

# Y Around Your Community!

Volume 1, Number 3, 2005

## Calendar of Events

**July 28**

**County Barn Road  
60% Design Plan Public  
Information Meeting**

4:30-6:30 p.m.

Mayflower Congregational  
Church, 2900 County Barn Rd.  
Call: 774-8365

**July 30**

**Ice Cream Social**

1-4 p.m.

Sugden Regional Park, 4284  
Avalon Drive

Enjoy free ice cream,  
entertainment, kayaking, paddle  
boating, climbing a rock wall  
and dozens of games.

Call: 353-0404

**August English Literacy,  
Civics, and Citizenship  
Program**

5-7 p.m., Mondays &  
Wednesdays

Golden Gate Estates Library,  
1266 Golden Gate Boulevard

Classes are offered to anyone  
requiring assistance in  
completing the application for  
U.S. Citizenship and/or passing  
the citizenship test.

Call: 455-8088

## COLLIER COUNTY GOVERNMENT NEWS

Collier County Commissioners maintain offices on the third floor of the W. Harmon Turner Building at the Collier County Government Center  
3301 E. Tamiami Trail Naples, FL 34112  
[www.colliergov.net](http://www.colliergov.net) 239.774.8907



District 1  
Donna Fiala



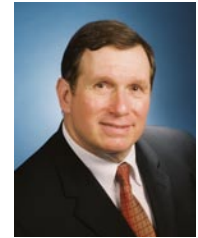
District 2  
Frank Halas



District 3  
Tom Henning



District 4  
Fred Coyle



District 5  
Jim Coletta

## Beach Access

During the June 15 and 16, 2005 Budget Workshop, the Collier County Board of Commissioners discussed how to fund the cost of providing more beach access in Collier County. All five County Commissioners were in agreement that the residents of Collier County deserve to continue receiving the best beach experience possible.

To fund additional beach access, it was proposed that the county increase impact fees for beach access and add another penny to the Tourist Development Tax; and, if this occurred, the county could bond \$8 to \$10 million to put toward increasing beach access throughout the county. Unincorporated Collier County currently has 14 public beach access points and 1,179 parking spaces. Beachgoers struggle to find parking during weekends and holidays.


To enhance the beach going experience in Collier County, at an estimated cost of \$8 million, commitments were made to introduce a shuttle transport that would ferry residents to Keewaydin Island from Bayview Park, include more access in the Vanderbilt Drive/Gulfshore Drive area, construct a boardwalk in the southern part of Clam Pass, and construct a restroom and dune crossover at Tigertail Beach in Marco Island.

The one most contentious issue the BCC discussed at great length during the Budget Workshop was charging a fee for the currently free resident beach pass. County staff estimated that

charging \$20 for the beach passes could generate about \$660,000 a year to pay for beach access projects. Three out of five commissioners were supportive of charging a \$20 fee for a two-year beach parking pass at that workshop.

This issue is furthered complicated by the fact that current residents of the City of Naples would be exempt from the \$20 fee. The county pays the city more than \$400,000 a year to allow county residents with a beach pass sticker to park in city parking spaces near the beaches, which offsets the city's lost parking meter revenues. Residents from the City of Naples with a beach pass likewise are currently allowed to park in county beach parking areas for free. If the county begins charging for resident beach passes, it is uncertain what effect it will have on the city's free beach pass. It could ultimately mean that city residents are permitted to park in the county parking facilities free, while county residents pay the sticker fee. Or, the city may decide to follow the county's lead.

Some residents of Collier County support the \$20 fee and others oppose it. What do you think? Please forward your comments regarding beach parking to my Executive Aide Nancy Rosiak at [NancyRosiak@colliergov.net](mailto:NancyRosiak@colliergov.net).

  
Jim Coletta  
Board of County Commissioners

# Around Your Community!



**August 4**  
**Finding People Online**  
9-10 a.m.  
Vanderbilt Beach Library, 788  
Vanderbilt Beach Road  
This hands-on computer class  
requires advance registration.  
Call: 597-8444

## Mandatory Non-Residential Recycling

Last July, the Board of County  
Commissioners adopted the  
Mandatory Non-Residential

Recycling  
Ordinance,  
making  
recycling  
mandatory for  
businesses in the  
unincorporated  
areas of the  
county.

The ordinance  
requires  
businesses to

To comply with the ordinance, a  
business may either contract with  
a recycling hauler or complete  
a certificate of self-hauling.  
Exemptions and administrative  
variances may apply. For  
information, visit  
[www.colliercountyrecycles.com](http://www.colliercountyrecycles.com) or  
call 732-2508.

### Recognizing Success

The *Collier County Waste  
Reduction Awards Program (CC/  
WRAP)* has been established to  
recognize exceptional business  
recycling efforts. To be eligible,  
a business must have integrated  
new, expanded, exceptional and/  
or innovative recycling and/or  
waste reduction efforts into its  
solid waste management system in  
response to and exceeding minimum  
requirements of the ordinance.

In the next few months you will see,  
hear and read information about  
changes being made to enhance the  
opportunities for recycling geared  
toward our residential solid waste  
customers. In the meantime, we  
are asking all businesses in Collier  
County to partner with us in our  
recycling efforts as we strive to  
preserve air space capacity at  
the Naples Landfill, produce the  
best value solid waste services to  
residents and businesses, and engage  
in environmental stewardship in a  
safe, responsible and cost-effective  
manner.



separate  
and  
recycle  
as many  
recyclable  
materials  
as  
practical. Materials  
designated as recyclable by the  
ordinance include: paper, cardboard,  
glass, plastic, aluminum and ferrous  
metal.



*Beginning Aug. 1, 2005, the first-  
year grace period will end and a  
business may incur fines if it does not  
have a recycling program in place.*

**August 9**  
**Fantastic Fossils**  
2 p.m.  
Headquarters Library, 2385  
Orange Blossom Drive  
Take a stroll down the  
prehistoric path of our own  
backyards and enjoy a hands-on  
look at some of the fossils that  
tell us about our past.  
Call: 593-0177

# Around Your Community!

## August 11 Calusa Indians of Southwest Florida

2 p.m.  
East Naples Library, 8787 E.  
Tamiami  
Trail  
Collier  
County  
Museum  
staff  
provides  
insight  
regarding  
the  
history  
of the Calusa people and their  
impact on Florida.  
Call: 775-5592



## August 12 Kid's Night Out (K-Middle)

6-9 p.m.  
Golden Gate Community  
Center  
4701 Golden Gate Parkway

This program provides a safe  
and fun place for children to  
meet friends and promotes  
social interaction. Cost is \$10.  
Call: 353-0404



## County Receives Awards

*Happy Tails*, Collier County's pet adoption show, has been named a **Finalist** in the prestigious 2005 *Savvy Awards* competition sponsored by 3CMA - The City-County Communications and Marketing Association in conjunction with the National League of Cities.

The program will receive a first, second or third place award in the category *Most Creative Activity with Least Dollars Spent*. Additionally, the Communication and Customer Relations Department has been named a **Finalist** for a second 3CMA award in the category of Communications Technology for the new community E-newsletter *Around Your Community!*

The awards will be announced at the 3CMA conference in August in Atlanta.

The National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors also named *Happy Tails* as a **Finalist** in the Public Education Category. Winners will be announced at the NATOA Banquet in Washington, D.C. in September.

The Collier County Emergency Management Department was awarded the 2005 National Association of Counties *Achievement Award* for the Disaster Response Units program.

11 Disaster Response Unit trailers were purchased and outfitted with necessary supplies and equipment to support residents in times of disasters, evacuations and shelter activations.

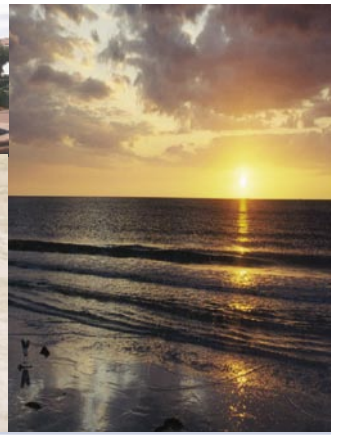
These trailers were deployed throughout Collier, Charlotte,



Lee and DeSoto counties during Hurricane Charley and served nearly 6,000 residents. They were again used during Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne, and most recently at Palmetto Ridge High School during Hurricane Dennis.

Finally, The Council for Sustainable Florida recognized the Community Development and Environmental Services Division as a "Promising Practice" for its Homeowners Association Guide DVD.

# Around Your Community!



**August 13**  
**DAS Volunteer Orientation**  
9 a.m.  
7610 Davis Boulevard

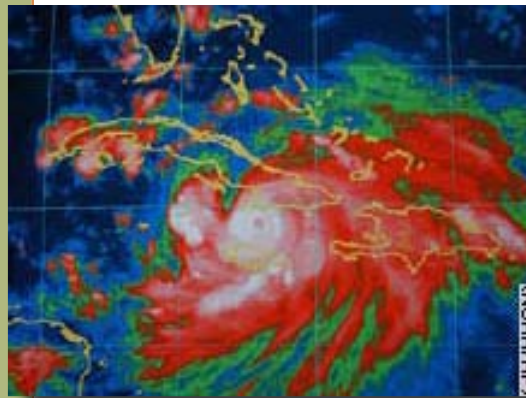
There are a variety of opportunities available for volunteers to assist in kennel operations as an attendant, or function as an adoption counselor. Many additional opportunities are available for you to make a difference in these animals' lives. Call: Volunteer Coordinator Meryl Rorer at 530-PETS (7387) or e-mail [DAS@colliergov.net](mailto:DAS@colliergov.net)

**August 16**  
**Read Together, Florida Initiative**  
2 p.m.  
East Naples Library, 8787 E. Tamiami Trail  
**Read Together, Florida** is a celebration combining the joy of reading with the value of reading. Call: 775-5592

**October 3**  
**WOMEN: Take Charge of Your Money!**  
7-9 p.m.  
Lely Palms Retirement Community, 1000 Lely Palms Drive, East Naples

## Hurricane Dennis

Collier County managed to escape relatively unscathed from Hurricane Dennis, the first hurricane of the 2005 season.



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and a few damaged roofs. While Collier County was lucky to have missed

the major force of Dennis, Emergency Management staff reminds residents that hurricane season is far from over.

For more information, visit the Emergency Management's Web site at [www.collierem.org](http://www.collierem.org).

The Board of County Commissioners held a special meeting July 8 where they declared a state of emergency for Collier County and authorized the activation of the Emergency Operations Center and the mobilization of resources to deal with the impending storm.



Palmetto Ridge High School was opened as a general public shelter and as a special needs shelter.

Marco Island received the brunt of the damages in Collier County with many downed power lines, trees,

## Volunteer Drivers Wanted

The Veteran Services Department needs volunteer drivers to transport local veterans to VA medical appointments in Fort Myers and Bay Pines. Vehicles are provided. Call Joanne at 732-1008.

# Around Your Community!

This six-session workshop program designed to empower women of all ages to make informed financial decisions. Cost is \$25. Preregistration is required by Sept. 26. Call: 353-4244.

## Collier County Parks

Our local parks host a variety of programs for people of all ages. After school, early childhood, youth, adult, fitness, social and beach, water and nature activities are offered throughout the year.

Call 353-0404 for more information or visit <http://www.colliergov.net/parks/colliercountyp/programs/>.

## Transportation Web sites

Get up-to-date information regarding the Immokalee Road construction and Golden Gate Overpass projects by logging onto:

<http://www.immokaleerd.com/>  
or  
<http://www.goldengateoverpass.com/>



## WWII Capture Living History Project

More than 30 World War II veterans have participated in the county's WWII Capture Living History project since its inception in late

April.



The goal of this oral history project is to capture the memories

of these veterans and share with the community personal stories that reflect the tremendous sacrifices this generation made so that we could continue to live in a free nation.

The project is a joint effort between community leaders and Collier

County government to record their war experiences on audiotape. The tapes will be permanently archived at museums and public libraries throughout the county and will be made available on the Internet by the end of the year.

For more information or to nominate a WWII veteran, call 774-8308 or visit [www.colliergov.net/communications/](http://www.colliergov.net/communications/).

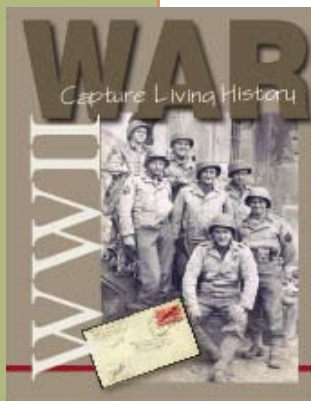
## County Hires New Directors

After nearly a year-long search, the Collier County Parks and Recreation Department named Wayne S. Boyer as the new director.

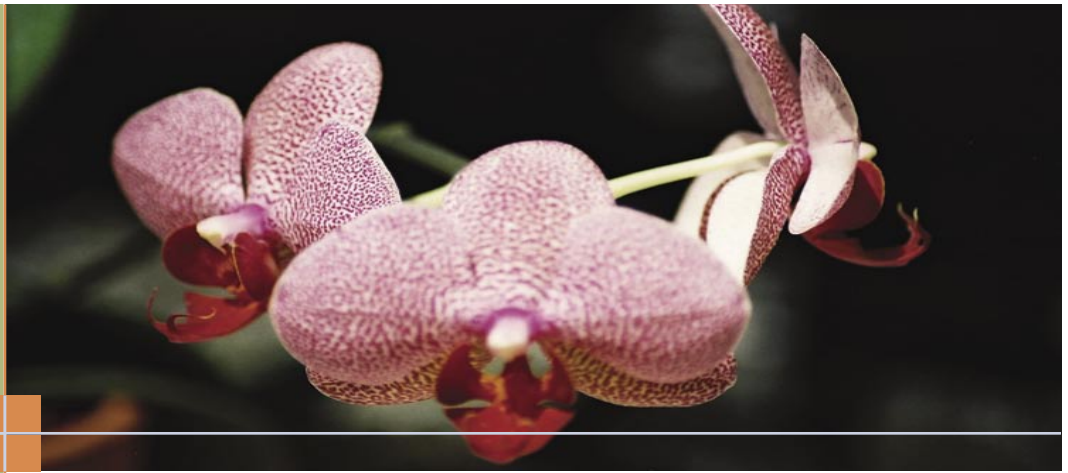
Boyer joins Collier County government after working as the director of Park Services for the City of Memphis; director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Davenport, Iowa; and as the superintendent of Parks and Recreation for the City of Goshen, Ind. He earned a master's degree in recreation and park administration from Indiana University.

The University of Florida/IFAS Extension's new director will begin working August 1.

Robert Halman brings with him 18 years of Extension experience, 12 as a county director and six as a livestock/dairy agent. Halman also served as an assistant secretary for the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Consumer Services Division and most recently as Agricultural Education Program Liaison at the University of Maryland.



# Around Your Community!



## Citizen Survey



*Jim Mudd  
County Manager*

I'm pleased to share with you the findings of our 2005 Collier County Citizen Survey. The telephone poll of 512 adults, age 18 and older, was conducted May 23 – June 3. The goal of the survey is to give residents the opportunity to inform county officials about their policy preferences and to grade the effectiveness and efficiency of county services and programs. County officials, in turn, use the results to make key decisions, measure progress, plan future steps and improve service delivery.

Generally Collier County residents are satisfied with the services and leadership provided by county government. 55% of the respondents agreed with the following statement: "County officials do a good job running county government." 24% disagreed with the statement and 21% percent had no opinion. Another similar question produced comparable results. When asked if things in Collier County are moving in the right direction or wrong direction, 62% of respondents believe things are moving the right direction, 21% said things are moving in the wrong direction and 16% had no opinion.

On the subject of taxes, residents were asked if they agree or disagree with the following statement: "The property taxes you pay for county services are generally fair in relation to the value of benefits received." 69.5% of respondents agreed, 15.6% disagreed, and 14.9% had no opinion. 71% of respondents said they would be willing to pay higher property taxes for construction of needed roads, bridges and sidewalks.

On the subject of beaches and beach access, 79% believe county beaches are clean and well maintained. However, only 35% believe there is currently an adequate amount of beach access locations and associated beach parking in

Collier County. 46% believe there is not an adequate amount of beach access and parking.

Citizens gave high marks to the county's response to last year's unprecedented hurricane season. 78% believe the county did a good job preparing the community for the 2004 hurricanes and 77% believe the county provided timely and reliable hurricane information.

Other interesting findings:  
93% agree that garbage collection and recycling of trash seem to be working well  
90% agree that the overall appearance of the neighborhoods and shopping areas is generally good.  
81% agree that the sewage system works well in your neighborhood.  
69% agree that the stormwater drainage system works well in your neighborhood.

Some of the demographic data that we collected:

95% of respondents are year-round residents, which is no surprise given the time of year that we conducted the survey.  
43% moved to Collier County since 1996.  
52% are 55 years of age or older.  
51% are either full-time or part-time workers and 36.5% are retired.

We're encouraged by the results of the survey and appreciate that a majority of our residents approve of the job we are doing. However, we understand that much more work needs to be done to maintain and improve the quality of life we have come to expect and enjoy in this beautiful place we call home. For those that took part in the survey – thank you for your time and your candid responses.

You can view the entire survey by following this link:  
[www.colliergov.net/communications/](http://www.colliergov.net/communications/).