



ON THE RANCH NEWSLETTER – JUNE 23, 2017

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News You Can Use

SARASOTA COUNTY HOSTING WORKSHOPS ON REVISION TO TRANSPORTATION CONCURRENCY REQUIREMENTS

Sarasota County is holding three public workshops to gather feedback on revised transportation concurrency requirements, along with a draft resolution that revises the transportation analysis requirements associated with proposed new developments within the county. The resolution would reflect a multimodal transportation approach and make the requirements consistent with the Mobility Fee Ordinance. The county wants your input on the revision of these documents prior to presentation before the county commission. Plan to attend one of the following workshops to learn more and share your comments:

Friday, June 23, 2-3 p.m. - Administration Center, 1660 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota - First floor training room
Monday, June 26, 10:30-11:30 a.m. - Jacaranda Library, 4143 Woodmere Park Blvd., Venice - Meeting room
Monday, June 26, 2:30-3:30 p.m. - Gulf Gate Library, 7112 Curtiss Ave., Sarasota - Meeting Room B

For more information, call the Sarasota County Contact Center at 941-861-5000 or visit scgov.net.
View the complete policy at www.scgov.net/ADA/Pages/default.aspx.

SARASOTA COUNTY CIVICS 101 – YOUR TICKET TO GOVERNMENT KNOW-HOW

Sarasota County will continue offering a backstage pass to residents through its popular Civics 101 program. "Act I: Setting the Stage" will begin July 27 and continue on Thursday evenings (6-8:15 p.m.) through Sept. 14. The location will change for each class. The class is an encore performance of the module that was offered in February, and features county departments like Communications, Financial Management, Economic Development, Planning and Development Services and more. Presentations are designed to enhance awareness of how Sarasota County Government operates.



There is no cost to register for the course; materials and light refreshments are provided. Anyone who lives or works in Sarasota County is eligible to participate, although module enrollment is limited to 35 students. Applications are available at scgov.net, keyword: "Civics 101." Interested parties may also call the Sarasota County Contact Center at 941-861-5000 or email neighbor@scgov.net.

Did You Know?

What makes up the Board of Trustees of the Master Association?

There are fifteen (15) Board Members; ten are elected from Residential Members, three from Commercial-Industrial and two from Recreational Members. The Declarant has exercised its option by appointing a sixteenth member to the Board.



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Parks and Trails on Palmer Ranch

LEGACY TRAIL



The Legacy Trail is the largest public recreation project ever constructed in the area. Totalling more than 10 miles in length, the trail runs from just south of Sawyer Loop Road, on Palmer Ranch, to Venice following the former CSX railroad corridor. The Legacy Trail is the backbone of network of trails planned in Sarasota County. The trail head, of this linear park which bisects Palmer Ranch, is located off McIntosh Road. Legacy Trail is open from dawn to dusk with the rules for using the trail posted at various locations.

Attached is some fascinating information on the history of the Legacy Trail, compliments of Sarasota County.

Happenings at Oscar Scherer State Park

Oscar Scherer State Park is located at 1843 South Tamiami Trail, Osprey. For more information, please contact the Ranger Station (941) 483-5956.

GUIDED SCRUB JAY WALK

This walk begins at the Nature Center on **Sunday, June 25th at 8:30am** and includes an informative walk through an ancient dune system. This unique habitat is home to the threatened Florida scrub-jay and a variety of plants and other animals. Participants should wear comfortable footwear for walking in soft sand. Cameras and binoculars are suggested. Space is limited to 15 people. There is no cost to participate other than normal park entrance fees for day-use visitors.

GUIDED PADDLE OR WALK

Learn about the life in South Creek, or take a leisurely stroll through one or more of the park's seven natural communities. South Creek is a tidal water, therefore the water may sometimes be too shallow for a paddle; a guided walk will be an alternate option. Either way, be prepared to explore a slice of the "Real Florida." Bring your camera and binoculars for wildlife viewing. Registration is between **8:00am and 8:45am on Wednesday, June 28th** at the Ranger Station on a first-come, first-served basis on the day of the paddle. Canoe/kayak rentals apply to both day-use visitors and campers at \$10.00 plus tax per hour. Folks are welcome to bring their own paddling gear instead of renting. Program is free with paid park entrance for those providing their own paddling equipment. If the program features a walk instead of a paddle, program is free with paid park entrance.



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www.PalmerRanch.net

Birding on Palmer Ranch

This week's photo is of an Osprey seen visiting the grounds of *The Glenridge on Palmer Ranch*.

A very distinctive fish-hawk, formerly classified with other hawks but now placed in a separate family of its own. Along coastlines, lakes, and rivers almost worldwide, the Osprey is often seen flying over the water, hovering, and then plunging feet-first to catch fish in its talons. After a successful strike, the bird rises heavily from the water and flies away, carrying the fish head-forward with its feet. Bald Eagles sometimes chase Ospreys and force them to drop their catch. In many regions, landowners put up poles near the water to attract nesting Ospreys.

We would like to encourage you to send in your photos of birds seen on Palmer Ranch to feature in future newsletters. If you've pictures you'd like to share, please email your photos to Carrie at carrie@palmerranch.net. Please include your name, species and location of where the photo was taken.



Photo credit: Fred Brisky

Sign Up For Our Newsletter

Do you want to hear about the news on Palmer Ranch first hand? If so, simply visit our website: www.PalmerRanch.net. At the bottom of the home page, simply click on 'Sign Up For Our Newsletter.' You'll then be asked to provide your email address and first name. It's that easy!

Historical Overview of The Legacy Trail



The Legacy Trail is a gift of significant historical and environmental lands which promote a sense of community among Sarasota County residents and provide a place for visitors and residents to use and enjoy. Uses include viewing wildlife in different habitats, relaxing in a mostly undeveloped environment, a travel corridor to other places in the County, discovering and studying local history and recreation such as walking, rollerblading, bicycling.

The first passenger coach ran on the brand new Seaboard Air Line Railway Sarasota to Venice extension on November 12, 1911. The Venice Train Depot, built by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, was opened March 27, 1927. The railroad helped Venice survive during the Florida real estate bust and the Great Depression.

The cadets and faculty of the Kentucky Military Institute traveled by rail to winter classes in Venice from 1933 to 1970. The railroad also transported patients to Dr. Albee's Florida Medical Center from 1932 to 1942. Many servicemen and goods were transported over the rails to Venice and the Army Air Base during WWII (1942-45).

On April 30, 1971, the last passenger train arrived in Venice. Limited freight service continued until January 1992. The Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus used the Seaboard Air Line / Legacy Corridor to reach its winter quarters in Venice from 1960 to 1992.

Sarasota County purchased and restored the Venice Train Depot. The restored Depot was dedicated October 24, 2003. The Historic Depot serves as an historical resource with tours by the Venice Area Historical Society and as a regional transportation hub for Sarasota County Area Transit. The Depot will also serve as a trailhead for the multi-use trail.



In 2004 after more than a decade of planning, the county's \$11.75 million purchase of the scenic CSX railroad corridor was accomplished in partnership with The Trust for Public Land and celebrated on April 4, 2005. At nearly 12.5 miles long, the 100-foot-wide CSX corridor stretches from just south of Clark Road in Sarasota to Center Road in Venice.

The Legacy Trail links to the Venetian Waterway Park (VWP) at the historic Venice Train Depot at the Venice Avenue Bridge, where trail users can continue south on VWP mainland trail to the Shamrock Park Nature Center or cross the Intercoastal Waterway to the VWP island-side trail and south to Caspersen Beach and Park. It is about 15 miles from the trail's beginning point near Sawyers Loop Rd. in Sarasota to either of the southern trailheads at Caspersen Beach or Shamrock Park.

The Venice Area Historical Society is a great source for information about the Venice Train Depot and The Legacy Trail corridor.

The Legacy Trail links to the Venetian Waterway Park trails at the historic Venice Train Depot on Venice Avenue