

TERRAMAR TIMES



September, 2008
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"PICNIC AT THE PAVILION" FOR LABOR DAY LOTS OF FUN!!

The Terramartians Social Group hosted a picnic at the pavilion to celebrate Labor Day. About fifty-five neighbors enjoyed Popeye's fried chicken, potato salad, macaroni salad, cole slaw and assorted desserts. A horseshoe tournament was held and Bob Majewski (otherwise known as "The Ringer") slaughtered the competition.



Bob Majewski showing his winning form



New neighbors Rife and Anne Hedgcoxe



Wendy Majewski presenting the gift certificate to Academy to the winner!!



Frank Helfrich just relaxing for a change

Larry Farmer throwing a ringer!



Donation's Needed!!!! Terramar's Restoration Project

Terramar Beach's Protection and Restoration of the Bay Shoreline Committee, better known as the Dredging Committee, is currently implementing a new plan to raise funds for our project. Letters are being sent out to all residents asking for donations to complete this project.

Maintenance dredging of the main navigation channel is of great importance in our boating community. If you have ever tried to get your boat out on a low tide, you will understand the need. Besides the obvious benefit of being able to get your boat out to the Bay, keeping the navigation channel open helps to ensure that our property values remain stable and makes Terramar Beach a desirable neighborhood for boating enthusiasts.

The project will also benefit the environment by creating two acres of new marsh in Galveston Pocket Park #4 located just west of Terramar. The fisherman and bird watchers in the neighborhood should benefit from having a new wildlife "Disneyland" in our backyard.

The total cost of the project is estimated is between \$275,000 and \$300,000. This is largely dependent on fuel costs at the time of construction. To date we have approximately \$125,000 in our dredging account and have been awarded \$50,000 in grants. Other grants have been applied for and will continue to be applied for; however, these usually take up to a year to be awarded and we want to get the job done as soon as possible. We hope to see construction begin in the fall of 2009. The first phase of engineering is complete and permits obtained so all we lack is the funding to finish our project.

When you receive your letter please consider making a donation. Any and all donations would be greatly appreciated. This donation may also be

tax-deductible (check with your tax professional) since we are working with Coastal Beach and Bay, a non-profit organization. Other FUNdraising activities are being considered during the coming year and we hope everyone attends.



Restoration Project Receives Funding

On August 27th the Restoration of the Bay Shoreline Committee received the good news that the County is supporting our restoration project at County Pocket Park #4 with funding.

The County Commissioner's voted unanimously to grant Terramar's project \$25,000 from the County's CIAP funding. This was made possible with the help of many people from the County including John Lee, Mitigation Coordinator with the Galveston County Office of Emergency Management. The Commissioners also approved a right of way access to the project site through the County's land.

We are fortunate to have the County's continued support of our project, which could help when applying for additional funding from other sources. Many thanks to the County from the TBCIA Board, the Restoration and Protection of the Bay Shoreline Committee and the residents of Terramar Beach.

NAVIGATION LIGHTS NOW ON MAIN CHANNEL

Terramar Beach now has solar powered navigation lights for the main channel. This is something that evening boaters have requested for years, as it is dicey getting home after dark if there is not a full moon. A special thanks to Scott Arnold and Bill Kirk for sharing their time and talents to erect the lights on the existing buoys.



PROJECT UPDATE FROM RACHEL RUIZ

The contractors have completely laid all sewer lines and the lines have been tested and are ready to go. You will be receiving letters in the mail giving instructions on the process of hooking up to city sewer. The contractors are continuing to lay water lines on Buena. These water lines are being replaced from a 2" to a 6" line. It is an upgrade to get better water pressure in the area and new fire hydrants will be installed for emergency purposes. During the process of all the construction we have had to close down some of the streets and everyone has been going in and out of the entranceway of Terramar Drive. Well, as of now please consider all streets to be open unless there is a sign stating that it is closed. Roadways such as the west side of Terramar Drive are currently accessible and should be considered opened. Please use caution when driving on any roadways where construction has taken place. We apologize for any inconvenience that this has caused but please drive carefully during the remainder of the construction process. If you need to contact me please feel free to do so at 409-737-9920.



FISHING REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER

Submitted by Capt. Joe Kent

There are many anglers welcoming the end of August and beginning of September. Our summer months of June, July and August have, for the most part been a big disappointment for fishing. This is especially true for the second half of that period.

We did have a spell of good conditions in July that resulted in outstanding catches from the surf and around San Luis Pass. Since late July, and more specifically, the aftermath of Hurricane Dolly, unfavorable winds from the southwest have plagued all of the Galveston Bay complex, including the surf on the west end of the island.

Once the wind calmed, the thunderstorms took over. Normally, August is one of the best months for stable weather, outside of events in the Gulf.

Now, for September, what can we expect from the west end of the island? Beginning early in September, redfish will start appearing in greater numbers around San Luis Pass. The surf, along with lower West Bay, will see more action on reds. Traditionally, the season's first cold front will arrive in September and following it, a flurry of action will take place for reds. Flounder will start showing in greater numbers around Cold Pass and along the edges of the Intracoastal Canal.

My experience is that September is a transitional month for speckled trout as the cooler water drives them further inland.

September is also a month that many boaters, consciously and otherwise use their boat for the last time this season. Hunting season, football games and holiday activities compete with fishing to draw anglers away from the coast.

For many, there is that mentality that I will be fishing again in October and November, therefore no need to winterize my boat. Prudent boaters will start the winterizing process soon after Labor Day and if in fact they are lucky enough to make it back on the water before spring, repeat the process each time they use their craft.

Good luck and call in your fishing reports to the Galveston Daily News Reel Report at (409) 683-5273.



BIRD OF THE MONTH

Submitted by Jim Stevenson
Founder of the Galveston Ornithological Society

Hummingbirds are our smallest birds, with some like the Bumblebee Hummingbird scarcely larger than the insects with which they share flowers. There are over 300 species in the New World - mostly in South America - but their niche in the Old World is taken by sunbirds, iridescent songbirds with decurved bills.

In the East, our only regular hummer is the Ruby-throated, green on top with the males possessing a very red throat. These colors on hummers are called gorgets, and flashing them makes other hummers less physically aggressive, and will cut down on injuries. It's like a war of words.

Many ruby-throats leave Eastern North America in fall by way of the Upper Texas Coast, where they fly along the shoreline headed for Central America. From August through October, they may be seen at local feeders, gathering calories and moisture for their high-energy trek. In spring, they return trans-Gulf, from March through May.



**Let's Go Clean the
Beach!™
Next coast wide
cleanup is
September 27,
2008**

**Trashing Texas
Beaches Isn't Cool!**

The Texas General Land Office has been sending this message across the state for twenty years, and Texans have responded. Since the first cleanup in 1986, more than 371,000 Texas Adopt-A-Beach volunteers have picked up more than 7,000 tons of trash from the Texas coast.

Due to tide patterns in the Gulf of Mexico, trash dumped anywhere in the gulf is likely to end up on a Texas beach. Volunteers record information such as the source and type of debris collected on data cards provided by Ocean Conservancy. This data has been instrumental in the passage of international treaties and laws aimed at reducing the amount of offshore dumping.

Keeping Texas beaches clean and safe is an economic as well as environmental priority. Coastal tourism, a \$7 billion industry, and commercial fishing, a \$1.9 billion business, demand clean beaches and a healthy gulf to thrive.

Terramar Beach residents will once again meet on the beach near the parking area at 9 AM on Saturday, August 27. Dress comfortably and bring a pair of gloves. Sunscreen and a hat are also recommended. Water will be provided.



CRUISE REMINDER

There is still time to sign up for the cruise! It is a five day cruise on the Carnival Ecstasy departing on November 10 from Galveston. Cozumel and Progresso are the two stops for this cruise. If you have been considering this trip, be sure to call Gary Robbins as soon as possible to reserve your cabin!

**Gary Robbins | Personal
Vacation Planner | Carnival
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Ph: 1.866.455.8196 Ext: 86221

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1.305.406.6251 | grobbs2@carnival.com

A very special thanks to **Sue Johnson** of Sand and Sea Realty for a generous donation to the Terramartians Social Club!!

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Submitted by Lynn McMullin

Italian Cream Cake with Cream Cheese Frosting

1 stick (1/2 cup) unsalted butter, at room temperature
1/2 cup shortening
2 cups sugar
5 egg yolks
5 egg whites
1 can Angel flake coconut
2 cups plain flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 cup buttermilk
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup chopped walnuts or pecans (I put the pecans in the icing instead of cake)

For cake:

Cream butter and shortening. Add sugar. Beat until mixture is smooth. Add egg yolks and beat well. Sift together baking soda and flour. Add to creamed mixture alternately with buttermilk. Stir in vanilla, coconut and nuts. Fold in beaten egg whites. Pour in three 8-inch pans or two 9-inch pans and bake 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Let cool and frost.

Cream Cheese Frosting:

One 8-ounce package softened cream cheese
1 stick (1/2 cup) unsalted butter, softened
1 box powdered sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
chopped nuts and coconut for garnish

For frosting:

Mix together above ingredients. Save some coconut and nuts for top and sides. Use coconut and nuts as desired in frosting.



RESTAURANT REVIEW

Submitted by Mary Reeves

Nates West End Steak & Seafood

17575 San Luis Pass Rd., Galveston, TX 77554

Seafood, steaks, chicken, burgers, kids menu; full bar

Lunch & Dinner; Open Sunday thru Thursday:
11am - 9pm; Friday & Saturday: 11am - 10pm

Daily Lunch Specials 11:00 am – 4:00 pm
(\$5.95)

Nate's West End is a small, casual place to eat and drink just a half-mile west of Jamaica Beach on Galveston's West End. A local favorite, it was opened in 2002 by Nate Pacini, a long-time Galveston native who at the time also owned Nate's Steakhouse, Seafood & Family Restaurant located at 13th and Seawall. He has since sold both restaurants, but retains ownership of both properties.

We went there for a late lunch in May (actually went there right after we closed on our Terramar house!), and it wasn't crowded but only locals in the place (always a good sign). Staff was friendly, if a bit on "island time".

We had shrimp kisses to start (highly recommend, but don't get tested for cholesterol afterwards). I had the red snapper and it was very good. Scott (husband) had the chicken fried steak, which was purported to be one of the best on the island, and it did indeed live up to the reputation. Carson (son – 10 years old) had the spaghetti and meatballs, with a side of white rice (???) which he finished completely (not sure whether he was just hungry or it was that tasty, but take it as you will).

Overall, we liked the casual and local flavor of the place, and the food was good, served hot, and in right-sized portions. It's definitely worth a try if you haven't yet been.

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