

MICA *wave*

**A Periodic Publication of the
Marco Island Civic Association**

Read by Over 20,000 Members

www.marcocivic.com

October 2011

**MICA's
Survey Results**

**Florida's Presidential
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There's No Place Like Home

Swimming Pool Safety Tips

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Turtle Talk

**News and Reviews of What's Really
Happening on Marco Island**

President's Report

by Bernardo Bezos

It is hard to believe that another season is approaching. We look forward to a bustling fall/winter season on Marco Island!

You may have noticed that your Residents' Beach membership application was emailed to you this year. In an effort to cut down on expenses, you will see more emails from MICA. Please remember to keep MICA advised of any change to your email address and to add the following to your address book: rmccann@marcocivic.com.

MICA also recently emailed a water rate survey to members. The results are shown on page 5. City Council has been discussing the issue for quite some time and by MICA surveying the membership in this manner, we were able to supply the results to the City Council and staff. MICA has mailed annual surveys to the membership for more than 20 years, but the water rate survey was our first attempt at surveying via email. It worked so well and quickly that when important topics arise, you may receive a short survey from us from time to time.

.....

Marco Island Civic Association

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www.marcocivic.com

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Cover photo courtesy of The Marco Review

MICA's website has received a makeover, so please check it out at www.marcocivic.com. The new site enables members to pay for their membership and guest passes using PayPal.

The next time you go to Residents' Beach, and please make it soon, take notice of the brand new umbrella chickees on the beach. Due to suggestions from members, the chickees were expanded from 8 feet to approximately 11 feet. Now you can sit side by side your honey! At the same time, the umbrella chickees and the picnic chickees in the grassy area were also covered with netting in order to protect them from strong winds.

For those of you who have not returned to Marco Island yet, you will be happy to hear that the construction on the new Jolley Bridge is complete and the main approach to Marco Island is now looking wonderful just in time for a busy new season.

Everyone is raving about the excellent food and atmosphere at Paradise Grill at Residents' Beach. Cindy and her crew now have one year under their belts and things are better than ever! With the humidity dropping, sitting outside for a leisurely breakfast or lunch is such a treat. The next time you are considering where to have a salad or sandwich, think of Paradise Grill. I promise that you will be delighted!

Cafe de Marco

Fresh Seafood since 1983

244 Palm Street, Olde Marco
Reservations please 394-6262

Missing Pauline

By Ruth McCann

Pauline Tilton, an integral member of the MICA team, will be missed by many on Marco Island and in the Boston area. A shock to all, Pauline passed away on September 19, 2011, much too early. Originally from Boston, Pauline was a Registered Nurse, last working at Framingham Union Hospital. Her husband, Don, worked at Logan International Airport with the U.S. Customs Service. They had two children who still reside in the Boston area, Kristine and Donny, along with Donny's wife, Deanna.

Fourteen years ago, Don retired from the US Customs Service, and together they embarked on a life-long dream of retirement in Florida. They purchased a piece of land on Marco Island and built their dream home. Once their home was constructed and beautifully furnished, Pauline looked for something to keep her busy a couple of days a week and that's when she found MICA. She began to work at the Residents' Beach gatehouse. In 2001 she moved over to the MICA office, working with the members of MICA and Residents' Beach on a part-time basis. If you stopped by the office over the last ten



years, you would have seen Pauline working on Thursdays and Fridays.

Working in close quarters (and on a small island!), you really get to know the people you work with. Pauline was always very honest and caring, often bringing a prepared lunch into the office for everyone or inviting us to Friday night "snacks" on the Tilton's lanai. We truly enjoyed spending time with Pauline and will miss her friendship and the laughs we all enjoyed together.

The Marco Island Civic Association wishes to acknowledge the following businesses for supplying prizes on July Fourth for the games and sandcastle contest!

We appreciate your kindness and support.

Marco Island Eagle

Arturo's Restaurant

ASE Telecom

CJ's on the Bay

Coldstone Creamery

Iberia Bank

Kretch's Restaurant

Marco Island Princess

Maria Elena's Salon

Quinn's at the Marriott Hotel

McDonald's

Mutual of Omaha Bank

Paradise Grill at Residents' Beach

Philly Grill

Pinch a Penny Pool Supplies

SandBar

Snook Inn

Subway

Sunshine Book Sellers

Vic's Island Pizza

West Marine



Operation Medicine Cabinet Event

Do you or any of your loved ones have outdated or unused medicines? The Marco Island Police Department and Drug Free Collier are collaborating with the community to proactively address the issues related to the improper disposal of prescription drugs, and would like to invite you to join us for another Operation Medicine Cabinet event on November 12, from 10am to 2pm at the CVS Pharmacy, 676 Bald Eagle Drive on Marco Island.

Operation Medicine Cabinet provides members of the community a mechanism to dispose of outdated or unused prescription drugs in an environmentally safe and legal manner. Recent studies have revealed that many of the substances, including prescription medications, that have been disposed of through our water or landfill infrastructures are now showing up in our watersheds, streams, and lakes. Removing and disposing of these drugs properly is of paramount importance with respect to drug abuse, as it helps to keep prescription drugs out of the hands of unauthorized users. A recent report in

the Los Angeles Times stated that drug abuse is now responsible for killing more Americans than vehicle crashes.

Operation Medicine Cabinet provides a convenient venue for properly disposing of expired and/or unused prescriptions at several different locations around Collier County. If you can't join us on the 12th, there is a permanent Operation Medicine Cabinet drop box located in the lobby of the Marco Island Police Department, as well as drop off boxes at the Naples Police Department, Collier County Sheriff's Office, Collier County Medical Examiners Office and other convenient locations (http://www.drugfreecollier.org/operation_medicine_cabinet.asp)

Marco Island Police Department's participation in this program illustrates our strong commitment to keeping all of our citizens safer, protecting our youth from the harmful misuse of prescription drugs, understanding the needs of seniors, and the environmental implications related to the improper or unsafe disposal of medications.

OPERATION



MEDICINE CABINET®

A pharmaceutical take-back program brought to you by: **DRUG FREE**
DrugFreeCollier.org

**SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 12, 2011,
10am-2pm**

CVS Pharmacy

676 Bald Eagle Drive, Marco Island 34145

**A PRESCRIPTION
FOR SAFE KIDS
AND A CLEAN
ENVIRONMENT**



DO

Bring unused or expired prescriptions and over-the-counter medication to Marco Island Police Dept., Medication Drop-Off Box



DO

Lock up all medications and keep away from children and teens



DON'T

Flush medication down the toilet - it is a danger to our environment



DON'T

Bring needles or other "sharps" - they cannot be accepted

PERMANENT DROP-OFF SITES:

Marco Island Police Dept., 51 Bald Eagle Drive, Monday - Friday 8am-5pm

Marco Island Recycling Center (no controlled substances)
990 Chalmers Drive, Tuesday-Saturday 8:30am-4:30pm

MICA's Water Utility Survey Results

For the last two years, the issue of Marco Island water utility rates has been a topic of discussion at numerous meetings of the Marco Island City Council, as well as the City's ad hoc Utility Advisory Board. It is clear that water service and water rates will affect the future financial stability of our island.

The MICA Board of Directors asked the opinion of our members regarding this issue and the results are shown below.

Should Marco Island City Council make a decision resolving the water rate issue within the next 180 days (6 months)?

Answer	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
Yes	1,064	89.6%
No	108	9.1%
No Response	15	1.3%
Totals	1,187	100.0%

Should all City of Marco Island property owners share equally in the debt service of the water utility?

Answer	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
Yes	846	71.3%
No	322	27.1%
No Response	19	1.6%
Totals	1,187	100.0%

Should multi-unit properties, in sharing in debt service of the water utility, be defined as:

Answer	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
As one condominium building	162	13.6%
By the number of individual units in the building	1,000	84.3%
No Response	25	2.1%
Totals	1,187	100.0%

Should your water utility bill be more detailed with explanations for charges?

Answer	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
Yes	989	83.3%
No	180	15.2%
No Response	18	1.5%
Totals	1,187	100.0%

Would you be willing to pay for the addition of a separate water meter for irrigation and the associated plumbing cost to make that possible?

Answer	Number of Responses	Response Ratio
Yes	639	53.8%
No	529	44.6%
No Response	19	1.6%
Totals	1,187	100.0%



kiloWATCH

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The power to manage your electric bill is in your hands!

In today's world everyone relies on technology more than ever. At the same time, we are all looking for ways to reduce our energy bill. Although LCEC hasn't had a base rate increase in three years, your usage may continue to increase resulting in higher bills. LCEC has an online tool that allows you to view your daily energy usage. You can even receive alerts, through KiloWATCH, when usage reaches a threshold that you determine. It's an easy approach to managing your electric bill in a way that fits your lifestyle. Understanding your energy habits and how weather affects your bill may just be the key to managing your bill and avoiding surprises.

Follow these easy steps to use the tool!

1. Visit www.lcec.net, click on "Account Access"
2. Enter your 10-digit Account Number and Social Security number or other ID
3. Click on "Continue"
4. Create a User ID
5. Click "Submit"

Once you have logged on, click the "View Daily Energy Usage" link on the left navigation pane. You can mouse over the green dots on the usage chart to display the kWh, dollar amount and date of usage. There is also a blue vertical line that displays the high temperature for the day. While you are there, you can sign up for kiloWATCH, set your usage threshold, and receive email or text notifications when you exceed usage.

For an online demonstration of kiloWATCH and other energy saving tips visit www.lcec.net.

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Drowning is Preventable

Knowledge is the Key

Drowning is a leading cause of accidental death for children ages 1 to 14. About half of all drownings among children ages 1 to 4 occur in home pools and spas. Children younger than one most often drown in bathtubs, buckets or toilets.

The CPSC estimates each year about 300 children younger than 5 drown in swimming pools and spas and more than 3,000 that age go to hospital emergency rooms due to non-fatal submersion injuries. An unknown number of those hospitalized suffer permanent disability, including brain damage.

The CSPC also reports that 76 percent of the reported deaths and 79 percent of the ED-treated injuries involved children younger than 5.

More than two-thirds of children who drowned in a pool were last seen in the house. Barriers, such as isolation fencing, give parents precious time needed to overcome brief lapses in supervision.

You Can Help

You can play a vital role in preventing childhood drowning. Educate your friends, family and community - especially parents and child care-givers - about drowning hazards and best practices for protecting children. Encourage everyone to adopt and promote these crucial safety steps.

When children aren't supposed to be in the pool, prevent access:

- Use barriers to prevent a child's unsupervised access to pools and spas.
- Alarm all house doors and windows leading to the pool area.
- If a child is missing, check the pool area first.

When children are in or around water make sure they are safe:

- Provide constant, capable, adult supervision of children in and around all bodies of water.

- Learn water safety skills and know how to swim proficiently. Teach children water safety and swimming skills.
- Have reaching and throwing aids available to assist distressed swimmers.
- Learn to perform CPR with rescue breathing.
- Upgrade pool and spa drain covers to reduce the risk of entrapment.



Join Our Mission

The National Drowning Prevention Alliance is working with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission to promote Pool Safely - a national public education campaign required by the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act. NDPA members are people like you who are eager to save lives.

Please visit www.ndpa.org to:

- Become a member and join us in our life-saving mission.
- Download our position paper, Layers of Protection.
- Learn about our various committees and plan to get involved.

Please visit www.poolsafely.gov to:

- Learn about the requirements of the Pool & Spa Safety Act.
- Get a Pool Safely Ambassador Kit. (Public education material is available in English and Spanish.)
- See the Pool Safely educational video and public service announcements.
- Download fact sheets, fliers, brochures and other printed materials.
- Access children's aquatic safety games and activities.



Florida's Presidential Preference Primary

Florida's Presidential Preference Primary Date Selection Committee has decided on January 31, 2012 as the date for the Presidential Preference Primary (PPP) Election.

As a closed primary state, only Florida voters who are registered Democrats or Republicans will be eligible to vote for their respective presidential candidate in the January 31 PPP Election. The Collier County Supervisor of Elections Office will be mailing registered voters a sample ballot indicating all eligible contests.

Registered voters wanting to change party affiliation must do so before the registration book closing on January 3, 2012.

To make a party affiliation change, a new voter registration application form is required and must be returned to the Supervisor of

Elections Office on or before the January 3 registration book closing date.

Voter registration application forms are available at the Supervisor of Elections Office, driver license offices, public libraries, government satellite offices, recruitment offices of the armed forces, state agencies that provide public assistance, and any state agency providing service to disabled residents.

Online voter registration application forms, available at www.CollierVotes.com, must be printed, signed and returned to the Supervisor of Elections Office.

For more information visit www.CollierVotes.com or contact the Supervisor of Elections Office at (239) 252-8450.

marco eagle refreshed!

What's NEW?

We're making a bold statement!
The best way to describe this new style is a "magazine printed on newsprint."
It's a very dynamic design that's focused on visual story-telling.

Now published on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Look for these new features

- Showcasing local businesses in "5Q"
- Upcoming events in "3 for you to do"
- Local home sales in "This home sold for how much?"
- Restaurant spotlights in "Chowdown"

For delivery call (239) 263-4839



GREAT NEWS

for Marco's Real Estate Recovery:
Inventory is **DOWN** and Sales are **UP!**

**2011 has been a year of transition!
I expect 2012 to be even BETTER!
Remember, I SERVICE and SATISFY!**

Thinking of **SELLING?** ...Since inventory is **DOWN** and sales are **UP**, this is a good time! I offer the **BEST** service and marketing plan on Marco!

Thinking of **BUYING?** ...This is an **IDEAL** time while rates are historically low and before this window of opportunity changes!

Let me put my talents to work for **YOU!** I've had over **18 SALES** this year! **Let my broad market and product knowledge and strong negotiating skills satisfy you!**



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9/11 Remembered

On the Tenth Anniversary of the 9/11/01 terror attacks Residents' Beach members, Jason and Barbara Katz, laid a patriotic memorial flower arrangement at Residents' Beach. They placed the beautiful red, white, and blue flowers on the bench which is dedicated to Michele Heidenberger.

Michele was a flight attendant onboard the plane that hit the Pentagon. Her spirit is embraced by her family and friends. To Michele



Marco Island was a very special place filled with many special friends, who in 2002 collected the funds to donate the bench in memory of her.

Marco Island's Veterans Memorial

The dedication of Veterans Memorial on Marco Island will take place on November 11, 2011, which also happens to be Veterans Day! City Council Chairman Jerry Gibson will begin the dedication ceremony at 10:15 a.m. at Veterans Park along Elkcam Circle.

Guest Speaker for the event will be Major General James A. Guest, who has served our country for over 33 years and when he retired was Commander of the U.S. Special Operations Force, J-3, at MacDill Air Force Base. Major General Guest also earned numerous decorations, including the Silver Star and the Bronze Star Medals.

The City of Marco Island funded \$60,000 and the Veterans Memorial Fundraising Committee raised over \$175,000 by selling commemorative benches, flagpoles and engraved pavers. On behalf of the members of the Marco Island Civic Association a donation was made to sponsor a flagpole. Around the star in the center of the memorial are five medallions, one for each branch of the service. The Marine medallion has



already been donated. However, the remaining four service medallions for the Army, Navy, Coast Guard and Air Force are still available for a \$5,000 donation each.

Engraved pavers are available and on display at Mackle Park. There are three sizes: \$100 for 4x8, \$250 for 8x8, and \$500 for 12x12.

Contact Patty Mastronardi, Parks and Recreation Department 239-389-5035, for more information.

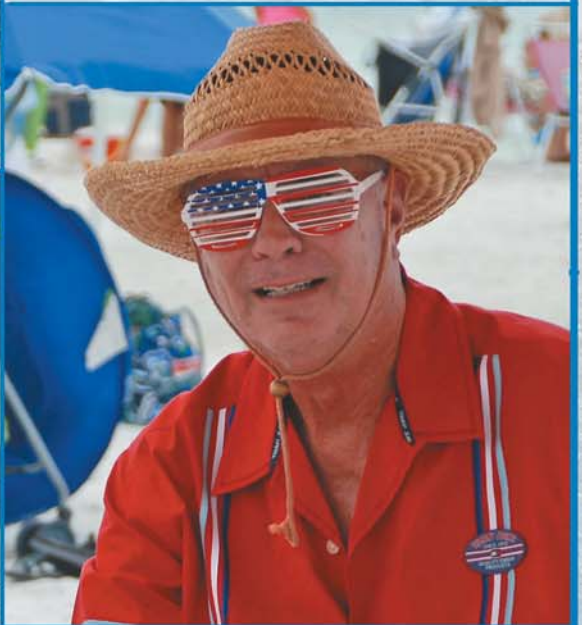


July 4th 2011 Beach Party!





*See Page 20
for more photos*



New Animal Exhibit at Rookery Bay

Gopher tortoises Samuel and Poly have recently gone on exhibit at the Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center. The native Florida species will inhabit a new outdoor exhibit along the entrance walkway to the center and will become part of the rotating Daily Programs educational activities offered at the facility.

Samuel, who is 17 years old, and Poly, whose age is undetermined, were “roadside rescues” who lived temporarily at the Shy Wolf Sanctuary. They have easily adapted to their new Rookery Bay home, digging burrows and exploring the native plants – including prickly pear cactus, fox grape, native grasses and saw palmetto – donated by Lowe’s, Naples Botanical Garden, Naples Preserve and The Bayer Family. Funding for the exhibit was provided in part by Buoy the Bottom Line, donors from the Friends of Rookery Bay’s 2010 Batfish Bash as well as the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection, which manages Rookery Bay Reserve.

The gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*), listed in Florida as a Threatened Species, has scaly, stumpy legs and sharp claws that help it dig. Tortoises often have multiple burrows that average 15 feet in length and sometimes go as deep as six feet. Tunnels lead to larger chambers where the air temperature and humidity stays relatively constant, providing a safe refuge from the elements and fire. Owls, raccoons,



Samuel the Gopher Tortoise settles into his new home at Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center

opossums, mice, frogs, and snakes capitalize on the tortoise’s efforts and can be found using the burrows from time to time. The 110,000-acre Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve contains some of the largest expanses of shrinking gopher tortoise habitat called coastal scrub.

Help Us Keep in Touch...

Please Remember to update us if you change your e-mail address

Nancy Dowdall
PHOTOGRAPHY

Call today to schedule your portrait session!
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To view portrait gallery visit:
www.MarcoPhotos.com

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AMERICAN EXPRESS VISA DISCOVER

Marco Island 394-0318

There's No Place Like Home

by Donna Fiala, Collier County Commissioner

As our winter residents prepare to come back, the Property Appraiser, Abe Skinner, has prepared and sent out our TRIM (Truth in Millage) notices.

For those residents up north it must be a relief to see OUR property taxes for Florida versus their tax bills in other areas of the country. What a tremendous difference! Comparing Ohio versus Florida, the taxes are so much lower in Florida, plus Ohio has county taxes, state taxes, and assorted other fees and taxes (according to my brother who lives in the Cleveland area).

And on a personal note, as a comparison: the taxes in Ohio for a 2 Bedroom, 2 bath small condo (and you don't even own the land underneath) are half again as much as a 4 bedroom, 2 bath house with a pool on a lot in Collier County. Ah, there's no place like home!

On Marco we have wondered at times what the taxes we pay to the county are used for – which is a legitimate question. Where DOES our money go? Sure, we pay our share for the sheriff (who is required by law to protect the entire county whether we have our own police department or not), but what is that tax money used for? So I asked the question.

I guess I had never thought of all the extra expenses we would have to incur on our own as an island if we didn't split the costs county-wide for the court systems, the bailiffs, the probation officers, the jail (we certainly don't want to have our own jail on Marco), related jail expenses, sheriff's helicopters, SWAT team, 911 emergency call system, and the list goes on and on.

If we had to pay for all those services ourselves, in my opinion we'd go broke. Then of course we have the EMS (Emergency Management System) and med-flights, and the Emergency Operations Center controlling all emergency movements for hurricanes, forest fires, etc. We also must consider the Medical Examiner in these expenses. Certainly we want

all of these services distributed county-wide amongst all tax payers.

Then we have Pollution Control. Now what does that actually mean to Marco, I asked. My answer was: hazardous waste compliance assistance, regulated storage tank compliance inspections, compliant investigations and reporting regarding algae blooms, petro fish kills, abandoned drums, etc., water quality analysis for the City of Marco, red tide analysis and results when necessary, notification in the event that material/waste is released in the vicinity of the Marco Lakes reservoir (at the corner of 951/US 41 – our water supply). I never realized Pollution Control had so many functions, but there you have it.

Also located under “county” on your TRIM notice, but not specifically mentioned are the other constitutional officers (Sheriff being the one we've already discussed here), Tax Collector, Property Appraiser, Clerk of Courts and Supervisor of Elections, who serve all the taxpayers of Collier County.

And then there is Growth Management. I asked how can Marco ever benefit from the county's growth management? I never thought about the road system! Marco residents need these roads whether going to the Philharmonic, the Playhouse, to other museums, to I-75, to Costco, or wherever we are going, and we want these roads maintained for our safety, for our evacuation and for convenience.

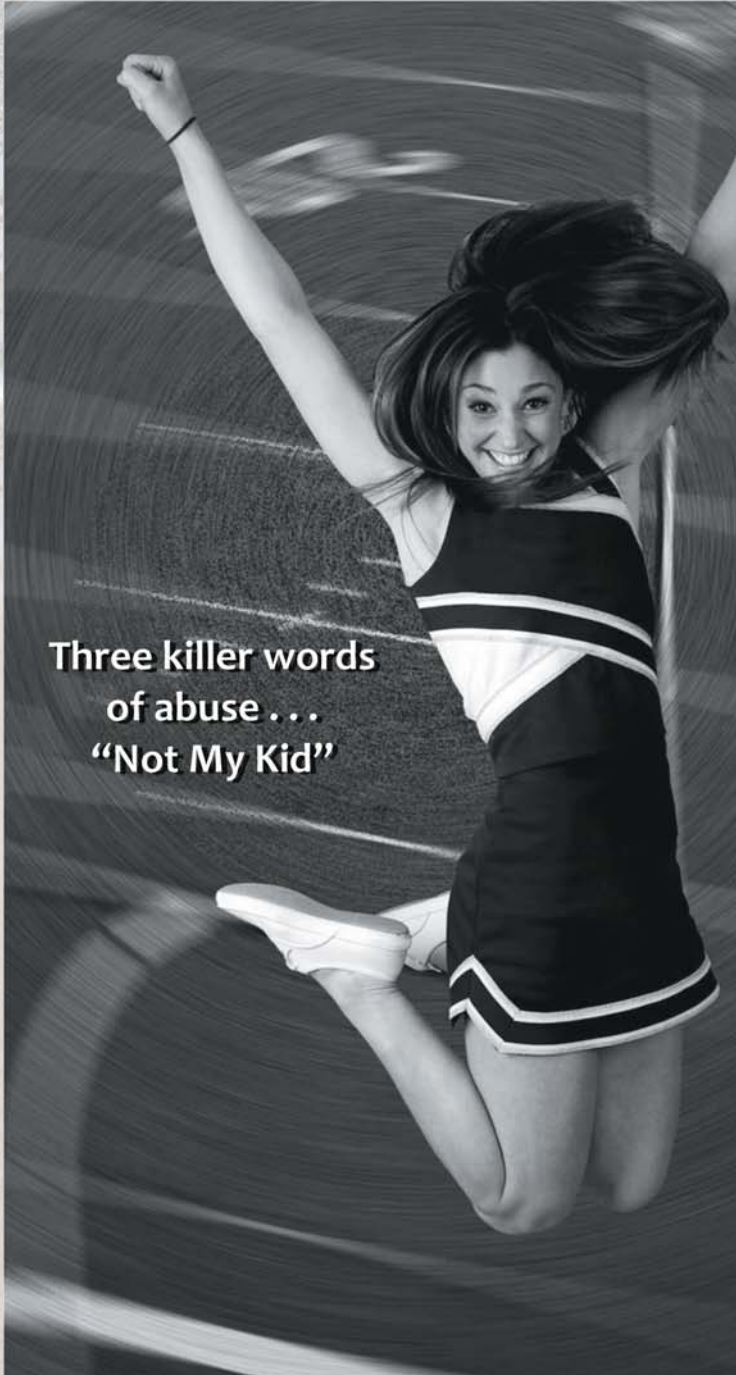
The County returns \$1 million to Marco each year to use on OUR road system. The County also works together with Marco to apply for state grants and federal grants for many things including our roads, sidewalks and bridges. Public Services comes under the County Manager's calculations, which include South Beach and Tigertail Beach, the Marco Library and the Marco Island Museum.

continued on page 30

Funny, she doesn't look like
a junky.

How do you know if a kid is abusing drugs?

How do you know if they are at risk?



Three killer words
of abuse . . .
"Not My Kid"

Join us as Bob Stutman
discusses the world of substance
abuse in our society and what
YOU can do about it.

*Bob Stutman shares his knowledge from
a decades-long career in the DEA.
He is a substance abuse expert and
consultant to "CBS News", and has
appeared on "48 Hours", "Good Morning
America", "The Ted Koppel Show", "The
Today Show" and "Oprah".*

PARENT/COMMUNITY PRESENTATION

(Two opportunities to attend)

Wednesday, November 9, 2011

7:00pm – 9:00pm

Barron Collier High School

5600 Cougar Drive

Thursday, November 10, 2011

7:00pm – 9:00pm

New Hope Ministries

7675 Davis Boulevard

FOR MORE INFORMATION

DRUG
collier
FREE

DrugFreeCollier.org
p: 239/377-0535
e: info@DrugFreeCollier.org

 facebook.com/drugfreecollier

Working to Save & Change Lives!

“The Dancing Terns” Return to Residents’ Beach



After a minor makeover that included some welding and buffing, “The Dancing Terns” have returned to grace the entrance to the Marco Island Residents’ Beach.

The sculpture was part of ArtQuest 2008. The Marco Island Foundation for the Arts (MIFA) originally launched ArtQuest in 2006 and again in 2008, to display artwork throughout public places on the island.

The sculpture entitled “The Dancing Terns” was created by Miami-based artist Fred Caravetta. Mr. Caravetta has worked with steel for the past 35 years, which he sometimes paints, carves and welds.

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!

We’re happy to welcome the Terns home!

Owl Prowl

Marco Island is habitat for approximately 90 Burrowing Owls, a State of Florida “Species of Special Concern.”

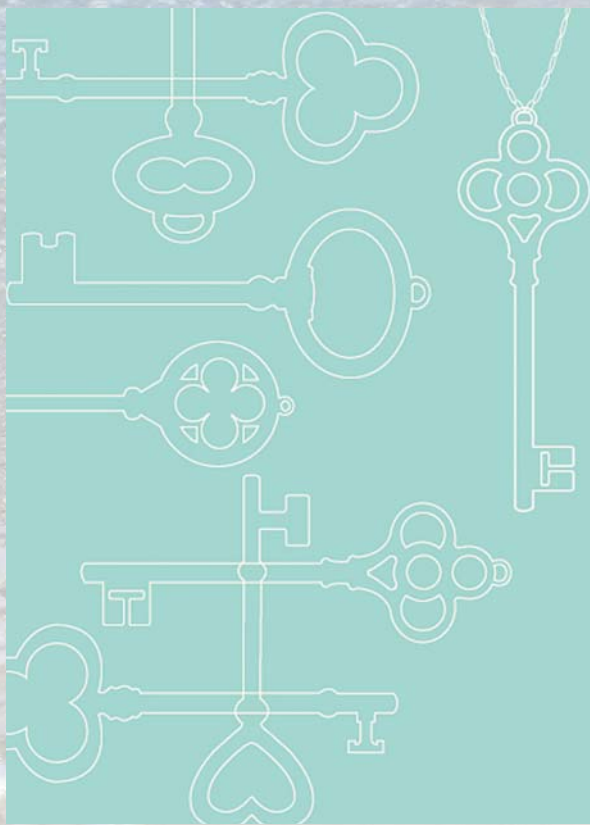
From the meeting place at Mackle Park, Nancy Richie, Environmental Specialist, will lead a walk to one or two nearby locations to view the owls and their burrows. Onsite information will be provided about the biology, history, habitat, behavior, etiquette in maintaining and viewing owls and their burrows, and the human impacts on the Burrowing Owls in the urban environment.

Parks and Recreation’s Owl Prowl events will be offered on Wednesday, October 19th and Wednesday, November 30th from 5:00 - 6:00p.m.

The class is available and open to all ages. Cost is \$10 per person.



For more information on Owl Prowl please call Mackle Park at 239-642-0575, or visit www.cityofmarcoisland.com.



Sabrina L. Kelly
Director, Tiffany & Co.

and
Melissa Felice
Unit Executive Director, ACS Marco Island

invite you to participate in

Keys For A Cause

An evening of glamour and giving to benefit the
Marco Island Chapter of the American Cancer Society
with a special performance by Casey Weston

Greystone Manor
Marco Island

Thursday, November 17 • 5:00 until 8:00 pm

RSVP Melissa Felice 239 642 8800 ext. 0
American Cancer Society
Marco Island

*Pre-purchase tickets for keys through the ACS, or purchase keys
at the event, for \$100 each. Each key gives you the opportunity
to unlock a dazzling Tiffany treasure.*

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Christmas Island Style

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Nov 8 5:00-7:00 pm | CIS/Knights of Columbus Spaghetti Dinner,
San Marco Catholic Church |
| Nov 25 6:00 pm | Santa's Arrival, Shops of Marco |
| Dec 3 6:00 pm | Tree Lighting, Veterans Park |
| Dec 7 6:30 pm | Holiday Concert & Salute to Veterans –
Charter Middle School |
| Dec 10 6:00 pm | Boat Parade |
| Dec 16 6:00 pm | Christmas Movie at the Tree - Veterans Park |
| Dec 17 6:30 pm | Street Parade |
| Dec 23 3:00 pm | MICA's Holiday
Celebration,
Residents' Beach |

For a complete list of events, please visit
www.christmasislandstyle.com



Turtle Talk

Signs of better times?

Yet another Loggerhead sea turtle season has come to a close and it is good to be able to report improved numbers on Marco. Mating is triggered by the Gulf water temperatures and since it was warmer earlier this year, we saw our first nest on south beach on May 2nd compared with May 22nd last year.

That early start set the pace for the rest of the season and we ended up with a total of 65 nests on Marco beaches compared with 46 last year. Collier County in total reached 760 which, believe it or not, was exactly the same as last year.



Turtle Lady, Mary Nelson, excavates a previously hatched nest and finds one live baby turtle (shown above right) still there

Location, Location, Location...

Again this year, the majority of nests on Marco were on Sand Dollar (the spit of land at Tigertail Beach), but going back to 2009 most of them were on the main beach. Here's how the numbers break down this year:

Hideaway Beach	11	(2010 - 12; 2009 - 7)
Sand Dollar	34	(2010 - 26; 2009 - 16)
Main Beach	20	(2010 - 8; 2009 - 32)



Although Sand Dollar and Hideaway are quiet and unlit, probably making them more attractive to a nesting sea turtle, they are also more unstable and prone to erosion. This could not have been demonstrated more dramatically than this year, when a low pressure system that came up the Southwest Florida coast late in the week of July 4th caused high tides and created a breach on the northern end of Sand Dollar, across from Hideaway Beach. This breakthrough is now about thirty to forty feet wide, with very strong currents.

Sadly, this breach washed out ten sea turtle nests and demonstrates that the beaches on Marco are forever changing.

See you in about 20 years

Can you believe it will take between 8 and 9 productive nests to produce one turtle that will make it to maturity and hopefully return to Marco Beach in 15 - 25 years or so, to lay her own nest and start the cycle all over again? Let us hope that the beach is as beautiful when she returns as it is today.

Summary of Turtle Nesting Season

- 46 nests hatched yielding close to 4000 hatchlings (nearer to 2900 last year)
- 11 nests washed out on Sand Dollar (10 during the week of July 4th)
- 6 nests didn't hatch due to inundation
- 2 false crawls were identified as nests.

Habitat for Humanity Seeks Volunteers and Customers



The mission of Habitat for Humanity is to work in partnership with God, those in need and people from all walks of life, to develop decent and safe communities. We build affordable houses in our communities so that each person can experience God's love and grow into all that God intends.

Over the past five years we were able to move 101 families each year into safe, decent homes. The Habitat Home Store, located at 11127 Tamiami Trail East is a resale store that sells quality, gently-used donated furniture, home furnishings, appliances and limited construction items (cabinets and countertops, doors, bulk tile and hurricane shutters) to the public.

The Home Store sales provide a critical funding stream for the building of Habitat homes. Additionally, all Habitat homeowners are able to shop with an additional discount as they decorate and furnish their new homes.



If you would like to donate to the Home Store complimentary pick-up is available for donated goods, and a tax slip is always available, please call 239-732-6388.

The Home Store is always looking for volunteers and there are many ways you can get involved including, floor sales, cashier and scheduling for pick-ups and deliveries, truck helper and furniture mover, back room work: polishing, cleaning and repairing donated items, promotion: talking to organizations, marketing for the store and recruiting volunteers.

The Naples Habitat for Humanity store is located at 11127 Tamiami Trail East, Naples,

FL 34113, telephone 239.732.6388. Please stop by and see how you can get involved and what treasures you can find.



Jann Brewer



*The Dynamic Duo -
Jann and Bert Brewer*

On August 8, 2011, a beloved long-time resident of Marco Island passed away, Jann Brewer. Jann and her husband, Bert, who died some years ago, were known as the “Dynamic Duo” on our island. They worked in many ways to donate their time and energy. When worthy causes needed volunteers, they were the first to sign up and generously commit their time.

During the many years they owned the Marco Fitness Club their policy was to allow any member of the armed services to use their facility free of charge. And many, many times they gave the key to the club’s front door to the service person to allow him or her to work out at any time and in private if needed.

If they found an abused animal, they took it home and made it part of their extended family. They always had a menagerie of pets that they collected along the way. Through the good times and the bad this inspirational couple never gave up and never stopped helping others.

Committed to Community Banking

Tell us what you want from a banking relationship...and we'll deliver. Whether you're growing a family, building a business or looking for a trusted financial advisor, you can count on us for flexible, customized financial solutions for all your banking needs.


1770 San Marco Road
Marco Island, FL 34145
239.389.5200

866.351.5646 (toll free)
mutualofomahabank.com

Mutual of Omaha Bank 

Your bank. Every step of the way.

Z3884

Member FDIC Equal Housing Lender 



*July 4th Beach Party
Continued from page 11*





Marco Island Civic Association "Members Only" Discount Program

DINING

Present discount card before ordering

Casa Mia Italian Steakhouse

Dine in, carry out, catering, private parties, Pizza,
1000 N Collier Blvd, 642-5253

CJ's on the Bay, Esplanade
Excludes Gazebo Bar, 389-4511

Cold Stone Ice Cream, Esplanade
\$1 off purchase or \$3 off ice cream cake
393-0046

Gino's Olde Marco Trattoria
Entrée items only,
1095 Bald Eagle Dr, 389-4368

House of Mozart
Shops of Marco, 642-5220

Joey's Pizza & Pasta House
Entree items, excludes pizza (dine-in only.)
257 N Collier Blvd, 389-2433

Kerry's Café
Shops of Marco, 394-4696

Konrad's Restaurant
Regular menu items only
Marco Walk, 642-3332

Kurrent's Restaurant @ MI Marriott
10% off bill with purchase of 1 entrée per
person, Sun thru Thurs. Complimentary
valet parking. Other offers do not apply,
no discount weekends & holidays.
400 S Collier Blvd, 642-2695

Mongello's 793-2644
10% off entree or free glass of house
wine with dinner, 4221 E. Tamiami Trail

Nacho Mama's Tex-Mex American
2 Happy Hours: 3-6 & 10-midnight
Entertainment, reduced drink prices.
Marco Walk, 389-2222

Ne Ne's Kitchen
Breakfast & Lunch (dine-in)
297 N Collier Blvd, 394-3854

Porky's Last Stand
701 Bald Eagle Dr, 394-8727

The Sand Bar
5% off food, regular menu items only
826 E Elkcarn Circle, 642-3625

Snook Inn
1215 Bald Eagle Dr, 394-3313

Sunset Grille at Apollo Beach Front
900 S Collier Blvd, 389-0509

Vandy's/5 Brothers on Elkcarn Circle,
Town Center, 1089 N Collier Blvd., #439
394-8767

Vic's Island Pizza 642-5662
Free delivery on Marco. Pizza, subs, salads,
wings. Marco's only wheat pizza. Open for
lunch and dinner. 910 N Collier Blvd

HEALTH CARE/WELLNESS
Always There Home Health Care
Loyalty Program, 389-0170

Curves, Shops of Marco
3 free trial workouts, 389-0016

Healthy Body by Nina
Initial personal training sessions & group
classes, 1000 N Collier Blvd #12, 564-6262

Nikken, 394-1580
Retail wellness products, 651 S Collier Blvd

Personal Training & Pilates Studio
Above Subway on Collier Blvd.,
650 Bald Eagle Dr. www.101fit.com
333-5771

Retro Fitness of Naples
50% off initial membership fee
4880 Davis Blvd., 732-5899

The Spa at Marco Island Marriott Resort,
10% off spa services & 15% off salon services
400 S Collier Blvd, 389-6029

Summer Day Café, Town Center
Vitamins only, 394-8361

RETAIL STORES

APPAREL/JEWELRY
Beachworks, Town Center Mall
Excludes sales items, 642-7777

Beach Unlimited
1001 N Collier Blvd, 642-4888

Georgie's & the Shoe Resort
Town Center Mall, 394-2621

JetSet Surf Shop 394-5544
Excludes hardgoods, 674 Bald Eagle Dr

Jewelry by Laura, Marriott Resort
394-2511

Sunshine Stitchers, 970-0200
1106-1/2 N. Collier Blvd., Chamber Plaza

Surf & Sand / Sweetwaters /
Crosswinds, Marriott Resort, 389-6051

NON-APPAREL
China Rose Florist
Fresh flowers only, excludes out-of-town
orders, 678 Bald Eagle Dr, 642-6663

Critter Café
Excludes dog and cat food
810 Bald Eagle Dr, 389-8488

First Pawn Jewelry & Loan
5%-20% off jewelry, firearms, instruments
and tools. Discounts vary.
889 Airport Road S, Naples, 434-7296

In the Light,
Shops at Olde Marco, 821-5243

Islander Pool & Patio
Patio furniture store & pool toys
559 Bald Eagle Dr, 642-4844

Keep In Touch, Shops of Marco
Excludes Post Office, copy & internet
service & sale items, 393-6300

Optical Boutique of Marco
Marco Walk, 642-4776

Radio Shack-Island Electronics, LLC
1000 N Collier Blvd, 394-5888

Reflections Liquors
1000 N Collier Blvd, 394-1118

Royal Palm Hair Studio
Joico & Paul Mitchell hair products
981 N Collier Blvd, 394-7800

Something Olde Something New
Excludes sale & used items
207 N Collier Blvd, 389-9700

Sunshine Booksellers
10% discount on all hardcover books; 20% discount
on notary, fax & copy services (N Collier store only).
Excluded from discount: paperback books, toys,
gifts, greeting cards, shipping and USPS Services.
1000 N Collier Blvd, 394-5343
677 S Collier Blvd, 393-0353

Your Island Home
Town Center, 642-7366

DRY CLEANERS

Cache Dry Cleaners
666 Bald Eagle Dr, 394-0099

Dry Clean & More
1763 San Marco Rd, 642-7222

Professional Dry Cleaners of Marco
571 East Elkcarn Circle, 394-4579

HOME SERVICES / IMPROVEMENT

A. Pinto Self Storage
5% off new rentals & document shredding,
994 N Barfield Dr, 394-1822

A.S.A.P. Lock of Marco Island 394-0318
www.asaplockofmarcoisland.com

Adam Peters Construction, 207-7650
Fine finish carpentry: Crown molding over \$1000

Esplanade: Collier Blvd & Elkcarn Circle. Marco Walk: South Collier Blvd & Winterberry Drive
Shops of Marco: North Barfield Drive & San Marco Road

Bella Faux Finishes, 272-3090
15% off for first time clients

Collier Tropical Landscaping
All landscaping, tree trimming or new lawn service contracts. Sergio 821-3213

Complete Stone Management
Free quote, 10% discount on service
800-775-0695

Dry & Clean Carpet Cleaning
Carpet, Tile, & Upholstery cleaning, 642-0092

Easy Street Moving, 248-4136

Fabulous Faux Finishes
394-5747 or 537-1879

Fussy Fraulein, Inc.
First cleaning only, 394-0562

Glass of Marco
531 Bald Eagle Dr., 642-6200

Gulfcoast Painting & Pressure Cleaning,
642-1005

Gulfside Electric, 784-8086

Island Pet Sitters
Overnight jobs, 389-1837, 272-1659

JCR Screen Repair & Service 394-9410

Marco Island Floor Covering
Discounts vary. 1711 San Marco Rd, 394-1711

Marco Pool Service & Tropical Island Pools
\$5 per mth off for first 6 mths new service,
537-3039

Marco Upholstery
Cornices & headboards only
1759 San Marco Road, 394-8338

Naples Floors, naplesfloors.net
20% off floors & counter tops
2060 J & C Blvd, 653-9033

Polished Performance 304-6350
Initial service (cleaning, condo monitoring)

Sealco of SW FL 642-0906
Exterior repaint with premium paint package

Shattuck Lawn & Landscape 389-6244
First 3 mths for new customers

Southern Comfort Air
10% off repairs, 5% off installation of new equipment, maximum of \$100, 642-6642

Sparkle & Shine Cleaning
Maintenance, handyman & repair services
919-9137, 866-476-0575

Storm Smart Industries 239-939-1000
'Go Energy Smart' supplies homes & businesses with solar hot water, electricity & variety of energy saving products

Sunflower Services of Marco Inc.
Lawn Maintenance, 465-8086
First month free lawn maintenance

Tiny Tikes Treasures (Rentals)
247 N Collier Blvd., 389-1868

ADVENTURES/TOURS
Billy O's Vantastic Tours, 394-7699

Dolphin Explorer by Sea Excursions
Rose Marina, 642-6899

**Island Hoppers-Helicopter
Sightseeing & Charter**
10% off tour pkg, except "Discovery" tour
Marco Island Executive Airport
2005 Mainsail Drive, 207-4100

Marco Island Princess
Rose Marina, 642-5415

Marco Island Watersports
Marriott, Hilton Resorts, 394-4344

Marco Scuba Adventures
10% off goods, scubamarco.com
1141 Bald Eagle Dr, 389-7889

Sabotime Sailing, LLC
Rose Marina, 207-475-6248

Sea Gone Fishing Team
Excludes 3 hour charters, 642-0657

MARINE/AUTO

1on1 Professional Limousine, Inc.
Lowest rates, dependable professional service, 1on1limousine.com 389-0004

Airport Express Shuttle, 961-7100,
866-258-4222, \$5 off every airport trip

Anchor Saver, 877-4080

Autocraft
5% off non-insurance repairs
754 Elkcam Circle, 642-5309

Blue Marlin Marine Construction
Seawall inspections only, 642-4284

Carriage Limousine
Affordable, prompt, professional service
394-0308, 866-942-9932

Cedar Bay Yacht Club
5% off service parts plus free haul out
& wash with all service work
705 E Elkcam Cir, 394-9333

Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Daily & weekly rate, 642-4488

Gulf American Marine Inc.
Parts only, 642-9515

Pelican Pier Marina, 389-2628
10c/gal discount on fuel; 10% off apparel.
1085 Bald Eagle Drive (behind Riverside Club Condo) GPS:25°58.291 81°43.608

Rose Marina
10% off men's, women's sportswear, shoes, hats & bags. Excluded: sale items, fuel, boating acc, fishing dept, bait, boat rentals & food. 951 Bald Eagle Dr, 394-2502

Sailmaker, Bronwen McKiever, 248-3169
20% off do-it-yourself Sunbrella cloths, vinyls & cleaning products, 800 E. Elkcam Cr.

Sea Tow Marco Island
Sea Tow Membership, 394-1188

Southwest Marine, 394-4168

Walkers Marine, 642-6764
Parts & service for customers in WM computer, 785 Bald Eagle Dr

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Dr. Constance Aria, 394-5599
Licensed Psychologist, Royal Palm Mall

Avon by Lucinda
Cosmetics, 642-0297, 821-7976

Diva Boutique, Pamela Broad
10% off facials & purchase of skin care or makeup, Marco Walk, 642-0506

DoctoRxpess
10% discount to MICA Members
Same day medical care to home, condo, hotel, resort or office - avoid long waits while on vacation.
Dr. James Klein, 239-642-8989

Jeffery M. Bogan Insurance Agency,
15% off annual prem. for long term care,
261-6533

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

James Karl & Associates
Free initial consultation
678 Bald Eagle Dr, 642-9988

Lotus Blossom Feng Shui Designs
First consultation, 404-0678

Marco Island Photography
Portrait sitting & finished portraits by Peter Berec, 642-3500

Vaughan & Associates, Financial Planning Services
Dennis M Vaughan, CFP, 970-2800
Dennis@vaughanassociatesllc.com

Veronica McNally, Ind Beauty Consultant,
10% off every order, plus free lipstick with new customer facial & makeover. 389-4852

The above businesses participate in MICA's Members Only Discount Program and extend a minimum 10% discount to MICA & Residents' Beach members. Please present your card at time of purchase. Discounts are not valid with any other offers. Discounts are for MICA & Residents' Beach members' purchases only.

Rookery Bay's Exciting Events

The Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center (RBELC) is located at 300 Tower Road, ¾ mile south of the intersection of US41 and Collier Boulevard (CR951). From May 1 through Oct. 30, the center is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday; from Nov. 1 through April 30, the center is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages 6-12 and free for members, unless otherwise noted for special activities. For more information, call 239-417-6310 or visit rookerybay.org and [facebook.com/friendsofrookerybay](https://www.facebook.com/friendsofrookerybay).

DAILY PROGRAMS

Naturalists and educators present Daily Programs at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday that are free with regular admission. Topics vary and include Movie Monday, shells, skulls and bones, snakes, nature walks, plant walks, fish feeding at the 2,300-gallon main aquarium, and marine critter touch tank.

GUIDED KAYAK TRIPS

Two-hour guided kayak tours of Rookery Bay, Hall Bay and mangrove tunnels provide the opportunity to see birds, marine mammals and other sights of nature. Trips are offered: October: Tues & Thurs – 9 a.m.; November & December: Tues & Thurs – 10 a.m. & 1 p.m.

The cost is \$40 for members, \$45 for non-members and includes kayak, all equipment, paddling instruction and admission to the Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center. Paddlers must be 12 or older. Advanced registration is required at rookerybay.org or 239-417-6310 x401.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Through Nov 11

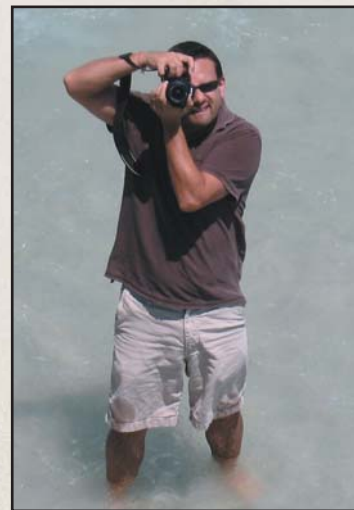
3rd Annual Family and Friends of the Estuary Exhibit

Rookery Bay staff, family members, volunteers and Friends of Rookery Bay were invited to submit artwork for this exhibit at the RBELC. The theme this year was: "Where in the Reserve?"

Oct 18-20, Nov 15-17, Dec 13-15
(8:30 – 11:30 a.m.)

Nature Photography Made Easy

Join well known Naples photographer and photography instructor Gordon Campbell for a three-part nature photography class. This course that will cover everything from setting your camera's menu correctly to attractive composition and use of lighting plus Q&A. Daily in-the-field shooting instruction and a special trip to Tigertail Beach. Bonus: for those interested in improving their photo editing and digital processing skills, sign up for an optional Day Four of in-



struction. For this extra class, students will need to bring a laptop and have experience transferring files from camera to computer. Students will come away understanding key lighting adjustments, proper cropping and other tricks the pros use to finish their best photos. The fee for the three-day class is \$150 (\$140 for members) and the fee for the photo editing class is \$65 (\$60 for members). Pre-registration required at rookerybay.org or by calling 417-6310 x401.

LUNCH & LEARN LECTURES

(noon to 1 p.m.) – Complete Details on Website. Refreshments are provided by Carrabba's and Costco Naples. The lecture is free for members and \$8 for non-members and includes admission to the Environmental Learning Center. Call 417-6310 to reserve a spot.

Oct 19 - "From Galapagos to Florida, a Journey Through Ecotourism" Speaker: Alberto Chavez, Sustainable tourism expert

Nov 2 – **“Sex, Drugs & Sea Slime – The Oceans’ Oddest Creatures & Why They Matter”** Speaker: Dr. Ellen Prager, author and marine biologist



Dec 7 – **“Florida Panthers”**
Speaker: Dennis Giardina, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission Biologist

Jan 4 – **“Life as a Nature Artist”**
Speaker: Lee Hammond, artist, author & teacher

Oct 19 (7-8:30 p.m.)
Lost and Found: The Search for 19th Century Homestead Sites in Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
The Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve will host the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society’s monthly lecture, which is free and open to the public. Archaeologist Matthew Betz will speak on locating early homestead sites in the Reserve. His talk will focus on his extensive archival research of the early homesteading families of the Little Marco settlement, which included the areas of Rookery Bay and Henderson Creek in the

late 19th century. Refreshments will be served at 7 p.m. and the lecture will begin at 7.30 p.m.

Oct 21, Nov 18, Dec 16 (8:30 to 11:30 a.m.)
Photo Editing & Digital Processing for Nature Photographers Workshop

Join well known Naples photographer and photography instructor Gordon Campbell presents this class that offers students an understanding of key lighting adjustments, proper cropping and other tricks the pros use to finish their best photos. Students will need to bring a laptop and have experience transferring their files from a camera to their computer. The fee is \$65. Pre-registration required at rookerybay.org or by calling 417-6310 x401.

Oct 25 in English,
Dec 1 in Spanish (8 a.m. to 3 p.m.)
Best Management Practices for the Protection of Water Resources by the Green Industries Certification. Class for landscapers which covers turfgrass management, landscape plants, irrigation systems and pesticide handling. Cost is \$30 and includes class materials and lunch. Registration required at least three days in advance. Download form at rookerybay.org/greenscape or call 239-417-6310 x231 for more information.

Nov 1
Registration for the Southwest Florida Nature Festival field trips opens at rookerybay.org.

Nov 6 (1 – 4 p.m.) **Party of All Parties**
Just in time for holiday shopping, Friends of Rookery Bay presents the 2nd annual Party of All Parties. Dozens of home party and gift vendors will sell their products and offer a bucket raffle of their favorite items. Free wine, soft drinks and desserts will be served. A “pampering” area with free massage and facial treatments, along with a complimentary shopping tote



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Rookery Bay's Exciting Events
Continued from page 25

are new additions to the event. Sponsors include The Arlington, Naples Illustrated, Costco Naples and the Marco Island Marriott Beach Resort. Admission is \$8 per person or \$15 per couple.

Nov 9 (8:30 to 5:30 p.m.)

GIS Symposium: Inspiration Through Networking and Technology

GIS Symposium incorporates the annual Southwest Florida GIS User Group Meeting and will be a day filled with oral and poster presentations, vendors and social hour for networking. ESRI is one of the keynote speakers and will be presenting latest software updates and changes. Visit the symposium website at www.rookerybay.org/GIS-Symposium2011 and download a registration form. Cost free and will be held at RBELC. For more info, email Jill.Schmid@dep.state.fl.us or call 239-417-6310 ext. 406.

Nov 15 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

America Recycles Day

RBELC offers "buy one, get one free" admission along with literature to help people increase their recycling habits at home and work and to buy products made with recycled materials. A nature walk at 11:00 includes a short tour of the sustainable butterfly garden, complete with rain barrel and solar irrigation. At 2:00 the basics of composting.

Nov 15 (5:30 to 7 p.m.)

Painting Annual Exhibit Opening

Friends of Rookery Bay and the United Arts Council of Collier County present the "6th Annual Juried Painting Exhibition" from Nov 17 through Jan 28 with works submitted by artists from Collier and Lee counties. Following Rookery Bay's environmental mission, work with a central theme of landscape was suggested to the artists but not required. Most works are for sale. The juror is Barbara Hill, a fine art consultant and advisor to municipalities, cultural institutions, collectors and artists. Opening Reception features wine and light hors d'oeuvres from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov 15. Admission is \$3 for the public.

Nov 17 – Jan. 28

6th Annual Juried Painting Exhibition

Dec 3 (8 to 11 a.m.)

2nd annual Rookery Bay Reserve Adventure Race

Enjoy a 3k kayak along Henderson Creek and a 4k trail run at RBELC to benefit the Friends of Rookery Bay. All participants will receive a t-shirt designed by Reserve Manager Gary Lytton, post-race refreshments, and free admission to RBELC. Awards will be presented to the top three finishers in each category: men, women and relays. Registration is limited to 70 people and opens Oct 1 at rookerybay.org. Fees are \$40 for individuals and \$70 for relay teams.

Dec 9, Jan 9, Feb 6 (4 to 7 p.m.), March 6 (4:30 to 7:30 p.m.), April 9 (6-9 p.m.)

Sunset to Starlight Cruise

Unique 3-hour small boat journey during the full moon will take guests to Key Island (also called Keewaydin), one of the jewels of South Florida. The island on the western edge of Rookery Bay Reserve is renowned for its shell-strewn beaches and pastel sunsets. Taking advantage of the magical sunset hours, this small group trip will set out on a remote section of beach to stroll at leisure as the sun sinks into the Gulf. Enjoy a leisurely return cruise through the back bays, wrapped in the sights, sounds and sensations of night in the tropics. The captain and guide is Rookery Bay's assistant manager, Randy McCormick, who is a Certified Interpretive Guide, an instructor in the Florida Master Naturalist program and a fifth generation Floridian. Cost is \$75 per person (\$70 members). Gift certificates are available. Special private tours can be arranged. Pre-registration required at rookerybay.org. Call 417-6310 x 401 for information.

Dec. 14, Jan 18, Feb 15, Mar 8, Apr 11 (2-4 p.m.)

Cruise Through Time

Take a peaceful, guided boat trip back through time to explore the rich history of the wilderness that was, and in a way still is, Rookery Bay Reserve. This two-hour trip takes no more than six passengers and offers an up-close and personal experience of remote areas of the Reserve and its 3,000

year old history. Listening to the stories of the people who once called this home leaves guests with a profound and unique sense of place. Cost is \$65 per person, and proceeds help support the Friends of Rookery Bay, a non-profit citizens support organization. Gift certificates available. Special private tours can be arranged. Pre-registration required at rookerybay.org. Call 417-6310 x401 for information.

Dec 15, Jan 12, Mar 1, Apr 5 (8 a.m. to 12 p.m.)

Wing It! Beginning Birders Workshop

Learn the basics of birding, then practice your skills on a field trip to a local park. Cost is \$25 for non-members, members \$20. Limited to 20, and pre-registration is required by calling 417-6310 x401 or registering online at rookerybay.org.

Dec. 19-23 and 27-30 (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

Children's Crafts

Children make wildlife crafts such as stingray airplanes, shark totem poles and cabbage palm reindeers. Free with regular admission.

Jan 13 – 15

7th annual Southwest Florida Nature Festival

Explore the local environment through more than 40 guided field trips to 20 wildlife hot spots around Southwest Florida, on-the-water adventures and activities at RBELC as well as at Naples Botanical Garden. Field trips, including birding walks and boat tours, are offered in conjunction with partners including Naples Botanical Garden, Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, Big Cypress National Preserve and Conservancy of Southwest Florida. Registration opens Nov 1 at rookerybay.org, with trips ranging from \$10-50 per person. Details on website.

Jan 30 – Feb 3 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

Portrait Class with Lee Hammond

Learn to draw a professional-looking portrait in this five-day class. Using proven methods from her best-selling books, "Lifelike Portraits from Photographs" and "Lifelike Drawing in Color," Lee Hammond will show how a portrait is created in both graphite and colored pencil. Students will

learn how to accurately draw each of the facial features, as well as hair and clothing. Absolutely no experience required. Hammond has been a professional artist and art instructor for more than 20 years. Supplies are not included. A list will be provided. Cost is \$375.

Feb 2 to Mar 31

6th Annual Florida Juried Photography Exhibit

Friends of Rookery Bay and the United Arts Council of Collier County present the "6th Annual Florida Juried Photography Exhibit" featuring the flora and fauna of Florida from Feb 2 through Mar 31. The juror is pre-eminent photographer Clyde Butcher.

Feb 7 (5 to 7 p.m.)

Photography Annual Exhibit Opening with Clyde Butcher

Friends of Rookery Bay and the United Arts Council of Collier County present the "6th Annual Florida Juried Photography Exhibit" featuring the flora and fauna of Florida from Feb 2 through Mar 31. The juror is pre-eminent photographer Clyde Butcher. Cash awards will be presented during the Opening Reception featuring wine and light hors d'oeuvres will be served from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb 2. Admission is \$3.

Feb 14 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

Valentine's Day

The RBELC offers two-for-one admission for all guests who bring their "sweetie" to the center. Naturalist-led presentations at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. will explain the "courtship curiosities" of local wildlife. Higher admission price prevails.

Feb 27 - March 2 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

Landscape Painting Class with Lee Hammond

Learn how to paint favorite scenes and landscapes and to create fantastic skies, gorgeous ocean scenes, trees, mountains and more during this five-day class. Using her book "Landscapes in Acrylic" as a guide, Lee Hammond will demonstrate easy methods for students at all ability levels; no experience required. Cost is \$375.

Shelling Guide



Seahorse



Penshell

When to go...

2 hours before low tide thru low tide
After storms or unusually strong tides.



Lightning Whelk



Lettered Olive



Juvenile
Horse Conch



Common
American Auger



Atlantic
Kitten Paw

Where to look...

The area just above the high tide line, usually marked by a row of seaweed and debris, down to the waters edge.



Shark's Eye



Sunray Venus



Alphabet
Cone



Florida Spiny
Jewelbox



Atlantic Calico
Scallop



Zigzag
Scallop



Short Spined
Sea Urchin

What to bring...

String bag to allow water to flow through (available from Marco Craft & Shell and SunSations), separate bag for small and fragile shells, water, sunscreen, camera and beach shoes.

What to collect...

Whatever you like the look of! Remember it is **illegal to collect live shells**. Sea urchins, sand dollars and sea stars can be difficult to assess, so if in doubt return them gently to the water.



Atlantic Fig
Snail



Banded
Tulip



Horseshoe
Crab



Florida Fighting
Conch



Sand Dollar



Lined Sea Star

Where to go...

The north & south ends of the beach are prime hunting grounds, but the entire beach can yield good finds. Sand dollars and urchins are found mainly in the area north of Tigertail on the Sand Dollar spit.

If you need more help identifying your treasures we recommend the following books...

- Florida's Living Beaches – A guide for the curious beachcomber by Blair & Dawn Witherington is a full color book that covers everything you may encounter at the beach from shells to birds and from seaweed to manmade flotsam and jetsum. Available from Sunshine Booksellers and Marco Craft & Shell.
- The Nature of Florida's Beaches, including sea beans, laughing gulls & mermaids purses, written and illustrated by Cathie Katz. Easy to read, fascinating and completely practical for the beachcomber. Available from Sunshine Booksellers.

The Marco Review.... So Much More than a Visitor Guide

You've probably seen The Marco Review on stands all around the island, but you may not know that it's owned and produced by a Marco Island family.

Stephen and Debbie Barker bought the magazine when they relocated from England to Marco with their teenage daughters in early 1994. Like so many of us, having vacationed here many times, they had fallen in love with the area and each vacation lasted longer and longer as they didn't want to return to the cold and crowds of their home country.

Fast forward nearly eighteen years and there is not much that they don't know about Marco Island and the Everglades. Producing a successful visitor magazine, which has grown significantly over the years, means they must keep abreast of anything and everything that a visitor to Marco should know about.

But the Review is not just for visitors... All of us have family who come to stay sometimes - more than likely in the winter (ever wondered why that is?) and we all need to find things to do with them... that's where the Review comes in. Stephen and Debbie have established their magazine as Marco's "Go To" reference guide.

For a free publication the percentage of editorial to ads is really high and much of this editorial changes every edition. There are features on local businesses and places of interest and pages and pages of "Go to Guides" highlighting activities, from eco-trips to offshore fishing, from guided tours, parks and preserves to shopping - there's something to interest everyone.

You'll find tides, sunrises and sunsets so you can plan that cocktail on the beach or your shelling trip with the grandkids. They also have a chart of the most commonly found shells for easy identification, which we're including in MICAwave this issue (see opposite). There's an extensive dining guide listing all of Marco's eateries and a detailed review of many of them.

Debbie is a keen photographer and nearly



all the photographs in the Review are taken by her... she refuses to use stock photos when there is so much beauty all around. If you share Debbie's interest in photography you can enter their readers' photo competition and win a \$50 gift certificate to a local restaurant.

A recent addition to the magazine is a significantly expanded coupon section. With over 60 local businesses participating, there are some great special offers from restaurants, stores, tours, spas and many more.

And, if you're a part time resident, the "What's New?" feature will help you figure out what's come and gone since you were last here. You'll be relieved to know it's not political and doesn't include anything on City Council matters, but only the things you really need to know to take maximum advantage of living on Marco.

They also have a very informative website (marcoreview.com) which your family can visit before they come down and, for those of you who are tech savvy (or have grandkids who are), you can follow them on Facebook to get regular updates on Marco Island interests ([facebook.com/themarcoreview](https://www.facebook.com/themarcoreview)). If you have any questions give them a call at 239.642.0251.

The next edition is out on November 1st, with a new feature on local restaurants entitled "Tasty Bites". Don't forget to pick up your copy!

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Continued from page 13

Mosquito Control and South Florida Water Management District are under separate taxing authorities on your tax bill. Nearly half of our tax bill goes to the School Board, plus we have the voter approved expense for Conservation Collier Land Acquisition.

How lucky we are to work cooperatively between Marco Island and the County because it saves us all money, rather than paying for all these services on our own.

I hope I've explained this clearly enough in the limited space I have to answer some of our questions. For answers to more questions, please take a look at my website www.DonnaFiala.com.

Remember...

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