

# BEACH BUZZ

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"Keeping Our Beaches Bare"

## Efforts to bare the facts and bar the nudies getting old and tired

By Fred Krupski

*The Observer, March 8, 2000*

And, I may add, boring as well! I recently noticed that Titusville's Nellie Strickland, in opposition to opening up a portion of Playalinda Beach for nudists, has been pleading with the city council to take a stand and is urging citizens to write to the Canaveral National Seashore Superintendent. Like he really needs this. And like the poor guy is going to get inundated with letters.

Fortunately, the council took no action.

I think they're getting tired of this as well.

The other day I received an observation from one of our local naturists who, while discussing a recent nude Macbeth show in Orlando, made a couple of interesting observations. And that is that no one is forced to go into an adult entertainment establishment at gunpoint. "Your kids can't read, your water has carcinogens in it, you have

heart disease from the junk you eat, and you have nothing better to do than worry that somebody, somewhere, might see a breast."

Another piece of mail I received on the subject had to do with a motel in Jensen Beach becoming a nudist resort. I don't know if it's true or not, but this motel owner may be cashing in with the European tourists.

According to the story, there's a small strip of land just north of where State Route 707 merges with Indian River Drive. Wooden poles mark the area where a 6-foot wall will be built, separating the clothed from the unclothed before the owner is due to open his motel's doors in April. The part owner of the Caribbean Shores Motel has visited nude resorts before, but said his personal feelings about nudism didn't play a role in his decision.

I am doing this out of an economic need," he said. "I take a \$40,000 loss each year."

During the winter season this guy has a 90 to 95 percent occupancy rate, generating about \$35,000 a month.

However, in the off season, from April 1 to November 30, that rate plummets to 15 percent. Beginning in mid-April his reservations log, as is the case with many area restaurants and hotels, is mostly bare.

Operating the motel since 1997, he got the idea for starting Martin County's first nudist resort three months ago after a European travel agent called looking for resorts for clients who enjoy relaxing au naturale.

What did the travel agent offer him per room for two weeks?

How about \$1,000 per room?

If this story is true, and I have no reason to doubt it, and if nudity will be legalized at Apollo Beach north of Titusville (which it appears it will be), it could be a golden opportunity for some hotelier up there to reap the same rewards.