
MICA WAVE

A Periodic Publication of the Marco Island Civic Association.
News and Reviews of What's Really Happening on Marco Island.
Visit our web site: www.marcocivic.com

Read by Over 20,000 Members.
February, 2008
2008 Issue 1

Karen Saeks - MICA's 2008 Humanitarian of the Year

The MICA Humanitarian of the Year Award has become one of the most prestigious awards on Marco Island. This valued award was developed in 1998 to honor the unsung heroes of Marco Island, the people who do so much for so many. The wonderful, positive people you do not hear much about.

Before a crowd of approximately 150 MICA members on Wednesday, January 30, the Marco Island Civic Association presented its 2008 Humanitarian of the Year Award to a very special person with a big heart and a passion for helping the young members of our extended community. Karen Saeks was stunned to hear the story of how she began "Bedtime Bundles" being broadcast over the PA system by MICA's Past President Jim Arnold. Karen thought she was attending MICA's Annual Meeting to see her friend receive this award! Following the annual meeting, Karen noted that she was honored to receive the award but even happier to get the word out to more people about the need



*Past President Jim Arnold presents the
2008 Humanitarian Award to Karen Saeks*

for "Bedtime Bundles."

Some past recipients of the Humanitarian of the Year Award have worked on behalf of organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Kiwanis, and Meals on Wheels. Others have worked behind the scenes supplying food for those less fortunate or counseling fellow cancer patients. Since 1998 the award has been presented to these worthy individuals: Mimi Torbush,

Shirlee and Brian Barcic, Ward Bradeen, D'Ann and David Brandt, Dr. Sam and Mary Ann Durso, Judy and Arturo Perez, Maury Dailey, Art Segal, Stevi Walthour, Luise Romano and Jane Williams. The next time you stop by the MICA office, check out the new plaque in our lobby area that lists each of these individuals.

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President's letter

by Kathy Sullivan

As I approach the end of my second year as president of MICA, I have reviewed the progress we have made and also the areas where there is more work to be done.

I have two high priorities. My first high priority is the maintenance of the beach property. Residents' Beach is in excellent condition with a new building, new snack bar, new restrooms, new entrance, a volleyball court, etc. I feel very good about the condition of Residents' Beach.

The second high priority is defending the deed restrictions. MICA is prepared to go to court, if necessary, to defend the deed restrictions. In the past year MICA was able to work out solutions that protected the integrity of the deed restrictions without going to court.

As you may know, we do not have the right to modify the residential deed restrictions but we can modify the commercial property restrictions. NCH has expressed a desire to build a retirement community on the property of the Marco Healthcare Center. Deed restrictions on the property expressly prohibit residential uses of the property. However, since MICA has the right to modify the deed restrictions on commercial property we have told NCH that we would modify the deed restrictions, if and only if, they commit to opening the healthcare center 24 hours a day 7 days a week. MICA feels 24 hour availability

of urgent care is essential for the health and well being of the residents and visitors to our community. This position is supported by our members year after year in the survey of our members. While I was very hopeful I would achieve this important objective, it has not happened. I expect my successor as President will continue to pursue getting the healthcare center open 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Another area of emphasis for me has been to use the new facilities at the beach for a variety of events. Clearly, we have expanded our program of events including hosting the Liechtenstein Dancers, having events with local entertainment and showing movies on the green in addition to our traditional 3 large parties per year. I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity and attend these events at the beach. The setting is gorgeous and a good time is had by all. Plus they are free for our Residents' Beach members. Can't beat that!

MICA created and has co-sponsored with the City of Marco Island, the YMCA, Orion Bank and Medical Surgical Specialists, the Healthy Life Lecture Series. This series brings outstanding medical specialists to Mackle Park for an informative series of talks about critical medical issues. Watch for the schedule and don't miss the remainder of the 2008 series.

In January we held our annual meeting with author James

Born as the keynote speaker. He was very entertaining and talked about his 14 year struggle before he got his first novel published. Congratulations to Karen Saeks, our prestigious Humanitarian of the Year Award winner. We have made a special effort to increase attendance at our annual meeting and are very pleased with the number of people who have attended over the past few years.

Financially, we are striving to pay off our mortgage on the beach building before our interest rate increases. Bernardo Bezos is a very effective treasurer for MICA.

Lastly, I would like to thank two local organizations. The Marco Police Foundation provides traffic control for all our events at Residents' Beach. We are grateful to the Marco Island Foundation for the Arts for placing two lovely sculptures at the entrance of Residents' Beach. MIFA is committed to promoting the arts in public places and is the sponsor of the very successful local sculpture event Artquest.

*Sincerely,
Kathy Sullivan*



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The Results are in . . .

by Ruth McCann

Unless you've been living in a cave or perhaps stuck in a snow storm in Utah, you are surely aware of the results of the January election. On January 29, 2008, an unprecedented number of voters headed to the polls to cast their ballot. Almost 73% of the registered voters on Marco cast ballots, quite an impressive turnout. There were several issues on the ballot, including the presidential primary election, the amendment to the state constitution, and the city council election.

Collier County voters approved the amendment to the state constitution by a vote of 66,185 (81.4%) to 15,125 (18.6%). State-wide, the amendment passed by a smaller margin, but passed nonetheless with a vote of 2,667,166 (64%) to 1,497,827 (36%). This amendment allows for portability of the homestead exemption up to \$500,000, along with an additional \$25,000 exemption.

After all was said and done the voters of Marco Island overwhelmingly voted Frank Recker, Bill Trotter, Jerry Gibson, and Wayne Waldack into office for Marco Island City Council. The three newly elected members, Recker, Gibson and Waldack will join Bill Trotter, who was re-elected to Council, and sitting Councilmen Ted Forcht, Chuck Kiester, and Rob Popoff on the dais at the second council meeting in March 2008. The final vote tally is listed in the box below.

The lawn signs and billboards

that smothered our little island are all but a memory. Now it is time to get to work. Although a major emphasis of the campaigning was on the Septic Tank Replacement Program, there are many issues which our new council will address in the coming months and years.

Our seven councilmen have been elected by the voters of Marco Island to represent the citizens and sometimes make tough decisions that we all may not agree with. Hopefully, we will all remember the manners our parents instilled in us all those years ago and act maturely and professionally and understand that the Marco Island City Council has the best intentions in mind when they cast their votes. That's not to say that we accept blindly. Certainly, we can make our thoughts

The Final Vote Tally for Marco Island City Council

Joe Batte 3625
Jerry Gibson 5062
Andrew Guidry 3231
Roger Hall 3333
Butch Neylon 3322
Frank Recker 5352
Bill Trotter 5176
Wayne Waldack 5008

known and perhaps raise issues that council had not considered. But let's please move on and put the booing and applauding away for good and work together to create the ideal environment in which to spend our days.

Let's remember where we live, in zip code 34145, also known as Paradise!

Little Eddie & the Fat Fingers

at

Residents' Beach

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

5:00-7:00PM

**Purchase your
Bratwurst Dinner
ticket for \$10 at
MICA office or
Paradise Grill
prior to event!**

Marco Island Civic Association

1770 San Marco Road,
Suite 204,
Marco Island, FL 34145
Phone: 239-642-7778
Fax: 239-642-8663
www.marcocivic.com

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Judy Koubi, Karen Saeks and Marilyn Sajdak



Karen and Ed Saeks

CAPTURE YOUR TREASURES ON MARCO ISLAND

Nancy Dowdall
PHOTOGRAPHY

239 642-9685
WWW.NANCYDOWDALLPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

*Humanitarian of the Year
continued from page 1*

Our newest Humanitarian, Karen Saeks' early life was not an easy one. She was raised by a single mother, and when she was just a child, a basket of food was left anonymously on the doorstep of the home that she shared with her mother and two sisters. She worked hard and put herself through school and finally graduated from college and nursing school while in her 30's. As an RN our honoree worked for years nurturing, supporting, and helping others. She later met and married a wonderful doctor, Ed, who has supported and worked along with her.

Upon their retirement a few years ago, the Saeks moved to Marco Island. Accustomed to a busy schedule and with time on her hands, Karen began volunteering at Manatee Elementary School. Our Humanitarian met the children of migrant workers at Manatee School, who would inspire her to do what others had done for her so many years earlier. She learned that there are innocent children who are the unfortunate victims of circumstance. The children of migrant farm workers live in camps with multiple families in tiny trailers, most with holes in the floors, broken windows and no furniture. They sleep on bare floors with little or no bedding.

Farm workers crisscross the country, traveling from crop to crop. Each time they must leave behind whatever personal

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Enjoy the Paradise Grill

by Ruth McCann

The Paradise Grill is a tropical dining spot at the Marco Island Residents' Beach befitting its location along the Gulf of Mexico. Owners, Sean and Jamie Shea, are on location everyday, along with their dedicated and friendly staff. The setting couldn't be more perfect.

You can enjoy a snack or a meal 365 days per year, weather permitting. And usually, the weather is permitting! In season the Grill is open extended hours in order to provide a greater service to the Residents' Beach members. What a menu they have! Paradise Grill opens at 8 a.m. each morning and cooks up awesome breakfast items. Everything is made to order.

What would breakfast be without some variation of eggs, including sandwiches and omelettes? The French toast is cooked to perfection and the breakfast meats of bacon and sausage are of the highest quality. You can always go a little lighter and have a bagel, danish or muffin or maybe you just want to enjoy a coffee as you sit back and feel the light gulf breeze drifting by.

Why not become one of the regulars who takes a walk on the beach and then stops for coffee, breakfast or lunch, depending on the time of day?

The lunch menu features a full array of wraps, sandwiches, baskets, and munchies. Salads, such as chicken, tuna and pasta,

are all homemade daily. Grilled items include chicken and a garden burger, as well as a half pound steakburger or hot dog. The menu items are too numerous to list, but if you can imagine it, it's probably on the menu! Salads play a big part, such as salad and half a sandwich or chef salad. And they even have fried items like chicken fingers, French fries, and onion rings. Mmm, mmm good!

Not in the mood for an actual sandwich? Looking for just a little something? How about nachos with cheese, stuffed jalapeno pretzel or a frozen candy bar, soft serve ice cream or a smoothie? Now, that's my kind of lunch!

Paradise Grill has daily specials, so be sure to check the board each day. Our youngest members are thrilled with the kids menu too, which consists of hot dog, peanut butter and jelly, macaroni and cheese, and chicken fingers. They are all served with chips and a juice box.



The Grill is also open for all special events at Residents' Beach and often offers a special dinner menu for a steal! At a recent concert on a Friday evening, they had a special offering of fried grouper, French fries, coleslaw and garden salad. It was quite a wonderful evening.

By the way, you don't have to be "going to the beach" per se to stop and enjoy a little something at the Paradise Grill. An idea that is becoming more popular with our members is to just stop by for a burger in the middle of the day and then head back off to the finish the rest of the chores! Might as well enjoy our lovely Residents' Beach setting as much as you can!



MICA Proudly Participates in ArtQuest!

The Marco Island Civic Association is excited to again play a role in bringing art to the daily scenery of Marco Island! If there is anything that could possibly make our island paradise more beautiful, it could be stunning artwork scattered around our surrounds.

The Marco Island Foundation for the Arts (MIFA) originally launched ArtQuest in 2006. MIFA and ArtQuest work in conjunction with the business community to promote the display of art in public places on Marco Island. On November 15 MIFA unveiled artwork associated with ArtQuest 2008. 15 pieces of art were placed throughout our beautiful island and a small celebration was held at each location.

The MICA sponsored artwork is situated south of the Residents' Beach entrance. MICA chose a sculpture entitled "Dancing Terns" which was created by Miami-based artist Fred Caravetta. We were lucky enough to have Mr. Caravetta attend the unveiling at Residents' Beach as well as the unveiling of another of his sculptures at the Bayview Restaurant and Star Bar at the Esplanade later in the day.

Mr. Caravetta has worked with steel for the past 30 years, which he sometimes paints, carves and welds. He has settled on a technique he refers to as a 3-dimensional water-color in steel. He cuts, pounds and paints the steel with a laser-like cutter and Heli-Arc torch to get the classic results you see in his artwork.

Mr. Caravetta was so impressed with the location and the program that he later donated "Dancing Terns" to MIFA to be on permanent display at Residents' Beach! North of the entrance is another lovely bronze depiction of a mother and baby manatee. This piece was also donated to MIFA and will remain on permanent display at Residents' Beach as well.





In January of 2006 MICA's sponsored artwork "It's Only a Game" was placed at Sarazen Park, at the corner of Collier Boulevard and Swallow Avenue, and is still on display. It's a lovely bronze sculpture by American artist Bill Bond, featuring a tribute to the great game of golf.

As they did in 2006, observers of the art are asked to vote for their favorite sculpture as part of a contest. The winning sculptor will be awarded a cash prize sponsored by Orion Bank. MICA, as sponsor of "Dancing Terns," would encourage you to view all 15 pieces and then cast your vote for "Dancing Terns!" Forms are available at the MICA office and at other locations island wide.



Humanitarian of the Year continued from page 4

belongings they have, keeping them in a constant state of need. Karen was shocked to discover that there were hundreds of these children living practically in our backyard, where we live so comfortably and then some.

Karen knew that a program that could provide the children with necessities could really make a difference. That's when Bedtime Bundles was born. It was inspired by a program of the same name in Cincinnati, Ohio. The "bundle" consists of a pillowcase filled with basic items and enables them to carry these possessions with them where ever they go.

As there are hundreds of children who need help, our Humanitarian enlisted her friends

and neighbors who share her concern for these innocent children. In just about a year and a half, Bedtime Bundles has grown greatly. Hundreds of Bedtime Bundles have been distributed, but Karen's not done! Karen Saeks, MICA's Humanitarian of the Year, is a true inspiration to everyone around her. She is hard working and takes her task very seriously.

You can join your neighbors and help the children, too, by donating a Bedtime Bundle. What's in a bundle? Diapers or pull ups, baby wipes, powder, pacifier, toothbrush and toothpaste, soap and shampoo, wash cloth and towel, pajamas, socks, underwear, sweatshirt or sweater, blanket or throw, and a book, toy or stuffed animal. Reach into your heart and fill a new or gently used pillowcase with the above appropriate items for an infant through a 17 year old,

either boy or girl. Karen recently extended the age limit to include the older teens because she believes they are most at risk. So don't forget the teenagers in your bundles!

If you don't have time to shop, you can still help. You can send a check or gift certificate to Bedtime Bundles, 1061 S Collier Boulevard, Unit 501, Marco Island, FL 34145. Gift certificates may be purchased at any of the following locations: Publix, Wynn Dixie, CVS, Walgreens, Bealls, Target, KMart or Wal-Mart. Please feel free to drop your bundle or donation at the MICA office at 1770 San Marco Road, Unit 204, or call Karen Saeks to arrange for pickup at 398-5179.

Congratulations, Karen Saeks, MICA's Humanitarian of the Year, and we thank you for all you do to help the youngest members of our community!

Rookery Bay - Yours to Explore, Yours to Enjoy, Yours to Protect

by Renee Wilson, Research Translator, Rookery Bay Reserve

An amazing world exists within the pristine, mangrove-fringed waterways, uplands and freshwater wetland habitats of the Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. Rookery Bay Reserve engulfs the island of Marco, encompassing roughly 110,000 acres of coastal lands and waters. This estuarine environment, where rivers meet the sea, provides an ideal setting for visitors to enjoy a variety of outdoor learning experiences and outstanding recreational activities.

Rookery Bay Reserve represents one of the few remaining, relatively pristine mangrove estuaries in the United States. The value of this estuary was realized



nearly half a century ago when local residents took a stand to protect it from rampant development threats. With the help of the National Audubon Society, Collier County Conservancy, and many others, money was raised to purchase a few thousand acres of land and water surrounding a bird

rookery in Rookery Bay. Officially designated in 1982, the Reserve is managed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in cooperation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Exploration of this national treasure can begin with a visit to the Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center. This state-of-the-art facility shines a spotlight on the diversity of plants and animals found within the protected acreage of the Reserve; more than 450 species of plants, 227 species of fish, and 200 species of birds.

Continued on page 24

SPRING CARD PARTY/ CHINESE AUCTION

Annual Alumnae Club Fund Raiser to Benefit
Santa's Helpers

Tuesday, March 11, 2008 11:30am
at Marco Island Yacht Club, \$40 per person

Join us for a fabulous luncheon and fun-filled Chinese Auction. There will be table prizes, door prizes and many auction items to win.

Play your favorite card or board game following lunch and the auction.

Please send checks with table partners to:
Arleen Soldano,
70 N. Sunset Street,
Marco Island, FL 34145 - 394-3916
a portion of your donation is tax-deductable.



Keep Collier Beautiful - Bay Days

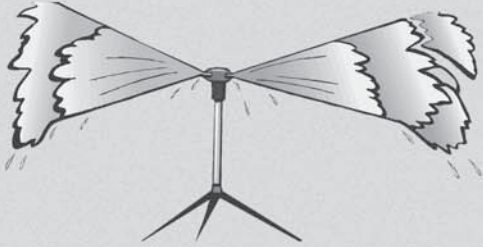
Saturday, April 26,
8 a.m.-12 noon

County-wide litter and beach cleanup

Local supply sites:
Tigertail Beach,
Cedar Bay Marina,
Rookery Bay

New Water Restrictions

Effective January 15th - Applies to ALL Customers



Irrigation permitted from
4am to 8am or 4pm to 8pm
on appropriate days

Irrigation Schedule - Phase III

Monday	Property addresses with last digit 1 and 2
Tuesday	No irrigation allowed
Wednesday	Property addresses with last digit 3 and 4
Thursday	Property addresses with last digit 5 and 6
Friday	No irrigation allowed
Saturday	Property addresses with last digit 7 and 8
Sunday	Property addresses with last digit 9 and 10

Other Water Use Restrictions

Water Use

Newly planted sod or landscaping
in place for 30 days or less

Newly planted sod or landscaping
in place for 31 to 60 days

After fertilizer application

Stressed plants

Low volume watering methods

Car or boat washing

Pressure washing

Water Restrictions

Water from 2am to 8am Monday - Thursday,
Saturday and Sunday. No watering Friday.

Water from 2am to 8am Monday,
Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday.
No Watering Friday.

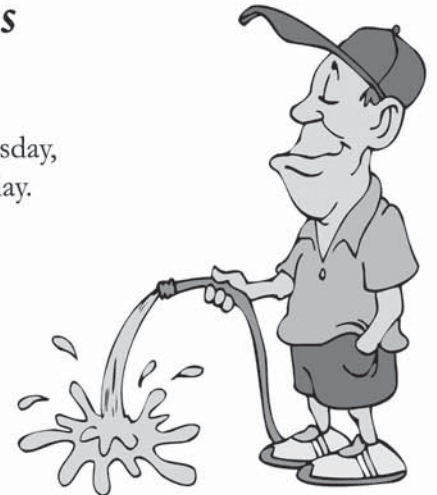
Water 10 minutes after application only.

Water 10 minutes per day using a single
hose with an attached automatic shut off nozzle.

Drip, bubble and micro-jet systems that apply water directly to root
plant zones may be used at any time.

No restriction. When washing a car, park it over a non-paved or porous
surface to limit water runoff, and always attach an automatic shut off
nozzle to your hose. Limit boat rinsing to 15 minutes after it has been
in salt water.

No restriction. Use low-volume equipment that produces water
pressure of 1,000psi to 4,000psi.



City of Marco Island, 50 Bald Eagle Drive, Marco Island, Florida 34145
www.cityofmarcoisland.com

Report any violations to the code enforcement office at 239-389-5000.

Clean Out the Cupboards Before You Head North

by Ruth McCann

Cleaning out the Cupboards blossomed from an idea last summer to stimulate business at the Shops of Marco while renovations were underway. Tammi Williams, who is employed at Salon & Spa Botanica at the Shops of Marco, devised a plan for the businesses to supply discount coupons in goodie bags that were distributed to vacation rental properties.

Knowing there are so many less fortunate individuals in Collier County, Tammi decided to ask the rental companies if she could also leave a basket for guests to fill with non-perishable items as they were leaving. The response was enormous, so the project adopted its official name – Cleaning out the Cupboards!

Tammi Williams is so excited about this program and her upbeat spirit is contagious. Everyone wants to help.

Residents' Beach members were asked to bring non-perishable food items to MICA's Holiday Celebration on December 23. The response was just terrific. Boxes and boxes of food were collected and taken to Immo-kalee on Christmas Eve. Imagine wanting food for Christmas, but that was on many lists that day.

Food is needed all year long. So before you close your house up for the summer and head north, clean out those cupboards, bag or box it up and drop it off to be distributed to the needy. Don't leave it in the house to throw away next season when

you come back. Someone can truly use it and donating it couldn't be easier.

You can drop it at Tammi Williams' house at 73 Bermuda Road, across from Tommie Barfield Elementary School (you'll see a sign on her mailbox), or call her at 601-2533 for more information. If you are making one last visit to Residents' Beach before you head back home, you can even leave it at the gatehouse, and we'll make sure Tammi and Cleaning out the Cupboards gets it.

Tammi also collects other items that are in reasonable condition. However, please be sure to drop those items at Tammi's home or call her directly.

You won't want to miss this season's

Healthy Life Lecture Series

All lectures will take place at Mackle Park at 7:00 p.m. and are free to the public.

Please mark the dates on your calendar as details will be forthcoming.

February 26, 2008... Colon Cancer

March 25, 2008..... ADHD

April 8, 2008..... Prostate & Reproductive Concerns



From U.S. Rep. Connie Mack to MICA Members

I'm pleased to contribute my first article for the MICAWAVE Newsletter and inform residents of Marco Island of the happenings in Washington and Southwest Florida.

I know many of you, like American families and businesses across the country, are concerned about the economy. We need to develop short-term solutions to give families immediate relief, and we need long-term solutions to ensure our nation's economic future is strong.

I've always firmly believed that Americans deserve to keep more of their hard-earned money. That's why I am a strong advocate for making the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts permanent and reducing the tax burden on American businesses in order to make them more competitive in the global marketplace.

At the same time, Congress needs to better manage taxpayers' money. The Administration recently unveiled a \$3.1 trillion budget for the next fiscal year - the first time a budget has surpassed \$3 trillion. Clearly, Washington doesn't have a revenue problem, it has a spending problem - and it is out of control. We must once and for all stop wasteful spending and ensure our nation's priorities are met in a fiscally responsible manner.

As a member of the House Budget Committee, I'll be working



with my colleagues over the next several months during "budget season" to ensure we don't pass the burden of this out-of-control spending on to our children and grandchildren. Floridians - and all Americans - deserve fiscal responsibility from Congress.

Protecting the Everglades

Earlier this winter, I had the opportunity to address members of the Florida Everglades Coalition during their annual conference, which was held on Captiva Island. We discussed solutions for preserving our state's national treasure for generations to come.

I was pleased to talk about Congress' work in protecting this natural resource as well as my support for the Water Resources Development Act, which authorizes funding for water infrastructure projects - several of which are in Collier

County - and was signed into law late last year. While we've passed the first hurdle of authorizing funding, we need to tackle the next one - appropriating funds. More importantly, the federal government needs to live up to its end of the bargain and start dedicating more resources to the restoration.

Protecting the Everglades is important for the overall health of South Florida's environment, our economy, and our quality of life. It's our responsibility to ensure that a healthy and vibrant Everglades is there for our children and grandchildren.

There's still much more that needs to be done so that we can continue to make Marco Island and the rest of Southwest Florida a great place to live, work and visit. I look forward to continuing to work with you on these important issues, and urge you to contact me at <http://mack.house.gov> with your thoughts, ideas and concerns.

Cafe de Marco

*Fresh Seafood
since 1983*

244 Palm Street, Olde Marco
Reservations please 394-6262

A Message from Physicians Regional Healthcare System

Dear Members of our Community,

On behalf of Physicians Regional Healthcare System (PRHS), which includes Physicians Regional - Collier Boulevard and Physicians Regional - Pine Ridge, I want to thank you for your continued and growing support.

So many developments have taken place within our system in the past year that it's difficult to report them all in just one letter. To begin with, we opened Physicians Regional-Collier Boulevard, a brand new hospital with 100 private rooms. This brought vital services such as obstetrics and pediatrics to Marco Island and East Naples, and expanded healthcare choices for everyone in our region.

Our system was also the first in the region to acquire the da Vinci®-S™ Surgical System and first to use the robotic technology for colorectal and gastric bypass procedures. We further

developed the Premier Center for Spine Surgery, the most advanced and integrated program of its kind in Southwest Florida. Outcomes for patients of the Center have been so positive that it is now among the top 10 percent of spine programs nationwide. With quality care that has led to consistently excellent and quantifiable results, we have received five-star ratings in multiple specialty services and the HealthGrades® Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence™ for the past three years in a row.

We provide the full complement of medical services for adults and children, and we continue to develop new services, programs and treatments that keep our system at the very forefront of medicine. In addition to our extraordinary Spine Center, we offer comprehensive programs in cardiology, digestive diseases and orthopedics, as



well as a beautiful new Women's Center at Physicians Regional - Collier Boulevard.

Our many successes this past year would not have been possible without the support of our renowned medical staff. Our physicians are the foundation of our institution, and we are proud to have a significant number of them recognized as *Top Doctors* in the region. We appreciate their talent, energy and compassion, and their continued commitment to providing excellent medical care.

As you can see, many exciting things have taken place within our healthcare system, and moving forward, we have many exciting things in store. Beginning this February, make sure to pick up a copy of our new *Pathways* magazine, as this premier edition promises to become your one-stop resource for truly excellent medical breakthroughs from our experts, otherwise known as your community physicians.

Healthy Regards,
Geoffrey D. Moebius
Chief Executive Officer
Physicians Regional
Healthcare System

P.S. I truly enjoyed participating in the Marco Island Holiday Parade and look forward to next year's event.

Residents' Beach Monday Morning Breakfast Club!

BUY ONE
BREAKFAST
PLATTER SPECIAL,
GET SECOND
HALF OFF

Must Present Coupon at Paradise Grill



MARCO COMMUNITY BANK
MCB
Now Open
MCB takes great pride in serving
Our community.
For your convenience, we now have
A Marco Community Bank ATM
Located at Residents' Beach.
"Community" is our Middle Name
www.marcocommunitybank.com
EQUAL HOUSING
LENDER
Member FDIC

Contractor Licensing

Find out before you loose out!

Are you considering remodeling your home, installing a pool or pool cage, building an addition, having mechanical, electrical or plumbing work done? **Then you need a licensed contractor.**

Article III Chapter 22 of the Code of Laws and Ordinances for Collier County and Chapter 489 of the Florida Statutes require that contractors be licensed. The Collier County Building Review and Permitting Department Contractor Licensing Section regulates licensed contractors and prosecutes unlicensed contractors. The Contractor Licensing Section can inform you whether your potential contractor is licensed and will investigate any complaint you may have against a contractor.

Unlicensed Contractor Early Warning Signs

- **Contractor displays only a Business Tax Receipt.** In order to lawfully engage in contracting, a contractor must be State of Florida or Collier County certified. Ask to see the contractor's certificate of competency issued by the state or Collier County and make sure it is current.
- **The contractor is only willing to work weekends or after hours.** This is often a sign that the person is an employee who is moonlighting without a license. Licensed contractors are full time professionals.
- **A large down payment is requested before work begins.** Payments should only be for a part of the work. In order to be licensed, contractors must demonstrate sufficient financial ability to perform the type of project for which the license is issued.
- **Many requests for money during early phases of construction.** As stated above, the contractor should be solvent.
- **You are asked to obtain a permit.** A licensed contractor who is in good standing will always obtain the permit; unlicensed contractors can not pull permits.
- **Verbal contract only; contractor is not willing to put all terms in writing.** This is always a sign of potential trouble.
- **The contractor does not have proof of insurance.** Licensed contractors must have good liability and workers' compensation insurance in effect at all times.
- **You are informed that the job does not require a permit or inspection.** Check with your local building official. Almost all projects require a permit and an inspection. For all jobs requiring a permit, make sure the contractor asks you to sign the "Notice of Commencement".
- **You are asked to make your check payable to an individual's name** (it should be made payable to a company), or asked to make a payment in cash or a check payable to "cash". Licensed contractors will almost always have a separate business account.
- **Newspaper, advertising flyer or yellow pages ads where only a telephone number appears and there is not a business address.** Licensed contractors are required to include their certificate of competency license number in all advertising (this will be a 5-digit number as opposed to a 6-digit number issued by the state).
- **No certificate of competency license number on the vehicle, business cards, contracts, newspaper, advertising flyer or yellow pages ads.** As stated above, a licensed contractor is proud to be licensed and will want the fact known.

The biggest protection against unsafe, faulty construction work is to make sure the contractor you hire has a license from either Collier County or the State of Florida. By using licensed contractors you can save yourself time, worry and money, and feel safe from injury. You can help by notifying the Contractor Licensing Section of unlicensed contractor activity by calling 239-252-2909.

A Public Information Service provided by: Community Development & Environmental Services,
2800 N. Horseshoe, Naples, FL 34104. 239-252-2909 <http://www.colliergov.net/bldgrev>

Driving Along the Beautiful Boulevard

by Ruth McCann

What a pleasure it is now to drive down Collier Boulevard. From the Jolley Bridge on the north end to Cape Marco on the south, a trip down Collier Boulevard is one to be enjoyed.

It is true that Marco Islanders and visitors lived through some difficult months of construction, however, nothing beautiful is easily attained. It's almost complete, save for some paver installation and landscaping on the north end, but the beauty of it all is clearly evident.

Since Collier Boulevard just recently reopened, I still feel as if I'm on vacation as I drive along it. You know the feeling. You're on a trip out of town and cruising along their main street, admiring the lovely landscaping and artwork that adorns the public areas and you begin to think, "why can't my town look like this?" Well, now our town looks even better than theirs! A little justified boasting never hurt anyone!

The medians are beautiful with a perfect mix of trees, shrubs, greenery and colorful

flowers. Turning lanes make for smooth sailing and less interrupted travel along the boulevard. Extra wide sidewalks easily accommodate bikes, strollers, and walkers. Benches and waste cans are conveniently located all along the boulevard as well, conducive to foot traffic.

And of course, there are the improvements that cannot be seen, such as the wires and storm drainage. We all remember trying to drive down Collier Boulevard following a summer downpour, staying in the inner lane, hoping to avoid the instant river growing in the outer lanes! Well, there's no more of that.

An enhancement that you definitely can see is the pedestrian improvements. The pedestrian crosswalks are more defined now than prior to construction. With the addition of blinking lights and pavers under foot, it is clear that the pedestrian crosswalks require extra attention by drivers. In these areas pedestrians have the right of way. So, drivers, slow down and be on high alert. Florida state law



requires you to stop for pedestrians who step into the crosswalk.

We did not want to be left out of the picture at the Marco Island Residents' Beach either. With all the beautification along Collier Boulevard, the MICA Board of Directors thought it was high time for an entrance makeover befitting the spectacular Residents' Beach park situated on the other side of the fence!

The fence was changed to a white, powder coated aluminum and pavers were situated to blend with the pavers the City of Marco placed along the sidewalk. Of course, the main attraction is the artwork that adorns each side of the entrance. As part of ArtQuest 2008 a sculpture entitled "Dancing Terns", by Miami-based artist Fred Caravetta, was situated south of the entrance and another lovely bronze depiction of a mother and baby manatee was placed on the north side of the entrance. Lovely landscaping put the finishing touch on the grand new entrance.



What Makes a Community?

by Richard Storm, Jr., President & CEO Marco Community Bank

Community: A group of people with common interests living in a particular area and an interacting population of various kinds of individuals in a common location accurately describes the paradise where we live.

Being part of a community and making a commitment to it is a major responsibility, a responsibility I take personally. My business philosophy has always included the support and cultivation of a strong economic development of the community where I live. This held true with the inception of Marco Community Bank.

At Marco Community Bank, business as usual is anything but. You can be assured the interest of our customers and the development of our community are major considerations when making decisions. Rather than concentrating on our own profit margins, as the impersonal out of town banks frequently do, Marco Community Bank invests its money and its time in the advancement and betterment of the community. For example, recently we introduced the Freedom Account which is an entirely free checking account offering customers freedom from minimum balances, monthly service fees and direct deposit requirements. It is, very simply, free. Also, together



with MICA, we've developed an account which offers MICA members a number of benefits. These are just a few of the many savings and loan products Marco Community Bank currently offers.

We pride ourselves in our continuing dedication to excellence in both customer and community service. Whether we are fiscally supporting the inauguration of the Marco Island Fire-Rescue Foundation, hosting weekly blood pressure screenings or participating in educational programs such as the Wall Street Wrap Up Stock Market Challenge, we consistently have the community's best interests at heart. Last November, Marco Community Bank was the proud recipient of the Kiwanis Club's annual service award for our participation and sponsorship of the club's Read-

ing is Fundamental Program. Even Santa Claus made a stop from the North Pole for a free photo session! The word is out - the Easter Bunny will also be making a guest appearance next month.

Marco Community Bank is a true independent community bank, locally owned and managed by the residents of the community it serves — individuals who believe in making community banking a reality. Our Advisory Board consists of forty of your neighbors who keep the Bank in touch with day-to-day Island living. We believe in putting the customer first by implementing the best business practices and adhering to the core values of honesty, integrity, respect and accountability. We are deeply committed to Marco Island and all of its residents.

News from Your Collier County Commissioner Donna Fiala

We all love the beauty of nature, which is why Collier County citizens voted to tax ourselves for 10 years to purchase land that will stay in conservation forever. Conservation Collier, the name given to the group assigned the task of recommending what lands should be bought, has been busy assigning a designation of importance to each parcel offered by a willing seller. One of those parcels is the 2,500-acre Pepper Ranch adjoining the CREW land (Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed) located in the Immokalee area, and includes a section of Lake Trafford. I rode a swamp buggy through the area with members from The Conservancy and Conservation Collier. The beauty of the land and birds and animals was breathtaking! The land in this area that we might purchase, or have already purchased along with the Audubon Society and the South Florida Water Management District, will be instrumental in preserving our future water sources for generations to come.

The County Commission has taken the first step toward the purchase of the Pepper Ranch by ordering three appraisals. We are estimating the property is worth \$35 million, but we'll have to wait and see what the appraisers have to say, and what the sellers

are willing to accept. Conservation Collier never negotiates. If the seller is willing (nothing is ever taken by eminent domain) and the price is fair and the appraisals agree, then the committee sends their recommendation to the County Commission for approval or denial. In the recent discussion to hire appraisers, it seemed all five commissioners saw the tremendous value in preserving this property. Stay tuned for the final outcome.

Another property Conservation Collier purchased in the last couple of years was the Malt Property on Collier Boulevard, adjacent to Rookery Bay. The owners were threatening to develop the property with high rises. That would have been dreadful.

Recently the Dykes property, which shares a common boundary with the Otter Mound property on Marco Island, which Conservation Collier already owns, was presented for sale. Many Islanders saw great value in purchasing the property because it was the land Tommie Barfield once lived on. It has great historical significance, but not much environmental value. The neighbors wrote many letters of objection, while other Islanders wrote in favor of purchasing the property. When it came before the commissioners, they pointed

out that they weren't buying property for historical value, but for environmental preservation, so they decided not to buy at this time. That doesn't mean it cannot be requested again, just not at this time. The neighbors rejoiced, the Historical Society felt saddened. Maybe there is still a solution awaiting us.

Speaking of the Marco Island Historical Society, they are so excited that a donor has come forward with a \$1.5 million dollar donation, which will build the main historical museum. This museum will be the pride of Marco Island, as well as the entire county. It will be the jewel in the crown of the County Museum System! Collier County donated the land it will call home, and will donate the display cases and cabinets, all of the utilities, and staff to run the museum. The Marco Island Historical Society has raised all the money to build and will sit on the board of directors, and will probably provide many volunteers as well. There have been many contributors over the last couple of years; each one has been a blessing, for without them this museum would not be a reality. The ground-breaking takes place March 15th at 4 PM on the grounds next to the library. You won't want to miss this event.

Little Eddie and the Fat Fingers

by Ruth McCann

Residents' Beach members, mark your calendars now: March 9, 5 p.m., Residents' Beach.

You absolutely will not want to miss this super exciting, electrifying couple of hours at Residents' Beach. Get ready for Little Eddie and the Fat Fingers!

Paradise Grill is cooking up its infamous Johnsonville bratwurst dinner with sauerkraut and German potato salad for \$10. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the MICA office or Paradise Grill.

Ryan Bladen, Marc Ferris, Andrew Galler and Pete Orifice have been playing the music they love since their teens in clubs and cafes in several different cities with an array of gifted artists before eventually settling and meeting in Naples. Now they have combined their musical talents to form the band known as "Little Eddie and the Fat Fingers" and have quickly emerged as leaders on the music scene among local bands playing across Southwest Florida.

"Little Eddie and the Fat

Fingers" live shows are both artistic and entertaining by showcasing each individual's talent and ability to use their instruments to bring the songs alive.

Ryan's growling vocals and soulful guitar playing, alongside Marc's butter thick tone and melodic phrasing on the harmonica create a genuine blues sound. By adding Andrew's driving rhythm on the drums combined with Pete's brisk piano playing, the band engender a sound reminiscent of the 1940's Chicago blues scene, 1950's Boogie Woogie and early Rock n' Roll.

The band's ability to communicate the songs to the audience through audience participation, a powerful stage presence and an obvious knack for improvisation during the performance keeps the music of the artists they revere alive



with an authentic and refreshing sound while sharing their enthusiasm for the music with others as well as its place in history.

In September 2007 the members of the band set up at Orion Bank on Marco to give a one hour informative musical demonstration and brief history on the progression of the blues and its innovators.

They have also appeared on Fox 4s "The Morning Blend" and are exploring the possibility of a new album after recording at Miami's famous studio, The Hit Factory. "Little Eddie and the Fat Fingers" have obtained a growing number of fans in Florida and around the country, but how did they get their name? We'll have to ask them on March 9!

Don't miss this very rare event on Marco – an evening of Blues!

*Remember....
No Glass
at the Beach!*

Donate a beach wheelchair
on behalf of a loved one.
The cost is \$1,300 per wheelchair.

Please call Ruth at
239-642-7778
for further information

What is Xeriscape?

by Ruth McCann

This question confuses many people who expect Xeriscape to be a specific look or specific group of plants. Xeriscape is actually a combination of seven common-sense gardening principles that save water while creating a lush and colorful landscape.

These Seven Fundamental Principles of Xeriscape are:

Plan and Design - Like a house, a well-designed landscape should start with a plan, or rather, a series of plans. The first plan is a base plan which shows the major elements of the current landscape, including the footprint of the house, driveway, patios, walkways and all existing trees, shrubs and garden beds. The base plan should also show directions (indicate which way is north), and should include the location of spigots, downspouts and external electrical outlets. A base plan needs to be drawn to scale. You may need a friend to help you measure.

Once the base plan is complete, the next step is to make a bubble diagram. This involves taking a copy of the base plan and adding descriptive notations (“bubbles”) to indicate such things as views that need to be enhanced, areas that need screening for privacy, and areas that have specific uses. This is the time to decide how you want to use various areas in your yard. For instance, if you like to barbecue, you may want to include an outdoor cooking area. If you have children or pets, you’ll need

a play area. You may even want a “library” - a private niche where you can retreat with a good book.

The final step is to use the bubble diagram to come up with a well-defined landscape plan, identifying specific site details (fences, trellises, decks, etc.) and a planting scheme. The landscape plan serves as the blueprint for constructing the finished Xeriscape, so you’ll want to be as specific as possible when it comes to the type and number of plants. The best advice that I have been given about Xeriscape is the following: group plants according to their light and water requirements - don’t put plants that like dry conditions in the same area as plants that need frequent watering. Put taller plants in the back of the garden bed, and shorter plants near the front.

Create Practical Turf Areas

- Contrary to what you may have heard, converting your yard to Xeriscape does NOT mean you have to get rid of all the grass. It does mean you need to think about where it makes sense to have grass, rather than just putting turf everywhere. While traditional landscaping in America has always included expanses of lawn, in Florida’s sup-tropical climate grass needs a lot of supplemental irrigation to stay green and lush. That’s why it’s important to limit grass.

For instance, areas that get a lot of foot traffic might do better with walkways instead of turf. Heavily shaded areas would do

better with a groundcover that is more shade-tolerant. In areas where turf is appropriate, select the type of grass that best suits the site.

Select Low Water Plants -

There is a misconception that the only plants allowed in a Xeriscape are cactus and other desert perennials. Nothing could be farther from the truth! There are a large number of plants that do well in our sub-tropical climate with little or no supplemental irrigation. The trick to waterwise gardening is to put the right plants in the right place.

Different plants have different requirements when it comes to light, soil and water. And every yard contains several different microclimates. You want to put plants in the microclimate that most closely matches their needs. For instance, plants that like sun and dry conditions would do best in areas that get watered infrequently. Plants that prefer cooler sites would be happier with an eastern or northern exposure, or in areas that are shaded by other plants. Higher water-using plants would do best in low-lying drainage sites or areas next to downspouts.

Because there is such a large palette of plants that do well in our climate, you can also select plants based on color, texture or fragrance. For instance, you might want to turn one bed into a butterfly garden, and select plants whose blossoms attract butterflies.

Use Soil Amendments - Soil is the foundation of every landscape. The better the soil, the more successful a Xeriscape will be. Soil is made up of three main types of particles - sand, silt and clay. Marco Island's soil is primarily sand. Sandy soil has excellent drainage and lots of air space for root growth, but does a poor job of retaining moisture and nutrients. Water applied to sandy soil tends to percolate quickly down to the water table. This limits the amount of time plant roots have access to the water.

Fortunately there's a way to improve sandy soil. That's to amend it by adding lots of organic material, such as aged compost and/or manure. The ideal way to do this is to spread three to five inches of organic material over the top of the existing soil, and rototill as deeply as possible (a depth of six inches is considered sufficient.) Once a landscape has become established it is much harder to improve the soil. Organic material can be applied to garden beds and worked in by hand.

Use Mulch - Mulch is an essential component of gardening in a sub-tropical climate like ours. Mulching minimizes evaporation. It cools plant root zones, which reduces the amount of water plants lose through evapotranspiration. It reduces weed growth, and it helps control erosion. Mulch also adds a finished look to the garden.

There are two basic types of mulch - organic and inorganic. Organic mulch is wood-based, such as pole peelings, chipper chips, and cedar chips. Organic

mulch will decompose over time and improve soil texture, but it will need to be replaced periodically. It's an ideal choice in new gardens, where plants are much smaller than their mature size. The mulch will fill in the empty spaces and slow weed growth.

Inorganic mulch is stone-based and includes cobblestone, river rock, pea gravel and lava rock. Inorganic mulch rarely needs to be replaced but tends to retain and radiate heat so it's not always the best choice. It works best in a more formal setting where the rock will remain visible even when plants are mature.

Organic mulch should be applied directly on top of the soil in a three to four inch layer. Inorganic mulch may be applied on top of the soil or over a weed barrier fabric, and should be layered two to four inches deep. [NOTE: never apply mulch over black plastic. Plastic doesn't allow moisture or air to penetrate, and can kill useful organisms in the soil.]

Irrigate Efficiently - Once you've installed a Xeriscape, it's important to water it correctly. While new plants are getting their roots well-established, a Xeriscape will probably use the same amount of water as the grass you replaced. Once established, you can cut back on the amount of water.

It's important to apply water efficiently. Efficient irrigation can be done either with a hose-end sprinkler or with an automatic sprinkler system. The keys to either method are:

- Keep water close to the ground. Avoid the oscillating

type of sprinkler that sends water high into the air. Stationary sprinkler heads that keep the water fairly low or sprinklers that move horizontally from side to side (like rotary heads) are less prone to evaporation. Drip, micro-sprays or bubbler emitters are the most efficient for watering flowers, shrubs and trees.

- Know how much water your sprinkler puts out in a given amount of time so you can calculate how long to water for each zone.
- Design your sprinkler system so that a given zone waters plants with similar watering requirements. Don't try to water low and moderate-water-requiring plants at the same time -- you'll end up either over watering some plants or under watering others.
- If you have an automatic sprinkler system, be sure that it is set for the proper watering times per zone.
- Check your system regularly for leaks, broken or misaligned heads, and make repairs promptly.

Maintain the Landscape Properly -

No garden is completely maintenance-free. Like more traditional landscape, Xeriscapes require regular maintenance to look their best. This includes pruning shrubs and trees, deadheading perennials, aerating, mowing and fertilizing lawns, and controlling pests.

An excellent source of information is the South Florida Water Management District's booklet "Waterwise," which is available online at www.swfwmd.state.fl.us.

Did You Know...?

- Q. Half of all Americans live within 50 miles of what?
A. Their birthplace
- Q. Most boat owners name their boats. What is the most popular boat name requested?
A. Obsession
- Q. If you were to spell out numbers, how far would you have to go until you would find the letter "A"?
A. One thousand
- Q. What do bulletproof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers, and laser printers all have in common?
A. All were invented by women.
- Q. What is the only food that doesn't spoil?
A. Honey
- Q. Which day are there more collect calls than any other day of the year?
A. Father's Day



SONS & DAUGHTERS OF ERIN



ANNUAL SHAMROCK DINNER & DANCE
FEATURING NOEL KINGSTON
AND THE GAELIC GORMANS STEP DANCERS

SATURDAY, MARCH 1 - 6:30PM
AT SAN MARCO PARISH CENTER

\$45 per ticket, includes Cathy O'Clarks
Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner/Cash bar

For more information call 239-394-5181
proceeds benefit Catholic Faith Appeal

FIRST ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Eagle Lakes Country Club - Rte 41E, Naples
March 30, 12:30

Shot Gun Scramble. Sign up for foursome or single
\$125 per person (includes golf, carts, prizes & dinner)
Non-Players, dinner only \$30, Sponsor a hole for \$100

For more information contact Mary Murphy 239-394-0593
proceeds benefit Marco Island charities

Eight Simple Tips to Making a Successful 511 Call

1. "Know before you go."
Make the call before hitting the road or log onto www.SouthwestFlorida511.com for real-time travel information. Please speak clearly and minimize any background noise, including radios and open windows, so your request can be heard.
2. When calling 511 from Charlotte, Lee or Collier counties, you will first enter the Statewide 511 system. Ask for "Southwest Florida 511" for detailed regional traffic information.
3. If you would like to transfer to other regional 511 services in Florida, say "other 511 systems" and "Central Florida 511," "Northeast Florida 511," "Southeast Florida 511" or "Tampa Bay 511."
4. For the latest airline arrivals/ departures, parking, ground transportation, car rentals and directions, say "airport."
5. Say "public transit" to hear route and schedule information.
6. Any time you need further instructions, simply say "help."
7. To navigate through the phone menus more quickly, say "next," "previous," "stop," or "repeat."
8. To start over, say "main menu" at any time.

MARCO ISLAND CIVIC ASSOCIATION - RESIDENTS' BEACH

1770 San Marco Road #204, Marco Island, FL 34145

Phone: 239-642-7778 Fax: 239-642-8663

APPLICATION FOR 2007-2008 MARCO ISLAND RESIDENTS' BEACH USE

Enclosed is my check for \$130.00 covering application fee for my non-transferable Residents' Beach membership.

Fiscal year is September 1, 2007 through August 31, 2008. Fees are not prorated.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MICA - RESIDENTS' BEACH.

I certify that I am a Marco Island resident, and in support of this application, I AM SUBMITTING HEREWITH PROOF that I qualify for membership by including legible copies of one of the following with my application:

- Copy of 2007 proposed tax statement or 2006 or more recent tax bill, or homestead exemption card for improved residential dwelling on Marco Island showing the street address. OR
- Copy of current homeowner's, wind, or flood insurance policy for my residential dwelling on Marco Island, showing the street address. OR
- Copy of current condominium maintenance fee billing for my residential dwelling showing the Marco Island street address. OR
- New property owners: copy of warranty deed or copy of closing statement.

- I also wish to join the Marco Island Civic Association, therefore, enclosed is an additional \$30, for a total of \$160. (MICA membership is \$35. There is a \$5 discount given when Residents' Beach & MICA memberships are purchased simultaneously).
- I'd like to help pay down the mortgage for the new beach pavilion. I've enclosed an additional _____.
- For members wishing to permanently affix decals to their vehicles: License plate number(s) will appear on the Residents' Beach decal(s). Therefore, I AM ALSO SUBMITTING: one or two [please circle] copies of current vehicle registration(s), showing the license plate number(s), in the names appearing on application.

If either vehicle is leased and your name is not shown on the car registration, please also submit copies of the lease(s) or insurance card(s) showing your name. Vehicle titles will not be accepted.

**ONLY THE ABOVE DOCUMENTS WILL BE CONSIDERED AS ACCEPTABLE PROOF OF RESIDENCY.
ORIGINALS WILL NOT BE RETURNED TO YOU.**

I understand that: 1) Residents' Beach membership will be granted only to natural persons (not corporations or trusts); 2) not more than one membership will be issued to any resident; 3) membership is non-transferable; 4) members entering Residents' Beach without a decal affixed to their car (decal must match license plate) must present photo identification to the guard; 5) there is no refund of fees; 6) the fee to replace a car decal is \$20.00. As a member of the Residents' Beach I waive for myself and any of my guests any cause of action that may arise for damages of any kind and matter. I understand that any violation of membership rules and beach access regulations will be grounds for cancellation of my membership. Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing application and that the facts stated in it are true.

MARCO RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY ADDRESS _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS OR PO BOX IS NOT ACCEPTABLE

Date Signature of Applicant

Please print legibly
Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Daytime phone #: _____ Fax #: _____

E-mail address: _____

MARCO ISLAND CIVIC ASSOCIATION "MEMBERS ONLY" DISCOUNT PROGRAM

The following businesses would like to say "thank you" and are extending a minimum 10% discount to MICA & Residents' Beach members who present their MICA membership cards AT THE TIME OF PURCHASE. These discounts are not valid with any other offers and are at the discretion of each business. Discounts are for MICA & Residents' Beach members' purchases only.

A. Pinto Self Storage

5% off self storage rental fee for new rentals & document shredding
994 N Barfield Drive, Unit 23, 394-1822

Adam Peters Construction Inc. Fine Finish Carpentry

10% off any crown molding job over \$1,000
www.adampetersconstruction.com
207-7650

Airboat Experience

Base of Goodland Bridge, 642-3141

Always There Home Health Care

After first month of service, deduct 5% discount on weekly billing. Not to be combined with other offers.
317 N Collier Blvd #201, 389-0170

Angelica's Boutique

Latest fashion in clothing & accessories including handbags, costume jewelry, shawls, sunglasses, belts, etc.
Your styles at your price!
681 S Collier Blvd. 394-6632

Dr. Constance Aria

Licensed Psychologist
997 N Collier Blvd, Suite D
Royal Palm Mall, 394-5599

Autocraft

5% off non-insurance repairs
Present card prior to estimate being prepared
754 Elkcam Circle, 642-5309

Avon by Lucinda

10% Discount on cosmetics,
642-0297, 821-7976

Bayview Restaurant

Good at Bayview only, not at "The Bar at the Esplanade" - The Esplanade
740 N Collier Blvd, 389-4511

Beachworks

10% off excluding sale items
Marco Town Center Mall, 642-7777

Beach Unlimited

1001 N Collier Blvd, 642-4888

Blue Marlin Marine Construction

10% off seawall inspections
418 S Barfield Drive, Suite A,
642-4284

The Body Shop at Home

Pamela Broad, Independent Coordinator.
We bring the store to your door! Free make-up lesson when you purchase \$75 or more. 800-472-6082 or 394-7977

Jeffrey M. Bogan Insurance Agency, Inc.

15% off annual premium for long term care
261-6533

Cache Dry Cleaners

666 Bald Eagle Dr, 394-0099

China Rose Florist

10% off fresh flowers,
excluding out-of-town orders
678 Bald Eagle Drive, 642-6663

Cold Stone Ice Cream

\$1 off purchase or \$3 off ice cream cake
Esplanade, 111 N Collier Blvd, 393-0046

Connie's Art Workshop & Gallery

10% off prints, photo to program & custom framing. 953 N. Collier Blvd,
389-2500

Critter Cafe

10% off all goods excluding dog & cat food
810 Bald Eagle Drive, 389-8488

Crystal Blue Pools

New customers take 10% off first 3 months' service
799 E Elkcam Circle, 394-8240

Dry & Clean Carpet Cleaning Inc.

Carpet, Tile & Upholstery Cleaning
642-0092

Dry Clean & More

1763 San Marco Road, 642-7222

Easy Street Moving

10% off total billing. 248-4136

Enterprise Rent-A-Car

10% off daily & weekly rates
Across from Texaco
717 Bald Eagle Drive #1C, 642-4488

Fabulous Faux Finishes

394-5747 or 537-1879

Fussy Fraulein, Inc

Office, construction and window cleaning, property maintenance. 10% off first service for new customers.
394-0562

Georgie's & the Shoe Resort

Town Center Mall, 394-2621

Great Garage Doors

10% off torsion spring repairs, 642-9050

Gulf American Marine Inc.

10% off parts
994 N Barfield Drive, Suite 4, 642-9515

Gulf Coast Jewelers

668 Bald Eagle Dr
(next to Subway on Collier Blvd)
642-9009

Gulfcoast Painting and Pressure Cleaning

10% off all services. 642-1005

H.I. Studios, Ltd, Memorable Keepsakes, 239-821-9458

Habitat for Humanity Home Store

11145 Tamiami Trail East, 732-6388

Holiday Rentals

10% off all crib rentals
394-6349 or 354-0033

House of Mozart Restaurant

151 S Barfield Dr, 642-5220

Island Jewelers

Specializing in sterling silver & gold
935 N Collier Blvd (near Cocomo's)
394-1475

Island Pet Sitters

10% discount on overnight jobs,
272-1659

Island Print Shop

10% off all printing-
excludes copies & typesetting
11 Front Street, 642-0077

Islander Pool & Patio, Inc.

559 Bald Eagle Drive, 642-4844
10% off patio accessories & pool toys

JetSet Surf Shop

10% off everything except hardgoods
674 Bald Eagle Drive, 394-5544

Jewelry by Laura

at the Marriott Hotel, 394-2511

Joey's Pizza & Pasta House

10% off entree items. Dine in Only
257 N Collier Boulevard, 389-2433

Kahuna Sailing Catamaran

10% off all trips, including Dolphin Explorer & Sailing Club & School.
1081 Bald Eagle Drive, 642-7704

Konrad's Restaurant

Marco Walk, 642-3332

La Casita Restaurant

1817 San Marco Road, 642-7600

Little Caesar's Pizza

10% discount off regular menu prices
911 N Collier Boulevard, 394-4422

Linens Plus

Town Center, 1089 N Collier Blvd,
394-4422

Lotus Blossom Feng Shui Designs

10% discount on first consultation
404-0678

Maintain Domain, etc.

Joan Jennings, 394-1971

Marco Community Bank

1770 San Marco Road, 389-5200

Marco Dental Care

Fred Eck, DDS - 10% off all non-surgical procedures. Free bleaching with new patient exam, xrays and cleaning at regular price.

950 N. Collier Blvd. 389-9400

Marco Island Floor Covering

Special discounts vary from product to product. 1711 San Marco Road, 394-1171

Marco Island Leak Detective

10% off Pool & Spa Leak Detection
239-200-6608

Marco Island Photography

10% off portrait sitting & finished "Portraits on the Beach" by Peter Berec
642-3500

Marco Island Princess

Marco River Marina, 642-5415

Marco Island Ski & Watersports, Inc

10% off their water sports activities at the Marriott & Hilton Hotels, 394-4344

Marco Pool & Tropical Island Pools

New customers: \$5 off monthly pool service for six months, 537-3039

Marco Island Small Engine

10% off parts
47 Front Street #6, 389-0200

Marco River Marina

10% off retail goods - excluding sale items & fuel
951 Bald Eagle Drive, 394-2502

Marco Tanning Salon, Inc.

20% off all products
1000 N Collier Blvd #13B, 642-3646

Marco Upholstery

10% off cornices & headboards, not to be used with any other offers
919 N Collier Blvd, 394-8338

Margie's

Please present at time of purchase
137 South Barfield Drive
Shops of Marco, 389-4224

Mobile Tactics

20% off CCW & other private classes, by appointment
555 E Elkcarn Circle, 866-662-4400

Naples Wood Floors

10% off hardwood flooring material
2348 J&C Blvd, Naples, 598-0913

Ne Ne's Kitchen

10% off breakfast & lunch, dine-in only
297 North Collier Blvd, 394-3854

Nikken

10% off retail wellness products
651 S Collier Boulevard, 394-1580

Optical Boutique of Marco

Marco Walk #309, 642-4776

Polished Performance

10% off initial service
Property mgmt; residential/commercial cleaning; home/condo monitoring; concierge services, 304-6350

Porky's Last Stand

701 Bald Eagle Drive, 394-8727

Prime Outlets

Discount pack at Management Office
1722 Isle of Capri Rd, Naples, 775-8083

Radio Shack-Island Electronics, LLC

10% off any item in store
1000 N Collier Blvd, 394-5888

Rolsafe Shutters

10% off upgrades only
2403 Trade Center way #8, Naples
597-7717

Royal Palm Hair Studio, Inc.

10% off all hair products by Joico & Paul Mitchell, 981 N Collier Blvd
394-7800

Sailmaker, Bronwen McKiever

20% off do-it-yourself Sunbrella cloths, vinyls & cleaning products.
"The only sailmaker between Ft. Lauderdale & Sarasota"
350 Royal Palm Drive, 248-3169

The Sand Bar

10% off food. Regular menu items only (please present card before ordering)
826 E Elkcarn Circle 642-3625

Scuba Adventures

1141 Bald Eagle Drive, 389-7889

Sea Tow Marco Island

10% off Sea Tow membership, 394-1188

Sea Gone Fishing Team

10% off all charters except 3 hr charters
www.fishmarcoisland.com 642-0657

Sealco of SW FL, Inc.

10% on any exterior repaint with premium paint package, 642-0906

Shattuck Lawn & Landscape

New customers take 10% off first 3 months service, 389-6244

Snook Inn Restaurant

10% off entire bill
1215 Bald Eagle Drive, 394-3313

Something Olde Something New

10% off any item not currently on sale
207 N Collier Blvd. 389-9700

Southern Comfort Air

10% off any repair or service work
642-6642

Southwest Marine

960 Chalmer Drive #101, 394-4168

The Spa at Marco Island Marriott Resort

10% off Spa & 15% off Salon Services
400 S Collier Blvd, 389-6029

Sparkle Carpet Cleaning

Carpet, tile & group & upholstery cleaning & emergency water damage
www.sparklecleaningllc.com
394-8808

Sparkle and Shine Cleaning

Maintenance, handyman & repair services.
www.sparklenshinecleaning.com
866-476-0575 or 239-919-9137

Summer Day Cafe

10% off vitamins. Town Center Mall,
394-8361

Sunset Grille

(at Apollo Beach Front)
900 S Collier Blvd, 389-0509

Sunshine Books

10% off hardback books
1000 N. Collier Blvd. 394-5343
677 S. Collier Blvd. 393-0353

Surf & Sand/Sweetwaters/Crosswinds

New Retail Shops at Marco Island Marriott
400 S Collier Blvd, 389-6051

Tiny Tikes Treasures

247 N Collier Blvd 389-1868
4776 Radio Rd, Naples 417-2742

Two By Faux Finishes

10% off master bathroom color wash
272-3090

Vantastic Tours

10% off up to 2 children's fares when each child is accompanied by an adult.
394-7699

Vergina Marco Restaurant

The Esplanade, 760 N Collier Blvd,
394-9822

Walkers Marine

Parts & service discounted 10% to customers in Walkers Marine computer
785 Bald Eagle Drive, 642-6764

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1089 N. Collier Blvd, Town Center
www.wd-toys.com
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Across from the Hilton,
next to Chico's in Marco Walk

Rookery Bay
continued from page 8

Within the Center, visitors can enjoy a variety of world-class exhibits, featuring a 2,300-gallon aquarium stocked with native marine life, a theater, art gallery, lazy rockers overlooking the creek, and viewable research labs. The Palmetto Patch Nature Store is a perfect place to find books, environmental gifts and more.



Outside the Center, native landscaping, butterfly garden and paver-brick trail through an old oak hammock where bromeliads, ferns, coral vine and wild coffee thrive, beckon visitors to enjoy nature. The benefits of native plants to people and the environment are interpreted during the Native Plant Walk, one of the many programs offered regularly at the Center.

Because of its value to the scientific community, the Reserve maintains a balance of compatible public use and protection, encouraging passive or low-impact activities to ensure continued long-term preservation of essential coastal resources. With the exception of recreational fishing and commercial shellfish harvest, all plants and animals within the Reserve are protected.

To help ensure long-term protection of habitats that provide refuge for the amazing diversity of native coastal wildlife, the Reserve works in partnership with other agencies and the local community. Long-term research, stewardship and education facilitate a better understanding of the delicate balance of compatible public use and resource protection in effort to sustain a healthy estuary for years to come.

The Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center is located at 300 Tower Road off Collier Boulevard just north of Marco. Hours are Monday – Friday 9am – 4pm, and also open on Saturdays from November - April. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids 6-12, free for members and kids under 6.

Memberships are available and volunteers always needed.

For more information about the Reserve, call 239-417-6310 or visit www.rookerybay.org.



Scenes
from
MICA's
Annual
Meeting
2008







*MICA's Annual
2007 Holiday Party
"on the Green"
at Residents' Beach*



Reduce Your Use!

by Judy Haner, Intergovernmental and Public Outreach Specialist

With the region experiencing one of the worst droughts on record, it is important to understand the conditions in South Florida and, specifically, Collier County.

Collier County receives on average 56 inches of rain each year. In 2006, even with storms associated with Tropical Storm Ernesto, Collier County only received 48.93 inches of rain, leaving us 7 inches short in 2006. Dry conditions persisted in 2007 and Collier County only received 35.4 inches of rainfall, a deficit of almost 20 inches, in addition to the 2006 shortage.

Collier County

56.00" in average rainfall
48.93" in 2006
35.40" in 2007

The water restrictions currently in place allow for irrigation once per week. The intent is to put between ½ to ¾ inch of water on turf. Individual plants may be watered for up to 10 minutes if stressed, but only 'water on the wilt' to increase the strength of



those plants and help them survive the current drought.

Our water supplies are fed by rainfall and, if we don't receive rain, our supplies diminish.

Water-use restrictions apply to ALL sources from public utilities, private wells and all surface waters, including canals, lakes, ponds and rivers. These sources are all connected so they are all restricted.

If you would like us to talk with your organization about water restrictions and conservation, please contact Judy Haner at 239-263-7615 X7603 or jhaner@sfmwd.gov.

It is everyone's responsibility to conserve water in any way we can. Please do your part!

Year-round OUTDOOR water-saving tips

Rise and shine

Water your lawn during the early morning hours when temperatures and wind speed are the lowest. This reduces evaporation and wasteful watering.

Nozzle your hose

Use a shut-off nozzle on your hose to control the flow of water so you only use what you need. Remember to turn the water off at the faucet to prevent leaks.

How much is enough?

Watering less frequently with the right amount of water is better than watering often with small amounts. Water thoroughly



Gotcha Covered!

Use mulch to retain moisture. Pine straw, melaleuca mulch, recycled yard waste and shredded hardwood mulch or chips are some of the best mulches. Mulch insulates plant roots from heat and controls weeds that compete with plants for moisture.

so water will reach deeper portions of the soil. Deeper grass roots will grow, and grass will stay greener and healthier. Most of the year, lawns only need one inch of water per week.

Know where your sidewalk ends

And the yard begins. Position sprinklers so water lands on the lawn and shrubs and NOT on paved areas.

Keep it Clean

Keep excess water that runs from your yard as clean as possible by fertilizing less and using slow-release fertilizers that last longer and release nutrients gradually. Look for a fertilizer with 2% or less phosphorus.

Go wild!

Rainfall provides enough water for Florida's native plants to flourish in the wild. Plant these same colorful, drought-tolerant natives in your yard so that your plants will survive during our drier months.

An extra bonus: The butterflies many of these plants attract are free!

Right Plant, Right Place

Select and group plants according to their watering needs so that you can eliminate unnecessary watering. Put moisture-loving plants in areas of your yard that holds moisture. Put plants that prefer well-drained soil in drier areas.

Saving water

INDOORS is easy, too

With outdoor water use accounting for up to half of household water consumed, ever wonder how much water you use for daily indoor activities? These numbers are average usage rates with non-conserving appliances or fixtures:

- Dishwasher = 12 glns per load
- Toilet flush = 5 glns per flush
- Washing mchn = 47 glns per load
- Bath = 36 glns per tub
- Brushing teeth, showering or washing hands = 4 glns per min.

For more ways to conserve water - both indoors and out - and to help protect our region's most valuable resource, visit our new water conservation web site at www.savewaterfl.com.

The site features the latest information on water conservation and restrictions as well as a water conservation survey to provide feedback on water conservation awareness, water use habits and suggestions on water-related issues. The South Florida Water Management District is developing a long-term comprehensive water conservation program that will be active all year round - not just during droughts - and we want your input!

Simply shutting the water off while brushing your teeth or taking a shorter shower can save hundreds of gallons of water a month. Only doing full loads in washing machines or dishwashers, or replacing old appliances with

continued on page 30

Marco Island Princess



Marco's Most Unique Waterfront Dining Experience

NEW Nature & History Cruise
...see & learn about local wildlife

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Enjoy the air conditioned salons or open air upper deck

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Left Bank Art Fest
at the Esplanade

Saturday, March 22, 2008
10am - 4pm
FREE Admission to the public

**Youth, Amateur, &
Professional Artist
Exhibitors**

Presented by
The Marco Island
Foundation
for the
Arts

Reduce Your Use
continued from page 29

more efficient models also saves water. If each member of your family saves 10 gallons a day, multiplied by 365, that would total a savings of 3,650 gallons a year for each person!

Water on your mind?

How to get more info: www.savewaterfl.com

The South Florida Water Management District is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state – 16 counties from Orlando to the Keys. It is the oldest and largest of the state’s five water management districts.

The agency mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply. A key initiative is cleanup and restoration of the Everglades.



THE

MARCO REVIEW

- Complete Restaurant Guide**
- Restaurant Reviews**
- Tides and Sunsets**
- Real Estate**
- Shopping**
- Activities**
- Services**
- Maps**

Even if you’ve lived here all your life, The Marco Review can keep you up to date with all that’s new and exciting on Marco Island. Featuring over 150 local businesses, it’s the only publication privately owned by Marco Islanders. Read our well respected Realty Review, stay informed with our calendar of events and enjoy our articles - they’re fresh each issue and all about Marco.

And when you have visitors The Marco Review is an invaluable resource... the perfect place to find activities to entertain the whole family. Beautifully presented, with evocative photography, The Marco Review is a mirror of everything we love about our idyllic island home.

Pick up your free copy at the Residents’ Beach Gatehouse or read us on-line at www.marcoreview.com

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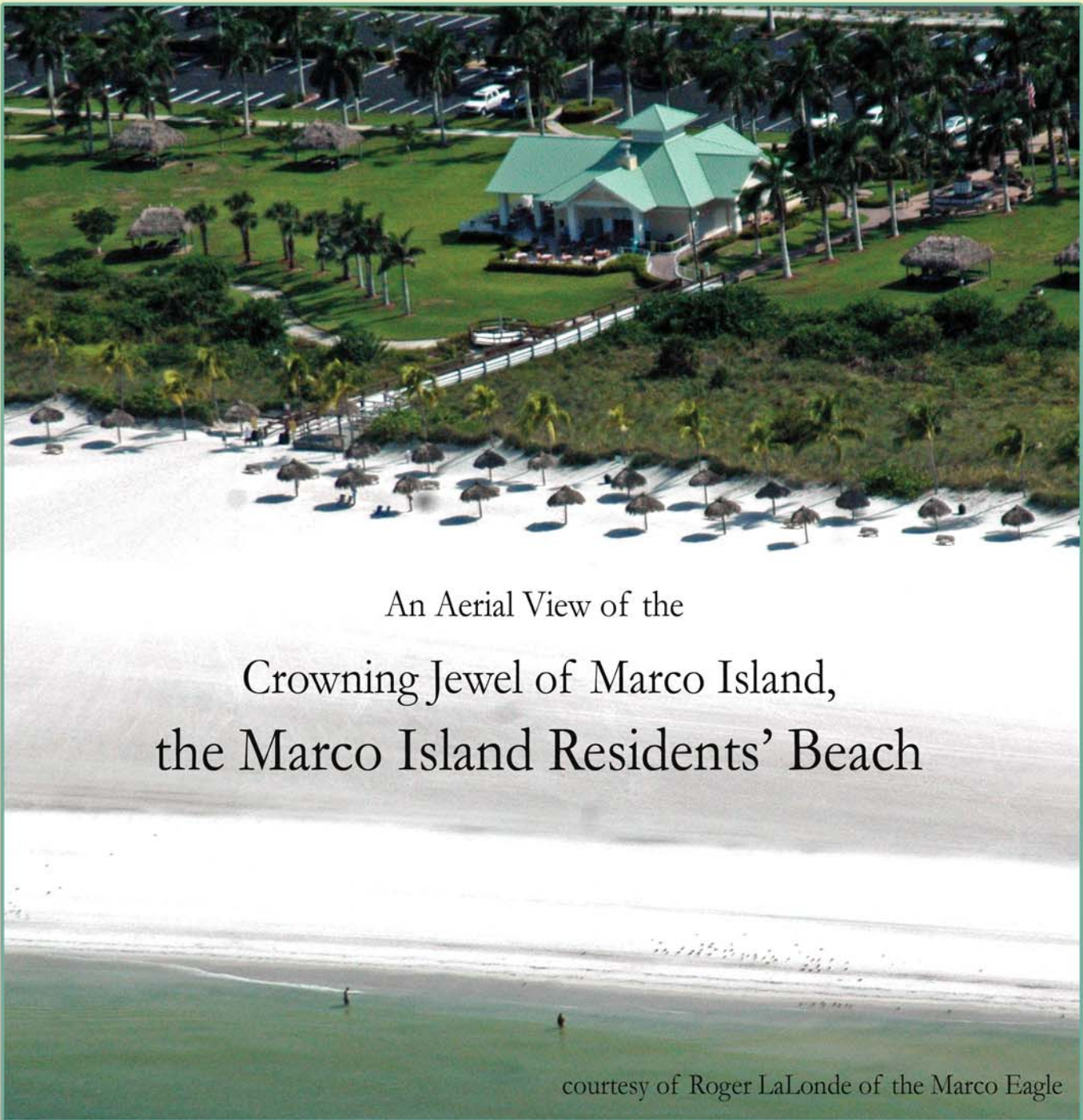
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Stop in or call (239) 389-6100 to arrange an appointment for a “personal tour”.



An Aerial View of the
Crowning Jewel of Marco Island,
the Marco Island Residents' Beach

courtesy of Roger LaLonde of the Marco Eagle

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