



The *Royal Harbor* **Pilot**  
ASSOCIATION

Spring 2012

ROYAL HARBOR ASSOCIATION  
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## President's Message

Royal Harbor is coming out of this recession stronger than ever with many new home starts. This is raising the overall value of the properties in the community. Yes prices are once again more in line with the real world and more people are picking Royal Harbor to settle in.

One thing we have tried to do here in Royal Harbor is to develop more of a sense of a community. Email has made us a linked neighborhood and made it possible to share information. Currently we have nearly 85% of the residents as members.

We are proud of our Royal Harbor community events this past year. I point out especially the Halloween "trick or treat" street event, the Christmas decorating contest and the community wide garage sale. All were great successes.

If you see someone moving in next to you please be an ambassador. Go over and knock on the door introduce yourself and tell them about joining our association. Point them to our website at [www.royalharborassociation.org](http://www.royalharborassociation.org) and they can find an application there to print out and mail or drop off.

Lastly, Thanks from me, for the many who did respond to city council concerning the firefighters issue and the other issues we pointed out in emails.

Terry Forshier



## Around the Neighborhood

### Some notes on Security

Our camera video surveillance has been very successful in eliminating theft in our area. That \$50 you each pay annually pays enough for this system and its maintenance. Since we installed these our problem with air conditioners theft, patio furniture theft, and even storm shutters taken off homes has gone away.



The cameras take photos with motion sensors of all persons, cars, bicyclist etc. passing both in daylight and infra red. It also photographs all license plates with the other camera.

The information recorded is only available to the police. If information is needed, it is extracted by the vendor and given to the police.

The vendor checks the cameras once a month to ensure they are working and contain at least one month's data. So far we have had to increase the size of one storage devise to ensure enough information is saved.

As members of the Royal Harbor Association, if you need an extract of data (both video and license plate information) it is available as a member benefit. Non members would be charged for the cost of the extraction since the vendor has to come to the site, select the time frame and download the information to a portable devise which is then given to the police.

Although the security camera system has been a great success, we shouldn't become complacent. there are lots of other reasons to stay aware of what is going on in your neighborhood. Remember as we see more and more people leaving the area for the summer that those of us remaining need to keep an eye out for suspicious activity and to call the police if we see anything out of the ordinary. Also for those leaving be sure you designate someone in your neighborhood to have a key to your home or watch for you and you should tell them where you are and when you may return. We have saved homes from flooding, boats from sinking and other mishaps because a neighbor noticed a something amiss and we were able to locate the owner and stop it before it accelerated into a big problem.

## Dredging Update (report from Terry, Photos and captions from staff)

The dredging is still going on. I was told that 60% of the rock is done in the project but that none of the rock in Royal Harbor has been removed yet. Most of the regular dredging has been completed but there are some areas, (like the canals off streets off Kingfish, ) that still need some work done.

Overall it appears that the project is going well. I was hoping to meet with the advisory committee this month with some questions but it has once again cancelled its monthly meeting. I am told they need at least 2 more members on the committee. Any volunteers?



Equipment on the way

(in Snook/Tarpon canal unfortunately, this excavator had the mishap shown in the following photo .)



Accidents do happen!

Fortunately nobody was injured in this one. The equipment was recovered and work proceeded without serious delay



Serious Muck Removal !

This also illustrates why boat-owners were asked to move their vessels and marine traffic was briefly restricted.

## **Dredging Update** (continued)



The skill of the pilots at handling the controls from their elevated station was truly amazing. at this spot they were maneuvering two barges, one carrying the excavator, the other with a load of dredged material plus a second crew boat, in our twisted canal with boats on lifts or moored on both seawalls.



When the dredging is done under your lift or dock, the equipment has to get up real close and personal!

## **Civic Improvement and Beautification**

Now that the new plantings are in and everything is blooming doesn't the entrance at Marlin look great? the city really does a good job in keeping our streets looking fantastic.

Another big project our board was interested in funding was tree replacement . As you recall the city was able to get a "grant" for us for this so we did not have to fund this. Now, we are not overflowing with money but as a board we are always on the lookout for ideas to improve our community. If you have suggestions we would welcome them to review.



Sure hope you are using your RCC cards for the discount the city businesses offer. Do check the web site [www.RCCNaples.com](http://www.RCCNaples.com) to see all the new business listed. The address is also on the back of your card.

(In early April, the count of participating businesses was 179, including 81 restaurants/cafes)

On April 12th, 6:30 to 9:30 PM Fifth Ave is going to have a RCC night along with their regular Thursday night on Fifth with the live music. All the RCC businesses will offer something extra for RCC card holders.