

LATE SUMMER 2010

# ROSEMARY THYMES



## Weekend of Giving

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# Weekend of Giving

By: Stan Joseph



During early October, our annual homeowners meeting will take place. As has become a tradition, the Rosemary Beach Foundation holds their yearly 'Weekend of Giving' to coincide with it. With the summer of 2010 drawing to a close, the homeowners, residents, and guests of Rosemary Beach, as well as our neighbors along Scenic 30-A have much to be thankful for. This year the gathering will take on new meaning. If ever there was a reason to 'give back', this is surely it.

The Foundation is in its fifth year of supporting many causes. Their mission is broad based, promoting cultural, educational, religious, environmental, literary and other charitable activities in Rosemary Beach and the surrounding South Walton County area.

Historically, the fund raising efforts have been linked to promoting specific community events. The Girls' Getaway Weekend and Tunes by the Dunes, both originally conceived and spearheaded by former Foundation Board member, Kim Jameson, are growing each year. The Rosemary Beach Foundation DelMauro

5K has also become a favorite. These events have become part of the fabric that binds our community together with a single purpose.

## Caring for others

This year, under the leadership of its President, Steve Stevens, the Foundation has expanded not only its role, but also the size and scope of the sponsored events.

The Weekend of Giving kicks off Friday, Oct. 8 with "A Taste of Rosemary Beach," highlighting Rosemary's wonderful restaurants and food merchants - followed in the evening by a film screening in Town Hall that's part of the "30-A Torchlight Film Series." As usual, the FSU Film School does not divulge the actual title, but it will surely be a hit.

Saturday morning Oct. 9, at 7:30 a.m., the Rosemary Beach Foundation DelMauro 5K Run takes place. It's a great opportunity to meet your neighbors and friends, no matter what level of runner, (or walker), you are. Registration begins

**Making a Difference continued on page 17**

## ROSEMARY THYMES

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The Rosemary Beach  
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Fall Ushers in Uncorked Event and More

By: Susan Vallée

I don't know about you, but I am ready for this heat wave of summer to end already. We have so many great events planned that just sound ... well, fall-ish for lack of a better term. Escape to Create is hosting a writing conference at the end of September. October ushers in the Rosemary Beach Uncorked and Weekend of Giving activities, including plays, the 5K run and more. It just can't cool off fast enough.

We hope you enjoyed the old photos showcased in our last issue. Feel free to email any old images you might have - or share old memories. We'd love to hear them. We are a little low on our Where in the World photo submissions. Don't

forget to show off your Rosemary Beach gear while traveling and send us a photo. Winners receive a \$100 gift certificate from the Trading Company.

I hope you enjoy this issue. My favorite story is Susan Broussard's gardening column. She always has me laughing and in this particular column, I truly think she outdid herself. I also loved the mermaid tale that we received. I hope it will inspire you to put pen to paper - or encourage your children to put pen to paper - and send in a story of your own. Nothing makes us happier than feedback from you.

This issue also highlights the new Tommy Crow Collections store on Main Street. If you are out at night, make a point to stroll

down Main Street. The restaurants are all featuring outdoor seating now and Tommy is showing art films on a semi-nightly basis. With the roar of the Gulf in the background and a cool breeze rushing up from the shoreline, Main Street at night is becoming a destination unto itself.

And a quick thank you to the reader who was kind enough to make four beautiful notebook covers for me using past issues of the paper! That was an unexpected surprise.

*Email editor@susanvallee.com or call (850) 217-7542. Thanks for reading!*

**About the cover:** Were you lucky enough to enjoy the giant slip n slide? The South Walton Fire Department hosed down the extra large slide. A Random Acts of Rosemary event, the slide was a huge hit. Photography provided by Paul Johnson Photography, who have offices here in town.



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# Tommy Crow Collections Opens on Main Street

By: Susan Vallée

Defining photographer Tommy Crow's style is no simple task. Part nature photographer, part graphic designer, part fine art photographer - he has a knack for taking a picture, spinning it on its head and creating something you never expected to see.

Take, for example, a shot of butterflies. Not happy to let them flit across a canvass, Crow tweaked them, and then had them screened onto a stand-up paddle board. The end product is shocking in its beauty. He seems to enjoy pushing the limits of photography to create works like this - something you wouldn't have even considered possible before you walk through those doors.

He decided to open Tommy Crow Collections this summer after falling in love with the energy of Main Street.

"I love this town. Did you know this is one of the few places you can get a bite to eat after 10 p.m.? And I love the fact that we're 50 steps from the beach. My design for being here is not just to be a store, but to create a destination to go to in the evening."

To that end he is screening art films and plans to host other events in the courtyard he shares with La Crema.

He laughs when asked about his summer opening.

"The first thing everyone commented on is the floor," he said. "People can't get enough of this floor."

The floor, which looks like someone poured liquid white nail polish across it, creates an ideal back drop to the colorful canvasses and room dividers hanging from the ceiling.

"What I want to do is turn this into a signature store by incorporating artwork into



Tommy Crow Collections is a fun addition to the excitement of Main Street.

different types of products," he said. Hanging near the butterfly SUP board is a sheer fabric wall hanging with a model channelling the beach glamour of the 1940s - grinning widely in red-lipsticked glory. A table next to the wall hanging is covered in Crow signature wear. Distressed baseball caps and thin cotton shirts as soft as silk are stitched with a tiny crow (the bird, not the man).

Originally from Atlanta, Crow decided to put down roots along 30As coast six years ago. In the arc of his professional career he's been awarded with Kelly, Clio, ADDY, PRINT, Archive and Communication Arts Awards. While he still travels extensively for work, he hopes to be able to spend more and more time at his new love.

For further information call (850) 231-1300.



"We also like one small restaurant ... Summer Kitchen Café ... at Rosemary Beach. They create good salads and rollups for lunch, while the evening menu dishes out excellent fresh fish and steak." *Southern Living Magazine, 2005*

"I discover the Summer Kitchen Cafe, a tiny casual restaurant with tables on a shaded porch. I order grilled salmon and a Corona. I like this place." *Travel & Leisure 2007*

"...every dish is a gem. Summer Kitchen, one restaurant with 2 delightfully different personalities. And each one is worth getting to know." *Daily News, 2005*

"Dining at Summer Kitchen is truly an all day affair....it is impossible to make a wrong choice" *The Thirty-A Review, 2007*



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# Board Jumps to Action

By: The Rosemary Beach POA Board of Directors

The summer of 2010 will always be known as a challenge for lovers of the Gulf Coast, but adversity can sometimes bring out remarkable resiliency in people, and in Towns. Such was our case this summer. We knew early that this was not going to be business as usual, so we did a few things differently, while still maintaining everything that makes Rosemary Beach special.

The oil spill caused a lot of fear and we were prepared to protect our beaches and our special place with everything we had. For a while, the Board was meeting almost daily to assess needs and respond to the ever changing challenges. So much was beyond our control, but we addressed everything we reasonably could. We dramatically increased homeowner communication using group conference calls, live web cams, emails and more. We wanted everybody to have access to facts about what was really happening here. Our Web site has proven to be a very good source of information and we saw hundreds of hits daily. With this success, we will keep using this as a key source of information.

The Board approved the start for several new merchants in Town as we continued to fill up the Town. Additionally, the

hotel was purchased by a new investor. As usual, we had the largest and best Fourth of July fireworks along 30-A. It was a perfect holiday weekend!

We wanted to help our businesses and wanted people to enjoy themselves despite the threat. One fun step was the reservation of Main Street for pedestrian only traffic for several evenings. Tables moved further into the street, musicians popped up and smiles were everywhere. Whether holding a leash, a glass of wine or someone's hand, everybody had fun. These were great nights and we look forward to expanding the program. We also experimented with extension of the evening hours for merchants to help their summer sales, while still looking to balance the needs of nearby owners. Another innovation was our new "Random Acts of Rosemary." People needed more reasons to smile and just feel good about themselves, their families and our Town – and they found those reasons in surprising ways! The program was started to help people feel better this summer, but after such a great success, we look forward to making this a regular institution.

Despite all the challenges of 2010, we have so much for which to be thankful here in Rosemary Beach. Random acts and responsible adjustments can help us smile, feel good and remember while we protect and extend all the goodness we have in this wonderful Town.



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# Random Surprises with Random Acts

The town of Rosemary Beach is always glad to welcome guests with welcome arms - but visitors this summer were especially appreciated. As a way to extend an extra thank you, the Property Owners' Association created a program called the "Random Acts of Rosemary". Throughout the summer our security team handed out almost 100 potted rosemary plants to guests packing their cars and bidding the town goodbye.

Five "random" events were also hosted: a free Laffy Taffy giveaway at the Sugar Shak, a free hot dog lunch at DogManDu, free lawn party with lemonade, hula hoops, a DJ and margaritas and a modern dance performance.

The program generated so many smiles the POA has decided to extend the events into the fall.

Rosemary staff are also giving out (randomly) Rosemary Bucks when they witness people doing good deeds around town. Each Rosemary Buck is worth \$3 at participating merchants.

"We really appreciate the merchants getting behind Random Acts of Rosemary



Chris Webb and the DogManDu crew were happy to give away free hot lunches to hungry beach-goers.

and supporting the programs," Kathy Kemp, town center marketing director, said.

So remember, do a nice deed in Rosemary and you might be rewarded with a Rosemary Buck of your very own!



Hula hoops were a smash at the lawn party!



Nothing is better than a gift of free candy. Thanks Sugar Shak!



# Kidbits...The Lost Tooth News

News the way kids like to tell it ... all good, mostly true and, of course, totally earth shattering

**Aidan Hungerford**, - 8, and his sister **Quin**, 5, came all the way from their home in Istanbul, Turkey to vacation in Rosemary Beach this summer! They both say that their favorite food there is definitely Turkish delight.

**Ryan Waguespack**, - 10, left Mississippi to travel to Panama City Beach to compete in the Elite Dance Competition. Her team won two National Trophies! What makes it even more special is that her dance teacher, **Miss Cara**, who is also her aunt, traveled with her.

**India Sloane**, - 11.5, has



Sophie Bech shows she really cares.

taken ballet for 9 years and is finally officially on pointe! She was chosen to be in a pre-professional ballet class which meets five days a week.



Lana Dismuke and her safety badge.

**Lana Dismukes**, - 3, was awarded a special safety badge by a policeman for buckling her seatbelt.

Sisters **Maddie and Ellie Swainhart** swam, biked, and ran the Ironhead Kids' Triathlon in Texas this summer. Ellie won second place among 11-12 year olds and Maddie placed first among 13-15 year olds.

**Emma Sloane**, - 9, learned how to throw bamboo spears at camp during her "Indian Lore" studies. She also shot a bull's eye in archery.

**Mackenzie Connaughton**, - 5, went to tennis camp this summer while brother **Jack**, - 3.5, went to basketball camp.

According to **Chasen Letcher**, - 7, there is a Ghost Pirate that leaves him special gifts but only comes to visit when he goes to sleep while vacationing at the beach. The pirate recently left him a really cool bead necklace with a giant medallion attached and Chasen wears it proudly.

**Sydney Russell**, - 10, is excited to go back to school because she gets to wear her new outfit from Gigi's for the first "Free Friday."

**Kyra McClain**, - 4, and **Aidan Dillon**, - 10, performed in the Gigi's 4th of July parade routine for the first time joining return dancers **Taylor McClain**, **Bo Massey**, **Mira Syed**, and **Darcy Godwin**. The team danced a hip-hop number while Aidan pulled off a great **Justin Bieber** impersonation!

Ten-year-old **Elizabeth Ruckman** has joined the ranks of junior globbers who write for the Gigi's glob. She has most recently written about her hometown of New Orleans from a kid's perspective, as well as New York City. "The Glob," which is our fun word for "blog," is designed for kids and their grownups to enjoy reading together.

It is updated daily at [www.gigisfabkids.typepad.com](http://www.gigisfabkids.typepad.com).

**Sophie Bech**, - 11, from Louisiana, was bummed because she got into town late and missed volunteering at the Gigi's Lemonade Stand. So, she decided to do her own lemonade stand all by herself during the July 4th bike parade and made an additional \$41.83 for the Alaqua Animal Refuge! Way to go!

Speaking of, we still have four more Gigi's Lemonade Stands to go this summer. However, as of press time, we have already surpassed last year's total dollars raised for Alaqua Animal Refuge! A huge thanks to all of our excited and motivated kid volunteers, as well as to the countless generous and thirsty animal lovers who have donated to the

cause. Also, very special thanks goes to **EmJane Miller** who, for her 8th birthday, decided



Judge Ellis lost his tooth while he was at Gigi's.

that instead of having a party, she would set up a birthday cupcake stand right alongside the lemonade stand on July 3. She and the other kid volunteers worked together as a team and raised \$591 in a single afternoon for the AAR!

Kidbits continued on page 16

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# Rosemary Foundation Annual Weekend of Giving

Homeowners Weekend is always fun, but this year the Rosemary Beach Foundation has worked hard to ensure everyone has a great time in this town we all love. The weekend kicks off on Oct. 8 with A Taste of Rosemary Beach. This is a great time to visit with neighbors or friends while enjoying a great assortment of cuisine from the town's restaurants, along

with beverages. As the sun sets enjoy a special screening from the Florida State University Torchlight Film Series.

The next morning, Oct. 9, begins bright and early with the annual Rosemary Beach Foundation DelMauro 5K through town, followed by the annual homeowners meeting at 9:30 a.m.

That evening, enjoy the much lauded

performance of "Always ... Patsy Cline," performed by a stellar cast from the Seaside Repertory Theatre. This show sold out almost nightly when performed at the theatre. If you weren't able to get a ticket then, now is your chance to see the play that had all of 30A buzzing.

Funds raised through Homeowners Weekend activities benefit the Foundation grant program and the Michael J. Fox Foundation. Originally established in 2005 to promote and support charitable activities, the Foundation has raised more than \$260,000 for charity since its creation.

Recent recipients of Foundation grants include Escape to Create, the Muskogee Nation's food pantry in Bruce, Fl. and an eyeglass program provided by the Children's Volunteer Health Network.

## Foundation Board Members:

Steve Stevens, President  
Harvey Petty, Vice President  
Reynolds Henderson  
Julie Selleck  
Chris Webb  
Claire Bannerman  
Lisa Jensen



Actress Jennifer Steele-Saunders stars in "Always ... Patsy Cline."

Weekend of Giving continued on page 9

## Take Your Writing to the Next Level

Thanks in part to a grant from the Rosemary Beach Foundation, Escape to Create is able to host an impressive writing conference at the Town Hall from Sept. 22-25.

The conference brings heavy talent to our town. Authors John Dufresne, Brad Watson, Daphne Kalotay, David Magee and Erin Belieu will share tips on novel writing, guide morning writing sessions, share techniques of writing short stories and reveal how publishers truly view your work.

Dufresne is the author of four novels, two short story collections and teaches creative writing at Florida International University.

Watson is the author of three books, has taught fiction writing at five major universities and was the former director of Harvard's creative writing program. He now teaches the Masters of Fine Arts program at The University of Wyoming in Laramie.

Kalotay is the author of "Calamity and Other Stories and "Russian Winter." "Russian Winter" was a finalist in the James Jones First Novel Competition and will be published by Harper Collins in September.

Here is what the president and publisher of HarperCollins had to say about her work, "Few books manage to combine history and romance as Russian Winter does: Arthur Golden's

"Memoirs of a Geisha" did this memorably, as did Janice Y. K. Lee's "The Piano Teacher." "Russian Winter" stands in this distinguished tradition and announces the arrival of a very exciting new talent," Michael Morrison wrote.

Magee is an award-winning columnist and author of eight books. When not writing he somehow finds time to be the co-owner of Chattanooga's largest independent bookstore and the founder of Jefferson Press, a niche publisher. He has more than more than 300 media appearances, including NPR, Bloomberg, CNBC, Fox Business, *The Wall Street Journal* and Businessweek.com.

Belieu is the Creative Writing Program director for FSU, author of three poetry collections and recipient of the Ohioana Award and the Society of Midland Authors Award.

Malayne DeMars, executive director of Escape to Create, said the conference will be broken into daily sessions that begin with writing sessions each morning.

"We are so excited to bring this level of literary talent to Rosemary," she said. "I think conference attendees will benefit from their insight."

To register, contact Malayne DeMars at (850) 534-0000 or [escapetocreate@gmail.com](mailto:escapetocreate@gmail.com) to reserve a spot.

Cost is \$175 for the four-day conference.



# Weekend of Giving

Rosemary Foundation from Page 8

The Foundation is currently seeking sponsors for Homeowner Weekend. Special VIP packages are available.

### Volunteer

It takes hours/days/weeks/months of planning for events, but when we share the load, not only is it lighter, but our bond becomes stronger. We invite you to share your talents with us and welcome your contribution of time, no matter how small.

### Donate

Sponsorship of efforts and events are ongoing. We would love to include you when opportunities arise for you or your business to partner with us.

### Non-Monetary Donations

We are constantly in need of the donation of housing for our musicians, artists, speakers, race directors, etc. and encourage you to consider this as a way of supporting the Foundation. Typically, these generous folks have donated their time and services, often giving up the opportunity to take

paying jobs. We also are in need of gift certificates to area restaurants, shops and services to thank them for their gift to the Foundation. Often, specific events require food, beverages, support services that may be considered as an in-kind donation.

For any information about the Foundation or for information about becoming a sponsor:

**Contact: Steve Stevens**  
**(678)777-8805**  
**steveandjanstevens@mac.com.**

## Flutterby Festival Migrates to Town

Rosemary Beach is host to the 20th annual Flutterby Children's Arts Festival, held Nov. 13 and 14. Named to celebrate the annual migration of the Monarch butterfly, the Flutterby Festival give kids a chance to flitter and play. Actors from the Seaside Repertory Theatre will perform puppet shows and interactive storytelling.

Children will be able to make their own butterfly puppets and other crafts, paint butterfly murals, have their faces painted and create their own butterfly wing masterpieces that can be worn for the butterfly costume parade that will take

place each afternoon. The Flutterby Festival is sponsored by the Merchants of Rosemary Beach and will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days along Main Street and the Western Green.

There will also be butterfly garden tours, music throughout the weekend, a Walton County student butterfly exhibit, bounce houses and street games. Admission to the Flutterby Festival is free, although some activities may require a small fee.

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**SANCTUARY**  
BY THE SEA



# Ramblings of a Garden Geek: Best Laid Plans

By: Susan Broussard

First, I must assure you that this story comes from home. We all know that mice, rats and all forms of vermin are not allowed in or near Rosemary Beach. They would not even entertain the thought of approaching the border. It has something to do with vermin immigration law. That said, I continue.

As I am writing this on a fine July morning, the temperature and humidity are already rising way above my I.Q. and it's only 9:30. You'll be reading this on a fall morning over coffee when, hopefully, the thermometer is more reflective of the days we dream of during our subtropical summers.

Early fall is when I emerge from a summer of hiding in the air-conditioned environment we have all created for ourselves. Somewhere around late September the evenings start to cool off. (Now as soon as this goes to print we will have a massive heat wave but we'll just pretend that won't happen.)

This story of enlightenment began on a fine autumn day a few years ago, when my grandson, Toby, and I were going through the

process of checking the garden. As always, I was trying to instill the concept of gardening in my grandson by inviting him to join me. Sometimes we would plant vegetables that he would never eat. At other times, we would take a walk through the flowers that would



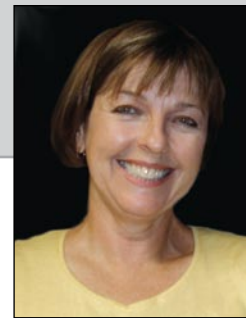
Susan and her grandson, Toby, enjoy a beautiful (and rat-less) day at the beach.

soon be trampled while chasing the cat. It was part of the process.

That day my grandson and I came upon a dead rat. I thought this would be a great teaching experience. I thought this would be a wonderful way to teach Toby about the circle of life. I thought I could use it to show him how something can grow old and die and still be part of this world. I thought it would be a way to open a discussion on life and death, on life after death. I thought it was a perfect subject for the perfect fall day. Except it backfired.

On this particular day, Toby was helping me tidy up the yard after a pretty hefty rainstorm passed through town. (Let me stop here and say that he was cute as a button in his dragon goulashes and fireman raincoat.) As we cleared fallen branches, that's where we found the rat. Where it came from, I did not know. What was its demise. I did not care.

**Garden Geek continued on page 19**



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## Where In The World...



Congratulations Aaron, Leslye, Will and Charlie Trachte! The Trachte family poses on Mount Scott in Oklahoma's Wichita Mountain Wildlife Refuge while wearing Rosemary Beach gear.

If you've snapped a photo of yourself basking in the sun in Barbados with a Rosemary hat, or visiting the Great Wall of China in a Rosemary T-shirt

(or anywhere in between), submit them to Linda Gifford at [lindag@rosemarybeach.com](mailto:lindag@rosemarybeach.com) or Susan Vallée at [editor@susan-vallee.com](mailto:editor@susan-vallee.com).

We'll publish our favorite photo in each issue and announce the winner. Winners receive a \$100 gift certificate from the Trading Company.

How fun is that?

## News Around Town

### Tracery Interiors is Everywhere Right Now

It seems America just can't get enough of Tracery Interiors. Design work from the talented team is currently featured in *Food & Wine*, *Birmingham Home & Garden* and *Country Living*. In 2011, the interiors of a home in Birmingham will be featured in *House Beautiful*.

"*Food & Wine* was really fun," owner Paige Schnell said. "They really wanted to know how we design a kitchen for our clients. It's been a great summer. Our blog is doing well and we just returned from the New York market where we discovered lots of great new things."

New items in the shop include mercury glass ornaments for the holidays and wine accessories. A link to the blog may be found at [www.traceryinteriors.com](http://www.traceryinteriors.com).

### Bibliophiles are Dancing in the Streets

Creators of The Hidden Lantern Bookstore & Gallery are planning to open the doors for business in November in the Tabby Lofts (next door to Amavida Coffee). Lauren Carvalho and Joanie Turner are working hard to create a bookstore that is unique and serves the needs of the community.

If you are walking by and see them preparing the space, tap on the windows and help us welcome them to the thriving business community in town.



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# The Rosemary Beach Foundation DelMauro 5K

Join us on Saturday, Oct. 9 at 7:30 a.m. for our annual Rosemary Beach Foundation DelMauro 5K benefiting the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research and the Rosemary Beach Foundation. The race route takes participants throughout the town.

Advanced Registration: Adult \$25, Student \$20 (18 and younger) DUE OCT. 6, 2010

Race Day Registration: \$30/25

Registration available at the POA office or mail the attached form and payment. Race day registration from 6:15-7:15 a.m. on the Western Green.

### Divisions

Younger than 20; 20-29; 30-39; 40-49; 50-59; 60+. Male and female winners for each category.

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# Mary Alice Johnson



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# Mermaid Comes Ashore at Rosemary Beach

By: The Grand Mermaid

*Editor's Note: One of our dear readers submitted this lovely tale. Have you had a recent mermaid sighting? Maybe a different Rosemary adventure to share? We'd love to hear from you. Thanks Grand Mermaid for submitting this. It was a tad soggy when we found the letter on the beach though. Next time, just leave it with the fine folks at Gigi's.*

Early in the month of June, just as the sun began to set, Madison, a tiny young mermaid, came ashore at Rosemary Beach. Her mother, who first came ashore in 1974, and her Grand Mermaid, who came ashore at Inlet Beach in 1949, accompanied her. Since she will soon be celebrating her third birthday, Madison immediately headed for Gigi's - she desperately needed a new mermaid suit (dress). She searched for just the right size. You would have thought the nice sales lady had dressed mermaids all her life. Shortly after arriving, Madison stepped out the door, in not only the perfect fit but complete with a seaweed boa, for all the Gulf of Mexico parties. She had worked up quite an appetite, and was soon enjoying

her favorite on-shore dish, macaroni and cheese, (macanoni and cheese as she called it) at Cowgirl Kitchen. After her meal, she was spotted strolling down the street and caused quite a stir. How many mermaids have you seen lately? Everyone greeted her in awe. A mermaid sighting are quite rare you know. Her final stop was The Sugar Shack where she enjoyed mint chocolate chip ice cream that matched her beautiful little tail.

It was now time to head back to the Gulf of Mexico. As she made it down to the beach she encountered groups of adults and children with flashlights and crab nets running near the water on the cool silky sand. Madison never met a stranger, so she quickly made friends (and what nice friends they proved to be). They immediately invited the little mermaid to run and squeal with them as they scooped up tiny crabs. Little did they know, but she was already an expert.

Under the veil of darkness, Madison slipped back into the Gulf. She dreams of returning once again to Rosemary Beach. She says, "Dreams really come true! Especially at Rosemary Beach." So if you are down at the waters edge and hear a little giggle; it might just be the tiny local mermaid who came ashore at Rosemary Beach.



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# Rosemary Beach Uncorked Sounds Divine

Join us for Rosemary Beach Uncorked, a truly unique open-air food and wine event, on Oct. 23. Each restaurant in town is offering signature dishes perfectly paired with a boutique wine. Tickets are only \$75 and it's a wonderful way to celebrate the arrival of fall.



Restaurant Paradis will be offering shrimp and saffron mousse served on french bread and paired with Mer Soleil “Silver,” unoaked Chardonnay along with a beef tenderloin and cioppolini onion served on brochettes and paired with Belle Glos “Meomi” Pinot Noir. Down on Main Street, Onano Neighborhood Cafe will serve (among other items) lobster ravioli with fresh corn, shiitake mushrooms, brown butter and pecorino that is paired with Villadoria Docetto D’Alba. Hungry yet?

Buy tickets online at [www.rosemarybeachuncorked.com](http://www.rosemarybeachuncorked.com) and view complete event menus from each restaurant.

It's a wonderful way to celebrate the cooler fall weather and enjoy the afternoon. And it gets even better when you add a luxurious Rosemary Beach home into the mix.

The Cottage Rental Company is offering an exclusive “Grape Escape” package for the weekend. Call (877) 528-5721 for reservations.

The Grape Escape package includes:

- Rates starting as low as \$250 per night,
- Two complimentary tickets to Rosemary Beach Uncorked with any three-night stay,
- Uncorked etched wine glass and wine pouch,
- Access to taste wine at participating restaurants including Onano’s Cafe, Courtyard Wine and Cheese, Cowgirl Kitchen, La Crema Tapas and Chocolate, Restaurant Paradis, Wild Olive, Amavida, and Summer Kitchen,
- Access to our tennis and fitness facilities,
- Unlimited DVD rentals,
- Rosemary Beach Passport to Paradise - an exclusive limited time offer for our valued guests with discounts for various merchants through Rosemary Beach valued at over \$500.

*Cottage Rental is also working with the Beaches of South Walton to offer a \$250 gift card towards future travel on Southwest Airlines or purchases at Silver Sands Factory Stores for travel through Sept. 30. Call (877) 528-5721 for information.*

CH A P E L   A T   T H E   B E A C H

Meet in the Rosemary Beach Town Hall  
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# Kidbits...The Lost Tooth News

Kidbits from Page 7

## Now on to the super cool lost teeth

**Parker Flanegan** of Atlanta celebrated her first birthday in June as well as the arrival of her fifth tooth! Okay, so that's not really a loose tooth story... but it will be before you know it! **Bella Green**, - 6, has lost five teeth so far and is expecting to lose more. In fact two are loose right now! **Caitlin LaPlante**, - 10, popped a loose tooth out with her tongue and it hit her mom and she said "OW!" **Joiner Love**, - 6, lost a tooth while eating popcorn and almost swallowed it! **Jackson Tate**, - 5, already had a loose tooth when his friend accidentally helped kick it out. Jackson didn't get upset. In fact, he was actually quite glad to skip all the waiting and wiggling, and get straight to the tooth fairy visit. **Jasmine Sumpter**, - 9, says she has noticed that she loses her teeth in order symmetrically. **Henry Miller** lost his second tooth and this time it didn't make him so mad! I actually got to witness five year old **Judge Ellis** lose his very first tooth while shopping in Gigi's! He immediately bought a glow-in-the-dark tooth holder so he wouldn't lose it before the tooth fairy came. And lastly, local **Lanee Gunn**, - 6, lost a top front tooth after biting her dad's butt! Look, I don't make this stuff up, I just report it!

Kids if you would like your news included in the next "Kidbits" column, please bring it to Gigi's, or email me at



Maddie and Ellie Swainhart show off their muscles and smiles after completing a triathlon! Wow!

[gigisfabkids@embarqmail.com](mailto:gigisfabkids@embarqmail.com) and write "kidbits" in the subject line. You can also write it on the wall of the Gigi's Fabulous Kids Facebook page. To read more about cool kids' stuff visit our "Glob" at [www.gigisfabkids.typepad.com](http://www.gigisfabkids.typepad.com).

**Geri Golding Higgs** is a Rosemary Beach kids' news contributor and also proprietor of Gigi's Fabulous Kids' Fashions and Toys in Rosemary Beach.



Lennon Wakeford has some fun at Kids' Rock the Block.



Atticus Webb and his groovy green hair.



How low can you go? Fun at Kids' Rock the Block.



Chasen Letcher shows off his Ghost Pirate gift!



Ryan Waguespack with her dance teacher (and aunt) Miss Cara.



# Making a Difference

Above Board from Page 2

at 6 a.m. at the Western Green.

The weekend concludes Saturday evening with a command performance of the play "Always... Patsy Cline", by the Seaside Repertory Theater on St. Augustine Green. A fitting end to a fabulous event. And, be sure to pick up the 'Weekend of Giving' T-shirt available at all venues. They are included in the registration fee for those who participate in the 5K run.

Looking forward, the goal of the Foundation is to become the leading community based Foundation along the Emerald Coast. The support from the people of Rosemary Beach has been tremendous. And that continued support is vital for its future success. Obviously, participation is a personal decision. And how you participate, or 'give back' is a personal choice. I urge you to get involved in some capacity. Make time. Make donations. Make a difference.

*Enjoy the weekend. Thanks for helping!*

# 'Consumerism' Wows Amavida Arts Patrons



From L-R: Arix Zalace, mixed media, Eric Marcus, photography, Bala Boyd, film, Stefan Daiberl, mixed media, Bailey Miller, mixed media and Ryan Ivy, painting.

The latest arts show at Amavida featured a talented group of local and not-so-local artists. Each provided perspective into the complicated relationship we have with the things around us and examined the pull advertising exerts in our daily lives.

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# Calendar of Events

## { SEPTEMBER }

### **"Kids' Rock The Block!" Party**

*When: Sept. 4 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.*

*Where: Western Green*

Bring the family for a roaring good time. There will be bounce houses, bubbles, face painting, hair spraying, "fishing" for prizes, balloons and more. It's all free and sponsored by the Merchants of Rosemary Beach.

### **Moonlight & Movies**

*When: Sept. 5 beginning at 8:15 p.m.*

*Where: Western Green*

Bring a blanket and enjoy a family movie under the stars! Sponsored by the Merchants of Rosemary Beach.

### **Fall Writers' Conference**

*When: Sept. 22, 23, 24 & 25*

*Where: Various locations. See page 8 for details.*

Spend a few days in Rosemary being inspired by a talented and lauded group of published authors. Workshops include poetry, non-fiction and fiction writing. Manuscript reviews are available for an additional fee. The conference is presented by Escape To Create and the Merchants of Rosemary Beach. Registration Fee - \$175  
Call (850) 534-0000 or  
email [escapetocreate@gmail.com](mailto:escapetocreate@gmail.com).

### **Rosemary Beach September Classic**

*When: Sept. 24, 25 & 26*

*Where: Rosemary Racquet Club*

Come out and watch great tennis in a beautiful setting! The first match begins Friday night at 5 p.m. Call the Racquet Club at (850) 278-2061.

## { OCTOBER }

### **Town Center Sidewalk Sale**

*When: Oct. 1 & 2*

*Where: Town Center*

Shop the area's most unique stores and take home more ... for less! Our merchants look forward to this sale each year. It's a great time to "clean house" and offer spectacular deals. Perfect stocking stuffers and holiday gifts for much less!

### **Rosemary Beach Foundation**

#### **DelMauro 5K**

*When: Oct. 9, 7:30 a.m.*

*Where: Western Green*

Join us for a charitable 5K run (or walk!) through beautiful Rosemary Beach. Sponsored by the Rosemary Beach Foundation. Each year the town of Rosemary puts one foot in front of the other to benefit the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research and other charitable groups.

### **Rosemary Beach Uncorked!**

*When: Oct. 23, 1-5 p.m.*

*Where: Town Center*

Stroll the charming cobblestone streets of Rosemary Beach as you explore the diverse culinary styles of eight of our restaurants. Each location will offer signature dishes paired with boutique wines. For a very special taste of Rosemary, unwind & uncork a perfect afternoon! Tickets are \$75 and available online at [www.rosemarybeachuncorked.com](http://www.rosemarybeachuncorked.com).

### **Harvest Market & Monstrous Halloween Bash**

*When: Oct. 30, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Harvest Market; 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. Halloween Bash*

*Where: Town Center Lawns*

Enjoy the crisp, autumn air while perusing artist booths filled with paintings, pottery, jewelry and other hand-crafted items at our Harvest Market. Beginning at 3:30 p.m. bring the little ghosts and goblins for trick-or-treating through town center businesses and the Harvest Market artist's booths! We'll also have a pumpkin carving contest with prizes, a moonwalk, face painting, games, music and more! The event is free and everyone is invited! Plus, visit Gigi's for a Halloween photo for their Wall of Fab.

### **Moonpize 2911 Trunk Show**

*When: Sept. 4, Oct. 9 & 23rd*

*Where: Moonpize*

The staff of Moonpize invites you to their upcoming 2911 Trunk Show. This handcrafted jewelry line is snatched up quick by Moonpize fans.

## { NOVEMBER }

### **Flutterby Arts Festival**

*When: Nov. 13 & 14, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.*

*Where: Town Center Lawns*

Two full days of arts and entertainment for kids of all ages! Enjoy puppet shows, theatrical

performances, storytelling, arts & crafts, live music, games, activities and more! Presented by the Cultural Arts Association of Walton County and sponsored by the Merchants of Rosemary Beach. The event is free and everyone is invited!

### **Moonpize Sennod Trunk Show**

*When: Nov. 26 & 27*

*Where: Moonpize*

The staff of Moonpize is excited about their upcoming Sennod Trunk Show. This handcrafted jewelry is a favorite of owner Lisa Knower. Stop by and see what all the fuss is about.

### **Tree Lighting**

*When: Nov. 26, 6 p.m.*

*Where: South Barrett Square*

Don't miss the fun as we "turn on the town" and welcome in the holidays! Enjoy caroling, Santa's big arrival and carriage rides!

### **Merchant Holiday Open Houses**

*When: Nov. 26*

*Where: Town Center*

Immediately following the Tree Lighting at 6 p.m., visit town center merchants for a special evening of holiday shopping and refreshments!

### **Breakfast With Santa**

*When: Nov. 27, 8-10 a.m.*

*Where: Town Hall*

Bring the kids to Santa's Workshop for a magical morning filled with delight! Includes a continental, bagged breakfast, a professional color photo with Santa and a special goodie bag from Gigi's. Tickets, \$10, available at the door.

### **Holiday Market**

*When: Nov. 27, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.*

*Where: Town Center Lawns*

Get a jump on your holiday shopping! Browse through booths filled with hand-crafted gifts including pottery, jewelry, paintings and more.

### **5th Annual Fall Bocce Ball Tournament**

*When: Nov. 27, 11 a.m. (sign up 8-10 a.m.)*

*Where: Western Green*

Enjoy a day of sun, sport and sipping wine! Event details available in the fall at [www.theclinique.net](http://www.theclinique.net). If you've never tried bocce this is a must-see event. Fun for all ages.

## We love our readers!

To share personal or business news, call (850) 217-7542 or e-mail [editor@susanvallee.com](mailto:editor@susanvallee.com).



# A Rental Company that Cares

It's nice to know you have someone who cares about the needs of you and your family when booking that all-important family reunion or much-anticipated vacation. At the **Rosemary Beach Cottage Rental Company**, Lynn Daughtery and Amanda Major have worked for years cultivating relationships with renters like Abby Williams, who stays each year for three months at a time or Bill Mainord and Brandon Adams who rent multiple homes during their stay so they can experience as much of Rosemary as possible.

"It's family here," Amanda said. "I like to say I have my family at home and my Rosemary family."

Through the years these two have assisted countless families with every type of question imaginable.

"Some families need help finding the right home for their



Lynn Daughtery (left) and Amanda Major are ready to book your stay.

needs," Lynn said. "We offer concierge service to a point. If they need a Christmas tree or a Thanksgiving dinner, sometimes you add the little extra touches to make sure they are happy."

Lynn has been overseeing wedding reservations for the last four years and said the

most rewarding aspect of wedding coordination is booking anniversaries for those couples in the years that follow.

"One couple recently returned and she was pregnant with their first child," she said. "It's watching the children grow that is the neatest part of this job."

Call (866) 348-8952 for rentals.

## Classifieds

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## Garden Geek

**Garden Geek** from Page 10

My friend said something about a colony of tree rats. "Tree rats" I replied, "are an urban legend." To that, I think she said something about the Discovery Channel but I could be wrong.

As we brushed the leaves back from the lifeless little rat-tailed body, I began to explain the life cycle. We talked about how every thing lives and dies. We talked about how even rats have a place in heaven. We carried him with honor and dignity to the back of the yard where our pet cemetery is located. (Yes, yes. I've read Stephen King's "Pet Semetary" but ours isn't the creepy kind.) I dug the grave and continued with the life after death speech. Toby stood silently as I ended with the whole dust-to-dust concept. However what I didn't count on was the emotion that was beginning to build. I spoke

about the little rat family missing their rat patriarch. I explained about the heartache of a rat life cut short. As I lowered the poor little fella into the grave, the tears began to flow. As I pushed the dirt over his lifeless little body, the sniffles began. As I began a prayer to send Ricky Rat on his way to rat heaven, the sobbing reached a crescendo.

As I wept uncontrollably for the little rat angel, Toby, with the infinite wisdom of a four year old, put it all into perspective. "Grammy," he said in all earnest, "He was only a rat." And with that sage comment, took me by the hand and let me to back to the garden.

That day I saw wisdom in a small child. That day Toby saw a blubbering idiot in his Grammy. That day I learned that I am not always the grown up.



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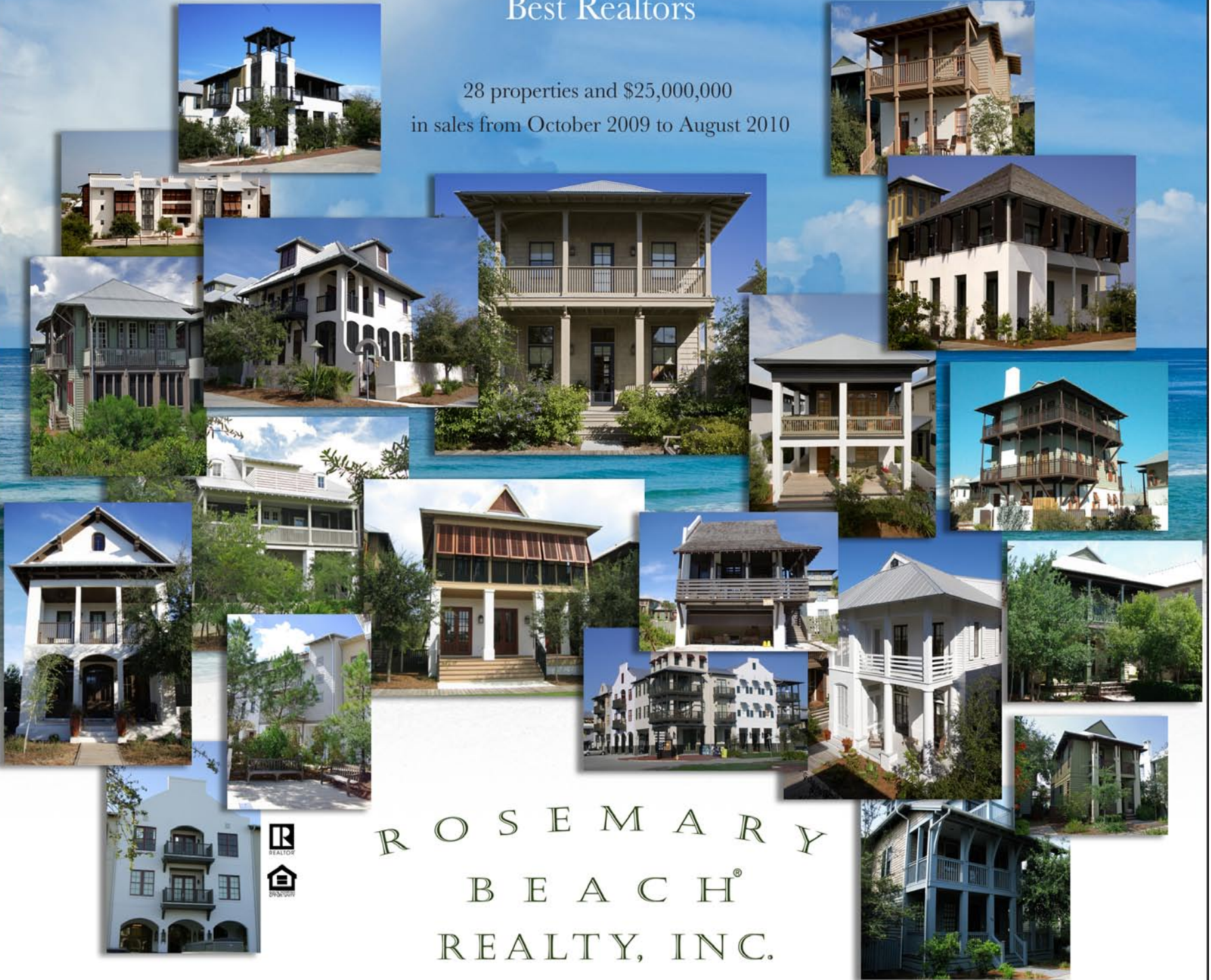


# Rosemary Beach Facts

Best Beaches  
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28 properties and \$25,000,000  
in sales from October 2009 to August 2010



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Photos above show only 20 of the actual 28 properties sold by Rosemary Beach Realty, Inc.