

# Lantana Airport Citizens News

*A Special Edition for Atlantis Residents*

Issue 1 • October 2017

## WELCOME TO OUR FIRST EDITION!

*As a community we have come together to inform the residents of Atlantis and the neighboring communities of things they may not be aware of...*

Since the City of Atlantis was incorporated in 1959 it has co-existed on a "good neighbor" basis with Palm Beach County Park Airport (KLNA), which we all know as the Lantana Airport. During this time Palm Beach County, which owns the airport, has recognized its role as a non-commercial airport serving recreational pilots. In 1973 the County banned jets and larger aircraft while also limiting commercial activities at the airport. In 1991 the City and County entered into a formal agreement in which the City agreed to support some additional development of the airport in return for the County's commitment to enforce the ban on jets as well as restrictions on flight paths and noise abatement to both preserve the airport's recreational nature and ensure the quality of life for Atlantis residents.

Recently, however, the new Fixed Base Operator (FBO) at the airport has indicated that it plans to fundamentally change the nature of the airport.



### DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- In 2014, according to an article in the Palm Beach Post the new Fixed Base Operator (or FBO) at the airport sought authority to extend the runways at KLNA to accommodate jets and larger prop aircraft. Thankfully, Shelley Vana, our County Commissioner at the time, intervened and stopped the plan.
- At approximately the same time a retired commercial airline pilot, supposedly acting on his own behalf, sought to overturn the ban on jet aircraft at the airport. Thankfully our current County Commissioner, David Kerner, stepped up and got funds appropriated to defend the ban. The County has now intervened to oppose any change to the jet ban, but it will not be an easy fight.
- A helicopter training school that is a tenant of KLNA repeatedly operates pattern training flights, sometimes at low altitudes, over Atlantis and other neighborhoods adjoining the airport. This is in violation of the City/County Agreement and pilot guidance issued by the County Department of Airports, which helicopter training operators adhered to for many years. It instructs helicopter pilots to:
  - » "Keep all pattern routes over the airport – operate away from residential areas"
  - » "Helicopter traffic pattern altitude is 500 MSL" (feet above mean sea level)
  - » "Please no activity operated above populated areas"
  - » "Flight training should remain north of Lantana Road, west of Lake Osborne and east of Congress Avenue, on airport property – whenever possible"
- The County's LNA Master Plan contemplates traffic growth of nearly 20 percent at KLNA between 2015 and 2025.

The Lantana Airport Citizen's Committee (LACC), comprised of residents from Atlantis and other LNA-adjacent communities, has organized to ensure that the County requires KLNA to adhere to the requirements of the 1991 Agreement and the Department of Airports Voluntary Guidelines.

LACC is not anti-airport. We all moved here knowing LNA was nearby. However, we believe the County has an obligation to fulfill its contractual obligations to the City of Atlantis, as well as to enforce the LNA Guidelines it established. Given that changing the nature of the airport would have a significant negative effect on our quality of life and our property values, it is imperative that the Atlantis City Council does everything in its power to assure that the County lives up fully to its obligations under the agreement.

This Newsletter is being published periodically by LACC to ensure that residents are informed about LNA issues and the activities of those public officials who are taking a leadership role in resolving them.

Subsequent issues of the Newsletter will focus on relevant topics, for example – the County's obligations under its 1991 Agreement with the City of Atlantis, information on the helicopters flying over our communities, highlights of the LNA Master Plan, features on public officials who join Commissioner Kerner as proactive leaders on LNA issues.

Join us on Facebook @ Lantana Airport Citizens News for more updates and to get involved.



## LANTANA AIRPORT CITIZENS NEWS

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Local  
Postal Customer

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## YOU ARE CALLED FOR ACTION!

### 2 WAYS TO ENSURE YOU GET THE LATEST NEWS

- 1** Like our Facebook Page:  
Lantana Airport Citizen's News  
to receive updates and  
time-critical information
- 2** Get this newsletter emailed to  
you digitally by sending an access  
request with your Name & Email  
address to:  
[Maggiesarubbi@gmail.com](mailto:Maggiesarubbi@gmail.com)

### GET INVOLVED! ATTEND A MEETING

*We welcome you to join your neighbors .at  
the Atlantis City Council meetings on the  
dates below. You can listen or participate in  
expressing your support.*

**October 18**  
**November 15**  
**December 20**

### A PAT ON THE BACK...

Commissioner David Kerner  
has taken a leadership role  
in returning Palm Beach  
County Park Airport (what  
we know as Lantana Airport)  
to its traditional role as a  
general aviation airport  
largely serving recreational  
pilots.



Commissioner Kerner campaigned on continuing  
the ban on jet aircraft at the airport, and was  
instrumental in convincing the County to oppose  
efforts to lift the ban before the Federal Aviation  
Administration. He also has taken a leadership  
role in addressing continuing violations of the  
County's guidelines to helicopter pilots by  
instructors and students at the helicopter school  
based at the airport.

Before his election as a Commissioner, David  
served as a police officer and special prosecutor  
in Palm Beach County and as a two-term state  
representative.

Commissioner Kerner learned to fly and received  
his pilot's license at Lantana Airport. Like the  
Lantana Airport Citizens Committee, he is  
supportive of the airport but insistent that it  
respect its long-time role as a recreational airport  
and act as a good neighbor to surrounding  
communities.

*All of us in Atlantis, and other communities  
surrounding the airport, should give a "pat  
on the back" and our ongoing support to  
Commissioner Kerner.*