



Dec. 30, 2013  
#131230-PIER

Contact: Joy Tsubooka, Public Information Officer  
(850) 983-5254, (850) 393-8304 Cell  
[joyt@santarosa.fl.gov](mailto:joyt@santarosa.fl.gov)

## ***Navarre Beach Pier Management Transition***

On Wednesday, Jan. 1, management of the Navarre Beach Pier transitions to TC's Coastal Pier, LLC. The pier will open at 5 a.m. and no admission will be charged on Jan. 1 to facilitate the transition of pier operators. Pier hours of operations are 5 a.m. to 11 p.m., seven days a week. Store and restaurant hours will be announced at a later date.

Questions arose Saturday afternoon, Dec. 28, regarding the removal of items by the current contractors, Pier Inc. on the deck attached to the ancillary building which houses the pier store. The county engineer visited the site Saturday and found a lean to structure removed. After that visit, an estimated 10 x 15 foot bar was removed. Staff revisited the site Monday morning, Dec. 30, and found that both structures were freestanding and had not been fastened to the floor and therefore could be likened to furniture, and were within the right of Pier Inc. to remove. No county funds were used to construct the bar; all costs were paid by Pier Inc. Both the deck and canopy remain.

County representatives have been on-site to help facilitate an orderly transition including building inspectors, who are working to ensure that the current operator removes equipment and furnishings in a manner that leaves the area safe and structurally sound. Additionally, the current and succeeding contractors met Monday morning to conduct a preliminary walk through and discuss the changeover.

County Administrator Hunter Walker commented on the change in operations, "The county is ready to assist both TC's Coastal Pier, LLC and the Pier, Inc. to facilitate a smooth transition for the residents of Santa Rosa County and to accommodate the needs of the new management in the startup of their operations."

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