

SIB islander

The official quarterly newsletter
of the City of Sunny Isles Beach!



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CITY OF SUNNY ISLES BEACH quarterly news • summer 2015

SUMMER CAMPS 2015



Summer time is fun time! What will your children do during summer break? The City of Sunny Isles Beach has a variety of choices (for a variety of ages) to make sure that summer is fun for everyone. Day camps, sports camps and specialty camps to include science, art, musical theater and more! Visit the summer camp page on our website sibfl.net or stop by Pelican Community Park to find out more. **Registration opens April 11th for Residents, and April 25th for Non-Residents.** Space fills up quickly so register early!

Shifting Sands

by Mayor George 'Bud' Scholl

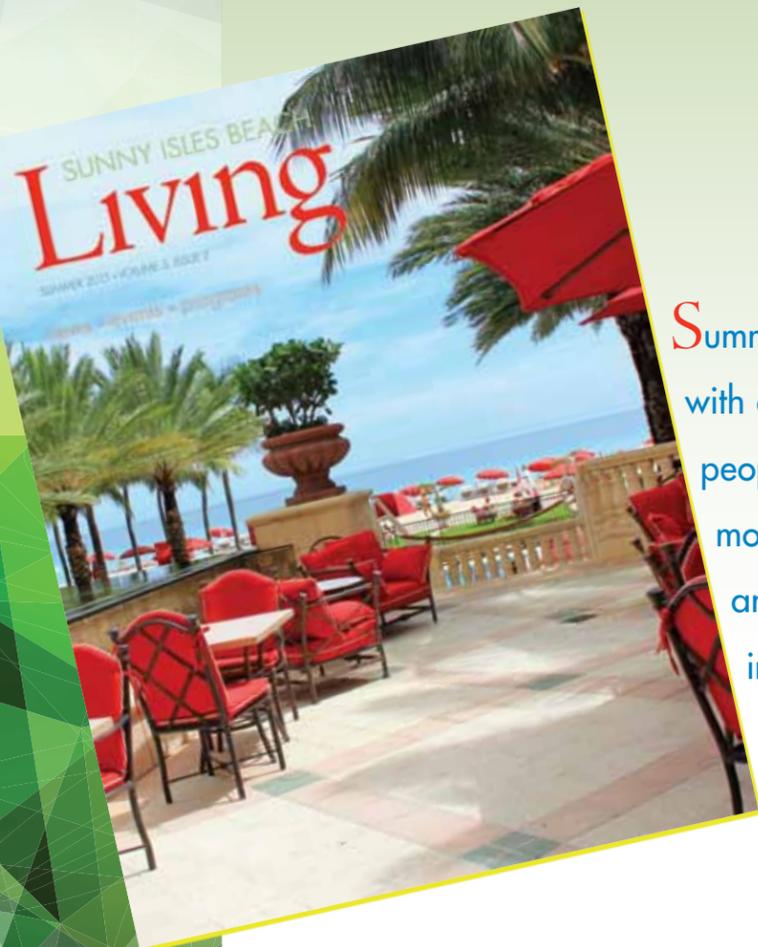
The Effect of Natural Ebb and Flow

Our two and a half miles of beautiful beach front is one of the main attractions that brings many of our residents and guests to our fine City and ultimately our namesake. However, our beach front suffers from shifting sands due to the natural ebb and flow that occurs when we experience tropical weather typical to our region.

Our beachfront has been re-nourished and widened over the years which involved pumping sand from the sea floor offshore. Unfortunately there is no more sand available offshore within U.S waters for this purpose. The primary alternative now is to collect sand elsewhere and barge or truck it onto the beach. While all beach re-nourishment efforts are very costly and have been historically funded mainly by the federal government, the need to import sand has made the situation even more expensive. We have already imported a certain amount of sand to deal with spots on our beach that have suffered an inordinate amount of erosion. We know that this method of dealing with erosion is not sustainable for a city our size. Due to the increasing expense and many restrictions, federal funding is not readily available. So we now view, as a top priority, a need to determine ways to mitigate or slow down future erosion. Our City staff is currently collaborating with coastal engineers and looking into ways that this can be accomplished. There are many methods, such as undersea jetties or rock formations that can inhibit the sand from shifting. The various solutions have different strengths and drawbacks but appear to have solid engineering data that could provide us with the ability to slow our shifting sands.



Our beach will continue to be subjected to erosion as it is the nature of our region. Be assured that the City Commission and administration are working with outside professionals to analyze and determine the best, and most cost effective, solutions to deal with this issue. Our goal will be to continue to ensure we are on the priority list for beach re-nourishment funds when they are available. However, if we can effectively mitigate our shifting sands, we can maintain our namesake—the Beach in Sunny Isles Beach.



Summer comes packed with camps for young people, outdoor music, movies, classes, sports and social events...all in the pages of *Sunny Isles Beach Living*, available in May!

Visit sibfl.net for more City activities or call 305.792.1706 for additional information



SUMMER SPARKLE

Chief's Corner

BEACH SAFETY: Protecting Your Loved Ones

It is one of the greatest pleasures to experience, especially for families. A day at the beach with glorious weather including, sunshine, calm ocean waters and white sandy beach. Unfortunately, there are risks involved with water, crowds and distractions. EVERY YEAR, lifeguards and police officers receive panic calls about missing children at the beach. It is a momentary feeling of ultimate fear and futility as one does not even begin to know where to start searching. The following tips may help you avoid this:

- Keep an eye on your child at *all times*.
- Do not let them venture down the beach alone.
- If they go into the ocean, watch them from the shore line and move along with them.
- DO NOT PANIC if something happens, stay calm, you will be a better help in locating them.
- Memorize your child's clothing before you even arrive at the beach.
- Swim or beach in a protected area by lifeguards and familiarize yourself with where you are address wise.



Fred Maas
Chief of Police

- If you have a missing child, call immediately: 305.947.4440. These are basic rules for parental or guardian safety. Using them will help to avoid disaster or fear caused by losing a child or loved one. *Employ these simple, safe practices and enjoy the beach!*

Keeping the Beach in Sunny Isles Beach

by Christopher J. Russo, City Manager

Maintaining our shoreline, one of the most challenging issues we are faced with, reminds me of a resort, the Sand Dollar. I would see it on each of many trips to Rhode Island to visit my daughter at college. That property is clearly a reference to the exorbitant cost of keeping sand on the beach.

On December 18, 2014, the City Commission made beach nourishment and erosion mitigation one of the City's top priorities. City staff has taken a multi-faceted approach to addressing this complex issue. This is a costly endeavor. It is vital for us to invest in doing the proper research and planning to find cost-sharing solutions. We started working with all levels of

government (Federal, State, County and local) to find out what has been successfully implemented elsewhere and what our options are. Currently, the US Army Corp of Engineers is working on a project that would potentially dedicate \$7.8 million in federal funds to beach nourishment in Miami-Dade County. The State also has a grant program, wherein multiple stakeholder/funding partners are awarded extra points, that funds municipal beach nourishment efforts. Additionally, we have met with the City of Miami Beach to learn about what has been successful for them. Our two Cities share the top priority locations for Beach nourishment in Miami-



Dade County. We are also working with coastal engineers to update a 2008 study of our shoreline in order to devise the best short and long term strategies to address this issue, including research of innovative technologies that have been proven successful elsewhere.

It is our goal to present the Mayor and Commissioners with viable options to preserve our beach, our most precious resource, for many generations to enjoy.

The Annual City Anniversary Party

18th Anniversary Celebration to be held this June!



The Sunny Isles Beach Anniversary Celebration will take place **Sunday, June 7, 2015**. Music will fill the air as children play games, families eat delicious barbeque and commissioners cut the anniversary cake. The event will be at **Town Center Park**, 17200 Collins Avenue, **from noon to 4:00 pm**. Wristbands for the barbeque are available for pre-sale at Pelican Community Park and the Government Center starting Monday, May 4th. The bands are FREE for Resident ID Cardholders and \$5 for those without the card. On June 7th, residents must show the SIB Resident ID Card to the cashier at the park to get the FREE wristband.

THE CITY THAT SERVES

Behind the Scenes at Pelican Community Park



A great team of City employees puts the 'community' in Pelican Community Park. This park has become the central point of activity for residents. A creative team, headed by Community Center Coordinator Christine Carney, **finds fresh and innovative ways to bring residents together** to share experiences in their daily lives. Child care is the primary goal of the majority of our patrons. After School Programs and Summer Camps,

led by Don Alcime, fulfill the needs of our working parents while providing a safe and fun time for children.

Here we cultivate friendships that can last a lifetime as well as serve those who have been friends for a lifetime, our seniors. Whether an afternoon movie with lunch or interactive music therapy, the choices for social interaction for our seniors is abundant. Enrichment programs for the entire community are hosted here and have spawned budding artists as well as soothed the body and mind with yoga. The numerous programs may be found in *SIB Living* magazine.

With so much to offer, **we have a team of well-informed customer service representatives at your service**. The lobby of Pelican Community Park is a hub for everything SIB. Athletics, Special Events, Parks and Programs as well as general city information are handled by phone, email and walk-in by this stellar team of professionals making sure everyone that enters feels as though they are welcome.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE

Back to School Picnic

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15
10:00 am—2:00 pm
Pelican Community Park
18115 North Bay Road

Join us at Pelican Community Park to prepare for the upcoming school year. This event will have information on everything your child needs for the first day of school including information on immunizations, sports and recreational programs, and local aftercare. While the parents are learning, the kids will be entertained with FREE rides, crafts, and games. Food vendors will have lunch and snacks available for purchase throughout the event.