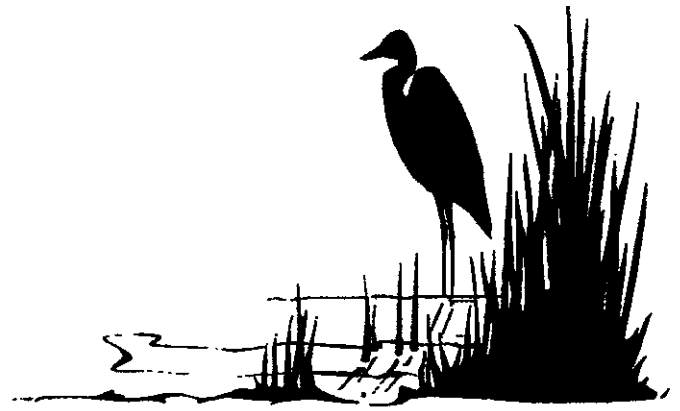


The Heron

Bay Harbor Newsletter

Bay Harbor -
The Friendly Subdivision

www.bhiatx.org



Cathy Francis, Editor

Spring Edition MARCH 2007

Bay Harbor Habitat Restoration Project - Report from Betsy Redfield

At a meeting on January 10, 2008, engineers, Gahagan & Bryant (GBA), presented the draft for the final design of the boat access channel and island restoration to Bay Harbor representatives and the following agencies: US Fish & Wildlife Services (USFWS), Texas General Land Office (GLO), Galveston Bay Foundation (GBF), National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The consensus was to dredge the channel to -4feet; 50-foot wide and 3000feet out to deep water and remove 10,500 - 12,000 cubic yards of material. The objective is to clear a boat access channel and use the material to restore part island and part marsh of the eroded island area keeping 70% to 80% of the material in place, resulting in an improved bird nesting site and marsh expansion fishery habitat. The request for the permits will include the immediate and future use of composite structure of/and/or geotextile tubes, gabions, and reefballs. The final design will provide retention of materials on the west side of the island to prevent silting into the boat channel; wind/wave environment impact protection; and reduction of transmission material allowing sufficient natural flow between the structures.

GBA will have the draft permit package design prepared by February 15. The plan will be submitted to the USCACE and GLO the first week of March. Permit process is expected to take 8 to 12 months. This would place the letting of bids from October to December. Bids must have a minimum of 21 days of advertisement. This means that construction could start January 2009. (We didn't say this was going to be a fast easy project.) The estimated total cost of the project is between \$370,000 and \$400,000.

Please include a donation to the Habitat Restoration Project with your 2008 dues; please contact your block captain and assist in raising awareness and funds. We NEED to raise \$140,000 to match and meet our goals. Ask your relatives, neighbors, friends, barber, banker, doctor, everyone, anyone to donate. Our Project will benefit our community, fishing, birding, education, the environment, just about everyone.

Thanks.

GOLF CART PARADE & TAILGATE PARTY

Saturday March 15th Noon

Celebrate St Patricks Day! Decorate your golf cart, truck, car lawnmower, boat or whatever you have & come join the fun.

Wear your Irish duds and your lucky clover & red hair.

Our 2nd Annual Bay Harbor Golf Cart Parade will be Saturday, March 15 starting at noon. We will line up on First St at 3005 & go through the neighborhood tossing beads to our neighbors who are not in the parade. We will end up at the Marina for our Tailgate Party. We will have oysters, chicken, beer and other goodies. Bring a side dish or desert to share.

We will have a speaker at the Tailgate party--Heather Young, Fishery Biologist. She will explain our project and answer questions you have about the restoration. She is with NOAA (National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service Habitat Conservation Division



Bay Harbor Improvement Association

Canary Island Palm Sale



Large Canary Island Date Palm in 10 gallon container
\$65

Special to Bay Harbor: delivered and planted for \$10

For each palm tree you buy, \$25 will be donated to the channel dredging/restoration project in your name.

To buy a tree or get further info contact John Halsey at jthalsey@sbcglobal.net or 713 443 6700

Habitat Restoration Dilemma

I ask myself how are we going to do it? How are we going to finally make it to our goal. Our goal of course is to complete the Island Restoration Project. As you've been reading in past issues of the Herron, we have undertaken a large project to restore bird and fish habitat by building up our existing bird island just North of the Bay Harbor Marina. To accomplish this we will be using dredge materials from the extension, deepening and widening of the access channel from West Bay into the marina.

The project is projected to cost \$400,000. There are about 344 property owners in the four Bay Harbor subdivisions (Bay Harbor, Bee Gee Bay, Bahia Azul, and Bahia Azul Orner). Approximately 55 property owners live on canals with bulkheads and channels suitable for boat lifts. 157 residents were members of Bay Harbor Improvement Association in 2007.

Various forms of this project have been going for several years, with donations for dredging being received by BHIA earlier than 2004. The latest funding drive began in 2006, when BHIA began soliciting donations and matching contributions to the project.

By early 2007 we had \$18,400 on hand from individual contributions, fund raisers and miscellaneous sources from the earlier funding drives; plus in late 2006 we received a single donation from the Walla Family of \$25,000, giving us operating funds of about \$43,400. In 2007 we received \$22,800 from 43 individual contributions and fund raisers at meetings and socials, giving us total revenues of \$66,200. The total number of contributors, from 2003 thru 2007 was about 89 residents.

In addition we have applied for and received a \$25,000 grant from the US Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and we have received a 33% matching grant of \$100,000 from the Coastal Erosion Planning and Response Act (CEPRA) foundation. The 33% matching means that in order to receive the full \$100,000, we have to raise \$300,000 from private donations and public grants.

To date we have paid out \$24,000 to Gahagan and Bryant Engineering and \$800 for office and miscellaneous expenses, for a total of \$24,800 spent. We have also incurred an obligation to Gahagan and Bryant to expend another \$36,000 in order to finalize the engineering study, including applying for governmental and environmental permits.

We have done well in our fund raising. But we need to increase the pace of funding inflow in order to complete the project in a timely manner. Of the \$400,000 total cost of the project, we have already collected \$66,000 in individual donations. We have in hand \$25,000 from USF&W and we have the grant from CEPRA

that will be worth \$100,000 if we can collect \$300,000 from other sources. The BHIA Board believes that our current grants and matching funds together with other such programs should add up to about \$200,000 which can be applied to the project.

This leaves \$200,000 which needs to be funded by Bay Harbor individual donations, of which \$66,000 has already been donated, leaving a balance of \$134,000. Our best year of individual donations was 2007, when we received \$22,800 from 43 individuals (an average of \$530 per resident). However \$11,000 of that was donated by two individuals, and so the rest only donated an average of \$288 per resident.

At a donation rate of \$22,800 per year, it will take us six more years (2014) before we have raised our full share of funding. If we don't get the two major donors we achieved in 2007, our donation rate would fall to \$11,800 per year and it would take us about 11 years to raise our remaining funding for the project.

Clearly we need to increase both the pace of donation and the number of donors in order to complete funding by 2009 and work by 2010. To achieve this goal, we will need to raise \$67,000 in 2008 and \$67,000 in 2009. If only 43 property owner contribute to this goal, the average contribution would have to be about \$1560 per owner for each of the two years. If on the other hand, we could double the number of donations, the average would drop to \$780 per year. Or if we could get 90% participation of the 344 property owners of greater Bay Harbor, the average donation would only have to be \$216 per property.

Can we get 90% of Bay Harbor to donate an average of \$200 per year for 2008 and 2009, on top of the \$100 per year annual BHIA dues? Is this achievable given that the number of residents needed to participate is eight times more than we achieved in 2007 and almost four times the number of residents who have ever donated to the project in the last five years?

The BHIA Board has volunteered great effort on fund raisers, socials, block captains meetings, cold calls, meeting with neighbors, writing letters to nearby oil and chemical companies, researching governmental and private grants and matching sources and attending local governmental meetings. I ask myself again how are we going to do it? How are we going to finally make it to our goal? If you have any suggestions of how we can achieve our funding goals, your board of directors would like to hear from you. Please email me at billaylor@comcast.net with your comments and suggestions.

Next Herron: A follow-up article describing responses to this article and residents and board members opinions, views, suggestions and ideas for solving our dilemma.

Bill Aylor

Bay Harbor Improvement Association

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July 2007 - June 2008

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Island Restoration Funding Summary

Resident Donations		Average		
year	Source	Amount	# donors	per donor
2003-2006	BHIA Indiv	\$ 16,730	123	\$ 136
2006	CBBF Walla Family	\$ 25,000	1	\$ 25,000
2006	CBBF Indiv	\$ 1,650	6	\$ 275
2007	CBBF Indiv	\$ 7,100	12	\$ 592
2007	BHIA Indiv & fund raisers	\$ 15,702	45	\$ 349
Total end of 2007		\$ 66,182		
Grants and Matching Funds				
2007	Grant US Fish and Wildlife	\$ 25,000		
2007	CEPRA 33% match	\$ 100,000		
Expenditures				
2007	Gahagan and Bryant Engineering	\$ 24,000		
2007	Miscellaneous	\$ 800		
during 2008	Gahagan and Bryant Obligation	\$ 36,000		
Total end of 2008		\$ 60,800		
Participants				
Number of Bay Harbor Property Owners		344		
Number of residents who donated in 2007		45		
Number who donated 2004-2007		89		
Members of BHIA in 2007		157		
Summary				
Total Project Cost		\$ 400,000		
Expected Grants and Matching Funds			\$ 200,000	
Grants and Matching Received so far				\$ 125,000
Balance Needed				\$ 75,000
Total Residents' Donations Needed			\$ 200,000	
Resident Donations Collected so far				\$ 66,182
Remaining Donations Needed				\$ 133,818

Note: CBBF is Coastal Beach and Bay Foundation

WEBSITE

Visit our website: www.bhiatx.org Our webmaster, Bill Aylor, does a great job with this new web site. If you have photos or articles you would like to share, send them to Bill and he will put them on the web for you.

A long time resident, Patty Harper has passed. She will be missed.

Bay Harbor Fishing Report

I wish that I could report a great run of fishing, but it just has not happened while I have been on the water. Most of my fishing so far this winter has been during breaks in the weather when my five year old grandson and I have done a little bottom fishing for pan fish. If you can find some "fresh dead" shrimp and soak it on the bottom with a small hook you can pick-up enough action on small sand trout, drum and sheep head to keep most five year olds interested.

After speaking with some of our hard core flounder fishermen and fisherwomen around Bay Harbor I have concluded that we did not have the typical flounder run we usually have during the fall. Good lively mud minnows or finger mullet will usually do the trick in the deep spots of our marina. I also don't think it is any big secret that the slough that runs just West of Bay Harbor can be a good spot for flounder. During the past week or so I have been seeing some nice Specks, Reds and a monster size Sheep head around my neighbors green light in the canal behind my house.

Another thing to try this time of year when you just have to get out and wet a hook is to get some fresh dead shrimp or squid and hit the beach for some Whiting. I like to find a day when we have a light offshore wind after a northther blows trough and set up a couple of rods and just relax waiting for a bite.

I have not been able to line up my time off with some good wind and weather to head down to the Green's Cut area, but that is always a good winter spot. Drifting the old ICW and the area around Mecom's Cut has always been

good this time of year. Watch the weather carefully because it is a long way back to Bay Harbor in the fog. Without a GPS I would be very careful getting too far from home because I have seen the fog roll in a matter of minutes reducing visibility to almost zero. When the dew point and temperature get close together fog will form and that happens often this time of year especially over the water.

On recommendation I would have for anyone who has gasoline over a month old in boat tank is to get out there and take a boat ride and burn some of it up. I would also recommend using fuel stabilizer in your boat gas anytime that you don't plan to use that gasoline up within a month. Old gasoline is a major cause of outboard engine failure. Most fuel tanks on boats "make water" because of the condensation that happens during our big temperature changes down here. A good water separator filter helps to prevent that water from getting into your engine.

Be careful out there.....fishing will get better as the weather warms.
Capt. Bill



We've heard there are flounder this big in Bay Harbor's waters!

Transit Service for the West End

Discussions have started between the Connect Transit and City of Galveston with representatives of other key entities participating as well. At present the discussions are at a general level with the details to be worked out. Expansion of bus service and routes on the Island are needed to serve the residents of the west end as well as other areas currently without service.

Below is an excerpt from the February 14, 2008 City Manager's report. The report describes the actions to date. I believe this group desires to move quickly on the issues, and I hope to have additional information to report within the next two months. I will be looking for possible interim solutions for the west end as the advisory committee continues their work.

GULF COAST CONNECT TRANSIT

Several months ago the City of Galveston and the Gulf Coast Center entered into a Memorandum of

Understanding (MOU) to explore the opportunity for joint transit services in the immediate future, and the potential for a regional transit entity to help expand transit throughout our region for the future. The MOU established an advisory committee with representation from the City of Galveston, Island Transit, Gulf Coast Center, Connect Transit, Galveston County, Brazoria County, University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB), Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC), and Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). The first meeting of the advisory committee was held yesterday at the City of Galveston and was well attended by advisory committee members. The meeting resulted in the following agreement:

There was general consensus that public transit services need to be expanded throughout Galveston and Brazoria counties.

Connect Transit and Island Transit have immediate opportunities to create

a partnership for improved demand-response services and for transforming Galveston's existing maintenance facilities to provide for regional maintenance, training, and other services to support transit.

The advisory committee initially will concentrate on an appropriate framework for future regional transit (estimated timeframe 60 days) and, once established, will tackle the issues of funding, personnel, fair share contracting arrangements, and other details necessary to create a combined regional transit system for Galveston and Brazoria counties.

This was a very productive first meeting and the participants were careful to stress that any future partnerships, and the ultimate regional entity, will respect and protect the existing financial structures at the federal, state, and local levels which support existing transit services.

Dianna D. Puccetti
Council Member District 6

Reference No. C06-006

Bay Harbor Habitat Restoration Project, Up-Date Report

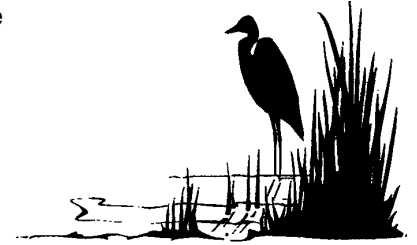
The final design plans will be completed by mid-February. Permit applications will be submitted to both the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the TGLO in early March. It is estimated that permitting may take 6 to 12 months. Depending on the date of permit authorizations, construction could begin in late 2008 to early 2009.

The selected project design will restore the eroded island to a total area of approximately 2 acres, including a 4-foot elevated area for bird nesting and lower intertidal area for fishery habitat. Approximately 10,500 cubic yards of dredge material will be excavated from the Bay Harbor channel and placed on and around the remnant island at appropriate elevations. To provide erosion protection for the restored island, breakwaters will be installed consisting of a combination of sand filled geotextile tubes, rock filled gabion baskets, and/or reef balls. The engineer's plans forecast the total project to be between \$370,000 to \$400,000.

Efforts are well underway to raise additional private funding from residents and local businesses. Bay Harbor has also submitted an application to the NOAA NMFS' partnership with the FishAmerica Foundation for \$25,000. An application will soon be submitted to the Harris & Eliza Kempner Fund requesting \$25,000. Finally, Bay Harbor is preparing to re-submit our application to CIAP requesting that our habitat restoration project be moved to Tier I and funded for \$100,000 in the 2008-2009 cycle.

Contact:

Betsy Redfield, Chairman
Bay Harbor Habitat Restoration Project
4702 W. Alabama
Houston, Tx 77027
(713) 961-1641 e-mail: eredfield1@peoplepc.com



OUR ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE JUNE 14th
at the marina. **NEW TIME!!! 4:00 pm--**We will have a good meeting this year with our great food, Silent Auction, speakers, voting for new Board Members & getting to know your neighbors. We will serve a delicious meal under the tent



TEXAS FRIENDLY

Texas state flower is the Bluebonnet, the state bird is the Mockingbird, state shell is the lightning whelk and our motto is the "friendship" state. We have bluebonnets, Mockingbirds at Bay Harbor and there are many lightning whelks on our beach! Bay Harbor is the "Friendly Subdivision" in the "Friendly State".

JOIN OUR BHIA ASSOCIATION

By now, you should have gotten your letter asking for your dues of only \$100.00 per year. You got your 2008 calendar with birds from Bay Harbor. Pres. John Halsey took these great photos of the birds. When you join, you get a directory, newsletters, vehicle stickers, and use of the marina and fishing pier. Plus we have parties during the year, the golf cart parade, and other functions. We really **NEED YOU TO JOIN!**

Fiesta Party

Saturday, April 26th
Fiesta Party at the home of
Toy and John Halsey
3710 Port Trinidad
From 7:00pm until
Pot Luck
Live DJ

April is National Humor Month

According to the American Association for Applied and Therapeutic Humor, children laugh about 300 times a day, while adults typically chuckle only 15 times. Men laugh louder and longer than women. Studies show that frequent laughter helps control pain, lowers blood pressure, relieves stress and makes people like you better!
Try this: LOL (LAUGH OUT LOUD)

VOTE--It is your right as a citizen.

Move at least one of the voter registrations in your household to Galveston. Now that the West End represents 43% of the tax base, it is more important than ever that second homeowners get involved in local initiatives--and that means to **VOTE!**

WE NEED YOU!!

Ever Wondered What Goes on in BHIA Board Meetings? If you would like to be on the BHIA Board, please let us know. We would love to have some new members. It is a lot of fun & very informative to be on the board. Plus you are "in the loop" on things that are happening in our subdivision & our island.

As a collective effort of people who have been deeply touched by the story of Riley Ann Sawyers, who until identified was known only as "Baby Grace," an active motion has been initiated to have the island where the box containing her remains was found named "Riley's Island." In honor of the authorities who have

worked diligently on her case, along with her grandmother Sheryl Sawyers and father Robert Sawyers, and many others from across the country and around the world who wish to honor the precious life of Riley Sawyers, please sign the petition accessible via the web address below by adding your name, zip code and email

address.

Thank you for remembering Riley, and we hope that her story will result in an incredible movement to put an end to child abuse.

<http://rileyann.epetitions.net/>

LOCKS AT THE MARINA

Well, its the first of the year. I'm sure you have probably noticed that ,as usual, we are changing the locks on the boat ramps and the fishing pier. This time we are going a step further, we have changed the type of locks.

In the past we had to have the locks re-keyed each year, and we always had to buy a "bunch" of new keys. That adds up to a substantial yearly expense .

In an effort to defray some of those costs, the board has voted to try combination locks this year. The locks have been purchased, and have been installed. They are good quality brass locks, and the combinations can be re-set each year by Gail or someone on the board of directors.

This could save us four to seven hundred dollars a year. We could sure use that money some where else.

I know that this change will take a little "getting use to". You might have to open and close the locks a few times to get the "hang" of operating them (let's give it a chance).

Here are a few tips that might make the operation easier:

- rotate all the cylinders (numbers) 2 or 3 times to clear the mechanism.
- start setting the numbers from left to right, making sure that all the digits or in the center (you should be able to feel it with your fingers when they "kind of drop in to place").
- push in on the shank of the lock and then pull out sharply.
- if the lock does not open try again.
- the combination has to be in place when re-locking the lock.

I will try to keep plenty of graphite, or silicone on them so they will operate as smoothly as possible. If you have any problems, questions, or suggestions don't hesitate to call me.

Please try to remember to check and make sure you leave everything locked when you leave. We want to discourage the unauthorized use of our facilities, as well as trying to limit our liability.

On a different note: Thanks to the anonymous donor of the counter top/cutting board on the top of the fish cleaning table. That's great!

Thanks to the person that nailed the boards back on the finger pier between the boat ramps.

I appreciate the help, and I'm sure all our neighbors do too.

Thanks for your cooperation and help, good fishing, have a great summer.

Carl A. Finney, 3814 Tradewinds
Chairman of the Marina Committee
cfinney@straussystems.com
WK Phone 281-498-1689 Fax 281-498-7057
Cell: 281-642-6379
Home: 281-376-9898
Galveston: 409-737-5898

Bay Harbor Classifieds

**Rates: For a 2" wide, \$2.00 per line (minimum of 3 lines).
Runs one time for these rates, and on the website for 1 month.**

www.bhiatx.org

WANTED: new members to join fun, friendly Bay Harbor Improvemnt Association. Parties, fishing pier use, boat ramp access, annual golf cart parade, annual dinner meeting included. Bargain at only \$100.00 per year.409-737-1707 Gail Choate, Secretary BHIA

Garden Club Members wanted to enjoy plants, outings, presentations, friends at our meetings--April, June, Aug, Oct & then our Christmas party in Dec. Only \$20.00 per family annual dues. Refreshments served at all meetings. Call Patsy Gatlin 409-632-9209

MARY KAY®
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Independent Beauty Consultant
RT 4 Box 190B77
Galveston, TX 77554
409-766-0350
www.marykay.com/JessieAnn

.....
Check out our Bay Harbor Website at www.bhiatx.org You can read the newsletter here and see pictures residents have sent in. (Send in YOUR pictures!) Bill Aylor, Vice-President of BHIA has done all the hard work to get this up & running for us. Thanks, Bill!!!! Your classified ads that you put in the Heron will now also be on the website for all the world to see!
.....

Sewer Update

Dear Neighbor,

It is common knowledge that, over time, the city of Galveston will be replacing the use of septic tanks with a city supplied sewer solution on all parts of the island. Some time ago the Environmental Protection Agency issued a finding that septic systems should be phased out of coastal areas due to the threat that they pose to local water quality.

It has never been a question of "if" the existing systems would be replaced. It has only been a question of "when". In light of that, the board of the Improvement Association has taken the position that it is best for the community to be proactive in this process. In this way we are in a better position to shape the solution. The board also feels it is better to move forward and get the project behind us than to continue in a period of limbo where decisions are postponed due to the uncertainty of when and how these changes will be implemented.

In the first quarter of 2007 the Improvement Association conducted a survey asking property owners to express their preference for the kind of sewer system they would support and whether or not they would be willing to work with the city to implement that solution. The response that we received from the neighborhood was overwhelmingly in favor of a traditional, gravity based, sewer system. The response also indicated, almost without exception, a willingness to work with the city to implement the desired sewer solution.

In September of 2007, the city of Galveston approved in its budget for 2008, six million dollars to fund the implementation of a traditional gravity based sewer system specifically for the Bay Harbor area. Included in that figure are funds to resurface the streets of Bay Harbor once the project is done.

To put in this kind of system the city needs an easement or right of way of at least 30 feet including the width of the streets themselves. In some parts of Bay Harbor, the city's right of way is only 20 to 25 feet, the width of the road itself. It is our hope that property owners will work with the city to provide this access. The City has acknowledged its responsibility to restore the land to its original condition, within reason, once the lines are laid.

Rachel Villareal of the city of Galveston Public Works Department will be our project coordinator. She will be happy to get answers for questions or specific concerns we might have and will be our contact with the city to resolve any problems that may arise.

We hope that you will work with the city in a reasonable way to allow them to move forward on this project. All things considered, we believe that this is the best way to go.

Sincerely

John Halsey

President, Bay Harbor Improvement Association

A Dog's Purpose, from a 4-year-old

Being a veterinarian, I had been called to examine a ten-year-old Irish Wolfhound named Belker. The dog's owners, Ron, his wife, Lisa, and their little boy, Shane, were all very attached to Belker, and they were hoping for a miracle.

I examined Belker and found he was dying of cancer. I told the family we couldn't do anything for Belker, and offered to perform the euthanasia procedure for the old dog in their home.

As we made arrangements, Ron and Lisa told me they thought it would be good for four-year-old Shane to observe the procedure. They felt Shane might learn something from the experience.

The next day, I felt the familiar catch in my throat as Belker's family surrounded him. Shane seemed so calm, petting the old dog for the last time, that I wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes, Belker slipped peacefully away. The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion.

We sat together for a while after Belker's death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives. Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, "I know why."

Startled, we all turned to him. What came out of his mouth next stunned me. I'd never heard a more comforting explanation.

He said, "People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life...like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?"

The four-year-old continued, "Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long."

PERKS OF BEING OVER 50

1. Kidnappers are not very interested in you.
2. In a hostage situation you are likely to be released first.
3. No one expects you to run--anywhere.
4. People call at 9 pm and ask, Did I wake you????
5. People no longer view you as a hypochondriac.
6. There is nothing left to learn the hard way.
7. Things you buy now won't wear out
8. You can eat supper at 4 pm .
9. You can live without sex but not your glasses.
10. You get into heated arguments about pension plans.
11. You no longer think of speed limits as a challenge.
12. You quit trying to hold your stomach in no matter who walks into the room.
13. You sing along with elevator music.
14. Your eyes won't get much worse.

Old Age, I decided, is a gift.

I am now, probably for the first time in my life, the person I have always wanted to be. Oh, not my body! I sometime despair over my body, the wrinkles, the baggy eyes, and the sagging butt. And often I am taken aback by that old person that lives in my mirror (who looks like my mother!), but I don't agonize over those things for long.

I would never trade my amazing friends, my wonderful life, my loving family for less gray hair or a flatter belly. As I've aged, I've become more kind to myself, and less critical of myself. I've become my own friend.

I don't chide myself for eating that extra cookie, or for not making my bed, or for buying that silly cement gecko that I didn't need, but looks so avante garde on my patio. I am entitled to a treat, to be messy, to be extravagant.

I have seen too many dear friends leave this world too soon; before they understood the great freedom that comes with aging.

Whose business is it if I choose to read or play on the computer until 4 AM and sleep until noon?

I will dance with myself to those wonderful tunes of the 50's, 60's, & 70's, and if I, at the same time, wish to weep over a lost love ... I will.

I will walk the beach in a swim suit that is stretched over a bulging body, and will dive into the waves with abandon if I choose to, despite the pitying glances from the jet set . They, too, will get old.

I know I am sometimes forgetful. But there again, some of life is just as well forgotten. And I eventually remember the important things.

Sure, over the years my heart has been broken. How can your heart not break when you lose a loved one, or when a child suffers, or even when somebody's beloved pet gets hit by a car? But broken hearts are what give us strength and understanding and compassion. A heart never broken is pristine and sterile and will never know the joy of being imperfect.

I am so blessed to have lived long enough to have my hair turning gray, and to have my youthful laughs be forever etched into deep grooves on my face. So many have never laughed, and so many have died before their hair could turn silver.

As you get older, it is easier to be positive. You care less about what other people think. I don't question myself anymore. I've even earned the right to be wrong.

So, to answer your question, I like being old. It has set me free. I like the person I have become. I am not going to live forever, but while I am still here, I will not waste time lamenting what could have been, or worrying about what will be. And I shall eat dessert every single day. (If I feel like it)

Submitted by Jessie Bradshaw--one of our youngest residents.

FENCE BUILDING "PARTY"

We are in the process of rebuilding the rail fence that runs along Galceran between Port Trinidad, and Spanish Wells. A group of neighbors got together on two previous occasions. The first time to demo the old rotten fence, and the second time to cut and set the post. We are now ready to begin installing the rails and start painting.

We are planning a "work PARTY" for Saturday afternoon March 8, and we need all the help we can get. We plan to start about 12:30 or 1:00 and work about 4 hours.

All the material will be on the site, we will have cold beer, soft drinks, and water.

It would be nice to get all the rails up and one coat of paint on. I think that we might be able do it, if we have enough people.

Hope you can make it. Please bring Hammers and paint brushes (if you have them) if not come anyway. Everyone is welcome.

Anyone who has left over, partial cans of white paint sitting around, we would appreciate it if you could donate it to the cause. Please call me.

Hope to see you there!

Thanks for your support.

Carl A. Finney,

Chairman, marina /architectural committee

cfinney@straussystems.com

Phone 281-498-1689 Fax 281-498-7057 Cell 281-642-6379

9 WORDS WOMEN USE

1. Fine: This is the word women use to end an argument when they are right and you need to shut up.

2. Five Minutes : If she is getting dressed, this means a half an hour. Five minutes is only five minutes if you have just been given five more minutes to watch the game before helping around the house.

3. Nothing: This is the calm before the storm. This means something, and you should be on your toes. Arguments that begin with nothing usually end in fine.

4. Go Ahead : This is a dare, not permission. Don't Do It!

5. Loud Sigh: This is actually a word, but it's a non-verbal statement often misunderstood by men. A loud sigh means she thinks you are an idiot and wonders why she is wasting her time standing here and arguing with you about nothing. (Refer back to #3 for the meaning of nothing.)

6. That's Okay : This is one of the most dangerous statements a women can make to a man. That's okay means she wants to think long and hard before deciding how and when you will pay for your mistake.

7. Thanks: A woman is thanking you, do not question, or Faint. Just say you're welcome.

8. Whatever : Is a women's way of saying "DON'T THINK SO"!

9. Don't worry about it, I'll do it: Another dangerous statement, meaning this is something that a woman has told a man to do several times, but is now doing it herself. This will later result in a man asking, "What's wrong?" For the woman's response refer to #3.

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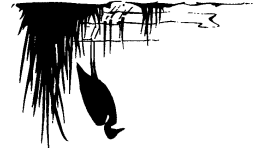



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Upcoming Events

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

March

- 1** Art walk 6-9pm Downtown Galveston, free
- 9** Daylight Savings begins - Spring Forward & move your clocks up one hour
- 15** St. Patrick's Day 2nd Annual Golf Cart Parade & TailGate Party & dinner at Marina
- 16** Palm Sunday
- 17** St. Patrick's Day
- 20** First Day of Spring - Go for a walk on our beach today!
- 21** Good Friday
- 23** Easter

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

April

- 1** April Fool's Day
- 12** Bay Harbor Improvement Association Monthly Meeting, 10:00 am
- 26** Bay Harbor Garden Club Meeting, 10:00 am Call Patsy Gatlin 409-632-9209 for info
- 26** Fiesta Party - John & Toy Halsey's home, 7:00 pm 3710 Port Trinidad

MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

May

- 10** Bay Harbor Garden Club Meeting, 10:00 am
- 11** Mother's Day
- 26** Memorial Day

JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

June

- 14** Bay Harbor Improvement Association Monthly Meeting, 10:00 am
- 14** Flag Day
- 14** Annual Meeting - NEW TIME!! 4:00 at the Marina, yummy food served
- 15** Father's Day
- 21** Summer Begins
- 28** Garden Club, 10:00 am (itinerary to be announced)