



Center soccer off to strong start. Page 20

The *Anna Maria* Islander

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Eye on the storm

Storms sometimes spawn waterspouts over the Gulf of Mexico, and this whirling dervish was spotted and captured Sept. 23 by an alert Nancy Ambrose from the shore near the Manatee Public Beach. The waterspouts, fueled by the moisture from the cloud and the waters below, do not frequently make landfall and are short-lived.

DOT plans October, November work

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

Groundbreakings for sidewalk and road work funded with federal stimulus dollars will take place in October and November on Anna Maria Island.

The Florida Department of Transportation is overseeing the stimulus projects, letting contracts for the work in September.

The most dollars will be spent in Bradenton Beach on improvements to the Gulf Drive scenic highway, but lots of activity is planned for Anna Maria and Holmes Beach.

In Holmes Beach, sidewalk work will begin in October, including along Holmes Boulevard from 54th Street to 66th Street at a cost of \$64,379; Gulf Drive from 57th Street to 84th Street at a cost of \$11,414; Palm Drive from 66th Street to 85th Street at a cost of \$14,724 and 85th Street from Gulf Drive to Marina at a cost of \$20,102.

In November, a crossing for golf carts will be installed at East Bay and Gulf drives and the intersection improved. The estimated cost is \$78,110.

Also in November, about .3 miles of Gulf Drive, from Willow Avenue to Pine Avenue in Anna Maria, will be resurfaced, with the cost estimated at \$112,229.

Pine Avenue from Gulf Drive to Bay Boulevard — .5 miles — will be resurfaced. The cost is \$186,264.

Sidewalk work is scheduled to begin in Anna Maria in November, including along Gulf Front Park from Palm to Willow at a cost of \$30,513; along Gulf Front Park from Magnolia Street to Oak Street at a cost of \$15,437; along Gulf Drive from Spring

Avenue to Pine Avenue at a cost of \$13,107 and along North Bay Boulevard from Hibiscus to North Shore Drive at a cost of \$85,486.

Also, groundbreakings are scheduled for October on \$775,169 in improvements to the Crescent Avenue and Bay Boulevard bridges.

The Bradenton Beach scenic highway improvements also are scheduled to begin in November. The DOT plan includes sidewalks, landscaping and other improvements from Cortez Road to Fifth Street South on the west side of Gulf Drive/SR 789 and from Second Street North to Fifth Street South on the east side. The project budget is \$830,169.

Commission: no bridge annexation

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

Holmes Beach city commissioners agreed Sept. 22 that they want to pursue annexation of the area west of the Anna Maria Island Bridge to the city boundary.

But, commissioners said, they do not want to pursue annexation of the bridge as they press forward with survey work needed to ask for legislative approval of a boundary change.

The city is entering discussions with Manatee County to annex the area west of the bridge, including the county-operated Kingfisher Park. PLEASE SEE KINGFISH, NEXT PAGE

Island real estate: tourism fuels investments

By Rick Catlin
Islander Reporter

While the recent boom years of double-digit increases in Anna Maria Island property values are over, the local real estate market appears to be making a nice recovery from the downturn of 2008.

The Island's tourist economy has weathered the recession and some Island real estate agents say that as tourism grows, more investment buyers are coming to the Island, looking to purchase rental property.

That interest has seen Island property sales increase the past year.

Jesse Brisson, a broker at Gulf-Bay Realty who also reports weekly real estate transactions for *The Islander*, said home sales for August 2009 were up 75 percent compared with August 2008. The real estate listing service for the Island recorded 21 sales in August 2009, compared with 12 for the same month last year.

There were more sales than that, Brisson said, but they were not recorded for a variety of reasons.

"The numbers are certainly good news, and it's reflected in the increase in people looking," he said.

More good news is that there are 450 Island properties on the market, half of last year's inventory. And, there are 51 pending sales, Brisson added.

"There are a lot of great deals out there, particularly for canalfront and near-waterfront properties." PLEASE SEE ISLAND, NEXT PAGE



In concert Oct. 2

Mezzo-soprano Annika Kaschenz, right, will perform with pianist Francesco Attesti in an Anna Maria Island Rotary Club benefit dinner-concert Oct. 2. For more information, see page 19.

Island real estate deals abound

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

homes as investments.”

Although September is considered the slowest month of the year for tourism and the real estate industry, Brisson said he’s seen higher-than-normal activity the past few weeks.

“People are coming, looking and buying. I’ve been surprised. I think the serious buyers want to get the bargains now before the season starts,” he said.

“Tourism is up, and buyers know that means rental properties will earn a return on their purchase,” Brisson said.

And, it’s a buyer’s market.

“Sellers are discounting properties already discounted and that’s good news for the buyers, especially cash buyers. Serious buyers with cash want to see a flexible seller. Otherwise, they might walk away from a great deal,” he said.

Brisson said the average final price of properties sold in August 2009 was \$465,900, compared with the August 2008 figure of \$696,200.

He did note that in August 2008, a large Gulffront home sold for more than \$1.3 million. Without that sale, the average selling price that month was about \$640,000.

Brisson said he’s noticed that prices have stabilized in recent months and appear to be headed up, but not at the 10-20 percent increases found between 2002 and 2006. That period was followed by a decline in area real estate values, pushed downward by an ailing national economy.

“The bottom has been reached and sales prices are gradually inching upward. It’s good, steady growth,” he said.

Kingfish yes, bridge no

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

fish Boat Ramp.

The area lies in unincorporated Manatee County, but for years Holmes Beach thought the land was



The area west of the Anna Maria Island Bridge is the land Holmes Beach officials want to annex. Islander Photo: Lisa Neff

within city limits and policed the area.

City officials have said they’d like to bring the area back into Holmes Beach, primarily because of the proximity of Holmes Beach Police Department patrol officers.

On Sept. 15, county commissioners approved a resolution to discuss annexation with the city, but included a suggestion that the city consider expanding its interests to include the bridge.

Manatee County Sheriff Brad Steube presented the idea to county commissioners, pointing out that even if the city annexed the boat ramp area, multi-jurisdictions would continue to be involved in policing nearby.

Bradenton police officers have jurisdiction on much of Perico Island and up to the east end of the bridge on Manatee Avenue/State Road 64. Florida Highway Patrol has jurisdiction on the bridge.

During a city commission last week, city attorney Patricia Petruff asked how to proceed.

Survey work and a legal description for the area Holmes Beach seeks to annex is needed this week, Petruff said.

Commissioners reached a consensus that the legal description should cover the area west of the bridge to the city line, but not the bridge.

“That’s what we need to do,” said Commission Chair Sandy Haas-Martens.

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As donations slow, Center shakes up

By Rick Catlin
Islander Reporter

Anna Maria Island Community Center executive director Pierrette Kelly said last week she is now devoting the vast majority of her time to grant writing and fundraising.

Kelly told the Center's board of directors at a Sept. 21 meeting that because of the financial position of the Center she will "focus on getting grants and endowments" to supplement revenues.

Sunrise Lane variance request withdrawn

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

The owners of a Sunrise Lane lot recently withdrew an application for a variance request due to opposition from neighbors.

The withdrawal of the application for the project at 5311 Sunrise Lane in Holmes Beach prompted the cancellation of a city board of adjustment meeting scheduled for Sept. 24.

"Please accept this letter as our client's request to withdraw the ... variance application," stated a letter from attorney Scott Rudacille to the city. "Our client does not want to proceed with a request that does not have the support of the neighboring property owners. The property owner will continue under the code with the original project."

The property owner, FLM of Brandon, has a 35,279 square foot parcel on Sunrise Lane. The property is zoned Residential-1 and the owner, under city code, could build multiple single-family structures on the parcel because the total density of the site does not exceed 5.8 units per acre, and the structures meet R-1 zoning requirements for spacing, setbacks and lot coverage.

In other words, current code allows FLM to build up to four single-family units on the parcel and sell the units separately upon the recordation of a condominium plat. The owner, however, has plans to build only two units.

FLM was seeking a variance to construct two single-family homes on two lots. The pulled application stated, "When this plan was brought forward, neighboring property owners on Sunrise Lane expressed a preference to have the property divided into two fee simple lots rather than building two units on a single parcel and recording a condominium plat."

The owners needed a variance to split the property into two 70-foot lots, because city code requires 75 feet of frontage per lot and the parcel has only 140 feet of street frontage.

The application indicated that neighbors supported the variance and the decision to build two single-family homes on two lots rather than four condominiums, but Rudacille's letter to the city indicated otherwise.

Last week, the attorney said that FLM had pursued the variance at the suggestion of one neighbor but then learned other neighbors did not support the application.

Instead, Rudacille, said, FLM plans to build two single-family units on one parcel, which will be sold as condominiums.

"The only difference," he said, "is the form of ownership."

The city commission took up a discussion on the broader issue of the applicable code Sept. 22.

"There is kind of a loophole in the ordinance where you are allowed to condo-ize houses," said Commissioner David Zaccagnino. "Possibly we should look into that."

At the same time, assistant executive director Scott Dell is "stepping up into the role of chief operating officer" and will be reporting on programs and other activities to the board, she said.

Kelly stopped short of saying the Center is in difficult financial shape, but said revenues and finances are "critical to be able to build a solid future."



Kelly

Without revenue, Kelly said the Center won't be able to present the programs and activities it needs to serve the community.

"Revenue has to come first to provide the activities and programs," she said.

Kelly also will head up the development committee, which is compiling a list of past donors and creating a list of new donors. She asked board members to supply her with a list of potential donors, in addition to names of community members who might volunteer at the Center or join the board or a committee.

Board members discussed how to take a more active role in making people aware of the Center.

Chairman Tom Breiter suggested that the Center host the local real estate agents to discuss Center benefits and get the agents to drive by the Center with clients to "impress new people" to the Island.

Board member Don Schroder, a real estate agent, said most agents already do that, but he'd be happy to arrange a meeting at the Center. In addition, Schroder will give Kelly a list each month of names of people who have bought property on the Island.

"There's a lot of untapped potential with newcomers," Kelly said.

She's also getting the word out about the Center's ability to function as a conference site and wedding venue.

Kelly has talked with the Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce about becoming a partner in the February Island Wedding Festival and other means to let businesses know the Center can host functions.

Dell said the Center will do a number of small, fundraising events in October, including a Halloween costume party and mystery theater performance.

And a golf tournament is being held Oct. 9 at IMG Academies Golf and Country Club to raise funds.

But even as the Center expands fundraising activities, it's cutting expenses, Dell said.

The Center is operating with a "bare-bones skeleton crew and we need everyone to pitch in. We also need more volunteers," Dell said.

The Center no longer has a maintenance supervisor, just an hourly worker. There are only four other full-time hourly wage earners, he said, and five full-time staff members on salary and five part-time employees, he said.

But programs have not been harmed by the budget cuts or the decline in donations, Dell indicated.

"Our motto is still that 'no child gets turned away,'" he said.

During the summer months, the Center had 212 young people for activities, but 57 percent of those were on scholarship. That cost the Center \$27,000.

There is still a need for many volunteers, Dell said, particularly with the teenage group.

Many of the teens are considered to have "at-risk behavior," Dell said.

This past summer, he said he observed more incidents of inappropriate behavior than any previous summer.

The image of teenagers on the Island is that of "surfers and druggies," he said, and drug use and teenage sexual activity are major problems.

"We are dealing with them very well," Dell told the board, "but it's still a problem."

Dell also said the Manatee County Tourist Development Council is interested in partnering with the Center, but the Center needs an updated Web site before the TDC can get involved.

That would cost the Center about \$10,000, he said, but would allow links to the TDC and chamber of commerce, and provide updated information on the Center to those interested in scheduling a conference or planning a wedding reception.

Still, that's \$10,000 that the Center doesn't have right now.

What it does have is a monthly mortgage in a down economy.

The arrival of winter visitors and residents will increase membership and revenues, Kelly said, but the Center still needs more donors, grants and endowment funds as revenue sources.

"The financial picture is OK, but we have to do better," she concluded.

Anyone interested in donating to the Center, joining the board or a committee, or becoming a volunteer at the Center can call 941-778-1908.

Meetings

Anna Maria City

- Oct. 1, 1 p.m., citizen recognition committee meeting.
- Oct. 6, 6:30 p.m., planning and zoning board meeting.
- Oct. 7, 6:30 p.m., EEEEC meeting.
- Oct. 8, 7 p.m., city commission meeting.
- Oct. 13, 5:30 p.m., forum on federal stimulus projects.
- Oct. 20, 6:30 p.m., planning and zoning board meeting.
- Oct. 22, 7 p.m., city commission meeting.
- Oct. 26, 5 p.m., code enforcement organizational meeting.

Anna Maria City Hall, 10005 Gulf Drive, 941-708-6130, www.cityofannamaria.com.

Bradenton Beach

- Sept. 29, 1 p.m., city commission work meeting.
- Oct. 1, 1 p.m., city pier team meeting.
- Oct. 1, 7 p.m., city commission meeting.
- Oct. 15, 1 p.m., city commission meeting.

Bradenton Beach City Hall, 107 Gulf Drive N., 941-778-1005, www.cityofbradentonbeach.org.

Holmes Beach

- Sept. 30, 3 p.m., floodplain management plan review.
- Oct. 7, 5 p.m., parks and beautification meeting.
- Oct. 13, 7 p.m., city commission meeting.
- Oct. 15, 10 a.m., code enforcement meeting.
- Oct. 22, 9 a.m., board of adjustment meeting.
- Oct. 23, 1:30 p.m., police retirement board meeting.

• Oct. 27, 7 p.m., city commission meeting.
Holmes Beach City Hall, 5801 Marina Drive, 941-708-5800, www.holmesbeachfl.org.

West Manatee Fire Rescue District

- Oct. 15, 6 p.m., district commission meeting.
WMFR Station No. 1, 6001 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach, 941-741-3900.

Of Interest

- Oct. 5, 1 p.m., Communities for a Lifetime Task Force meeting, Anna Maria Island Community Center, 407 Magnolia Ave., Anna Maria.
 - Oct. 5 is the deadline to register to vote in the Nov. 3 Island elections, www.votemanatee.org.
 - Oct. 12, Columbus Day.
 - Oct. 19, 2:30 p.m., Island Transportation Planning Organization meeting, Holmes Beach City Hall.
 - Oct. 21, 1 p.m., Barrier Island Elected Officials meeting, Holmes Beach City Hall.
 - Nov. 3, municipal elections in Anna Maria, Bradenton Beach, Holmes Beach.
- Send notices to Lisa Neff at lisaneff@islander.org.

Anna Maria to prepare position on offshore drilling

By Rick Catlin
Islander Reporter

Anna Maria Mayor Fran Barford told city commissioners at their Sept. 24 meeting that the Florida Legislature will soon consider allowing offshore drilling and wants input from Florida cities.

As a member of the Manasota League of Cities, Barford is charged with presenting city positions to the MLC, and meeting with area legislators to share the MLC position with municipal members.

Barford asked each commissioner to study an information packet on the proposed legislation and be prepared to offer comments and an opinion at a future commission meeting.

“We have to establish and present our priorities,” she said.

City pier money

Barford also told commissioners that funds to improve the Anna Maria City Pier could be forthcoming from Manatee County if county commissioners elect not to rebuild the Manatee Pier at Manatee Public Beach.

She said engineers are currently compiling a structural report on the city pier and that would be forwarded to the county commission as soon as it's presented to the city.

While the county would have the final approval to use its funds for city pier improvements, Barford noted that the city pier “is the No. 1 attraction for visitors to the area and is in need of improvement.

Long-serving staff

The mayor recognized city clerk Alice Baird and public staff member Gary Thorpe for their just-completed nine years of service to the city. Both were hired the same week in 2000.

Stormwater drainage

Commissioners authorized the mayor to sign a \$299,000 contract with Woodruff and Sons for Phase 2 of the master stormwater drainage plan.

The amount is \$97,800 less than what Woodruff bid, and city engineer Tom Wilcox explained that the city will use that difference to make direct purchases of much of the equipment and supplies that will be used by Woodruff.

“The city will save about \$16,500 by direct purchase,” he predicted.

Construction should begin around Nov. 1, although surveyors will be in the city during October, Wilcox said.

Resident Jim Conoly asked that there be substantial oversight of the project, considering some of the flaws in Phase 1 and pre-Phase 1 construction.

Wilcox said the city control group for the project, composed of himself, city treasurer Diane Percycoc, public works director George McKay and the mayor, will meet regularly to oversee the project.

The commission also approved a one-year extension of its contract with the engineering firm of HDR of Sarasota. Wilcox is an engineer with HDR.

However, Barford said she will send a letter to area engineering firms during the coming year to determine if there is any interest on their part in bidding for the city's engineering needs.

Boat slips

An amendment allowing boat slips unaccompanied by a single-family residence to hookup to water and electricity services passed unanimously.

The ordinance affected several boat docks near the Anna Maria Island Community Center that were platted more than 50 years ago, before the city passed an ordinance requiring a house to accompany a boat dock.

In the same ordinance, commissioners moved the distance of mooring pilings for a dock from no more than 20 feet from the seawall to 35 feet, but kept the requirement that the pilings must still be 20 feet from the water's centerline.

Commissioners agreed with architect Laura Gee, who represented two clients on Pine Avenue, that getting boats out of the water better serves the environ-

ment than having them remain in the water to leak fuel, waste, garbage and sewage.

Flood protection

Building official Bob Welch presented several amendments to the flood protection ordinance that bring the city into compliance with Federal Emergency Management Agency regulations.

The amendments establish definitions, codify the policy on outside toilet facilities, require a demolition plan be submitted to the city when part of a structure is being torn down, and require that demolition be a maximum of 50 percent of the structure.

The revisions passed unanimously.

Cell towers

Concerned that technology has passed the city's 2003 ordinance establishing procedures for companies to construct wireless communications facilities (cell towers) in the city, commissioners agreed to have city attorney Jim Dye spend five hours updating the ordinance.

Commissioner Chuck Webb, an attorney who was on the city commission when the 2003 ordinance was adopted, argued successfully that the word “should” in the ordinance be changed to “shall.”

“This makes something mandatory,” he said, while “shall” is not a requirement.

Preservation group presents pier plaque

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

The Anna Maria Island Preservation Trust recognized the value of the Historic Bridge Street Pier Sept. 22 with a commemorative certificate.

Sissy Quinn, president of AMIPT, presented an engraved plaque to city officials earlier this year. Last week, she presented Mayor Michael Pierce, Commissioner Bob Bartelt, ScenicWAVES member Pat Gentry and Police Chief Sam Speciale with a certificate.

“The pier is a historic structure and site, and it's now looking pretty good,” Pierce said.

The trust was formed about six months ago to identify and honor older properties on Anna Maria Island, as well as lead efforts to preserve historic properties.

To date, AMIPT has placed 75 properties on the Florida Master Site File, including 33 in Bradenton Beach, 40 in Anna Maria and two in Holmes Beach.

AMIPT also has issued or sold 13 plaques in Anna Maria, seven plaques in Bradenton Beach and two plaques in Holmes Beach.

Pierce said last week that he also wanted to place a plaque on the Annie Silver Community Center, 103 23rd St., Bradenton Beach.

In addition to honoring Bradenton Beach for preserving the pier — the former Cortez Bridge, which linked the Island to the mainland — Quinn announced that her organization recently incorporated and secured nonprofit status from the Internal Revenue Service.

“This new status will enable the trust to continue

A cell tower company could apply to the city to construct a facility and ignore all the “should” portions of the ordinance and master wireless services plan, Webb said.

Dye agreed, noting that wireless expert Ted Kreines, who wrote the city's master plan for wireless communications, has the ordinance favoring construction of smaller cell tower systems, such as the direct antenna system (DAS), rather than the large towers such as in Holmes Beach. The small antenna system is what the city wants, he indicated.

Dye reminded the commission that in the six years since the ordinance and master plan were adopted, no company has made a formal application.

Several companies have made presentations to the Coalition of Barrier Island Elected Officials, but none have followed through with an application.

The most recent presentation was in July by a company advocating the DAS service.

Future meetings

Commissioners moved the November regular meeting to Nov. 19 to avoid a conflict with Thanksgiving, and the December meeting to Dec. 17 to remove any problems with the Christmas Eve holiday.

The city's Christmas party for volunteer workers and helpers in the city will be Dec. 16.

its work in documenting the homes that are 50 years or older on Anna Maria Island by placing them on the Florida Master Site File in Tallahassee,” said Quinn, who is working with several people on the Island to identify older properties.

The nonprofit designation also will help the trust in its effort to raise money to preserve the Angler's Lodge, 117 N. Bay Blvd., Anna Maria.

“Grants, endowments and all donations are deductible ... and will be pursued vigorously by the trust to save and preserve the cottages and bungalows that make our island so unique to those who live on and visit this special piece of Florida,” Quinn said.



A photograph of the Cortez Bridge, which became the site of the Bridge Street Pier when the draw-bridge was built on Cortez Road in the 1950s.
Islander Photo: Courtesy AMIPT



Today and yesterday

Sissy Quinn of the Anna Maria Island Preservation Trust Sept. 22 presents a certificate to Bradenton Beach Mayor Michael Pierce, Commissioner Bob Bartelt and ScenicWAVES member Pat Gentry recognizing the Historic Bridge Street Pier. Islander Photo: Lisa Neff

Environmental group seeks plastic bag ban

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

A local environmental group is advocating that Manatee and Sarasota counties ban plastic grocery bags from landfills.

ManaSota-88 called for the counties to ban the bags from landfills by Feb. 10, 2010.

The date is significant because that's also the date the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is scheduled to submit a review of the costs, positives and negatives associated with banning plastic bags.

In its call for a landfill ban, ManaSota-88 cited local, national and international concerns.

At the international level, the United Nations environmental chief has urged a ban on plastic bags.

"Single-use plastic bags, which choke marine life, should be banned or phased out rapidly everywhere. There is simply zero justification for manufacturing them anymore, anywhere," said Achim Steiner, executive director of the UN Environment Program, which advises member states on environmental policies.

Steiner made his statement with the release of a UN report identifying plastic as the "most prevalent component of marine debris" and a hazard "because it persists so long in the ocean, degrading into tinier and tinier bits that can be consumed by the smallest marine life at the base of the food web."

About .6 percent of plastic bags in the United States are recycled, meaning about 100 billion bags are thrown away — as litter or to be landfilled or

TOP TEN MARINE DEBRIS ITEMS

RANK	DEBRIS ITEM	NUMBER OF DEBRIS ITEMS	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEBRIS ITEMS
1	Cigarettes/Cigarette Filters	3,216,991	28%
2	Bags (Plastic)	1,377,141	12%
3	Food Wrappers/Containers	942,620	8%
4	Caps, Lids	937,804	8%
5	Beverage Bottles (Plastic)	714,892	6%
6	Bags (Paper)	530,607	5%
7	Straws, Stirrers	509,593	4%
8	Cups, Plates, Forks, Knives, Spoons	441,053	4%
9	Beverage Bottles (Glass)	434,990	4%
10	Beverage Cans	401,412	4%
	Top 10 Total Debris Items	9,507,103	83%
	Total Debris Items Worldwide	11,439,086	100%

Source: Ocean Conservancy/2008 International Coastal Cleanup

During the 2008 Coastal Cleanup, plastic bags ranked No. 2 on a list of the top marine debris. Islander Image: Ocean Conservancy

burned, according to the Worldwatch Institute, an environmental think tank.

In the landfill, the bags take about 1,000 years to break down.

Outside the landfill, according to ManaSota-88, the bags make up about 80 percent of the litter on roads, parks and beaches and 90 percent of the litter in the ocean.

Statistics suggest that plastic bags will be one of the top items picked up in the annual Coastal Cleanup

scheduled to take place on Anna Maria Island and elsewhere Oct. 3.

In the 2008 Coastal Cleanup, plastic bags made up 12 percent of the litter collected worldwide, with volunteers picking up more than 1.3 million bags.

The county commissions have not taken positions on ManaSota-88's call.

Locally, at least one government employee has endorsed ManaSota-88's effort.

"I'm all for it," said Lisa Marie Phillips, the project/program manager for Bradenton Beach, where city officials and community volunteers have waged a campaign to decrease the use of plastic bags.

The city, working with citizen volunteers, sponsored an initiative to distribute cloth bags, as well as posted signs discouraging people from bringing plastic bags to the waterfront.

"This is something this city has been working on since 2004," Phillips said.

And she praised work to reduce or eliminate the use of bags in other locales.

San Francisco, for example, has banned plastic bags, and Los Angeles will institute a ban in 2010 while Washington, D.C., plans to collect a bag tax.

Elsewhere, Ireland, Italy and Belgium placed a surcharge on plastic bags, China, which instituted a limit on producing ultra-thin bags in 2008, has saved China 1.6 million tons of petroleum, according to Worldwatch.

"There is a way to live without them," Phillips said. "It's about going back to the way we used to live — baskets, carts, boxes."

Phillips said an annual summit involving local environmental organizations and agencies will take place Oct. 27 at the Palma Sola Botanical Gardens in Bradenton, and she plans to discuss ManaSota-88's call.

Vote for Harry Stoltzfus for Anna Maria

Anna Maria is special

Here many of the residents still walk to the Post Office to pick up their mail. Kids ride their bikes in the streets. Cathy, my wife, and I can work in our front yard in the evening, and count on one hand the number of cars that pass. Neighbors walk by, some out enjoying the evening air, some walking their dogs. Several stop and chat.

Some days I walk to the Rod & Reel to get the fishing report. Or fish there. I always talk to Bob or Tom, two of the guys who sell bait. Or Dave the manager. Bob had heart surgery a few years back. Says he feels much better now. Tom always tries to remember Molly's name. Molly's our daughter.

If I really need to unwind, I hitch up my little trailer and bike, load my fishing gear, and head to Bean Point. Odds are I'll run into Bill and Judy, or Steve and Joanne, or Red if he's in town. Or Kenny. If it's a weekend, I'll probably see Charlie, unless he's kayaking. Usually I'll call Herb first. Michigan boy. Lives here half the year. Herb taught me how to catch pompano back about twelve years ago when I first came to Anna Maria. His wife Barbara is a retired clown. Sweet lady.

I love living in Anna Maria. Even in the busiest months of the season, it's a pretty quiet little town. Great water. Beautiful beaches. Super fishing. But mostly it's the people. We've met a boatload of really nice people on this island.

Anna Maria is different. In a state whose name is synonymous with overdevelopment, Anna Maria has remained a relatively undeveloped, often unknown, primarily residential community.

That is no accident. It didn't just happen. Anna Maria remains unexploited because no one has been allowed to exploit it. Our

island community remains a Paradise thanks to a long line of resident advocates and officeholders who committed themselves to preventing it from becoming just another overdeveloped, condo-ridden, commercialized, Florida barrier island resort town.

I share their commitment. To that end, I'm presenting myself as a candidate for Anna Maria City Commissioner.

Most of us who transplanted to Anna Maria did so because we fell in love with this island Paradise. We all sing our individual songs, but the refrain is pretty much the same. We liked the beaches. We liked the quiet streets. We liked the sense of community. We liked the people.

Every now and again, someone arrives on the island with a plan to improve Anna Maria. As if it needed improving.

I first set foot in Anna Maria 12 years ago. Much has changed since then. The marina on Pine Avenue is gone. The big grocery store is gone. Ato's, the Polynesian restaurant we frequented, is gone. I miss them all.

But I like what has replaced them. Ginny and Jane E's is a vibrant neighborhood gathering place. I can go to the Pine Avenue grocery for essentials. Waterfront replaced Ato's. I'm a beer snob. Waterfront has great

taps. And I always enjoy going by the three sisters and watching the dogs run around on the docks when we pass. Wish one of the owners sold bait, beer, and gas.

We can't turn back the clock.

This Pine Avenue thing is a done deal as well. Not much anybody can do about it, really. Contain it. Keep an eye on the parking



and drainage issues. Make sure those buildings don't turn into boarding houses or de facto motels. Mitigate the conflicts between auto, pedestrian, and bike traffic. Recently, some local businesses have been networking, trying to cash in on the growing wedding

industry here in Anna Maria. Here's to them. I preferred the "Florida's Best Kept Secret" brand, but if we're going to be "Where to Get Married", so be it. We'll deal with the traffic and parking issues as they arise.

Under "Land Use Categories" in the Comp Plan, is the declaration: "Although located on a barrier island, the City of Anna Maria has been able to avoid the development of a strong tourist attraction." Later verbiage states this avoidance has resulted in our being predominately a

single family community, and the stated objective of the Comp Plan is to continue this community character.

Until I know differently, I'm going to assume our present group of developers has no plans to go beyond the limits of the Comp Plan. But I'm not willing to assume they won't in the future. And that is why I'd like to be your advocate on Anna Maria City Commission.

It's in every resident's best interest to make sure no one stacks the deck. We've got to make sure we've always got at least three strong resident advocates on the commission, so there is no possibility of a super majority changing the Comp. Three commissioners at a minimum. Four would be better.

We must preserve the residential character of Anna Maria. I'm willing to do my part. I need your support.

If elected to the Anna Maria City Commission, I pledge to:

- Fulfill the public obligations of my office with transparency and integrity.
- Oppose any effort intended to diminish the regulations now in place whose purpose is to preserve the residential character of Anna Maria.
- Establish and maintain a dialogue between the residential and the business members of Anna Maria in order to foster a relationship in which all parties work toward minimizing the negative impact on surrounding residences of a vibrant business community.

Thanks for listening.

Harry Stoltzfus

Email: harry@harconcorp.com

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Harry Stoltzfus for Anna Maria City Commissioner

Our Opinion

Au naturel?

While our questions about bagging plastic bags directed to the Holmes Beach city commission went unanswered over time, the rest of the world was tuning into the problem.

Plastic is taking over our landfills. But worse, it's blemishing our environment and doing serious harm to wildlife and marinelife.

Cigarette butts contain plastic and other chemicals. Put on your bifocals and walk the beach, check the wrackline, look closely at floating seaweed in the bay waters, and you'll see the offending castoff of careless smokers.

Keep looking, because bottle tops are almost as prevalent.

Plastic water, soda and sport-drink bottles?

The popularity of carrying convenient bottled drinks on the go has carried over into everyday, all day use and, until they come up with a container that doesn't last 1,000 years in the environment, what can we do?

Reuse, refill and substitute disposable containers with reusable water containers, and add purifying systems to your water sources at home and work to eliminate the need for what may not be so "pure" from the over-worked market of bottled water suppliers.

But plastic shopping and garbage bags are taking over the landfill here and everywhere. As they decompose, tiny toxic bits seep into surrounding soils and the aquifer.

And, when paper or cloth would do just as nicely, why are we continuing the practice?

McDonalds restaurants ceased serving food in Styrofoam and plastic containers, and some plastic cups have been discontinued, while straws — what do we substitute here? — prevail.

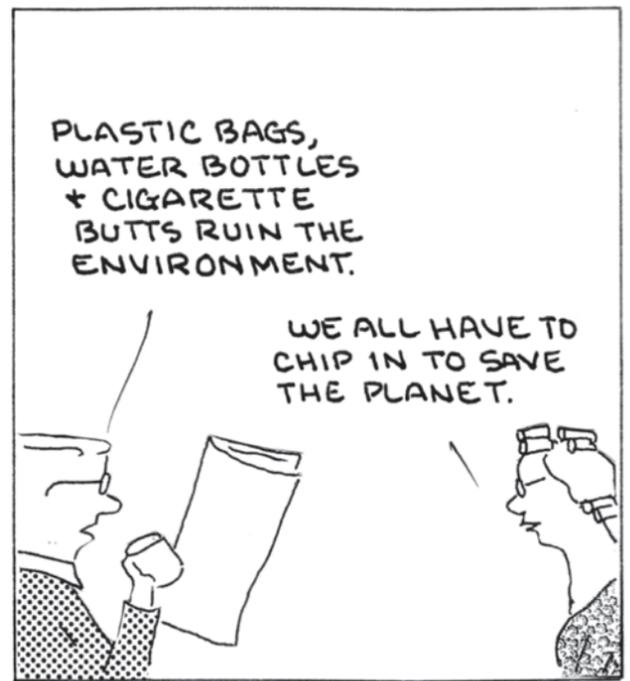
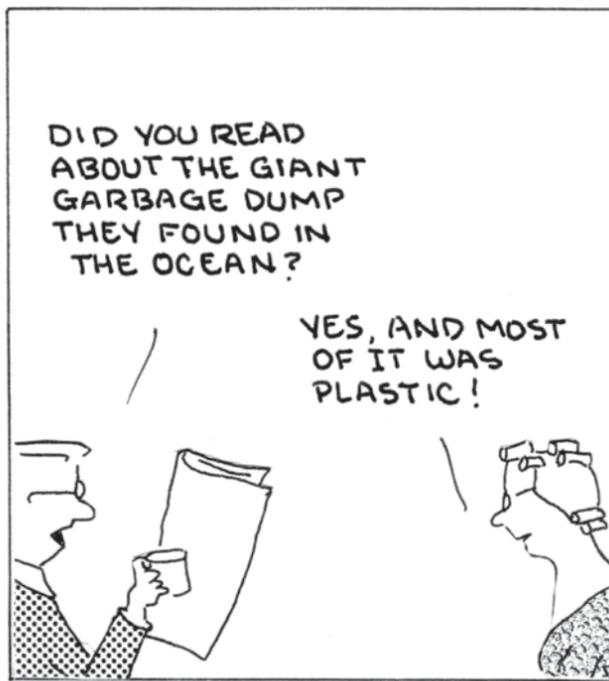
And while straws have been eliminated at beach concessions, they're as prominent at the local piers and other waterfront eateries as Styrofoam food containers.

But we can take heart that some establishments have an eye to environmentally friendly containers, including the Waterfront Restaurant in Anna Maria. Good lead, good example. Will others follow suit?

Is it practice or price that drives the use of undesirable packaging.

Only you can change it by making demands.

Join ManSota-88 in demanding that Manatee County restrict acceptance of plastic bags at its



Slick

By Egan

landfill.

The Florida Legislature bowed to "plastic" lobbyists and prohibited local governments from banning the use of plastic bags, but you can send your legislator a message. Lobbyists shouldn't control our limits on greenhouse gases or our sensitivity to the environment.

We can do without some plastics, and others — particularly cigarette butts — can be discarded

properly.

We can do better.

Next time you shop, take your own bag. And not just at the food store, but everywhere you make purchases.

And recycle, recycle, recycle.

Get simple. Get real. Rid your routine of plastic.

Paradise deserves it.

Your Opinion

No slow going

Just say no to a 25-mph speed limit and low-speed vehicles in Bradenton Beach.

The Island is not a gated community of only retired people and vacationers. Manatee Avenue, Cortez and Gulf Drive to Longboat Key are the major arteries for people living on the Island to get to work and back home.

Other workers use them to get to work on and about the Island and to Longboat Key.

With the current speed limits, traffic moves about at a reasonable pace with few backups. Dropping the speed limit would probably cause more congestion during peak hours.

During season, the Island cannot get traffic on and off quickly enough to avoid backups and a reduced speed limit would just compound this situation.

As to the LSVs, if scooters are an indication, most of the LSVs wouldn't be driven at any speed close to the speed limit. Most scooters aren't driven fast enough to even meet a 25-mph speed limit.

What will be the result of the first LSV collision with a car/delivery truck?

Bradenton Beach talks about an LSV to move people from Coquina Beach to Bridge Street. What happened to the trolley? Does the city have excess money to spend on a LSV and a driver?

If the city and Island want to be more green

and allow unfettered, slow sightseeing, then expand, repair and slightly widen the bike paths around the Island to encourage people to ride bicycles.

The current paths seem to be made to discourage people from riding their bicycles.

Rod Joslin, Bradenton Beach

Have your say

We welcome and encourage your comments on topics, columns and editorials in *The Islander* and the news and events on Anna Maria Island.

The Islander accepts original letters of up to 250 words and reserves the right to edit for length, accuracy and grammar. Letters must include name, address, and a contact phone number (for verification). Anonymous and unverified letters will not be printed.

Letters are published on a space-available basis with regard to length and timeliness of the material. Writers are limited to one published letter per month.

Address letters by e-mail to news@islander.org or mail to 5404 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach FL 34217, or comment on matters *The Islander* Web site at www.islander.org.

Stories on the Web site include comment forms for submissions.

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Hunters ship out for cause

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

More than 20 hunters went scavenging Sept. 26.

The hunters were all participants in the first annual "Can You Find It By Water" scavenger hunt hosted by the Cortez Yacht Club.

The event, the idea of club member Tim Thompson, began and ended at Rotten Ralph's restaurant in Anna Maria.

And registration fees — ranging from \$25 to \$40 per person — were collected by the yacht club for its programs, which support the Cortez Historical Society, the Florida Institute for Saltwater Heritage and also youth boating programs.

There likely will be a second annual scavenger hunt.

"If it all goes well and people have fun," Thompson said. "We'll do it again."

But hunters said they were having fun even

before they left Rotten Ralph's to begin their quest.

The scavengers were hunting, by water, for 100 items, some more valuable than others.

Hunters received just one point for the easy-to-find cup of sand, but 10 points for genuine sea glass.

They searched for conch shells and shark teeth, shrimp boats and cruise ships to photograph, fishing lures and coral, bait buckets and bikini bottoms, rusty nails and sunglasses with barnacles.

The Cortez club's scavenger hunt was not a team sport.

"They're all fending for themselves," Thompson said, seated at a table inside the restaurant to register participants.

The rules provided hunters three hours to collect their treasure.

Arriving eager to seek and find, Terry Hays said he had a simple strategy: "To find everything I can."



Preparing to hunt

Tim Thompson registers Terry Hays for the Cortez Yacht Club's first "Can You Find It By Water" scavenger hunt Sept. 26. The event began and ended at Rotten Ralph's restaurant in Anna Maria. Scavengers had about three hours to hunt down a list of items to be found boaters to area locations. *Islander* Photo: Lisa Neff



In the Sept. 29, 1999, issue of *The Islander*, headlines announced:

- Anna Maria Oyster Bar owners Phil and Ben Seay and operator John Horne closed the restaurant, located at the tip of the city pier, and began moving out equipment and supplies as negotiations with the city commission to renew their lease became deadlocked. The lease expired Sept. 30. Horne and the Seays balked at a commission proposal for \$5,000 in monthly rent, or 6 percent of the gross revenue, whichever was higher.

- A Holmes Beach man was killed Sept. 26 at the Manatee Public Beach when the motorcycle he was driving ran into the concession stand. Holmes Beach police said Bryan Stocks, 33, was not wearing a helmet when he struck the wall. Police said it was raining at the time of the accident, and Stocks may not have seen the building until it was too late. He was traveling at about 40 mph, police said.

- Anna Maria building official Phil Charnock entered a plea of not guilty to a state misdemeanor charge of improper display of a firearm during an Aug. 6 road-rage incident on the south approach to the Sunshine Skyway Bridge.

TEMPS AND DROPS ON AMI

Date	Low	High	Rainfall
Sept. 20	73	91	.90
Sept. 21	76	94	0
Sept. 22	76	93	.10
Sept. 23	76	92	0
Sept. 24	75	92	.10
Sept. 25	76	90	1.0
Sept. 26	77	89	0

Average Gulf water temperature 87°
24-hour rainfall accumulation with reading at approximately 5 p.m. daily.

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BUDGETS SET ON ANNA MARIA ISLAND

Anna Maria approves 'bare-bones' budget

By Rick Catlin
Islander Reporter

Anna Maria city commissioners spent more time at the Sept. 22 hearing on the 2009-10 budget praising city staff than they did crunching the numbers.

Perhaps that's because the numbers had already been crunched by commissioners, city treasurer Diane Percycoc, Mayor Fran Barford and other staff in previous budget meetings and work sessions.

At a prior budget hearing, Barford said it's a "bare-bones budget."

No commissioner or member of the public disagreed.

The \$2.15 million budget for 2009-10 passed unanimously without discussion, as did the ad valorem rate of 1.7882 mills, the same rate as the 2008-09 budget.

Two members of the public attended the hearing, but offered no comments.

Following approval of both the budget and the ad valorem rate, Commission Chairman John Quam thanked the staff for a "great job" in maintaining the health, safety and welfare of the city without any tax increase.

Commissioner Woodland, who frequently has voiced concerns about the budget, said the staff work was "excellent."

To avoid increasing property taxes in the 2009-10 budget, commissioners drew money from the reserve account, dropping it from 37 percent of the operating budget to 31 percent, or \$655,690.

The operating budget does not include the \$705,000 the city will spend on Phase 2 of its stormwater improvements project. Funding for that comes from the city's line of credit and an annual assessment paid by property owners. The annual assessment for the owner of a single-family structure is \$45.

Woodland said later that all the questions he had were answered at the budget work sessions. His concern is a continued decline in revenues and a shrinking reserve fund.

"The staff did a good job in crunching the numbers, but we're still going to have to start looking at next year's budget about six months from now if we don't want to dip into the reserve fund next year," he said.

Commissioner Jo Ann Mattick suggested meeting in April to get preliminary reports on revenue and identify potential cuts in spending.

"We have to start early and at least make an effort to see where our income and expenses will be next September. I believe we have some difficult decisions ahead of us," she said.

City revenues have dropped 20 percent the past two years because of falling real estate values, and the decline is likely to continue into the 2010-11 budget cycle, according to information from the Manatee County Property Appraiser's Office.

Bradenton Beach budget approved

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

Bradenton Beach's newly adopted 2009-10 budget takes effect Oct. 1.

And the clock is ticking on the next budget go around — city commissioners want to start work on the 2010-11 budget in February.

During the final 2009-10 budget hearing Sept. 23, mayoral candidate Bill Shearon, who is challenging incumbent Michael Pierce, suggested starting even sooner.

"Don't delay," he said.

Shearon was the lone speaker during the public comment portions of last week's meeting, at which the commission, with Janie Robertson absent, adopted a \$2,795,096 budget and set the 2009 millage rate for

the city at 2.1539 mills, less than the rollback rate. A mil is \$1 for every \$1,000 of assessed value of property less any exemptions.

Shearon also objected to the use of reserves to deal with a projected decline in revenue in the 2009-10 fiscal year. Commissioners agreed in July to tap reserves rather than raise the property tax rate.

He said city officials should have learned a lesson from years ago, when credit cards were needed to keep paying staff, and not dipped into reserves.

"God forbid we ever get hit with a weather event," Shearon said.

The city plans to use \$75,121 from the general fund reserves to make up the deficit between the projected revenues and expenditures in 2009-10.

The city also turned to its reserves for \$75,000 in funding in 2008-09.

The budget's revenue forecast is for \$2,719,975 in revenue compared to \$2,973,296 in revenue for fiscal 2008-09.

Revenue declines are expected in property tax collections, stormwater fees, licenses and permits, court fines and interest earnings. Property tax collections are expected to fall from \$1,278,776 this year to \$1,070,800 in the next fiscal year.

With the decline in revenues, the budget also shows a decline in expenditures, from \$3,152,125 this year to \$2,795,096 in the new fiscal year.

In an effort to shrink the revenue decline, commissioners plan to meet this month to discuss policies to collect delinquent accounts and unpaid fines.

City attorney Ricinda Perry recommended a meeting to discuss code enforcement fines, as well as collections for overdue business tax receipts, stormwater fees and trash collection bills.

"This year has proved to be one of the most challenging years that we've had," she said. "What we're looking to do is get some direction from the commission on where we should go on this."

A memo from Perry indicates about \$60,000 in delinquent sanitation accounts and nearly \$40,000 in delinquent stormwater accounts.

Holmes Beach adopts budget, tax rate

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

The Holmes Beach City Commission approved a \$7.8 million budget for the fiscal year that begins Oct. 1.

The 2008-09 budget was \$8.1 million.

The vote Sept. 22 was 4-1, with Commissioner David Zaccagnino saying "nay."

During the two budget hearings and budget workshops earlier this year, Zaccagnino said the budget should be trimmed just as citizens are trimming their budgets to deal with economic hard times.

Zaccagnino, who is seeking re-election in November along with Commissioners Pat Morton and Pat Geyer, also was the "nay" vote in the 4-1 decision to set the city's property tax rate — the millage rate — at 1.7549 mills.

Zaccagnino said the rate represents a tax increase to property owners in the city.

Holmes Beach Mayor Rich Bohnenberger said the budget was drafted based on the expectation that the city would levy the rollback rate for property taxes.

"The budget was drafted based on the rollback rate," Bohnenberger said. "The rollback rate will not carry any more tax dollars, and is expected to generate less revenue than last year."

The budget projections show the new tax rate will generate \$2,269,600 in ad valorem tax revenues for 2009-10. For 2008-09, the city collected \$2,272,788 in ad valorem taxes.

City treasurer Rick Ashley said the rate is "neither an increase nor a decrease [from the rollback rate]. It is the rollback rate."

During the public hearing portion of the Sept. 22 meeting, two people, both of them candidates in the Nov. 3 commission race, criticized the spending plan.

"I can't believe that the budget couldn't be reduced ... to keep from raising the millage and the taxes," said Andy Sheridan.

Sheridan said he is not against increasing salaries for city employees during good times, but he criticized "increases for employees at a time when this economy just doesn't warrant it."

The budget contains a \$500 a year increase for city staff, but no step increases in salaries.

"I am against wasteful spending," Sheridan said.

Al Robinson said the commission was endorsing "overt waste" and questioned operations in the Holmes Beach Police Department, including the staffing of a dispatch center when Manatee County operates a 911 emergency call center.

"The dispatch center that we have is unique," Robinson said. "Our cousin to the north doesn't have it. Our cousin to the south doesn't have it? Why do we have that dispatch center?"

Robinson also said the city was "paving streets that don't need to be paved."

Morton responded, "It's not because we want to make streets look nice. There is a method behind it."

Morton said some streets need repaving to help deal with stormwater management, including to keep sand out of the street-end basins.

Bohnenberger, later in the meeting and referencing comments made at a prior hearing, defended the size of the police department.

The mayor said that, based on population numbers, the city's staffing in HBPD is less than the county average, as well as the staffing levels in Bradenton Beach and Anna Maria.

Bohnenberger also said that the Florida Police Chiefs Association does not recommend a staffing level based on population because populations fluctuate from day to night or season to season.

Zaccagnino said there are recommendations on staffing levels for police departments, and the city's level exceeds the recommendations.

The approved budget projects zero funding from federal revenue sources, \$903,933 in state revenues and \$3,364,500 in local resources, as well as \$3,597,057 in carryovers and reserves for a total revenue budget of \$7,865,490.

The biggest chunk of state revenue is expected to come from the 1/2 cent sales tax and property taxes provide the biggest chunk of local revenues.

The carryovers/reserves revenue includes stormwater and local option gas tax carryovers, as well as general fund reserves and Hagen Foundation reserve funds.

On the expenditure side, the budget includes \$100,990 for the mayor and commission, \$655,993 for general government, \$2,030,993 for the police department, \$1,964,364 for the public works department, \$145,027 for the code enforcement department, \$391,000 for stormwater utility projects, \$13,137 in Hagen Foundation funds reserved for improvements to the city hall field and \$2,564,500 in carryovers and reserves — money that is either held for contingencies or restricted for certain uses.

Bohnenberger said that with the donor's consent, some of the Hagen Foundation funds dedicated to the city for lighting at the Birdie Tebbetts Field would be used for the construction of a rest room in the field north of city hall.

Gulf Coast Writers to meet

The Gulf Coast Writers will meet at 1:15 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7, at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach.

Members will share their writings.

For more information, call Nancy Colcord, 778-7631.

Anna Maria City to get stimulated

By Rick Catlin
Islander Reporter

People who put federal stimulus dollars to work are coming to Anna Maria Oct. 13.

That's the date set by Mayor Fran Barford for elected officials, city staff and the public to meet with representatives of the Tampa-based ValErin Group to discuss upcoming Florida Department of Transportation projects in the city that will be funded by the \$783 billion federal stimulus plan.

Barford said the Oct. 13 town hall meeting from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. will allow residents and government officials to get information about the city projects, a time frame of the work and what disruptions the motoring public might encounter during construction.

The mayor said she anticipates work in Anna Maria should start near the end of October. Stimulus projects have already begun in Bradenton Beach, she said.

When the DOT announced earlier this year that only "shovel-ready" projects were eligible for stimulus funding, Barford, public works director George McKay, building official Bob Welch and other city staff worked to get a variety of projects prepared to meet the DOT deadline.

The work paid off when the DOT announced in

April that Anna Maria was approved for nearly \$1.2 million worth of construction.

Included in the list are sidewalks in a variety of locations, improvements to Gulf Drive and Pine Avenue and some much-needed repairs to both city bridges.

Other Island projects on the DOT list are \$78,000 for a new traffic light at the Manatee Avenue-East Bay Drive intersection in Holmes Beach and \$830,000 for

corridor improvements to State Road 789 in Bradenton Beach.

Additionally, two sidewalk projects in Holmes Beach totaling \$110,000 are on the DOT stimulus list.

ValErin is the public relations firm hired by the DOT to disseminate stimulus project information and coordinate the stimulus projects on the Island, a company spokesperson said.



Friendly donation

Ava Ehde, Sandy Haas-Martens, Beverly Neville and Jane Connolly come together Sept. 22 at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach, for a check presentation from the Kiwanis Club of Anna Maria Island to the Friends of the Island Library. The library group put \$500 toward educational toys for pre-school aged children. "Kiwanis Club is dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time," Haas-Martens said. *Islander* Photo: Diane Hendrickson



October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and *The Islander* will be fundraising and promoting awareness by publishing special pink pages of advertising. Short acknowledgements, up to 15 words (similar to classified ads) will each publish with a pink "awareness" ribbon and cost will be \$15. Display advertisers are welcome to join us in acknowledging awareness, encouraging survivors of cancer and memorializing loved ones lost. Ten percent of all ad sales will go to Nancy Ambrose's American Cancer Society Relay for Life team.

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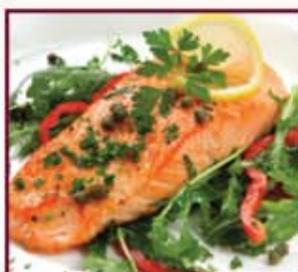
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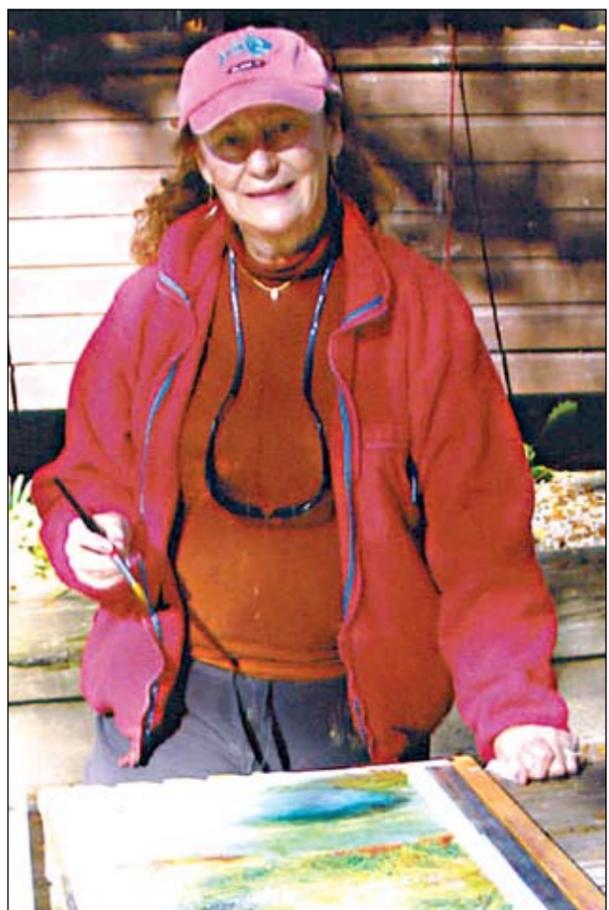
Inquiring Minds sessions beginning

Inquiring Minds, the cross-denominational Bible study group, will resume meeting at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 6, at Gloria Dei Church, 6608 Marine Drive, Holmes Beach,

The season of study will start with an exploration of the Old Testament:

- Oct. 6, "In the Beginning."
- Oct. 13, "Adam and Eve."
- Oct. 20, "Murder, Flood Dispersion."

For more information, call Frank McGrath at 941-778-4579.



Gallery features solo show

Watercolor seascapes of the Atlantic Provinces of Canada will be the focus of Canadian-born local watercolor artist Jean Ehlis' solo show Oct. 1-31 at Island Gallery West, 5368 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach. The gallery will host a free artist's reception from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 3. For more information, call 941-778-6648.

Art classes to begin

The Anna Maria Island Art League, 5312 Holmes Blvd., Holmes Beach, will begin its fall classes next week.

The first classes of the semester will begin Oct. 5. The class schedule includes adult classes in stained glass, drawing, oil painting, acrylic painting, collage art, digital and 35 mm photography, watercolor, gourd art, colored pencils, pottery and open studio.

Classes for children include mixed media, photography, drawing and watercolor.

Most classes run for four weeks, with class sessions starting the first week of each month from October through April.

Class schedules are available at the Anna Maria Island Art League, the Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce and can also be found online at www.islandartleague.org.

For more information or to register, call 941-778-7099.

LBK center offers courses

The Longboat Key Education Center's fall session begins Oct. 19 and concludes Dec. 18.

Most classes meet once a week, with a vacation for students Nov. 23-27 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The nonprofit center is at 5370 Gulf of Mexico Drive, Longboat Key, where visitors can also see art exhibits.

Course subjects range from bridge to yoga.

The center also offers registration for events, such as the Cine-World Film Festival at Burns Court in Sarasota in November.

The center's winter session begins Jan. 4 and features an expanded course list.

For more information and details on costs, call 941-383-8811 or go to www.lbkeducation.org.



Alexi Lillis' "Timeless Acquaintance." Islander Images: Courtesy AMIAL

Faculty featured in exhibit

The Anna Maria Island Art League will open its 2009-10 season with an exhibit celebrating its faculty.

The exhibit will open Friday, Oct. 9, with a reception from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m..

Participating artists include Christine Galanopoulos, photography; Gloria Bocchetti, children's art; James Corwin Johnson, photography; Marie Garafano, collage art and watercolor; Nancy Law, acrylics; Jeannie Murray, pottery; Alexandra Lillis, drawing, oil painting and colored pencil illustration; Pam McMillen, baskets and gourd art; Sandy French, stained glass; Doug Land, drawing; Deeanne Atkinson, floor cloths; Charles O'Neil, wire sculpture and Cheryl Jorgensen, watercolor.

The gallery, 5312 Holmes Blvd., Holmes Beach, also will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays.



Haircuts, smiles for Moose

Ava Anderson, 5, of Bradenton, came to the Moose Lodge in Bradenton Beach Sept. 20 for a haircutting fundraiser sponsored by Je Mi salon and spa of Bradenton. Ava got a cut from Michelle Vergara and sister Josie, 3, got her haircut from salon owner Danielle Kellermueller. The event was sponsored by the Women of the Moose to raise money for the children's vision and dental programs at Mooseheart, a childcare residence operated by Moose International. Islander Photos: Bonner Joy



Seated from left, Rich Denherder, Andy LaVallee, Val Grondyke and Betty LaVallee get cuts from Danielle Kellermueller, Tina Bozarth, Michelle Bergara and Jeanette Lawson of Je Mi salon at the Moose Hair-Cut-A-Thon fundraiser Sept. 20.



Peter Ruscoe and Robin Rhodes are in the cast of "London Suite," which opens at the Island Players theater Oct. 8. Islander Photos: Lisa Neff

Island Players opens season

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

The Island Players theater group will begin its 61st season with "London Suite," a Neil Simon play directed by Gareth Gibbs.

The play will open Oct. 8 and continue through Oct. 18 at the theater, 10009 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria. Performances will be Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m., with the theater dark on Mondays.

The cast includes Peter Ruscoe, Mark Woodland, Barbara Fleming, Chelsey Panisoh, Michelle Kienzle, Robin Rhodes, Judy Glynn, Miriam Ring and Vinnie Conte.

The production team includes Brad Pattison, Bob

Grant, Pat Russell, Ruth Stevens, Bobbie Berger, Barb Gusie, Carol Cozan, JoAnn Murdoch, Jack Abene, Lois Biel, Carolyn Pepka and Hugh Scanlon.

Tickets cost \$15 and can be purchased at the box office, which is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Saturday and one hour before show times.

Other productions in the 61st season will include "The Education Of Angels" by Matthew Carlin from Dec. 3-13; "Self Help" by Norm Foster from Jan. 21-Feb. 7; "Catch Me If You Can" by Jack Weinstock and Willie Gilbert from March 18-April 4; and "The Prisoner Of Second Avenue" by Neil Simon from May 13-23.

For tickets or more information, call the box office at 941-778-5755 or go to www.theislandplayers.org.



Tropic Isle tear down

The old Tropic Isle motel at the corner of Gulf Drive and 22nd Street North in Bradenton Beach is torn down Sept. 26. Site preparation began Sept. 24 for the work, which was permitted by the city. For now, the property manager said, sod will be placed on the site, Building official Steve Gilbert said the city has not received plans for redevelopment of the property. Islander Photo: Lisa Neff

Voter registration closes Oct. 5

Voter registration is open for the Nov. 3 election until 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 5.

To be eligible to vote in Manatee County, a person must be a U.S. citizen, a Florida resident, 18 years of age, and not have a record of a felony conviction in the state or currently considered mentally incapacitated.

Registering to vote can be simple — potential voters complete applications available at most government offices, banks, libraries, chambers and some businesses, including *The*

Islander, 5404 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach.

Applications can also be downloaded at www.votemanatee.com, the Manatee County Supervisor of Elections Web site.

The applications are then mailed or delivered to the Supervisor of Elections Office, Suite 108, 600 301 Blvd. W., Bradenton.

The application process takes about two weeks.

For more information about voting, call the supervisor's office at 941-741-3823.





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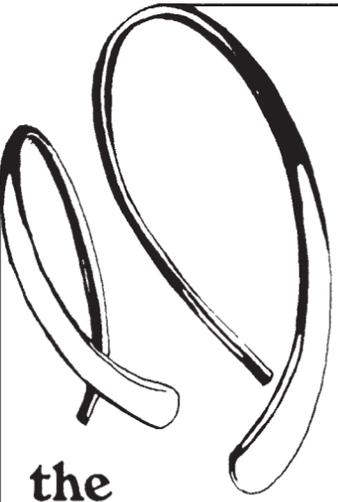
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Turtle Watch volunteers celebrate season

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

Dozens of members of Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch gathered early Sept. 26 not on the beach to walk, but rather in Cortez for brunch.

AMITW held its annual end-of-season gathering at Smuggler's Landing in Cortez.

Officially a month remains in nesting season, but for some walkers there are no nests to monitor. As of Sept. 25, there were seven nests still on the beaches on Anna Maria Island, according to AMITW executive director Suzi Fox.

Fox provided other numbers as volunteers dined in the Smuggler's Landing clubhouse on french toast, baked ham, fried potatoes, pastries, coffee and orange juice.

Fox reported 154 nests, 138 false crawls, and 11,415 hatchlings to the sea thus far.

The hatch rate for the season is 83 percent, considerably higher than the 60 percent rate that can occur during storm-plagued seasons, she said.

Fox reported the largest number of nests — 32 — found in the organization's Section 3, which runs from Pine Avenue in Anna Maria to 66th Street.

The largest number of disorientations, incidents in which turtles lost their way, was reported in Section 7 in Bradenton Beach. There were eight disorientations in the area, mostly between 26th and 22nd streets in Bradenton Beach.

Islandwide, AMITW reported 20 disorientations compared with nine disorientations last year.

Fox said code enforcement officers in problem areas are working with building managers and property owners to install new turtle-friendly fixtures by next May.

"Disorientations are going to be better," she said, looking to 2010.

Also in 2010, Fox said AMITW orientation and training may begin earlier in April and volunteers may start walking in that month instead of May.

Statistics show that while the most nests were laid in June, the number laid in May was higher than in the past and higher than in July.



Bye-bye brunch
Suzi Fox of Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch carries serving trays for an end-of-the-nesting-season brunch Sept. 26 at Smuggler's Landing in Cortez. AMITW is still monitoring seven nests with yet-to-hatch eggs on Anna Maria Island and the official end of the season is Oct. 31. *Islander Photos: Lisa Neff*

Additionally, AMITW will intensify its interest in monitoring shorebird populations and nesting activity on the beaches.

Through the winter, she said volunteers will work on identifying birds. The nesting season generally runs with turtle season.

County creates detour to protect eagles

Manatee County's natural resources department has created a detour through Robinson Preserve in northwest Bradenton to protect nesting bald eagles.

"The eagles have landed," said county naturalist Melissa Cain Nell. "Our resident bald eagles have returned to Robinson Preserve, and are once again preparing to raise a family. Visitors will have a wonderful opportunity to see the eagles from the trail."

With the arrival of the eagles, the county instituted some changes at the preserve to meet federal regulations governing the protection of the nation's symbol.

Beginning last week, a portion of the paddle blueway in the preserve was detoured around the eagle nest.

The "eagle detour" will occur along the western portion of the blueway near the tidal lake. Access to the Manatee River in the north will be open, from the west via Perico Bayou and the preserve waterway can be accessed from the south via Palma Sola Bay.

Visitors exploring the location by land also are to remain on the marked trails to minimize disturbance to the birds.

The bald eagle breeding season in Florida runs September through June with the most critical times for protection being the first few months of courtship, nest-building, and egg incubation.

If the eagles are disturbed during this time, the birds may abandon the nest.

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Code revisions advance in Holmes Beach

By Lisa Neff
Islander Reporter

An ordinance that serves up a buffet of changes to Holmes Beach's building and land regulations advanced with a first reading Sept. 22.

Holmes Beach commissioners voted 5-0 for the measure, which is scheduled for a final reading Oct. 13 and deals with off-site supplemental parking, temporary storage pods, sport vehicle parking in residential districts, satellite dish antennas and off-street parking.

A separate ordinance, also approved 5-0 on a first reading and scheduled for a final reading Oct. 13, deals with changes to sign regulations to ease banner restrictions for nonprofit groups working on the Island and to better delineate between artwork

and signs.

Off-site supplemental parking

The land-development code restricts off-street parking to adjoining parcels, but city commissioners, working with planning commission members, sought to relax the rule to allow off-site parking in certain circumstances.

"Allowing off-site parking will stimulate the local economy," the ordinance states.

The ordinance requires that off-site supplemental parking be sited in commercial zones, parking meet landscaping and buffering rules, parking spaces meet existing size and construction rules, parking in a commercial zone of equal or greater intensity than that in which the principal use is located is subject to

site plan review, parking in a commercial district of lesser intensity than the principal use needs a special exemption from the city commission.

Off-street parking

The ordinance allows for a business unable to meet off-street parking requirements on its property to seek a special exception to secure off-street parking at a nearby site — within 500 feet of the business and in a commercial area.

Temporary storage pods

The ordinance states that temporary portable storage units — pods — are allowed for construction purposes in front yards under a temporary use

PLEASE SEE HOLMES BEACH, PAGE 17

Relay for Life begins 2010 cycle

The 2010 cycle of the American Cancer Society Anna Maria Island Relay For Life will begin with a kick-off party at 6 p.m. Oct. 13 at the Anna Maria Island Moose Lodge 2188, 110 Gulf Drive S., Bradenton Beach.

Organizers invite people to attend the party to learn about walking in the relay, forming a team, sponsoring the event or serving on a planning committee.

The relay, set for May 1-2 at Coquina Beach in Bradenton Beach, is part of the larger Relay for Life campaign that serves as ACS's primary fundraiser.

For more information, call the local chapter of the ACS at 941-745-1214.

For more information about cancer go to www.cancer.org.



A lap recognizing cancer survivors and caretakers takes place during the 2009 Island Relay for Life benefiting the American Cancer Society. Islander File Photo: Lisa Neff

Pink Pages

The *Islander* will run a series of "Pink Pages" in October as part of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and to raise money for the cause.

For \$15, short acknowledgements, up to 15 words, can be published with a pink "awareness" ribbon.

For more information, call 941-778-7978, or visit the office, 5404 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach.

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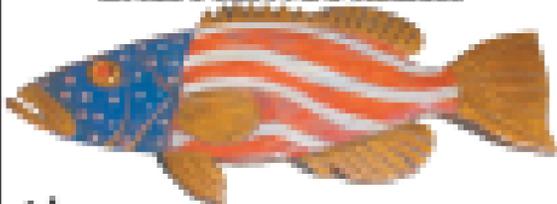
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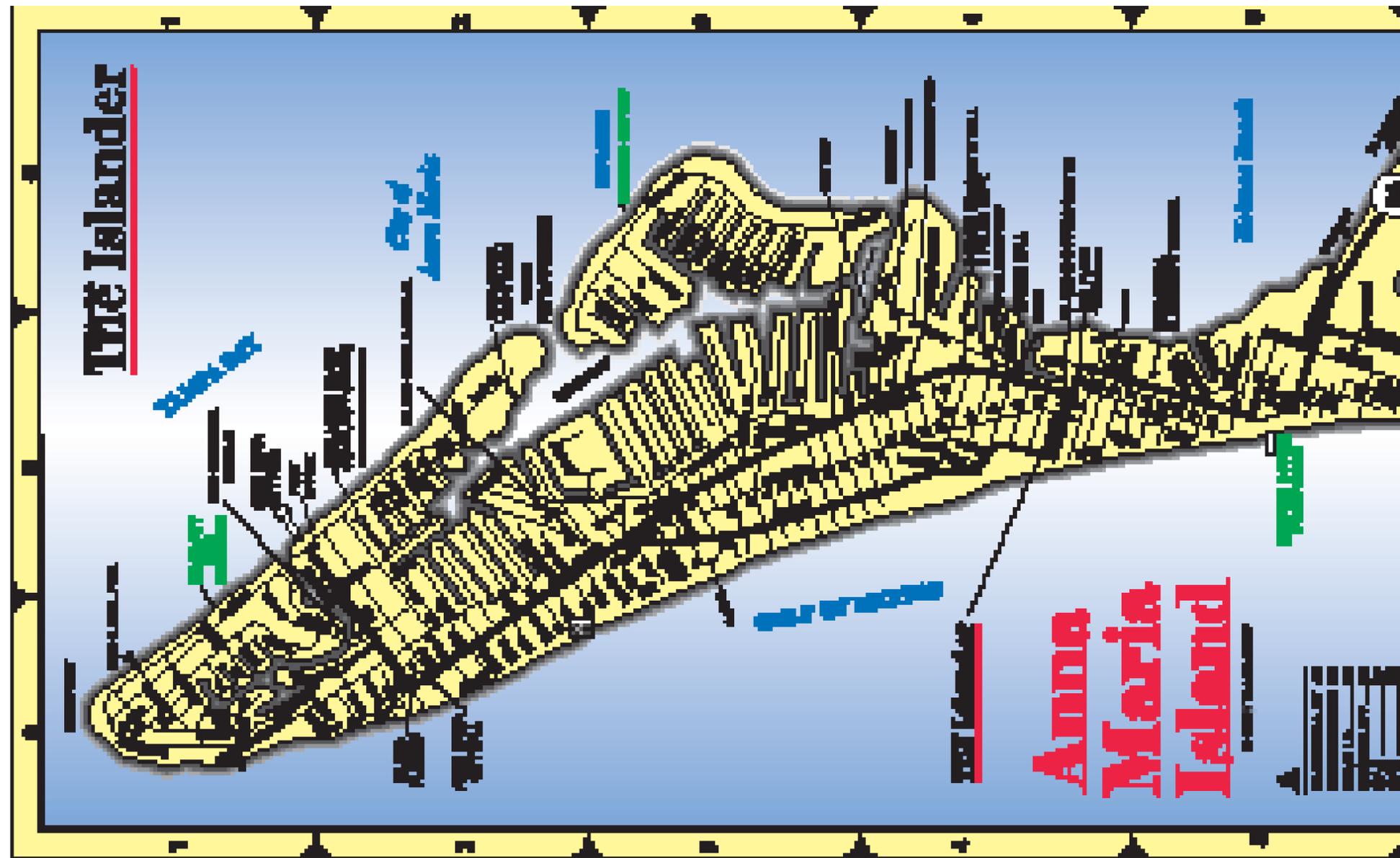


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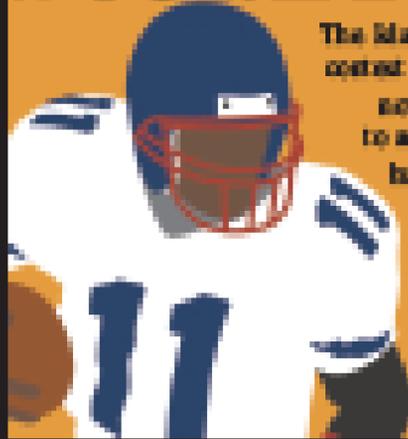
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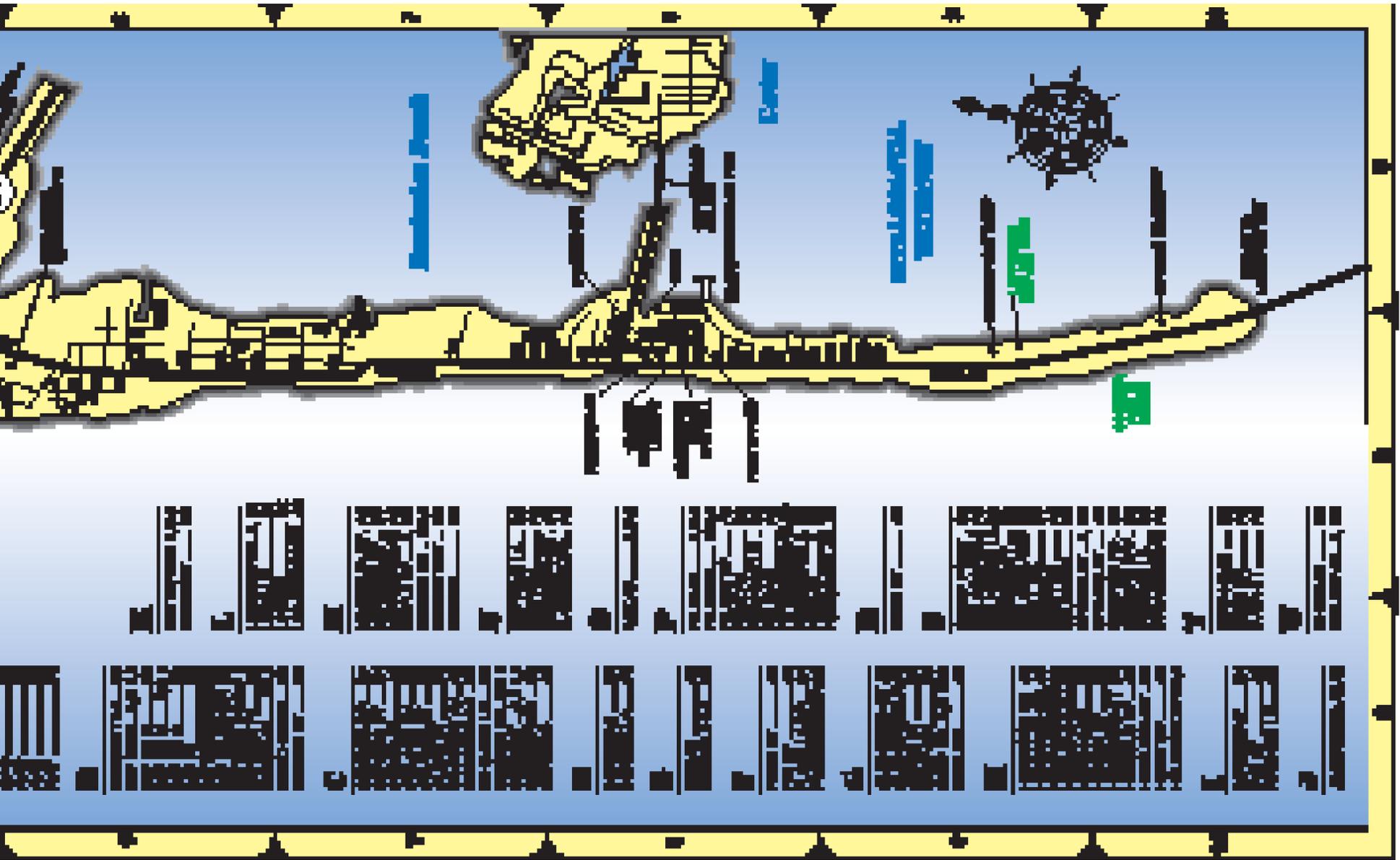
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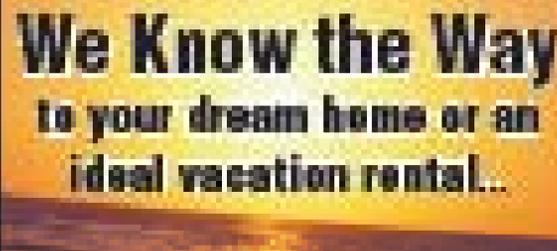
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School comes together for peace

By Kimberly Kuizon
Islander Reporter

Anna Maria Elementary School students, teachers and staff welcomed the community to celebrate International Day of Peace on Sept. 21.

Students sat patiently behind the school's peace symbol, a Peace Pole, waiting for the day's ceremony to begin. "This is one of the students favorite days of the year and it's mine, too," said AME principal Tom Levensgood.

The Peace Pole at AME is an international symbol that holds one special message: "May peace prevail on Earth." The message is written on all sides of the pole in various languages with its purpose to spread peace throughout the world.

The Peace Pole came to AME thanks to the Anna Maria Island Rotary Club and after the attacks on the United States by terrorists on Sept. 11, 2001.

The day's ceremony started with a procession of students carrying flags for different countries and a giant fabric peace dove.

Guidance counselor Cindi Harrison welcomed everyone to the ceremony.

"The Peace Pole connects all people of the world to each other.... We all may be different, but we all have one thing in common, we all want peace," said Harrison.

Among those who spoke was Anna Maria Island Rotary Club president Judy Rup.

"The Rotary Club believes in international peace. Today is important because it is a celebration of different cultures and countries," she said.

AME's Peace Day leaves marks on those who

participate, including former AME student Jake Parsons, now a King Middle School seventh-grader. He participated in the program by reciting a poem by Mother Teresa, a nun who dedicated her life to peaceful works.

"I've participated in Peace Day since kindergarten and I'm glad I get to spread the word of peace today," said Jake.

His mother, Kelly Parsons, said, "I'm so proud of him. He fights for the peace cause."

Other Peace Day celebrations included singing, dancing and the exchange of puzzle pieces decorated with symbols of peace.

The ceremony ended with a procession to the auditorium, where a large puzzle made by a collection of students and friends of AME was displayed.



Students celebrate Peace Day with a processional of flags-surrounding the peace pole, as well as songs and ribbon dances. Below: Holmes Beach Police officers Brian Copeman and Cliff Boltwood show their puzzle piece for the day's celebration. Islander Photos: Kimberly Kuizon



Above: Seventh-grader Jake Parsons sits with his mom, Kelly Parsons, after speaking at Anna Maria Elementary School's Peace Day event. "I like to get the message of peace out to everyone," Jake said. Pictured left, puzzle pieces decorated by students, family and friends connect to carry a large Peace Day message.



AME school calendar

- Oct. 8, health screening.
- Oct. 9, fire drill.
- Oct. 15, picture retake.
- Oct. 15, Domino's pizza day.
- 8:30 a.m. Oct. 16, Parent Teacher Organization meeting.
- 5 p.m., Oct. 20, PTO dinner followed by third-grade performance.
- Oct. 23, blood drive.
- Oct. 26, no school.
- Oct. 29, report cards and teacher conferences.
- Oct. 31, annual AME-PTO Fall Festival: 10 a.m. costume contest; 10:30 a.m. parade; 11 a.m. festival.
- Oct. 23, blood drive.

For more information, call the school office at 941-708-5525. AME is at 4700 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach.

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Monday, Oct. 5
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Tuesday, Oct. 6
Breakfast: Chicken Patty Biscuit, Bagel, Cereal, Toast.
Lunch: Mini Corn Dogs, Rotini with Meat Sauce, Veggie Cup with Dip, Roll, Pineapple.

Wednesday, Oct. 7
Breakfast: Choice of "Jump Start" selection, Super Donut, Cereal, Toast.
Lunch: Maxx Sticks with Marinara, Mixed Veggies, Cinnamon Applesauce, Chocolate Chip Chortles, Assorted Sandwiches and Salads.

Thursday, Oct. 8
Breakfast: French Toast Sticks, Yogurt, Cereal, Toast.
Lunch: Hamburger or Cheeseburger, Chicken Quesadilla, Curly Fries, Strawberries and Bananas.

Friday, Oct. 9
Breakfast: Breakfast Burrito, Grits, Cereal, Toast.
Lunch: Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza, Grilled Chicken on Bun, Corn and Peaches.
Juice and milk are served with every meal.

Holmes Beach code

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

permit, but that the pods must be removed with completion of the project or the expiration of the building permit.

Pods can be used for a real estate sales office, equipment and material storage, temporary housing, model homes and radio transmitting equipment.

Commercial vehicles parked overnight

“The city finds that the non-temporary parking of commercial vehicles within residential zoning districts makes parking difficult for residential vehicles and degrades the aesthetic properties of residential neighborhoods,” the ordinance states.

The city already has limits on commercial vehicles parked in residential areas, but commissioners

decided to tighten the regulations after identifying some loopholes.

The ordinance states, “It is unlawful ... to park or permit to be parked any commercial motor vehicle on any of the public streets, alleys or thoroughfares, or on any privately owned property (except within a completely enclosed garage or other structure), lying within any residential zoning district.”

Under the ordinance, full-size pickup trucks and multi-purpose vehicles and trucks that do not exceed 20 feet in length, from bumper to bumper, are not considered commercial vehicles.

Trucks exceeding 20 feet in length with racks in use for business are considered commercial vehicles, as are Class 2-8 vehicles, such as step vans, box trucks and walk-in vans, buses, refuse trucks and heavy equipment.

To assist with identifying commercial vehicles, the ordinance contains graphics of the types of vehicles prohibited from parking overnight in residential neighborhoods.

RV parking

Regulations regarding the parking of boats, trailers and personal watercraft are revised in the ordinance, which states:

- Boats, personal watercraft and trailers may be parked in garages, carports and the side and rear yards.

- Boats and personal watercraft — but not utility trailers — can be parked in the front yard on the driveway or to the side, with no more than 6 feet of the vehicle extending into the front yard.

The vehicle in the front yard also must be on a stabilized base and screened with landscaping so that a passerby on the street can see no more than 20 percent of the vehicle.

Satellite dish antennas

The ordinance contains an adoption to the code regarding satellite dish antennas to comply with federal Over the Air Reception Device regulations and differentiate between large and small antennas. The larger antennas need a building permit.

Continued online

For more information on the Holmes Beach Commission discussion, please, see the Holmes Beach code story online at www.islander.org.

Streetlife

Island police reports

Anna Maria City

No new reports.

Bradenton Beach

No new reports.

Holmes Beach

Sept. 5, 3500 block Fourth Avenue, burglary. The complainant said someone took approximately \$2,600 worth of electronics from his unlocked car.

Sept. 18, 4000 Gulf Drive, Manatee Public Beach, burglary. The complainant said someone took miscellaneous items from his car.

Sept. 19, 500 block 67th Street, burglary. The complainant said someone apparently entered though an unlocked, sliding door at the rear of the house and took approximately \$3,300 worth of electronics.

Sept. 20, 100 block 33rd Street, burglary. The complainant said someone broke the window of her car and took purses from the vehicle. Total value of stolen items was \$500. Missing were credit cards, driver's licenses and other identification.

Sept. 20, 100 block 33rd Street, burglary. The complainant said someone broke into his house and took prescription glasses, prescription drugs and identification from the home.

Sept. 20, 4000 Gulf Drive, Manatee Public Beach, burglary. The complainant said someone broke into her locked car at the beach and took approximately \$780 worth of electronics, plus identification, from her purse.

Sept. 20, 3200 block Gulf Drive, burglary. The complainant said someone took his laptop computer, valued at \$1,500.

Sept. 22, 7800 block Marina Drive, theft. The complainant said someone took a \$300 fuel cell from his boat.

Obituaries

Mary Emilie Middleton Madeira

Mary Emilie Middleton Madeira, 90, of Bradenton, formerly of Lancaster, Pa., died Sept. 19.

Memorial services will be announced at a later date. Brown & Sons Funeral Homes and Crematory, 43rd Street Chapel, is in charge of arrangements.

She is survived by sister Carolyne Norwood of Anna Maria; and brothers J. F. Probst of St. Petersburg, Luther Middleton of Hendersonville, N.C., and Edward Middleton of New Freedom, Pa.

Lena Orlando

Lena Orlando, 99, of Bradenton and Fort Collins, Colo., died Sept. 5.

Born in Celso-Cilento in the Province of Salano, Italy, Mrs. Orlando emigrated to Newark, N.Y., in 1913, and moved to Florida in 1957.

Memorial Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 3, at St. Bernard Catholic Church, 248 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach.

She is survived by daughters Jean Stanley and husband Russell of Bradenton, and Phyllis Raider and husband Charles of Rio Rancho, N.M.; son Emil and wife Maralyn of San Janico, Calif.; 12 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; and nine great-great-grandchildren.

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By Rick Catlin

Goodwill hunting

Goodwill Industries of Manasota will open an Island donation store to accept donations at 8 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 1, at 3614 E. Bay Drive, Holmes Beach. The location is just south of Publix and next door to Ocean Star restaurant.

Goodwill public relations director **LuAnne Kirschner** said she is hopeful that, eventually, a retail operation will be added to the Island location.

Goodwill also has a pick-up service for heavier items, such as refrigerators and large household furniture, Kirschner said.

Store hours will be from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week.

To reach Goodwill's pick-up service, call 941-351-8946. For Goodwill's central office, call 941-355-2721.

The Island Goodwill number is 941-778-1082.

Chamber mixers

The **Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce** will hold its October Sunrise Breakfast from 7:45 a.m. to 9 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7, at the Gathering Place, 101 Seventh St. N., Bradenton Beach.

The cost is \$8 per person and reservations may be made by calling 941-778-1541.

A chamber business luncheon is scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wed., Oct. 7, at Freedom Village, 6406 21st Ave. W., Bradenton.

The luncheon is \$15 and reservations are requested. Call 941-778-1541 for more information.



Mixer highlights 'Blue Water' features

Blue Water Beach Club manager Sebastian Mueller, left, offers his guests German-made cake flown in to serve at the Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce business mixer Sept. 23. The event was hosted by the family-owned Gulffront resort, which has been in business for 35 years at 6306 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach. Mueller is with Mark Davis, center, of Harrington House Bed & Breakfast, and Dave Dickson of Island Mortgage Services. Guests were feted with champagne, wine, appetizers and tours of the Blue Water accommodations. Islander Photo: Bonner Joy

Chart House gets view award

The **Chart House Restaurant** at 201 Gulf of Mexico Drive, Longboat Key, has been named as one of America's Top 50 restaurants with a view by Online Restaurant Reservations Service.

According to a press release, ORRS is a system for Internet restaurant reservations.

For more information, call 941-383-5593.

New to Island chamber

The **Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce** accepted a number of new members during July and August, including:

- ACT Home Medical, 9908 Gulf

Drive, Anna Maria, Jeanne Ferguson, 941-778-2641.

- Karly Carlson Photography and Framing, 5500 Marina Drive, No. 5, Holmes Beach, Karly Karlson, 941-726-8000.

- Honey Do Home & Office Inc., 2601 Gulf Drive, No. 408, Bradenton Beach, Joseph LaBrecque, 941-807-5256.

- Planet Stone Marble & Granite, 8700 Cortez Road W., Bradenton, Brooke Keck, 941-580-9236.

- Island Fitness, 5317 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach, Brenda Canning, 941-778-5200.

- The Hive Creations, 9908 Gulf Drive, Suite C, Anna Maria, Rachel and Justin Noyes, 941-778-7432.

- Holiday Cove RV Resort, 11900 Cortez Road W., Bradenton, David Gorin and Donna Campion, 941-792-1111.

- A.M. Island Adventures, 4334

127th St., Cortez, Ryan Davis, 941-792-6000.

- Wells Fargo, 5327 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach, Susan Tyson, 941-795-3148.

- Anna Maria Elementary School, 4700 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach, Gary Wooten, 941-708-5525.

- Island Limousine, P.O. Box 664, Anna Maria, Joanne Sebastiano, 941-779-0043.

- Zegway by the Bay, 2501 Gulf Drive, Bradenton Beach, Becky Kramer, 941-565-2082.

- Gayle Schulz/Wagner Realty, 2217 Gulf Drive N., Bradenton Beach, Gayle Schulz, 941-812-6489.

- Mainsail Beach Inn, 101 66th St., Holmes Beach, Joe Brown, 888-849-2642.

Realty raves

Penny Bray of Wagner Realty, 2217 Gulf Drive N., Bradenton Beach, recently received the designation of Graduate Realtor Institute after completing a 90-hour course.

To reach Penny, call 941-778-2246.

Mike Norman Realty at 3101 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach, has named **Carla Beddow** as the company's top sales agent for September, while **Rochelle Bowers** took the top listing agent award.

For more information, call 941-778-6696.

Got a new business going up in Anna Maria Island, Cortez, Palma Sola, west Bradenton or Longboat Key? How about a new product or service, an anniversary, a new hire, or an award-winning staff member? Call Island Biz at 941-778-7978, fax your news to 866-362-9821, or e-mail us at news@islander.org.

Jesse Brisson's real estate transaction report will return next week.

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Sat 10/03 ~ Squirrel
Sun 10/04 ~ Roni
Mon 10/05 ~ Karen Greenley

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ISLANDER CALENDAR

Friday, Oct. 2

5:30 p.m. — Rotary Club of Anna Maria Island's "A Touch of Tuscany" concert and dinner at the Bradenton Country Club. Information: 941-778-8585. Fee applies.

6:30 p.m. — Film presentation of "Kicking and Screaming" at the Anna Maria Island Community Center, 407 Magnolia Ave., Anna Maria. Information: 941-778-1908.

Saturday, Oct. 3

9 a.m. to noon — Keep Manatee Beautiful coastal clean-up check-in at Anna Maria City Hall, 10005 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria; Kingfish Boat Ramp on S.R. 64, Holmes Beach; or Coquina Beach gulfside concession stand on Gulf Drive, Bradenton Beach. Information: 727-369-6628.

Sunday, Oct. 4

7:30 a.m. — The annual Skim Board Bash at the BeachHouse Restaurant, 200 Gulf Drive N., Bradenton Beach. Information: 941-778-1001. Fee applies.

11 a.m. — "Can You Be Sure About What You Have Experienced" lecture by psychologist Charles McMullen at the Studio at Gulf and Pine, 10101 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria. Information: 941-359-4296.

Tuesday, Oct. 6

4 to 5:30 p.m. — Inquiring Minds non-denominational study of the Old Testament at Gloria Dei Church, 6608 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-4579.

8 p.m. — Fall Festival of Music concert at Neel Performing Arts Center, 5840 26th St. W., Bradenton. Information: 941-752-5351. Fee applies.

Wednesday, Oct. 7

11 a.m. — Einstein's Circle group discussion on marriage and government's role at the Studio at Gulf and Pine, 10101 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria. Information: 941-359-4296.

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. — Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce business lunch at Freedom Village, 6406 21st Ave. W., Bradenton. Information: 941-778-1541. Fee applies.

1:15 p.m. — Gulf Coast Writers meeting at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-7631.

3 p.m. — Book club meeting at the Tingley Memorial Library, 111 Second St. N., Bradenton Beach. Information: 941-779-1208.

Ongoing:

• First Monday of each month, 6:30 p.m., Artists Guild of Anna Maria at the Episcopal Church of the Annunciation, 4408 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach.

• Tuesdays, noon, Anna Maria Island Rotary Club meeting at the BeachHouse Restaurant, 200 Gulf Drive N., Bradenton Beach. Information: 941-794-8044.

• The first and third Mondays of each month, the American Legion Post 24, 2005 75th St. W., Bradenton, hosts dinners for the public. Fee. Information: 941-794-3489.

• Wednesdays, 6 to 8 p.m., teens meet at the Anna Maria Island Community Center, 407 Magnolia Ave., Anna Maria. Information: 941-778-1908.

• Wednesdays and Saturdays at 9 a.m., players pitch horseshoes in the pits at Anna Maria City Hall, 10005 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria. Informa-

tion: 941-708-6130.

• Saturdays, 8:30 a.m., Anna Maria Island Kiwanis Club meets at Cafe on the Beach at the Manatee Public Beach, 4000 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach.

Off Island Events:

Wednesday, Sept. 30

8:30 & 10 a.m. — Wagon tours through Robinson Preserve, 1704 99th St. N.W., Bradenton. Information: 941-742-5757. Fee applies.

Thursday, Oct. 1

6 p.m. — Eat, Drink and Be Merry Film Series presents "Big Night" at the South Florida Museum, 201 10th St. W., Bradenton. Information: 941-746-4131. Fee applies.

Friday, Oct. 2

6 to 8 p.m. — Opening reception for "The Art of Costume" exhibit featuring costumes from Asolo Repertory plays and Boydell's Shakespeare print series at the State College of Florida Fine Art Gallery, 5840 26th St. W., building 11 N., Bradenton, through Nov. 5. Information: 941-752-5225.

6 to 9 p.m. — Opening reception for the Russian Art by Tatiana exhibit at the Arts Council of Manatee County Gallery, 926 12th St. W., Village of the Arts, Bradenton, through Oct. 29. Information: 941-746-2223.

8 p.m. — Studio 84 Productions at State College of Florida presents the comedy "Amphitryon" in the Howard Studio Theatre on the Manatee Community College Campus, 5840 26th St. W., building 11, Bradenton, through Oct. 10. Information: 941-752-5252. Fee applies.

Concert venue change, tickets on sale

The Rotary Club of Anna Maria Island is hoping Islanders and others will start off their season of giving and enjoyment of the arts by attending dinner and a classical music concert at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 2 to raise money for the group's charitable works.

A last-minute change of venue was made by organizer Barry Gould and his committee on Sept. 26 in the hope of producing more ticket sales and cutting event costs.

The concert, previously scheduled at the Neel Performing Arts Center, will now take place following dinner at the Bradenton Country Club.

"We hope the change in venue will encourage more people to buy tickets to the dinner and concert at the country club," Barry Gould said, "which promises to be a more intimate setting. It will allow guests to enjoy cocktails or wine, fine dining and the music of two magnificently gifted musicians" at one location.

The performance, "A Touch of Tuscany," will feature mezzo-soprano Annika Kaschenz and concert pianist Francesco Attesti. They met in Cortona, Italy, during a holiday and soon after decided to work together professionally. Since 2001, they have performed together in concerts throughout Europe and

Saturday, Oct. 3

4 to 9 p.m. — Latin drumming and dance for kids at the South Florida Museum, 201 10th St. W., Bradenton. Information: 941-746-4131. Fee applies.

Tuesday, Oct. 6

8 p.m. — Fall Festival of Music concert at Neel Performing Arts Center, 5840 26th St. W., Bradenton. Information: 941-752-5351. Fee applies.

Coming Up:

- Oct. 8, 61st season begins at Island Players.
- Oct. 8, "Eat, Drink + Be Merry Film Series" presents "The Thin Man" at the South Florida Museum.
- Oct. 9, Anna Maria Island Community Center film presentation "Scooby Doo."
- Oct. 9, "Faculty Exhibit" reception at Anna Maria Art League.
- Oct. 9, Anna Maria Island Community Center golf outing at IMG Academies Golf and Country Club.
- Oct. 10, Martial Arts Festival at Anna Maria Elementary School.
- Oct. 10, Family origami at the Island Branch Library.
- Oct. 12, College Tour: How to find, finance and succeed at the right college presented at the Central Library.
- Oct. 13, Pianist Joyce Valentine at Neel Performing Arts Center.

Save the date:

- Oct. 16-17, Anna Maria Island Bayfest.
- Oct. 23, Goblin Gathering at G.T. Bray Park.
- Oct. 30, Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce Trail of Treats.

in the United States to high acclaim.

"In challenging times for fundraising, we felt this was a world-class event that would be welcomed in the greater community," said fundraising chair Dantia Gould. "Every penny of what we take in ... will go back to the causes which Rotary supports."

Barry Gould said Rotary has business sponsors covering the costs of the event, and the ticket proceeds are earmarked to benefit Rotary's charitable programs, including juvenile diabetes.

Guests may purchase concert tickets alone or package a club dinner with the concert for a full evening of enjoyment. Concert tickets are \$25; concert-dinner tickets are \$75.

Tickets may be purchased at the Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce, 5313 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach, as well as through event organizers Dantia and Barry Gould and Donna Misner.

The Goulds can be reached at 941-778-1880 and Misner can be reached at 941-778-8585.

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Island soccer season off to strong start

By Kevin Cassidy
Islander Reporter

The Anna Maria Island Community Center recreational fall soccer season is officially under way and several league players already appear to be in midseason form.

Chandler Hardy has played two fall games and already has six goals to lead the Premier Division, while Trevor Bystrom managed to notch a hat trick in his only game to date. Sydney Cornell scored a hat trick of her own in Division I, while Aiden Grumley, Ethan Bertrand, Tyler Pearson and Emma Moneuse each had two-goal games in Division II action.

Speaking of Division II, Panoramic got off to a good start on the season, edging West Coast Surf Shop 2-0 on Sept. 22. Panoramic and the Surf Shop both had a fair share of scoring opportunities, but the Surf Shop was unable to cash in.

Panoramic was pressuring the Surf Shop defense early with some good passing. Brook Capparelli and Morgan Burns worked a give-and-go to perfection to spring Capparelli into a space where she found Dylan Joseph open on the right side. Unfortunately, his shot went wide of the goal.

In the 15th minute and with the Surf Shop scrambling on defense, an attempted clearing pass was picked off by Capparelli. She carried it up the right side before passing it inside to Joseph, who poked it past the Surf Shop goalie for a 1-0 lead.

Two minutes later, it looked as though Panoramic was going to add to its lead when Joseph picked off a goal kick, but his rocket went off the post for another Surf Shop goal kick.

Late in the half, Bertrand found some space for the Surf Shop before passing into the box to Clayton Wilkinson, but his shot was saved by the Panoramic goalie to preserve the 1-0 lead.

The second half saw the Surf Shop teammates push forward and carry the play a bit more, but in doing so they left themselves more vulnerable on defense. That strategy cost them in the 40th minute when Joey Altuchoff stole the ball and started a quick counter attack. He passed outside to teammate Pear-



Soccer kicks off
Aiden Grumley fires a shot for his Division II West Coast Surf Shop team during action in the Anna Maria Island Community Center Soccer League at the Center.
Islander
Photos: Kevin Cassidy

son, who crossed it back inside to Altuchoff, whose shot beat the Surf Shop goalie near post to give Panoramic a 2-0 lead that would not be relinquished.

Grumley had a breakaway late in the game that looked promising, but Panoramic goalie Capparelli came off her line to clear the ball away and preserve the shutout victory.

In other Division II action last week, Sandbar defeated Sparks Steel Art 3-1 on Sept. 22 behind single goals from Christian Daniels, Jason Partridge and Leo Tilleli. Emma Monuese notched the lone goal for Sparks in the loss.

The same threesome was at it again on Sept. 23 when Sandbar edged Panoramic 3-2. Daniels, Partridge and Tilleli again notched a goal apiece in a match up of two strong teams. Pearson scored two goals to lead Panoramic in the loss.

West Coast Surf Shop defeated Sparks Steel Art 4-3 on Sept. 23 behind two goals apiece from Grumley and Bertrand. Monuese scored two goals

and Nicole Sewall notched one to lead the Sparks in the loss.

Autway Ford opened its Division I season on Sept. 24 with a 3-1 victory over Mr. Bones BBQ. Michael Latimer scored two goals and Nicco Calleja added one in the victory. Cooper Hardy notched the lone goal for Mr. Bones in the loss.

Ross Built rolled to a 6-0 victory over Wash Family Construction on Sept. 25 behind a hat trick by Sydney Cornell. Jake Ross added two goals, while brother Andrew also chipped in one in the victory.

Mike Norman Realty rolled past Wash Family Construction 6-2 in Premier Division action on Sept. 21. Chandler Hardy paced Norman with three goals, while Helio Gomez, Hunter Parrish and Logan Reiber each added one goal in the victory. Wash Family Construction was led by Garrison Clark's two goals in the loss.

Harcon Corp. edged Mike Norman Realty by a 5-4 score on Sept. 23 behind three goals from Trevor Bystrom and two from Julian Botero. Norman was led by Chandler Hardy's three goals and one goal

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Sports

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

from Hunter Parrish.

Look online at www.islander.org for Center soccer league standings.

Horseshoe news

Three teams advanced from pool play during Sept. 26 horseshoe action at the Anna Maria City Hall horseshoes pits. The team of Hank Huyghe and Jeff Moore drew the bye and watched as Sam Samuels and Norm Good thrashed Debbie Rhodes 23-6. Samuels and Good then turned their attention to Huyghe and Moore and came through with a tense 22-17 victory to claim the trophy. Good ended the match with a "six pack" double ringer.

The Sept. 23 games saw Sam Samuels draw Steve Grossman as his playing partner. It paid off as they were the only team to go 3-0 in pool play and thus were the day's outright champs. Jeff Moore took second place with a 2-1 record.

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.

Key Royale golf news

The Key Royale Club men played an 18-hole, low-net-of-partners game on Sept. 23. Bob Kral and Vince Mercadante matched the 9-over-par 137 carded by Bob Jorgensen and Don Ledford to tie for first place.

The Key Royale Club women played a nine-hole, individual-low-net golf game on Sept. 22. Joyce Brown grabbed flight 1 bragging rights with a 1-under-par 31 to edge second-place finisher Cindi Mansour by one stroke.

Flight 2 winner was Dorothy McKinna who carded a 3-over par 34 to edge Frankie Smith-Williams, Sue Wheeler and Lois Biel by one shot.

The Sept. 18 coed game was a wacky, throw-out-the-worst-hole game. The team of Joyce Brown, Terry Westby, Gordon McKinna and Larry Fowler carded a combined 108 to claim bragging rights for the day.

The men played a nine-hole, individual-low-net

game on Sept. 14. Larry Fowler carded a 3-under-par 29 to win first place by one stroke over second-place finisher Vince Mercadante.

AMICC soccer schedule

Instructional Division: (ages 4-5)

Date	Time	Teams
Sept. 30	6 p.m.	A&E vs. Dental Spa
Sept. 30	6:30 p.m.	Orthopedic vs. Oyster Bar
Oct. 2	6 p.m.	Orthopedic vs. Panoramic
Oct. 2	6:30 p.m.	IRE vs. A&E
Oct. 5	6 p.m.	IRE vs. Dental Spa
Oct. 5	6:30 p.m.	Panoramic vs. Oyster Bar

Division III (ages 6-7)

Sept. 30	7 p.m.	Island Pest vs. LaPensee
Oct. 1	6 p.m.	Jessie's vs. LaPensee
Oct. 1	7 p.m.	WCAC vs. Island Pest
Oct. 2	7 p.m.	WCAC vs. Bistro
Oct. 5	7 p.m.	Bistro vs. LaPensee

Division II (Ages 8-9)

Sept. 30	5:30 p.m.	Surf Shop vs. Sandbar
Sept. 30	6:30 p.m.	Sparks vs. Panoramic
Oct. 2	6 p.m.	Sandbar vs. Sparks
Oct. 2	7 p.m.	Surf Shop vs. Panoramic

Division I (Ages 10-11)

Oct. 1	6 p.m.	Wash vs. Autoway
Oct. 2	8 p.m.	Ross Built vs. Bones
Oct. 6	6 p.m.	Wash vs. Ross Built
Oct. 6	7 p.m.	Autoway vs. Bones

Premier Division (Ages 12-15)

Sept. 30	7:45 p.m.	Norman vs. Harcon
Oct. 1	7:15 p.m.	Wash vs. Harcon



Panoramic forward Morgan Burns cuts in toward the Surf Shop goal despite an untied shoelace during soccer action at the Center.

Skim Bash bound for Bradenton Beach

The annual Skim Board Bash will take place Sunday, Oct. 4, at the BeachHouse Restaurant, 200 Gulf Drive N., Bradenton Beach.

West Coast Surf Shop is again organizing the event in partnership with the restaurant and other sponsors to raise money for red tide research at Mote Marine Laboratory.

Registration for the contest will take place at

7:30 a.m., followed by competition at 8 a.m.

The entry fee is \$30 and each participant receives a T-shirt, lunch, goodie bag and raffle ticket.

Divisions include ages 8 and under, 9-11, boys 12-14, men 15-17, men 18-21, senior men 22 and up, girls 14 and under and women 15 and up.

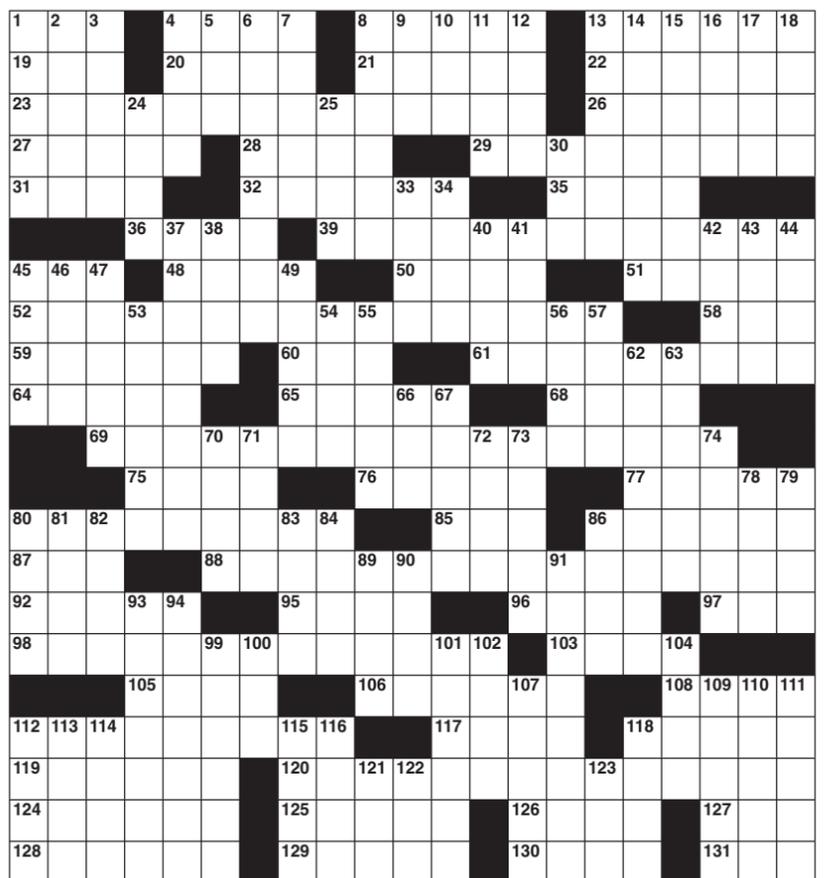
For more information or advance registration, call the surf shop at 941-778-1001.

New York Times Sunday Magazine Crossword

CLOSING BELL By Michael Ashley / Edited by Will Shortz

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| Across | 59 Dwellers on the Strait of Hormuz | 120 Tardy illustrator's assurance? | 18 Had no play in crazy eights |
| 1 Low-I.Q. | 60 Overseas news source, in brief | 124 Be on the brink | 24 Retailer beginning in 1867 |
| 4 Slender amount | 61 Pays down incrementally | 125 Up time | 25 Alter ego of Borat and Bruno |
| 8 Letterman airtel | 64 Murphy's "48 HRS." co-star | 126 Broadway columnist Wilson | 30 Start of a German goodbye |
| 13 Venerable | 65 Seeped | 127 Whiz | 33 Haitian president Préval |
| 19 Gasteyer of stage and screen | 68 "Drat!" | 128 Position player's stat | 34 In the public eye |
| 20 He's less than a gentleman | 69 Reason that nothing's growing on the farm? | 129 Baron Cohen who created 25-Down | 37 Home south of the border |
| 21 Broadcast element | 75 Peculiar: Prefix | 130 Cart for heavy loads | 38 Gemstone sources |
| 22 Carnival sight | 76 Rugby play | 131 Lead character on "Pushing Daisies" | 40 Zilch |
| 23 Goal of Sun-Maid's marketing department? | 77 Units of sweat | Down | 41 Spare |
| 26 You might give this a gun | 80 Subject for 48-Across | 1 Took a chance | 42 Deadly 1966 hurricane |
| 27 Conclude by | 85 Athos, to Aramis | 2 For the birds | 43 Closing bell place: Abbr. |
| 28 Shower with force | 86 Dish served ranchero-style | 3 Ones who'll straighten you up? | 44 Hoedown participants |
| 29 Go back to square one | 87 Take a powder | 4 Formal order | 45 Enter |
| 31 Office holder, of sorts | 88 Question from a campaign committee? | 5 Cloud chamber particle | 46 Early Michael Jackson style |
| 32 Willow twigs | 92 Old Apple laptop | 6 Form of 4-Down | 47 Petty |
| 35 Word with interface or option | 95 Push | 7 P.M. preceded and succeeded by Shamir | 49 End of a ballade |
| 36 Part of a brake | 96 Company founded in 1940 as Standard Games | 8 Easy gallop | 53 Really engrossed |
| 39 Salad bar activity? | 103 Hang around | 9 Chum | 54 Something often thought of as impending |
| 45 Hot air | 105 Push too hard, maybe | 10 Reagan cause: Abbr. | 55 Lab challenges |
| 48 Composer Thomas | 106 Was gaping | 11 Pantry array | 56 Branching point |
| 50 Beat poet Cassady | 108 Aloha Tower site | 12 Science fiction author A. E. van --- | 57 Diploma holder |
| 51 Actress Lotte | 112 Porous kitchen utensils | 13 Against, with "to" | 62 Court of justice |
| 52 Book on how to repair rodent damage? | 117 Throws together | 14 Well-bred | 63 Destitute |
| 58 Immigrant's course, for short | 118 Eight-time Canadian skating champion | 15 Cry before waving the hand | 66 S.A.S.E., e.g. |
| | 119 Repay | 16 Ruler of the Aesir | 67 Informal headwear |
| | | 17 Isolated | 70 Actress Lollobrigida |
| | | | 71 Novelist Morrison |
| | | | 72 Sport of a rikishi |
| | | | 73 Sends out |
| | | | 74 San Francisco mayor Newsom |
| | | | 78 Ready, in the kitchen |
| | | | 79 U.S. Army E-6 |
| | | | 80 Naval lockup |
| | | | 81 Bumpkin |
| | | | 82 ___ a secret |
| | | | 83 Pulitzer playwright of 1953 |
| | | | 84 Heaps |
| | | | 86 Science fiction prize |
| | | | 89 Lots of moolah |
| | | | 90 Switch lines, say? |
| | | | 91 Mineral that crystallizes from magma |
| | | | 93 Town on the SE tip of Italy that's the title setting for a Horace Walpole novel |
| | | | 94 "M*A*S*H" corporal |
| | | | 99 Council members |
| | | | 100 One using a comb |
| | | | 101 Tokyo's airport |
| | | | 102 Meaning of the emoticon :-D |
| | | | 104 Whom a thane attended |
| | | | 107 Pushed, with "on" |
| | | | 109 Broad style of cuisine |
| | | | 110 From this time |
| | | | 111 Pushed |
| | | | 112 Actress Blanchett |
| | | | 113 Much-repeated word in air traffic control |
| | | | 114 Creepy look |
| | | | 115 Vitamin bottle info, for short |
| | | | 116 Mex. miss |
| | | | 118 Right turn ___ |
| | | | 121 Symbol of simplicity |
| | | | 122 When doubled, a musical effect |
| | | | 123 Prohibition, e.g. |

Answers found on page 24.



- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---|
| 78 Ready, in the kitchen | 90 Switch lines, say? | 101 Tokyo's airport | 113 Much-repeated word in air traffic control |
| 79 U.S. Army E-6 | 91 Mineral that crystallizes from magma | 102 Meaning of the emoticon :-D | 114 Creepy look |
| 80 Naval lockup | 93 Town on the SE tip of Italy that's the title setting for a Horace Walpole novel | 104 Whom a thane attended | 115 Vitamin bottle info, for short |
| 81 Bumpkin | 94 "M*A*S*H" corporal | 107 Pushed, with "on" | 116 Mex. miss |
| 82 ___ a secret | 99 Council members | 109 Broad style of cuisine | 118 Right turn ___ |
| 83 Pulitzer playwright of 1953 | 100 One using a comb | 110 From this time | 121 Symbol of simplicity |
| 84 Heaps | | 111 Pushed | 122 When doubled, a musical effect |
| 86 Science fiction prize | | 112 Actress Blanchett | 123 Prohibition, e.g. |
| 89 Lots of moolah | | | |

Stinging season, or not, BOLO in local waters

Things that sting seem to stick to Anna Maria Island's shores.

No need to cue the theme from "Jaws," though. The nasties in the water may cause pain, but aren't necessarily life-threatening.

No. 1 on the stingy-thingy list has to be sting rays. There are several species that flip or fly in our waters.

Spotted rays are found in bays and passes. As a Little Roat we called them leopard rays because they were sleek and fast and, obviously, had lots of spots.

Cow-nose rays school in numbers in the hundreds off beaches during the summer. The critter gets its name from its huge cow-like snout. It's pretty benign. Familiar beachgoers like to stand at the head of a school and let the flatties swoop by them.

Manta rays are a deepwater creation that is like a sci-fi monster. They're huge — sometimes 15-feet-plus across and hundreds of pounds in weight. Stories were rampant back in the day — stress the word "stories" here — about mantas jumping and crushing boats. The "stories" proved true when I saw some pictures of a crushed 30-foot cabin cruiser a buddy took when his dad's boat limped in from offshore after an a ray-human interaction.

Mantas like to jump out of the water. Back in the day it wasn't uncommon to see a half-dozen leap from the deep into the air on a day. Why? Dunno. As a Cortezian submitted in regarding mullet jumping, maybe the rays are trying to evolve.

Then there's that flat fish that lurks just under the sand or mud off beaches and bays.

Sting rays may well be the bane of a beachgoer's existence. They're shy critters that like to burrow down under a blanket of sand where they apparently like to remain undisturbed.

Clumsy humans plod along on the sandy roof of their shelter, though, disturbing their rest. Zing! goes their sharp thing, into a foot or leg.

A buddy who got zapped said it must be like the feeling of woman giving birth. In fact, he said the only way he got through it until paramedics arrived was to do the heavy-breathing deal soon-to-be moms practice.

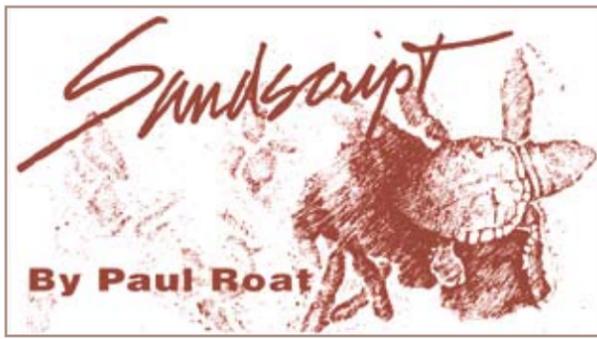
But, please, don't fear the waters.

Jelly yuck

Friend Pat Gentry of Bradenton Beach has had a problem with jellyfish at her nearby, favorite beach.

Seems that jellies are thick off the beach in some places of late.

"Jellyfish are common in summer months on the Florida coast," according to Mote Marine Laboratory's Jim Culter in a missive to Pat. "They can be intermittently abundant and can be concentrated near shore when winds blow them in from open water. Generally, they will decrease in abundance with the onset of cooler weather or a pronounced change in wind patterns. The abundance can be patchy. The root



cause of population explosions of most invertebrate marine life are not well understood."

Culter added that some biologists believe jellyfish are becoming more common "possibly as a result of over exploitation of higher predators, climate change or increased nutrient levels due to pollution of the nearshore areas. These types of community shifts are difficult to explain because there is so little research being conducted on this type of ecological interaction and there are no monitoring programs designed to observe these events."

Joe Westerman with Manatee County Marine Rescue said that there have been six "hits" of jellyfish on humans of late, three in the past week.

No stingray interactions so far, though.

Sandscript factoid?

Sorry for the below. Blame it on the boss, who sent it to me.

A couple lived near the Gulf of Mexico and used to walk the beach a lot. One summer they noticed a girl who was at the beach pretty much every day.

She wasn't so different from the rest of the crowd, nor was the travel bag she carried, except for

one thing. She would approach people who were sitting on the beach, glance around, then speak to them. Generally, the people would respond negatively and she would wander off, but occasionally someone would nod and there would be a quick exchange of money for something she carried in her bag.

The couple assumed she was selling drugs and debated calling law enforcement, but since they didn't know for sure, they just continued to watch her.

After a couple of weeks of activity, the wife asked, "Honey, have you ever noticed that she only goes up to people with boom boxes and other electronic devices?"

He said he hadn't, and so she said, "Tomorrow, I want you to get a towel and our big radio and go lie out on the beach. Then we can find out what she's really doing."

Well, the plan went off without a hitch, and the wife was almost hopping up and down with anticipation when she saw the girl talk to her husband and then leave.

The man met his wife at the road. "Well, is she selling drugs?" she asked excitedly.

"No, she's not," he said, enjoying this probably more than he should have.

"Well, what is it, then?" his wife fairly shrieked.

The man grinned and said, "Her name is Sally and she's a battery salesperson."

"Batteries?" cried the wife.

"Yes," he replied. "Sally sells C cells by the seashore."

Sorry to be so corny, but maybe you got a chuckle?



Yuckie jellies

Jellyfish are off our shores, causing some stings to beachgoers. Beware if you're going in the water.

Islander Photo: Courtesy Pat Gentry

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Anna Maria Island Tides

Date	AM HIGH	PM HIGH	AM LOW	PM LOW
Sept 30	10:12 2.3	11:12 2.0	3:54 1.3	4:45 0.6
Oct 1	11:01 2.3	11:21 2.1	4:37 1.0	5:11 0.8
Oct 2	11:45 2.3	11:31 2.2	5:15 0.8	5:34 0.9
Oct 3	12:27 2.2	11:45 2.4	5:50 0.5	5:54 1.1
Oct 4	1:08 2.2	— —	6:26 0.3	6:13 1.2
Oct 5	12:03 2.6	1:52 2.0	7:04 0.2	6:31 1.4
Oct 6	12:28 2.7	2:42 1.9	7:46 0.1	6:48 1.5
Oct 7	12:58 2.8	3:43 1.7	8:35 0.0	7:02 1.5

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

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Fall fishing kickoff: reds in bays, snook in passes

By Paul Roat

Fall has arrived and fishing is getting even better.

Tarpon are still being caught off the Sunshine Skyway Bridge in Tampa Bay.

Redfish are starting to school in all the backwaters. Trout action is also good in the bays.

Snook are thick in the passes and off the beaches as they continue their migration into the bays.

Cobia are still a bit elusive in the Gulf of Mexico, but snapper, grouper and an occasional kingfish catch make up for the cobia-lack.

Watch the water temps and wait a bit for the kingfish run to start.

Danny Stasny at Island Discount Tackle at Catchers Marina in Holmes Beach said tarpon are still hitting by the Skyway Bridge on threadfin hering, as well as early mornings in Longboat Pass. Redfish are a good bet in all of the bays, with gold spoons working best for the big ones. Fly fishers also are having a ball with red catches, Danny said. Moving a bit west, most of the passes still have lots of snook along the shores. Farther offshore, there are a few cobia, plus lots of snapper and grouper. And kingfish are starting to show up, especially in the shipping channel leading into Tampa Bay. He said he pulled a 40-inch king from the water last week and expects more and bigger to come.

At the **Rod & Reel Pier** in Anna Maria, **Tom Cassetty** said anglers there were catching lots of too-small snook and too-big redfish of late. Legal snapper are a good catch at the pier, as are flounder. The big Goliath grouper is still hanging out around the dock, too.

At the **Anna Maria City Pier**, **Jesus Rosario** said it's all mangrove snapper, redfish and Spanish mackerel and some tarpon are being hooked, jumped and lost.

Capt. Mark Howard on SumoTime Charters said he's finding beach and nearshore fishing action picking up as fall weather starts. "I caught some cobia off the artificial reefs this week," he said, "and a friend caught a couple of kingfish off the 1-mile reef." He's also catching snook off the beaches.

Capt. Larry McGuire of Show Me The Fish Charters said to expect "a cornucopia of action that is sure to produce tasty treats in October." Warm waters of the Gulf will begin to cool as our days get shorter, sending most species into a feeding frenzy. Gag grouper have started migrating closer to shore anywhere there are rock piles or ledges. "Look for them in about 25- to 100-foot of water, and they will be hungry, getting fat to prepare for the winter." He's also catching red grouper at the 100-foot depths in the Gulf. "The fall kingfish run should start any day now," Capt. Larry said, "even though there have been some smoker kings around all year. The fall run can get wild and crazy, especially when you chum a large school. It's like trick-or-treats while bottom fishing for grouper and snapper." He also is catching mangrove and yellowtail snapper, as well as amberjack at about 150-foot depths. He expects cobia to start to show up soon, plus mahi-mahi and blackfin tuna.

Capt. Zach Zacharias on the Dee Jay II out of **Parrot Cove Marina** in Cortez said even though the weather remains very summerlike there are some very subtle changes. "It took all summer, but now that it's over we're seeing some normal afternoon and evening thunderstorms in the coastal region." Heavy rains help to drop the water temperatures a bit, but

the biggest change is the length of the day. "When the daylight hours start to shorten, it triggers most of our fish species to begin schooling up, moving around, and most importantly, to feed very heavily in preparation for a spawn in some cases, or in anticipation of some lean winter months ahead." He's been putting his charters onto Spanish mackerel and expects king mackerel to show any day. And he expects backwater fishing for trout, redfish, snook, flounder, snapper and sheepshead should to heat up.

Good luck and good fishing.

Fishing news and photos are welcome and may be submitted to Paul Roat by e-mail at paul@islander.org.

Kids fishing contest Oct. 3

Children 5-12 years old can participate in the annual fishing contest Saturday, Oct. 3, on the Historic Bridge Street Pier in Bradenton Beach.

The contest will take place from 10 a.m. to noon.

Entry is free, and so is the bait and tackle.

Organizers of the contest include Rotten Ralph's at the Pier, the Historic Bridge Street Merchants Association, The Fish Hole and the Bradenton Beach ScenicWAVES committee.

Prizes will be awarded for the biggest catch, the smallest catch, the weirdest catch and the most fish caught in two hours.

For more information, call Rotten Ralph's at 941-778-1069.

Island groups earn beautification awards

Keep Manatee Beautiful honored several Island groups for efforts in beautifying and cleaning the community.

KMB, which held its annual awards luncheon in Bradenton Sept. 24, recognized Anna Maria Elementary School, the Anna Maria Island Historical Society, code enforcement departments in Anna Maria and Holmes Beach and Shore Acres neighborhood



Good catch

Danielle Pechous, 14, of Holmes Beach, caught this 15-pound snook while fishing with dad Tom in Anna Maria Sound earlier this month.

in Anna Maria, among others.

The awards for outstanding volunteer group went to Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, which has been doing quarterly cleanups of Business 41 in Palmetto since 1993; Southeast High School Key Club and Seminole Pride for 20 cleanups during the 2008-09 school year; Longboat Key Turtle Watch, which has been doing monthly cleanups along the Gulf shore on Longboat Key since 2003, and Southeast High School Seminole Pride, which marked 155 storm drains with stormwater pollution prevention messages.

The "Leave Your Mark Keep America Beautiful School of the Year" awards went to Anna Maria Elementary, Braden River Middle and Palmetto High schools.

Recycling awards went to Shane Henry and the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Landscaping awards went to Manatee Chamber of Commerce Dan and Corrine McClure Center, Honda Cars of Bradenton, Anna Maria Island Historical Society, Manatee County Area Transit, Glenn Lakes in west Manatee County and Shore Acres in Anna Maria.

Public service awards went to Jack Holloman, Richard Suszek, the Anna Maria, Bradenton and Holmes Beach code enforcement departments, the Manatee County Sheriff's Office, Biological Tree Services, Turner Tree & Landscape, Audubon Society Felts Preserve, Manatee County Utilities Department, Radio - Clear Channel Radio of Sarasota, North River News, Manatee Educational Television and Manatee County 4-H Youth Program.



Graduation vacation

Recent Gator grad Kimberly Kuizon celebrated her academic achievement with a trip to Europe, where the journalist stopped in Cologne, Germany.

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D	I	M	W	I	S	P	C	B	S	T	V	A	G	E	O	L	D		
A	N	A	R	O	U	E	A	U	D	I	O	V	E	N	D	O	R		
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B	R	I	T	A	N	N	I	A	A	M	I	H	U	E	V	O	S		
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ISLANDER CLASSIFIEDS

ITEMS FOR SALE

FULL-SIZE BED, good frame, box springs and mattress. \$50. Old desk, free. Call 941-545-9025.

MOON CRAB: PURPLE and orange. \$25 or best offer. 941-773-6821.

SURFBOARD: FIVE-foot, seven-inch. \$25 or best offer. 941-773-6821.

FREE CRT MONITORS: IBM 13-inch, 15-inch e-machine. Great condition, both work. Can deliver to Anna Maria Island if needed. Call 941-201-5318.

ARTIST SELLING UPRIGHT enlarge/reduction machine, \$75. Drawing table, rotates 45 degrees, \$50. Contact Cove, 954-292-6511.

WANTED: YOUR OLD cell phone for recycling. Deliver to The Islander, 5404 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach.

AERIAL PHOTOS of Anna Maria Island. View and purchase online: www.jackelka.com.

FREEBIE ITEMS FOR SALE: Individuals may advertise up to three items, each priced \$100 or less, 15 words or less. One week FREE. Deliver in person to The Islander, 5404 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach, e-mail classifieds@islander.org, fax toll-free 1-866-362-9821. (limited time offer)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BALLROOM DANCE TEACHER needs students. Your home or yoga studio. Island only, Robin, 816-809-6248.

NEW! "ANNA MARIA Island" Tervis Tumbler, SweetPeas/Samplings, Holmes Beach. Great tasting Florida wines! Plus, design your own unique label. 941-778-8300. www.Sweet-PeasAMI.com.

GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN Church: All are welcome to come and worship with us! Call 941-778-1813 or visit us at: www.gloriadeilutheran.com for worship times. 6608 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach.

TERRY HAYES, REALTOR. Global market, market connections. 941-302-3100. Terry.hayes@sothebysrealty.com. Discoverannamaria.com.

MANATEE SAFETY SIGNS, exclusively for boaters available at The Islander, 5404 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. 941-778-7978.

WANTED: FISHING GEAR: Anna Maria Privaters are collecting new or used, repairable fishing poles and reels, nets, tackle, buckets, etc. to give to children. Donate your gear at The Islander newspaper office, 5404 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach.

GARAGE SALES

ROSER THRIFT SHOP: Open 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. 9 a.m.-noon. Saturday. 511 Pine Ave., Anna Maria. 941-779-2733.

GARAGE SALE: 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Oct 2-3. Includes 1972 Corvette convertible. 8639 46th Ave. Circle W., off 86th Street West and Cortez Road, Bradenton Heron's Watch.

SALE: 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Oct. 3. Sea-doo, tools, appliances, clothes, toys, more. 2306 Ave. C, Bradenton Beach.

NIKI'S ISLAND TREASURES: Clearance blowout. Antiques, vintage jewelry, wall art, beach decor up to 90 percent off. All sterling jewelry 50-70 percent off. Open seven days. 5351 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach.

MOVING SALE: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 3. Lots of furniture and everything else. All must go! 518 56th St., Holmes Beach.

BIG SALE: 8:30 a.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 2-4. Component stereo system, computer equipment, cameras, microwave, tools. Corian countertops, household items, Christmas, many things. 165 Crescent Ave., off Pine Ave., Anna Maria.

BONUS! CLASSIFIEDS ADS are posted early online at www.islander.org.

LOST and FOUND

LOST: SILVER AND gold watch. Great sentimental value. 34th St., Holmes Beach. Reward. Please call 941-739-2281.

LOST: PUPPY, MARLEY. White with black spots, one blue, one brown eye. Last seen area of 82nd Street and Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. 941-778-6799.

FOUND AT LAUNDROMAT, Holmes Beach, Monday, Sept. 14: Harley-Davidson T-shirt. Call 941-567-4301 to claim.

PETS

INDOOR CAT NEEDS home. Black and white, long hair. Olivia, 941-713-2221.

PARENTS NEEDED for loving homes to foster puppies and kittens until they are old enough for adoption. All food and medical provided. Julie, 941-720-1411.

TRANSPORTATION

1995 FORD EXPLORER XLT: Great shape, very reliable. Valued at \$2,200, asking \$1,950 or best offer. 563-528-3628.

HELP WANTED

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED at AMI Art League, Holmes Beach. Office and computer skills especially helpful. Call 941-778-2099.

KIDS4HIRE

ISLAND TUTORING. Manatee High School junior Chris Perez tutors elementary or middle school children. Call 941-778-2979.

CALL ALEXANDRA, 15, for babysitting or odd-jobs. Red Cross certified in first aid and babysitting. 941-778-5352

ISLAND TEEN EXPERIENCED, and certified child care with Safe Sitter, CPR and Red Cross training, seven days a week. Maggie, 941-447-4632 or 941-778-8405.

CALL GUSSIE AT 941-778-7257 for babysitting. I have experience with kids of all ages.

NEED A BABYSITTER or pet sitter? Call Kendall! First-aid certified, great with kids and animals! Best on the Island! 941-779-9783.

NEED A BABYSITTER, pet sitter, house sitter or dog walker? Experienced. Certified in CPR. Call the twins, Kayla and Ariel, 941-778-1746.

TEEN WITH CHILD daycare experience and Red Cross certified in babysitting. Loves children. Call Katie, 941-778-1491 or 941-447-4057.

TRISH AND KIM babysitting service, house cleaning and pet sitting. Certified. Experienced. Call 941-538-8922 or 941-538-2081.

LAWN MOWING/DOG walking? Will walk dogs any day, mow lawns after 5 p.m. weekdays, after 11 a.m. weekends. 941-447-7092.

CALL ZACK, 13, for odd jobs. Will do anything you need done after school and Saturdays. 941-773-3185.

RED CROSS LIFEGUARD for private parties at your pool. \$10/hour. Call Marie Durocher, 941-795-4722.

CASSIE'S DOG WALKING and house sitting. I can walk your dog anytime. 941-962-3373.

11-YEAR OLD girl can watch your 4-year old or younger child. CPR-certified, references, experienced. Brianna, 941-448-9036.

HELP WITH SCHOOL WORK? Manatee High School junior will tutor math, science, basic computing skills. Patrick, 941-524-5686.

KIDS FOR HIRE ads are FREE for Island youths under 16 looking for work. Ads must be placed in person at The Islander newspaper office, 5404 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach.

MORE LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS equals more readers.

ISLANDER CLASSIFIEDS

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

RESTAURANT: ISLAND BREAKFAST/lunch eatery. Profitable, charming, easy to run. Confidentiality agreement required. \$95,000. Longview Realty, 941-383-6112.

WILL TRADE SUCCESSFUL mail order business for home in Bradenton, Anna Maria Island area. ron@cottonclouds.com.

WELL-ESTABLISHED ALTERATION shop in Holmes Beach for sale. Shop has been in business over 12 years, has a large clientele. All equipment, machines and notions included. Please, call 941-798-3140, serious inquiries only please.

SERVICES

LET US DRIVE YOU! Airports, cruise ports. Flat rates. Anna Maria Sunshine Car Service. 941-778-5476.

COMPUTER OBEDIENCE TRAINING. Is your computer misbehaving? Certified computer service and private lessons. Special \$40/hour. Free advice. 941-545-7508.

ISLAND PRESSURE CLEANING, wash away mildew, dirt, salt. Thorough, reasonable, reliable. Free estimates, licensed, insured. 941-778-0944.

PROFESSIONAL I.T. SERVICES: Complete computer solutions for business and home. Installation, repair, upgrade, networking, Web services, wireless services. Richard Ardabell, network engineer, 941-778-5708, or cell 216-509-1945.

BE PREPARED THIS hurricane season! Document your home and valuables on video. Helps with insurance! 941-538-8002. www.silvervideollc.com.

ISLAND COMPUTER GUY, 37 years experience. On-site PC repairs, upgrades, buying assistance and training. Call Bill, 941-778-2535.

TOTAL DOOR AND Window Service: Repairs, replacements, sales, parts, storm catcher hurricane covers, Simonton windows, Plastpro doors, ODL inserts. TDWSINC@msn.com. 941-730-1399.

I DON'T CUT corners, I clean corners. Professional, friendly cleaning service since 1999. 941-778-7770. Leave message.

HOUSE CLEANING BY Laura: Good references, happy customers! 941-539-6891.

CHILDCARE IN YOUR home part or full-time. 29-year-old with 12 years experience. 941-920-0294.

SERVICES Continued

ISLAND PET NANNY: Loving in-home care for your pets. Longtime Island resident, background check, references. Karen Robinson, 941-779-2830 or 941-730-5693.

GRACE'S CLEANING SERVICE: Licensed and bonded. Reasonable rates. Call for estimate. 941-448-4495.

LIGHT CARPENTRY, HOME repairs, handyman work, deck repairs, dock repairs, etc. Retired tradesman, Island resident. No job too small. Call Steve Doyle 941-778-1708.

COMPUTER GOT YOU down? Got a virus? Need wireless, network setup? Web site? Need help? Call JC, 941-487-7487.

ISLAND MERMAIDS CLEANING and Co.: 34 years of happy customers. Mom-Watch, Pet-Watch, Storm-Check, windows, etc. Rentals our specialty. 941-792-1000.

UPSCALE NAIL SALON: Nails on the Island. 30 years experience. Gift boutique, nail products, handbags, jewelry and sunglasses. 9908 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria. Call for an appointment. 941-713-5244.

BEACH SERVICE air conditioning, heat, refrigeration. Commercial and residential service, repair and/or replacement. Serving Manatee County and the Island since 1987. For dependable, honest and personalized service, call William Eller, 941-795-7411. CAC184228.

NADIA'S EUROSAGE Relaxing, healing massage at your home. 941-795-0887. MA#0017550.

MUSIC LESSONS WITH Koko Ray. Island studio open now. Instruction in flute, clarinet, saxophone, guitar and piano. 941-778-8323, or evenings, 941-758-0395. 315 58th St., Studio I, Holmes Beach.

LAWN & GARDEN

CONNIE'S LANDSCAPING INC. Residential and commercial. Full-service lawn maintenance, landscaping, cleanups, hauling and more! Insured. 941-778-5294.

ISLAND LAWN SPRINKLER service and repair. Your complete irrigation repair company. Call 941-778-2581.

TREES BY BREEZE Inc.: Custom landscapes, tree trimming, property maintenance. Insured. Since 1988. Chris, 941-778-2837.

ECONOMY TREE TRIMMING, hedges, mulching. Lowest prices starting at \$15. 12-year Island resident. Cell 941-951-1833.

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CLASSIFIED RATES business or individual: **Minimum \$12 for up to 15 WORDS.** 16-30 words: \$20. 31-45 words: \$40. Box: \$4. (Phone number is a "word." Spell out all words except 2BR/2BA example.)

The classified print and online deadline is NOON Monday
Monday holidays result in deadline at NOON Friday (prior to desired publication date).

Run issue date(s) _____ or TFN start date: _____

Amt. pd _____ Date _____ Ck. No. Cash By _____

Credit card payment: No. _____

Name shown on card: _____ card exp. date ____/____/____

House no. or P.O. box no. on cc bill _____ Billing address zip code _____

Your e-mail for renewal reminder: _____

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ISLANDER CLASSIFIEDS

LAWN & GARDEN Continued

LANDSCAPE BOULDERS CHEAP! Various sizes, \$5-\$95. Delivery and placement available. Summer special, 25 percent off select boulders, limited quantity. Also, we are a complete tree service offering trimming, removals and stump grinding. Brad Frederick's LLC, northwest Bradenton. 941-730-0001.

JR'S LANDSCAPING AND MAINTENANCE Lawns, native plants, mulching, trimming, hauling, cleanups. Call 941-807-1015.

LANDSCAPING

STRAIGHT SHOT LANDSCAPE. For all your landscape needs. Shell \$45/yard. Call Shark Mark. 941-301-6067.

KARAZ LANDSCAPE LAWN service. Mulch, clean ups, power washing, tree trimming and more. Cell, 941-448-3857.

THE SWISS GARDENER: Full-service landscaping and property management. 15 years Island experience. Licensed and insured. Call Allen anytime. Cell 941-224-8569.

SHELL DELIVERED AND spread. \$45/yard. Hauling all kinds of gravel, mulch, top soil with free estimates. Call Larry at 941-795-7775, "shell phone" 941-720-0770.

HOME IMPROVEMENT

VAN-GO PAINTING residential/commercial, interior/exterior, pressure cleaning, wallpaper. Island references. Bill, 941-795-5100.

TILE -TILE -TILE. All variations of ceramic tile supplied and installed. Quality workmanship, prompt, reliable, many Island references. Call Neil, 941-726-3077.

HOME IMPROVEMENT Continued

CUSTOM REMODELING EXPERT. All phases of carpentry, repairs and painting. Insured. Meticulous, clean, sober and prompt. Paul Beauregard, 941-779-2294.

GRIFFIN'S HOME IMPROVEMENTS Inc. Handyman, fine woodwork, countertops, cabinets and shutters. Insured and licensed, 941-748-4711.

JERRY'S HOME REPAIR: Carpentry work, handyman, light plumbing, electrical, light hauling, pressure washing. Call 941-778-6170 or 447-2198.

EXPERIENCED BUILDING CONTRACTOR: Carl V. Johnson Jr. Inc. New homes, porches, decks, remodel, repairs, etc. Quality work. Fair price! 941-795-1947. Lic.#RR0066450.

SOUTHBAY HOME REPAIRS: If it's broken, stuck, loose, leaks, needs paint, etc. I'll fix it. Affordable quality work. 941-720-2906.

PAINT: AVERAGE ROOM, \$75. Customer supplies paint. Exterior, one story. Pressure washing. Free estimates. New phone number! 941-721-7521.

GABBARD MASONRY INC.: Custom stone and brick. Fireplaces, pools, Jacuzzis, fire pits, grills, landscape, patios. Paver brick, stone, glass block. Licensed and insured, free estimates. 941-792-5206.

WINDOW SHADES, BLINDS, shutters and more. Lifetime warranty. Call Keith Barnett for a free in-home consultation. Island references, 15 years experience. 941-778-3526 or 730-0516.

BONUS! CLASSIFIEDS ADS are posted early online at www.islander.org.

RENTALS

WEEKLY/MONTHLY/ANNUAL rentals: wide variety, changes daily. SunCoast Real Estate, 941-779-0202, or 1-800-732-6434. www.suncoastinc.com.

SANDPIPER 55-PLUS: Available Sept. 1. 2BR/1BA, furnished, bay water-view, walk to beaches, carport, No smoking/pets. \$675/month. 941-545-8923.

TROPICAL WATERFRONT: KEY Royale. 2BR/2BA pool, spa, two boat lifts, designer interior, six month to annual rental, \$2,500/month. Available Oct. 1. 941-730-1086.

3BR/2BA SEASONAL: Heart of Anna Maria. Weekly, monthly, steps to beach, coffee shop, theater, shops, restaurants. 941-737-9662.

ANNUAL: CUTE, FURNISHED 1BR/1BA duplex. Lakefront with dock. Walk to beach. Double garage with washer/dryer. No smoking, pets. Holmes Beach. \$875/month. 941-232-3704.

ANNUAL 2BR/1BA GROUND-level duplex, porch. Anna Maria City, Spring Avenue. \$875/month includes water and trash. 941-778-7003.

STUDIO OR 1BR/1BA apartments for rent. Unfurnished. Close to beaches. First month plus security to move in. No pets. Year lease. 941-792-0411, after 4 p.m.

GREAT LOCATION: HARBOR Pines. Large 2BR/2BA. Very nice, ground floor, screened porch, freshly painted, tile floors, washer/dryer connections, water, cable, close to MCC, Bayshore High School, shopping. Annual \$725/month. Last month free! 941-650-3476.

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I S L A N D E R C L A S S I F I E D S**RENTALS Continued**

THE SANCTUARY: 1BR/1BA, washer and dryer, water included, on lake, screened porch, carpeting, close to MCC, shopping. Annual rental \$700/month. Last month free! Call 941-650-3476.

ROOMMATE: \$575/MONTH includes utilities. Pool, washer and dryer. Background check required. Holmes Beach. 941-778-5080.

MARTINIQUE BEACHFRONT CONDO: Fully furnished 2BR/2BA. Lanai, garage, tennis, heated pool, laundry, ocean view. Jan. 1 through April 15, 2010. 423-884-2598.

OFFICE, RETAIL, PROFESSIONAL space. 625 sf, \$500/month. Also 1,800 sf. 8799 Cortez Road. 1-800-952-1206.

WATERFRONT KEY WEST STYLE with dock. Furnished, walk to beach. 941-794-5980. www.divefish.com.

BEST WATER VIEW on the Island. 2BR/1BA unfurnished ground-floor apartment. Beachfront patio, pool, laundry. \$1,100/month plus deposit. Corner of South Bay Boulevard and Spring Avenue, Anna Maria. 786-375-9633 or 941-778-1470.

ISLAND BUSINESS OWNER with two well-trained dogs below 25 pounds needs annual rental on Anna Maria. Looking for 2BR/2BA or bigger. No duplex. 941-567-6986.

WANTED: ANNUAL RENTAL. 2BR/2BA close to beach, room to store kayak and bike. On Anna Maria Island. Call Dan, 941-705-5561.

4BR/4BA IN NORTHWEST Bradenton for rent. Two blocks from boat ramp. Call 941-224-0677.

LARGE DUPLEX: 2,000 sf with garage. Sunny Shores. Quiet, close to beaches. Available now. \$800/month. 941-962-7574.

RENTALS Continued

WINTER SPECIAL: Nov.1-May 1, \$1,000/month. 55-plus 2BR/2BA doublewide. 15 minutes to beach. Pool, sauna, recreation room, seats 1,000 for dinner. Cable, big TV, washer and dryer. Will sell for \$49,000, includes lot. 863-688-3524 or 863-688-3520. chickenplucker@webtv.net.

ANNUAL UNFURNISHED HALF duplex: 1BR/1BA nice unit with white tile floors, close to beach, \$700/month. 2BR/2BA, tile floors, \$725/month. No pets. Dolores M. Baker Realty, 941-778-7500.

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

REAL ESTATE

MOBILE HOME: 1BR/1BA. One mile from Anna Maria Island. You own the land. Not a co-op. No monthly fees. Steps to water. Great condition. Free boat ramp access. \$74,900. 513-470-3851.

BUILD WEALTH! Call or e-mail for our free brochure. Discover how easy it is to build wealth through short sales and foreclosures. Adkins Florida Group, Wagner Realty. Free@AdkinsFloridaGroup.com. 941-713-0635.

NEW CANALFRONT HOME: 4BR/4.5BA. Study, den, lanai, pool. \$1,450,000. Brokers protected. 215 Chilson, Anna Maria. 941-567-6600.

WATERFRONT LOT: BREATHTAKING Sunshine Skyway Bridge view. 230 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach. \$550,000. 941-778-0019.

WOW! CANAL HOME, \$599,000. Remodeled 3BR/2BA, two-car garage, move-in ready. Pool with hot tub, great seawall and 16,000-lb. boat lift. For sale by owner. Won't last. Call 863-581-6661.

REAL ESTATE Continued

SACRIFICE: DUPLEX 2BR/1.5BA and 1BR/1BA, mid-Island. \$260,000. 3501 Sixth Ave., Holmes Beach. Call 813-645-8738.

"DISTRESS" SALE: BANK foreclosures. Island and mainland properties. Free list with pictures. Call Vince Meaney, 941-315-1501. www.manateareaforeclosures.com.

ISLAND "FIXER-UPPERS" from \$289,900. These homes need work. From \$289,900. Call Vince Meaney, Horizon Realty, 941-315-1501.

SHOREWALK Bradenton. 2BR/2BA condo. Turnkey furnished. On-site management and short-term rentals. Virtual tour, MLS M5807253. \$155,000. Call Pam Edgington, 941 812 6324. Prudential Florida Realty. www.gopam.com.

KEY ROYALE: UPDATED 3BR/2BA. Pool, boat slip. \$550,000 for quick sale. Owner, realtor, 941-356-1456. Real Estate Mart.

PRICE REDUCED: DUPLEX on two deeded lots, both units 2BR/1.5BA, elevated, park under building. \$450,000. Call owner: 941-730-2606.

FLORIDA, OUT-OF-STATE

6BR/4BA FORECLOSURE! \$29,900! Only \$225/month! Five percent down, 30 years at 8 percent APR. Buy 4BR, \$269/month! For listings, 800-366-9783, ext. 5760.

OWNER MUST SELL: Four-plus acres, \$57,300. Nice oak trees, private access to lake. All utilities in. Ready to build when you are! Financing available. Call now, 866-352-2249. www.flilandoffer.com.

VIRGINIA MOUNTAIN LAND auction: 15 acreage tracts, absolute/reserve lots, Cove Creek Community, Tazewell County, Va., October 17. Iron Horse Auction, VAAL580. 800-997-2248. www.ironhorseauction.com.

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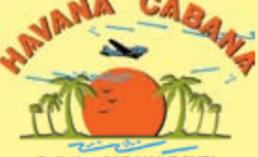
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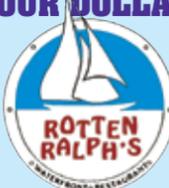
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- Entries must be postmarked or hand delivered to the newspaper by noon Saturday weekly.
- A winner will be drawn from tying entries. The decision of The Islander football judge is final.
- All entries must be submitted on the published form or a copy of the form. Be sure to include your name, address and phone number.

- All advertisers must be listed to be eligible to win.
- ONLY ONE ENTRY PER PERSON, PER WEEK.

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