



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACTS: Kate Gooderham: 239-850-8736 (kgooderham@comcast.net)  
Angie Ferguson: 239-246-2920 (angie@gearedup.biz)

## ***Tri will keep Captiva busy next weekend***

The Galloway Captiva Tri is coming to Captiva next weekend, Sept. 14-15. What's that mean for you?

If you're a resident of Captiva, the only real impact (aside from some busy island restaurants Friday and Saturday night) will be the closing of Captiva Drive on Sunday, Sept. 15, from 6:45 a.m. to roughly 8:45 a.m. for the bike part of the race. Emergency vehicles will have access to the road at all times, but regular traffic will be asked to wait until the bicyclists have gone through. Lee County Sheriff's Office deputies and personnel, as well as other volunteers, will be at key spots on the road to ensure safety for both residents and racers, and key intersections will be barricaded to keep everyone on course.

If you're a resident in the Santiva area of Sanibel, you'll see a minor traffic re-routing to accommodate closing the Blind Pass Bridge. Those heading to the Blind Pass beach parking area will be able to get through, but other traffic will be diverted onto a circular route of Pine Avenue, Coconut Drive and Mangrove Lane to head back down San-Cap Road while the bridge is closed (6:45-8:45 a.m.) All homes and business in the area will be accessible, and there will be volunteer directing traffic during this time.

If you're a business on the island, we hope you'll see a nice buzz of business for a mid-September weekend. With 750-plus adult athletes, 140 children athletes, families and spectators all coming out for the event, Captiva will be almost sold out with a lot of people looking for fun.

If you've never seen a triathlon, you'll have a front-row seat – but you'll have to go where the action is to see much of the race. The swim will be on the north end of Captiva (a quarter-mile for the adults, shorter for the kids) and the run will be on the golf course also at the north end of the island. But the bicycles (at least the adults) will race the entire island, so you can watch them pass by from the end of your driveway. (The first swimmer hits the water at 7:15 a.m., so the first biker will probably exit the resort after 7:35 a.m.)

If you're an early bird out on the road, you'll see more traffic heading out from the mainland. The race transition area (where racers' equipment is stored for the various phases) opens at 5:15 a.m., so participants will be starting across the causeway at 4:30 a.m. or before.

And, finally, if you're one of the many islanders who've signed up for the tri, you're going to see a lot of other athletes – some experienced, some brand new, but all ready to race – with families and spectators to cheer you on.

We hope everyone has a lot of fun for a good cause: A portion of the proceeds raised at the event will go towards supporting CCMI's School Pantry & Emergency Food Backpack, providing emergency food for more than 2,000 local children each school year. The program helps reduce child hunger and improves health and academic outcomes while providing support for Lee County children and families in need.

#### ABOUT THE EVENT:

The 2013 Galloway Captiva Tri sponsors include:

Title sponsor	Galloway Family of Dealerships
Benefiting charity	CCMI's (Community Cooperative Ministries Inc.) Backpack Program
Adult race sponsor	Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille on Captiva
Kid's race sponsor	Jason Gunter Attorney at Law
Race portion sponsors	Geared Up Multisport Specialists – swim and run courses South Seas Island Resort – water stations Jason's Deli – food sponsor Sebrie Images Photography – race photography
General sponsors	Lee Memorial Health System (caps), Lee County Sports Development, Billy's Bicycles, LCEC, Tween Waters Inn, Jensen's Twin Palms Marina, Jensen's on the Gulf, Trek Bicycles, "Florida Weekly," All Star Vacation Homes, News-Press Media Group
Product/bag sponsors	R.S. Walsh Landscaping, RC Otters/Key Lime Bistro, Publix.

The sprint triathlon, which will be held Sept. 14-15, is a family, fun, fitness weekend held at South Seas Island Resort in Captiva. The first day includes children fun races: the 6-9 year olds complete a 100-yard swim, 1.5-mile bike and 0.5 mile run, while the age 10-13 racers face a 200-yard swim, 3-mile bike and a 1-mile run. The next day adults will swim .25 miles, bike 10 miles and run 3.1 miles. For the first time, elite amateur athletes (who posted qualifying times at a USAT sanctioned event) will be sent off first in their own wave. The triathlon, which is sanctioned by USA Triathlon, is organized by Southwest Florida Events, a tax-exempt Florida not-for-profit corporation. Information is available online at [www.captivatri.org](http://www.captivatri.org), or on Facebook under Captiva Tri.

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**About Southwest Florida Events:** Southwest Florida Events Inc. is a Florida not-for-profit corporation based in Fort Myers dedicated to combining fun, fitness and support for local charities through multisport events. For additional information visit [www.captivatri.org](http://www.captivatri.org) or search for Captiva Tri on Facebook.