attended the LICIA General Meeting in Feb. 2017, you enjoyed an informative presentation by staff from the City's Code Compliance Department. And quoting Dick Eaton, Code Compliance Manager from that meeting: "It is illegal to rent your dock in Lauderdale Isles."

That's it - the end to this question once and for all. There are only two neighborhoods in the City where the renting of residential docks is permitted. Both of these neighborhoods are in the far east part of Fort Lauderdale.



"My neighbor, who rents his dock, said it's OK to rent your dock because we were annexed into the City." Wrong. When we were in unincorporated Broward County, prior to annexation in 2002, it was illegal to rent your dock then, too.

"My real estate agent friend told me it's legal to rent your dock in Lauderdale Isles." Wrong. Ask Code Enforcement, not your Real Estate Agent friend.

"It's legal to rent your dock in Lauderdale Isles as long

as you get a business license from the City." Wrong. The City will not issue a business license for dock rentals.

Besides being illegal, there are some other considerations about renting your dock. Attorney Marc Ecolin, in his articles in the Waterfront Times, has addressed this subject several times:

- If the person renting your dock stops paying you: "Once the truth comes out in court, the transaction is found to be unenforceable since it was never permitted in the first place...." "Hold on, I've heard stories of dock owners using some Florida statute that didn't require them to go to court and they were able to sell the boat.'... A careful reading of these statutes will show that they are designed for use by licensed boat yards and dock facilities with all permits in place and not for enforcing an otherwise unenforceable contract" (Marc Ercolin, Waterfront Times, June 2016)
- "Insurance is another issue to consider. As you might guess, a standard homeowners policy might not actually cover many of the pitfalls and liabilities incurred from running a backyard marina. The situation becomes even more difficult if your area isn't zoned to allow dock rentals. Even in the best of circumstances where the policy in the past might have covered a situation, it might not do so in the future should your carrier find out about your "under the radar" dock rental business. (Marc Ercolin, Waterfront Times, Dec. 2014.)
- "...if the craft is abandoned at the dock, the homeowner has no enforceable contract allowing for removal without possibility facing many legal and civil liabilities. This can prove in the end very unprofitable." (Marc Ercolin, Dec. 2014).

We are not giving legal advice in this article. We are merely quoting what Code Enforcement and a well known attorney/ author have stated.



Fort Lauderdale City Commission
District IV

### Vision for Fort Lauderdale

- Say 'NO' to Development that will Hurt Our Neighborhoods and Quality of Life
- Invest in Sewer and Stormwater Systems
- Build Partnerships with Neighborhoods & Police to Keep Ft. Lauderdale Safe
- Improve Traffic Light Synchronization to Ease Traffic
- Lead City and Regional Efforts on Sea Level Rise

## **Military Service**

- Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Reserve since 2008
- Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal

## **Community Involvement**

- Fort Lauderdale Police Dept. Volunteer Chaplain
- United Way of Broward Mission United Founding Member
- Leadership Broward Foundation Board of Directors
- Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors
- Broward County Human Rights Board Member
- Guardian Ad Litem First Responder

## Professional/Personal Life

- Co-Founder/Vice-President Optimum Associates, LLC
- J.D. Georgetown University Law Center
- Doctor of Ministry Amridge University
- Married to Anna Sorensen, works in the Arts
- Proud parents of Alexandra and Louise



#### President's Message

By Audrey Edwards

Hello neighbors!

First of all, a huge *thank you* to Dirk Lowry and Geoff Rames for all their hard work as President and Vice President over the past several years. As the new President of the Lauderdale Isles Civic Improvement Association, let me say it is an honor to serve, and an awesome responsibility. Dirk and Geoff have left some really big shoes to fill.

Going into this, there is a bit of a learning curve. What is becoming more apparent is the strength and depth of involvement by members of our neighborhood in a variety of issues. Some of you are aware of the issues I have been working on, including the Riverland Preservation Society involved in stopping development (around the bend of Riverland Road). We were successful and now this property will be a local park. As of January 1st, 2018, the property now belongs to the City.

Another working group, the LICIA New River Preservation Committee, successfully fought the property on the south side of the river from being rezoned to commercial marine by the Town of Davie.

Most of you are aware of the depth of work by Angelina Pluzhnyk and the Airport Noise Committee. This is an ongoing battle that needs each and everyone's support.

There has been a long history of support of our neighborhood by the Lauderdale Isles Water Management District (LIWMD). Geoff Rames and Ken Stauch have been hard at work to improve and protect the waterways of Lauderdale Isles. The LIWMD has sponsored September Waterway Cleanups attended by many Lauderdale Isles neighbors. A good family day on the water. This is a great event that also gets kids involved in stewardship of our environment.

Geoff, Dirk, and some other neighbors have been instrumental in putting the spotlight on our neighborhood with local elected and yet to be elected officials. The run-off candidates for next City election will be present at our next General Meeting on February 15th, at the Abiding Savior Church, 1900 NW35th Ave., and it should be very enlightening. Note that for our May General Meeting we have invited our State Senator Lauren Book and State Representative Evan Jenne to attend.

What's pretty amazing to me is that when an issue arises concerning our neighborhood, we pull together and circle the wagons.

The Lauderdale Isles Civic Improvement Association serves a lot of functions that many people may not be aware of. There is a monthly meeting of the Board of Directors, which is composed of the Lane Reps, along with the LICIA President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President, Committee Chairpersons, our Code Enforcement Officer and an police officer (to give us a report from the FLPD, not because we get too unruly). Other issues are discussed, with resolutions of how to address these issues.

On a monthly basis we are in direct contact with local officials. Various neighbors also attend a variety of other meetings with the City of Fort Lauderdale and Broward County that affect our neighborhood. What is very, very, important here is that our neighborhood has a strong link with the folks in the city and county who makes decisions concerning our neighborhood and community. We have a voice, and the folks in the city listen. As a two way street, we have to listen too, and understand how we can be effective in communicating our concerns with the government entities.

The success we have had with the LICIA is based on the efforts of our neighbors. The lane reps have been instrumental in many of the behind the scenes activities. Please thank your lane reps for everything they do, and taking the time to support our neighborhood. The duties performed by the secretary and treasurer are much appreciated.

What can you do? Support the LICIA by paying the annual dues. If you have a local business you want to promote, buy an ad in our LICIA newsletter. Have time to attend a public city or county meeting,? Please do so. Do you have a particular concern or interest? Establish a working committee to address it. Volunteer to help out at the next MIASF Waterway Cleanup on March 3rd. The success of the LICIA and our neighborhood depends on the efforts of all our neighbors.

Hey, we live in a great neighborhood. I could not be more proud to represent you. The biggest bonus is meeting some really good people. Let's kick off the new year and tackle this year's challenges head on.

Thanks for your support!

#### THE TRANSFER OF POWER

At the December 15th Board of Directors Meeting, outgoing President Dirk Lowry transfers the power of LICIA to incoming President Audrey Edwards. Dirk served as President of LICIA for eight years, the longest term in the history of the Association.



#### LIWMD UPDATE

#### Trees Still in The Water After Hurricane Irma

As we reported in the November newsletter, there are six large trees that fell in Lauderdale Isles waterways due to Hurricane Irma. Technically, the homeowner is responsible for removal of those trees, but we know that's not going to happen. The latest word from the City on the removal of these trees is that they are still going through the process required by FEMA to obtain money to pay for removal of trees in waterways all over the City. FEMA now requires that the City obtains denials from other agencies who could pay for the tree removal and mitigation. Once all these denials are obtained, then FEMA will step up and pay for removal of the trees. In other words, once nobody else will take care of it, FEMA will. The holdup here is obtaining these denials. We are told that this is quite different from the way FEMA operated in the past, when it seemed like their coffers were loaded with money for anything storm-related. Of course with three major hurricanes in the past season, those coffers have probably run pretty dry.

Since it's still going to be months before the trees are removed from our neighborhood's waterways, these trees will probably slowly sink as they deteriorate. Keep a sharp eye out when boating. We will continue to follow this issue with the City. We understand there have been instances of homeowners (not in Lauderdale Isles) who have purposely allowed trees to "fall" into City waterways. Code Enforcement is handling those cases.

#### Blue Crab Testing

Due to the Hurricane, and now cold weather, the Blue Crab testing we discussed in our last update has been postponed. We hope to get the project started with the County's lab when things warm up.



#### **Brown Water**

You may recall the messy "brown water" incident that occurred October 23 –25. The Tindall Hammock Soil & Conservation District pumps located north of 595 in Davie were found to be the cause of this incident. The agents at Broward County Environmental Enforcement tell us that the State Department of Environmental Protection is handling this case now. As of press time, DEP was scheduled to meet with Tindall Hammock, and warnings and possibly fines will be levied. The County staff did a great job on this case. They also stress that if you see it happening again, call their 24 hour Environmental Complaint Number, 954-519-1499 right away. Their inspectors will immediately respond 24/7. (For other waterway issue numbers to call, see the back cover of this newsletter).

#### Manatees

The "Mermaids" are back, and have been spotted in many of our canals. Neighbors have posted great pictures of them on Nextdoor. Please note that according to the FWC, it is illegal to feed, harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, annoy or molest manatees. It is also illegal to give them fresh water from your garden hose.

The Broward County Manatee Program now has an app you can use to report manatee sightings, called "I Spy a Manatee." Fun especially for the kids, it lets you submit location, time, and details about any manatees you see, along with a picture right from your phone. Next time you see the Mermaids in your canal, try the app. It's easy to use.

Geoff Rames & Ken Stauch

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# Calling All Lauderdale Isles Neighbors

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, March 3rd, 2018 **41st Annual Waterway Cleanup** 



Here's your chance to step up to help keep our waterways clean and healthy. LOCATION- RIVERLAND WOODS PARK BOAT RAMP

Hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm

NOTE LOGATION Free refreshments: Coffee, breakfast treats available prior to start of Cleanup Free bottled water & soda — Free Waterway Cleanup T-shirts for all participants Community Service Hour Certificates for students: pre-register at waterwaycleanup.org Marine Gift Packs for all participating Lauderdale Isles boat owners, compliments of LIWMD Plus free admission to the Trash Bash, the official after party of the 41st Annual Waterway Cleanup featuring food, drink, door prizes, and live music

You do not need a boat to participate: lots of help is needed onshore

For more info: www.waterwaycleanup.org

#### **PRIZES PRIZES PRIZES**

for the most "unique" trash brought in, compliments of LIWMD

Look at some of the really neat things that participants found in past years:









Of course, you may keep anything you find!

#### **OUR SITE IS SUPPORTED BY:**







RIVERLAND WOODS PARK BOAT RAMP



# **DEAN TRANTALIS**

The People Deserve A Mayor Who Gets Things Done.

# RUNOFF ELECTION MARCH 13







Dean Trantalis is Championing

# THE PEOPLE'S PRIORITIES:

- Dean will protect our neighborhoods and quality of life
- Dean opposes overdevelopment in favor of sensible growth
- Dean wants real traffic solutions that make streets safe and less congested
- Dean will cancel the Wave streetcar
- Dean will make fixing our broken infrastructure his top priority
- Dean supports humane solutions to homelessness
- Dean will protect our key industries and fight for more high-earning jobs
- Dean will return Fort Lauderdale to community policing so our streets and homes are safe

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SunSentinel

## DEAN TRANTALIS "BEST CHOICE" FOR FORT LAUDERDALE MAYOR

"He demonstrated the kind of leadership and financial acuity we expect in a mayor. [...] We believe Dean Trantalis has the experience, smarts and temperament to [...] build a stronger, more vibrant city."

SUN-SENTINEL | 1/12/18



#### The Public Workshops

The neighbors of Lauderdale Isles finally had a chance to interact with the consulting firm that is conducting the Part 150 Aircraft Noise Study at the Public Workshops conducted in mid-November. We have reviewed the sign-in sheets for all the workshops, and there was a great turnout from Lauderdale Isles, larger than any other neighborhood in Broward County. Attendees were able to learn about all the aspects of the Study, and most importantly were able to fill out comment forms to let the consultant and the FAA know exactly how airport noise has severely affected the quality of life in this neighborhood.

The image below is a picture of the participation map for the five workshops. As attendees recall, after signing in at the meeting, you were given a color dot to place on this map to indicate where you lived. Different colors indicated different nights for the

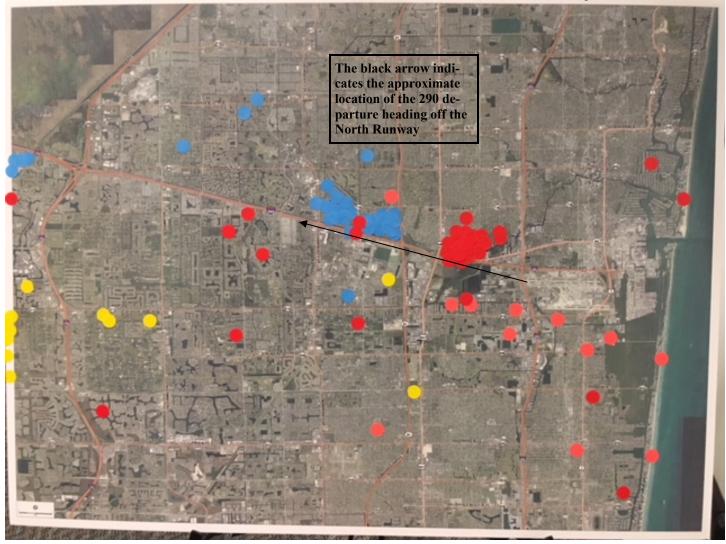
# AIRPORT NOISE The Part 150 Study: Public Workshops Participation in November

workshop. It's not hard to tell that the biggest group of red dots were from November 16th at the Signature Grand when Lauderdale Isles neighbors were there.

But also look at the two concentrated groups of blue dots. Those were the attendees from Plantation on November 15th. Those two Plantation neighborhoods are right under the same departure heading during west winds that we experience in Lauderdale Isles, the 290 heading.

As evidenced by this participation map, there is no question what parts of Broward County have the worst airport noise. The LICIA Airport Noise Committee thanks every neighbor who attended this important event at the Signature Grand on November 16. We will keep you posted as the Study continues.

The LICIA Airport Noise Committee



To learn more about the Part 150 study, or to fill out a comment form for the study, go to: www.fllpart150.com

#### Winter Wonderland on Whale Harbor

# **Lights and Leashes - Ft. Lauderdale Family Raises Funds for Dogs**

By Beverly Perkins

Seven years ago, the Sablich Family moved into their Ft. Lauderdale home. During the holidays they put up the typical outdoor decorations; a few inflatables and lights. But each year that passed they kept adding more and more, and the festivities grew and grew.

Fast forward to this past Christmas where neighbors left their homes after Thanksgiving dinner for the annual lighting ceremony. They witnessed the glow of 25,000 holiday lights, saw dozens of holiday-themed items including handmade crafts, animated figures, checked out Santa's workshop, and even experienced a snowfall every few minutes.

The South Florida Winter Wonderland had a special visit from Santa, and a snow pit for the little ones to play in. Their home is also the designated mail drop to send letters to the North Pole. Children came ready with their letters right after eating their holiday turkey.

"We get such joy in seeing the faces of those who visit our display, young and old alike. Over the years we have had such positive feedback and have met so many great people. There is nothing more special than seeing a child's face light up and watch them dance around the driveway, catching snowflakes," said Carol Sablich. "This is the driving force that keeps us going year after year. "It is such a blessing to spread holiday cheer and provide moments of happiness to everyone who visits."

During the year they were introduced to a pet rescue organization while searching for a furry four-legged friend to add to their family. They ended up adopting three dogs, and wished they

could adopt more. So, they decided the next best thing was to not just make their holiday presentation festive, but charitable as well. A partnership was created and 100% of the proceeds collected was donated to 100 Plus Abandoned Dogs of Everglades Florida.

"We want to raise awareness for the organization and collect donations to help them continue to expand their mission of saving abandoned animals in South Florida," added Lisa Sablich. "We want to continue to save the four-legged friends who give unconditional love and help keep the spirit of the holidays alive year-round."

Since the organization's inception, more than 3,700 abandoned, abused, and neglected dogs (and approximately 90 cats) have been saved, and found their forever loving homes.

For more Information on 100 Plus Abandoned Dogs of Everglades Florlda, please visit:

100 plusabando neddogsof everglades florlda.org.

This article originally appeared in **Fort Lauderdale** magazine. Reprinted with permission.



Kids enjoying the snow pit.



# A Proven Record of Results

- ★Warren Sturman was endorsed by the Sun-Sentinel Editorial Board for "experience his competitors can't match."
- ★ Dr. Sturman is president of his neighborhood association for more than a decade.
- ★ Warren Sturman will ensure Fort Lauderdale residents have a seat at the table.
- ★ Warren is the only candidate who stood up for residents and publicly opposed overdevelopment of our beaches and downtown.
- ★ Warren was a member of the the 17th Street Mobility Advisory board and will work to reduce gridlock and lower traffic congestion
- ★ Sturman expanded parks & green-space within our neighborhoods & community.
- ★ He implemented plan to increase disaster preparedness for our neighborhoods.

# Sturman

Fort Lauderdale
City Commission District 4

ELECTION DAY
TUESDAY, MARCH 13



# **SunSentinel**

"Sturman's background running a local medical practice, leading community groups, serving on city advisory boards and volunteering with first responders is experience his competitors can't match."

This is a critical election for our city and our neighborhoods. I hope I can count on your vote on March 13!

#### **CLUB 55+**

The City of Fort Lauderdale has a program that encourages active adults to enjoy endless opportunities at 11 City parks for a discounted annual membership rate of only \$55 for residents and non-residents. Please contact any location for more information. Several neighbors from Lauderdale Isles belong to this program and love it.

Go to <u>www.fortlauderdale.gov/club55</u> and scroll down to the calendar icon to see this month's recurring activities at the parks that include:

Bocce | Board Games | Book Clubs | Cultural Experiences | Drum Circle | Fitness | Golf Health Lectures | Keenagers | Line Dance | Mahjongg Open Play | Nature Walks | Outings Party | Bridge Open Play | PICKLE-BALL | Quilting | Recreational Activities | Social Club | Wellness Programs | Volunteer Opportunities | Yoga | AND MORE!





Ballroom dancing is one of the very popular activities

Learn to play Pickleball

Additional Special Events are held monthly and have included free tickets and transportation to such sites and events as Bonnet House, Flamingo Gardens, Stranahan House, a Miami Heat game, a Miami Marlins game, holiday lunches, pickleball tournaments, golf, disk golf, air boat rides, etc.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION (954) 828-7275 (PARK)** 



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#### District IV Commissioner Romney Rogers



<u>Upcoming General Election</u> – The top two vote-getters in our Jan. 16 Primary Election were **Dr. Ben Sorensen** and **Dr. Warren Sturman**. Because neither candidate reached the threshold of 50% + 1 votes to avoid a run-off, the General Election will be held on **Tuesday, March 13, 2018,** for the District IV Commission seat.

I would personally like to thank our 4,734 neighbors in District IV who submitted Vote-by-Mail ballots or who took the time to go to the polls. According to the Broward County Supervisor of Elections Office (www.BrowardSOE.org), there are 120,477 registered voters in the City of Fort Lauderdale, and 16,989 ballots were cast citywide in the Primary. This represents a voter turnout of 14.1%. However, we can do better! Please make sure to vote again and ask your neighbors, family, and friends to do the

same. If you don't vote, you are missing an opportunity to let your voice be heard!

In addition to voting for the next District IV Commissioner on March 13, eligible District IV voters will be able to cast their ballots for Mayor. Mayoral candidates are Vice Mayor/District I Commissioner Bruce Roberts and District II Commissioner Dean Trantalis. The District II seat will also be decided in the run-off between Steven Glassman and former City Commissioner Tim Smith. District III Commissioner Robert McKinzie was reelected on Jan. 16, and Heather Moraitis, District I Commissioner-elect, ran unopposed. The new City Commission will be sworn in on Tuesday, March 20, at 11 AM at Fort Lauderdale City Hall.

<u>Vacation Rental Legislation</u> – There are three different versions of the vacation rental regulation filed in this Florida Legislative Session. State Senator Greg Steube (R-Sarasota) and State Representative Mike La Rosa (R-St. Cloud) have filed SB 1400 and HB 773, respectively, which aim to protect private property rights of vacation rental owners, who feel they have been unfairly targeted by a growing number of local regulations. More moderate proposals have been filed by State Senator Simmons (R-Longwood) and State Representative Stevenson (R-St. Augustine), who have filed SB 1640 and HB 789, respectively.

A proposed committee substitute combining elements of the two Senate bills (SB 1400 and SB 1640) was heard by the Senate Committee on Community Affairs on Tuesday, Jan. 30. The link to the amendment is <a href="http://flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2018/1400/Amendment/660498/PDF">http://flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2018/1400/Amendment/660498/PDF</a>. The House bill, HB 773, was not heard during week three of the session.

Working with City staff, our Tallahassee lobbyists have made this issue a priority, at the direction of City Attorney Cynthia Everett. For details, to find contact information for your representatives in the Florida Legislature, or to track the bills, visit <a href="https://www.myfloridahouse.gov">www.myfloridahouse.gov</a> and <a href="https://www.myfloridahouse.gov">www.flsenate.gov</a>. Our Commission is unanimously in favor of maintaining local control over this issue.

<u>SE 17<sup>th</sup> Street Mobility Working Group</u> – At our fourth meeting on Nov. 27, 2017, we discussed the top priority, "Enforce truck routing to the Port using Eller Drive." I strongly recommended that the City continue to pursue a citywide truck routing ordinance to help implement this idea. At the Jan. 29, 2018, Working Group meeting, the #2 Priority, "Institute special event signal timing plans for events at the Convention Center and for high cruise days at the Port," was examined, and we heard FDOT's presentation, "Special Event Signal Timing Plans." The next meeting will be held on Feb. 26 from 10 AM to Noon in the 8<sup>th</sup> Floor cafeteria at City Hall. The #3 Priority Recommendation, "Evaluate establishing a southern parallel street to SE 17<sup>th</sup> Street," will be the main topic under consideration.

<u>Stormwater Master Plan Meetings</u> – After my Pre-Agenda Meeting on Monday, March 5, which will be my last Pre-Agenda Meeting before my term ends on March 20, 2018, City staff will convene another Stormwater Master Plan Meeting for the Harbordale, Lauderdale Harbors, and Rio Vista neighborhoods, together with the Southeast Isles of District II. The meeting will be held at City Hall in the 8<sup>th</sup> Floor cafeteria at 7 PM.

The next Stormwater Master Plan Meeting for the River Oaks and Edgewood neighborhoods will take place on Thursday, March 15, at 6:30 PM at the First Church of the Nazarene, 2300 SW 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

<u>Staff Transitions</u> – As of Jan. 28, our District 3 Commander, Captain Michael Dodson, assumed Major Victor London's role as Executive Officer in the Office of the Chief of Police. Major London has transferred to Internal Affairs. Our new District 3 Commander is Captain Robert Dietrich, and for the barrier island area of Commission District IV, Captain Reggie Gillis is now the District Commander.

#### For Your Calendar -

- Neighbor Support Night is set for Thursday, Feb. 15, 2018, from 5:30 to 8 PM in the City Hall Parking Garage.
- My City Hall Office Hours are Mondays from 4 5:30 PM and Tuesdays from 9 AM Noon (in non-Commission weeks). To schedule a meeting or sign up to receive this newsletter and other information about what's going on in the City, contactMJ Matthews at 954-828-5028 or mmatthews@fortlauderdale.gov.

#### JANUARY PRIMARY ELECTION STATISTICS FOR LAUDERDALE ISLES

Although the City-wide results for January's primary election were widely published, you might not have seen the results just for Lauderdale Isles (Precinct 068). So for comparison, here are the results for both CITY-WIDE and LAUDERDALE ISLES. (We show the number of votes for each race, and the percentage of the total votes cast.)

#### Mayoral Race

**Mayoral Race: CITY-WIDE** 

 Dean Trantalis
 7805
 46.3%

 Bruce Roberts
 5270
 31.3%

 Charlotte Rodstrom 3789
 22.5%

**Mayoral Race: LAUDERDALE ISLES (Pct 068)** 

Charlotte Rodstrom 142 56.1% Dean Trantalis 72 28.5% Bruce Roberts 39 15.4%

#### **District IV Commission Race**

**District IV Commission Race DISTRICT-WIDE** 

 Ben Sorensen
 1995
 42.1%

 Warran Sturman
 1474
 31.1%

 Walter Duke
 1265
 26.7%

District IV Commission Race LAUDERDALE ISLES (Pct 068)

 Walter Duke
 114
 45.1%

 Ben Sorensen
 81
 32.0%

 Warren Sturman
 58
 22.9%

#### **HERE'S ANOTHER VERY INTERESTING STATISTIC:**

Voter turnout, CITY-WIDE = 14.1% of all registered voters

Voter turnout, LAUDERDALE ISLES = 20.7% of all registered voters (253 out of 1224 registered voters).

To the 253 neighbors who participated in the election: THANKS FOR VOTING!

To the 971 neighbors who didn't participate: WHERE WERE YOU?



# THE CODE CORNER Short Term Vacation Rentals

We requested a report from Code Enforcement (now known as Community Enhancement) on the short term vacation rentals in Lauderdale Isles. Here is the report we received January 23rd:

## There are currently 14 known properties that are or have been vacation rentals.

Of the 14, there are **four** registered properties:\*

2401 Andros Lane

2412 Gulfstream Lane

2442 Bimini Lane

2455 Key Largo Lane

Two have withdrawn:

2430 Bimini Lane

2554 Key Largo Lane

**One** is pending the application and payment for renewal:

2630 Marathon Lane

**Four** properties have been investigated and listings removed:

2436 Okeechobee Lane

2530 Kev Largo Lane

2554 Tortugas Lane

2518 Whale Harbor Lane

Two properties have open cases:

2413 Nassau Lane (CE17061690)

2455 Nassau Lane (CE17051373) – (Case Complied)

And **One** is a new discovery:

2530 Andros Lane

\*"Registered" means a property that is approved by the City as a short term vacation rental

Questions or to report violations: 954-828-5207

#### **REAL ESTATE UPDATE**

Susan Sheridan Garlitts, MBA RE/MAX Consultants Realty I Direct 954-295-6987

#### Lauderdale Isles MLS Sales Activity

 2017
 vs.
 2016

 35 - Closed Sales
 44 - Closed Sales

 6 - Pending Sales
 7 - Pending Sales

 17 - Active Listings
 14 - Active Listings

 2 - Short Sales
 2 - Short Sale

 3 - Foreclosures
 3 - Foreclosures

#### 2017 Closed Sales Ranges:

Waterfront - Sold Property ranged \$285K-\$730K

**Dry Lot** - Sold Property ranged \$220K-\$352K

Rental Homes – Rental ranged \$1,850-\$3,800 mo.

Interest Rates are still very low depending on your personal credit worthiness including debt ratios.

\*The Insurance Company's Underwriting requirements are proving to be the biggest challenge. Citizen's Property Insurance requires that shingle roofs have a permit on file within 25 years. While, Universal Property & Casualty Insurance requires a recorded permit to be within 20 years to insure. (\*With a minimum roof life of 3-5 years left)

Remember the key to selling your house for the best possible price is to make sure your 4-point & wind mitigation reports are current and up to date. Providing the reports to the Buyer in advance can save all parties time and money.

### THE REFRIGERATOR LIST

954-812-0799

954-224-8984

Updated Feb. 2018

#### **LICIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017-18**

#### **Executive Board**

President:

Andros

	email: ttbnatb@aol.com		
Vice-President	Bob Franks	954-816-4826	
Secretary:	Dawn Hanna	954-873-1925	

Audrey Edwards

Treasurer: Jeannie Lewis 954-401-0750

**Board of Directors** Bill Gray

Patrice Del Grosso Bimini 954-792-1865 Dick Cahoon Cat Cay 954-881-5899 Duck Key Ryan St. George 954-668-8244 Flamingo Open Gulfstream Geoff Rames 954-327-9095 Key Largo Jackie Zumwalt 954-330-5621 Marathon Gina Garcia 305-710-1214 Nassau Allistair DeVerteuil 954-370-8833 Okeechobee Dan Hughes 410-419-9979 Sugarloaf Eva Santiago Reed 954-648-5805 Tortugas Judy Seiler 954-583-5087 Whale Harbor **Bud Bracey** 954-797-6706

Editor:: Geoff Rames 954-327-9095

Email: grames.licia@gmail.com

Abby Hodder: info@ourlicia.com Webmaster:

#### HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Fort Lauderdale Police Non-Emergency	954-764-HELP
Fort Lauderdale Customer Svc. (24 hrs)  including Water/Sewer/Trash/Canal Cleaning	954-828-8000
Airport Noise Complaints *	866-822-7910*
City Hall	954-828-5004
Building Department	954-828-5191
Code Enforcement	954-828-5207
Commissioner Romney Rogers	954-828-5028
Animal Control (Broward County)	954-359-1313
Broward County Mass Transit	954-357-8400
Comcast Good luck!	800-266-2278
Nuisance Alligators: FWC	866-392-4286
Crimestoppers	954-493-TIPS
Mosquito Control (Broward County)	954-765-4062
FPL Power Outages	800-4OUTAGE

<sup>\*</sup> Airport Noise Complaints should be filed using the new app.



#### **WATERWAY ISSUES - Who to call:**

Alligators ( & Crocodiles) Problems

FWC Nuisance Alligators: 1-866-FWC-GATOR

-Pollution/ Oil Spills within the City of Fort Lauderdale: 7:30 –5:00 Ft. Laud. Customer Service:954-828-8000

Evenings/Weekends: FLPD 954-764-HELP

- **-Pollution Complaints** outside the City of Ft. Lauderdale: County Environmental 24 hrs: 954-519-1499
- Large Debris/Dead Animals in the water: Ft. Laud. Customer Service 954-828-8000

-Injured Manatees

FWC: 1-888-404-FWCC

Sinking or Sunk Boats

FLPD 954-764-HELP or 911 for emergencies

-Unsightly or Derelict Boats/ Boats too wide for canal:

Ft. Laud. Code Enforcement: 954-828-5207

-Lawn Service Firms disposing debris in canal:

FLPD 954-764-HELP

-Illegal Dock Construction/Pilings/Dredging

Code Enforcement: 954-828-5207

#### **ACTION IN THE ISLES**

You just never know what surprises you'll find at our local boat ramp at Riverland Woods Park.

This beauty was abandoned at the dock there Thursday night, Jan 25th. FLPD takes care of boats abandoned on City property. The FLPD Marine Unit was notified mid-day Friday and they removed it Saturday afternoon.







#### MEMBER DUES for Nov. 2017 – Oct. 2018: BE A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING

Dues are only \$20 per year.	Mail to: LICIA, P	PO Box 121255,	Fort Lauderdale,	FL 33312
Plea	ise return this nort	tion with your ch	neck	

	Trease return this portion with your encen
Name:	
Address:	
Email:	