

New 2 issues per month



Area schools set graduation and awards ceremonies...See Page 31

the miami laker

The original northwest Miami-Dade community newspaper for the Town of Miami Lakes. A surrounding area.

Vol. 30 No. 10

305-817-4074

MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA

MAY 21, 2004

Plana's Eagle Scout project leads to fishing line recycling at piers, ramps

Michael Plana, 17, of Miami Lakes, led a group of volunteers from Boy Scout Troop 566 recently on a project to install outdoor monofilament recycling containers at Pelican Harbor Marina and boat ramps and the Sunny Isles fishing pier.

The project, part of Plana's Eagle Scout campaign, will benefit the Florida Sea Grant and the Tropical Audubon Society in their goals for the Monofilament Recovery and Recycling Program (MRRP).

Monofilament line left in the environment takes up to 600 years to degrade and kills or injures hundreds of birds, turtles and manatees each year and adversely impacts the shoreline habitats of mangroves, sea grasses and coral reefs.

Earlier this year, Plana recruited another group of volunteers to assemble seven monofilament recycling bins from PVC pipes in preparation for the installation.

At Sunny Isles fishing pier, while one group of volunteers installed the bins, another group surveyed anglers and visitors to increase their awareness and participation in the MRRP program.

The bins will be maintained and emptied at Pelican Harbor Marina under the direction of Jesse Fernandez, park facilities

manager, and at Sunny Isles fishing pier under manager Nick Kilsona.

Cynthia Guerra, executive director of Tropical Audubon Society, which donated the PVC pipes, PVC glue and decals for the project, along with Florida Sea Grant joined the volunteers during the installation.

Plana, a junior at Barbara Goleman Senior High, is a member of the Gators varsity football squad, the National Honor Society and the Student Advisory Committee to the Town of Miami

Lakes police department.

Volunteers during the assembly session included Michael's father, Andrew; Jason L. Jose and Frankie M. ; and Jason V.

Volunteers for the installation session included Guerra, Michael's parents Patricia and Andrew, his sister Melissa, Tom Kennedy, Vidal Garcia, Patrick G. , Nick H. Joshua L. , Andrew L. , Tommy K. , Raymond S. and Brian and Steven V.

THE MIAMI LAKER MAY 21, 2004 PAGE 19



MONOFILAMENT RECOVERY AND RECYCLING program includes installation of fishing line recycling containers at piers and ramps throughout Miami-Dade County as part of an Eagle Scout project by Miami Lakes resident Michael Plana.