

June 2009

Sarah M Rapp



# BEACH VACATION 4 ME

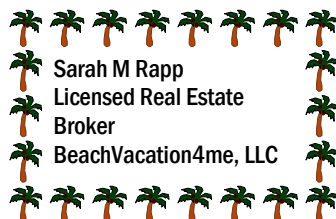
Welcome to the BeachVacation 4me summer newsletter. It is great to writing to you again. I appreciated all your e-mails and calls following our last newsletter! It is a pleasure to hear from you! One important note, I have two new e-mail addresses. My primary is [sarah@beachvacation4me.com](mailto:sarah@beachvacation4me.com) or [mdsmrapp@windstream.net](mailto:mdsmrapp@windstream.net). I receive mail from both.

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Summer is one of my favorite times to visit the barrier islands of Southwest Florida. Whether you prefer to visit Boca Grande, which is accessible by car or North Captiva, accessible only by boat, you will enjoy the slow island-time pace during your stay. Both locations offer a family friendly atmosphere. Why not create some family memories at one of these great island locations!

My goal is to assist you with your travel game plan. I have already completed the travel education to both locations and can provide the information needed to make your trip seamless. My knowledge of Boca Grande and North Captiva will provide experienced advice about your upcoming vacation. Our website ([www.beachvacation4me.com](http://www.beachvacation4me.com)) will soon feature our Grocery Survey that I make all my personal guests complete when they visit our home. It really helps!



Sarah M Rapp  
Licensed Real Estate  
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Currently there are sizzling summer deals both on North Captiva and Boca Grande. Holiday rentals are filling up quickly too. I am always happy to assist you in finding the perfect rental for your family needs. And yes, don't forget your sunscreen!

## Ultimate Grocery Experience

The most ultimate grocery experience for any vacation is to order ahead and arrive at your beach house with a fully stocked kitchen, although a minimum order amount is required. Both Boca Grande and North Captiva Island offer these services. Sandie Brillhart is our North Captiva connection to arriving on the island with the ultimate fully stocked kitchen. Sandie can be reached at 239-340-5398 or e-mail [sandiee37@aol.com](mailto:sandiee37@aol.com). Many past guests who have hired Sandie commented on how wonderful she was to work with, the convenience of having the groceries at the house upon arrival, and her creative display of food. Sandie can also help out with your mid week needs as well. You will not be stranded on the island without groceries!!! I highly recommend this service!

Guests are always asking how I come up with my grocery list. Here is my secret: a pre-vacation grocery questionnaire! Whether I am traveling with my family of four or expecting additional friends, I always have each person fill out a questionnaire. I ask everyone to provide to me two favorite breakfast, lunch and dinner items. In addition, I ask to know their favorite candy, chips and drinks. How do you like your coffee? What type of milk? Etc... I tell each person not to be shy about their needs. This questionnaire has really helped me in the past. We will be posting our questionnaire on the website soon for your use.

### Inquiries and reservations for North Captiva:

- Toll free (866)587-6420.
- **All the amenities** of the North Captiva Island Club are yours to enjoy with each of our North Captiva properties. We will coordinate your vacation directly with the island club.
- Our guidance and information is from experience. We know the drill! We know what works. We look forward to assisting you with your vacation plans.

## Pass Crabs

*Fun on the water*

On my most recent trip to North Captiva Island, I had the opportunity to go “pass – crabbing” with my friends Captain Dennis and Captain Gretchen. I must say it was a blast! While Dennis and my husband were fishing for the “big fish”, Gretchen and I had our nets out for the pass crabs. Crabs are great bait for many species in Florida waters.

Pass Crabs are almost identical to Blue Crabs in shape, but they only grow to approximately four to five inches in width. You can catch Pass Crabs in South Florida during the outgoing tide on the surface, usually floating along with grass. You simply take a long handled net and dip them out of the water. There are a few bait shops in South Florida that sell them, but they are few and far between. Pass Crabs are primarily used for tarpon in the Boca Grande area, but they are just as good, maybe better, than blue crabs for a variety of fish. To use them as bait, hook them the same way as Blue Crabs, through the back leg and out the top shell.



Searching for the Pass Crabs



866-587-6420

Toll Free

Reservations,  
Information and  
Quality Customer  
Service

## Mango season is here!

*Mango Salsa Recipe*

Fresh mango salsa is easy to make and perfect with halibut or salmon or as the salsa in fish tacos.

1 ripe mango, peeled, pitted, and diced (about 1 1/2 cup)

1/2 medium red onion, finely chopped

1 Jalapeño chile, minced (include ribs and seeds for a hotter taste if desired)

1 small cucumber, peeled and diced (about 1 cup)

3 Tbsp fresh cilantro leaves, chopped

3 Tbsp fresh lime juice

Salt and pepper to taste. Also good with diced red bell pepper



Directions: Combine all of the ingredients in a bowl. Season to taste with salt and pepper. If the salsa ends up being a little too hot or acidic for your taste, you can temper it by adding some diced avocado.

## Restaurant Review

*The Sandy Hook*

Matlacha

If you are looking for a unique dining experience then look no further. The Sandy Hook located in Matlacha offers fantastic views! You can see dolphins playing, fish jumping and birds of a feather sticking together. Located on Pine Island, facing the Gulf Coast of Florida, Matlacha is a quaint fishing town also known as the "Creative Coast" since many artists and galleries now call it home.

For many years, my husband and I have passed the Sandy Hook on our way to the marina on North Captiva. On our most recent trip we had some extra time before boarding so we gave this restaurant a try. We could not tell from the outside that the entire backside of the restaurant was all windows looking over the water. Our service was excellent and the food was just delicious.

My husband had the **Key Lime Mahi Mahi**. The Mahi Mahi was topped with diced tomatoes, parmesan cheese, scallions and the Key Lime Butter sauce. It melted in your mouth and was so tasty! I enjoyed the **Puttin' on the Ritz**. Flaky white fish marinated in our special sauce, coated with Ritz Crackers and baked to perfection.



## Tropic Ten

### Featured Property

Located just 4.1 miles from the village, the Tropic Ten is a luxury spacious three bedroom villa. Within an easy spin down the bike path is downtown Boca Grande, with a wide variety of upscale shops and restaurants, bank, post office, medical clinic and churches.

The Tropic Ten is also just a short walk to Uncle Henry's Marina with boat slips of all sizes, boat and kayak rental, bait, tackle, fishing charters, book store, hair salon, liquor store, grocery store and restaurant.

The Tropic Ten is an end unit villa situated right next to the pool and tennis courts. The views are spectacular and the accommodations have that exotic island flair. This villa will comfortably sleep 6 people in beds and comes fully stocked with all your vacation needs. Reserve the Tropic Ten early as our weeks fill up quickly.

Currently we are offering all 7 night rentals for the price 6 during the 2010 calendar year.



## Got Fish –Fishing Instruction Day School For Kids

Hosted by Captain Gretchen

239-707-9701

<http://northcaptivacharters.com/SummerFishingCampForKids.aspx>

### You will learn how to...

- Throw a cast net and how to catch bait
- Set up and care for a rod & reel Cast a rod
- The tackle you need to fish ( line, leaders, lures, hooks, pliers, de-hooker, etc...)
- Fishing rules and regulations (measuring a fish, proper release of fish)
- Dangers of fishing (caution with the hooks, caution with casting, caution handling certain fish)
- You will receive tips to fish from the beach while on vacation on the island
- You can use the rod for the rest of the week
- A release must be signed by parent or guardian when the student is dropped off at the airstrip. Student must be pick up by an adult. Unless noted on release.

## Boats and Fun

In closing, I want to remind you if you are visiting North Captiva this summer, pop in the new enlarged Boats and Fun shop. The store has doubled in size offering more island clothing and a variety of gifts. Jets skis, boat rentals and scuba diving are just some of the featured fun experiences the staff at Boats and Fun can assist you with. We are lucky to have the Boats and Fun group as our on island "fun" shop!

