

GICIA asks for courtesy, safety on the Bike Path

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To the Editor:

The Gasparilla Island Conservation and Improvement Association continues to encourage everyone to be safe and courteous when using the Bike Path.

With another wave of visitors coming to the island to enjoy spring break and Easter, the number of people utilizing the GICIA Bike Path will continue to increase. So, in our ongoing efforts to maintain a safe path for all users, the GICIA has coordinated with the Boca Grande Woman's Club and the Lee County Sheriff's Department to conduct additional Bike Path safety details throughout the rest of March and all of April.

The GICIA Bike Path safety details will be run daily and will include all of the GICIA Bike Path as well as the Lee County portion of the path located south of First Street. We believe this increased visibility of deputies on the path will be a great reminder to everyone using the path to do so in a safe and courteous manner.

The GICIA has also worked with local artist Lindsay McKelvy to produce a Bike Path Safety Rule Card and Downtown Map. These colorful and friendly cards

are free and available in various local shops, cart and Bike Path rental businesses and in the GICIA office. Please be reminded that the rules of the GICIA Bike Path are as follows:

Persons under age 14 are prohibited from operating golf carts.

All gas-powered vehicles are prohibited.

Golf carts must yield to all other users.

Warn & slow speed when passing.

The shell path is for pedestrian use only.

Users of the path must yield to traffic at intersections. Bicycles and golf carts must observe the 15-mph Bike Path speed limit.

Golf carts and bicycles operating after dark must have lights.

Be sure your homeowner's or rental insurance covers your golf cart.

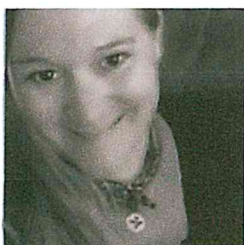
In the event of an emergency, call 911.

The GICIA encourages everyone using the path to be mindful and courteous to others. Slow down and enjoy the GICIA's Bike Path, and if you still have not picked up your GICIA member appreciation Bike/Golf Cart Horn, please stop in the GICIA office in room #8 at the Community Center.

Gasparilla Island Conservation and Improvement

Association, Inc.

Boca Grande



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Marcy Shortuse is the editor of the Boca Beacon, and has been with the paper since 2007. She is also editor of the Boca Beacon's sister publication, Gasparilla Magazine. She has more than 20 years of experience writing and editing local newspapers and is originally from the Chicago area.

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