Clde Carriage Realty

<Back





The St. Augustine Record

Local Net	ws		Business
Opinions			Celebrations
Obituaries			Community
Sports			Compass
Florida News			Education
National News			Home & Garden
World News			Religious Life
	Archives	Headlines	Subscribe

Local Guides

Browse Today's Classifieds

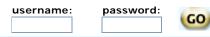
Looking for a business or person?				
Wedding Guide	Legal Notices			
Web Guide	JobFinder			
Video Tour	HomeFinder			
Local History	BoatFinder			
Visitor's Guide	AutoFinder			

staugustine.com Extras

staugustine.com Extras	
Golfing News	Multimedia
HealthWatch	Photo Galleries
Fishing & Tides	Sports O.D
Message Boards	SportsZones
Movie Listings	StockWatcher
Travel and Tourism	
Beaches	Casa Monica Hotel
Best of 2001	The Castillo
B&B Guide	Interactive Maps
Casablanca B & B	Lodging

Free email @staugustine.com

Free web-based e-mail is just a click away. Sign up now for your free account.



staugustine.com



Holiday Inn

is a service of the **St. Augustine Record** One News Place St. Augustine FL 32086 904.829.6562 fax: 819.3558

About Us | Contacts | Site Map | Help Advertise in print or online . Web posted Saturday, May 13, 2000

What in the world is that?

It's a reef ball, but, of course By MARGO C. POPE

Senior Writer

A St. Augustine High School project to build a reef offshore may lead to another one closer in, but to do it, funding must be available.

Phil Stewman, an SAHS science instructor and founder of the school's Sea Explorer program, says concrete reef balls have the capability of helping rebuild beaches.

ANNETTE An inside view o ball, one of doze in a field off Ana Boulevard south Lighthouse. Mac concrete, the ok be placed in the help build an arreef.

He wants a site about 1,000 feet offshore that is 20 yards long so that data can be collected on the proc

"A wave, once it hits the ball, will break over the ba that will allow the water to carry the sand on the be he said. "The idea is to work with nature and not ac it.

"The sky is the limit," he said.

A small test area in the Dominican Republic has adc about 80 feet to a section of beach, Stewman said.

County Commissioner Marc Jacalone is working with Stewman on the proposed renourishment project. Jacalone said a location about 1,200 feet off a section Vilano Beach is ideal for the test. This is in the area where the county has restricted beach driving access because of erosion.

"We have had many discussions on the beach renourishment problem we have here," Jacalone sai "There is a great possibility these balls placed down the coastline can aid in the restoration. ... Hopefully can support it."

He said the county may use some of its reef enhancement funds for such a project.

County Administrator Ben Adams was directed by the commission to work with Stewman to come up with cost analysis for a proposed test area. Adams said Stewman's timing is good because it is within the till frame for the development of the 2001 fiscal year be That budget year begins Oct. 1.

Stewman had no cost estimate, but Adams said the budget office will work with Stewman on the propos

"We certainly need the help because we are self-fur he said. The reef ball project under way has receive funding from private donations including the Kirbo Foundation of Atlanta, area businesses and persona contributions.

Meanwhile, the Sea Explorer's artificial reef construct project will begin on June 3 when the reef balls are moved from a city lot on Anastasia Island to the oce

They will be carried by shrimp boats 13 miles offsho The students will then go into the water and release balls on the sea floor, Stewman said.

Stewman said the concrete balls have a lifespan of a 500 years on land but in the ocean, they will last indefinitely.

David Austin, one of the Sea Explorers, told the commission that the students are proud of this accomplishment.

"It is really an awesome thing to be involved in something that is going to be out there forever," he "Something you can dive on. To see something you built and then to come back later and dive on it."

<Back



. ...

staugustine.com - 2001 <u>EPpy Award Winner</u> All contents © Copyright 2002 Morris Digital Works and The St. Augustine Record. Please read our <u>Privacy Policy.</u> | To learn more about staugustine.com, <u>go here.</u> | <u>Contact us.</u>