



## The Northwest Wire

### *The President's Perch -*

*April 2011*

*Issue #1*

We hope that you become as excited as we are about this newsletter. While we routinely publish bulletins to keep you informed and promote the NWN through our website, we wanted to create a forum where our members can participate. Often times neighbors have information that would be worth sharing but have no channel for informing their community. Now we do. If you have a news-worthy item that you feel would be of interest to others, just submit it to [nwna@nwcape.com](mailto:nwna@nwcape.com). And, we've taken the first step by introducing Fish Tales and Burrow Bits in this edition.

During the first quarter we concentrated on the Ceitus Barrier Petition Drive and coordinating the Burnt Store Widening Information Meeting. As you can imagine, a lot of hours went into both initiatives resulting in successful outcomes. This year we are also making a concerted effort to revitalize our committees. We took the first step during our March meeting with breakout sessions led by our committee chairpersons to obtain member feedback and recommendations. Now, our committee leaders have a starting point. Stay tuned!

*Working Together is Achieving Together!*

# TRASH BASH

**Saturday, April 16th**  
**Burnt Store Boat Ramp**  
**9 am - 12 pm**

**Pizza, Dogs, Burgers &  
Sodas at Noon**



- **Arrive between 8:30 am and 9:00 am to pick up trash bags and a t-shirt.**
- **Bash the trash wherever you wish—along roadways, empty lots or medians, but please do so safely.**
- **Boat Captains & Crews are welcomed to retrieve trash along canal banks and waterways.**
- **All collected trash may be returned to the boat ramp and placed in one of the designated dumpsters.**
- **Cape Coral Police and Code Enforcement will be working with us.**

**Questions?**  
**Contact: [nwna@nwcape.com](mailto:nwna@nwcape.com)**

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

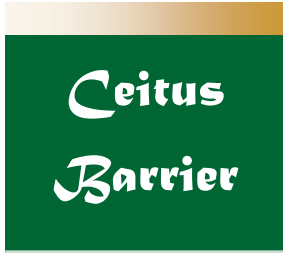
Officer Jason Criazzo, our North District Resource Officer, reports that the crime numbers are in for February. Congratulations to the Northwest with zero crimes! Take a few minutes to visit the police department's 'new' interactive map at:

**[www.capecops.com](http://www.capecops.com)**

**Beware of all door-to-door solicitors!**

Call the Licensing Department at City Hall (239-574-0430, M-F, 7:30 am — 4:30 pm) before hiring someone to do work for you. The Licensing Department will verify that solicitors are both licensed and insured. If you suspect someone in your area, please call the **non-emergency number** and they will come out to investigate.

**Police Non-Emergency:**  
**(239) 574-3223**



THE TRUTH BEHIND THE NORTH SPREADER CANAL ISSUE [Previously published 1/4/11]

This was written in opposition to replacing a barrier and boat lift at the southern end of the North Spreader Waterway. Your involvement in this issue is critical if you do not wish to have tens of millions of Cape Coral tax dollars wasted on a project that has been demonstrated to be detrimental to the environment and to Cape Coral property values.

Cape residents have, in effect, been taken hostage by local and regional environmental activist groups who did not negotiate in good faith over the last two years in the North Spreader Ecosystem Management Agreement (NSEMA). The NSEMA was an attempt to determine the wisdom of replacing an existing barrier/boat lift that was catastrophically breached by tidal action in January 2006. The remnants of this structure were removed in 2008 by the city of Cape Coral with the approval of State and Federal officials. This group was further tasked with identifying other environmentally-orientated projects that collectively provide for a greater Net Environmental Benefit (NEB) than replacing the barrier.

The NSEMA meetings commenced in mid-2008. Representatives of city, county, state, and federal governments participated, as well as many of the regions top engineers and scientists. An independent environmental consultant compiled data and performed hydrologic models of the canal system. These meetings were also attended by members of the various environmental activist groups referenced above.

After two years of data compilation and modeling this group determined that the barrier is detrimental to the environment. The barrier failed due to tremendous tidal forces, not storm water inflow as believed by the activists. Many projects were identified that would provide a greater NEB than replacing the barrier. All of the engineers, scientists, and consultants, and even the environmental activists, agreed that replacement of the barrier was a fool's errand that would be overly costly and certainly doomed to fail, while creating more environmental damage than it would cure. Not one technically qualified person refuted the findings of the NSEMA. Yet these activist groups now are demanding that the findings be refuted, ignoring the engineering and science that concludes that the barrier should not be replaced.

This issue was discussed in detail during a community meeting at the Northwest Regional Library on December 18, 2010. Your neighbors and city officials were present to discuss the issue in depth.

The environmental activists are numerous and organized. They are submitting their emotion-based opinions supporting the barrier replacement. They are many hundreds strong. So are we. Get involved.



March 16, 2011: The City of Cape Coral submitted its response to the RAI (Request for Additional Information) dated December 17, 2010. The Ceitus RAI cover letter authored by Oliver Clarke, Engineer IV, Public Works Department and the response document prepared by the City of Cape Coral, Avalon Engineering, and Janicki Environmental can be accessed by scrolling to the bottom of the page at:

http://www.dep.state.fl.us/south/TMDL/tmdl.htm

March 17, 2011: NWNAs President and Treasurer presented the signed petitions to deny reconstruction of the Ceitus Boat Lift Storm Water Barrier to Ms. Megan Mills, Environmental Specialist, at the FDEP's Fort Myers office.

Petition Drive Results: We achieved our 3,000 signature goal with a slight edge with 3,004 signed petitions at March 31, 2010. Congratulations to all.

BURNT STORE ROAD WIDENING

The Lee County Department of Transportation (LC DOT) is designing the widening of Burnt Store Road from Pine Island Road north to Kismet Parkway. This design has two phases - a widening to four lanes for upcoming construction and an ultimate future concept to six lanes with a two-lane frontage road. Currently, construction to four lanes for the segment of Burnt Store Road from Pine Island Road to Tropicana Parkway is funded in late 2014. The existing right-of-way along Burnt Store Road is 200 feet. An additional 155 feet is required along the east side of existing Burnt Store Road to accommodate the new four-lane design and the six-lane ultimate concept. To date, Lee County has acquired approximately half of the right-of-way needed to widen Burnt Store Road.

Four-Lane Design Plans

Lee County's design of Burnt Store Road is a four-lane divided highway with two 12-foot travel lanes in each direction and a design speed of 55 mph. On-road bicycle lanes are included in the four-lane widening. A five-foot sidewalk will be constructed on the west side and a ten foot multi-use path will be constructed on the east side of Burnt Store Road. Existing travel lanes on Burnt Store Road will be widened, milled and resurfaced and become the new southbound lanes. Two new northbound lanes will be constructed to the east of the existing lanes. The median will be approximately 174 feet wide to allow for future expansion. With the exception of Gator Slough, all new bridges will have lighted pedestrian underpasses to allow safe passage under Burnt Store Road and will connect to the sidewalk and multi-use path.

Road Design Renderings and Newsletter are available at www3.leegov.com.

For more information email: Rich O'Donnell at nwna@nwcape.com



# COOKING CAPERS



## Neighbor to Neighbor Recipe Cooklet

We are creating our own NANA Cooklet and are looking for your world renown recipes, as well as, some of your plain old favorites!

If you would like your recipe to be included, please email a copy to Barb Wenz at [secretary@nwcape.com](mailto:secretary@nwcape.com)

**Please Note:**

Recipe and contributor's name only will be published. If you wish to add a home phone number or email address, kindly note that in your email.

You may submit as many recipes as you are graciously willing to share.

Please submit all recipes by May 31st. Thank you.

# Happy Birthday NANA

Join us for our 7th birthday!

April 21, 2011

6:30 pm—Dessert Social

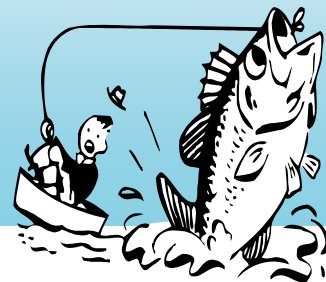
7:30 pm—News & Views

Mariner High School Cafeteria

Please RSVP to  
[nwna@nwcape.com](mailto:nwna@nwcape.com)  
by Tuesday, April  
19th.

## Fish Tales —

*Email those fishing reports, tips and photos for the next issue to Barb Wenz at [secretary@nwcape.com](mailto:secretary@nwcape.com).*



# Hoo's Who in the 'Hood

<p><b>President</b> Stella Peters Email: president@nwcape.com</p>		<p><b>Development Review Committee</b> Rich O'Donnell, Chairperson rod6447@yahoo.com</p>
<p><b>Vice President</b> Jim Fitzsimmons Email: vicepresident@nwcape.com</p>		<p><b>Environment Committee</b> Judy Harvey, Chairperson jharvey48@embarqmail.com</p>
<p><b>Treasurer</b> Fred Vogelpohl Email: treasurer@nwcape.com</p>	<p>P.O. Box 411 Cape Coral, FL 33993-0411</p> <p>Email: nwna@nwcape.com</p> <p>Website: www.nwcape.com</p>	<p><b>IT Committee</b> Cathy Eybs, Chairperson webmaster@nwcape.com</p>
<p><b>Secretary</b> Barbara Wenz Email: secretary@nwcape.com</p>		<p><b>Marine Committee</b> Under Construction nwna@nwcape.com</p> <p><b>Membership Committee</b> Stella Peters, Acting Chairperson president@nwcape.com</p>
		<p><b>Parks Committee</b> Terry O'Donnell, Chairperson terryod435@yahoo.com</p>



*Together  
We're  
Better!*

The Northwest Wire is a publication of the NWNA.  
Editor: Barb Wenz

## Burrow Bits

Have an announcement or something to sell?

Please email your Burrow Bits to Barb Wenz at secretary@nwcape.com. Be sure to include Burrow Bits in the subject area.

Please note:

- All bits will be posted in the next issue in the order received.
- You must be a current member of NWNA and all postings must pertain to you or an immediate family member.
- All bits will be in text form only (no graphics or business cards).



## canalside calendar

- April 14, 2011—Board Mtg. 7:00 p.m.
- April 16, 2011 — Trash Bash—Burnt Store Boat Ramp 9:00 a.m. Pizza, Dogs, Burgers & Soda at Noon.
- April 19, 2011— Cape Coral Neighborhood Watch Mtg. Police Headquarters 7 p.m.
- April 21, 2011 — Dessert Social & Regular Meeting 6:30 p.m.