

Subject: News from Committee of the Islands (COTI)

Committee of the Islands, Inc. (COTI) is a non - partisan, not for profit organization which endorses candidates for public office who have demonstrated a commitment to its core values and goals. It does so without regard to party affiliation.



COTI BOARD
ENDORSES

Ray
Judah

Ray is a rare politician who limits contributions to his campaign to \$100 instead of the \$500 allowed by law.



Ray Judah's campaign is accepting donations of up to \$100 payable to the **Campaign**

COTI Advocate

Dear Tom,

Given his outstanding support for environmental issues affecting Sanibel and the region, the Board of Directors of the Committee of the Islands voted unanimously to endorse Ray Judah's bid for re-election to the Lee County Commission. We urge you to support his campaign.

Here is some information about Ray:

He was first elected to the Lee County Commission in 1988. In the nearly 20 years that Ray has served as a Commissioner he has always taken a particular interest in environmental issues. He has a strong background in environmental science, with a bachelor's degree in zoology and a masters in natural resources from California State University at Humboldt. Before becoming a commissioner, he had worked as a biologist, marine biologist, land use planner, and environmental specialist.

He has chaired the 10 County Coalition for Responsible Management of Lake Okeechobee, and was a co-founder of the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed land trust. He led the effort to create the Conservation 20/20 initiative to purchase environmentally sensitive land.

He does not hesitate to take on special interest groups such as Big Sugar and phosphorus mines. His

Account of Ray Judah, 12664 Coconut Creek Court, Fort Myers, Florida 33908.

For his long track record of stewardship of our environment, COTI presented its **Citizen of the Year** award to Ray Judah on March 26, 2007.

Your vote for him would be very helpful as he is running in a contested Republican **primary in August**. To request that an absentee ballot be mailed to you for that election, call the Lee County Election Office 239 - 533 - 8683 or write Lee County Supervisor of Elections at P.O. Box 2545, Ft. Myers, FL. 33902

commitment to protecting the environment, and in particular water quality, is deep and life-long. He has exerted very strong leadership to restore the Caloosahatchee and coastal estuaries from the devastating excessive releases of polluted water from Lake Okeechobee. For this, he is well known not just here on the west coast of Florida, but he is also revered on the east coast in the Martin County area.

His recent significant accomplishments in protecting our water quality include influencing the Army Corps of Engineers to re-evaluate the Lake Okeechobee water release schedule.

He continues to fight for a water quality component for the reservoir the South Florida Water Management District plans for the Caloosahatchee.

He supported the purchase of land farther up the Caloosahatchee for the development of a filtration marsh that will treat polluted Lake O water as it flows in our direction.

He has insisted that the new fertilizer law for Lee County be strong, like Sanibel's.

We can have confidence that he will continue to lead the way in environmental protection in our region.

For his long track record of stewardship of our environment, COTI presented its Citizen of the Year award to Ray Judah on March 26, 2008.

Sincerely,

John Harries, President
Committee of the Islands (COTI)

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P.O. Box 88, Sanibel, FL
Approved by Ray Judah, Republican, for Lee County Commission, District 3

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