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# The Islander

Anna Maria



Flag football, page 24.

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## Insurance: Questions raised about governor's rate freeze

By Molly McCartney  
Islander Reporter

Here's another twist in the ongoing insurance drama:

Worried that the insurance industry might try to find a way around the new insurance reform law, Gov. Charlie Crist persuaded the Florida Cabinet to pass an emergency rule last week to prevent cancellations and rate hikes through the end of the hurricane season.

"We've seen over and over again where this indus-

try will take advantage of people," the governor said.

But the sudden and surprising Cabinet action has triggered a round of questions from policyholders who received cancellation notices before the freeze but who have not yet lost their coverage.

They want to know whether the freeze helps them.

These questions had both state representatives from Manatee County scrambling over the weekend to get answers for constituents about the impact of the

Cabinet's rule.

Rep. Ron Reagan said he had asked the state's Office of Insurance Regulation to get answers for him so he could respond to the questions he was getting.

"This is a huge issue, and I need more information on what it means," Reagan said.

The same questions came up Wednesday night at a Bradenton meeting hosted by Manatee County Commissioner Jane von Hahmann where state Rep. Bill Gal-

PLEASE SEE INSURANCE, PAGE 3



### Golfing for the cure

Women golfers walk toward their first tee-off in the Fore the Cure fundraiser for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation at the Key Royale Club, 700 Key Royale Drive in Holmes Beach Jan. 30. For more information, see page 24. Islander Photo: Lisa Neff

## Trail draws residents' ire due to pine tree removal

By Paul Roat

Construction began last week on the long-anticipated Coquina Beach Trail, a meandering 8-foot-wide asphalt pathway that will run along the west side of Gulf Drive between the parking lots and beach from Fifth Street South to the Longboat Bridge in Bradenton Beach.

And nearby residents are fuming.

Manatee County has taken the lead in the 1.3-mile-long project, and preliminary plans called for the removal of some 40 Australian pine trees to make way for the path.

However, residents said that at least 66 trees have been removed, and they said that it appears that 90 pines are earmarked for removal — and most of them appear to be along Cortez Beach, denuding the shady parking area.

"The charm of the area is in the Australian pines," said Gail Blackmore, who with her husband Robin lives on Ninth Street South. "It seems sad. They aren't native, but there are lots of things in Florida that aren't native."

"We're upset about the removal of the pines," said Robin Blackmore. "Could it be possible to adjust the path so those not in danger of falling could be retained?" he asked the Bradenton Beach City Commission last Thursday.

Probably not, said Mayor John Chappie.

"This has been in the planning stages for several years," he said. "Some of the trees will be replaced with cabbage palms, native plants, and they're trying not to take down a lot of the pines, especially at Cortez Beach."

Chappie said he would contact the Manatee County Parks and Recreation Department to see if a path realignment could keep more of the trees.

Manatee County Parks Project Manager Tom Yarger

said original plans called for 37 pines to be removed. He confirmed that 66 trees would have to be taken down. "Not all of the trees are in the Cortez Beach area," he said, "but a lot of them are, unfortunately."

He said that the trail configuration was somewhat constrained, and to keep parking at the public beach, the extra tree removal was required.

However, Yarger said he hoped to draw trees from a special "tree trust fund" within Manatee County to

replace native Florida shade trees in the areas where the pines have been removed after the project has been completed.

Billy Hay Excavating is doing the work, which besides the path will include bike racks, water fountains, benches, bollards and rope in some locations to keep vehicles and pathway patrons separated.

Cost of the project has been estimated to be about \$392,000.



### Coming down

Workers with Billy Hay Excavating were busy last week removing Australian pine trees from Cortez Beach in preparation of a multi-use trail that will be constructed from Fifth Street South to the Longboat Bridge in Bradenton Beach. Residents have objected to the number of trees "sacrificed." Islander Photo: Paul Roat

# Anna Maria Elementary bids Hayes farewell

By Diana Bogan  
Islander Reporter

Anna Maria Elementary School students packed the auditorium Wednesday, Jan. 31, for a surprise celebration for Principal Kathy Hayes, who has left AME for Gullet Elementary School.

Hayes had just returned from a school district lunch when she was called to the auditorium on an "emergency," having no idea students and staff had assembled there to end her last day with a special celebration.

As Hayes entered, students holding signs saying "Goodbye" written in more than 400 languages greeted her. Taking a seat center stage, Hayes was greeted by AME School Advisory Committee Chairperson Michael Pierce and AME Parent-Teacher Organization President Shannon Dell, who made brief statements.

Pierce noted that Hayes has been a wonderful multitasker, someone who can "wear out a Blackberry [cell



## Good luck, good-bye

Anna Maria Elementary School students surprised Principal Kathy Hayes with a farewell celebration Jan. 31, her last day at the Island school. As Hayes entered the auditorium, she was greeted by a sea of posters with "Goodbye" written in more than 400 languages. *Islander Photos: Diana Bogan*



## Hugs and good wishes

Each AME student cast a wish for Principal Kathy Hayes during a farewell celebration held Wednesday, Jan. 31. Each student was given a piece of sea glass to wish upon and place inside a large vase containing some sand and a candle to remind Hayes, who transferred Feb. 1 to Gullet Elementary School, of her time on the Island.

phone]," he joked, and that she has helped the school achieve "one great thing after another."

Dell extended her appreciation on behalf of the PTO. "You have been a great leader and role model. You've left an imprint that will not soon be forgotten," she told Hayes.

Hayes' new school is located in east Manatee County, and she has said that, "although her heart is

going out east, her toes remain in the sand."

To remind her of time spent at AME, students and staff filled a large vase containing sand and a candle with sea glass, shells and trinkets shaped like stars and fish — each representing "a wish" they made for her that will glow when the candle is lit.

As students filed out of the auditorium, they gave Hayes a farewell hug and a handmade card.

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## Insurance reform steps taken

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

vano was talking about the new insurance legislation. Several people in the audience said they received cancellation notices from Allstate only a few days before the freeze was imposed on Jan. 30. They wanted to know if they will be able to keep their policies or if they will have to find new coverage.

Cancellation notices are typically sent out 30 or more days before the policy coverage ends.

Galvano told his audience that he would have to find out the details of the Cabinet freeze before he could say how it impacted an individual policyholder. He promised to research the issue and get back in touch with those policyholders.

At press time, *The Islander* was also waiting for answers.

### Reagan has a powerful new position

As the new chairman of the powerful House Jobs and Entrepreneurship Council, Reagan now oversees several House committees, including insurance, utilities and business regulation.

In an interview with *The Islander* newspaper on Friday, he said he is already working on insurance issues for the general session of the Legislature, which begins March 5 in Tallahassee.

Reagan said he expects to spend most weekdays in Tallahassee for the next three months, until the session ends in early May. He estimates that 25 to 30 percent of his time will be devoted to insurance issues. But he is not complaining about the extra hours.

"I am pretty excited," he said. "The speaker, Marco Rubio, gave me a great opportunity."

Reagan replaces state Rep. Don Brown of DeFuniak Springs, who recently resigned as chair of the House Jobs and Entrepreneurship Council.

Brown has been reported as saying he was asked to resign.

Both Brown and Reagan are insurance agents.

The difference is that Reagan supported the reforms approved by the special session. Brown opposed them.

Brown also played a key role in pushing through the 2006 insurance package that resulted in record-high rate-hike requests, including the proposal by Citizens Property Insurance Corp. to impose a 767 percent increase on its commercial customers on Anna Maria Island. That proposal was overturned in the 2007 insurance law.

Although Brown no longer chairs the Jobs and Entrepreneurship Council, he still has plenty of legislative muscle as the chair of the House Insurance Committee, the position that Reagan held before he was named to replace Brown.

### 'Very happy' about insurance reforms

Reagan, who questioned some of the reforms when the special session began but then helped push the package through the Legislature, said he is "very happy" with the final product.

He said he was most proud of the contributions that he personally made in restructuring the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund, also known as the Cat Fund, to provide more cheap reinsurance for companies, with the requirement that they pass the savings on to their policyholders.

"That in itself opens more capacity in the market," he said.

Reagan said that he is optimistic that the insurance companies now operating in Florida will remain in the state, despite rumblings by some industry officials who warned that the new Florida laws were too tough on



State Rep. Ron Reagan of Bradenton has been appointed to a more powerful job in the Florida Legislature and will have more influence over state insurance laws. *Islander Photo: Molly McCartney*

insurers and would drive them away.

"What I'm hearing is overall good news," Reagan said. "It doesn't look like a mass exodus. There are a lot of [insurance] people crunching their numbers to see what savings they might be able to give policyholders and companies looking to see if they will be financially solid and able to stay. Right now it looks good."

He said there are a "couple of companies who are a little worried and evaluating their situation, but if they can buy reinsurance from the state at a lower price, it will work out for them."

Reagan said the special session had one mission — rate relief. "And I believe we succeeded."

The session was especially good news for policyholders with Citizens, he said, because of the rolling back of its rate increases for January and its rate increase proposal for March.

### 'Pay now or pay later'

Reagan described the new insurance legislation as a worthwhile gamble.

"If the wind doesn't blow this summer, the governor is a hero," he said. "If it blows, then we go back and make sure we have proper reserves to pay claims and make sure we spread the assessment over the entire state."

Here is how he described the change in legislative attitudes this year as compared to last year:

"What we said last year was that Citizens had to be sound and build reserves and be able to pay claims. Now we are saying that it doesn't have to be actuarially sound for big storms because we will take the risk that the assessment, if there is a storm, will be spread over the entire state."

Reagan said he believes the Legislature this year had the right approach.

"We are taking a chance, but we are keeping premiums low and, if we need assessments, we will assess after the fact and I think that is worthwhile.

"We are letting people hold onto their money for now, and we will pay for it later, if necessary."

### More home mitigation efforts

The Windstorm Mitigation Study Committee — which was created by the new insurance legislation — will hold its first meeting from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 7, in the Senate Office Building in Tallahassee.

The eight-member committee is supposed to expand and improve hurricane mitigation efforts in Florida. The point of all this is to find short- and long-term means to make homes more resistant to damage from hurricanes and other windstorms.

That will help efforts to hold down insurance rates in the future, legislators said.

A final committee report is due by March 6. To learn more about the committee, its duties and upcoming meetings, visit the Web site, [www.fldfs.com/WindstormMSC](http://www.fldfs.com/WindstormMSC).

The Web site details the range of issues that the study committee will consider.

## Burglar thwarted, arrested in Anna Maria

A man charged with a morning burglary was apprehended and charged Sunday in Anna Maria City.

A female resident of a home in the 100 block of Cedar Avenue stepped outside for a few minutes at about 8:45 a.m. and, upon her return, noticed that her purse had been disturbed, according to Manatee County Sheriff's Office Sgt. John Kenney.

The woman then spotted a man on a bicycle in her driveway. She confronted him, but he pedaled away and she immediately called 911.

Officers stopped the man in Holmes Beach, Kenney said. The suspect gave a false name, but was later identified as William Reed, 34, of Holmes Beach, by Dep. Gary Sellitto.

### Forget LBK-AMI detours for late-night travel for now

Despite threats for weeks that the bridge between Anna Maria Island and Longboat Key would be closed late at night, the access will remain open for at least a while.

Florida Department of Transportation officials said that some unforeseen problems with repairs to the pilings of the bridge will stymie contractors for several weeks.

The pilings that were scheduled for replacement are too firmly settled for removal or replacement. In other words, the piles are stuck and won't come out.

No bridge closures are scheduled in the near future as DOT and contractors work out a solution to the sticky problem, according to the DOT.

### Privateers' market Saturday

The Anna Maria Island Privateers will host a "Thieves Market" Saturday, Feb. 10, at Coquina Beach at the southern end of the Island.

It will run from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. with varying vendors selling everything from food to crafts to art to soda to trash and treasures, including the Privateers own fresh-roasted corn on the cob for "a buck-an-ear."

Proceeds will go to the civic organization's scholarship and youth programs.

Details may be obtained by calling 778-0181.

## Meetings

### Anna Maria City

Feb. 6, 2 p.m., special city commission meeting to approve mold remediation expense of \$4,500 at Holmes Beach City Hall.

Feb. 8, 6:45 p.m., special city commission meeting at Holmes Beach City Hall.

Feb. 8, 7 p.m., city commission work session at Holmes Beach City Hall.

Feb. 13, 6:30 p.m., environmental education and enhancement committee meeting, Belle Haven Cottage.

Feb. 13, 7 p.m., planning and zoning board meeting, Holmes Beach City Hall — CANCELED.

*Anna Maria City Hall is temporarily housed at Island Baptist Church, 8605 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria 708-6130 — [www.cityofannamaria.com](http://www.cityofannamaria.com)*

### Bradenton Beach

Feb. 7, 5 p.m., town hall meeting on parking.

Feb. 8, 5 p.m., planning and zoning board work session on review of future land-use map.

Feb. 15, 1 p.m., city commission meeting.

*Bradenton Beach City Hall, 107 Gulf Drive N., 778-1005 — [www.cityofbradentonbeach.org](http://www.cityofbradentonbeach.org)*

### Holmes Beach

Feb. 7, 5 p.m., parks and beautification committee meeting.

Feb. 13, 7 p.m., city commission meeting — CANCELED.

Feb. 15, 10 a.m., code enforcement board meeting.

*Holmes Beach City Hall, 5801 Marina Drive, 708-5800 — [www.holmesbeachfl.org](http://www.holmesbeachfl.org)*

### Of Interest

Feb. 10, 9 a.m., special presentation by state Rep. Bill Galvano on insurance at the regular Anna Maria Island Kiwanis Club meeting, Cafe on the Beach, Manatee Public Beach, 4000 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach. The public is invited and a question-and-answer session will follow. The event is co-sponsored by *The Islander* newspaper.

## Galvano town meeting on insurance set for Saturday

Everyone is welcome to a town meeting with state Rep. Bill Galvano, who will speak on insurance Saturday, Feb. 10, at the Cafe on the Beach at the Manatee Public Beach, 4000 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach.

*The Islander* newspaper is co-sponsoring the meeting with the Anna Maria Island Kiwanis Club, which will begin its regular meeting at 8:30 a.m. inside the Cafe on the Beach.

Galvano, a Republican legislator representing Anna Maria Island and western Manatee, is sched-

uled to speak at 9 a.m. There will be a question-and-answer session following his remarks.

Everyone is welcome to attend to get the latest news on the wind pool, Citizens Property Insurance Corp. and the measures taken to resolve the state's insurance crisis, as well as a preview of what to expect from the Florida Legislature in its upcoming session.

*The Islander* will provide refreshments. The public can attend both meetings or arrive shortly before 9 a.m. for Galvano's presentation.

# SevenShores to Islanders: 'Come see us'

By Rick Catlin  
Islander Reporter

St. Joe's SevenShores condominium project on north Perico Island is on schedule, said Joe Romanowski, St. Joe's regional sales and project manager, and the company is anticipating a normal winter sales season.

Fact is, said Romanowski, the company has done little advertising of SevenShores since it opened its sales office on Perico Island last April, but has still taken deposits on 10 units. The company has just started a local marketing and advertising campaign aimed at letting the Bradenton and Tampa Bay areas know what's available at the project. And Romanowski is more than happy to invite Islanders and any Island real estate agent with an interested client to the sales office for a personal inspection tour.

"We definitely are going to co-broke with any Island real estate agent," he said emphatically.

And he's extremely optimistic that the upcoming winter sales season for Island real estate will be much better than last year's season. A veteran of the local real estate industry, he noted that the sales boom of 2004-05 was somewhat "abnormal" for the Island.

But with SevenShores coming on the market with "value" condominiums priced in the \$540,000 range, Romanowski forecasts a solid sales season. Prices at SevenShores are "right where we want them to be and we're offering excellent value."

The SevenShores "value," said Romanowski, is that the smallest unit is a two-bedroom, two-bath waterfront condominium with a den and 1,660 square feet of living space. That, he said, is pretty hard to beat anywhere on the Island.

Even with no advertising, SevenShores has taken deposits on 10 units in its first building. "We're very comfortable with that figure, especially without any marketing of the property until recently." However, Romanowski is candid about the market for SevenShores units.

"If you want to move in right now, we can't do it. But if someone wants to live on a beautiful island in a grand setting and is willing to wait, this is the ideal place to be. It's worth the wait."

But is it a "hard sell" when there's no model available to show a prospective buyer?

"That's always a great debate in selling a condominium," he observed, but no condominium project builds a model. People who put up a deposit on a unit now are "visionaries" and will hold "great value in being in the first building."

Just how long the "wait" for construction of the first



## Last of the breed

A lone boat is all that remains for sale at the Perico Harbor Marina. The dry storage marina in the background will be torn down by the St. Joe Co. and a 126-space wet-slip marina constructed in its place. Islander Photo: Rick Catlin

building to start is still unknown. Romanowski said he had no definite time frame when that construction will begin, but St. Joe will "do it right."

While completion of the inland lake is targeted for the end of March, water and sewer lines are still being installed and road construction has yet to begin. When the roads are finished, said Romanowski, the company will start construction of the first building.

"But we are right on schedule with the lake. There's just no hard date set for the start of the building and any time frame is adjustable," he said. St. Joe's won't hurry anything just for the sake of getting something in the ground.

"We're builders of towns and resorts. We're place makers and we do it right," he pledged.

The first building will house 40 units and subsequent construction will be done in phases as each building reaches a certain stage of sales.

Romanowski also noted that St. Joe has purchased the Perico Harbor Marina and plans to turn it into a wet-slip facility, but no decision on when construction will start has yet been made. The dry-storage will be torn down, he said, and replaced with a suitable structure.

"We're keeping our options open on whether it will be a private marina or open to the public," he said.

Romanowski didn't shy away from the fact that the project was a bit controversial when first proposed eight

years ago, but it's been two years since final approval of the plan by both Manatee County and the Island cities. All legal issues have been settled and there's no point in rehashing old arguments, he said.

"It's time to move forward. We plan to be an integral part of the Island community and good neighbors and we'd like to invite Islanders to come see what we're doing. I think people will be surprised to find we're developing an environmentally friendly community."

SevenShores is being built on a former fruit farm, so there's no destruction of native vegetation or major earth moving. Mangroves aren't being torn out, no artificial beaches created and SevenShores will maintain large tracts of trees with walking trails and nature paths, he pointed out.

Romanowski reiterated his willingness to work with Island real estate agents.

"I'd like to invite any real estate agent to come visit our sales office and take a tour of the property. I think this is going to be a good season for everyone in real estate and we can only help each other," said Romanowski. St. Joe, he noted, has been in Florida for quite some time and has a reputation for quality.

When completed, the entire SevenShores project will have 686 units in 13 mid-rise buildings built around the inland lake.

## Island real estate ready to boom — if prices drop

By Rick Catlin  
Islander Reporter

Property sales on Anna Maria Island could be poised for a spectacular winter season if the results of an informal survey of Island real estate offices done by Mike Norman Realty in Holmes Beach are put into effect.

More than 90 percent of the agents surveyed agreed that while Island real estate asking prices might be too high — some say between 20 to 25 percent — if sellers drop their prices accordingly, it may spark sales activity. In other words, the Island could easily be headed to a buyer's market.

Several agents said they've already discussed a lower asking price with their sellers and many have agreed. One agent noted that as soon as the asking price on a canal-front property he listed dropped significantly, a "near riot" of offers were received and the property quickly sold.

Other agents said that while Gulffront property always sells over time, other sellers in the market should understand that the boom years of 2004-05 are over and it's time to take a realistic approach to property values.

Another agent noted that investors are back in the Island real estate game and looking for good values.

One agent said it's a matter of educating the selling public to regenerate sales on the Island.

"We need to advise our listers what the realistic price would be, based on recent values," said the agent in the survey.

Quite a number of owners have put property on

the market at an inflated price "just to see if they get an offer," said another agent surveyed.

"I advise my clients that if they aren't serious about selling, don't list their property. For the serious seller, I try to give them a realistic figure," he said.

A good piece of advice for a seller is that if the property has been on the market for more than six months without an offer, the seller should reduce the price to "get in the game" or remove the property from the market.

"I'm really encouraged by the survey," said Norman. "If sellers drop their asking price to a realistic figure, I think we're going to see a big turnaround. We've already seen one property get flooded with offers when the asking price was reduced. It's just a question of having a realistic asking price."

And that's not to say that everyone won't come away happy with a sale when an asking price drops.

Norman noted that the buyer who bought Island real estate in 2004 can still expect a considerable return on that investment today if the list price is reasonable.

One agent, however, cautioned that the property tax issue also needs to be addressed to boost real estate sales. The Florida Legislature is expected to discuss all issues of taxation and insurance.

An Island group known as Citizens Against Run-away Taxation and headed by Holmes Beach resident Don Schroder has enlisted the aid of state Rep. Bill Galvano and state Sen. Mike Bennett to present the Island's tax problems at the upcoming legislative session.



## Captain Conservation

Anna Maria Elementary School students in kindergarten through second-grade were visited last Friday by Captain Conservation, who introduced himself as Florida Power and Light's "hearty — if not handsome — harbinger of home energy conservation information." Through music and student participation, he inducted AME into his "elite energy-saving team" known as the conservation crew, teaching them the importance of turning off energy sources not in use and shutting things tight to avoid energy waste. Islander Photo: Diana Bogan

# Help tornado, storm victims

As residents impacted by the storms Friday morning in Lake and Volusia counties continue to recover, The Salvation Army is providing assistance to those in need.

By Sunday, the organization had served 2,679 prepared meals, 55 sandwiches, 1,608 snacks and 272 cleanup kits in Lake and Volusia counties.

On Sunday canteens, or mobile feeding units, were located in Lady Lake Mobile Home Park, Lady Lake; American Legion Hall, Lady Lake; the intersection of Oak Hill Road and Florida State Highway 27, Lady Lake. In Deland, The Salvation Army is in the Springhill Subdivision and between the Hawthorne Hills Mobile Home Park and the Applewood Apartments on New Hampshire Drive.

Island residents wishing to make monetary donations can do so via 1-800-Sal-Army or [www.salvationarmyusa.org](http://www.salvationarmyusa.org) or by mail to The Salvation Army Disaster Relief Fund, P.O. Box 270848, Tampa FL 33618.

As we learned with hurricane aid, clothing, canned goods and used furnishings are needed less than the immediate aid provided by organizations like The Salvation Army.

## Automated message signs due September 2007

By Lisa Neff  
Islander Reporter

Those long-awaited automated message signs that were hoped for tourist season may be placed on the Island as early as next September.

"The project is scheduled to commence in early 2007," Michael P. Howe, executive director of the Sarasota-Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization, said of the signs, known as the Advanced Traveler Information System.

"We are currently in the design phase," said Vincent Canna, Manatee County's project manager.

ATIS is budgeted at \$863,268, with \$483,616 from



### Holmes Beach honors employees

Two decades of dedication earned recognition for Holmes Beach city staff Feb. 2. Mayor Rich Bohnenberger recognized the employees in a celebration in the foyer at Holmes Beach City Hall, 8801 Marina Drive. Honored employees include, from left, patrolman Rob Velardi, Lt. Dale Stephenson, public works assistant foreman Gary Blunden and Chief Jay Romine. Not pictured are honorees Wayne Vandermolen and Edward "Skip" Nunn, both in the public works department, and officer Jim Cumston in the police department. Bohnenberger also presented officer Michael Leonard with a formal plaque for his arrest of an alleged armed robber on Christmas. "It speaks volumes for the work environment here and the quality of the people hired," the mayor said. The city employs 42 people, including three part-time staff members. *Islander Photo: Lisa Neff*

the state and the county paying the rest, according to Canna.

A major purpose of the project is to assist in an Island evacuation in an emergency, specifically a hurricane. But the signs can also be used to notify motorists of road hazards, traffic tie-ups and parking problems or to broadcast attractions and events.

Traffic Control Devices based in Altamonte Springs was contracted to design and build the system, which includes three signs along Gulf Drive between Manatee Avenue in Holmes Beach and the bridge to Longboat Key in Bradenton Beach. There would also be signs on Manatee Avenue at 75th Street in Bradenton and on

Cortez Road.

"The design and specs are about 95 percent complete," TCD's Michael Pagnotti said in a project update notice to county officials.

A timetable for the project shows construction beginning in early 2007.

Construction is scheduled to be complete by September 2007, according to TCD's Michael Pagnotti.

"Conditional acceptance is slated to be in August 2007 and final acceptance 30 days later," he said.

Canna added that the Florida Department of Transportation will review and sign off on further plans.

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# Our Opinion

## Pathway to turmoil

Islanders love their trees.

Big trees. Little trees. Mangrove trees. Oak trees.

The love of oaks came to light a couple of years ago when a hammock of very old live oak trees was whacked to make way for the new Anna Maria Elementary School. School families, both current and past, were irate, and an embarrassed school district launched a hectic spin-control session to calm the ire of folks who were upset by the loss.

Even those so-called noxious, exotic, non-native, nasty Australian pine trees have a soft spot in many of our hearts.

Yes, the trees are a dirty mess when it comes to needles and those tiny pine cones, especially for those who go bare foot to the beach.

Yes, they do tend to topple when strong winds blow, ripping up the soil and damaging anything that's in their reach.

But Australian pines produce a wonderful sound at night as the wind blows through their feathery needles, a soothing hum that beats a roaring AC unit hands-down.

And since the pines grow rapidly, there is lots of shade in short order, something that parched and red-skinned beachgoers crave to escape the arid beach sand.

So it should be no surprise that residents are more than a little miffed on seeing some 66 Australian pines bulldozed in Bradenton Beach to clear the way for a long-planned pathway from Cortez Beach south to Coquina Beach and eventually the Longboat Bridge.

Yes, planners had all along said that trees would have to go to make way for the 8-foot-wide trail — 37 was the original count for felled trees.

But a last-minute change to the plans upped the tree death toll to the present number, and huge swaths of the trees at Cortez Beach are gone.

Manatee County officials have said that the choice was either to cut into vehicle parking areas or chop trees. Officials opted to take out trees to preserve parking spaces at the popular beach.

And officials have said they hope to restore the shade in the blighted zones with more trees once the project is completed. Native, Florida-friendly trees.

The pines are gone.

The Coquina Beach Trail is under construction.

What's left is to encourage a speedy re-planting program to fill the holes in the landscape and restore the forefront of the scenic vista once was at Cortez Beach.

And what next? We can only imagine the alarm when the tree clearing starts at Kingfish Boat Ramp in Holmes Beach.

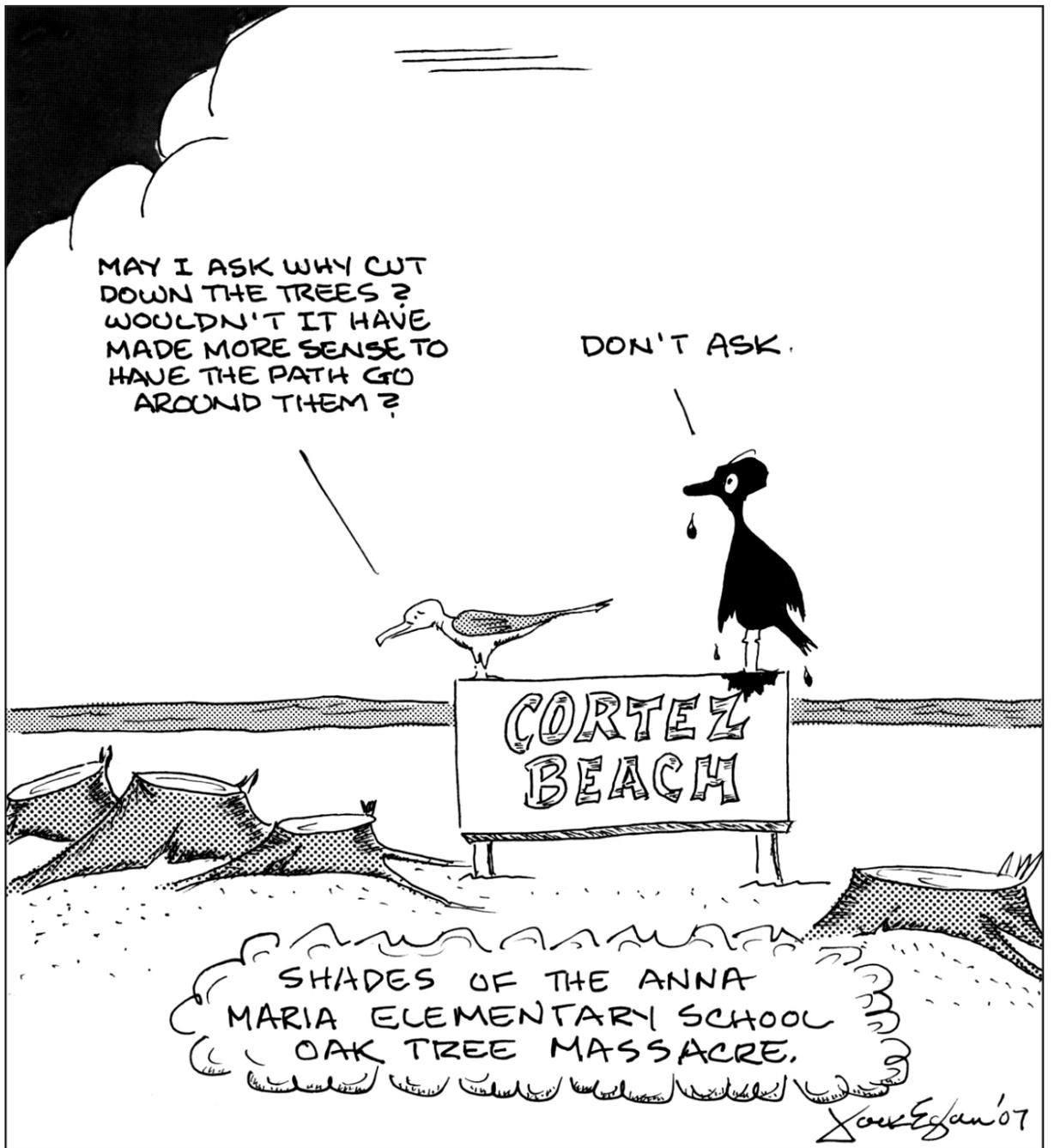
Timber, indeed.

## The Islander

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SLICK

Timber!

By Egan

# Your Opinion

## Problems?

After a recorded history of poor public relations, former Bradenton Beach City Commissioner Lisa Marie Phillips was not voted by the people, but rather handed on a silver platter, the \$45,000-a-year cake position of project program manager by Bradenton Beach city commissioners. Phillips has already begun to abuse her self-imposed power and does not deserve this position.

On Jan. 12, at approximately noon, I was standing on the ground by the bay next to Bridge Street. Phillips was meeting with someone else, obviously discussing the pier project, while I was quietly meditating and watching the boats on the bay. After her meeting, she repeatedly and loudly called to me "excuse me, excuse me," until I had no choice but to turn around and address her. Phillips questioned, "I was wondering what you were doing standing there in the "riff-raff?"

I replied, "I'm looking." She further insulted me by stating, "I hope you plan on disposing of that (diet soda) can properly?"

I replied, "I always do," and that, "I'm not a bum."

She then replied, "I wasn't surmising," then turned away, satisfied she had offended me enough.

This woman had no right as a city employee to interrupt my solitude at the bay to demean, degrade and upset me while I'm minding my own business. The police don't even do that. I've lived in this area on and off for over 11 years. I do not drink, smoke or do drugs. I am working on my master's of fine arts degree in poetry at Spalding University in Louisville, Ky. I am a graduate of University of South Florida in Sarasota.

This woman violated my civil rights by approaching and insulting me. I have not seen her job description; however, I'm certain that harassing the public is not part of her job.

She obviously despises the "riff-raff" on the bay, including me, but I have every right whether she judges me homeless or whatever, to stand on public property and watch the boats on the bay without public ridicule

by any (over) paid city official.

Was Phillips not the individual who cost the city a \$2,000 fine for giving the middle finger to other individuals a while back in a road-rage incident on the Island? She is a liability Bradenton Beach can no longer afford.

Stephanie Cenko, Bradenton Beach

## Zeus is home again

Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who was kind enough to call and be concerned for our lost cat, Zeus.

After many trips to the shelters, early morning walks, roadside vigils waiting for a cat to come out of a drainpipe, and many, many false alarms, including two sad deceased black-and-white kitties, our cat Zeus has been reunited with us.

Whoever has been feeding him, thank you. He is fat and healthy and in good shape. Everyone that has helped us keep up hope, a million thanks. You know who you are.

To everyone who has lost an animal, don't give up hope. Zeus was gone for two and a half months and we found him miles away. Thank you, *The Islander*, for faithfully running our ad. Thanks to all the businesses that kept the poster of him hanging all this time, otherwise Ted and Debbie would never have seen his picture and knew it had it be Zeus. And to the police. And to God.

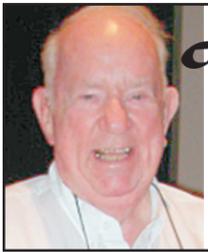
Most of all, thanks to everyone on the Island who truly cared. We lost Zeus for awhile and in the meantime we gained a community.

Michael, Cindy, Kayla and Ariel Jennis

## Thanks, Anna Maria

As I write this, the City of Anna Maria is in the process of following through with the approved road improvement projects. My street, Willow Avenue, has been paved and many streets have been repaved or are about to be. To the mayor, city commissioners and public works department: Thank you.

Anita Fletcher, Anna Maria



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

By former Holmes Beach City Commissioner Don Maloney

**Planning a Yankee vacation**

Just the other day, I read that our 2007 Snowbird Season is off to a "very strong start" now that we're past the hurricane months and into the "themacame" months. And after a dozen and a half years welcoming them down here every winter, I've decided that this year I'm going to do at least a little of the winter back up there where I came here from — Plattsburgh, N.Y.

It's not that I'm looking forward to shoveling snow again, or even to plugging in my car every night to where I used to plug in my electric lawnmower in the summer. It's merely that I have missed living through February up there where all those poems and songs and fairy tales that I had so much trouble trying to believe in when I was a little boy down near New York City came to life when we moved up to Plattsburgh.

There, those unfulfilled childhood dreams I had

**St. Pat's celebration scheduled March 17**

The annual St. Patrick's Day breakfast is in the planning stages and its chairman, Don Maloney, said he is ready for another sell-out.

The March 17 event sells out far in advance each year, and Maloney said this promises to be no exception. Only paid reservations will be admitted to the breakfast at the Moose Lodge, 110 Gulf Drive, Bradenton Beach.

Tickets at \$7.50 are available through Sarah Maloney, 778-4865. Proceeds will go to Our Daily Bread, volunteer organization to help the homeless.

The Irishman or Irishwoman of the year will be named at the breakfast, Irish songs will be sung and Irish stories told, and the Island's Ceili Dancers will perform.

back in the real New York City finally became cold — very cold — hard facts.

Like surely you remember that old song that went "over the river and through the woods to grandmother's house we go." Now I grew up just a couple of SUV lengths from downtown Manhattan where we sang the song every year around Thanksgiving, but didn't believe a word.

For one thing, we knew only one river, the Hudson. And the only ways to go over it was on the George Washington Bridge or the Weehawken or Yonkers ferries. Does that sound like "dashing through the snow?" I knew even then that they wouldn't let a "one-horse open sleigh" — or even a closed one — over that bridge.

Up in Plattsburgh though, we didn't need anything like that to cross Lake Champlain in the winter; we just walked across.

The only woods around was in Central Park, and any female roaming around there probably wouldn't last long enough to be a grandmother. So you see, it was just a song.

Then there's that poem, "T'was the night before Christmas." While I distinctly remember it opens up with "not a creature was stirring," can you imagine any time in New York City when not a creature was stirring?

Dreaming about a "White Christmas" was another childhood pastime in New York City. But even if it did snow there, it turned black rather quickly. But up in Plattsburgh, we only had to dream how deep our "White Christmas" would be.

I was going to get into that song about "Jack Frost nipping at your nose." I never met Jack up in Plattsburgh, but during my first winter there, he nipped at everything I own — or owned.

Anyway, like I said, I'm ready to spend some of the coming winter up north—in Plattsburgh, not New York City. And one last big plus for Plattsburgh: Down in southern New York and New Jersey, we used to hate winter because the ponds would freeze and kill the fishing. When the lake freezes in Plattsburgh, that's when fishing begins!

Believe it or not, it's the best place to spend the winter. Take it from an old city boy.

And while I'm gone, please be nice to the snowbirds — even the ones who don't know how to use their directionals.



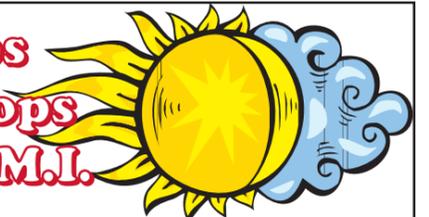
**In the Feb. 5, 1997, issue of The Islander, headlines announced:**

- The Holmes Beach City Commission unanimously agreed to allow the Privateers' boat/float to remain at its location on a vacant lot, despite the fact that Mayor Bob VanWagoner sent the Privateers a letter maintaining the boat/float is parked illegally. The commission also asked the city attorney to draft legislation to make their decision legal.

- Anna Maria planned to apply for a \$500,000 grant for low to moderate income neighborhoods to improve drainage and repair roads. Grant writer Betty Jordan said all the city had to do was prove that 51 percent of its residents earn less than \$22,950 annually.

- More than 130 Holmes Beach residents signed a petition opposing the construction of a city-owned swimming pool and delivered the petition to the city commission. The residents, primarily from Westbay Point and Moorings condominiums, were opposed on the grounds of costs and liability. The pool would have been built on city property at 62nd Street and Marina Drive near the entrance to the condominium complex.

**Temps & Drops on A.M.I.**



Date	Low	High	Rainfall
Jan. 28	60	64	1.30
Jan. 29	47	57	0
Jan. 30	39	58	0
Jan. 31	54	70	0
Feb. 1	64	77	0
Feb. 2	66	72	.80
Feb. 3	60	71	0

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# Streetlife

## Island police reports

**Anna Maria City**  
No reports.

**Bradenton Beach**

Jan. 25, 2300 block Gulf Drive, resisting arrest without violence. Officers observed a man with a burned-out tail light on his vehicle and followed him as he stopped the car and left it. The man became verbally abusive to the officers and then ran, entering a house and, when the officer attempted to enter, he pushed him away. The man was eventually apprehended, but not until he was pepper-sprayed.

**Holmes Beach**

Jan. 27, 3007 Gulf Drive, Anchor Inn, trespass. Officers responded to a call that a patron was intoxicated and refused to leave. The patron said the bartender pushed him and he fell. After talking to other patrons, officers issued the man a trespass order and he left.

Jan. 27, 6300 block Holmes Boulevard, assault.

Officers responded to a disturbance call and found a man yelling at a woman, who said he had threatened her with a knife. Officers eventually gained access to his house and took him in custody.

Jan. 29, 3000 block Gulf Drive, domestic. Officers responded to a lounge where two sisters had been involved in a dispute, which ended when one threw a beer mug at the other. The woman who was struck refused to press charges at the time, then changed her mind and was informed of the process.

Feb. 1, 3900 E. Bay Drive, Publix, battery. Officers responded to a call that someone had been shot with a paint gun. The complainant said he had been shot from a passenger in a white truck while waiting at the trolley stop. The truck was not located.

Feb. 1, 4000 Gulf Drive, Manatee Public Beach, warrant. Officers on patrol noticed a man sleeping in his car after closing hours at the beach. After checking his license, it was discovered he had an outstanding warrant from Manatee County and he was placed under arrest.

## Boat fire injures Galati worker

A 25-year-old employee with Galati Marine in Anna Maria sustained burns to his arms, legs and face Jan. 30 when a flash fire occurred on a boat he was working on at the marina.

According to a report from the West Manatee Fire & Rescue, the incident took place around 9:40 a.m. The man was working in a 52-foot charter Viking sportfishing yacht when a flash fire occurred. Matthew Slowen was flown by Bayflite helicopter to the burn unit at Tampa General Hospital where he was said to be improving from second-degree burns Monday.

There was minimal damage to the boat, the Jan Marie, which is captained by Glenn Corder of Holmes Beach. Corder said he'd be "out of work for awhile," but that he's usually "slow in the winter" and it won't be a problem.

The WMFR report said the incident appeared to be accidental, but was under investigation by the state fire marshal and WMFR.

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# New commissioners, mayor settle in at Holmes Beach

By Lisa Neff  
Islander Reporter

Since taking office in November 2006, Rich Bohnenberger, Pat Geyer and John Monetti have pursued a taking-care-of-business course.

With commission meetings running short and numerous long-standing agenda items waiting on developments at the county or state level, the new mayor, Bohnenberger, and the new commissioners, Geyer and Monetti, have focused on responding to residents' requests and citizens' concerns.

"My focus is on customer service and complaint response," Bohnenberger said last week.

Such work comes natural for the three officeholders. They're businesspeople. Geyer is the proprietress of Duffy's Tavern in Holmes Beach. Monetti is the general manager of the Columbia Restaurant at St. Armands Circle. Bohnenberger runs a real estate business.

"I think so far the biggest thing people were talking to me about was the sandpile," Geyer said of her "consumer" calls.

The mayor and other city officials also heard complaints about the staging ground for the Key Royale Bridge and canal-dredging projects. So, over the past month, public works employees and contractors on the bridge and dredging projects have worked to clean up the area to the north of city hall.

The clean-up involves planting shrubs around the site, lowering the size of the sandpile, placing a barrier to prevent runoff and adjusting future schedules for dredging.

"I try to head off any problems in the community," Bohnenberger said.

"People know they can come to me with anything," Geyer said.

Geyer, a former mayor and commissioner, was the third-place finisher in the November 2006 election for two seats on the city commission. Her campaign theme was "Put Pat back to work for you."

Soon after the election, the long-time resident was appointed by the newly seated commission to the board to fill the vacancy created by Bohnenberger's move

from commissioner to mayor. Bohnenberger had one year remaining on his commission term.

In some respects, residents might feel a touch of déjà vu. In 1994, Geyer took a seat on the commission and Bohnenberger stepped in as mayor.

"It's the same but new," Geyer said. "I just feel like I'm back."

Bohnenberger says a lot has changed in Holmes Beach since 1994.

"We were more or less coming out of the dark ages back then," the mayor said. "Not just here, but all over the state. A lot of things were done on a handshake. That's all been cleaned up over the years."

Monetti, who served on the planning board before his election to the city commission, is settling into the new role. He has had to balance his new responsibilities as a commissioner with his professional and his

personal life. Monetti's mother died recently and his restaurant reopened late last fall after a major renovation.

Monetti ran for office with a campaign pledge: "Seeking, through a common sense approach to maintain the unique beauty and balance of the city of Holmes Beach."

He said he's learned he can keep that pledge.

And so far, the new commissioner said, "there's been no surprises."

The office "has met my expectations of what I thought I'd be doing," said Monetti, who, like Geyer and Bohnenberger, hears routinely from residents with thoughts about city operations.

"People run into me and say, 'What can you do about that?'" Monetti said. "They have specific concerns. And I respond."

## Attorney 'preaches' commission on Sandbar

By Rick Catlin  
Islander Reporter

After already filing a lawsuit against Anna Maria over its approval of a site plan for the Sandbar Restaurant, the law firm of Lobeck and Hanson, representing the Nally family on Spring Avenue, wasted little time in telling the city commission how to deal with the Sandbar's request for a special event permit for a party tent.

In a Jan. 25 letter to the city, attorney Brendan Rowe of the Lobeck firm said the Nallys have "concerns with certain aspects" of the proposed tent and with the possibility the tent would be used for "dining and entertainment uses."

Because the Nallys live close to the Sandbar and the proposed site of the tent, they would be "directly affected by noise, traffic and other impacts associated with the tent."

Rowe thanked the commission for removing approval of the tent from its consent agenda at the Jan. 24 commission meeting, but told commissioners that the city has "no authority to consider or vote upon a permit for a special event tent" erected by the Sandbar

because the proposed four-month period of use from Jan. 1, 2007, to April 30, 2007, "violates" the city's code.

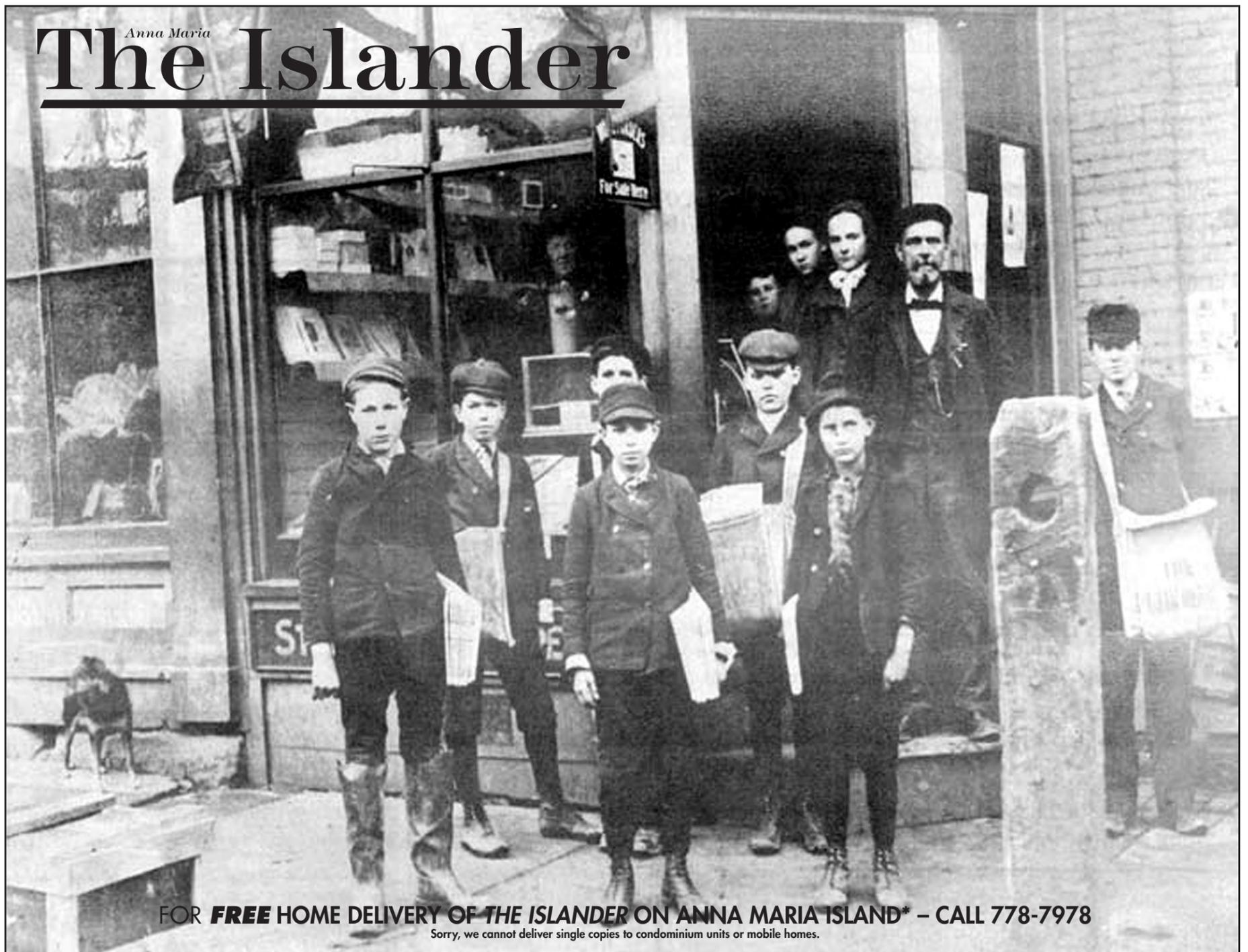
The code, Rowe claimed, only allows a special event permit to be approved for three days and the commission "does not have authority" to waive this restriction. Therefore, intoned Rowe, the commission "lacks authority to vote upon a motion" which would permit the tent for the proposed period.

Rowe also cited numerous other codes and provisions that would not allow the city to approve the tent for more than three days. He also said the city had not received comments from the "City of Anna Maria Police Department," apparently not realizing that the city eliminated its police department 20 years ago. Law enforcement services in Anna Maria are now contracted with the Manatee County Sheriff's Office.

The commission removed the Sandbar request from the consent agenda for its Jan. 24 meeting and will discuss the issue at its Feb. 8 worksession, when city attorney Jim Dye is expected to render an opinion. The worksession is a non-voting meeting.

Anna Maria

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# Campaign for emergency contact reaches 500,000

By Rick Catlin  
Islander Reporter

The saddest and most frustrating day of Christine Olson's life was Dec. 7, 2005, when she learned that her daughter Tiffany and her boyfriend, Dustin Wilder, had been killed in a motorcycle accident.

The worst part for Christine, who works at the Rod & Reel Pier, was when she found out her daughter was killed almost seven hours earlier. It took the Florida Highway Patrol that long to reach her.

A frantic search of Bradenton area hospitals failed to turn up any information on her daughter. After a seven-hour search, the FHP finally got in touch with her.

In her grief following the tragedy, Olson vowed that no mother or father should have to go through the agony of not knowing what had happened to their son, daughter or loved one.

"I just felt I had to do something for my daughter and her boyfriend and I made it my goal to do something," said Olson.

Olson launched a campaign in March 2006 to have a law passed requiring that emergency contact information be imprinted in the magnetic strip of a driver's license and part of the Florida Department of Motor Vehicle's computer records. She enlisted the aid of *The Islander*, state Rep. Bill Galvano and the FHP for her cause.

Eventually, a petition with several thousand signatures asking for such legislation was delivered to Tallahassee. While efforts by Galvano are continuing to make it a law, the FHP last year adopted a voluntary program for Florida drivers to add such information so that it's readily available on the DMV computer when law enforcement officers scan a driver's license.

Today, more than 500,000 people have had emergency contact information added and Olson's goal is to have 1 million registrations by May 27, 2007, Tiffany's birthday.

"I'd love to have a million people registered, and it would be great to have 2 million by next year," said Olson.

"There are 17 million people in Florida and I just need everybody to pass it on that people need to add this information to their driver's license."

She's gotten the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to inform law enforcement agencies about the program, and she's looking for major companies like Tropicana Inc. of Bradenton, which passed out flyers on the program to its employees.

"Instead of me just handing out a flyer, I'm encouraging people to tell other people and to inform their local media about the program."

"I'm just trying to save another family from going through what I went through. More people need to know about the program."

While the campaign has energized Olson, the memory of her daughter was brought back to her again

## Another parking lot approval recommended

Call it one more time ....

Bradenton Beach Planning and Zoning Board members have again recommended approval of a parking lot at the Gulf Drive Cafe, 901 Gulf Drive N. The latest incarnation is west of Gulf Drive, just south of the popular beachfront restaurant on part of what once was the former Trader Jack's Restaurant property, all of which is owned by Wendy and George Kokolis.

The parking lots — or lots, since there has also been a longstanding dispute of off-site parking to the property across the street — ended up in court, where a judge ruled that the plan as presented by the Kokolises should be approved by the city.

Attorney Scott Rudacille, representing the Kokolises, said the matter before the board represented the results of the court-ordered settlement. A fence to the south of the restaurant will be moved 16 feet farther south to allow better parking and traffic flow.

"We will be bringing a master plan back to the city for the whole property," Rudacille said. "This is just a stop-gap measure to bring us into legality on the property."

Future plans for the site are still uncertain, although a parking lot on the east side of Gulf Drive has also

on Dec. 12, 2006.

That was the day the man who killed Tiffany and Wilder was sentenced to seven years in prison. The man had no driver's license, no insurance, was an illegal immigrant and had been drinking.

"I went up to him and made sure he had a picture of Tiffany in his hand. He had a tear in his eye and he looked at me and said 'I'm sorry.'"

"December was not a good month for me, but I'm energized to keep going."

Galvano is expected to introduce legislation during the 2007 session of the Florida Legislature that would make emergency contact information mandatory on a Florida driver's license.

Registration forms to join the emergency contact program are available at the Rod & Reel Pier, at The Islander newspaper office and online at [www.toinform-familiesfirst.com](http://www.toinform-familiesfirst.com).

## Zeigler trial set for Feb. 12

The trial of a Bradenton Beach woman accused of killing her boyfriend is scheduled to begin the week of Feb. 12.

A pre-trial hearing in Merle Francis Zeigler's case was scheduled for Feb. 6. At that time the trial, which was postponed in late December 2006, could be delayed again.

Zeigler and her son are accused of killing Frank Ray Reposh, 41, who died at his Palma Sola home, a duplex at 7818 40th Ave. Drive W., sometime in September or October 2005.

Reposh's body was not discovered until June 7, 2006. The remains were found in a shallow grave near Reposh's home in a wooded area on Palma Sola Boulevard.

Merle Zeigler is charged with second-degree murder with a firearm, a capital felony charge that with a conviction could bring life in prison.

Zeigler's son, Joshua Phillip, also is charged with second-degree murder with a firearm. His trial will take place after his mother's trial.

## George trial set for March

Tammy Lynn George is scheduled to go to trial the week of March 5 for the 2006 slaying of the woman who was soon to be her housemate.

A pre-trial hearing is scheduled for Feb. 26 in Manatee County.

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

George and her boyfriend, Scott Conklin, had been in the process of moving from another home in the park into Pace's home that morning.

Authorities allege that an argument broke out and George stabbed Pace repeatedly. An autopsy report indicated Pace suffered 75 stab wounds.

been approved through the courts.

Mayor John Chappie told the planning and zoning board members that he "urged" them to approve the parking lot due to the court order. "Sometimes you can't clean up everything you want to do," he told the board.

Chappie told *The Islander* after the meeting that he addressed the board to remind them that the court had ordered a settlement in the matter. Final decision on the issue will come before the city commission for ratification, although Chappie said he would recuse himself from voting on the matter.

Board members voiced concerns regarding the apparent enhancement of non-conformity issues on the site. Ernest Clay specifically questioned the lack of space for delivery trucks to the restaurant and traffic flow for the restaurant — some vehicles have to back into Gulf Drive to exit parking spaces fronting the street.

Building official Ed Mc Adam said that he was confident that the forthcoming master plan would address all the concerns of the site and urged approval of the conversion of the non-conforming use to a less non-conforming use.

Planners recommended approval of the matter to the city commission, with Clay dissenting.

# KA-CHING!

**Saturday sales benefit Island groups**



The Friends of the Island Library's annual book sale began promptly at 3 p.m. Feb. 2 with an exclusive preview for Friends members. Book lovers and bargain hunters sorted through hardcovers and paperbacks for texts to their liking at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Another crowd assembled early Feb. 3 for the general sale. Proceeds from the sale will be used to purchase non-fiction books to boost the library's collection. Islander Photos: Lisa Neff



Early browsers rummage through the offerings at the "huge rummage sale" at St. Bernard Catholic Church, 248 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach.



Janet Robinson and Luanne Collins prepare for sales — including the famed "Pickle Crisps" — at the annual White Elephant sale Feb. 3 at the Episcopal Church of the Annunciation, 4408 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach.

## Wedding 'parties' to meet Feb. 12 at Sandbar Restaurant

The Anna Maria Island wedding group will meet at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12, at the new Sandbar Restaurant wedding pavilion.

The informal group consists of members of the Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce — and potential members — all who share an interest in serving the

wedding business with accommodations, photography, parties, catering and more. It will be a social meeting and organizer Jack Elka says that anyone interested in the Island wedding industry may attend.

The Sandbar is located at 100 Spring Ave., Anna Maria. For more information, call Elka at 778-2711.



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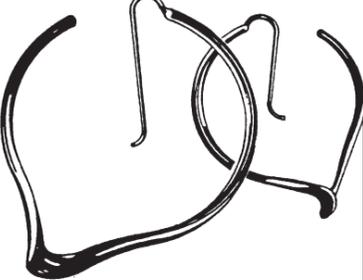
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# AME Announces 2007 Spring Fling Committee chairs

The Parent-Teacher Organization has started planning for Anna Maria Elementary School's annual Spring Fling. This year the PTO chose to divide planning duties between co-chairs with committees that will be led by Linda Berger, Joy Murphy and Holly Connelly.

Berger is chairing the silent auction/class baskets/art committee. Murphy is chair of the food/entertainment/decoration committee. Connelly is heading the sponsorship/ticketing committee.

The event will take place at St. Bernard's Catholic Church from 6 to 11 p.m. May 12. Festivities include dinner, dancing and a silent auction. The auction features items created and decorated by students as well as a variety of items donated by local businesses.

This year's party theme is a Beach Bash and tickets will go on sale in March.

The co-chairs promise that the Beach Bash will be another successful fundraiser for the school. In previous years, tickets have sold out and the auction has been an enormous fundraising success.

Sponsorship is available at a variety of levels. Contact Connelly at 778-1357 to include your business.

Volunteers are still needed to fill a variety of positions.

The next Spring Fling meeting will take place at 9 a.m. Friday, Feb. 9, in the school cafeteria.



## Spring Fling coordinators

Linda Berger, Joy Murphy and Holly Connelly are co-chairing Anna Maria Elementary School's Spring Fling fundraising dinner and dance, which will be held at St. Bernard Catholic Church in May. Islander Photo: Erin Heckler

## Dinner, play first event for new principal

The Anna Maria Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization will host a "meet and greet" with new Principal Tom Levensgood at 4:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria Tuesday, Feb. 13.

Levensgood will remain for the PTO family dinner to mingle and get to know parents and members of the community.

Sportfish Grill and Marker will cater the dinner, which will be served from 5 to 7 p.m. in the cafeteria. The

evening's menu consists of smoked barbecue chicken or pork sandwiches, baked beans and cole slaw.

Dinner costs \$7 for adults and \$5 for children if pre-purchased, and \$1 more if purchased at the door. Meals-to-go will also be available.

At 7 p.m., AME kindergarten students will perform for all the musical adventure "Bugz" in the auditorium.

Advance tickets for the PTO dinner are available from the school administrative office. For more information, call 708-5525.



## New principal

Anna Maria Elementary School was under the leadership of a "new" principal — if only for a day last Tuesday. Fifth-grader Grant Bower shadowed Principal Kathy Hayes during her daily duties and made a few executive decisions of his own for his classmates in DeAnn Davis' room including an additional 15 minutes of recess, an hour of math instruction (Bower's favorite subject) and no homework. Bower said he enjoyed visiting each class with Hayes and mentoring some younger students. The day in the life of AME's principal was a Spring Fling auction item that Bower's parents won the bid on at last year's event. Bower said he wanted to have his day before Hayes left for her new school, but if AME's new principal, Tom Levensgood, needs any pointers — Bower is ready to help. Islander Photo: Diana Bogan

## AME MENU

Monday, Feb. 12

- Breakfast: Toast, Cereal, Pancake on a Stick, Yogurt, Fruit
- Lunch: Maxx Sticks with Dip or Breaded Beef Patty, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Oranges

Tuesday, Feb. 13

- Breakfast: Chicken Patty on a Biscuit, Cereal, Toast, Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich, Fruit
- Lunch: Chicken Tenders or Hoagie, Chicken Noodle Soup, Potato Smiles, Mixed Veggies, Fruit Cocktail

Wednesday, Feb. 14

- 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, Feb. 15

- Breakfast: Sausage Patty and Egg on a Biscuit, Cereal, Toast, Bagels, Fruit
- Lunch: Student planned menu.

Friday, Feb. 16

No School.

Juice and milk are served with every meal.

## Chamber breakfast is Wednesday

The Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce will sponsor its monthly Sunrise Breakfast at 7:45 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 14, at the Sun House Restaurant, 111 Gulf Drive, Bradenton Beach.

The event is designed as a networking event for chamber members. Required reservations may be made by calling 778-1541.

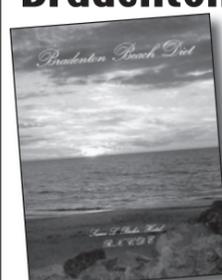
## Kiwanians hear Rep. Galvano

A spokesman for the Salvation Army will tell members of the Kiwanis Club of Anna Maria Island what happens to the money Kiwanians help raise for the organization when the club meets Saturday, Feb. 10.

The meeting will also include a presentation co-hosted by *The Islander* newspaper by state Rep. Bill Galvano on the insurance crisis. Galvano will talk at 9 a.m. and follow with a question-and-answer session. The public is welcome.

The meeting will be a breakfast at 8:30 a.m. at the Cafe on the Beach, Manatee Public Beach, 4000 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach. Further information may be obtained by calling 778-7646.

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## The Islander

# GSR-RoseBay approval 'done,' not yet official

By Rick Catlin  
Islander Reporter

RoseBay Real Estate has been approved by U.S. Federal Bankruptcy Court Judge K. Rodney May to be the exclusive sales agent for GSR properties, according to Lynn Parker of RoseBay. Parker said the judge made the ruling after a Jan. 25 emergency hearing on the motion made by GSR attorney Richard Prosser.

Officially, however, the order naming RoseBay as the exclusive agent has not yet been issued by the judge, said Meghan Kenrick, the case manager in May's office who handles the GSR bankruptcy case.

"There has been no order officially entered on the emergency application," she said on Feb. 2. "I've seen the order, but until it's officially posted, I can't comment." Kenrick added that it's possible May is still reviewing the decision.

Prosser's motion was aimed at getting a sales and marketing plan in place in time for the winter tourist season.

According to the motion, RoseBay will offer a "buy it now" price for any property if the offer is submitted by March 15. The bankruptcy court would have to approve any sale.

In addition, according to the motion, RoseBay would be entitled to a 6 percent commission on any sale, plus an additional 1 percent bonus commission for all properties with sales contracts submitted on or before March 15 that are subsequently court approved and closed.

As an added bonus, RoseBay would get a further 5 percent of any sale of more than 10 percent above GSR's reserve price on any property.

The properties RoseBay will market for GSR, along with the asking prices, are:

- 401 S. Bay Blvd., Anna Maria, \$625,000.
- 403 S. Bay Blvd., Anna Maria, \$895,000.
- 506 Bay Drive S., Bradenton Beach, \$895,000.
- 109 Fifth St. S., A, Bradenton Beach, \$825,000.

- 109 Fifth St. S., B, Bradenton Beach, \$825,000.
- Seventh Street, Gardenia 1, Bradenton Beach, \$925,000.
- Seventh Street, Gardenia 2, Bradenton Beach, \$895,000.
- 615 Key Royale Drive, Holmes Beach, \$1.5 million.
- 311 61st St., Holmes Beach, \$499,000.
- 312 60th St., (A), Holmes Beach, \$725,000.
- 312 60th St., (B), Holmes Beach, \$725,000.

All of the properties except 403 S. Bay Blvd. in Anna Maria are either under construction or vacant lots. The property at 506 Bay Drive S. in Bradenton Beach is listed as a furnished model.

RoseBay plans to open an office on Anna Maria

Island to market the properties.

GSR's Rosa del Mar condominium development vacant property at 2504 Gulf Drive N. in Bradenton Beach was not listed in the court documents, but the asking price is reportedly around \$11 million. GSR had planned to develop condominiums on the site.

GSR filed for bankruptcy on July 13, 2006. At that time, the company claimed assets of \$44 million against debts of \$33 million, and debts have reportedly grown considerably in the past six months.

Included in the debts are some \$6 million in unsecured claims. Several Islanders, including Holmes Beach residents Kent Davis and Mel and Carol Yudofsky, are listed as unsecured creditors. Davis has a claim for \$600,000, while the Yudofskys claim is just under \$400,000.



## Westbay's McGlynn: 'For he's a jolly good fellow...'

Holmes Beach Mayor Rich Bohnenberger, left, is joined by Westbay Point and Moorings officers and residents in recognizing their 15-year manager and employee of 25 years, Bob McGlynn, center. He was feted at a poolside party at the condo complex Thursday evening that brought together some 200 residents and guests for a buffet, speeches and recognition. Next to Bohnenberger are, from left, Gary Payne, staff member Carlos Totto, McGlynn, Vince Fanton, Al Guy and Jon Lindwall and, front, Dick Maher. *Islander Photo: Bonner Joy*



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# New WMFR ladder truck gets 'wetting down'

By Lisa Neff  
Islander Reporter

West Manatee Fire Rescue firefighters christened the newest addition to their fleet Feb. 1 with water, not champagne.

And they used a garden hose on the shining new 100-foot ladder truck, not a high-powered fire hose.

The wetting down ceremony took place at Station 2, 100350 Cortez Road, early Thursday.

The ceremony was a first for WMFR. Battalion Chief Dennis Dotson said the event is intended to promote pride and camaraderie among firefighters.

"The guys come together this way," Dotson said.

The ceremony began at about 8 a.m. inside Station 2. Attending, along with WMFR firefighters and officers, were WMFR commissioners, fire officials from other departments, Manatee County Commissioner Carol Whitmore and the head of the company that built and sold the truck.

"I've been at this 30 years," said Pierce Manufacturing CEO Don Bouwer. "But this is special." The company is headquartered in Bradenton and operates a plant in Appleton, Wis.

WMFR Deputy Chief Brett Pollock welcomed attendees.

WMFR pastor Mark Eveleth, of Cortez Road Baptist Church, delivered an invocation and later blessed the truck.

"It would be great," he said, "if this new apparatus never had to leave this department."

WMFR Commission Chairman Michael Mulyck said, "I'm very proud to be here and very proud of all



WMFR firefighters "push" the big rig into the station house, part of the wetting-down ceremony. *Islander Photos: Lisa Neff*

of you."

WMFR Chief Andy Price then talked about the truck, telling of its technical specs, and the safety and security it brings to the district.

WMFR purchased the rig last year, the authorization provided by WMFR commissioners in March 2006 after a committee review.

The 100-foot ladder truck arrived in Manatee

County Nov. 30, 2006, but wasn't put into commission because firefighters needed training.

The truck, which cost \$870,000, replaced a 75-foot ladder truck that was sold to a volunteer department in Ohio.

The new truck meets a fairly new need, Price said. The old 75-foot ladder truck could not reach the newer homes in the district that are being built to maximum size, according to the chief.

"You can't just look at the height," Price said, referring to height restrictions for Island buildings. The chief said emergency vehicles sometimes must be parked 25 feet from the structure. So the ladder must reach outward as well as upward.

The old truck also lacked a bucket at the tip of the ladder, creating a one-firefighter limit on the ladder and restricting rescues to one person at a time.

The new truck can carry four firefighters — or bring down several rescued people.

During the wetting-down ceremony that followed the speeches, firefighters from Station 2, where the truck will be housed, sprayed the engine using a garden hose.

Firefighters next pushed the truck into the station, where they listened to a radio announcement from the emergency command center placing Ladder 129 into service at Station 2.

"West Manatee Fire Rescue would like to announce the retirement of Truck 123, asset number 51794, and welcome the new apparatus, Ladder 129, asset 51029," the dispatcher said.

"We would like to wish Truck 123 and Ladder 129, and those assigned to them, a safe journey and the skills necessary to provide the best possible service to our visitors and citizens."

After the ceremony, attendees celebrated with morning refreshments. Firefighters continued to stand around the engine, pointing out its features.

"You can do so much more with it," boasted firefighter/paramedic John Stump, gesturing toward the truck. "And it's safer. And, to me, at night, with the lights, this truck is beautiful."



West Manatee Fire Rescue firefighters "wet down" a new 100-foot ladder truck during a ceremony Feb. 1 at Station 2 on Cortez Road. The ceremony is intended to encourage pride and ownership in the department, said Battalion Chief Dennis Dotson.

## 'Capt. Zach' to be featured speaker at library event

Capt. James A. Zacharias, longtime charter captain from Cortez, will discuss what kind of fish may be expected in local waters and how to catch them when he speaks at a meeting on the Island Monday, Feb. 12.

He will speak at a special program of the Friends of the Island Branch Library at 5 p.m. at the library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Additional information may be obtained by calling 778-6341.

## 9-to-5 women to hear from former Mayor SueLynn

The 9-to-5 Working Women's Group will hear SueLynn, former mayor of Anna Maria, discuss the recent League of Cities meeting and report on progress of the Rhea Chiles Center in Anna Maria, at a meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13.

The meeting will be at Stacey's Restaurant, 4818 14th St. W., Bradenton. The 9-to-5 group is part of the Democratic Women's Club of Manatee County. Details are available at 778-3444.

## 'Machu Picchu and Peru' topic

Jared and Marcy East will discuss 'Machu Picchu and Peru' at a special program of the Friends of the Island Library scheduled at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, at the library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach.

They made a journey to South America, concentrating on Peru, in 2005 and will describe their discoveries there. Further information is available at 778-6341.

## Tingley Library 'after hours' sets up its schedule

The Tingley Memorial Library "after hours" group has established 3 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month as its meeting time at the library, with the next meeting Feb. 14.

The library is at 111 Second St. N., in Bradenton Beach. Further information is available at 779-1208.

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### Valentine's Day luncheon set by Off Stage Ladies

The Off Stage Ladies auxiliary of the Anna Maria Island Players will have their Valentine's Day luncheon Wednesday, with reservations due by Feb. 10.

Asolo Play Readers will present the program for the affair at Mattison's Riverside, 1200 First Ave. W., Bradenton. Cost is \$16 per person. Additional information is available at 779-9210.

### 'Workout for St. Jude' slated on Island as fundraiser

A "Workout for St. Jude" to raise funds for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital will be at Curves for Women in Holmes Beach Wednesday, Feb. 14.

The workout will be from 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 to 7 p.m. at the location, 5366 Gulf Drive. Volunteer coordinator is JoAnn Swan. Proceeds will go to the children's research hospital in Memphis, Tenn. Additional details are available at 794-2878.

### 'Is Your Network Working?' seminar set on Longboat

A seminar titled "Is Your Network Working?" will be from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21, at the offices of the Longboat/Lido/St. Armands Keys Chamber of Commerce, 6960 Gulf of Mexico Drive, Longboat Key.

Benjamin Turpin and Glen Gould of Inspiration Agents will be in charge. Cost is \$49 for members, \$59 for nonmembers. Details are available at 383-2466.



### Quinn addresses Off Stage Ladies

Marilyn George, left, and Marilyn Moroni, right, host Sissy Quinn, director of the Anna Maria Island Historical Society, at the Off Stage Ladies luncheon Jan. 10 at the Bradenton Country Club. Quinn, wearing a period costume, talked about the historical society's goals and the role of the Island Players in Island history. The next Off Stage Ladies luncheon meeting will be held at noon Feb. 14 at the Twin Dolphin, 1200 First Ave. West, Bradenton. The program will feature the Asolo Play Readers.

### Key leadership program applications being taken

Applications are being accepted for the leadership program of the Longboat/Lido/St. Armands Keys Chamber of Commerce, seven one-day sessions from April 10 to June 21. The program will focus on government, business and tourism, health care, media, culture, history and recreation. Tuition is \$150. Further information is available at 383-2466.

### 'Treasures and Trinkets' sale set by power squadron

The Anna Maria Island Power Squadron's annual "Treasures and Trinkets" yard sale will be from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, at the squadron's quarters, 1200 71st St. N.W., Bradenton.

Boating items, books, tools, clothing, and household items will be sold. Additional details are available at 778-8408.

### Annie Silver center bingo play

More than 30 people attended the opening night of bingo at the Annie Silver Community Center. Bingo games take place on Thursdays at 7 p.m. at the center at the corner of 23rd Street and Avenue C, Bradenton Beach. Information: 778-1915.

Islander Photo: Edna Tiemann



### Island real estate sales

5804 Imperiore Ave., Holmes Beach, a 1,292 sfla / 1,328 sfur 3bed/2bath home built in 1969 on a 50x101 lot was sold 01/19/07, Collins to Russell for \$510,000; list \$584,900.

600 Manatee Ave., Unit 231, Westbay Cove, Holmes Beach, a 1,179 sfla / 1,479 sfur 2bed/2bath condo built in 1977 was sold 01/16/07, Henke to Anderson for \$462,500.

3607 E. Bay Drive, Unit 205, Sandy Pointe, Holmes Beach, a 976 sfla / 1,065 sfur 2bed/2bath condo built in 1996 was sold 01/16/07, Phillips to Vooren for \$315,000; list \$344,000.

Jesse Brisson, broker/associate at Gulf-Bay Realty of Anna Maria, can be reached at (941) 778-7244. Current Island real estate transactions may also be viewed online at [www.islander.org](http://www.islander.org). Copyright 2007.

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# Obituaries

## Mary 'Joanne' Chetlain

Mary "Joanne" Chetlain, 80, of Bradenton, died Jan. 25.

Born in Chicago, Ill., Mrs. Chetlain moved to Miami after living in Kentucky, New Jersey and Virginia. She was a graduate of Miami High School and attended the University of Miami before moving to Manatee County in 1957. She was an active member in the Bradenton Opera Guild and belonged to the Verdi Circle and was a Star member of Sarasota Opera Association. She was a member of the Manatee County Library Board and the Manatee County Historical Society. She was a member of the West Bradenton Baptist Church and belonged to Joy Sunday School Class.

Memorial services were Feb. 3 at West Bradenton Baptist Church. Memorial contributions may be made to the Bradenton Opera Guild, P.O. Box 9271, Bradenton FL 34206, or Tidewell Hospice, 3355 26th St. W., Bradenton FL 34205. Griffith-Cline Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

She is survived by husband of 55 years Kent, a former Manatee County commissioner and newspaper reporter who worked at the former *Islander* newspaper; daughters Dr. Mary Lou Zoback of Stanford, Calif., and Anna of Littleton, Colo.; sons Kent III of Tampa and Paul of Bradenton; sisters Virginia Solveson of Cupertino, Calif., and Frances DeVore of Broomfield, Colo.; and grandchildren Eli Zoback of San Francisco, Megan Zoback of Stanford, Joshua Knapik of Palmetto, and Erika and Abigail, both of Bradenton.

## Herbert Alexander Cochrane

Herbert Alexander Cochrane, 85, of Holmes Beach, died Jan. 25.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Mr. Cochrane came to Manatee County 31 years ago from Levittown, N.Y. He was project manager for Western Electric, construction and installation branch of the former AT&T. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps as a tech sergeant during World War II in the North African Campaign, where his unit supported flight operations for P-40s from Casablanca. He was a founding member and chief of the Levittown Fire Department, then commanded the 6th Battalion and later was chair of the Nassau County Fire Commission. He was a member of the Key Royale Club and served as club president.

Memorial services will be at 9 a.m. March 1 at the Key Royale Club, 700 Key Royale Drive, Holmes Beach. Griffith-Cline Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

He is survived by sons Peter A. and his wife Elizabeth of Newtown, Conn., and Curtis D. and his wife Dorothy of Woodbridge, Va.; and grandchildren Kelly, Lindsay, Peter Jr., Katherine and James.

## Michael 'Mickey' L. Graver

Michael "Mickey" L. Graver, 70, of Bradenton Beach, died Jan. 24.

Mr. Graver was a retired social worker. He gradu-

ated from the University of Buffalo and received a master's degree from New York State University. He was an avid sportsman and world traveler.

Memorial services were Jan. 28. Memorial contributions may be made to Tidewell Hospice and Palliative Care, care of Bradenton Hospice House, 3355 26th St. W., Bradenton FL 34205.

He is survived by daughter Kristy Tillquist and sister Rosemary Binkley-Graver.

## Paul W. Kemper Jr.

Paul W. Kemper Jr., 76, of Bradenton, died Jan. 26. Born in Richmond, Ind., Mr. Kemper moved to Manatee County in 1976 from Centerville, Ind. He was retired as owner-operator of Manatee Camera Store in Bradenton.

Memorial services were Jan. 31. Memorial contributions may be made to Tidewell Hospice and Palliative Care, 5955 Rand Blvd., Sarasota FL 34238. Brown & Sons Funeral Home, 43rd Street Chapel, was in charge of arrangements.

He is survived by wife Mary; daughters Carol Craft of Anna Maria Island and Cynthia Schneider of Bradenton; and three grandchildren.

## Ronald E. Moore

Ronald E. Moore, 65, of Bradenton, died Jan. 30.

Mr. Moore was a lifelong resident of Manatee County. He was head lifeguard on Anna Maria Island beaches for many years. He served in the U.S. Army as a military police officer.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7, at Fellowship of Believers, 3333 12th St., Sarasota. Griffith-Cline Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

He is survived by brother Donald of Ocala; sister Janet Sue Brown of Bradenton; and many nieces and nephews.

## Adaline Boyd O'Neill

Adaline Boyd O'Neill, 89, of Bradenton, died Jan. 29.

Born in Terra Ceia, Mrs. O'Neill worked as an executive secretary, payroll clerk and buyer for Montgomery Roberts department store. She later helped her husband with DiGiorgio Fruit corporation in Florida and California. She was Baptist.

Memorial services were Jan. 31. Memorial contributions may be made to the Wilbur "Burr" Boyd Scholarship Fund, 5840 26th St. W., Bradenton FL 34207. Shannon Funeral Home, Westview Chapel, was in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made to [www.shannonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.shannonfuneralhomes.com)

She is survived by brother-in-law David Kerns; sisters-in-law Fay Boyd and Alice Christian; nephews Thomas M., Fred Baumer, David Kerns, Clinton Kerns and James Boyd; nieces Daphne Boyd, Brenda Boyd May, DiDi Boyd Hager and Valerie Boyd Gargiulo; and several great-nephews and great-nieces.

## Lillian Stepka

Lillian Stepka, 70, of Holmes Beach, died Feb. 3.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Mrs. Stepka she came to Manatee County in 1990. She was a supervisor at Health-Mor Industries.

There were no services. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Bernard Catholic Church, 248 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach FL 34217. Griffith-Cline Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

She is survived by her husband Ronald; sons Ronald and his wife Erin of Avon Lake, Fla., David his wife Missy of Cleveland, and Daniel and his wife Pam of Brooklyn Heights, Ohio; daughters Deborah Solkiewicz of Medina, Ohio, and Linda and her husband Pete Maranos of Cleveland; brother Donald Niznick of Pittsburg, Tenn.; sister Joan Tharp of Cleveland; 17 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.



## St. Bernard shows off variety

"The Monster" Cecil Warf and "The Bride" Margie Sheehan perform "The Dance" in the annual Parish Variety Show Jan. 20 at St. Bernard Catholic Church in Holmes Beach. *Islander Photo: Nancy Ambrose*

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The collage features several advertisements: 'Real Coffee & Realty', 'Investment Property', 'Cottage or Breakfast', 'Early Bird Special', 'Sole Pizzeria', 'KAYAK RENTALS', 'Doh! la!', 'We Know the Way to your dream home or an ideal vacation rental.', and 'SunCoast'. The background is a detailed map of Anna Maria Island with various locations marked.



By Rick Catlin



David Webber of Turtle Tax and Accounting.

### Help for taxes

Island resident **David Webber** has opened **Turtle Tax and Accounting** just in time for the income tax season. With pickup and delivery of tax documents and forms available, David's service can be quite a help to a busy schedule.

David serves individual and small business accounts such as sole proprietorships, partnerships, LLCs, corporations and non-profit groups in addition to preparation of personal income taxes.

"When you need tax help, we think outside the shell," said David.

To talk to David about taxes and accounting, call 779-8686 after 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and on weekends from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Haley's goes non-smoking

**Haley's Motel** at 8102 Gulf Drive in Holmes Beach is now officially a non-smoking establishment said owners **Sabine Musil-Buehler and Thomas Buehler**.

After years of numerous warnings about the dangers of smoking and second-hand smoke, Musil-Buehler said it was time to go smokeless.

"The majority of our guests do not smoke. I am sure we will get even more business from people who appreciate



### Thai Cafe

*Sisters Grisna Cochran and Yupin Khruawan are the new owners of the Thai Cafe at 5763 Manatee Ave. W. in Bradenton. Restaurant hours are 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays and 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday. For reservations and information, call 798-3114. Islander Photo: Nancy Ambrose*

being able to sit in the garden or our pool area without having smoke blown in their faces," she said.

In addition, "We came up with a smoke-cessation program for those who would like to kick their addiction." The seminar is one week long and costs less than 1,000 packs of cigarettes, which for most smokers is not even a year's supply, she added.

The cessation program is being run by hypno-therapist Julia Mueller at Haley's Motel.

For more information on the program or to reach Haley's Motel, call 778-5405 or visit the motel's Web site at [www.haleysmotel.com](http://www.haleysmotel.com)

### Mixon's on the move

**Mixon's Fruit Farm** at 2712 26th Ave. E. in Bradenton is working with the Florida Department of Health to promote "Florida on the Move," a free, easy-to-follow lifelong program to get healthy and stay that way.

From 9 a.m. to noon Friday, Feb. 16, there will be a guided walk through Mixon's orange groves. All participants will be given a free "Step up Florida" pedometer and the entire tour is about one-half mile long.

There is no charge for the tour and no age limit to participate.

To reach Mixon's Fruit Farm and



### Galati honors

*Galati Yachts Sales was honored recently by Boating Industry magazine for making the magazine's Top 100 list and being named best independent dealer in America. From left are Mike Galati, Fran Galati, Joe Galati, Liz Walz of Boating Industry magazine, Mike Eiffert, Darren Plymale and Carmine Galati. Islander Photo: Courtesy Galati Yacht Sales*

learn more about "Florida on the Move," call 748-5829, ext. 256.

### Galati deemed best

The "Oscars" for the marine industry were handed out recently in Las Vegas as Boating Industry magazine announced its Top 100 list for 2006 and Galati Yacht Sales of Anna Maria came in best among all independently owned boat dealers and second overall. The list honors the best marine dealers in the United States among 357 retail outlets.

A press release from Team Galati said that Galati Yacht Sales "has proven year in and year out that they are, in fact, worthy of the title of 'best of the best.'" A top ranking member of the Top 100, Galati epitomizes boating industry standards of professionalism, marketing, stellar customer service and outstanding business operations, the release said.

Matt Gruhn of Boating Industry said the magazine's editorial staff was "extremely impressed" with Galati Yacht Sales' operational excellence.

In addition to Boating Industry magazine's award, Galati has also received awards for excellence from Viking Yachts, Viking Sport Cruisers, Cruisers Yachts, Carver Yachts and Tiara Yachts.

Galati Yacht Sales is a family-owned business that now has eight locations and more than 200 employees.

### Realty raves

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

In addition, the company named the team of Becky Smith and Elfi Starrett as its top listing agents at its Anna Maria Island office, while Dee Dee Burke took the honor for Wagner's Longboat Key office. Top honors in the closed-volume category at the Longboat Key office went to Jack McCormick.

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.

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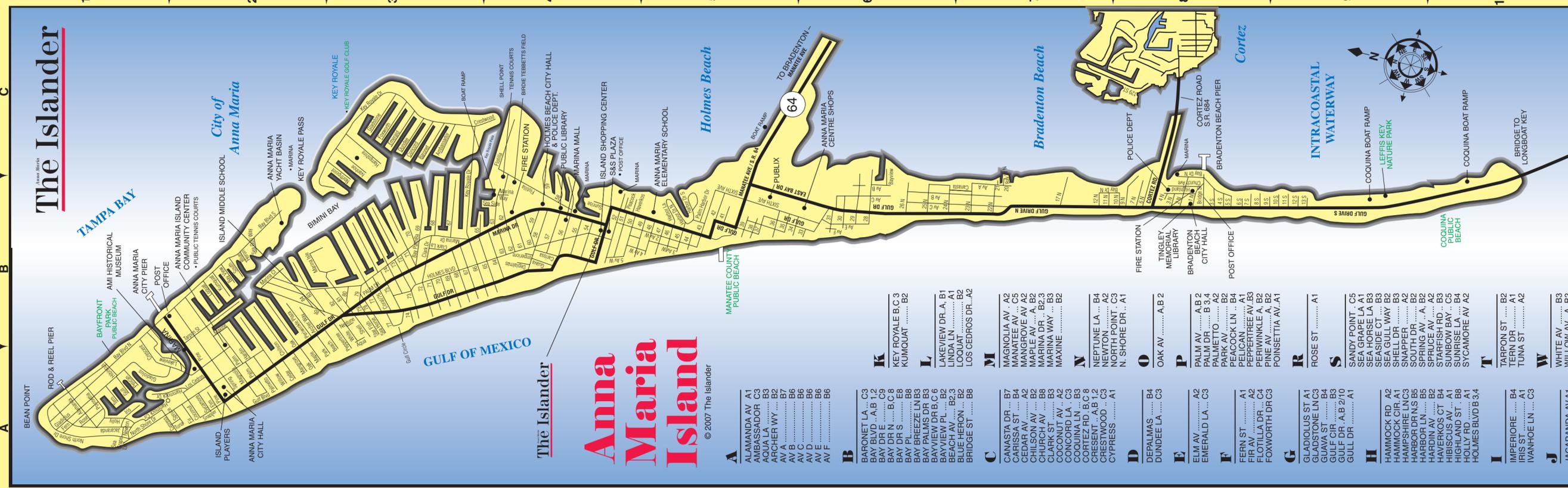


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**Anna Maria Island**

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- T** TARPON ST B2, TERN DR A1, TUNA ST A2
- W** WHITE AV B3, WILLOW AV A, B2

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# ISLANDER CALENDAR

## Wednesday, Feb. 7

7 a.m. to 8 a.m. — The Anna Maria City Pier Regulars meet at Anna Maria City Pier, 100 S. Bay Blvd., Anna Maria. Information: 778-7062.

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. — The Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce holds a networking luncheon, the Sun House Restaurant, 111 Gulf Drive, Bradenton Beach. Information: 778-1541. Reservations. Fee applies.

2 p.m. — Diana Milesko speaks about global warming at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-6341.

## Thursday, Feb. 8

9 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. — The Anna Maria Island Art League hosts a yoga class, 5312 Holmes Blvd., Holmes Beach. Information: 778-2099. Fee applies.

9:30 to 11:30 a.m. — Diana Kelly teaches sewing, embroidery and quilting at Roser Memorial Community Church, 512 Pine Ave., Anna Maria. Information: 795-8945.

9:30 a.m. to noon — Artist Susie Cotton teaches the Anna Maria Island Community Center intermediate watercolor class at St. Bernard Catholic Church, 248 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-1908. Fee applies.

11 a.m. to 9 p.m. — The Greek Glendi takes place at St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church, 7671 N. Lockwood Ridge Road, Sarasota. The festival continues through Sunday at various times. Information: 941-355-2616. Fee applies.

1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. — The Artists Guild of Anna Maria sponsors a painting demonstration by Karen Cunningham at the Guild Gallery, 5413 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-6694.

1 p.m. to 3 p.m. — Water's Edge of Bradenton hosts the first annual Chocolate Festival to benefit the Meals on Wheels Plus Senior Center. The festival takes place at the Water's Edge, 30th Avenue West between 14th Street West and 26th Street West, Bradenton. Information: 748-7797.

5 p.m. to 7 p.m. — The Manatee Young Professionals meets at Art-Center Manatee, 209 Ninth St. W., Bradenton. Information: 748-4842.

7 p.m. — Bingo gets called at the Annie Silver Community Center, corner of 23rd Street and Avenue C, Bradenton Beach. Information: 778-1915.

8 p.m. to 11 p.m. — The Kiwanis Club of Anna Maria Island presents the 15th annual Big Band Dance at St. Bernard Catholic Church, 248 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-1383.

## Friday, Feb. 9

9 a.m. — A federal guide conducts a nature tour at DeSoto National Monument, north end of 75th Street in Bradenton. Information: 722-4524.

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. — Larry Auerbach offers instruction in bridge play through the Anna Maria Island Community Center at the Volunteer Fire Hall, 201 Second St. W., Bradenton Beach. Information: 778-1908. Fee applies.

10:30 a.m. to noon — Line dancing sponsored by the Anna Maria Community Center takes place at St. Bernard Catholic Church, 248 S. Harbor

Drive. Information: 778-1908. Fee applies.

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. — Anna Maria Island Community Center hosts Food for Life cooking session, "Maintaining a Healthy Weight," at St. Bernard Catholic Church, 248 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-1908.

6 p.m. to 9 p.m. — Richard Thomas' paintings and drawings are shown at a reception at the Anna Maria Island Art League, 5312 Holmes Blvd., Holmes Beach, through Feb. 28. Information: 778-2099.

## Saturday, Feb. 10

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

8 a.m. to 3 p.m. — The Anna Maria Island Power Squadron hosts its annual yard sale, 1200 71st St. N.W., Bradenton. Information: 778-8408.

8:30 a.m. — The Anna Maria Island Kiwanis Club meets for breakfast and a town meeting, co-sponsored by *The Islander*, with state Rep. Bill Galvano at Cafe on the Beach, Manatee Public Beach. Galvano will speak at 9 a.m., followed by a question-and-answer session. Information: 778-7978.

8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. — Manatee County Conservation Lands Management Department offers a sneak peak tour of the Robinson Preserve. The department also offers events at other county preserves on various dates this month. Information: 748-4501, ext. 3654.

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. — A fun fest takes place at The Village of the Arts, four blocks south of Manatee Avenue between Ninth Street West and 14th Street West in Bradenton. Information: 356-3291.

9 a.m. to noon — The fourth annual Friends of Myakka River Nature-Adventure series continues with "favorite fishing spots" at Myakka River State Park. Information: 941-316-8139.

9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. — The REAL Women's Ministry of Island Baptist Church hosts "A Valentine Tea," 8605 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria. Information: 778-7845.

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. — The Pilates class sponsored by the Anna Maria Island Community Center takes place outdoors at the BeachHouse Restaurant, 200 Gulf Drive N., Bradenton Beach. Information: 778-1908. Fee applies.

9 a.m. to 11 a.m. — "Turtles: Swimming against the Tides" is the topic children and adults will learn about at Mote Marine's education resource center, 1600 Ken Thompson Pkwy., Sarasota. Information: 941-388-4441, ext. 229. Fee applies.

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. — The Gamble Plantation Preservation Alliance hosts the seventh annual Plantation Festival, Gamble Plantation, 3708 Patten Ave., Ellenton. Information: 723-4536.

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. — Judy Pruitt holds a session of Family Origami at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-6341.

10:30 a.m. — The North American Butterfly Association Manatee Chapter holds a talk on the hairstreak butterfly with environmental specialist Don Stillwaugh at Rocky Bluff Branch Library, 7016 U.S. Highway 301, Ellenton. Information: 518-4431.

11 a.m. — The Anna Maria Island Young Professionals hold a car wash to benefit the American Cancer Society Relay for Life at the West Manatee Fire Rescue station on Marina Drive in Holmes Beach. Information: 744-6451.

2 p.m. — Marcy and Jerry East discuss travels to Machu Pichu, Peru, in

the Island Branch Library Travel Series, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-6341.

## Sunday, Feb. 11

10 a.m. — Jazz Worship with Al Hixon takes place at Longboat Island Chapel, 6200 Gulf of Mexico Drive, Longboat Key. Information: 779-0680.

5 p.m. — The Women's Guild and Holy Name Society of St. Bernard Catholic Church hold the annual Evening with Sports Legends, a fundraiser in the church activity room, 248 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-4769. Fee applies.

## Monday, Feb. 12

8:30 a.m. — The Island Branch Library offers a basic Internet class at the library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-6341.

9 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. — The Anna Maria Island Art League hosts a yoga class, 5312 Holmes Blvd., Holmes Beach. Information: 778-2099. Fee applies.

9 a.m. to 10 a.m. — The Widowed Persons Support Group of Anna Maria Island Community Center meets for "coffee and conversation" at St. Bernard Catholic Church, 248 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-1908.

4 p.m. — Mote Marine Laboratory hosts a Monday@Mote program featuring Dr. David Vaughan of the Center for Coral Reef Research, 1600 Ken Thompson Pkwy., Sarasota. Information: 941-388-4441, ext. 691.

5 p.m. — Capt. Zach Zacharias talks about fishing in the local business series at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-6341.

7 p.m. — Mote Marine Laboratory hosts a special lecture, "Shadow Divers: Mystery and Adventure on the Bottom of the Atlantic," 1600 Ken Thompson Pkwy., Sarasota. Information: 941-388-4441, ext. 691.

## Tuesday, Feb. 13

10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. — Dr. John Mellon, literary critic and retired professor, addresses the Friends of the Island Library, Island Library Branch, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-6341.

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

10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. — Artist Susie Cotton teaches the Anna Maria Island Community Center intermediate watercolor class at St. Bernard Catholic Church, 248 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-1908. Fee applies.

Noon — Rotary Club of Anna Maria Island meets for lunch and for a club assembly led by club president Steve Schlueter at the BeachHouse Restaurant, 200 Gulf Drive N., Bradenton Beach. Information: 447-5362.

6 p.m. — The 9-to-5 Working Women's Group of the Democratic Women's Club of Manatee County meets to hear from former Anna Maria Mayor SueLynn at Stacey's Buffet, 4848 14th St. W., Bradenton. Information: 778-3444.

## Wednesday, Feb. 14

Happy Valentine's Day.

All day — Workouts raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at Curves, 5366 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 794-2878.

PLEASE SEE CALENDAR, NEXT PAGE

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**Calendar**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

- 7:45 a.m. to 9 a.m. — The Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce holds its monthly breakfast at the Sun House Restaurant, 111 Gulf Drive, Bradenton Beach. Information: 778-1541. Fee applies.
- 10:30 a.m. — The Friends of the Island Library book club meets at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-6341.
- 11:30 a.m. — The Off Stage Ladies auxiliary of the Island Players holds its Valentine's Day luncheon meeting at Mattison's Riverside, 1200 First Ave. W., Bradenton. Information: 779-9210. Fee applies.
- 3 p.m. — The Tingley After Hours book group meets at Tingley Memorial Library, 111 Second St. N., Bradenton Beach. Information: 779-1208.
- 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. — A group for parents and grandparents sponsored by the Anna Maria Island Community Center meets at the School for Constructive Play, 304 Pine Ave., Anna Maria. Information: 778-1908.
- 7:30 p.m. — The Longboat Key Center for the Arts hosts "Valentine's Jazz in the Gallery" at the center, 6860 Longboat Drive, Longboat Key. Information: 383-2345.

**Ongoing:**

- Dr. Kenneth Alonso discusses Christian mystics in "The Way of the Heart," 7 p.m. Mondays through March 26 at St. Bernard Catholic Church, Holmes Beach.
- Genevieve Alban is the featured artist of the month in February at the Artists Guild of Anna Maria Island gallery, 5414 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach.
- A variety of classes — from basic drawing to stained glass to oil painting — are under way at the Anna Maria Island Art League, 5312 Holmes Blvd., Holmes Beach. Information: 778-2099.
- Horseshoes get tossed in the pits at Anna Maria City Hall, 10005 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria, on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 9 a.m., with warmups at 8:45 a.m.
- The Anna Maria Island Historical Museum, 402 Pine Ave., opens on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. with the smell of "Settler's Bread," available for \$4 a loaf.
- The Anna Maria Island Community Center hosts a variety of programs and classes through the season at various locations. Information: 778-1908.
- In February, the Longboat Key Center for the Arts hosts "Creationism vs. Evolution" — the work of Fernando Madridejos in the Glen Gallery, the work of sculptor Jorge Marin in the members gallery and a fundraising exhibit in the Durante Gallery, 6860 Longboat Drive, Longboat Key. Information: 383-2345. Fee applies.
- Nature photographer Joe Fletcher is the "Artist of the Month" at the Island Gallery West, 5568 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-6648.

**Coming up:**

- Feb. 15 the business women of the Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce and the women of Longboat-Lido-St. Armands Key Chamber of Commerce meet at Harry's Continental Kitchen, 525 St. Judes Drive, Longboat Key. Information: 778-1541.
- Feb. 17 the Sarasota Shell Show takes place at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota.
- Feb. 17-18 brings the Cortez Commercial Fishing Festival to the historic village. Information: [www.fishnews.org/festival/](http://www.fishnews.org/festival/).
- Feb. 19 the Gulf Coast Senior Games begins with lawn bowling, shuffleboard, table tennis at various locations in the region. The games continue through Feb. 25. Information: 224-7344.

**Whitey Horton golf tourney is scheduled for May**

The Anna Maria Island Privateers have set May 12 as date for the big annual Whitey Horton golf tournament, primary fundraiser for the organization's scholarship fund.

Sponsors are being sought for various categories, as well as players. Sponsorships are \$500 for gold, \$250 for silver, \$100 for tournament sponsor.

The tournament memorializes a longtime member

of the Privateers civic group. A shotgun start will touch off the tournament at 1 p.m. at the River Club Golf Course, 6600 River Club Blvd., Bradenton, followed by the awards banquet at 5 p.m.

Deadline for entry is Friday, May 4. The fee is \$125, and entry forms may be obtained and sponsorships arranged by calling 752-5973 or 778-8519.



**Alban featured artist at Guild gallery**

Genevieve Alban, pictured to the right of her work, is the featured artist of the month at the Artists Guild of Anna Maria Island gallery, 5414 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. The Guild Gallery hosted a reception Feb. 2 honoring Alban, the guild's founding president, and her art. Islander Photo: Lisa Neff

- Feb. 20 authors Rick Cattlin of *The Islander*, Gene Cominiak, Robert Fondes, Jack Hubbard, Jim Kissick and Siegfried Mauritz share stories of war heroics at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-6341.

**Save the Date:**

The third annual education forum sponsored by the Holmes Beach Parks and Beautification Committee, "Go Native with Plants and Trees," takes

place 7 p.m. Feb. 20 at Holmes Beach City Hall. Information: 778-4060.

**Correction**

The Anna Maria Island Community Chorus and Orchestra performs an "Opera Sampler" on Feb. 18 at 2 p.m. at the Island Baptist Church. Information: 794-5507. The date was incorrect in last week's calendar.

Send calendar listings to [lisaneff@islander.org](mailto:lisaneff@islander.org). Please include time, date and location of the event and a contact number.

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# Baby, it's getting hot outside: climate change excerpts

Floridians got a rude awakening of climate change last Friday. Tornadoes swept through a wide swath of the state north of Orlando in the hours just before dawn. Early estimates placed more than 1,300 homes damaged through a 40-mile swath. The death toll numbered 20.

A few hours later, a long-anticipated report on global climate change was released. The statements in the report present news almost as bad as the tornado's destruction.

The U.N. International Panel on Climate Change has released the result of studies from more than 600 scientists from 113 countries. According to the International Herald Tribune, "Most of the observed increase in globally averaged temperatures since the mid-20th century is very likely due to the observed increase in anthropogenic greenhouse gas concentrations."

That "very likely" translates into a 90-percent certainty, according to the authors of the report. Previously, the term used was "likely," which, in science-speak, means 66-percent certainty.

"The primary source of the increased atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide since the pre-industrial period results from fossil-fuel use, with land-use change providing another significant but smaller contribution," the report continues. "Warming of the climate system is unequivocal, as is now evident from observations of increases in global average air and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice, and rising global mean sea level."

Climate change is evident in the weather we've had to deal with of late. Think it's hotter than usual? You're right: 11 of the past 12 years have been ranked as the warmest since records have been kept, beginning in 1850. The panel report said that the world's oceans have been absorbing "more than 80 percent of the heat. Such warming causes seawater to expand, contributing to sea-level rise."

That sea level rise is of particular concern to those of us living on skinny barrier islands like Anna Maria. The latest scientific estimate is a 7- to 23-inch rise in water in the next 100 years. Those numbers pretty much jibe with some local figures that were collected a few years ago, which estimated sea level would increase by 6 inches by 2020, 14 inches by 2065, and 25 inches by 2115.

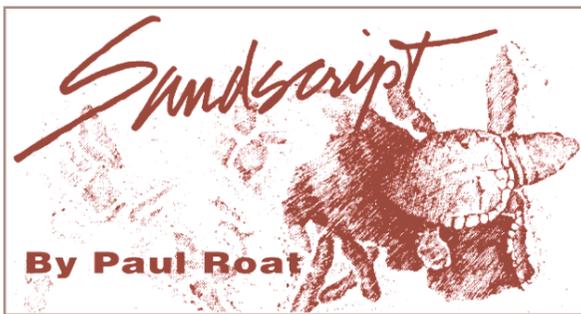
On the next high tide, go out to your favorite seawall or pier and add 6 inches to the water level, or a couple feet, and you get the idea that things here aren't quite as high and dry as they should be.

On a slightly more global view, the panel report states, "At continental, regional and ocean basin scales, numerous long-term changes in climate have been observed. These include changes in Arctic temperatures and ice, widespread changes in precipitation amounts, ocean salinity, wind patterns and aspects of extreme weather including droughts, heavy precipitation, heat waves and the intensity of tropical cyclones."

"Average Arctic temperatures increased at almost twice the global average rate in the past 100 years."

"More intense and longer droughts have been observed over wider areas since the 1970s, particularly in the tropics and subtropics. Increased drying linked with higher temperatures and decreased precipitation have contributed to changes in drought. Changes in sea surface temperatures, wind patterns, and decreased snowpack and snow cover have also been linked to droughts."

"Widespread changes in extreme temperatures have been observed over the last 50 years. Cold days, cold nights and frost have become less frequent, while hot



days, hot nights, and heat waves have become more frequent."

The scientists didn't really answer the question of whether or not our increased hurricane activity in the Atlantic Ocean is directly caused by long-term climate changes, as some propose, or is merely a cycle of high activity, low activity that has been observed every 20 years or so.

We're obviously in the high-activity period right now. Will it last forever? The scientists stated, "There is observational evidence for an increase of intense tropical cyclone activity in the North Atlantic since about 1970, correlated with increases of tropical sea surface temperatures. Some aspects of climate have not been observed to change. ... There is insufficient evidence to determine whether trends exist in the meridional overturning circulation of the global ocean or in small scale phenomena such as tornadoes, hail, lightning and dust-storms."

The scary thing about all the talk is that it could well be too late to change anything. Temperature increases are placed at 3 to 7 degrees by 2100. Keeping things status quo will keep the warming trend going, "due mainly to the slow response of the oceans."

Friday's report is only one round on the global climate issue. Another study on impacts, adaptation and vulnerability should be finalized in April, and one on ways to reduce emissions or their impacts in May.

More good news to look forward to, eh?

## And the news keeps coming

The bad news is that maps used to assess flooding problems are decades old. The good news is that changes are being made to correct the antiquated mapping data.

In the forefront of the issue is the Federal Emergency Management Agency. It creates maps that are used by mortgage and insurance agencies to determine rates and need for various types of insurance.

But most of the data comes from U.S. Geological Survey figures from the 1970s. Remember how much sea level has risen? Remember what the Island looked like 30 years ago versus today? And we're just one little barrier island.

The whole concept was recommended by something called the National Research Council. FEMA officials are supportive of the effort, and figure it could take up to two years to revise the maps.

The cost? Well, North Carolina is undergoing a program right now to assess map elevations, at a cost of about \$26 million.

## Sandscript factoid

Florida mystery author Tim Dorsey has a new book out, "Hurricane Punch." Anybody who's interested in storms should love the antics as the crew follows hurricane after hurricane across Florida.

And as the name implies, there is a cocktail involved. "Hurricane Punch" is:

Red Bull, Everclear, cranberry juice, grapefruit juice, pineapple juice, light rum, dark rum, amaretto, blue curacao, orange passion fruit, a wedge of lime, a leaf of mint, a squirt of triple sec, a splash of Grand Marnier, a dash of grenadine, a pinch of coconut, a sprinkle of sugar, shaved ice, and a whole bunch of mescaline.

Somehow, I don't think we'll be able to order the beverage at our local watering hole — although based on all the climate change news, some kind of strong elixir appears warranted.

## Citizen, business help sought by Sarasota Bay Program

Manatee County citizens or business people are being sought to serve on the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program citizen advisory committee.

Those interested in the program should have interests that include "environmental, conservation and watershed issues; be active in the community; or members of the education/academic community," according to the program.

The CAC communicates with "citizens and groups about the projects and resources that SBEP undertakes to restore Sarasota Bay. In turn, the CAC communicates community concerns and interests to SBEP staff and partners," according to the program.

The CAC meets on the first Monday of every month at 4:30 p.m. For more information, contact the bay program at 941-955-8085, or e-mail at info@sarasotabay.org



## Chilling out

Sue Luzier, wife of the Anna Maria Island Privateers president Greg "Wiz" Luzier, briefly forsakes the warm weather of her Florida home and visits her family in chilly Fairborne, Ohio.

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	Feb 7	2:40	1.3	8:10	0.3	2:48	1.7	9:13	0.1
	Feb 8	3:40	1.1	8:24	0.5	3:10	1.8	10:15	0.0
	Feb 9	5:01	0.9	8:25	0.7	3:39	1.8	11:35	0.0
LQ	Feb 10	—	—	—	—	4:14	1.9	—	—
	Feb 11	—	—	12:54	-0.2	5:06	1.9	—	—
	Feb 12	—	—	2:17	-0.3	6:17	1.9	—	—
	Feb 13	—	—	3:19	-0.5	7:38	2.0	—	—
	Feb 14	—	—	4:08	-0.7	8:47	2.1	—	—

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

# There's a whole lot of weird fish being caught

By Capt. Mike Heistand

Despite snook season opening Feb. 1, the linesider catch is few and far between so far, but hope springs eternal that the catch will improve in the next month or so.

In the meantime, catches of hog snapper continue out in the Gulf of Mexico, something of a rarity for our waters. There are also good reports of amberjack, grouper and snapper coming from offshore.

In the backwaters, now is definitely the time to get that big sheepshead. Catches are coming in routinely at 5 pounds, and the striped fish are thick around any sort of structure and seem to be nibbling on almost any type of bait. Trout, redfish and big flounder are also a good bet.

Pompano, whiting and bluefish are another good bet in the inlets north and south of Anna Maria Island.

**Capt. Zach Zacharias** on the *Dee-Jay II* out of **Parrot Cove Marina** said a couple of forays out in the Gulf between fronts produced some "really interesting results. In close to the beaches, the bluefish were so thick they get to be boring in short order, so we ventured out a little farther to get away from them. That move paid off with some big spawner sheepsheads and hefty gray triggerfish. Some unusual catches included a few 16-inch-long hogfish, as well as larger than usual Key West grunts and lane snapper. The most unusual catch was a pair of 30-inch snook taken on small shrimp intended for sheepsheads over hard bottom about 1 1/2 miles west of Anna Maria. Catching snook that far from shore in the Gulf is rare, but almost unheard of in January."

He added that inshore action has featured trout, redfish and sheepshead being caught with live shrimp and Berkeley's "Gulp" shrimp, with low incoming tides providing the best timing for the best catch.

"In the past couple of years, there have been more and more unusual catches made in these parts," Capt. Zach noted. "Last year's mullet roe season saw a number of bonefish netted in the area. Hog snapper are becoming more common as well. Offshore, there are far more yellowtail snapper in summer, plus more mako sharks and permit than I ever remember seeing in 50 years of fishing around here. Maybe it has something to do with climate change, but there is certainly something in the works."

At **Annie's Bait & Tackle** in Cortez, **Capt. Mark Johnson** said he's been catching sheepshead up to 5 pounds and lots of small redfish. **Capt. Sam Kimball** said he's putting his charters onto mangrove snapper to 7 pounds, and farther out in the Gulf he's catching grouper to 10 pounds.

**Bill Lowman** at **Island Discount Tackle at Catchers Marina** in Holmes Beach said sheepshead are thick around almost any structure in the bay right now — hard bottom, docks, piers and bridges, with the best sizes running to 5 pounds. Mackerel are spotty but somewhat consistent, and the passes are producing whiting, pompano and bluefish. There are also lots of small redfish being caught on the seagrass flats and near



## Good time by all

This happy bunch of fishers brought back a bunch of fish while fishing with Capt. Larry McGuire on *Show Me The Fish Charters*. The group's catch included gag grouper, mangrove snapper, yellowtail snapper and four hog snapper. Pictured, from left, are Fred Kogge with a gag, Dick Prentice, Jerry Jasinski, Tom Keller and Jack Calaoun, all with hog snappers, and kneeling is Tom Kearney with a mangrove.

the docks in the bays.

**Tom Cassetty** at the **Rod & Reel Pier** said he's seeing a few mackerel come onto the lines, as well as bluefish, sheepshead and a couple huge flounder, plus whiting.

**Jesus Rosario** at the **Anna Maria City Pier** said sheepshead are the best bet right now, with most of the action coming from those using fiddler crabs, sand fleas, bloodworms or shrimp. There are also a few mangrove snapper coming onto the dock, plus black drum and yellowtail snapper.

**Dave Johnson** at **Snead Island Crab House** said black drum are being caught in the Manatee River. He's also heard great reports of redfish up to 38 inches being caught by the Sunshine Skyway Bridge, as well as mangrove snapper up to 18 inches in length. Small redfish are also coming out of Terra Ceia Bay.

**Capt. Rick Gross** on **Fishy Business** out of **Catchers Marina** said he's catching a few pompano, whiting and bluefish along the beach, mangrove snapper offshore and enough reds to make his charters very happy.

At **Skyway Bait and Tackle**, reports include mackerel and sheepshead from southern Tampa Bay, plus some small bonnethead sharks and a few flounder.

Trout are also a good bet from Terra Ceia Bay.

**Capt. Larry McGuire** of **Show Me The Fish Charters** said he's finding fishing to be great — on the nice days, of course. "We are catching big gag grouper, monster red grouper, big amberjack, lots of mangrove and yellowtail snapper, four hog snapper on one trip, triggerfish, sharks, and last weekend we caught 12 kingfish and hooked many more," he said. "We are fishing 20 to 40 miles out in the Gulf, using a variety of live and frozen baits."

On my boat **Magic**, we caught snapper to 17 inches, reds to 19 inches, trout to 20 inches, one black drum that tipped the scales at better than 6 pounds, and sheepshead to 4 pounds.

Good luck and good fishing.

*Capt. Mike Heistand is a 20-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.*

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**The Islander**

# Flag Football: Yellow holds on for 4-point victory

By Kevin Cassidy  
Islander Reporter

Yellow took what seemed to be an insurmountable 19-0 lead over Green into the half, only to see Green fight back to make a game of it in Anna Maria Island Community Center Youth Division flag football action on Feb. 3.

Brandon Gengler opened the scoring for Yellow with a 60-yard run for a touchdown. He followed that with a 70-yard interception return for a touchdown that gave Yellow a 13-0 lead.

Green came back and looked to have scored when quarterback Kyle Parsons hit Chandler Hardy for 36 yards, but he got stopped on the 1-yard line. On fourth down, Alex Burgess knocked down Parsons' pass to deny the Green team.

Yellow marched right down the field in the waning moments of the first half capped by Trevor Bystrom's 30-yard pass that tipped off Nicole Botero's hands to the waiting hands of Alex Burgess, who took it to the 5-yard line. There QB Bystrom pitched back to Gengler, who ran around like Michael Vick before finally hitting Daniel Janisch with the TD pass and a 19-0 lead.

Green got its offense going on the next drive, which lasted all of two plays. QB Parsons hit Ben Valdivieso for 18 yards and a first down. They hooked up again on a little swing pass that Valdivieso took to the house from 23 yards out. Parsons then hit Hardy for the two-point conversion to pull to within 19-8.

The Green defense held and got the ball back to its offense. Valdivieso, now playing quarterback, hit Hardy for 37 yards on first down, while Rivers gained 20 yards on a run up the middle on the second play of the drive. Parsons found Connor Cloharty on a second-down pass play that he took to the 1-yard line. On third down, Parsons hit Hardy in the flat for a touchdown to pull to within 19-14. Valdivieso hit Parsons with the one-point conversion to make the score 19-15 Yellow.

Both teams traded offensive possessions with no score, but Gengler appeared to ice the game for Yellow when he bolted 75 yards up the middle for a touchdown and a 25-16 lead.



Nicole Botero reaches for Blake Rivers' flag during flag football action last week. *Islander Photo: Kevin Cassidy*

The Yellow defense held Green down on their next offensive possession, but gave the ball back in dangerous field possession when Bystrom's pass was intercepted by Valdivieso at the 25-yard line. Green wasted no time as Parsons hit Valdivieso with a 25-yard touchdown pass to pull to within 25-21. Gengler stopped Valdivieso on the two-point attempt and then ran out the clock to seal Yellow's victory.

## Key Royale golf news

Key Royale golf course was circled with pink flags to celebrate "Fore the Cure" on Tuesday, Jan. 30. Sixty-five golfers joined forces to golf a nine-hole shotgun event to raise money for breast cancer research. Donations from the members and their guests totaling \$1,818

were delivered to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

See "Key Royale women" below for more on the Cure tourney.

The Key Royale Club's men played a nine-hole, best-ball-of-partners game on Jan. 29 which ended in a two-way tie for first place. Al Morgan and Tom Nelson, along with the team of Dick Grimme and Ernie Hauser each finished with a 3-under-par 29 to share bragging rights for the day in the clubhouse. Charlie Knopp and Matt Behan finished alone in second place with a 30, while three teams another shot back finished in a tie for third.

The men were back at it again on Jan. 31 for an  
**PLEASE SEE SPORTS, NEXT PAGE**

# Key Royale women tee-up 'pink' for cure

By Lisa Neff  
Islander Reporter

The pink flags planted in the grass signaled that Jan. 30 wasn't to be like any other day at the Key Royale Club.

Inside the clubhouse, there was more pink. Players wore pink baseball caps, ribbons, jackets, shirts, socks, shoes and slacks. There were pink flowers on tables, pink candies in dishes, pink golf balls in hands and even pink wine to be awarded for prizes.

Pink is the signature color of the campaign to prevent, treat and cure breast cancer. On Jan. 30, the women members of Key Royale and their guests joined in Fore the Cure, an event to raise money for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

"We're just trying to do the best we can," said Marlyn Thornton, who worked with Mary Pat Swamy to chair the event, with the support of more than a dozen volunteers.

The event featured a nine-hole shotgun tournament on the golf course, a luncheon and the raffle of the "House of Hope," an intricately designed dollhouse created and donated by Margaret Schuller.

The Holmes Beach resident donated the painstakingly created house in memory of her sister, who died



Margaret Schuller of Holmes Beach stands beside the "House of Hope," the dollhouse she created and then donated for the Fore the Cure fundraiser.



Lois Finley takes aim in a putting contest outside the clubhouse. *Islander Photos: Lisa Neff*

last summer after a fight with cancer.

The raffle raised \$500, but the house will draw yet more money this week. Anita Riso won the two-story structure and then donated it for a silent auction that was scheduled to take place Tuesday, after *The Islander* went to press.

Dozens of women attended Fore the Cure — 65 of them playing in the tournament on the chilly morning.

A tradition of Breast Cancer Day has been the pink ball tournament. Using teamwork, the winners were Mary Selby, Rose Slomba and Penny Williams and second-place finishers Lucille Cooney, Sue Hookom, Markie Ksiazek, Phyllis Lamp, Pat Coco Valdez, and Nancy King.

Joy Kaiser and Phyllis Roe each fired a 37 to tie for low-gross score on the day. Margaret Swift's 30 earned her first place in the low-net category. Second place was a tie for Millie Mullin, Mary Selby, Sue Hookem and

Tootie Wagner with 31s, while Dorothy McKinna, Joy Nelles, and Sally Keyes each finished at even-par 32 to tie for third place.

Prizes in a putting contest went to Jean Holmes for the long putt of 8 feet, 6 inches with runnerup Kaiser right behind her with a putt of 8 feet, 3 inches. The straightest drive honors went to Penny Williams, Pat Townsend and Swift. McKinna, Jeanne Geary, Nelles and Theresa Schutt took home special putting honors.

Key Royale women's golf is chaired by Swamy and Marlyn Thornton, who thanked the committee responsible for the successful event. Volunteers for the "pink" tourney included Mary Margaret Dickinson, Mardene Eichhorn, Sheila Ford, Sue Hookom, Caye Hudson, Marge Jacob, Maryanne Kaemmerlen, Bobby Lindstrom, Eileen Micho, Margaret Schuller, Janet Stokes, Penny Williams and Sally York.

For more information about the Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, go to [www.komen.org](http://www.komen.org).

**Sports**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

18-hole, individual low-net tournament. Dick Ware captured bragging rights on the day with an impressive 6-under par 58, three shots better than Greg Shorten and Bill Gallagher, who both finished with a three-under 61 to tie for second place. Jim MacVicar was in third place by himself with a 62, while Earl Ritchie and Tom Lewis tied for fourth place with 63.

In other club news, the annual men's scratch match-play championship is down four golfers. Dick Mills will take on Web Cutting for the championship, while Duke Miller will take on Bob Kral for the third- and fourth-place club bragging rights.

**Horseshoe news**

Al Norman found himself in the winner's circle twice last week, running his winning streak to 11 consecutive wins with two different partners.

On Jan. 31, Norman was teamed up with Gene Bobeldyke and won six consecutive matches, including a 23-17 nail-biter in the finals.

Norman teamed up with Paul Sheatler to defeat the team of John Crawford and George McKay by a 22-18 score to capture the Jan. 27 horseshoe competition. They advanced to the finals on the strength of their 21-9 victory over Ron Slagh and Dave Leising.

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.

**AMICC flag football schedule**

**Youth Division (Grades 6-8)**

Feb. 10 10 a.m. Green vs. Black  
Feb. 10 11 a.m. White vs. Yellow

**Junior Division (Grades 3-5)**

Feb. 9 5 p.m. Yellow vs. White  
Feb. 10 12 p.m. Black vs. Yellow

**Grades 1-2**

Feb. 10 1 p.m. Tallucci vs. Pearson



**Go, team, go!**  
Cheerleaders, shown here at halftime of an Anna Maria Island Community Center Basketball League, Division III game, are an added feature of basketball in the Center program. Islander Photo: Bonner Joy

**Basketball league standings as of Jan. 25**

Team	Wins	Losses
<b>Premier Division</b>		
IRE 4	1	
Ralph's	3	3
WCAC	1	4
<b>Division I</b>		
Paradise	5	0
Oyster Bar	3	2
Cycles	2	4
Danziger	1	5
<b>Division II</b>		
A&E	5	1
Dips	5	0
ReMax	2	4
Duncan	0	6
<b>Division III</b>		
Kumon	5	0
Ooh La La	4	1
Publix	2	2
Jessie's	1	4
Ross	0	5

**Anna Maria Island Community Center basketball schedule**

**Premier (ages 14-17)**

Feb. 12 8 p.m. WCAC vs. Ralph's  
Feb. 13 8 p.m. IRE vs. Ralph's

**Division I (ages 12-13)**

Feb. 8 8 p.m. Danziger vs. Oyster Bar  
Feb. 12 7 p.m. Cycles vs. Oyster Bar  
Feb. 13 7 p.m. Cycles vs. Paradise

**Division II (ages 10-11)**

Feb. 7 7:30 p.m. Dips vs. ReMax  
Feb. 13 6 p.m. A&E vs. Dips

**Division III (ages 8-9)**

Feb. 7 6:30 p.m. Publix vs. Kumon  
Feb. 8 7 p.m. Jessie's vs. Ross  
Feb. 12 6 p.m. Ooh La La vs. Ross

**Instructional League (ages 5-7)**

Feb. 8 6 p.m. Orthopedics vs. BeachHouse  
Feb. 8 6 p.m. LPAC vs. Observer

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**HELP SUPPORT OFFICER Pete Lannon:** Silicone bracelets, DARE2CARE/ISLANDER4PETE. Child \$2, adult \$5. The bracelets are donated by The Islander and all \$\$\$ go to a pre-paid college fund for Pete's youngest son. Available at The Islander, 5404 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-7978.

**LONGBOAT KEY HISTORY** "From Calusas to Condominiums" by Ralph B. Hunter. Signed copies available at The Islander, 5404 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. 941-778-7978.

**GARAGE SALES**

**ROSER THRIFT SHOP:** Open 9:30am-2pm Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. 9am-noon Saturdays. Always clothing sales. 941-779-2733. 511 Pine Ave., Anna Maria.

**GARAGE SALE:** 8am-noon Saturday, Feb. 10. Computer desk, printers, decorative items, kitchenware, linens and more! 305 Highland Ave., Bradenton Beach.

**INSIDE SALE:** EVERYTHING must go! 7am-? Friday and Saturday, Feb. 9-10. 209 78th Street, Holmes Beach. Corner of 78th St. and Palm Drive.

**HUGE SALE!** 9am-3pm Saturday, Feb. 10. Plants, crafts, bicycle, freezer, clothes and items too numerous to mention. Island Garden Club. 2418 Ave. B, Bradenton Beach.

**11TH ANNUAL YARD sale:** 8am-1pm Saturday, Feb. 10. Coral Shores, 9200 Cortez Road.

**GARAGE SALES Continued**

**SALE:** 8am-1pm Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 10-11. Bargain prices! Clothes, household items, plants, cookbooks. Rain dates Feb. 17-18. 505 69th St., Holmes Beach.

**FLEA MARKET:** 9am-4pm Saturday, Feb. 10. Lots of furniture, collectibles, gifts, jewelry, bric-a-brac, china, treasures and fun stuff. Parking lot of Niki's Island Treasures, 5351 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach.

**GARAGE SALE:** 8am-noon Saturday, Feb. 10. Furniture, household items, clothes. Multi-family. 219 Periwinkle Plaza, Anna Maria.

**BUDGET BOX THRIFT Shop:** 10am-4pm Monday-Friday, 10am-2pm Saturday. Furniture, jewelry, china, kitchenware, more. Telephone 941-746-4906. 401 42nd St. W., Bradenton.

**ESTATE SALE:** 9:30am-2pm Thursday, Feb. 8. Ethan Allen mission-style wall unit, coffee, end table and desk, two leather love seats, portable storage drawers, dining room table and chairs, large screen TV, bedroom furniture, lamps, office equipment, Murphy bed, fishing equipment, kitchenware, sets of china and miscellaneous. 1985 17-foot Mako Angler with 2003 Yamaha 115-hp motor and trailer. A nice sale. Sale conducted by Palma Sola sales. Numbers given out at 8am.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS Continued**

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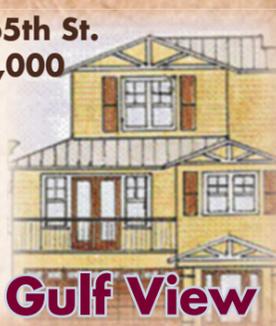
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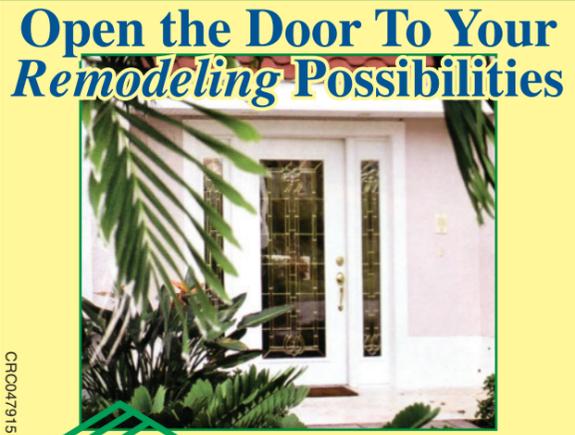
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**RENTALS Continued**

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**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.

**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. No smokers. \$1,700/month, \$500/week, \$100/night, includes utilities. 941-794-5980. www.divefish.com.

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

**RENTALS Continued**

**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, available February and March. 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.

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

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

**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.

**LAKEFRONT, FISHING,** ONE block to beach. Elevated duplex, enormous 2BR/2BA, one-car garage, laundry area, Sub-Zero refrigerator, Jennaire stove, extra, extra nice. \$1,395/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 ISLAND Club rental** available for January and February 2007/08. Totally remodeled unit, nonsmoking. Two-week minimum. 813-781-7562.

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

**LAKESIDE ANNUAL:** 2BR/2BA over carport, near beach. All amenities, washer and dryer, lanai and deck. No pets. \$800/month. First and last. 941-952-1592.

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

**NORTH-END DUPLEX:** Seasonal or monthly. 2BR/2BA, washer and dryer, two blocks from Gulf. Sleeps six. \$1,800/month. 941-778-7167 or 941-705-0275.



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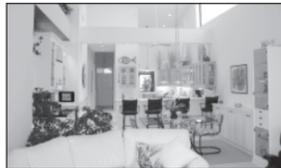
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**Harbour Landings** - 5,659 sf, 5BR/5BA, elevator, four-car garage, lagoon pool, waterfall, wine storage closet, three fireplaces, and 40+ foot dock on deep water to bay. \$2,795,000.



**Riverview Blvd** - Newer home in Riverview district. Over 3,400 sf with 4BR/3.5BA and pool. Almost one acre lot on Warner's Bayou. With newer dock and davit. \$1,350,000.



**Smuggler's Landing** - 2BR/2BA waterfront condo with den. Almost 1600 sf with 40-foot deep-water boat slip. Vaulted ceilings, built-ins and wet-bar. \$649,500.



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



**Mariner's Cove** - Elegant town home with deeded 24-foot boat slip. 4BR/3BA with over 2,700 sf of living space. Just completed in Dec. 2001 and is like brand new. \$849,000.



**Harbour Landings Estates** - Approx. 1/3 acre on deep-water canal in the estate section of Harbour Landings. Lot comes with 40-foot boat slip on protected basin. \$879,000.

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## ISLANDER CLASSIFIEDS

## RENTALS Continued

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

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.

VACATION RENTALS: 2BR apartments across from beautiful beach, \$375 to \$500/week. Winter and spring dates available. Almost Beach Apartments, 941-778-2374.

FURNISHED MOTHER-IN-LAW apartment, canal view with a large deck, dock and saltwater pool to share. Apartment has private entrance, bath and kitchenette. All utilities except telephone included. \$350/week or \$850/month. Perfect for a clean and quiet individual! Please e-mail tlyonsrq@verizon.net or call 941-928-8735. Leave message for information and availability.

ANNUAL 2BR/1BA, two blocks to beach, one block to bay. Large kitchen, tile, new carpet, no pets. \$810/month. 941-922-2473 or 941-928-3880.

GULFFRONT CONDO: HOLMES Beach. March and April. Totally remodeled in 2006. Beautifully decorated, stainless steel appliances, carport, two pools, 1-2 bedrooms. \$3,000/month. 941-795-5060.

ANNUAL: HOLMES BEACH. 2BR/2BA, four-car garage. Two blocks to beach. Pet friendly. \$1,400/month. Call 941-713-2150.

VACATION IN SMOKEY Mountains: 3BR/2BA cabin, turnkey furnished, fireplace on 2.5 acres. 30 miles from Cherokee Indian reservation, one mile from town. Book now. \$495/weekly. For information, call 352-516-6908 or 352-314-2333. E-mail: creativesold@yahoo.com.

ANNUAL DUPLEX: 2BR/1BA north-end Anna Maria, four houses from beach. Cathedral ceilings, energy-efficient windows, screened porch, washer and dryer hookups, room for boat. Pet considered. \$950/month plus security. 941-778-4837.

## RENTALS Continued

ANNA MARIA: 1BR/2BA ,gorgeous poolside apartment. 25 feet to beach. Call 786-375-9633, or e-mail cflagg@mindspring.com. Available now. \$950/month. 201 S. Bay Blvd., #3. Next door to Waterfront restaurant.

TERRIFIC, UPDATED 3BR/2BA, single-story vacation rental. 2007-08 weekly and monthly rentals starting at \$625/week. March and April 2007 discounted. 813-818-8314. www.vacationrentalonnariamariaisland.com.

YOU CAN HAVE the beautiful white sand and Florida west coast sun outside your door. One bedroom condo (sleeps six) for rent at Resort 66. Full housekeeping, linens provided, full kitchen. Available March 10-31, Saturday to Saturday only. \$950/weekly. 315-868-2813.

FOR RENT: 2BR/1BA weekly or monthly. 100 steps to beach. Close to Rod & Reel Pier. Call 941-747-3321.

MIRROR LAKE: NEXT to IMG Academy. 2BR/2BA condo with direct lake views from every window. Feb. 15-March 15, \$2,500. March 15-April 15, \$2,500. 941-587-1456.

ANNUAL: LARGE 1BR/1BA. Steps to beach. Large front yard, washer. Yard service, cable and water included. \$850/month. 727-540-9294. Holmes Beach.

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 with pool 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, Gulffront, \$2,850/month. 941-778-0770.

AFFORDABLE SEASONAL RENTALS still available. Weekly, monthly, bayfront, Gulffront, big, small. Call Sato Real Estate for availability. 941-778-7200.

## RENTALS Continued

SEASONAL RENTAL: AVAILABLE March. Beachfront condo, 1BR/1BA, pool, washer and dryer. Walk one block to shopping. \$1,800/month. 941-746-1873.

ANNUAL: HOLMES BEACH. Steps to beach, restaurants and shops. Large updated 2BR/1BA with two balconies and washer and dryer hookups. \$1,100/month including utilities and cable. 941-545-6118.

LOOKING FOR 2008? Lovely, refurbished 2BR/2BA house. Steps to beach. Also available April 2007. Offering discounted rates. 2805 Gulf Drive. 941-545-8488.

SEASONAL: HOLMES BEACH 2BR/1BA, completely furnished. One house from Gulf. No pets or smoking. Available February through April. 813-689-0925, or e-mail hlmsbchrnt@aol.com.

ROOMMATE NEEDED TO share a house in Holmes Beach. \$450/month plus half utilities. Phone 941-778-6547.

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

MINUTES TO BEACHES: Lakeside South, west Bradenton. Big 3BR/2BA, one-car garage, villa. Pool, tennis, clubhouse. Quiet area. \$1,700/month. Seasonal. 941-720-2804.

NORTHWEST BRADENTON: LARGE 3BR/2BA, two-car garage. Big screened lanai, huge fenced yard, excellent schools, quiet area. \$1,595/month. Annual. 941-720-0793.

RETIRED COUPLE WHO have been Anna Maria Island winter renters for nine years are looking for 2008 Anna Maria city house rental of three-six months. 941-778-0162.

ANNUAL: 2BR/1BA GROUND-level duplex. Near community center. Fridge, stove, microwave, washer and dryer, screened lanai, large yard. Pet OK. \$1,100/month. 941-580-3393.

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**CORAL SHORES** Sun, swim or go boating from this 3BR/2BA 1,890 sf home. New 14x32-foot pool, dock, covered boat lift, and more. Anne Miller, 941-778-2246. #535474. \$750,000.



**ANNA MARIA ISLAND CLUB** 2BR/2BA turnkey furnished. Enjoy sunsets from your balcony, Gulffront, pool, elevator. Great rental history. Karen Day, 941-778-2246. MLS#543920. \$735,000.



**NORTH TIP OF LONGBOAT KEY** This 3BR/2BA freestanding condo has been renovated. New kitchen, baths, window-doors, electric, plumbing, air conditioning, roof and garage. Room for a pool. Dave Moynihan, 941-778-2246. #531516. \$579,000.



**PERICO BAY CLUB** The most exquisite villa in Perico! Furnishings and decor are to die for. New roof, siding, air conditioning. Updated kitchen and baths. Enclosed lanai with lake view. Private 2BR/2BA. Karen Day, 941-778-2246. #545756. \$489,000.



**ANNA MARIA ISLAND** home. Enjoy your backyard with comfortable breezes and pleasant shade on those lazy afternoons. Deeded deep-water dock to Bimini Bay. 2BR/1.5BA. 1,528 sf. Bob DeYoung, 941-776-3300. #546182. \$486,500.



**TRADEWINDS** Charming cottage! Thoroughly modern but Old Florida Cache. On-site rental management. Heated pool, Gulf beach access, fishing pier. Close to the pool. Becky Smith or Elfi Starrett, 941-778-2246. #546455. \$279,900.

**JEWEL KEY A** private island paradise. Elevated cypress post and beam home on the Intracoastal Waterway. 70-foot dock. Access by boat only. Anne Miller, 941-778-2246. #535344. **\$1,950,000.**

**CORAL SHORES** This house has a beautiful bay view on a deep canal. 100-foot of seawall, three pergolas in front and two in back. Garage, air conditioning, generator, 1,350 sf. Paver brick driveway. Harold Small, 941-778-2246. #543106. **\$1,175,000.**

**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. #520397. **\$1,049,000.**

**2BR/2BA DIRECT GULFFRONT** unit with views of the Gulf. Totally renovated including new kitchen, baths, windows, appliances, furnishings and much more. Secured elevator, pool, tennis court and private garage. Close to shopping and restaurants. Dave Moynihan, 941-778-2246. #543586. **\$819,500.**

**GRACIOUS LIVING** in this waterfront, updated 3BR/3BA condo. Loft overlooking great room. Soaring ceilings. Separate breakfast room. 40-foot dock included. Peggy Henger, 941-383-5577. #332186. \$769,000.

**MARINERS COVE** Direct bayfront, top floor, 3BR/2BA, 2,000 sf, gated community, two pools, tennis, elevator, protected deep water 35-foot boat slip. Peter Mancuso, 941-545-6833 or Dave Moynihan, 941-778-2246. #543600. **\$629,900.**

**RIVERFRONT CONDO** This top floor end unit has a Manatee River view! Carport, heated pool, tennis, glass-in balcony, near marina, shopping, churches. Home warranty. Becky Smith or Elfi Starrett. Priced by appraisal. This property is a "Clear Choice." 941-778-2246. #521375. **\$285,000.**

**BREATHTAKING** bay view! 2BR/2BA plus den. Bright, over 1,400 sf. No steps to climb. Pet welcome. Tennis. Heated pool. Lush private setting. Joan Oliszewski, 941-761-3100. #543425. **\$479,900.**

**RUNAWAY BAY** Condos now available several 1 or 2BR units, bayfront, poolside, pond and other views. Some updated. Active clubhouse with pool, tennis court, and workout room. On-site rental management. 941-778-2246. **Priced from \$314,000 to \$499,900.**

**HARBOR PINES** First floor 2BR/2BA unit, non-age restriction. Tennis courts, pool, open floor plan. Close to IMG Academy & Golf Course. Close to beaches, Sarasota and Manatee. Great price on this one! Judy McCauley/The Royal Team, 941-751-0670. #547061. **\$155,000.**

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# ISLANDER CLASSIFIEDS

## REAL ESTATE Continued

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

DIRECT GULFFRONT CONDO at Club Bamboo South. Incredible Gulf view, all new everything, onsite management, nightly rentals, pool, elevator and more. Priced way under market! \$445,000. George, 312-321-7501.

BRADENTON BEACH MOBILE home: Bay view, updated, cozy 1BR in the Pines Park. Turnkey furnished, boat slip included. \$41,000. 941-962-8220.

BRAND NEW MAINTENANCE-free villas just west of Intracoastal in west Bradenton. No age restrictions. 3BR/2BA plus den and two-car garage, low \$300s. 2BR/2BA plus den and two-car garage, high \$200s. High quality construction, not in a flood zone and only a few miles from the beach. Gorgeous clubhouse with full gym and pool. Finally, everything you always wanted at an affordable price! Free washer and dryer with purchase when you mention this ad. Call Phil Paxton, Remax Gulfstream, 941-920-1363.

ISLANDER'S RETREAT: 2BR Gulfwatch condo with peek-a-boo view of the Gulf, comfortably decorated and truly turnkey furnished, encouraging a relaxing Island lifestyle. \$374,900. Please, call Kimberly Roehl, PA, Michael Saunders & Company. 941-447-9988.

HOLMES BEACH DUPLEX: 4BR/4BA, heated pool, tiki bar, hot tub. Rents were \$30,000 in 2006. Reduced for quick sale \$699,000. Call Mel at 800-778-9599 or 941-809-5565.

FOR SALE BY owner: Quality built, best value on Anna Maria Island. 3BR/2BA-plus, vaulted ceilings, maple wood floors, granite counters, vaulted screened porch, upgraded baths and showers, crown molding. Truly beautiful and beachy look. Reduced, \$779,000-\$729,000 > \$709,000. Seller motivated, make an offer. Buy before March 1 and save! 941-778-9485. 309-A 59th Street, Holmes Beach.

CANAL HOME: HOLMES Beach. Immaculate 2BR/2BA, 45-foot dock with electric boat lift, furnished, perfect Island retreat! \$600,000. Denise Langlois, Coldwell Banker, 941-725-4425.

DEEP-WATER CANALFRONT condo in pet-friendly Palma Sola Harbour. 2BR/2BA ground -floor unit, turnkey furnished, with boat dock. \$299,900. 941-795-6699.

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING LOT in northwest Bradenton, desirable neighborhood near the river. \$216,000. Owner/agent, Bobbie Banan, Michael Saunders & Company, 941-356-2659.

WATERFRONT HOME IN Holmes Beach. 3BR/2BA, one-car garage, classic Island-style single-story with lots of Florida pine, vaulted ceilings and built-ins. Spectacular view of Anna Maria Sound and Intracoastal Waterway from lanai. On end of canal with two docks and no bridges to Gulf. Sailor's dream. \$799,000. 941-726-9104.

## REAL ESTATE Continued

SPACIOUS 4BR/3BA, two-car garage, large den, fireplace, solar-heated, caged pool. Wonderful family neighborhood near Bradenton Country Club. Minutes to beach, close to everything, west side of Bradenton, \$395,000. 941-685-7035. 5116 10th Ave. W. Directions: Manatee Avenue to 51st Street to 10th Avenue Drive West.

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.

PROPERTY AUCTION: PALMA Sola Park. Viewing 10am, auction 11am Saturday, Feb. 10. Unique west Bradenton home. Mountain feeling in coastal paradise, bike-friendly, convenient neighborhood. Bird sanctuary, manatee habitat. For more information call, 941-761-8525. 615 Casabella Drive, Bradenton.

OPEN HOUSE: 2-4pm Sunday. Perico Island. 3BR/2BA, built to 2004 hurricane codes. Great master suite, heated pool and amenities. 11103 Willow Dale Ct \$390,000. 941-761-8135.

GREAT RIVER VIEWS from balcony porch of 2BR/2BA luxury condo on new Riverwalk area. Downtown Bradenton. Corian throughout and many upgrades. \$288,800. 941-807-5449.

BAYFRONT HOME ON Anna Maria Sound. Unobstructed view, southern exposure. Private. \$1,100,000. Brokers protected. 941-778-0029. 517 Bayview Drive, Holmes Beach.

CANAL HOME: 3BR/3BA totally remodeled inside. New roof, air conditioners and all new double-pane windows. Lot is 110x115 feet. Lift and davits. Seven blocks to beautiful Gulf of Mexico. Call for appointment, 941-778-1620.

FOR SALE OR LEASE: Perico Bay Club: Open house, 10am-4pm Saturday and Sunday. 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. Reduced from \$475,000 to \$449,900. 941-962-6117.

OPEN HOUSES: GSR Development LLC Properties. Noon-4pm Sunday, Feb 10. 17 properties available by order of the U. S. Bankruptcy Court. Begin your tour at 109 Fifth St., Bradenton Beach. Maps and information provided. Rosebay Real Estate, 941-751-0582

FOR SALE BY owner: 2BR/2BA condo, \$329,900. Minutes to beaches. \$10,000 decorator package, can be used for down payment. 941-761-0807.

DUPLEX: HOLMES BEACH. Raised 2BR/1BA each side, under building parking, screened lanais, laundry rooms. Only \$499,900. Call Jerry Cercone, Coldwell Banker, 941-720-1575.

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# ISLANDER CLASSIFIEDS

## FLORIDA, OUT-OF-STATE Continued

35-PLUS ACRES: JUST \$29,900. Only \$177/month! Gorgeous southern Colorado ranches. Electric/cable/phone/Internet available. 300 days per year of sunshine. Room for horses, ATVs, off-road fun. Phase II grand opening sale Saturday, Feb. 24. Call now for more information. 866-OWN-LAND, ext. 2141. Monthly payment of \$176.60 based upon purchase of \$29,900 with ten percent down and the remaining \$26,910 financed via a three-year interest-only loan with a fixed rate of 7.875 percent. Rates and terms subject to change without notice. Offer void where prohibited.

NORTH GEORGIA/NORTH Carolina: Panoramic mountain views, waterfalls. Your living costs gone up? Move where there's lower taxes, insurance! Lots starting at \$39,900. Call 888-389-3504, ext. 4000.

## FLORIDA, OUT-OF-STATE Continued

NORRIS LAKE PROPERTIES: Waterfront, #902, 77 acres only \$125,000. Lake view #144, 3.5 acres only \$48,900 Call Lakeside Realty at 888-291-5253, or visit www.lakesiderealty-tn.com.

LARGE POND, INCREDIBLE mountain views. 1,200 feet of mountain stream, 17 acres. \$239,900. Possibly the greatest mountain views anywhere! Build overlooking your very own private pond. All useable, easy access. Only one with pond. Call owner directly now 877-777-4837.

SPORTSMAN'S PARADISE DIRECTLY adjoining 700,000-acre national forest, 16-plus acres, \$143,500. Unlimited hunting, hiking, camping and trophy trout fishing all in your back yard. New release! Hurry, only one! 877-777-4837.

## FLORIDA, OUT-OF-STATE Continued

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.

270-DEGREES UNOBSTRUCTED, 40-mile mountain views, state-road frontage, eight acres, \$114,800. Build your dream cabin with direct 40-mile mountain views all around you. Private ownership to direct national forest access and stocked trout stream. Ready to build. Call now, 877-777-4837.

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### NORTH BEACH VILLAGE

3BR/2.5BA townhouse. New tile and carpet. Freshly painted. Two-car garage, storage area could be office, pool. \$499,900.

### BAY PALMS WATERFRONT HOME

3BR/2BA canalfront. Private dock. Direct access to Tampa Bay and Intracoastal Waterway. \$619,000.

### PLAYA ENCANTADA TOWNHOUSE

2BR/2.5BA turnkey furnished with direct view of Gulf. New kitchen, tile, heated pool, tennis, garage. \$899,900.

### WESTBAY POINT & MOORINGS CONDO

2BR/2BA turnkey furnished, tennis, heated pool, water view, near shopping, library and restaurants. \$389,000.

### HOLMES BEACH WATERFRONT

3BR/2BA home. Tile, pavers, fence, room for pool, new dock, direct access to Tampa Bay. \$699,900.

### KEY WEST WATERFRONT

4BR/3BA spectacular home with gorgeous view of Bimini Bay with 9,000 lb. boat lift! \$1,700,000.

### GULF PLACE CONDO

2BR/2BA turnkey furnished, large master suite with Jacuzzi tub, screened porch, heated pool, tennis. \$969,900.

### ANNA MARIA CONTEMPORARY

4BR/2BA open plan, vaulted ceiling, elevator, four-car garage. Bamboo flooring, turnkey furnished. Near beach. \$1,350,000.

- ANNA MARIA NEAR BEACH House and cottage. \$848,000.
- RUNAWAY BAY CONDO 1BR/1BA Water view. \$349,000.
- SEASIDE BEACH HOUSE CONDO Direct Gulf view. \$799,900.
- FLAMINGO CAY WATERFRONT - 3BR/2BA, pool. \$859,000.
- WATERS EDGE CONDO 2BR/2BA Direct Gulf front. \$959,900.
- GULF PLACE CONDOS Turnkey furnished. From \$869,900.
- KEY ROYALE WATERFRONT POOL HOME. \$1,695,000.
- SARASOTA BAYFRONT PARADISE - 3BR/2.5BA, \$1,124,900.
- RIVERVIEW BOULEVARD CAPE COD - 3BR/2BA. \$529,900.
- SHOREWALK CONDOS 2BR/2BA turnkey from \$175,000.
- TRADEWINDS RESORT VILLA - 1BR/1BA, Pool. \$325,900.
- KEY ROYALE BAYFRONT - 3BR/2.5BA, Dock. \$2,400,000.
- WILDEWOOD SPRINGS CONDO - 2BR/2BA, Patio. \$349,900.
- SUN PLAZA WEST CONDOS - 2BR/2BA. From \$675,000.
- GULF PLACE CONDO 3BR/2BA direct Gulf view. \$995,000.
- PERIWINKLE COTTAGE - 2BR, Close to Beach. \$649,900.

## ANNUAL and SEASONAL RENTALS

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## NEW LISTINGS



408 S. BAY BLVD., ANNA MARIA ISLAND. Watch the cruise ships go by! Magnificent views of Tampa Bay from this darling beach house with vaulted ceilings, gourmet kitchen and two-car garage.



718 89TH CT NW, MAHOGANY BAY - NEW! 4BR/3BA custom contemporary Kendar home with soaring 13-foot double tray ceilings, spa pool with water feature, gourmet kitchen, wood, tile and granite throughout! Gorgeous.

## NEW PRICE



24071 JENNINGS ROAD Beautiful views of Lake Manatee from this open 3BR/2BA home on 6+ fenced acres in park like setting directly on the lake. Great fresh water fishing and boating on 2,400 acre Lake Manatee! \$799,000

## SALE PENDING



BRADENTON-19600 E STATE ROAD 64 EPICUREANS TAKE NOTE! Old Mission Vineyard, a unique home on 20 acres with mature grapes and spring-fed stream. \$1,299,000



715 89TH CT, MAHOGANY BAY, NW BRADENTON - New custom Kendar Home 4BR/3BA on quiet cul-de-sac. Great family home, sweeping verandah's, 3 car garage and many extras. \$879,000



513 56TH ST Holmes Beach. Waterfront full bay-view with custom dock and lift. Features quaint Florida cottage with darling guest apt. above garage. \$989,000



243 17TH ST. N, BRADENTON BEACH CLUB - Runs from Gulf to Bay in the heart of Anna Maria Island. Darling turnkey furnished 3BR/2BA townhouse with private elevator and garage, offers beach access and two pools on a quiet cul-de-sac. Wonderful for year-round living or second home. \$674,900



2716 PALMA SOLA - Exquisite full bay views from every room of this 5,000 sq. ft. custom on over half an acre. Features 5BR, 4 car garage, library, great room, pool and multilevel terrace. Lots of space for family and entertaining. \$2,999,900

## NEW PRICE



6200 FLOTILLA, # 268. WESTBAY POINT MOORINGS. All new carpet and paint, 2nd floor end unit with water view. Great deal, least expensive unit offered! \$369,000



5208 RIVERVIEW BLVD - 1.93 acres on Manatee River with 250 linear feet on the river. Two buildable lots or one magnificent estate. Dock in place, bring the boat. \$3,300,000



1207 N. GULF DR. #300 - Darling, turnkey furnished top floor 2BR/2BA with den, offers spectacular views in prime rental location. \$879,000.

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- 8. King Middle School
- 9. U.S. Post Office
- 10. Urgent Care Medical Center

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