



INDIAN BEACH  
SAPPHIRE SHORES  
ASSOCIATION

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Sarasota, FL

Volume I, Issue 1

SPRING 1988

# NEWS *and* VIEWS

PUBLISHED BY INDIAN BEACH/SAPPHIRE SHORES ASSOCIATION

## CANDIDATES FOR CITY COMMISSION HEAD PROGRAM FOR MEMBERSHIP MEETING

APRIL 7 

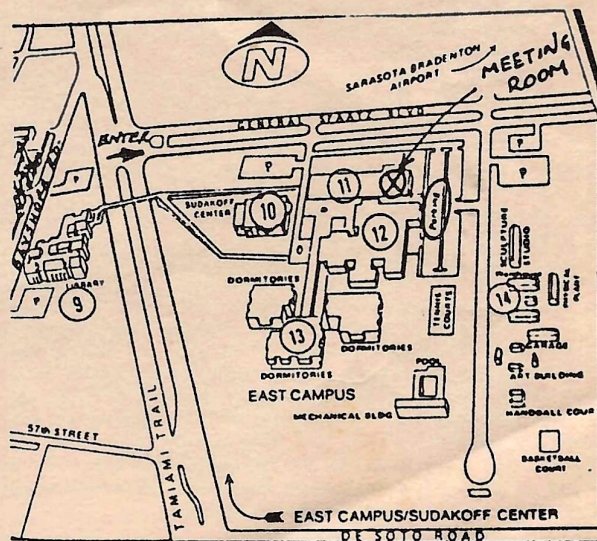
The two candidates for the only contested seat on the Sarasota city commission are scheduled to speak at the April 7 general meeting of the Indian Beach-Sapphire Shores Association.

Incumbent Commissioner Kerry G. Kirschner and his challenger, former Sarasota District school superintendent Gene M. Pillot, will speak briefly and then respond to questions from the floor. Association President Bart Cotten will preside.

The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. in the Teaching Auditorium on the New College East campus. (see attached map) Parking is available in the paved lot just east of the auditorium and in a shell lot about 100 yards east of the building.

The agenda will include a review of the association objectives and current projects and reports by committees on beautification, planning and zoning, crime and neighborhood watch.

Projects which will be highlighted by Cotten include an evaluation of the need for improvement in current regulations regarding the fencing of yards, investigation of the need





for an ordinance requiring the screening of trash dumpsters in high visibility areas and plans for the control of traffic disrupted by airport construction.

The meeting will be open for discussion and motions from the floor. Light refreshments will be served.

This will be the first meeting for the new officers of

## KERRY G. KIRSCHNER



Kerry G. Kirschner, the incumbent commissioner, was elected to office in April 1985 and served as mayor in 1986-87. He has lived in Sarasota since 1976 and is a former president of the Indian Beach-Sapphire Shores Association. Active in civic and business affairs, he is general manager of Midway Groves; serves on the Selby Gardens Foundation board; the Friendship Building committee and the Sarasota Redevelopment Authority.

the association who were elected at the December 8 general meeting. The officers include: C. Bart Cotten, president; Eileen Linxwiler, first vice president; Robert Barnett, second vice president; June McVeigh, secretary; E.T. Denham, treasurer; and directors, Don M. Farr, Isabel R. Lillie, Neil P. Whitney, Jane Lyons and Walter Verizzo.

## GENE M. PILLOT



Gene M. Pilot, former Sarasota school superintendent, has been a resident of the community for 25 years. He operates Pilot Realty Inc. and is active in many community organizations. He is a member of the Sarasota Bay Rotary club and serves on the board of the Girls' Club of Sarasota, the Sarasota Civil Service Board, the Sarasota Opera Association, and the advisory board of Catholic Social Services of Sarasota County.

## NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH

The good news about the Neighborhood Crime Watch is when there is no news. The signs are up and block captains are ready to pass on warnings of crime in our neighborhood.

Officer Art Cussick is the policeman now in charge of all neighborhood areas. He feels the program has been successful in that residents have been aware of the need to report suspicious strangers or actions. Many have added more security with better locks and outdoor lighting. He urges calling the 955 7171 number for any unusual action that concerns a resident. It is not necessary to give the caller's name, but it helps in identifying the exact location. The number 911 is used solely for emergencies such as a heart attack or actual entry into a house.

Started in 1983, ours was one of the first Neighborhood Crime Watches to be set up in Sarasota. It establishes a network for concerned citizens to communicate with other neighbors and police regarding crime related problems. Our neighborhood does not use voluntary car patrols, but depends on neighbors to be alert and to know his block captain. Each captain has a list of names and numbers of those on his block and calls each one when alerted by police of crimes in the vicinity.

We have four supervisors in our neighborhood who advise the block captains. They are: Dorothy and Stuart Simpson who handle the north end of Sapphire Shores; Rev Paul Hoyt in Sapphire Shores district #2; the Bay Haven School area #3 is vacant at the moment and the Indian Beach area has Mariana Cotten in charge.

Of immediate interest to our neighborhood is the problem of prostitution on Tamiami Trail. Lt. Jack Viana is in charge of arrest in regard to prostitution in Sarasota. He says we can help by reporting loitering or suspicious characters and to call any time. However, he is discouraged by the county courts that give too few days of confinement and low fines that the girls consider "the cost of doing business." He agrees that this prostitution also spawn robberies, beating, drugs and even murder. Unless citizens demand changes in the court "nothing really happens in spite of expensive covert actions and many arrests."

Except for this problem our Neighborhood Watch is easy to do and an effective deterrent to crime. An added value is in getting to know our neighbors better.

## BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Members of the newly formed Beautification committee met at the home of Isabel Lillie, chairperson. Those attending were: Dr. David Smillie, Jane Lyons, Charlene Langer and John Hargeaves. Their initial goals are: clearing the area of litter and enhancing the landscape of public spaces not cared for by private individuals.

Regarding the latter, Dr. Smillie noted that he had spoken to a representative of the city on numerous occasions in the past with respect to the yacht basin on Sun Circle. Initially it appeared that the city was desirous of a cooperative arrangement, but the city proceeded with their own plan. John Hargeaves recently met with Parks Superintendent, Richard Sanger concerning his proposal for plantings within a public area at Bayshore Circle and Virginia. The director was most encouraging and promised some city resources and cooperation. Chairperson Lillie proposed that the committee develop a plan that she and Jane Lyons would meet with representatives of the city to discuss how they could work together.

The Indian Beach issues of erosion, parking and effluent problems were felt to be beyond the scope of the committee. However, the committee will make some recommendations regarding this area to the Board.

Another area of concern is the eyesore at Trail Plaza. It was agreed that a letter be developed for the Board's approval and signature be directed to anchor tenants such as Eckerds, Publix, outlining those areas of needed improvement such as: landscaping, painting of sidewalks, drab cold facades and the unattractive, non-uniform store signs. It is the committee's hope that these tenants can pressure the landlord in these areas.

Given the recent interest of Ringling Museum to provide some of their statuary within various community areas, the museum will be contacted by Charlene Langer to determine if any statuary is still available and if so, where it might be placed within our area.

The committee is very enthusiastic about its new charge. Given this interest and energy along with a new city administration you can be assured that we will see progress for our association in the area of beautification.



## BOARD ACTION HIGHLIGHTS From the minutes of the January and February meetings

\*  
Parking during the Medieval Fair has been a neighborhood problem in the past. The president contacted museum authorities and the Chief of Police on behalf of our residents. This year off-site parking was provided which greatly reduced the problem.

\*  
In the interest of good management it was decided to have an outside audit each year of the association's financial affairs. This has been done for 1987 with all treasurer reports approved.

\*  
After correspondence with the owners/developers of the proposed Adventure Golf venture (Iroquois and 41), the association withdrew its objection when the owner said only commercial property would be used. We asked to be allowed to examine a preliminary sketch of the site plan and are waiting for a reply.

\*  
The president appointed chairmen for the Newsletter, Planning, Crime and Beautification committees and asked that members of those committees be recruited from the general membership. If you would like to serve on any (or all!) contact the chairman or the president.

\*  
Following presentation of a detailed plan for expansion, the board majority voted to offer no objection to the City Planning Commission when it considered the Paradise Motel's addition request for Special Exception.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to share in the work and to plan activities of the standing committees. If you would like to get involved, just pick your committee and contact the chairperson listed below:

Membership - Don Farr

Planning and Zoning - Bob Barnett

Beautification - Isabel Lillie or Jane Lyons

Neighborhood Crime Watch - Eileen Linxwiler or Neil Whitney

## NORTH TRAIL EYED BY PLANNING COMMITTEE

A discussion regarding the whole north Trail becoming an impact management area will be the top agenda item for the first meeting of the Zoning and Planning committee chaired by Bob Barnett. The essence of this designation is that property along the Trail can be considered for rezoning once a geographic "IMA" is determined by the city fathers. Once the committee develops their thoughts on this issue, along with strategy, a representative will meet with the city commissioners to determine what course of action the commissioners have in mind.

Other members of the committee are: Alyson Bishop, John Champion, Bud Mabrey, Alan Lillie, Eileen Linxwiler, George Saah, Frank Folsom Smith and John Hargreaves.

Chairman Barnett asks that if any of you are interested in participating on the committee or have concerns relative to the scope of this committee, please contact him.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

About ten years ago on a casual visit to Sarasota my wife Mariana happened upon this funny little house on Indian Beach Drive which was for sale. It was classic love at first sight. She returned to Tampa where we were living all aglow with vivid descriptions of the "dream house" she had found and insisted I drive down and fall in love myself. Since, to put it mildly, Mariana was not fond of what she called "Trampa" and since the new business I was planning was not dependent on location, I had agreed that she could choose where we would live and work. Having been born and raised in "Trampa", I knew where Sarasota was and thought it might be a passable place to live. I consented to look at the "perfectly cute little house." At first sight I was not overly impressed with the 60 year old converted garage apartment. I will say I was pleasantly pleased with the physical beauty of the area and the fact that plenty of farm land was not too far away. As the price of the house was within budget, and as I was engrossed in starting a new business and did not need a family revolution, we bought her little "dream house."

Over the years I have learned to love the little house but, more importantly, both of us have grown to love the neighborhood more than we do the house. The house is the same, the natural beauty of the area is the same, but the change in our affection comes from getting to know the great people who live here. People like yourself who are concerned with the community and who are willing to work to make it even better are what makes this a truly wonderful place to live.

I am most fortunate to have officers and directors serving with me on your association board who are some of the best of our great neighbors. Since I took office in January these people have put in many hours of hard work trying to make your association a real service to our community. First evidence of this is this newsletter. Ed and June McVeigh and their committee have done a tremendous job in getting this publication in your hands. For years the association board felt that we needed a newsletter to keep you informed. These great people took the challenge and got the job done.

Others on the board are working equally hard on other committees you will read about. My heartfelt thanks to all those involved, but I would like to issue a plea for all of you to become active with the association. Whether it is serving on a committee or simply getting a neighbor to join, there is something for everyone to do. Showing your support by attending the April 7th general meeting will be appreciated. I know if you really enjoy living in Indian Beach-Sapphire Shores you will want to give something back to the neighborhood. The Association is your opportunity--get involved!

Bart Cotten, President

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.

### NEWS AND VIEWS

#### STAFF - Editorial

Ed McVeigh, Phyllis Mabrey, Dan Rex  
Art and Design

Danee Barnett of DANEE DESIGN, INC.

Board Liason

June McVeigh



# MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: The Kwenskis

Bradley and his wife Norma are new neighbors on South Shore Drive, but have been neighborhood residents for more than 20 years. The corner of Sun Circle and South Shore has a new look as Brad has removed the overgrown pepper bushes that hid the view of the cove and replaced them with grass. He left a pathway for the fishermen who enter the water from the park because they prefer going over his seawall as it is lower than the park seawall.

The Kwenski family moved to Florida from Illinois 20 years ago. They bought a house on Brywell Avenue that once had belonged to John Ringling's attorney. Brad renovated the 1920's house and the family lived there for 18 years, until their three children left home. Daughter Kay now lives on Lonboat Key, Kendel is in the Marines and Brent is in the entertainment business, recently a clown in England.

They bought a slightly smaller house on Bay Shore Road, gutted, redid it and settled down for retirement in Pine Park, as the area is called. He seems a little young for retirement so Brad says he's just between jobs right now and has been for several years. Norma is a legal secretary and works for a local attorney.

As Brad tells it, "Norma found me sleeping on the couch one day and decided I needed something to do. So she found this house that's well built but could use some changes. Actually I think it was the fish pond in the back that sold her--we have one where we are."

The Kwenskis came down here from Springfield, Illinois where he taught the deaf. He is still a registered interpreter for the deaf as he does signing. He is often called by the police to help in that capacity.

A good-looking man of six feet one inches wearing a short beard, Brad characterized himself as a tinkerer-"if

it's broke, I like to fix it", and he does--antique cars and his collection of clocks. He says his accomplishments include, "being left-handed, having the ability to drive a Model T and to milk a cow."

Brad is on the board of the Sarasota Alliance for Preservation of Historical Buildings. He is enthusiastic about this northside neighborhood and considers it a hidden asset of Sarasota. He collects local artists' paintings and especially those of the Ringling Towers.

The house at 387 South Shore will be finished, more or less, by the end of March. The Kwenskis are looking forward to moving in and continuing the landscaping they have begun so successfully. Friendly people that they are, the Kwenskis know many around here but are always happy to meet a neighbor.

## THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

A word of thanks to the sponsors who contributed generously to help pay the costs of publishing this issue of the newsletter. They are:

THE GREEN GROCER  
GARDEN PATCH PRODUCE

We will need additional sponsors for future issues. If you would like to help out, please contact any officer or board member.

## CAMPAIGN PLANNED TO INCREASE MEMBERSHIP

An all-out effort is planned this spring to increase membership in the Indian Beach-Sapphire Shores Association. Currently less than one-third of the eligible households are registered members of the association.

Chaired by Don Farr, a membership committee is being organized to inform residents about the benefits of membership and to solicit association members.

A key element in the campaign is a house-to-house canvass with neighbor contacting neighbor. Farr is looking for volunteers to help with this effort and can be con-



tacted at 923 2733 (day) or 351 4827 (evenings).

Annual dues are \$3 for a single membership and \$5 for a household membership. Farr emphasized that dues provide the major source of income for the operation of the association but stressed "your participation and involvement is even more important."

The association boundaries are Sarasota city limits on the north, U.S. Highway 41 on the east, Whittaker Bayou on the south and the Bay on the west.



INDIAN BEACH  
SAPHIRE SHORES  
ASSOCIATION

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - INDIAN BEACH-SAPHIRE 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  
Sarasota, Florida 34234