

VENICE Gondolier Sun

LOCAL NEWS COVER TO COVER



AWARD WINNING WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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No 'canvas' is too big for a local artist

1B



50 CENTS VOLUME 63 NUMBER 76

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY EDITION, SEPT. 3-4, 2008

AN EDITION OF THE SUN



SUN FILE PHOTO

Candidates are lining up to replace two-term Council Member Rick Tacy, while no one has yet emerged to challenge Vice Mayor John Moore.

Tacy won't seek third term

BY GREG GILES
NEWS EDITOR

Two city council seats are up for grabs on the Nov. 4 ballot, but only one is attracting candidates.

Seat 2, held by Rick Tacy, has drawn more potential candidates than any other in recent memory.

That's a moot point for Tacy now that he's announced he won't seek a third term.

"I am not running for office," he said Tuesday. "I've accomplished what I wanted to get done."

Due to term limits, even if elected Tacy could have served only one additional year.

He withheld his announce-



Budway



Carlesimo



McKeon



Osmulski

ment until now, he said, with only three days left before the filing deadline, until after the council vote on plans for the beachfront Tramonto Vista Park.

"I didn't want to announce (my intentions) and become a lame duck in case it was a close vote," Tacy said. "I'm very happy it will be built."

His decision not to run will

also give the city a chance to align office terms so there are fewer staggered terms requiring fewer costly elections.

"I took over (Seat 2 during) the middle of the term," Tacy said. "To run now and to win would just be pushing everything down the road."

Please see TACY, 3A

Humane Society ends contract with county

BY ANNE KLOCKENKEMPER
STAFF WRITER

The Suncoast Humane Society has ended its contract with Sarasota County, effective Sept. 1.

This means that lost and stray animals found in North Port, Venice and northern parts of Englewood, will no longer be accepted. Instead, these animals will be transported to Sarasota County Animal Services on Bee Ridge Road in Sarasota.

Citizens in these areas finding lost or straying animals will continue to phone Sarasota Animal Services at 861-9500 to have them picked up.

Phil Snyder, Suncoast's executive director, said the decision to end the contract was made after more than a year of discussion.

"This wasn't something that we just came up with," he said. "I respect animal control very much. In fact I worked animal control early in my career. But looking at the contracts, even though we will lose the income of those contracts ... right now it's costing the Humane Society far more to provide the care for the animals."

He said the majority of animals that animal control officers bring in are bite cases or confiscations, many of which have

temperament or health problems and are ultimately euthanized.

"In Sarasota County I can tell you, so far, in all of 2007, the Sarasota Animal Control brought in 884 stray animals, and brought in 742 so far this year," Snyder said.

Benefits

Snyder said there aren't many who contract with animal control any more, and those that do lose money, including Suncoast Humane Society.

Ending the contract will provide several benefits to Suncoast, including euthanizing fewer animals.

"It will give us room to provide longer term care for some animals with a little extra effort can be made well or adopted into good homes," he said. "It also will allow us to create more aggressive spay/neuter and pet adoption programs, which brings us more in line with our mission of reducing the number of homeless animals and improving the quality of human and animal life."

The Suncoast Humane Society accepts and adopts animals seven days a week.

For more information about the Suncoast Humane Society, call 474-7884, or visit www.humane.org.
annek@sun-herald.com

Receding shoreline



SUN PHOTO BY JUSTIN FENNELL, jfennell@venicegondolier.com

High waters from Hurricane Gustav left parts of the South Jetty beach eroded.

Planners urged to improve evacuation options

BY GERALD A. ROGOVIN
CORRESPONDENT

Now is the time to prepare for hurricanes, Edward McCrane Jr. has been telling Sarasotans.

The county's emergency management chief suggests that the most important question to answer in those preparations is, if you leave, where would you go?

"Whether you stay or go during a storm partially depends on which evacuation zone you live in," he said.

That has Manasota-88, a Nokomis-based environmental organization, concerned. It questions a state-mandated transportation master plan that must be completed by 2009 for this area by the Tampa Bay Regional Transportation Authority.

Glenn Compton of Manasota-88 wants TBARTA to make it a priority to develop options in its plan "that reduce hurricane evacuation times and have an

overall positive impact on the environment."

Sarasota County is part of Florida's Region 6, which includes Charlotte, Manatee, Hendry, Collier and Lee counties. Their population is about 1.5 million, according to the Southwest Regional Planning Council. That will probably double by 2050, the council's Dan Trescott, project service manager, estimates.

"Those figures are based on an annual growth of about 3 percent in the number of households in the region and estimates going back to 1987," he said. "But 800,000 is a more important figure. That represents residents of mobile homes and recreational vehicles. They're being built more solidly these days. They are particularly vulnerable to storm surges and hurricane-force winds, particularly so if they're on the coast."

He estimates that evacuation time in the region is about 65

hours prior to hurricane landfall.

"But there are so many variables," he said. "Evacuees could find as much trouble where they are going as where they have been."

'Woefully inadequate'

Compton fears that the TBARTA plan is limited in scope already, even before a series of public workshops on the plan is completed. He expressed his concerns in July at one of the meetings, at the Venice Community Center.

"Whichever improvements TBARTA puts into its plan, they need to allow for urban sprawl," he said. "They cannot negatively impact the environment. Nor can they fail to reduce evacuation clearance times."

"A justification for building I-75 and extending it south of State Road 681 in Nokomis was

Please see URGED, 3A



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER

As Tropical Storm Hanna moves slowly toward Florida, and with two more named storms in its wake, the need to evacuate the area may be on more residents' minds.

Good morning,
Gondolier Sun
subscriber,
LOUIS RUNYON

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DEATHS

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- Billy Hancock
- Edna O'Donnell
- Paul Schmidt



Florida Lottery

CASH 3

Sept. 1N.....098
Sept. 1D.....912
Aug. 31N.....826
Aug. 31D.....710



PLAY 4

Sept. 1N...2797
Sept. 1D...3603
Aug. 31N..6464
Aug. 31D..3491

D-Day; N-Night

D-Day; N-Night

FANTASY 5

Sept. 14-5-9-20-27
Aug. 314-6-9-17-27
Aug. 302-11-34-35-36
Aug. 2910-16-24-31-33
Aug. 288-16-22-24-34

MEGA MONEY

Aug. 294-6-29-31
MegaBall7
Aug. 261-15-22-43
MegaBall5

Drawings occur Tuesday, Friday evenings

Payoff for Aug. 31

1 5-digit winner:\$177,616.36
349 4-digit winners:\$82
9,920 3-digit winners:\$8
2-digit winnersQuick Pick ticket

Payoff for Aug. 29

0 4 of 4 + MB\$—
7 4 of 4\$1,189.50
58 3 of 4 + MB\$314.50
1,144 3 of 4\$47.50
1,992 2 of 4 + MB\$19

LOTTO

Aug. 306-12-22-23-49-51
Aug. 272-9-30-34-39-53
Aug. 236-10-22-44-46-48
Aug. 202-11-12-39-42-43
Aug. 162-12-16-25-35-47
Aug. 135-7-13-26-27-52

Payoff for Aug. 30

0 6-digit winners:\$—
73 5-digit winners:\$5,878.00
4,427 4-digit winners:\$78.50
96,828 3-digit winners:\$5

Drawings occur Wednesdays, Saturdays

The estimated jackpot is \$20 million

BACK IN TIME

ROTARY ROUND BALL, 1954



PHOTO COURTESY OF VENICE ARCHIVES

Rotary Club members dressed as women to play baseball with the Lions Club in May 1954. Front row: Ben "Beebe" Dunn, Dr. Lester "Listerine" Thompson and Louis "Flossie" Suter. Back row: Miles J. "June" Cruickshank, Morton Kraft (a renegade Lion), Col. William R. "Litchie" Grove, Howard "Manny" Gordon and Robert "Gypsy" Nance. For more about this and other historical materials, visit Venice Archives and Area Historical Collection at 351 S. Nassau St., across from West Blalock Park. The mission of Venice Archives is to collect and preserve historical and archaeological material relating to Venice and the communities of Nokomis, Laurel and Osprey, whose histories have been interwoven from 1867 to the present. Hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday and Wednesday. Call 486-2487 for more information.

ABC-7 WEATHER

VENICE OUTLOOK

7 Day Forecast
STORM CENTER

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
91	92	93	91	89	90	90
76	75	75	74	75	74	73
30%	30%	20%	30%	40%	40%	40%

ABC-7 ALMANAC

Temperature	High	Low
Yesterday	93	77
Normal	91	73
Record	95	63
	(1962)	(1960)
Rainfall		
Yesterday	0.01"	
Month	Actual	Average
Year	0.01"	7.87"
	27.48"	39.77"

SUNRISE, SUNSET

Sunrise/set	
Tonight's sunset	7:48 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise	7:11 a.m.
Moonrise/set	
Moonrise	10:44 a.m.
Moonset	9:55 p.m.

MARINE

Cape Sable to Tarpon Springs: (Sarasota and Charlotte counties)
NNE winds at 8 to 16 knots.
Seas 1 to 2 feet, light chop.

Tarpon Springs to Apalachicola:
ENE winds at 8 to 16 knots.
Seas 3 to 5 feet, moderate chop.

VENICE TIDES

EASTERN STANDARD TIME				
DATE	HIGH P.M.	HIGH A.M.	LOW P.M.	LOW A.M.
WED 3	3:23	2:04	8:56	9:22
THU 4	4:19	2:27	9:12	10:10
FRI 5	5:37	2:56	9:23	11:06
SAT 6		3:31	12:14	

*STRONG TIDE
a - A.M. p - P.M.

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URGED from Page 1A

to use it as a hurricane evacuation route. Funding improvements for River Road are also being justified as a way to facilitate hurricane evacuation."

"But River Road was never intended to be a hurricane evacuation route,"

Compton said. "It's located on a floodplain of the Myakka River. Upgrading River Road for safe use as a hurricane evacuation route will be prohibitively expensive."

"One of the biggest mistakes made in Southwest Florida was to build entire communities along the

Gulf in hurricane-prone areas without improving transportation needs for safe hurricane evacuations 40 years ago," Compton said. "We're still doing it."

Roads leading from such areas are "woefully inadequate to safely move residents out of harm's

"But River Road was never intended to be a hurricane evacuation route."

— Glenn Compton of Manasota-88

way," he added. Forecasters at the University of Colorado recently revised their predictions

of the number of hurricanes that will occur in 2008. Based on the number that have already been

recorded, they boosted the number of named storms to 17 from 15 and hurricanes to nine from eight.

In only four other years — 2005 was the most recent — has a storm formed in the tropics as early as Bertha in July. Hurricane frequency and intensity were high in those years.

TACY from Page 1A

Accomplishments

According to Tacy, his biggest accomplishments included being one of the original council members to suggest passing the \$10 million bond four years ago that resulted in making funds available for Tramonto Vista Park, beach renourishment, the Venice Municipal Fishing Pier and reconstruction of the Venice Community Center; getting the comprehensive plan revised; and securing funds for the planned Myakka River Park.

Tacy will have served eight years. He was first elected in 2000 to serve two years remaining on Janice McDermott's term after she stepped down just prior to the election. Tacy won unopposed.

"It's been very productive. Some of my favorite accomplishments took place behind the scenes," he said, like the time a resident complained to him about a rusted fire hydrant at Venice Beach; with his encouragement it was replaced in one day.

On his second day in office,

Tacy recalled, he received a call from a woman who complained about a particular street median that didn't have cutouts for wheelchair access.

"It was rather dangerous traveling around medians instead of passing through them," he said. "We had it done by July. She said she didn't think it was ever going to be done. She was thankful. Those are the ones that have the most meaning."

What next for Tacy? He's undecided.

"For a couple of months I will probably totally step away — unless there is an issue I need to speak on."

Moore unopposed

Vice Mayor John Moore, the swing vote on many controversial issues since the November council elections, is thus far running unopposed for Seat 1.

He was elected in 2002. He currently serves as ex officio on the Venice Historical Commission and represents the city on the following boards: Manasota League of Cities, Sarasota Coun-

ty Tourist Development Council and Tourism and Economic Development Board. He is a former chairman of the Municipal Code Enforcement Board.

Moore holds a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from Virginia Military Institute and a law degree from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. He served in the U.S. Army. He, and his wife, Linda, moved to Venice in 2000 from Virginia Beach, Va., where he served as circuit court judge.

The final four?

Four candidates have announced campaigns for Seat 2, including longtime Planning Commission Chair John Osmulski, Bond/Tax Oversight Committee Member Gary Budway, recently appointed Planning Commission Member Kit McKeon, and political newcomer and Golden Beach resident Emilio Carlesimo.

Officially Osmulski and McKeon have submitted their paperwork. The rest have until filing deadline on Friday at

noon. The candidates are:

Gary Budway — a retired corrections officer and union representative, he was the first to announce his candidacy for Seat 2. He is a recent appointee by the mayor to the city Bond/Tax Oversight Committee.

Emilio Carlesimo — he considers himself the only moderate candidate. He is a longtime firefighter and union representative already endorsed by the Suncoast Professional Firefighters and paramedics Local 2546 and Florida Professional Firefighters Association. He was appointed in 2004 to the city Fire Fighter's Pension Board and is chairman of the Sarasota County Fire Fighters Health Trust Fund. He sits on the county Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board.

Kit McKeon — McKeon, a slow-growth advocate, first appeared on the scene a year ago during public hearings on proposed development at the municipal airport. He supports preserving Venice's small town charm, keeping the municipal

golf course, and "keeping our airport safe." He was an Army/National Guard helicopter pilot and operations officer for 10 years, with 30 years in the defense aerospace business with General Electric and other companies. He was recently appointed the Venice Planning Commission by Mayor Ed Martin.

John Osmulski — a volunteer in the community for 30 years, he has chaired the city planning commission since 1998. Generally considered a pro-growth candidate, Osmulski is a general contractor by trade. At one point he served on five city and county advisory boards — chairing all of them simultaneously. He chaired the city Parks and Recreation Advisory Board beginning in 1991, helping broker the deal between the county and city that resulted in Paw Park. He served from 1993-97 on the Code Enforcement Board, and from 1994 to the end of 1996 on the county Natural Resources & Recreation Advisory Board until the board sunsetted.

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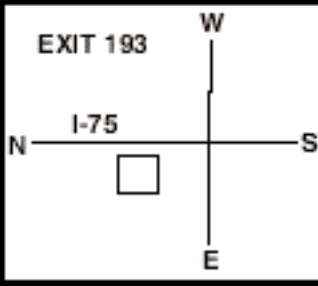
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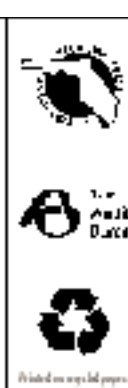
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OUR VIEW

Are Sarasota County elections jinxed?

The good news about last Tuesday's primary election in Sarasota County was that all the votes seemed to be recorded properly. And, just in case, there was a paper backup.

Given Florida's notorious exercise in the 2000 presidential election, the 2006 congressional election undercount in Sarasota County and the \$3 million spent on a new voting system, that is very good news.

The bad news is that another election-night glitch held up the vote total for hours, forced a day-after manual tally and provided more fuel to conspiracy theorists who consider our current elections systems suspect. It just looked bad, again.

It is an axiom of political science and public relations that perception is everything. So once again, the Supervisor of Elections Office in Sarasota

County has to scramble to maintain credibility.

The most recent election night problem was relatively minor. There is no evidence that any votes were missing, which is the important thing. Because the county's new election electronic machines have the paper backups, a recount was possible if there were any major questions.

In fact, the new system — with all the pieces used together for the first time Tuesday — seemed to be working exceptionally well early in the evening. One-half hour after the polls closed, nearly all the votes were tabulated. There was only one problem transferring data from a polling station to the elections office, and that was handled easily. The tabulation was moving along far smoother than in past elections, Supervisor of Elections Kathy Dent said.

Then, just when it appeared the whole thing would be locked up cleanly within an hour, the process stopped cold.

Elections officials were unable to transfer two sets of absentee-voting results onto the computer server using a high-speed scanner.

This sort of thing happens with computer systems on occasion; the connection simply wouldn't work. Elections officials and employees of Premier Election Solutions, which manufactures the system, were baffled by the transfer-of-data problem.

Two hours into the process, Dent, hardly a computer expert herself, was asked what the problem was. "We don't know," she said, looking more frustrated as time went by.

Late in the evening, Dent insisted the glitch couldn't have been detected

beforehand; the equipment worked correctly in previous tests and a mock election. And the next day, Premier figured out that a software programming error was to blame.

Dent has since decided to use a different, and presumably more reliable, scanner system in November, when the turnout may reach a historic high.

In the end, we're confident the new voting system tabulated votes properly. We're also relieved that paper ballot backup existed in case there was a major tabulation problem.

Once again, though, a problem clouded an election here. With a historic turnout expected in November, we can only hope.

And, just in case, it would be wise to encourage as much sunshine and public inspection of the process as possible. It's one way to restore credibility.

Stop micro-managing



BOB VEDDER
PUBLISHER

Council meetings continue to be marathon events far exceeding what any good meeting should be.

It used to be that council would start after lunch and be done in three or four hours, certainly in time for dinner. Now we start at nine in the morning and get done late in the afternoon, even going into the evening. What has changed that we would have doubled the length of the meetings?

For one thing, the mayor is living up to his campaign promise to ensure that people who want to be heard will be fairly heard. That is a noble and a proper goal as the people need to feel they are being listened to. However, that can be too much at times.

Yet that is not really the big problem. The big problem is the amount of discussion on every topic that comes up.

The previous council did not do much discussing and that is primarily why meetings were short. They often accepted staff's recommendations with limited or no debate.

While it certainly seemed right that more questions needed to be asked, it also was hoped that we would not micro-manage the city. That is what is happening.

Recently there was a big discussion on Tramonto Vista Park that is to be next to Sharky's. Anything involving the area near Golden Beach (where several council members live) stirs enormous debate.

The park discussion was about a lot of things, especially whether it should be passive or active, but also got into what kind of surface to have on the parking lot. Can we not ask staff to look at environmentally sensitive surfaces and have it make a recommendation rather than treating council as a committee? Council is getting into too much minutia.

Meetings must be shorter for more efficient and effective government.

I would not use Kathy Dent, supervisor of elections, for picking winning

sports teams or let her buy your lottery card.

Kathy predicted a 45-50 percent voter turnout for the primary. It ended up at 19 percent. Charlotte County was in the high 30s, although that was likely because of the 1-cent sales surtax that was on the ballot.

We are coming to learn that it just wouldn't be an election in Sarasota County without a computer glitch. Hope we don't have to buy another system.

By's Crack: My doctor told me that exercise kills bacteria. What I want to know is, how do I get the bacteria to exercise?

While working at the Habitat *Gondolier Sun* house it was nice to run into another very longtime Habitat regular, **Frank Gurney**. Many of you may know him from his years on the Sarasota Bradenton International Airport Board.

Digging a ditch at the site was a great workout.

Today's Ism: Why do we press harder on the remote control when we know the batteries are getting weaker?

In one of her disclosed e-mails **Sue Lang** referred to the "chamber of commerce groupies," which I think includes me.

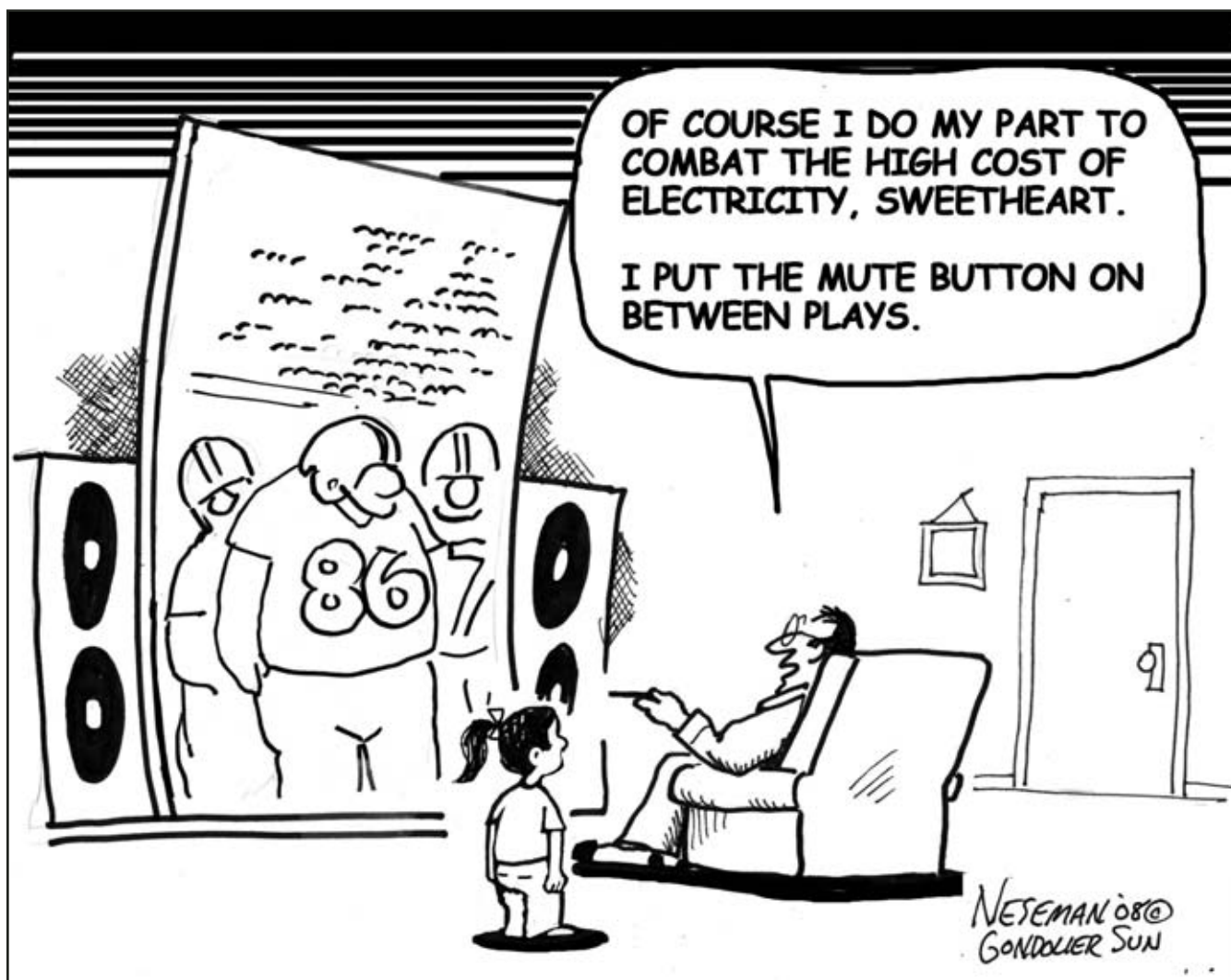
I have been proud to be involved in an organization that has clearly made a huge difference in this community. There are a lot of hard-working people who have helped transportation problems in our community, helped education, made business easier, promoted beautification and even helped develop young professionals.

It is sad that this kind of characterizations get out. I am quite sure she felt it was confidential but, unfortunately, it shows another very negative side to her.

It was interesting that Hurricane Gustav did not come close to us yet certainly made its presence known.

On Sunday, the water almost breached the retaining walls in the boat basin on Tarpon Center Drive. It came way over the docks. The South Jetty was mostly closed off because of the waves spilling over the parking lot.

There was some significance. Please see **VEDDER, 5A**



LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

You heard it here second

Editor:

I was privileged last year just prior to the city election to have the benefit of hearing a prediction of what's to become of our fair city if the "negative three are elected." Some of the verbiage was so profound that I'd like to share some of it with you.

"My name is Venice. I have a heart, and I'm slowly dying in the hands of those who would cut off my blood supply; without it, I will surely die. I have a rundown, abandoned airport populated mostly by scrub jays. I have a downtown with an increasing number of vacant store fronts. It's slowly becoming a ghost town from lack of sales and new development. Over-development is not the answer, it would choke me; but new development with proper guidelines is critical because without new blood, I cannot survive."

If our council doesn't soon start paying attention to the city's and surrounding area's needs instead of their own vested interests, the prediction is correct: "The wake has begun."

Jack Aland
Venice

Musings on some miscellany

Editor:

Just some comments on odds and ends:

(1) McCain and Obama — with regard to energy policy, both are basically on opposite ends of the same slider. We'll be doing all the things they advocate.

(2) Kudos to Mayor Martin on dismantling the Airport Advisory Board. Maybe now we can get to realistic airport ideas that will fly.

(3) Maybe it is time the state of Florida gets around to realistic tax policies. All of this cutting revenue and then making up for it later reminds me of maxing out credit cards.

(4) I'm pleased to hear that Sarasota County is moving forward with the Englewood CRA. It is always good to see neighborhood revitalization going on.

Timothy A. Paszko
Venice

Photographic memories

Editor:

Wow, wasn't that an unflattering photo of Sue Lang on page 1 of the *Gondolier Sun*? It was very much in line with the ill-mannered attitude that the *Gondolier Sun* has expressed about Sue for some time — while at the same time claiming to support civility.

LETTERS WELCOME

Letters to the editor are welcome on virtually any subject. They must be signed and give the writer's address and telephone number for verification. Letters of about 150 words will be given preference. Letters of more than 250 words may be edited for length. We do not publish letters that condemn or praise business service. We do not publish poetry, open letters or letters to third parties. Letters from the same person will not be published more than once a month. Send or bring your letters to the Venice Gondolier Sun, 200 E. Venice Ave., Venice, Fla. 34285. You can also fax signed letters to 484-8460 or e-mail them to bmudge@venicegondolier.com. For more information, call 207-1000.

I suggest that only people who have never discarded an unflattering picture of themselves be allowed to engage in that sort of adolescent behavior.

Judy Karr
Venice

Cold toward Jennings

Editor:

Vern Buchanan was elected our District 13 representative, not Christine Jennings. Jennings only kept the issue of optical scanning in voting going for her own benefit, and her sour grapes loss to Mr. Buchanan.

Vern Buchanan has served us well and will again receive my vote. And as far as global warming, it is a lot of hype. We are colder today than we were 100 years ago and many, many of our scientists are backing off this climate

change theory.

Vern Buchanan is trying to get our air quality cleaned up to his benefit.

Bruce Farley
Venice

There's crazy, and there's crazy

Editor:

It was nice of Tripp Miller to give us the definition of the word "crazy" that was printed Aug. 17. To those who don't think millions for a baseball stadium is a good idea, he said, "Those people are just plain crazy."

Those who want to stop wasteful spending are crazy. That explains politics today.

Let us look forward to more of such fun definitions.

John W. Lewis
Venice

Please see **LETTERS, 5A**

What is the 'tourist tax'?

BY KERRY KIRSCHNER
GUEST COLUMNIST

As one of the original proponents of the tourist tax in the 1980s, it becomes very frustrating to me when people debate its use for the building of a new baseball stadium, arguing that the money is being misappropriated by locally elected officials and should be used for more pressing needs in the community. Even candidates for county commission do not know where the money can be spent.

It is difficult to dispel the belief that anything given the name "tax" is money that can be used for any purpose under the sun, but in truth the history of this "tax" is as important to understand as is the purpose as to how the funds might be used.

All state and local taxation in the state of Florida must be authorized by our state Legislature, which in turn sets the rules for how it is collected and how it can be used.

For the greatest part of our state history we have had two major industries: citrus and tourism. After World War II, Florida citrus growers recognized their economic importance to the state, but were faced with a marketing challenge from California growers who were advertising heavily to promote their products.

In order to compete growers, processors, and packers petitioned the governor and the state Legislature to impose a tax on every box of fruit picked in the state of Florida so they could collectively compete in advertising their products.

This advertising was financed not through gen-

eral tax revenues, but instead by a tax paid by citrus growers on all fruit that moves through commercial channels. This money was used to fund not only the administrative costs of running the Florida Department of Citrus, but to also pay for advertising and promotion. To this day 80 percent of its budget of \$58 million is spent on advertising and promotional activities for Florida citrus.

Many naysayers would point out that Floridians would be better off taking that money and spending it someplace else, while ignoring the fact that the growing, packing, processing and selling of citrus generates a \$9 billion per year impact on Florida's economy, employs 90,000 Floridians and generates close to \$1 billion in tax revenues.

Following the lead of the citrus growers, as tourism lodging matured as an industry, hoteliers found many communities outside of Florida promoting and advertising destinations by imposing a tax on short-term hotel stays. Just as citrus saw itself as a critical industry to the economy of Florida, tourism saw that in fact its collective revenues made it the No. 1 industry in Florida.

So in order to maintain and sustain a tourism-dependent economy, in 1967 the Legislature authorized tourist taxes as a means to generate revenue for tourism promotion to bring in more overnight guests in order to keep hotel rooms full.

Like the citrus "tax," the "bed tax" has been amended more than 90 times, mostly to redefine

the authorized use of the revenue.

Again, state statutes authorize the use, and local officials, together with their appointed Tourist Development Council, decide among those authorized uses how they should spend the money.

As the law now stands, a maximum of 4 percent tax on transient rentals and a 2-percent tax on food and beverage is allowed. (Sarasota has not authorized the tax on food and beverage). The revenue collected may be used for "Tourism promotion activities, capital construction and maintenance of convention and cultural facilities, and for ad valorem tax relief for property tax dollars used for these purposes."

You ask why our elected officials would allow private industry to control the use of "tax" dollars for their benefit.

Stop to consider this. In 2007 Florida had 84.5 million visitors with an economic impact of \$57 billion on Florida's economy, making us the top travel destination in the world (www.stateofflorida.com). Research shows that 77.3 million Americans visited Florida last year, while total sales tax revenues from tourism totaled \$3.9 billion, not to mention that 991,300 of our friends and neighbors were directly employed because of the tourism industry (www.visitflorida.com).

Establishing the fact that this "tax" in truth is a collective effort by Florida's No. 1 industry to promote its efforts now leads us to the second criticism of building the new stadium for the Red Sox, and that is that "Sarasota has plenty of tourists here in

the spring, and we don't need any more." In defense of those in the community promoting this effort, Visit Florida research points out clearly why we should do this.

The perception is that the "tourist season" is in fact when the majority of people visit Florida. Wrong. The periods from January to March and April to June each only account for a little more than 27 percent of our total annual visitors.

Second, the three top origin markets for those traveling by air to visit Florida are New York, Boston, and Philadelphia. It would stand to reason why Boston is so important to Sarasota's tourist-based industry, not just for spring training baseball, but year-round.

In the case of both the citrus and tourism industry you could make the case that "imposing" a "tax" on themselves was not the best business model for promoting their products.

Nor did it endear either of them to the majority of the taxpaying public. At best it has caused controversy over the years as to the "use of our tax dollars."

Our way of living together is made up of many threads, many of which we do not agree with or understand. Regardless of where you might fall on this issue, hopefully this has strengthened your understanding of what the tourist "tax" is, how it can be used and how it came about.

Agree with it or not, our local officials are obeying the letter of the law.

Kerry Kirschner is president of the Argus Foundation.

LET 'EM HAVE IT: IF ANY VENICE CITY COUNCIL MEMBER IS FOUND GUILTY OF SUNSHINE LAW VIOLATIONS, SHOULD HE OR SHE RESIGN? CALL US AT 207-1111.

You wanted change? You got it

Satisfied? During the last election we elected a city council and a mayor and a Democratic majority in Congress and in the Senate. As the new election approaches, it's interesting to recall that we voted on the basis of change. Are you satisfied with the results? Think about it.

Some gift. On Monday, Aug. 18, county workers were informed the following day was a day off because of the threat of Tropical Storm Fay. In its magnanimous way, county management put an addendum on the day-off gesture — the stay-at-home day off was to cost each worker a day of regular leave time unless they volunteered to man some telephones. This, of course, would require any potential volunteer to buck the possible threatening weather elements, just as if going to work that day. It is absurd to place office workers in such possibly harmful conditions along with those county workers that by their job descriptions are paid and trained to be on the job under severe conditions. Too bad those so affected

have no representation.

Made up. I know we're not supposed to do political things but I had three people tell me about a story they heard about Barack going over to Afghanistan and walking right past the soldiers and not shaking hands with any of them. Snopes.com said it was a lie. It's just a made-up story. It sounds like so many of the stories about Kerry that had him lose the election. I don't care who wins, but it's not fair to spread lies like that with so many people down here repeating them.

How many? So glad to see the article in the paper about cell phones. How many more accidents do we have to see and how many more people have to be injured before we make cell phones illegal in our cars?

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LETTERS from Page 4A

The elephant in the room

Race will play a major role in the election, as will how many people still think Obama is a Muslim. According to one poll, 30 percent of those polled think Obama is a Muslim — 30 percent! Is anyone in America listening? Obama is a Christian.

Race, however, is the hardest thing of all to measure because most people will lie to a pollster if asked if race has any bearing on how they will vote. America, the land of the bigots and the home of the racists and hypocrites.

People are looking for any excuse not to vote for Obama. They aren't comfortable saying it is because Obama is black, but they have no problem saying they won't vote for Obama because his middle name is Hussein or they heard he was a Muslim.

Racism continues to be the "elephant in the room" in this election and the media have been derelict in their duty to talk about it. Instead, the media and pundits on all the cable stations dance around the subject of race and come up with all kinds of flimsy excuses why Obama and Biden are not further ahead in the polls.

I just hope there is at least one reporter or anchor at one of the cable stations and one newspaper who will have the courage to say they think race is what is holding Obama and Biden back in all the polls.

Shame on all of you. You shame America in the eyes of the world with your hypocrisy.

Alicia Simmons
Venice

VEDDER from Page 4A

cant erosion near the South jetty.

Don't forget Grandparents Day on Sept. 7. Establishing this 29 years ago may be one of Jimmy Carter's biggest achievements.

It is amazing that 6.1 million children live with their grandparents.

Robert A. Vedder writes a twice-weekly column in this paper.

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OBITUARIES

Albert W. Elmer

Albert Wallace Elmer, age 92, of Venice, formerly of Flint, Mich., and Hollywood and Coral Springs, Fla., died Friday, Aug. 29, 2008.

Born in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, eldest son of Harty and

Margaret Elmer, he and his parents moved to Flint, Mich., when he was 5 years old. After his brave and distinguished military service during the 1940s, he became a well-known and respected architect and builder in Flint. He was president of the Home Builders Association for several years in the 1950s. Albert enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1940 and was in the 45th Infantry Division. He rose up the ranks to the position of staff sergeant and earned the opportunity to go to Officers Candidate School at Fort Benning, Ga. After his graduation from OCS, his unit was deployed to the European front during World War II. His unit landed and fought in Sicily, Italy, and on the beaches of Anzio, Italy. From there they bravely fought up the Rhone Valley of France to the Vosges Mountains in the province of Alsace, France. It was during the long march through France that he received three Purple Hearts for his wounds and a Bronze Star and a Silver Star for bravery. It was in 1944 that he received his last critical wounds from a land mine near the French town of Lembach, located in the Vosges Mountains near the German border. In his lifetime he was an avid tennis player and a writer of wonderful poetry, and loved to sing, which

he did at every opportunity with his beautiful baritone voice, in the later years especially to his dear companion, Molly. Albert was a member of Trinity Presbyterian Church in Venice as well as the American Legion; he was a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans and MOAA.

Albert is survived by his beloved wife, Melba. Albert and Melba would have lovingly celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary on Sept. 16. He was also much loved by his devoted daughter, Cathy Peterson of Sarasota; loving granddaughter Jill Peterson of Chicago, Ill.; a dear cousin, Jackie Macey of Canada; and several nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his close, loving, furry companion Molly, whom he dearly loved.

Services: A service with military honors will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16, at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell. Farley Funeral Home in Venice is handling the arrangements. To send condolences, visit www.farleyfuneralhome.com.

Edna L. O'Donnell

Edna L. "Eddie" O'Donnell, 88, of Chester County, Pa., formerly of Osprey and Venice, died Monday, Sept. 1, 2008.

She was born March 16, 1920, in St. Louis, Mo., to Patrick M. and Margaret Sunley O'Dowd. She received her nursing degree from DePaul Hospital in St. Louis, and after her marriage to Lawrence H. O'Donnell lived in various parts of the country, including Louisville, San Diego, Oklahoma City and Washington, D.C. She

tended to the home fires during World War II and the Korean War.

They moved to Chester County in the 1950s and lived principally in Kennett Square. While there, Mrs. O'Donnell served as school nurse in a number of the schools, including St. Patrick's, Greenwood Elementary and Mary D. Lang Elementary School. She ended her nursing career as the school nurse for Kennett Senior High. During that time Mrs. O'Donnell attended and was graduated from West Chester University with her bachelor of science in nursing degree in 1973.

After her husband, Lawrence, retired from DuPont for health reasons, the couple moved to Florida and resided first in Osprey and then in Venice until recently moving back to Chester County. They also spent the past 20 years living in their self-built cottage in Grand Cayman during the winter months.

She is survived by her husband, Lawrence, who resides at Barclay Friends in West Chester; four children and their spouses: Lawrence and Susan O'Donnell of Chester Springs, Patrick O'Donnell and Hannah Gardner of West Chester, Katie and Rob Mehne of Sycamore, Ill., and Marnie and Ed Graybill of Lusaka, Zambia; and by 11 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Services: Interment will be private, and an Irish wake will be held at a later date. Arrangements are by DellaVecchia, Reilly, Smith & Boyd Funeral Home Inc., www.drshf.com.

Contributions: In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in memory of Mrs. O'Donnell to the Chester County Hospital Foundation marked for the advancement of nurses, 710 E. Marshall St., West Chester, PA 19380.

Former photo editor Schmidt dies at 58

BY DON MOORE
SPECIAL TO THE SUN PAPERS

Paul Schmidt, long-time photo editor of the *Sun* newspapers and the *Venice Gondolier Sun*, died unexpectedly at his North Port home Sunday morning after suffering a heart attack. He was 58.

Schmidt joined the staff of the *Gondolier Sun* in 1979 as a part-time photographer and press repairman. By 1980, he was appointed the *Gondolier Sun's* only full-time photographer. This was a position he held until the Sun Coast Media Group, the parent corporation of the papers, purchased the *Sun* in the mid-1980s. After a stint with the Sarasota Herald-Tribune, Schmidt rejoined SCMG, working in Venice and eventually moving to the Charlotte daily.

"I wouldn't be doing what I was doing if not for him," said Schmidt's son, Harlan, chief photographer and reporter at local TV news station SNN. "He was a big influence on my life."

Harlan said he grew up at the *Gondolier Sun* and at the *Sun* with his dad.

"I went out on photo assignments with him as a toddler," he recalled. "My first job was pressman with the *Venice Gondolier Sun*."

Schmidt also has a grown daughter, Mallory. He retired from the *Sun* in March.

"When I joined the paper 20 years ago, Paul was the

first guy to befriend me and make me feel welcome in the newsroom," said Chris Porter, editor of the *Sun* daily newspapers. "Over the years, we spent hours working side by side, through life's ups and downs. We did a lot of arguing, joking, discussing what it takes to make a good-looking newspaper. He had great talent and enthusiasm and he taught me a lot. I miss him."

Jonathan Fredin, who became one of Schmidt's most talented students, won many state and national awards for his photographs that began appearing in the *Sun* in the late 1990s. When he arrived at the *Sun* he was a good photographer, but when he left he was a great photographer, because of Schmidt's tutelage, he said.

"I wanted to become a professional photographer, but no one took me seriously until I went to work for Paul," Fredin said Monday. "For five years every day we went over images, and for five years he was my mentor."

"The thing about Paul was he was such a kind soul. He was more than a boss — he was very close to me and my family."

Fredin left the paper in 2005. He is now the chief photographer for S.A. Cherokee, a magazine and public relations firm based in Cary, N.C.

"Paul was one of the best teachers I've ever seen in the news business," said Jim Gouvellis, former *Sun* executive editor and now publisher of the Lake Wales News. "Because of him, our

newspaper wound up with some of the best photographers in the country.

"More important, he was one of the best friends I've ever had. I worked with Paul, I lived with Paul, and the one thing I learned about him was that for Paul, nobody was an enemy."

Schmidt was not only a fine teacher, he was a skilled photographer himself who won a number of state and national press association awards for his pictures, according to former co-workers.

Years ago he took a picture of a young boy in the arms of a SWAT rescuer clad in military fatigues with a submachine gun slung over his shoulder during a hostage crisis. It won first place for "Spot News Photograph" in the Florida Press Association's annual daily newspaper contest. It was just one of many photographic awards Schmidt received during his decades as a newspaper photographer and editor.

When asked what he told prospective photographers he was interviewing for a position with the paper, Schmidt once said, "I tell them I'm looking for creativity. I'm looking for someone who has an eye."

A celebration of life gathering for Schmidt is scheduled for 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7, at the Englewood Beach Pavilion. The rain date, if hurricanes force a cancellation, is Sunday, Sept. 14.

Charlotte Sun editor Lorraine Schneeberger contributed to this story.



Elmer



O'Donnell



Schmidt

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Billy Hancock
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Memorial Service
On Monday 25th day of August 2008, Billy lifted his hands towards Heaven and took his final Breath.

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Billy's request for his ashes to be taken, partly to the Myakka River where he was better known as the Myakka River Rat and partly to the Gulf of Mexico where he spent a lot of his younger life, Billy's life began on July 20th, 1959, born at Venice Hospital. He spent his life loving life and sharing his life with a loving hand out to everyone and anyone in need.

He has touched every life he has come in contact with. His mother's family homesteaded in Venice back in the 1800's. The Roberts and Blackburns on his mother's side and his father came to Venice in 1956, Billy has 4 siblings in his family, brothers: James Lord, Darrell L, sisters: Annmarie Julie, Carol Jo. Covered dishes would be appreciated

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CITY OF VENICE PUBLIC NOTICE FOR BUDGET
Pursuant to Article V, Section 5.06, Venice City Charter, notice is hereby given that the Venice City Council will hold the first of two public hearings on the 2008-2009 proposed budget and millage rate at 5:15 p.m. on Tuesday, September 9, 2008. The second and final public hearing will be held at 5:15 p.m. on Tuesday, September 23, 2008 to make a final decision on the 2008-2009 budget and millage rate. Both public hearings will be held in City Hall, Council Chambers, 401 West Venice Avenue, Venice, Florida. The public attending may provide oral comments and ask questions regarding the proposed city budget. Written comments and questions submitted to the City Clerk at the above address will be heard and considered. The proposed budget is available for inspection at the City Clerk's office, City Hall, 401 W. Venice Avenue, Venice, Florida. This hearing will not be recorded by a certified court reporter. If any person decides to appeal any matter considered at this meeting, a record of the proceedings will be needed. For such purposes, that person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. If you need assistance, please contact the City Clerk's office at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.
Lori Stelzer MMC, City Clerk
Publish: September 3, 2008

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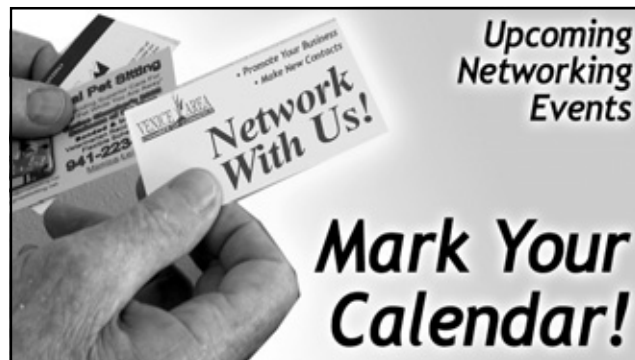
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Please visit www.VeniceChamber.com and view "Employment Resources" which can be found in the Visitor Information section under Venice Area Relocation Information. Call 488-2236 for further details.



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- VAYP Networking Event** - ages 21-40
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CrossRoads American Grille, 385 US Hwy 41 Bypass
- Wake Up! Venice - FREE**
Wednesday, Sept. 17 • 7:45am
Jacaranda Trace, 3600 William Penn Way
- Business After Five - \$5 members/\$10 non-members**
Thursday, Sept. 18 • 5:30 - 7:00pm
Community National Bank, 201 Center Rd.
- Network Lunch - \$12**
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BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



HONOLUANA ISLAND GRILL

Venice Chamber businesses have been recognized for their quality service and genuine hospitality to area residents over the years. Our Business of the Month Award winner extended those virtues plus extra kindness to a local group.

"The residents and staff at Bella Vista Independent & Assisted Living of Venice applaud Honoluana Island Grill for the most wonderful luncheon we enjoyed recently. We arrived by chance unannounced when prior arrangements unfortunately did not work out. Our residents raved about the extra special excellent service, exceptional food and personal interest to our individual wants and needs. It was a terrific dining experience that we will treasure. We are looking forward to returning soon, perhaps for dinner this time."

Honoluana Island Grill is active with the Sertoma Club of Venice and has always been generous with community non-profits organizations with gift certificate donations. As former owners of a Dale Carnegie Business in New Jersey, Owners Marilyn & Jay Westrom in still the Carnegie principals of positive sincerity, respect, leadership and friendliness with their employees toward customers. Honoluana is popular with both on land and fly in customers, catering to individual, small groups and banquet dining including special occasions.

Incidentally, Honoluana Island Grill was named as a must try Hamburger Hot Spot in the Southeast U.S. by the Auto Pilot Magazine in this years August/September issue. Honoluana Island Grill is located at 222 Airport Avenue, Venice.

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MR. SHEEPSHEAD
COLUMNIST

Hot fishing at our pier

The fishing has been excellent at the Venice Municipal Pier. Aug. 26 was sensational.

Keeper mangrove snapper, plenty of Spanish mackerel, ladyfish, snook, redfish and even a few Key West grunts. To top it off, one fisherman caught six big blackfin shark.

The shark were eating the mackerel, which were eating the greenbacks. It was even better this past Saturday. Two king mackerel were caught at the end of the pier in addition to plenty of Spanish mackerel.

This great fishing happens every time a hurricane or tropical storm is in the gulf. I have some other great news. It seems like the weed problem that we've had all summer is finally winding down.

Getting back to the pier. A fisherman threw his net for greenbacks the other day. The net landed very close to the pilings. Are you ready for this?

There were about seven larger fish than greenbacks in the net. They were my namesakes, sheephead. Needless to say, he released these future 7- to 9-pounders.

Don't forget to go fishing, particularly when a storm is out in the Gulf.

Well, fellow Sheepsheadites, the time has come to say goodbye until next week.

Mr. Sheepshead is Dave Hack. His column appears on Wednesdays. Contact him at 486-1998, 321-8849 or mrsheepshead@verizon.net.



PHOTO COURTESY OF W.C. SANDERS

Father-and-son fishing team Reds and Robert Greenier haul in a blackfin shark at the Venice Municipal Pier Aug. 26.

SPORTS BRIEFS

YMCA basketball clinic

The YMCA Basketball Academy is having a free clinic Sept. 6, 9 a.m.-noon. Speakers will be Venice High School head boys basketball coach Steve Cavallaro, Venice head girls basketball coach Bruce Reichenbach and YMCA sports director Joe Whelton. There will be a free lunch provided by Mel's Diner.

YMCA wrestling

The South County Family YMCA youth wrestling program is open to children age 7-14. The group meets Thursdays at 6 p.m. at the YMCA beginning Sept. 11. Cost is \$55 for members and \$75 for nonmembers.

YMCA baseball

Tee-ball for ages 4-5 and coach-pitch baseball for ages 6-8 are available at the South County Family YMCA. Skills test is 5 p.m. for tee-ball and 6:30 p.m. for coach-pitch Sept. 11 at the YMCA. Cost is \$55 for members and \$75 for nonmembers.

Green Indians nip Lakewood Ranch

BY TRIPP MILLER
SPORTS EDITOR

One of the most inexperienced teams in head volleyball coach Brian Wheatley's tenure at Venice High School finally has a regular season varsity game under its belt.

The Indians (1-0, 1-0 in 5A-12) swept Lakewood Ranch High School 25-11, 25-20, 25-10 on the road Tuesday night. Although Venice is young — the Indians have no seniors on the varsity roster — junior setter Taylor Capasso believes things are flowing better for her than in years past.

"I've been playing with these girls a long time. I didn't play with the girls that I played with before when I was a freshman, but I've been playing with (these underclassmen) since I was in seventh grade, so it flows a lot more," she said.

Capasso and fellow juniors Jillian Allen and Dorothy Rahal bring the varsity experience while the underclassmen have built-in chemistry from playing with their varsity setter back in middle school. Already Venice's timing on difficult short sets is beginning improve from what they showed in the preseason.

"I think they're getting a lot more comfortable with it," Capasso said.



SUN PHOTO BY JUSTIN FENNELL, jfennell@venicegondolier.com

Venice played Lakewood Ranch in an away game Tuesday night.

Sophomores Autumn Duyn and Peyton Herschberger impressed coaches in their first real varsity match. Duyn registered three kills in game one

alone, while Herschberger totaled six digs and three kills in games two and three.

Rahal led the team in kills with eight, followed by junior

Whitney Steranko with seven. Junior Emily Daniels led Venice with nine digs. Rahal also had

Please see **GREEN, 9A**

VHS FOOTBALL NOTEBOOK

Indians look to improve possession, tackling

BY TRIPP MILLER
SPORTS EDITOR

You can hardly blame the Venice High School offense for not possessing the ball very long against Cardinal Mooney High School Friday night.

The Indians had 5 touchdowns drives and none of them lasted more than two minutes in their 44-21 win. Where Venice struggled was on defense.

Missed tackles plagued the Indians against a Cardinal Mooney team that most didn't expect would move the ball as well as they did at Powell-Davis Stadium. The Cougars also got exceptional play from senior quarterback Robby Lyons, which didn't help matters.

"We haven't (possessed the ball well) the last two games," Peacock said. "The spring game and this past game, our first team offense has not had over 30 snaps."

So the Indians have put a great deal of emphasis on working with the defense in practice this week. Practice ran about an hour longer than normal Tuesday afternoon as coaches hounded the starting defense, particularly the line.

"They were getting too far upfield and they weren't really doing their jobs and their responsibilities in trying to make things happen," Peacock said of his defensive line, which gave up 145 rushing yards to Cardinal Mooney tailback Stephen Ierulli. "Hopefully we've got this fixed out here in this practice. You'll see a different defensive line, hopefully."

As far as pass defense, Peacock wasn't as concerned — even though the secondary allowed Lyons to complete his first 10 throws.

"That quarterback from Cardinal Mooney had one of the most impressive nights I've seen here in the last 8-9 years," he



SUN PHOTO BY JUSTIN FENNELL, jfennell@venicegondolier.com

Dri Archer evades VHS defense in practice Tuesday afternoon.

said. "He had people in his face and we had coverage, he just stepped up and did a great job. We didn't get beat deep."

Venice's next opponent, Riverview High School, doesn't throw the ball very much so the focus in practice has been on stopping the run.

No turnover worries

Even though Venice had three fumbles Friday night, Peacock isn't concerned that turnovers will be a problem this year as they were in key losses to Sarasota, Golden Gate and Cape Coral high schools. Senior wide-out Robert Fordham lost the handle on a screen play, and junior quarterback Trey Burton fumbled a snap and dropped the ball while rolling to his right.

"We've been pretty lucky as far as the turnover thing. We didn't have any running backs fumble the ball," he said. "As far as that goes, I've been pretty happy."

Peacock added that Fordham was playing with a minor hand injury suffered earlier in the game, and that fumbles like that

are just bound to happen.

Turn on the jets

There has been a lot of hype surrounding Burton this preseason. He didn't have a huge game against the Cougars, but that's only because nobody asked him to.

The Florida-bound quarterback was a respectable 8-12 for 81 yards and an interception, but the passing game has yet to be opened up. The Indians had no trouble winning that game on the ground, but a tough district schedule and an upcoming game with Riverview will require more out of Burton.

"This is a real deal," Peacock said. "We're playing a real deal team and you're going to see everything we've got. We're not going to hold any bullets back in the chamber."

Venice takes on Riverview Friday at 7:30 p.m. at Powell-Davis Stadium in Venice. Look for a complete scouting report in Friday's edition of the *Gondolier Sun*.
tmiller@venicegondolier.com

Cox, Revels poised for senior season

BY TRIPP MILLER
SPORTS EDITOR

Venice High School swimming season begins today with two seniors and a freshman looking to make waves at the state level in 2008.

Senior Mark Cox headlines for the Indians. As a sophomore, Cox captured the Class 3A state title in the 100-yard butterfly and took sixth in the 200-yard freestyle at the state meet. As a junior, he improved his times but finished third in both events.

Senior Tyler Revels is also getting set for his senior tour. Revels took eighth in the 100-yard breaststroke as a sophomore and improved to third as a junior.

Both seniors, who are being targeted by NCAA Division I schools from the Big Ten, SEC and ACC, are going through the recruiting process but remain focused on their final season in high school.

"They hit the weights a lot harder this summer and they definitely added a little more distance base and a little more variety in their training regimen," said Venice head coach John Bruening. "Predominantly, the people who have a great summer coming into the fall have a great fall."

As members of the Sarasota Sharks, a nationally renowned club program, Cox and Revels, along with incoming freshman Derek Pridemore, were able to train with more than 10 Division I swimmers that once swam for the Sharks.

An eighth-grader a year ago, Pridemore already has the times capable of scoring points for the Indians at the state meet in the 100-yard backstroke, 200-yard freestyle and the 500-yard freestyle. With the possibility of three state-bound swimmers, Bruening hopes he can get one more to form a relay team for the state meet.

He has plenty of new talent to choose from. Eight swimmers came out for the boys team this season that he wasn't expecting. He attributes the sudden spike in interest to Michael Phelps' record eight gold medals in Beijing this summer.

"We've had a lot more walk-ons than I expected," he said,

Please see **SENIOR, 9A**

GOLF RESULTS

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Aug. 27
Men's Day (1-2-3 on 3-4-5): T1. 139 —

Bud Sullivan, Richard Paul, L.V. Reed, Bob Murphy; T1. 139 — Tom Nelson, Joe Franson, Paul Scanlon, James Liston.

Scanning the nation...

Former Venice High School middle hitter Casie Richards is making an immediate impact as a true freshman on the Armstrong Atlantic State University volleyball team in Savannah, Ga.

Richards led the Pirates with 17 kills in the first match of the Anderson (S.C.) Invitational over the weekend. Junior Michele Remlinger added 12 kills in the Pirates' 25-18, 20-25, 25-26, 25-10 win over Anderson University. Armstrong went on to defeat

Benedict College 25-11, 25-9, 25-14 to close out the invitational with an undefeated record.

The Pirates (4-0) are off to their best start since 2004, when Armstrong began the year 10-0 en route to a 29-8 record and an NCAA Championship appearance.

Armstrong competes in the Peach Belt Conference in NCAA Division II.

Richards played four years at Venice. During her class' tenure with the Indians, Venice won the 2005

Class 5A state championship, played for another state title in 2004 and laid claim to four consecutive District 5A-12 titles.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Every week, the Gondolier Sun will be checking up with Venice athletes who have gone on to bigger and better things in the wide world of sports. If you have a tip, please contact sports editor Tripp Miller at 207-1107 or tmiller@venicegondolier.com.

GREEN from Page 8A

five aces on the night.

Those numbers are in stark contrast to Venice's stat line against Berkeley Preparatory School a week ago in the Preseason Classic.

Wheatley criticized the Indians for being very one-dimensional against the Buccaneers, and they responded by spreading the ball around against Lakewood Ranch.

"Tonight we were in much better position and that's how it goes," Wheatley said.

The inconsistencies were still there, however. Venice coasted in games one and three, but struggled in game two. Lakewood Ranch (0-1, 0-1 in 5A-12) led 11-3 early and didn't surrender the lead until the score read 18-17 in favor of the



SUN PHOTO BY JUSTIN FENNEL, jfennell@venicegondolier.com

Brittany Burrows makes a serve to Lakewood Ranch as her teammates look on.

Indians. Venice held on to win 25-20.

Don't chalk it up to the pressure of Venice's first

District 5A-12 matchup, though.

"I think for all of us, the jitters got out in the first week of the preseason," Capasso said.

Wheatley added that the real pressure cooker exists on the practice floor.

"The least amount of pressure is in games," he said. "We put pressure on in practice so they don't feel pressure in games, at least I don't think so. I tell them (game day is) my day off and it's their time to shine."

Venice returns home Thursday to take on another District 5A-12 opponent in Bayshore High School at 7 p.m. in the Teepee.

Surf's up



SUN PHOTOS BY JUSTIN FENNEL, jfennell@venicegondolier.com

Surfers at the North jetty Sunday afternoon.

SENIOR from Page 8A

referring to swimmers from outside the Sarasota Sharks program, where he also coaches. "A lot of them are actually pretty decent swimmers, so hopefully we can get them ready to go."

On the girls side, interest is even higher.

Of nearly 20 girls on the roster, Bruenning expects between four and six swimmers to qualify for the state meet this season. The names to watch are Nicole Gutzman, Danielle Manthey, Melinda Spinella and Jetta Wright. The lone state qualifier from last year's girls team,

Tori Kontor, has moved away to Maryland.

Although the loss of Kontor certainly hurts, Bruenning is confident in the depth on the girls team.

"They're a pretty solid girls team," he said. "We don't have any studs on the girls side like we do on the boys side, but we're pretty deep on the girls side."

It won't be an easy road to state for the boys or girls from Venice. Bruenning believes that District 3A-6 is the fastest district in the fastest region (3A-2) in the state. The competition here is tougher than any-

where else, he said.

"They're definitely better prepared for states coming out of our region," he said. "The better competition definitely makes them ready. The ones that make state are definitely better prepared than some of the other teams."

They'll be better prepared, that is, if they make it out of the region.

Venice begins the season today with a dual meet with Sarasota High School at the Venice High School pool at 5:30 p.m.

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JOE-ANN T. HOUGHTON, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the Testate Estate of JOE-ANN T. HOUGHTON, Deceased, File Number 2008-CP-011643-NC, is pending in the Circuit Court for Sarasota County, Florida, the address of which is 2000 Main Street, Sarasota, Florida 34237. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.

ALL CREDITORS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate are required to and must file their claims with this Court within three (3) months of the date of the first publication of this notice or, as to any creditors or persons served with a copy of this notice, the creditor or person served must file their claim no later than thirty (30) days after the date of service on the creditor. ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

The date of the first publication of this notice is: August 22, 2008

BRUCE HOUGHTON
6134 Ravenwood Drive
Sarasota, Florida 34243
Petitioner

CATHERINE B. BOWLES, P.A.
Sardelis and Bowles, L.L.P.
2033 Main Street, Suite 502
Sarasota, Florida 34237
Tele: 941-366-120
Fax: 941-365-6691
FBN: 0357006
Attorney for Petitioner

Publish August 27, Sept. 3, 10, 17, 2008

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

IN RE: Estate of
ARMINTA L. KAMINSKI
Deceased.

File No: 2008 CP 12384 SC
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

20 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of ARMINTA L. KAMINSKI, File No. 2008 CP 12384, is pending in the Circuit Court for SARASOTA County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 4000 South Tamiami Trail, Venice, FL 34293. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, including unmatured, contingent or unliquidated claims, on whom a copy of this notice is served, must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE. ALL OBJECTIONS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. The date of the first publication of this notice is August 27, 2008, Personal Representative:

Michelle Ann Torre
P.O. Box 20904
Rochester, NY 14602

W. GRADY HUIE, ESQUIRE
143 East Miami Avenue
Venice, FL 34285
(941) 488-8551
FL Bar No. 192724
Attorney for Personal Representative
Publish: August 27, Sept. 3, 2008

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

IN RE: The Estate of
RAYMOND H. LESHANE
Deceased,

File No. 2008-CP-008610-NC

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of Raymond H. LeShane, deceased, whose date of death was on or about April 30, 2008, is pending in the Circuit Court for Sarasota County, Flori-

20 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

da, Probate Division; the address of which is 2000 Main Street, Sarasota, Florida 34237. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF THE DATE THAT IS 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICE TO CREDITORS OR, AS TO ANY CREDITOR REQUIRED TO BE SERVED WITH A COPY OF THE NOTICE TO CREDITORS, 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE ON THE CREDITOR.

ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is August 27, 2008.

Co-Personal Representative:
/s/ E. Marilyn LeShane
857 White Cap Circle
Venice, FL 34285

Co-Personal Representative:
/s/ Sandra Scott
3030 Sumner Way
Pal Harbor, FL 34682

Attorney for Co-Personal Representative:
/s/ James L. Essenson
James L. Essenson, Esquire
2071 Main Street
Sarasota, FL 34237
Florida Bar No. 359033

Attorney for Co-Personal Representative:
/s/ John J. Waskom, Esquire
2033 Main Street, Suite 600
Sarasota, Florida 34237
Phone: (941) 366-8100
Fla. Bar # 962181

Attorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ James L. Essenson
James L. Essenson, Esquire
Florida Bar No. 359033
2071 Main Street
Sarasota, FL 34237
(941) 954-0303
PUBLISH: August 27, 2008
September 3, 2008



20 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

IN RE: ESTATE OF
MARY L. RICHARDS
Deceased.

File No. 2008-P-000738NC

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Mary L. Richards, deceased, whose date of death was February 12, 2008, is pending in the Circuit Court for SARASOTA County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 2000 Main Street, P.O. Box 3079, Sarasota, Florida 34230. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. The date of the first publication of this Notice is August 27th, 2008.

Personal Representative:
Robert N. Richards
110 N. Coldbrook Avenue
Chambersburg, PA 17201

Bruce A. McDonald
Florida Bar No. 263311
McDonald Fleming
Moorehead
d/b/a Statewide Probate
25 West Government Street
Pesacola, FL 32502
(850)477-0660;
(850) 202-8543 FAX
Publish: August 27
and September 3, 2008

20 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

IN RE: ESTATE OF
ANNA L. SHAW
Deceased.

File No. 2008-CP-12953-SC

NOTICE TO CREDITORS (Summary Administration)

TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:

You are hereby notified that an Order of Summary Administration has been entered in the estate of ANNA L. SHAW, deceased, File Number 2008-CP-12953-SC by the Circuit Court for SARASOTA County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is P.O. Box 3079, Sarasota, FL 34230-3079; that the decedent's date of death was July 31st, 2008; that the total value of the estate is \$50,000.00 and that the names and addresses of those to whom it has been assigned by such order are:

Name/Address
Betty Sills
0484E 800 S.
Keystone, IN 46759

Name/Address
Marjorie Ellis
2488 Gertrude Lane
Venice, FL 34292

Stephen K. Boone, Successor Trustee of the Anna L. Shaw Revocable Trust Agreement u/d 02-06-02

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

All creditors of the estate of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the estate of decedent other than those for whom provision for full payment was made in the Order of Summary Administration must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE.

ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

20 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The date of first publication of this Notice is August 27, 2008

Person Giving Notice:
Stephen K. Boone, Trustee
1001 Avenida Del Circo
Venice, FL 34285

File No. 2008-CP-12953-SC

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Boone, Boone, Boone, Koda & Froom, P.A.
P.O. Box 1596
1001 Avenida Del Circo
Venice, FL 34284
(941)-488-6716
Stephen K. Boone, Esq.
Florida Bar No. 0371068
PUBLISH: August 27, 2008 and September 3, 2008

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: ESTATE OF
ROBERT H. WELLNER
Deceased.

File No: 2008-CP-12799-NC
Division: Probate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of ROBERT H. WELLNER, deceased, whose date of death was July 11th, 2008, and whose social security number is XXX-XX-2539, is pending in the Circuit Court for SARASOTA County, Florida, Probate Division; the address of which is P.O. Box 3079, Sarasota, FL 34230. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIMS FILED

TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. THE DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE IS AUGUST 27, 2008

Personal Representative:
MARK ROBERT WELLNER
9483 SW 32nd Lane
Gainesville, FL 32608

Attorneys for Personal Representative:
CHARLES F. WHEELER, P. A.
871 Venetia Bay Blvd.
Suite 350
VENICE, FL 34292
Telephone: (941) 485-5486
Florida Bar No. 116573
PUBLISH: August 27, 2008 and September 3, 2008

38 OTHER NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

The District Board of Trustees of Manatee Community College announces a public meeting on Wednesday, September 17, 2008 to be held at Manatee Community College Center for Innovation & Technology, Room 141, 7131 Professional Parkway East, Lakewood Ranch, Sarasota, FL. 8:00 a.m. Board Workshop with the President; 8:30 a.m. Regular Board Meeting To Be Discussed at Board Meeting: MCC Facility Rental Fee Changes

Persons are advised that if they decide to appeal any decision at this meeting, they will need a record of the proceedings and for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. PUBLISH: September 3, 2008

TO PLACE YOUR LEGAL NOTICE, CALL CAROL (941)-207-1206 cmozik@venicegondolier.com fax (941)-485-3036

Labor Day weekend at the beach



There were many people fishing on the jetty Monday afternoon despite the crashing waves.



SUN PHOTOS BY JUSTIN FENNELL, jfennell@venicegondolier.com

This Labor Day was forecast to be rainy and windy. It turned out to be a beautiful day enjoyed by families, surfers and other beachgoers.



Sunday morning and afternoon Nokomis beach was packed with surfers.



Surfers reported that Sunday's waves at the North Jetty were the best the area has seen for a long time.



High waters and strong winds did not deter surfers and spectators from enjoying the 6-foot waves.

POLICE BEAT

Venice Police Department arrests

- Natenya Jade Bruni, 21, 1400 block Strada Doro, Venice. Charge: driving while license suspended. Bond: \$250.
- Michael D. Goode, 28, 1100 block Gulf Coast Blvd., Venice. Charge: driving while license suspended, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia. Bond: \$2,240.
- Douglas Herbert Masterson, 46, 1500 block S. Venice Blvd., Venice. Charge: DUI. Bond: \$500.
- Lori Merrigan, 54, 100 block Coco Place, Nokomis. Charge: DUI. Bond: \$1,500.
- Jack Murray, 41, 800 block Myrtle Ave., Venice. Charge: no valid driver license. Bond: \$500.
- Richard Theodore Presler, 44, 2200 block Edmonson Road, Nokomis. Charge: driving while license suspended, DUI, refusal to submit to DUI test. Bond: \$10,120.
- Michael Johnson, 40, 1000 block Capri Isles Blvd., Venice. Charge: carrying a concealed weapon, petit theft. Bond: \$1,120.

Sarasota County Sheriff's Office arrest

- Michael Mitchell, 42, 400 block Glen Oak Road, Venice. Charge: obstructing or opposing an officer without violence, resisting arrest or detention in retail theft, petit theft. Bond: \$1,870.

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Dental Health Professionals
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Dental Checkups
 Professional cleanings (prophylaxis) are the only way to remove calculus (tartar) which traps plaque and bacteria along your gumline. Our office has 5 experienced dental hygienists on staff. Appointments are readily available. Protect your teeth and your health - schedule a cleaning and checkup.
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Dr. Charles Davis **Dr. Brent Beyer** **Dr. Caryn Davis**

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Mail your check or money order with coupon to the Venice Gondolier, 200 E Venice Ave., Venice FL 34285 or call the circulation department at 207-1300

Habitat for Humanity South Sarasota County, Inc.

Help Our Community

Come join the Venice Gondolier Sun staff and build a Habitat for Humanity house on Pelican Road in South Venice. (South on U.S. 41, turn right onto Alligator Drive - next to AAA - turn left on Tarpon Road (at the curve), turn right onto Pelican Road. House number 440 is on the right.)

You can volunteer in the following areas

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 Concrete Worker • Drywall • Framer • General Laborer
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- **CHURCH LIAISON**
- **FUNDRAISING**
- **NEWSLETTER**
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- **REFRESHMENTS**
- **EVENTS**
- **INTERPRETER**
- **OFFICE WORK**
- **ALUMINUM CAN PROJECT**
 Constructing Can Cottages
 Constructing Mesh Cage, fences, etc.
 Work with your van or truck for four hours one day a week
- **HABITAT RESTORE**
 Cashier Assistants • Sales Help • Prep Help • Stock Help
 Fixer-Uppers • Home Furnishings • Office Supplies
 Hardware • Building Materials

Volunteers are needed Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon. To volunteer or for information, please call Dena Kohlbecker, volunteer coordinator at 493-6606.

CONTACT US
KIM COOL
FEATURES EDITOR
(941) 207-1105
kcool@venicegondolier.com
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CARDS, WATERCOLORS AND MORE 3B

ANNIVERSARIES, ENGAGEMENTS AND MORE 6B

SENIOR CENTERS GOES TROPICAL 8B



SUN PHOTOS BY MOLLY DEMPSEY, MDEMPSEY@SUN-HERALD.COM

Coleen Henry paints a sea turtle on the side of a 1-million gallon, reclaimed water storage tank at the Englewood Water District in Rotonda West Thursday.

ART IN THE SKY

Artist tackles painting on water storage tank

BY DANA SANCHEZ
STAFF WRITER

A local artist has been commissioned to paint a water-themed mural on a million gallon water storage tank that hardly anyone will see.

At least not for a while.

Coleen Henry's massive renderings are recognizable on the Venice Print Center near Venetian Waterway Park and in the Jacaranda Library children's department in Venice.

Now she's turning her talent to her tallest project yet, a reclaimed water storage tank measuring 30-feet tall and 290 feet in diameter.

"They want me to put a pretty face on it," she said shortly after beginning work on the mural.

In addition to acrylic paints and brushes, it's a job that requires a wide-brimmed hat, scaffolding and a bucket for lifting her high enough to reach places only birds like to go.

Henry, 56, began painting the mural in mid-June and hoped it would be completed within three months. The scene depicts the water cycle and is intended to raise awareness of responsible water use.

Her colorful mural will include pond life such as turtles, frogs and lilies, and will splash dramatic thunderstorms and pelting rain across a canvas measuring 2,200 square feet.

She will earn \$18,500 from the Englewood Water District for the job.

Completed two months ago by the District at a cost of \$700,000, the new storage tank is located on hard-to-find

Talman Road near L.A. Ainger Middle School. The site is surrounded by quiet neighborhoods, some with empty lots dotted by houses here and there.

Other than water district employees, the road appeared little-used when Henry set out to work.

That will change once Winchester Road is extended from State Road 776 to County Road 775 near Bear Creek, according to Charlotte County Public Works.

A four-lane highway will replace Talman Road, completing a proposed hurricane evacuation route from County Road 775 to River Road. Construction is scheduled to begin in January, and be completed by May, 2011.

"When I first saw it, I thought: Why would they want a mural here?" Henry said. "Then I learned this is going to be a very busy road eventually."

Richard Rollo, administrator for the Englewood Water District, said the mural was planned in advance of construction because art and construction dust don't mix well.

"We wanted to be finished before construction began," Rollo said. "We didn't want the paint to get all the dust and dirt."

Henry sat high on a scaffold under an umbrella Wednesday, painting details on a turtle's eye.

She's trying, she said, to let go when it comes to the details.

"The challenge, with such an enormous canvas, is to pull back on the details because they'll never be seen," she said. "I love the details."

In addition to enormous murals, Henry does fine art. Her work is sold at The Lemon Tree in Englewood. But mural work is different, she said.

"You have to be more loose and you have to move more quickly," she said.

A former North Port resident, Henry lives in Venice with her husband, Jim. She has been in the area since she was 18, except for three years when she traveled the country with her husband flying commercial hot air balloons.

Starting a mural of this scale is intimidating, much like an actress with stage fright, Henry admits. But once she starts painting and sees something up there she likes, "I'm on a roll," she said.

The amount of exposure that a mural artist gets can also be intimidating.

Artist Catherine Beausoleil, one of the founders of North Port Art Guild, is familiar with Henry's work and has watched her develop as a mural artist.

"It's like hanging one of your organs on a wall when everyone's watching you," said Beausoleil. "Where your subjects are often bigger than your arm span, it becomes a technical issue but she's managed to pull it off beautifully."

As the mural unfolds, Henry will face other challenges including the weather. The bucket brings on "lightning rod fears," she said.

Henry is vice president of Sarasota County Arts and Culture Alliance, a group that promotes art in the area.

You can e-mail Dana Sanchez at dsanchez@sun-herald.com

Coleen Henry sits atop scaffolding to paint on a much larger canvas, a reclaimed water storage tank. She hopes to finish this work in three months.



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Tips on buying a foreclosed property

FROM NAPSA

Challenging times in the U.S. real estate market means there are record numbers of foreclosed homes for sale. Some homebuyers are considering purchasing a foreclosed home because these properties are often going for what seem like bargain prices. But buyers beware, there are some tips and tricks you need to keep in mind if you are considering purchasing a foreclosed home.

Online real estate site Trulia.com assembled a panel of industry experts and asked them to come up with things every buyer should know before purchasing a foreclosed home:

• Prioritize your needs: Make a list of "must-haves" for your new home. The foreclosed house you choose should have an overall appeal as well as most of the items on your list.

• Talk to experts: Make an appointment with an experienced foreclosure agent. Don't be afraid to ask a lot of questions.

• Be current: Look at neighborhood data with emphasis on real-time sales. Compare current and last year's home values to

determine which way the market is moving.

• Aim high: Find out the overall value of the neighborhood in which you are buying. A foreclosure may allow you entry into a better neighborhood.

• Make inspection mandatory: Minimize hidden costs by planning a professional inspection. Don't be afraid to get a second opinion.

• Avoid prestige deals: The foreclosure/short sale stage is typically not the most profitable. You could wait weeks or even months for an answer from the lender.

• Buy at the right time: The foreclosure stage can be profitable when it goes to public auction. The best deals are often situations where the home has been on the market for 60

days or more.

According to Pete Flint, cofounder and CEO of Trulia, providing guidance from foreclosure experts combined with comprehensive information on foreclosed homes across the country can help potential homeowners take full advantage of this market while avoiding the kind of risks that might otherwise make them hesitate.

Trulia Inc. is a residential real estate search engine that helps about 5 million visitors per month find information on homes for sale using custom search criteria. The site also provides market trends and neighborhood data, as well as a real estate Q&A community that enables consumers and professionals to exchange information about their local markets.

CROSS from Page 4B

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LIBRARY BRIEFS

Jacaranda Library
4143 Woodmere Park Blvd.
Venice, FL 34293

Euchre and bridge

Like to play cards? Can't find a partner? Every Wednesday from 6 to 7:45 p.m., there are other people just looking for a game at the library.

I've Got a Computer, Now What?

So they talked you into

getting a computer. Now how do you turn it on? To find out, call 861-1270 to register for the Sept. 4 class, 10-11 a.m.

Video Lecture Series

Watch "Earth's Changing Climate" with Dr. Richard Wolfson of Middlebury College Sept. 4, 2-4 p.m.

Chess Club

We don't care about your age, we don't care about your skill level, we

just want to get together and play chess. If you just want to have fun, join us every Sunday, 1-4:30 p.m.

Toddler Tale Time

Toddlers ages 1-3 and their parent, grandparent or caregiver, are invited to join us Sept. 5 for stories, rhymes, songs and playtime. Two sessions, one at 9:30 a.m. and one at 10:45 a.m., with a different theme each week. Please observe age requirements.



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Exp. 9/9/08

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Exp. 9/9/08

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(941) 488-3775
www.saltwatercafe.com

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Live Music with Gary Lesher! Discounted Gourmet Pizza!

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Tuesday - Steam Pot Party! For one \$16.99, For 2 - \$26.99!
Wednesday - CRAB SPECIALS! 1 1/4 Lb Snow Crab \$16.99
Thursday - Beef Specials! 12 oz. Prime Rib just \$16.99

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Wings 29¢ & Raw Oysters 29¢ Each

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South Venice, 732 Shamrock Blvd. 497-5050
Hours: Mon.-Thurs.: 4 PM - 11 PM Fri. & Sat. 11 AM - Midnight Sunday: Noon - 11 PM

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WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 3

Food giveaway

Time: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Where: Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave., Venice
Notes: FDACS contracts with All Faiths Food Bank to distribute USDA commodities. Eligible county residents will receive nine to 12 commodities.
Call: 379-6333

Walking

Time: 8:15 a.m.
Where: Senior Friendship Centers, 2350 Scenic Drive
Notes: Wednesday walkers
Call: 584-0075
Link: seniorfriendship.com

Put brush to canvas

Time: 9:30 a.m.
Where: Senior Friendship Centers, 2350 Scenic Drive
Notes: Watercolor art
Call: 584-0075
Link: seniorfriendship.com

Play cards

Time: 10 a.m.
Where: Senior Friendship Centers, 2350 Scenic Drive
Notes: Euchre
Call: 584-0075
Link: seniorfriendship.com

Senior dancing

Time: 11 a.m.
Where: Senior Friendship Centers, 2350 Scenic Drive
Notes: Senior Fitness Plus and Line Dancing
Call: 584-0075
Link: seniorfriendship.com

Kayaking safety

Time: 8:30-11 a.m.
Where: North Jetty/Snake Island
Notes: Learn about entering/exiting, paddling, basic equipment, tides, how to get into your kayak if it overturns and how to help rescue another.
Cost: \$40
Call: Terry Brawley, 960-5505

Evening book club

Time: 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Where: Jacaranda Library, 4143 Woodmere Park Blvd.
Notes: Share a book
Call: 861-5000

Bingo

Time: 6-8:30 p.m.
Where: American Legion, 1770 E. Venice Ave.
Notes: Bingo at 6 p.m., food available from 5-7 p.m.
Call: 488-1157

Game day

Time: 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Where: Venice Art Center, 390 S. Nokomis Ave.
Notes: Play a variety of games at the center.
Call: 485-7136
Link: veniceartcenter.com

Euchre, bridge

Time: 6-7:45 p.m.
Where: Jacaranda Library, 4143 Woodmere Park Blvd., Venice
Notes: Age and skill level not considered; just play cards every Wednesday.
Call: 861-5000

Amphibious Forces

Time: 11 a.m.
Where: American Legion of Venice, No-Vel Post 159, 1770 E. Venice Ave.
Notes: Amphibious Forces luncheon the first Wednesday of each month.
RSVP: Leroy, 497-0345

THURSDAY, SEPT. 4

College fair

Time: 6-8:30 p.m.
Where: Roberts Sports Arena, 3000 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota
Notes: School representatives will be available from

BEST BETS

THE LOCAL SCENE

ALMOST Too Precious TO SELL

Cosmotho the Venet kept the Mona Lisa (1503) for himself until his death in France when his good friend and patron King Francis I acquired it. It remained in the royal collection until the creation of the Museum at the Louvre in 1793.

Art exhibit

Art Center Sarasota, 707 North Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, is opening four new exhibitions exploring meaning and value. The exhibit began Sept. 2 and runs through Oct. 25, with a reception Thursday, Sept. 4, 5-7 p.m. In conjunction with the Exhibition, Art Center Sarasota will host the Almost Too Precious to Sell Fine Art Collections Tour. Art Collectors in the Sarasota area will open their homes and collections to the public. Art Center Sarasota is open Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Closed Sundays and Mondays). Admission to exhibitions and galleries is free. Call Sarah Lewis at 365-2032.

COURTESY GRAPHIC

11 post-secondary institutions in the State University System of Florida as well as other colleges and universities from across the nation.
Call: 927-4036

Book discussion

Time: 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Where: Goodwill Good-Neighbor Center, Rialto, 652 South Tamiami Trail, Venice
Notes: Free 10-week interest group for book discussion and viewing of Oprah's online class, A New Earth, by Eckhart Tolle.
Call: 408-7442

Kayak and snorkel excursion

Time: 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Where: Call John Sarkozy for information and required reservations
Notes: All kayak equipment will be provided. Bring your own snorkel equipment. Travel from Turtle Beach to Point of Rocks.
Call: 966-7308

Easy exercise

Time: 9 a.m.
Where: Senior Friendship Centers, 2350 Scenic Drive
Notes: Easy yoga
Call: 584-0075
Link: seniorfriendship.com

Making crafts

Time: Noon
Where: Senior Friendship Centers, 2350 Scenic Drive
Notes: Arts and crafts
Call: 584-0075
Link: seniorfriendship.com

Gardening answers

Time: 9:30 a.m.-noon
Where: Venice Public Library, 300 S. Nokomis Ave.
Notes: Sarasota County Extension Service experts answer gardening questions.
Call: 861-1350

Big brush watercolor

Time: 10 a.m.-noon
Where: Nokomis Community Center, main

hall, 234 East Nippino Trail, Nokomis.
Notes: Big-brush painting class allows students to use watercolors and/or inks on a variety of large format paper. Wet into wet and dry brush techniques will be taught. All levels are encouraged to enroll.
Cost: \$65 per month or a daily fee of \$20
Call: 861-5000

Beginning tap dance

Time: Call for times.
Where: Nokomis Community Center activity room, 234 East Nippino Trail, Nokomis
Notes: Learn beginner and intermediate levels tap dance with certified dance instructor Ellen Swope.
Cost: \$10 per class
Information: 861-5000

Intermediate tap dance

Time: 10-11 a.m.
Where: Nokomis Community Center activity room, 234 East Nippino

Trail, Nokomis
Notes: Learn intermediate level tap dance with certified dance instructor Ellen Swope.
Cost: \$10 per class
Information: 861-5000

Club food

Time: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Where: Venice-Nokomis Elks Lodge, 1021 Discovery Way, Nokomis
Notes: Lunch

Time: 5-7:30 p.m.

Where: Venice-Nokomis Elks Lodge, 1021 Discovery Way, Nokomis
Notes: All you can eat spaghetti dinner

Time: 5-8 p.m.

Where: American Legion, 1770 E. Venice Ave.
Notes: Chicken tenders, burgers and music

Club fun

Time: 6-8 p.m.
Where: Venice-Nokomis Elks Lodge, 1021 Discovery Way, Nokomis
Notes: Trivia games with \$50 prize

Poetry open reading

Time: 7 p.m.
Where: Sand Dollar Bookstore, 272 Miami Ave. W., Venice
Notes: Voices of Venice, free and open to all, meets every Thursday
Call: 480-1030
Link: www.poetsrule.com

MOPS

Time: 9:30 a.m.
Where: Venice Presbyterian Church, 111 E. Fir-enze Ave.
Notes: Mothers of preschoolers
Call: 726-3804 or 488-2258

COMING SOON

Marriage renewal

Date: Sept. 5
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Where: South Venice Christian Church, 2390 Seaboard Ave. (three blocks north of Jacaranda Boulevard), Venice
Notes: KISS (Keep it simple sweetheart), a 12-step program for couples seeking relationship renewal, is a branch of Recovering Couples Anonymous.
Call: 492-9547
Link: recovering-couples.org

Vette-together

Date: Sept. 7
Time: 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Where: Centennial Park, Venice
Notes: Fifth annual Corvette show featuring a classic 1954 Vette up to newer models. Food and vendors will be in the park, as will Tom's Traveling Tunes. Hosted by the Venice Florida Corvettes.

Learn to sail

Date: Sept. 8-12
Time: 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Where: Venice
Notes: The Venice Women's Sailing Squadron, aka the Bitter Ends, is planning a Learn to Sail course from Sept. 8-12. We sail in prams and larger. VWSS belongs to Florida Women's Sailing Assoc.
Call: 484-1492 or 223-6049

Gymnastics

Date: Sept. 8
Time: Two evening times
Where: Nokomis Center, 234 East Nippino Trail, Nokomis
Notes: Children ages 5-12 and 13 and up can learn gymnastics, tumbling and cheerleading.
Call: 861-5000

Guitar lessons

Date: Sept. 8-29
Time: 5-6 p.m. or 6:10-7:10 p.m.
Where: Venice YMCA, 701 Center Road
Notes: Group guitar lessons taught by Gary Byler. Includes printed materials and a CD. All ages and playing levels welcome. Must sign up in advance. Space is limited.
Cost: \$5 nonmembers, \$2.50 members
Call: 492-9622 to sign up

American Legion Auxiliary

Date: Sept. 9
Time: 7 p.m.
Where: American Legion Post Home, 1770 E. Venice Ave., Venice
Notes: Auxiliary Unit 159 meets first; e-board meets at 7:30 p.m. for members.

SPARCC coffee

Date: Sept. 10
Time: 10 a.m.-noon
Where: Laurel Oak Country Club, 2700 Gary Player Blvd., Sarasota
Notes: Learn about Safe Auxiliary's Rape Crisis and Auxiliary's plans. No charge, but reservations are required.
Call: 955-7333
Link: bmwgramma@verizon.net

THE Daily Crossword

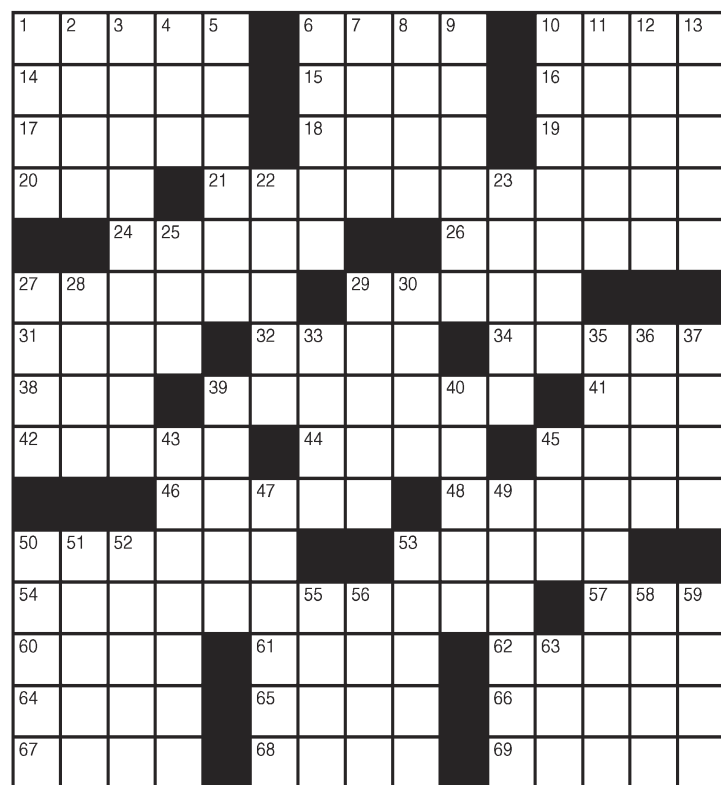
Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- 1 Young deer
- 6 Belgrade native
- 10 Counterfeit
- 14 Skylit courtyards
- 15 Be aware of
- 16 Waikiki wiggle?
- 17 Sandra's "Speed" co-star
- 18 Hawkeye State
- 19 Colo. neighbor
- 20 Psychic letters
- 21 "(Today I Met) The Boy I'm Gonna Marry" singer
- 24 House coat?
- 26 Comes to
- 27 Andre of tennis
- 29 Pesto herb
- 31 Skulk about
- 32 Pinball foul
- 34 Jim of CBS sports
- 38 CPR specialist
- 39 Conference ID
- 41 Coach Parseghian
- 42 "Heidi" novelist
- 44 Rider Revere
- 45 Cinema-tographer Nykvist
- 46 Have life
- 48 Part of SEATO
- 50 Online bookseller
- 53 1986 Indy winner Bobby
- 54 Upstairs
- 57 Cartoonist Keane
- 60 Anna of "Nana"
- 61 Sailor's saint
- 62 Florida city
- 64 Perry's creator
- 65 Long scarves
- 66 Red dye
- 67 Unlikable one
- 68 Printed matter
- 69 Play part

DOWN

- 1 Counterfeit
- 2 Actor Roscoe
- 3 End-of-filming get-together
- 4 Diarist Anais
- 5 Certain Arabs



By Allan E. Parrish
Mentor, OH

Please see **CROSS, 2B**

- 6 Bypass
- 7 Organic compound
- 8 "Lady Jane Grey" dramatist
- 9 African titles
- 10 Clinton cabinet member Donna
- 11 Impresario Sol
- 12 Still in the game
- 13 Labyrinths
- 22 Baker or Loos
- 23 "Dallas" family
- 25 Question
- 27 Pub offerings
- 28 Hanks role
- 29 Sheep's cry
- 30 Aleutian island
- 33 Little devils
- 35 Submariners' harbor
- 36 Transit-loss allowance
- 37 Off-the-wall
- 39 Ike's V.P.
- 40 Site of rites
- 43 Changed the land-use rules
- 45 Body of water



- 47 Owing
- 49 Limerick necessities
- 50 Balance-sheet item
- 51 Paris subway
- 52 Amtrak's bullet train
- 53 Henhouse area
- 55 Wild plum
- 56 Kodak brand
- 58 Poker declaration
- 59 Word after 21A, 39A, 54A, 3D and 35D
- 63 Winter Games grp.

GOREN BRIDGE

Q 1 - Vulnerable, you hold:

♠ Q J 10 9 7 2 ♥ A 7 ♦ 9 ♣ K 10 6 3

Partner opens the bidding with two no trump (20-22 points). What do you bid now?

A - You are missing too many prime cards to commit to slam unilaterally. Start by asking for aces with a Gerber four clubs. Partner's answer might tell you enough for you to make an immediate decision.

Q 2 - Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ A Q J 9 5 2 ♥ 9 ♦ K 10 9 5 ♣ A 7

The bidding has proceeded:
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♠ 4♥ Pass Pass
? What action do you take?

A - It is close between four spades and pass! Since bridge is a bidder's game, we have a slight preference for four spades, but we would not criticize a pass. A double (it would be for takeout) is beyond the pale.

Q 3 - Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ A 9 7 6 3 ♥ Q J 9 2 ♦ 9 ♣ Q 4 2

The bidding has proceeded:
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1♦ 2♣ ?
What action do you take?

A - If negative doubles are in your arsenal, by all means trot out that weapon now — it allows you show both majors in one fell swoop. If not, you are not strong enough to bid a new suit higher ranking than partner's, since it would be forcing. Pass, and hope partner can reopen.

Q 4 - Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ 9 ♥ 4 ♦ A J 9 5 ♣ A K Q J 7 6 2

The bidding has proceeded:
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♣ Pass 1♠ Pass
?

A - In terms of point count, your hand is not much better than a minimum, but its trick-taking potential is enormous. Start by reversing into diamonds, which is forcing, and see how partner reacts to that.

Q 5 - As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ A K 10 4 ♥ K J 4 ♦ A Q 8 ♣ K Q 5

The bidding has proceeded:
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
Pass 3♣ ?
What action do you take?

A - East's pre-empt has done its job. Ideally, you would like to double for penalties, but that action here is for takeout. But that is still your best course, since you intend to bid three no trump next to show a hand too strong for that bid at your first turn. An added benefit is that if partner has a highly distributional hand, you could find a superior contract in a suit.

Q 6 - Neither vulnerable, you hold:

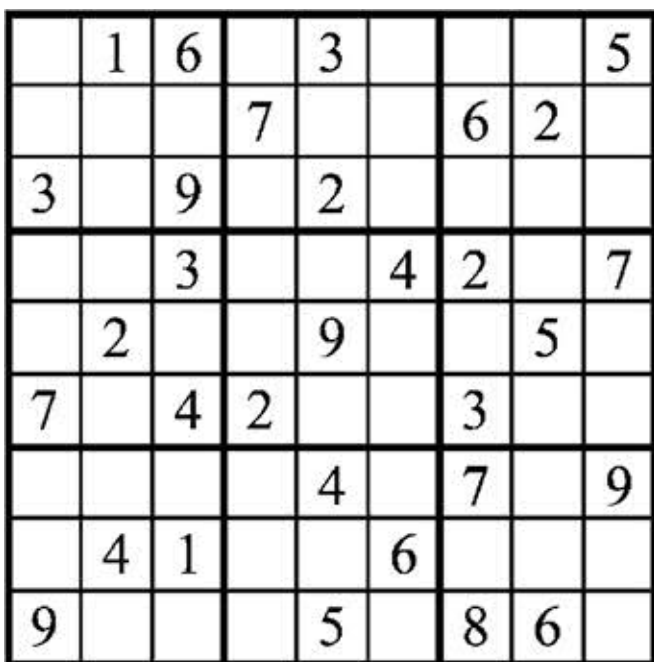
♠ A Q J 5 ♥ A 9 8 4 ♦ A 7 5 3 ♣ 8

Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one diamond. What action do you take?

A - To overcall with one of a major here is a sure-fire method of ending in your second-best (or perhaps third-best) spot. The only viable action is to make a takeout double despite your singleton club. Your double of a minor suit stresses the majors, so partner will strain to avoid bidding clubs.

(Tannah Hirsch welcomes readers' responses sent in care of this newspaper or to Tribune Media Services Inc., 2225 Kenmore Ave., Suite 114, Buffalo, NY. 14207. E-mail responses may be sent to gorenbridge@aol.com.)

The Los Angeles Times SUDOKU



Complete the grid so each row, column and box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit sudoku.org.uk.

Please see **SUDOKU, 2B**

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Loosen Up!

Increasing flexibility may not strengthen a heart or lower cholesterol, but it does have its benefits. Each joint has a natural limit to its mobility. A joint that is forced beyond its normal range of motion will place abnormal stress on tissues. When excessive force strains ligaments, a "sprain" is produced. When muscles and tendons are stressed and stretched, the injury is called a "strain." At the same time, when muscles become stronger, they tend to become shorter. Tendons, too, get stiffer as they get shorter, which is why exercise can make a person stiff.

The good news is that stretching counteracts this stiffening effect, and chiropractic manipulation loosens the hold that muscles exert on joints, increasing range of motion.

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JOE GIORGIANNI
GUEST COLUMNIST

For most of my life I've had dogs. Some were simply lovable pets, while others were, shall we say, guardians of my domicile. I would feel comfortable leaving my home knowing that should anyone dare break in to it, they would immediately be consumed by one of my dogs.

Now that I live in a world of more or less care-free living, I no longer have a dog. I'm saddened about that, but only to a small degree.

For example, I no longer have a hankering to take long walks carrying one of those little plastic bags in case the pooch feels the urge to leave a calling card on someone's yard. When I did have a dog, I was always considerate of homeowners and their dislike for sidestepping logs dropped and not picked up by inconsiderate dog owners.

I do, however, miss the security that I had when leaving my pooch in charge whenever I would leave my house unattended. There's a lot to be said

for an animal that would rip the leg from an intruder.

But I've recently learned that there are other animals that not only require less maintenance than a dog, but are just as vicious when it comes to protecting one's property. Well, most of the time, anyway.

I speak, or write, of a guy in Connecticut who trained his pet albino python to attack on command. In fact, during a recent "bust" of the guy for threatening to pummel his lady friend, police learned just how smart a trained reptile can be.

Upon entering the man's apartment, the bad man gave the command for his guardian serpent to attack the police. The ending was not pleasant, at least for the owner of the 9-foot snake, as one of the officers, fearing for his life, threw a doughnut at the beast. The animal blinked, and simply slithered to a corner of the room, replete with the doughnut, which was securely tucked into its cavernous mouth.

The snake's owner, now totally without protection, then submitted to the officer's demand, placed his hands behind his back and started cursing the snake. Bond was set for a whole bunch of money as, it turns out, the judge didn't like snakes and decided to set an example for others who might use exotic animals for protection.

I share this story with

those who might find comfort in keeping an exotic animal for protection, such as gerbils, hamsters, turtles or hermit crabs. I can tell you, not only will they not protect you, they will ignore you completely. The same goes for fish (all varieties), birds (except those with a taste for red meat, like hawks, eagles and mutated canaries) and cats.

I should clarify the cat statement, however. We have two cats, and I can tell you unequivocally that should you open a can of tuna within 25 miles of either one, it will attack. I am living proof that one does not open anything emitting a fishy odor without fear of losing one eye, or both and a major part of an arm, or at least a couple of fingers.

In fact, I find it wise to wear a Kevlar vest, leather gloves and a full-face mask when preparing anything for them to eat. I catch myself wondering if the guy with the snake would like a couple of cats. I mean the snake has to eat, too.

Now, before you start thinking that I'm mean and cruel, and a hater of cats, I am not. I would, however, like to train them to attack on command.

I'm thinking that the only way this is going to happen is if whoever breaks into my house smells like a trout.

photojoel01@comcast.net

Contact with ailing granddad enriches both young and old



DEAR ABBY
COLUMNIST

DEAR ABBY: The letter from "Paw-Paw and Maw-Maw in Alabama" (May 13), whose son has cut off contact with their 5-year-old grandson to "protect" the boy from Grandpa's eventual death, left me feeling intense sorrow for all concerned.

In 1996, my grandfather was ecstatic that I was pregnant and anxiously awaited the arrival of his triplet great-grandchildren.

At age 102, he was with us at the hospital when they were born, and remained an integral part of their lives until his death five years later.

We believe Grandpa's loving involvement with the children extended the quality and length of his life. In exchange, the kids' first years were blessed with the special love and adoration of a great-grandparent.

Abby, the day "Paw-Paw's" letter was published, I picked up my now-12-year-olds from

school. They told me their writing assignment that day was an essay relating a favorite memory. Be it serendipity, providence or coincidence, two of the triplets had written about "G.G." (Great-Grandfather). One of the stories ended with "although G.G. is no longer with us, he will always be in my heart." — **JAN IN ARLINGTON, TEXAS**

DEAR JAN: Thank you for sharing that story. Response to "Paw-Paw's" letter was huge. Many readers wrote to describe the importance of grandparent memories in their lives. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: We lost my father 16 months ago after a long illness. My small children spent two days a week with him and my mother, and were a significant part of the joy in his life.

We never hid his illness from them. We did just the opposite. My son was a great help to his Nana and Pop-Pop, bringing him lunch and helping to move the medical equipment back and forth across the house.

I am convinced that allowing the children to be a part of their grandfather's life through the end of it has given them a sense of compassion and a life skill that all of us will

need at some point in our lives. Children grieve, too, and it is our job as parents to help them learn to cope with life's disappointments, not to shelter them from the realities they will face as adults. — **NANCY IN ALLENTOWN, PA.**

DEAR ABBY: As a hospice chaplain, I have worked with many children and many levels of maturity. In my experience, it is important to listen carefully to children and let them "self-select." If they seem comfortable or choose to be with a family member who is passing, it is best to let them be there.

If it appears to be traumatic or they verbalize that they don't wish to be there, honor that as well and perhaps find a parallel way in which they can share in the transition. And bear in mind that the age of the child does not necessarily indicate his or her preparedness for confronting end-of-life issues. — **ARTHUR IN DERRY, N.H.**

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

LIBRARY BRIEFS

Venice Public Library
300 S. Nokomis Avenue
Venice, FL 34285

Film Festival celebrates

Jim Orville is back for the 13th season to produce and host the Venice Public Library Film Festival on Thursdays in the meeting room. The theme for September is Guilty Pleasures. On Sept. 4, at 6 p.m., Ethel Merman, Donald O'Connor, and Vera-Ellen sing and dance to Irving Berlin's last big musical comedy, "Call Me Madam" (1953). Bette Midler, Goldie Hawn, and Diane Keaton star as three jilted wives in "The First Wives Club" (1996) on Sept. 11 at 6 p.m. Robert Mitchum plays the flawed hero in a film noir west-

ern, "Pursued" (1947) on Sept. 18 at 6 p.m.

Libraries celebrate Sustainability Month

September is Sustainability Month for Sarasota County and the libraries will present several corresponding events. Venice Public Library will host a panel discussion, People, Places, and Planning for Prosperity, at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 4 in the meeting room. County representatives from the Health, Planning, and Neighborhoods departments will address elements of sustainable communities. Hosted by Leonardo DiCaprio, "The 11th Hour," will be screened on Wednesday, Sept. 10, at 2 p.m. The film explores the perilous state of our planet.

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E-mail _____ GPA _____
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Honors, Outstanding Achievements, Community Service _____

State the reasons why you would be interested in becoming Miss Sun Fiesta and tell us about yourself, dreams and plans for the future. Attach a one page essay with your photo and 3 letters of recommendation.

Deadline: September 15th
Send application to: Vee Garry-Chiulli,
1097 Ruisdael Circle, Nokomis, FL 34275
www.sunfiesta.net

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COURTESY PHOTO

50TH ANNIVERSARY Bradtmiller

Nancy and Paul Bradtmiller, of Venice, were married 50 years ago on Aug. 24 in Ithaca, N.Y., in a military wedding.

They celebrated their 50th anniversary with a family cruise to Alaska at the end of June.

The couple has three children: Cindee Shevlin, of Lakewood Ranch, Fla.; Lee McCracken, of Charlotte, N.C.; and Eric Bradtmiller, of Pescadero, Calif.;

and five grandchildren.

Paul Bradtmiller is retired from the U.S. Navy and Avatar Utilities Company. Nancy Bradtmiller worked at the University of Vermont in the school of business administration.

The Bradtmillers moved to Venice 19 years ago from Shelburne, Vt., where he was affiliated with Vermont Public Power Supply Authority and Vermont Electric Power Company.



COURTESY PHOTO

ENGAGEMENT

Fistner-Defina

Jessica Fistner and Rocco DeFina announce their engagement. Jessica is the daughter of Frank and Georgette Fistner, of Venice. Rocco is the son of Ron and Linda DeFina, of Venice.

The bride-elect is a 2001 graduate of Venice High School. She graduated from Santa Fe Community College and attended Montreat College

in North Carolina. She is employed by Mission Valley Country Club, Nokomis.

The groom-to-be is a 1998 graduate of Cardinal Mooney High School, Sarasota. He graduated from Florida State University and is part owner of Palmer Ranch Travel.

The wedding is planned for April 2009 in Positano, Italy.

Women's center needs volunteers

The Women's Resource Center of Sarasota County needs volunteer instructors to lead the following programs at its Venice location at 806 Pinebrook Road: gentle yoga, computer classes, and empowerment and self-esteem

groups. To find out more, call the center at 485-9724.



COURTESY PHOTO

25TH ANNIVERSARY

Connell

Barbara and Thomas Connell, of Venice, celebrated their 25th anniversary on Aug. 28, 2008. They were married in Somerville, N.J. on Aug. 28, 1983.

Barbara Connell is the former Barbara Strone Malavenda. She works at Nelson Media in Nokomis.

Thomas Connell worked as original owner of Bud's Restaurant-Barbar-a's Too!

The couple are the parents of four children: Alisa

Malavenda, of Milwaukee, Wisc.; David Malavenda, of Manville, N.J.; Thomas Connell, of Somerset, N.J.; and Sandra Connell, of New Providence, N.J. They have six grandchildren.

Barbara Connell said they were surprised when everyone arrived at their home Friday, took them on a party bus to Patti Georges Restaurant Saturday, and threw a party for 30 at their home on Sunday.



COURTESY PHOTO

60TH ANNIVERSARY

Harn

John (Jack) and Jessie M. Harn celebrated their 60th anniversary on July 31, 2008. They were married in Berkeley, Calif., on July 31, 1948.

She is the former Jessie Mae Russell.

John Harn worked as owner and manager of Harn Construction Co. in Venice, Fla. Jessie Harn worked as office manager

and chief financial officer at Harn Construction Co.

The couple are parents of three children: James A. Harn, of Venice, Fla.; Linda M. Harn, of Atlanta, Ga.; and John D. Harn, deceased. They have three grandchildren.

They celebrated their anniversary with close friends at a very quiet gathering.



COURTESY PHOTO

ENGAGEMENT

Downes-Wright

Stewart and Donna Downes, of Sarasota, Fla., announce the engagement of their daughter, Katie Hope Downes, of Ellenton, Fla., to Gregory Wright, of Ellenton.

He is the son of Dan and Connie Wright, of Parish, Fla.

The bride-elect is a 1999 graduate of Venice High School, in Venice, Fla., and a 2003 graduate of University of Central

Florida, in Orlando. She majored in psychology and is employed by Tax Technologies Inc.

The bridegroom-to-be is a 1997 graduate of Southeast High School in Bradenton, Fla., and a 2003 graduate of University of Central Florida, Orlando. He majored in business management and is employed by Vertex.

The wedding will take place April 2010.



SUN PHOTO BY JUSTIN FENNELL, jfennell@venicegondolier.com

100TH BIRTHDAY

Smith

Sheila Smith celebrated her 100th birthday on Aug. 14, 2008, at the Pinebrook

Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in Venice. She still likes clowning around.

To Advertise in Home Page E-mail: homepage@venicegondolier.com Deadline NOON Tuesday

WOMEN'S SERTOMA CLUB OF VENICE SUN FIESTA '08 ART & CRAFT APPLICATION

October 17th, 18th & 19th - Venice Avenue
RAIN DATE: November 7th, 8th, & 9th
The Sun Fiesta committee is pleased to invite all exhibitors, non-profit organizations, educational groups, and charities to participate in this three day event. The Sertoma Club is a service organization, and this is a fund raiser for the Women's Sertoma Club of Venice.

\$125.00 per space (each space is 12'X12')
\$50.00 for non-profit (please provide copy of 501-c3)

Tents are available for a cost of \$125.00 for a 10'X10' top only. Electricity is available for a fee of \$50.00 and the vendor must provide his own 100' grounded electrical cord.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE SEPT. 15, 2008.
Refunds will only be given prior to September 30th.

Clip and mail, or download application and rules at WWW.SUNFIESTA.NET

Business Name _____
Attendee Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
E-Mail _____
Telephone # _____ Vehicle License _____
Sales price range _____ Tent Description _____
Brief description of work _____
Number of spaces you need _____ Handicapped? Yes _____ No _____
Electric (add \$50.00) Yes / No Total Amount Due \$ _____
Please mark the following unloading times in order of preference, we will attempt to accommodate you accordingly. If you are unable to unload during these specific times there will be open unloading after 5:00 PM.
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After 5:00 PM _____

PLEASE NOTE: You will only be allowed to set up during your assigned time.
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INDEMNITY AGREEMENT
For, and in consideration of permission to participate in the 2008 Sun Fiesta in downtown Venice on October 17, 18, & 19, 2008, the undersigned hereby agrees to assume the risk, and hereby releases and agrees to indemnify the Women's Sertoma Club of Venice and any others organizing or assisting in the show from any and all losses or claims arising out of the undersigned's participation.

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail applications to:
Barbara Quinn, 1700 Fountain View Circle, Venice, FL 34292.
E-mail tobaquinn@aol.com or call 941 330-6303.
Make checks payable to Women's Sertoma Club of Venice.

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Joan Andrews, left, and Jean Davis are ready to sing and hula at the luau at the Senior Friendship Centers.



Fran Yaros, left, Irene Bette and Millie Wanaty chat before the luau. Bette entertained the group with her songs and dance.



Lorraine Benway, left, helps Charlotte Foster celebrate being 100 years old at the luau at the Senior Friendship Centers.

SUN PHOTOS BY FRAN VALENCIC

Pearly shells and tiny bubbles fill the Senior Friendship Centers



FRAN VALENCIC
SOCIAL COLUMNIST

"When you're smiling, the whole world smiles with you," sang Irene Bette to welcome about

100 men and women to the annual luau at the Senior Friendship Centers. She and Ray Goins led the group in a sing-a-long. "Blue Hawaii" and "I've Got A Lovely Bunch of Coconuts" put everyone in the singing and dancing mood. The duo encouraged the audience to sing, "Daisy, Daisy, give me your answer, do," from the popular song "Bicycle Built for Two," for Daisy Rhude, executive director of the Senior Friendship Centers, celebrating her birthday at the event. Mary Parisi

couldn't resist the music and demonstrated Hawaiian moves of her own. Betty Jean Keoki-Brooks teaches hula dancing at the Senior Friendship Centers on Fridays at 10:30. She and the students said, "I love you," with their lovely hula hands. Teacher Sharon Marshall showed off the Polynesian hula. Aloha to all the kanes and wahines who joined in the fun. Happy Grandparent's Day This weekend the na-

tion celebrates Grandparent's Day. Hula dancers, singers and musicians at the Senior Friendship Centers show grandparents in Venice don't just bake cookies. Here they also volunteer in schools, mentor, serve on boards and make up a pool of thousands who enrich our lives. At a health care facility, theater or concert, most volunteers in this town are grandparents and deserve a tip of the hat. Teaching grandchildren the joy of service and fun happens

to be part of the job. Bravo. Just a reminder Tickets are \$25 for this Saturday's appreciation concert for Eric and Carl Watters at the Venice Theatre. The star-studded show begins at 7 p.m. Call 488-1115. Women with Moxie meet at the Boca Royale Golf & Country Club on Tuesday, Sept. 9, from 5 to 7 p.m. One of our best The special person of this week is Daisy Rhude,

executive director of the Senior Friendship Centers. This fun-loving woman brings a warmth and energy to the center that makes everyone smile. Her easygoing attitude and warm heart make visitors and regulars feel welcome. She recognizes when someone needs a hug or a pat on the back and welcomes the opportunity to fulfill that need. Her great sense of humor adds to her charm. Daisy Rhude is one of the women who make Venice a great place to live.



Joe Maddingly, left, and Davey Teller know a grass skirt and flowered shirt make any luau more fun.



Kelly Mitchell serves fruit and pineapple pizza to guests at the Senior Friendship Centers' annual luau.



Dianne Herres greets guests at the luau at the Senior Friendship Centers.



Gayle Rainville makes sure everyone coming to the luau gets a lei.



Sharon Marshall dances to "Blue Hawaii" at the luau at the Senior Friendship Centers.



Ray Goins tickles the ivories at the luau at the Senior Friendship Centers.



Arlene Bonda volunteers at the Senior Friendship Centers and enjoys special events like the annual luau.



Julie McGarr, left, and Daisy Rhude celebrate Rhude's birthday at the luau at the Senior Friendship Centers. Rhude is the executive director of the center and McGarr is a caseworker.



Mary Parisi shows off some hula movements of her own at the luau at the Senior Friendship Centers.



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(941) 207-1200

GARAGE & YARD SALES

SARASOTA COUNTY
Osprey, Laurel, Venice, North Port, Murdock, El Jobean, Deep Creek, Port Charlotte, Boca Grande, Placida

DESOTO COUNTY
Arcadia

CHARLOTTE COUNTY
Punta Gorda, Burnt Store

GARAGE SALE LOCATOR

6001	Arcadia Area
6002	Englewood Area
6003	Lake Suzy Area
6004	Nokomis/Osprey Area
6005	North Port Area
6006	Port Charlotte Area
6007	Punta Gorda Area
6008	Rotonda Area
6009	Sarasota Area
6010	South Venice Area
6011	Venice Area

RATES

1 day - \$11.50
4 lines - (\$5.00 ea. add'l line)
2 days - \$17.50
4 lines - (\$5.00 ea. add'l line)
3 days - \$22.50
4 lines - (\$5.00 ea add'l line)
7 days - \$28.50
4 lines - (\$5.00 ea add'l line)
Rates not valid with multi-family or community sales.

To place your ad call:

Arcadia
494-7733

Charlotte
206-1200

Englewood
475-2200

Venice/North Port
207-1200

FREE GARAGE SALE SIGN WITH ANY AD

2070 SALES

Come Join Our Winning Team

One of the fastest growing high tech telecommunications companies in Southwest Florida is seeking a professional Inside Sales Associate/Telemarketer to join our dynamic team. Our reliable, high quality products and responsive customer service just don't happen by accident. They happen as a result of the creativity, determination, talent and professionalism of every member of our team. Everyday our employees dedicate themselves to exceeding customer expectations and earning customer loyalty.

Qualifications:

Telemarketing and Telecommunications/DATA knowledge preferred
Good communication skills (verbal/written)
Computer literate (Word, Excel, MS Outlook, ACT, etc.)
Strong interpersonal skills
Outgoing & Determined personality
Telemarketing/outbound Calling Experience

Benefits:

- Medical and Life Insurance
- Paid Time Off - vacations and holidays
- 401K
- Recognition Programs

Employment subject to post offer pre-employment drug test.

If you are looking to join a dynamic team in a fun, dynamic and growth oriented company with significant income opportunity, please send resume to: insidesales@daystar.net

Experienced Sales Person for Satellite TV Sales.
Earn \$100.00 per sale. Flexible hours or work from home.
Call Tiffany 863-491-0555

FULL TIME PAY FOR PART TIME HOURS! Phone Sales Reps calling auto repair shops. Week days 9-2. Comm. based. (941)-623-8422

IT OUT!
Use the Handy In Our New Improved Garage Sale Ads To Mark The Locations You Want To Check Out For Great Bargains.

2070 SALES

Make plans now to stop by WENG in Englewood on Thursday, Sept 4 from 10 am - 12 pm for the WENG open house.

Come see live, local radio in action. Applications will be on Hand or you can bring your resume to the WENG open house at WENG, 1355 S. River Rd in Englewood on Thursday, Sept 4 from 10 am - 12 pm.

RENTAL AGENT
List & rent Eng/Rotonda RE License Required flex hours comm. only
rentals2008@live.com
email: pmgt@live.com

Wealth program consultant for telephone sales. Must be a closer. Training provided. Up to a six figure potential. Please call Justin (941)-584-5000 or fax (941)-485-8706

2100 GENERAL

100 WORKERS NEEDED Assemble crafts, wood items Materials provided. To \$480+ wk. Free info pkg 24 hr. 801-428-4893

APPT. SETTER Wk from home. \$12-15/hr plus. Telemarketing exp. a Must (941)-373-9700

Arcadia, PT Maintenance Tech, 25hr weekly, Will be full time within 6 mths. \$10 hrly EOE DFW 863-491-4008

Blue Jean Job
Seeking sharp go-getters able to travel USA who enjoy working in a rock & roll environment. Demo chemical products. Must be able to start immediately. For info call Kelly 1-800-201-3293 9am-6pm.

CAR CARRIER EXP. DRIVER, running within the United states. 786-306-0376 or 239-825-1188

CDL DRIVERS WANTED
941-928-0401

Counter Help weeknights 3pm - 10pm. \$8/hr. Non-smoker. Achieve Fitness 4300 Kings Hwy. (941)-627-5509

Customer service rep Local insurance agency seeks pt CSR, Fax resume to 941-698-8875 or email to TheLehns@comcast.net No phone calls pls!

EARN \$3200/MONTH PROCESS HUD REFUNDS HUD-INFO-HOTLINE 941-556-1300

FRONT GATE SECURITY OFFICER
Wanted for at our private club in Boca Grande, FT Security Lic. required. Immediate opening. Bridge toll paid. Fax Resume: 941-964-0193 EOE. DFWP

2100 GENERAL

Housekeeper

Upscale Senior Living Community is looking to fill a full time housekeeping / laundry attendant position. May include some week-ends. Only responsible, committed candidates need apply. We offer a great working environment, Opportunity for growth, and a full benefits package including medical, dental, and vision. **Please apply in person at 1000 Aston Gardens Drive, Venice**

Aston Gardens at Pelican Pointe - a Sunrise Senior Living Community -

JOBS! JOBS! JOBS!

Check Our Opportunities! www.shaveremployment.com

Needed: 15 people To lose up to 30lbs. in 30 days, \$30 + s/h. DOCTOR RECOMMENDED GUARANTEED! 1-800-532-6179 www.35daystoweightloss.com

POOL SERVICE TECH Valid Driver's Lic reqd. 6 mos exp preferred. Apply @ 160 W. Fray St, Englwd

SINGLE COPY ROUTE NOW AVAILABLE

The Charlotte Sun is looking for a Independent Distributor for a rack & dealer Route in the Port Charlotte area. Must have a dependable VAN or TRUCK, a valid drivers license and proof of insurance. Must be able to work: Early mornings, 7 days a week. make recovery runs & Monday mornings for collection. **Apply in person 23170 Harborview Rd. Charlotte Harbor. online at: www.sunnewspapers.net**

Workers needed: Assemble crafts, wood items or sewing. Materials provided. To \$480+ a wk. Free info 24hr 801-428-4664

2115 HOME BASED/ BUSINESS

ACCESS TO A COMPUTER? \$25-\$75/per hr. PT or FT 877-212-3568 go to: www.dreamsdocometrue4us.com

High Prices Killing You? Then Fight Back with a powerful money system. SunshineMoneySystem.com

2120 POSITION/ JOB WANTED

GIRL FRIDAY, Venice/Sarasota. Exp'd, Caretaker, Housesitter, Errands, Cooking, (941)-468-4343

3000



NOTICES

3010 ANNOUNCEMENTS



PUNTA GORDA OFFICE HAS MOVED

From 331 SULLIVAN ST to 312 SULLIVAN ST (PURPLE HOUSE)

BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Friday
7 a.m. - 1 p.m.
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

(941) 205-1000

3015 HAPPY ADS

PLACE YOUR HAPPY AD FOR ONLY \$8.75

3 LINES 1 DAY ADD A PHOTO FOR AN ADDITIONAL SMALL CHARGE. 941-206-1200 Pt. Charlotte or 941-207-1200 Venice/N.Port Englewood

3020 PERSONALS

MEET SEXY SINGLES! Sarasota 941-906-8855 Ft. Myers 239-590-9210 St. Pete 727-319-8336 Call Now! 18+ Ad#8888

JESSICA SUPER SPECIAL SUMMER RATES! 941-237-1356

TIFFANY LOWEST RATES! 941-237-1157

SENSUAL RELAXATION www.RelaxationMichelle.com Walk in's Welcome!! 941-584-8013

3020 PERSONALS

ALONE? SENIORS DATING BUREAU SAFEST since 1977! (Ages 45-90) 1-800-922-4477 24 hours. or log on to: www.RespectedDating.com

MASSAGE Males, Females, Couples In Home Service. Reasonable Rate 941-468-1429

SAVANNA CALL FOR APPT 941-467-5363

3050 SINGLES

Alone, sharing room mate wanted, SWF desires honest, man 50+, D/D Free, no crim. rec. 416-1408

Retired Military Exec DWM Financially stable, warm, fit bike rider, world traveled, 70 yrs old, romantic, looking for a happy, easygoing, slim, affectionate lady. Snuggling is essential. Reply to: Box 4011 200 E Venice Ave. Venice FL 34285

3060 SCHOOLS & INSTRUCTION

*ED KLOPFER SCHOOLS OF CNA TRAINING 1 or 2 wk class books incl \$289.00 941-379-2378

2 WEEK CNA Class \$300 SPECIAL Books Included. State testing onsite. 941-822-2273

3070 BURIAL LOTS/ CRYPTS

Gulf Pines Memorial Park, Engl. Veterans Gdns lot c, \$3095 value, Asking \$2400 (321)-777-4594

3080 TRAVEL/TICKETS

GATOR FOOTBALL Row 1 End Zone \$300 941-979-9427

3090 LOST & FOUND

FOUND - near Pizza Hut, Port Charlotte - Chihuahua, call 941-380-6117, describe to claim.

FOUND Camara at the Rib Fest in Punta Gorda on 8/23/08. Please Call 941-916-9296 to Identify.

FOUND Zemel Rd area PG, brown dog mix. Thurs. PM 8/28/08. 941- 639-8225

Lost Cat - Black & white/tuxedo male, red collar. Call anytime, 941-426-2595

LOST Puppy, Silver Poodle, Female, Lost 8/26, Near Pellam & Sunniglow In PC. REWARD!! Found by neighbor!

Lost: black cat, small with round face, green eyes, and red collar. Spayed female. Golden Beach area of Venice island. 941-223-5577.

3090 LOST & FOUND

MAN'S WEDDING BAND Lg. White/Yellow Gold w/Diamonds. Lost 8/27 in Venice. Recently Married. PLEASE! REWARD 941-493-4124

VERY LOVED AND MISSED 2 Missing Jack Russells Terriers.. Brown & white Female, Black & White Male, Brother & Sister. 4 Yrs. old REWARD!! 941-475-4260

4000



FINANCIAL

4080 LOANS/ MORTGAGES

PRIVATE MONEY Real Estate Only 625-7001 or 475-7755

5000



BUSINESS SERVICES

An Occupational License may be required by the City and/or County. Please call the appropriate occupational licensing bureau to verify.



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5050 CHILD/ADULT CARE

ALL CHILDCARE FACILITIES MUST INCLUDE WITH ADVERTISEMENT STATE OR LOCAL AGENCY LICENSE NUMBER.

5050 CHILD/ADULT CARE

OPEN ENROLLMENT AGES 1-5 VPK offered, part & full time avail. Registration fee waived for mth of Sept. MISS HEIDI'S PRESCHOOL 941-475-3955 Lic. #C08CH4593

NEW AD

CHILDCARE, reasonable rates. Accepting children ages 1-5 No reg. fee. 941-235-2123. Lic #F08CH0017

Experienced Stay at home Mom in Venice will care for your child. Call Tara (941)-493-9279

FLORIDA STATE LAW requires all child care centers and day care businesses to register with the State of Florida. The Sun Newspapers will not knowingly accept advertising which is in violation of the law.

5053 COMPUTER SERVICE

****1A+ COMPUTER REPAIR & TUTOR... IN YOUR HOME** Reasonable & Prompt! Sr. Disc. 941-615-7888

Computer repairs, upgrades, training & virus removal. (941)-743-9787 or (941) 815-4692 cell.

Infotech Computer Solutions. Repairs & Service. 15% off 1st time calls. 941-875-8107

5060 DOMESTIC CLEANING SERV.

Houses, Apts., Offices. Anytime, Anywhere! (941)-467-2954 References. Lic#176566

MRS. CLEAN Now accepting new acts. Venice & Engl. Since 1989 (941)-237-1866

5080 EXCAVATING/ BUSH HOG

Pete Root's Bush Hog Service Vacant lots, Acreage mowing, Hauling, Debris removal. Serving PG, PC, NP Arcadia areas. Lic./Ins. (941)716-4814

5100 HOME & COMM. IMPROV.

CONCRETE High Quality Low Price Driveway, sidewalks, patios LIC. & INS. FREE EST. 941-497-0907 or 586-4512

Bill's Handyman Service Ceiling fans, lights, faucets, drains, yard work etc. Call 941-661-8585

5100 HOME & COMM. IMPROV.

BUILDING CONTRACTOR FOR HIRE! We can design, build, remodel any type of structure. Free estimates by appt. Hire a Licensed Building Contractor! Fred Shute Real Estate & Dev. Inc. 941-426-1489 Toll Free 1-888-803-3100

CARPENTER, INC. One call does it all. Licensed & insured. #RR0067689. Phil 941-627-0657.

DAN THE HANDYMAN I do it all with just one call. Painting, Carpentry, Anything? (941)-697-1642

HANDIES HANDYMAN SERVICE 30 yrs. exp. Kitchen, Bath & Plumbing, , Painting, Ceramic Tile, All Indoor & Outdoor Repairs. 941-586-4856

JACK OF ALL TRADES, No Job Too Big or Small. CGC#A14379. Free Estimates. (941)-623-3374

KEN'S HOME Maintenance & DRY WALL REPAIR. Free Estimates (941)-716-5107

NEW AD

Melbourne's Handyman Home Improvement Painting, Plumbing, Carpentry. #176920. 860-805-4301

Michael's Home Repair Painting, Miscellaneous Repairs. Licensed, Insured, References. 863-285-9300.

Michael's Home Repair Painting, miscellaneous repairs. Licensed, Insured, References. 863-285-9300.

NO JOB TOO BIG/SMALL, Pressure wash, Painting int/ext. Gutter cleaning, landscape. (941)-504-1711

Classified = Results

5110 LAWN/GARDEN & TREE

! A+ Tree Cutting, Stump Grinding, Debris Loading & Hauling. Local, 27 yrs. Good work, very reasonable prices (941)-629-0020

A + LAWN CARE Professional, Dependable "Now Accepting New Accounts" (941)-661-4783

** Weeding, Trimming & Clean Up. Local, Reliable, Reasonable. Donna (941)-697-5423

