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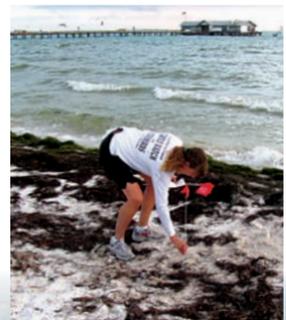
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VOLUME 21, NO. 31

JUNE 5, 2013 FREE

The Anna Maria Islander

The Best News on Anna Maria Island Since 1992

www.islander.org

Fishing lesson: Be alert, do no harm

By Bonner Joy

The scene plays out too often, according to Jeannie Bystrom, who lives on Bimini Bay across the waterway from a small spoil island that serves as a rookery for a number of species of birds.

Too often she sees birds injured by a fishing hook, stranded and unable to feed, or entangled in fishing line, unable to fly or fend for themselves.

A year ago, Bystrom and some friends managed to post some signs to advise anglers of the danger to birds who become hooked or entangled in fishing lines. They also hoped the signs would alert boaters to be on the lookout for birds in the rookery.

"When they decide to fly away, if they've become entangled in yards and yards of line wrapped in the branches, they result to flapping their wings until they die a horrible death by hanging," she said.

She had seen too many birds entangled in the mangrove trees to sit idle.

With help from some friends, they posted their signs on a waterway post with a marker to aid navigation. The post was conveniently located within a few feet of the spoil island in Bimini Bay near Galati Marine's docks and the sign is Galati's.

The signs alert anglers to take caution and



A dead brown pelican is entangled in fishing line. Another dead bird was found in April and again last week at the small rookery in Bimini Bay near Galati Marine's outer docks. *Islander* Photo: Jeannie Bystrom

to "climb a tree" if need be to save an entangled bird.

But Bystrom's signs were removed in June last year by Manatee County Sheriff's Office marine deputies on orders from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission because the agency requires a sign permit.

Bystrom also learned her sign would not be permitted.

Bystrom spotted a pelican in distress April 8 through her telescope.

"It looked perfectly normal, just sitting on a branch. I could see in the scope he had a hook in his wing. They usually don't roost in the low branches, but he was low in the tree. As soon as I paddled up, he took off and fell in the water just a couple yards from the branch he'd been standing on.

"He was tangled in line and it also was wrapped in the trees," she said.

Bystrom got the hook out, and took the bird to her husband Bill's veterinary clinic — Island Animal Clinic in Holmes Beach — where they applied a wound treatment.

Once back at her home, she released it right away.

"He took off from my dock and went right back to the rookery," Bystrom said.

"I love happy endings."

PLEASE SEE **FISHING** PAGE 3

Island resorts report summer looks strong

By Rick Catlin
Islander Reporter

Fresh from a winter season that was by many accounts the "best ever," Anna Maria Island accommodation owners and managers are preparing for a strong summer season.

"Our advance reservations are well above last year at this time," said David Teitelbaum, owner of four resorts in Bradenton Beach.

"About 70 percent of our summer business is repeat, and when the visitor checks out one year, they make a reservation for the following year," he noted.

Teitelbaum said the Memorial Day weekend was packed at his four resorts, and there has been no drop-off in June reservations.

"Usually May is a bit slow, but the Memorial Day holiday weekend was tremendous. In fact, May was one of our best ever," Teitelbaum said. "And June reservations are ahead of last year."

The summer season begins in earnest July 4, which this year is a Thursday, he said.

"We're already getting rapidly filled up for that weekend. Most people will take a four- or five-day vacation because it's a Thursday. We still have rooms, but I'd advise anyone coming to Anna Maria Island that weekend to get that reservation now, before it's too late," Teitelbaum said.

After July 4, business picks up dramatically, as August is the traditional month Florida families take a beach vacation, he noted.

"We've got no complaints about July reservations and there are a lot of advance



Beach crowds such as this one at Manatee Public Beach, 4000 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach, will be common this summer, according to island accommodation owners, who are forecasting a banner summer season. *Islander* Photo: Rick Catlin

requests for August. I'm expecting a well-above-average to excellent summer season," Teitelbaum predicted.

Eric Cairns, owner of Cedar Cove Resort in Holmes Beach, agreed. His business was great over Memorial Day weekend and summer reservations July 4 through August are 12 percent above last year at this time.

"And last year was our best ever," he said.

"We're getting calls and emails daily for room requests," he said. On May 29, Cairns had already taken 12 reservations for either July or August.

"It's getting to the point where people should make their reservations now for August, rather than wait," Cairns said.

"For a beachfront accommodation, I tell people if they want to come back next year to

book now, and many do. In fact, some book two years ahead, just to make sure they have that same room and view."

Cairns said he's got a few open slots remaining in July and August. Reservations, however, are coming fast, he noted.

"We try to work with anyone who calls in for a room. If we don't have one, we have a network we call to try and find an accommodation.

PLEASE SEE **TOURISM** PAGE 3

Memorial Day bustles

By Mark Young
Islander Reporter

Local law enforcement reported one of the busiest Memorial Day weekends in memory, but despite the large crowds converging on island beaches, the long weekend was a safe one.

Bradenton Beach Police Chief Sam Speciale said Coquina and Cortez beaches were the most crowded he has ever seen, but reported no major incidents.

"The beaches were packed to capacity," said Speciale. "I've never seen it that busy and it was one of the busiest I've ever seen, but everybody was fine, so it turned out good."

Speciale said there were no major crime incidents to report.

"We had a couple of calls on lost kids, which happens during a busy beach weekend, but it all turned out fine and there were no major incidents."

It was much of the same for Holmes Beach and Manatee Public Beach, according to Holmes
PLEASE SEE **MEMORIAL DAY**, PAGE 2

Anna Maria cell tower bids come under review

By Rick Catlin
Islander Reporter

Anna Maria's cell tower committee met May 29 to review the three responses to the city's request for proposals to build a cell tower on city property.

Building official Bob Welch chaired the meeting.

Welch previously reviewed the submittals, but committee members got their first look at the three proposals. One came from Ridan Industries of Sarasota, another from Vortex Inc., and a third from F&L LLC, a Tampa company owned by Anna Maria property owner and attorney Stacey Frank.

Most of the discussion centered around the height of the proposed towers and the payments offered.

Ridan Industries and F&L offered the city lump sum payments of \$350,000 to build a tower. Vortex offered a percentage of its net profit.

Ridan sweetened its offer when representative Jim Eatrdes, who attended the meeting, said the company also would offer a share of the profits to the city. The details could be worked out in negotiations, he said.

Only Ridan was represented at the meeting.

Committee members Tom Aposporos, a former city commissioner, and former Mayor Mike Selby were concerned about what company would actually sign the lease with the city. Each company has various entities operating that would handle construction and other phases.

Selby wanted to ensure that the company submitting the RFP would be the company signing the lease.

Another issue was height. Eatrdes said the minimum height would be 90 feet for one cell carrier, while the maximum would be 150 feet if four or more carriers use the tower.

As an example, he said the Holmes Beach cell tower in the 5900 block of Marina Drive is 150 feet high. As the novelty wore off, Eatrdes said, people hardly noticed the tower.

He said that with consolidations, mergers and buy-outs of cellular companies, he anticipated no more than four companies would share a tower in Anna Maria.

Welch said the city would like the tower at city hall, but it's ultimately up to the commission. He said a cell tower at city hall would not interfere with the shuffleboard court or the horseshoe pits.

Members Tom Crane, Aposporos and Selby agreed to email any questions they have on the RFPs to Welch, who will solicit answers.

The committee will next meet at 2:30 p.m. Monday, June 10, to discuss their inquiries and to prioritize the three companies for presentations to the city commission at its June 13 meeting.

Welch said the committee needs to know from the commission if it wants the committee to negotiate the lease, or if the commission prefers to undertake the negotiations. In any event, city attorney Jim Dye would need to be present for negotiations, Welch said.

Although the city established its cell tower ordinance in 2002, no companies applied to construct a tower until earlier this year, after consultant Rusty Monroe rewrote the city's ordinance and requirements for a tower.

Originally, the three companies had placed bids with the Anna Maria Island Community Center, but the center property is leased by the city to the nonprofit. When the center asked to amend its lease to accommodate a tower, commissioners opted for a tower at city hall.

Commissioner Gene Aubry resparked a call for a cell tower, citing the safety issue of not being able to get through to 911 in an emergency situation.

Welch recalled an incident several years ago involving a shark bite when efforts to reach 911 using a cell phone in north Anna Maria were unsuccessful because cell service was unavailable.

MEMORIAL DAY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Beach Police Chief Bill Tokajer.

"It went very well," he said. "Our officers did a good job keeping everybody safe. There were no major incidents. There were lots of people on the beach having good family fun."

Both Speciale and Tokajer said their departments wrote a lot of parking tickets over the weekend, citing illegal parking as the biggest problem of what appeared to be a record-setting holiday weekend on the island.

Based on reporting by the Manatee County Sheriff's Office deputies in Anna Maria, no major incidents took place there during the weekend.



Chief to chief

A retirement party for former Holmes Beach Chief of Police Dale Stephenson, left, was May 31 at Eat Here restaurant, Holmes Beach. Former co-workers, friends, family and appreciative residents and business owners attended. West Manatee Fire Rescue Chief Andy Price winds up his toast to Stephenson with a few WMFR signature gift items and praise for Stephenson's 26 years with the Holmes Beach department. Islander Photo: Bonner Joy

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On June 2, Jeannie Bystrom found two pelicans in the Bimini Bay rookery, one of them tangled in this lure, hook and line — and was able to free them both.

FISHING CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, when she returned to the rookery to remove the fishing line from the tree, she found a dead pelican hanging from a branch. “No more happy ending,” she concluded.

The scenario was repeated Memorial Day weekend, and Bystrom boated over to the rookery, climbed a mangrove tree and released a brown pelican “whose legs were tied to the branch.” But another one wasn’t so lucky.

On June 2, Bystrom successfully cut line and hooks and released two entangled pelicans at the rookery.

A conversation in April by phone and email moved through the FWC, back and forth between The Islander office and Bystrom, and it may soon move things in the right direction.

Amy Clifton viewed Bystrom’s image of the regulated sign and the post, and said she would make inquiries as to how the agency might post a warning sign near the rookery.

It then moved to Ryan Moreau of the waterway management unit, who offered some suggestions for signage at the rookery.

Bystrom is working with Moreau on appropriate language to encourage anglers to be responsive and responsible stewards of the rookery.

Meanwhile, she stays on alert, saving one bird at a time.

TOURISM CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

We know how much people want to be on the island,” he said.

There are always some families and vacationers that come to Anna Maria Island on impulse, said Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce vice president Deb Wing.

“That’s where we come in. We keep an inventory of available rooms, whether it’s a minimum three-night stay or just an overnight accommodation,” Wing said.

“I will say that I’ve had nothing but positive reports from members about advance reservations for the summer, and most said May was much better than the



Sign help sought

Jeannie Bystrom’s signs in the waterway alongside a bird rookery in Bimini Bay adjacent to Galati Marine were removed, but new signs soon may be installed to alert anglers to wildlife. Islander Courtesy Photo

past.”

For the August vacationer, Wing suggests getting on the telephone now or sending an email now to get a reservation.

“All indications are August is going to be a banner month, maybe the best ever August we’ve had. In my opinion, if May is any indication, the summer season is going to be way above average,” Wing predicted.

Mark Davis of Harrington House Bed & Breakfast Inn in Holmes Beach, said reservations for July and August have been coming at a “good and steady” pace.

“It couldn’t be better. It looks like it’s going to be a terrific summer, and May was well ahead of what we expected,” he said, although he does have a few single nights remaining in July and August.

“I don’t think they will last long,” he said.

Rebecca Barnett of AMI Vacations said summer visitors might have better luck if they plan a minimum week-long stay.

“We have a few vacation rentals left in July and August. They are going fast, but they are nice accommodations,” she said.

Deb Meihls of the Bradenton Area Convention and Visitors Bureau was pleased to learn of the visitor boom to the island for Memorial Day weekend and the coming summer.

It’s all in keeping with Anna Maria Island being that old Florida destination that families and others seeking peace and quiet are looking for.

“People everywhere now realize what a great family vacation this is. Even people who just want to get away and enjoy themselves come here. It’s the old Florida atmosphere you can’t find anywhere else but on Anna Maria Island that brings them, and they keep coming back,” she said.

Accommodation assistance
 The Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce is ready to help visitors to Anna Maria Island who arrive without a reservation and are unable to locate suitable accommodations.
 For assistance, visit the chamber office at 5313 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach or call 941-778-1541.

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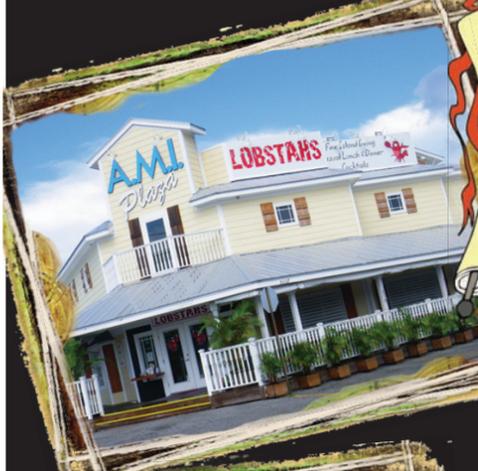
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Holmes Beach police to crack down on illegal street parking

By Mark Young
Islander Reporter

Memorial Day weekend on the island proved to be one of the busiest weekends of the year for tourists flocking to the beaches.

At times, traffic to the island was reported to be backed up all the way to the intersection of Manatee Avenue and 26th Street in Bradenton.



Tokajer

Parking on Anna Maria Island for beachgoers is always an issue, but never more challenging during certain times of the year than a holiday weekend. With limited parking opportunities, comes a mindframe for some motorists to park in any open space, even where it's illegal.

A popular spot to do just that is along Manatee Avenue leading from the traffic light at the Manatee-East Bay Drive intersection into the public beach.

According to Holmes Beach Police Chief Bill Tokajer, enforcing illegal parking is going to be taken seriously as a safety issue.

"This weekend was very bad," Tokajer told commissioners at a May 28 city commission meeting. "We've put up 'no parking' signs on the north side of Manatee (Avenue), but people were not just parking on the right of way, they were parking on the sidewalks and in the bike lanes."



Parked vehicles line Manatee Avenue in Holmes Beach between the sidewalk and the road at Easter, before the city posted "no parking" signs on the north side of the road. *Islander File Photo*

Tokajer said that forces pedestrians and bicyclists into the road and that is an "unacceptable" safety issue.

"Every single person received a parking ticket," said Tokajer. "We wanted to make it clear that there is no parking on this side of the road. People were saying they didn't see the signs. Well sorry, they are there."

Commissioner David Zaccagnino said part of the problem is that people coming to visit the island view it "like going to a Bucs or Rays game. They look at it like

paying to park, so they don't mind paying a \$20 ticket knowing they have a parking spot for the day."

Tokajer is recommending additional "no parking" signs, but also wants to add signage that the right of way on the north side of Manatee Avenue will be a tow-away zone.

"I think if people understand that they could return from the beach to find their car gone and have to pay a couple of hundred dollars to get it back, that would be a good deterrent," he said.

Commissioners agreed, saying they liked the idea, and also suggested looking at a way to increase parking fines.

Tokajer suggested a step system where a second ticket would cost substantially more, but said a "tow-away zone will definitely get their attention. The bottom line is that it's against state law to park there and the people who are ignoring that law are putting lives in jeopardy.

Tokajer said his department also will begin enforcing other state laws such as no parking within 25 feet of an intersection or crosswalk.

"There's a visibility issue when someone parks too close to a stop sign or crosswalk and it becomes a safety concern," he said.

Meetings

Anna Maria City

- June 12, 6:30 p.m., EEEEC.
- June 13, 6 p.m., city commission work session.
- June 27, 6 p.m., city commission.

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

Bradenton Beach

- June 6, 1 p.m., pier team.
- June 6, 1:30 p.m., CRA/CIP.
- June 6, 7 p.m., city commission.
- June 12, 10 a.m., special master.
- June 18, 1 p.m., city commission/audit report. TENTATIVE

TENTATIVE

- June 20, 1 p.m., city commission.
- June 26, 2 p.m., planning and zoning.

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

Holmes Beach

- June 11, 7 p.m., city commission.
- June 13, 7 p.m., city commission work session.
- June 20, 10 a.m., code enforcement.
- June 25, 7 p.m., city commission. CANCELED
- June 27, 7 p.m., city commission work session.

CANCELED

Holmes Beach City Hall, 5801 Marina Drive, 941-708-5800, www.holmesbeachfl.org.

Manatee County

- June 5, 1:30 p.m., county budget.
- June 10, 9 a.m., county budget.
- June 11, 9 a.m., county budget.
- June 13, 9 a.m., county budget.
- June 13, 6 p.m., county budget hearing.
- June 18, 9 a.m., county commission.

Administration building, 1112 Manatee Ave. W., Bradenton, 941-748-4501, www.myanatee.org.

West Manatee Fire Rescue

- None scheduled.

Administrative office, 6417 Third Ave. W., Bradenton, 941-761-1555, www.wmfr.org.

Of Interest

- June 5, 7 p.m., town hall meeting on June 18 ballot referendum, Holmes Beach City Hall.
- June 8, early voting begins for special county referendum.
- June 17, 2 p.m., Island Transportation Planning Organization, Bradenton Beach City Hall.
- June 18, Manatee County ballot referendum on sales tax and tax incentives.
- June 19, 3 p.m., Coalition of Barrier Island Elected Officials. TBD.
- June 24, 9:30 a.m., Sarasota/Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization, University of South Florida-Sarasota-Manatee, Selby Auditorium, 8350 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota.

Send notices to calendar@islander.org and news@islander.org.

Updated HB parking ordinance heads to planners

By Mark Young
Islander Reporter

Holmes Beach city planner Bill Brisson presented a draft ordinance to commissioners at a May 30 work session that tightens parking requirements for new restaurants.



Brisson

Commissioners previously provided a consensus to change the parking ordinance from one-parking-space-per-five indoor seats to one-space-per-three indoor seats for any new restaurants in Holmes Beach.

The change reverts the ordinance back to language before it was changed in 2010 by a previous commission to create a more business-friendly environment.

The proposed changes will only apply to restaurants and assembly hall-type structures.

Brisson said the draft ordinance he presented contained only the changes the commissioners wanted.

Commissioners discussed in length how the ordinance would apply to outdoor dining. Currently, there are no limits placed on parking for outdoor seating. Commissioners Marvin Grossman and Judy Titsworth expressed a desire to have that changed.

Brisson said he could add language to the ordinance, but it would then have to go before the planning commission because it would be a change to the land develop-

ment code.

Brisson suggested commissioners address outdoor dining when the commission updates the LDC.

"When you update the LDC, there are a lot of gaps in the code and it has been that way for years," he said. "You need a more expansive use of listings and parking requirements. Right now, you have to rely on the fire marshal to determine maximum capacity."

Grossman suggested the new language state outdoor dining areas may have eight seats without parking requirements.

"Anything after that would have to adhere to the same requirements as indoor dining we are proposing, which would be one parking space for every three seats."

Brisson said he would need a consensus. Commissioners agreed to the proposed language, except for Commissioner David Zaccagnino, who has opposed changes to the parking requirements.

Commissioners have sought changes to help alleviate parking problems, but Zaccagnino said the changes would only make it more difficult for local restaurants. He said it would do nothing to alleviate the city's problems.

Commissioners also agreed to send the ordinance with the proposed changes to the planning commission without reviewing them.

See related restaurant parking story online at www.islander.org

Agnelli v. Peelen awaits hearing in appeals court

By Rick Catlin
Islander Reporter

The libel lawsuit filed by John Agnelli Jr. against Holmes Beach Commissioner Jean Peelen is now with the



Peelen

Florida 2nd District Court of Appeals, although no date to hear the case has been set.

Peelen, represented by Florida League of Cities attorney Jay Daigneault, filed the appeal March 19 after the lower court dismissed her claim she is immune from a libel suit while in the performance of her duties as a commissioner.

Agnelli's lawsuit was filed Oct. 9, 2012, following an email newsletter sent by Peelen to some of her constituents in which she named John Agnelli Jr., instead of his son Frank, as a contributor to incumbent commissioners.

Peelen's email states, in part, "John Agnelli, who is a business associate of Shawn Kaleta's and who has been cited for construction deficiencies and/or been before the code board more than once, gave \$500 to each incumbent."

Agnelli sued on the grounds he was libeled by Peelen, that his reputation harmed and he has lost business because of Peelen's email.

In February, Peelen asked Circuit Court Judge Diana Moreland to dismiss the case on the grounds she was acting as a commissioner and is exempt from libel lawsuits.

Moreland, however, ruled against Peelen, stating that "the 'nexus' that is required between Jean Peelen making defamatory statements concerning John Agnelli Jr. and her position as city commissioner is lacking in the above-styled action."

On March 19, Peelen appealed Moreland's decision to the 2nd DCA, where the matter now sits. An appeals court clerk said she had no instructions from the justices to schedule a hearing.

Agnelli has asked for a minimum of \$15,000 in damages in his suit.

Bradenton attorney Peter Mackey represents him.

Socializing

The Islander has an active Facebook community of more than 2,200 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.

The Islander also allows comments on stories online.

Holmes Beach unplugs outdoor music venues, events

By Mark Young
Islander Reporter

The Holmes Beach outdoor dining ordinance allows only unamplified music if played outdoors, but the ordinance has typically been enforced on a complaint-by-complaint basis.

Following a consensus by commissioners at a May 30 work session, musicians playing outdoors are required to unplug, and HBPD Chief Bill Tokajer was directed to enforce the ordinance.

The consensus came after a discussion on the city's noise ordinance, which has not been updated since 1978, according to city attorney Patricia Petruff, who called the ordinance "archaic."

The issue became known after residents living near the city field adjacent to city hall complained about loud music during recent events.

Mayor Carmel Monti noted that even language in the city's outdoor dining ordinance that addresses amplified music contains varying language that allows up to 110 decibels at the city field, while businesses are required to keep decibel levels at 60.

"We need more consistency and I feel like it needs more discussion," said Monti. "We are the worst offenders by allowing the park to broadcast at 110 decibels."

Commission Chair Jean Peelen brought to light that by law, there is to be no amplified music outdoors.

"We just never enforced it," she said.

Tokajer said he needed guidance in how to enforce the noise ordinance because it does not address times, decibel levels or a form of measuring distance from a complainant to the offending source of noise.

"Right now, the code says outdoor dining can't have amplified music," he said. "Is that something you want enforced and, if not, then you need to change it."

Petruff suggested she and the chief work together to research other noise ordinances "to figure out what is your goal and get you to your goal in a manner that won't be challenged in court."

Petruff said it's a freedom of speech issue and noise ordinances can be difficult to get right.

Monti said he would like to see the commission start from scratch.

"We are dealing with an archaic system," he said.

"We need to have consistencies and agreement. We need a clean slate and create an ordinance to deal with noise."

Commissioner Judy Titsworth said her goal is likely similar to other Holmes Beach citizens.

"My goal is to not to have to listen to anyone else's playlist when I'm at home," she said. "As a commissioner, I'm embarrassed because we are the biggest offenders. My goal is to quiet us down."

The city allows nonprofits use of the city field for events, which often feature live bands up to 10 p.m., the allowed time in the ordinance.

Titsworth said a problem with continuing to handle noise on complaint-by-complaint basis is that enforcement becomes picking and choosing between one business and another "when everybody should have to follow the same rules."

Peelen said it appeared there was a consensus that the noise ordinance needs to be updated, but said too many opinions from commissioners would dilute the process.

She suggested the mayor, Tokajer and Petruff work together to present solutions to the commission.

"But all the rules of the current ordinance will be enforced until changes are made," said Monti.

Tokajer asked if enforcing the limit on outdoor amplified music was to be included and Monti said, "Yes."

The announcement affects the owner of Barefoot Tiki Bar & Cafe Nicole Heslop, who appeared before the commission to ask for a change in the land development code to allow amplified music outdoors.

Heslop said the business, 5704 Marina Drive, has found new life since introducing live music in January. She said without the music, she would likely have to close the doors to the property after 20 years of trying to give it purpose.

"I come to you on bent knee to ask for your support," she said.

According to public comment, the majority of complaints about the Barefoot Tiki Bar are coming from one person.

Monti said he would take a closer look at the complaints, but his final word was to enforce the ordinance until permanent changes are made.

Scott's Garage Band performs in April in the gazebo at the Holmes Beach city field adjacent to city hall at an event — Cityfest — sponsored by the Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the city in celebration of the city's heritage.
Islander Photo: Bonner Joy



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Our Opinion

Flotsam and jetsam

According to Wikipedia, flotsam, jetsam, lagan and derelict describe specific kinds of shipwreck in maritime law. The terms have legal consequences as far as marine salvage goes.

Flotsam is floating wreckage of a ship or its cargo. Jetsam is part of a ship, its equipment, or its cargo that is purposefully cast overboard — jettisoned — to lighten the load in distress and that sinks or washes ashore.

Lagan is cargo lying on the bottom of the ocean, sometimes marked by a buoy, which can be reclaimed. Derelict is cargo — also on the bottom of the ocean — for which there is no hope of reclaiming.

Years ago, we often referred to debris on the beach as “Skyway Bridge flotsam.” We had no way of knowing how items washed up, of course, but we blamed the ship that crashed into the bridge in 1980 for many years after for any trash on the beach.

There is, however, another culprit to blame for flotsam and jetsam on our shores. It’s us. People. We did it. By purpose or by accident, there seems no end to the garbage we find in the Intracoastal Waterways and on the beaches and along any of the mangrove-covered shoreline that this far survives development.

There’s no end to the damage it causes, especially to wildlife.

Take for instance, the brown pelican. It’s the most well known of the birds in our coastal area. It’s most revered for its feeding habits, diving on prey, quickly settling and draining the water from its pouch, then gulping down whole fish.

It’s also this instinct that gets pelicans in trouble. Surely there isn’t a day that goes by without a pelican stealing the bait from a hook and line in the water at any of the piers on Anna Maria Island. And the next thing you know, the angler has hooked a big bird with an average 1-foot-long bill and 6- to 8-foot wingspan.

Neither the angler nor the bird are happy.

But fishing at the piers has a slight advantage in this circumstance, because there’s a likelihood someone with experience on deck can help retrieve the line, remove the hook and spare the bird a horrible death.

Sadly, that’s not always the case, as you can see from this week’s article about a one-woman effort to rescue pelicans and other birds entangled by fishing line in branches in a rookery in Bimini Bay — and the not so lucky birds she finds there, too.

Birds and other marine life ingesting or entangled in fishing line face starvation and death.

So be responsible anglers and be prepared to save a bird if you hook one, and don’t discard or leave monofilament line in the water.

Don’t be derelict. Do the right thing.



Your Opinion

Priorities

Memorial Day weekend was beautiful with low humidity, clear skies and absolutely perfect beach weather.

On May 26, I had the privilege of being in a boat coming from the Gulf of Mexico into Longboat Pass at the north end of Sarasota Bay. The tide was going out, fiercely ripping westward into the Gulf of Mexico.

In order to overcome the outgoing tide, the throttle was almost fully engaged in our 17-foot boat with a 115-horsepower motor. Yet, as I looked toward Coquina Beach, the area where a young child lost his life a few weeks ago, I saw a woman reading, entranced in a magazine, leaning up against the “No Swimming” sign.

She appeared oblivious — if those were her children swimming in the water.

I had grave concerns for those preschool children.

Why, with all the law enforcement boats that I saw, pulling over captains for whatever reasons, didn’t any officers issue a ticket or, more appropriately, file child endangerment charges?

This drowning (and it will happen) will rest on the shoulders of law enforcement officers, who were too busy pulling over a boat to verify it has a working horn, while ignoring childrens’ welfare.

Really? Where are their priorities?

Lois Huntington, Holmes Beach

Do we really want more?

After a beach walk Memorial Day weekend, I must complain that Elliott Falcione of the Bradenton Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, Mary Ann Brockman of the Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce, David Teitelbaum of all those resorts, Ed Chiles of all those restaurants et al., and Carol Whitmore and her fellow Manatee County Commissioners, are apparently falling well short of their responsibilities.

My wife and I observed at least two places on the beach where the canopies and beach blankets full of

visitors were not two- and three-deep, and farther north on the shore, there were even unoccupied spaces of several feet in length between the visitors. A beachwalker could almost manage a few steps between clusters of beachgoers

We obviously need to redouble our marketing efforts at once! As long as there is a human being on the planet who has not yet been lured to Anna Maria Island, there’s a dollar not going into the pockets of island businesses. We are losing market share, admits Falcione, if we’re not marketing our island day and night to lure ever larger crowds — with their beer and their cigarettes and their boom-boxes — to our beaches.

We can’t be letting Orlando and Daytona and Fort Lauderdale and Malibu and Honolulu get the jump on us — we need our leaders, elected or self-appointed, to work harder to make this place the ultimate tourist destination, no matter how unpleasant this makes conditions for island residents. (They’re just a bunch of complainers anyway.)

Let’s try harder, marketers. There’s still money to be made, tourists to entice, still more cars to clog our roads! What are we waiting for?

John Scott, Holmes Beach

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.

The preferred method is to send letters by e-mail to news@islander.org or mail to 5404 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach FL 34217. Online readers may comment on top stories on The Islander website at www.islander.org.

The Islander also has an active Facebook community of more than 2,500 users with updates daily. “Like” us online.

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Center announces summer camp plans

The Anna Maria Island Community Center, 407 Magnolia Ave., Anna Maria, will host summer camp June 10-Aug. 14.

The center charges a \$15 registration fee, a \$30 membership fee plus costs to attend camp sessions. Discounts are available for pre-payment.

There are no camp sessions July 4, Aug. 15 and Aug. 16.

Campers sign up by the week and by sessions each week.

A look at the camp calendar:

• Week 1, June 10-14, soccer sports camp, \$65; Peter Pan creative camp, \$65; field trip to Air Heads, \$35.

• Week 2, June 17-21, dodge ball sports camp, \$65; princesses creative camp, \$65; golf (two weeks), \$80; football fundamentals, \$80; sailing, \$150, field trip to Chuck E. Cheese, \$25.

• Week 3, June 24-28, gym sports camp, \$65; The Incredibles creative camp, \$65; golf (two weeks), \$80; field trip to an ice skating rink, \$30.

• Week 4, July 1-5, kickball sports camp, \$50; The Lion King creative camp, \$50; swimming, \$60; field

trip to a bowling alley, \$25.

• Week 5, July 8-12, college sports, \$65; Finding Nemo creative camp, \$65; baseball, \$85, trip to a Tampa Bay Rays game, \$35; trip to the Florida Aquarium, \$35, plus pre- and post-camp sessions.

• Week 6, July 15-19, dodge ball sports camp, \$65; cats and dogs creative camp, \$65; drama (two weeks), \$120; golf (two weeks), \$80; field trip to the Museum of Science and Industry in Tampa.

• Week 7, July 22-26, Olympics sports camp, \$65; Toy Story creative camp, \$65; drama (two weeks), \$120; golf (two weeks), \$80; field trip to Dinosaur World, \$30.

• Week 8, July 22-Aug. 2, Frisbee camp, \$65; Tarzan creative camp, \$65; field trip to Lowry Park Zoo, \$35.

• Week 8, Aug. 5-9, beach sports camp, \$65; Bug's Life creative camp, \$65; basketball, \$80; field trip to Glazer Museum, \$30.

• Week 9, Aug. 12-14, center olympics, \$25; Chuck E. Cheese field trip, \$25; fun day, \$25.

For more information, call the center at 941-778-1908.



Kids had fun and learned to sail at the Anna Maria Island Community Center 2012 summer camp. Islander File Photos

The Islander

10 years ago

Headlines from the June 4, 2003, issue of The Islander

• Lifelong Cortez resident Danny Mora was killed when the ultralight plane he was flying crashed into the Gulf of Mexico just offshore from Bradenton Beach. A passenger in the plane, Robert Duncan, 28, of Bradenton, also was killed. Witnesses said Mora, 37, was doing loops when a wing collapsed, dropping the two men and the aircraft about 100 feet into the water. Efforts to revive the men were unsuccessful.

• Holmes Beach Mayor Carol Whitmore expressed disfavor with the prospect of a new ordinance that would raise the height of new building construction from 37 feet to 49 feet. The commission was discussing a new height at the suggestion of the building official, who said the mean high-water mark in the city varied as much as 12 feet and new construction might not conform to 37 foot-mark as established by the city.

• Bradenton Beach's Scenic Highway Corridor Management Entity for Gulf Drive recommended the city commission approve a proposal to remove about 40 signs from the Gulf Drive right of way. Most of the signs state "No Parking on Right of Way" and contribute to sign clutter, the police chief said.

TEMPS AND DROPS ON AMI

Date	Low	High	Rainfall
May 26	66	89	0
May 27	65	92	0
May 28	71	93	0
May 29	72	92	0.02
May 30	72	93	0
May 31	73	92	0.53
June 1	75	87	0.7
Average area Gulf water temperature 83.3			
24-hour rainfall accumulation with reading daily at approximately 5 p.m.			

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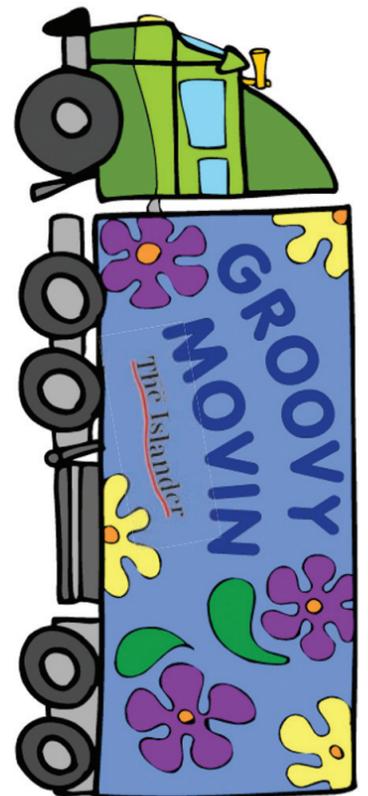


of packing, packing, packing!

After 21 years in the same Holmes Beach shopping center, we're moving. We're cleaning house and spiffing up ... getting ready to dish up the best news on Anna Maria Island for another decade or two from a groovy new location. The Islander will be at its present location for another week, but look for us at 5604-B Marina Drive, across from the library, on June 10. Oh, and stop by and check out our sale at 5404 Marina Drive, before the move.



The Islander



Guest Opinion

The truth about Manatee's proposed sales tax hike

Guest Opinion

By Ed Hunzeker

Manatee County Administrator

As you form an opinion on the health care surtax before the June 18 referendum, you should begin with several facts.

First, know county government is now paying for community health care costs to the tune of about \$24 million each year. It's a necessary expense that goes to pay for inmate medical expenses, a state-mandated matching Medicaid payment to the state, mental health and substance abuse treatment and to partially reimburse local hospitals and physicians for the care provided to the working poor in our community.

A second important point to consider is that we already pay for these costs using about \$14 million a year in property taxes and \$9 million from a dwindling health care fund that currently sits at about \$20 million. For the better part of 30 years, Manatee County has had the good fortune to supplement its local health care costs with a fund that came about when the county sold Manatee Memorial Hospital in 1984.

That fund will expire in 2015 and county commissioners have said they're not willing to risk jeopardizing quality health care access in Manatee.

With very few options, the commission opted to allow voters to decide whether to impose a half-cent sales tax that can only be spent on community health care costs. A family of two with an annual income of \$40,000-\$50,000 will pay about \$52 more in sales tax per year based on IRS tables.

So why a sales tax? First of all, it's one way to ask the entire community — and visitors to Manatee County — to pay rather than asking property owners to foot the entire bill. What's more, a sales tax will bring in almost enough to cover all indigent health care costs, so the county can reduce its reliance on property taxes and, as proposed in next year's budget, lower property taxes,

especially for homeowners on the island.

Lower property tax rates are certainly welcome news for any local homeowner, but they also will mean Manatee County no longer has one of the higher county property tax rates on the Gulf Coast. Lower property taxes will no doubt make Manatee County more attractive to businesses looking to relocate. Not only that, lower property taxes will allow more local families to qualify for home mortgages — a boon for any local economy.

From the county's point of view, the sales tax will diversify revenues, which could easily improve its credit ratings. That means better interest rates with which to invest taxpayers' money whenever the county has to borrow for necessary projects, such as replacing our aging public safety radio system.

Many people ask me why we're headed to referendum now when the health care fund doesn't expire for another two years.

But to wait until the next regular election — a primary in 2014 — would mean my office would have to plan the fiscal 2015 budget using a higher property tax rate in order to cover the expiring \$9 million. Voters would head to the polls to consider taxing themselves after receiving a TRIM notice with higher property rates.

Several have said the county should simply wait for the federal health care overhaul to be implemented in hopes that it will cover these costs. If that were to happen, we have to assume that Congress will appropriate federal funding to implement Obamacare.

I shouldn't have to remind you that Congress has shown no inclination to help the president carry out his plans for health care. Even if Washington gets its act together, the Florida Legislature was clear that its not willing to expand Medicaid as proposed under the federal plan. Waiting on Obamacare is a huge gamble that I'm not willing to take.

If we eventually discover that community health care costs are not a local burden, the half-cent sales tax could be reduced or eliminated by a simple majority vote of the county commission. And the money can only be spent on health care, so it would be extremely impractical to continue collecting the half-cent if it's not needed.

We are not trying to grow government as some have suggested. In fact, if approved by voters, the total cost to run Manatee County government, including taxes, fees, water and sewer will be lower than neighboring counties.

There is no increase in government spending as a result of the referendum. We're simply trying to change the way we're paying for indigent health care costs.

We are planning into the future to assure the quality of life for our children and our children's children.

Note: Readers can learn more about the June 18 referendum by attending a 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 5, meeting at Holmes Beach City Hall, where Hunzeker will discuss the county commission's proposed half-cent sales tax increase and tax breaks for new businesses, or online at www.myanatee.org/halfcent.

HB legal fees exceed budget

By Rick Catlin
Islander Reporter

Due to the legal action filed in 2012 by Holmes Beach against Bradenton Beach for its 2009 quit-claim of 27th Street North to the Sandpiper Resort, legal fees in Holmes Beach for the 2012-13 fiscal year are projected to be over budget by \$35,000.

According to records from the Holmes Beach city treasurer, city attorney Patricia Petruff has billed the city \$15,556.31 for handling the 27th Street legal action, which eventually resulted in a compromise settlement and dismissal by Holmes Beach.



Monti



Petruff

For the first seven months of the 2012-13 fiscal year, Holmes Beach's total legal fees from Petruff have reached \$88,076.16, an average of \$12,582.31 per month.

The \$88,000 figure already is \$1,444 more than the entire \$86,632 spent by the city on legal fees in its 2011-12 fiscal year budget.

At the current rate, the legal fees by the end of this fiscal year would be \$150,987.72, or \$34,987.72 above the budgeted amount of \$116,000.

The action against Bradenton Beach has its roots in 2009, when that city quit-claimed 27th Street to the Sandpiper Resort. The Holmes Beach city commission sent Bradenton Beach a letter protesting the quit-claim, but voted to take no legal action because of the cost involved.

The Sandpiper maintained an entrance and exit along the boundary with Holmes Beach following the quit-claim, but in 2011, then-Holmes Beach Commissioner John Monetti complained to commissioners that the Sandpiper was building a fence along its 27th Street boundary with Holmes Beach that restricted beach access for those residents on the Holmes Beach side.

Monetti said then that he owned property on the Holmes Beach side of the fence.

The Sandpiper denied the fence restricted access, noting pedestrians could access 27th Street to walk to Gulf Drive and across to the beach.

Efforts to settle the dispute between the two mayors at that time were unsuccessful, and Holmes Beach commissioners voted 3-1 in 2012 to pursue a legal settlement. Commissioner Pat Morton cast the lone dissenting vote, while Monetti recused himself.

The result of the legal action was the bill of \$15,556.31 from Petruff for her work on the issue during 2012-13, and a mediated settlement that ensured Holmes Beach residents could access 27th Street on the east side of Gulf Drive through the unlocked gate, much the same as the Sandpiper provided before the legal dispute.

Before litigation, Petruff had suggested the mayors of the two cities attempt to settle the issue peacefully. When that proved impossible, she advised the commission that legal action would be costly, but she would follow the wishes of the commission.

Commissioners ignored the advice and voted to proceed with legal action.

PLEASE SEE LEGAL FEES, NEXT PAGE

Island meeting June 5 on proposed sales tax increase

The public is invited to a meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 5, at Holmes Beach City Hall to discuss the county commission's proposed half-cent sales tax increase and tax breaks for new businesses.

Manatee County administrator Ed Hunzeker will discuss the proposals and answer questions. County Commissioners John Chappie and Carol Whitmore are expected to attend.

Along with Hunzeker, Manatee Memorial Hospital chief executive officer Kevin DiLallo and Bradenton Area Economic Development Council president Sharon Hillstrom will speak on the proposals.

The proposals will come before voters on a referendum ballot Tuesday, June 18. Early voting on the referendum is available June 8-15.

For more information, call 941-741-3823.

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Mainsail mediation planned tentatively this month

By Mark Young
Islander Reporter

Holmes Beach city attorney Patricia Petruff said May 28 that a tentative start date for the Mainsail Lodge-city mediation hearing is June 21.

Petruff told commissioners at the city meeting that she, Mainsail attorney Robert Lincoln and Special Magistrate Steven Seibert are available that day.

She previously said the hearings could take as many as two to three days and attempted to schedule back-to-back days for the hearings, but scheduling between the three parties did not work out.

Petruff said the hearing would tentatively begin June 21, but she also scheduled July 24-25 as backup days should the hearing need to be continued.

Lincoln filed a petition for relief on behalf of Main-

sail with the city April 18 asking that a March vote to revoke the Mainsail site plan be rescinded.

In the petition, Lincoln accuses the city of violating its own procedures in revoking the site plan, saying that the decision belongs to the mayor and building official, not the commission.

Mayor Carmel Monti supported the ongoing effort to improve upon the site plan and continue with construction plans to build lodging, a restaurant and other amenities in what is considered to be the city's business district at Gulf and Marina drives.

Commissioner David Zaccagnino and Chair Jean Peelen also supported the effort, but Commissioners Marvin Grossman, Pat Morton and Judy Titsworth opposed the plan and backed a motion by Grossman to revoke the plan, citing various violations to the city's land development code.

The petition was filed under the Bert J. Harris Jr. Act, which allows a property owner to seek relief from a government agency that burdens a property's existing use.

The city has met its obligations in responding to the petition by scheduling a start date for the proceedings.

Petruff said previously that the first step of the hearing will be for Seibert to sit down with both sides and determine if mediation is possible. If not, the quasi-judicial phase will begin and Seibert will make a decision based on the facts at hand.

Either side retains the right to take the matter up in court, if they don't agree with Seibert's decision.

27th Street dispute ending?

A conclusion to the ongoing legal battle between Holmes Beach, Bradenton Beach and the Sandpiper Mobile Home Resort, which shares a southern bound-

ary with Holmes Beach is expected soon.

That conclusion has been promised for months, but has yet to be finalized.

Holmes Beach and Bradenton Beach agreed last month to end the dispute with Holmes Beach dismissing its claim without prejudice, meaning the city reserves the right to file a new lawsuit in the future.

Bradenton Beach commissioners debated whether to accept that clause of the agreement for some time but, in the spirit of cooperation, agreed to the terms.

Sandpiper mobile home park attorney Chuck Webb did not agree, however, and the settlement was delayed. Sandpiper and Bradenton Beach are named as co-defendants in the lawsuit.

Petruff said May 28 that Webb would not agree to the settlement terms unless Holmes Beach agreed to dismiss its suit with prejudice.

Petruff said she needed a consensus from the commissioners to split the settlement to be without prejudice for Bradenton Beach and with prejudice for Sandpiper.

Commissioners agreed to the terms.

Peelen, a former owner at Sandpiper until April 4 when she sold her mobile home, said she understood the concern after speaking with the president of the resort.

"The concern of Sandpiper is that there is an election every year and an election could bring back the same people who filed the suit," said Peelen.

Petruff said she would draft the joint settlement agreement and send the paperwork to all parties.

If signed, the long-standing dispute will end.

The dispute began in 2008 with Bradenton Beach agreeing to a quitclaim deed for Sandpiper. Holmes Beach objected to the move, but did not take action until 2011 when Sandpiper installed fences, locks and private property signs to block beach access to the park.

LEGAL FEES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Efforts to reach Holmes Beach Mayor Carmel Monti for comment on the mounting legal fees were unsuccessful.

At the time the dispute resurfaced in 2011, Rich Bohnenberger was mayor, while commissioners who supported the action were Sandy Haas-Martens, David Zaccagnino and Al Robinson.

Since then, Bohnenberger, Haas-Martens and Robinson have been defeated for re-election, as has Monetti.

Morton said he was sorry the city spent so much money needlessly, even though he knew that would be the result of the city's stance.

"I said back in 2011 this was a storm in a teacup and the only winners would be the lawyers. I suggested the mayors settle the issue amicably, but that didn't happen. It seems to me \$15,000 would fix a lot of roads and beautify a lot of city parks and streets in Holmes Beach," the commissioner said.

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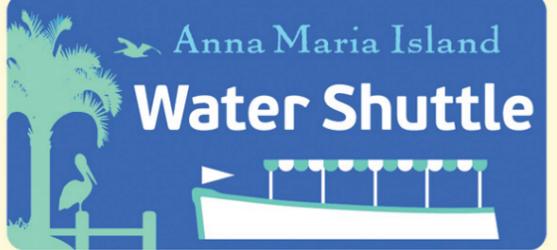
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Island happenings

Island Library announces June lineup of events

The Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach, will hold the following events in June:

- 1:15 p.m. Wednesday, June 5, Gulf Coast Writers meeting.
- 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 5, Mana-Tweens book club.
- 2 p.m. Thursday, June 6, knitting club.
- 2 p.m. Saturday, June 8, origami club.
- 2 p.m., Wednesday, June 12, a lecture about the Florida Maritime Museum in Cortez.
- 10 a.m., Thursday, June 13, children's program.
- 2 p.m., Friday, June 14, Alzheimer's caregiver support group.
- 11 a.m., Saturday, June 15, stress management session.
- 6 p.m., Wednesday, June 19, Mana-Tweens crafts program.
- 10 a.m., Thursday, June 20, summer children's program.
- 2 p.m., Thursday, June 20, knitting club.

- 1 p.m., Saturday, June 22, small business session on design for non-designers.
- 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 26, T-shirt "surgery" for teens.
- 10 a.m., Thursday, June 27, summer children's program.
- 10 a.m., Friday, June 28, program on driving and dementia.

For more information, call the library at 941-778-6341.

Library hosts Mana-Tween crafts

The Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach, will host the Mana-Tween Craft Program at 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 19.

Participants — space is limited to 15 children — will work with marbled paper crafts.

For more information or reservations, call the library at 941-778-6341.



Wednesday, June 5

- 1:15 p.m. — Gulf Coast Writers meeting, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-6341.
- 6 p.m. — Mana-Tweens book club, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-6341.

Thursday, June 6

- 2 p.m. — Knitting club, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-6341.

Friday, June 7

- 8:25 p.m. — Official sunset time.

Saturday, June 8

- 8:30 a.m. — Kiwanis Club of Anna Maria Island breakfast and meeting, Anna Maria Island Beach Cafe, Manatee Public Beach, 4000 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-1383.
- 2 p.m. — Origami club, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-6341.

Sunday, June 9

- 8:25 p.m. — Official sunset time.

Monday, June 10

- 8:26 p.m. — Official sunset time.

Tuesday, June 11

- Noon — Rotary Club of Anna Maria Island meets, BeachHouse Restaurant, 200 Gulf Drive N., Bradenton Beach. Information: 941-794-8044.

Wednesday, June 12

- 2 p.m. — A lecture about the Florida Maritime Museum in Cortez, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-6341.

Off-island

Friday, June 7

- 11 a.m.-1 p.m. — "SCF Embraces Differences 2013" artists reception, State College of Florida, fine art gallery, 5840 26th St. W., Bradenton. Information: 941-752-5225.
- 6 p.m. — Outer space film, "Contact," South Florida Museum, 201 10th St. W., Bradenton. Fee applies. Information: 941-746-4131.

Saturday, June 8

- 10 a.m.-1 p.m. — World Oceans Day Family Festival, the Aquarium at Mote Marine Laboratory, 1600 Ken Thompson Pkwy., Sarasota. Fee applies. Information: 941-338-4441.

Ongoing

- Saturdays, through July, Bridge Street Merchants night markets, 5-9 p.m., Bridge Street, Bradenton Beach. Information: 215-906-0668.
- Through Aug. 31, Bradenton Marauders baseball, McKechnie Field, 1611 Ninth St. W., Bradenton. Fee applies. Information: 941-747-3031.

- Wednesdays and Saturdays, 9 a.m., horseshoes pitched, Anna Maria City Hall, 10005 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria. Information: 941-708-6130.

- First Wednesdays, noon, Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce networking luncheon. Location varies. Fee applies. Information: 941-778-1541.

- First Wednesdays and third Wednesdays, Mana-Tween Book and Culture Club, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-748-5555, ext. 6318.

- Second Wednesdays, 8 a.m., Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce sunrise breakfast. Location varies. Fee applies. Information: 941-778-1541.

- Second Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Think+Drink science night, South Florida Museum, 201 10th St. W., Bradenton. Information: 941-746-4131.

- Fourth Wednesdays, 5 p.m., Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce networking meeting. Location varies. Fee applies. Information: 941-778-1541.

- Fourth Wednesdays, 7 p.m., star talk, South Florida Museum, 201 10th St. W., Bradenton. Information: 941-746-4131.

- First and third Thursdays, 2 p.m., knitting group meets, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive. Information: 941-778-6341.

- Most Fridays, Senior Adventures, low-cost field trips from Annie Silver Community Center, 103 23rd St. N., Bradenton Beach. Fee may apply. Information: 941-962-8835.

- Fridays through June 28, 6 p.m., They Came From Outer Space spring film series, South Florida Museum, 201 10th St. W., Bradenton. Fee applies. Information: 941-746-4131.

- Third Fridays, 5-8 p.m., Pine Avenue Porch Party presented by local merchants, Pine Avenue, Anna Maria. Information: 941-896-3132.

- Saturdays, 4 p.m., family night, South Florida Museum, 201 10th St. W., Bradenton. Information: 941-746-4131.

- Second Saturdays, 10 a.m., origami club meets, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive. Information: 941-778-6341.

- Third Saturdays, 11 a.m., stress management through breathing, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive. Information: 941-778-6341.

- Weekends, through Oct. 20, ranger-led kayak tours, De Soto National Memorial, 8300 De Soto Memorial Highway, Bradenton. Information: 941-792-0458, ext. 105.

- Mondays, 1 p.m., bridge games, Roser Memorial Community Church, 512 Pine Ave., Anna Maria. Information: 941-778-0414.

- First Mondays, 7 p.m., Florida Institute for Saltwater Heritage board meets, Fisherman's Hall, 4515 123rd St. W., Cortez. Information: 941-254-4972.

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

Coming up

- June 14, Flag Day.
- June 16, Father's Day.

Save the date

- July 4, the Anna Maria Island Privateers Independence Day Parade from Coquina Beach to Bayfront Park, and Scholarships Awards Party at Manatee Public Beach.

- Sept. 2 is Labor Day.

Calendar announcements

Send calendar announcements to calendar@islander.org. Include a time, date and location of the event, a description and a contact via email and phone. The deadline for is the Wednesday a week before publication. High-resolution photographs welcome.

Island happenings



Jim Stoltie and Jeanie Pickwick of the Anna Maria Island Concert Chorus and Orchestra accept a grant award from Chuck Slater of the Manatee Community Foundation. Islander Courtesy Photo

Orchestra receives grant

The Anna Maria Island Concert Chorus and Orchestra received an \$1,180 grant that will be used to purchase musical scores for its library.

The grant from the Eugene F. and Elizabeth Hull Fund and Rita Bullock Fund of the Manatee Community Foundation means AMICCO will be able to perform a wider range of music, according to a news release.

Jim Stoltie, the president of AMICCO's board, and Jeanie Pickwick, AMICCO executive director, accepted the grant at a reception April 4.

For more information about the grant or AMICCO, call Jeanie Pickwick at 941-795-2370.

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Summer hours set for Longboat Key thrift store

The Lord's Warehouse is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays on a summer schedule for the next four months.

The thrift shop is on the Longboat Island Chapel campus, 6140 Gulf of Mexico Drive, Longboat Key.

With a volunteer staff, the store's sales fund several charitable outreach programs through the Longboat Island Chapel, including Alcoholics Anonymous, Shifting Sands Support Groups for people with health concerns and Aging in Paradise, which assists people with various age-related needs on Longboat Key, Anna Maria Island, Lido Key and in Cortez Village.

For more information, call the chapel at 941-383-6491.

Sierra Club paddling in Robinson Preserve

The Manatee-Sarasota Sierra Club will go kayaking in Robinson Preserve in Bradenton Sunday, June 9.

The group will meet at 9:30 a.m. and launch from the Palma Sola access on Manatee Avenue at 10 a.m.

Organizers plan to picnic at the lookout tower in the preserve before returning to shore.

The outing should last about 3 1/2 hours.

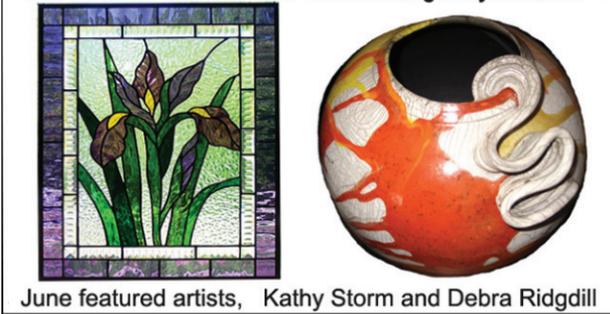
Paddlers should bring bug repellent, lunch, water and sunscreen.

The club is asking participants for a \$5 donation and to make reservations.

For more details on the outing and the club, or reservations, contact Mike Lehner at 941-365-1073 or mklehn@hotmail.com



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June featured artists, Kathy Storm and Debra Ridgill

Kiwanis to meet at beach cafe

The Kiwanis Club of Anna Maria Island will meet at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, June 8, at the Anna Maria Island Beach Cafe, Manatee Public Beach, 4000 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach.

The club will hold a board meeting.

For more information, call Sandy Haas-Martens at 941-778-1383.



Players honor Guise

Barb Guise receives the Harold Igo Award for her volunteer work with the Island Players. The theater group held its annual awards banquet May 25. Ruth Stevens received a gift for her 30 years as an active volunteer. Islander Courtesy Photo



Mote hosts ocean fest

The Aquarium at Mote Marine Laboratory, 1600 Ken Thompson Pkwy., Sarasota, will host the World Oceans Day Family Festival 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, June 8.

The Dr. Seuss-themed event will involve Longboat Key Turtle Watch, Sarasota Bay Estuary Program, Sarasota Bay Watch, Manatee County Natural Resources Department, the Sarasota YMCA, Stow It-Don't Throw It, Mote's High School Alumni Program, Mote's Education Division and Tampa Bay Watch.

World Oceans Day, celebrated annually on June 8, was created in 1982 at the Earth Summit and declared a holiday by the United Nations in 2009.

Admission to the aquarium is \$19 for adults, \$14 for children ages 4-12.

For more information, go online to mote.org/world-oceansday or call 941-338-4441.

Social notes welcome...

The Islander welcomes photographs and notices of the milestones in readers' lives — weddings, anniversaries, births, graduations, awards, travels and other events.

Please send notices and photographs with detailed captions — along with complete contact information — to news@islander.org or 5404 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach FL 34217.

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The Anna Maria Elementary School class of 2013 and teacher Heather Nyberg. Islander Photo: Bonner Joy



As a member of the Holmes Beach Police Department, Officer Brian Copeman, left, teaches the drug education program to fifth-graders at Anna Maria Elementary School and hands out awards at the fifth-grade graduation. HBPD Chief Bill Tokajer also participated this year, presenting awards to Matthew Wood of Heather Nyberg's class, front left, and Bailey Korinek of Sally Jackson's class. Islander Photo: Bonner Joy

The Anna Maria Elementary School class of 2013 and teacher Sally Jackson. Islander Photo: Courtesy Tom Woodard



RIGHT: AME students are welcome to participate in the school's Birthday Book Club, which helps enhance the school library's book collection. The book club celebration for summer birthdays was held May 28, and first-graders Jack Love and Kylie Huffman, along with fourth-grader Bella Love show off their club picks. Parents contribute \$15 and in the month of their student's birthday, the students take part in a party in the media center and choose a book to donate to the library. A label is placed in the front of the book to honor the child's birthday. Islander Photo: Courtesy Karen Riley Love



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Island chamber of commerce honors local scholars

The Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce has honored area students with college scholarships.

Each scholarship winner received \$1,000.

The scholars are:

- Alyssa Smith, from Lakewood Ranch High School, graduating in the top 5 percent of her class. The chamber said Alyssa experienced many struggles to achieve her strong academic standing, while becoming a leader and role model in her school. After suffering an auto accident two years ago and recuperating through physical therapy, she resolved to help others by becoming a physical therapist. She plans to attend Florida State University and major in physical therapy and business, and to eventually start her own practice.

- Christopher Pate, a Holmes Beach resident graduating from Manatee High School with honors. The chamber said he excelled in his AP classes while being active in numerous clubs, the community and sports, including as captain of the school cross-country team and in national wakeskating competitions. He plans to pursue a business degree at the University of Florida and, he said, to pursue a career in military aviation like his dad and his grandfather.

- Myles Johnson, a Southeast High School graduate, maintained an A-plus average in accounting and business programs. He also has earned accolades in sports and clubs, such as the Future Business Leaders of America. The chamber said his “can-do attitude will help him accomplish his desire to acquire” a finance degree from Georgetown University.

The scholarship committee included Karen LaPensee of LaPensee Plumbing & Pools, Ellen Aquilina of Home Instead Senior Care, Mike Vejins of Raymond James & Associates and Janet Mixon of Mixon Fruit Farms.



Chamber scholars

Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce member Mike Vejins, left, chamber scholarship winner Chris Pate of Holmes Beach, chamber member Ellen Aquilina, scholarship winner Myles Johnson and chamber member Karen LaPensee celebrate scholastic achievements and pursuits. Islander Photos: Bonner Joy



Alyssa Smith, winner of an Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce scholarship, and Karen LaPensee, who chaired the scholarship committee, at the award ceremony.

Budget cuts hit AME

The financial crisis in the Manatee County School District has reached Anna Maria Island as the Anna Maria Elementary School did not escape the budget cuts imposed by Manatee County School Superintendent Rick Mills.

According to school district spokeswoman Margi Nanney, the school district is facing financial hardship. Earlier this year, Mills announced the district, because of a \$3.5 million accounting error, would lay off 180 staff.

Nanney said AME is projected to have 253 students next school year, the same number as this year, but every school suffered staff cutbacks.

AME will have four fewer teachers in the coming school year, Nanney said.

Among the cuts are the school’s “specials” teacher for art, music and PE.

“There will be three less classroom teachers and one less specials teacher,” Nanney said.

AME will “move from 15 classroom teachers to 12. There will be two teachers in each grade level K-5 for the 2013-14 school year,” she said.

The school’s media specialist will remain as a full-time position, she said, but the guidance counselor has been reduced from full-time to half-time.

Nanney said the guidance counselor is “aware of this change and is satisfied with working in a half-time position.”

No cuts in the AME custodial or cafeteria staff were announced.

Classes end June 7. Have a great summer vacation!

We’ll see students back at school Aug. 19 for the start up of classes. Until then, be safe and don’t forget

to read! Read, read, read!

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AME calendar

June 7, early release, 1:15 p.m., last day of school for AME students.

AME is at 4700 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach. The office number is 941-708-5529.

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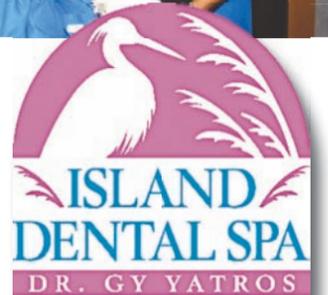
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Sea turtles build passion in wildlife warrior

By Mark Young
Islander Reporter

On the first day of June and the first day of hurricane season, the first bayside sea turtle nest was discovered by Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch and Shorebird Monitoring volunteer Charlene Donnelly.

While the island shores along the Gulf of Mexico have been fairly busy with nesting activity — 19 confirmed nests as of June 1 — the nest on the north-end bay-front waters of Tampa Bay was the first of the season.

The bay side of the island sees substantially fewer nests than the Gulf side of the island, so all bayfront nests are greeted with enthusiasm.

The bayside of Anna Maria, or Section 1 to AMITW, has had a couple of false crawls this season, according to Donnelly, who walks the section every weekend. The bayside nest leaves only Section 4 — 52nd Street to 66th Street in Holmes Beach — without a nest.

All of the other nine sections surrounding the island now have at least one nest, with Section 3 — Pine Avenue in Anna Maria to 66th Street in Holmes Beach — having the most with seven.

Donnelly, an avid wildlife conservationist, has made her AMITW volunteer duties a family affair over the years.

“I used to bring my kids when they were young and they really got into it,” said Donnelly, who said her daughter in particular brought a lot of enthusiasm to learning about sea turtles.

“When she was about 9 years old, she used to do presentations on sea turtles and she was really good at it,” said Donnelly.

She said they temporarily stopped walking for AMITW about nine years ago as the life of a working mom consumed much of her schedule, “but now my kids are older and I wanted to come back. My daughter is in college now and my son is a sophomore in high school. He still walks with me every weekend and has kind of taken up the stewardship role where my daughter left off.”

Donnelly believes strongly in educating the public in all wildlife matters and devotes much of her free time to wildlife conservationism.

“I’ve always loved marine life in particular,” she



Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch and Shorebird Monitoring volunteers Charlene Donnelly, Maureen McCormick and Glenn Wiseman confirm a nest on the Tampa Bay shore of Anna Maria June 1. *Islander Photo: Mark Young*

said. “As a kid, I wanted to be a marine biologist. It’s not only my hobby, it’s my passion.”

Donnelly is a member of the Sierra Club and a volunteer with the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, made famous with the Animal Planet show “Whale Wars.”

“To do conservation work means you have to do hands on work,” she said.

From kayaking with killer whales to cage diving with great white sharks, Donnelly believes in what she does. Searching island shores for sea turtle tracks might not sound like it can compare to swimming nose-to-nose with sharks, but to a true conservationist such as Donnelly, it’s every bit as exciting.

“It’s always exciting to find a nest,” she said. “The most exciting part of what we do is when there is a hatching release. Watching those little guys run for the water is very exhilarating and there is always a lot of energy during a moment like that.”

Donnelly said what people don’t understand about the importance of people helping wildlife is “wildlife can exist without humans, but humans can’t exist without

wildlife. We depend on the entire ecosystem, so it’s up to us to do what we can to take care of it.”

Donnelly said she considers herself to be a wildlife warrior.

“We are guardians and should be doing everything in our capacity to help wildlife succeed,” she said.

AMITW as a whole has been proactive the past few years in educating people on how they can help make nesting season safe for sea turtles.

By complying with lighting laws during season, filling holes left at the beach and clearing beach equipment and trash from the shore, Donnelly says we’re contributing to the success of sea turtles.

“I think the word is getting out and we are seeing a lot less things left on the beach than we’ve seen in past years,” she said. “So education is important, but there is nothing more effective than human contact, which is a positive role we, as volunteers, can play.”

Donnelly said she never fails to stop people on her morning walks to answer questions, show off tracks and nests “and just talk to people. People want to know and if

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Mote, AMITW offer free, educational turtle walks

Most everyone knows it's sea turtle nesting season on area beaches, but Mote Marine Laboratory is asking one simple question: "How much do you know about our flippered friends?"

Mote wants to answer that question by inviting the public to participate in its free educational strolls offered in collaboration with Hilton Longboat Key Beachfront Resort.

Learn the tale behind the turtle tracks and scout local beaches for nesting activity, while also learning about local wildlife and natural habitats.

The Mote Marine Laboratory Turtle Walks begin at 6:45 a.m. Saturday through July. No reservations are needed.

Mote scientists and volunteers will teach sea turtle terminology such as "false crawls." Tour guides will explain how false crawls and nests are documented and interpreted.

For more information on how to participate, go online to www.mote.org/2013nesting. Walks are about 1.5 miles along the shore of Longboat Key.

Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch also offers talks and walks, but reservations are required because they found groups grew to too many participants.

AMITW's turtle walks are held on Wednesday mornings throughout the summer. To reserve a spot and get information on when and where, call education director Wiseman at 248-982-5600.

AME receives bay grant

The Sarasota Bay Estuary Program has awarded grants to nine local organizations — including Anna Maria Elementary School — as part of the 2013 Bay Partners Grant Program.

The fully-funded projects include AME, Ballard Global Studies Magnet School, New College of Florida, Plymouth Harbor and Save Our Seabirds.

The partially-funded projects include Keep Manatee Beautiful, Mote Marine Laboratory, Nature's Academy and Sarasota Audubon Society.

AME's grant award is \$2,381 for Coastal Crusaders, a hands-on bay-education project focused on students in the third- and fifth-grades. SBEP said under the program, students learn about "the importance of environmental stewardship and local wildlife and habitat during specific activities over a 16-week period." The project also involves enhancing bay-friendly landscaping on the campus and adding new rain barrels.

SBEP has awarded nearly \$232,000 in Bay Partners Grants to support 113 organizations since 2003.

A subcommittee with the SBEP Citizens Advisory Committee selects the recipients.

The next deadline for submitting grant applications is March 1, 2014.

To learn more about SBEP and the grant program go online to SarasotaBay.org.

SBEP cautions against fertilizers

The Sarasota Bay Estuary Program is reminding residents not to use fertilizers containing nitrogen and phosphorus through Sept. 30.

The SBEP stressed that rainwater washes excess fertilizer into storm drains, which results in harmful chemicals in local waterways. The chemicals can fuel algae growth, which feeds invasive weeds.

The SBEP also recommends using rain barrels to conserve water for landscaping, not over watering, planting native plants and keeping fertilizers at least 10 feet away from the edge of any water body.

For more information, go online to sarasotabay.org.

Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch and Shorebird Monitoring volunteer Charlene Donnelly marks a sea turtle track on the Tampa Bay side of Anna Maria June 1. The nest was later confirmed as the bayfront's first nest of the May-October sea turtle nesting season. Islander Photo: Mark Young



you can be passionate about what you do, you are going to move them. And if you move someone, they are going to want to move someone else. Talking to people can make all the difference."

As of June 1, there were 20 confirmed nests and 28 false crawls on Anna Maria Island.

At this same time last year, Anna Maria Island had tallied 58 nests and 54 false crawls.

AMITW asks anyone observing a nesting turtle to give the turtle plenty of space and avoid using flashlights or taking flash photos. To report an endangered turtle, call 941-778-5638, or call the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at 888-404-3922.

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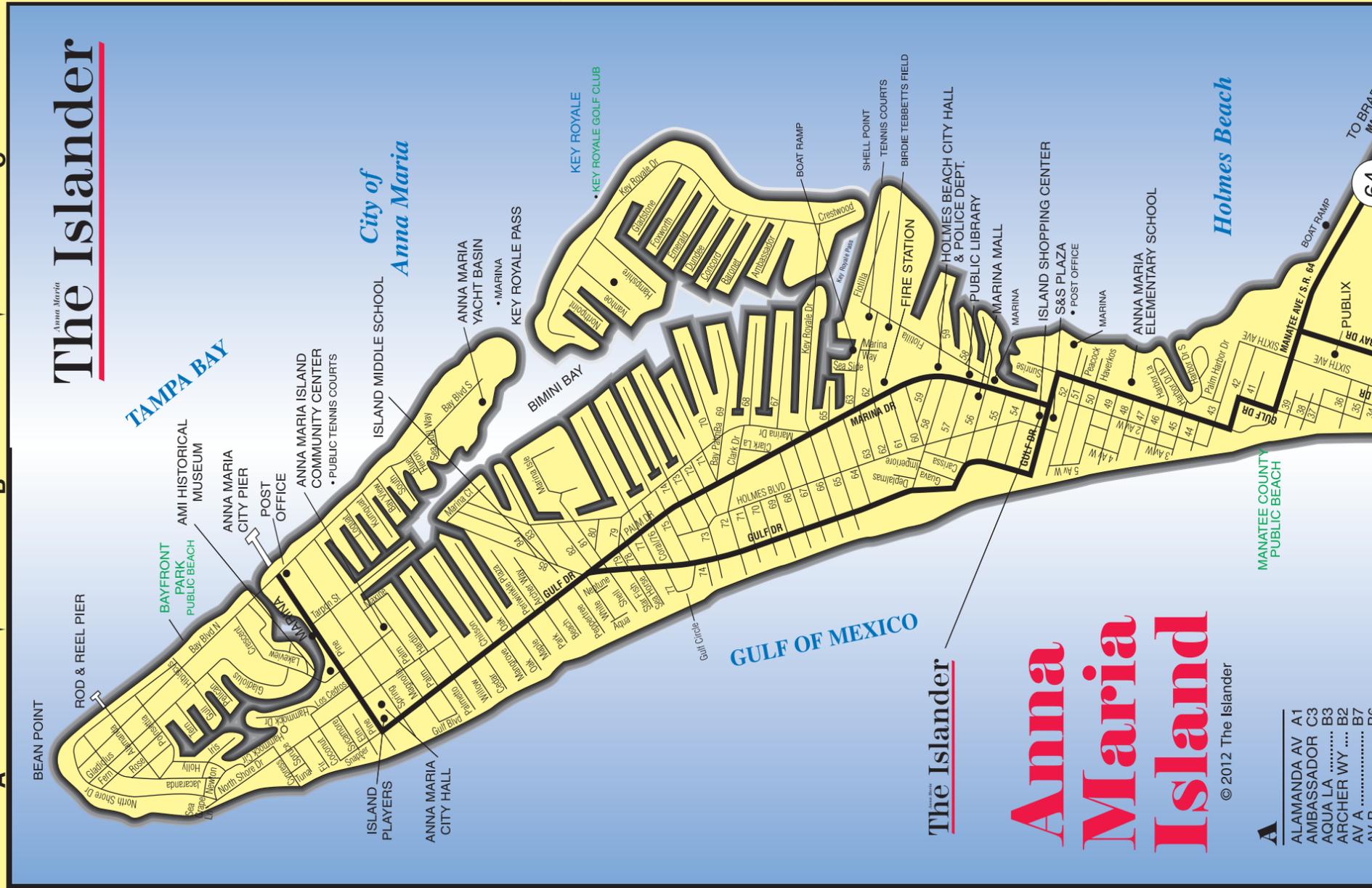
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The Islander
Anna Maria

City of Anna Maria



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Anna Maria Island

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A

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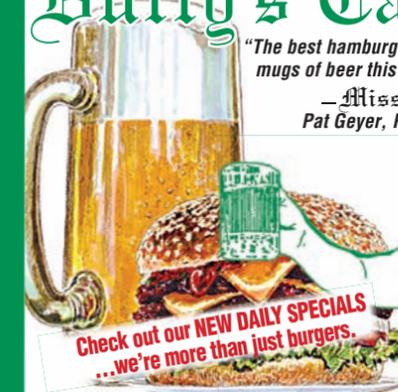
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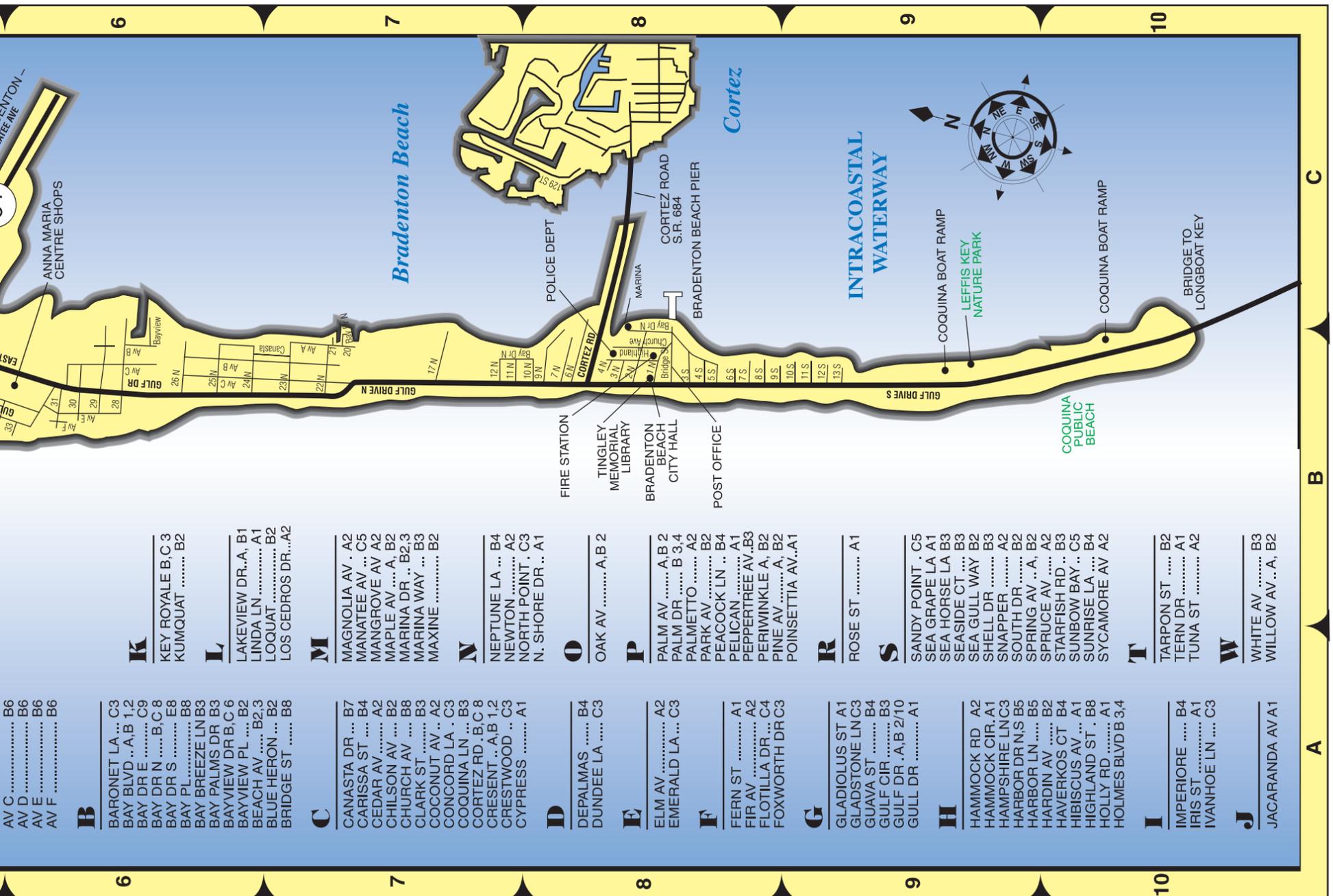
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Street Index:

- A**: AV C, AV D, AV E, AV F
- B**: BARONET LA, BAY BLVD, BAY DR E, BAY DR N, BAY DR S, BAY PL, BAY BREEZE LN, BAY PALMS DR, BAYVIEW DR, BAYVIEW PL, BEACH AV, BLUE HERON, BRIDGE ST
- C**: CANASTA DR, CARISSA ST, CEDAR AV, CHILSON AV, CHURCH AV, CLARK ST, COCONUT AV, CONCORD LA, COQUINA LN, CORTEZ RD, CRESSENT, CRESTWOOD, CYPRESS
- D**: DEPALMAS, DUNDEE LA
- E**: ELM AV, EMERALD LA
- F**: FERN ST, FIR AV, FLOTILLA DR, FOXWORTH DR
- G**: GLADIOLUS ST, GLADSTONE LN, GUAVA ST, GULF CIR, GULF DR, GULL DR
- H**: HAMMOCK RD, HAMMOCK CIR, HAMPSHIRE LN, HARBOR DR, HARBOR LN, HARBOR LN, HAVERKOS CT, HIBISCUS AV, HIGHLAND ST, HOLLY RD, HOLMES BLVD
- I**: IMPERIORE, IRIS ST, VANHOE LN
- J**: JACARANDA AV
- K**: KEY ROYALE, KUMQUAT
- L**: LAKEVIEW DR, LINDA LN, LOQUAT, LOS CEDROS DR
- M**: MAGNOLIA AV, MANATEE AV, MANGROVE AV, MAPLE AV, MARINA DR, MARINA WAY, MAXINE
- N**: NEPTUNE LA, NEWTON, NORTH POINT, N. SHORE DR
- O**: OAK AV
- P**: PALM AV, PALM DR, PALMETTO, PARK AV, PEACOCK LN, PELICAN, PEPPER TREE AV, PERIWINKLE A, PINE AV, POINSETTIA AV
- R**: ROSE ST
- S**: SANDY POINT, SEA GRAPE LA, SEA HORSE LA, SEASIDE CT, SEA GULL WAY, SHELL DR, SNAPPER, SOUTH DR, SPRING AV, SPRUCE AV, STARFISH RD, SUNBOW BAY, SUNRISE LA, SYCAMORE AV
- T**: TARPON ST, TERN DR, TUNA ST
- W**: WHITE AV, WILLOW AV

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Truck strikes utility pole, causes HB-AM power outage

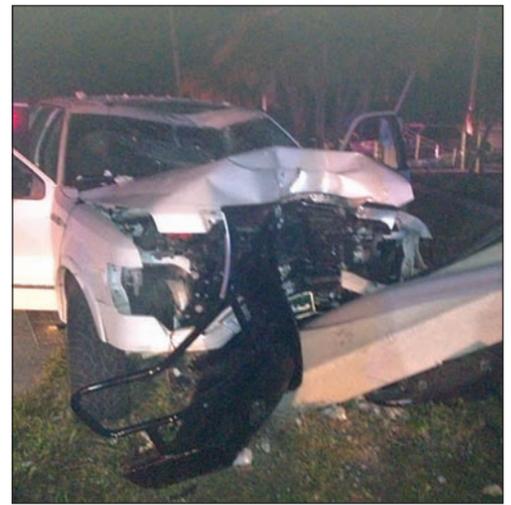
The West Manatee Fire District responded to a vehicle accident May 30 at about 10 p.m.

According to a WMFR press release, the fire department, Holmes Beach Police Department and Manatee County Sheriff's Office responded to the crash, where firefighters found a pickup truck, which was determined to be traveling at a high rate of speed, had struck a concrete power pole in front of one of the T-end canals in the 6800 block of Marina Drive.

The accident caused the transformer and live wires to fall onto the vehicle and surrounding area. The driver, William Shawn Wilkes, 53, of Holmes Beach, was advised to remain in his vehicle until Florida Power and Light could disconnect the power.

FP&L advised the power line was a main line going north to the remainder of the island. Power throughout the line's route was shut off for around one hour and the accident area remained without power for much of the night.

Wilkes, who said he was adjusting his iPod at the time of the crash, was transported to Blake Medical Center with minor injuries. He declined a blood test and charges are pending a capias report sent to the state attorney's office.



The driver of a pickup truck struck a utility pole at about 10 p.m. May 30, causing a power outage from 68th Street in Holmes Beach to Anna Maria. Islander Photo: Courtesy Rich Jasinski/WMFR

Manatee County Area Transit Manatee Trolley on Anna Maria Island



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South Daily

Anna Maria City Pier	Gulf Dr. at 78th St.	Island Shopping Center	Manatee County Public Beach	Bradenton Beach City Limit	Bridge St.	Coquina Beach
6:00	6:05	6:10	6:15	6:20	6:25	6:30
6:30	6:35	6:40	6:45	6:50	6:55	7:00
7:00	7:05	7:10	7:15	7:20	7:25	7:30
7:20	7:25	7:30	7:35	7:40	7:45	7:50
7:40	7:45	7:50	7:55	8:00	8:05	8:10
8:00	8:05	8:10	8:15	8:20	8:25	8:30
8:20	8:25	8:30	8:35	8:40	8:45	8:50
8:40	8:45	8:50	8:55	9:00	9:05	9:10

See Note Below

9:00	9:00	9:10	9:15	9:20	9:25	9:30
9:30	9:30	9:40	9:45	9:50	9:55	10:00
10:00	10:00	10:10	10:15	10:20	10:25	10:30

North Daily

Coquina Beach	Bridge St.	Bradenton Beach City Limit	Manatee County Public Beach	Island Shopping Center	Pine Ave. at Gulf Dr.	Anna Maria City Pier
6:00	6:05	6:10	6:15	6:20	6:25	6:30
6:30	6:35	6:40	6:45	6:50	6:55	7:00
7:10	7:15	7:20	7:25	7:30	7:35	7:40
7:30	7:35	7:40	7:45	7:50	7:55	8:00
7:50	7:55	8:00	8:05	8:10	8:15	8:20
8:10	8:15	8:20	8:25	8:30	8:35	8:40
8:30	8:35	8:40	8:45	8:50	8:55	9:00
8:50	8:55	9:00	9:05	9:10	9:15	9:20

See Note Below

9:00	9:05	9:10	9:15	9:20	9:25	9:30
9:30	9:35	9:40	9:45	9:50	9:55	10:00
10:00	10:05	10:10	10:15	10:20	10:25	10:30

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HB police chief lays out new code enforcement philosophy

By Mark Young
Islander Reporter

At a May 28 city commission meeting, Holmes Beach Police Chief Bill Tokajer was asked to present a code-enforcement philosophy following Mayor Carmel Monti's move to place code enforcement directly under the police department.

Monti said enforcing code violations has been moved out of city hall and into the police department, where code enforcement officials will retain their responsibilities.

Tokajer said the real change is that his department will handle the enforcement side of the issue.

"My philosophy when it comes to code enforcement is that we will enforce codes respectfully, fairly and firmly," he said. "If we can gain compliance with a warning, then that is the intention. If not, then we go to the next step, which is fines. That's the basic snapshot of code enforcement."

Tokajer also cleared up any misunderstandings surrounding the departure of code enforcement official Dave Forbes, who temporarily left his post May 31.

Tokajer said Forbes took a family emergency medical leave, which protects his position under federal law.

"Dave is leaving on family medical leave and hopes to be back in 12 weeks," said Tokajer. "There has been some statements made that if he returns, he would have to come back as a new employee. That is not true. If he returns within 12 weeks, he returns under the tenure he already has."

In the interim, Tokajer said Forbes' position is being advertised.

"We are advertising for someone who can hit the ground running, so we don't fall behind," he said.

Commission Chair Jean Peelen said she didn't understand why the city would advertise for a position if Forbes' intention was to return to his job.

Tokajer said the long-term goal of code enforcement under his watch is to be proactive and, "to have



Traffic turns onto northbound Gulf Drive from Marina Drive in an area being proposed for a new crosswalk by Holmes Beach Police Chief Bill Tokajer as part of a larger plan to improve pedestrian safety. *Islander Photo: Mark Young*

two people in that position. The whole thing about code enforcement is to be proactive and not reactive. It's a very tedious job for one person to do."

Tokajer said with budget discussions starting soon, he would like to see two people doing the job.

Salaried positions in the city have increased under Monti's watch.

"We are coming up to budget time and we'll see what funds are available," said Tokajer.

Commissioner Marvin Grossman said the city has discussed charging a fee for re-inspecting rental units.

"Those fees could cover the cost for a second person," he said.

Commissioner Judy Titsworth said a request to increase and add fees to inspecting rental units has been submitted and "we need to get that back on the agenda for discussion."

In other matters, Tokajer is seeking to increase the number of crosswalks in the city.

"We've done studies on the crosswalks we have here

and found we don't have an adequate amount," he said. "We are all about pedestrian safety."

Tokajer said the city needs 10 additional crosswalks and to change the signs at crosswalks that currently read "Yield to pedestrians."

He said the law is for traffic to "stop for pedestrians, so we want those signs to be more succinct to state law."

One area Tokajer is suggesting is the intersection of Marina and Gulf drives. He said Manatee County is preparing to install new traffic lights there and wants to see if the county can also install "don't walk" and "walk" lights.

The city is allowed to install or remove crosswalks on city roads at its will, but is responsible for all maintenance and liability issues if crosswalks are installed without approval of the Florida Department of Transportation.

Only the DOT can approve crosswalks on state roads, Tokajer said.

Other areas Tokajer would like crosswalks include:

- 28th Street and Gulf Drive.
- 3200 block of East Bay Drive.
- 3900 block of East Bay Drive.
- 59th Street and Marina Drive.
- 63rd Street and Marina Drive.
- Palm and Clark drives.
- 72nd Street and Gulf Drive.
- 81st Street and Palm Drive.
- Flashing light in the 5300 block of Marina Drive.

Have your say

We welcome and encourage your comments on topics, columns and editorials in The Islander. Also, The Islander has an active Facebook community of more than 2,500 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.

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Streetlife

Island police blotter

Anna Maria

• May 27, 200 block of Archer Way, burglary. Someone gained entry to the property through a fenced-in backyard and attempted to dismantle a fold-up canopy. The attempt was unsuccessful, but the unknown suspect caused \$20 in damages.

• May 28, 100 block of South Bay Boulevard, fraud. A complainant reported her adult daughter used her debit card without permission to obtain \$200 from her bank account.

Anna Maria is policed by the MCSO.

Bradenton Beach

• May 26, 1300 block of Gulf Drive North, resisting arrest and battery. A 50-year-old Orlando man was arrested for resisting arrest without violence and misdemeanor battery. According to the report, the suspect was taking photographs of a woman and children on the beach. She asked the man to stop and he refused, shoving the woman in the stomach. Witnesses reported seeing the incident. Police made contact with the suspect, who allegedly became belligerent. The man was ordered to leave the beach, but refused. As officers attempted to arrest him, the man pulled away, at which time two BBPD officers took him to the ground and placed him in custody.

• May 9, 1400 Gulf Drive S., Coquina Beach, domestic disturbance. Police responded to an argument and tried to separate a group of males from a female to determine what happened. One of the males became uncooperative and had to be handcuffed. Police determined that no physical contact had occurred during the argument.

• May 25, 500 block of Gulf Drive North, domestic disturbance. A man allowed his son to move into his home, who in turn moved in his girlfriend and her brother. The two younger men reported to police that the woman needed to be committed for a drug problem. The officer provided instruction on how to initiate a Baker Act for someone struggling with substance abuse issues.

• May 28, 402 Church Ave., Bradenton Beach Marina, battery. Two employees were questioned over an incident where one man said the other struck and pushed him. The argument involved the suspect taking a military ready to eat meal belonging to the complainant. The complainant said the suspect struck him with the MRE and then pushed him. The two men began to fight and were separated by a third party. The suspect said the two were arguing over a cell-phone charger. He admitted to throwing the MRE, but said it was the complainant who first made physical contact with him, at which time he pushed the man back. The two were advised that the report would be forwarded to the state attorney's office

for possible criminal charges.

Bradenton Beach is policed by the BBPD.

Cortez

• May 24, address unreported, suspicious incident. A female complainant reported that her mother, who rents her the home, continues to enter the residence without permission. The complainant said the mother has been warned in the past by law enforcement. The deputy made contact with the mother and informed her that as a landlord, she did not have the right to enter the residence without her daughter's permission. According to the report, the mother became belligerent, and said she would begin the process to evict her daughter.

Cortez is policed by the MCSO

Holmes Beach

• May 26, 4800 block of Gulf Drive, DUI. An off-duty Bradenton Beach police officer contacted the Holmes Beach Police Department in regards to a possible DUI. The HBPD officer made contact with Sylvia Hart, 60, of Holmes Beach, after observing erratic driving. The officer observed a strong odor of alcohol and contacted an MCSO deputy, who asked Hart if she had been drinking. According to the report, Hart admitted to drinking six beers. A field sobriety test was administered and Hart allegedly failed that and a subsequent Breathalyzer test. She was arrested for misdemeanor DUI.

• May 27, 100 block of 48th Street, domestic battery. A 33-year-old woman was arrested for misdemeanor domestic battery. According to the report, the woman grabbed her partner by the neck and threw her to the ground. The complainant got up to run, at which time she was tripped. The suspect grabbed her by the hair, pulling out several clumps. The complainant left for the night and reported the incident the following day while at the hospital receiving treatment for injuries related to the incident.

• May 12, 4500 block of Third Avenue, suspicious incident. Police responded to a complaint of a couple on the beach being "too friendly," according to the report. As police arrived, the couple was leaving, but admitted they had been drinking on beach. They were advised that drinking on the beach is illegal. The officer then received a call that the man had returned to yell at beachgoers for calling the police. He was contacted at home and warned not to return to the beach or he would be arrested.

• May 12, 5600 block of Gulf Drive, burglary. A complainant reported an unlocked bicycle valued at \$75 was stolen from his carport.

• May 13, 3000 block of Gulf Drive, theft. A woman reported that while paying for gas inside a gas station, someone entered her open vehicle window and stole her handicap placard from her rearview mirror.

• May 13, 8200 Marina Drive, beverage law. An officer responded to a call of underage males drinking and made contact with two men under the age of 21.

Obituary

Louise Bell Shuman

Louise Bell Shuman, 54, of Bradenton, died May 15. She was born Dec. 29, 1958, in Bradenton.

She was a graduate of Manatee High School, Manatee Community College and the University of South Florida where she earned both a bachelor's degree in English and a master's in education. She was an instructor and counselor at Manatee Community College. She also taught at Bayshore High School and was employed by Bell Graphics Inc.

Mrs. Shuman also was an award-winning writer.

Visitation was May 30 at Brown & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory, 26th Street Chapel, Bradenton. A graveside service was private. Memorial donations may be made to Tidewell Hospice, 5955 Rand Blvd., Sarasota FL 34238. Condolences may be made online at www.brownsandsonsfuneral.com.

Mrs. Shuman is survived by parents Chester and Ellen Bell of Cortez; brothers Warren and wife Debby of Bradenton and Brooks and wife Sheri of Los Gatos, Calif.; nieces Lindsey, Haley and Jaclyn; and nephew Beau.

Obituaries are provided as a free service in The Islander newspaper to residents and family of residents, both past and present, and to those people with ties to Anna Maria Island. Content is edited for style and length. Photos are welcome. Paid obituaries are available by calling 941-778-7978.

The men attempted to discard cans of beer as the officer approached. A search of one suspect's vehicle found more beer. The man had told the officer there was no more alcohol, but then said he lied because he has multiple arrests for possession of alcohol and also was on probation. Both men were issued a notice to appear.

• May 13, 2710 Gulf Drive, Cedar Cove Resort, vehicle burglary. A manager reported several vehicle burglaries had occurred overnight, but all of the guests had left except for one. The victim reported a stolen GPS unit valued at \$200. The manager said video would show two suspects entering the vehicles.

• May 14, 200 block of 83rd Street, disturbance. Two women were arguing about rent money. One of the women said the other was not paying her share of the rent and she was moving out. Neither woman reported an act of physical violence.

• May 15, 3200 E. Bay Drive, Walgreens, trespass warning. Employees reported a man going in and out of the store's bathroom and suspected he was doing drugs. Police made contact with the man and found syringes inside his backpack. The man was issued a trespass warning.

• May 16, 3232 E. Bay Drive, Subway, petit theft. A complainant reported someone stole \$81 from a shelf in the employee area.

Holmes Beach is policed by the HBPD.

Streetlife is based on incident reports and narratives from the Bradenton Beach and Holmes Beach police departments and Manatee County Sheriff's Office.

Island watch

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

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

In emergencies, call 911.

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Breheeny Family

Traffic stop leads to felony arrest in Holmes Beach

By Mark Young
Islander Reporter

A 28-year-old Seffner man and a 27-year-old Sarasota woman remain behind bars for grand theft and violation of probation following a Holmes Beach traffic stop.



Macias

According to the probable cause affidavit, Karlos Macias and Angel Scheller were seen May 23 stealing an industrial landscape blower valued at \$600 from the 500 block of Kumquat Lane, Anna Maria, leaving the scene in their vehicle and heading toward Holmes Beach.

A Holmes Beach police officer stopped the vehicle in the 700 block of Manatee Avenue West for an unrelated traffic violation. While the officer had Macias and



Scheller

Scheller detained for the traffic stop, witnesses positively identified the pair as the theft suspects.

Scheller and Macias were arrested for felony grand theft, turned over to the Manatee County Sheriff's Office and booked into the Manatee County jail. They were held on \$1,500 bond and scheduled to be arraigned at 9 a.m. Tuesday, June 4, at the Manatee County Judicial Center, 1051 Manatee Ave. W., Bradenton.

Scheller and Macias were put on a release hold, however, due to both being on felony probation. A violation of probation charge was added to both suspects and bond was withheld.

Scheller is on probation for trafficking in stolen property and providing false information to a pawn broker.

Macias is on probation for grand theft and three counts of forgery. He was due to be released from probation in September.

Both suspects remained in custody as of Islander press time.

Bradenton woman faces drug charges

A 23-year-old Bradenton woman faces a felony drug charge following a traffic stop May 26 in Holmes Beach.

According to the probable cause affidavit, a Holmes Beach Police Department officer made contact with Gina Barrese in the 5600 block of Gulf Drive.

The officer allegedly found four syringes in a sun-glass case between the driver's seat and center console and a fifth syringe in the glove department. The officer also observed a drop of blood on the center console, and reported finding a burned spoon that appeared to be wet from recent use.



Barrese

A single prescription pill was located in a plastic bag inside of Barrese's purse, according to the report.

Barrese was arrested for felony possession of a controlled substance and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia.

She was booked into the Manatee County jail and held on \$2,000 bond. According to jail records, Barrese posted bond and was released.

She is scheduled to be arraigned at 9 a.m. Friday, June 14, at the Manatee County Judicial Center, 1051 Manatee Ave. W., Bradenton.

A review hearing in the trial of William J. Cumber, accused of killing girlfriend and island resident Sabine Musil-Buehler, has been moved to 9 a.m. July 31 in the courtroom of Manatee Circuit Court Judge Thomas Krug.

The review was originally scheduled for May 21, but on the request of Cumber's attorney was continued to the new date.

Musil-Buehler disappeared in early November 2008.

Police found her car in Bradenton and arrested a man for auto theft, but quickly determined he was not involved in her disappearance.

Cumber has entered a not guilty plea and Manatee County Sheriff's Office investigators say he has refused to tell them where Musil-Buehler's body is located.



Musil-Buehler

Investigators include Detective John Kenney, who headed the MCSO-Anna Maria substation when Musil-Buehler disappeared from the Anna Maria apartment she shared with Cumber. Kenney has said the state attorney's office and the MCSO believe they have enough forensic evidence to convict Cumber of second-degree murder with a maximum sentence of life in prison.



Cumber

Cumber was arrested Oct. 12, 2012,

Cumber pre-trial hearing postponed

for the crime. At the time of the arrest, he was serving time in the Charlotte County Correctional Institute for a parole violation on an unrelated conviction.

He remains in the Manatee County jail without bond pending the trial.

BP-Jessie's rewired after fire

Jessie's Island Store, 5424 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach, suffered a small electrical fire about 10:30 a.m. May 28 that temporarily closed the business.

West Manatee Fire Rescue Battalion Chief Rich Jasinski said it appeared a truck making a delivery at the store hooked a power line, causing it to be pulled from the electrical box on the building. The result was a small electrical fire and loss of electricity to the store and gas pumps.

Responding firefighters from WMFR Station No. 1 in Holmes Beach quickly resolved the problem at the electrical box with a chemical extinguisher.

Jasinski said damage was minimal, but the store's electrical system would have to be inspected and approved by a city building official before it can reopen.

A spokesperson for the store said it would reopen within a few days, depending upon how fast electricians could survey and repair the damage. That work was completed May 31, and the store reopened after approval by a Holmes Beach building official.

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Relay for Life of Anna Maria Island celebrates success

Organizers of the annual Relay For Life of Anna Maria Island held a wrap party May 30 at Coquina Beach, where the relay took place earlier that month.

Relay organizers reported that fundraising exceeded the goal of \$42,000, with \$42,565 raised. Teams will continue to raise and collect money for the American Cancer

Society through August.

Team awards for this year's relay went to: Bank of America, which raised \$377 and was the Most Captain-Less Team; Sea Hut's Crab Trap I raised \$396 and received "There in Spirit" award; The Rockstars raised \$657 and received the "All in the Family" award; Walgreens raised \$1,322.80 and received the "Most Photogenic Team" honor, Cuts4Cure raised \$1,457.50 and received the Spirit Trophy, MSA Student Council raised \$1,543.04 and received the "Sweetest Team" award, A Hair Day Salon raised \$1,565 and received the "Pack the Track" award, Lion's Club raised \$1,952 and received the

"Best Spirit" stick, Publix raised \$2,718.02 and received the Best Corporate Partner award, Pretty In Pink raised \$2,719 and received the "Best Campsite" award, Team Sea Renity raised \$3,067.20 and received the "Keep Calm & Relay On" award, War on Cancer raised \$3,548.90 and received the "Best Centerpiece" award, Shiny Fish raised \$4,019 and received the "Most Creative On-Site" fundraiser honor, Red's Gator Walkers raised \$4,214 and received the best BBQ Award, Just Friends raised \$4,259.68 and received the "Rookie Team of the Year" award, Laps For Lil' raised \$12,097.87 and was the top fundraising team.

Bradenton museum hosts talk on Rosewood massacre

The Family Heritage House Museum at State College of Florida-Manatee-Sarasota will host Dr. Marvin Dunn talking about leading an archeological dig at Rosewood, site of a racially motivated massacre in 1923, and his new book, "The Beast in Florida: A History of Anti-Black Violence."

Dunn is the retired chairman of the Florida International University Department of Psychology.

The talk will take place at 4 p.m., Saturday, June 8, at SCF, 5840 26th St. W., Bradenton.

In his book, Dunn symbolizes racial violence and hatred as "The Beast" that terrorizes the nation between the Civil War and the civil rights movement. He chronicles the race riots and murders that happened in Florida and how they forever altered the lives of people in both black and white communities.

The museum, a gallery and resource center for the study of African-American achievements, is open 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday. For more information, call the museum at 941-752-5319.



Bloody weekend

The 13th annual Island Blood Drive to support the local blood bank and nonprofits proved to be another success, according to oneblood.org community relations coordinator Wanda Read-Burk. Donor Karen Hood is assisted by Elayne Perez at the event, which was expected to raise \$30,000 for Anna Maria Island Privateers, Wildlife Inc., the Anna Maria Island Community Center and West Manatee Fire Rescue volunteers and auxiliary. Read-Burk said 151 donors gave blood June 1 while more than 130 people donated June 2 at St. Bernard Catholic Church, 248 S. Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach. An anonymous benefactor provides \$100 per blood donation and each donor chooses from among the charities or a split of money between them. Islander Photo: Mark Young

Individual awards were presented and the top individual fundraisers were Emily Gross, \$5,794.85; Kimberly Bard, \$4,024; Lindy Gilbert, \$4,019; Amanda Escobio, \$2,792.20; Lisa Henderson, \$1,807.18; Claudia Wiseman, \$1,384.52; Richard Wonders, \$1,380.44; Beryl Love, \$982.85; Ashley Yearwood, \$856; and Marlene Podgis, \$725.

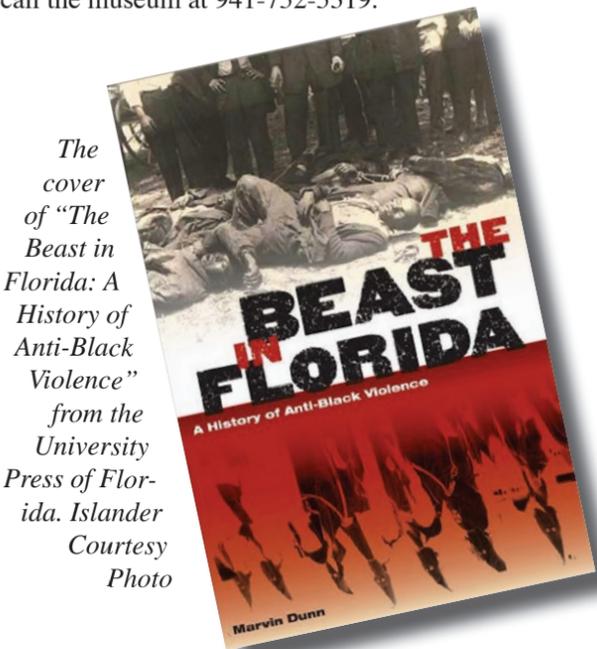
The relay committee included Nancy Ambrose, Lisa Henderson, Gloria Lon, Kim Levine, Kim Bard, Eileen Erwin, Dee Kring, Nathan Mathers, Lindy Gilbert, Bob Bunce, Lezlee Crawford, Russ Winterbottom.

Bob Bunce received the Superman Award and Lezlee Crawford received the MVP Committee Award.

Rita and "Tiny" Wonders also presented a special to Aly Kerwin of the American Cancer Society.



Cuts4Cure received the coveted Spirit Award at the Relay for Life of Anna Maria Island wrap party held May 30. Team captain Lorie Hagele and team members from the Girl Scouts of America accepted the award. Islander Courtesy Photo



The cover of "The Beast in Florida: A History of Anti-Black Violence" from the University Press of Florida. Islander Courtesy Photo

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Island Biz

By Rick Catlin

MV Minnow offers Anna Maria Sound tours

Island Pearl Excursions is now offering two-hour daytrips around Anna Maria Sound and to Egmont Key. The trips are aboard the MV Minnow, which can seat up to 20 passengers, and sails from the Holmes Beach city basin.

Minnow Capt. "Orca" Fisher said the trips offer bathing in the shallow waters, sightseeing with the dolphins, trips to Egmont Key and sunset cruises.

The Minnow is docked at the Holmes Beach city basin, slip No. 23, next to the Marina Drive entrance to Wells Fargo bank.

Excursions are scheduled when a minimum number of people sign up, often as few as four or six. The Minnow also takes private groups on tours.

Island Pearl Inc. also operates a water-taxi service from downtown Bradenton to Holmes Beach, the Tortuga Inn, Bridge Street in Bradenton Beach and the Mar Vista Dockside Restaurant on Longboat Key.

For more information about the two-hour excursions, call 941-780-8010.

Chamber events announced

The monthly networking luncheon of the Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce will take place 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday, June 5, at the Stonewood Grill and Tavern, 7110 Cortez Road W., Bradenton.

Cost of the event is \$15 and reservations are requested.

The chamber's monthly sunrise breakfast is 7:45-9 a.m. Wednesday, June 12, at the Sign of the Mermaid, 9707 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria.

Cost of the breakfast is \$8 and reservations are required.

Members are encouraged to bring a guest to chamber events.

For more information or to make reservations, call 941-778-1541.

Does your business have a new product or service, an award-winning employee or an anniversary to celebrate? Maybe you have just opened a business. If so, we'd like



Capt. "Orca" Fisher, left, and first mate "Ham-bone" Hamilton, right, guide the MV Minnow and its passengers into the Minnow's berth at the Holmes Beach city basin following a two-hour excursion around Anna Maria Sound and Egmont Key. Islander Photo: Rick Catlin



Go Organic
and centrally located for customers throughout Anna Maria Island. Only one block from the beach and amid a thriving downtown district — it's still a fun place to visit. Owner and pet nutritionist Kathy Splawn says, "With more space for our organic dog food production, customers don't have to order in advance anymore... they can order whatever quantity they want." Before the move, Dogs for the Earth was portioning food to make sure all the dogs that depend on its quality would have food. Along with consistent readiness of Dogs For the Earth Organic Dehydrated or Frozen Dog Food, the wellness center now offers more natural products, including shampoos, Earth-friendly pest control, non-toxic toys and more. Tiffany, Dogs For The Earth's official spokesdog invites everyone to stop by, say hello and sample the finest organic dog food and treats available anywhere.... all right here an Anna Maria Island.

Dogs dish up organic foods, move, too

Dogs for the Earth loves its new location. Moving from Pine Avenue was bitter sweet, but 5345 Gulf Drive is more spacious

to hear about it and put it in the business news column. For information on this free service, call The Islander at 941-778-7978 or email news@islander.org.



The Islander is packing

After 21 years in the same Holmes Beach shopping center, the newspaper has a lot of packing to do to prepare for a move at the end of the week. We're cleaning house and spiffing up ... getting ready to dish up the best news on Anna Maria Island for another decade or two from a groovy new location. The Islander will be at its present location for another week, but look for us at 5604-B Marina Drive, across from the library, on June 10. Oh, and stop by and check out our sale at 5404 Marina Drive, before the move.

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Seedings, playoffs set for center sports

Kevin Cassidy
Islander Reporter

The regular season is in the books and the second season of playoffs are set to start in the Anna Maria Island Community Center adult soccer league. Island Pest Control grabbed the top seed with a 7-1 record and will face No. 8 seed Pink & Navy Boutique at 6 p.m. Thursday, June 6, to open the playoffs.

Second-seed Sato Real Estate takes on No. 7 Slim's Place in the second game of the night, while No. 3 Wash Family Construction battles 1st USA Plumbing. The final game in the first-round playoffs has fourth-seed Beach to Bay Construction facing off against No. 5 seed Discount Signs & Wraps. Second-round matches will be held June 13 with the Island Cup the following night at 7 p.m.

The final week of the league's regular season May 30 saw Island Pest Control defeat Pink & Navy Boutique 2-0. Greg Ross and Max Gazzo each notched single goals to lead Island Pest Control, which also received five saves from Frank Agnelli in the victory.

Discount Signs & Wraps defeated 1st USA Plumbing 3-2 in the second game of the night to overtake them in the standings and earn a higher playoff seed. Jeff Christianson scored two goals and Ryan Hogan added one to lead the offense, while the defense received eight saves from Troy Shonk to preserve the victory.

1st USA Plumbing received a goal each from Rico Beissert and Matt Kretzman. Tony Frudakis added an assist, while Pedro Gonzalez and Beissert each made eight saves while splitting time in goal.

The last game of the evening saw Wash roll over Slim's by a 5-2 score. Aaron Parkin had a hat trick to lead the WFC offense, which also received one goal from BJ Grant and 13 saves from Mark Pennell in the victory.

Nick LeDuc scored both goals for Slim's Place, which also received an assist from Ed Moss and 20 saves from Josh Rio in the loss.

Basketball playoffs underway

The adult basketball league at the center also completed regular season play and now it was win or go home for the June 4 playoff startup. Top seed Island Sun now waits to see whether it faces Gator Man Pools or Southern Greens, which also faced off June 4. No. 2 seed Bowes Imaging Center awaits the winner of the Island Real Estate vs. Duncan Real Estate matchup in the opening game. Second-round games will be June 11, while the championship match is set for 9 p.m. June 11.

Bowes Imaging solidified its No. 2 seeding with a



Center basketball 11-13 division MVP JP Russo, 8-10 MVP Jack Groves and premier division MVP Phil Rottes accept trophies at the May 29 awards ceremony. *Islander Photo: Courtesy AMICC*

64-57 victory over Island Real Estate during the final regular-season night of adult basketball action. Matt Ray had a strong all-around game for Bowes Imaging with 26 points, 10 rebounds and three assists, while Brandon Kern added 23 points, eight rebounds and seven assists. Jason Mickan finished with 11 points, eight rebounds and five assists to round out the scoring for Bowes Imaging.

Dylan Bower's 20 points and 12 rebounds paced Island Real Estate, which also received 12 points and eight rebounds from Jim Lynch and 9 points, three rebounds and three assists from Teegan Putil in the loss.

Sun nailed down the top seed by edging Southern Greens 55-51 in the second game of the evening. Andrew Terman scored 21 points and Chad Woods added 14 points, eight rebounds and two assists to lead the Sun, which also received 13 points and 10 rebounds from Eric Gledhill in the victory.

Jordan Demers scored 20 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, while Robert Serrano added 14 points to lead Southern Greens in the loss.

Matt Dwyer's 25 points and eight rebounds along with 23 points, 13 rebounds and three assists from Aaron Dudkes carried Gator Man to an easy 70-54 victory over Duncan in the evening's last game. Joe Combs finished with 13 points, including three three-pointers to round out the Gator's victory.

Philip Slack's 16 points and 11 rebounds and 15 points each from Craig Bores and Justin Jones paced Duncan in the loss.

Center awards basketball teams, players

The regular season of the center's spring youth basketball league has come to a close and these teams also are trying to stay alive in the win-or-go-home playoffs.

The center also announced its end-of-season awards May 29 for the three youth basketball divisions.

Josh Calhoun won the sportsmanship award and Tuna McCracken grabbed the defensive MVP award in the 8-10 division. Ava Zink was the female MVP and Jack Groves captured the overall MVP for the season.

The 11-13 division sportsmanship award went to Nicole Sewall, while Brooke Capparelli captured the female MVP award. Trent Boring was named defensive MVP, while JP Russo was the overall MVP.

The sportsmanship winner for the premier division went to Ryan Gilman with Taylor Wilson grabbing the female MVP award. Connor Field was defensive MVP and Phil Rottes was honored as overall MVP.

Hooke sets new record

Longtime Galati Yacht employee Mickey Hooke ran the seventh annual Spring Lake 5K on May 25 in Brooksville. Hooke ran an impressive 18:38 to take first place overall and break the previous event record by 17 seconds. Hooke is one of only two people to have broken 19:00 on this course, dubbed the toughest 5K in Florida.

The course starts on an uphill, skinny and rooty dirt path before moving to the road for three steep, 1-mile hills before finishing the last third of a mile on flat road.

Hooke's run also set new masters and grandmasters' division records for the course.

Key Royale golf news

In observance of Memorial Day, the club women played a "red, white and blue" nine-hole, individual-low-net golf match May 28. They teed up from the reds, whites or blues on predetermined holes and a good time was had by all at the Key Royale Club.

Ginny Upshaw grabbed first place in Flight A with a 3-under-par 29 for a two-shot victory over Penny Williams and Tootie Wagner, who finished tied for second place. Joyce Brown was alone in third at even-par 32.

Liz Lang's 3-under-par 29 gave her first place in Flight B, while Marcia O'Brien was a shot back in second place. Terry Westby took third with a 1-under-par 31.

Horseshoe news

Ron Pepka teamed with two players to come away with two days of bragging rights in horseshoe action at the Anna Maria City Hall horseshoe pits.

On May 29, he teamed up with John Johnson for the only 3-0 pool-play record for the day's outright winners.

It was déjà vu all over again June 1 when he teamed up with Tim Sofran for bragging rights.

Play gets underway at 9 a.m. every Wednesday and Saturday at the Anna Maria City Hall pits.

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Despite windy conditions, fishing action remains hot

By Capt. Danny Stasny
Islander Reporter

Fishing around Anna Maria Island remains productive despite strong winds from the east this past weekend.

Tarpon are moving steadily along the beaches waiting to be swarmed, while some 20 boats or more at a time are looking in the same general areas for a hookup. Don't expect those fish to bite. Catches around the passes and the Sunshine Skyway Bridge are being reported. Pass crabs, blue crabs, threadfin herring, shiners and pinfish are producing bites.

On the flats, spotted seatrout are in good numbers. Live shiners are proving lucrative, although a small pinfish under a cork is hard for them to resist, too. For the fishers who prefer artificials, try topwater plugs in the early morning and switch to soft plastics when the sun gets up higher in the sky.

Capt. Warren Girle is targeting tarpon. Whether fishing just off the beaches, in the passes or at the "big bridge," Girle is managing to get his clients connected with a silver king.

Girle's preferred baits are pass crabs and small blue crabs although threadfin herring are working in certain situations.

Average size of Girle's tarpon catches this past week is 80-100 pounds with the largest around 160 pounds.

In between tarpon, Girle is fishing the backcountry of Sarasota Bay. Catch-and-release snook as well as slot-size redfish are being caught on live shiners. By anchoring and chumming, Girle is luring prey within casting range of the boat.

Finally, on an adventure to offshore waters, Girle found success with mangrove snapper, permit and amberjack. For the mangoes and AJ's Girle is using live shiners. "For the permit, you can't beat a crab," says Girle.

Dave Sork at the Anna Maria City Pier says Spanish mackerel are being there in the early mornings. Pier fishers using white jigs, Gotcha plugs or Clark spoons are taking home dinner. Expect to catch macks in the 15- to 20-inch range with a few larger fish in the mix. Also cooperating are jack crevalle, ladyfish, blue runners



Don Garber, visiting from New Jersey, hooked up a silver king while fishing Tampa Bay with Capt. Warren Girle.

and small shark. For the shark, a piece of fresh-cut jack crevalle or ladyfish will get you hooked up.

Jim Malfese at the Rod & Reel says fishing is getting better as the water warms and bait fish arrive in quantities. Pier fishers are reeling up a variety of species using a variety of baits.

In the morning, Spanish mackerel are being caught. Pier fishers using white speck rigs are catching macks in the range of 15 inches. Expect to hook into blue runners, ladyfish, jack crevalle and, if you're lucky, a stray pompano while targeting macks with jigs.

From under and around the pilings of the pier, fishers are reeling up black drum, flounder and snapper. Live shrimp are the bait of choice, although small live shiners will do the job.

Finally, over-slot redfish and catch-and-release snook

are rounding out the bite. Pier fishers using stout gear and a little skill are managing to land big reds and a few whopper snook at night. Live pinfish or ladyfish are working for the snook. For the reds, pinfish or small blue crabs will get you connected.

Johnny Mattay at Island Discount Tackle says to look for hungry catch-and-release snook around the passes and piers at night. Mattay is using a variety of baits, including live shiners, pinfish and ladyfish, to hook the oversized fish. Mattay suggests using stout gear, too. Mattay is catching snook up to 37 inches at night.

From the flats, Mattay says spotted seatrout are the main attraction. For live bait, shrimp or shiners will work. For artificials, try a topwater plug at either sunrise or sunset for an explosive surprise.

Finally, tarpon reports are coming in to the marina daily. Fish are being spotted around the passes and on the beaches. Pass crabs, blue crabs, shiners, threadfin herring or pinfish are producing a bite, catches up to 150 pounds are being reported.

Capt. Mark Howard of SumoTime fishing charters says fishing has been mostly steady, but he's seeing some red-hot action in the mix. Spotted seatrout, redfish and catch-and-release snook have been feeding when the current is moving.

Spotted seatrout have been the go-to fish for both some fillets for the dinner table and exciting action on the flats in Tampa Bay, says Howard. He also saw plenty of gator trout landed in the past week. "A lively shiner rigged on a 1/0 hook with 30-pound fluorocarbon leader under a popping cork has drawn many of these snaggle-toothed predators to the boat. Make the old school bobbers pop and gurgle and the bait to flash to draw the strikes," says Howard.

Redfish have been making appearances in smaller schools, and cruising the edges of flats and hiding in potholes. Chumming with shiners will draw strikes from

PLEASE SEE FISHING, NEXT PAGE

Snapper season reopens

The recreational red snapper season began June 1 in state and federal waters in the Gulf of Mexico.

The state season is 44 days long and will be open through July 14, with the first day of the closure being July 15.

The federal season off Florida will be 26 days long.

State waters are from shore to 9 nautical miles in Gulf waters; federal waters extend beyond that line to 200 nautical miles.

State and federal regulations require all commercial fishers and recreational anglers fishing for any reef fish species in the Gulf of Mexico to use circle hooks, venting tools and dehooking devices.

In Gulf state and federal waters, the minimum size limit is 16 inches total length and the bag limit is two fish per person, per day, within a 10-fish snapper aggregate limit.



Dorinda Keifer, left, visiting from Indiana, caught and released a snook while fishing Anna Maria's backwater with Capt. Warren Girle. Brooks Miller, also of Indiana, hooked and released several redfish on the charter.



Anna Maria Island Tides									
Date	AM	HIGH	PM	HIGH	AM	LOW	PM	LOW	Moon
June 5	10:03	2.4	—	—	3:25	1.1	5:35	0.0	
June 6	12:39	1.4	10:33	2.5	3:57	1.2	6:13	-0.1	
June 7	1:27	1.4	11:03	2.5	4:27	1.2	6:48	-0.2	
June 8	2:07	1.4	11:33	2.5	4:27	1.2	6:48	-0.2	New
June 9	2:40	1.4	12:06	2.6	5:27	1.3	7:55	-0.2	
June 10	3:08	1.4	12:41	2.6	6:03	1.2	8:28	-0.2	
June 11	3:35	1.4	1:19	2.5	6:46	1.2	9:03	-0.1	
June 12	4:03	1.5	2:01	2.4	7:36	1.2	9:39	0.0	

AM City Pier tides; Cortez high tides 7 minutes later — lows 1:06 later

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FISHING CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

these copper-bellied bruisers and fire up the bite. Howard suggests following the fish into the bushes as the tide works towards high water and, conversely, as the tide drops. The fish often stage on the drop offs of the flats.

Catch-and-release snook have been cooperating off the beaches and close to passes as they spawned on the full moon on May 24. Look for the snook to be in pods just off the beach shoreline in the first trough, Howard says.

Looking forward, the tide will be high in the early afternoons next week and should provide for some excellent fishing, Howard predicts. Tarpon are making a strong showing off the beaches and in Tampa Bay. "Look for the tarpon bite to explode in the coming weeks as more of the schools of silver kings invade our waters," Howard says.

Capt. Rick Gross of Fishy Business Charters also is fishing tarpon this week. By using crabs, threadfin herring or shiners for bait, Gross is connecting his clients to 150 pounds of silver fury. Average size this past week was 80-150 pounds.

In the backcountry, Gross is catching slot and over-slot size catch-and-release snook on live shiners. Gross is using a No. 1 bait hook tied to a few feet of 20-pound fluorocarbon leader to target these feisty linesiders. By anchoring and chumming, Gross is keeping the fish occu-

121 46th St., Unit A, Dos Pinas Coladas, Holmes Beach, a 2,569 sfla / 3,381 sfur 6bed/4½bath/2car land condo built in 2009 was sold 05/13/13, SMK Anna Maria Investments LLC to Chalfant for \$975,000; list \$998,000.

706 Jacaranda Road, Anna Maria, a 932 sfla / 1,360 sfur 2bed/2bath canalfront home built in 1968 on a 50x150 lot was sold 05/16/13, Pearson to Logan for \$599,000.

2212 Ave. A, Bradenton Beach, a 1,620 sfla / 2,346 sfur 3bed/2bath home built in 1999 on a 50x100 lot was sold 05/16/13, Curry to AJL Bayside LLC for \$555,000.

108 39th St., Holmes Beach, a 2,976 sfla 7bed/4bath multiplex built in 1970 on a 100x100 lot was sold 05/14/13, Bank of New York to Florida Gulf Coast Vacation Homes LLC for \$526,000.

407 S. Bay Blvd., Anna Maria, a 1,054 sfla / 1,456 sfur 2bed/1bath/1car home built in 1957 on a 74x101

lot was sold 05/10/13, Curtis to Shaw for \$450,000; list \$499,000.

lot was sold 05/10/13, Curtis to Shaw for \$450,000; list \$499,000.

815 N. Shore Drive, Anna Maria, a 1,512 sfla / 2,114 sfur 3bed/2bath home built in 1959 on a 90x125 lot was sold 05/16/13, Stover to Peloubet for \$450,000.

6250 Holmes Blvd., Unit 22, North Beach Village, Holmes Beach, a 1,536 sfla / 2,055 sfur 2bed/2½bath/2car condo with shared pool built in 1990 was sold 05/10/13, Rice to Johnson for \$285,000; list \$329,000.

2411 Ave. B, Bradenton Beach, a 1,701 sfla / 2,228 sfur 4bed/4bath duplex built in 1985 n a 50x100 lot was sold 05/13/13, Stagg to Davis for \$261,100.

2104 Ave. B, Bradenton Beach, a 1,320 sfla / 1,496 sfur 2bed/2bath duplex built in 1975 on a 50x100 lot was sold 05/15/13, Wilmore to Bischof Investments LLC for \$248,000.

2106 Ave. B, Bradenton Beach, a 1,320 sfla / 1,496 sfur 2bed/2bath duplex built in 1975 on a 50x100 lot was sold 05/15/13, Wilmore to Bischof Investments LLC for \$248,000.

Compiled by Jesse Brisson, broker/associate at Gulf Bay Realty of Anna Maria, 941-778-7244.

Send your fishing, sports, event news and photos to news@islander.org. Share the fun.

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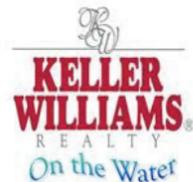
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WEEKLY/MONTHLY/ANNUAL rentals: wide variety, changes daily. SunCoast Real Estate, 941-779-0202, or 1-800-732-6434. www.suncoastinc.com.

ADORABLE GULFFRONT COTTAGE: 100 feet from Gulf. 2BR/1 large bath. Seasonal rental, three-day minimum. Call for further information, 863-660-3509 or email: mememersh@aol.com.

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WINTER 2013-14: 2BR/2BA ground level with carport and patio. 1.5 blocks to Gulf. Luxurious, updated, must see! Anna Maria. 941-565-2373.

ANNUAL RENTAL 2BR/1BA: 4413 99th St. W. (at Cortez Road). Quiet neighborhood next to Mt. Vernon 55-plus community. Washer/dryer, tile floors, security doors, yard maintenance provided. Utilities not included. \$850/month/\$850 deposit. No pets. Call 941-896-2909 to view.

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ISLANDER CLASSIFIEDS

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SEASONAL OR ANNUAL Sarasota bayfront. 2BR/2BA, pool. \$2,000 month. Gulf view, 3BR/2BA, \$2,000 month. For information, 703-587-4675, bayrest@hotmail.com.

RENTALS Continued

ANNUAL RENTAL: NORTHWEST Bradenton: 3BR/2BA private home with a heated pool and fenced backyard. Tile and carpet, granite counter tops, two-car garage, covered patio, lake views, washer/dryer hookups. Lawn and pool care provided. Small dog considered. Close to Robinson Preserve. \$1,600/month. First, last, security. Gulf Bay Realty, 941-778-7244.

ANNUAL RENTAL: Brand-new 3BR/3BA apartment on Pine Avenue. \$1,700 month. Call Sato Real Estate Inc., 941-778-7200 or email rentals@satorealestate.com.

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New York Times Sunday Magazine Crossword

MADE-FOR-TV MOVIES By Joon Pahk and Jeremy Horwitz / Edited by Will Shortz

Across

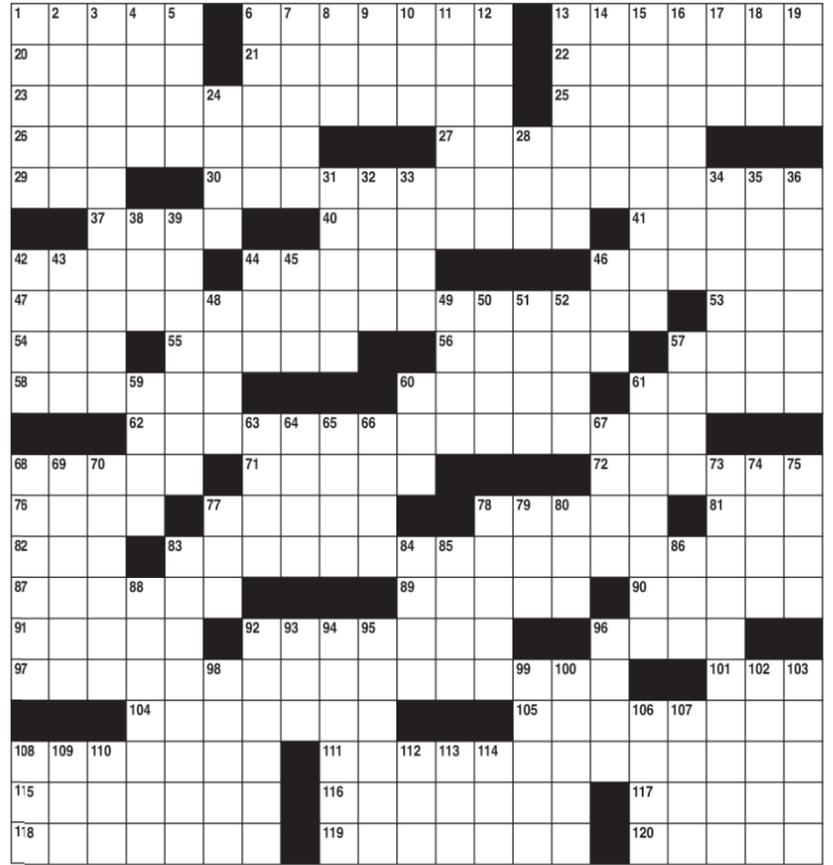
- 1 Friends in a pub
- 6 Openly disdain
- 13 Baroque French dance
- 20 Cognizant
- 21 Relaxing soak
- 22 Alma mater of Eli Manning
- 23 TV movie about ... where I can easily get a cab?
- 25 "I'm not kidding"
- 26 Mind-numbing
- 27 Kind of pressure involved in water filtration
- 29 French word with two accents
- 30 ... where to go in Togo?
- 37 Home-run pace
- 40 Arriviste
- 41 Greek vowels
- 42 Network with the slogan "Not Reality. Actuality"
- 44 "Me and Bobby ___" (posthumous Janis Joplin No. 1)
- 46 Pants measure
- 47 ... a Hispanic "hip hip hooray"?
- 53 Cousin ___
- 54 Nikkei unit
- 55 Epitome of thinness
- 56 Greet silently

Answers:
page 24

- 57 Janis's cartoon husband
- 58 NBC newsman Holt
- 60 Step
- 61 Specter of the Senate, once
- 62 ... trying to get a friar to violate his vow of silence?
- 68 Trade talk
- 71 Soak
- 72 Farfalle and orzo
- 76 Old French line
- 77 Comment that might get the response "de rien"
- 78 Follower of Las Vegas or New York
- 81 Back
- 82 Livy's "I love"
- 83 ... a singing group that meets for bacon and eggs?
- 87 Bursts (in)
- 89 Russians, e.g.
- 90 "Stoutly-built" Dickens villain
- 91 Concave object of reflection?
- 92 Not mixing well?
- 96 School orgs.
- 97 ... Skywalker's trendy hygiene products?
- 101 Boxer, e.g., in brief
- 104 Drinks served in flutes
- 105 Parliament constituent?
- 108 "How touching"
- 111 ... giving a pipsqueak the brush-off?

- 115 Yasir Arafat, by birth
 - 116 State symbol of Massachusetts
 - 117 Archbishop of Canterbury's headdress
 - 118 Fabulously rich ancient king
 - 119 White Castle offerings
 - 120 Comparatively foxy
- Down**
- 1 Lacking shine
 - 2 Expect
 - 3 Ones going to Washington?
 - 4 Pennsylvania's Flagship City
 - 5 Mtg.
 - 6 Whale of an exhibition
 - 7 Miles Davis ___ (cool jazz group)
 - 8 Fig. on a terminal monitor
 - 9 Die down
 - 10 With 69-Down, 1990s-2000s sitcom star
 - 11 Tops
 - 12 Santiago's milieu in a Hemingway novel
 - 13 Become lenient
 - 14 Prince Valiant's love
 - 15 Checks out
 - 16 Original opening to Homer's "Odyssey"?
 - 17 Hermano del padre o de la madre

- 18 The Tigers of the Ohio Valley Conf.
- 19 Ogee's shape
- 24 Binge
- 28 Neighbor of Alg.
- 31 Even more vast
- 32 Phone abbr.
- 33 Exploits
- 34 Nickname for Clara Bow
- 35 Jerseys and such
- 36 Actor Kutcher
- 38 Numbered rd.
- 39 Binge
- 42 Texter's ta-ta
- 43 Syngman of South Korea
- 44 VHF unit
- 45 Jobs's job, once
- 46 You might choose something by it
- 48 Grant for filmmaking?
- 49 Start to matter?
- 50 Bellyache
- 51 "Gotcha, man"
- 52 Hellhound of Norse mythology
- 57 Torah holders
- 59 General ___ chicken
- 60 ___-goat
- 61 Standard part of a limerick
- 63 James who died three years before winning a Pulitzer
- 64 "A Doll's House" wife
- 65 "Do not like"
- 66 Worker's weekend whoop
- 67 Anthony's partner in radio



- 68 Language from which "cotton" and "candy" are derived
- 69 See 10-Down
- 70 Day, to da Vinci
- 73 Has an adult conversation?
- 74 Feverish fit
- 75 Doesn't just tear up
- 77 ___ Piggie- Wiggle (children's character)
- 78 Engine problem
- 79 French high-speed rail inits.
- 80 Literary inits.
- 83 Retro dos
- 84 Where the world's 100 tallest mountains are found
- 85 It's an affront
- 86 "Homeland" org.
- 88 Basketball Hall-of-Famer Artis
- 92 Positive ends
- 93 '60s activist org.
- 94 Oklahoma Indians
- 95 "I Never Played the Game" memoirist
- 96 Prominent beefcake features
- 98 "I'd like to see ___"
- 99 Surname appearing nine times in a list of Indy 500 winners
- 100 Long-tailed beach fliers
- 102 ___ nous
- 103 Urban ____, 2004 and 2012 undefeated college football coach
- 106 ___ law
- 107 Sweat
- 108 Former railroad regulatory agcy.
- 109 Blemish
- 110 Italian mine?
- 112 "I did NOT need to hear that"
- 113 Former Ford model
- 114 Cinnabar, e.g.

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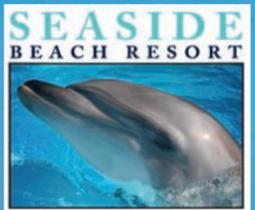
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