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VOLUME 19, NO. 40

# The Islander

The Best News on Anna Maria Island Since 1992

[www.islander.org](http://www.islander.org)

## MCSO, cadaver dog searches end in stalemate

By Rick Catlin  
*Islander Reporter*

One of the best-trained cadaver-sniffing dogs in Florida was unable to give Manatee County Sheriff's Office detectives any fresh leads last week in the search for evidence in the case of missing Holmes Beach motel-owner Sabine Musil-Buehler.

Bones, a male German shepherd, was brought in by Osceola County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Kristy Brewer at the request of MCSO Sgt. John Kenney. Bones sniffed the area at the Gulf end of Willow Avenue for about three hours Aug. 2 and again Aug. 3, as well as the beach end of Park Avenue, but without results.

Brewer and Bones also searched the beach areas in front of the accesses, but again without success.

Kenney said Bones is considered one of the best cadaver-sniffing dogs in the state and was used by police on the recent Casey Anthony case in Orlando. Kenney got the canine team on loan from the OSCO to help with the Musil-Buehler case.

Bones, Brewer and MCSO deputies continued the search last week but were unable to uncover any more clues in Musil-Buehler's disappearance in early November 2008.

In July, resident Ed Moss was clearing out some invasive plants adjacent to his home in an overgrown area of the city park at the beach end of Willow Avenue when he discovered some personal items of Musil-Buehler's in the brush.



That discovery prompted MCSO investigators to search the area in front of the Willow Avenue beach access for more than two weeks. Several areas were scoured and dug up by tractors, but revealed nothing for detectives.

Kenney said the search concluded Aug. 4, and the investigation would now focus on re-interviewing William Cumber, a person of interest in the case.

Musil-Buehler was co-owner of Haley's Motel in Holmes Beach and was last seen by Cumber, her boyfriend, on the evening of Nov. 4, 2008, at the Magnolia Avenue apartment they shared in Anna Maria. Cumber said Musil-

Buehler left that evening following an argument. Her car was later stolen from a parking lot at a downtown Bradenton tavern and recovered in Bradenton.

Cumber is in prison for violating probation on an unrelated 2005 arson conviction.

## Marine rescue strikes 'home run'

By Rick Catlin  
*Islander Reporter*

Manatee County Marine Rescue Division Chief Jay Moyles, who oversees lifeguards in the county, said the new division facility on the bay side of Coquina Beach is a "home run" for his department and the Manatee County Sheriff's Office.

Speaking at the Aug. 2 Manatee County Council of Governments meeting in Bradenton, Moyles said the facility has long been needed by his staff. Now, they have a building with a small kitchen, lockers and showers, storage and training areas and offices for staff.

The building also is a "home run" for the MCSO marine unit, which shares the structure with the county marine rescue personnel.

"We have a professional facility with a dock that makes their access to the water quicker and easier than before," Moyles said.

"It's a home run. I've had a lot of compliments about the building and it's built to environmental standards to keep electrical costs down. It's an investment in us and a crown jewel for Anna Maria Island," he said.

Moyles also thanked the Bradenton Beach staff for assisting with permits necessary to build the structure.

Manatee County Marine Rescue and the MCSO marine unit will hold an open house to show off the facility from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Aug. 15.

*See related photo, page 3.*

## Top Notch: High flying tot





Bones, a cadaver-sniffing German shepherd, arrives in Anna Maria with his handler, Sgt. Kris Brewer of the Osceola County Sheriff's Office, to search the beach for evidence of missing motel-owner Sabine Musil-Buehler.



Sgt. Kris Brewer of the Osceola County Sheriff's Office allows Bones a break from work. Bones wasn't sure what to make of rolling waves, and just like many a kid, wound up with sand and saltwater in his eyes. Islander Photos: Edna Tiemann

## BB Scenic Waves to create jitney task force

By Rick Catlin  
Islander Reporter

Members of the Bradenton Beach Scenic Waves committee agreed Aug. 1 that they often have difficulty reaching a quorum for meetings. And those present agreed they don't have clear objectives, often resulting in apathy and absenteeism.

Mayor Bob Bartelt suggested the committee only meet when it has a specific objective, and members agreed to form a task force to investigate a jitney route through the historic district.

A jitney is a small bus or vehicle, popular in the Caribbean and South America, and used for transporting small numbers of people.

Bartelt said a jitney would allow people unable to find a parking spot on Bridge Street during the season to park at Coquina Beach, ride the trolley to city hall

or the BeachHouse Restaurant, then climb aboard the jitney for a tour of Bradenton Beach and stops on Bridge Street.

Police Chief Sam Speciale designed a possible route for the jitneys, vehicles that could maneuver the rights of way and move people to business locations.

"Jitneys are licensed street vehicles, but are small enough to move around with ease," he said. Speciale suggested there are a number of jitney vehicles the task force could examine, including some electric-powered vehicles or hybrids, to determine if the project is feasible and cost-effective.

"The jitney concept is not public transportation, but to get people to park elsewhere than downtown, then ride the jitney to work, shop or tour the city. The jitney can go off-road to pick up someone going to work, but its route would be in the historic district," he said. A

roundtrip would take about 10 minutes.

The idea is to get cars off the road during the winter season and free up parking spaces on Bridge Street, Speciale said.

"During the season, we have people who can't get to many businesses on Bridge Street. If they drive by and can't find a parking spot, they leave. We need to help all our businesses," Speciale said.

Scenic Waves chair Pat Whitesel agreed the jitney is the just the thing for a task force and suggested an October meeting to appoint members.

Other members agreed, and the committee will meet at 3 p.m. Monday, Oct. 3, to form its task force and begin working on the potential people-mover.

Bartelt said once the word gets out that the committee is forming a task force, he expects quite a bit of public participation at the October meeting.

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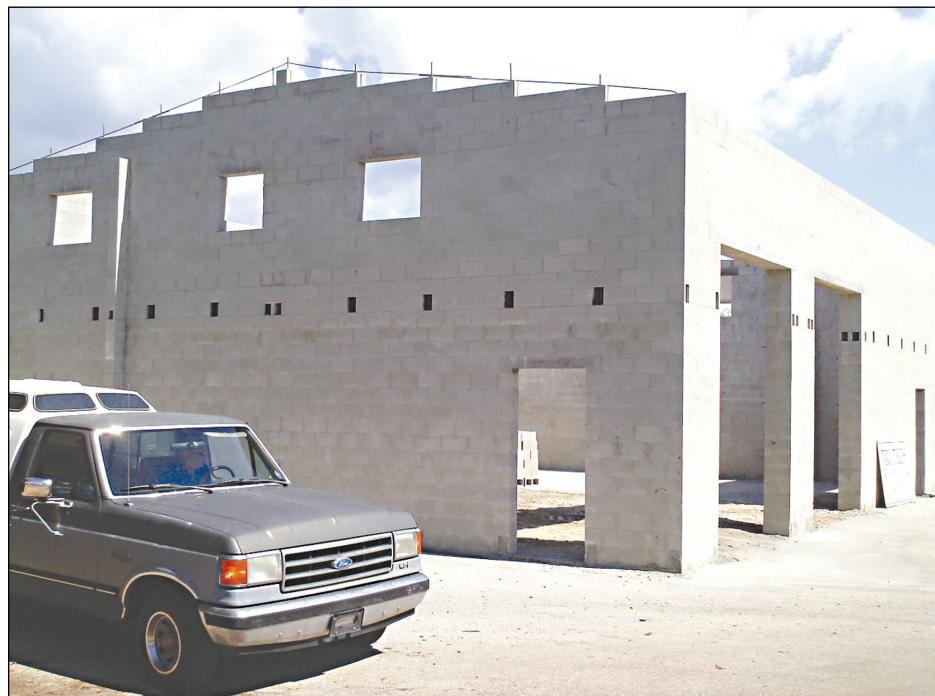
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**The Islander**

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**Open house  
invite Aug. 15**

The recently completed Manatee County Marine Rescue Division building at Coquina Beach Bayside in Bradenton Beach will host an open house for the public to tour the facility starting at 2 p.m. Monday, Aug. 15. Islander Photo: Rick Catlin

**New PWD  
building for HB**

A new facility for the Holmes Beach Public Works Department is under construction at the site of the old storage-office area adjacent to the skateboard park on Marina Drive. Holmes Beach Mayor Rich Bohnenberger said funding for the structure comes from the city's share of gas tax revenues. It will house equipment, a public works office and storage and should be completed in September at a cost of about \$300,000. Islander Photo: Rick Catlin

**Meetings****Anna Maria City**

- Aug. 10, 6:30 p.m., EEEC meeting.
- Aug. 11, 6 p.m., city commission meeting.
- Aug. 16, 9 a.m., LDR meeting.
- Aug. 16, 2 p.m., TIF meeting. CANCELED
- Aug. 18, 6 p.m., budget meeting.

*Anna Maria City Hall, 10005 Gulf Drive, 941-708-6130, [www.cityofannamaria.com](http://www.cityofannamaria.com).*

**Bradenton Beach**

- Aug. 17, 1 p.m., CRA meeting.
  - Aug. 17, 1:30 p.m., capital improvements meeting.
  - Aug. 18, 1 p.m., city commission meeting.
- Bradenton Beach City Hall, 107 Gulf Drive N., 941-778-1005, [www.cityofbradentonbeach.org](http://www.cityofbradentonbeach.org).*

**Holmes Beach**

- Aug. 18, 10 a.m., code enforcement meeting.
- Holmes Beach City Hall, 5801 Marina Drive, 941-708-5800, [www.holmesbeachfl.org](http://www.holmesbeachfl.org).*

**West Manatee Fire Rescue District**

- Aug. 18, 6 p.m., commission meeting.
- WMFR administration building, 6417 Third Ave. W., Bradenton, 941-741-3900.*

**Of Interest**

- Aug. 10, 4 p.m., Palma Sola Scenic Highway Corridor Management Entity committee, county administration building.
- Aug. 15, 9 a.m., Manatee County Tourist Development Council meeting, administration building.
- Aug. 16, 9 a.m., Manatee County Commission work meeting, administration building.
- Sept. 5 is Labor Day. Government offices are closed and trash collection is delayed a day throughout the week in Anna Maria and Holmes Beach. The Islander also will be closed.

*Send notices to Lisa Neff at [lisaneff@islander.org](mailto:lisaneff@islander.org).*

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# Anna Maria City Pier north boardwalk gets finishing touches

By Rick Catlin  
*Islander* Reporter

The north boardwalk along the shore of the Anna Maria City Pier and the pier's north parking lot are in use, as work crews focus on the southern portion of the \$859,000 boardwalk project.

The north section of the boardwalk is about 400 feet long. It is raised about 8 inches above the ground and allows access all along its length — no steps or railings inhibit pedestrian flow.

When finished, the pier entrance will have two shelters, with the north shelter doubling as the waiting area for the fare-free Island trolley. A new sign will be erected at the pier entrance to note the wooden pier has been in use since 1911 and a Florida historical marker will be installed nearby.

The project is funded by a federal grant administered by the Florida Department of Transportation.

A DOT press release this week advised motorists using north and south Bay Boulevard at the Pine Avenue intersection to be aware of the ongoing construction and that intermittent traffic delays may occur. A flagging operation may also be in place if traffic must be halted for a few minutes, the release said.

When completed, the boardwalk will be about 850 feet long.

Picnic tables, lighting, bike racks, concrete pads for



newspaper racks, irrigation, slope control and landscaping, as well as benches along the length of the boardwalk also are planned.

Weather permitting, the entire project is slated for completion in mid-October, according to the DOT statement.

**Prettified pier**  
Workers apply roofing materials to the north shelter-trolley stop at the Anna Maria City Pier entrance. The north boardwalk and structured parking lot are now in use. Work is proceeding on the southern portion of the Florida Department of Transportation boardwalk project. *Islander* Photo: Rick Catlin

## Bradenton Beach

By Diana Bogan  
*Islander* Reporter

Bradenton Beach commissioners unanimously passed the first reading of the city's amended 2010-20 comprehensive plan at a meeting Aug. 4.

The approval brings the city one step closer to concluding a state-mandated process that has spanned several years. The process requires a municipality to conduct an evaluation and appraisal of the city's comprehensive plan, to submit an Evaluation Appraisal Report to the state for review and then to incorporate changes recommended into the plan.

The city first adopted its comp plan in May 1989. The updated plan includes two new elements required by the Department of Community Affairs — one involv-

## comp plan update passes first reading

ing the city's water supply and another involving the city's responsibilities as a Waterfronts Florida Partnership Community.

The update also includes a more concise 10-page introduction that summarizes the key points for someone seeking a general understanding of the city.

Prior to the commission vote, two property owners raised concerns.

Mike Kelly's home at 402 Gulf Drive N. would be grandfathered when the amended comp plan changes its zoning designation from residential to commercial.

Kelly stated his concern that the language in the amended comp plan might not preserve his right to rebuild his home in the existing footprint if it were to be destroyed by a hurricane, fire or other calamity. He

also asked for language asserting the right to seek variance procedures without prejudice.

Attorney Robert Lincoln wrote to the commission on behalf of Buck Development and requested consideration of a policy that would allow the aggregation of lot areas in limited circumstances, such as for his clients. Buck Development owns a parcel with three units at 100 25th St. and an adjacent lot that is designated as preservation.

Lincoln's proposed policy addition would allow an owner of an adjoining lot designated preservation to aggregate the density for use in meeting the setback and coverage requirements in redeveloping the residential or residential/tourism parcel.

According to Lincoln, his suggestion wouldn't allow the owner to increase the density of the already developed lot, but would provide a means to rebuild to the existing density in the event of unforeseen destruction.

Tom McCollum of ZNS Engineering, the firm hired by the city to review and organize the EAR amendments, said the concerns presented by both property owners are "similar yet different."

"There are provisions in the plan for non-conforming uses that allow for rebuilding within an existing footprint," said McCollum. He added that the land development code would be the place to more specifically implement changes that would address both concerns.

A second hearing and final vote on the EAR is scheduled for 5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18, at city hall, 107 Gulf Drive N.

## AME back-to-school open house Aug. 18

Anne Kinnan, who retired at the end of the 2010-11 school year.

First-grade teacher Lauren Waite is taking a one-year leave of absence to teach at an American school in Rome. Her replacement will teach third-grade, where an additional class is needed.

In addition to meeting with teachers, families will have an opportunity to learn about programs at the Anna Maria Island Community Center and purchase school supply packets from the Parent-Teacher Organization.

For more information, call the administrative office at 941-708-5525.

**There's still time and planks aplenty to put your name, remembrance or memorial on the Anna Maria City Pier. Purchase planks here: [www.islander.org](http://www.islander.org)**



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**The Islander**

# New Island trolley arrives, delayed for service

By Rick Catlin  
*Islander* Reporter

The first of five new Island trolleys to replace the current aging fleet was delivered to the Manatee County Area Transit garage Aug. 3, but that trolley won't go into service Aug. 8 as Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce officials hoped.

MCAT officials said last week the new trolley needs some preparation and must pass state and MCAT inspections before it can begin service. Some advertising also needs to be installed on the trolley.

MCAT superintendent Mark Betti said the original Aug. 8 date for the trolley to begin service was optimistic.

All required inspections should be completed by next week and the advertising artwork on the trolley will be added.

Betti said he anticipated the trolley would be in service within two weeks, possibly sooner.

The second trolley is expected to arrive Aug. 15 and undergo the same procedures, he said. It could be available for the route by Sept. 1 or sooner, Betti noted.

Each trolley is being custom-made to specifications that will allow the trolleys to operate better in the sun, sand and sea-salt conditions found on Anna Maria Island, Betti said.

Each trolley is customized and completed in California, then shipped to MCAT's inspection yard on 26th Avenue East for final modifications, Betti said.

With the first new trolley due to begin service soon, chamber board member David Teitelbaum, who is coor-

## Anna Maria to meet in shade

Anna Maria city attorney Jim Dye and city commissioners will meet at 5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 11, in a shade meeting to discuss two lawsuits against the city brought by Richard Friday of Park Avenue and Stephen Walker of Park Avenue, both regarding a portion of the Banyan Tree development on Park Avenue in the city.

Both lawsuits involve the conservation zone created by the 2007 comprehensive plan and are related to each other, hence the need to discuss both at the same time, Dye said at the commission's Aug. 4 budget work session.

Shade meetings are those meetings exempt from the Florida Government-in-the-Sunshine open meeting laws in order for officials to discuss pending litigation. The minutes of the meeting become public once the legal matter is settled or resolved.



*The first of five new, improved vehicles for use on the fare-free Island trolley route is at the Manatee County Area Transit garage awaiting completion of required inspections and maintenance and the application of advertising before carrying passengers. *Islander* Photos: Courtesy Manatee County*

dinating trolley ad sales, said about 30 inside spaces remain. All exterior slots have been contracted to advertisers, while some interior signage remains unsold.

The revenue generated by the ad sales is used to offset the operating costs of the trolleys and keep the trolley fare-free.

Two years ago, Manatee County administrator Ed Hunzeker proposed a passenger fare for the trolley to help with the estimated \$250,000 annual maintenance cost, but agreed to hold off implementation of the fee to determine if Teitelbaum and the chamber's ad sales effort would bring in sufficient revenue.

In addition, each Island city budgets funding for

the trolley operation.

The fare-free Island trolley began operating in March 2002 under a federal grant that fully paid for the trolleys.

Since then, other grants and funding sources have kept the trolley fare-free.

Having a fare-free trolley to move people around the Island is one of the major selling points for the Island as a vacation destination, Island tourism officials have said.

The trolley annually carries about 325,000-350,000 passengers, with peak ridership from February through April.



*The new trolley interior, rear section seating.*



*The new trolley interior, facing front.*

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# Our Opinion

## Smile!

Some readers might recall the late 1940s, '50s TV program "Candid Camera." It got us all laughing long before "America's Funniest Videos" and reality TV.

Allen Funt, the show's host and creator was a straight-man sort of comedian, not exactly a crack-up comic, who narrated the circumstance in which some preposterous situation or practical joke was created — picture folks at Starbucks dealing with a hole in the bottom of their to-go cup — and then roll cameras. The victims provided the laughs.

When the joke was revealed, always on camera, the phrase "Smile, you're on 'Candid Camera,'" caught on. And it set ordinary people off to create their own pranks, complete with photos or movie shorts.

"America's Funniest Videos" encourages folks to keep the camera rolling and submit their most outrageous outtakes from everyday life for cash prizes.

It seems we've gone from Kodak moment to every moment with a camera or cell phone camera in nearly everyone's hands. Facebook provides a place to share the photos, along with various options for digital family albums and share websites.

It's hard to go to an event or happening without a crowd of people holding up cameras to capture the moment. In fact, it's often challenging for us newbies to capture a photo at an event without a gaggle of cameras around us.

We saw folks taking photos at the beach while the sheriff's office searched for evidence and the remains of missing motel-owner Sabine Musil-Buehler. We see cameras at every sort of sea turtle event. And we saw plenty of folks with cameras taking pictures of the photographers taking calendar photos of the Tampa Bay Buccaneer cheerleaders on the beach last week.

Cell phones and cameras aren't just for recording life's Kodak moments any longer; they're for recording life moment to moment.

Take our own Top Notch photo contest, for example. When the contest began, it was sponsored by Kodak to promote the concept of "capturing a moment," which translated to keeping a camera and film handy. Now it's nearly all digital submissions, although the photos depict pretty much the same sort of "moments."

The contest has grown in the digital format and e-mail submissions have facilitated the popularity of competing for "Top Notch" images.

We encourage Islanders to share their "Hallmark" moments with our readers — those photos from important family events, those photos from everyday moments, and yes, those photos from news events.

The cameras are rolling on everyday life, especially when you live and "shoot" in paradise.

Just say "cheeseburger."

**The Islander**

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## AS THE WORLD TURNS



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# Your Opinion

## Manatee's bright star

Manatee County's star was extra bright at the Manatee Board of County Commissioners land-use meeting Aug. 4.

Chairperson Carol Whitmore and commissioners Joe McClaugh, John Chappie, Michael Gallen and Robin DiSabatino voted to appeal the Oct. 12, 2010, decision to allow triple density on the land between Ninth Avenue northwest and 99th Street.

It certainly seemed this issue was headed to the governor and state cabinet, now known as the administration commission.

The Florida Department of Community Affairs didn't rule along with Administrative Judge John Alexander, who didn't agree with the Oct. 12 vote.

There is a much larger picture here. The BOCC vote sends a message loud and clear that home rule prevails. It will educate the other cities and counties in our state that our comprehensive plans are strong.

If Neal Homes Inc. gets its way, other large and wealthy developers might kill the goose that lays the golden egg — namely our beautiful state of Florida.

Please attend the public hearing later this month and tell Gov. Rick Scott "no."

*Katie Pierola, Bradenton, former Bradenton Beach mayor*

## Hot spots off the beach

The surfing is free and easy on the Internet at *The Islander*, 5404 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach.

Other free hot spots on the Island:

### Anna Maria

Anna Maria Island Historical Society Museum, 402 Pine Ave.

- Feeling Swell, 9903 Gulf Drive.
- Ginny's and Jane E's at the Old IGA, 9807 Gulf Drive.

- Rotten Ralph's Waterfront Restaurant, 902 S. Bay Blvd.
- Slim's Place, 9701 Gulf Drive.

### Bradenton Beach

- Back Alley, 121 Bridge St.
- Tingley Memorial Library, 111 Second St.

N.

### Holmes Beach

- Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce, 5313 Gulf Drive.

- Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive.
- Island Flea, 5704 Marina Drive.
- Sand-N-Sudz Coin Laundry, 5400 Marina Drive.

## Have your say

We welcome and encourage your comments on topics, columns and editorials in *The Islander*.

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

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



*The Islander* has an active Facebook community of more than 1,250 users, so we're sharing some of the conversations we've been having with our fans. If you would like to join the conversation, become a fan of "The Islander" on Facebook. We provide a direct link to our fan page from www.islander.org.

## CERT gains, trains members

On July 30, a group of volunteers completed training and joined the Anna Maria Island Community Emergency Response Team.

CERT members are trained by Manatee County Emergency Services and West Manatee Fire Rescue to work in conjunction with first responders in assisting Island residents in the event of a disaster.

Throughout the month of May, members of CERT worked on the AM I Ready campaign with the American Red Cross to focus the attention of Island residents on hurricane preparedness.

Members of CERT are Robert Balais, Jayne Bayer, John Cella, Jean and Thomas Childs, Barbara Curtis, Tony Davis, Charlene Doll, Jim Fetters, Pat Gentry, Pete Gross, Randy Ham, Sharon Hightower, Jeff Hostetler, Erin Hughey, Ed Ice, Pierrette Kelly, Ron Luckerman, Ed Moss, Meri Nakajima, Sherry Oehler, Gary and Susan Otto, Ed Schultz, Bill Shuman, Beverly Spitcaufsky, Lynn Vernon, Frank Whitney and Douglas Zuber.



A volunteer for the Island Community Emergency Response Team gets a lesson from West Manatee Fire Rescue fire marshal Kurt Lathrop on how to respond to a fire.



Volunteers attend a training program by Manatee County Emergency Services in preparation to serve on the Island's Community Emergency Response Team. Team volunteers will assist first responders in helping Island residents in the event of disaster. *Islander Photos: Courtesy Pete Gross*

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# The Islander

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# The Islander

## 10 years ago

In the Aug. 9, 2001, issue of *The Islander*, headlines announced:

• The Florida Department of Transportation began a week-long inspection of the Anna Maria Island Bridge that caused traffic delays for both directions. The DOT said the \$1 million inspection was to determine the condition of the 44-year-old structure and would announce its results at a public meeting in September.

• Attorneys for Manatee County and the environmental group ManaSota-88 filed legal objections to the July 16 order by Judge J. Lawrence Johnston that the Bradenton comp plan amendment that allowed the city to approve a planned 898-unit condominium on Perico Island was in compliance with state requirements. County attorney James Minix and Dan Lobeck, representing ManaSota-88, expressed concerns over density, wetland preservation and hurricane safety.

• Members of Anna Maria's newly formed environmental education and enhancement committee agreed to examine privatization, rather than conform to the requirements of Florida's Sunshine Laws that prohibit members from talking about some issues outside a publicly noticed meeting. EEEC member Tim Eiseler suggested the committee could accomplish more with the absence of government regulations.

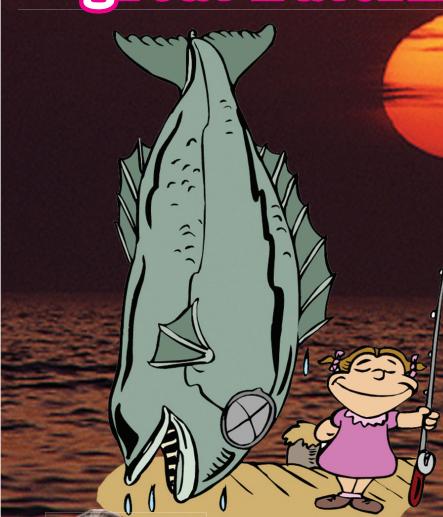
### TEMPS AND DROPS ON AMI

Date	Low	High	Rainfall
July 30	76	94	0.68
Aug 1	78	91	0.01
Aug 2	77	92	0
Aug 3	80	92	0.01
Aug 4	80	91	0
Aug 5	76	91	0.97
Aug 6	78	94	0

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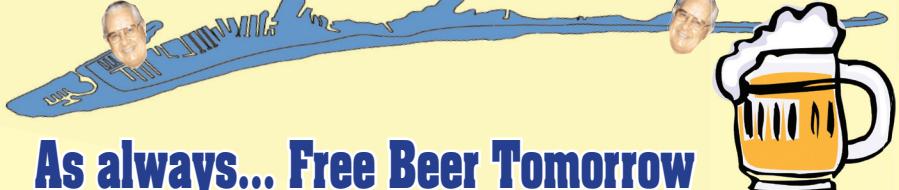
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# No budget for Anna Maria's pending six-lot purchase

By Rick Catlin  
Islander Reporter

Anna Maria commissioners at their Aug. 4 budget work session held off any discussion of purchasing the six vacant lots across from the city pier parking lot as there is no provision in the budget for payments, and city attorney Jim Dye has told the commission it can't use ad valorem tax revenues to fund the lot purchase.

A discussion of the appraisal of the six lots is on the Aug. 11 commission meeting agenda, Commission Chair Chuck Webb said.

Commissioner Jo Ann Mattick said if the commission decides to proceed with the purchase, it might then discuss how that would apply to the budget, but there was no point in discussing the purchase at the work session.

In budget discussions, commissioners reviewed the proposed spending plan based on the 2.05 tentative ad valorem tax rate the commission passed July 28.

City treasurer Diane Percycoe said that at a millage rate of 2.05, ad valorem revenues would increase about \$30,000 to \$1.154 million compared with the \$1.125 million in ad valorem revenue at 2.0 millage.

Wages and salaries in the proposed budget would increase 4.5 percent, or about \$15,600. Percycoe said the premium for staff health insurance has increased 5.6 percent.

Commissioner Dale Woodland said that in the current "poor economy," it's hard for him to "justify a 4 percent pay raise."

But Webb responded that staff would actually be losing with a 4.5 percent increase because the cost of living index has risen 6 percent.

"This just keeps salaries consistent," Webb said.

Percycoe noted staff did not receive a pay raise in the 2010-11 budget, and went several years without a raise.

"And we have a lot more responsibilities now. We all do more than one job. We're doing work that in other cities would take three or four people," she said.

Mayor Mike Selby defended the increase, saying employees "are as much a part of our infrastructure as

# budget talks

roads and drains. We have a committed group here."

He also noted the city operates with a "bare bones" staff of seven full-time employees and a contracted building official.

"They make this city work. Maybe we pay a bit extra, but we need the mature staff we have," Selby said.

Woodland called the \$100,000 in payroll and benefits for a small staff "exorbitant benefits," and said it's "not rational for this city to continue." The pay and benefit package for staff is not in line with what the private sector pays for similar work, he said.

Woodland said he wasn't talking about the current staff, but those hired in the future. He called for commission discussion to overhaul pay and benefit packages for new hires.

Commissioners John Quam and Mattick also defended the staff pay raises.

Quam said Woodland mentioned private business, but the city is in the "government" business.

Mattick said the city has a commitment to the current staff, several of whom have been with the city more than 10 years. She will be ready to discuss a pay scale and benefits for new hires once the 2011-12 budget is approved.

The commissioner also said the city has a contracted building official that costs the city about \$130,000 annually. She suggested the city look at what it would cost to have its own building official, and consider hiring a building official if financially prudent.

"It's time for us to take a look at this," she said.

Woodland said he didn't want people to turn his suggestions into a "personal vendetta," and he's never suggested that. He just wants to make certain future staffing is addressed.

"Once the budget (process) is over, we'll put it on the agenda," Webb said.

Commissioners also discussed the proposed \$70,000 for the contingency fund. Quam suggested it could be reduced to about \$30,000.

The commission took no action on the proposed budget, but will meet again in a budget work session at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18.

In other business, walkable community expert Dan

Burden spoke to the commission about city efforts to obtain designation for Anna Maria as a green city.

He said he toured the city for the first time since his visit more than a year ago and was "impressed" by the addition of landscaping, the pier boardwalk and the placement of some sidewalks between vehicles and stores on Pine Avenue.

Burden suggested the city look at the interaction between motorists and cyclists on Pine Avenue because he saw some "chaos" there, with some bicyclists unsure of where to go on the street.

He suggested painting "sharrow" signs on the roadway to inform motorists they are sharing the road with cyclists, reducing the speed limit on Pine Avenue to 20 mph, adding small "mini-circles" at intersections instead of using stop signs or a full roundabout, and looking at narrowing the width of the roadway.

But the progress is impressive, he said.

"You can celebrate that you have the greenest little main street in America," Burden said.

## Proposed WMFR budget up 2.5 percent

West Manatee Fire Rescue Chief Andy Price has proposed a 2011-12 operating budget of \$5.4 million, a 2.4 percent increase from WMFR's 2010-11 operating budget of \$5,287,500.

Wages and benefits comprise 86 percent of the proposed expenses and a cost-of-living allowance increase in salaries by 1.7 percent is included, Price said.

Revenue is based on assessments to homes and businesses in the WMFR district, not ad valorem taxes.

Because of changes in the state's retirement system, some salaried positions have been adjusted to accommodate the required 3 percent contribution from an employee in the state retirement program, he added.

Price said he's also allocating funds to the facilities account to renovate Station No. 2 on Cortez Road after Station No. 1 in Holmes Beach is remodeled. The Cortez Road station needs a new roof, among other improvements and repairs, Price said.

The first public hearing on the proposed budget is scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18, at the WMFR administration building, 6477 Third Ave. W., Bradenton.

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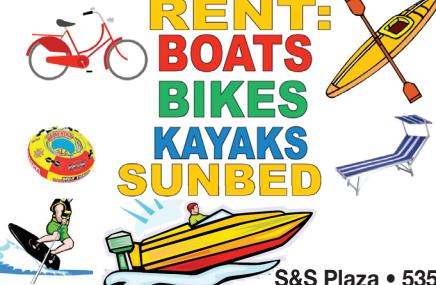
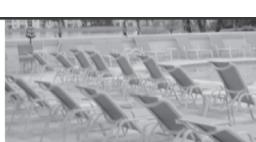
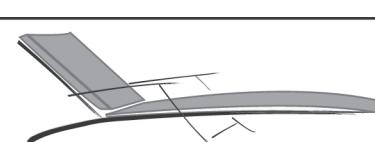
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# BB seeks publisher involvement, task force for newsracks

By Diana Bogan  
Islander Reporter

Bradenton Beach commissioners listened at their Aug. 4 meeting as *The Islander* newspaper publisher Bonner Joy shared insights and concerns regarding a proposed newsrack ordinance recommended by the city's planning and zoning board.

The proposed ordinance requires that modular newsracks, a group of boxes stacked in a single shell, replace individual newspaper boxes on public property and states that the installation of newsracks on public property must be permitted by the city. The measure also would require the removal of racks and contents that might pose a safety threat when the area is under a hurricane watch.

Newsracks — single or modular racks — on private property would not need a city permit, but would be required to be manufactured to withstand winds of 130

## Budget basics

The Manatee County Property Appraiser's office establishes the value of property.

The county commission, school board, city commissions and other levying bodies set millage rates.

The total millage rate for a property owner in a city would include the tax for the county, school board, municipality and special districts.

One mill equals \$1 per \$1,000 of property value.

Using these values and allowing for exemptions, the tax roll is completed by the property appraiser and approved by the Florida Department of Revenue.

The ad valorem tax on property is the assessment minus exemptions times the millage rate.

Tax statements are mailed on or about Nov. 1 each year.

Discounts are offered for early payment.

Taxes become delinquent on April 1, at which time interest and advertising is added to the gross tax.

mph and meet the fire district's rules.

To this point, Joy questioned how publishers were realistically going to be able to anchor a newsrack to withstand high winds, while also being responsible for removing racks during a hurricane watch. "You can't have it both ways — anchored and easily removable," she said.

She also asked the commission to consider the burden it would place on fire district resources should it be required to inspect newsracks.

The goal according to building official Steve Gilbert is to get rid of unanchored, unsightly boxes, and to put responsibility on publishing companies for costs associated with building and installing modular racks.

Joy told the commission that years ago she proposed a plan to initiate installing three modular racks a year and to maintain those racks in the Island cities, but attempts to enact a plan were stalled by other publishers.

"That was seven or so years ago and this is a different economy," she said. "Modular racks are expensive, and if you're not careful it can break the bank. We pay \$400 to \$600 each for one pocket in a modular rack, compared to \$175 to \$200 for an individual rack."

Joy said modular racks, which are made out of metal, don't have the longevity that plastic single racks do. They don't stand up to the salt air and are costly to replace, especially since you can't replace a single pocket in the rack.

"The newspaper business isn't what it was, and I'm not sure you're taking into consideration that having eight or nine rack locations in the city at \$450 each is a hardship for us," she said. Few of the publishing companies have budgets to cover that expense, she said.

Joy offered suggestions, including sharing her publishers group list with the city to facilitate contacting publishers or circulation managers whose newsracks are no longer serviceable or unsightly.

She also suggested that newsracks should be considered for locations where people are most likely going to read them, for example, near restaurants rather than

on the beach. "We watch our circulation, and we know which locations move the most papers," she said.

Mayor Bob Bartelt asked Joy if she would be willing to work with a task force and help develop a plan that would be agreeable to all parties. Joy agreed.

Bartelt said the city would form a task force and hold a special work session on the matter.

The first reading of the proposed newsrack ordinance was continued until 1 p.m. Oct. 20, with a second reading to follow at 7 p.m. Nov. 3.

In other business, the commission:

- Approved unanimously a revised sign ordinance.

- Approved unanimously a contract with WastePro of Florida to provide garbage collection for residential properties. The contract will begin Sept. 1 and expire Sept. 2, 2016.

- Approved unanimously a request for proposal for commercial and governmental solid-waste collection. Bids must be received by Aug. 15 for review and contract selection at an Aug. 18 meeting.

- Approved a 5 percent business tax increase. The vote was 4-0 with Commissioner Jan Vosburgh recused.

Bradenton Beach business owner Jo Ann Meilner questioned why she pays more than one business tax to the city for her Back Alley store on Bridge Street.

"I pay four business taxes to the city: one for selling T-shirts, one for selling coffee, one to have live music and one for beer and wine," said Meilner. "Can't I just pay one tax to operate my business in this city? Do I get more service by paying four separate taxes? We're just about licensed to death."

City attorney Ricinda Perry said that if a business is paying multiple business taxes the onus is on the business to address it with city staff. "We're approachable, and we'll fix it for you," she said.

- Approved unanimously a reduction of fines, penalties and costs incurred by the code enforcement case against the bank owned former GSR property at in the 2500 block of Gulf Drive. Commissioners agreed to accept a settlement of \$70,000.

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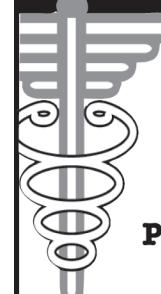
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# Island happenings

## Sierra Club seeks cleanup help

The Manatee-Sarasota Sierra Club is seeking volunteers to help with a cleanup project at Grassy Point Preserve in Holmes Beach.

Volunteers will gather at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 14, in the parking lot at Air & Energy, 3018 Ave. C, Holmes Beach.

Participants are reminded to wear sunscreen and bring water and gloves.

The clean up is scheduled to end at noon, when the group plans to gather for lunch at Mr. Bones BBQ restaurant nearby at 3007 Gulf Drive.

For more information or to volunteer, call Jim Spencer at 941-586-7463.

## Photographers exhibit at park

A photography exhibit featuring the work of Mac Carraway and Kathy Storm will be on display at the Palma Sola Botanical Park from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 14.

Admission is free. For more information, call the park at 941-761-2866.

The park is at 9800 17th Ave. N.W., Bradenton.

## Island Players host playhouse open house

The Island Players will host an open house from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 21 at the playhouse on the corner of Gulf Drive and Pine Avenue in Anna Maria.

The event is open to the public, and the theater group encourages attendance by anyone interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities.

Volunteers for Island Players act, provide scene construction, decorating and painting, work in the box office assistance and take part in the technical aspects involved with producing a play.

At 3 p.m., directors James Thaggard, Kelly Wynn Woodland, Russ Carthy and Mike Lusk will discuss the plays they will be staging in the upcoming season.

Auditions for the opening play of the season, "A Nice Family Gathering," will be held Aug. 28. The play will be staged Oct. 6-16.

Board members and staff will give tours of the back stage areas and refreshments will be served.

For more information, call Dolores Harrell at 941-778-3959.



## PandaMania at Gloria Dei

Masked vacation Bible school students at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church get in the spirit of the PandaMania theme. The kids made masks with teacher Josh Gyson. Islander Photo: Courtesy Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

## ISLAND CALENDAR

### Saturday, Aug. 13

9:30 a.m. — Family origami class at the Island Branch Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-6341.

### Sunday, Aug. 14

9:30 a.m. — Grassy Point Preserve cleanup with volunteers from the Manatee-Sarasota Sierra Club. The group will meet at 3018 Avenue C, Holmes Beach. Lunch to follow at Mr. Bones BBQ. Information: 941-586-7463.

### Ongoing:

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

Wednesdays, two hours before sunset, the city of Bradenton Beach hosts a sunset party with entertainer Mike Sales at Katie Pierola Sunset Park, 2200 block of Gulf Drive North, Bradenton Beach. Information: 941-448-5798.

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, 9 a.m., players pitch horseshoes in the pits at Anna Maria City Hall, 10005 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria. Information: 941-708-6130.

Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., view landscape painter David Dunlop's video series "Landscapes Through Time," at the Studio at Gulf and Pine, 10101 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria. Information: 941-778-1906.

Fridays, Senior Adventures Group meets for outings to various

locations. Information: 941-962-8835.

Fridays, 7 to 10 p.m., drum circle with Mike Sales and Scott Blum at Manatee Public Beach, 4000 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-526-6789.

Saturdays through Aug. 13, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., fishing for kids departing the Anna Maria Island Community Center, 407 Magnolia Ave., Anna Maria. Information: 941-778-1908. Fee applies.

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

### Off-Island:

### Friday, Aug. 12

5 p.m. — Splash Film Series: "Waterlife" at the South Florida Museum, 201 10th St. W., Bradenton. Information: 941-746-4131. Fee applies.

### Saturday, Aug. 13

4 p.m. to 1 a.m. — Benefit concert for Dan Toler at Aces, 4343 Palma Sola Blvd., Bradenton. Information: 941-795-3886.

### Sunday, Aug. 14

1 to 4 p.m. — Photography exhibit featuring Mac Carraway and Kathy Storm at the Palma Sola Botanical Park, 9800 17th Ave. N.W., Bradenton. Information: 941-761-2866.

### Coming Up:

Aug. 18, Friends Book Club, Island Branch Library.

### Save the Date:

Aug. 27, O'Connor Bowling Challenge, Bradenton.

Send calendar announcements to [diana@islander.org](mailto:diana@islander.org). Please include the time, date and location of the event, a brief description and a contact via e-mail and phone.

# Island happenings



This Dix Fun Shape surfboard is being raffled at Duffy's Tavern to promote the 26th annual Pro-Am Surf Festival and raise funds for the National Kidney Foundation. Pictured are, from left, Rich Salick of NKF, Peggy Davenport of Duffy's, Joanie Mills and Phil Salick, also of NKF. Islander Photo: Courtesy Joanie Mills

## Duffy's summer surfer special

Duffy's Tavern is showing its support of Philip and Rich Salick's 26th annual National Kidney Foundation Pro-Am Surf Festival, which raises money for NKF. The tavern staff is selling chances for a surfboard with funds going to the pro-am treasure chest.

The surfing festival, which attracts international competition, will be held Sept. 1-5 over Labor Day weekend at Cocoa Beach on the Atlantic Ocean. Several Island surfers are expected to compete.

The board was shaped by Philip Salick Jr. The tropical nose patch design was created by Stix by Dix Custom Surfboards.

Only 100 raffle tickets will be sold at a cost of \$20 each. There also are incentive prizes, such as a golf excursion and amusement park tickets. All proceeds go to the National Kidney Foundation.

Rich Salick, an inductee in the Surfing Hall of Fame, suffered from kidney disease and in 1974 twin brother Phil donated a kidney. The brothers founded the annual surfing festival to help fight kidney disease and assist dialysis patients. And Rich has since had two more sibling transplants. He presently serves on the board of NKF.

Raffle tickets are available at Duffy's, 5808 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach.



"Sailing on River"

## Palmetto Highwaymen exhibit extended

The Palmetto Historical Park and Manatee County Agricultural Museum has extended an exhibit of Florida Highwaymen paintings through Aug. 31.

Thirty-one paintings are showcased throughout the park, including several new additions to the exhibit that opened in June.

Guided tours are offered at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

The Florida Highwaymen are a small group of African-American landscape artists who began painting in the late 1950s. They sold their paintings out of the trunk of their cars, went from door to door at homes and business offices, or set up shop on a busy corner at the side of the road. Their bright and sultry images of Florida's tropical beauty sold for as little as \$20-\$30. Today their paintings are widely sought-after collectibles.

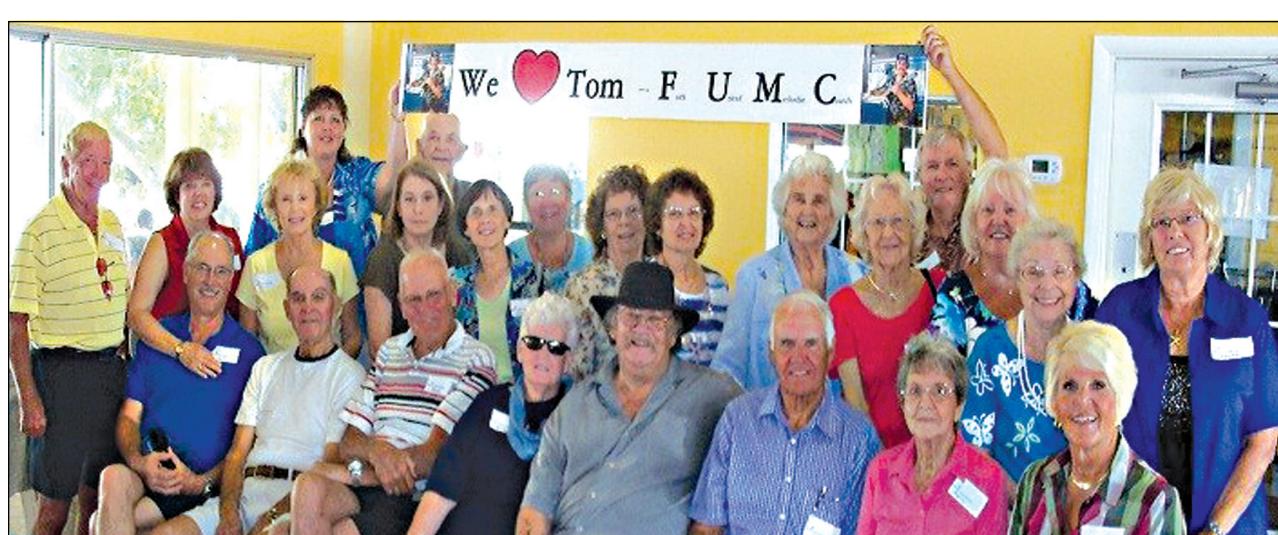
Some paintings in the exhibit are available for purchase.

For more information, call the historical park at 941-721-2034.

The park is at 515 10th Ave. W., Palmetto.

## Click!

*The Islander* welcomes photographs and notices of the milestones in readers' lives. Send notices and photographs to news@islander.org or 5404 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach FL 34217.



## Prime time for Mobley

The "PrimeTimers," a group from Faith United Methodist Church in Bradenton, gather at the Anna Maria Island Beach Cafe at the Manatee County Public Beach in Holmes Beach to listen to guitarist and singer Tom Mobley, wearing the black hat. Islander Photo: Courtesy Mitz Damstra

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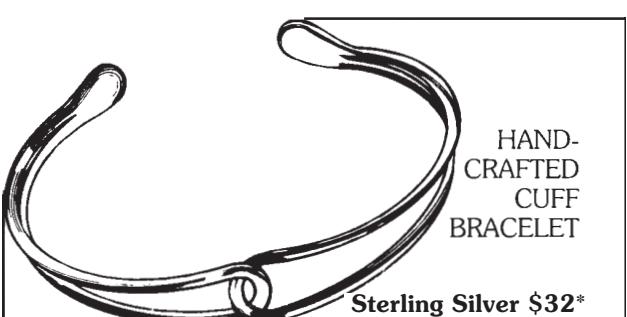
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# City election qualifying starts next week

By Lisa Neff

*Islander* Reporter

Elections for Island offices take place in November, with qualifying as a candidate this month.

In Anna Maria, three commission offices — seats currently held by John Quam, Gene Aubry and Dale Woodland — are up in November.

Quam and Woodland plan to run again for the two-year commission seats. Aubry will not run again, which he said would be the case when he campaigned last fall to complete the remainder of recalled Commissioner Harry Stoltzfus' term.

In Bradenton Beach, the mayoral post held by Bob Bartelt and commission seats held by Gay Breuler and Janie Robertson are up for election.

Breuler has said she plans to seek a second term.

Bartelt has not announced his plans.

Robertson, because of a term limit, cannot seek re-



Quam



Woodland

## 2011 ELECTIONS



Bartelt



Breuler

election, and she has raised concerns over the past year about whether any candidates will step forward for her seat.

Robertson represents Ward 3, which is bounded by the Gulf of Mexico on the west, Sarasota Bay on the east and Seventh Street North on the north. The southern boundary generally is First Street North, but the ward dips down to include the east end of Bridge Street.

In Holmes Beach, three commission offices — seats held by Al Robinson, David Zaccagnino and Pat Morton — are up.

All three incumbents in Holmes Beach plan to run for re-election.

Election Day is Nov. 8.

Qualifying dates are Aug. 15 to Aug. 26 in Anna Maria, and Aug. 29 to Sept. 2 in both Bradenton Beach and Holmes Beach.

### Election 2011

Ahead for the November 2011 election calendar:

- Aug. 15, qualifying for municipal offices opens in Anna Maria and concludes at noon Aug. 26.
- Aug. 29, qualifying for municipal offices opens in Bradenton Beach and Holmes Beach and concludes at noon Sept. 2.

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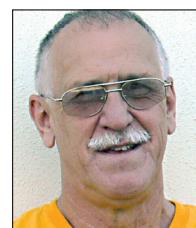
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For more information about becoming a candidate, visit the Manatee County Supervisor of Elections Office at [www.votemanatee.com](http://www.votemanatee.com) or contact the appropriate city hall.



Morton

Zaccagnino

Robinson

## Community notices, events

Attention community organization representatives: *The Islander* welcomes notices of your club and organization events, happenings and projects on Anna Maria Island and encourages you to submit photographs.

Send press releases and photos with detailed captions to [news@islander.org](mailto:news@islander.org) or 5404 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach FL 34217. Remember to include complete contact information.

## HB man challenges warrant

By Lisa Neff

*Islander* Reporter

An attorney for a Holmes Beach man accused of raiding a neighbor's dresser for panties is contesting the search warrant that led to an arrest.

Defense attorney Mark Lipinski is asking a circuit court judge to find that there was no probable cause for the execution of a search warrant and the subsequent seizure of property that led to the arrest of Ernest Kendler.

Kendler is accused of stealing underwear from two females who live near his Holmes Beach home on Neptune Lane.

A search warrant signed by County Court Judge Robert Farrance for Kendler's home authorized the Holmes Beach Police Department to collect 43 items — mostly women's underwear.

The HBPD executed the search warrant Dec. 14, 2010, and collected nine items. Lipinski said later that day HBPD returned five items to Kendler, but they kept two pairs of underwear and one pair of shoes.

Lipinski maintains that there was no probable cause to seize the items collected, which were not on the list in the search warrant, and that they should be returned to Kendler.

Kendler is scheduled to go to trial in October.

He is charged with one count of burglary to an occupied dwelling, a second-degree felony.

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# Streetlife

## Island police blotter

### Anna Maria

• Manatee County Sheriff's Office deputies issued two warnings Aug. 2 to truck drivers using Spring Avenue to reach Bay Boulevard from Gulf Drive.

The MCSO report stated both drivers said they were making a delivery to a restaurant in the pier area. The drivers were advised that they would receive a ticket if found using Spring Avenue again.

• A domestic disturbance was reported Aug. 3 at 11:45 p.m. at a Hardin Avenue residence. The report said neither party wanted to pursue any police action.

*Anna Maria is policed by the MCSO.*

### Bradenton Beach

• A 44-year-old Bradenton woman reported a sexual assault around 10:30 p.m. July 26 in the 300 block of Gulf Drive North.

• The theft of a .40-caliber Barrett semi-automatic handgun was reported Aug. 4 from a vehicle in the Leffis Key parking lot. The incident occurred Aug. 1 at around 2 p.m., but the owner of the vehicle said he waited until he had the gun's serial number from his father before reporting the theft to police. The man's father is the owner of the gun. Several other vehicles at Leffis Key were burglarized between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. the same day, police reported.

• A new 42-inch flat-screen television was reported stolen July 30 from a rental unit in the 2200 block of Gulf Drive North. The television had just been installed, according to the complex manager, and the unit had only

## County seeks dismissal of drowning suit

By Lisa Neff  
*Islander Reporter*

Manatee County is asking a circuit court judge to dismiss the crux of a lawsuit filed by the widow of a man who drowned in a personal-watercraft accident near Longboat Pass in July 2009.

The motion to dismiss was filed in late July, the response to another amended complaint against the county filed by Christie Soto, widow of Jose Medina.

### Island watch

To report information on a felony crime, call Manatee County Crime Stoppers at 866-634-TIPS.

To report information on an Island crime, call the Manatee County Sheriff's Office Anna Maria substation, 941-708-8899; Bradenton Beach police, 941-778-6311; Holmes Beach police, 941-708-5807.

In emergencies, call 911.

been vacant for a short period before the burglary was discovered.

*Bradenton Beach is policed by the BBPD.*

### Holmes Beach

• Due to a computer malfunction, police reports were unavailable.

*Holmes Beach is policed by the HBPB.*

### Cortez

• No new reports.

*Cortez is policed by the MCSO.*

*Streetlife is based on incident reports and narratives from the BBPD, HPBD and MCSO.*

Soto, in December 2009, sued the county and several contractors working on an artificial reef project for unspecified damages, alleging that the defendants were responsible for her husband's death.

Soto, in the suit, stated that Medina was driving her personal watercraft when it experienced a mechanical failure. The watercraft drifted on a tidal current from Coquina Bayside toward Longboat Pass, where a tug and barge were moored. Medina was pulled under the barge, where his life jacket became snagged.

The county, in its motion, stated that Soto has acknowledged the unseaworthiness of her own vessel, and that was the cause of the accident.

The county also rejected Soto's complaint that there are no signs warning against swimming or entering the water in the area, because Medina wasn't swimming at Coquina Bayside.

"There can be no duty to warn of an alleged danger to a participant in an activity that the decedent was not engaged in," the county motion read.

Additionally, the county argued Soto's claim that Manatee County had a duty not to obstruct navigable waters, but that it breached that responsibility by allowing the tug and barge to moor on the bayside.

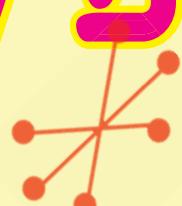
The county replied it had no employee captaining or piloting a vessel or controlling the position of any vessel.

Further, the county argued, "It is a fundamental proposition in admiralty that 'not all impediments to navigation ... violate navigational rights.'

As of *The Islander's* press time, no response to the county motion had been filed.



# Tiki & Kitty's Adventures in Shopping... Antiques, Art-Tiques and Chic Boutiques!



**J**It's summertime and the living is easy — hot and spicy. Time to get out and about in these stores for some easy shopping and cool AC.

**Plus Sizes and More** caters to women who wear size 14 and larger. Everything from casual to career to cocktail and accessories for head to toe.

### Retro Rosie Vintage Clothing and Cobwebs

**Antiques** has a great summer sale going on — all dishes are 25 percent off. Vintage lingerie also is discounted 25 percent. Plus, they have the store chock full of all kinds of fun things, so get in to check it all out.

**Tide and Moon** at AMI Plaza has beautiful silver and pearl Anna Maria Island Pendants in stock. You'll only find them at Tide and Moon because they are handcrafted by owner Laura Shely.

**Steff's Stuff** in the Whitney Beach Plaza has a great collection of vintage women's hats. Come check out what else Steff has in store for you.

**The Feed Store Antique Mall** features more than

50 indoor antique dealers and offers a wide variety of specialties, including vintage toys, furniture, collectible glass and everything antique.

This Ellenton collection of shops is one we always enjoy shopping, shopping and shopping for the ever-changing variety and unique offerings.

**What a Find!** has all manner of quality clothing, furniture and accessories as well as a great line of vintage Florida collectibles. Check it out — there are new things arriving daily. You'll soon be saying, "Wow, what a find!"

**Giving Back** in Holmes Beach is stocked full of pottery, art, furnishings, décor items and all sorts of things that didn't realize you were missing, and just have to have.

**Community Thrift Shop** is back from vacation and the owners and staff must have spent their time restocking. Their inventory has grown and all kinds of new, must-have goodies have appeared. Welcome

back, Community Thrift Shop.

**Happy shopping...enjoy.** And, please, tell our friends we sent you! — *Tiki and Kitty*



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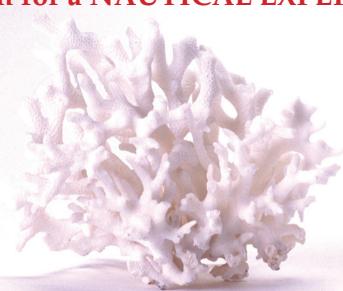
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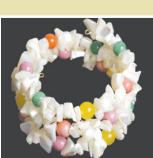


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**By Rick Catlin**

## AMI chamber's got breakfast

The Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce will hold its monthly Sunrise Breakfast from 7:45 a.m. to 9 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 10, at the Paradise Cafe, 3220 E. Bay Drive, Holmes Beach.

The cost of the breakfast is \$8 per person and members are encouraged to bring guests. Reservations are requested.

For more information on the breakfast, call 941-778-1541.

## LBK chamber's got lunch

The Longboat Key/Lido Key/St. Armands Key Chamber of Commerce will hold a bring-a-guest to lunch event from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 11, at the Holiday Inn Lido Beach, 233 Ben Franklin Drive, Lido Key.

Lunch will be served at the Sand Dollar Rooftop Restaurant, with a cost of \$20 for members and \$10 for guests.

Reservations are requested, and members are encouraged to bring a guest to the function.

For more information or reservations, call 941-383-2466.

## Realty raves

Wagner Realty, with offices at 1801 Gulf Drive N., Bradenton Beach, and at 5360 Gulf of Mexico Drive, Longboat Key, recently named Jennifer Summeralls as its top listing agent on Anna Maria Island for July.

Top sales agent honors went to Jerry Cunningham for the Longboat Key office and Beverly Moore for the Anna Maria Island office.

For more information, call 941-761-3100.

## Bucs cheerleaders root for Anna Maria

Amber Byers and Lauren Spires of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers cheerleading squad were at the Village Cafe in Anna Maria Aug. 4 to sign autographs, pose for pictures, greet fans and rally support for the Buccaneers football team.

An estimated 200-plus fans, including many vacationers, came to the cafe during the one-hour visit by the two cheerleaders.

Each of the entire 32-member squad was in Anna Maria at times last week, alternating photo shoots on the beach in the 700 block of North Shore Drive for the annual cheerleader swimsuit calendar.

The group scheduled the photo sessions and rented an accommodation in the Pineapple Fish group of home rentals, which, like the cafe, is owned by Mike and Lizzie Vann Thrasher of Anna Maria and England.

Squad manager Cathy Boyd, a former cheerleader, said only two to four cheerleaders usually attend a community event, as was the case at the Village Cafe auto-

graph signing, because, she said, 32 Buc cheerleaders the would leave little room for the public.

Boyd, who began as a Bucs cheerleader in 2001, said the annual photo shoots for the swimsuit calendar are rotated among various island communities in the Tampa Bay area. Anna Maria appears to be one of the squad's favorite locations.

"It's really gorgeous here at sunset," said Byers.

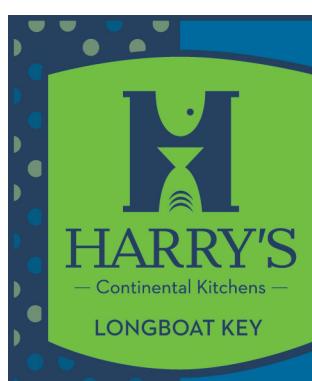
"As I was driving here the other night, I kept looking at the sunset and thinking how great it would be to have that view every night."

Spires agreed, saying the quiet, laid-back atmosphere of Anna Maria is the perfect place to relax and enjoy the sun and get away from the large crowds found at beaches in Pinellas County. "This is such a cool little town. I'm so glad we came here," she said.

The squad mostly performs at home games, but will travel with the team to London for an Oct. 23 game against the Chicago Bears at Wembley Stadium.



Members of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers cheerleading squad and a photography crew on the beach in Anna Maria last week shooting for next year's cheerleader swimsuit calendar. Islander Photo: Rick Catlin



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Tampa Bay Buccaneer cheerleaders Lauren Spires, left, and Amber Byers visit Aug. 4 at the Village Cafe on Pine Avenue in Anna Maria, with Islander Mady Iseman.



Clay Joyner joins the Buc cheerleaders Aug. 4 in a "photo op" at the Village Cafe at Rosedale on Pine Avenue in Anna Maria. Islander Photos: Rick Catlin

## Island real estate transactions

By Jesse Brisson  
Special to *The Islander*

606 Crestwood Lane, Holmes Beach, a 2,510 sfla / 3,048 sfur 3bed/2½bath/2car canalfront pool home built in 1967 on a 99x128 lot was sold 07/21/11, Evans to Mock for \$1,100,000; list \$1,395,000.

623 Ivanhoe Lane, Holmes Beach, a 3,000 sfla / 4,390 3bed/4bath/2car canalfront pool home built in 1978 on a 112x105 lot was sold 07/18/11, Cutting to Tontz for \$849,000; list \$915,000.

7005 Holmes Blvd., Unit B, Island Views, Holmes Beach, a 2,017 sfla / 3,009 sfur land condo built in 2006 was sold 07/18/11, Cayo to Wiggins for \$560,000.

682 Key Royale Drive, Holmes Beach, a 2,462 sfla / 3,042 sfur 3bed/2bath/2car canalfront home built in 1972 on a 90x114 lot was sold 07/21/11, Hunter to Bokos for \$492,000; list \$549,000.

1101 Bay Drive N., Bradenton Beach, a vacant

50x101 bayfront lot was sold 07/19/11, Moore to Freesen for \$485,000.

512 Kumquat Drive, Anna Maria, a vacant canalfront 88x145 lot was sold 07/22/11, Traylor to Hyer for \$485,000.

528 Bayview Place, Anna Maria, a 1,176 sfla / 2,073 sfur 3bed/2bath home built in 1984 on a 60x100 lot was sold 07/21/11, Ramos to Smith for \$398,000; list \$449,000.

3810 Sixth Ave., Unit 3810, Village at Holmes Beach, Holmes Beach, a 1,725 sfla / 2,593 sfur 3bed/2bath condo with shared pool built in 2002 was sold 07/19/11, Free to Rinckey for \$390,000; list \$439,000.

600 Manatee Ave., Unit 225, Westbay Cove, Holmes Beach, a 1,176 sfla / 1,438 sfur 2bed/2bath condo with shared pool built in 1977 was sold 07/15/11, Staal to Brons for \$200,000; list \$225,000.

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

## Bridge Street Bistro open-air dining plan reviewed

By Rick Catlin  
*Islander* Reporter

The Bradenton Beach Planning and Zoning Board at its Aug. 2 meeting recommended approval of a proposal from the Bridge Street Bistro restaurant at the Bridge Street-Gulf Drive intersection to create an open-air dining room in what was the parking garage under the building.

The area already is in use as a bar, entertainment and dining area based on the city's temporary approval.

But the P&Z recommendation to the city commission came with a number of stipulations and concerns, particularly about the loss of 11 parking spaces.

There also was concern about landscaping, sanitation and the use of a portable pizza oven with an open flame.

The board stipulated that all equipment had to be "in grade" to meet city code requirements and Federal Emergency Management Agency floodplain regulations.

If the P&Z stipulations are met, commissioners will be asked to approve an amendment to the planned unit development that allowed the development that houses the restaurant, as well as the Bridgewalk motel and numerous shops on Bridge Street.

The restaurant now operates the Island Time Bar and Grill in what was a parking area and provides limited dining service from its upstairs kitchen. Under the proposed amendment, cooking also would be allowed downstairs.

The city commission will take up the plan at its meeting at 1 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18, at city hall, 107 Gulf Drive N.

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## Kingfish lights coming late August

By Rick Catlin  
Islander Reporter

The Manatee County Public Works Department is awaiting six light-emitting diode light fixtures it plans to install at the Kingfish Boat Ramp and parking area to ensure night-time safety.

Manatee County spokesperson Nick Azzara said the lights have been delivered and will be installed once the fixtures arrive in late August. Work crews will be installing the electrical lines within the next two weeks.

The amber LED lights are a "required option for turtle lighting," according to the manufacturing specifications, he said.

Each light pole is 25 feet high with a 6-foot-long arm. Two poles will be installed at the boat ramp, three in the parking lot and one near the existing portable rest room.

## Island cities may cultivate fertilizer ordinance

By Rick Catlin  
Islander Reporter

Anna Maria Island's three municipalities may need to cultivate a fertilizer ordinance comparable to that adopted by Manatee County if they want to ensure they can still obtain stormwater permits from the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

At the Aug. 2 Manatee County Council of Governments meeting in Bradenton, County Commissioner Carol Whitmore, who chaired the meeting, said the county's fertilizer ordinance, which was adopted June 1, would serve as the model for a city ordinance.

Manatee County municipalities are not required to have a fertilizer ordinance, but not having one could jeopardize future participation in stormwater grants and programs from Swiftmud, Whitmore indicated. Cities can vote to "piggy-back" on the county ordinance.

The county won't implement fines for violating the ordinance until after June 1, 2012. After that date, the county would enforce the ordinance, which essentially eliminates the use of phosphate fertilizers, requires nitrogen-only or other designated fertilizer products, and restricts the number of fertilizer applications.

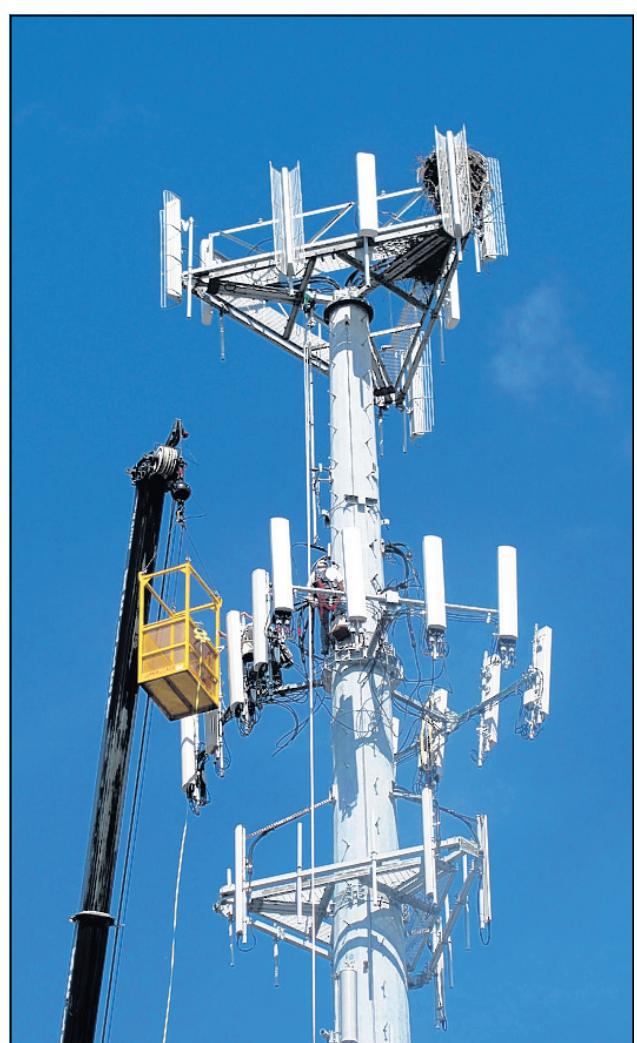
In the absence of city fertilizer codes, violations would be issued by county code enforcement officers. Any fines collected through a violation would go to the county until the cities enact an ordinance. The money collected would then go to the city.

Total estimated cost is about \$45,000, Azzara said. Holmes Beach Mayor Rich Bohnenberger said he was only slightly disappointed that the 16 lights the city had requested won't be installed, but he understood that budget constraints and the higher cost of LED fixtures reduced the total to six.

"These should work fine. At least we'll have some lighting for people at night, and the lights will be turtle-friendly," the mayor said.

Anna Maria Island Turtle-Watch director Suzi Fox said installation of the turtle-friendly lights is a "huge step for Manatee County" and preservation of sea-turtle nests and hatchlings in the area.

"Often times I hear my county is very behind on environmental efforts compared to our neighboring counties. (This) move makes me proud," Fox said, and demonstrates what is "truly good about this county."



### High wire

Workers from CrownCastle International Inc. of Tampa, owner of the Holmes Beach cell tower, work on the tower last week to modify the antenna for several carriers. Reports that the tower had been damaged by lightning were incorrect, according to Holmes Beach building official Bob Shaffer. Islander Photos: Bonner Joy

# Sea turtle hatchlings evolve as stars of the shore

By Lisa Neff  
Islander Reporter

When the sun sets on Anna Maria Island, not every shutterbug on the shore is focused on the horizon.

Sunsets are Island icons, but when loggerhead hatchlings or black skimmer chicks are in view, the focus turns to AMI's tiniest celebrities.

On an evening two weeks ago, the Anna Maria beach north of the Sandbar Restaurant was lined with people who went to the shore to watch the sunset.

But something else captured the attention of many. In a cordoned off area of the beach, there were about 300 black skimmer adults and three dozen chicks, in various stages of development, but mostly fluffy and cuddly.

When the sun went down, a lot of backs were turned away from the Gulf of Mexico and to the bird rookery.

"Aren't they adorable?" Sue Garrett of Kansas City, Mo., said of the chicks. She was photographing them, from a distance, with an iPhone, and posting to a vacation album on Facebook.

Several nights later, in Bradenton Beach, Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch and Shorebird Monitoring volunteers excavated a sea turtle nest near the Anna Maria Island Moose Lodge.

A crowd of about 70 people formed for the event, and when the excavators found a single hatchling in the nest that had lingered with the broken eggshells, the cameras came out as quickly as the "Ohhhhhs" and "Aaaaahs" were squealed.

Onlookers, equipped with smart phones, pocket digital cameras and pricey SLRs, became paparazzi. The sandy hatchling, which is about the size of a Keebler cookie, was a star.

"That's so cool," said 8-year-old John Brezniak of Bradenton. He had a pocket Canon.



"Cutest baby ever," said Mary Anne Olsen of Terre Haute, Ind. She had a Flip! video camera.

With several months remaining in the nesting season, *The Islander* collected from AMITW volunteers and professional shooters some tips — and cautions — for amateur nature photographers on the beach:

- AMITW warns that artificial light disorients, distracts and disturbs sea turtles. So photographers should turn off the flash, as well as any autofocus lights, at a nighttime hatchling release.
- AMITW reminds that people shouldn't try to touch hatchling turtles or get close to skimmer chicks. AMITW volunteers work under state permits, but it is against the law for unauthorized people to touch or harass endangered species.
- Camera pros suggest that amateur photographers



When hatchlings are found in a sea turtle nest, cameras get clicked.

at an evening nest excavation or hatchling release use the video setting on their cameras rather than the photo setting.

Video is generally easier to shoot in lower-lighting situations and still photographs can be extracted from the video.

- Use a wide angle in close situations, such as at a turtle nest excavation.
- Use a long lens setting for photographing birds, especially those in the Anna Maria colony.
- Use a high shutter speed to freeze action.
- On a digital camera, use the highest possible megapixel setting for image quality. The image can always be scaled down, if needed.
- Place a hand above the lens to block sun flare if shooting at sunset or sunrise.



## Nesting by the numbers

As of Aug. 5, Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch and Shorebird Monitoring was reporting:

Number of turtle nests: 140

Number of false crawls: 145

Number of nests hatched: 25 (1,574 hatchlings)

Number of black skimmers: 271

Number of skimmer chicks: 32

Read *The Islander* each week to follow developments during nesting season.



A hatchling loggerhead. This turtle didn't crawl from the nest with its siblings, but instead was found among the empty shells by Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch volunteers who excavated the nest several days later.

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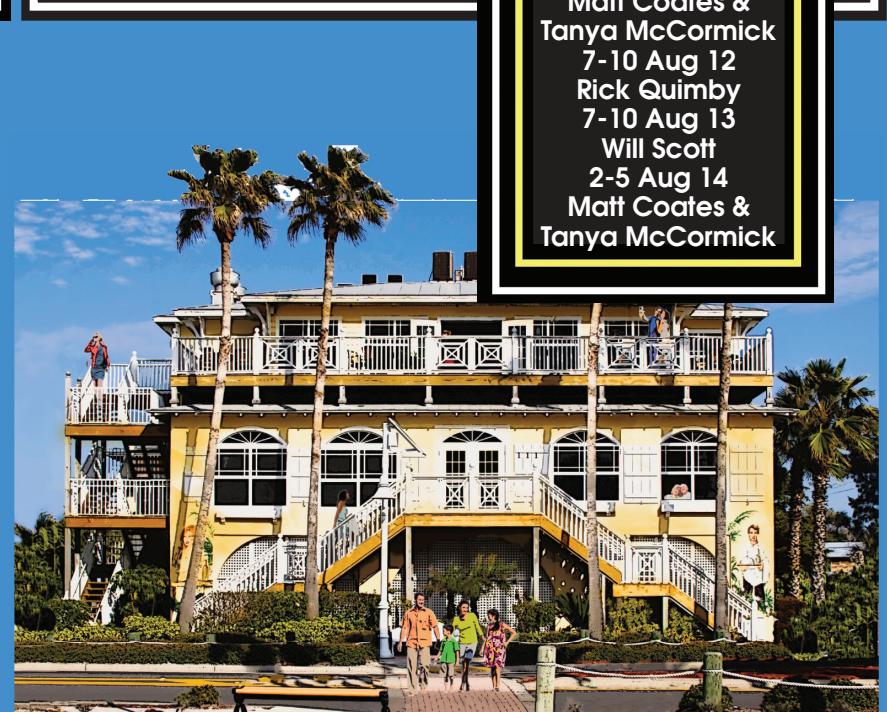
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# Beach Bum Bucs hang on for flag football win

Kevin Cassidy  
Islander Reporter

Youth soccer in the Anna Maria Island Community Center indoor league — along with student summer vacation — is winding down with the 10-12 age division playoffs starting Aug. 8 and the championship and third-place games Aug. 10.

Mr. Grout finished the season undefeated after a 14-6 win over LaPensee Plumbing Aug. 1 and Pink & Navy Boutique 15-1 Aug. 3. LaPensee finished in second place with a 6-2-1 record followed by Pink & Navy Boutique at 3-5-1 and Sandbar at 0-9.

The 6-9 age division had a shake up last week, with Fran Maxon Realty dropping a pair of games. This caused them to fall further behind first-place Island Dental Spa, which defeated Beach Bums 11-1 Aug. 1. The Spa team followed that with a 6-0 win over Southern Greens to improve to 7-1-1 on the season.

Maxon sits at 4-3-2 after dropping a 5-1 decision to Southern Greens Aug. 1, followed by the game of the week that saw Beach Bums earn its first victory of the season over Maxon Aug. 2.

Beach Bums jumped out quickly behind two goals from Tyler Brewer in the first five minutes of the game. Brewer extended the Beach Bum lead to 3-0, scoring at the 8:15 mark of the first half.

Elizabeth Laviolette finally got Maxon Realty on the scoreboard, notching her goal at the 6:36 mark and bringing the score to 3-1. But Ashton Pennell and Brewer scored goals with less than two minutes left in the half to give Beach Bums a 5-1 lead.

Laviolette wasn't finished though, scoring a goal with 24 seconds left in the half to pull Fran Maxon to within three goals.

The second half was all Maxon or, more accurately, Laviolette. She scored two goals in the first three minutes of the second half to make the score 5-4.

The two teams battled it out over the next 14 minutes with Maxon's Taro de Haan and Bums' Peyton Pennell both coming up with key saves in the goal.



Sandbar's Olivia Glavan battles for the ball with LaPensee Plumbing's Stephen Whyte during indoor soccer action at the Anna Maria Island Community Center. *Islander Photo: Kevin Cassidy*

Brewer finally broke through with 3:50 left to play, giving the Bums a 6-4 lead which stayed that way until Laviolette scored for Maxon with 43 seconds to play, completing an exciting 6-5 victory for Beach Bums.

Brewer led Beach Bums with five goals, while Ashton Pennell added one goal. Laviolette paced Maxon Realty with five goals in the loss.

## Hooke shatters record

Longtime Galati Yacht sales employee Mickey Hooke, 50, of Bradenton, competed July 16 in the New Bridge of Lions 5k Run in downtown St. Augustine.

The challenging course included 15 turns and a bridge ascent on an overcast, humid morning, but with training on his own Grassroots Running System, Hooke placed fourth overall out of 722 runners with a finish time of 17:57. He also bested the grand master's division record by 35 seconds, and shattered the master's record by 62 seconds.

## Football playoffs under way

The first round of the Anna Maria Island Community Center's NFL Flag Football League playoffs was completed Aug. 4 with no major upsets. The Martiniville Saints recorded a workman-like 34-22 win over Slim's Place Patriots, while Agnelli Pool & Spa Dolphins frolicked to a 52-12 win over Integrity Sound Redskins. The beat down was so severe, the Redskins were bypassed for a spot in the Aug. 18 "Toilet Bowl" by Sato Real Estate Browns, which lost to Tyler's Ice Cream Steelers 31-24. The Browns will play Slim's Place Patriots with a 1-7 record on the season.

The game of the week saw the Sun Panthers edge Beach to Bay Construction Buccaneers 35-31. Quarterback Scott Dell led the way by completing 20 of 26 passes for 244 yards and five touchdown passes. Tyler Bekkerus was his favorite target, catching eight passes for 117 yards, including two touchdowns and an extra point. Kevin Gregorich added 78 yards receiving, including a pair of touchdowns and an extra point. Kevin Austin finished with 36 receiving yards, including a touchdown and an extra point, while TV's famed Hell's Kitchen chef Jamie Gregorich and Emily King completed the scoring with an extra point each.

Kevin Gregorich paced the Panther defense with seven flag pulls, while Austin added six. Jamie Gregorich also chipped in with an interception in the victory.

Larry Berkery paced the Bucs with 292 passing yards and five touchdown passes. Shawn Kaleta led all receivers with nine catches for 126 yards, including three touchdowns and an extra point. Rick Gonzalez added a pair of touchdowns and 111 receiving yards in the loss.

Kaleta led the defense with three flag pulls, while Scott Eason, Gonzalez and Erin Heckler each added one flag pull.

Center standings are found at [www.islander.org](http://www.islander.org).

## Key Royale golf news

The men of the Key Royale Club played a team scramble July 28. Quenton Talbert, Tom Nelson, Rich Papini and Dale Hudson teamed up to card a 7-under-par 25 to win clubhouse bragging rights for the day.

The men played an 18-hole, individual-low-net match on July 27. Danny Hayes grabbed medalist honors with a 4-under-par 60 to edge Bob Elliott and Pieter Thomassen by two shots.

The men played a modified Stableford or quota game July 26. Mark Kimball was the individual winner with a plus seven, while Dave Johnston, Gary Duncan, Fred Miller and Dale Hudson took the team title with a plus three on the day.

## Horseshoe news

Two teams survived the Aug. 6 heat and advanced out of pool play to battle for first place in horseshoe action at the Anna Maria City hall horseshoe pits. The finals saw Hank Huyghe and Jeff Moore roll past Ron Pepka and George McKay by a 21-3 score.

Horseshoe action on Aug. 3 saw the team of Jerry Disbrow and Ron Pepka defeat Norm Good and Sam Samuels 22-17 in a see-saw final.

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.

## Adult basketball, soccer leagues start up

The Anna Maria Island Community Center is registering players age 20 and over for coed basketball and soccer leagues. Captains and sponsors also are needed.

The cost for basketball and soccer is \$75 per player and includes a team jersey. The center is accepting registration for individuals or pairs, which guarantees partners will be on the same team.

For league parity, mandatory basketball tryouts will be held at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 30, in the center gym. Games will be played on Tuesday evenings at the center.

Registration is limited to the 64 players and the fee increases to \$90 after Aug. 26.

Mandatory soccer tryouts will be held 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1, at the center field and all games will be played Thursday evenings at the center. The soccer league is limited to 90 players and the fee increases to \$90 after Aug. 26.

For more information, contact Troy Shonk at the center at 941-778-1908 or e-mail at [troy@myamicc.com](mailto:troy@myamicc.com).



Mickey Hooke, front, runs across the New Bridge of Lions in St. Augustine, setting a master's division record. *Islander Photo: Courtesy Kathy Johnson*

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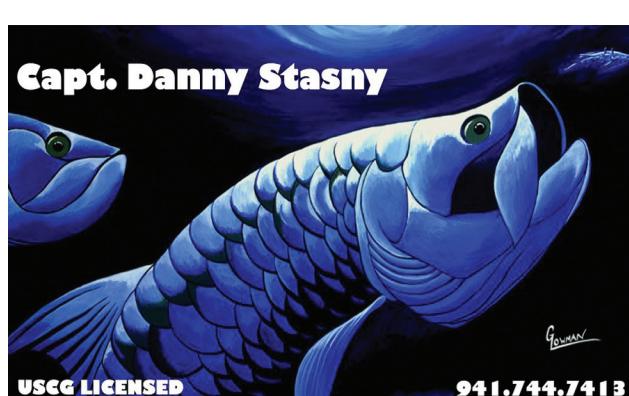


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# Stealth is key to catch weary mangrove snapper

Capt. Danny Stasny  
Islander Reporter

Fishing the back country around Anna Maria Island is following the same pattern we've seen for several weeks.

With temperatures averaging in the mid 90s and the heat index around 105 degrees, early morning fishing has been the most productive. Spotted sea trout will be on the shallower flats at sunrise, gradually work their way to deeper water as the sun gets higher in the sky. Areas with good tidal flow are your best bet to find trout in a feeding mood.

It's time now to start looking for schools of reds on the shallower flats in our area. Try looking for schools around the outside of Miguel Bay and work your way south toward Terra Ceia Bay. Gold spoons are a good way to target these fish because they allow you to cast long distances, which enables you — and your boat — to stay farther away from the fish you're trying to catch. If you get too close, you'll spook the school, which is not in your best interest since it will likely halt the bite.

Mangrove snapper are making a showing on near-shore structures, such as bridges, docks and piers. Don't pass up the opportunity to take a few of these small, tasty fish home for dinner while they are accessible for just about anyone with a hook and line. They are fairly easy to catch and make some of the finest table fare you'll find in these waters.

A No. 4 live-bait hook tied to a 15-pound fluorocarbon leader and some split shots is all you need for a rig to target small snapper. Small shiners work the best for mangrove snapper, but if you don't have a cast net to gather up shiners, try using small live shrimp.

Capt. Warren Girle is working the offshore waters for a mixed bag. Catch-and-release gag grouper have been the most abundant with the biggest fish coming in at 32 inches in length. Red grouper inhabit the same areas, but most are undersized. Of course, while bottom fishing, Girle also is catching good numbers of Key West grunts between the red and gag grouper hookups. Moving up in the water column, Spanish mackerel and bonito are being caught in good numbers on small whitebait.

Inshore, Girle is plying north Sarasota Bay for redfish and spotted sea trout. "The reds in the bay are getting smart," says Girle. "You may want to experiment a little to see what produces the best bite."

Girle is fishing shallower flats and potholes to locate the larger reds. He's finding spotted sea trout lurking on the shallower flats in the mornings, then moving to deeper water as the day goes on. Girle also is catching ladyfish and bonnethead sharks in the same areas.

Dave Sork at the Anna Maria City Pier is seeing tons of hatch bait arriving around the pier. With all of this small bait, comes mangrove snapper. "There are good numbers being caught," says Sork, "but a lot of them aren't keepers."

A No. 4-size hook free-lined and baited with a shiner is the ticket to catch some feisty little snapper. If the current is moving too fast to get a bait down, add a split shot or two. Another thing to consider when targeting mangrove snapper is your leader size. You can scale down



*Oliver Atassi of Massachusetts holds a keeper redfish he caught on live bait fishing in the bay waters of Anna Maria Island with Capt. Warren Girle.*

to at least 15-pound fluorocarbon. The less visible the leader, the better, especially when fishing for snapper at the pier. The snapper that congregate around the pier usually see a lot of different rigs and baits thrown at them, which makes them hesitant to take a bait. Stealth is the answer to catching these heavily targeted fish.

Spanish mackerel are making a showing around the pier. "Most of the mackerel are here at sun up," says Sork. "They bite for about an hour and then it's over."

Fishers looking to target catch-and-release snook are bouncing large buck-tail jigs off the bottom around the pilings of the pier. Live baits such as pinfish, lizardfish and live shiners are working, too, according to Sork.

Bob Kilb at the Rod & Reel Pier says there are still hordes of pinfish hanging around under the pier, which is making it difficult to fish with shrimp. Determined anglers are catching black drum under the pier. Fish in the 24-inch range have been the norm.

With the arrival of the swarms of small bait come mangrove snapper. Light tackle baited with small shiners has been producing good numbers of snapper in the 10- to 12-inch range. Spanish mackerel are appearing briefly in the mornings, so it you're targeting them, best to be at the pier at sunrise. Flounder also are making an appearance around the pier, with fish up to 3 pounds being landed daily.

And one pier fisher last week put on a good battle with a 6-foot hammerhead shark on his line for an hour before it chewed through the leader.

Capt. Rick Gross of Fishy Business charters is pursuing redfish on the incoming tides around turtle grass beds along the mangrove shoreline. Gross likes to locate the fish, anchor the boat a short distance away and chum with live shiners to draw the reds to the boat. "That way, you don't spook them too bad," says Gross.

Once the redfish start biting on the "chummers," you cast your bait toward the boils. This is a highly effective way to target reds, and since the bite is usually close to the boat, it's very visual, too, Gross says.

Moving out to the near-shore reefs, Gross is catching Spanish mackerel in the 24-inch range by free-lining shiners behind the boat. Gross likes to call them "baseball bat" mackerel because of the resemblance of their size and shape.

Flounder also are being caught around the near-shore structure on live shiners. You can use the same rig you're using for mackerel by just adding a No. 1 split shot a foot above your hook. Flounder up to 24 inches are being caught, although most have been in the 18-inch range. Also on the near-shore structure, Gross is finding keeper mangrove snapper, although he feels the bite has room to improve.

Jeff Medley at the south bait shop on the Sunshine Skyway Bridge Fishing Piers says fishing is really good as long you can tolerate the heat. Mangrove snapper have arrived in good numbers and are averaging 17-18 inches. Fresh-cut greenbacks are the bait of choice. Targeting mangrove snapper on the slower tides has been productive, although if the tide is running strong, Medley says you need to add weight to your rig.

Gag grouper are still dominating the bite around the small reefs around the pier. Remember you can only catch them for fun — the season is still closed. Sheepshead are beginning to show around the pier again with fiddler crabs being the ultimate bait. "We're seeing at least two to three sheepsies on every piling," Medley says. "Most of them are good-sized fish, too."

Pier fishers working away from the pier are catching decent numbers of flounder. The technique to catch these tasty flat fish is to drag a greenback, either whole or cut, along the bottom. Large schools of bait fish, threadfin herring and scale sardines, have arrived around the pier, which in turn has attracted schools of ladyfish, skipjacks and jack crevalle. Live baits, silver spoons or white crapie jigs are producing good numbers of all these of these species.

Finally, Medley says pier fishers are still hooking up tarpon around the piers. Most have been in the 60-pound range and are hitting live pinfish.

Capt. Sam Kimball of Legend Charters is fishing offshore hard bottom as well as wrecks and reefs in search of a good bite in spite of high water temps. Mangrove snapper in the 5-pound range have been the norm with a couple topping out at 7 pounds. Lane snapper are abun-

PLEASE SEE FISHING, PAGE 23

Anna Maria Island Tides										
Date	AM	HIGH	PM	HIGH	AM	LOW	PM	LOW	Moon	
Aug. 10	9:33	2.7	—	—	5:28p	0.0	—	—		
Aug. 11	12:56	1.6	10:33a	2.7	3:38	1.5	6:07	0.1		
Aug. 12	1:10	1.6	11:23a	2.7	4:41	1.4	6:39	0.1		
Aug. 13	1:23	1.7	12:05	2.6	5:32	1.2	7:05	0.3	Full	
Aug. 14	1:34	1.8	12:44	2.5	6:16	1.1	7:29	0.4		
Aug. 15	1:45	1.9	1:22	2.4	6:59	0.9	7:50	0.6		
Aug. 16	1:59	2.0	2:01	2.3	7:41	0.8	8:12	0.7		
Aug. 17	2:17	2.1	2:43	2.1	8:24	0.7	8:34	0.9		

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

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# Obituaries

## Wilma Elizabeth Bussey

Wilma Elizabeth Bussey, 93, of Holmes Beach, died Aug. 4. She was born in Urbana, Ill.

Mrs. Bussey came to Holmes Beach in 1972 from the nation's capital. She received her bachelor's degree from Florida Southern University and worked as an elementary school teacher in Belle Glade and West Palm Beach. She was an active member of Roser Memorial Community Church of Anna Maria since 1972, 75-year member of Alpha Chi Omega Sorority, Bradenton Yacht Club and Island Players, and was an avid volunteer in the local community.

She and husband Arthur traveled to destinations in each of the world's 24 time zones and to all seven continents.

A private family service is planned. Memorial donations may be made to Roser Memorial Community Church, P.O. Box 247, Anna Maria FL 34216. Condolences for the family may be made online at [www.shannonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.shannonfuneralhomes.com). Arrangements by Shannon Funeral Home Town Chapel in Bradenton.

Mrs. Bussey is survived by daughter Linda Griffin of Reston, Va., son Arthur S. III of Holmes Beach, four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

## William Benson 'Bill' Greer

William Benson "Bill" Greer, 72, of Holmes Beach, lost his long and brave battle with cancer on Aug. 5. He was born in Lewiston, Maine. He moved to Holmes Beach in 2002.

He earned a doctorate in education and was a professor at Keene State College in New Hampshire, where he earned his bachelor's degree. He taught electrical engineering and computer technology for 30 years

Mr. Greer traveled to the Philippines, where he met and married Rosita Reyes in 1986.

Mr. Greer purchased the Island Plantation, an aging resort in Holmes Beach, and eventually redeveloped the property and built La Casa Costiera, 12 luxury condominium units.

A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday,

Aug. 13, at Brown and Sons Funeral Home 43rd Street Chapel, 604 43rd St. W., Bradenton. Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society at [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

Mr. Greer is survived by wife Rosita; children Nathan and wife Kim of York, Maine, Ben and wife Becky of Estes Park, Colo., Marlon Domantay of Hawaii, Valarie and husband Brent Coleman of Zephyrhills; three grandchildren; three sisters, Sandra, Sharon Corwin and Kathleen Searles, all of Maine; and brother Barry Gould of Holmes Beach.

## Elizabeth 'Bette' P. Hamilton

Elizabeth "Bette" P. Hamilton, 76, of Holmes Beach, and Anderson, Ind., died July 3. Born and raised in Gary, Ind., she earned a bachelor's degree from Ball State Teachers College and a master's in education from Ball State University. She was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

She married James Hamilton, and was a 30-year resident of Anderson, where she raised her family and taught elementary school. Upon retirement in 1988, the couple moved to Holmes Beach.

Mrs. Hamilton was an avid traveler and reader, and enjoyed membership in the Key Royale Club.

Visitation was held Aug. 5 at Brown & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory 43rd Street Chapel in Bradenton. Memorial donations may be made to the charity of one's choice. Online condolences may be made at [www.brownandsongeneral.com](http://www.brownandsongeneral.com)

Mrs. Hamilton is survived by her husband of 53 years, James F.; brother William Paterson and wife Shirley of St. Louis; children James A. and wife Kim of Bradenton, Jeffrey W. and wife Claudia of Winter Park, Elizabeth and husband Dr. Lawrence Born of Indianapolis; grandchildren James "Bradley," Brice, Everett, Olivia, Nicholas Born, Jameson Born, John "Jack" Born and Elizabeth "Elle" Born; and step-grandchildren Lt. Cpl. Brent Rimer and wife Erica and Brandee Rimer.

*Note: Obituaries are provided as a free service in The Islander newspaper to residents and family of residents, both past and present. Content is edited for style and length. Photos are welcome. Paid obituaries are available by calling 941-778-7978.*

## Tree to be dedicated at AM city hall to Lathrop

A magnolia tree was to be dedicated at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 9, at Anna Maria City Hall in memory of Susan G. Lathrop.

The public is welcome to attend.

Lathrop died April 30. She was born April 12, 1947, in Abington, Penn.

The adult Sunday school class at Roser Memorial Community Church in Anna Maria donated the tree.

The planting, near Pine Avenue, was to take place as *The Islander* went to press.

Lathrop's family moved to Florida when she was young. She grew up in Fort Lauderdale and graduated from Florida State University.

She worked with the Manatee Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Council.

Lathrop is survived by her husband, Jim; sons Jim and wife Deirdra of St. Petersburg and Stephen and wife Jennifer of Atlanta; grandchildren Ben, Nathan and Ryan; brothers Russell Graves, Jack Graves and Dick Graves; and sister Joanna Kenyon.



### Check this out

Kylie Huffman and Caden Whitfield check out their findings during a low-tide expedition for treasures from the bay. Both youngsters will enter kindergarten at Anna Maria Elementary School in August. *Islander* Photo: Karen Riley-Love



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## FISHING CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

dant. Other species, such as triggerfish, Key West grunts and porgies, have been in the mix, which make a good variety for the dinner table. Limits of red grouper in the 24-inch range are being caught on hard bottom using shiners and pinfish for bait.

Catch-and-release gag grouper are going strong with last week's biggest fish topping out at 25 pounds. To round off the day, Kimball is catching a few kingfish and amberjack.

Capt. Mark Johnston of Just Reel fishing charters is seeing good numbers of spotted sea trout on the deeper flats of Sarasota Bay. "You really need a good moving tide to get these trout to bite," says Johnston. "Try to target areas with good water flow for best results." Johnston is fishing structure in Sarasota Bay as well as in the passes to target mangrove snapper. "There are still a lot of small ones around," Johnston says, "but you can get a few keepers if you're persistent."

Johnston is catching flounder in decent numbers around the passes over small rock piles and ledges. And as the tides rise in the afternoon, Johnston is catching slot-size redfish along mangrove edges in Sarasota Bay. He suggests chumming first to get the reds "in the mood" and begin presenting bait once they are biting.

Capt. Mark Howard of SumoTime fishing charters says the fishing is excellent as long as you take advantage of what Mother Nature presents. Shiners that hatched in June are now fishable bait and easy to catch.

Howard says redfish are scattered, but oversized copper-belly fish are cruising the flats and potholes at low tide, gulping down shiners with abandon. He suggests working potholes close to the mangrove line as the tide decreases to catch redfish as they retreat from the roots to deeper water.

The speckled trout bite is excellent in 4-8 feet of water on a moving tide, and Howard suggests using a release tool to minimize damage to the smaller trout as you work up a nice stringer of keepers.

Mangrove snapper have invaded the inshore waters and can be found just about anywhere there is structure, and Howard put his anglers on keepers in 5 feet of water over hard bottom and grass, and he found the near-shore reefs holding a lot of mangrove snapper as well.

*Send fishing reports to fish@islander.org.*

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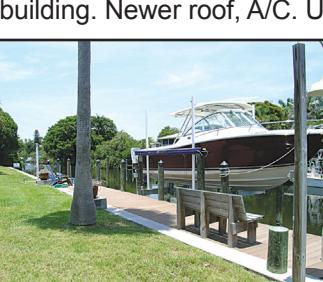
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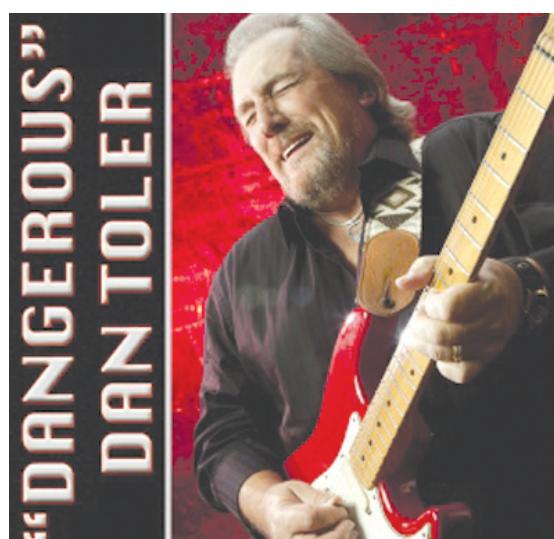
**Short-season catch**

Anglers, from left, Jeff Oney, Kurt Shepherd, Payton Oney, Mike Piermatteo, Cameron Shepherd and Justin Sparks show off a nice catch of red snapper and porgy caught during the short season using sardines for bait in about 135 feet of water offshore of Anna Maria Island on charter with Capt Larry McGuire of Show Me The Fish Charters.

**Benefit concert planned for guitarist Toler**

Local musicians are planning to perform a benefit concert Saturday, Aug. 13, for former Allman Brothers Band guitarist Dan Toler.

Island fans of the Allman Brothers Band and Dickey Betts' Great Southern Band will recall from the 1980s the



frequent appearances by Toler, his late brother Frankie Toler and the bands at local bars.

The brothers and their families, as well as Gregg Allman, lived on Anna Maria Island during that time.

The benefit will be held from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Aces, 4343 Palma Sola Blvd., Bradenton.

Toler recently disclosed that his battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, commonly known as ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease, is worsening.

In a Facebook letter to friends, family and fans, Toler wrote that he loves "doing benefits for people that need help and I never ever thought a benefit would have to be held for me. It definitely breaks my heart, but I want to thank everyone helping out with this event."

Slated to play are Greg Poulas and Friends, Mike Kach, Greg Voorhees, Frankie Lombardi, Tucci Band, Billy Rice, Jack Elka, Bill Huff, Chaz Trippy, the Dan Toler Band and many more "friends and pickers."

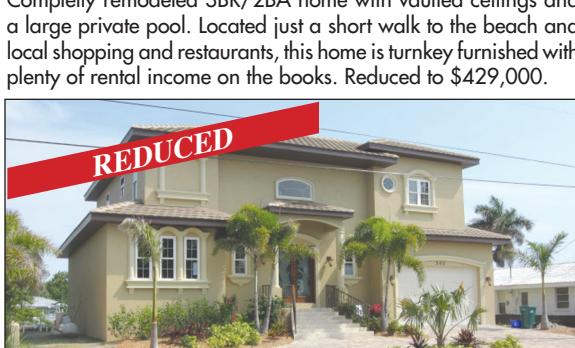
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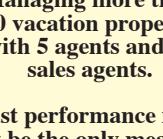
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**RENTALS Continued**

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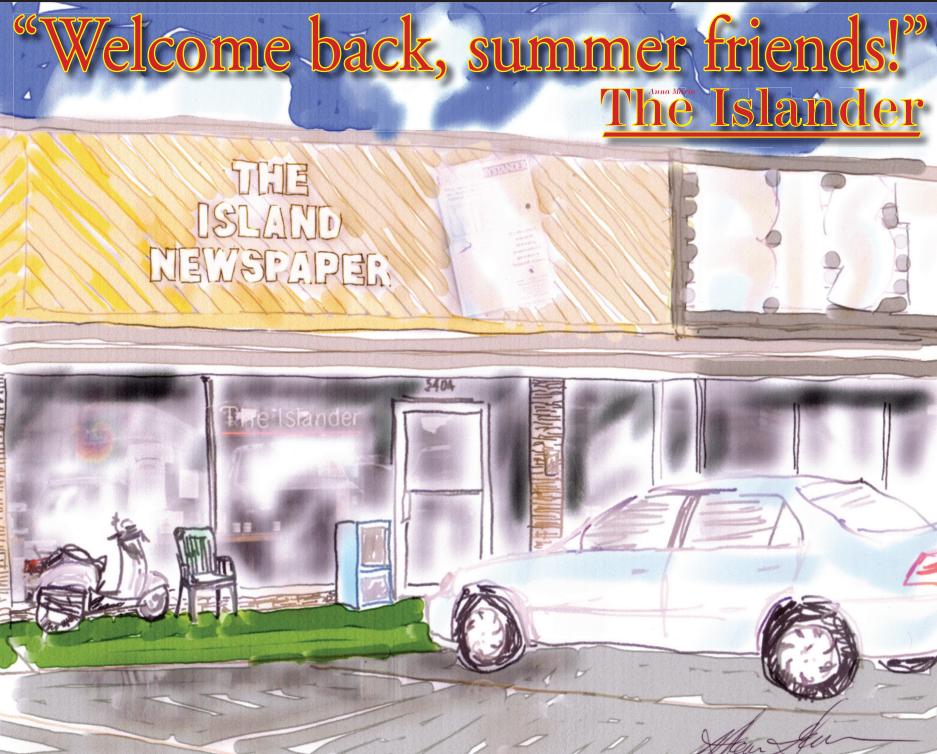
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- Across  
 1 When repeated, advantageous to both sides  
 4 71 answers in this puzzle  
 9 Get used to it  
 14 Several CBS dramas  
 18 "\_\_\_ Story: A Journey of Hope" (Jenna Bush best seller)  
 20 Expect  
 21 French toast piece?  
 22 It might be pulled  
 23 Pompeii, e.g.  
 24 Bride in "The Gondoliers"  
 25 "What the Butler Saw" playwright, 1969  
 26 Noted diamond family name  
 27 See circled letters in 76-109-Down  
 30 Restless walker  
 32 Title character in a 2009 Sandra Bullock crossword film  
 33 "Well, I'll be!"  
 34 "Told ya so!" looks  
 36 Fear is pain rising from the anticipation of \_\_\_: Aristotle  
 39 Wampum, e.g.  
 41 Endangered
- Down  
 44 ... in 119-120-Across  
 48 Sweetheart  
 50 Sweetheart  
 51 Part of a pack?  
 52 Panamanians and Peruvians  
 53 1960 Olympics host  
 54 Duel tool  
 55 Radii, e.g.  
 57 Cut  
 58 Some drink garnishes  
 59 Place for some animal baiting  
 60 Sharpness  
 62 Bit of physics  
 63 Hostess's \_\_\_ Balls  
 64 ... in 116-117-Across  
 67 Summer letters  
 70 Enter, for one  
 72 Give a hard time  
 73 Check, as one's numbers  
 76 Huntress in a game  
 79 Mounted  
 80 Authorizes  
 81 "Of thee" follower  
 82 Michael Jordan, e.g.  
 83 Conservative side  
 85 Comparison's middle  
 86 T. S. of literature  
 87 Neither more nor less, in France  
 88 ... in 39-60-Down  
 90 Item in a restaurant basket  
 92 Virus named for a river  
 94 French CD holder
- 95 Enemy of a Medici  
 97 Composition of many a cask  
 98 Techie's hangout  
 102 It may have sand in it  
 103 ... in 17-43-Down  
 109 User-edited Web site  
 110 Words on a sandwich board  
 112 Emerson's "\_\_\_ Beauty"  
 113 "The Neverending Story" writer  
 114 Upper class?  
 115 First woman to teach at the Sorbonne  
 116 "Think" or "Think different"  
 117 They're stranded, briefly  
 118 Times past  
 119 Best \_\_\_  
 120 Rear's rear?  
 121 Radiator sound
- 62 "In case you didn't hear me \_\_\_."  
 63 Add to, perhaps  
 64 Uncle \_\_\_  
 65 Brief word of caution  
 66 Wrap for a queen  
 67 ... in 12-35-Down  
 68 Big bargain  
 69 Ankle supports  
 70 Piece of work?  
 71 Even chances  
 72 Pulitzer-winning Sheehan  
 73 France from France  
 74 "Do You Hear What I Hear?", e.g.  
 75 Daily weather datum

Answers found on page 24.



- 62 "In case you didn't hear me \_\_\_."  
 63 Add to, perhaps  
 64 Uncle \_\_\_  
 65 Brief word of caution  
 66 Wrap for a queen  
 67 ... in 12-35-Down  
 68 Big bargain  
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 73 France from France  
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 75 Daily weather datum
- 77 Aoki of the World Golf Hall of Fame  
 78 Off-road specialist  
 79 2003 Affleck/Lopez flick  
 80 Century 21 competitor  
 83 "I'm listening"  
 84 \_\_\_ leash  
 87 "View of Toledo" artist
- 88 U.K. carrier, once  
 89 Word with cherry or cotton  
 91 Rush igniter  
 93 Offshore accommodations  
 96 Actors' grp.  
 99 Sally \_\_\_ (teacakes)  
 100 Show-biz father and son  
 101 Graceful word?
- 102 Program coordinator?  
 104 Vituperate  
 105 Japanese noodle  
 106 Part of AARP: Abbr.  
 107 Small: Suffix  
 108 Outlet  
 109 Mode  
 111 Strauss's "Ariadne \_\_\_ Naxos"

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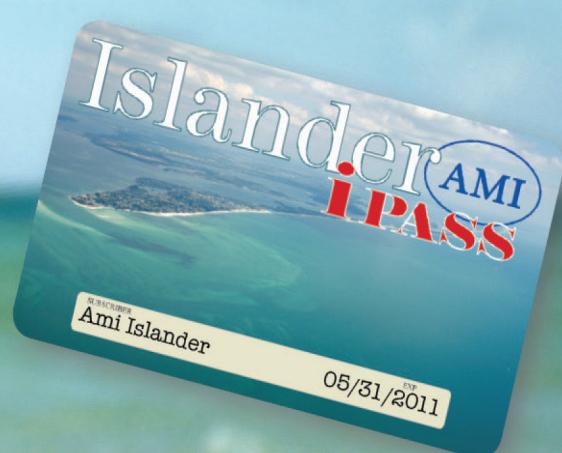
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