

# Thank You

**We want to thank our vendor friends for their generous donations to this year's annual meeting and silent auction. If you get a chance, let them know we appreciate their support.**

Vendor	Address	Telephone	Vendor	Address	Telephone
61 Diner	1017 61st St	744 3223	Jamaica Hardware	16708 A San Luis Pass Rd	737-3001
Ace Hardware	6627 Stewart Rd.	744-0308	Jamaica me Sweat	16708 San Luis Pass Rd	632-9200
Allex's Seafood	13680 FM 3005	737 2212	Jeff Kilgore	Kilgore bird watching tours	409-762-1768
American Business Ma- chines		744-5653	Kites Unlimited	3802 Cove View	744 4121
Argos Jewelry	2115 61st st	740 1565	Magic Carpet Golf	9030 Seawall Blvd., 77551	740-2000
Averys	6498 Sea Isle, 77554	737 5151	Marble Slab	61st St.	
Beach Cottage Furniture & Design	2029 Strand, 77550	750-8992	McAllisters	6612 Seawall, 77551	
Beauty Control		281-701-9743	Michael's Burgers	11150 FM 3005	740 3639
Blue Water Grill	16708 San Luis Pass Rd	737 2889	Moody Gardens	One Hope Blvd, 77550	
Campeche Cove Animal Hospital	3802 Cove View	740 0808	Nest	23rd & Church Street	
Cammarn Lawn & Tractor	4010 2nd	632 9188	Pirates Beach Bait & Tackle	14302 Stewart Road	737 3635
Capt. Tony Pizzuti	Sail Blanca Luna	281-732-7176	Pizza Hut	61st St.	
Coastal Creations	3802 Cove View	744 1819	Rusty Hook	23230 FM3005	737-2477
Design Solutions	16708 San Luis Pass Rd	515-0661	Sam's Club	9300 Emmett Frwy. Tx City	409-986-9201
Economy Liquors	14228 Stewart Rd	737 9800	Sevens Seas Grocery	17527 San Luis Pass Rd	737-1152
Galveston Art League	2127 Strand, 77550	762 9625	Dr Stuart Holifield, DC		832 264 5425
Galveston Country Club	P.O. Box 3130, 77552-0130	x262	The Liquor Store	13712 FM 3005	737-2785
Galveston Gallery	1825 Rosenberg, 77550	763 6116	The Strand Emporium	2112 Strand	409-515-0715
Galveston Wholesale	FM3005 @ 10 Mile Road	737-4236	Tom Thumb Nursery	2014 45th St	763 4713
Grand Opera	2020 Post Office	765 1894	Torro's Baseball Team		
Hair Tech	6320 Sea Isle, 77554	737-4247	Treasure Trove	16708-A San Luis Pass Rd	737-9900
Hatmaker Chiropractic	1021 61st	740 6800	Waterman's	14302 Stewart Rd	632 0203
Hobby Hangar	21515 Zachary	789-0015	Yaga's Tropical Café	2314 Strand	762 6676
Home Depot	702 65th Street		Zepeda's Guide Service	5219 Jamaica Beach	713 208 0514
Home Town Bank	1801 45th st	763 1271			
Illumination					
Intima Boutique	2311 Strand	762 7331			

## Island Restoration Dilemma Follow-up

In a previous Heron I said I would write a follow-up article to talk about possible ways we might increase the pace of funding for our island restoration project. Our overall goal is \$400,000, \$167,000 of which we expect to receive from matching funding (note we have already received commitments for \$250,000 matching funds, so we have more than enough to cover the \$167,000 that is needed). That leaves a goal of \$233,000 from greater Bay Harbor property owners and other private sources, and we have already collected about \$60,000 of this, leaving about \$173,000 remaining to be collected.

The board of BHIA have discussed how to collect such a large amount of money in the past at monthly Board meetings. Firstly, it is hoped that large donors such as private developers, private foundations and corporations might step up and make grants to achieve up to half of the \$173,000. For the remainder here is a summary of four possible approaches for collecting funds from Bay Harbor residents that the board has identified:

**Voluntary Change in Deed Restrictions** - As you may know, Bay Harbor has four subdivisions (BeeGee Bay, Bay Harbor, Bahia Azul and Bahia Azul Orner). The deed restrictions vary a lot among subdivisions and among property owners within the subdivisions. Most homeowners have no obligation to join BHIA; and for those where there is mandatory membership, in most cases BHIA does not have the legal right to set dues above a small annual amount. One idea is to ask homeowners to voluntarily amend their deed restrictions to require joining BHIA and to pay whatever dues BHIA sets. The plusses of this idea is that people would only join if they wanted to and members could control the amount of dues through their elected board members. The minuses are that there would be a high legal cost for each homeowner to hire an attorney to make the deed restriction changes and most people would probably not bother.

**Voluntary Donations** - This idea is to arrange for block captains to call each person on their assigned area (street) and try to get their neighbors to donate. This is the current approach being taken by the board. The plus of this approach is that it is entirely voluntary. The minuses are that it is a lot of work for the block captains; we have had a hard time finding people to be block captains; some block captains have resigned when they found that their neighbors weren't very receptive to their solicitations; and over the four years where it has been tried, we have only acquired about 20% of our total needed funding using this approach.

**Formation of a Public Improvement District (PID)** - This idea would take advantage of a state law that allows property owners to band together and tax themselves in order to fund a stated objective. This would require us to hire a law firm to draw up the necessary documentation to allow greater Bay Harbor to vote on assessing all property owners within the boundaries of the district with an additional property tax that would be earmarked to be applied only to the restoration project. A PID requires about a 2/3 approval of property owners within its defined boundaries in order to be approved by the county or city. Once it is approved, everyone in the PID has their property tax increased; and you know what happens if you don't pay your property tax. The plusses of this is that everyone would pay their fair share based on their property value. The minuses are that some people would be forced to join the PID and that might cause hard feelings within our neighborhood, not to mention possibility of lawsuits (which the PID would eventually probably win). Also it costs about \$25,000 in legal and administration fees to set up.

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## 2nd Annual Bay Harbor Palm Tree Sale

Last year the improvement association was able to acquire thirty canary island palm trees at a deeply discounted rate. We were able to offer these trees to the community at \$65 for a 15 gallon size, roughly half of the normal retail price. Not only did we beautify Bay Harbor by planting 30 new date palm trees but we also raised over \$600 for the channel dredging/restoration project. A win for everybody.

We were so pleased with the results that this year we are planning to expand our efforts by joining with the Bay Harbor garden club to sell even greater quantities of both canary island palms and queen palms. Any profits will be divided between the garden club and the channel dredging project.

To help alleviate our risk, we'd like to get an idea ahead of time as to who might be interested in buying some of these palm trees assuming that we will be able to offer them at similarly favorable prices as last year. If you think you might be interested send me an email and tell me how many trees you'd be interested in and what kind. This is not a binding commitment. It is just a way to gauge level of interest.

The trees will be available to purchase in the beginning of next year and we will again offer the option of having them planted for you.

**John Halsey (jthalsey@sbcglobal.net)**