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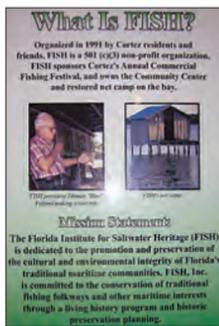
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The Anna Maria Islander

The Best News on Anna Maria Island Since 1992

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Concerns about AM park donations ignite discord

By Rick Catlin
Islander Reporter

Sometimes people in Anna Maria take one step forward and two steps back — which appeared to be the case Nov. 14 when Anna Maria commissioners began discussing the first reading of a site plan for what city planner Alan Garrett called the Anna Maria Park — the six vacant lots at Pine Avenue and Bay



Webb

Boulevard. Commission Chair Chuck Webb questioned whether the park should include already approved parking spaces and also expressed concern that the plan includes restrooms.

The site plan presented by Garrett, originally conceived and presented to the commission by former Commissioner Gene Aubry

includes landscaping, 15 parking spaces and public restroom facilities.

Wait a minute, said Mike Coleman, a principal with Pine Avenue Restoration, which pledged a \$100,000 donation toward the cost of developing the park. He said the commission previously agreed to the donations and the Aubry plan — parking, restrooms and all.

Coleman said Rex Hagen pledged a \$50,000 donation to the park on the condition it would incorporate some parking.

And, at a commission meeting in June, commissioners voted for Aubry's plan.

But Webb, on Nov. 14, disagreed with the conditions placed on the plan.

"I missed that meeting, but I believed my fellow commissioners would not accept any donation with conditions attached," Webb said.

"I thought the commission would be

adamant that no strings would be attached to the donation. Had I been there, I would have (voted) down the donation," he said.

City attorney Jim Dye said he was asked to write an agreement accepting the donations from PAR and Hagen. He did not have the agreements with him, but said the executed agreements should be at city hall.

He cautioned commissioners: "When reviewing the site plan, base your decision on what the code says, not on money being dangled in front of you. You can accept donations, but you can't have conditions attached."

Commissioner Dale Woodland said the documents were agreed to and signed.

Coleman said PAR's pledge included a clause that the company had the "right to withdraw if there was a major deviation" from the plan as submitted by Aubry.

PLEASE SEE AM PARK, PAGE 3

Calling for unity

A Nov. 16 event at CrossPointe Fellowship church offered to unite Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and the community. For more photos, see page 18.



Island accommodations: A lot to give thanks for

By Rick Catlin
Islander Reporter

Anna Maria Island accommodation owners and managers already are giving thanks for a great-looking Thanksgiving weekend.

An Islander survey found most accommodations booked for Thanksgiving, with only rooms or homes here and there still available.

At Cedar Cove Resort, 2710 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach, owner Eric Cairns predicted the resort would have its best Thanksgiving week ever.

"We've got just a few single-night rooms available, and the way the phone has been ringing, I don't expect those to last very long," Cairns said.

"I'm definitely excited about the week. We've got lots of families coming, and we may do a Thanksgiving dinner for our guests."

Cairns said if he gets any drive-up traffic, he'll do his best to accommodate people, either at Cedar Cove or a neighboring property.

"There's usually one or two people who decide at the last minute to come to the island for some peace and quiet," he said.

At the White Sands Resort, 6504 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach, co-owner Ken Gerry said Thanksgiving reservations "really look good. We should definitely be filled by Thanksgiving Day."

Meanwhile, in the vacation homes industry, Kelly Powers of Anna Maria Island Accommodations, 315 Pine Ave., Anna Maria, said she had some homes available "but people who are looking for peace and quiet have booked well ahead of time. We'll do what we can to help the last-minute visitor, but smart vacationers know to book ahead."

If AMI Accommodations doesn't have a suitable rental, Powers said the staff will call around looking for what that guest desires.

"We all try to help each other, especially when it's busy like this weekend," she said.

The same is true for Island Real Estate vacation rentals, said co-owner Larry Chatt: "We're really about topped out, but we've got a few left. We'll do all we can to help the walk-ins, including call other properties to see if they can help. All in all, it's going to be a great Thanksgiving for all the wonderful families." PLEASE SEE AMI TOURISM, PAGE 2

New BB mayor bows out, but lawsuit continues

By Mark Young
Islander Reporter

Bradenton Beach Mayor Bill Shearon said one of his first thoughts after winning the Nov. 5 election was that he was, for all intents and purposes, suing himself.

"To be honest, I wasn't sure if I would win the election," said Shearon. "After realizing that I had won, I said, 'Wait a minute. I'm suing myself.'"

According to court documents filed Nov. 12 in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court, Shearon voluntarily dropped out of a lawsuit he filed with two other city residents.

The trio filed the lawsuit against the city in June 2012 following the city's decision to enter into a joint development agreement with ELRA, Ed Chiles' BeachHouse restaurant corporation, to construct a dune and parking lot next to the restaurant, 200 Gulf Drive N., Bradenton Beach.

The dune has since been constructed, but if the plaintiffs win, the dune could be removed and the beach restored as it was before the agreement.

Chiles, who is not named in the lawsuit, has held off on the parking lot portion of the agreement until the dispute is resolved. But the BeachHouse already uses the area for its valet parking lot.

The city entered the agreement after weeks of contention from citizens and the planning and zoning board, whose members recommended denying the agreement. The P&Z board cited various violations of the city's comprehensive plan and land development codes in their findings against the plan.

Strong words from former Commissioner Ric Gatehouse, who questioned the P&Z members' motives in their decision, and city attorney Ricinda Perry, who called into question PLEASE SEE BB MAYOR, PAGE 2

Flocking to AMI

Plenty of people are likely to visit the Anna Maria City Pier during Thanksgiving week. While surveys of favorite spots among visitors are no longer taken, the pier frequently ranked No. 1 among Manatee County responders. The forecast next week calls for temperatures in the low 80s and many island accommodations already are reporting no vacancies for the holiday week. *Islander Photo: Rick Catlin*



Former Bradenton Beach Commissioner Bill Shearon was to be sworn in as mayor Nov. 18 prior to an organizational meeting that will include new Commissioner Janie Robertson and a new acting clerk.

BB MAYOR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lies who enjoy what this island has to offer.”
 Chatt said the office, 6101 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach, would remain open until 8:30 p.m. through the week to assist those looking for accommodations.

David Teitelbaum, owner of four resorts in Bradenton Beach, said advance reservations for Thanksgiving have “gone through the roof.”

Visitors to the island have learned not to wait until a few days before a holiday.

“You don’t want to get shut out from your favorite resort by waiting until the last minute,” he said. “But we’ll help all the walk-in traffic find a room. On the island, we all cooperate with each other.”

Teitelbaum owns the Tortuga Inn, the Tropical Isle, the Silver Surf, the Tradewinds and the SeaSide resorts, all on Gulf Drive North in Bradenton Beach.

AMI TOURISM CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the qualifications of the P&Z members, led to multiple resignations.

Jo Ann Meilner and Shearon were among the P&Z members to resign and, along with Shearon’s personal and business partner, Tjet Martin, filed the lawsuit.

Martin was recently appointed to the Scenic Waves Partnership Committee — a city commission advisory board — by the former administration.

The suit continues with Meilner and Martin as plaintiffs and the case has had little movement since it was filed. The plaintiffs offered arbitration to end the case, but the former administration rejected their offer. Commissioners proposed mediation, which was rejected by the plaintiffs.

Shearon said there was no other option for him as mayor but to drop out of the lawsuit.

“I dropped out so that there is no confusion and no conflicts of interest,” he said. “I also no longer retain the

attorney Ralf Brookes or have any responsibility with Mr. Brookes or this case.”

When asked if he would recuse himself in future proceedings involving the case, Shearon said he was advised that he is “free and clear” to vote on decisions pertaining to the case, but that he would not take that step until he felt certain that no conflicts exist.

“I’ll have to get advice from the city attorney on that,” said Shearon. “I’m taking every step to make sure the legal and responsible thing is done, but the first step was to get myself out of the case.”

Shearon said the next step is to wait and see, but assured the public that he would not involve himself in decisions pertaining to the lawsuit if there is any indication of impropriety.

“So right now, I’m in total limbo until I can sit down with the city attorney and see what my legal standing is,” he said.

Shearon was to be sworn in as mayor Nov. 18.

No room at the inn? No problem

Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce president Mary Ann Brockman said the chamber keeps a list of available accommodations from among its members during holidays.

“People can call us or drive to the office and we can put them in touch with the right property they’re looking for,” she said.

For information on accommodations during Thanksgiving week, call the chamber at 941-778-1541.

The chamber office is at 5313 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach.

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AM PARK CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Woodland said it would be irresponsible to change course now.

“We have an agreement, so it’s the right thing to do,” he said. He said Hagen wanted the restrooms, but if that wasn’t working out after the park opened, the city could then remove them. He indicated that changing the design before completion of the terms was not part of the deal.

Mayor SueLynn was adamant that the commission honor the agreement.

“I can’t believe you are rehashing this again. The commission already voted for this plan. This is what you agreed to and we’ve already moved forward,” she said.

When commissioners agreed to the park plan in June, she told the newly seated commission, she had asked “Are you sure this is what you want?”

She said it was “incredible” for the commission now to have second thoughts.

Nineteen trees were planted at the park and an irrigation well was dug. The 15 parking spaces have been surveyed and a lot of other work has been accomplished, she said.

Commissioner Doug Copeland agreed the city should

at least have some parking at the park. “Forget about the money. We’ve already agreed to this plan.”

Webb, however, said he wanted to review documents on the pledges and meeting minutes and learn more about how much work the city has done at the park.

He continued further discussion of the site plan to the Dec. 5 commission meeting.

“Nothing is engraved in stone,” Webb said.

Coleman, a member of the city’s P&Z board, which routinely reviews site plans, gathered his thoughts after the meeting and wrote to city officials Nov. 16, pointing out what he considered to be an obvious procedural oversight.

“The confusion as to the recent review of the six-lots site plan has caused a fundamental misstep. Even though signed contracts would seem to bind the city,” he wrote, the contracts are irrelevant. Site plan review is not a legislative process, it is quasi-judicial.

Coleman said “the criteria for approving or denying site plans is black and white.”

If the site plan is consistent with the city code, officials are bound to approve it, regardless of personal preference. Accordingly, if a plan fails to comply, it must be denied, he said.

“The commission is required, personal preference or desired policy differences notwithstanding, to approve this plan based solely on the fact it has been submitted (by the city) in proper form and is compliant with existing codes and ordinances.”

He wrote, “Site plan approval must be based on substantial competent evidence as to compliance with existing code. Period.”

Renourishment ahead

Commissioners also got an update at the meeting on beach renourishment from Manatee County Parks and Natural Resources director Charlie Hunsicker.

Unfortunately, no city beaches are included in the project, which begins in December. But, he said, Anna Maria beaches are in “pretty good shape.”

The first phase should finish by early February, Hunsicker said. Renourishment will begin at the 79th Street beach in Holmes Beach and proceed south to Cortez Beach. On completion of that phase, Cortez Beach will



Readying renourishment

Manatee County Parks and Natural Resources director Charlie Hunsicker updates Anna Maria commissioners Nov. 14 on a beach renourishment project planned to start in December. Renourishment will begin at the 79th Street beach in Holmes Beach and proceed south to Cortez Beach. Islander Photo: Rick Catlin

be renourished and new, adjustable groins will replace the deteriorating concrete groins. Sand will then be pumped on the shore to the southern end of Coquina Beach.

In other matters

Commissioners adopted Nov. 14 an ordinance that requires each property to display its street number with four-inch high numbers visible from the street, and houses on the water to display the address on the waterfront.

Commissioners also rezoned the six vacant lots on Pine Avenue being developed as a park from retail-office-residential to public recreation area in compliance with the comprehensive plan.

The public hearing on a stormwater management amendment was continued to Dec. 5, as was discussion on clearing vegetation at Gulf Front Park, the city-owned beachfront extending south from Magnolia Avenue.

Commissioners also agreed to discuss beach weddings in the context of special event permit requirements at the Dec. 5 meeting.

New to the dais
Anna Maria’s newly elected commissioners take their seats Nov. 14 after being sworn into office by city clerk Alice Baird. Commissioner Carol Carter, right, is serving her first term. Islander Photos: Rick Catlin



Appointed to a seat in June, Commissioner Doug Copeland, left, ran successfully for a two-year term in the Nov. 5 election. Commissioner Dale Woodland, re-elected to a sixth term, also was sworn into office.



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HB traffic committee drafts overflow parking proposal

By Mark Young
Islander Reporter

Seeking ways to gain use of more parking for visitors to the Manatee Public Beach appears to be the focus for Holmes Beach's congestion committee.

The committee has focused on two primary issues in attempting to resolve traffic congestion and parking issues in the city: The creation of off-site beach parking and expanding parking and improving traffic flow at the main beach, Manatee Public Beach at 4000 Gulf Drive.

The committee all but finalized the terms of an agreement at its Nov. 12 meeting that would establish shared parking terms at churches and businesses for beach overflow parking. The agreement must first be approved by the city commission.

With the details of the agreement in place, committee member Bob Johnson said the next step is establishing whether the committee or the city will negotiate the agreement with the subject property owners.

Holmes Beach Mayor Carmel Monti, who regularly attends the congestion committee meetings, recommended that the committee take on that responsibility.

Johnson expressed concern that once the agreement is approved by the commission, there may be some factors that a church or business would want to add or change to fit specific needs.

Monti suggested that the committee draft a proposal that includes the agreement and outlines what the city has tentatively agreed to do, such as purchasing and installing signage.

He said to include as much information as possible in one sweeping proposal and he would seek to have it placed on a city commission agenda as soon as possible.

Johnson said he would draft the document and include a publicity plan and signage to get people to the overflow parking lots.

"It is my hope to have this plan in place and operating by Feb. 1," said Johnson.

Committee chair Carol Soustek said it's a realistic target date.

Public beach parking

The committee is awaiting a proposal from building official Tom O'Brien on how to reconfigure parking at the public beach, as well as creating a passenger drop-off lane, per Manatee County's approval.

A drop-off lane would provide an opportunity for motorists to drop off passengers and beach gear and then park either at the beach or at an overflow site.

Police Chief Bill Tokajer, an adviser to the committee, said the study should be done soon for the committee's review.



A beachgoer exits a Manatee County Area Transit bus at the Manatee Public Beach, 4000 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach. Officials want to establish a drop-off, pick-up location in the parking lot at the beach, as well as off-site beach parking and increased bus and trolley use with the busy tourist season ahead. *Islander Photo: Mark Young*

The number of parking spaces at the beach is estimated to be about 400. Under the right design and circumstances, as many as 200 additional spaces could be provided, according to Soustek.

"I saw a tentative outlay and it looks wonderful," she said, noting she has an appointment with a valet company to discuss how a valet service could benefit their parking plans.

Committee members discussed a valet lot, which would condense parking, allowing even more public parking.

Monti said city officials also have reviewed aerial photos of the parking lot and believe an additional 50 parking spaces could be added by realigning the existing parking spaces.

The committee also is in discussion with the county to move equipment from the north end of the parking lot elsewhere, creating more room for parking.

In other matters, Soustek placed on the agenda her possible replacement as chair.

"I put this on here for two reasons," she said. "One is because a member called for my resignation. The other is because I was running for commissioner and, had I won, I would have had to resign."

Soustek, however, lost in the Nov. 5 election.

Johnson called for her resignation in an October email expressing frustration over the committee's lack of action.

Soustek said if it was the committee's desire, she would step down.

"I like to go with the flow," said Soustek. "I like for meetings to be open and friendly, so you get a lot of input

from people."

Other committee members, including Johnson, said everyone has their own way of doing things, but they had no issues with Soustek remaining chair.

"We just need to concentrate on moving forward in a positive direction, but need to be aggressive and get this stuff done," said Johnson.

Monti said the committee's recent disagreements paralleled what is going on at the city commission level, and that the key is to move forward with mutual respect.

"You can disagree, but it's important you respect the other person's opinion," said Monti. "I think this group has done a great job. You've accomplished a lot."

Legislative delegation to hold hearing

Manatee County's state legislative delegation will hold its annual pre-session hearing Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 9 a.m. at the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee.

The program, scheduled to last until noon, will take place in the Selby Auditorium, 8350 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota.

For more information or to schedule testimony, call state Rep. Jim Boyd's office at 941-708-4968.

The deadline to request time on the agenda or to submit materials for the hearing is 4 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21. Information must be received by that time at Boyd's legislative office, 717 Manatee Ave. W., No. 100, Bradenton.



Buildup for fire safety

Crews with Ross Built Construction of Holmes Beach are making progress remodeling and expanding the West Manatee Fire Rescue station at 10350 Cortez Road . W., Bradenton. The work is expected to wrap up by January. When finished, the \$1.5 million project will signal completion for remodeling and significant improvements made to WMFR's three stations in the past three years. *Islander Photo: Rick Catlin*

Meetings

Anna Maria City

- Nov. 21, 6 p.m., city commission. CANCELED.
- Dec. 3, 6 p.m., planning and zoning.
- Dec. 5, 6 p.m., city commission.
- Dec. 11, 6 p.m., EEEEC.
- Dec. 12, 6 p.m., special meeting.

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

Bradenton Beach

- Nov. 21, noon, pier team.
 - Nov. 21, 1 p.m., city commission.
 - Dec. 2, 3 p.m., Scenic Waves.
 - Dec. 5, 1 p.m., pier team.
 - Dec. 5, 1:30 p.m., CRA/CIP.
 - Dec. 5, 7 p.m., city commission.
 - Dec. 11, 3 p.m., planning and zoning.
 - Dec. 19, 1 p.m., city commission. CANCELED
- Bradenton Beach City Hall, 107 Gulf Drive N., 941-778-1005, www.cityofbradentonbeach.org.

Holmes Beach

- Nov. 21, 7 p.m., city commission.
 - Nov. 25, 9:30 a.m., traffic committee.
 - Dec. 4, 5 p.m., parks and beautification.
 - Dec. 10, 7 p.m., city commission.
 - Dec. 12, 7 p.m., city commission.
 - Dec. 17, 11 a.m., city center.
- Holmes Beach City Hall, 5801 Marina Drive, 941-708-5800, www.holmesbeachfl.org.

Manatee County

- Dec. 3, 9 a.m., county commission.
 - Dec. 10, 9 a.m., commission work session, "How Will We Grow" implementation.
 - Dec. 17, 9 a.m., county commission.
- Administration building, 1112 Manatee Ave. W., Bradenton, 941-748-4501, www.myanatee.org.

West Manatee Fire Rescue

- No meetings scheduled.
- Administrative office, 6417 Third Ave. W., Bradenton, 941-761-1555, www.wmfr.org.

Of Interest

- Nov. 20, 2 p.m., Coalition of Barrier Island Elected Officials, Holmes Beach City Hall.
 - Nov. 28, Thanksgiving. Government offices generally and The Islander will be closed Nov. 28-29.
 - Dec. 9, 9 a.m., Manatee County Tourist Development Council, Holmes Beach City Hall.
 - Dec. 9, 2 p.m., Island Transportation Planning Organization, Bradenton Beach City Hall.
 - Dec. 16, 9:30 a.m., Sarasota-Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization, Holiday Inn, 8009 15th St. E., Sarasota.
 - Dec. 18, 2 p.m., Coalition of Barrier Island Elected Officials, TBD.
 - Dec. 25, Christmas. Most government offices will be closed Dec. 24-25.
- Send notices to news@islander.org.

Biggert-Waters Act has island punch, Congress punches back

By Rick Catlin
Islander Newspaper

The Biggert-Waters Act that phases out over years the government subsidies for flood insurance premiums on high-risk properties is impacting Anna Maria Island.

Brent Moss of Anna Maria Island Insurance, 5702 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach, said the proposed federal legislation delaying implementation of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 was intended to give Congress time to overhaul the National Flood Insurance Program and establish a timeline for raising flood insurance premiums and sustaining the program.

In late October, a bipartisan group of senators and representatives announced a plan to delay Biggert-Waters.

The House voted 281-146 in July to delay implementing Biggert-Waters, but the Senate was only came up with a companion bill until last week.

On Nov. 15, U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla., said in a news release that the bipartisan group had reached an agreement on legislation that would delay implementation of the Biggert-Waters Act by four years. Nelson said the bill would be introduced this week.

But Moss said there is no guarantee the legislation would pass quickly in the Senate.

"How long that will take is anyone's guess," Moss said.

He said he's been in touch almost daily with representatives of the National Flood Insurance Program, which is run by the Federal Emergency Management Authority, and "they don't even know."

But the result — a dramatic rise in premiums that took effect Oct. 1 under the act — is being viewed as catastrophic by many who serve the island market in real estate and insurance.

Until Congress passes a law and it's approved by the president, Biggert-Waters and the new, higher flood insurance premiums remain in effect, Moss said.

Biggert-Waters already has impacted a number of Moss' clients, who say flood insurance premiums rise at renewal time.

Homes most affected are those built before 1974, which are mostly ground-level, he said. Houses built with elevated living space may see little or no effect on flood insurance costs, Moss said.

"Obviously, those whose premiums really jumped are upset, but there's nothing to do but wait," he said.

Agent Kim Brito of Academy Insurance, 7330 Cortez Road W., Bradenton, said one island homeowner had a premium increase from \$1,200 to \$11,000.

Brito and Moss agree that it would help property owners in high-hazard flood areas if flood insurance premiums could be paid in installments. At present, flood insurance must be paid "in one lump sum at renewal," Brito said.

Bradenton Beach building official Steve Gilbert said that without any changes to Biggert-Waters, Anna Maria Island could become a ghost town.

"I'm getting calls every day about what's happening to flood insurance rates. A delay in implementing these new rates is really almost a necessity for the island to survive," he said.

Anna Maria building official Bob Welch said the Biggert-Waters Act is so complicated that online classes are

offered for insurance agents and building officials.

Welch said a delay in implementing the law would go a long way toward educating those who need to understand it.

Biggert-Waters also is affecting the island's real estate market.

Agents at Wagner Realty, Big Fish Real Estate and Gulf-Bay Realty have reported lost sales because of high, up-front insurance premiums required at closing.

Jesse Brisson of Gulf-Bay Realty, 5309 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach, said allowing monthly flood insurance payments would help.

"Without some legislation, we're all going to be losing sales," he said. The high cost of flood insurance will make cash sales more attractive to sellers. The buyer would simply avoid paying flood insurance and hope for the best.

Mortgage companies require flood insurance, but owners can opt to go bare if they are not encumbered by a mortgage.

"Buyers now are checking their survey elevation and shopping for flood insurance before making a purchase. It's really affecting the older, ground-level homes," he said.

Anna Maria has P&Z board openings

Two people are needed to fill openings on the Anna Maria Planning and Zoning Board.

Mike Pescitelli has submitted his resignation, as has Carol Carter. Carter gave up her seat following her election to the city commission.

Those interested in becoming a board member can apply at Anna Maria City Hall, 10005 Gulf Drive.

Applicants must be city residents to be considered by Mayor SueLynn. The board has seven seats, including a chair and vice chair. The current chair is Tom Turner. Pescitelli was the vice chair.

The mayor recommends people to fill P&Z vacancies with the approval of the commission.

'Happy Feet' waddles to Holmes Beach city field

The city of Holmes Beach announced a showing of "Happy Feet" will take place Friday, Nov. 22, at city field, 5801 Marina Drive.

The monthly Movie in the Park event is free to the public and is sponsored by BrightHouse Networks, the Rex Hagen Foundation, Waste Management and Jeff Seeger of Palmetto.

Free popcorn is provided and beer, wine and soft drinks are available for purchase, with proceeds this month benefitting Anna Maria Elementary School.

The movie will begin at 6 p.m.

Moviegoers are advised to bring their own seating, blankets and chairs.



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Homes Inspired by You



Our Opinion

Celebration

Unity was the word of the day Nov. 16.

A whole lot of planning, a great deal of organizing and a heaping amount of hope went into the recipe for a day of unity at Crosspointe Fellowship. Island officials, nonprofit organizations, clubs, churches and businesses all threw in their lot to make it happen.

And it did. It was all free, too.

There were kids and old folks, pirates and pastors, songs and speeches, games, playtime, food and, best of all, a tribute to veterans of America's armed forces.

Medals, banners and ribbons were shining on the shirts of some attendees, while others wore insignias on caps. All had salutes, cheers and tears. It was a day to celebrate our veterans' service to our country and to all of us.

There were World War II vets to honor. There were stories shared. Cards of encouragement and notes of thanks were created and posted on a wall.

The colors were presented by the American Legion Kirby Stewart Post 24 Honor Guard, and we, in turn, paid them tribute.

The inaugural Community Thanksgiving — sans turkey — will continue to unite us until next year when we celebrate the day again.

With many thanks to CrossPointe Fellowship for bringing us together, please, spread the word.

All about time

Some things come about with good timing. Other times, the calendar and outside forces have different plans for us.

Just in the past few weeks, we saw the launch of two other grand events — as if there were any lack of causes, benefits and large-scale fundraising events.

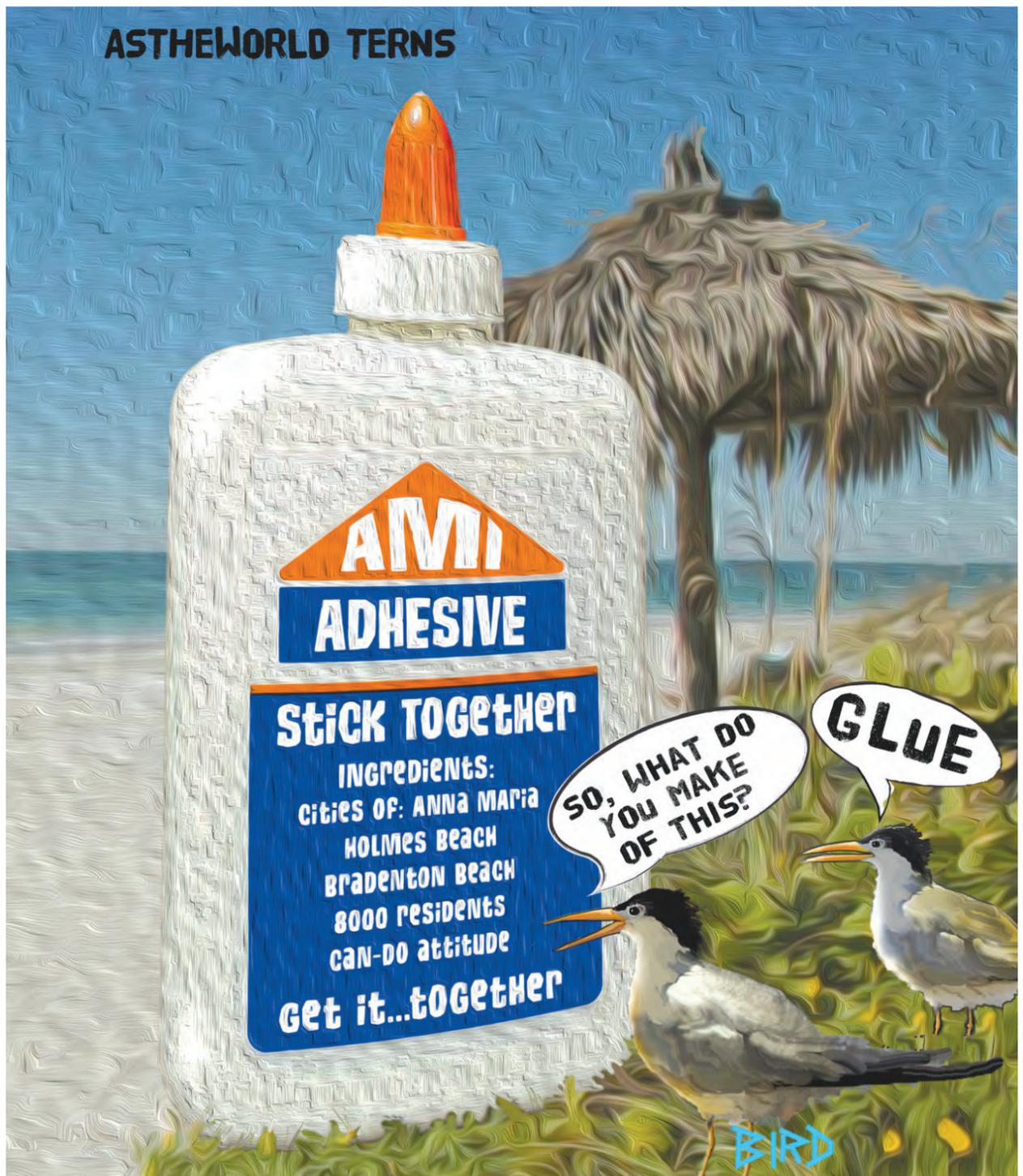
Both the Symphony on the Sand, a joint production by the Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce and the Bradenton Area Convention and Visitors Bureau to benefit the AMI Community Chorus and Orchestra, and the Anna Maria Island Privateers inaugural Pirate Invasion, including an elegant masquerade ball, were new to the calendar and much celebrated.

Our calendars fill weekly with new, fun and worthwhile occasions to celebrate.

And maybe people were celebrating the conclusion of another local election in the island's three cities Nov. 5. Maybe.

The choices were all good in Anna Maria, and we shouldn't count anyone a loser there. There's new interest in the city and it's mostly positive looking forward.

The city of Bradenton Beach did a flip-flop. Out



with the old, in with the old. Um. Yep. Two former commissioners took a commission seat and the mayor's office. And the new mayor, at least, promises changes.

The southernmost city may be heading out of the dark ages and into the light, thanks to a new, sight-challenged mayor with big vision.

But the election in Holmes Beach didn't go as well as the other cities. While the incumbents retained office, it was a battle among them and new political tactics that went far beyond the norm for an island where the platform for office usually consists of "I love it here and I want to keep it that way."

Aggression from behind the front lines played into this five-way race for three seats. Let's face it — the plan

nearly backfired. A scheme to replace one longtime commissioner of a different opinion with a new like-minded campaigner nearly bumped off one of their own.

And let's hear it for the mayor — who brought bad taste and bad politics (wait, isn't that the accusation he used against one of the commissioners?) to new levels, sending out his opinions on a job "well done" by his chosen few just days before the election.

State of the city report? Ha. It walked, talked and quacked like a political campaign flier, and it was sent not to taxpayers, but to the list of qualified voters.

Needless to say, these players were shamefully absent from the community unity day event.

— Bonner Joy

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Your Opinion

Site plan debacle, simple procedure

Recently, Rex Hagen, in the generous spirit for which he is known, made a proposal, presented by architect and Commissioner Gene Aubry, to fund a substantial portion of a plan for a park on the six lots across from the Anna Maria City Pier.

Following the initial presentation, there was the usual public and private discussion. Plans were drawn. On June 27, the proposal went on the agenda for public comment and a vote by the city commission, as follows: Final instructions for mayor regarding six lots — Mayor SueLynn.

Following the required public discussion, a motion was made: "to accept the proposal from Mr. Rex Hagen and authorize the Mayor to execute appropriate agreements with the donors for construction and development of the six-lot park as it is shown on the mayor's drawing." The commission voted in favor, 3-1.

That completed the legislative portion, and set policy. The mayor then set about, as instructed, to "execute the appropriate agreements." As part of that process, a site plan was developed in accordance with the plans as drawn. Contracts were executed, binding

participants to the plans as drawn and approved by the commission June 27.

Then site plan came before the planning and zoning board. Unfortunately, there was significant confusion as board members mistakenly failed to comprehend that site plan review is not a legislative process, in which policy is set. It is a quasi-judicial matter. Site plan review is not the appropriate forum for policy decisions. The criteria for approving or denying site plans is black and white. If the site plan is consistent with existing city code, officials are bound to vote their approval, regardless of whether it is consistent with their personal preference. Accordingly, if a plan fails to comply, it must be denied.

It seems everyone, including myself, missed this fundamental, likely due to the non-standard nature of the application itself, as the city applied to itself for site plan approval. Officials on the P&Z and commission treated this as a policy decision.

However, the policy had already been set by the commission at its June 27 meeting. The site plan correctly was prepared by staff in compliance with codes requiring it. The purpose of the review process was to make sure the plan as submitted is compliant with city

PLEASE SEE YOUR OPINIONS, NEXT PAGE

The Islander

10 years ago

Headlines from Nov. 19, 2003

• Tidemark developer Nick Easterling said he signed a partnership agreement with the Parliament Group of Dallas that would satisfy all Tidemark creditors and allow construction of the Holmes Beach project to begin. However, creditor Regions Bank of Florida filed a \$1.45 million foreclosure on the property that the bank's attorney said would proceed through the court system in the event the Parliament deal fell through.

• Holmes Beach commissioners agreed to discuss changing the ordinance on short-term rental limits of less than a month in single-family residential districts. City attorney Michelle Hall said the city prohibits rentals of less than a month to more than one family in the R-1 district. Hall suggested options, including requiring property owners to obtain a permit before leasing for less than one month. She also suggested limiting the number of occupants in a short-term rental.

• Anna Maria commissioners, in a 3-2 vote, rejected the list of recommended projects submitted by the capital improvements advisory committee. CIAC chair Larry Alberts said the committee wasted eight months of meetings to have the new commission reject the list. "And you wonder why it's so hard to get volunteers to work on committees," he told the commission.



Standing for unity
Veterans and all rise for the Star-Spangled Banner Nov. 16 at CrossPointe Fellowship, where a chorus from Anna Maria Elementary School performs. In the front row is World War II veteran Jim Kissick and behind him are Kit Redeker and her veteran husband Dale Redeker. There was entertainment, a barbecue lunch, refreshments, games for kids, speeches and recognition for military veterans. More photos, page 18-19. Islander Photo: Bonner Joy

Your Opinion

code. The application came with findings that it was compliant. It was, therefore, the duty of the P&Z to approve it as drawn, regardless of personal opinion or preference. I failed to make that point at the time so others could not grasp it. However, it's not too late.

For now, the matter is tabled. For good reason. Two commissioners were not at the meeting June 27 and all of them were wise to take time to review the facts and the record.

When it comes up again at the December meeting the commission is required — personal preference or desired policy differences notwithstanding — to approve this plan based solely on the fact it has been submitted in proper form and is compliant with existing codes and ordinances.

The policy decision was made at the June 27 meeting, where it was placed on the public agenda

for that purpose. Site plan approval must be based on substantial competent evidence as to compliance with existing code, period.

Micheal Coleman, Anna Maria

Post-election note

The right to vote is without question the foundation of our democracy, secured by men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice.

The process of voting should be orderly, private, efficient and dignified, but when my wife and I arrived at our polling place, we faced a gauntlet of noise, electioneering, waving signs, T-shirt displays and other activities.

The scene was distracting and annoying. Candidates have ample opportunity during their campaign to assert their rights and convince citizens to vote for them.

Why not let us vote in a dignified way?
Dr. Chet Hutton, Holmes Beach

TEMPS AND DROPS ON AMI

Date	Low	High	Rainfall
Nov. 10	67	85	0
Nov. 11	65	84	0
Nov. 12	68	85	0
Nov. 13	55	70	0
Nov. 14	53	80	0
Nov. 15	63	77	0
Nov. 16	70	80	0

Average area Gulf water temperature 72.5
24-hour rainfall accumulation with reading daily at approximately 5 p.m.

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SIDEBAR

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The Islander

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Bradenton Beach restaurant gets early nod to expand

By Mark Young
Islander Reporter

There is an old island saying that goes a little something like, “You never know how many friends you have until you have a beach house.”

While that may or may not apply to the BeachHouse Restaurant in Bradenton Beach, Ed Chiles, owner of the BeachHouse, Sandbar Restaurant in Anna Maria and Mar Vista Dockside Restaurant and Pub on Longboat Key, may soon be welcoming a lot of new friends.

Renovations to the BeachHouse building and the restaurant interior are underway, but a bigger project is proposed. Building official Steve Gilbert said the current renovations did not require a public hearing and were staff reviewed and approved.

Gilbert said the ongoing renovations should be completed by late January and, if the major development application is approved, the new project would begin next summer.

BeachHouse representatives appeared before the Bradenton Beach Planning and Zoning Board Nov. 13 for a public hearing on the major development application.

Barron Schimberg, of the Sarasota Schimberg Group Architectural Services, presented a conceptual design that includes a two-story, open-air dining area on the Gulf front of the restaurant that will replace the existing outdoor dining decks.



Renovations to the main building at the BeachHouse Restaurant in Bradenton Beach should be completed in late January. The outdoor service areas remain open with an office in a tent and restrooms in trailers. The next phase includes a two-story outdoor deck in on the Gulf front. Islander Photos: Mark Young



Renovations continue inside the BeachHouse Restaurant, 200 Gulf Drive N., Bradenton Beach, with expectations for a late January completion. Further expansion will begin next summer. Islander Photos: Mark Young

“The intent was to create a design that holds the essence of what the BeachHouse is all about,” said Schimberg. “So we started with the name. What does a beach house represent? Balconies, large overhangs, warm materials and a place to go to relax and have fun.”

Schimberg said the most important thing about a beach house is the view, and the new balcony and deck will “create an experience for people that allows them to get that view, but a roof also gives everyone an opportunity to sit under a covered area.”

Other improvements include a new front, the removal of a side staircase, the addition of spiral staircases to a raised parapet and an upgrade to the southeast corner of the building that will include an elevator to the top floor.

While improvements are extensive, the plans do not include more seating. However, P&Z member John Burns noted a discrepancy in the number of seats.

Burns said the business tax receipt filed with the city lists 632 seats, although the number of seats filed with the state is 512.

“But your application says 525 seats,” said Burns. “We need one number.”

While the restaurant claims the number of seats is not changing and the majority of seats are outdoor dining, which do not require parking spaces according to city codes, Burns said he was disappointed he did not receive a parking plan to review the restaurant’s current parking situation.

“I requested one and one wasn’t made available,” he said. “I’m assuming one doesn’t exist.”

Project engineer Lynn Townsend-Burnett said there are “historic documents with Bradenton Beach that codify 525 seats. I’m not sure why you have a different number.”

Burns said that was a matter for the applicant to resolve.

“The numbers should be all the same and I would love to see those historic documents,” he said. “I simply haven’t seen any documentation on those parking spaces as far as where they are now.”

Townsend-Burnett said she would clarify the seating and provide the requested documents.

During public comment, one person spoke and objected to the proposal. Mary Mohr said she owns two properties on nearby Highland Avenue and the project “will take away 90 percent of my view of the Gulf, increase noise and add to overall congestion of this area.”

Mohr said her neighborhood has remained virtually unchanged since she purchased her property 23 years ago, “until this past year. The neighborhood has become a parking lot used primarily by BeachHouse employees at all times of the day and night.”

She said it appears the city doesn’t care about protecting residents and “is more interested in creating a Coney Island atmosphere.”

She said noise levels from a raised deck are certain to increase the level of noise that she said she already hears at night. She asked the board to consider the consequences of its decision.

Schimberg was asked if he would like to rebut Mohr’s testimony, but he declined. He then was asked if a noise study had been completed.

“The quick answer is no,” Schimberg said, while noting in his design the implementation of screens to direct noise toward the Gulf and away from the residential neighborhood.

Schimberg said there is nothing in the design that would indicate a plan to stage a band on the upper deck but, “That is a question for management.”

Burns motioned to recommend approval of the permit with certain conditions. He said the number of seats needs to be clarified and he asked for proof that the existing parking spaces are being utilized in context with the application.

The motion passed unanimously and will be forwarded to the city commission.

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FISH seeks funds to enhance Cortez preserve

By Mark Young
Islander Reporter

The money is finally in the bank.

The Florida Institute for Saltwater Heritage has secured a \$250,000 Southwest Florida Water Management District grant and a request for proposal to begin rehabilitation efforts on the 95-acre FISH Preserve should go out soon.

Permits are already being sought for the official go-ahead of the project and FISH now is working on an additional \$300,000 grant, looking ahead to phase two of a project that includes removal of invasive species and grading some of the land for better drainage.

Last month, the FISH board accepted an offer from Helen Dixon to become its volunteer director. She will concentrate on acquiring grants for what she said was her passion — mangrove preservation.

Dixon's position is voluntary until the board determines a director can be hired, but she is wasting little time in getting the financial ball rolling. The new grant is not secured, but it is available and Dixon is pursuing it.

Board member Karen Bell, chair of the preserve committee, said Dixon spent a week writing the grant that she hopes to have submitted by Nov. 12.

"She came to us and said this is perfect for our project," said Bell.

Dixon is partnering with the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program and other organizations in an attempt to secure the grant, which Bell said is available through funds from BP as part of its Gulf of Mexico Partnership.

Board treasurer Jane von Hahmann noted that FISH has not pursued a lot of grants in recent years and she had learned that FISH's federal eligibility was allowed to expire on various grant websites.

"I spent about eight hours getting FISH back on those websites, so we should be back on the radar for more grant opportunities," said von Hahmann.

In other matters, board members reviewed a brochure being developed for distribution at various events to introduce the public to FISH and its programs, including restoring boats and its Turner Maritime Challenge.

Board members recommended some minor changes



Florida Institute for Saltwater Heritage board member Karen Bell and other FISH members review at their Nov. 12 meeting a brochure designed to educate the public on the FISH mission and attract volunteers. Islander Photo: Mark Young

before going to the printer.

Cortez Commercial Fishing Festival committee chair Linda Molto updated the board on its annual logo contest.

She presented about a dozen submissions from students at the State College of Florida-Bradenton campus. Board members reviewed the submissions after the meeting adjourned.

Molto asked the members to submit three picks to her, but also said the contest remains open until the end of this month.

Molto also said people are calling to volunteer for the festival, but the board has not yet selected a volunteer coordinator.

"This is our only fundraiser for the year," said Molto. "This pays for everything we do and there has to be something that every board member can do, including a volun-

teer coordinator. It's not fair that a few take on the whole boat."

Molto asked for a volunteer to head up the festival volunteers, but no one at the meeting stepped up.

In the meantime, volunteers may call the main FISH number, 941-254-4972, for more information.

In other matters, Bill Miller expressed interest in becoming a board member and John Stevely expressed interest in leaving the board.

FISH members accepted the resignation of Stevely and agreed to the appointment of Miller as his replacement. Miller will serve out Stevely's term, which ends in March 2015.

Net ban overturned, re-implemented, overturned

Bell reported that stone crab season continues to be slow, but announced that fishers have been busy taking advantage of a court-ordered stay of the 1994 net ban.

Bell said the presiding judge, Leon County Circuit Judge Jackie Fulford, ruled that the net ban is contradictory in its premise and that the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has no authority to implement the rules because it is a non-elected entity.

Fulford called the FWC implementation "legal absurdity" in her Oct. 21 ruling.

"It's an interesting ruling," said Bell. "Basically, the judge is saying that FWC is a rule-making body, but it shouldn't be."

Bell said FWC has a history of not answering to anyone on the net ban enforcement and is currently appealing the judge's ruling. The net ban has since been stayed, re-implemented and stayed again in a matter of days.

"They appealed it, it stopped for a day or two, went back to (Fulford) and she issued another stay," said Bell. "That's where we are now, but I heard it could be overturned in another day or two."

The net ban remains overturned. But FWC marine patrol officers say they will continue to enforce the ban, while FWC attorneys continue to fight Fulford's ruling, which FWC has called "disappointing."

The next step will likely be the Supreme Court.



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Island happenings



Pam Leckie chairs the food pantry at Roser Memorial Community Church, 512 Pine Ave., Anna Maria. The church's mission in November is to collect donations for All Island Denominations, including the food pantry.

Roser collecting for All Island Denominations

Roser Memorial Community Church members have issued an appeal for donations for All Island Denominations charity work, including stocking the food pantry at the church, 512 Pine Ave., Anna Maria. AID assists islanders with groceries from the pantry.

Food Pantry committee chair Pam Leckie said in October there were 214 bags of food distributed from the pantry, including 38 bags to employees at the Rod & Reel Pier, which was closed after a fire in late September. Each bag costs about \$19.50 and contains carefully selected items.

Families may receive one bag per member of the household per week, with food distributed by appoint-

ment only.

Monetary donations are used to purchase gift cards for perishable foods for families with children and for needed nonperishable items that have not been donated.

A collection basket is placed at the church on Sundays before the 10 a.m. worship service.

Donations also may be left at the church office, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. weekdays.

To schedule an appointment for the food pantry, call 941-778-0414.

Monetary donations can be sent directly to AID at P.O. Box 305 Anna Maria, FL 34216 or made online at www.roserchurch.com/#/give.

Roser, CrossPointe plan Thanksgiving dinners

Wondering how to spend Thanksgiving on Nov. 28?

Who's cooking, who's bringing pies? Who's on cleanup detail?

Two island churches, Roser Memorial Community Church, 512 Pine Ave., Anna Maria, and CrossPointe Fellowship, 8605 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach, will be hosting traditional family gatherings with turkey and all the trimmings prepared by church volunteers — and everyone is welcome.

The CrossPointe dinner will be at noon.

The Roser dinner will begin at 2 p.m. Also, a service of Thanksgiving will take place in the chapel at 10 a.m.

For more information, including how to volunteer or to make reservations, call Roser at 941-778-0414 or CrossPointe at 941-778-0719.

Kiwanis meets Nov. 23

The Kiwanis Club of Anna Maria Island will meet at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 23, at the Anna Maria Island Beach Cafe, Manatee Public Beach, 4000 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach.

The program will feature a talk by Bradenton Beach's newly elected Mayor Bill Shearon.

For more information, contact club president Dave Miner at dwmineresq@aol.com or 941-748-8122.

'Deadliest Catch' star to make porch party appearance

Travis Lofland, star of the Discovery Channel's "Deadliest Catch" and author of "Catch," will be at a Pine Avenue porch party 5-8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 29.

Lofland will sign copies of his book at the Flip Flop Shop and Candy Stop, 315 Pine Ave., Anna Maria. Proceeds from the sale of the book will benefit the Honor Flight Network sending World War II veterans to Washington, D.C., to tour national monuments.

For more information about the porch parties, call the store at 941-778-5694.



Participants in a past birding class observe birds at Felts Audubon Preserve in Palmetto. Islander Courtesy Photo

Audubon registering students for birding classes

Reservations are being taken for the 2014 Beginning Bird Watching Course offered by the Manatee County Audubon Society.

The course includes four sessions in January, with each class beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church of Palmetto, 330 11th Ave. W., Palmetto.

Class dates are Friday, Jan. 17; Thursday, Jan. 23; Monday, Jan. 27 and Thursday, Jan. 30.

The enrollment also includes attendance on two field trips scheduled for 7 a.m. Saturdays Jan. 25 and Feb. 1.

The enrollment is \$50 plus a membership in the local Audubon Society, which costs \$20 per household.

For more information, call Nancy Dean at 941-792-9235 or email nancybobdean@juno.com.

Island happenings



Flocking to AMIAL

A bird's eye view of the Anna Maria Island Art League's It's for the birds event, held Nov. 10, the final day of the three-day artsHOP extravaganza. AMIAL, 5312 Holmes Blvd., Holmes Beach, welcomed children for arts and crafts, chalk drawing and refreshments. *Islander Courtesy Photos*

Ed Straight of Wildlife Inc. in Bradenton Beach helps out at the children's event. Proceeds from the sale of artist-designed and artist-crafted birdhouses benefited the organization's animal rescue and rehabilitation work.



The Friends of the Island Library will welcome lecturer Gretchen Edgren to the library, 5701 Marina Drive, Jan. 9. She is a former senior editor of Playboy magazine and an island resident.



Raymond Arpke, owner and executive chef at Euphemia Haye Restaurant on Longboat Key, will lecture Jan. 15 at the Island Library. *Islander Courtesy Photos*

Library friends plan lecture series

The Friends of the Island Library are planning the 2014 Alice Taylor Reed Lecture and Travel Series at the Holmes Beach library.

The series, which will begin in January, is named for a longtime advocate of the library who died in 2006. Reed, among other volunteer work, coordinated the lecture series for many seasons.

The 2014 schedule — with programs talking place at 2 p.m. in the Walker-Swift Meeting Room at the library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach — includes:

- Thursday, Jan. 9, Gretchen Edgren, former senior editor of Playboy magazine and an island resident who volunteers for the Anna Maria Island Concert Chorus and Orchestra and Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch and Shorebird Monitoring.

- Wednesday, Jan. 15, Ray Arpke, owner and executive chef at Euphemia Haye Restaurant, who published a cookbook and serves on the board of the Manatee Technical Institute Culinary Arts program.

- Saturday, Jan. 25, Anna Maria Island Historical Society representatives sharing island history and historical society information.

- Thursday, Feb. 6, Catherine Chapman Smith, who took a 100-mile journey on the "River of No Return" in Idaho.

- Wednesday, Feb. 12, John Beale, education and volunteer coordinator for the Florida Maritime Museum in Cortez, who has worked in museums and also as a

carpenter and blacksmith.

- Saturday, Feb. 22, Souhad and Tess Chawi, professional dancers and owners of Sarabay Dance Club in Bradenton.

- Thursday, March 6, Ron McCarty, member of the curatorial department at the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota. He is the curator of Ca'd'Zan, the Ringling mansion overlooking the bay.

- Wednesday, March 12, H. Terrell Griffin, a military veteran and trial lawyer turned mystery author. He lives on Longboat Key and in Maitland.

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

Off Stage Ladies cook up bake sale

The Off Stage Ladies of the Island Players will hold a holiday bake sale on the porch at the theater, 10009 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria.

The sale will take place at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, after a matinee performance.

An announcement promised "cakes, pies, brownies, holiday cookies, candy, coffee cakes, muffins and much more."

For more information, call Nancy Ambrose at 941-799-2181 or 941-518-4431.

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Thanksgiving AID service set for Nov. 24

All Island Denominations will celebrate Thanksgiving with a service at 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 24.

The service will take place at the Episcopal Church of the Annunciation, 4408 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach, with the Rev. Michael Garrison and a chorus made up of the choirs from all island churches.

At the service, volunteers will be collecting canned food donations for the food pantry at Roser Memorial Community Church.

A reception will take place after the service.

In addition to holding islandwide events, AID, a group of the six island churches, supports residents with financial assistance. Member churches also are major contributors to the Roser Food Pantry.

For more information, call 941-778-1638.



Thankful AID

The Rev. Gary Batey of Roser Memorial Community Church leads a past Thanksgiving service presented by All Island Denominations. This year the service will take place Nov. 24 at the Episcopal Church of the Annunciation.



Wednesday, Nov. 20

2 p.m. — Lifelong Learning Academy lecture, "Florida's First People" by Scott Chandler, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-359-4296.

5:36 p.m. — Official sunset time.

Thursday, Nov. 21

5:36 p.m. — Official sunset time.

Friday, Nov. 22

8 a.m.-4 p.m. — Wildlife Inc. fundraiser garage sale, 508 65th St., Holmes Beach. Information: 248-982-5600.

10 a.m. — Senior Adventures outing to Jiggs Landing, departing Annie Silver Community Center, 103 23rd St., Bradenton Beach. Information: 941-962-8835.

5:36 p.m. — Official sunset time.

Saturday, Nov. 23

8 a.m.-4 p.m. — Wildlife Inc. garage sale, 508 65th St., Holmes Beach. Information: 248-982-5600.

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.

Calendar announcements

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

Manatee Players present 'Peter Pan' musical

The Manatee Players will present the high-flying musical "Peter Pan." The show will open Thursday, Dec. 5, and run through Dec. 22.

Performances will take place 7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets will cost \$26-36.

The players perform at the Manatee Performing Arts Center, 502 Third Ave. W., Bradenton.

The cast includes Anna Trinci, Greg Wieggers, Wendy James Brown, Zoe Verbil, Garrett Brown,

Stevie Romero, Levi Brown, Atticus Pratt, Scott Vatale, Holly Rizzo, Jessica Apatow, MacKenzie Grace, Joshua Roberson, Nicklaus Auen, Liam Kaiser, Andrew Kent, Chris Rudolph, Paul Hernandez, Jamie Daniel, Leter Lykiardopoulos, Tom Guerrieri, Jeff Hostetler, Brian Rudolph, Brandon James, Jackie Hernandez, Hannah Beatt, Amanda Lade and Delaney Couch.

The director is Steve Dawson.

For more information, call the box office at 941-748-0111.

5:35 p.m. — Official sunset time.

Sunday, Nov. 24

5:35 p.m. — Official sunset time.

7 p.m. — All Island Denominations Thanksgiving service, Episcopal Church of the Annunciation, 4408 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-1638.

Monday, Nov. 25

5:35 p.m. — Official sunset time.

Tuesday, Nov. 26

Noon — Rotary Club of Anna Maria Island meets, Bridge Street Bistro, 111 Gulf Drive S., Bradenton Beach. Information: 941-794-8044.

5:35 p.m. — Official sunset time.

Wednesday, Nov. 27

5:35 p.m. — Official sunset time.

Hanukkah begins at sundown.

Off-island

Friday, Nov. 22

6 p.m. — South Florida Museum "Greetings from Florida" film screening, "The Bellboy," 201 10th St. W., Bradenton. Fee applies. Information: 941-746-4131.

Coming up

- Nov. 28, Thanksgiving.
- Nov. 29, Black Friday.

Save the date

- Dec. 6, Downtown Holmes Beach Holiday Open House, Holmes Beach.
- Dec. 7, Episcopal Church of the Annunciation Holly Berry Bazaar, Holmes Beach.
- Dec. 7, Anna Maria Island Community Center/Lester Family Fun Day, Anna Maria.
- Dec. 13, Anna Maria Holiday Open House, Anna Maria.
- Dec. 14-15, Anna Maria Island Art League Winterfest, Holmes Beach.
- Dec. 14, Roser Memorial Community Church Bethlehem Walk, Anna Maria.
- Dec. 15, Anna Maria Island Concert Chorus and Orchestra holiday concert, Holmes Beach.
- Dec. 21, Christmas on Bridge Street, Bradenton Beach.



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Island happenings

Family fare

Melissa, left, and Barbara Lazzara show off "Flavors of Family and Friends." The Lazzara family collected their recipes for the cookbook that is available at the Olive Oil Outpost, 401 Pine Ave., Anna Maria, and Essence of Time, 10015 Cortez Road, Bradenton. The book, from Morris Press Cookbooks in Nebraska, contains recipes from Barbara and Rosalie Lazzara that were edited by Melissa Lazzara. For more, call Melissa Lazzara at 941 779-2361. Islander Photo: Bonner Joy



Calendar of ongoing events

- Wednesdays and Saturdays, 9 a.m., horseshoes pitched, Anna Maria City Hall, 10005 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria. Information: 941-708-6130.
- Wednesdays, through December, 11 a.m. Lifelong Learning Academy, Einstein Circle Discussion Group, Studio at Gulf and Pine, 10101 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria. Information: 941-359-4296.
- First and third Wednesdays, Mana-Tween Book and Culture Club, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-748-5555, ext. 6318.
- First Wednesdays, 1:15 p.m., Gulf Coast Writers meeting, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-3209.
- First Wednesdays, 6 p.m., Mana-Tweens book club, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-3209.
- Second Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Think+Drink science night, South Florida Museum, 201 10th St. W., Bradenton. Information: 941-746-4131.
- Most third Wednesdays, noon, Anna Maria Garden Club meets, Roser Memorial Community Church, 512 Pine Ave., Anna Maria. Information: 941-778-2607.
- Third Wednesdays, 6 p.m., Mana-Tween club, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-3209.
- Fourth Wednesdays, 7 p.m., star talk, South Florida Museum, 201 10th St. W., Bradenton. Information: 941-746-4131.

- Thursdays, 5-10 p.m., Main Street Live, Old Main Street, Bradenton. Information: 941-932-9440.
- First and third Thursdays, 2 p.m., knitting group meeting, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive. Information: 941-778-6341.
- Third Thursdays, 10 a.m., Island Library Book Club, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-3209.
- 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, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Mike Sales' sunset drum circle, Anna Maria Island Beach Cafe, 4000 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 778-0784.
- Third Fridays, 5-8 p.m., Pine Avenue Porch Party presented by local merchants, Pine Avenue, Anna Maria. Information: 941-896-3132.
- Saturdays, 8:30 a.m., Kiwanis Club of Anna Maria Island meeting, Anna Maria Island Beach Cafe, Manatee Public Beach, 4000 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-1383.
- Saturdays, through May, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Downtown Bradenton Farmers' Market, Old Main Street. Information: 941-932-9440.
- 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, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-3209.
- Third Saturdays, 11 a.m., stress management through breathing, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive. Information: 941-778-6341.
- Third Saturdays, through May, 9 a.m., Manatee County Junior Audubon meeting, Felts Audubon Preserve, 4600 24th Ave. E., Palmetto. Information: 941-376-0110.
- Sundays, through April 27, Bridge Street Market, 107 Bridge

Island Players prep 'Over the River'

The Island Players will stage "Over the River and through the Woods" Dec. 5-15, with performances Tuesday-Sundays on the Anna Maria stage.

The play, by Joe DiPietro, will open at 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, and continue through Dec. 15 at the theater, 10009 Gulf Drive. Performances will take place at 8 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. The theater is dark on Mondays.

The box office will open Monday, Nov. 25, and be open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Mondays-Saturdays and an hour before curtain through the run of the play.

The Island Players publicist describes the play as a "warm-hearted comedy depicting an Italian-American family who cook up scheme after scheme to keep their beloved grandson from leaving home to start a new life in Seattle."

The cast includes Miriam Ring, Cathy Hansel-Edgerton, Richard Austin, Joe Smith, Jim Faltot and Katelyn Studer.

Mike Lusk is directing.

On opening night, the stage company will host a pre-play party at The Studio at Gulf and Pine. Tickets to the event, catered by the Sandbar Restaurant, are \$24.

For more information about the play, call the box office at 941-778-5755.

For more information about the party or tickets, call Laura Morales at 941-778-3302.

St., Bradenton Beach. Information: 215-906-0668.

• Mondays, 12:45 p.m., bridge games, Roser Memorial Community Church, 512 Pine Ave., Anna Maria. Doors open at 12:15 p.m. Information: 941-778-0414.

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

• Third Mondays, noon, Anna Maria Island Democrats meeting, Mannatees Sports Grill, 7423 Manatee Ave. W., Bradenton. Information: 941-779-0564.

• Third Mondays, 7 p.m., U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 81 meeting, 5801 33rd Ave. Court Drive W., G.T. Bray Park, Bradenton. Information: 941-779-4476.

• Tuesdays, 10 a.m., children's storytime, Island Library, 5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-6341.

• Tuesdays, noon, Rotary Club of Anna Maria Island meeting, Bridge Street Bistro, 111 Gulf Drive S., Bradenton Beach. Information: 941-794-8044.

• Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m., Anna Maria Duplicate Bridge, the Episcopal Church of the Annunciation, 4408 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach. Information: 941-778-3390.

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These are a few of our favorite things

By Bonner Joy
Publisher, editor

Friends are, of course, No. 1 on our list of things to be thankful for every year. Friends who share great recipes are No. 2.

For these friends, their recipes and Thanksgiving are for sharing.

With the idea in mind that some of you will be prepping, cooking and sharing a Thanksgiving meal, desserts, snacks and libations next week, we have again compiled a few of our “favorite things” — all seasoned recipes, tested in island kitchens and savored by many more friends.

First up — a great starter for holiday gatherings — is the eggnog recipe given to Janet Aubry of Anna Maria by her friend Ralph Ellis of Houston. He told Aubry that it was originally published decades ago in Harpers Bazaar as “the” traditional holiday beverage.

She adds, “May your days be merry and bright after you drink this and, for heaven’s sake, don’t drive.”

18th Century Eggnog Recipe

Ingredients:

- 12 eggs separated
- 2 and 1/4 cups granulated sugar
- 4 quarts heavy cream

Welcoming party

Christ Church of Longboat Key, 6400 Gulf of Mexico Drive, held a welcome back party Nov. 9 for returning winter residents. Church member Jim Seaton provided dinner, with help from the congregation. At the buffet table are Kay Glass, Sally Rauch, Karen Jennings, Betty Horne, Bob Jennings, Ardythe Tiesenga and Jay Wallick. *Islander Photos: Courtesy CCofLBK*



- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 pint rum (dark)
- 1 quart brandy (2 pints)

Directions:

Reserve 6 egg whites in one bowl and 6 egg whites in a second bowl.

In a large bowl beat all yolks well. Add granulated sugar gradually to yolks and beat well.

Add rum and brandy alternately and slowly to yolk mixture. Then, to this mixture, add 3 quarts of heavy cream.

Beat 6 egg whites until very stiff and fold into mixture.

Then beat remaining 6 egg whites very stiff and beat powdered sugar into them.

Add, stirring lightly, remaining cream and fold this mixture into the other.

Let stand in refrigerator 4 to 12 hours. Top with fresh grated nutmeg before serving. The recipe serves 20, but jugs of joy for holiday guests to carry home are a nice gesture.

Happy turkey!

“Season that sucker and cook it hot and fast.” That’s the advice of my longtime friend, chef Augie Mrozowski, some 30 years ago on cooking a Thanksgiving turkey.

It’s sage advice — pun intended.

First salt and pepper all over, including inside, cook breast side down, 450 degrees, about an hour and a half (18 pounds or so), then flip the bird and lower the temp to about 350 degrees for 20 minutes to brown the top.

It’s guaranteed to be moist and delicious. We put trimmings from the veggies, carrot and potato peels, onion skins and celery tops in the bottom of the pan. When the turkey is done and removed, we then add the wing tips and other non-edible turkey parts to the veggies with a generous cup or two of water and heat over a burner for awesome au jus. Next strain out the veggies and add a roux mixture (equal parts warm butter and flour — about a tablespoon of each for each cup of gravy — stirred smooth) to the simmering pot. The butter melts and mixes into a lump-free awesome gravy. Add more roux to thicken if needed.

Why don’t we do this more often? It’s so delicious.

Granny’s stuffing

Never mind whose grandmother originated the recipe, it’s easy and delicious.

Brown 1 pound hamburger and 1 pound breakfast sausage with about 1 cup or more chopped onion. Remove from heat and add a nice bunch of chopped celery. Add some cubed or torn French, whole grain or whatever bread you have, along with a bag of store-bought seasoned stuffing mix.

I like to add a small bag of cornbread stuffing mix, and mix in a tablespoon or two of “poultry seasoning.” I never look to see what that contains.

Mix it all together, then mix in some turkey au jus and your choice of packaged chicken broth to moisten. A dash or two of liquid Maggi seasoning added to the broth is a bonus.

You can slide this big dish into the oven after you take the turkey out since it only needs to brown on top.

Next week: Dessert, including rum cake just like you find on Caribbean islands, sugar cookies to decorate for Christmas and Bernard Haulsee’s famous fruitcake.

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Environmental groups say Long Bar battle 'far from over'

By Mark Young
Islander Reporter

There's something fishy going on and if you ask some members of local environmental groups, it's not the catch of the day motoring into Cortez fish houses.

Some people may believe that the epic battle between citizens and developers over the future use of the pristine coastal land called Long Bar Pointe on Sarasota Bay ended in August with Manatee County commissioners narrowly denying an attempt to expand development plans.

Some may even believe the battle ended in October with a Manatee County Planning Commission recommendation, followed by a narrow county board vote to remove most of Long Bar Pointe from the Urban Service Area, a mixed-use land use with few restrictions.

But environmentalists say the battle for Long Bar Pointe is "Far from over," according to one Save Our Bay member, Joe Kane of Cortez.

Manatee County created the Urban Service Area with the intent to spur economic development with exemptions from more extensive regulatory development reviews for some 20,000 acres of unincorporated land south of the Manatee River and west of U.S. Highway 301.

Environmental groups were already gathering to fight the USA designation when the Manatee County Planning Commission proposed to remove about 3,000 coastal acres that were prone to flooding from the plan. About 95 percent of the Long Bar Pointe property was included in that October recommendation.

On Nov. 7, the county commission voted 4-3 to uphold the planning commission's recommendation, and any land ruled outside the boundaries of the USA is no longer entitled to its exemptions. For Long Bar Pointe and developers Carlos Beruff and Joe Lieberman,

it could mean hundreds of thousands of dollars in additional costs.

Their development plan at Long Bar calls for 2,700 homes, an 84,000 square foot convention center, a 250-room hotel and additional commercial retail space.

The developers lost a bid in August for a text amendment change to the county's comprehensive plan that would have allowed them to construct a boat basin, dredge Sarasota Bay and remove acres of mangroves.

The developers were successful in having a map amendment change request approved to change the Long Bar Pointe property from Residential-9 to mixed use, essentially giving the developers the opportunity to submit a site plan for the remaining development plans.

The change to the USA came on the heels of the Aug. 6 land-use public hearing where hundreds of environmentalists spoke against the development plans during a historically long meeting that did not end until the early morning hours of Aug. 7.

The back-to-back successes for environmentalists, who thus far, have saved Sarasota Bay from encroaching development and preserved the mangrove forest that runs along the at Long Bar Pointe shore would have an appearance of total victory, but Kane says that's not true.

Save Our Bay and representatives from several other environmental groups are expected to gather at 1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21, at Fishermen's Hall, 4511 124th St. W., Cortez, to address what's to come at a Dec. 10 special county commission land-use meeting.

The agenda for the Dec. 10 meeting has not been set, but Kane said environmentalists plan to be there.

"Basically we are preparing for Carlos (Beruff) to strike back with his lawyers, planners and his entourage," said Kane. "So we have been meeting as groups and will

continue to meet and attend the county meetings."

Kane said it's important to keep the pressure up because, "The most surprising part to a lot of us is that the public thinks we've already won. We are suspicious of where that lie originated from because we are far from having won."

Kane said the battle is just getting started.

"We know this is going to a long battle," he said. "We know we have to be prepared that (Beruff and Lieberman) won't give in."

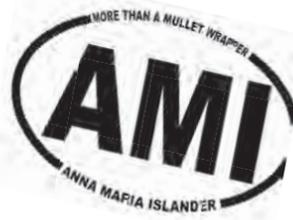
Kane the county's USA decision is a victory in that it will make the project more expensive, on top of what is expected to be a proverbial tidal wave increase in flood insurance premiums. The development falls in the high-hazard zone for coastal flooding.

"(Beruff's) desire to make this a five-star development is his poison pill," said Kane. "At some point, it won't be financially feasible for him to continue with this. If he just took a more modest approach to his plans, it would be harder for us to fight it and require a lot less scrutiny."

Kane said the old adage of, "You can't fight city hall," is only true if no one is willing to keep fighting.

"We think our elected officials are feeling the effect of 1,300 people staring at them at the August meeting," said Kane. "They know we aren't going to give up. That's what (the developer) wants. He wants us to fall asleep and give up. That's not going to happen."

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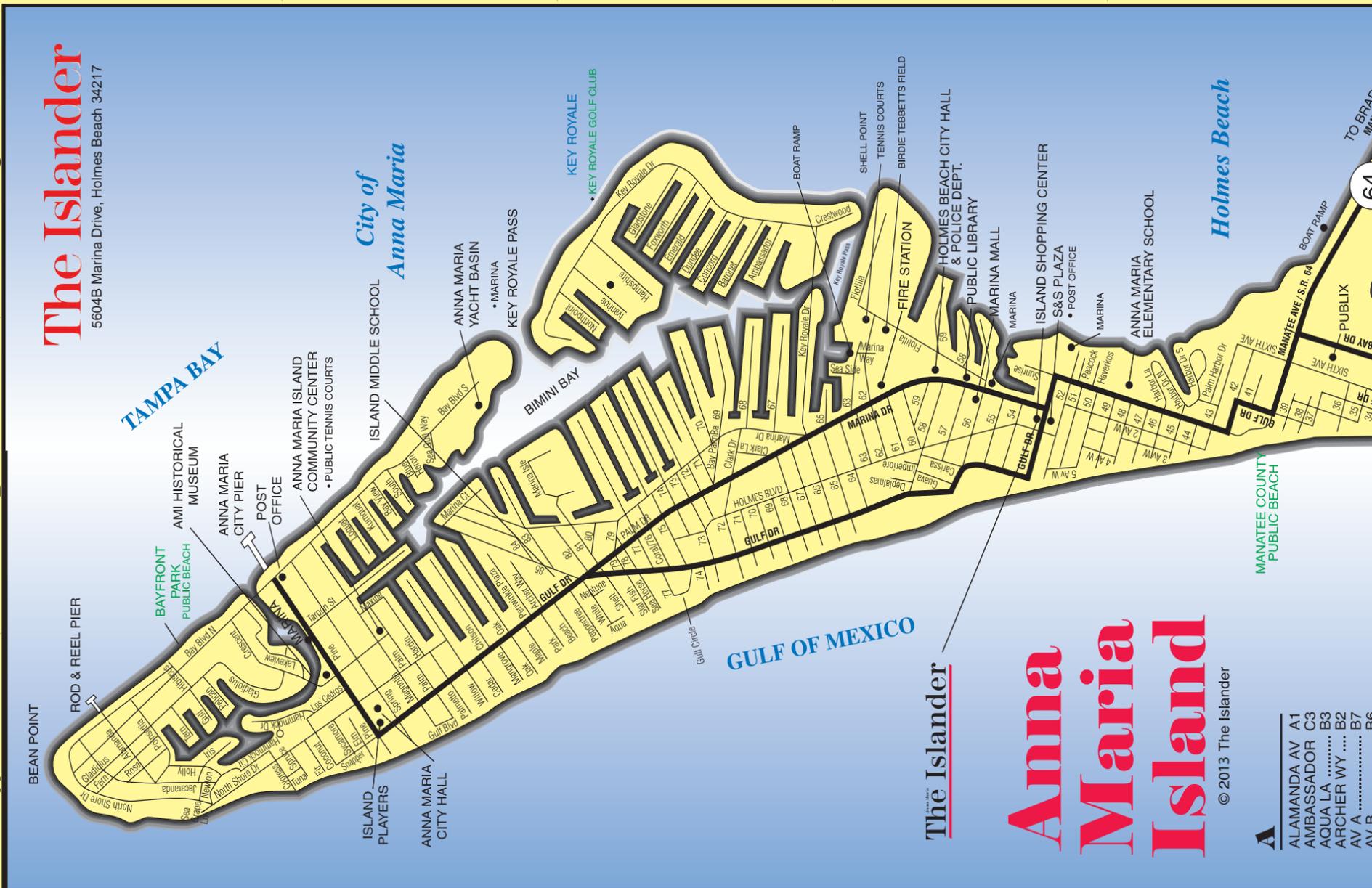
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P PALM AV A, B 2
PALM DR B 3,4
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R ROSE ST A1

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GULF DR. A,B 2/10
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HARBOR LN B5
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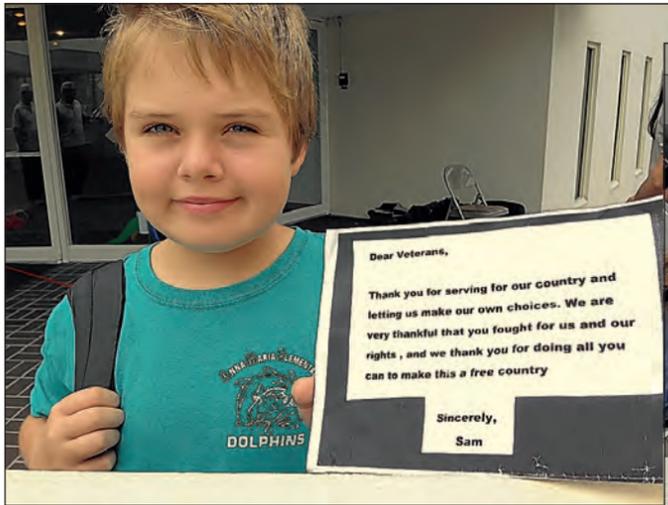
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Community Thanksgiving brings vets, holiday, community unity



Members of the American Legion Kirby Stewart Legion Post 24 Honor Guard present the colors for the military branches. In the background are games for kids and volunteers cooking lunch.

RIGHT: Sharon Lee Ruckle performs a patriotic song on Unity Day, Nov. 16, at CrossPointe Fellowship following the posting of the colors by the American Legion honor guard.



ABOVE: Sam Howells, a fifth-grader at Anna Maria Elementary School, read his letter to American veterans on stage for the crowd gathered at CrossPointe Fellowship to recognize veterans on Unity Day, Nov. 16.



Anna Maria Island Girl Scout Troop 316 performs at Unity Day.



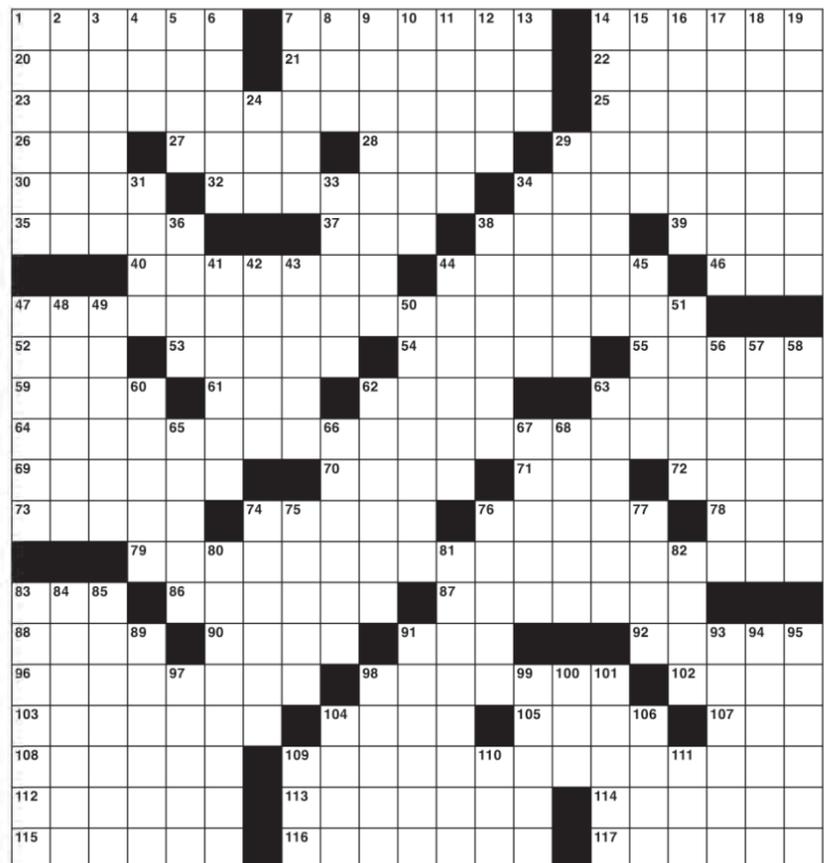
Jackie Jordan, teacher, military veteran and mom to Gregory, speaks to the audience gathered for Unity Day.

New York Times Sunday Magazine Crossword

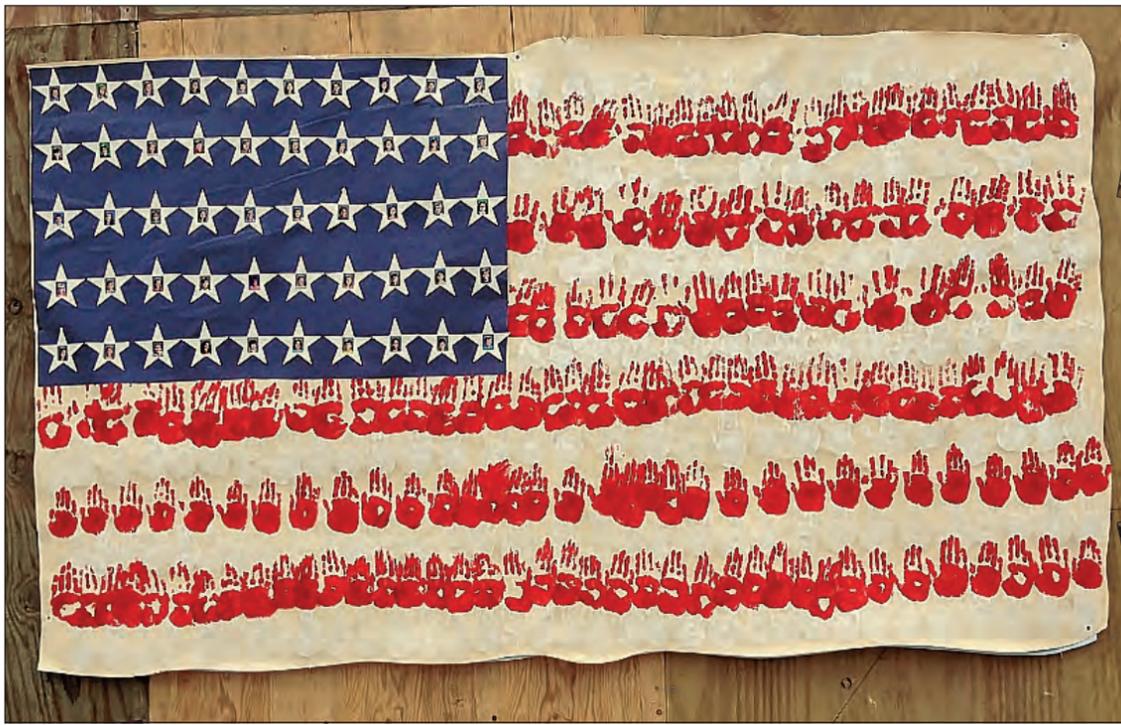
BYE-LINES By Alan Olschwang / Edited by Will Shortz

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| Across | 53 Opportunities, metaphorically | 102 Dry: Prefix | 14 Defames |
| 1 Former Belgian national airline | 54 Hands (out) | 103 Home of Banff National Park | 15 One of the von Trapp girls |
| 7 Just says no | 55 Trig ratio | 104 Animal house | 16 Do some banking, say |
| 14 Cremona craftwork | 59 Old camera settings, for short | 105 2004 Chevy debut | 17 Going down in the rankings, say |
| 20 Origami staples | 61 Add (up) | 107 "___ can't" | 18 Holy smoke |
| 21 1993 5x platinum Nirvana album | 62 Francois Truffaut's field | 108 Beefeeders, e.g. | 19 First Mets manager |
| 22 Wise guy | 63 Sweet-talk | 109 Red Skelton | 24 CNBC news item |
| 23 The Lone Ranger | 64 Porky Pig | 112 Record of the Year Grammy nominee for "Lose Yourself" | 29 Mag proofs |
| 25 Phillip, e.g., in Disney's "Sleeping Beauty" | 69 Fixes up, as a run-down house | 113 Primary pigment for printers | 31 Shallot, e.g. |
| 26 Carrier inits. | 70 Cato's man | 114 Rays' div. | 33 Keyes and King |
| 27 Kemo ___ (the Lone Ranger) | 71 When doubled, one of the Teletubbies | 115 Luna's counterpart | 34 Mosey along |
| 28 Move a muscle? | 72 "Now!" | 116 Auto steering system components | 36 "Beowulf" quaff |
| 29 No longer in enemy hands | 73 "August: ___ County" (2008 Pulitzer winner for Drama) | 117 Potential sweethearts | 38 Jesse and Leo of TV sitcoms |
| 30 Kind of appeal | 74 "S.N.L." alum Cheri | Down | 41 Poky sorts |
| 32 Base, e.g. | 76 Mimicry | 1 Downhill run | 42 Order to go? |
| 34 Infusing with a soda maker | 78 July third? | 2 Massenet opera based on Greek myth | 43 Onward |
| 35 Hospital supply | 79 George Burns | 3 Bears' home in Texas | 44 Sees through |
| 37 ___ Fáil, Ireland's coronation stone | 83 Genus of small rodents | 4 2005 Drama Pulitzer finalist Will | 45 Latte option |
| 38 Strike callers | 86 Items sometimes sniffed at a supermarket | 5 Costner role | 47 Ópera venue |
| 39 Massachusetts motto starter | 87 Highlights | 6 Like the origin of the food in many fusion restaurants | 48 Chops up |
| 40 Dietary claim | 88 Mille ___ (part of Québec with a rhyming name) | 7 Pulled apart | 49 S. ___ Merckerson, four-time N.A.A.C.P. Image Award-winning actress |
| 44 Deeply rooted | 90 Fill | 8 Compass dir. | 50 Oscar-winning Forest Whitaker role |
| 46 Toothpaste type | 91 Other side | 9 Nickname for Huntington Beach, Calif. | 51 Judo gyms |
| 47 Roger Ebert | 92 Volleyball venue | 10 Bologna's place | 56 Ancient Mexican |
| 52 84-Down writer's monogram | 96 Hair extensions? | 11 Clinched, with "up" | 57 Base |
| | 98 Something you want to come down from quickly | 12 "Time ___" (bygone sci-fi series) | 58 Company that owns Gerber |
| | | 13 ___-based | 60 Layered coifs |
| | | | 62 Groups of strings, maybe |
| | | | 63 Sword fight sounds |

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- | | | | |
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| 68 Church group | 74 Black Hills native | 95 Lifts | 106 Preceder of "di" or "da" in a Beatles song |
| 75 Sweetie | 76 Lace's end | 97 Where to find "books in the running brooks," per Shakespeare | 109 Invoice fig. |
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| 80 Possible answer to "Is that you?" | 89 "A Sentimental Journey" author | 99 Indian melodies | 111 "___ Sylphides" (ballet) |



The large U.S. flag posted at the Nov. 16 unity event was created by students at Anna Maria Elementary and includes the handprint of every student at AME. RIGHT: A random selection of cards created at the event for veterans and for the "thankful" wall. Islander Photos: Bonner Joy



BB P&Z rejects Bridge Street business proposal

By Mark Young
Islander Reporter

An amended development application to expand a proposed retail and restaurant space at 119 Bridge St. was recommended for denial by the Bradenton Beach Planning and Zoning Board — again.

The P&Z recommended the city commission deny the initial project when it came before the board in February. The commission initially agreed, voting down the project 3-2 in March. City commissioners told owner Mike Hynds to address the P&Z concerns of employee parking, delivery location and trash collection and they may change their minds.

Hynds brought the matter back before the commission in April and, having addressed the stipulations, commissioners allowed the project to move forward in a 4-1 vote.

Part of the project was for Hynds to purchase the property at 114 Third St., which is behind the Bridge Street business, for parking and deliveries.

The project came back before the P&Z Nov. 13 with proposed project amendments to expand the original building to the point of asking for relief on potential

setback violations.

Project engineer Matt Morris presented the application to the advisory board.

Morris said besides housing a restaurant and retail space, the project would now include four vacation rentals on the second floor of the proposed structure.

Morris said the retail space also is expected to expand, which is the reason to ask for a variance that includes increasing the setback 1 foot to the east and 2 feet on the south side of the building.

P&Z members had immediate concerns with the increased need for parking, considering the city already allowed an all outdoor-dining restaurant to bypass parking requirements, and reduced the employee parking allocation.

City codes require an applicant to present a hardship for a variance request and P&Z chair Dan DeBaum asked what the hardship would be. Morris said the hardship is to add retail and living space.

"So the hardship is to add a store and add residen-

tial?" DeBaum asked.

Morris said the retail and restaurant portion of the project were previously approved, but DeBaum said, "I think we were reluctant to do that."

P&Z member John Burns said the board did not recommend approving the project when it was first presented and the city commission "was most generous. Now the applicants are back before us asking for more concessions and it still doesn't meet the criteria from the first time. And it doesn't meet the criteria this time."

Burns said the request to expand the property creates an adversity to neighbors, especially on Third Street, and that the parking remains inadequate.

"It's asking for more and more and it wasn't acceptable the first time," said Burns.

Burns moved to recommend denial of the amended development application and the motion to deny passed unanimously.

The application will now go to the city commission with the P&Z recommendation to deny approval.

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Roser celebrates Founders Day

Roser Memorial Community Church celebrated Founders Day Nov. 10, honoring volunteers who "have given unselfishly of their time and talents over many years and in many different positions," according to a news release.

The church, that day, recognized five people for long-time service:

- Francis Ragan has been an usher for at least 15 years, served on the board of deacons for eight years, served on the missions committee and was involved with collections for the thrift shop.

- Mary Ragan was the first head of the Stephen Ministry program at Roser and served in that capacity for several years. She also has been involved with missions and is an usher.

- Lyle Kuhlman has been a member of Roser since 1998. He has served on the board of stewardship and finance, including as financial secretary, treasurer and auditor. He also served on the administrative and executive committees, the foundation committee, the board of trustees and the board of deacons. He was involved in the remodeling of the fellowship hall and later the remodeling of the kitchen.

- Nancy Kuhlman served as vice-chairman of the congregation for four years and was chair for one year.



Roser Memorial Community Church's exceptional volunteers are Francis and Mary Ragan (center), and Lyle and Nancy Kuhlmann. Islander Photo: Peggy Nash

She served on the board of deacons. She currently leads the Sunday disciple Bible study for adults. In addition, she served on the board of religious education, the planning committee, the fellowship and kitchen remodeling committees and the Thanksgiving dinner committee. She also has helped with the family promise ministry, Christmas decorations and to organize and plan the simple suppers.

- Edna Sinnott served on the board of deacons, board of religious education and the missions committee and has been chairman of each. She also has been involved in landscaping and vacation Bible School. In addition, she has headed up the annual community Thanksgiving dinner, which is now in its 11th year.

Also, nine members were recognized posthumously: Molly Parks, Ed Kirk, Carol Surko, Frank Sinnott, Elizabeth Moss, Harriet Carlson, Jean Thobe, Jim Davis and Dick Rowse.

Roser is at 512 Pine Ave., Anna Maria.

For more information, call the church office at 941-778-0414.

Obituaries

Anastasia 'Sheila' Murphy Cassidy

Anastasia "Sheila" Murphy Cassidy of Bradenton, born in 1923, died Nov. 17. She raised her family and lived on Anna Maria Island for many years.

She was Catholic and a member of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Church. As one of the first women to serve in the U.S. Coast Guard in World War II, she was a proud member of VFW Post 10141 and American Legion Kirby Stewart Post 24 and spent several years as a member of the honor guard, serving at military funerals. It was a great source of pride for her to serve at the funerals of her fellow servicemen and women, having served in one calendar year at 99 services.

Her closest friends throughout her life were the women with whom she served.

Mrs. Cassidy was a voracious reader and a talented needle worker and seamstress, winning a blue ribbon at the Manatee County Fair for a cross-stitch design she



Cassidy

created for her eldest grandson. She loved music and dancing and fabulous high heels. To the end, she wouldn't pass up an opportunity to dance.

A memorial service will be held with full military honors at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 20 at the VFW Post 10141, 5105 Manatee Ave. W., Bradenton. Donations may be made to Honor Flight of West Central Florida, P.O. Box 55661, St. Petersburg FL 33732, or Women in Military Service for America Memorial Foundation, Dept 560, Washington DC 20042-0560.

Mrs. Cassidy is survived by her children, Vince and wife Bernadette, Maureen, Robyn and husband Michael Dowd, Theresa and husband Pat Collins, Kevin and wife Jenny, Nora and husband Mike Davis and Kelly and Kelley Quinn, 12 grandchildren. She also is survived by Betty Martini, the last surviving member of her Coast Guard friends and a beloved circle of friends from VFW Post 10141.

Tracy Hatfield

Tracy Hatfield, 79, of Lakewood Ranch, died Nov. 11. He was born in Majestic, Ky., and moved to Bradenton in 1981 from New Jersey.

He was a veteran of the submarine service in the U.S. Navy and a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy class of 1957. He was past district governor of Rotary, vice president of Spartan Oil Co. of N.J., and he once owned Island Foods in Holmes Beach on Anna Maria Island.

There will be no local service. Brown & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory 43rd Street Chapel is in charge. Condolences may be made online at www.brownsfuneral.com.

Mr. Hatfield is survived by wife Sandra; foster son Christopher of West Palm Beach; daughters Karen Joy of Lakewood Ranch, Andrea Adams of Bradenton and Linda of Bradenton; foster daughter Lisa and husband Steve Loomis of West Palm Beach; brother Earl Scott of Lincoln, Neb.; sister Meleta Sammons of Columbus, Ohio; and three grandchildren.

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 ad director Toni Lyon at 941-778-7978.

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Streetlife

Island police blotter

Anna Maria

• Nov. 9, 800 block of North Shore Drive, suspicious incident. A complainant reported that the Bradenton Herald was charging her for newspapers that were not being delivered to her address, owned by another person. She said the owner claimed the newspapers are being stolen, but that she was forced to pay a \$200 bill.

• Nov. 12, 5314 Cortez Road, Bradenton, Walmart, theft. A 29-year-old Anna Maria man was arrested for misdemeanor theft after allegedly stealing memory cards from the electronics department. According to the report, the man took the cards to the bakery, where he purchased a doughnut and then attempted to exit the store without paying for the cards.

Anna Maria is policed by the MCSO.

Bradenton Beach

• Nov. 9, 2400 block of Gulf Drive North, resisting arrest. A Bradenton Beach Police Department officer responded to a domestic disturbance and made contact with a 50-year-old New Port Richey man, who was banging on the door of a second-floor condominium unit. The officer asked the man to come down, but he refused and continued yelling and banging on the door. The officer went up the stairs and asked the man again to come down and speak with him, but the suspect refused and kept trying to get into the residence. The officer attempted to place the man in custody, at which time he began pulling away. The officer reports that he had to take the man to the ground in order to gain custody.

• Nov. 13, 900 Gulf Drive N., Gulf Drive Cafe, violation of a protection order. A 30-year-old employee of the restaurant was arrested onsite after a complainant filed a report that the suspect violated a protection order by attempting to call her three times. The suspect's voice was identified on a voicemail left for the woman Nov. 8.

• Nov. 13, 307 Gulf Drive N., no driver's license. According to a probable cause affidavit, a woman pulled out in front of a police officer in a careless manner, forc-

ing the officer to slam on his brakes. Upon initiating a traffic stop, the 28-year-old Bradenton woman said she has never had a driver's license in this country.

Bradenton Beach is policed by the BBPD.

Cortez

• Nov. 10, 4500 block of 123rd Street West, theft. A man reported that an unknown person stole his unsecured bicycle left near his boathouse.

Cortez is policed by the MCSO

Holmes Beach

• Nov. 12, 3600 block of East Bay Drive, criminal mischief. An argument occurred between a man and woman staying at someone else's residence. During the argument, the man damaged the front door, walls and broke several items. Damages were estimated at \$300.

• Nov. 12, 700 Manatee Ave., reckless driving. A 46-year-old woman was observed "fishtailing" in a parking lot and then exited at a high rate of speed, at one point crossing the double yellow line to pass another vehicle. A police officer gave pursuit and recorded her speed at 60 mph. After initiating a traffic stop, the Bradenton woman said she has never had a driver's license. She was charged with reckless driving and not having a valid driver's license. When the officer began to arrest her, she allegedly resisted and had to be physically restrained. She was additionally charged with obstruction of a law enforcement officer.

• Nov. 2, 300 block of 61st Street, assault. Police responded to a domestic disturbance and heard a female inside the residence screaming. As they approached, a male exited the residence and appeared to be trying to flee. He was detained as the female exited, saying, "He tried to kill me." The suspect was placed under arrest, at which time the female declined to prosecute.

• Nov. 2, 200 block of 29th Street, battery. Police responded to a domestic disturbance and upon arrival witnessed a male juvenile hitting an adult female. An officer pulled the juvenile off of the victim and placed him in his patrol car. The victim said the juvenile attacked her without warning when she asked him to take his medication. A female juvenile also was punched while trying to help the woman. Police interviewed the male juvenile, who admitted to striking the woman, but said it was because

HBPD warns: Click it or get a ticket

The Holmes Beach Police Department is joining the "Click It or Ticket" effort for the Thanksgiving holiday week.

HBPD, in a news release, said, motorists — whether heading across the city or across the country should buckle their safety belts on every trip.

"The risk of being involved in a serious or deadly car crash increases when the number of cars on the road increases, and the long Thanksgiving weekend is one of the busiest travel times of the year," stated HBPD Chief William Tokajer in the news release. "So we want to remind everyone that your seat belts can save your life — and those you are traveling with."

The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says seat belts saved almost 12,000 lives nationwide in 2011.

"All too often, we see crash victims who were caught up in the excitement of the Thanksgiving holiday and didn't arrive safely at their destination," stated Tokajer in the release. "We want to remind everyone who will be on the roads to please buckle up — every trip, every time — so you can give thanks this holiday season and enjoy the time with your loved ones."

For more information about travel safety, go online to www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov.

she had stepped on a cockroach and killed it. The juvenile was arrested.

• Nov. 3, 300 block of 62nd Street, vehicle burglary. A complainant said she arrived home to feed her cats and left her vehicle unlocked for only a few minutes. When she returned, her purse was missing. The purse and the stolen contents were valued at \$67.

• Nov. 5, 500 block of Bay View Drive, theft. A man reported two unsecured bicycles valued at \$140 were stolen from outside his residence.

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.

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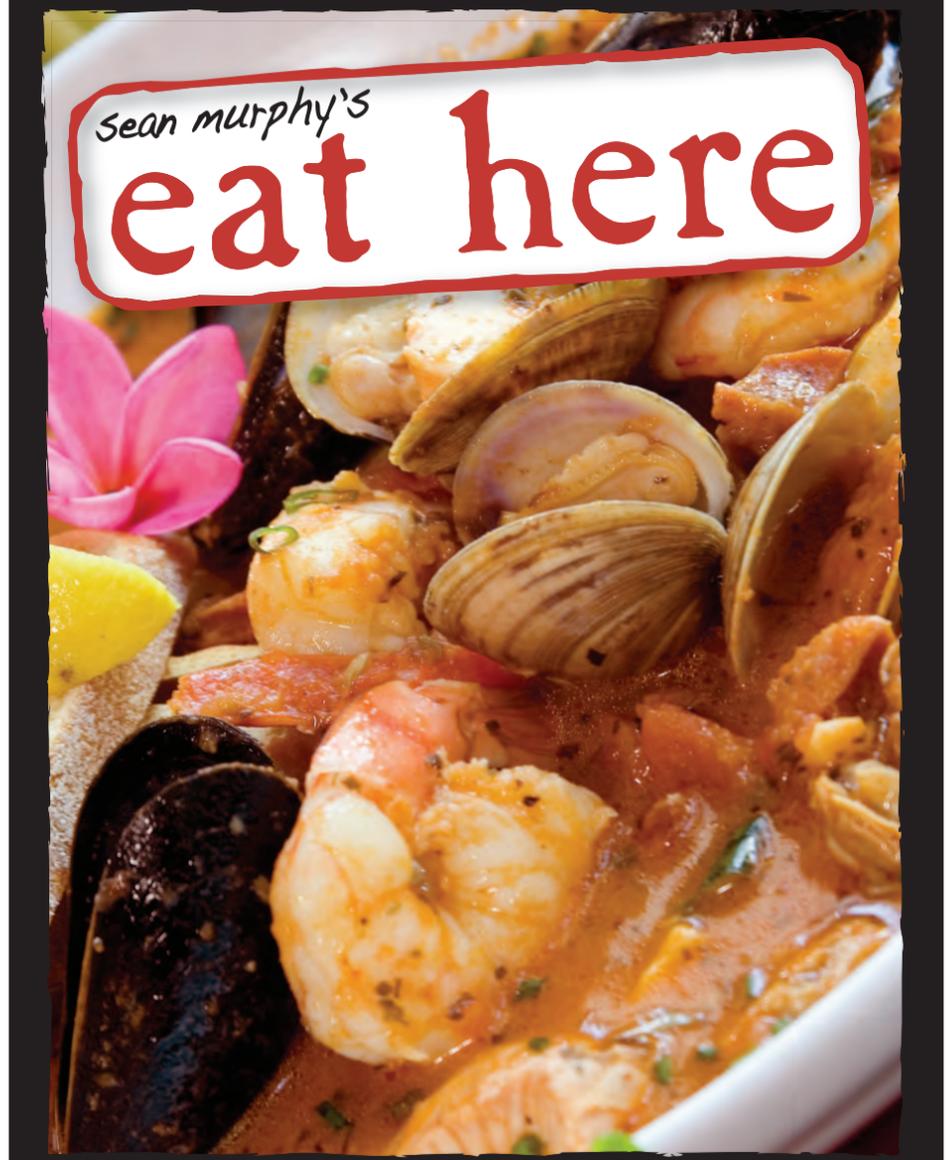
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Anna Maria turtle patrol recognized

Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch director Suzi Fox, left, and volunteer Glenn Wiseman present Manatee County Sheriff's Office deputies a plaque recognizing their efforts to ensure sea turtle hatchlings had a safe trip from their nests on the beach to the Gulf of Mexico during the May-October sea turtle nesting season. Fox presented the plaque at the Nov. 14 commission meeting, saying the deputies go "beyond the call of duty." With Fox are deputies Gary Sellito, left, Steve Stewart and Sgt. Paul Davis. Islander Photo: Rick Catlin

Center offers fall camp

The kids are out of school and you have to work. What to do? What to do?

The solution can be found at the Anna Maria Island Community Center, where staff is registering children for a fall break camp Nov. 25-27 at the center, 407 Magnolia Ave., Anna Maria.

Camp sessions will be 7 a.m.-6 p.m. for students in elementary and middle schools.

Plans for campers in grades K-5 include trips to Bounce Down Under for \$30 and Chuck E. Cheese's, also for \$30, as well as a center pajama party with games, crafts and movies for \$25.

Students can register for all three days at a cost of \$70.

Plans for campers in grades 6-8 include trips to Hungry Howie's and a movie, \$15, miniature golf and ice cream, \$15, and to Celebration Station for \$35.

Hurry. Registration is required by Wednesday, Nov. 20.

For more information, call the center at 941-778-1908, ext. 9219.

AME MENU

Wednesday, Nov. 20

Breakfast: Scrambled Eggs, Sausage Patty, Toast
Lunch: Tacos, Calzone, Refried Beans, Lettuce and Tomato Cups, Peaches. Feature: Popcorn Chicken Caesar Salad

Thursday, Nov. 21

Breakfast: Biscuit, Chicken Patty
Lunch: Holiday Ham, Turkey Gravy, Garlic Dinner Roll, Extra-Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Mini Romaine Salad, Fruit Crisp. Feature: Italian Salad

Friday, Nov. 22

Breakfast: Mini Pancakes
Lunch: Pizza, Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Corn, Cherry Tomato with Dip, Mandarin Oranges. Feature: Chef Salad
Juice and milk are served with every meal.

Monday, Nov. 25-Friday, Nov. 29
No school, fall break

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SAT. NOV. 23
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Doug Bidwell @ 7:30

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Reid Frost @ 7:30

MON. NOV. 25
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TUES. NOV. 26
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Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch treks to AME

Eager second-grade scientists gathered in the auditorium around a display: a hollowed out turtle shell 3 feet long and two softball-sized skulls.

Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch and Shorebird Monitoring volunteer Susan Anderson spoke to Anna Maria Elementary second-graders Nov. 14. She came equipped with the turtle shell and two skulls of loggerhead sea turtles. She also brought a diorama of a sea turtle nest, a sieve and posts and signs used for marking a turtle nest to demonstrate the work of turtle watch volunteers.

Anderson's appearance is part of a science series for the second-graders organized by teacher Heather Nyberg. Students were assigned to write about an animal, and each student chose a different animal for his or her topic.

Anderson has been an AMITW volunteer for eight years. She told students about the various types of sea turtles, what AMITW does and also about some of the birds seen on the beach.

She encouraged students to be stewards, giving them two rules concerning the birds on the beach:

- Do not feed the birds. The birds on the beach have a natural diet of fish and human food outside of their diet range can be harmful. Bread is dangerous to birds because it leeches calcium from their bones.
- Do not chase birds. Birds require a lot of sustenance because of their fast metabolism. With evading the chase, birds burn energy otherwise needed to find food.

Following the presentation, Anderson fielded questions from the second-graders.

AMITW is a volunteer-based organization requiring at least 63 monitors a season. Anna Maria Island is divided into nine sections and seven volunteers take each section to canvass for new sea turtle nests and watch established nests. Nesting season is May-October.

For more information about AMITW, call Suzi Fox at 941-778-5638 or visit islandturtlewatch.com.



TOP LEFT: Susan Anderson, a volunteer for the Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch and Shorebird Monitoring organization, shows AME second-graders a diorama of a sea turtle nest. Islander Photos: Jennifer Glenfield

TOP: AME second-graders get an up-close look at the sea turtle nest diorama provided by AMITW during a Nov. 14 demonstration.

LEFT: AME second-grade scientists examine the props brought in by turtle watch volunteer Susan Anderson. On display were two skulls and a shell from loggerhead sea turtles, a sieve, posts and signage used for marking nests, as well as a sea turtle nest diorama.

AME calendar

- 5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 19, PTO dinner, cafeteria, followed by fourth-grade concert, auditorium.
- Thursday, Nov. 21, progress reports.
- Nov. 25-29, no school.

Happy Thanksgiving!

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



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- 4-Course Wine Dinner, Dec. 11, 6:30 pm, \$35pp

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Island Pest, Feast Restaurant take center soccer league titles

By Kevin Cassidy
Islander Reporter

The Anna Maria Island Community Center's fall recreational soccer season came to a close Nov. 15 with two exciting championship games. Island Pest Control captured the 8-10 division title and The Feast Restaurant won the 11-13 division title. Both were in hard-fought victories over capable opponents on championship Friday.

No. 1 seed Island Pest Control defeated No. 2 seed Beach Bistro 4-3 in the their division's championship game behind two goals apiece from Javier Rivera and Julius Petereit, who scored the eventual game winner in the match.

Sean Rodriguez, David Daigle and Lilah Bowers notched goals for Beach Bistro in the tough loss.

The Feast and LPAC battled to a 5-5 tie in regulation play, but The Feast connected on three of its five kicks in the penalty-kick shootout to take the 11-13 division title.

Michael Latimer scored three goals and Joe Rogers added two goals during regulation play to lead The Feast. Tyler Pearson led LPAC with four goals, while Paige Charron added one goal in the loss.

Abbey Achor, Latimer and Joseph Peery scored goals for The Feast in the shootout to secure the victory.

1 vs. 2 in adult basketball championship

Beach to Bay Construction and Bowes Imaging Center justified their No. 1 and second seedings by advancing to the title game with victories during semifinal action Nov. 15 in the Anna Maria Island Community Center's adult coed basketball league.

Look for results from the championship game, to be played Nov. 19 after presstime, in the next edition of The Islander.

Bowes Imaging advanced to the finals by edging the Sun 70-64 behind 20 points and four assists from Teegan Purtil and 19 points and 11 rebounds from Matt Ray. Antwaun Jackson added 16 points to round out the scoring for Bowes Imaging Center in the victory.

Andrew Turman scored 24 points, while Eric Gledhill added 22 points and 12 rebounds to lead the Sun, which also received 15 points from Caleb Earhart.

The Sun advanced to the semifinals with a 70-60 victory over Southern Greens during the Nov. 12 opening round of playoffs. Caleb Earhart led the way with 33 points and 13 rebounds, while Eric Gledhill added 19 points and 17 rebounds in the victory.

Brandon Hartwig scored 18 points to lead Southern Greens, which also received 14 points from Joe Combs and 10 points, 10 rebounds and five assists from Justin Jones in the loss.

Beach to Bay defeated Gator Man Pools 51-31 in the second semifinal game of the evening. Robert Serrano scored 14 points and Jordan Demers added 14 points, 13 rebounds and five assists to lead Beach to Bay in the victory. Jonathan Moss added 13 points and Ryan Moss finished with 10 points to round out the Beach to Bay

scoring.

Aaron Dudukes led Gator Man Pools with 11 points, while Nate Coleman finished with eight points and Brandon Osmond added six points in the loss.

Gator Man Pools advanced to the semifinal round with a 65-60 victory over Waterfront Restaurant during opening-round playoff action Nov. 12. Aaron Dudukes led all scorers with 28 points and 13 rebounds, while Scott Ellis added 19 points and Nate Coleman finished with 12 points in the victory.

Brandon Kern scored 26 points and Matt Dwyer had 14 points, six rebounds and five assists to lead Waterfront Restaurant, which also received 10 points and eight rebounds from Matt Myers in the loss.

Playoffs underway in adult soccer

The playoffs for the adult coed soccer league at the center got started with four matches played Nov. 14. The action continues with semifinal action on Nov. 20 with the winners meeting in the championship game at 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21.

Slim's Place advanced to the semifinals with a 4-3 victory over Wash Family Construction. Eric Pullen led Slim's with two goals while Scott Eason and Nate Coleman each added one. BJ Grant scored two goals and Kris Yavalar scored once to lead Wash in the loss.

Island Gourmet defeated Island Pest Control 3-1 in the second match of the evening behind three goals from Adam Bujarski. Molly Bellairs notched the lone goal for Island Pest Control in the loss.

Top-seeded Sato Real Estate slipped past eighth seed Lapensee Plumbing by a 5-4 score behind two goals each from Matt Plummer and Leslie Rio. Stephen Perry completed the Sato scoring with one goal. Scott Macy scored two goals and James Lynch and Paul Heyward scored one goal each to lead Lapensee Plumbing in the loss.

The last game of the evening saw Agnelli Pool & Spa roll past Florida Discount Signs & Wraps by a 5-2 score. Matt Kretzman and Joey Casullo scored two goals each and Damir Glavan added one goal to lead Agnelli in the victory. Logan Bystrom and Ed Moss notched the goals for Discount Signs in the loss.

Register now for AMICC winter sports

The center is accepting registration now for its winter lineup of adult coed sports, including flag football, volleyball and, for the first time, a tennis league.

Games begin in January and players who sign up for two sports get a \$25 discount.

There are mandatory tryouts for volleyball to ensure league parity. Volleyball tryouts are Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. and teams will be chosen immediately afterwards. Matches will be played on Tuesday evenings in the center gym. The cost is \$75 for members, and \$110 for non-members.

Adult flag football tryouts will be held at 7 p.m. Dec. 5 and, like volleyball, teams will be chosen that evening. Games will be played Wednesdays and Thursdays. The

cost is \$75 for members and \$110 for non-members.

The cost for tennis is \$50 for singles and \$85 for doubles. Matches will be played under the lights on Tuesday evenings at the center courts starting at 6 p.m.

The center will be hosting an adult coed 4v4 soccer tournament for adults 18 years old and up with games starting at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 23.

The tournament is limited to 20 paid teams, six players per team. The cost is \$150 per team.

Players and teams can register for center sports online at www.islandcommunitycenter.com. For more information, contact athletic director Matt Ray at 941-778-1908, ext. 9205, or email matty@myamicc.com.

Key Royale golf news

It was a busy week at the Key Royale Club, including a Doe Day golf event for women Nov. 13, with more than 60 players turning out for a best-ball scramble followed by lunch in the clubhouse.

The team of Sally Keyes, Liz Lang, Joyce Brown and Pam Alvord took first place with a low-net score of 33.

Sue Little won the Doe Day longest-drive competition, while Joyce Lathrop won closest to the pin. The women also held a putting contest, which was won by Barbara Estok.

In other club news, the men members played an 18-hole, individual-low-net golf match Nov. 9. Jim Thornton took first place with a 3-under-par 61.

The men played a nine-hole, two-best-balls-of-four-some match Nov. 11. The team of Ron Pritchard, Dennis Schavey, Ron Robinson and Gert Sevlneier combined on a 51 to win the match.

The men went out later in the day for a nine-hole, modified-Stableford or quota-points game. Larry Pippel took home individual honors with a plus-3.

Bob Lang, John Cassese, Schaefer and Gary Duncan combined on a plus-2 to take home the team title for the day.

The men played a nine-hole, team scramble Nov. 14. The team of Jim Mixon, Mark Mixon, Dean Christensen and Tom Lewis combined on a 6-under-par 26 to take first place.

The members played a nine-hole, two-best-balls-of-four-some match Nov. 15. The team of Sally Martin, Mary Ann Kammerlin, Carl Peterson and Rose Slomba fired a 14-under-par 50 to take first place.

Horseshoe news

Three teams advanced from pool play during Nov. 16 horseshoe action at the Anna Maria City Hall horseshoe pits. Sam Samuels drew the bye into the finals and watched as Gene Bobeldyk and Adin Shank slipped past Hank Huyghe and Jay Disbrow by a 21-19 score. It was all Samuels in the finals as he strolled past Bobeldyk and Shank 21-10 to earn the day's bragging rights.

Two teams earned 3-0 pool-play records during Nov. 13 action and met in the finals. Bobeldyk and Karl Thomas steamrolled Bob Palmer and Bill Wright 22-6 to earn bragging rights for the day.

Play gets underway at 9 a.m. every Wednesday and Saturday at the Anna Maria City Hall pits. Warmups begin at 8:45 a.m. followed by random team selection.

For more sports, photos and center schedules, go online at www.islander.org.

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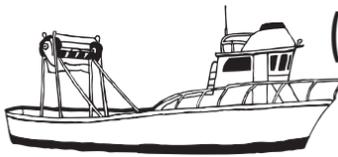
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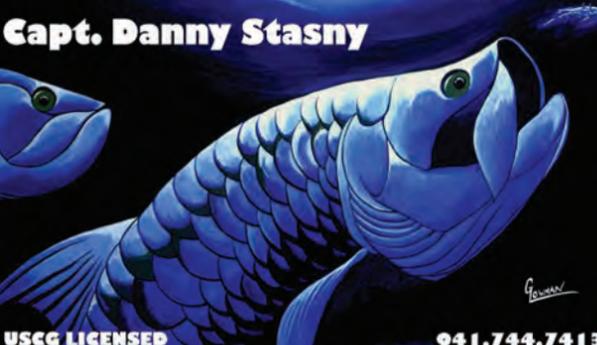
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Capt. Danny Stasny



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Island fishing in full swing despite wacky fall weather

By Capt. Danny Stasny
Islander Reporter

The hunt for backwater species such as redfish, trout and snook is in full swing for area anglers as water temps are beginning to cool. The temp at the St. Petersburg marker for NOAA for this week is closing down on 70 degrees.

The fall targets are migrating inland in search of warmer water, which is resulting in congregations of fish in certain areas. And if you know the area, catching 50 fish a day is possible.

Live baits — shiners and pinfish — are producing a bite. If you're fishing artificials, a silver topwater plug is ideal. Silver is a good bet because of the vast number of mullet scooting over the shallow grass flats. If the topwater doesn't work, try a soft plastic on a jighead.

Fishing from or along the beaches of Anna Maria also is resulting in a variety of species. Catches include Spanish mackerel, ladyfish, jack crevalle and bonnethead sharks — and a good day also can result in flounder and pompano.

For these species, you may want to work a small white or chartreuse buck tail jig. If you're targeting jacks and macks, use a silver spoon. If you're looking to hook into a pompano, you've got to try a Goofy jig in colors from yellow to white to hot pink. You can see which one works best for you and the fish.

Capt. Warren Girle is fishing on nearshore structure during those days with light winds and calm seas. By anchoring and chumming with fresh-cut shiners, Girle is attracting mangrove snapper and grouper to the surface. His clients are free-lining fresh-cut shiners, resulting in mangrove snapper up to 21 inches. Limits of these tasty fish are going in the well, sometimes in less than an hour. The gags require more work, although keeper-size fish are attainable.

Also on nearshore structure, Girle is getting into rallies on macks. Free-lining shiners behind the boat is resulting in multiple hookups and fish 18-22 inches. Expect to find bonito and kingfish between mack bites.

Moving inshore, Girle is jigging for pompano on deeper grass flats during the outgoing tides. When work-



Rowan Uttley, visiting from the United Kingdom, reeled in this 36-inch redfish on a Nov. 1 charter with Capt. Mark Howard of Sumotime. Howard reports the fish ate a shiner on a popping cork and was quickly released after the photo.

ing pompano, you'll also find jack crevalle, ladyfish, mackerel, spotted seatrout and even flounder.

When the pompano hunt dies out, Girle is looking to catch redfish and trout. Spotted seatrout are responding to live shiners in depths of 3-5 feet. Fish 17-23 inches were the norm. As for reds, Girle is finding some schooling in Sarasota Bay — although not in the volume of past weeks. Again, live shiners are the bait of choice.

Dave Sork at the Anna Maria City Pier is seeing Spanish mackerel landing on the deck. Though with the bait around the pier sporadic, the mack bite is following suit. Small white crappie jigs or Clark spoons are a good bet to hook into the high-activity fish. While targeting macks, you might also hook up with jack crevalle, blue runners, ladyfish and a bonito.

Pier fishers targeting snapper are pulling a few up, although the bite is thinning out. A live shrimp or shiner fished on the bottom around the pilings is a good bet to hook a snapper, which also produces some juvenile grouper, flounder and black drum.

Capt. Aaron Lowman — running charters and working the shop at Island Discount Tackle — is targeting redfish and snook along mangrove shorelines in Anna Maria Sound. "The fish are in the bushes," says Lowman. "So you've got to cast your shiner right up to the edge of the branches." Placing live shiners along the mangrove edges is resulting in keeper-sizes of both species.

Fishing docks also is proving prosperous for Lowman. By anchoring within casting range of a dock and tossing in a Berkley Gulp shrimp on a jighead, both redfish and flounder are coming to the boat. By using a side cast, Lowman is able to skip a jig under the dock, allowing it to sink to the bottom. "A lot of times that's when you get a bite," says Lowman. If the jig doesn't get hit, he slowly twitches it back to the boat, hoping for a

strike. Rumors of pompano are coming into the tackle shop. Lowman says the most popular baits are Goofy jigs or sand fleas. Along with pompano, macks, jacks and ladyfish being caught from the beaches of Anna Maria Island.

Capt. Mark Howard of SumoTime fishing charters says fishing has been productive in spite of the weather. The passing cold fronts and accompanying wind have been a major factor in where Howard pulls up to fish.

He says redfish have been cooperative in shallow waters and are feeding on live shiners, pinfish and cut bait. The key to a successful day has been to fish when the water is moving. Howard likes to use a popping cork rigged with 5 feet of fluorocarbon leader and a 1/0 Owner circle hook. On recent charters, clients have been landing redfish from 16-inch dinks to 36-inch over-slot bruisers. Look for the redfish to stay on the flats until we sustain numerous cold fronts, he says.

Howard also reports finding speckled trout "on the chew" and increasing in size. A 26-inch snaggle-toothed predator was landed in 2 feet of water on a shiner this past week on one of his charters. Keeper-sized trout will remain an easy target, he predicts.

Off the beaches, the fishing has been excellent for Spanish mackerel, kingfish, bonito and sharks. And Howard had an occasional tarpon "come to the party." With a northeast to east wind, fishing within a mile of the beach should be calm and offer some excellent hunting, he predicts.

"Looking forward, the fall-winter transition is in full swing," Howard says. "The fish will be chewing and fattening up on all the shiners in our area as they prepare to migrate south for the winter."

Send fishing reports to fish@islander.org.



Capt. Rick Gross helps 7-year-old Charlie Cowin of Alabama wrangle his first-ever snook catch Nov. 10 on a free-lined shiner in the Manatee River.

Anna Maria Island Tides

Date	AM	HIGH	PM	HIGH	AM	LOW	PM	LOW	Moon
Nov. 20	2:45p	1.5	—	—	7:24	-0.2	5:52	1.3	
Nov. 21	12:11	2.4	3:24	1.5	8:02	-0.2	6:39	1.3	
Nov. 22	12:53	2.3	4:05	1.5	8:44	-0.1	7:42	1.3	
Nov. 23	1:41	2.1	4:47	1.6	9:29	0.1	9:02	1.3	
Nov. 24	2:41	1.9	5:28	1.6	10:17	0.2	10:33	1.1	
Nov. 25	3:58	1.7	6:08	1.7	11:07	0.4	—	—	
Nov. 26	5:32	1.5	6:44	1.8	12:00	1.0	11:57	0.5	
Nov. 27	7:09	1.4	7:19	2.0	1:12	0.7	12:44	0.7	

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

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Island Biz



By Rick Catlin

Sarasota's Eat Here opens for lunch

Sean Murphy, owner of the three Eat Here locations in the Manatee-Sarasota area, said the Sarasota restaurant is now serving lunch.

The luncheon menu is in response to customer demand, Murphy said. Meanwhile, folks in the island Eat Here vicinity will need to plan a day trip to imbibe.

The lunch menu includes Gulf Coast cuisine and 10 specialty items. Fresh salads, soups and breads also are on the menu.

Lunch hours are 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

The Sarasota Eat Here is at 1888 Main St., while other locations are at 5313 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach, and 240 Avenida Madera on Siesta Key.

For more information, call 941-778-0411.

Chamber schedules November social

The Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce will hold its monthly networking event 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 20, at Island Coffee Haus in the S&S Plaza, 5350 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach.

Does your business have achievements to celebrate? Maybe you've just opened a business or your business has received an award or special recognition. If so, we'd like to hear from you. To be considered, email your "who, what, where, when and why" to news@islander.org. Hi-res photos welcome.

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Cost of the event is \$5 and reservations are requested but not required.

Members are encouraged to bring guests. Refreshments and snacks will be served and door prizes will be awarded.

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

Longboat Key chamber plans luncheon event

The Longboat Key Chamber of Commerce will hold its November networking luncheon 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21, at the Chart House Restaurant, 201 Gulf of Mexico Drive, Longboat Key.

Cost of the event is \$20 for members and \$25 for guests. Reservations are required.

Chamber members are urged to bring guests and prospective chamber members.

For more information or to make a reservation, call 931-383-2466.

LBK chamber plans tree-lighting ceremony

The Longboat Key Chamber of Commerce and the St. Armands Circle merchants will hold the Holiday Night of Lights 6-8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, at St. Armands Circle in Sarasota.

Santa is expected to arrive at 6 p.m. and the event will have continuous live music.

For more information, call 941-383-2466.

Village business trio celebrate anniversaries

The Bob Brown Art Gallery, 511 Pine Ave., Anna Maria, and several business neighbors in the Historic Green Village celebrated first anniversaries Nov. 15, coinciding with Pine Avenue's first-of-the-season Porch Party. The village businesses offered live music, refreshments and appetizers, as well as anniversary cake.

Celebrating their one-year anniversaries with the art gallery were AMI Outfitters, 505 Pine Ave., and Home-town Desserts, 507 Pine Ave.

Island real estate transactions

By Jesse Brisson
Special to The Islander

522 Bayview Drive, Holmes Beach, a 4,751 sfla / 5,729 sfur 4bed/5bath/3car bayfront pool home built in 2007 on a 240x118 lot was sold 10/24/13, Slater to Ranck for \$2,575,000; list \$2,790,000.



Brisson

116 45th St., Unit 116, Beachy Villas, Holmes Beach, a 2,200 sfla / 3,400 sfur 5bed/4bath/3car land condo built in 2013 was sold 10/21/13, Toehold on 4th Street LLC to Nadler for \$950,000; list \$1,049,000.

118 45th St., Unit 118, Beachy Villas, Holmes Beach, a 2,200 sfla / 3,400 sfur 5bed/4bath/3car land condo with pool built in 2013 was sold 10/21/13, Toehold on 4th Street LLC to BFI Investments LLP for \$925,000; list \$999,000.

233 Gladiolus St., Anna Maria, a 1,664 sfla / 2,632 sfur 4bed/2bath canalfront pool home built in 1979 on a 101x127 lot was sold 10/21/13, Pescitelli to Fauth for \$750,000.

5605 Carissa St., Unit B, Carissa Bungalows, Holmes Beach, a 1,650 sfla / 2,100 sfur 3bed/2bath/1car condo with pool built in 2013 was sold 10/24/13, Carissa Bungalows LLC to Kling for \$675,000; list \$739,000.

612 Foxworth Lane, Holmes Beach, a 1,988 sfla / 2,686 sfur 3bed/3bath/2car canalfront pool home built in 1971 on a 95x116 lot was sold 10/17/13, Guerin to Pfeil for \$595,000; list \$645,000.

309 58th St. Unit A, Island Oasis, Holmes Beach, a 1,487 sfla 3bed/2bath condo with pool built in 1957 was sold 10/24/13, Brinson to Ulzheimer for \$583,000; list \$629,000.

310 63rd St., Unit 5A, Island Walk, Holmes Beach, a 2,001 sfla / 3,176 sfur 3bed/2½bath/2car condo built in 2005 was sold 10/25/13, Phelan to Pearl Event 310 LLC for \$515,000; list \$535,000.

308 58th St., Unit B, Calypso Cottages, Holmes Beach, a 1,095 sfla 2bed/2bath condo with pool built in 2011 was sold 10/18/13, Anna Maria Island LLC to Dorroh for \$471,500; list \$489,000.

407 73rd St., Holmes Beach, a 1,640 sfla / 4,904 sfur 3bed/2bath home built in 1994 on a 99x85 lot was sold 10/22/13, Bank of New York Mellon to Quinn for \$425,100.

508 69th St., Holmes Beach, a 1,530 sfla / 2,286 sfur 3bed/2bath/1car home built in 1969 on a 80x120 lot was sold 11/01/13, Giles to Katz for \$403,500; list \$399,000.

REAL ESTATE CONTINUES, PAGE 27

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FREEZER: 9.0 CUBIC foot, \$45. 941-778-1620. Holmes Beach.

REAL ESTATE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

2507 Ave. C, Bradenton Beach, a 1,620 sfla / 2,534 sfur 4bed/2bath duplex built in 1979 on a 50x100 lot was sold 10/30/13, Turner to Anmark Properties LLC for \$253,000.

2513 Ave. C, Bradenton Beach, a vacant 50x100 lot was sold 10/22/13, Villadsen to 2513 Avenue C LLC for \$212,000.

6300 Flotilla Drive, Unit 68, Shell Point, Holmes Beach, a 1,151 sfla 2bed/2bath condo with shared pool built in 1973 was sold 10/23/13, Hundley to Barnes for \$190,000.

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

ITEMS FOR SALE Continued

PLACEMATS, COASTERS, NAPKIN rings, 6 placemats, 8 coasters, 8 napkin rings, \$10. Call 941-761-1415.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HIVE: GIFTS & Arts at Bridge Street, Bradenton Beach. Local hand-made unique jewelry including our very popular Mermaids Range, Tibetan jewelry and goods, plus Pandora-style charms and various gift items from around the world. 941-730-1745.

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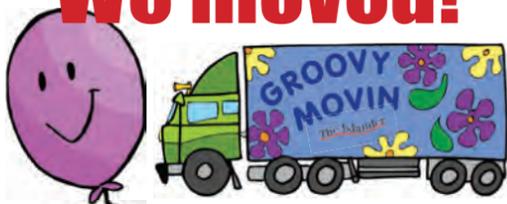
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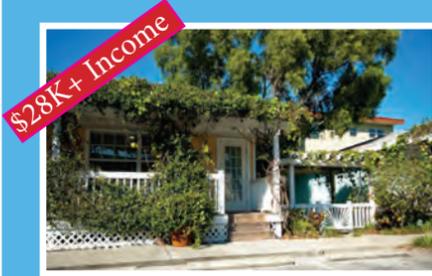


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