

May-August 2025

NAPLES NEWS

NUSA's National Community Newsletter of the Year
A Publication of the Naples Improvement Association

PANCAKE BREAKFAST — COMING JUNE 7
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES
BIG CERT NEWS
CONTESSA COURT'S EASTER DELIGHTS

**The NIA
Membership
Issue**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the NIA Season!

Hello Naples,

Spring is in the air, although a bit on the chilly side so far! Slowly but surely, we're seeing more folks on their patios entertaining their fellow Islanders and looking forward to warmer days!

The NIA recently started the season with our traditional Easter Egg Hunt, with the Contessa Court leading the event at the Fountain, and entertaining dozens of kids with hundreds of eggs gathered up and enjoyed. The Easter Bunny graced us with his presence, and many pics were taken to put in the memory books.

Next up is our first concert, Tuesday, May 27th, featuring Manuel the Band.

If you haven't enjoyed our Summer Concert Series before, come out and join us at Colonnade Park the last Tuesday of the month, from May through August. Great time to get with your neighbors, spread a blanket out on the grass, and enjoy our Island life with your favorite beverage and appys.

Moving into June, we have our traditional Pancake Breakfast, Craft Fair, and Fun Run on Saturday, June 7th, on the Colonnade. What a great way to bring the entire island together to kick the summer off, and say hello to neighbors, old and new! We

welcome you to volunteer or help sponsor this major event. There are many ways to help out, from flipping pancakes to setting up tables and chairs. Look for the volunteer sign-up in HOT TOPICS.

There are lots of opportunities throughout the summer to enjoy our special community.....our Chili Cook-off in June, the July 4th Bike Parade, and yes, those concerts each month, leading up to the Grand Finale, the Street Dance on September 2nd. Look for more info in HOT TOPICS and this issue of NAPLES NEWS.

Spring is also the time to join the NIA or renew your membership in the Association. Cindy Bambam, VP, Membership, is busy with her team of volunteers, preparing this year's campaign to roll out in May for early registration. I understand that there may be a special grand prize for one lucky early registrant to be given away at the Pancake Breakfast.

Remember, Membership Matters! Thanks to all of you who contributed this past year, we were able to fund key Holiday projects for the island in December. We had the Palm Trees trimmed and put Holiday Banners up on 2nd St. We also had our Toy Soldiers refurbished. In all, the Association, with your contributions, spent over \$20,000 to brighten up the islands for our holiday festivities.

Lastly, for those of you who weren't able to join us at this year's Spring General Meeting, we received updates from our Councilmember Kristina Duggan on the Sea Walls, the AES pump project, and the 11 Olympic events Long Beach will enjoy in 2028. We also had presentations from CERT, Alagita, and the LA County Dept of Public Works.

You'll find those presentations on our website at naplesislands.org

Thank you for your support!
Wishing you all a safe and fun-filled Summer!

Tony Digiovanni
NIA President



NIA CALENDAR

NIA Board Meetings are held the first Thursday of the month 6PM @ Long Beach Yacht Club / Hot Topics eBlasts are published 1-2 weeks following the monthly Board Meetings. Naples News is published on a quarterly schedule with deliveries in February, May, September and December. Events in **bold** are events of the NIA.

- May 27 - **Concert in the Park with Manuel the Band**
- May 30 - Naples Elementary Carnival
- Jun 7 - **Pancake Breakfast, Craft Fair & Fun Run**
- Jun 21 - **NIA Flea Market**
- June 24 - **Concert in the Park & Chili Cook-Off with Hillbilly Crutch**
- Jul 4 - **Independence Day Bike Parade**

- Jul 29 - **Concert in the Park with Ashe Bros**
- Aug 5 - National Night Out
- Aug 26 - **Concert in the Park, band TBA**
- Sep 7 - **Street Dance with King Salmon**
- Nov 11 - NIGC Veterans Day Celebration
- Nov 12 - **General Membership Meeting + Election**
- Dec 18 - NIGC Luminaria Night
- Dec 20 - **Boat Parade**
- Dec 21 - **Spark of Love Toy Drive**
- Feb 7, '26 - **NIA's Annual Community Celebration**

Naples News Contributors

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Ian Holmes
Bob Lane
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Stacey King
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Pancake Breakfast
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Katie Rowe
Naples Neighborhood Watch

Trish Schooley and Lynne Clarke
Naples Islands Garden Club

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NIA Board



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Tony Digiovanni



**1st Vice President
Membership**
Cindy Bambam



**2nd Vice President
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Stacey King



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**Director at Large
Island Infrastructure**
John Boezinger



**Director at Large
Social Media**
Ben Fisher



**Director at Large
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Zelna McGee

WHAT IS THE NIA?

Cindy Bambam, NIA Membership Chair

THE NAPLES IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION IS A VOLUNTEER STAFFED COMMUNITY-DRIVEN ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO ENHANCING LIVABILITY AND QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL RESIDENTS OF NAPLES. WITH A MISSION TO PROMOTE, UNITE AND IMPROVE, THE NIA ADVOCATES FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS, FOSTERS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND FACILITATES LONG-TERM PLANNING TO ENSURE NAPLES REMAINS A THRIVING ISLAND PARADISE.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND EVENTS

The NIA is committed to strengthening the Naples community through organizing events and activities that bring us all together.

COMMUNICATION AND RESIDENT OUTREACH

The NIA keeps residents informed and connected providing timely updates on community issues and events. Supporting advocacy issues through multiple communication channels.

LIVABILITY AND QUALITY OF LIFE

The NIA is dedicated to maintain and enhance Naples' unique character and high standard of living by advocating for improvements to our infrastructure and natural environment. Our Community Emergency Response Team is an important part of the NIA. Our 80+ Block Captains are ready to assist residents in an emergency... and the team was recognized nationally for creating one of the best neighborhood engagement initiatives in the country.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The NIA is committed to maintaining a strong and efficient organization that manages its membership, finances, and volunteer resources with transparency and accountability. The board holds an annual strategic planning meeting to set goals in all areas for the upcoming year(s).

COLLABORATIONS AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

The NIA's success depends on strong partnerships with local government, businesses, and community organizations amplifying our voice on civic matters.



NIA MEMBERSHIP MATTERS



COMMUNITY



QUALITY OF LIFE



PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE

If you had a chance to read over the “What is the NIA” article on the previous page, it becomes clear the NIA has a large agenda to meet. Everything from a fun party to working with City Hall is part of our work.

We are a fully volunteer organization. Making all of the magic happen takes lots of volunteer hours and member dollars. Mostly membership dues pay for community events and communications. Our administrative expense is minimal as you would expect from a fully volunteer board, office supplies, software licenses, printing etc.

So why join and pay if I don’t participate. We aren’t an HOA and membership is not required.

Sure, there are membership benefits (see pages 7 and 8), but even more importantly our events create the special connection we have as a community. You may not participate but the NIA continues to work tirelessly on your behalf making this Island a respite in the very busy world surrounding it.

Don’t you want to know you are helping make this all happen? Don’t you want to know that you helped support an event that a smiling family is walking away from having had a great time? Don’t you want to know you are helping get the word out on important information affecting us all?

Your membership also matters in another important way. The more official members we have in our rolls, the stronger our voice is within the city. Currently we represent about one-third of our residents and that is a solid number for this type of organization. But we need more!

We live in a political environment that is extremely challenging. It is imperative we stay engaged and involved. The city looks to the NIA as the residents’ representative. Nothing would make our positions stronger than to say we no longer represent one-third of residents, we represent one-half. Wow! That gets people listening.

If you are a renewing member, thank you for your on-going support. If you are new to joining us, welcome! We are glad you are here.



NEWLY APPROVED BY-LAWS DEFINE MEMBERSHIP

Cindy Bambam, NIA Membership Chair

At the November 2024 General Membership meeting a revised set of by-laws was approved. The revised by-laws helped clarify what had been, to date, undefined and somewhat nebulous issues.

The definition of membership in the NIA was not clearly defined until now. It may differ from what you have understood membership to be in the past so please take your time and read the actual revised by-laws on the naplesislands.org website.

In a nutshell, a membership is defined by a single individual paying dues. So, in a household with two adults and one dues payment, only one of the household is the member, with member rights. One household member would be the Primary member and the other adult becomes the secondary member. The Primary member has voting rights at general meetings and can hold a board position. The secondary adult cannot, but can still participate on committees and as a committee chair. In the case of the Primary member unavailable to attend a General Membership meeting the Secondary member may vote in their place (serve as their proxy). But only one vote for that household.

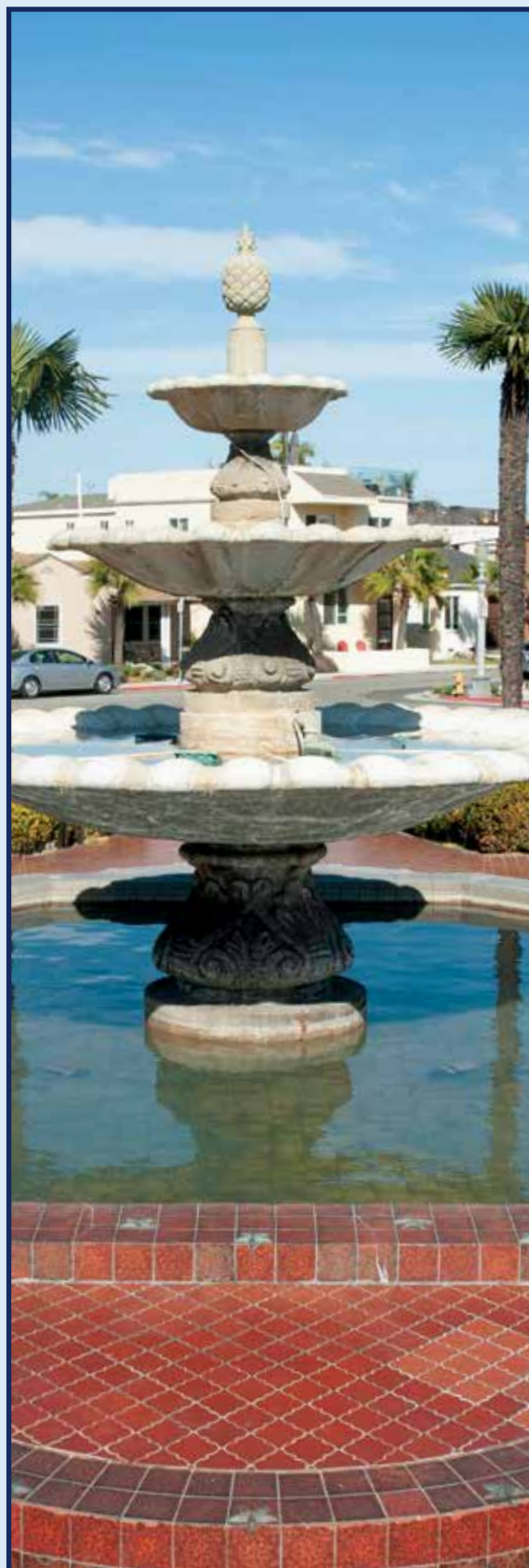
For instance, in my household, we pay our dues. That allows the one adult designated on the membership form as Primary with the right to vote or to hold office. Since I am on the board, I will need to be the primary member. My husband will be listed as secondary and has no voting rights and cannot hold office. In the event that I am not available to attend a general meeting to vote; he is able to vote in my place. Again, only if I do not attend. So, you may consider this to mean one vote per household.

In the case of a household where both adult members want the right of membership, then each individual pays dues. Adult A and Adult B both pay dues. They have separate membership forms and each would list themselves as the Primary member.

There have been concerns about how to do this and retain a certain level of membership benefits without each individual needing to give substantially more than they did in the past. I do have a workaround for that, so if that is your situation, please reach out to me at cindybambam@verizon.net.

Lastly, as a Primary member, you must be in Good Standing (up to date on financial obligations, dues) and a member for at least 30 days in order to vote.

While this may seem complicated, it is in line with many organizations' definition of membership and clears up confusion as to who has a right to vote.



NIA MEMBERSHIP PARTNERS

Naples Island businesses know that Membership Matters. Each year they support the work of the NIA by encouraging membership through terrific discount benefits for all and gift coupons for those at higher membership levels. By using the discounts, you will find your membership more than pays for itself! Move up a level and see the additional benefits available at the higher membership levels! We thank our supportive business partners for their years of providing discounts, and we welcome newcomer Nico's Restaurant to the team.



THANK YOU to our many
Naples Business Partners supporting
the NIA's membership drive this year

DISCOUNTS*

When You Show Your NIA Membership Card

- Betty Brite Cleaners** - 20% off incoming orders
- Carmen's Coffee Company** - 20% off
- Gondola Getaway** - 25% off
- IV Bungalow** - Comp B12 Shot on first Visit
- K. C. Branaghan's** - 10% off
- Kihon Sushi** - 10% off
- Komo's Cocina** - 10% off
- Long Beach Optometry/Dr. Lisa Hopkins** - 10% off
- Michael's on Naples** - 10% off
- Naples Car Wash**
#2 wash for price of #1 wash
- Naples Rib Company** - \$10 off \$50+
- Rex Nails** - 10% off services
- Rim Talay Thai Food of Naples** - 10% off
- The Small Cafe** - 10% off
- Sweet Peas Flower Shop**
10% off purchases up to \$100
- Valentino's Pizza** - 15% off pick up orders
- Wine on 2nd** - 10% off

SPECIAL OFFERS*

- Axis Classical Pilates & Gyrotonic**
One week of complimentary unlimited classes with
the purchase of the introductory package
- Caught In the Moment Photography**
\$100 off At-Home Family Portrait Package
- Kihon Sushi**
\$100+ Members: One comp mochi dessert
- Naples Car Wash**
\$100+ Members: One comp #1 car wash
- Marlena**
\$250 Members: \$25 Gift Certificate
\$500 Members: \$50 Gift Certificate
\$1,000+ Members: \$100 Gift Certificate
- Michael's on Naples**
\$250+ Members: \$25 Gift Certificate
- Naples Rib Company**
\$250+ Members: 50% off one Party Pack
- Nico's Restaurant**
\$1,000+ Members: \$100 Gift Certificate

* Restrictions apply
See individual merchants for details
Visit naplesislands.org/membership for additional offers

MARLENA



REX NAILS



WHY NOT BUMP IT! IT'S A FUN THING TO DO!

Last year many of our members “bumped it” into the next membership level! That was great to see and gave us some extra funds to take on two projects that would have not happened without their generosity!



We were able to trim all the palm trees down our portion of 2nd Street that the city would not have done until sometime in 2026. As it turns out, they were trimmed right before we had the biggest windstorm of the season which was when we saw the fires in LA and Altadena start.

I walked down 2nd after the storm and there was just the smallest of debris on the sidewalk. I would have hated to see what the outcome would have been without that trimming happening when it did.



We also had enough money to give our very tired Toy Soldier holiday bridge decorations a total makeover. They have stood guard on our bridges for 50 years. They cost a total of \$3,000 for 26 soldiers.

There are other maintenance and clean-up issues we can address with your bumping it. Power washing the canal sidewalks after all the hot cocoa is spilled? Some extra weeding and clean up around bridges and canal stairs? Painting bridge railing? Some prettifying around the big missing chunks of the seawall on the land side (maybe considered lipstick on a pig)?



Nothing is planned—as we don't know if the funds will come in, but with your “bumping it”, we can raise those extra dollars and take care of some things that will make our community shine a little brighter.



The Following Perks Are Included with all Membership Levels

- **Voting Rights** on matters critical to the island
- **Recognition** on our official roster of supporters
- **Naples Discount Card** for savings at local restaurants, shops and services (see page 7)

Bonus Perks available at higher tiers

(see below for details)

Community Supporter \$50

- Naples Island Discount Card
Members receive substantial savings at scores of participating neighborhood businesses
See details on page 7

Community Advocate \$100

Community Supporter Perks, PLUS

- Free #1 Car Wash at Naples Car Wash
- Free Mochi Dessert from Kihon Sushi

Community Champion \$250

Community Advocate Perks, PLUS

- \$25 Marlena Gift Certificate
- 50% off one Naples Rib Co “Party Pack”
- \$100 off Family Portrait Pkg by Caught In the Moment Photography
- One week FREE with purchase of pkg at Axis Pilates Studio

Community Star \$500

Community Champion Perks, with upgrade to

- ~~\$25~~ \$50 Marlena Gift Certificate

La Bella Fontana Circle \$1,000

Community Star Perks, with upgrade to

- ~~\$50~~ \$100 Marlena Gift Certificate, and
- \$100 Nico's Gift Certificate

Arthur Parsons Circle \$2,000

La Bella Fontana Circle Perks, PLUS

- Premium Bottle of Italian Red Wine sponsored by Michael's on Naples

NIA 2025-2026 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

Membership runs June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026. You can register online with credit card (secured link with encrypted processing) or PayPal at naplesislands.org, or mail this form with check payable to: NIA • PO Box 3687 • Long Beach, CA 90803. You can also register in-person at most NIA events, including Concerts in the Park and the Pancake Breakfast.

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

☐ Community Supporter - \$50

☐ Community Advocate - \$100

☐ Community Champion - \$250

☐ Community Star- \$500

☐ La Bella Fontana Circle - \$1,000

☐ Arthur Parson's Circle - \$2,000

\$_____ additional contribution for _____

CONTACT INFORMATION Note: The NIA will never share or sell your information

Name of Primary Member

Name of Secondary Member (at same address)

Email (to receive NIA's monthly eNews)

Email of Secondary Member

Phone # (for emergency notifications)

Birth Year

Phone # of Secondary Member

Birth Year

Mailing Address (to receive printed NIA materials)

Would you like to receive texts from the NIA including event reminders and island alerts? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes," please ensure that the number listed for the primary member is a mobile device or is capable of receiving text messages. We anticipate no more than 3-4 texts per month.

May the NIA list your name (no contact info) in its roster of supporters? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Roster featured on naplesislands.org and in the Naples News Magazine

Name as you would like it to appear in the NIA's roster of supporters

Note that our default is to list members last-name-first based upon the last name of the Primary Member.

If you would prefer a different listing, such as "The Watson Family," please indicate below.

☐ Same as above (Primary Member and Second Member, if applicable)

☐ Please list me/us as: _____

WHY IS THE NIA NOW ASKING FOR BIRTH YEAR ON THE MEMBERSHIP FORM?

The NIA has purchased a membership software package that will help us in understanding who our members are. The goal is to provide the type of programs and events that reach the different demographics of our beautiful Island. Filling out your birth year is simply a way for us to put together groups in different age categories. It is secure, in that we are not asking for your date of birth only year. This is not a required field on the form, so if you are uncomfortable sharing that information, there is no need to. But we hope you will consider doing so.



Win 3 Days/2 Nights in Gorgeous Avalon!

REGISTER YOUR NIA MEMBERSHIP BY JUNE 7 AND YOU COULD WIN A CATALINA GETAWAY!!

Everyone who renews/joins the NIA by 10:00 am Saturday, June 7 is automatically eligible to win a private weekend getaway in the beautiful Catalina town-home of NIA Members Ray and Jan Jones, owners of Long Beach Yacht Sales, who have generously offered their property (including use of golf cart during the visit). Drawing will be held at the Pancake Breakfast, June 7. Visit naplesislands.org/catalina-getaway for full details.

Your prize package also includes:

- Two tickets good for Commodore Lounge seating on the Catalina Express, courtesy of The Ben Fisher Team
- Gift Certificates to both The Small Cafe and Avalon's Pancake Cottage Restaurant, provided by Megan Wright at the Small Cafe
- An NIA gift basket including a bottle of Belle Glos Pinot Noir donated by the Long Beach Yacht Club and a bottle of Lambrusca Di Alessandria donated by NIA member and volunteer, Patria Fopiano

Don't miss your chance to win a fabulous escape to beautiful Avalon. **Join/Renew your NIA Membership today!**



NIA MEMBERS MINGLE

The NIA held it's first Members-Only Happy Hour on Wednesday, March 26. Community residents gathered at Marlena for tasty cocktails, gourmet small-plate appetizers, and great conversation! Stay tuned to our Hot Topics e-blasts for news about the next NIA gathering coming to an island location near you!



THE NAPLES IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION'S
76TH ANNUAL

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

+

FAMILY FUN RUN, CRAFT FAIR
& BOUNCE HOUSE



JUNE 7, 2025 | 7-11 AM

ON THE COLONNADE

TICKETS:
\$12
Buy online
to skip the
line!



**FUN RUN
SIGN-UP:**
\$5



Presented by



Andy Dane Carter

Supporting Sponsors



Other Sponsors



NIBANOTATIONS

by Bob Lane, photos from business websites

Spa Day on Naples!

Dreaming of a spa day? Canyon Ranch, Anara, Clinique La Prairie? Instead of hopping on a plane, you can have a spa day without getting in your car! Just walk down 2nd Street!

Start the day with a bowl of fresh fruit and an herbal tea at The Small Café. While there, on your phone look at beautiful photos of nature to begin to take your mind away from the troubles of the day.

Then, Moonlight at Naple, where absolute heaven awaits you. Experience the epitome of relaxation and well-being. Their skilled team and serene ambiance create the perfect sanctuary for your journey to blissful rejuvenation. They offer various services including Swedish, Thai, Pregnancy, Deep Tissue and Sports massage.

The atmosphere at Nico's Restaurant is white tablecloth and fresh ingredients provide the prefect place to lunch. The Berry Burrata Salad with arugula, basil, pickled onions, candied pecans, honey-white balsamic vinaigrette, balsamic reduction with a glass of sparkling water with a wedge of lime provides just the right balance of nutrition and flavor.

To add to the sustenance to you can find IV therapy services at IV Bungalow. This provider offers various IV hydration therapies designed to boost overall health and well-being, including solutions for detoxification and energy replenishment. They also offer regenerative solutions and NaD+ treatments, among others.

Time for the skin to be pampered and you have choices. Polished Rx Skin Couture provides personalized skincare therapy. Gorgeous and vibrant skin is for every individual and they have multiple modalities and skin therapies to make that possible. Peaches Skincare Naples master estheticians have worked diligently for years on thousands of clients perfecting the single facial, the Signature Peaches Facial. Their intensely developed facial works on skin types and conditions of all kinds.

What would a spa day be without a mani-pedi? You are in luck as Naples has many nail salons to choose from. And your feet will be in for a treat with a second massage of the day.

You have been kneaded, scrubbed, and invigorated. Now it is mid-afternoon, and there is one thing left to do. Stop by Marlena, find a seat on their outdoor patio, and toast to your Naples Spa Day with a glass of Prosecco, NV Drusian, Valdobbiadene Brut D.O.C.G. from Italy.



Photos (top to bottom, left to right): Small Cafe, Moonlight at Naple, IV Bungalow, nico's restaurant, Polished Rx Skin Couture, Peaches Skincare Naples, and Marlena

Sea Scouts to the Rescue and Emergency Supplies are on the Way!

by Donna Fleming



There's a new kid in town and a new partnership between our LB CERT - Naples Island Team and the Scout's Long Beach Sea Base. Jeb Price (left), the new Sea Base Director, has a vision for more closely connecting the program with the community. One of his first efforts was to ask the Naples CERT program how they could support us. The response he got was quick and clear – "provide us with a secured spot to keep a trailer full of emergency supplies." After clearing it with the Long Beach Scout Council, Jeb came back with an enthusiastic "Yes!"

This project has been in the works for years, stymied only by the lack of a proper parking spot. Last year LB CERT repurposed a trailer for our use and committed to providing supplies from existing resources. With the Scout's green light, Long Beach CERT immediately created an action plan to stock and reposition the trailer to the Sea Base. A team of Naples CERT volunteers led by Rainer Rahaeuser (below left) is working with LB CERT to sort and organize the inventory. We couldn't be more excited to partner with the Scouts on this initiative. We will soon have critical medical and emergency supplies on our island to take care of residents and visitors if a major disaster strikes. Stay tuned for updates!



For more information on LB CERT - Naples Island visit www.naplesislands.org/cert.



Sea Scouts are looking for local summer volunteers!



The Sea Base is one of our greatest island assets. Over its 61 years on the Island, the program has taught hundreds of our children about boating, seamanship and leadership. The base also offers amenities to the public that many of us are unaware of - such as canoe and kayak rentals, and waterfront meeting and event space. So how about giving back?! The Scouts are looking for a few volunteers to help provide "extra eyes" at their summer program this year. Volunteers will serve as observers to enhance safety, but will not be supervising participants. If you have a few hours or days available between June 23 and Aug. 15 and would like to spend that time in the sunshine supporting our youth, please contact Jeb at (562) 344-1589 for more details.

Go Naples! Fighting Crime from the Comfort of Your Own Phone

by Katie Rowe

You've probably heard of the Broken Window Theory, the idea that keeping neighborhoods clean and well-maintained helps reduce crime. While we don't see many actual broken windows on the island, we do see things like graffiti, trash, and maintenance issues. The good news? You only have to lift a single finger (no, not that one, the index finger) to get those things cleaned up.

Step One:

Download the GoLongBeach app. It's also accessible online, but it's easier on mobile. Allowing it to use your location will help you report faster.

Step Two:

Select the problem.

Step Three:

Describe the problem if necessary if it's in an odd place or not immediately obvious - "it's on the back side of the utility box, facing away from the street."

Step Three and a Half:

Take a picture (of the problem, not your lunch). This should prepopulate the address for you (handy!)

Step Four:

Move the map to the exact location if necessary.

Step Five:

Select 'Request Anonymously' yes (if you are in the witness protection program) or no. You can put in an email if you want updates.

A minute or two and you have done your clean-up chores for the day. Easy!

WHAT CAN YOU GET FIXED WITH GOLONGBEACH?

- Graffiti on public property, like the annoying tagging on bridge railings and street signs. Graffiti on private property (businesses) will be sent to Code Enforcement and may take a bit longer.
- Scooters. Not while they're being ridden unfortunately. Just the ones dumped in your yard or in a big pile on your sidewalk.
- Potholes. Sorry, "repave my entire street" isn't an option quite yet.
- Streetlight out.
- The mattress your inconsiderate neighbor dumped in the alley while moving out (you can report the mattress, not the neighbor).

- Park sprinklers gone wild, and pipes that have given up.
- Weeds. Notice I said "weeds", not "weed". Different department.
- Trash in the park or on the beach. Again, not the scooter riders. Actual, physical litter.
- Flat animals. Not stingrays. The other, sadder kind, both pets and wild animals. This may take a few days.
- Fallen tree, broken tree limb, overgrown roots.
- Sidewalk vending.** Sigh. This will either go to the Health Department (sanitation issues) or the Business Licensing Department (noise, location, blocking the sidewalk issues). Good luck.

[**Vending issues in Naples? Never heard of it. Kidding! Naples Neighborhood Watch is actively working on the December vending issues. We'll keep you posted!]

OTHER STUFF...

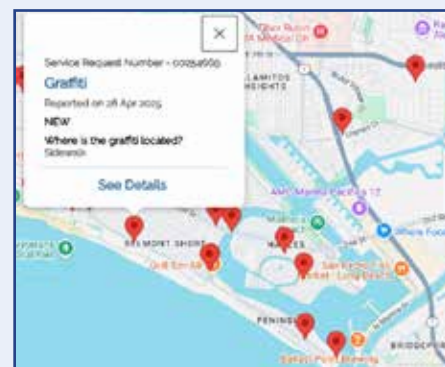
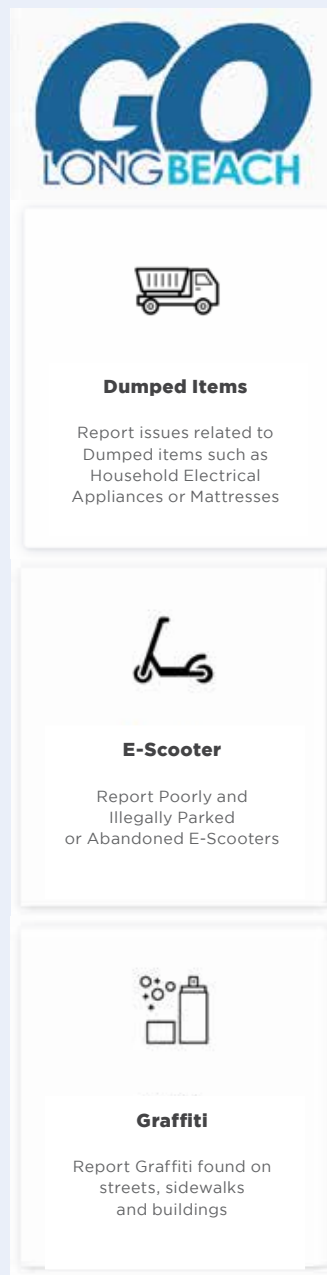
- Shopping carts/belongings. You can report this, but the city may have to post it for 72 hours before the city collects it. "Stuff" left anywhere is legally considered abandoned property and private citizens like you have the right to dispose of it as you see fit at any time. Tip: wear gloves.
- Fireworks. Obviously you're not getting quick resolution on this, unless you actually watch the cartel deal go down and see the semi unloading into someone's garage. (Call 911 in that situation) The City Prosecutor will reach out here. Videos, addresses, license plates are ideal.
- Traffic Signal out - Call the non-emergency number for this one, so they can get on it asap if it's a busy street. 562-435-6711.

Other handy features: On the pulldown menu, you can see "All Requests". This will show things reported and current status.

Help keep Naples clean, shiny, and free of broken windows. GO report something!

Want email updates?
Want info on something?
Crime tip?
Sign up at NaplesNW@gmail.com.

Urgent Alerts on Instagram @Naples_NRG



CATCHING UP WITH THE *Naples Islands Garden Club*

NIGC ARBOR DAY MEMORIAL

On March 11th, President Linda Frame of the Naples Islands Garden Club honored the memory of club members and their immediate family members who passed away in 2024. Recognized nationwide, Arbor Day serves as an opportunity to emphasize the importance of tree planting while also commemorating those who have been lost. This year, the club continued its tradition by planting a crepe myrtle in the parkway in front of the school. Members, dressed in their signature red aprons, worked diligently to prepare the area—pulling weeds, trimming bushes, raking leaves, and watering the newly planted tree.

Due to inclement weather, the program was moved indoors to the auditorium. Arbor Day Co-Chairs Sherry Yanagisawa and Barbara Jordan, along with their dedicated committee, collaborated with school principal Mrs. Paula Spenker to organize a meaningful and heartfelt event. The ceremony featured students reading poetry, followed by family members sharing touching memories of their loved ones. As a token of remembrance, each family member received an orchid plant, generously donated by Trader Joe's.

Submitted by Trish Schooley, Publicity Chair



ORCHID WISDOM *with Cindy Murphy* by Kristen Fisher, NIGC



In a quiet corner of Naples Island, Cindy Murphy tends more than twenty Cymbidium orchids—living links to a gift from her mother over fifty years ago. “They don’t like their feet wet,” Cindy laughs. Her orchids thrive in pots with a custom mix of soil, bark, and rocks for drainage. “As long as they drain well, they’re happy”—a philosophy that keeps them blooming year after year.

Blooming on Island Time

Cindy’s orchids flourish in Naples Islands’ salty air and marine-layer mornings, blooming as early as December and lasting into April. “These are the leftovers,” she says, pointing to a still-vibrant flower. “They’re tough.” They need sunlight, but too much shade stifles them. During rain, she covers them with plastic to keep roots from staying too wet.

Heirlooms in Bloom

Cindy re-pots when roots burst out or the pot becomes crowded. “Feeder bulbs (pseudobulbs) are key—they store water and feed new growth,” she says, you always keep those. She soaks roots

in diluted crystal fertilizer and adds a top-dressing every few weeks.

When her mother’s orchid won top honors at the Club’s Flower Show, Cindy felt a quiet kind of joy. Her orchids carry a legacy of care, from her mother’s hands to her own—and now, to neighbors learning from her garden.

CINDY’S ORCHID TIPS

- Fertilize every 2 weeks (diluted crystals)
Jan–July: high-nitrogen
Aug–Dec: low-nitrogen
- Repot after blooming—
when bulbs crowd pot
- Soak roots before repotting
- Soil: Dr. Earth + bark + rocks
- Sun + cool nights
- Rain? Use plastic sheeting

Naples Islands Garden Club, est. 1973, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

STEPS EARN \$\$ FOR NIA’S YOUTH PROGRAM

NIA volunteers are taking it to the streets to raise dollars for Naples Youth Program by delivering the quarterly issues of Naples News door to door. Adults and students alike - including the Naples Contessa Court, are teaming up to divide and conquer by selecting specific blocks to canvas while taking their daily strolls

and walking their pups. By delivering the magazine, volunteers help direct \$1,600 per year to Youth Programming (those dollars previously paid a professional delivery service). **If you’d like to help earn dollars for Naples Youth initiatives while getting in your steps, send a note to NaplesNewsMagazine@gmail.com!**



Spring General Meeting

The NIA Connects Community

photos by Ian Holmes

A robust showing of NIA members attended the Spring General Meeting Wednesday, April 16th in the Skippers Cove at the Long Beach Yacht Club.

SPEAKERS AND TOPICS INCLUDED:

- Kristina Duggan
Seawall update
Sidewalk vendors
Alamitos Bay water quality
Olympic planning
- Steve Pruitt
Summer lineup for LB Band Shell
<https://www.liveattheshell.org>
- Greg Magnuson and Katie Allen
Intro to the Algalita organization
Long-term water testing plan
- Donna Fleming
LB CERT-Naples Team
Procurement of mobile command
and supply trailer

- Cody Duncan
Detailed summary of ongoing
pump repairs around Naples
- NIA Board Members
NIA Board Members gave a brief
introduction to the attendees
- Tony Digiovanni, NIA President,
delivered closing remarks, promoted
the upcoming summer program,
and emphasized details about the
Pancake Breakfast

PHOTOS BELOW:

- 1) NIA President, Tony Digiovanni
- 2) NIA 2nd VP (Events), Nakee Hanks
- 3) Cody Duncan, LBPW Project Manager
- 4) Attendees hanging on every word!
- 5) Kristina Duggan connecting with
Naples residents

- 6) Steve Pruitt sharing news about the
upcoming season for "Life at the Shell"
in Recreation Park
- 7) Greg Magnuson detailing issues with
Alamitos Bay Water Quality
- 8) Katie Allen w/ the Algalita Organization
- 9) Donna Fleming Naples CERT Chair



Finding Little Treasures

NIA's Contessa Court Brings Joy to Tots

by Stacey King, photos by Ian Holmes

Once again, the Naples Improvement Association hosted its beloved annual Easter Egg Hunt at the iconic Naples fountain, drawing families from across the community for a day of festive fun. This cherished tradition saw children eagerly scouring every nook and cranny in search of colorful treasures.

Highlighting the event was the delightful visit from none other than the Easter Bunny himself, who brought joy to all with his boundless energy and warm greetings. The Bunny graciously posed for pictures, creating lasting memories for the young attendees.

The success of the egg hunt wouldn't have been possible without the dedicated efforts of the Naples Contessa Court, who lent their support in hiding the eggs and engaging with the excited children throughout the event. Their enthusiasm added an extra layer of magic to the festivities.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Naples Improvement Association for their continued sponsorship of this cherished community event. Their commitment to fostering a sense of togetherness and joy is truly commendable.

A special thank you goes out to all the generous Naples residents who donated pre-filled Easter eggs, ensuring that every child could partake in the hunt and experience the thrill of discovery.

In reflecting on the day's festivities, NIA President Tony Digiovanni remarked, "I wish my children grew up on Naples Island and got to experience events like this!" His sentiment captures the essence of what makes Naples Island such a special place—a community filled with warmth, camaraderie, and unforgettable moments.

As another Easter Egg Hunt comes to a close, Naples Island remains a beacon of joy and unity, where families come together to celebrate traditions old and new.



OPERATION EASTER BASKET

by Stacey King, photos by Amélie Angelo Neumann

The Naples Improvement Association partnered once again with Justin Rudd's Operation Easter Basket to spread joy to less fortunate children throughout Long Beach.

Operation Easter Basket is a noble initiative designed to deliver gift-filled Easter Baskets. These baskets contain essential items such as school supplies, hygiene products, art supplies, essential clothing items, and a sprinkle of Easter treats.

This partnership wouldn't be complete without the help of the Naples Contessa Court who gathered together to assemble and deliver 35 beautiful baskets to Operation Easter Basket. A big thank you goes out to the Naples Improvement Association for sponsoring the donated Easter baskets.



SAVE THE DATE Tuesday • June 24 NIA's Country Concert and Chili Cookoff at Colonnade Park

Don your western duds and arrive early to mix, mingle, taste and vote!
Chili Cookoff at 5PM... cast your vote for the "People's Choice Award"
Hillbilly Crutch takes to the stage at 6PM (awards announced around 7PM)



NIA's 2025 Concerts in the Park *The Lineup*

JUN 24



HILLBILLY CRUTCH

AUG 26



DETAILS COMING SOON

SEP 7



KING SALMON

MAY 27



MANUEL THE BAND
sponsored by Long Beach Yacht Club

JUL 29



ASHE BROS.

All concerts held in Colonnade Park • May - August concerts start at 6PM
September's "Street Dance" concert begins at 5PM • Check naplesislands.org for schedule updates