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SAPPHIRE SHORES  
ASSOCIATION

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# NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC SET Y'all come! SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29 Fun, games and prizes

Volume I, Issue 2

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## NEWS *and* VIEWS

PUBLISHED BY INDIAN BEACH/SAPPHIRE SHORES ASSOCIATION

### NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC OFFERS GOOD CHANCE TO MEET NEIGHBORS

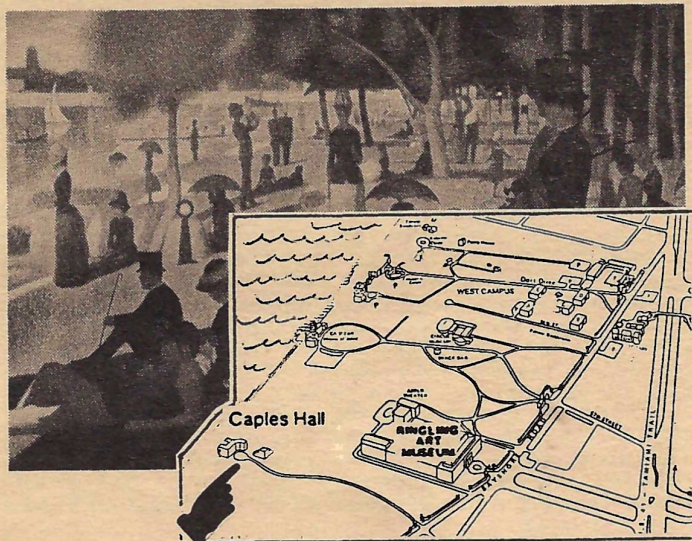
A fun fest and picnic is planned Oct. 29 for residents of the Indian Beach/Sapphire Shores neighborhood.

The event is the first of its kind in the recent history of the community and will be held at the bayside Caples Campus of the University of South Florida/New College from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

The activity is sponsored by the Indian Beach/Sapphire Shores Association and is the brainchild of board member Eileen Linxwiler who describes it as a "time for the entire family to have some fun. Games and prizes will be offered for the young in heart." She said radio station WSGS will provide free hot dogs (Perfectly Frank), soft drinks, music, and balloons. Residents are asked to bring a covered dish and lawn chairs.

She said the working committee could use additional helpers and asked volunteers to call her or any other member of the committee. They are: Brad Kwenski, 355-3129; Mariana Cotten, 351-3236; or Isabel Lillie, 351-2715. She said the committee is working hard to make this such a "huge success that we will want to make it an annual event." Guests of honor will include Sarasota Mayor Rita Roehr and city commissioners.

Association President Bart Cotten praised Ms. Linxwiler for "coming up with a great way to bring the community closer together" and promised there would be "no boring program .... no long speeches."



Ms. Linxwiler said permission to permit the association to hold the picnic in the "gorgeous setting of the Caples campus was a generous act by our nice neighbors at USF/New College" and said the event would be in a way, a pre-Halloween party with free trick or treat bags for the children.

Ms. Linxwiler urged residents who plan to attend to call her at 355-2621 so the committee will be able to estimate the total attendance

## MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN PRIORITY FOR 1988-89

The membership committee plans a renewed push for members with a vigorous campaign scheduled to kick off early in the 1988-89 membership year.

Committee Chairperson Don Farr said the committee is well organized and will shoot to achieve its goal of 20 per cent increase in membership during the upcoming year.

The committee report showed an 11 per cent increase during the last calendar year and attributed this growth to the concerted efforts of association officers and volunteers Boots Reinach and Eleanor Howell. He said total membership presently stands at 338 households or 35 per cent of those eligible to join.

He also said the committee would welcome additional volunteers to carry out the expanded campaign.

## BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE NEARS ITS GOALS

The first projects undertaken by the Association's Beautification Committee are moving steadily toward completion. Here is the report of Jane Lyons, chairman, about the status of the proposed 'circle' parks:

Our beautification committee has been somewhat on a summer break, but that is not to say that we've totally forgotten our projects. John Hargreaves and I have been in contact with Richard Sanger, Parks Superintendent, regarding improvements to Sun Circle Park and two circles on Virginia Drive. The city has cleaned out the sea grapes in the Sun Circle Park and plans to cut off the dead palm fronds; replace or repair two benches; replace the trash cans and remove the rusty trash cans from the water, as well as filling in the holes near the seawall. We have also requested a shade tree in the open area with a third bench placed close enough to the tree to be in the shade at midday.

John Hargreaves has worked hard collecting contributions from the Virginia Drive area so that the two circles which are now overrun with weeds will soon be planted with low shrubs or flowers and be attractive additions to our neighborhood. Norton Rock, an area resident has drawn up some plans which have been submitted to the city suggesting plants that would be colorful, yet be easy to care for. We'd like to have both your ideas and/or contributions. In addition to the \$750 Hargreaves has collected, and the \$500 the Association's board has approved from the treasury, we still need 'a few' more dollars! Please contact John Hargreaves at 366-1945 or Jane Lyons 355-3515.

## SPECIAL CRIME ADVISORY COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED

A special crime advisory committee has been established to help take up some of the slack in neighborhood police services caused by cutbacks in the departmental budget.

The committee is chaired by Neil Whitney and includes The Reverend Paul Hoyt, Dorothy and Stuart Simpson, Norbert Meyer, and Mariana Cotten.

The purposes of the committee are:

1. To maintain awareness of crime in the neighborhood.
2. To research local crime problems and suggest solutions to the association board.
3. To help and support the neighborhood watch system.

Whitney said the health of the neighborhood watch organization is one of the immediate concerns of the committee. "While the patient certainly is not terminal," he said "it's running a fever and needs treatment." One problem the committee plans to address is the low level of activity between neighborhood district captains and the police department.

He pointed out that the system itself is relatively simple. If something suspicious is noticed, residents should call the police. The police will then notify the captains who notify block chairpersons. The block chairpersons then relay specific information to individual residents in their block. In this way, the entire area of approximately 1,200 homes becomes an alert and well-informed unit.

Currently, there are major problems with this networking system. Contribution from the police is minimal. Newspaper articles indicate budget restrictions have resulted in the transfer of many officers to street duty. The contact officer for the neighborhood watch program is one of the officers reassigned.

The crime committee plans to ask that the department desk handling the neighborhood watch be re-established and will seek to increase the coordination between the police and the community.

Whitney said it was essential to "reinvigorate the vital community role in reducing our crime problems" and called for help in carrying out the committee mission. He invited any resident willing to help at any level in the telephone network to contact any committee member. "Let's keep our community crime free," he said. "You can help."

**LATE BULLETIN** - As this newsletter goes to press, the Airport Authority, through the insistence of Authority Board member, John Reed Buckley, has revived the possibility of an east-west runway at the airport. We all need to keep close watch on this issue. Let us know how you feel about this.



## AREA EXPANSION STRESSES NEED FOR EVALUATION

The continuing growth in the area and the plans for future expansion have produced a heavy workload for the Association's planning and zoning committee.

Chairman Robert Barnett reports;

- An application to construct a miniature golf course at U.S. 41 and Myrtle was approved by local officials after the applicants revised their initial plans to comply with objections raised after evaluation by the committee.

- Expansion of the Paradise Motel on U.S. 41 was approved after committee evaluation produced no serious objections.

- Many neighbors expressed concern about plans to operate a commercial tour boat out of the Ringling Museum property. However, it became a dead issue for the moment when the applicants failed to appear before the Sarasota Planning board when scheduled.

- The Sarasota comprehensive plan was revised this year bringing it into compliance with state requirements. There were many public meetings attended in the most part by someone from our organization. Although there were no zoning or planning changes for our neighborhood, changes were made that will affect us very much in the future.

- University Parkway will be widened and eventually connected to the airport exit/entrance at DeSoto Road. DeSoto Road will be widened to four lanes. Its intersection with U.S. 41 connecting the airport, the dog track, New College, and art museum, USF, and the Asolo theater will result in ever increasing traffic. Added to this will be increased traffic off upgraded University Parkway from Interstate 75.

- Officials claim that U.S. 41 will not be widened. However, a recent story in the SARASOTA HERALD-TRIBUNE stated that traffic in Sarasota has increased over 100 per cent in the past 5 years.

- The need to vigilantly watch for changes in the use and planning will become even greater with the completion of the airport and the Asolo Theater. They will be attractive and commercial enterprises will be trying to capitalize on the new traffic patterns. Good intentions by city officials and the planning department may not be sufficient to battle this pressure.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi Neighbor! It is great to be able to greet you through this, our second newsletter! We all had hoped to produce a summer issue, but the cost of getting a newsletter into your hands is a limiting factor. We are able to publish this issue largely due to the generosity of long-time member and local attorney, John Lyons. John and his firm, Lyons, Beaudry and Anderson, are paying for half the cost of this edition, and we are all extremely grateful. THANKS JOHN! Your board still thinks it is important to reach all of our neighborhood with the newsletter, but we will need more help in this area if we are to continue to do so. Any officer or board member will be happy to accept your donation or arrange for your business to place an ad in the next issue.

Although there have been no major developments within the neighborhood since spring, I can assure you that your officers and board members have been busy people. Besides our monthly meetings, they have attended many committee meetings and have also met with various governmental agencies. It takes people who are willing to do all of the sometimes boring things necessary to have an active association. We are fortunate to have a lot of these people working for the good of our neighborhood and getting the job done. I am sad, however, to report that the board has lost one of our very best workers in Isabel Lillie. Isabel has had to resign her seat due to increased pressures from other commitments. She served this association for many years as an officer and board member, and we will miss her. But it's been said that every cloud has a silver lining, and while we have lost Isabel on the board, we have gained her husband, Alan, who has agreed to be your representative on the Airport Noise Abatement Advisory Board! There's little doubt that attending a meeting at the airport is way down on the "fun things to do in Sarasota" list, but Alan is there looking out for our interest. Many thanks, Alan!

I hope to see you all at the picnic on October 29. I promise there will be no speeches or reports...just a chance to get together with your neighbors and have a good time. In advance, I'd like to give special thanks to WSGS, Perfectly Frank, U.S.F., Eileen Linxwiler and her picnic committee for making it all possible. All we need now is for all of you to be there!

Bart Cotten, President

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The staff of NEWS AND VIEWS would welcome your help on future issues. Your suggestions on issues to be covered, nominations for the MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR feature, ideas for other features would be appreciated.

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# EVERY VOTE IS IMPORTANT IN NOV. 8 GENERAL ELECTIONS

By Jane S. Kirschner

Crowded primary ballots and runoff contests added some zest to the Sarasota political scene this year but the real drama will unfold Nov. 8 when area residents cast their votes in the general election.

For it is these votes in the general election that spell the final decision on the people who will shape the policies and decide the issues that can influence the lives of every one of us.

As one neighbor to another, let me remind you that this day of decision is fast approaching and your vote is vital.

Don't ever believe for a moment that your vote doesn't count. There have been numerous elections that were won by a single vote. Most recently, and closest to our heart and home was our own City Commissioner Kerry Kirschner's re-election in April. That win was decided by a mere 57 votes, and even the absentee ballots made a difference.

Both politicians and election officials have become increasingly discouraged by the continuing

decline in voter turn out with some elections attracting less than 20 per cent of the eligible voters. Maybe we can reverse this trend in November.

Remember, Nov. 8 is the day. Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. That should give all of us time enough to vote.

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

The two polling places for our neighborhood association are:

Precinct #49 - US/NEW COLLEGE - Music Room in College Hall 5929 Shore Rd.

Precinct #16 - BAY HAVEN SCHOOL OF BASICS PLUS 2901 W. Tamiami Circle

So please, check your voter identification card for your precinct number and get out and cast your vote on Nov. 8.

A word of thanks to our special sponsors for this issue  
**FIRST PRESIDENTIAL SAVINGS**  
**THE GREEN GROCER**  
 These are neighbors who helped pay the cost of producing this newsletter. They deserve our thanks... and our support.

## POLL WORKERS NEEDED FOR ELECTION NOV. 8

Joanne E. Koester, supervisor of elections is looking for people to work at the precinct polls for the general election Nov. 8. If you are interested, call her office for specific details. The telephone number is 951-5884.

## THE COME and CLEAN PROJECT

Saturday, November 19 will be our neighborhood association's project aimed at cleaning up Indian Beach. Let's all show up at 9:00, complete with shovels, rakes (easy, they're in the garage, remember?), willing hands and a cheerful spirit (harder, but not impossible) and I bet in one hour (Jane, is your nose growing?) we could make a big difference.

Thanks.  
 Jane Lyons, Chairman,  
 Beautification Committee

## TRIBUTE Charles J. Fernandez

Our Association lost a good friend and active member when Charles Fernandez died early this summer. Always active in community work, Mr. Fernandez was representing our neighborhood association on the Airport Authority's Noise Abatement Committee at the time of his death. Public figures and his many friends have paid eloquent tribute to him as a person, and a diligent, hard-working citizen. We can't improve on what they have said, but we can say there was never a job our association needed to have done that he didn't willingly undertake and complete with competence. Charlie, we'll miss you.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - INDIAN BEACH-SAPPHIRE SHORES ASSOC.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Please check one

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ Single \$3 \_\_\_\_\_

Checks should be made payable to: Household \$5 \_\_\_\_\_

Indian Beach-Sapphire Shores Association  
 875 Indian Beach Drive  
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