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The Anna Maria Islander



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Challenge goal reached, but don't quit yet

You've done it again, Islanders — surpassed the challenge posed by Chuck and Joey Lester and then some, and there's still time to donate to the cause.

The Anna Maria Island Community Center building fund is richer by \$107,215, and the Lesters' wallet slimmer by \$50,000. And loving it.

They challenged the Island to come up with \$50,000 in donations, which the Lesters would match to give the Center a large boost in its rebuilding program.

Islanders tried, but partly because the challenge started late this year, didn't make the Dec. 31, 2006 deadline. So the Lesters, persistent in their generosity, extended the deadline for 15 days. Islanders and friends came through, building the fund by \$57,215 by the end of last week.

With the Lesters' \$50,000, that puts the total above \$107,000 and counting. We still have until Jan. 15, next Monday, to add to the spectacular total. Send or bring your donation to AMICC, P.O. Box 253, Anna Maria 34216, or phone the newspaper at 778-7978 or the Center at 778-1908 for information.

Public invited to discuss parking in Bradenton Beach

By Paul Roat

Parking issues in Bradenton Beach will come to a head Jan. 17 at a "town hall meeting" in which all are invited to offer their thoughts on the matter.

The issue is far from new for the city. Officials have long wrestled with where to put cars, how long those cars should be allowed to park, if there should be a charge for that parking, and how or if more parking areas should be designated and, if so, where and who should or would fund them.

The recent spate of debate began about 10 years ago, when city commissioners approved a "zero-parking" land-use designation for Bridge Street. The measure allowed businesses to decline from offering parking spaces for patrons as an incentive to draw development to what was then something of a wasteland as far as commercial growth goes.

As commerce came to the area, though, parking became a problem. The pier restaurant became a booming business, bringing customers to the area — which some claimed took up all adjoining parking spaces from other businesses.

Parking meters were discussed a few years later, but dropped from consideration.

Timed parking was also discussed, dropped, then instituted in an attempt to keep business employees from taking all-day advantage of the increasingly valuable spots.

The city then purchased a lot between Bridge Street and First Street North for parking, but the issue remained.

The matter resurfaced last November as commissioners held a public hearing on pier restaurant renovation plans. About 60 people packed city hall to laud the commission on the pier renovation plans — new restaurant, rest room facilities, dockmaster-tourism kiosks and other amenities — but blasted the small amount of

PLEASE SEE **PARKING**, NEXT PAGE



Kicks with kites

Vacationer John Mutter, 7, of Grayslake, Ill., sends his dragon kite 200 feet into the sky. John and his sister Jackie, 4, (inset) spent the last of their winter holiday in Anna Maria. Islander Photo: Lisa Neff

Sand pile draws condo owners' ire

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

A complaint on behalf of 244 property owners at Westbay Point & Moorings and Shell Point seeks the relocation of the staging area for the Key Royale Bridge and Holmes Beach dredging projects.

The complaint, received at Holmes Beach City Hall Jan. 4, was signed by Jon R. Lindwall, treasurer of the Westbay Point & Moorings Community Association, and H. William Gallagher, president of the Shell Point group.

As the complaint was on its way to city hall, Holmes Beach Mayor Rich Bohnenberger was already acting to address residents' concerns.

"I have directed our city public works department

Levengood appointed AME principal

By Diana Bogan
Islander Reporter

Tom Levengood has been appointed by Manatee County School District Superintendent Dr. Roger Dearing to become the new principal for Anna Maria Elementary School.

Levengood is currently the principal at Bayshore Elementary School on 26th Street in Bradenton.

AME principal Kathy Hayes announced in November she will be the new principal at the yet-to-open Gullet Elementary School at Lakewood Ranch effective Feb. 1.

And Levengood is due to start his new assignment on Anna Maria Island on Feb. 1.

"I loved my time at Bayshore, but I've always felt that after you've been at one place more than 10 years, it's a good idea to make a change," he said. "I spent nine years as a fourth-grade teacher at Palma Sola and I then switched to teaching first-grade. That move really caused me to renew my energies for the new challenge."

Tim Kolbe, former principal at AME prior to Hayes appointment in March 2003 and now district director of elementary schools, said, "Tom has an excellent track record as a principal and we believe he'll be a great fit for the job at Anna Maria."

The school district's application process allows other principals within the district who wish to make a "lateral" move to apply, and Dearing to make an appointment from those applicants, prior to the committee selection process.

Although a principal selection committee was

PLEASE SEE **PRINCIPAL**, NEXT PAGE

to take measures to screen the area from view and to plant vegetation and shrubbery to serve as a natural screen," Bohnenberger said.

"I hope these measures will make the situation less offensive," the mayor continued.

Complaints about the area are not new and concerns were discussed briefly by city commissioners at their last meeting in 2006.

But the new year began with the new complaint.

The complaint stated that 200 Westbay Point & Moorings owners and 44 Shell Point owners "vehemently protest the continued existence of the unsightly mess adjacent to the basketball court.

"As you know, the mess referred to is the assort-

PLEASE SEE **SAND**, NEXT PAGE



Name that quilt

The Eyeland Needlers — pictured are quilt designers Joan Pettigrew and Penny Reinholz — recently put the quilt they created to benefit the Anna Maria Island Community Center on display at the Island Branch Library. Until Jan. 24, people can enter a "name the quilt" contest at the library, 5701 Marina Drive. The winner receives 50 tickets to a drawing for the quilt, which takes place March 17 during the Center's Tour of Homes. Islander Photo: Lisa Neff

Principal named at AME

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

formed prior to the school district's winter vacation, the committee had not yet met.

Dearing told The Islander that this occurs when only one of the applicants is an existing district principal in good standing, as is the case with Levensgood's appointment to AME.

Levensgood has been principal at Bayshore Elementary for 12 1/2 years and he has been a fixture in the Manatee County education system for more than 30 years. Prior to his post at Bayshore Elementary, Levensgood was an assistant principal for one year each at Daughtry and Moody Elementary schools.

Closer to the Island, Levensgood was a teacher at Palma Sola Elementary School for 17 years, and his wife, Becky, is AME's reading coach. They have three grown children.

Levensgood earned his bachelor's degree in elementary education from William Jennings Bryan College in Dayton, Tenn., and a master's degree in education leadership from Nova Southeastern University at Fort Lauderdale.

Parking meeting Jan. 17

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

allowed parking.

Mayor John Chappie vowed to establish a parking committee to address the issue. The upcoming town hall meeting on parking was the result.

Chappie said last week that he had retained the services of profession planner Alan Garrett to facilitate the meeting, or meetings, and prepare a report to the city commission based on the comments from the public. Garrett is a consultant to Anna Maria City on planning matters and is familiar with the Island, Chappie said.

The Jan. 17 meeting will begin at 5 p.m. at city hall, 107 Gulf Drive N. For further information, call 778-1005.

Sand piles upsets neighbors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ment of sand piles, piles of lumber, various pieces of equipment, vehicles and other miscellaneous items normally associated with a construct site."

The material is related to two ongoing projects — canal dredging and the reconstruction of the Key



Property owners at Westbay Point & Moorings and Shell Point in Holmes Beach want the staging area for the Key Royale Bridge and Holmes Beach dredging projects to be relocated. Islander Photo: Lisa Neff

Royale Bridge.

Lindwall, in an interview Jan. 5, said, "We're looking for it to be completely taken out of there. If anybody's got any ideas we certainly would appreciate them."

The residents expressed concerns that the staging area may negatively impact real estate values and sales.

They also expressed concern for the health and safety of people, specifically athletes on the nearby basketball and tennis courts and recreation field and children tempted to play on the sand and equipment.

"We understand that such a site is necessary to the satisfactory completion of the projects," the complaint read. "It is, however, strongly suggested that the city consider an alternate location for this clearly necessary

function."

Bohnenberger said "the good news is the bridge project is expected to be completed within the next six months" but the "not so good news is the city is expected to be dredging for the next five years."

The mayor also said the city lacks an alternate site for the staging area. "This area is the only city-owned open land that is not dedicated for some recreational use," he said.

Like the property owners, Bohnenberger said he'd like to hear ideas for a solution.

"Nobody wants it in their backyards," the mayor said. "I understand that they are not happy. If somebody has a piece of land to donate..."

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Insurance: Rep. Reagan now favors expanding wind pool

By Molly McCartney
Islander Reporter

There's a good chance that the special state legislative session convening in Tallahassee next week will make it possible for more of Anna Maria Island's commercial property owners to obtain wind insurance.

That is the thinking of state Rep. Ron Reagan, a Republican who represents eastern Manatee County and who has just been named to a key position as chairman of the House Insurance Committee.

He believes a majority of the Florida Legislature now favors expansion of the state-designated "wind pool," a zone that extends landward from the coast and varies county to county throughout Florida's waterfront. Property inside the wind pool is eligible for wind coverage from Citizens Property Insurance Corp., the state's insurer of last resort.

Reagan says he supports expanding the wind pool, which extends landward from the Gulf of Mexico in Sarasota County to Interstate 75, but only extends 1,000 feet landward on Anna Maria Island.

That is a remarkable turnaround from the spring of 2006, when Reagan cast a critical vote against legislation proposed by state Rep. Bill Galvano, who represents western Manatee, and who has been a leader in the effort to find solutions to the insurance crisis over availability and affordability.

The Galvano amendment to expand the wind pool failed by one vote, 56-57.

As a result of that legislative defeat, the only Anna Maria Island homes and businesses eligible for wind coverage from Citizens are those within 1,000 feet of the Gulf shoreline. Those properties outside the wind pool have either gone without wind insurance or paid thousands of additional dollars for coverage from unregulated surplus lines carriers.

Churches have also been affected. Wind coverage for Roser Memorial Community Church was canceled in May. The church is outside the wind pool and doesn't qualify for Citizens. An unregulated surplus carrier offered the church a wind policy for \$225,000, but Roser could not afford the premium and had to go bare — without wind insurance.

Reagan, an insurance agent for more than two decades, explained the change in his philosophy about the wind pool expansion in a Jan. 4 interview with *The Islander* newspaper:

"My belief before was that the state should not be in the insurance business," Reagan said. "It is a function best handled by private enterprise and capitalism.

"But the reality is that the state is in the insurance business," he said, because private enterprise has failed to provide the insurance needed by homeowners and businesses in all parts of the state, "from the east coast to the west coast, and from the south up to the Panhandle."

As a result, Reagan said, he now thinks the state has a responsibility to provide the insurance products that people need. "If that is wind insurance on the Island, then let's do wind insurance on the Island," he said. "If it is wind insurance for the entire state of Florida, then let's do that. Have I changed my belief about this? Yes, no question about it."

Reagan said he thinks a majority of the members of the Legislature agree with him and his new point of view.

"I believe a lot of [legislators] have the same philosophy I have now," he said. "They didn't want us in the insurance business before, but now that we recognize that we are in it, we need to provide it."

Reagan's position as insurance chair

As chair of the Florida House Insurance Committee, Reagan expects to spend this week, Jan. 8-12, in Tallahassee, working on a package of legislation for the special session.

"There may be four or five bills to cover the different areas, as opposed to one huge package," he said.

Package one, he said, would be expansion of the wind pool. Other packages will focus on reinsurance, mitigation, and the Florida-only subsidiaries known as the pups and the cherry-picking practices that Gov. Charlie Crist has opposed.

The governor campaigned against cherry-picking, promising to require companies to write home insurance with wind coverage in Florida if they also write home insurance with wind coverage in other states.

Does Reagan agree with the governor's concept?

"Not really," Reagan said. "I have a problem telling



State Rep. Ron Reagan, an insurance agent who represents clients from an office in eastern Manatee County, says that legislators are "political animals" who will look for solutions to the state insurance crisis on the middle ground between what consumers want and what companies want. Islander Photo: Molly McCartney

companies what they have to do in Florida. I understand why he is saying that, but I don't see how we can do it. I don't know how you can force a business to do that."

An insurance agent since 1980, Reagan works at the Lakewood Ranch office of MGA Insurance Services. The agency handles a wide range of insurance lines, including homes, businesses and boats.

Has Reagan heard from the companies he represents, now that he is preparing for the special session and heading one of the key insurance committees?

"I have chatted with them," he said, "and I met with two of them in Tallahassee. I have asked them for their advice as well. We have to strike a balance between complete and total regulation of the industry and deregulation of the industry.

"Six states have gone to deregulation and in the long run competition took care of pricing and they now have very affordable prices and competitive prices. But short run, prices have a tendency to spike until the competition comes in. I don't think we in Florida are in a position where we can go to total deregulation. We can't do it. I don't think we need to over-regulate either.

"What I hear from the companies is that Florida is one of the most difficult states to deal with when it comes to regulation. So if we want to encourage companies to come to the state — take this exposure — we need to make it attractive to them to do it.

"The reality is that we will have to come up somewhere in the middle."

Balancing companies against consumers

Asked to explain how he can balance the needs of his work as an insurance agent against the needs of the people who elected him to the Legislature, Reagan gave this answer:

"There is no question but that we need to look out for the consumers in the state of Florida. I have been looking out for my personal clients for 26 years. In the past, it was easier when I had multiple companies to look at for the best coverage at the best price. That

luxury doesn't exist anymore.

"So we as the state of Florida, if we are in the insurance business, which we are, we have consumers in this state who are being hurt by increasing premiums. And we are going to have to do something. Does that mean we reach into the pocketbook of Florida, pay for the subsidies, pay for the assessments? You know what? If that is what we need to do, fine, I will go along with that and I will accept that.

"And if that reeks of socialism, well, I tell you what, it is the proper thing to look at to protect the people of Florida. It is their tax dollars at work. So let's take some of the tax dollars if that means helping out and making sure that people can stay in their houses, then fine, I am willing to do that.

"Long term I don't believe in that philosophy, but short term, I am willing to do that."

Meetings

Anna Maria City

Jan. 11, 5:30 p.m., Sunshine Law course.
Jan. 11, 6:45 p.m., special city commission meeting, public hearing on flood ordinance.
Jan. 11, 7 p.m., city commission work session.
Jan. 16, 6:45 p.m., environmental education and enhancement committee meeting.
Anna Maria City Hall, 10005 Gulf Drive, 708-6130 — www.cityofannamaria.com

Bradenton Beach

Jan. 11, 2 p.m., city commission work meeting.
Jan. 11, 5 p.m., planning and zoning board meeting.
Jan. 17, 5 p.m., town hall meeting on parking.
Jan. 18, 1 p.m., city commission meeting.
Bradenton Beach City Hall, 107 Gulf Drive N., 778-1005 — www.cityofbradentonbeach.org

Holmes Beach

Jan. 10, 5 p.m., parks and beautification committee meeting.
Jan. 18, 10 a.m., code enforcement board meeting.
Holmes Beach City Hall, 5801 Marina Drive, 708-5800 — www.holmesbeachfl.org

Of Interest

Jan. 16, 3:30 p.m., Island Transportation Planning Organization meeting, Anna Maria City Hall.
Jan. 17, 7 p.m., Coalition of Barrier Island Elected Officials meeting, Holmes Beach City Hall.

Holiday Closures

Government offices in Anna Maria City and Bradenton Beach will be closed Monday, Jan. 15, for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Anna Maria sunshine meeting Jan. 11

Anna Maria city attorney Jim Dye will conduct a meeting on Florida's Government-in-the-Sunshine Law at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11, at Anna Maria City Hall for all elected officials.

While the city's mayor and commissioners are obligated to attend, members of city boards, city staff and the public are also invited.

The Sunshine Law meeting in Anna Maria is a court-ordered requirement following a successful lawsuit by *The Islander* newspaper several years ago.

GSR principal faces \$10 million more in legal woes

By Rick Catlin
Islander Reporter

While GSR Development LLC may have gotten off the financial hook — at least temporarily — by filing for company bankruptcy in federal court on July 13, 2006, legal woes continue to mount for GSR's principals, particularly Robert Byrne.

Since the bankruptcy petition was initiated last July, Byrne has been slapped personally with a total of \$9.884 million in law suits and legal actions filed with the Manatee County Circuit Court.

Byrne has been named in 16 separate mortgage foreclosures or civil suits filed since July 13, while GSR partner Steve Noriega has been listed in four of those actions. Most of the complaints allege that Byrne and/or Noriega gave personal guarantees on loans and mortgages acquired for various properties that were outside the realm of GSR's real estate empire. GSR's third partner, Ed Furfey, was named in one of the filings.

The largest amount Byrne allegedly owes is for a \$1.05 million mortgage default. That action was filed Dec. 29, while the smallest claim is for \$100,000, filed on Dec. 7 by Chief Management LLC.

GSR's rapidly diminishing real estate empire took another blow Dec. 12 when First Victoria Bank filed a civil action against Byrne and Noriega for \$456,557.92 for failing to make payments on the company's Piper Cheyenne twin-engine aircraft. According to court documents, the men gave personal guarantees for the monthly payments. The aircraft is currently grounded at a Fernandina Beach airport.

When GSR initiated its bankruptcy petition, it claimed assets of \$44 million against liabilities of \$33 million, but alleged it was prevented from completing its major housing projects because of a lawsuit filed against Byrne, Noriega and GSR by Furfey. The bankruptcy also noted some \$6 million in unsecured claims.

Byrne and Noriega have presented financial statements claiming a net worth of \$33 million and \$22 million respectively, according to former employees involved in some of the real estate transactions in which Byrne and Noriega gave personal guarantees.

According to at least one lawyer involved in the case, Byrne and Noriega's standard tactic to get a high-amount mortgage on a property was to purchase the property at one price, then have it immediately re-appraised for a much higher value.

All too eager to cash in on the burgeoning Island real estate market from 2003 to 2005, banks, mortgage



More GSR property for sale

This canalfront home owned by GSR Development LLC at 403 S. Bay Blvd. in Anna Maria has been approved for sale by the federal bankruptcy court in Tampa, but with an April 1 deadline. The minimum asking price is \$750,000, according to a court order signed by Judge K. Rodney May. The proceeds would be used to pay off a mortgage with Freedom Bank, not GSR creditors. Islander Photo: Rick Catlin

companies and even personal financiers would accept the new appraisal figure without question and supply a mortgage on the property in excess of what was originally paid.

That method worked all well and good until the Island real estate market collapsed in 2006, and the steady 20 to 30 percent annual increase in property values that was seen during the boom years came to a screeching halt. Prices started to fall rather than climb, and real estate developers who had failed to sell of some of their holdings during the boom found themselves with a heavy debt, no cash flow, and over-mortgaged properties that couldn't be sold even to pay off the bank.

Attorney Joe Fritz, who represented Mel and Carol Yudofsky of Holmes Beach in their action against Noriega over a Bradenton Beach condominium they

own, claimed that's essentially what Noriega did when he obtained a \$980,000 mortgage on a condo appraised for \$1 million. The Yudofsky's won their case and Noriega was evicted two weeks ago.

Not all of the GSR news, however, is grim. At least one investor holding the standard personal guarantee from both Byrne and Noriega has been paid.

According to court documents, former Island resident and food server Cynthia Graeff's claim against Byrne and Noriega was satisfied on Dec. 22. Graeff had won a judgment against the men in September 2006 for failing to pay back the \$25,000 she had invested in GSR under a personal guarantee by both Noriega and Byrne.

Graeff had saved the money for her son's college education during the 10-plus years she worked on the Island at various restaurants and establishments.

Phillips tapped for project-program manager post

By Paul Roat

Bradenton Beach has a new department head who is very familiar with city government.

Former city commissioner and vice mayor Lisa Marie Phillips was unanimously approved for the position of project-program manager last Thursday by city commissioners. She will begin her job "almost immediately," according to Mayor John Chappie, who nominated her to the post.

"I'm really excited," Phillips said. "I love this city."

She was elected to the city commission three years ago, serving in Ward 2. She did not seek re-

election last year.

The project-program manager job is described as one in which the manager will "supervise and manage activities of project engineers, contractors and consultants, provide direction during the planning, engineering, design, land acquisition and construction phases of assigned projects to assure a quality project is produced in a timely and cost-effective manner, and work directly with local, state and federal agencies to plan, organize and coordinate the writing of specific grant applications."

"Lisa Marie knows the system," Chappie said. "She knows how to write grants and is familiar with the Waterfronts Florida Program."

She will be paid \$45,000 a year. Chappie said that salary was less than the advertised range of \$47,000 to \$49,000, but due to a lack of some experience in some areas he believed the lower figure was appropriate and could be raised after a 90-day probationary period.

Phillips is a 30-year resident of Bradenton Beach and has three children. She is a 1980 Manatee High School graduate, and has a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida.

She replaces Dottie Poindexter, who founded the position several years ago and left last October, citing work stress.

Trial in Cortez killing delayed until at least March

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

The trial of Tammy Lynn George, accused of murder in the first homicide of 2006, has been delayed until at least March.

George, 44, is charged with second-degree murder in the stabbing death of Mimi Marie Pace, 42, who was found lying in a pool of blood in her Sunny Shores mobile home on Jan. 2, 2006.

A trial date had been set for one year to that date — Jan. 2, 2007. But during a docket sounding to review the status of the case in late December, George's attorney requested a continuance and filed a waiver of a speedy trial. Public Defender Steven A. Schaefer is representing George.

Another docket sounding is scheduled for Feb. 26 and a trial by jury is tentatively scheduled for the week of March 5 at the Manatee County Courthouse.

The next two months, according to court records, will be spent partly taking depositions.

George was arrested at the scene of the killing and, allegedly before she was given her Miranda warning, confessed. "I stuck her and twisted it all around," George allegedly told law enforcement officers, according to court records.

Court documents detail the morning of Pace's death, beginning with Pace and her boyfriend, Scott Conklin, moving from another residence at Sunny Shores into George's home in the 3700 block of 115th Street Court West.

Pace, Conklin and George were in George's home

that day, arranging possessions. Conklin left at about 10 a.m. to retrieve some items from the previous residence, leaving Pace and George alone.

He was sent back to George's home by a neighbor who reported hearing screams.

Conklin tried to get into the home, then looked through the bedroom window and saw Pace on the floor. He entered through the window and called Pace's name, but she didn't respond.

In the bedroom, authorities found blood scattered and beside Pace's body, a bloody kitchen knife and aluminum bat.

Authorities maintain that George grabbed a knife and stabbed Pace multiple times. An autopsy report indicated Pace suffered 75 stab wounds.

Permit work under way for preserve

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

Gretchen Johansen walked across the parking lot of the Anna Maria Island Centre unaware of her close proximity to the undeveloped, protected property known as Grassy Point.

"I didn't know that was much more than a line of brush and trees," the Bradenton Beach seasonal resident said on a recent weekday morning as she looked beyond the traffic on East Bay Drive. "What's back there?"

Fishing enthusiasts, birders, walkers and conservationists who frequent the area north of Mike Norman Real Estate off East Bay drive and south of Sandy Point condos can answer that question. Herons, osprey, pelicans, vultures, fish at high tide, raccoons and squirrels can be found.

Another question might be what will be "back there" some day after restoration and re-vegetation involving the city of Holmes Beach, the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program and vested agencies at the state and federal level.

Work is under way to secure the government permits to remove invasive non-native plants and to restore the natural Florida habitat at Grassy Point so it can become a mangrove colony and sanctuary for Florida wildlife.

The project manager, Gary Raulerson, of Sarasota Bay Estuary Program, expects the permitting process to be complete within the next month.

"What we're doing, it isn't a lengthy process," Raulerson said.

The review period for federal and state agencies, including with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, might be longer if the project involved mitigation of wetlands, but it doesn't, he said. The project involves restoration, not development.

The project is on schedule, with the earthwork



A sign at the north end of Avenue C designates the Grassy Point preserve in Holmes Beach. Plans for the preserve involve exotic plant removal, revegetation and habitat restoration. *Islander Photo: Lisa Neff*

likely to be completed this summer, Raulerson added.

"Restoration activities will ... improve tidal circulation and re-establish natural hydroperiods," according to a project outline from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "Restoration will eliminate non-native plant species, thus contributing to the recovery of natural mangrove, salt marsh and seagrass communities. It is believed that the loss of these vital habitats and associated declines in water quality have resulted in reduced fisheries in Sarasota Bay. It is estimated that Sarasota Bay is approximately 50 percent as productive as historically documented. The future of the bay's fisheries depends on the community's ability to restore and enhance wetlands and seagrass habitats and restore water quality."

The Grassy Point project is part of the comprehensive five-year habitat restoration plan SBEP created in 2003 to restore intertidal and submerged aquatic habitats and create artificial fishery habitat.

The city, using state funds, purchased large portions of Grassy Point in 2000.

The city commission in November 2006 authorized

an agreement between the city and SBEP that set forth how the project should proceed, including funding. SBEP came up with 50 percent of the \$80,000 needed for the first phase of the project, including \$10,000 from the U.S. Interior Department's Fish and Wildlife Service. Holmes Beach included the remaining \$40,000 in its fiscal 2006-07 budget. About \$30,000 of the funds will be used for permitting and planning and \$50,000 for exotic removal, habitat restoration and maintenance.

Commissioners have said they hope Grassy Point could be similar to the larger Leffis Key/Coquina Bay-walk preserve in Bradenton Beach.

"We're fortunate to have that area preserved on the Island," said Holmes Beach City Commissioner David Zaccagnino. "That's what the whole Island used to be, but there isn't much left. So I'm thrilled."

Zaccagnino said the preserved area is one of his favorite fishing spots.

Johansen said maybe Grassy Point will become one of her favorite thinking spots.

"We do have to cherish what we have left," she said.

\$50,000 Matching-Fund Challenge



CHALLENGE DEADLINE EXTENDED TO JAN. 15

BUILDING OUR FUTURE!

Holmes Beach residents Charles and JoAnn Lester are offering up to \$50,000 in matching funds for contributions made by **Jan. 15, 2007**, to the Anna Maria Island Community Center Capital Campaign. And your contribution is tax deductible.

The Center provides a critical human service need on the Island and provided more than 1.5 million hours of service to more than 3,400 Island residents last year.

Please send donations to the Lester-Islander Challenge, P.O. Box 253, Anna Maria FL 34216, payable to the AMICC Capital Campaign.



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The Islander

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Our Opinion

Many challenges

We've done it again, and in this instance we only have ourselves to thank. Again.

Through the largess of Joey and Chuck Lester — and many Islanders — the Anna Maria Island Community Center has again received more than \$100,000 in needed funding. The Lesters have offered to match up to \$50,000 for many years as a challenge — to make the most of their dollars and bring the community into the “giving.”

The Islander has partnered with the Lesters and the Center each year, bringing the challenge to its readers, and again we've met their match, this time exceeding the goal by some \$7,000. With still a few more days to go before the Jan. 15 deadline, it is hoped more folks will help this vital community agency a bit more.

This year's funding is committed to the building fund, but generous Islanders have also added some \$30,000 to the endowment fund during the challenge.

What with the ongoing construction and costs associated with any new building project, every penny will count this year even more than in the past. Hey, pitch in and help, OK? You've got until Jan. 15 to make your “ringer” count.

Speaking of challenges ...

There's an old saw about a blivet — 10 pounds of whatever in a 5-pound bag. You imagine the overflow of ... whatever.

Present parking problems summon up that image.

We've had more than our fair share of fun in the past few years as we observed the city of Anna Maria wrestling with its parking problem (and joking that it predated internal combustion vehicles). It was cussed and discussed for decades until an agreement was reached not too long ago.

The focus is now directed to the southern end of the Island, as Bradenton Beach officials, residents and businesses wrestle with solutions to cram too many cars into a finite space.

Officials have said they want to bring the matter to a head lickity-quick. Parking solutions will be thrashed and proffered, they say, in a process beginning next week with a town hall meeting. Discussin' and cussin' is ensured.

Suggestions?

How about a 20-story parking garage— a great pivot point for a high, mega-span bridge to Longboat Key.

More to the point of reality, though, is what we hope will be some realistic concepts to deal with parking vehicles. Park and ride on the trolley? Cheap bike rentals? More scooters? Golf carts? The oft-dreamed water taxi? Off-site parking lots and trams? More public parking lots, price be damned?

The important element of the exercise, though, is the lesson that we hope has been learned from Anna Maria City: Don't wait until cars are obsolete to figure out where to park them.

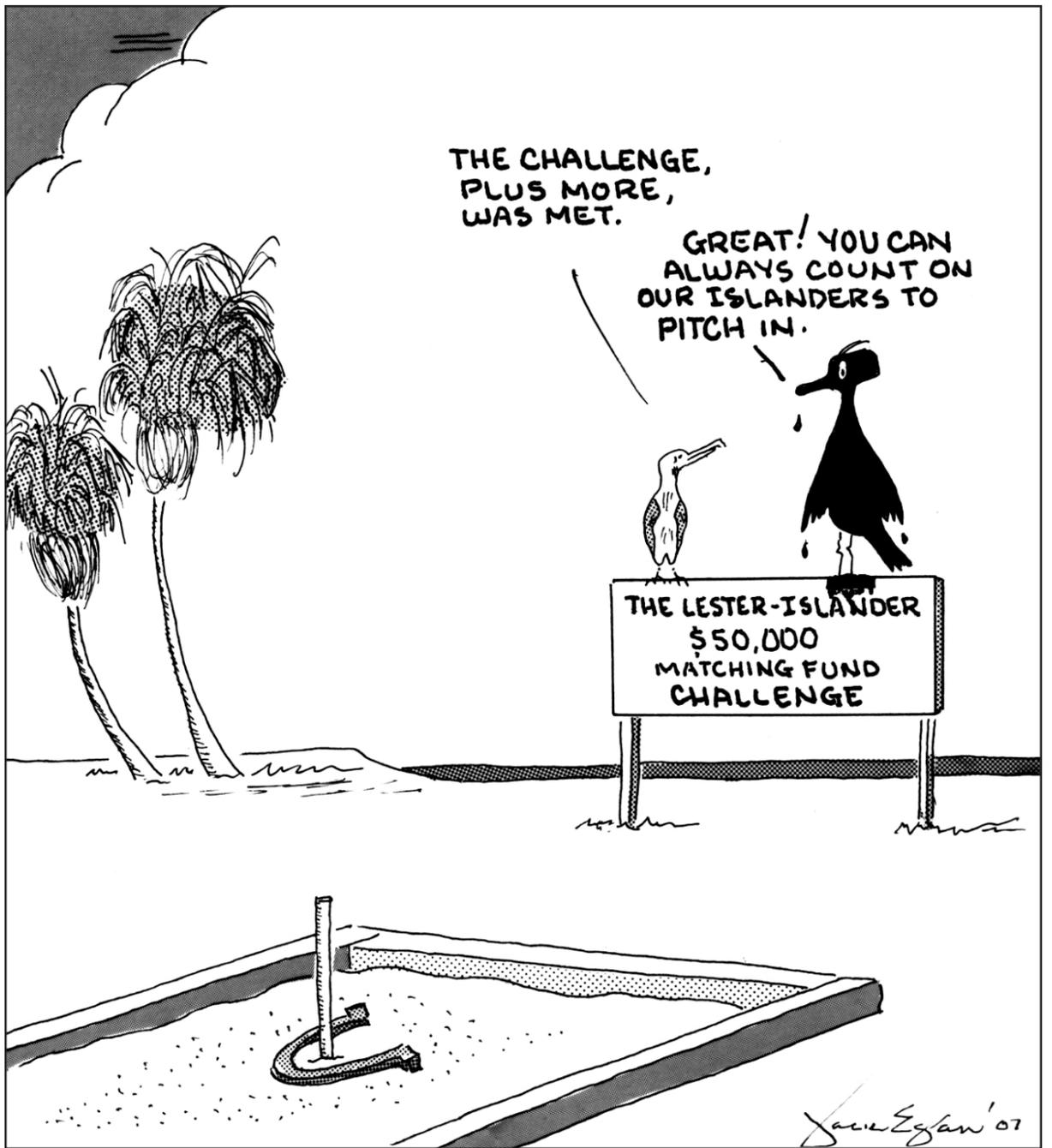
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SLICK

A ringer for the Center

By Egan

Your Opinion

Welcome aboard

We are so very glad to hear Tom Levengood is coming to Anna Maria Elementary School as the new principal. Years ago when our daughter — now a parent with one student at AME and a son age 1 — was in elementary school at Palma Sola, we had the pleasure of working with Tom and getting to know him.

He is a dedicated educator, has great enthusiasm for his job and was wonderful at motivating his staff and students. We're confident he will be a valuable asset to the Island school and enjoy working with the whole Island community that cares so much about AME.

Welcome aboard, Mr. Levengood!

Jo Ann and Don Meilner, Bradenton Beach

Island veteran memorial comments

As a standing member of the Manatee County Veterans Council from Anna Maria Island, I was tasked to find a spot where Island veterans could hold observances on specific days of honor, one or two times a year. After long research, the north side walkway at the base of the Leffis Key mound was chosen for size and distance from vehicular traffic. The three Island mayors and Longboat Key endorsed the concept. The only thing lacking was a tiny 8-foot pipe, not a monument, at the edge of the observation platform at the top to place our national colors when meeting. It would not have exceeded the height of roadside power lines.

The request to Manatee County sparked an unbelievable war, primarily with the Audubon Society. Publicly, and before the county commission, the non-monumental toothpick became a detriment to migrating birds, especially one blown from the east coast on a night of 40-mph east-cross-state winds, and was the first-such bird found on this coast. The tiny flagpole became a “lighted, 24-hour spectacle.” My letters to the head of the Audubon Society in New York were ignored, and falsehoods flourished.

The county, in desperation and caught between a

rock and a hard place, jumped in and offered a veterans gathering site where the monument is now proposed. Members of the Veterans Council were expressively furious, but ignored.

Jim Kissick, Bradenton Beach

Warm wishes

An open letter to the Anna Maria Island Community Center staff and board members:

As the year ends, I find myself reflecting on memories of all the good things my kids, Jake & Colby, and myself have experienced during 2006. It has been a fabulous year. We are fortunate to have many caring friends in this paradisiacal community that we call home and your organization is at the center of it all. I have a long list of people who I feel a tremendous amount of gratitude towards and you are at the top!

AMICC provides us with a sense of belonging, comfort, security, warmth, respect and support — all the components that comprise families and make them strong. We feel very connected to you and the community. You are always there for us with a kind word, a helping hand, an enjoyable event. At the Center, we have all maintained existing friendships and forged meaningful new relationships with other participants in your programs. You are our glue. I cannot imagine our lives, or the community, without you!

Watching the groundbreaking ceremony was a touching experience for me. Thank you so much for asking Jake to participate. He is proud to be so closely connected to AMICC. I only wish I had more to give as you strive to meet the financial demands for the new facility. While I lack the ability to make monetary contributions, I am able to provide any other type of assistance you may need. Just say the word, and I am there. I am willing to pitch in and do anything you need.

For the new year, I wish for all of you to have dreams that come true, hearts bursting with joy, and the warm feeling of satisfaction in knowing that you do make a tremendous difference!

Kelly Parsons, Bradenton Beach



Anyway you slice it... it's Maloney!

By former Holmes Beach City Commissioner Don Maloney

One of those days

Earlier this week, I had one of those days when I had nothing specific on my mind, such as the day the .9 on the price of gas was bothering me. I hate when that happens — nothing — because I then have room to think about all sorts of things, usually each of which is of no value whatsoever.

For instance, that morning, Wife Sarah asked me to go get a quart of milk — whole milk, not skim, 1 or 2 percent or such. On the way to Publix, it came to my mind that there is no “quart” of milk anymore. You know, the way it used to come in real glass bottles that the milkman used to put in the milk box by the side door every morning before you got up.

Now, I was thinking, there's no more milkmen or milk boxes; no more glass bottles. And there was just one kind of milk in those bottles, sometimes with a three- or four-inch glob of cream on top if you wanted to whip it. Instead of that glass bottle, it's in somewhat of a cardboard or plastic container now — and not just in a quart amount, but in a half gallon. Plus, it doesn't come to the side door anymore, now I have to go to the milk.

At the newsrack by the Publix checkout, all those milk thoughts were erased because I noticed a headline claiming that it turns out Mona Lisa was either pregnant or was already Mama Lisa when daVinci was painting her — at least that's what they claim.

Those “theys” — Canadian “theys” yet — are the ones who also have nothing on their minds and room available to worry about things like that which happened back in the 16th century.

I do have to confess, however, that I, too, have

done some thinking about that painting of her in the past, because, like many others, I tried to determine whether that was either a happy or sad grin on her face as she sat there for Leonardo. Now, after learning this news about her maternal situation, I've decided it was just a smirk, because she had just told an unsuspecting someone that he is — or was — the father.

But not to worry, she must have assured him, because nobody will know until 2006 at the earliest. Even now, those “theys” still haven't named the father.

With Mona (or Mama) out of the way, I had mind room available to think about a toilet paper commercial I saw when I came back to the house from Publix and turned on the TV later that morning. For some reason or other, the narrator on that commercial — after he promoted the toilet paper — wanted the world to know that the French were the first ever to have separate male and female public rest rooms, and that it happened back in the year 1700-something.

I'm not even going to tell you about the thoughts that ran through my mind wondering about how such regular operations around the world — or where — were dealt with up to then and whether such togetherness had anything to do with Mona's situation back in 1503. I'll leave it to those “theys” to figure that out.

That day wound up with my thoughts going back to milk. Like I wondered why it was always sold in quarts or now, in half-gallons. Why not pack it in ounces like beer and Coke? And why is my Jack Daniels sold in liters or .75 liters? Gas came to mind, too, because it's sold only in full gallons, not in quarts or half gallons. And why is gas the only liquid sold that has a .9 on its price? That latter matter needs more room than I have in mind right now to deal with that absurdity.

Anyway, I think it's time to decide on a single measurement to show the quantities of those liquids, like either ounces, quarts, gallons or liters. I'm tired of doing the math when I just want to buy a quart of Jack Daniels.

Now, because I got thinking of all these worthless thoughts, I have to go back to Publix because I forgot to bring home the milk Wife Sarah sent me for.



In the Jan. 8, 1997, issue of *The Islander*, headlines announced:

- Holmes Beach city attorney Patricia Petruff told city commissioners that a proposed amendment to the city's noise ordinance may be unconstitutional because of a vague definition of what constitutes a “noise disturbance.”

- An investment group headed by Florida Sen. John McKay was reportedly buying properties in the 3500-3600 block of East Bay Drive in Holmes Beach in anticipation of selling the land to Publix Supermarkets.

- An employee of Domino's Pizza on Marina Drive in Holmes Beach was slashed on the arm by a would-be robber after he refused to hand over his cash from a just-completed delivery. After cutting the employee, the suspect fled into a nearby residential area.

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|---------|-----|------|----------|
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| Jan. 1 | 68 | 70 | .60 |
| Jan. 2 | 63 | 71 | .30 |
| Jan. 3 | 64 | 76 | 0 |
| Jan. 4 | 68 | 84 | 0 |
| Jan. 5 | 70 | 86 | 0 |
| Jan. 6 | 71 | 86 | 0 |

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SueLynn's accomplishments, Anna Maria legacy

By Rick Catlin
Islander Reporter

For SueLynn, the woman who spent four years and nine months as Anna Maria's mayor, the lady with one name leaves a legacy with just one name: Stability.

"I do believe I brought a sense of stability to the city administration and commission," said the ex-mayor, now retired from office for nearly two months.

Before her election in February 2002, she remembered that commission meetings were often "theatrical shows" with accusations hurled amongst commissioners, the mayor and members of the public. Many meetings lasted well into the night, with little progress in accomplishing any of the city's long-standing list of problems.

"The mayor was always accused of being unprepared and the meetings were so full of tension you could cut it with a knife. Many people were afraid to speak up at a meeting," she said.

After her election, however, meetings returned to a sense of normalcy, at least for Anna Maria. It may have taken awhile after her election, but she believes the commission and administration began moving forward to solve problems, rather than be stuck in the same repeating cycle of threats and accusations, but little results.

For SueLynn, however, she had no idea how time consuming the job would become until taking office.

"What we needed then was to make the city administration work," she said. She quickly discovered that with myriad problems, she was working 60 hours a week to solve issues that had been untouched and unresolved for years. That was just to get the city operating on a "normal" basis.

"I became both the mayor and city manager. It meant a lot of work, often unrewarded and unrecognized, but a lot got accomplished."

Among those accomplishments are:

- Establishment of a line of credit to finance the city's long-standing drainage and road repairs.
- Remodeling of city hall.
- Adoption of a parking plan after more than 25 years of committee meetings in a vain effort to reach an acceptable solution.
- Initiation of the comprehensive plan review process.
- Separation of the building official and public works superintendent positions.
- Charter review change to remove the mayor from the commission and make that position the chief administrator of city government.

It is this last accomplishment that SueLynn now considers might be a bit dubious.

The idea behind the separation of powers was for the commission to legislate and the mayor to administer and bring suggestions to the commission, and for commissioners and the mayor to be able to communicate prior to meetings on issues without violating the Florida Sunshine Laws.

The reality, however, was somewhat different. "What I found was that the commission could listen to



Former Anna Maria Mayor SueLynn spent nearly five years in office before declining to seek another term in the November 2006 election. *Islander Photo: Rick Catlin*

me and easily dismiss my suggestions as I no longer had a vote."

Since leaving office, however, she's heard from a number of citizens that perhaps changing the commission structure back to making the mayor a voting member might be something the city should consider when the next charter review committee is formed in 2008.

That's not to say she regrets the charter change, nor the criticism one takes as mayor of a small barrier island community.

"I was under no illusions when I was elected. I knew that the small 'squeaky wheel' minority would criticize everything I did. I went into it knowing it was a thankless job. Obviously, I would do some things differently if I had to do it all over again, but I'm proud of my record and I think it's a good one."

She dismisses the suggestion that she had a "hidden agenda" as mayor.

"My agenda was to bring to the attention of the commission everything that would keep Anna Maria as an 'Old Florida' residential community, and that wasn't a hidden agenda. I wanted to keep the small town flavor of Anna Maria. That was out in the open."

Suggestions to the commission about a coastal overlay district or daylight plane ordinance were just ideas that she believes to this day were her duty to bring to the legislative body.

Not all of her suggestions, including the latter, were adopted. That includes her idea of buying vacant property on Pine Avenue for recreation and open space or a city park. The commission was not open to spending the money and houses have now been built on the land.

"But everything I did was brought to the commission. I kept commissioners informed all the way on

every issue the city dealt with." The commission, she believes, still wants to listen to the "squeaky minority" on too many issues.

"It's the tyranny of the minority and it's the same people every time. They are tenacious to get what they want. I've seen too many decisions made based upon the opinions of a few people."

While she's taken criticism on many issues, SueLynn was particularly vilified by some in the city for speaking out against the Villa Rosa housing project in 2002, when GSR Development LLC and principals Robert Byrne and Steve Noriega first proposed their gated community of mega-mansions of South Bay Boulevard.

At that time, the city had no site-plan review procedures in place. Although such procedures have subsequently been adopted at the suggestion of the then-commission and SueLynn, they are now under review.

GSR is now in federal bankruptcy court and only an unoccupied, unfinished model home has been built on the site.

"But you get criticized for speaking out, for doing what you believe is your job, for trying to do the right thing," she said. "I can safely say I have no regrets."

That's not to say that she believes she was always at odds with the various commissions and commissioners during her tenure.

"A lot got done. Many times, the commission came together to reach a decision, especially on issues that hadn't been touched in ages, and many times the commission would listen to the administration. Issues got resolved by the commission and things did get done."

But she still believes that on a few occasions, the commission tended to question and micro-manage the city administration, rather than relying solely on its legislative responsibilities.

Her last six months in office were particularly difficult — once she announced she would not seek re-election.

"I quickly found out what it meant to be a 'lame duck.' People perceived that I was no longer interested in the job and I was shunned."

Now that she's no longer in office, she finds it difficult not to think about her 57 months in the city's hot spot.

"I still catch myself thinking like a mayor, but I know that Fran [Mayor Fran Barford] and the staff are extremely competent. I think it's going to take me a few months in my new job before I finally put aside the office of Anna Maria mayor. I was in it a long time."

Her new job should help. She's executive director of the Studio on Gulf and Pine, site of the former Bistro at Islands End restaurant, now owned and completely remodeled by Rhea Chiles.

"It's not going to be just an art gallery," SueLynn maintained. "It can be anything, but it's not going to be everything."

Sounds like just the right job for the former First Lady of Anna Maria to forget she's no longer the First Lady, just a lady with class.

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Veteran monument again planned at Coquina Beach

The wheels of government may grind slowly but, eventually, sometimes, the grind does produce something worthwhile.

About five years ago, Bradenton Beach veterans Jim Kissick and the late Bob "Poppy" DeVane envisioned a memorial to those who served in the U.S. armed forces on Anna Maria Island. The plan then was to place a flagpole and small plaque at the top of Leffis Key, east of Coquina Beach at the highest point of land on the Island. Veterans would gather at honored dates each year for brief ceremonies, they thought, to remember their colleagues and proclaim patriotic praise, then disperse.

Manatee County officials initially offered no objections to the project. Audubon Society members then issued an unexpected salvo of objections, citing the problems a flagpole could present to migrating birds and the harm that rifle-salvos would present to wildlife in the area — despite the fact that no gun salutes had been offered or discussed.

Face-to-face with the fray, county commissioners backed away from the sortie, and the matter was dropped.

Now, though, newly elected County Commissioner Carol Whitmore, formerly mayor of Holmes Beach during the previous decline of the project, has entered the discussion, which has apparently become a non-issue.

In the meantime, a veterans memorial was installed at the butterfly garden in Holmes Beach.

The new location is just south of the high ground at Leffis Key, sited near a proposed multi-purpose marine rescue-law enforcement mini-complex planned by county officials. Exact location for the veterans monument is still in the works, as is the complex, but objections from birders have yet to come forward.

Kissick said he was pleased that the long-planned veterans monument would be built. Eventually.



SAM nominates 2007 officers

During a meeting Jan. 6 at the West Manatee Fire Rescue District station in Holmes Beach, members of Save Anna Maria Inc. nominated Nancy Deal, from left, Sheila Hurst, Jay Hill and Molly McCartney for offices in 2007. SAM nominated Deal to serve again as secretary, Hurst to serve again as president and Hill to serve again as vice president. McCartney will serve as treasurer, a post Billie Martini held in 2006 but declined to hold again. Without opposition, the nominees will begin their terms in February. In other business, members reiterated their opposition to St. Joe's high-rise development on Perico Island. The group also endorsed a letter to state and federal lawmakers opposing offshore drilling in the Gulf of Mexico. SAM's next meeting will be at 10:30 a.m. Feb. 3 at the fire station. Islander Photo: Lisa Neff

Coquina Beach Trail construction scheduled soon

Manatee County commissioners were expected to select a contractor at press time to begin work on the Coquina Beach Trail in Bradenton Beach.

The long-awaited beachfront trail will run from Fifth Street South to a turnaround at Longboat Pass just east of the bridge.

Billy Hay Excavating was recommended by Manatee County Parks and Recreation staff to receive the contract for the project. Work was scheduled to begin almost immediately and be completed within 60 days.

The multi-use trail will be an 8-foot-wide asphalt pathway running mostly under the trees for a distance of about 1.3 miles. Some of the existing Australian pines will be removed, replaced with cabbage palms. Wooden bollards will be put in place as needed to protect walkers and the walkway from motorists. Five benches will be installed along Longboat Pass to allow trail-users to stop, rest and enjoy the vista.

The project is being funded jointly by Manatee

County and Bradenton Beach. Officials hope to garner additional funds in the future to continue the trail from the bridge north along the eastern shore to the northern boat ramp on Coquina Beach's bayfront side.

Anna Maria City special meeting Jan. 11

The Anna Maria City Commission will hold a special meeting at 6:45 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11, to reconsider an amendment to the city's flood-plain ordinance.

The amendment had originally been turned down by the commission, but after certain elements in the first draft of the amendment were removed, the commission agreed to reconsider the measure.

The special meeting follows the city's "Government-in-the-Sunshine Law" meeting for elected officials, board members and staff at 5:30 p.m. and precedes the commission's regular worksession at 7 p.m.



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Guild honors artists of the month
 Painters Peggy Potter and Donna Bednarze are the artists featured this month at the Artists Guild Gallery in Holmes Beach. Both attended art school, as well as studied locally. "Painting," Bednarze says, "is something I love and am compelled to do." Potter says, "I believe that we are beholden to develop our God-given talent to its fullest and to 'show forth our light.'" Islander photo: Lisa Neff

**What's ahead in capitals
 to be Democrats' topic Tuesday**

"New Directions in Tallahassee and Washington, D.C. — What's Ahead?" will be discussed by Dr. Susan McManus at a meeting of Island Democrats Tuesday, Jan. 16.

Dr. McManus, professor of government at the University of South Florida, will speak at a luncheon meeting of the Anna Maria Island Democratic Club at the Beach-House Restaurant, 200 Gulf Drive N., Bradenton Beach.

No reservations are necessary for the \$12 luncheon, said the club. Further information may be obtained by calling 778-9287.

**Course for senior drivers
 scheduled next week**

A two-afternoon course to help senior drivers drive safely will be next week at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach.

Stretch Fretwell will instruct the American Association of Retired Persons course, as he has done for years, from noon until 4 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 17 and 18.

Completion of the course qualifies an over-50 driver a reduction in cost of auto insurance, Fretwell said. Those attending need to bring their driver's license for purposes of certification. Cost of the course is \$10, for which each student will receive a textbook.

Fretwell said the Holmes Beach Police Department will provide an officer to wrap up the course on its final day, to discuss traffic problems on Anna Maria Island and solicit ideas about local traffic management.

Those interested may register and receive full information by calling 779-2639.

Wine dinner set by chamber

A six-course dinner with six matching wines is being offered by the Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce Tuesday evening, Jan. 23

It will be at 7 p.m. at the Sun House Restaurant, 111 Gulf Drive, Bradenton Beach. Cost is \$45 plus tax.

Food will be by Chef Darrell Mizell, and wines will be presented by a wine expert.

Reservations may be made, tickets arranged and full details obtained by calling 778-1541.

**Two January 'nooners'
 set by Longboat chamber**

"Nooners," regular business card exchanges and networking lunches, are scheduled this month by the Longboat-Lido-St. Armands Keys Chamber of Commerce.

Both are from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., the first Wednesday, Jan. 10, at the Sun House Restaurant, 111 Gulf Drive S., Bradenton Beach, the other Thursday, Jan. 25, at Fred's Restaurant, 1917 S. Osprey Ave., Sarasota. RSVPs may be phoned to the chamber at 383-2466.

**Center starts year
 with full schedule**

The Anna Maria Island Community Center is starting the new year with a full schedule of events and programs, most of them at St. Bernard Catholic Church while the Anna Maria campus undergoes construction of its new facility.

The church is at 248 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach, with the Center's adult programs taking place in the activities hall. The Center's permanent new quarters, at 407 Magnolia Ave., Anna Maria, is expected to be completed in April. The phone number remains 778-1908.

The January schedule:
 A free "Food for Life" cooking program began Jan. 5, encouraging healthful diets among people susceptible to breast cancer. "Replacing Meat" is the subject Jan. 12, "Planning Healthy Meals" Jan. 19, and on through Feb. 9. The class meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"Beginners Tai Chi for Arthritis" free demonstration by Sherry Fideler will be from 2:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11. A six-week course will be offered for those interested after the demonstration; it will meet at 2:15 p.m. Thursdays starting Jan. 18.

Line dancing, no partner needed, will meet from 10:30 a.m. to noon Fridays, continuing through March, with Bunny Burton as instructor. Cost is \$5 for members, \$8 for nonmembers.

"Custom-Made Stained-Glass Garden Stepping-Stone" will be taught from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Jan. 22, and 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 24. Glen LeFevre will lead the class. Cost is \$55 for members, \$60 for nonmembers. Deadline for sign-up is Jan. 17.

"Sit 'n' Knit" with Barbara Hines as instructor will be from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesdays, with a cost of \$32 per four sessions for members, \$40 for nonmembers; bring a pattern, knitting needles and yarn to class.

Pilates class with Laura Bennett as leader will meet on the south deck of the BeachHouse Restaurant, 200 Gulf Drive N., Bradenton Beach, during January, from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Outdoor heaters are provided on chilly mornings.

Bridge lessons with professional player Larry Auerbach will meet for eight weeks from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Fridays through Feb. 23, at the Volunteer Fire Hall, 201 Second St. N., Bradenton Beach. Cost is \$72 for the eight weeks, or \$11 per class.

**'Settler's Bread' available
 Wednesdays**

Bakers will be making "Settler's Bread" to sell at the Anna Maria Island Historical Society's museum on Wednesdays through April.

The bread is priced at \$4 a loaf.

The hours at the museum, 402 Pine Ave., Anna Maria, are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

"The early bird gets the bread," said Sissy Quinn, historical society administrator.

'Smell of the Kill' cast announced by Players

The cast of "Smell of the Kill," a comedy to be staged by the Island Players starting Jan. 18, has been selected by its director, Kelly Wynn Woodland.

The play by Michele Lowe will run from Jan. 18 to Feb. 4 at the Island Players, 10009 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria. The box office is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Curtain time is 8 p.m., with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15.

Woodland said the cast includes Carolyn Zabut, Diana Shoemaker, Laurie Zimmerman, Mark Woodland, Rick Kopp and Herb Stump.

Offstage with Woodland are Ruth Stevens, stage manager; Rick Kopp, set designer; Chris McVicker, lighting; Bob Grant, sound; and Don Bailey, costumes.

Woodland said the play mixes "three delicious, malicious wives, three miserable unloving husbands, and chills, a recipe for comedy."

Additional details may be obtained at 778-5755.

Island Rotarians to be told of progress in Cortez

Roger Allen will detail the progress Cortez is making toward preservation as a historic commercial fishing village when the Anna Maria Island Rotary Club meets at noon Tuesday, Jan. 16.

The meeting will be a luncheon at the BeachHouse Restaurant, 200 Gulf Drive N., Bradenton Beach. Allen is manager of historic sites in Cortez and representative of the Florida Institute for Saltwater Fishing, the prime moving organization in Cortez.

Additional information and lunch reservations may be obtained by calling 350-4326.

Privateers 'Thieves Market' Saturday at Coquina

The Anna Maria Island Privateers' "Thieves Market" will be from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 13, at Coquina Beach on the south end of the Island.

Vendors of all kinds of "booty" will be there, the Privateers promised, offering food, crafts, art, fresh veggies, kettle corn, hot dogs, soda — "trash and treasures" of all kinds.

Additional information may be obtained by phoning 727-214-8903.

Slavery seminar coming Saturday

Slavery still exists in America, say sponsors of a seminar here Saturday, and its details will be revealed and discussed at the seminar.

The free public meeting will be from 9 a.m. until noon at the activity center of St. Bernard Catholic Church, 248 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach. Sister Patrice Colletti will speak on "Human Trafficking."

Additional details may be obtained by calling 778-4769.

Center bridge class location changed to old fire hall

The Anna Maria Island Community Center's bridge lessons are being moved from St. Bernard Catholic Church to the Island Volunteer Fire Hall, 201 Second St. N., Bradenton Beach.

This will continue for the duration of the classes, which run now through to Feb. 23. The classes will be from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Fridays. Larry Auerbach, professional bridge player, will be in charge. Cost is \$72 for the eight classes or \$11 for an individual class. Details may be obtained by calling 778-1908.

'Art and Science of Wine' event on schedule

Wine fans will be the stars at an event called "The Art and Science of Wine," with a winemaker imported from Australia and a chef from Cape Cod, Mass., at 6:15 p.m. Friday, Jan. 19, at the South Florida Museum and Bishop Planetarium.

Wine makers Lindsay Stanley of Barossa Valley, Australia, and Chef Christopher Covelli of Provincetown, Cape Cod, will be there as will Mario Martinez, creator of the Disney Institute. Appropriate foods for each wine will be provided by the Melting Pot, Sun House, Harry's Continental Kitchens, Manatee Technical Institute, Michael's on East, Pattigeorge's and Meals on Wheels.

Admission is \$125 to the VIP reception at 6:15 p.m. at the museum, 210 10th St. W., Bradenton, and \$75 general admission may be reserved by calling 746-4131, ext. 14.

China, authors, publisher set by Island Library

Three special lectures are on the January schedule of the Friends of the Anna Maria Island Library, all of them at the library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach.

Diana Milesko will launch the 2007 Friends Travel Series with "The Many Faces of China," looking at the history, landscape and people of that country, at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 13.

Florida mystery writers will be at the library at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16, in the Local Author Series. They are Wayne Barcomb, H. Terrell Griffin, Ruth Heckinger, Echo Heron, James Macomber, Kate Holmes and Wendy Howell Mills.

Bonner Joy, publisher of *The Islander*, will recount the 15 years of directing the publication with the longest continuous record on the Island at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 17, in the Friends Local Business Series.

Seating for these free programs will be on a first come, first served basis half an hour before each program begins. Additional information is available at 778-6341.



It's not a mystery, it's money!

Mystery Florida, an annual conference featuring Florida mystery authors, contributed \$500 from its 2006 conference to the Tingley Memorial Library. Pictured are, from left, Mystery Florida President Dudley Brown, board member Terry Griffin, Tingley Library Chair Ceil Fellers and Tingley board members Carol Nelson and Helen Dykstra. Proceeds from the conference go to Tingley and the Longboat Key Library. The next conference will be held June 1-2 on Lido Key.

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**Wednesday, Jan. 10**

7:45 to 9 a.m. — Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce “Sunrise Breakfast” at the Sun House Restaurant, 111 Gulf Drive, Bradenton Beach. Reservations, information: 778-1541. Fee applies.

10 a.m. to noon — Watercolor class at the Anna Maria Island Art League, 5312 Holmes Blvd., Holmes Beach. Information: 778-2099. Fee applies.

10:30 a.m. — Friends of the Island Branch Library book club at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-6341.

11:30 a.m. — Off Stage Ladies auxiliary of the Island Players lunch with guest speaker Sissy Quinn of the Anna Maria Island Historical Society at the Bradenton Country Club, 4646 Ninth Ave. W., Bradenton. Information: 761-7374. Fee applies.

1:30 to 3:30 p.m. — Basket-weaving class at the Anna Maria Island Art League, 5312 Holmes Blvd., Holmes Beach. Information: 778-2099. Fee applies.

Thursday, Jan. 11

1 to 2:30 p.m. — Mixed-media art demonstration by Roger Rockefeller at the Artists Guild Gallery, 5413 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach.

2:15 to 3:15 p.m. — Anna Maria Island Community Center-sponsored Tai Chi demonstration at St. Bernard Catholic Church, 248 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-1908.

7 p.m. — Sarasota Shell Club meeting at Mote Marine Aquarium, 1600 Ken Thompson Pkwy., Sarasota. Information: 739-0908.

8 p.m. — Opening night of “Thoroughly Modern Millie” at the Manatee Players Riverfront Theatre, 102 Old Main St., Bradenton. Information: 748-5875. Fee applies.

Friday, Jan. 12

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. — Anna Maria Island Community Center hosts the Food for Life cooking session, “Replacing Meat,” at St. Bernard Catholic Church, 248 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-1908.

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. — Opening reception for the “13th Annual James Pay Exhibit” at the Anna Maria Island Art League, 5312 Holmes Blvd., Holmes Beach. Information: 778-2099.

Mote sets up lectures, open house for season

Two educational/intellectual programs are to begin this month at Mote Marine Laboratory: resumption of the Monday@Mote program for members and a new lecture series.

The Monday@Mote program will feature an open format in the aquarium courtyard from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. exclusively for Mote members. Each of Mote’s seven research centers will be highlighted for an afternoon.

In conjunction with Monday@Mote but open to the public will be a special lecture series on seven Mondays at 7 p.m. Members and one guest will be admitted free to the lecture series, and general admission seating will be available to nonmembers at \$20 per person.

Both Monday@Mote and the lecture series are sponsored in part by Robert and Jill Williams.

The Monday@Mote schedule:

Jan. 22, “Marine Science Research and Education,” Dr. Kumar Mahadevan, Mote president, and Dr. David Niebuhr, vice president, education division.

Jan. 29, Center for Aquaculture Research and Development, Dr. Kevan Main, director.

Feb. 5, Center for Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Research, Dr. John Reynolds, director.

Feb. 12, Center for Coral Reef Research, Dr. David Vaughan, director.

Feb. 19, Center for Shark Research, Dr. Robert Hueter, director.

Feb. 26, Center for Coastal Ecology, Dr. Ernest Estevez, director.

March 3, Center for Fisheries enhancement, Dr. Kenneth Leber, director.

March 12, Center for Ecotoxicology, Dr. Richard Pierce, director.

“Inspiration Journeys” will be the theme of the special lectures. The schedule:

Jan. 29, “Triumph and Tragedy: The First Manned Dives to the Wreck of the German Battleship Bismarck,” Capt. Alfred McLaren, USN (retired), director, Sub Aviator Systems.

Feb. 5, “Carnival of Sea Creatures,” Dr. Eugenie Clark, founding executive director, trustee emerita, and eminent scientist, More Marine Laboratory, and Dr. Benjamin and Ginny Kendall, co-research divers

Saturday, Jan. 13

8 a.m. to noon — Pancake brunch and thrift shop sale at Roser Memorial Community Church, 512 Pine Ave., Anna Maria. Information: 778-0414. Fee applies.

8 a.m. to 3 p.m. — Anna Maria Island Privateers Thieves Market at Coquina Beach, Bradenton Beach. Information: 727-214-8903.

9 to 11 a.m. — “Gyotaku — Painting with Fish” family program at Mote Marine Aquarium, 1600 Ken Thompson Pkwy., Sarasota. Information: 388-4441. Fee applies.

9 a.m. to noon — Human trafficking and slavery presentation with guest speaker Sister Patrice Colletti at St. Bernard Catholic Church, 248 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-4769.

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. — Family origami at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-6341.

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. — Manatee River Orchid Society show and sale at the Manatee Civic Center, One Haben Blvd., Palmetto. Fee applies.

2 p.m. — Travel program featuring China at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-6341.

Sunday, Jan. 14

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. — Manatee River Orchid Society show and sale at the Manatee Civic Center, One Haben Blvd., Palmetto. Fee applies.

6:30 p.m. — Former Anna Maria Island residents Pam and Dave Prentice in concert at Island Baptist Church, 8605 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria. Information: 778-0719.

Monday, Jan. 15

6 to 8 p.m. — Boating safety and seamanship course sponsored by the U.S. Coast Guard Longboat Key Auxiliary at Mote Marine Education Center, 1600 Ken Thompson Pkwy., Sarasota. Information: 378-5620. Fee applies.

7 to 9 p.m. — “The Way of the Heart” with Kenneth Alonso at St. Bernard Catholic Church, 248 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach.

Tuesday, Jan. 16

10 to 11:30 a.m. — “Financial Workshop for Individual Investors” with Mike Valley, an Edward Jones representative, at 9906 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria. Information: 779-2499.

Noon — Rotary Club of Anna Maria Island presents Roger Allen of the Florida Institute for Saltwater Heritage at the BeachHouse Restaurant, 200 Gulf Drive N., Bradenton Beach. Information: 350-4326.

Noon — “New Directions in Washington and Tallahassee: What’s Ahead?” presentation to the Anna Maria Island Demo-

cratic Club at the BeachHouse Restaurant, 200 Gulf Drive N., Bradenton Beach. Information: 778-9287. Fee applies.

2 p.m. — Mystery authors’ forum at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-6341.

Wednesday, Jan. 17

Noon — Anna Maria Garden Club presents “Decorating Clay Pots” with Jean Taylor at Roser Memorial Community Church, 512 Pine Ave., Anna Maria. Information: 778-2607.

Noon to 4 p.m. — AARP safe-driver course at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 779-2639. Fee applies.

2 p.m. — Publisher Bonner Joy discusses the 15th anniversary of The Islander newspaper at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-6341.

Ongoing:

• “Thoroughly Modern Millie” at the Manatee Players Riverfront Theatre, 102 Old Main St., Bradenton, through Jan. 28. Information: 748-5875. Fee applies.

• Art by Peggy Potter at the Artists Guild Gallery, 5413 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach, through Jan. 31.

• James Pay exhibit at the Anna Maria Island Art League, 5312 Holmes Blvd., Holmes Beach, through Feb. 2. Information: 778-2099.

Coming up:

• Manatee Audubon Society meeting at First Presbyterian Church, Bradenton, Jan. 18.

• “Smell of the Kill” at the Island Players Jan. 18.

• “Vinology: The Art and Science of Wine” at South Florida Museum Jan. 19.

• Anna Maria Elementary School Dolphin Dash 5k Fun Run Jan. 20.

• Anna Maria Island Community Chorus and Orchestra young artists competition Jan. 20.

• Anna Maria Island Privateers’ Mullet Smoke at Publix Jan. 20.

• Leon Merian Big Band concert at the Riverfront Theatre Jan. 20.

• “Brass Rubbings” art discussion at the Island Branch Library Jan. 22.

• Bradenton Opera Guild preview of “Attila” at Christ Episcopal Church, Bradenton, Jan. 20.

• “How to Prevent Identity Theft” at the Longboat-Lido-St. Armands Keys Chamber of Commerce Jan. 23.

• Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce Wine Dinner at the Sun House Restaurant Jan. 23.

• “Mr. Jiggles” family show and PTO dinner at Anna Maria Elementary School Jan. 23.

**Looking for a steal?**

Privateers Carolyn and Dan Hart browse during an early morning stroll at the Anna Maria Island Privateers “Thieves Market” at Coquina Beach Nov. 11. It was the first of five markets the nonprofit group plans for the season with another this week, Jan. 13. Carolyn Hart found a steal — a black leather, studded wristband to match her belt. The Privateers offer roasted corn on the cob for a “Buck-An-Ear” at the market, while plenty of other booths offer a wide variety of items for sale. Islander Photo: Lisa Neff

and photographer on Eugenie Clark expeditions.

Feb. 12, “Shadow Divers: Mystery and Adventure on the Bottom of the Atlantic,” Robert Kurson, author of “Shadow Divers.”

Feb. 19, “Inner Space: The Biology of the Deep Sea,” Dr. John Morrissey, professor of biology, Hofstra University.

Feb. 26, “The Secret Life of Lobsters,” Trevor Corson, author of “The Secret Life of Lobsters.”

March 5, “Spirit Dive: The Wreck of the Henrietta Marie,” Michael Cottman, author of “Spirit Dive.”

March 12, “Red Tide Research: Progress Through Collaboration,” Dr. Richard H. Pierce, director, Mote’s Center for Ecotoxicology.

All of the features of both programs will be at Mote, 1600 Ken Thompson Pkwy., Sarasota, on City Island off the south ramp of the New Pass Bridge, telephone 388-4441, ext. 691, or www.mote.org.

Prentices in concert at Island Baptist Church Sunday

Former Island resident Pam Taylor Prentice and her husband Dave Prentice will be in concert at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 14, at Island Baptist Church, 8605 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria.

They will present a collection of contemporary and traditional songs suitable for the whole family, the church said.

Pam Prentice grew up on the Island and she and her husband now live in Pennsylvania. They are here to visit family and friends. He is a pianist, and both sing.

Details may be obtained by calling 778-0719.

Obituaries

Shirley Ash Cass

Shirley Ash Cass, 72, of Bradenton, died Dec. 31. Memorial services will be at 1 p.m. at Cafe on the Beach, 4000 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach. Memorial contributions may be made to Learning Disability Association, 339 E. Ave., Rochester NY 14604.

She is survived by husband Lee; daughters Elizabeth and Catherine; son Jonathan; sister Joan Jones; brother the Rev. John T. Ash; and five grandchildren.

Roy J. Gurney

Roy J. Gurney, 84, of Bradenton and formerly Holmes Beach, died Jan. 2.

Born in Maryland, N.Y., Mr. Gurney moved to Manatee County from Iliion, N.Y., in 2002. He was retired from the U.S. Post office in Iliion, and later was a school bus driver. He served in the U.S. Army in Company 1, 106th Infantry, 27th Division. He was wounded in the invasion of Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands, and was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Infantry Combat Badge and New York State Conspicuous Service Medal. He was first World War II commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 502 and American Legion Post 24, Bradenton. He was a past grand master of Iliion Odd Fellows. He was a 50-year member of Iliion Elks Lodge No. 144.

Memorial services will be held at Harvey Memorial Community Church, Bradenton Beach, at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to Tidewell Hospice and Palliative Care, 5955 Rand Blvd., Sarasota FL 34238.

He is survived by daughter Carol Searle of Bradenton; son Ronald J. and his wife Laurie of Bradenton; stepdaughters Barbara Natarelli and her husband John of Chatham, Mass., Beverly Feinman and her husband Michael of Iliion, and Patricia Clark and her husband Philip of San Diego, Calif.; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Muriel C. MacLellan

Muriel C. MacLellan, 96, of Anna Maria Island and Duxbury, Mass., died Dec. 21.

Mrs. MacLellan moved to Anna Maria Island 40 years ago. She was a nurse's assistant and one of the first nurses to work at the Plymouth County Hospital in Hanson, Mass. She later worked at Blake Medical Center, Bradenton, and was a cranberry screener at the Ocean Spray plant in Hanson. She was a Girl Scout leader. She was a member of Island Baptist Church, Anna Maria City.

Memorial services will be Jan. 13 in Marshfield, Mass. Memorial contributions may be made to Cranberry Hospice, 36 Cordage Park Circle, Suite 326, Plymouth MA 02360. Richard Davis Funeral Homes, Plymouth, is in charge of arrangements.

She is survived by Sandra L. Ferreira of Duxbury; grandchildren James Beaton of Ohio, William Beaton of New Jersey, Jeffrey Beaton of Virginia, Muriel Ellis of Carver, Lori Hamilton of Middleboro, Michael Ferreira of Plymouth, Bruce Ferreira of Florida and Kathy Ferreira of Randolph; 22 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandson.

William A. McCartney

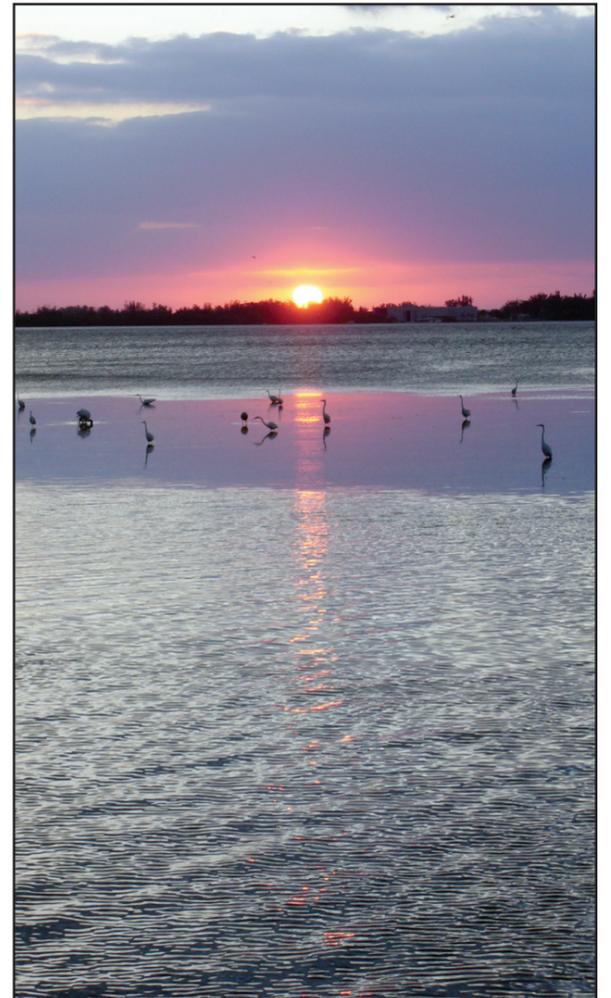
William A. McCartney, 83, of Bradenton and formerly Wantaugh, N.Y., died Jan. 1.

Born in Long Prairie, Minn., Mr. McCartney moved to Manatee County in 1984. He worked for more than 34 years for Equitable Life Assurance Society, retiring in 1981 as vice president of underwriting issues and claims. He was a graduate of Michigan State University and received a master's degree at Wharton School of Economics at the University of Pennsylvania. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the 106th Infantry Division at the Battle of the Bulge and the liberation of Germany. He was a member of the school board in Wantaugh for 12 years, and served as president for several years. He was a teacher's assistant in fourth-grade math at Daughtrey Elementary School. He was active in Christ Episcopal Church, Bradenton.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 12, at the church, 4030 Manatee Ave. W. Memorial contributions may be made to Christ Episcopal Church,

4030 Manatee Ave. W., Bradenton FL 34205, or to the New England Music Camp, 8 Goldenrod Lane, Sidney MA 04330.

He is survived by daughter Kim Wiggin of Suffield, Conn.; son William C. of New York; sisters Fyvie Jackson of Crestline, Calif., and Kathryn Boucher of East Lansing, Mich.; brother Jim of Holmes Beach; and five grandchildren.



Perico Island sunrise

Florida's feathered waders feed in the first light on a winter morning. Islander Photo: Bonner Joy

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Streetlife

Island police reports

Anna Maria City

Dec. 30, 500 block of Pine Avenue, burglary. A woman reported an assortment of items valued at \$148 stolen from her boat.

Bradenton Beach

Jan. 1, 2400 block of Avenue C, domestic violence. A woman reported that a male acquaintance forced his way into her home. According to the report, as she attempted to alert her boyfriend in another room, the uninvited guest punched her. The boyfriend told police he threw the other man out of the house and he was last seen driving away in a vehicle.

Holmes Beach

Dec. 30, 400 block of 63rd Street, suspicious vehicle. A pickup truck loaded with yard trash backed up at the boat ramp was reportedly blocking access to the area. The owner of the vehicle could not be reached and the patrol officer arranged for the vehicle to be towed.

Dec. 31, 400 block of Gulf Drive, warrant. A vehicle was stopped after an officer reportedly witnessed it travel through a red light. According to the report, the driver was arrested due to an Illinois warrant.

Garden Club discusses clay pots

Jean Taylor will discuss "Decorating Clay Pots" for her fellow members of the Anna Maria Garden Club when it meets at noon Wednesday, Jan. 17.

The meeting will be at the Roser Memorial Community Church fellowship hall, 512 Pine Ave., Anna Maria. Further information is available at 778-2607.

AMIE MENU

Monday, Jan. 15
School closed.

Tuesday, Jan. 16

Breakfast: Chicken Patty on a Biscuit, Cereal, Toast, Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich, Fruit

Lunch: Chicken Tenders or Hoagie with Chicken Noodle Soup, Potato Smiles, Mixed Veggies, Fruit Cocktail

Wednesday, Jan. 17

Breakfast: Cheese Omelet with Hash Browns, Yogurt, Cereal, Toast, Fruit

Lunch: Hot Dog or Muffin and Yogurt Plate, Green Beans, Carrot Sticks with Dip, Pineapple Tidbits

Thursday, Jan. 18

Breakfast: Sausage and Egg Patty on a Biscuit, Cereal, Toast, Bagels, Fruit

Lunch: Student planned menu.

Friday, Jan. 19

Breakfast: Pancakes, Graham Crackers, Cereal, Toast, Fruit

Lunch: Pizza or Chicken Quesadilla, Corn, Garden Salad, Pears

Juice and milk are served with every meal.

Red tide featured on luncheon menu



Dwight Davis, a volunteer with Mote Marine Laboratory, talks about understanding red tide during a Rotary Club of Anna Maria Island lunch meeting Jan. 2 at the BeachHouse Restaurant. *Islander Photo: Lisa Neff*

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

The talk was devoted to red tide, but those gathered for the Rotary Club of Anna Maria Island's lunch meeting Jan. 2 breathed easy.

The air was clear, with no one suffering a red tide-induced tickle in the throat or cough in the chest. The beaches were clear, with no lines of dead fish or decaying birds on the sand.

The Island Rotarians, as well as a number of vacationing members of other clubs, gathered at the BeachHouse Restaurant in Bradenton Beach to hear Dwight Davis, a volunteer with Mote Marine Laboratory, discuss red tide.

Davis did not need to tell his audience about the signs of red tide or the impact it can have on Island tourism. Before the talk, club members expressed relief for mild bouts of red tide in 2006 and shared stories of the toxic red tides of 2005 that hurt tourism and left thousands of dead fish on the state's beaches.

Last month, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute reported that an intense and prolonged red tide in 2005 impacted the juvenile spotted sea trout fishery in the Tampa Bay area. Preliminary 2006 data showed the spawning fish have not yet returned to the area.

Davis, a retired advertising executive, has served as president of Mote's volunteers group, and has been active in the laboratory's guide program and speakers bureau.

During the Rotary meeting, Davis defined red tide and outlined what researchers know of its history.

"It is naturally occurring," Davis said, citing historic documentation of red tide dating back to the 1800s in Florida. "From what we know these red tides started in antiquity."

Some researchers have suggested a toxic bloom was responsible for the event described in Exodus that

began with the Nile turning into blood. "The fish in the Nile died, and the Nile stank, so that the Egyptians could not drink water from the Nile."

Most coastal regions encounter outbreaks of harmful algae or bacteria.

There are thousands of microscopic algae or plankton in the oceans, but only about 200 "are considered harmful," Davis said.

On Florida's West Coast, the harmful algae is *Karenia brevis*, which produces brevetoxin.

Scientists continue to study red tide to identify the causes, seeking, for example, to define the role of agriculture and development in contributing to red tides.

"We have a lot of questions," Davis said, referring to the causes.

The effects are well known, an assault by sea, air and land on mammal respiratory and immune systems.

"You probably have witnessed or had it happen to you — the watery eyes, the tightness of breath," Davis said.

To better understand red tide, and to warn of red tide, researchers such as those at Mote have "come a long way in terms of tracking and detecting red tide," he said.

But in trying to control outbreaks, Davis said the state and federal government and advising researchers must consider the time and cost involved and most importantly the environmental impact. Solutions such as treating a bloom with bleach or ozone or clay could cause even greater harm.

Club members seemed most curious about whether the number of red tide incidents was on the rise and whether the incidents posed a more serious environmental threat.

"Everybody I know is suspicious we've had more
PLEASE SEE RED TIDE, NEXT PAGE



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Woodland wants code policy reviewed

By Rick Catlin
Islander Reporter

Anna Maria City Commissioner Dale Woodland said it's time the commission review its policy to allow anonymous complaints to the code enforcement officer and the issue is on the agenda for the commission's Jan. 11 worksession.

"I just think it's time we discuss the policy," said Woodland. "I can see the pros and cons of each side, and I consider it valid to discuss each point."

But Woodland is going to offer an alternative to allowing anonymous complaints or requiring a complaint be signed before action.

Pancake brunch, yard sale at Roser Church

A pancake brunch is scheduled for 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 13, along with a yard sale, at Roser Memorial Community Church, 512 Pine Ave., Anna Maria.

Tickets at \$5 for the brunch are available at the church office, at the door, or may be arranged by calling 778-0414.

The yard sale will be in the Roser Thrift Shop parking lot, across from the chapel, from 9 a.m. until noon.

Red tide explained to Rotary

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

events and more intense events than before," Davis said, but added again that researchers have many questions about red tide.

In other business at the meeting, club members discussed ticket sales and plans for their fifth annual Extravaganza and Casino Night.

The fundraising event, scheduled for 6 p.m. Jan. 27 at St. Bernard Catholic Church in Holmes Beach, features dinner, music, an auction and casino games.

The club also reviewed its schedule:

- At a Jan. 9 meeting, club members will hear from Lei Ling, their ambassadorial scholar from China.
- The scheduled speaker Jan. 16 is Roger Allen, who will talk about historic preservation in Cortez.
- The Jan. 23 speaker is Robin Kaercher of the Arts Council of Manatee County.

The club, which operates a Web site at www.annamariarotary.org, meets Tuesdays at noon at the BeachHouse Restaurant in Bradenton Beach.

His suggestion to the commission will be that the person who wants to complain anonymously can go to the mayor and present valid reasons for wishing to remain anonymous. If the mayor agrees the complaint is justified as well as the the reason(s) to remain anonymous, the complaint will be forwarded to the code enforcement officer under the mayor's signature. If the mayor disagrees, no action is taken — at least not until the complainant signs his/her complaint.

Presently, the commission policy is that code enforcement is "reactive" to complaints, rather than

"proactive." Additionally, the policy now is to allow anonymous complaints, but that policy has often resulted in complaints simply because a resident wanted to "get even" with someone or become a neighborhood "vigilante."

In one instance several years ago, more than 130 code violations were reported anonymously at the same time by one person. Under the anonymous policy, the city was obligated to take action.

Both Holmes Beach and Bradenton Beach have a "reactive" policy and allow anonymous complaints.

Site plan review committee organizes

The ad hoc committee to review Anna Maria's controversial site plan review procedures held its organizational meeting Jan. 4.

Members include Mayor Fran Barford, city planner Alan Garrett, commission chairman John Quam, building official Kevin Donohue and Tom Aposporos as the lone member of the public on the committee. Aposporos is a former Anna Maria city commissioner and a current businessman in the city.

The committee did not announce a date for its next meeting.

Anna Maria's site plan review procedures were enacted following the 2002 debacle of GSR

Development's application for its Villa Rosa gated subdivision on South Bay Boulevard.

At that time, the city commission and planning and zoning board realized the city had little control over such major projects and reluctantly had to approve GSR's application with few changes.

Site plan review procedures were subsequently adopted by the commission, but the process immediately ran into several stumbling blocks over such projects as the rebuild of the Waterfront Restaurant and a proposed retail-office-residential structure on Pine Avenue.

Last year, commissioners agreed to establish a committee to review the procedures.

RE/MAX Holmes Beach office not closing

Owners of RE/MAX Gulfstream Real Estate at 401 Manatee Ave. in Holmes Beach along with the sales associates are anxious to clear up any discrepancy about the for sale sign in front of the building. The company isn't closing its office or leaving Anna Maria Island.

The building is only for sale or lease, said RE/MAX owner Ron Travis. The site was originally leased by RE/MAX Gulfstream, said Travis, and the company plans to either lease back space in the current building or relocate to a more suitable-size location on Anna Maria Island in the event of a sale.

RE/MAX Gulfstream is staying on Anna Maria Island, he emphasized.

He said that with six offices and 190 agents in Manatee and Sarasota counties, Gulfstream had a 2006 sales

volume of \$370 million, making it one of the dominant real estate companies in the area.

Parenting support group organized

The Anna Maria Island Community Center is offering a "Parenting With Love and Logic" support group "designed to put the fun back into parenting."

It will meet at the School for Constructive Play, 305 Pine Ave., Anna Maria, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month, starting Jan. 17.

Shirley Romberger, family therapist for the Center, will "facilitate," the Center said. Babysitting and food will be provided for the course cost of \$5 per adult, \$2 per child. Further information may be obtained by calling 778-1908.



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Banana Cabana: Adding island spice to AMI

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

The woman leaving the restaurant shouts over her shoulder, "Just say, 'A local says Banana Cabana's salsa kicks...'"

She's critiquing restaurant owner and chef Mike Rappaport's mango salsa, which she sampled on a spinach chip.

Rappaport chuckles. He too believes in the quality of the mango salsa he's now bottling for retail in the Bradenton Beach restaurant. But he takes a subtler approach.

"It's good, yes?" he asks.

Rappaport opened the Banana Cabana Caribbean Grille, 103 Gulf Drive, about seven years ago.

"Before that I was in the clothing business," he says on a recent Friday, taking a break from preparing for a dinner crowd, labeling jars, planning a holiday party and handing out applications to potential employees.

He worked in the clothing business in New York City and then in Florida, operating stores "from Miami to Orlando."

For the stores, Rappaport imported clothing. And during his travels, he took an interest in Caribbean cuisine.

"Each island has its own flavors," Rappaport says. "I use spices from all over the Caribbean."

He's been bottling a Banana Cabana hot sauce for years, as well a Jamaican jerk sauce and the popular balsamic vinegar dressing diners sprinkle on appetizers, salads and entrees.

"We've been making and bottling them since the beginning of time," he says. "And as soon as we bottle them, they go."



Mike Rappaport decided to meet the demands of his customers and bottle Banana Cabana's mango salsa. Now, he says, the challenge is to find a way to retail the spinach chips made for the restaurant's nachos.
Islander Photo: Lisa Neff

More recently Rappaport decided to add a mango salsa to the list.

"We tasted a lot of salsas and then we came up with our own blend," says Rappaport. "We do it all right here."

"It's a lot of work," he adds, "cooking down the tomatoes and chopping all the fresh bell peppers, the fresh mango, red onions, scotch bonnet peppers. Oh, and yes, the cilantro and all the various spices. There's no preservatives in here, so there isn't a long shelf life."

For some sauce makers, heat is what they brag

about. Not Rappaport.

"It's about the taste," he says, spooning a salsa on a spinach chip. "There's not a lot of money in this, but there's a lot of satisfaction. People like it."

Rappaport knows the work and expense involved in bottling his sauces, but he can't help glancing at his menu and wondering what else he can package.

The spinach chips perhaps?

The fried macadamia bananas maybe?

The conch chowder possibly?

Definitely not the surf and turf.

Island Biz



By Rick Gatlin

ASAP relocates

Anna Maria resident **Lu Files** of **Advertising Specialties and Promotions Inc.** has moved his company to a new location at 515 33rd St. Court W. in Bradenton to celebrate the new year.

An advertising and promotional products distributor in Manatee and Sarasota counties for more than 20 years, the company specializes in printed or embroidered apparel, in addition to more than 25,000 items with a company message or logo imprinted on a product.

Files has been in business in the Manatee area since 1962.

For more information on ASAP, call Lu at 708-2727, or e-mail him at lu@asapflorida.com

Keith in real estate



Barnett

Capt. Keith Barnett is well known on Anna Maria Island as a fishing and diving guide and for Barnett Blinds, but he's recently expanded his horizons to include real estate.

He's now a licensed real estate agent with **An Island Place Realty** in Anna Maria, specializing in waterfront proper-

ties and in Caribbean real estate.

As a boat captain, he's also well versed in properties in boating destinations in both Florida and the Bahamas.

To reach Capt. Keith, call 730-0516 or e-mail him at bahamabarnett@aol.com

Tequila Beach opens

The **Tequila Beach Sports Grille** at 7423 Manatee Ave. W. opened its doors last week as a state-of-the-art restaurant/sports bar featuring 16 large-screen plasma TVs, two 100-inch screens and surround sound.

The menu is casual American along with more than 40 brands of tequila, 10 brands of draft beers and 30 varieties of bottled beer.

Owners LJR Investments also operate the Daiquiri Deck in Maderia Beach and Nickel City in Pinellas Park.

Realty raves

Mike Norman Realty at 3101 Gulf Drive N. in Holmes Beach has announced that Rolando Rubi was the company's top sales agent for December, while Carla Beddow garnered the top closer award. Call 778-6696 for more information.

New sales agent at Wagner Realty's west Manatee office are Naomi Furbish and Michele Woodson. To reach any of the new agents, call 727-2800.

Peter Feuerstein and Becky Smith of Wagner Realty were installed as officers of the Bradenton Toastmasters Club on Jan. 3.

Wagner Realty has offices at 2217 Gulf Drive N. and 1801 Gulf Drive N. in Bradenton Beach and at 5360 Gulf of Mexico Drive on Longboat Key.

Island real estate sales

412 79th St., Holmes Beach, a 1,001 sfla / 1,439 sfur 2bed/1bath/1car home built in 1960 on a 75x100 lot was sold 12/19/06, Gryboski to Paliscak for \$492,500; list \$569,900.

108 Eighth St. S., Bradenton Beach, a 1,668 sfla / 1,968 sfur 2bed/2bath pool home built in 1920 on a 50x100 lot with riparian rights to dock was sold 12/20/06, Britton to Crino for \$479,000; list \$499,000.

135 Crescent Drive, Anna Maria, a 1,033 sfla / 1,659 sfur 2bed/2bath home built in 1972 on a 120x105 lot was sold 12/21/06, Staby to Gay for \$440,000; list \$499,000.

Jesse Brisson, broker/associate at Gulf-Bay Realty of Anna Maria, can be reached at Gulf-Bay (941) 778-7244.

Current Island real estate transactions may also be viewed online at www.islander.org. Copyright 2007.



Featured sale:

This home at 135 Crescent Drive, Anna Maria, sold in February 1999 for \$169,500 and in December 2006 for \$440,000. The cost per square foot is \$425. Islander Photo: Jesse Brisson

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Turtle travels: Mote's turtles begin 2007 not far from home

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

Zach began the new year about 60 miles southwest of Naples.

And Chilly Willy started 2007 mowing the sea grass in the flats of Weeki Wachee Springs.

Where they will winter is a question scientists hope to answer using transmitters on the sea turtles' shells that send signals to satellites when the migratory animals surface to breathe. Thousands of transmitters are being used in waters around the world to learn about turtles, as well as other marine animals, currents and vessels.

Zach and Chilly Willy began their recent sea adventures on Anna Maria's shore, released into the Gulf of Mexico by volunteers and staff at Mote Marine Laboratory after rehabilitation at the lab's Sea Turtle Rehabilitation Hospital.

Both turtles left the shore tagged with transmitters that tell scientists — and interested members of the public — where they have been and the direction they're headed, the temperature and depth of water they prefer and the speed with which they travel.

Zach had been found on the beach in Boca Grande in September. He was lethargic, but somewhat responsive and Mote's chief veterinarian, Dr. Charles Manire, diagnosed red tide toxicosis.

After about two months in recovery, Mote released Zach.

On Aug. 12, Mote released from Anna Maria Chilly Willy, a juvenile green turtle. Also, in November, Mote released from St. Petersburg Beach two male loggerheads, Joey II and Bruno.

"With Chilly Willy, after he was released, he went north for a while. Then we got a cold front and he started heading south. Then it warmed up and he went back to where he was," Manire said.

There are seven species of sea turtles in the world and six of them — the loggerhead, green, hawksbill, Kemp's ridley, leatherback and olive ridley turtle — are listed under the Endangered Species Act. The seventh, the flatback, is listed as "data deficient," meaning there's a lack of information available to assess the flatback's health.

Scientists are eagerly following the courses of Mote's turtles. The lab's Sea Turtle Conservation and Research Program has tracked 13 nesting female loggerhead turtles over the past two years via satellite, but male loggerheads do not come to land and typically live offshore.

"The researchers who work with these animals don't normally have contact with the males," Manire said.

Zach's adventure provided Mote its first oppor-



Zach the loggerhead turtle returned to the Gulf of Mexico on Nov. 17 after recovering from red tide toxicosis at Mote Marine Laboratory. As of last week, he was about 60 miles southwest of Naples. *Islander Photo: Lisa Neff*

tunity to track a male loggerhead recovered from red tide.

"He headed pretty much south as soon as he was released and is now located southwest of Naples, probably about 60 miles or so offshore," Manire said.

The turtle, as of Dec. 27, had been in that general area for three weeks.

"It's new information, whatever we find," Manire said of the information the tracking system provides. "But we would expect them to kind of go to an area and just hang out. What we're really waiting to see is what happens once the water temperature really begins to cool down where they are. That's usually the trigger that tells them it is time to leave."

Cooler water temperatures likely will send the turtles south. How far south Manire couldn't guess.

"Whether they will head to the Keys or go to Brazil, we don't know," he said.

Manire could say the tracking systems, which cost about \$3,000 a year per turtle, work.

"We've been getting pretty reliable signals," he said, adding that the public can follow the turtles' tracks at seaturtle.org.

Mote's turtles are just a few of more than 100 sea turtles being tracked by satellite and charted on maps

at seaturtle.org.

For example, the Bald Head Island Project is tracking loggerheads off the Atlantic Coast.

Also, in the Cayman Islands, where only a few dozen nesting green and loggerhead turtles remain, turtles are being tracked to learn how to protect them.

Winter program under way at Longboat Education Center

Registration is still open for most classes at the Longboat Key Education Center, whose winter class schedule began this week.

Openings are in liberal arts, humanities, foreign language and recreation courses at the center, 5370 Gulf of Mexico Drive. More than 150 courses are offered.

In addition to the education program, a lecture series with 13 speakers is offered at 3 p.m. every Tuesday, engagements will be there from the Sarasota Ballet, Sarasota Opera and Burns Court Cinema, and a performing arts series live every Friday afternoon in February and March.

Complete information may be obtained at the center by calling 383-8811, or at www.lbkeducation-center.org

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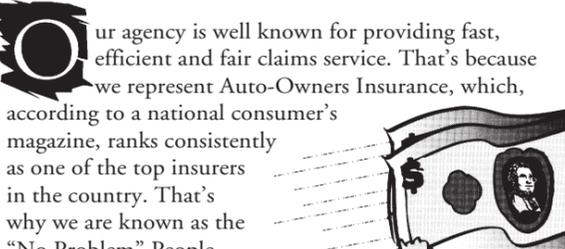
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Islander fuels improved MHS basketball team

By Kevin Cassidy
Islander Reporter

The Manatee High School boys basketball team has already matched last year's win total of four and Island resident Spencer Carper is one of the reasons behind the improvement.

The team's record stood at 4-6 (3-3 in Class 5A, District 12) prior to its game against North Port on Jan. 4, but they've been in every game, according to Spencer. "We haven't lost a game by more than eight points and we've lost three games by one point." He went on to say that the MHS Hurricanes need to play more as a team and to step up the intensity on defense in order to win some of their close games.

Spencer, a 5-foot, 8-inch junior, starts at guard and serves as one of the team captains. He is averaging 10 points, four assists and one steal per game, and leads the team in three-point field goals.

Coach Brian Reeves said that Carper earned his spot as starter and captain because of his leadership, hard work and dedication, on and off the court. "Spencer is the type of player that every coach loves and every player hates playing against because of his intensity and desire to be the best," Reeves said. "The strides that he has made between his sophomore and junior season are thanks to many hours of hard work in the gym during the off season. It's a privilege to coach Spencer and I can't wait to see how he improves as a basketball player."

Spencer lives in Anna Maria with mom Shawn and dad David, a younger brother Neil and two sisters, Paige and Emma. He was a regular participant in the Anna Maria Island Community Center basketball and other sports programs there.

When asked about future plans, Spencer, who has a 3.0 grade-point average, didn't think he would be playing basketball in college, mostly because he wants to attend a big school, probably the University of South Florida. He said he wants to study history and eventually teach high school.

Congratulations Spencer, and good luck with the



Spencer Carper drives on a Port Charlotte player during Manatee High School boys varsity basketball action. *Islander Photo: Kevin Cassidy*

rest of your season.

Basketball season under way

The Anna Maria Island Community Center's 2007 basketball season got started Jan. 4 with games being played in town at King Middle School. Teams in four divisions will battle until late February, hoping to finish in the top three so they qualify for the playoffs. The Instructional League will play games until late February as well, but there will be no standings for this developmental league.

Ooh La La! 23, Publix 12

Ooh La La! Bistro defeated Publix in Division III action on Jan. 4 behind solid play from Josh Zawistoski, who posted 14 points and 12 steals. Jake Parsons added five points for Ooh La La!, which also received four points, two steals and one rebound from Phillip Dudevoire in the victory.

Publix was led by Cameron Brauner and

Makayla Kane with four points apiece. Amanda Bosch added two points and a game-high five rebounds, while Joey Salinas chipped in with two points in the loss.

Rotten Ralph's 51, WCAC 30

Rotten Ralph's cooled off West Coast Air Conditioning in the Premier Division opener on Jan. 4 behind a game-high 29 points from Jacob Stebbins and 10 points and five rebounds from Garrett Secor. Ralph's also received seven points from Nick Tankersley and six points from Zach Evans in the victory.

Alisha Ware scored nine points to lead WCAC, which also received seven points apiece from David Tyson and Celia Ware. Jordan Pritchard added three points and four steals, and Thomas Ganey scored four points in the loss.

Center plans baseball tryouts

The Anna Maria Island Community Center Little League is hosting mandatory tryouts for its major league traveling team on Saturday, Jan. 13, at the Bayfront Recreational Center field on Longboat Key from 10 a.m. to noon. Players ages 10-12 who make the team will play against teams from Manatee West Little League, which plays games at Bradenton's G.T. Bray park. Home games for the Islanders will be played at the Bayfront field behind the 7 Eleven store on Longboat Key.

The Center also will host a baseball clinic and registration day at the Longboat Key field from 10 a.m. to noon, Jan. 6. Players can register at the AMICC trailer behind St. Bernard Catholic Church. Cost of registration is \$85, which includes pants, shirt, hat and socks for players, as well as bus transportation to and from all away games.

Little League will hold tryouts for T-ball players, ages 5-7, and AA and AAA players, ages 7-12, in February. AA and AAA action will feature live pitching this

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Sports

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

season — no batting machine.

There's something new in store for the Island Junior League baseball team as well. Now players ages 13-16 are eligible to play. Tryouts will be held 2-4 p.m. Jan. 13 and Jan. 20 at Birdie Tebbetts Field in Holmes Beach. Tryouts are mandatory and Coach Jeff expects his players from last season to come out and compete for a roster spot.

Registration forms are located at the Center office trailer behind St. Bernard or players may register right before tryouts at the appropriate field.

For more information, call 778-1908.

Key Royale golf news

The Key Royale Club closed out the old year with some coed handicap golf on Dec. 29 and christened the new year with a men's 18-hole, better-ball-of-partners tournament.

Bob Sayles and Bob Lamp combined to shoot a 12-under-par 52 to claim clubhouse bragging rights, three shots ahead of second-place finishers Gordon McKinna and Fred Meyers. Jim Thorton and Bob Elliott, along with Harold Sears and Joe Proxy, tied for third place by posting a 56. There was a three-way tie for fourth place. The teams of John Driscoll and Tom Warda, Bob Dickinson and Bill Gallagher, along with Jim MacVicar and Jim Krumme each shot 57.

The team of Joyce Brown, Jerry Brown, Dottie McKinna and Joe Proxy combined to fire a 58, which was matched by the team of Terry Westby, Richard Westby, Al Gunn and Fred Meyer to produce a tie for first place in the coed tournament.

Gunn and Richard Westby helped their team's cause with chipins, Gunn on No. 1 and Westby on hole No. 5.

Horseshoe news

Only two teams managed to earn 3-0 records during Dec. 30 horseshoe action so the teams of Tom Rhodes and George McKay "pitted" their skills against the team of Gene Bobeldyk and Bruce Munro. Munro found himself in the winner's circle for the second Saturday in a row as he and Bobeldyk easily defeated Rhodes and McKay by a 21-8 score.

The team of Bob Lee and Bob Mason posted the only 3-0 record during pool play on Jan. 3 and thus were declared the day's outright winners.

Play gets under way at 9 a.m. every Wednesday and Saturday at the Anna Maria City Hall pits. Warmups begin at 8:45 a.m. followed by random team selection. There is no charge to play and everyone is welcome.

Center basketball schedule

Premier Division (ages 14-17)

Jan. 11 8 p.m. WCAC vs. IRE

Division I (ages 12-13)

Jan. 10 8 p.m. Danziger vs. Oyster Bar
Jan. 16 8 p.m. Cycles vs. Paradise

Division II (ages 10-11)

Jan. 10 7 p.m. ReMax vs. Duncan
Jan. 16 6 p.m. A&E vs. ReMax
Jan. 16 7 p.m. Dips vs. Duncan

Division III (ages 8-9)

Jan. 10 6 p.m. Ross vs. Kumon
Jan. 11 7 p.m. Kumon vs. Publix

Instructional League (ages 5-7)

Jan. 11 6 p.m. Orthopedics vs. LPAC
Jan. 11 6 p.m. Observer vs. BeachHouse

Practice run

Kindergartner *Tori Walter* gears up for the Anna Maria Elementary School Dolphin Dash, a 5-k fun run that will take place in Holmes Beach Saturday, Jan. 20. Training sessions are under way at the school from 8 to 8:30 a.m. every Thursday before race day. Students who log 12 practice miles will receive AME Dolphin Dash shoelaces. *Islander Photo: Courtesy Becky Walter*



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Fish stories: Call it the tale of the scale in Florida

Looking for the freshest grouper? The area of the state that hosts the largest number of blue crabs? The most succulent shrimp?

The areas where the largest number of a particular species are landed may not be where you would think.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has released preliminary landing data for 2006. The figures include county-by-county harvest results.

Manatee County takes top honors in one category: bait fish. We had 1,013,180 pounds of bait come across the commercial docks last year. Brevard County, on the east coast, was a distant second with 52,025 pounds.

Red grouper, that restaurant mainstay that you would have expected the Cortez fishers to take the lead on? Wrong again — Manatee came in a distant second to Pinellas County in the grouper grab. Our neighbor to the north hauled in a whopping 2,166,708 pounds of the tasty fish, compared to our fisheries "paltry" 537,573 pounds.

And when it comes to black mullet, the fish that made Cortez great, Manatee County isn't even in the running. Look to Lee County for the biggest catch for the bottom feeder, at 580,738 pounds, followed by Charlotte County just to our south with 277,630 pounds. We saw 105,417 pounds of mullet go on ice here.

There were some surprises in the catch data.

Manatee County leads the state in ladyfish take at 261,689 pounds. Walter Bell of Bell Fish Co. in Cortez said that ladyfish is used to make fish cakes, and is generally shipped to California or Hawaii.

Another big winner in the fish harvest on an unlikely species is Palm Beach County, which at 1,003,287 pounds leads the state in king mackerel catches.

Sharks? You probably thought some place like the Keys or an Atlantic Coast county would have the most catches, and you'd be wrong. Franklin County, in the Panhandle, is the shark capital of the Sunshine State with 389,830 pounds of the big, toothy critter brought ashore last year.

Since Apalachicola is also in Franklin County, it's no surprise that it also leads the state with 1,483,230 pounds of oysters.

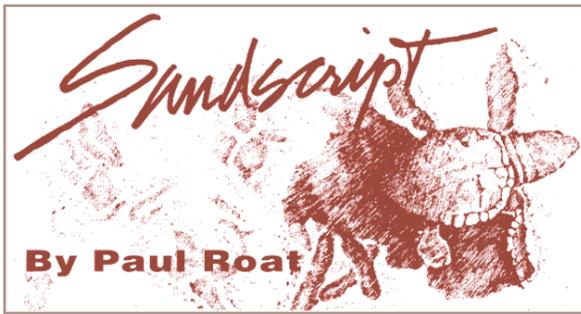
Also not surprising is Monroe County, with the Florida Keys dangling off its coast, as the No. 1 place in the state to catch spiny lobster. Fishers there took in 2,892,401 pounds in 2006.

But the Florida Keys isn't the state leader when it comes to pink shrimp, a delicacy. Bubba Gump would do better to fish off Hillsborough County to take part in the 1,070,956-pound catch, although Monroe is a close second with 1,015,620 pounds.

The Florida Panhandle is the place for blue crabs, too, with Wakulla County harvesting 1,486,991 pounds of the little snapping critters. Citrus County, north of us a bit, is second in blue crab harvesting at 670,799 pounds.

Monroe County leads in stone crab claw take, at 465,734 pounds. Manatee, by comparison, hauled 33,650 pounds out of the traps last year.

All in all, there's lots of good eating coming ashore off Florida's coasts.



Snook comment welcome

FWC officials want to hear from us regarding whether or not further restrictions on snook fishing should be imposed in the state.

"A recent FWC stock assessment for snook concluded the management goal of a 40 percent spawning-potential ratio established for this fishery is not being met, and increasing fishing effort is contributing to the declining rate," according to state officials. Spawning-potential ratio is "the ratio of the egg production of mature fish in a fished population to the egg production that would exist if the population was not fished," they explain.

FWC is holding several workshops in the next few weeks to "review the commission's recent snook stock assessment and consider recommendations that include narrowing the current 27-34 inch slot limit, changing the closed seasons and reducing the Atlantic coast daily bag limit from two fish per day to one fish."

The nearest workshop for Islanders will be held from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 23, at the FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, 100 Eighth Ave. S.E., KAS Auditorium, St. Petersburg.

A decision on any changes will probably be made later this year.

Don't complain after the fact about any rule changes — say your piece now before state officials take action.

Hot fish, dead fish

Global warming is apparently to blame for yet another decline of a species. In this instance, it's a fish in the northern Atlantic Ocean that can't get its heart to pump oxygen-rich blood fast enough to keep it alive.

Scientists have found that populations of the viviparous eelpout *Zoarces viviparus*, a fish that lives in the northern Wadden Sea, "crashed" when water temperatures warmed last year. Apparently, according to the researchers, "the animals' cardiovascular systems were working at the limits of their comfort zone" in the hotter-than-normal water, according to a report in the journal Nature. "As the fishes' metabolism speeds up in higher temperatures, they need more oxygen, but their hearts can't pump fast enough to provide it."

Scientists call that temperature zone a thermal window. The eelpout are reaching that window, and can't make it. Since the fish don't move around much, they apparently can't get it into their little fishy brains to seek out cooler water to the north, so they croak.

"The eelpout will need to shift their thermal window if they are to survive the higher temperatures of their habitat," according to the biologists, "but there is no sign of that happening. They may be able to adapt over long times but the current speed of global warming won't allow that."

We had a similar instance of a species' crash a few years ago. Abnormally cold weather dropped the water temperature in the bays, and hundreds of snook perished. It seems the reverse is holding true for other species that just can't take the heat.

Thinking ahead

There appears to be some reasoned, thoughtful discussions ongoing at the bottom of the planet between environmentalists, scientists and fishers to work out a

solution acceptable to all.

An anchovy fishery has been built off Patagonia, in the southern Pacific Ocean not far from Antarctica. It's been in operation for a few years, and is relatively small with an annual harvest of 30,000 tons of the small fish. At least, by anchovy fishery standards, that's small.

However, there are plans to expand the plant and increase the harvest of the little oily fish. Anchovies are found in more than Caesar salads and an occasional pizza, by the way; they're an important stock of fish farms worldwide.

The problem is that the anchovies are a link at the bottom of a pretty complex food chain. The fish processing plant, and the harvesting of the fish, are right next to the largest colony of Magellanic penguins in the world. The fish is the principal food source for the birds, and the fear is that if the annual take of fish gets too large, it could dramatically impact the birds. "Dramatic," in this instance, means kill them off.

There is some precedent in this matter, according to the journal Nature.

A fish similar to cod, called hake, was a popular catch off Argentina about 20 years ago. The demand increased, the fishery for hake expanded, and pretty soon the hake fishery was declared to be in a state of emergency. While the government dithered, the stocks eventually crashed, a total moratorium on fishing was proclaimed somewhat after the fact, and fishers were put out of business.

Everyone agrees that the fate of the hake fishery should not be repeated with anchovies, and talks are under way now to work out some realistic levels of catch that all can agree upon.

Let's hope some penguins are also invited to the bargaining table.

Sandscript factoid

And in final outright ban news, San Francisco and Oakland officials have outlawed the use of Styrofoam in all establishments that serve food in those cities.

Polystyrene foam has a half-life of something like 100 zillion years, which means that it will probably outlast diamonds as far as history is concerned. It just doesn't seem to degrade, and since it's virtually weightless, it blows everywhere. It also causes serious problems for marine critters if injected.

In an effort to get the nasty stuff off the menu, the California ban carries a hefty fine for food vendors who use Styrofoam. Let's hope some of our elected officials follow the practice in our waterfront environment.

Longboat Key man joins Mote Marine board

Alan Rose of Longboat Key has become a new member of the Mote Marine Board of Trustees.

Rose was formerly a director of Land Investors PLC, a London-based commercial real estate development firm, and is a trustee of the New Amsterdam Charitable Foundation in Sarasota and the Rose Foundation in London.

Rose joined Mote's board after serving for more than 15 years as a volunteer aquarium engineer. He currently assists Mote's aquarium director and helps the organization secure outside grant funding.

"After 15 years as a volunteer for Mote, I wanted to play a more active role in helping the organization make important decisions that affect its future," Rose said. "Joining the board will help me do just that."

Other new members of Mote's board of trustees are Arthur Armitage of Sarasota and Edward Jennings of Palmetto.

Mote Marine is located at 1600 Ken Thompson Parkway in Sarasota, just east of State Road 789.

| Anna Maria Island Tides | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|------|---------------|
| Moon | Date | AM HIGH | AM LOW | PM HIGH | PM LOW | | |
| | Jan 10 | 3:54 | 1.2 | 9:48 | 0.3 | 4:28 | 1.6 11:30 .3 |
| | Jan 11 | 5:33 | 0.9 | 10:13 | 0.6 | 4:59 | 1.7 — — |
| | Jan 12 | 7:53 | 0.9 | 12:44 | 0.0 | 5:35 | 1.8 10:33A .8 |
| | Jan 13 | — | — | 1:53 | -0.2 | 6:18 | 1.9 — — |
| | Jan 14 | — | — | 2:52 | -0.4 | 7:07 | 2.0 — — |
| | Jan 15 | — | — | 3:45 | -0.6 | 8:00 | 2.1 — — |
| | Jan 16 | — | — | 4:32 | -0.8 | 8:53 | 2.2 — — |
| | Jan 17 | — | — | 5:16 | -0.9 | 9:45 | 2.3 — — |

*Cortez High Tides 7 minutes later — lows 1:06 later

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Kingfish show up offshore; reds, sheepies, in bays

By Capt. Mike Heistand

Warm Gulf of Mexico water has produced an odd spurt of kingfish catches offshore. Grouper and snapper fishing remains excellent out there as well.

Spotted trout, sheepshead, redfish and a few catch-and-release snook are good bets for the backwater fishers.

At **Corky's Live Bait and Tackle Shop** on Cortez Road, reports include several sharks at better than 5 feet in length caught off the north end of Anna Maria Island, using frozen bait. Fishers there also caught and released redfish, spotted trout, sheepshead, flounder, ladyfish and whiting on live shrimp. For canal anglers, best bets included sheepshead, redfish, grouper and trout. At the Manatee River, action includes redfish, spotted trout, bluefish, whiting and snook, all caught on live shrimp.

Bill Lowman at **Island Discount Tackle at Catchers Marina** in Holmes Beach said mackerel and kingfish made a surprise showing last week, due in part to the warmer Gulf waters. Grouper and snapper are excellent catches offshore as well. Sheepshead from around the docks, with redfish, top the backwater action.

At the **Rod & Reel Pier**, reports include steady fishing for sheepshead, flounder and whiting.

Jesus Rosario at the **Anna Maria City Pier** said he's seeing lots of sheepshead and mackerel, but only a few catch-and-release snook.

Dave Johnson at **Snead Island Crab House** said reports coming into the shop include catch-and-release snook and redfish from Terra Ceia Bay, lots of mangrove snapper in the cut, and black drum around the



Doubled up on reds

Mike Manassa and Frank Herald caught this pair of redfish while fishing in Anna Maria Sound while on a kayak excursion with Capt. Jim Nelson of Paddle and Cast Kayak Charters.

docks in the Manatee River.

At **Annie's Bait & Tackle** in Cortez, **Capt. Mark Johnson** said he's putting his charters onto lots of redfish and sheepshead. Offshore, **Capt. Sam Kimball** said it's grouper, snapper and some kingfish for his clients.

At **Skyway Bait and Tackle**, reports include sheepshead and snapper from the ship channels in Tampa Bay, and a few redfish caught in Miguel Bay. Snook are around the docks in the upper reaches of Terra Ceia Bay as well.

Capt. Larry McGuire of **Show Me The Fish Charters** said he started out the new year with big gag and red grouper, mangrove snapper, sharks, bonita, triggerfish, hogfish and lots of atypical kingfish to 35 pounds. On a special youth trip with 15-year-old Kristan Vinyard, and 6-year-old Nathan Vinyard, both from Prairie Grove, Ark., hog snapper and 16 kings came to the boat on what was their first-ever saltwater fishing trip. Action was about 35 miles out in the Gulf.

Capt. Zach Zacharias on the **Dee-Jay II** out of **Parrot Cove Marina** said "exceptionally benign weather has certainly made angling pursuits comfortable. When the action has been on, it's really good and, conversely, when it's tough, it's super tough." He said the bulk of his action has been with redfish, sheepshead, and trout — both spotted and gray. He's using live shrimp for the best action. "The reds have been found mostly around dock structure in bayous and canals and running to 24 inches," he said, while sheepshead are in the boat channels where there is hard bottom. Spotted sea trout are in both deep bay seagrass beds and hard bottom along the beaches. He's also catching Spanish

mackerel, pompano, black drum, mangrove snapper, bonita and bluefish.

On my boat **Magic**, we've been catching lots of black drum, whiting, sheepshead to 4 pounds and lots of small snook, plus a few keeper-size redfish.

Good luck and good fishing.

Capt. Mike Heistand is a 30-year-plus fishing guide. Call him at 723-1107 to provide a fishing report. Prints and digital images of your catch are also welcome and may be dropped off at The Islander, 5404 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach, or e-mailed to news@islander.org. Please include identification for persons in the picture along with information on the catch and a name and phone number for more information.

Longboat flotilla schedules boating safety courses

A seven-week course in boating safety will begin Monday, Jan. 15, sponsored by the Longboat Flotilla 82 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and an America's Boating Course will begin Jan. 27.

Both will be at Mote Marine Laboratory on City Island off the south ramp of the New Pass Bridge on City Island. Boaters may register and obtain further information for both courses by calling 378-5620.

"Boating Safety and Seamanship" will be from 6 to 8 p.m. for 13 lessons starting Monday at the Mote Education Center, with a cost of \$40 per person. "America's Boating Course" will start at 9 a.m. on Jan. 27 in the Buchanan Room of Mote Marine Aquarium for \$25 per family.



Good catch

Vic Lemmens, visiting from Antwerp, Belgium, caught this nice-sized grouper while fishing with Capt. Ric Ehlis in Terra Ceia Bay.

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GARAGE SALES

YARD SALE: 9am-noon Saturday, Jan. 13. Roser Thrift Shop. 511 Pine Ave., Anna Maria.

YARD SALE: 8am-5pm Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 12, 13 and 14. Electric adult tricycle, power hand tools, Foreman grill, canvasses, frames, art supplies, boating equipment, lots of miscellaneous stuff. 107 Gull Drive, Anna Maria.

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MOVING SALE: 9am-6pm Friday, Jan. 12, 9am-noon Saturday, Jan. 13. Complete dining and bedroom sets, lots of other furniture, adult clothes, kayak, left hand golf clubs, artwork, housewares, TVs and much more. 520 72nd St., Holmes Beach.

GARAGE SALE: 8am-2pm Friday and Saturday, Jan. 12-13. Adirondack chairs, household, fishing, diving, boat stuff and lots more. 208 Pine Ave., Anna Maria.

SELL it fast with an ad in The Islander.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST DOCUMENTS: 31 pages left in copy machine. Friday, Dec. 15. Reward for return. Home True Value Hardware in Holmes Beach. Call 941-778-3329.

LOST: TWO PAIR OF prescription glasses. Perico Bay area. If found, call 941-761-4988.

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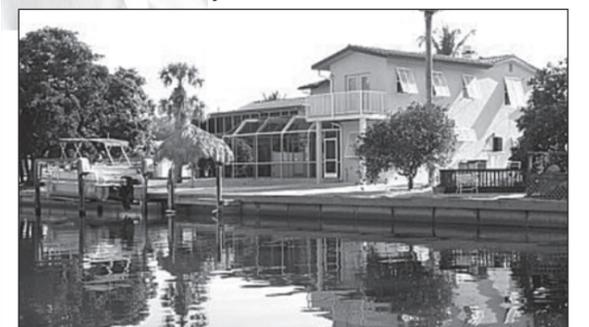
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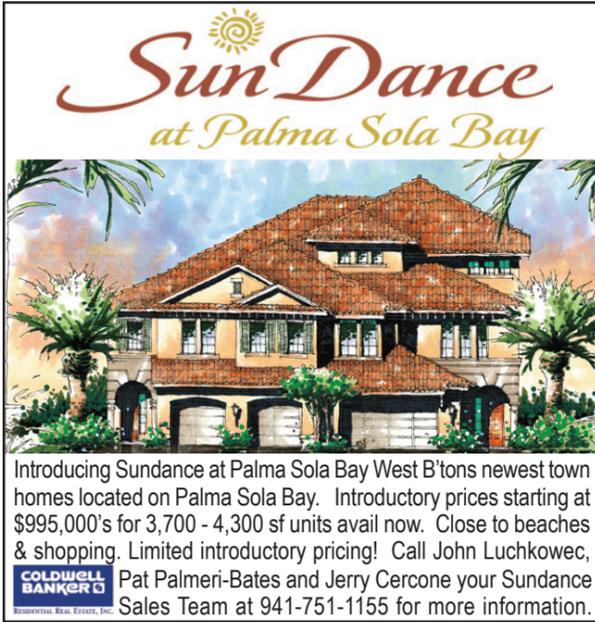
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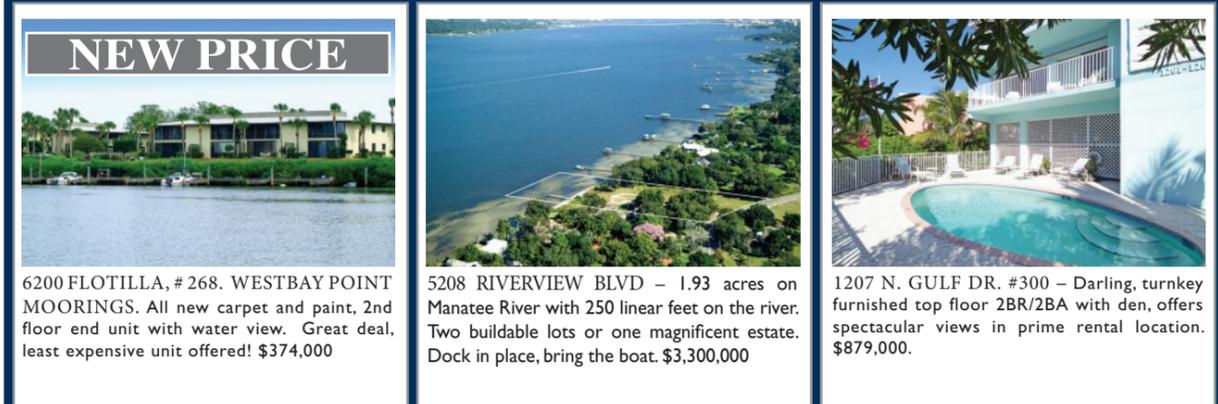


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Smuggler's Landing - 2BR/2BA Remodeled unit with glass enclosed lanai overlooking your 40-foot deep-water boat slip. \$499,000.



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ELEGANT BAYFRONT Magnificent unit recently designer renovated with exquisite features and detail throughout. 2BR/2BA unit with 1,909 sf. Exceptional Gulf to bay complex with private beach, bayside pool/spa, resident manager. Dave Moynihan, 941-720-0089. #534725. \$825,000.

EXCEPTIONAL 2BR/2BA direct Gulf front unit with outstanding views of the Gulf. Totally renovated, new kitchen, baths, windows, appliances, furnishings and much more. Secured elevator, heated pool, tennis court and private garage. Dave Moynihan, 941-720-0089. MLS#543586. \$819,500.

THE SUN RISES AND SETS HERE! Enjoy white sand beaches that stretch for miles, relax around the Gulf front pool. Beautifully decorated unit offers 2BR/2BA, tile throughout, elevator, security entrance, covered parking, and a great rental history to offset expenses. Karen Day, 941-778-2246. MLS#543920. \$749,000.

GULF VIEWS from this immaculate 2BR condo. Enjoy the heated pool in a tropical setting or walk across the street to the sugar sand beach. Turnkey furnished and ready for rentals or your family. Jim Zoff, 941-778-2246. MLS#544099. \$415,000.

BUILT IN 2002 this well maintained 3BR/2BA residence offers a 1,600sf of living area, open floor plan, cathedral ceilings and heated pool. Convenient West Bradenton location and just a few miles to the Gulf beaches. Dave Moynihan, 941-720-0089. MLS#543906. \$379,500.

CORDOVA LAKES HOME. Nice area close to shopping and hospital, G.T. Bray park and beaches. New appliances and air conditioning. Harold Small, 941-778-2246. MLS#543630. \$249,000.

OPEN HOUSE 11am-5pm Sunday. 2207 89th St. NW, Bradenton, River Harbor West. Quiet secluded waterfront community with beach, pool, spa, dock, tennis, clubhouse, spacious, upgraded, wonderful boating lifestyle. Rick Horton, 941-737-6225. MLS#533119. **\$695,000.**

OPEN HOUSE 1-3pm Sunday. 3BR/2BA one year new, lake-view, attached garage, tile roof. Corner upper unit with vaulted ceilings, screened lanai with atrium doors. Clubhouse, heated pool, spa, fitness center. Minutes from beach, walk to shops and restaurants. 6448 7th Ave. Circle. W. Penny Bray, 941-795-6685. MLS# 523475. **\$359,900.**

OPEN HOUSE 1-3pm, Sunday. Runaway Bay. Great bay view, ground-level condo mid-Island. Updated, turnkey furnished. Private Gulf entrance with largest heated pool on Island. Work out room and tennis courts. 1801 Gulf Drive N. #190, Bradenton Beach. Jim Zoff, 941-447-7747. MLS#541405. **\$469,900.**

OPEN HOUSE 1-3pm, Sunday. 3BR/2BA 1,890 sf pool home, dock & covered boat lift. No bridges to bay. 4908 Mangrove Pt. Rd., Coral Shores, Bradenton. Anne Miller, 941-920-0451. MLS#535474. **\$789,000.**

ISLAND TOWNHOMES Four spacious town homes with unobstructed views of the Gulf. Each upgraded unit offers 2BR/2BA. Open floor plan. Four balconies. Furnished. Dave Moynihan, 941-778-2246. MLS#511527. **\$2,995,000.**

A RARE FIND! Anna Maria Gulf front lot. Becky Smith or Elfi Starrett, 941-778-2246. MLS#504998. **\$2,000,000.**

LONGBOAT KEY WATERFRONT Key West-style home on sailboat water. Boatlift, open floor plan, four-car garage, workout room and 30-foot screened balcony. Becky Smith or Elfi Starrett, 941-778-2246. MLS#520397. **\$1,099,000.**

RUNAWAY BAY Condos now available several 1 or 2BR units, some updated. Bayfront, poolside, pond, fountain and greenbelt views all available. Park-like setting, fishing pier. Active clubhouse with pool, tennis court, and workout room. Liberal use and rental policy, on-site rental management. 941-778-2246. **\$314,000 to \$499,900.**

READY FOR THE NEW YEAR, with new air conditioner, heat pump and new appliances. Near hospital, shopping and G. T. Bray Park! Harold Small, 941-778-2246. MLS#543632. **\$249,000.**

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ISLANDER CLASSIFIEDS

RENTALS Continued

ANNUAL OR MONTH-to-month: 4BR Island family home in quiet residential area. Bayfront with direct water view. Perfect for family with children. Extra large balcony, covered parking, laundry room with washer and dryer. Park setting, two blocks to Gulf beaches. Fully furnished. \$2,500/month annual, \$3,200 month-to-month. Pets considered. Call 941-704-2993.

WATERFRONT: DOCK WITH davits. Short walk to beach, washer and dryer, carport, storage Quiet location. \$1,000/month. 727-784-3679. Bradenton Beach.

ANNUAL 2BR/1BA: AIR conditioning, washer and dryer, water, large pool, cable. Parking only 200 steps to beach. First and deposit. \$950/month. 941-779-1586.

FOR RENT: 2BR/2BA balcony, Gulf view. \$950/month, \$900 deposit, \$50 application fee. 2411 Ave. C., Bradenton Beach. Efficiency, \$750/month includes utilities. \$700 deposit, \$50 application fee. 112, 52nd St., No.1, Holmes Beach. Seasonally, 1BR Gulf view, cute and clean, \$900/week or \$2,400/month. Call 941-746-8666.

CORTEZ COTTAGE: QUIET area. Fully furnished, walk to water. Two people only, no smokers. \$1,700/month includes utilities. 941-794-5980. www.divefish.com.

ANNUAL LARGE 1BR/1BA. Screened lanai, laundry room, garage. No pets, no smoking. \$950/month plus utilities. 941-778-9710 or 847-530-8833.

SEASONAL RENTAL: PALMA Sola Park. 3BR/2BA, like new, fresh and clean. Small pet OK, close to beaches. Available January and April. \$2,000/month. 941-778-5445.

SEASONAL RENTAL: Westbay Point and Moorings. Bayfront 2BR/2BA, all amenities, close to beach, shopping and trolley. Sharon, Old Florida Realty, 941-713-9096.

ANNUAL 3BR/2BA: TROPICAL duplex, one block to beach, washer and dryer, some utilities included. No Smoking or pets. \$950/month and \$700 deposit. 941-798-9765. Responsible persons only.

SEASONAL: JANUARY, FEBRUARY. Clean 2BR elevated unit, one block to beach. Newly remodeled with laundry. \$575/weekly, \$1,975/monthly. 941-807-5449.

ANNUAL RENTALS: 2BR/2BA home, Anna Maria, \$1,350/month. 2BR/2BA home, Holmes Beach, \$1,200/month. 2BR/2BA apartment, Anna Maria, \$875/month. 1BR/1BA, new tile and paint, \$775/month. Fran Maxon Real Estate, 941-778-2307. www.franmaxonrealestate.com.

OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE: 1,200 sf, available Jan.1, 2007. Former Wicked Candle. 8819 Cortez Road. 1-800-952-1206.

ISLAND CASTLE: FABULOUS French Normandy home. 4BR/3BA on best beach and quiet street in Anna Maria. 941-794-8202.

WINTER GETAWAY: 1BR across from beach, newly remodeled, all appliances, screened porch, Internet, cable. For pictures, look on www.beachesndreams.net. Call 1-513-236-5091.

SMITH REALTORS: LONGBOAT Key 2BR/12BA duplex on canal. Newly renovated. 941-778-0770. www.smithrealtors.com.

WINTER RENTAL: BRADENTON Beach. 1BR/1BA condo on bay, across Gulf Drive to beach. Walk to downtown Bradenton Beach. Heated pool, turnkey, cable, dishwasher, and utilities. Three-month minimum, \$1,500/month. No pets or smoking. 407-877-7866, or mokie7@yahoo.com.

ANNUAL HOLMES BEACH: Elevated 2BR/2BA house. New decor. Enclosed garage. Two blocks to beach. Call 941-713-2150.

DEEP DISCOUNT FOR last-minute travel to beautiful town of Anna Maria. Quaint Island cottage steps to beach. 203-454-0573.

NORTHWEST BRADENTON annual rental: Great 2BR/2BA home, one block from Palma Sola Bay. Minutes to beaches. \$1,300/month plus utilities. Call Maureen at 941-778-0542 or 941-778-0455.

LAKEFRONT, FISHING, ONE block to beach. Elevated duplex, enormous 1BR2BA, two-car garage, laundry area, Sub-Zero refrigerator, Jennaire stove, extra, extra nice. \$1,595/month, yearly. 941-962-4933.

ACTIVE 55-PLUS 2BR/2BA annual rental. Heated pool, clubhouse. \$850/month plus utilities. Call Ursula Stemm of Century 21 Alliance, 941-778-5352.

ANNA MARIA: VERY attractive remodeled house. 150 feet from Gulf. Several weeks available. Call 941-778-7933.

GULFFRONT: 1BR, second-floor condo on the beach, walk to shopping and restaurants. \$650/week, \$2,400/month. 941-713-1983.

MORE CLASSIFIEDS equals more readers.

RENTALS Continued

ANNA MARIA ISLAND Club rental available for January and February 2007/08. Totally remodeled unit, nonsmoking. Two-week minimum. 813-781-7562.

ANNUAL HOLMES BEACH 2BR/1BA: Secluded, fenced yard, separate locked storage. \$850/month includes water, sewer and trash pick up. First and deposit. 941-778-5391.

HOLMES BEACH: Annual 2BR/1BA, large yard, steps to beach, convenient. \$875/month including garbage and yard service. 941-778-2113.

ANNUAL RENTAL: Brand-new 3BR/2BA, Wisteria Park. Maintenance-free living. Community pool, cable and internet, lanai, washer and dryer, two-car garage. \$1,975/month. Northwest Bradenton. 802-295-7613.

MIRROR LAKE: NEXT to IMG Academy. Sensational 2BR/2BA condo tastefully furnished overlooking lake. Washer and dryer, cable and DSL. Jan. 15-Feb. 15 \$2,500. Feb. 15-March 15 \$2,800. March 15-April 15 \$2,000. 941-587-1456.

HOLMES BEACH 1BR/1BA apartment. Close to bay, includes water, trash, cable, high-speed Internet, washer and dryer. \$795/month. Available Jan 15. 949-813-4900.

TWO BAYFRONT SUPER nice apartments available. See at <http://www.webspawner.com/users/cherieflagg/index.html>.

HOLMES BEACH: SIX-month or annual. Roomy, furnished 1BR duplex, covered parking, steps to beach. \$800/month plus utilities. 941-538-8200.

SEASONAL: ANNA MARIA house. 3BR/3BA, 300 feet from Gulf with Gulf views. Great central location, completely furnished. Available monthly January through May. \$2,800/month. 813-832-5899 or mwhite11@hotmail.com.

FURNISHED HOUSE: 2BR/2BA, two-car garage, walk to beach. Seasonal rental cancellation, available Jan. 13. 2805 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach. 941-545-8488.

PREMIER WATERFRONT 2BR/2BA condo in Riviera Dunes Laguna with 40-foot boat dock. Annual or vacation rental. Call John Luchkowec, Coldwell Banker, at 941-350-4326.

BRADENTON BEACH ANNUAL rental: 1BR, 50 feet from beach. Back yard, washer and dryer. \$795/month. 2204 Ave. C. 216-469-2857.

WINTER RENTALS: February rentals starting at \$2,200/month. March rentals starting at \$2,500/month. Call Fran Maxon Real Estate, 941-778-2307.

SMITH REALTORS, 941-778-0770. Seasonal rentals: 2BR/1BA condo with pool, three-month minimum, \$1,850/month. 1BR/1BA condo with pool, \$1,950/month. 2BR/2BA condo with pool on bay, \$3,800/month. 3BR/2BA condo on Gulf, \$3,700/month. 2BR/1BA condo on canal, \$2,450/month. 4BR/2BA home with pool, \$3,800/month. 3BR/2BA home on canal, \$3,000/month. 2BR/2BA home, close to beach, \$3,100/month. 3BR/2BA home, one block from beach, \$4,400/month. 2BR/2BA home, Jacuzzi, on golf course, \$3,400/month. 3BR/2BA home with pool, on golf course, \$3,800/month. 2BR/1BA duplex, two blocks from beach, \$1,800/month. 2BR/2BA duplex, \$2,900/month. 2BR/1BA duplex, Gulf front. \$2,850/month. Smith Realtors, 941-778-0770.

ANNUAL HOLMES BEACH 2BR/2BA steps to beach and close to shopping and restaurants. Large deck and laundry. Small or medium pets welcome. \$875/month. 941-778-0837 or 941-704-4591.

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ISLANDER CLASSIFIEDS

RENTALS Continued

VILLAGE GREEN: MINUTES to beaches. 2BR/2BA, two-car garage. Large screened lanai, good schools, close to shopping. \$1,195/month. 941-720-2804.

ANNUAL: HOLMES BEACH 2BR/2BA, two-story. Large garage and great home office with separate entrance. Remodeled with new appliances, granite counters and tile floors. Close to beach. Call 941-545-6118.

LAKESIDE ANNUAL: 2BR/2BA over carport, near beach. All amenities, washer and dryer, lanai and deck. No pets. \$1,200/month. First and last. 941-952-592.

LONGBOAT KEY: ST. Jude Street north. 2BR/1BA remodeled canal house, screened porch, carport. Annual, \$995/month. 941-778-7293.

2BR/2BA ANNUAL: \$1,300/month. First, last and security, or 1BR/1BA annual, \$900/month. First, last and security. Background check, pet OK, heated pool, washer and dryer, fenced, yard care, cable, no smoking. 201-A Peacock Lane or 202-A Haverkos Court. 941-720-1006.

2BR/2BA CONDO on Anna Maria Island with beautiful Gulf views. Monthly, weekly or seasonal rentals. 941-721-4789. www.annamaria-rental.com.

BRADENTON BEACH WATERFRONT complex. 1-2BR units. 941-779-9074.

GULFFRONT CONDO: 2BR/2BA available April 2007 due to cancellation. Great view, pool, tennis, elevators. Walk to restaurants, shopping, etc. 941-778-6288.

CLEAN, TURNKEY 2BR/1BA doublewide mobile home. 55-plus community. Sandpiper Resort #200. \$300/week, \$1,200/month. 941-920-0868.

ANNUAL DUPLEX: ATTRACTIVE 2BR/2BA. Dishwasher, washer and dryer hookups, Florida room, carport and is close to the beach. No pets. \$1,000/month. Dolores M. Baker Realty, 941-778-7500.

SEASONAL RENTAL: MARTINIQUE condo. \$3,600/month, 2BR/2BA Gulf front unit. Heated pool, tennis, elevator, garage. Close to shopping and restaurants. Call Carla Price, 941-720-8746. Bark and Company Realty Inc.

SPACIOUS, FURNISHED 2BR/1BA with screened porch for rent. View of the Sunshine Skyway Bridge. 100 steps to beach. Seasonal or annual rentals starting at \$1,400 month. Call 941-747-3321.

SEASONAL OR WEEKLY cottage-style rentals. 1BR/1BA or 2BR/1BA with pool. Walk to beach, shopping, restaurants. 941-778-3426. Web site 2spinnakers.com.

ANNUAL HOLMES BEACH large 3BR/2BA duplex. \$1,000/month. First, last and security. 941-778-7812.

REAL ESTATE

WATERFRONT PROPERTY 2BR/2BA open-plan with great views of Tampa Bay. Canal front, walking distance to beach and restaurants. \$739,000. 941-779-1512.

FOR SALE BY owner: Best value on the Island! 2BR/2BA, one-car garage, gourmet kitchen, new windows, updated baths and more. Two blocks from beach. \$615,000. 941-778-8677. 406 Bay Palms Drive, Holmes Beach.

3BR/2BA: One bedroom used as a den/office/playroom, enclosed lanai, tiled with carpeted bedrooms. 1,400 sf, county water/sewer, citrus trees, near Brentwood school in Sarasota. Reduced to \$274,900. 941-379-4196 or 941-954-7474.

REAL ESTATE Continued

LOT FOR SALE: One block to Gulf. 50x100 feet, cleared. \$539,000. 215 71st St., Holmes Beach. (941) 778-4036.

BAYVIEW AND CANALFRONT with pool. 2BR/2BA open plan, new kitchen. Totally upgraded. Dock, three davits. Owner motivated. Not a drive-by, must see inside! By owner. Call Herb Dolan, 941-705-4454. 404 21st Place. Bradenton Beach.

ALMOST ISLAND HOME: Adorable 1BR/1BA. Brand new furnished, bay windows with water view. Hurricane Force-3 manufactured home. One mile from Anna Maria Island and one block from Intracoastal Waterway with new marina and boat ramp. Land owned. Home owner's association optional. \$159,900. 941-224-6521.

TRIPLEX: IDEAL LOCATION WITH great appeal. Beautifully updated and maintained, new roof, turnkey furnished. Beach access just steps away, bay views, boat dock, ample parking, great income rental. Room for a pool. Convenient to restaurants and shopping. \$875,000. 111 8th St. S., Bradenton Beach. Bridget Spies, ReMax Properties, 941-308-6763. MSL# 313022.

WEST BRADENTON: OPEN noon-4pm Sunday. Six months condo fees paid! Free-standing, private three-bedroom upgraded condo with two-car garage, new lanai. Call for details, 941-792-0763. \$309,900. 5605 Whipperwill Ct. off 59th Street West, Tanglewood.

OPEN HOUSE: 1-4pm Sunday: New home, 3,746 sf 3-4BR/3BA, granite/cherry kitchen, three screened verandas. \$829,000. Horizon Realty, 941-725-7000. 303 58th St., Holmes Beach.

BY OWNER, PURCHASE or lease: Manatee riverfront condo, 2BR/2BA, beautiful views, pool, gated, covered parking, fitness. \$325,000 or \$1,050/month. 941-720-0092.

DUPLEX ON LARGE lot, 90x108 feet. Second lot east of Gulf Drive in north Holmes Beach resort area. Annual tenants in place, includes well-known Island architect's plans for complete remodel. \$885,000. 941-704-7729.

NEW LAKEFRONT CONDOS: Low \$300s. Minutes to beach, no flood, evacuation zone. Hidden Lake Real Estate, 941-761-0444. www.HiddenLakeCondominiums.com.

ISLAND CANAL LOT: 75x100 feet, new dock, priced to sell quickly. Below market and appraised value, \$550,000. Call Jake, 941-544-7786. 108 Gull Drive, Anna Maria.

BRADENTON BEACH: 2BR/2BA elevated with covered parking. View of bay from large covered porch. Only two blocks to Gulf, great neighborhood. \$350,000. 941-778-3875.

FOR SALE BY owner: Deep-water canal ranch, \$550,000. Nicely remodeled with granite countertops, tile flooring, and more. Call Scott Wheeler at 614-207-7878, or e-mail scott@scottincolumbus.com.

BRADENTON BEACH BY owner: 2BR/2BA end unit with full Gulf views. Kitchen has stainless-steel appliances, granite counters, nice turnkey furnished. Two large balconies. Amenities include boat docks, tennis court, pool with spa. \$629,000. 941-388-5238.

BY OWNER: 2BR/1.5BA condo. Bath and kitchen need update. \$399,999. 863-412-2612. www.cflrealestateonline.com/condo. 5400 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach.

DIRECT WATERFRONT: Latchkey. 65A Cortez Park, Avenue D. 941-779-CAIN.

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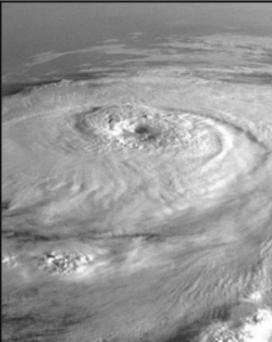
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ISLANDER CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE Continued

NON-EVACUATION/NON-flood area: 3BR/2BA, two-car garage. Village Green, quiet street, minutes to beaches, shopping, doctors, hospitals. Tile floors, bedrooms carpeted, screened lanai. \$297,000. 941-794-1640.

GULFFRONT CONDOS: 3BR/2BA, 2BR/2BA, 1BR/1BA with breathtaking views. Pools, Jacuzzi, walk to shops and restaurants. Available weekly, monthly, seasonal. 901-301-8299, or e-mail captko462@aol.com.

BRAND NEW 2BR/2BA villa with garage. Only \$89/month fee. \$225,000. Bill, 941-518-9300.

ISLAND HOME REDUCED: For sale by owner. Holmes Beach 3BR, deep-water canal, pool, boat dock, many upgrades. \$799,000. Call 941-778-6474.

RENT-TO-OWN: 2BR1BA, west Bradenton, newly remodeled. \$995/month. www.44smart.com. 941-447-6278.

LOT: 57.75X114 FEET. One block from beach. \$520,000. Call 941-779-4505 or 941-778-4246. 125 Neptune Lane, Holmes Beach.

BEST DEAL ON Holmes Beach, hands down. Divorce forces quick sale at \$399,000. Adorable beach duplex sold turnkey furnished. Good rental history with tenants in place. Updated with ceramic tile, new kitchen cabinets and low-maintenance landscape. Call Karen Neal at L.Wells Realty, 941-737-7653.

BRADENTON BEACH MOBILE home: Bay view updated, cozy 1BR in the Pines Park. Turnkey furnished, boat slip included. \$45,000. 941-962-8220.

GULF VIEWS FROM this newer 2,500-sf 3BR/3BA over garage. Pool, elevator, wood and carpet floors. Numerous upgrades. Owner will lease back. 206 66th St., Holmes Beach. 941-779-9093.

BEAUTIFUL TURNKEY FURNISHED unit in Perico Bay Club. A 3BR/2BA end unit, cathedral ceilings, new appliances, glass-enclosed lanai, water views, 24-hour security at gate. Nicely priced at \$355,000. Jill Sullivan, Keller Williams, 941-232-9783.

REAL ESTATE Continued

MOTIVATED SELLER: ANNA Maria City. 4BR/3BA elevated home. 2,220 sf living area, 4,380 sf air conditioned under roof. Zoned single-family. Residential office, retail, compare at over \$725,000. Offers. 941-773-0706.

PERICO BAY CLUB: Open house, 10am-4pm Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 13-14. Villa, Grand Cayman. 1,601 sf, Neal Community builder. Two-car garage, 2BR/2BA, den, patio, overlooking canal, great view, lanai, deck, mirrors. Built-ins, many upgrades. Tennis courts, clubhouse. One mile from beach, pools, gated entrance, security guards. \$475,000. 941-962-6117.

CPR: DON'T STRESS out over your property management fees. Low rates and tiered services. Now accepting new rental properties. Call Suzanne, 941-962-0971, or www.coastalpropertiesrealty.com. http://www.coastalpropertiesrealty.com.

PERICO BAY CLUB: 3BR/2BA with full bay views! Granite countertops, 20-inch porcelain tile, carpet, custom closets, plantation shutters, designer furnishings and more. \$584,500. 859-265-8644.

PERICO ISLAND BY owner: Single 3BR/2BA home, beautifully decorated and maintained. Wide-open views overlooking preserve from heated, caged pool. Buyers agents, 3 percent. \$472,000. 941-794-8360.

WONDERFUL BRADENTON BEACH home: 6BR/4BA, 1.5 blocks from beach. Over 4,000 sf, garage, carport, patio with option to duplex. Live-in or rent. \$720,000. 941-545-5381.

CANAL HOME: PRIME location, listed thousands under appraised value, 3BR/3BA, dock, boatlift, new seawall, large lot. \$830,000. Weichert Realtors, Richard Taylor, broker, 941-756-6300.

SAN REMO: DEEP-WATER canalfront just 10 minutes to the Gulf with no bridges! This beautiful 3BR/3BA home has been completely remodeled. Two master suites and giant pool with privacy hedge. Nearly everything new, this home is a must see! Owner says make an offer! Call Jonathan Fasel, By The Sea Realty, 941-720-5420.

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NORTH CAROLINA MOUNTAIN view, lots. Top views start at \$50,000. Amenities include club, pool, equestrian facilities, hiking trails and high-speed Internet. One-half to 3.5-acre sites. www.highlandmountainproperties.com Call 888-625-8950 today!

NO STATE INCOME tax. Low property taxes, Four seasons, southern hospitality, Tennessee lakefronts starting under \$100,000. Views, properties from \$25,000. Lakeside Realty, 888-291-5253. www.lakesiderealty-tn.com 1248.

BEAUTIFUL NORTH CAROLINA: Winter season is here! Must see beautiful peaceful western North Carolina mountains, homes, cabins, acreage and investments. Cherokee Mountain Realty, GMAC Real Estate. cherokeemountainrealty.com. Call for free brochure, 800-841-5868.

LAKES OF DELAND: 55-plus gated community. Lakefront living at its best! www.lakesofdeland.com. Models open daily 11am to 5pm. 386-290-HOME, ext. 4663.

2,000 FEET OF LARGE trout creek: Two large barns, 22 acres, \$349,900. Great horse farm, private trout stream. Great low rate, long-term financing. Call owner directly. 877-777-4837.

LAKE ACCESS BARGAIN One-plus acres, \$34,900 with free boat slips! Rare opportunity to own land on spectacular 160,000-acre recreational lake! Mature oak and hickory, park-like setting with lake access. Paved road, underground utilities. Excellent financing. Prime waterfronts available. Call now, 800-704-3154, ext. 916.

RARE! DIRECT NATIONAL forest frontage 17 acres, \$199,900. Five minutes to Appalachian Trail. Big mountain views. Heavily forested, mature hardwoods. Access to private stocked trout stream. Call immediately, only one. 877-777-4837.

SOUTH CENTRAL FLORIDA. Owner says sell! Five acres, \$99,000. 50 percent below recent certified appraisal. Unbelievable opportunity to own five acres of meadows and woods in excellent location. 50 percent off recent appraisal! Great financing. Call now, 866-352-2249, ext. 1097.

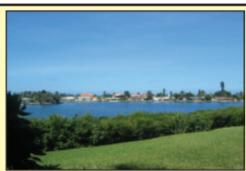
VIRGINIA MOUNTAINS: LARGE five-acre tract along very wide trout stream with private elevated homesite. Secluded, great view, trees, nearby river, \$59,500. Owner, 866-789-8535.



SPECTACULAR Key West-style home with breathtaking views of Bimini Bay, only short walk to white sandy beaches. Deep water with no bridges to Gulf and 9,000 lb. boatlift at your back door. Boat included, 22-foot GRADY WHITE with trailer.



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New York Times Sunday Magazine Crossword

FILM PARADE BY ELIZABETH C. GORSKI / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Note: When this puzzle has been completed, the following answers will form a progression: 76A, 10D, 112A, 22A, 51A, 15D, 37A, 86D, 97A, 62D and 131A.

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Sharp competitor</p> <p>4 "Do ___ to eat a peach?": Eliot</p> <p>9 German link</p> <p>12 Represent, as in legal matters</p> <p>18 Ectomorphic</p> <p>19 Worker with a chair</p> <p>20 Be a make-up artist?</p> <p>21 Red fluorescent dye: Var.</p> <p>22 1954 film set in 16th-century Japan</p> <p>24 Old cable inits.</p> <p>25 They may get into a jam</p> <p>26 Low digits</p> <p>27 Elite groups</p> <p>29 About</p> <p>30 Many garden plantings</p> <p>32 Most broad?</p> <p>34 Wide shoe spec</p> <p>37 1981 Alan Alda comedy, with "The"</p> <p>42 Underground network</p> <p>43 Diplomat Silas</p> <p>45 Flip (out)</p> <p>46 Jubilant</p> <p>48 Barely beat</p> <p>49 Director Welles</p> <p>50 Stockholm flier</p> <p>51 1982 Dudley Moore tearjerker</p> <p>54 British gun</p> | <p>55 In a sardonic way</p> <p>56 Blood line</p> <p>57 Goldman ___</p> <p>59 Pre-Q queue</p> <p>60 Some accents</p> <p>63 Bad beginning?</p> <p>66 Prof.'s helpers</p> <p>67 More manly-chested</p> <p>70 Charged</p> <p>71 "Yeah, that'll happen!"</p> <p>73 "All the Things You Are" composer</p> <p>74 Avian meat</p> <p>75 Wordsworth works</p> <p>76 1983 Charles Bronson thriller</p> <p>79 Symbol</p> <p>80 Fed. medical research group</p> <p>81 Fey of "30 Rock"</p> <p>82 Supremos</p> <p>83 QB Favre</p> <p>84 Child's activity?</p> <p>86 Candy holder</p> <p>87 Madrid Mrs.</p> <p>88 Browns slowly</p> <p>90 Roman man</p> <p>91 "___ new?"</p> <p>93 Fights</p> <p>94 Pang</p> <p>96 Tale</p> <p>97 1990 sequel to "Chinatown," with "The"</p> <p>101 Half of a 1955 merger: Abbr.</p> <p>104 January 1 events</p> <p>105 Colorado Indian</p> <p>106 Ghost</p> <p>107 Instruments with keys</p> <p>109 Off</p> | <p>110 Christopher who wrote "Still Me"</p> <p>112 1988 baseball flick</p> <p>115 Emeritus: Abbr.</p> <p>116 In an odd way</p> <p>119 Magazine success</p> <p>120 Cart</p> <p>122 Subscription card option</p> <p>127 Feminine suffix</p> <p>128 The Caribbean's ___ Islands</p> <p>130 Suffix with glass</p> <p>131 1987 Peter Falk crime caper</p> <p>133 "Quantum Healing" author</p> <p>134 Some linemen: Abbr.</p> <p>135 Heraldic silver</p> <p>136 Towel embroidery</p> <p>137 Reasons</p> <p>138 Summer clock setting: Abbr.</p> <p>139 Entangle</p> <p>140 Gridiron figs.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DOWN</p> <p>1 Incomes</p> <p>2 Pause in verse</p> <p>3 Cape ___, Mass.</p> <p>4 "___ Said" (Neil Diamond hit)</p> <p>5 Knock out, say</p> <p>6 Start of a spell</p> <p>7 Tail end</p> <p>8 "Love Story" author Segal</p> <p>9 Last month</p> <p>10 1995 Hugh Grant farce</p> <p>11 Rock stats</p> <p>12 Auspices</p> | <p>13 With 81-Down, tradition suggested by this puzzle's theme</p> <p>14 Bygone despot</p> <p>15 1970 Jack Nicholson picture</p> <p>16 ___ lark</p> <p>17 Thing in court</p> <p>18 Original title of Beethoven's "Fidelio"</p> <p>19 Rafter's wood</p> <p>22 Crooks</p> <p>23 Dover delicacy</p> <p>28 Not liquidy</p> <p>31 Begins courting</p> <p>33 Cable staple since 1979</p> <p>35 Organic compound</p> <p>36 Choosing-up word</p> <p>38 "___ needle pulling thread" ("The Sound of Music" lyric)</p> <p>39 Flamenco cheer</p> <p>40 Rob Roy's refusal</p> <p>41 Co. shares</p> <p>44 Overthrowing, e.g.</p> <p>47 Twisty curve</p> <p>52 Temper</p> <p>53 Old IBM PC's</p> <p>54 Price reader</p> <p>56 Turkish V.I.P.'s</p> <p>58 Feuding (with)</p> <p>59 Gas station adjunct, often</p> <p>60 It may go for a couple of bucks</p> <p>61 Dashboard feature</p> <p>62 1932 romance with Maurice Chevalier</p> <p>63 Actor with a mohawk</p> |
|--|---|---|---|

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 64 Kind of harp | 79 It's surrounded by white | 95 Instruction to a chauffeur | 113 1545 council site |
| 65 Elegy | 81 See 13-Down | 96 Gagarin in space | 114 No more than |
| 67 Laugh sound | 83 Some cricketers | 98 Golf's Michelle | 117 Arm parts |
| 68 Not play it straight | 85 Popular smokes | 99 "... ___ quit!" | 118 Jewish orgs. |
| 69 Peewees | 86 1999 film set in the Persian Gulf | 100 Springy dance | 121 Concert gear |
| 71 Kind of test | 88 ___ choy | 101 Joint proprietors | 123 Bring in |
| 72 War stat | 89 Parisian way | 102 Cold-blooded pets | 124 Org. for women drivers |
| 73 Metric wts. | 91 Flamingo, e.g. | 103 Horse handler | 125 Copycat |
| 76 Baseball's Martinez | 92 Speedway letters | 106 Unload | 126 Actress Daly |
| 77 Part of E.S.L.: Abbr. | 93 Huge financial loss | 108 Like a Cyclops | 128 Junk bond rating |
| 78 Bank offering | 94 It'll give you a lift | 111 Most loathsome | 129 "I see!" |
| | | | 132 "___ me?" |

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