

VENICE Gondolier Sun

LOCAL NEWS COVER TO COVER AWARD-WINNING WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

50 CENTS VOLUME 64 NUMBER 36

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY EDITION, AUG. 26-28, 2009

AN EDITION OF THE SUN

Reef
madness
Things are
picking up
down under
1B



SUN PHOTO BY ED SCOTT

Employees continue work on some of the structures at Gran Paradiso despite the owner's cash flow problems.

County sells 34 tax certificates

Five from Gran Paradiso among those purchased

BY ED SCOTT
STAFF WRITER

The office of Sarasota County Tax Collector Barbara Ford-Coates sold 34 of 47 tax certificates offered online Tuesday, accruing more than \$149,000 in unpaid taxes for area governments and taxing districts.

Among those were 17 certificates offered for unpaid taxes on property owned by Sam Rodgers, developer of Gran Paradiso in the West Villages Improvement District. Only five of the 17 certificates were sold, generating \$74,096 for the West Villages district.

"That's obviously not going to cut the mustard," said West Villages District Manager Todd Wodraska of Special District Services Inc. The remaining 12 certificates — totaling more than \$3.4 million in unpaid taxes, according to the tax collector's office — represent

funds West Villages board members would use to pay for infrastructure in the struggling North Port community. Those certificates will revert back to Sarasota County.

"West Villages will get nothing at this point for those," said Diana Chadwell, deputy tax collector. Had a sale not been held Tuesday, one would not have been held until June of next year, "and we didn't want to do that," she said. "Certainly Gran Paradiso was a significant amount of money for the district. It was important for us to attempt to sell them."

Rodgers now has until April 1, 2011, to pay back the county and the purchasers of the five certificates, plus interest, or risk losing the property in tax deed sales. An attempt to reach Rodgers Tuesday was unsuccessful.

West Villages board members, who met Tuesday and approved a \$9.85 million budget for 2009-10, will hold a

Please see **TAX, 4A**

School beginnings



SUN PHOTO BY GREG GILES

A member of the student safety patrol escorts Venice Elementary kindergartners out to their bus following the first day of school on Monday, Aug. 24. With school in session, motorists are reminded to use extra caution and obey speed limits, particularly in school zones.

Simmonds' e-mail violates policy

BY GREG GILES
NEWS EDITOR

Compliance with the prohibition on sending city-related e-mails from private accounts is proving difficult for some city council members.

John Simmonds is the latest to trip over the city policy, implemented in April as part of Sunshine lawsuit settlement reached in February.

All Simmonds wanted to do was send a letter to the editor of the *Gondolier Sun* stating his opinion of the draft comprehensive plan, recently sent

to the state for review.

The problem is, he sent it from his personal e-mail account.

City Clerk Lori Stelzer wrote to Simmonds and said that's a violation — not of the Sunshine Law or Open Records Law, but of city policy.

"How do I stay out of jail with this one?" Simmonds replied. "The gist of it was



Simmonds

given to all council members and the city manager and you previously. But now it is a dreaded e-mail."

"Is sending it to you compliance with the new rules?" he inquired.

"No," replied Stelzer. "You should not be sending e-mails re: city business from your personal account. I have it as a public record, but using your personal account is a violation of the IT (Internet technology) policy. If you receive an e-mail in your per-

Please see **E-MAIL, 4A**



ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF TOTEMS ARCHITECTURE

Sharky's On The Pier restaurant unveiled its new concept plan for an expanded restaurant.

Restaurant expansion plans OK'd by council

Airport noise abatement plan is panned

BY GREG GILES
NEWS EDITOR

Venice City Council got its first glimpse Tuesday of a concept plan to expand Sharky's restaurant on the Venice Municipal Pier — and they liked what they saw.

The city leases the property to The Pier Group, whose owners and representatives of the family-run business were on hand Tuesday to unveil illustrations and design drawings of the future Tahitian-themed bar and restaurant.

The design calls essentially for a second restaurant and bar on the second floor in an adjoining building. A water feature with public restrooms that beach-goers can use will be on the first floor.

Recent changes in the state building code require the new restaurant be built at least 18 feet above sea level — essentially on the second floor. The new building, however, will be connected to the existing restaurant.

The existing restaurant kitchen will be enlarged and a new entrance designed on its northwest side, helping separate the route shared by patrons and for deliveries, a drawback of the existing design.

The second restaurant will serve between 110-160 patrons with a balcony and waiting deck, bringing the total number of seats at Sharky's restaurant to between 350 and 400.

"We're trying to make a

good place better — a tropical setting that provides good views. That is the intent here," said designer Jerry Sparkman. "We wanted to make sure to solve some of the existing problems," he said, like a small kitchen, "deliveries and trash and guests all using the same entrance, and additional public restrooms."

Visitors will be able to access the pier from three points, similar to the existing layout.

Bob Moore, attorney for The Pier Group, said he expects construction to begin within a year. Under its existing contract, the restaurant has 16 months to get all the necessary permits in order. Six months have already passed.

Council will have three more chances to approve the project throughout the planning and construction phases.

The city and The Pier Group already expanded the parking lot, stormwater facilities, and nearby restrooms to the north.

Sharky's, which grew from a hot dog stand, was opened in 1986 as a 90-seat bar and restaurant at the entrance to the Venice Fishing Pier.

Abatement

In other action, council sent back for staff review a draft noise abatement program. Council criticized earlier efforts for not being comprehensive. The new plan, in its eighth draft, still doesn't go far enough, at least for Council Member Sue Lang and Mayor Ed Martin, who voiced misgivings.

Council Member Kit McKeon congratulated Watts for "a job well done in moving forward on this." He asked if there

was any way — now that the city decided to purchase the unique operations counting equipment DY Consultants rented to update the airport master plan — to access real-time monitoring information to corroborate noise complaints, some of which have been suspect.

"Please remember, this is aircraft counting equipment, not aircraft tracking equipment. There is a vast difference," Watts said.

Council Member Sue Lang said she wanted the cameras to be part of the noise abatement program to help identify aircraft. She also wants two part-time position budgeted, and their job descriptions, included in the plan. The positions document and process complaints.

Once again, Lang reiterated a slew of recommendations — like restricting flight training, imposing night-time restrictions, establishing a noise abatement committee, and limiting certain types of aircraft operations — that she said have been accepted by the Federal Aviation Administration at other general aviation airports.

Nick Carlucci, president of the Venice Aviation Society Inc., a nonprofit that helped develop earlier drafts of the noise abatement program, testified on numerous occasions many of those exact ideas are expressly forbidden by the FAA. And where they do exist, they were hand-crafted for exact locations and particular problems that do match the Venice airport environment.

Please see **PLANS, 4A**

Good morning,
Gondolier Sun
subscriber,
JEAN FORNI

FRONT SECTION

BOB VEDDER8A
BUSINESS10A
LET 'EM HAVE IT8A
LOTTO2A

OBITUARIES11A
OPINION8A
POLICE BEAT5A
SPORTS12A
WEATHER2A

OUR TOWN SECTION

COFFEE BREAK2B
CROSSWORD5B
DEAR ABBY5B
VENUE3B
WELL-BEING6B

IN THIS EDITION

AMERICAN PROFILE
CLASSIFIEDS

COUPONS

Twin Palms Chiropractic6B
Venice Car Wash8B

DEATHS

Constance DiMartino
Lee Granger
Herbert Kronfield
Pat Torrance



Florida Lottery

www.flalottery.com

CASH 3	PLAY 4	FANTASY 5
Aug. 24N.....826	Aug. 24N.....1543	Aug. 24.....7-14-20-32-36
Aug. 24D.....677	Aug. 24D.....8489	Aug. 23.....4-19-22-31-32
Aug. 23N.....724	Aug. 23N.....1666	Aug. 22.....3-12-15-22-23
Aug. 23D.....170	Aug. 23D.....5319	Aug. 21.....11-13-21-35-36
Aug. 22N.....076	Aug. 22N.....3996	Aug. 20.....7-14-19-28-32
Aug. 22D.....021	Aug. 22D.....8964	Payoff for Aug. 24
Aug. 21N.....839	Aug. 21N.....4213	1 5-digit winner:.....\$194,239.80
Aug. 21D.....917	Aug. 21D.....6786	243 4-digit winners:.....\$128.50
		7,382 3-digit winners:.....\$11.50
		2-digit winners.....Quick Pick ticket

MEGA MONEY	LOTTO
Aug. 213-27-38-43 MegaBall6	Aug. 225-21-32-33-39-48 Aug. 19 ...14-16-17-19-43-45 Aug. 15 ...18-19-20-41-50-51
Aug. 183-18-28-32 MegaBall8	Payoff for Aug. 22
Drawings occur Tuesday, Friday evenings	0 6-digit winners:.....\$—
Payoff for Aug. 21	44 5-digit winners:.....\$5,663.50
0 4 of 4 + MB\$—	2,429 4-digit winners:.....\$83
3 4 of 4.....\$2,471.50	51,293 3-digit winners:.....\$5.50
38 3 of 4 + MB.....\$427.50	Drawings occur Wednesdays, Saturdays
804 3 of 4.....\$60	Estimated jackpot: \$5 million
1,122 2 of 4 + MB.....\$30	

POWERBALL
Aug. 223-6-20-32-51 Powerball.....23 Power play.....x5
Aug. 1914-24-31-43-51 Powerball.....27 Power play.....x5
Drawings occur Wednesdays and Saturdays
Estimated jackpot: \$25 million (\$12.8 million cash value)



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Swing bridge maintenance

The Blackburn Point Swing Bridge at the north end of Casey Key in Osprey will close intermittently to vehicular traffic Thursday, Aug. 27, for routine maintenance to ensure proper operation of the historic bridge. Motorists may encounter minor delays, lasting about 10 minutes each, at 10 a.m., 10:30 a.m., noon, 12:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. while maintenance crews work on the bridge over the Intra-coastal Waterway. There will be no impact on marine vessels.

BACK IN TIME

HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND, CIRCA 1953



Property of Venice Archives Area Historical Collection

FIRST ROW: Kerin Clevenger, Philip Hider, Whitney Robinson, Barbara Whitaker, Sandra Alston, Charlotte Haynes, Peggy Spiegel, SECOND ROW: Mary Greene, Bobby Rigby, Albert Siegrist, Ruth Matka, Richard Geraci, John Vaccaro, Penny Corneli, Brian Larson, Bill Wimbush, Bobby Stephens, Bobby Hatn, Beth Matick, Dennis Williams, Norma Ball, THIRD ROW: Edgar Gay, Jimmy Hightower, Billy Albright, Tommy Bonner, Dick Smith, Leland George, Johnny Thomas, Milton Anderson, Harvey Cashion, Bill Woodard, Mr. Sleasman.

PHOTO COURTESY OF VENICE ARCHIVES

The Venice-Nokomis High School Marching Band, circa 1953. Catalog No. 1267. For more on this and other historical materials, visit Venice Archives and Area Historical Collection at 351 S. Nassau St., across from West Blalock Park. Hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday and Wednesday. Call 486-2487 for more information. Access the online collection at <http://venicefl.pastperfect-online.com>.

ABC-7 WEATHER

VENICE OUTLOOK

7 Day Forecast

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
91	92	91	90	90	90	90
77	76	77	79	75	76	75
50%	40%	40%	40%	40%	40%	50%

ABC-7 ALMANAC			MARINE				
Temperature	High	Low	Cape Sable to Tarpon Springs: (Sarasota and Charlotte counties)				
Yesterday	91	77	NE winds at 6 to 12 knots.				
Normal	91	73	Seas 1 to 2 feet, smooth chop.				
Record	96	66	Tarpon Springs to Apalachicola:				
	(1989)	(1971)	E winds at 4 to 8 knots.				
Rainfall			Seas 1 to 3 feet, light chop.				
Yesterday		0.00"	VENICE TIDES				
Month	Actual	Average	EASTERN STANDARD TIME				
Year	1.84"	7.34"	DATE	HIGH P.M.	HIGH A.M.	LOW P.M.	LOW A.M.
	20.14"	37.10"	WED 26	7:19	3:47	9:51	12:15 p
SUNRISE, SUNSET			THU 27		4:30	1:37	
Sunrise/set			FRI 28		5:30	3:00	
Tonight's sunset	7:56 p.m.		SAT 29		6:53	4:10	
Tomorrow's sunrise	7:07 a.m.		SUN 30		8:26	5:04	
Moonrise/set			*STRONG TIDE a — A.M. p — P.M.				
Moonrise	1:27 p.m.						
Moonsset	12:02 a.m.						

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Fees for registration, driver licenses to jump

BY ANNE KLOCKENKEMPER
STAFF WRITER
AND BRIANNA WESTERVELT
SUN CORRESPONDENT

The cost of driving is about to go up and it has nothing to do with the price of gas.

Starting Sept. 1, all Florida Department of Motor Vehicle license and registration fees will increase significantly, many doubling in price.

Statewide, unless otherwise noted — as in the case of Sarasota County residents who may visit the tax collector's office for some DMV services, where an added service fee will be assessed — the cost of replacing a driver license will increase to \$25. License renewals are rising from \$20 to \$48.

The cost increases will bring in about \$800 million dollars to the state — \$63 million from renewal and replacement fees alone, DMV officials say.

According to the state DMV Web site, "these new base fees were established by the Florida Legislature as part of the state's budget development process," and "the money collected from fees is primarily used to fund the Department of Education (to teach Florida children), the Department of Transportation (to build roads and bridges) and the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (to run the Florida Highway Patrol, Division of Driver Licenses and Division of Motor Vehicles)."

Any additional money resulting from the increases will be returned to the state's general revenue fund.

A fee increase scheduled to take effect last October was never implemented. The Web site states, "Fees have not been adjusted in many years. For example, original and renewal driver's license costs (on an annual basis) have not increased since 1989 (20 years); the majority of motor vehicle registration fees have not increased since 1983 (26 years); and most title fees have not increased since 1985 (24 years)."

Ann Nucatola, press secretary for the state DMV, confirmed the upcoming increases.

"Yes, the fees are changing this time; every-

DMV FEE INCREASES

DMV fee increases include:

Registrations:

- Cars and trucks weighing up to 2,499 pounds, from \$28.10 to \$46.65
- Cars and trucks weighing 2,500-3,499 pounds, from \$36.10 to \$57.65
- Cars and trucks weighing 3,500 pounds or more, from \$46.10 to \$71.15
- Motorcycle, from \$24.60 to \$41.65
- Moped, from \$19.60 to \$34.90
- Travel trailer 35 feet or less, from \$32.10 to \$52.65
- Motor home less than 4,500 pounds, from \$32.10 to \$52.65
- Motor home 4,500 pounds or more, from \$47.10 to \$72.90
- Trailer 500 pounds or less, from \$17.10 to \$32.40
- Manufactured/mobile home (cannot renew until September), all increase by \$5.25
- All vessels increase by \$2

Driver's licenses:

- At the Sarasota County Tax Collector's Venice office: (where additional service fees apply)
- Driver license Class E renewal — from \$25.25 to \$54.25
 - Class E original — from \$32.25 to \$54.25
 - Replacement — from \$15.25 to \$31.25
 - ID card — from \$15.25 to \$31.25

thing is going to take place Sept. 1," she said.

Vehicle registration renewal can be done early and for two years at a time. Those with birthdays through November of this year can save money by choosing this option.

People can renew their driver license early — up to 18 months before it expires.

"We want to see people save money if it's at all possible," said Liz Klaber, Sarasota County deputy tax collector.

Replacements or renewals will be taken at the Sarasota County Tax Collector's office in Venice, inside the Robert L. Anderson Administration Center at 4000 South Tamiami Trail. There is a service fee associated with renewing or replacing licenses at the Venice location, however. Renewal will cost \$54.25, while replacement will be \$31.25 at the tax collector's office. There is no additional fee for services at the Sarasota DMV office. Driver licenses also can be renewed online.

For more information about the fee increases, visit www.flhsmv.gov/DHSMVFees.htm.

Sarasota Bay shellfish population rebounds

BY GERALD A. ROGOVIN
CORRESPONDENT

An unexpected burst of young scallops found in the past several weeks in Sarasota's bays suggests that the effort to restore them to Southwest Florida has begun to pay off.

A partnership of Sarasota County, the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission Institute and a volunteer force of waterfront property owners started last August placing young scallops under their docks.

They hoped to reverse a trend, under way since 1994, in which young scallops were dying off.

According to the institute, areas along Southwest Florida's coast, including Sarasota Bay, that once harbored dense scallop populations, now support few, if any.

To restore those numbers, the state closed all of its waters to commercial bay scallop fishing 15 years ago, and closed recreational scallop fishing south of the Suwannee River. The recreational harvest season was reduced to three months.

"But our efforts now appear to be working," said Sarah Stephenson, an assistant research scientist at the institute. "The numbers have been improving to where we counted about 400 young scallops in a month's time."

The number jumped to 1,200 several weeks ago. Stephenson and Rene A. Janneman, a county environmental specialist involved with the project, described themselves as "thrilled."

The likelihood of a commercial scallops fishery being restored to Southwest Florida is remote, they agreed.

"But it's conceivable that people in the area will again experience

fishing for, catching and eating native scallops," Stephenson said.

"People over the age of 60 remember eating the scallops they caught in Sarasota Bay," said John Ryan, an environmental supervisor with the county Water Resources Department.

With red tide having declined since 2005, he and Janneman think that the local sea scallop population has been allowed to recover. Improved environmental conditions favored seeding, Ryan said.

The scallops are grown by the institute, then placed in cages under the docks offshore. They are monitored each month. Residents do it themselves. They also pull up the cages and tend them.

It takes about a year for a scallop to mature, and growth takes place when the water temperature drops, usually between November and January.

Harvesting is limited to the period between July 1 and September. Individuals are limited to 5 gallons of whole scallops, including the shell, or 2 pints of shucked meat.

Anyone harvesting scallops outside that period has violated state law. Stiff penalties imposed by harbor patrols have been instituted, according to Ryan.

"We'll know better a year from now how well we're doing," Stephenson said. "But we are optimistic that we can bring the bay scallop back to the region."

Correction

An Aug. 22 story stated there is a city summertime concert band. The Venice Concert Band takes a break after season, according to band director Bill Millner.

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Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport parking fees may go up

Officials want to change the rate structure

BY DUANE MARSTELLER
BRADENTON HERALD

Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport officials are proposing a fiscal 2010 budget that could substantially raise the cost of parking there.

In a \$22.1 million bud-

get presented to the Sarasota-Manatee Airport Authority on Monday, SRQ officials are proposing to change the parking rate structure from every 30 minutes to every 20 minutes.

Currently, it costs nothing to park in the airport's short-term lot

for up to 30 minutes; \$2 for 30 to 60 minutes; and \$2 for each hour thereafter. That would change to the first 20 minutes free, \$2 for 20 to 40 minutes and \$1 for every 20 minutes thereafter.

For the long-term lot, the charge would remain \$2 for the first hour but increase from \$2 for each additional two hours to

\$1 for every 20 minutes, according to budget documents.

Someone who parks for three hours in the short-term lot would pay \$9 under the change, up from \$6. Three hours in the long-term lot would cost \$8, up from \$4.

Despite the changes, the most anyone would pay would remain \$11 a

day for long-term parking and \$13 a day for short-term parking.

Airport officials said the change would reduce a projected decline in parking revenue by \$75,000.

It also is in line with how nearby airports charge for parking and still keeps SRQ's charges lower than airports in

Tampa and Fort Myers, they said.

The airport authority set a Sept. 21 public hearing on the proposed budget and parking-rate changes, after which the board can adopt both. Because it does not have the power to levy taxes, the airport must be self-sufficient. The fiscal year begins Oct. 1.

TAX from Page 1A

meeting on Sept. 8 at State College of Florida in South Venice "to discuss options in terms of collecting assessments for the parcels of Gran Paradiso that have gone unpaid so far, and in the future," Wodraska said. He added that the low certificate sales Tuesday will not affect the upcoming district budget.

Rodgers did pay the taxes on two properties, totaling \$4,084, which generated \$1,547 for the West Villages. The taxes on five

other properties also were paid by other property owners who avoided tax certificate sales.

Gran Paradiso is one of two major developments in the 8,100-acre West Villages. Islandwalk is the other. Board members, who are elected by the major landowners, secured bonds totaling approximately \$100.5 million in recent years. Approximately \$62.5 million has been spent thus far on infrastructure, from landscap-

ing to roads, and water and sewer. Meanwhile the district is paying off the bonds.

The unpaid taxes will impact Gran Paradiso infrastructure development to a large degree, but also the infrastructure in Island Walk and the other areas of the West Villages, Wodraska said.

"We actually need these certificates to be sold to help pay for all of the debts," he said.

Those who purchased cer-

tificates Tuesday have until noon Thursday to pay the tax collector, Chadwell said. Proceeds will be distributed to the entities to which the taxes are owed.

The tax collector currently has nearly 2,000 tax certificates available for purchase. They can be bought beginning in a few days at www.sarasotacountytaxsale.com.

Purchasers of those certificates would be able to collect 18

percent interest from property owners.

"Last year was when we first saw the biggest number of certificates go to the county in many, many, many, many years," Chadwell said.

"But by the end of the year ... we had sold all except for 46. And there's no reason for us not to expect for those (2,000) not to be sold over the course of the next year.

escott@sun-herald.com

E-MAIL from Page 1A

sonal account, you need to forward it immediately to *your* city account."

"Are you saying, I can't send a letter to the editor asking for publication on my e-mail address even if I send the city clerk a copy?" Simmonds wrote. "This ain't no fun anymore, worrying about being in trouble for doing your job, when you're going public with everything on city business."

The side of caution

Simmonds was one of nine

defendants in the suit filed by Sarasota resident Anthony Lorenzo. One of the charges was deleting e-mails that constitute public records. It was later learned that while Simmonds did delete them from his personal e-mail account, the trash bin was never emptied, and thus the public records were retrieved.

Mayor Ed Martin was similarly warned of sending e-mails that discuss city business via his personal e-mail account. Many of his latest e-mails either dis-

cuss the upcoming council election or sought to enlist like-minded supporters to write columns or letters to local newspapers or call in on the *Gondolier Sun* Let 'em Have It anonymous phone line.

He received a similar warning from Stelzer. Others continue to struggle with the new IT policy.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Member Earl Quandt on Tuesday did what few others have done. He asked the city clerk first whether it

was OK to send the mayor a copy of an article.

"Should I send the article from my city e-mail address or from my personal e-mail account?" Quandt asked. "Should I send it to his city account or to his personal account?"

"If you are sending a note with it, what will the note say?" Stelzer replied. "Is it regarding city business? To err on the side of caution, I would suggest you send it from your city account to the mayor's

account. Using city accounts for e-mails re: campaigning are a violation of the IT policy."

Lorenzo's attorneys have been watching post-lawsuit e-mails closely and said they violate the court order that required the new policy. The attorneys have made numerous public records requests and are considering further legal action.

The court order resulted in what is considered to be one of the strictest IT policies around. ggiles@venicegondolier.com

PLANS from Page 1A

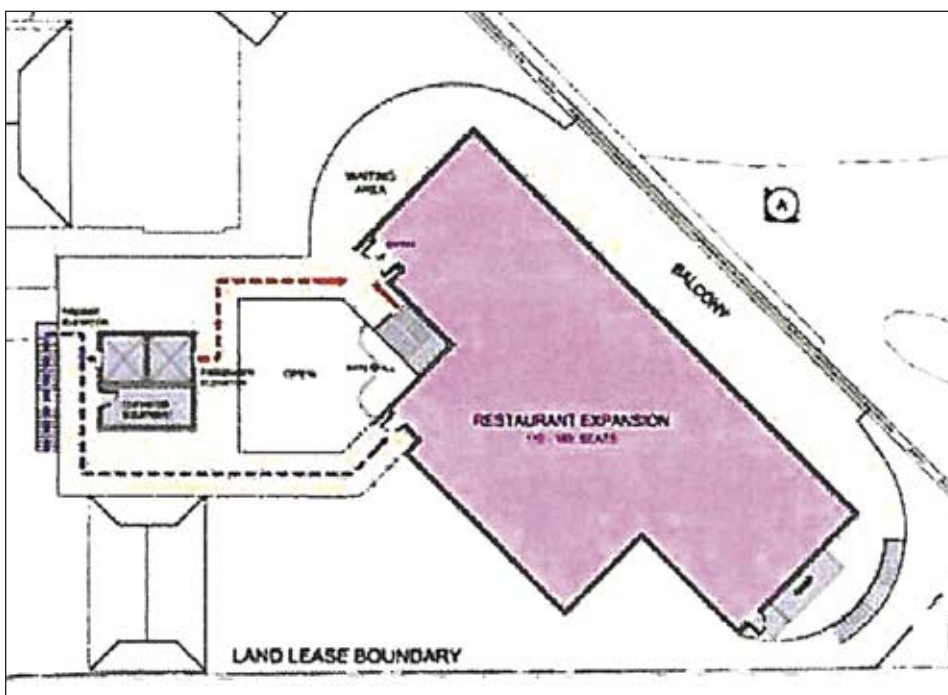


ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF TOTEMS ARCHITECTURE

This second-floor concept plan of Sharky's On The Pier restaurant shows a separate building containing a second restaurant, kitchen and bar that seats between 110-160 with a balcony and waiting deck.

Watts pointed out those same recommendations were made after completing an extensive FAA-sponsored Part 150 Noise Study, which city council expressly turned down.

The Part 150 Noise Study is considered the standard for determining whether a noise problem is extensive enough for the FAA to take action. A Part 150 conducted at Venice Airport 17 years ago found it did not reach that level.

"We worked with the FAA and came up with the very best altitudes and procedures based on what best practices we have seen," Watts said. "We did extraordinary research" and ran the noise abatement program by the FAA. "The FAA has said we cannot ... restrict certain activities."

In play

In practice, much of the noise abatement program is already in place at the airport, including procedures for fixed and rotor-wing aircraft, with special consideration for turbojets, as well as noise reduction procedures for touch-and-go operations.

A noise complaint hotline and tracking system was initiated more than a year ago. Signs banning mid-runway on runway intersection takeoffs, which tend to increase noise, have been installed.

The noise abatement plan calls for new altitude recommendations, for

pilots to fly over the U.S. 41 corridor if necessary and not over neighborhoods, and for a newly designated maintenance and predeparture run-up area, away from Airport Avenue closer to the center of the airport.

Carlucci also advocated the city temporarily change its preferred "calm wind" and noise abatement runway from Runway 22 to rehabilitated Runway 13-31. Runway 22, which is deteriorating fast, he said, "has slowly evolved into a serious operations concern."

Pilots will exercise their right to avoid Runway 4-22 purely as a safety consideration, he said. Leaving it as a notation in the local Fly Friendly pilot brochure and other published directives, he said, is dangerous and undermines the goal of the noise abatement program.

"They (pilots) are going to reject the whole notion that the city program makes sense to them," he warned.

The noise abatement program is voluntary in deference to federal laws that give general aviation pilots final say when it comes to landing due to concerns over wind direction.

In the meantime, the FAA made it clear to Watts, who conveyed the message to city leaders — no more federal funds until the airport master plan update is submitted.

ggiles@venicegondolier.com

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POLICE BEAT

Citizen advisory

Since late June, the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office has been investigating incidents involving a white male who exposes himself to women along The Legacy Trail, near McIntosh Road and the Central Sarasota Parkway, usually between the hours of 7 and 9 a.m.

The man has also targeted the Plaza de Flores subdivision in Sarasota, usually between 9 and 10 p.m.

Nine incidents have been reported of the man covering his face with an item of clothing and then exposing himself to the victims. The suspect is described as a white male between 25 and 35, about 5 feet 9 inches tall with an average-to-athletic build.

Detectives have conducted plainclothes surveillance, handed out fliers, increased patrols in the area and talked with local residents and community groups.

Citizens are asked to report any suspicious activity to investigators at 861-4900; leave an anonymous tip with Crime Stoppers, 366-8477; report it online at,

sarasotacrimestoppers.com; or text "TIP 109" to 274637.

Jail earns praise

Sarasota County Sheriff Tom Knight said the Sarasota County correctional facility earned high marks during two separate state inspections.

Members of the Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission spent three days reviewing records and meeting with personnel and inmates.

According to a sheriff's department release, FCAC called the jail a smoothly run facility and will recommend reaccreditation. The jail was first accredited by FCAC in 1994, and it must be assessed every three years to maintain its accreditation.

The annual Florida Model Jail Standards inspection also was conducted. Fifteen certified jail inspectors making up a six-county team combed through all aspects of the jail, including housing, food service, documentation, booking and medical services.

According to the report, the only notable violation included over-

crowding because the facility was out of ratio for showers and toilets in the housing unit. However, inspectors recognized that the situation is due to the closure of two cell blocks for remodeling.

Both organizations noted the cleanliness and quietness of the facility, the rapport between corrections personnel and inmates and the evident pride and professionalism of staff. Also noted was the exemplary Addiction Recovery Pod and new kiosks — electronic information systems that show inmates their commissary balance and allow them to order food, clothing and toiletry items.

"I'm very proud of the hard-working, dedicated personnel in our corrections division," Knight said. "The professionalism of our certified and civilian staff was evident in these two evaluations and repeatedly noted by assessors and inspectors."

Venice Police Department arrests

• Matthew Alan Bennett, 25, 2100 block

Guava Road, Venice. Charges: possession of a drug without a valid prescription, possession of drug paraphernalia. Bond: \$240.

• Joseph Paris Vine, 34, 1500 block Sklar Court, Venice. Charges: possession of a controlled substance (three counts — alprazolam, xanax, oxycodone), possession of drug paraphernalia, no valid driver license. Bond: \$3,620.

• Beth Joyce Meinket, 45, 400 block Clover Road, Venice. Charges: DUI, refusal to sign citation. Bond: \$750.

• Richard William Hampson, 27, 100 block S. Orange Grove Ave., Nokomis. Charge: open container of alcohol in a public place. Bond: \$120.

Sarasota County Sheriff's Office arrests

• James Donald Fox, 42, 9000 block South Tamiami Trail, Venice. Charge: violation of probation (burglary of a structure or conveyance, grand theft (\$300-\$5,000), larceny. Bond: none.

• Victoria Lord Vaccaro, 34, 700 block Groveland Ave., Venice.

Charge: battery (touch or strike). Bond: \$750.

• Douglas Allen Mayne, 46, 500 block Albee Farm Road, Venice. Charge: submitting false voter registration information, contempt (driving with license suspended, first conviction). Bond: \$12,000.

• Sally A. Auw, 70, 400 block Cerromar Lane, Venice. Charge: leaving the scene of an accident with injury without rendering aid. Bond: \$1,000.

• Daniel Lee Vizzini, 33, 100 block North Tamiami Trail, Nokomis. Charge: violation of probation (two counts — larceny of property valued at \$10,000 or more, burglary of unoccupied structure). Bond: none.

• Scott Wayne Reese, 40, 100 block Palm Ave., Nokomis. Charge: violation of probation (aggravated battery). Bond: none.

• Jacqueline Marie Smith, 40, 200 block North Ravenna St., Nokomis. Charges: four counts of violation of probation (depositing a check with intent to defraud). Bond: none.

• Jason Francis McGee, 26, 42 block W. Oak St., Osprey. Charge:

improper exhibition of a dangerous weapon or firearm. Bond: \$500.

• Licia Jean Quick, 29, 200 block Cypress Road, Venice. Charge: domestic battery. Bond: none.

• Keith Allen McNutt, 22, 600 block Poinsettia Road, Nokomis. Charge: driving while license revoked (habitual traffic offender). Bond: \$2,000.

• Brittney Mattison, 19, 600 block Poinsettia Road, Nokomis. Charges: obstructing or opposing an officer without violence, possession of cannabis less than 20 grams, possession of drug paraphernalia. Bond: \$990.

• Darius K. Davis, 18, 300 block Mount Pleasant Road, Laurel. Charge: selling or delivering a controlled substance within 1,000 feet of a convenience store. Bond: \$2,500.

Criminal registration

• John Palmer Claffey, 53, 41 block Westview Drive, Osprey.

Give blood

Florida's Blood Centers, the local blood bank, needs all types of blood for cancer patients in need of daily treatment, burn and trauma victims, and for patients undergoing routine surgeries. Donors can be as young as 16 and should weight at least 102 pounds.

Donating blood takes about an hour. Every donor receives a mini-physical and a screening with each donation. In Venice, donations are taken at Florida's Blood Center, 333 South Tamiami Trail, Tandem Center, phone 492-9202.

BEST IN SHOW

The Print Quality Competition honors the best black-and-white and color reproductions in newspapers. This photo of flowers & bumble bee (above) was used to judge the color division.

Sun Newspapers WINS Print Quality Competition

Co-Sponsored by Inland Press Association & Kodak Newspaper Division

This picture was recently printed in the Venice Gondolier Sun and was awarded **Best in Show** honors in the 2009 Inland Print Quality Competition for best color reproduction.

Daily and weekly newspapers from the United States, Canada, and Bermuda participated in this contest administered by Inland Press Association.

The object of the contest was to reproduce the best match on newsprint to the color proof.

VENICE Gondolier Sun

the Inlander
February 24, 2009 | Vol. 1, No. 1
Knowledge for newspapers

Venice Gondolier Sun wins Print Quality Competition Color Division

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Mistake means tax notices must be reissued

BY CHRISTINE HAWES
SUN CORRESPONDENT

In what state Sen. Nancy Detert called a "domino effect of small mistakes" by both local and state officials, tax notices to Sarasota County property owners must be reprinted and resent to reflect a minuscule increase in their tax rate.

And even though blame for the mistake's ramifications could reasonably be shared by at least three government entities, the Sarasota County school district will pick up the bulk of the cost — \$125,000 — of reissuing the state-required Truth in Millage notices. The new TRIM notices, which will likely go out the first week of September, will alert residents to an adjustment equivalent to \$3.60 for a \$200,000 parcel.

"I don't want to point fingers," said Detert, R-Venice. "This was a series of little tiny mistakes that resulted in a big dollar amount. I hope it just blows over."

The confusion started,



Detert



Weidner

ironically, with a bill that originated in the Senate Education Committee that Detert leads. Intended to give local school districts greater spending flexibility to cope with the effect of a strained economy, the bill enables school districts in which property values have dropped to recoup some of that lost revenue through an adjusted millage rate.

The 30 school districts affected, including Sarasota County, were to add a small percentage to their local tax rate based on reduced property tax assessments from the year before. For Sarasota County, an increase of .018 in the millage rate will mean an additional \$890,000 in capital

improvement funds.

So how did that increase end up being omitted from the TRIM notices, which were mailed Aug. 14?

• The law enabling districts to recoup lost property tax revenue was passed just this spring and signed into law July 1, the same day school districts' fiscal years begin. That left the state Department of Revenue without time to revise its school taxable value forms, so it explained through a July 10 e-mail how school districts should reflect the millage adjustment on the unrevised forms.

• The DOR's e-mail went to the address of someone who had left the Sarasota school district almost two years ago, but whose e-mail address was never deleted from the district's information systems, said deputy chief financial officer Al Weidner. That meant neither DOR nor Sarasota financial officials were alerted to the fact that the essential directions were going to a nonexistent employee.

Sarasota County was one of only five school districts out of 30 that made the mistake, noted DOE spokesman Tom Butler.

He also pointed out that Sarasota officials did not attend a "financial officers" conference in May at which the upcoming change was explained. Detert said a July 16 e-mail to district superintendents also outlined the change, albeit in highly complex language.

Weidner said the state DOR, which advises school districts that seek its help on the accuracy of their property appraiser forms, gave his forms a thumbs-up July 20. He also questioned why the DOR was still using the e-mail address of a former employee, when another employee had since communicated with the department on behalf of the district. And he wondered why the DOR did not refer to a master identification list the district provides annually to the DOE that lists contact information for Sarasota's chief

financial officer.

In spite of his questions, Weidner said he wouldn't be encouraging the school district to legally challenge the statutory assignment of financial responsibility for the remaining cost to the school district.

"We're all funded by taxpayers' dollars," Weidner said. "And when different taxpayer-funded entities start suing each other, all you do is run up tax dollars that, in our case, should be used for education."

Property Appraiser Bill Furst has decided not to charge the school district for the additional staff time required by the reworked TRIM notices because "I just don't see where that would benefit anyone."

Property owners who want to contest their property's assessed value are advised that the new notices do not affect the Sept. 8 deadline for filing their objection. State law allows property owners 25 days from the mailing of TRIM notices to object to assessed value.

Budget task force urges services assessment

BY CAROL SAKOWITZ
STAFF WRITER

Taxpayers may get fewer nonessential services for their money if the Sarasota County Commission adopts the draft recommendations of the county's Budget Task Force.

The task force completed its draft report Friday morning, and paramount are two recommendations: first, revisit the level-of-service policy; and second, focus spending on the identified, highest priorities.

This could mean that after years of the same level of service to the public, reductions

will be made to "noncritical programs (such as parks and libraries) in fiscal year 2010 and beyond." In the discussion of priorities, task force member Kelly Caldwell said fire and safety needs are more important than libraries.

Task force chair and former county commissioner Robert L. Anderson said "putting off the level-of-service (discussion) is avoiding the issue."

Anderson is scheduled to present the group's report to the County Commission Sept. 8. However, the six (out of 10) task force members in attendance Friday said they wanted the recommendations to have

more impact on the \$981 million 2009-10 budget.

To that end, the task force will ask to be first on the agenda when the commissioners start their second set of budget workshops Sept. 3. Two public budget hearings are scheduled, for Sept. 14 in South County and Sept. 28 in North County. Final adoption of the budget is expected Sept. 28.

Prevention

In their draft, task force members did not advocate only cuts. They created a "Human Service Investment/Cost Avoidance" section that recommends an increase of funding

for nonprofit health and human service providers above the \$500,000 the commissioners approved earlier.

Spearheaded by Mary Anne Servian, the funding increase is recommended as a preventive measure for later, larger health-care costs. Funding for prenatal care to prevent low birth-weight babies was used as an example.

Former state Sen. Lisa Carlton said setting priorities and revisiting the level of service is the top recommendation. Second is the use of nonrecurring funds to pay for recurring expenses.

"You're going to run out (of

money)," she said.

Anderson said commissioners should balance setting priorities with reviewing line items. In earlier workshops, Anderson had said better understanding of information technology needs will discourage sole source procurement, which forces the county to purchase technology from only one vendor without bidding.

In the final draft, one recommendation states, "Expenditures for information technology must be fully understood by the BOCC, the county clerk and comptroller."

csakowitz@sun-herald.com

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that FLORIDA BIDS LLC, the holder of the certificate listed below, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which the property is assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 2007
Year of Issuance: 2007
Tax Deed File #: 09-0861 TD
Description of Property: 0006-07-1083 UNIT D-16 PHASE 2 LONGBOAT KEY MOORINGS MARINA 2
Name in which the property is assessed: ROSENTHAL FAMILY PARTNERSHIP L
All of said property being in the County of Sarasota, State of Florida. Unless the certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Sarasota County Court House, 2000 Main Street, Historic Courtroom, East Wing, Sarasota, Florida, at 9:00 a.m. on the 22ND day of SEPTEMBER, 2009.

Karen E. Rushing
Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Sarasota County, Florida
By: E. Wenstad, Deputy Clerk
Publication Dates: AUGUST 19, 26,
SEPTEMBER 2, 9 2009.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

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Certificate Number: 446.000
Year of Issuance: 2007
Tax Deed File #: 09-0862 TD
Description of Property: 0043-10-0014 E 56.32 FT OF LOT 13, BLK G, LORRAINE PARK
Name in which the property is assessed: MORNINGSTAR INVESTMENTS INC
All of said property being in the County of Sarasota, State of Florida. Unless the certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Sarasota County Court House, 2000 Main Street, Historic Courtroom, East Wing, Sarasota, Florida, at 9:00 a.m. on the 22ND day of SEPTEMBER, 2009.

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Certificate Number: 1333.000
Year of Issuance: 2007
Tax Deed File #: 09-0863 TD
Description of Property: 0110-05-0027 SLY 175 FT OF LOT 5 & NLY 25 FT OF LOT 4 SEC M SIESTA PROPERTIES INC UNIT 2
Name in which the property is assessed: WILLIAM R HILL ESTATE
All of said property being in the County of Sarasota, State of Florida. Unless the certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Sarasota County Court House, 2000 Main Street, Historic Courtroom, East Wing, Sarasota, Florida, at 9:00 a.m. on the 22ND day of SEPTEMBER, 2009.

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Certificate Number: 1578.000
Year of Issuance: 2007
Tax Deed File #: 09-0864 TD
Description of Property: 0161-09-0001 LOTS 1 2 & TH WLY 5 FT OF LOT 3 LESS STATE ROAD ROW BLK A VENETIAN GARDENS
Name in which the property is assessed: ANASTASIA MAKRODIMITRAS & CHRISTOS MAKRODIMITRAS
All of said property being in the County of Sarasota, State of Florida. Unless the certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Sarasota County Court House, 2000 Main Street, Historic Courtroom, East Wing, Sarasota, Florida, at 9:00 a.m. on the 22ND day of SEPTEMBER, 2009.

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Certificate Number: 1615.000
Year of Issuance: 2007
Tax Deed File #: 09-0865 TD
Description of Property: 0167-16-0011 COM AT PT ON E LINE OF SEC 26 200 FT N OF SE COR OF SEC 26 TH S 22 FT TH S-89-25-W 460.38 FT TH S 78 FT TH S-89-25-W 513.82 FT M/L TO WATERS OF LITTLE SAR BAY TH NELY ALG WATERS TO PT BEARING S-89-25-W FROM POB TH N- 89-25-E 903 FT M/L TO POB
Name in which the property is assessed: DEBRA GRAY & STEVEN L GRAY
All of said property being in the County of Sarasota, State of Florida. Unless the certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Sarasota County Court House, 2000 Main Street, Historic Courtroom, East Wing, Sarasota, Florida, at 9:00 a.m. on the 22ND day of SEPTEMBER, 2009.

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Certificate Number: 2314.000
Year of Issuance: 2007
Tax Deed File #: 09-0866 TD
Description of Property: 0434-03-0123 LOTS 12630 & 12631 SOUTH VENICE UNIT 48
Name in which the property is assessed: ARGENT SEC INC SERIES 2005-W3 & DEUTSCHE BANK NAT TR CO TTEE
All of said property being in the County of Sarasota, State of Florida. Unless the certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Sarasota County Court House, 2000 Main Street, Historic Courtroom, East Wing, Sarasota, Florida, at 9:00 a.m. on the 22ND day of SEPTEMBER, 2009.

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Certificate Number: 2359.000
Year of Issuance: 2007
Tax Deed File #: 09-0867 TD
Description of Property: 0436-13-0001 LOTS 15264 & 15265 SOUTH VENICE UNIT 58
Name in which the property is assessed: DEBRA M SENEFF & TERRY SENEFF
All of said property being in the County of Sarasota, State of Florida. Unless the certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Sarasota County Court House, 2000 Main Street, Historic Courtroom, East Wing, Sarasota, Florida, at 9:00 a.m. on the 22ND day of SEPTEMBER, 2009.

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Certificate Number: 3183.000
Year of Issuance: 2007
Tax Deed File #: 09-0868 TD
Description of Property: 0852-05-0045 LOT 26 ENGLEWOOD HEIGHTS
Name in which the property is assessed: GAIL HARPER & FRANKLIN B HARPER
All of said property being in the County of Sarasota, State of Florida. Unless the certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Sarasota County Court House, 2000 Main Street, Historic Courtroom, East Wing, Sarasota, Florida, at 9:00 a.m. on the 22ND day of SEPTEMBER, 2009.

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Certificate Number: 5179.000
Year of Issuance: 2007
Tax Deed File #: 09-0869 TD
Description of Property: 0889-02-8706 LOT 6 BLK 287 1ST ADD TO PORT CHARLOTTE
Name in which the property is assessed: KAREN L KOROVICH & EUGENE J KOROVICH
All of said property being in the County of Sarasota, State of Florida. Unless the certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Sarasota County Court House, 2000 Main Street, Historic Courtroom, East Wing, Sarasota, Florida, at 9:00 a.m. on the 22ND day of SEPTEMBER, 2009.

Karen E. Rushing
Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Sarasota County, Florida
By: E. Wenstad, Deputy Clerk
Publication Dates: AUGUST 19, 26,
SEPTEMBER 2, 9 2009.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that FLORIDA BIDS LLC, the holder of the certificate listed below, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which the property is assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 5418.000
Year of Issuance: 2007
Tax Deed File #: 09-0870 TD
Description of Property: 0998-25-1302 LOT 2 BLK 2513 50TH ADD TO PORT CHARLOTTE
Name in which the property is assessed: JAMES BAKER
All of said property being in the County of Sarasota, State of Florida. Unless the certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Sarasota County Court House, 2000 Main Street, Historic Courtroom, East Wing, Sarasota, Florida, at 9:00 a.m. on the 22ND day of SEPTEMBER, 2009.

Karen E. Rushing
Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Sarasota County, Florida
By: E. Wenstad, Deputy Clerk
Publication Dates: AUGUST 19, 26,
SEPTEMBER 2, 9 2009.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that FLORIDA BIDS LLC, the holder of the certificate listed below, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which the property is assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 7792.000
Year of Issuance: 2007
Tax Deed File #: 09-0871 TD
Description of Property: 2005-08-0063 LOT 11 BLK I HIGHLAND PINES
Name in which the property is assessed: SANDRA DWYER
All of said property being in the County of Sarasota, State of Florida. Unless the certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Sarasota County Court House, 2000 Main Street, Historic Courtroom, East Wing, Sarasota, Florida, at 9:00 a.m. on the 22ND day of SEPTEMBER, 2009.

Karen E. Rushing
Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Sarasota County, Florida
By: E. Wenstad, Deputy Clerk
Publication Dates: AUGUST 19, 26,
SEPTEMBER 2, 9 2009.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that FLORIDA BIDS LLC, the holder of the certificate listed below, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which the property is assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 7898.000
Year of Issuance: 2007
Tax Deed File #: 09-0872 TD
Description of Property: 2020-05-0027 LOT 24 BLK 8 NORTH RIVERSIDE PARK
Name in which the property is assessed: JAMES WALSH
All of said property being in the County of Sarasota, State of Florida. Unless the certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Sarasota County Court House, 2000 Main Street, Historic Courtroom, East Wing, Sarasota, Florida, at 9:00 a.m. on the 22ND day of SEPTEMBER, 2009.

Karen E. Rushing
Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Sarasota County, Florida
By: E. Wenstad, Deputy Clerk
Publication Dates: AUGUST 19, 26,
SEPTEMBER 2, 9 2009.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that FLORIDA BIDS LLC, the holder of the certificate listed below, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which the property is assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 8110.000
Year of Issuance: 2007
Tax Deed File #: 09-0873 TD
Description of Property: 2024-11-0083 LOT 16 F H DIXONS SUB
Name in which the property is assessed: MARIE BARNHILL
All of said property being in the County of Sarasota, State of Florida. Unless the certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Sarasota County Court House, 2000 Main Street, Historic Courtroom, East Wing, Sarasota, Florida, at 9:00 a.m. on the 22ND day of SEPTEMBER, 2009.

Karen E. Rushing
Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Sarasota County, Florida
By: E. Wenstad, Deputy Clerk
Publication Dates: AUGUST 19, 26,
SEPTEMBER 2, 9 2009.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that FLORIDA BIDS LLC, the holder of the certificate listed below, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which the property is assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 8451.000
Year of Issuance: 2007
Tax Deed File #: 09-0875 TD
Description of Property: 2025-01-0056 W 7.63 FT OF LOT 30 & ALL LOT 31 & E 22.85 FT LOT 32 J W TATUMS ADD TO SARASOTA HEIGHTS DOC 79
Name in which the property is assessed: MICHAEL J CLARK & BRUCE W CLARK & GEORGE E HOLBROOK LIFE EST
All of said property being in the County of Sarasota, State of Florida. Unless the certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Sarasota County Court House, 2000 Main Street, Historic Courtroom, East Wing, Sarasota, Florida, at 9:00 a.m. on the 22ND day of SEPTEMBER, 2009.

Karen E. Rushing
Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Sarasota County, Florida
By: E. Wenstad, Deputy Clerk
Publication Dates: AUGUST 19, 26,
SEPTEMBER 2, 9 2009.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice is hereby given that TARPON IV LLC, the holder of the certificate listed below, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which the property is assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 7717.000
Year of Issuance: 2007
Tax Deed File #: 09-0868 TD
Description of Property: 1151-23-5606 LOT 6 BLK 2356 48TH ADD TO PORT CHARLOTTE
Name in which the property is assessed: SARASOTA INVESTMENT TRUST LLC
All of said property being in the County of Sarasota, State of Florida. Unless the certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described in the certificate will be sold to the highest bidder at the Sarasota County Court House, 2000 Main Street, Historic Courtroom, East Wing, Sarasota, Florida, at 9:00 a.m. on the 15TH day of SEPTEMBER, 2009.

Karen E. Rushing
Clerk Of The Circuit Court
Sarasota County, Florida
By: E. Wenstad, Deputy Clerk
Publication Dates: AUGUST 19, 26,
SEPTEMBER 2 & 9, 2009.

Veteran bus driver loves the road, the kids

FROM THE SARASOTA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT



PHOTO COURTESY OF SARASOTA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Twenty-eight-year veteran school-bus driver Edna Wingate now has training duties at the Sarasota County Schools Transportation Department. Her daughter is a bus driver too.

“A bus driver can make or break a kid’s relationship with school. You are the first person they meet in the morning and the last one they see when they leave.”
— Edna Wingate, Sarasota County school bus driver

dle-schoolers love to be with their friends. The high-school kids text and sleep.

“They always are going to try you. You have to be patient with them. You have to let them settle down. If you jump, they jump back.

“But I don’t see bad kids. You don’t know what they experience at home or at school.

“A bus driver can make or break a kid’s relationship with school. You are the first person they meet in the morning and the last one they see when they leave.

“I always remind myself and my drivers of the old saying: They don’t care what you know until they know you care.”

Her best chance to show her passengers how much she cared came when she drove the same route for four years.

“All the kids called me ‘Momma,’” she said. “I knew their parents and their aunts and uncles. Kids in trouble found their way to my house.

“I saw Mr. So-and-so walking his dog every day. I like that hometown stuff.

“I would have kids come up to me years later and say, ‘If it

hadn’t been for your encouragement, I never would have stayed in school.’

“That’s what it means to me to be a bus driver. You get to be part of their lives.”

Driving does have its scary moments, too, she said.

“People stop in the middle of the road for no reason,” she said. “You do what you have to do. Usually the other drivers are more scared about the bus than I am. I know I have control.

“I love to drive a bus. You are up there above everybody. You can see the whole picture.”

If she could get one message to parents, it would be to trust their bus drivers more, she said.

“Drivers are very cautious about where they drop kids off,” she said. “If a kindergartner is being picked up in a car, the drivers will question the

person picking them up if they don’t recognize the car.

“Parents need to know that the drivers think of these children as their babies, too.”

Wingate said parents should make sure young children have identification on them. They also should have clearly understood rules for older children about keeping parents informed if they are not coming home on the bus. Lots of students who are thought to be missing are found at a friend’s house.

“Don’t panic,” she tells parents. “If a child isn’t where he or she is supposed to be, someone will find out where they belong. We have occasionally misplaced some, but we haven’t lost one yet.”

She also encourages parents to have students who are eligible to ride the bus to school on the bus is much safer than going in the family car. The greatest danger to students is the automobile traffic around schools.

“The only form of public transportation safer than a school bus is an elevator,” she said.

Wingate is proud to work for the Sarasota County Schools. She, her five children and several of her grandchildren went through Sarasota schools.

“My children had a great time,” she said. “My son went through the Air Force Academy after he graduated from Venice High. You don’t do that without a good education.”

She said all the drivers take pride in their work.

“It’s a very select group. It’s a very proud group,” she said. “The pay is good; the benefits are good; they even provide you with clothing.”

Still, she was pleasantly surprised when her daughter decided to become a bus driver.

“It makes you feel good when one of your kids wants to do what you do,” she said. “It can’t be too bad a life.”

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF ACTION
16

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2009-CA-11015-NC
JUDGE: Division “C”

IN RE: FORFEITURE OF:
\$802.00 in U.S. Currency

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: RYAN H. FOOTE
UNKNOWN ADDRESS

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a forfeiture action has been filed against the above described currency by the Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office. You are required to file your written defenses with the Clerk of the Court, 2000 Main Street, Sarasota, FL 34237, and to serve a copy of those defenses on or before the 25th day of September, 2009, on Patrick Duggan, Esquire, Post Office Box 4115, Sarasota, Florida 34230-4115. Failure to file your defenses will result in a default being entered against you.

WITNESSED by hand and the Seal of the Court on this 10th day of August, 2009.

KAREN E. RUSHING
Clerk of the Court
C. Able
Deputy Clerk

Patrick Duggan, Esquire,
Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office
Post Office Box 4115
Sarasota, Florida 34230-4115.

Venice Gondolier Sun
PUBLISH:
August 26, 2009
September 2, 2009
September 9, 2009
September 16, 2009

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

NOTICE OF FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS

To: All Persons or entities having or claiming to have any right, title, or interest in the following property:

One 2004 FORD F150
VIN:
1FTRX14W34N83541

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office seized the described property on, JULY 11, 2009, in Sarasota County, Florida. A forfeiture complaint has been filed in the Circuit Court, Twelfth Judicial Circuit, in and for Sarasota County, Florida, being case no. 2009-CA-14311-NC, for the purpose of obtaining a final order of forfeiture as to the above described property upon producing due proof that same was used in violation of Florida laws dealing with contraband, pursuant to the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act, Sections

NOTICE OF ACTION
16

932.701-707, Florida Statutes.

PATRICK DUGGAN, ESQUIRE Assistant General Counsel
Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office
Post Office Box 4115
Sarasota, Florida 34230
Telephone (941) 861-4058; 861-5800

PUBLISH:
AUGUST 26, 2009
SEPTEMBER 2, 2009

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

Case No: 2009-DR-14297-SC

IN RE: The Marriage of:
RACHEL PORCELLI,
Petitioner

and
JAMES SPANOS,
Respondent.

**NOTICE OF ACTION
Dissolution of Marriage**

TO: RESPONDENT JAMES SPANOS,
Address Unknown

YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT an action has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Rachel Porcelli whose address is 5239 Layton Drive, Venice, FL 34293 on or before September 28, 2009, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court at 4000 S. Tamiami Trl., Venice, FL 34293 before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court’s office. You may review these documents upon request.

You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court’s office notified of your current address. (You may file Notice of Current Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed to the address on record at the clerk’s office.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.

Dated: August 20, 2009.

KAREN E. RUSHING
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: G. BATES
Deputy Clerk

Venice Gondolier Sun

NOTICE OF ACTION
16

PUBLISH:
August 26, 2009
September 2, 2009
September 9, 2009
September 16, 2009

NOTICE OF AUCTION
19

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Johnson’s Towing of Venice gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 09/16/2009, 9:00 a.m. at 604 Tamiami Trail N, Nokomis, FL 34275-2137, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. Johnson’s Towing of Venice reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

- 1998 CHEVROLET 1GCGK24R4WE236787
- 1992 HONDA 1HGCB7558NA100323
- 1994 DODGE 2B5WB35YORK159092
- 1998 BUICK 2G4WS52MOW1516188
- 2006 BACI LFFWK76C861012167

PUBLISH: AUGUST 26, 2009

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Johnson’s Towing of Venice gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 09/09/2009, 9:00 a.m. at 604 Tamiami Trail N, Nokomis, FL 34275-2137, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. Johnson’s Towing of Venice reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

- 1995 CHEVROLET 1G1LD55M2SY257832
- 1997 JEEP 1J4FT68S2VL540198
- 1998 GENERAL MOTORS CORP 2GTGK19R7W1518031
- 1997 DODGE 3B7HC13ZXVG700105

PUBLISH: AUGUST 26, 2009

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Johnson’s Towing of Venice gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 09/23/2009, 9:00 a.m. at 604 Tamiami Trail N, Nokomis, FL 34275-2137, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. Johnson’s Towing of Venice reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

- 1996 CHEVROLET 1G1JC1243T7129131
- 1993 PONTIAC 2G2FS22S8P2214536

PUBLISH: AUGUST 26, 2009

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
20

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: ESTATE OF JOHN F. BUSS Deceased,

2009-CP-13983-NC
Division: Probate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of JOHN F. BUSS, deceased, whose date of death was July 26, 2009, is pending in the Circuit Court for SARASOTA County Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is P. O. BOX 3079, Sarasota, FL 34230-3079. 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 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 other persons having claims or demands against the decedent’s estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 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 first publication of this notice is August 26, 2009.

Personal Representative:
CLIFTON F. WHITE
c/o 240 Nokomis Ave South
Suite 200
Venice, FL 34285

Attorneys for Personal Representative:
R. O. ISPHORDING
Bechtold & Corbridge, P.A.
240 Nokomis Ave South
Suite 200
Venice, FL 34285
Telephone: (941) 488-7751
Florida Bar No. 0038740
PUBLISH: AUGUST 26, SEPTEMBER 2, 2009

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: ESTATE OF JOHN M. DeLAET A/K/A JOHN MARINUS DeLAET,
Deceased,

2009-CP-013256-NC
Division: Probate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
20

The administration of the estate of JOHN M. DeLAET A/K/A JOHN MARINUS DeLAET, deceased, whose date of death was APRIL 21, 2009, is pending in the Circuit Court for SARASOTA County Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is P. O. BOX 3079, Sarasota, FL 34230-3079. 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 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 3 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 first publication of this notice is August 19, 2009.

Personal Representative:
Roger O. Isphording
240 S. Nokomis Ave
Suite 200
Venice, FL 34285

Attorneys for Personal Representative:
C. Kelley Corbridge, ESQ.
Bechtold & Corbridge, P.A.
240 Nokomis Ave South
Suite 200
Venice, FL 34285
Telephone: (941) 488-7751
Florida Bar No. 0325066

PUBLISH: AUGUST 19, 26, 2009

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

IN RE: ESTATE OF JUANITA McCREADY Deceased,

Case No: 2009-CP-013999-NC

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE, the administration of the estate of JUANITA McCREADY, deceased, File Number 2009-CP-013999-NC is pending in the Circuit Court for Sarasota County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is P.O. Box 3079, Sarasota, Florida 34230-3079. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative’s attorney are set forth below.
ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
20

NOTIFIED THAT:

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent’s estate on whom a copy of this notice is served WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE MUST FILE THEIR CLAIMS WITH THIS COURT WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY 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 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
The date of first publication of this notice is AUGUST 26, 2009.

Petitioners:
JOHN M McCREADY
KAYE E WEAVER
c/o 6624 Gateway Avenue
Sarasota, Florida 34231

KURT F. LEWIS
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONERS
Florida Bar NO. 119630
6624 Gateway Avenue
Sarasota, Florida 34231
Tele: (941) 921-5595
Fax: (941)-921-3950

PUBLISH: AUGUST 26, SEPTEMBER 2, 2009

OTHER NOTICES
38

PUBLIC NOTICE

The District Board of Trustees of State College of Florida announces a public meeting on Wednesday, September 16, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. to be held at State College of Florida in Room 160, Building 7, Office Complex, 5840 26th Street West, Bradenton, Florida.

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: August 26, 2009

TO PLACE YOUR LEGAL NOTICE, CALL KATHI (941)-207-1011 kwalsk@venicegondolier.com (at the Venice Office) fax (941)-485-3036

OUR VIEW

GED Exit Option not an easy way out

The GED Exit Option program change has gotten a lot of attention ever since the announcement was made on July 31 by the Department of Education that students who were in the program could no longer receive a regular diploma. Education Commissioner Eric Smith ruled the state has no authority to give these students a regular diploma.

Instead, students enrolled in the GED Exit Option program will receive the Florida High School Equivalency Diploma. The question is do these students deserve an equivalency diploma, rather than a regular diploma? The program itself requires that the students sign up for an alternative education program at an area technical school, choosing from such options as culinary arts, agriscience or

business administration, for example, rather than say American history or biology.

The requirements don't stop there, though. Students have to pass both GED and technical education classes, as well as the GED exam and the FCAT reading and math tests. Size that up against requirements of students not enrolled who are working to obtain a regular high-school diploma, and the only difference is that those students have to maintain a 2.0 grade-point average.

If students want to apply for the GED Exit Option program they must meet certain requirements. They must be in danger of not graduating, they must be at a minimum reading level of 9.0, they must be in their senior year and have a clean discipli-

nary record. The program is essentially designed for those students who have tried all throughout their high school career to do well in school, have stayed out of trouble, but just couldn't keep up with their studies.

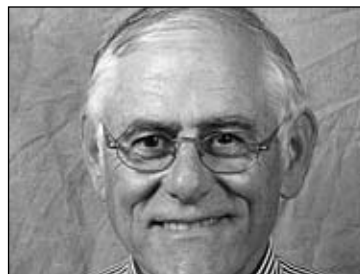
They basically sign up for an alternative education program already at a disadvantage, one that is likely just as rigorous, they are expected to complete the same amount of work, pass the GED, pass the FCAT, as well as the GED and Technical Education classes, and yet they're only eligible for an equivalency diploma? The fact that they didn't receive a regular diploma will stick with them all throughout their post-secondary education — undergraduate and graduate school, even Ph.D. programs. And yet they basically did the same amount of

work, just with a different course load.

The Department of Education has backed off implementing these changes right away. Those students who are already enrolled in the GED Exit Option program this year could still be eligible for a regular diploma, but the schools have been instructed to not take any new applicants.

Department spokesman Tom Butler told the Associated Press the agency still believes it has had no legal authority to grant regular diplomas to these students, but the Florida Association of District School Superintendents disagrees. Given the requirements they still have to fulfill, so do we. The one-year reprieve gives the Legislature time to confer upon the Department of Education the authority it is convinced it doesn't have.

We asked for it



BOB VEDDER
COLUMNIST

are just as guilty. The last big one was the Venice Golf Association lease. I can not understand why we continue to do that.

The FAA also pointed out that the golf course driving range, or at least part of it, is in the way. Being a golfer, I'd hate to see this removed as it is important to golfers to be able to warm up properly or work on their game. Yet the FAA sees it as a danger.

I thought for a long time that there really is not a better use for this land than hitting golf balls since where the golfers hit from is out of the way. However, I asked a pilot once if the planes ever got hit by balls and to my surprise found out they do. That's serious, if true. I would like it investigated further to make sure that is happening. I have never heard of a plane being downed by a golf ball but it would seem it could happen. Maybe there should be a big net for people to hit into.

There were many leases objected to; Sharky's is likely the biggest, yet there are many others. The Senior Friendship Centers, which doesn't have one, seemed to be a big target.

This is really the most troublesome. SFC in good faith got space that was given up by the West Coast Inland Navigational District. That area had been used as a spoil site, much as the *Gondolier Sun* building site once was used. I assume WCIND paid no rent for that, although I don't know that.

I feel sure the Senior Friendship Centers did not expect or plan to pay. Here Senior Friendship is providing free or almost free health services and other social services to seniors and is in no position to handle a major hit to its dwindling revenues.

The other thing that would be very easy to correct but is disturbing nonetheless is the FAA not having seen a contract or rates for the festival grounds. I'd guess the current rates being used would suffice, but if not and the FAA would want them much higher, we will have ruined another nice slice of Americana in Venice.

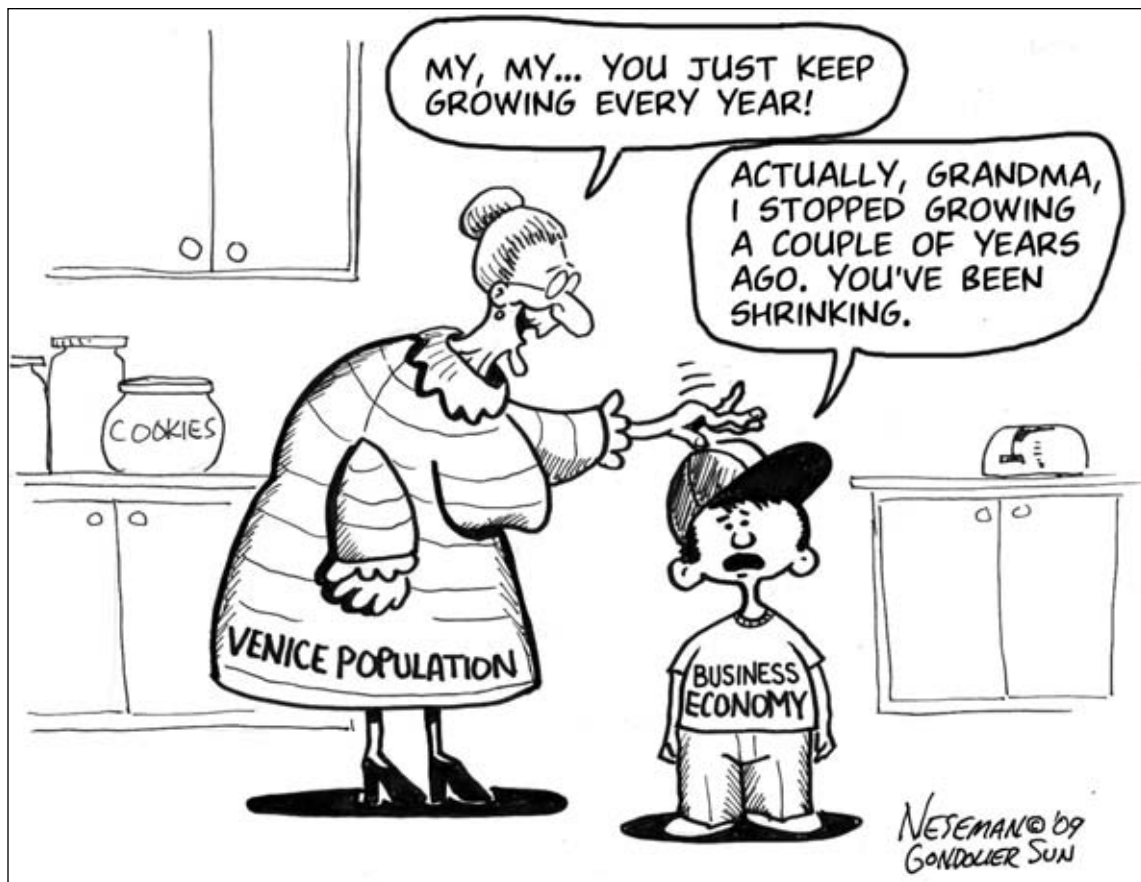
This council has been reckless in the handling of this rich asset and the FAA would appear to be reaching the end of its patience with it. Maybe this is the wake-up call that's needed.

I was pleased to see the Economic Development Council raise concerns over this important asset — although sometimes that is a precursor to being eliminated as an advisory group.

By's Crack: I was impressed with Obama's convention speech. He promised everything but the on-time arrival of the Titanic.

The permits have been let for the new parking lot under

Please see VEDDER, 9A



DO YOU SEE ANY SIGNS THAT THE LOCAL ECONOMY IS IMPROVING? CALL US AT 207-1111.

Watch out for Smokey

That's the ticket. Center Road between the 41 Bypass and the YMCA is now being patrolled by the Florida Highway Patrol and they are issuing citations for speeding. Question: Why are the troopers issuing traffic tickets in the city of Venice? Don't we have enough problems with our own police department without having another law enforcement agency enforcing the same rules?

EDITOR'S NOTE: Center Road isn't in the city of Venice, but it is within the FHP's jurisdiction.

Jammed. I'm very offended by the newspaper's decision to print the picture of two dead dogs on the front page of your paper this morning. I feel that was done in such poor taste. I understand the need for that to have happened to protect the woman who was in trouble and how the dogs were interfering with the officers. But you know what? You don't have to jam it down the people's throats. What about children seeing that and wanting to know what happened to those dogs? This was in poor taste, and I expect more of the *Gondolier Sun*.

Another word. When I note the age of minimum-wage earners in Venice, I no longer accept the myth that such jobs are entry-level. When I eat in a fast-food restaurant, the food is cheap because the workers have no health insurance. But when they buy my company's gasoline, they must subsidize my health insurance. Some of us breeze through life because of rich parents, competence in sports, brilliance or charisma. Others are greedy or glib or callous enough to grab their share. Most of us are given confidence to put the right foot forward, but there are many who lack the knack of escaping the harshness of minimum-pay lives. Unlike slaves, these people have freedom of choice. But if all choices are bad, then freedom is "just another word for nothing left to lose," as the song "Me and Bobby McGee" reminds us. All

Let 'em



Have It

workers deserve medical care and the income to afford decent housing.

Aim high. A young, potential college-bound person called in last week who was concerned about work available in the city of Venice after completing his college. Amazingly, this person did not do a bit of research. The Venice area is like thousands of small towns across America, with very little business or industry. Our city is small and encompasses only north to the Hampton Inn, all the way up to Laurel and 75, east to Auburn, south to Circus Bridge and west to the Gulf — not a very big area. A college person returning to the area could find work in medical, banking, teaching and a few managerial positions; other than that, we offer very little

job opportunity for college graduates. Research of graduating students should be done at the high school to find out where most of the college-bound people go after graduating. Find out how many do return to Venice. This is not to say that some have not returned and have been very successful. Lift your eyes beyond the horizon and determine the area — in the world, even — then apply the degree you have achieved — a degree that cost thousands of dollars — instead of wondering if the jobs in the immediate city are going to be available to you.

Alternatives. I'm calling about the lack of bus service from the Laurel Community Center to Laurel Nokomis school. I'm sure that in the neighborhood the bus served there are some senior citizens and maybe some stay-at-home moms or dads or unemployed moms or dads, and the children could meet at the bus stop and parent or senior citizen could walk them as a group to the school wearing a vest that identifies them as a volunteer or officer or something. There are alternative solutions. When it's pouring rain, it wouldn't be a good idea. But maybe a group could get together with their vans and cars and drive the kids to school. So, there are alternatives.

Moon shot. People who whine about being in jail and being incommunicado — what do you think it's for? As one woman said, "Inmates might just as well be on the moon." I wish I could send most people to the moon.

Read Bob Vedder's column in Wednesday's *Venice Gondolier Sun*

LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

Christmas event had registers ringing

Editor:
A wonderful and hard-working group of merchants of Venice created the promotion Christmas in July that was held downtown recently. The folks on the street were smiling as well as the merchants. Even Santa was spotted vacationing here.

What started out as a little brainstorming group evolved into more than 45 local business owners working together to reacquaint full-time residents as to what the downtown has to offer, as well as to stimulate our summer business.

Although the weather was hot, so were the savings. Three fun-filled gift baskets of merchandise and gift certificates were given away. The winners were: The Venice Sampler — Laura Kermode; The Pampering Basket — Robert Horn; and The Night on the Town — Robin King.

The success of the event was a result of businesses working together with the community and the wonderful promotion in our local newspapers. *Gondolier Sun* advertising rep Jeannie Moore volunteered to help us, and supplied us with the posters that were in all the downtown windows.

I think the event was a win-win for the businesses, the shops and restaurants, and most of all for the shoppers. I think we proved that Venice is special. Kudos to the community.

subcontractors not getting paid and all of the laborers still looking for work?

Guess we will never know.

Steve Gardner
Venice

EDITOR'S NOTE: The last rejection of plans for the Renaissance was by the Venice Planning Commission.

City is batting 0 for ...

Editor:
I live just outside the city limits of Venice. I do love this town, but I really feel sorry for the folks who live there.

Your council hasn't won any of the litigations brought against it, and with a judge leading the offense. Maybe they might need some dummies to lead them.

Well, it's high noon ... and the train from Yuma is coming in ...

Ray Hens
Venice

Made? Yes. Kept? Well, ...

Editor:
I would like to offer some comments in regard to a political cartoon in the *Gondolier Sun* that portrays people, including a graduate with a note on his back saying "Class of 2009," going into a Sarasota County unemployment office. The sign on the window says, "Help Wanted."

I began thinking about the PR slogan the school district had: Promises Made, Promises Kept. This, along with the 2006 one-mill surtax referendum, brings up a question: How have all the many promises of the Norris-advocated NeXt Generation Learning

Plan translated to additional, good, living-wage jobs for Sarasota County graduates?

Also, will the school district present still another local surtax referendum to county voters when the current four-year surtax expires in 2010? What will be the new Promises Made to the community? Many questions.

Norm Lupo
Venice

Future generations already bankrupt

Editor:
Come on, people. Let us tell our Congress that we are no longer going to accept their out-of-control spending. It is prudent to live on a budget, as we for the most part have to do, why not them?

They cannot keep spending future generations' money. They in all probability will not be alive to see the results of their actions, but my great-grandchildren will be born as paupers with minimal opportunity to be successful. Your passivity will fulfill and support their endeavors.

Remember, they get a salary of \$175,000 yearly, free medical insurance (the best we can pay for), pensions for life — and believe it or not, their spouses also get a pension for life.

Please be more active if you agree or not. They represent us; let them be more accountable for the majority's wishes.

Take back our country and Constitution.

Arlene M. Megna
Venice

EDITOR'S NOTE: We haven't seen anything about Congressional spouses having their own pensions, other than possibly as a survivor's benefit.

Might be a place to save

Editor:
Smoking vs budget cuts? I can hear it now:
9-1-1: What's your emergency?

Caller: There's a woman in a red bikini smoking on the beach.

9-1-1: What beach?

Caller: Englewood Beach.

9-1-1: I have deputies on the way.

Caller: Where are they?

Hurry.

9-1-1: They couldn't get on the beach, so I'm sending officers with ATVs.

Caller: Hurry, she's lighting another one.

9-1-1: Are you sure it's Englewood Beach?

Caller: I'm not from around here, but they told

me it's Englewood Beach; it's between the two bridges on Manasota Key.

9-1-1: I'm contacting Sarasota County right now, please stay on the line.

Caller: OK. She's just sitting there with two dogs and a six-pack of beer.

9-1-1: Sarasota is sending two deputies on horseback and two K-9 deputies.

Caller: I think it's too late, I can't see her anymore ... bye.

9-1-1: Please stay on the line. I've got deputies on ATVs, horseback, K-9 units, patrol cars and we just put the helicopter up. We'll find her. Hello? Hello?

Greg Wheeler
Englewood

VEDDER from Page 8A

the Venice Avenue Bridge in front of the *Gondolier Sun*. Work likely will start in September.

Two exciting high school sporting events are happening this week. Of course, the biggy is the football team playing on national TV playing in Virginia against a very highly ranked team. That will be on ESPN Friday at 7 p.m. Bogey's is having a special: If you wear green and white, you get 10 percent off. Some other places to watch the game locally are listed on the Sports pages.

The other event is the girl's volleyball team playing Thursday night against a very tough opponent at 7 p.m. This is a very exciting team that has all of the girls back from last year.

Newspapers from **Nancie** and **Dana Pratt** were collected for me on their trip up North to Ohio and Northern Michigan. One from Ohio was the Ket-

tering-Oakwood paper from south of Dayton and others were from northern Michigan, including the Glen Harbor Sun and the Leelanau Enterprise, which is from Lake Leelanau, Mich.

The Enterprise comes from one of my favorite areas of the country. My family vacationed in nearby Suttons Bay and we loved the small towns of the area such as Leland, which is on Lake Leelanau.

The Enterprise is one of the best small newspapers in the country. It had a nice section on diversions and a full-page picture announcing that it was time to harvest the red cherries in Suttons Bay Township. We used to die for those great cherries and loved the Cherry Festival in Traverse City.

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

Would it have made a difference?

Editor:
It was only a matter of time before we got an "I told you so" response from Mike Miller.

If memory serves correctly, I seem to recall the residents of the Venetian Golf & River Club having a very loud voice opposing a Walmart being built in "their back yard," and how much traffic there was going to be, and noise pollution, etc. destroying the serenity that they paid so dearly for.

No, Mr. Miller, it was not just the city of Venice that opposed your pro-

posal to build, it was the majority of the voting public in the city of Venice that voted for a city council that would support limited growth. Council merely based its decision on the wishes of the voters.

Looking back on the whole issue, I have to wonder if the project had been approved, would it be sitting idle like so many others, with millions of wasted dollars in planning and building materials scattered over an expanse of nothing but barren ground, turning to rust or rotting in the sun. Or would it be in foreclosure like so many others, with

Sandy McGowan
Christmas in July committee

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Bistro is newest Valenti venture

BY ROGER BUTTON
BUSINESS COLUMNIST

The Valenti family has expanded its business again, opening Allegro Bistro, 1740 E. Venice Ave., Unit 10, in the Villa Venezia Plaza last week.

"Foot traffic in the center is fantastic, and within the first week we are already seeing a very good amount of people in and out of the doors every day," said Gianni Valenti.

Owned by Santo Valenti, the bistro is a gem of Italy in Venice designed by his wife, Nella. The open-style interior offers a typical family Italian bistro where diners can watch chefs preparing meals. Mounted around the room are four large flat-screen TVs, giving it a great sports feel. There is a small wine bar.

Of the 100 seats, 25 are outside, cooled by fans. A large TV will feature the excitement of the football season. Wine and beer are available from the wine bar.

"We will carry some of Valenti's traditional dishes, but what differs is our gourmet hamburgers and focaccia sandwiches," said Gianni, who with his brother Cesare works in both restaurants.

The businesses are family operated and the bistro is staffed by people who have worked for the family previously.

Serving lunch and dinner, the bistro has sandwiches from eggplant to Philly steak and cheese, chicken wings, soups and gourmet pizzas cooked using the brand-new stone oven.

Twenty years ago the Valenti

family arrived in Venice to open their restaurant, Valenti's, on East Venice Avenue, which at that time was on the eastern edge of the city.

A year and a half ago the family acquired adjoining premises and opened the popular Intermezzo Lounge. In this authentic Italian living room, guests relax on sofas and armchairs around coffee tables to enjoy aperitifs before eating in the restaurant.

"We wanted to do something new and different for our clientele and we knew the bistro would be very successful because we have our hearts and souls poured into it," said Gianni.

The bistro opens at 11 a.m. Monday through Saturday.

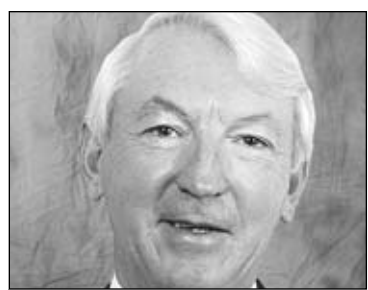
rogerbutton@verizon.net



SUN PHOTO BY ROGER BUTTON

Gianni Valenti, left, and Mike and Frank Rossitto operate the new Allegro Bistro, which opened last week in Villa Venezia Plaza on East Venice Avenue.

Bounce houses available in Venice



ROGER BUTTON
BUSINESS COLUMNIST

Two Venice entrepreneurs have launched their latest new business, **Sarasota County Bounce House**, 231 South Tamiami Trail on the island.

Brad Moore and **Tom Trammell III** decided there is a need in South County for a professionally operated, safe bounce house for family parties and church, school and holiday events.

Using commercial grade materials, these bigger, stronger and creatively designed bounce houses can be used by parents and children. The company can supply a 20-foot-tall castle, a jungle with palm trees, a boxing ring complete with giant gloves and a smaller giant smiley face.

Daily rental includes everything from delivery, to complete set-up with hurricane proof anchors, to tear down and removal. Instructions are provided by the owners, who have certification of safety and set-up procedures. The company carries full insurance coverage.

Moore and Trammell were born and raised in Venice and attended local schools. Moore is sales manager for **Smart Records Management** and his partner operates **Trammell Technical Services** and works for family-owned **The Venice Company**.

All-inclusive Bounce House rentals start at \$100. Call 870-9040 for details.

Knights Trail dining

Dan Rutkowski called me to point out that **Knights Trail Cafe**, 103 Triple Diamond Blvd. No. 2, North Venice, has been open for three years. Located off East Laurel Road on Knights Trail, it is managed by **Mike** and **Lindy McKenzie**.

The cafe is open from 7 a.m.

to 2 p.m. Monday through Saturday serving breakfast and lunch. Call 484-6200.

Mechanized exercise

It's mechanized exercise at family-owned and operated **EZ Bodyworks**, 303-C, South Tamiami Trail, Nokomis, in the Four Bays Shopping Center. Owner **Terri Martin** has her daughter, **Tera Rose**, assisting and friend **Catherine Fritz** managing the business.

Customers use therapeutic exercise machines and toning tables to make them feel and look better. Six toning tables firm, tone and reduce inches while flexing the joints and muscles effortlessly. Health benefits including increased circulation, greater flexibility and stronger muscles.

From the Pocono Mountains in Pennsylvania, Fritz retired from the federal government.

"With diabetic and heart problems I got interested in helping others to exercise, look trim and feel better, she said.

There are no contracts or membership fees, so walk-ins are welcome. Hours are 9 a.m.-6 p.m. weekdays and evenings and weekends by appointment. Call 343-7147.

Auction gallery opens

Vagabond Auctioneers of Naples has recently opened an antiques and fine art auction gallery in **King Solomon's Treasures Marketplace**, 1250 South U.S. 41 Bypass.

Owner **Heather Hamilton** is having an early evening preview party Thursday, Aug. 27, starting at 5 p.m. for her first antique and estate auction taking place Saturday, Aug. 29.

Vagabond Auctioneers was founded in 1998. Relocating this year to Venice, Hamilton has opened a 3,200-square-foot state-of-the-art gallery. There is a delightful array of antiques, fine art, jewelry, pottery, porcelain, silver and objets d'art culled from estates all over Florida.

Monthly auctions on a year-round basis start at 1 p.m. Saturdays. Call (239) 595-0789.

Customers, volunteers wanted

There is an opportunity for more recipients to receive

Venice Area Mobile Meals Meals on Wheels services, said **Joyce Peterson**, who with husband **Jim** has been appointed public relations officer for the organization.

There are 14 routes operating in the Venice area from Blackburn Point to Manasota Key and east to River Road.

"Volunteer drivers are always welcomed and need only provide two hours weekly from 10:30 a.m.," said Peterson.

Meals are prepared Monday through Saturday 52 weeks a year by Village On The Isle. Deliveries are even made on Christmas Day and New Year's Day when they fall on weekdays.

Snowbirds for 20 years, the Petersons eventually moved from Chicago to the Venice in 2004. He was with Sara Lee Corporation in sales and marketing for 50 years and she was an office manager.

The Venice-area program began in 1978. Village On The Isle has been preparing the lunches — which cost recipients \$2.75 — since 1983. For information call 488-1889.

Award for Spencer

Next month at the Florida Institute of CPAs board of governors meeting in Fort Lauderdale, **Laura Spencer**, CEO of **Tervis Tumbler**, will receive the award for the Outstanding CPA in Business and Industry for 2008-09.

"I am honored to be receiving this award and to be recognized for my efforts in the industry during this difficult time in the economy," she said.

Spencer is a member of the privately held company's board of directors and has been a member of FICPA since 1989. Her first 11 years were in public accounting before joining Tervis Tumbler in 1997 as controller. Promoted to chief financial officer, then chief operating officer, she has been chief executive officer since 2006.

Editor's Note: Service and product information in this column should not be taken as an endorsement of the business.

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Credit Cards 101 for college students

FROM CONSUMER CREDIT COUNSELING SERVICE

While most students will finish college with a degree and promising career opportunities, many will struggle for years to repay the credit card debt they incur while in school.

The challenge for many parents is to decide whether or not their college student should apply for a credit card before new regulations go into effect in February 2010. The recently passed CARD Act will require a person less than 21 to either document the ability to repay the debt or have a co-signer before being granted credit. It will also regulate aggressive credit card marketing to college students, including enticing students to apply for cards by making offers of free T-shirts, beach balls or even chances for an iPod.

In addition, the Credit Card Act of 2009 requires that banks mail bills at least 21 days before their due dates and provide at least 45 days notice before making a significant change to their rates or fees. The new rules also bar banks from increasing rates and fees without warning when a consumer misses a payment or exceeds a credit limit.

"College is when many students start managing their finances for the first time," said Rick Skaggs, president of Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Central Florida and the Florida Gulf Coast. "The implications of using credit wisely while in college are far reaching and can impact your employment status, your ability to secure a loan for a car or home and even the rates you pay for insurance and future credit."

When it comes to building a positive credit record, CCCS suggests that families consider the following when deciding what would be best for their situation:

- Have the student become an authorized user on the parent's card. Commonly known as piggybacking, the student is attached to the parent's card and has charging privileges, but no legal responsibility for payment since the card is not in his or her name. The activity on the account is reported to the credit bureau in both the parent's name and the student's name, thus the young adult builds a credit file of their own. This option allows the parents to monitor the student's spending, and remove him or her from the card if things get out of hand.
 - Get a secured credit card. This type of credit card requires a cash collateral deposit that then becomes your line of credit, thus limiting any abuse. Consumers need to be very careful when applying for this type of card, as some charge high fees that can greatly diminish your spending power.
- You can also expect a se-

cured card to have an annual fee and a higher interest rate than an unsecured card. Make sure that the issuer reports to the credit bureau. If it does, and if you pay responsibly, a secured card can not only be a safe way to build a credit file, but after a year or so will likely qualify you for an unsecured card.

- Obtain a card in the student's name. Since the clock is ticking on the availability of this option, it definitely merits a conversation between the student and the parent. If the young adult has some financial training and experience with credit, and has demonstrated that he or she can handle it responsibly, then having a card in his or her own name could be a good way to launch a credit file. Student credit cards typically have low credit lines, thus somewhat limiting the amount of financial damage that can be done. However, an irregular payment history on even a small debt can damage a credit file, which defeats the purpose of having a card.

"The implications of using credit wisely while in college are far reaching . . ."

— Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Central Florida and the Gulf Coast President

When you send your student off to college, help him or her avoid these common credit card pitfalls:

- Be wary of unsolicited credit card offers. Low or zero introductory rates, no annual fees, rewards programs and free cash advances can be appealing, especially for students living on a fixed budget. Most offers are short-lived and will cost more in the long run.
- Know the costs of credit. According to The Credit Card Monitor, the average interest rate for student credit cards is 15.33 percent. A student leaving college with a \$5,000 balance who makes minimum payments of just 4 percent will pay more than \$2,300 in interest and take 50 years to pay off the balance. Annual fees, cash advance and balance transfer fees, and late fees will only add to the problem.
- Use credit wisely, and sparingly. Make your payments on time and spend only what you can afford to pay off at the end of the month.
- Know the danger signs. Going from being financially responsible to being in financial trouble can happen quickly. Warning signs include using one card to pay another and using student loan funds to pay credit card balances.

BIZ BRIEFS

Chamber calendar

• Business After Five, Thursday, Aug. 27, 5:30 p.m., DeSears, 2224 South Tamiami; \$5 members, \$10 nonmembers.

Gifford-Heiden honored

The Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce has presented Gifford-Heiden Insurance with the Excellence in Customer Service Award for the month of August.

This award recognizes the achievement of quality customer service and commitment to the community.

Gifford-Heiden Insurance has been operating in Sarasota, Manatee and Charlotte counties since 1969. The agency began as a one-man shop with Russ Gifford and has grown into a

staff of 15 dedicated, hardworking individuals.

TideWell Hospice welcomes Lafferty

David W. Lafferty has joined TideWell Hospice and Palliative Care as executive vice president and chief information officer. He brings to TideWell his background in infrastructure and operations management, global information technology and project management, electronic commerce and management consulting.

He earned a bachelor's degree in computer information systems at DeVry Institute of Technology in Chicago and studied further at Florida State University College of Business. He has certifications from Massachusetts Institute of Technology — Sloan School of Management, Boston.

Constance DiMartino

Constance DiMartino, 69, of Nokomis, Fla., passed away Friday, Aug. 21, 2009.

Constance was born July 16, 1940, in Boston, Mass. She came to Nokomis in 1999 from Milford,

Conn. She is survived by her husband of 22 years, Vincent; son John of Branford, Conn.; daughter



DiMartino

Sophia of Connecticut; brother John Tsimbaradars (Corrine); and four grandchildren. Constance was preceded in death by her parents.

Services: Visitation will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 26, at the Farley Funeral Home Venice Chapel,

with a Trisagion Service beginning at 7 p.m. A viewing will be held from 9 to 10 a.m. at St. Barbara's Greek Orthodox Church with a funeral mass beginning at 10 a.m. Burial will follow the service at Sarasota Memorial Park. To send condolences, visit www.farleyfuneralhome.com.

farleyfuneralhome.com.

Lee J. Granger

Lee John "Turbo" Granger of Venice, Fla., died Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2009.

He was born Aug. 4, 1965, in Lynn, Mass. He worked as an assistant costume designer for Ringling Brothers and

Barnum & Bailey Circus for 12 years and owned his own lawn service in Venice. He was a member of American Legion Post 8118.

Survivors include his wife, Tina; a sister, Margaret; and a brother, Robert.

Services: A service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 29, at the Church of the Nazarene, 1535 E. Venice Ave. Covell Funeral Home, Bradenton, Fla., is in charge of arrangements.

Herbert F. Kronfield

Herbert F. Kronfield, of Venice, Fla., died Thursday, Aug. 20, 2009, after a long, courageous battle with cancer.

Herb was born on March 16, 1921, in Toledo, Ohio, of immigrant parents from Austria and Slovenia. He began working



Kronfield for the Ohio Bell Telephone Company in 1940, initially as a lineman. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in September 1942, and was attached to the 101st Signal Battalion. Herb was a participant in the invasions of Saipan, Okinawa and the Philippines, and was awarded the American Theater Ribbon, Asiatic-Pacific Theater with three Bronze Stars, the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one Bronze Star, the Meritorious Unit Award Medal, and the Victory Medal World War II. Upon his honorable discharge from the Army in December 1945, he returned to Toledo and resumed working for Ohio Bell. He married his old hometown sweetheart Josephine Suter on Aug. 3, 1946, who also had been serving in the armed forces as a WAVE. The couple recently celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary. Herb worked for Ohio Bell in various technical capacities for more than 41 years, retiring in 1981. Herb retired in Venice, was active in the American Legion, and was a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans.

He was preceded in death by his brothers, Frank and Carl, and his sister, Frieda.

He is survived by his beloved Josephine; and his loving children, Paul, Vicki and Patti. Herb has five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, with another great-grandchild to be born next week. Herb will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Interment will be at Sarasota National Cemetery in Sarasota.

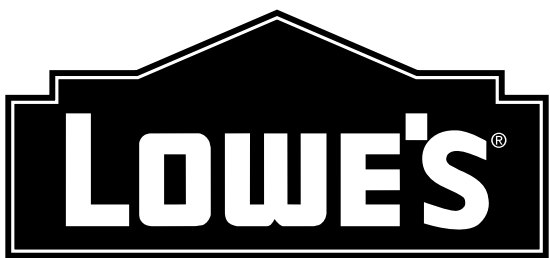
Pat Torrance

Pat Torrance, 88, Venice, Fla., formerly of Rye, N.Y., died Monday, July 13, 2009.

Pat was a school teacher for more than 40 years and was a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church.

Survivors include her daughter, Donna Torrance of New York City; son James of Venice; and grandchildren Caprice and Colleen Torrance.

Services: A graveside service will be held 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 27, at Venice Memorial Gardens. Ewing Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



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on single-receipt Appliance, Flooring, Kitchen Cabinet or Countertop purchases of \$299 or more on your Lowe's Consumer Credit Card 8/27/09 - 8/31/09.

*Interest assessed from purchase date if you do not fully pay, within the promotional period, the promotional purchase and any related optional account protection charges. See below for details.

Save up to 15% with New Lower Prices on 100+ STAINMASTER CARPET

SPECIAL VALUE!

now **68¢** per sq. ft.
was **78¢**

Harvest Oak Laminate Flooring #165849



SPECIAL VALUE!

now **\$799**
was **\$949**

15.5-HP* Shift-on-the-Go® 38" Cut Lawn Tractor
•Briggs & Stratton I/C engine with long-life cast-iron sleeve #183629

*The engine horsepower information is provided by the engine manufacturer to be used for comparison purposes only. Actual operating horsepower will be less.



Limited time only. While supplies last.



SPECIAL VALUE!

now **\$4.97** was **\$5.98** 8-roll

Bounty Basic
•Great strength at a great price #239360



SPECIAL VALUE!

now **\$5.97** was **\$7.97** 3-pack

Pleated Air Filter
•Lowe's carries a large selection of furnace filters. Size and selection vary by market.



\$3.97 32-pack
16.9 Oz. Purified Bottled Water #309791

Plus deposit where required.

clearance

30% off

CLOSEOUT PATIO FURNITURE

Applies to patio furniture marked with yellow clearance labels. Price reflects discount. Offer starts 7/9/09. While supplies last. Selection may vary by store. See store for details.

25% off

CLOSEOUT GAS GRILLS

Applies to gas grills marked with yellow clearance labels. Price reflects discount. Offer starts 8/27/09. While supplies last. Selection may vary by store. See store for details.

50% off

CLOSEOUT PLANTERS

Applies to planters marked with yellow clearance labels. Price reflects discount. Offer starts 8/27/09. While supplies last. Selection may vary by store. See store for details.

YOUR CHOICE \$29

15" ELECTRIC STRING TRIMMER #81230

OR

18" ELECTRIC HEDGE TRIMMER #227729



While supplies last.

Details on our policies and services: Prices may vary after 8/31/09 if there are market variations. "Was" prices in this advertisement were in effect on 8/21/09 and may vary based on Lowe's Everyday Low Price policy. See store for details regarding product warranties. We reserve the right to limit quantities. ***CREDIT FINANCING PROMOTION DETAILS:** Applies to single-receipt Appliance, Flooring, Kitchen Cabinet or Countertop purchases of \$299 or more made 8/27/09 - 8/31/09 on a Lowe's Consumer Credit Card account. Cannot be combined with other credit related promotional offers. No monthly payments will be required and no finance charges will be assessed on this promotional purchase if you pay the following in full within 12 months: (1) the promotional purchase amount, and (2) any related optional credit insurance/debt cancellation charges. If you do not, finance charges will be assessed on the promotional balance from the date of the purchase and monthly payments will be required. Regular account terms apply to non-promotional purchases. Standard APR is 22.99%. Delinquency APR is 26.99%. Minimum finance charge is \$1.00. Existing cardholders should see their credit card agreement for applicable terms. Offer is subject to credit approval. Excludes Lowe's® Business Credit Accounts, Lowe's® Project Card™ Accounts and all Lowe's® VISA® Accounts. While Lowe's strives to be accurate, unintentional errors may occur. We reserve the right to correct any error. Prices and promotions apply to US locations only. ©2009 by Lowe's®. All rights reserved. Lowe's and the gable design are registered trademarks of LF, LLC. (6504) 001/6504/017,033,126

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MR. SHEEPSHEAD
COLUMNIST

Mangrove snappers are everywhere

The next four to five weeks are the best chances to get keeper inshore mangrove snappers at the jetties, pier, Caspersen Beach and in the Intracoastal.

Mangrove snappers are definitely one of the best-eating fish in our area. The following are my favorite baits: greenbacks, either live or frozen "Tuffies" or live or frozen shrimp. Use a fluorocarbon leader or no leader at all.

If fishing in a rocky area, tighten the drag and immediately try to get them off of the bottom. If you don't, the larger ones will dive into the rocks and cut you off. Most of the time the larger ones will be below the visible smaller ones.

There is a five-five limit and they must be at least 10 inches long. Mrs. Sheepshead filets and and pan fries them in Pam, with Miracle Whip Light on top, and seasons them to taste. She never turns the filet and puts a lid briefly on the pan at the end.

Another system that works is to chum them, and keep in mind, the larger ones are usually below the smaller ones. A thing to remember, it is illegal to purposely feed a bird or animal an undersized fish or a fish over your limit. Giving a fish to another person counts as your catch. If you see someone poaching, phone the FWC at (888) 404-3922.

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

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

SPORTS BRIEFS

Venice Little League's fall registration is Aug. 29

Venice Little League will hold registration for the fall season for ages 6-14 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Aug. 29 at Chuck Reiter Field.

Cost is \$70 and includes team shirt and hat.

For more information and to register by mail, visit www.venicelittleleague.com or e-mail any questions to info@venicelittleleague.com.

The Beach 98.9 FM to air Venice football

For the fourth consecutive season, The Beach 98.9 FM radio station will air all Venice High varsity football games.

The Beach will open the season on the road at Chesapeake, Va., to air Venice's opener against Oscar Smith High. Pregame will start at 6:15 p.m. for the 7 p.m. game.

The other nine games begin at 7:30 p.m. this season, and The Beach will start with its pregame at 7:15 p.m.

VAYSA holding registration

The Venice Area Youth Soccer Association will be holding registration for ages 4 to 14 Aug. 28-29 and Sept. 4-5 in the second floor concession stand at the Garbrandt Soccer Complex on Pinebrook Road.

Times for Aug. 28 and Sept. 4 are 6-8 p.m. while Aug. 29 and Sept. 5 are from

Please see **BRIEFS, 14A**

FOOTBALL – VENICE VS. OSCAR SMITH

Top QBs battle in national spotlight

BY PERRY D. PENTZ
SPORTS EDITOR

Venice's historic game on ESPNU is billed as the battle of two of the nation's best prep quarterbacks — Venice's Trey Burton against Oscar Smith's Phillip Sims.

The two will be attending rival Southeastern Conference colleges next year, as the 6-foot-3 1/2, 220-pound Burton committed before his junior year to the University of Florida while 6-foot-2, 225-pound Sims committed in April to the University of Alabama.

Friday night's game against nationally ranked Oscar Smith doesn't put pressure on Burton, a four-year starter for the Indians.

"It's an honor," said the 17-year-old Burton. "It's an honor to even play football at a high level. Honor to be on TV. I'm just thankful. I don't care if I am (ranked) No. 1 or dead last, I'm just thankful to play on ESPN. I think our coaches deserve it, teammates deserve it and our community definitely deserves it."

Venice head coach John Peacock likes the situation for his quarterback.

"I like my guy in pressure. I don't know how Phillip Sims is," Peacock said. "You can put as much pressure as you want on Trey Burton. I'm good with that. He strives when he gets that. The more pressure you put on him, outside of our program, the better."

Top QBs

Both quarterbacks have outstanding numbers over the years.

This is Burton's third year as starting quarterback; he has a 18-5 record. He started at free safety as a freshman.

Last year, Burton passed for 1,686 yards

and 13 touchdowns in leading the Indians to a 10-0 regular-season record and 11-1 record overall. It was Venice's second unbeaten regular season in the last eight years.

The scrambling quarterback, who has the size of a running back, also rushed for 1,186 yards and 30 touchdowns. Over the last two years, he has thrown for 3,004 yards with 26 touchdowns and rushed for 1,914 yards and 39 touchdowns.

Burton is ranked No. 18 in the nation by Rivals.com for dual-threat quarterbacks.

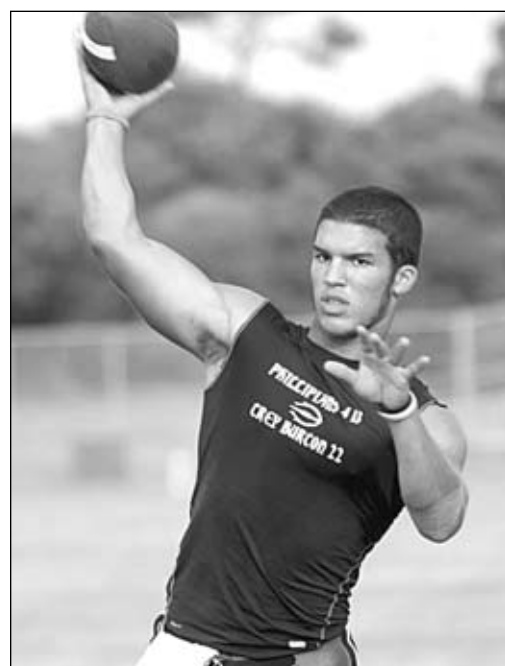
Sims is ranked by Rivals.com as the top-rated pro-style quarterback in the nation and No. 19 in the Sporting News Top 100. He is 35-3 as a starter, as he started on varsity midway through his freshman year.

Last year, Sims passed for 3,167 yards with 38 touchdowns and four interceptions in leading the Tigers to the Group AAA Division 6 state championship with a 15-0 record. As a sophomore, he had 3,055 yards passing with 33 TDs. He has 7,597 career passing yards and is on pace to become the state's all-time leader by the end of the season.

In the state semifinals, Sims set state playoff records for completions (26) and yards (480). In the championship, he set a state record with six TD passes to go along with 334 yards.

Sims was named the Eastern Region Offensive Player of the Year by Rivals.com last year and is No. 58 on Rivals.com Rivals100 list. Scout.com ranks him No. 4 in the nation at quarterback.

Sims was recently chosen to play in the 2010 Under Armour All-American game on Jan. 2 and was just one of seven quarterbacks invited to the Steve Clarkson Quarterback Academy in Hawaii over the summer.



SUN PHOTO BY PERRY D. PENTZ

Venice senior Trey Burton warms up before the team's scrimmage on Aug. 21 at Powell-Davis Stadium. Burton, who totaled nearly 3,000 yards and 43 touchdowns, will be a key figure in the season-opening game at nationally ranked Oscar Smith High in Chesapeake, Va., on Friday.

No pressure

Although the game has been built up as a battle of quarterbacks, Peacock thinks it's much more.

"They are a very, very good football team," Peacock said. "You take away Phil Sims and they are still a good football team. They have shown they are good football team before Phil Sims got there. They

Please see **WINNING, 13A**

Plant handles Venice in four

BY PERRY D. PENTZ
SPORTS EDITOR

The disgust on Venice coach Brian Wheatley's face said it all.

Tampa Plant captured three straight games after falling behind 1-0 as the Lady Panthers overwhelmed the Lady Indians, 26-28, 25-7, 25-21, 25-21 in the Preseason Classic on Tuesday at Venice High.

In the other match, Tampa Berkeley Prep defeated Fort Myers, 25-18, 26-28, 25-19, 25-17.

On Thursday at Venice High, Plant, the three-time defending Class 5A state champion, will play Fort Myers at 5 p.m. while Venice will play Berkeley Prep at 7 p.m.

"It's not a monkey on our back, it's a Plant on our back," Wheatley said.

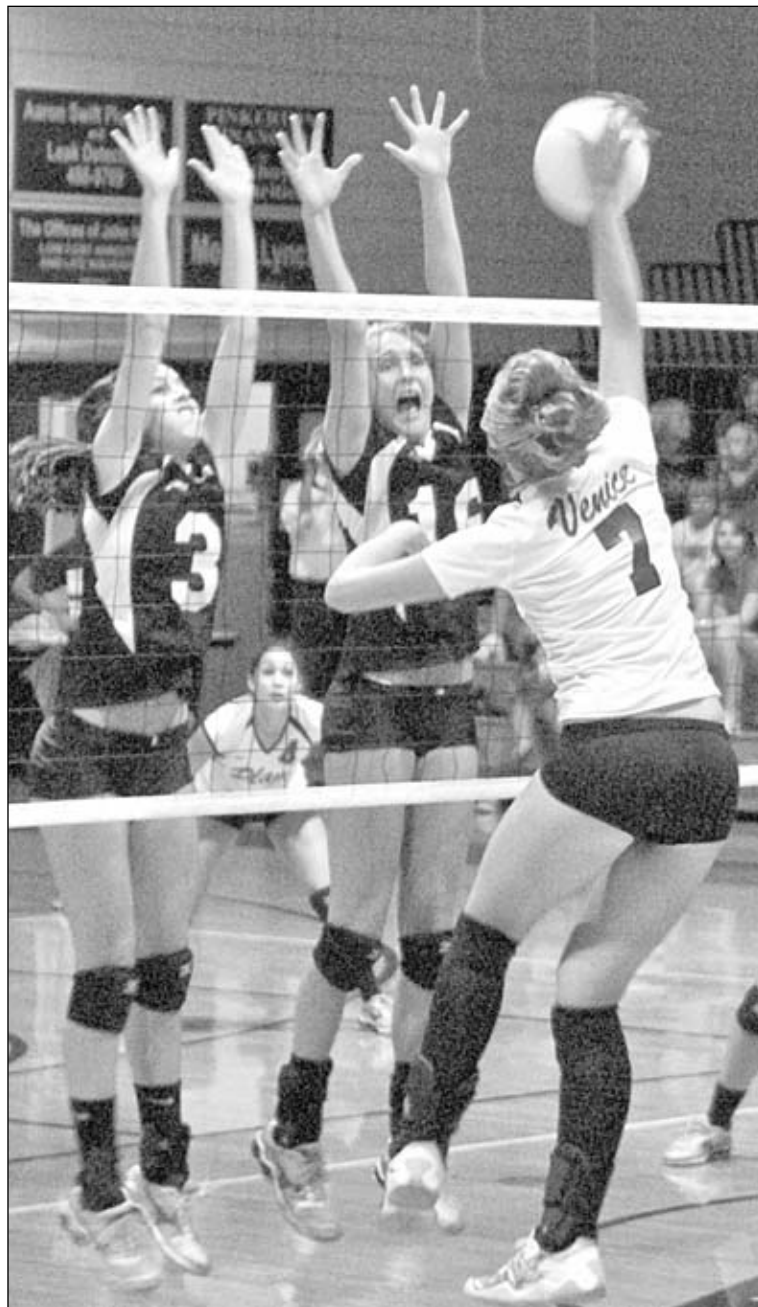
Last year, Plant eliminated Venice in the regional finals and runs its winning streak over the Lady Indians to four straight including three in a row to end their seasons.

"I was real disappointed in our lack of discipline on the floor," Wheatley said. "Such as being out of position. Not knowing where we are supposed to go. . . . Defensively, it was not a good showing. They expect to do better defensively."

In the first game, Venice stayed close early but one hitting error after another added up and the Lady Panthers eventually took a 21-14 cushion and were only one point away from winning at 24-21.

A kill by junior Autumn Duyn, who led Venice with 13 kills, and two hit out of bounds by Plant tied the game at 24-24.

Plant regained the lead on a kill by Alex Johnson but another kill by Duyn forced another tie. Venice made its fourth serv-



SUN PHOTO BY JUSTIN FENNEL

Venice junior Payton Herschberger slams a spike into Tampa Plant defenders Tuesday night during the Preseason Classic at Venice High.

ing error of the game to give Plant another game point. Duyn's kill stopped it once again. With Duyn serving, senior Emily Daniels pounded down a kill to give Venice a 27-26 lead. It was Venice's first lead

of the game. Senior Jillian Allen, who had nine kills, closed it out with a kill.

"It was typical of the game we should have never been down," Wheatley said. "Again, if we play our game we are tough

to stop. Plant dictated what we did.

The second game was all Plant as the Panthers jumped out to a 9-2 cushion and kept Venice on its heels for an easy win.

"They were in system," Wheatley said. "We were not in system. (Setter) Taylor (Capasso) usually only had one option to go to and that makes playing defense pretty easy for Plant. We were not sustaining rallies. That is usually the way we have beaten teams in the past. We are breaking down at some point in the rally. We've got to be able to concentrate for a longer period of time."

Venice led the third game, 16-15, before Plant scored five straight points to take a 20-16 lead. The Lady Indians got within 22-21 but two unforced errors and block by Plant's Leah Jordan ended the game.

Plant played without All-State outside hitter Maddie Martin, a Penn State University signee, who sat the bench with an injury.

"This is why we want to play great competition at the beginning of the season to expose our weaknesses as quick as possible," Wheatley said.

With the score tied 13-13, the Lady Panthers scored six straight points on two blocks and a kill by Johnson, two receiving errors and a hit out of bounds.

The Lady Indians got within, 22-20 but a hit out of bounds and their sixth service error gave Plant match point.

In total, Venice had 15 service errors.

Daniels finished with 10 kills and 10 digs while Duyn had 13 digs. Senior Dorothy Rahal led Venice with 16 digs. Allen had three blocks for Venice.

ppentz@venicegondolier.com

GOLF RESULTS

MISTY CREEK COUNTRY CLUB

July 16 & 17
Greater Sarasota Junior Golf Association (GSJGA) Elite Junior Tour: **Boys 16-18:** Tyler Jones 77-73 - 150; Vincente Gomes 91-93 - 184; **Boys 13-15:** Frank Perilli 82-76 - 158; Brian Eidelbus 89-84 - 173; **Girls 16-18:** Crystal Smith 80-78 - 158.

PERIDIA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

July 25
Greater Sarasota Junior Golf Association (GSJGA) Futures Tour (9 Holes): **Girls-Stephanie See 34,** Kadi Pallastrone 41, Courtney Castner 41, Ellie Falconer 43, Caroline Warren 46, Lauren Lindsay

Please see **GOLF, 14A**

SPORTS CALENDAR

COMING UP	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Venice High	No events scheduled	VB - Tampa Plant vs. Fort Myers (At Venice), Preseason Classic, 5 p.m. VB - Berkeley Prep at Venice (Preseason Classic), 7 p.m.	FB - Venice at Oscar Smith High (Chesapeake, Va.), 7 p.m.	FB - North Port Mustangs at Venice Vikings (Pop Warner), 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Letson Stadium
<small>FB - Football, VB - Volleyball, BGLF - Boys golf, GGLF - Girls golf, CC - Cross country, SWM - Swimming and diving</small>				

2009 VHS OPENING DAY ROSTER

#	NAME	GRADE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	POSITION
1	Bo Ceravolo	Sr.	6-0	198	WR/CB
2	Evan Boone	Sr.	5-9	170	WR/CB
3	Justin Grant	Sr.	6-0	205	HB/CB
4	Jamal Bouhammad	Sr.	5-10	207	FB/MLB
6	Terrell Solomon	Jr.	6-2	199	WR/CB
7	James Lawson	Sr.	5-11	170	HB/FS
8	Clay Burton	Jr.	6-4	245	TE/DE
9	Rashad McRae	Sr.	5-8	170	RB/MLB
10	Kody Sallis	Jr.	6-2	206	TE/OLB
11	Joe Iorio	Sr.	5-11	172	WR/OLB
12	AJ Rotella	Jr.	5-8	160	QB
13	Zach Flerlage	Soph.	5-9	161	WR/CB
15	Mattieu Sawicki	Jr.	5-10	170	WR/CB
16	Cameron Alarcon	Jr.	5-7	150	WR/CB
17	Joey Carlin	Jr.	5-7	140	K
18	Matt Schaffner	Sr.	5-11	163	WR/CB
20	Tommy Farr	Sr.	5-9	177	FB/OLB
21	Josh Boyle	Jr.	5-10	160	WR/FS
22	Trey Burton	Sr.	6-3 1/2	220	QB/FS
25	Wesley Ojeda	Sr.	6-2	178	WR/CB
27	Quaheim Kapinski	Jr.	6-0	168	WR/CB
28	David Williams	Sr.	6-0	168	WR/CB
30	Anders Ullrich	Sr.	6-1	191	FB/MLB
31	Gerald Williams	Sr.	6-1	168	WR/CB
32	Mike Herndon	Jr.	6-2	230	FB/MLB
33	Kye Rodgers	Jr.	5-11	185	FB/OLB
34	Oleg Desyatnikov	Jr.	5-11	177	FB/MLB
35	Chad Armstrong	Sr.	5-11	188	FB/MLB
37	Danny Dillard	Soph.	6-2	190	WR/CB
42	Jonathan Sloan	Sr.	5-10	155	WR/CB
44	Noah Carpenter	Sr.	5-9	170	TE/DE
46	Wesley Twigg	Jr.	5-7	145	HB/CB
47	Tyler Soltis	Jr.	6-1	158	WR/CB
50	Joel McManamy	Jr.	5-11	205	T/DT
52	Mike Fuller	Jr.	5-11	215	G/DT
53	Quinten Raines	Sr.	5-9	185	FB/MLB
55	Dino Fanti	Jr.	6-0	256	T/DT
56	Jordan Keefe	Jr.	5-7	186	FB/MLB
58	Rod Thomas	Sr.	5-11	180	MLB
60	John Graham	Jr.	6-2	185	C/DE
63	Brian Magers	Jr.	6-2	254	C/DT
64	Richard Covington	Jr.	5-8	230	G/DT
65	Jeff Blackburn	Soph.	6-0	205	G/DT
67	Matt Collins	Sr.	6-1	232	G/DT
70	Brian O'Leary	Sr.	6-2	287	T/DT
71	Jesus Garcia	Sr.	6-0	225	T/DT
72	Omari Phillips	Soph.	6-7	290	T/DT
73	Cole Milliken	Jr.	6-1	241	T/DT
74	Cody Hutchinson	Sr.	6-2	290	T/DT
75	Tyler Adrian	Jr.	6-6	215	T/DE
76	Forrest Lamp	Soph.	6-3	215	G/DT
77	Mike Friend	Soph.	6-0	263	T/DT
80	Beckett Wales	Sr.	6-3	223	TE/DE
81	Brandon Wilkinson	Sr.	6-4	230	TE/DE
84	Joey Gaither	Sr.	6-1	177	WR/OLB

Head coach: John Peacock

WEEK 1 PREVIEW

VENICE Indians vs. **OSCAR SMITH Tigers**

When: Friday, Aug. 28
Where: Beard-DeLong-Easley Field, Chesapeake, Va.
On the Air: TV-ESPNU; Radio-The Beach 98.9 FM.
Outlook: Oscar Smith: The Tigers are coming off the school's first state title in any sport since the school opened in 1954. They went 15-0 in capturing the Group AAA District 6 state title. They outscored opponents 617-116. They were ranked No. 7 in the country by USA Today. The Tigers graduated 21 seniors including Division I wide receiver (Tim Smith), running back (Perry Jones) and linebacker Jerod Askew. The Tigers, who return six on offense and five on defense, are ranked No. 6 in the nation by National Prep Football Poll and eighth by ESPN and USA Today in large part because of their starting quarterback Phillip Sims, a University of Alabama commit, who threw for over 3,167 yards with 38 touchdowns and four interceptions. In three years, he has thrown for 7,597 and will likely graduate as the all-time leading passer in Virginia High School League (VHSL). In the state semifinals, Sims set state playoff records for completions (26) and yards (480). In the championship, he set a state record with six TD passes to go along with 334 yards. Also back is defensive tackle Evan Hailles, a Penn State University commit, who had 20 tackles for loss and 11 sacks. Running back is Jaston George, who was a back-up last year, and linebacker Raysean Richardson will be the new linebacker. The Tigers also picked up

two transfers in linebacker/fullback Jeremy Majette and running back Joel (J.C.) Coleman, who is a National Junior Olympic champion sprinter. On Aug. 19, the Tigers lost to defending Division 5 state champion Phoebus, 28-14, in a preseason game.
Venice: The Indians are coming off a 11-1 record, which included an 11-game winning streak. They lost in the regional finals to district foe Charlotte on a controversial last-minute punt return for a touchdown. Venice's offense is led by senior quarterback Trey Burton, a University of Florida commit, who accounted for a combined 2,872 yards and 43 touchdowns. The offense averaged 36.75 points per game. A defense led by senior linebacker Ethan Mix and linemen Ben Steele and juniors Brandon Wilkinson and Clay Burton limited opponents to 13.8 points per game. Although two-time district champion Venice is ranked behind Manatee in the district this year, the Indians still return a big portion of last year's successful team including both Burtons, Wilkinson, linemen Brian O'Leary as well as transfers Mike Herndon (linebacker), Bo Ceravolo (wide receiver) and Omari Phillips (defensive tackle). At running back are Justin Grant, who had 167 yards in the Spring Classic, Rashad McRae and Wesley Twigg. This is the seventh nationally-ranked team Venice has played since 2000 with two victories. Eliminating the big play and making the least amount of mistakes will be key to the winner of this nationally-televised game. The flight back to Florida will be a happy one as the Indians will open with a victory.

Prediction: Venice 28, Oscar Smith 21

2009 OSCAR SMITH ROSTER

#	NAME	GRADE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	POSITION
1	Charlie Ricks	Sr.	6-0	170	WR/FS
2	Quinta Funderburk	Jr.	6-3	205	WR/FS
3	George Duncan	Sr.	5-6	170	WR/DB
4	J.C. Coleman	Soph.	5-7	175	RB/DB
7	Brandon Davis	Sr.	5-9	180	WR/LB
8	Trevaughn Griffin	Soph.	5-10	170	QB/FS
9	Jayquan Darden	Jr.	6-2	180	WR/LB
10	Xavier Simons	Sr.	6-0	190	RB/SS
11	Sequan Gooding	Soph.	6-1	185	WR/SS
13	Darius Jennings	Jr.	5-11	175	WR/SS
14	Phillip Sims	Sr.	6-2	225	QB/P
15	Marquie Mayes	Jr.	5-10	165	WR/DB
16	Troy Applin	Jr.	5-8	175	WR/DB
19	Dillon Steiman	Jr.	5-10	175	QB
20	Davin Matthews	Jr.	5-11	170	WR/FS
21	Jeremy Majette	Sr.	6-0	250	RB/LB
22	Jaston George	Jr.	5-10	175	RB/DB
23	Earl Ward	Jr.	5-8	180	RB/LB
24	Raysean Richardson	Jr.	6-1	215	RB/LB
27	Diamonee Bland	Fr.	5-11	175	RB/LB
30	Dravonte Martin	Soph.	5-10	180	WR/DB
32	Lamont Hinton	Soph.	6-0	220	FB/LB
34	Vernon Johnson	Sr.	5-11	190	FB/LB
35	Tim Brock	Jr.	6-0	210	TE/LB
37	Ryan Trotman	Sr.	6-6	180	K/P
40	Kasey Johnson	Soph.	5-6	160	RB/DB
45	Marcus Smith	Fr.	5-9	170	RB/LB
50	Kharl Royster	Jr.	5-10	215	FB/LB
51	Harrison Elliott	Sr.	6-1	225	T/DE
52	Deshawn Faulkes	Sr.	5-8	220	T/DT/FB
53	Dominique Summerlin	Sr.	5-9	220	G/DT
54	Trey Billups	Soph.	5-11	230	G/LB
55	Keeland Jennette	Soph.	5-10	250	C/DT
56	Michael Wyche	Jr.	6-3	290	T/DT
57	Rickey Foreman	Jr.	6-2	200	C/DE
58	Rahkeem Stallings	Soph.	6-0	210	G/LB
59	Rawheem Nelson	Jr.	5-10	190	G/LB
61	James Grawey	Jr.	5-9	205	G/DT
62	Jordan Anderson	Soph.	5-10	190	G/LB
63	Darius Robinson	Sr.	5-10	210	G/DT
65	Louis Howell	Sr.	5-9	300	T/DT
67	Leonard Ouzts	Jr.	5-9	275	T/DT
68	Josh Tolliver	Jr.	6-1	225	T/DT
71	Brian Smith	Sr.	6-0	210	T/DT
72	Jacob New	Jr.	6-1	200	T/DE
73	Alex Hinton	Jr.	5-9	230	T/DT
74	Corey Steward	Sr.	5-9	255	G/DE
75	Evan Hailles	Sr.	6-1	315	T/DT
76	George Cuffee	Sr.	6-5	225	T/DE
78	Dontrell Holmes	Jr.	6-1	305	T/DT
79	Brandon Ruffin	Jr.	6-2	260	T/DT
80	D'Quay Griffin	Jr.	6-1	170	WR/FS
82	Melvin Vaughn	Fr.	6-0	175	WR/FS
83	Shamon Jones	Sr.	6-1	165	WR/FS
84	Treshawn Flowers	Jr.	6-2	160	WR/FS

Head coach: Richard Morgan

WINNING from Page 12A

are a good football program and we are a good football program. Take Trey Burton out of the mix and we are still a good football team."

The magnitude of the game with the national television exposure is not a big deal to Burton and he feels no pressure.

"We are going to their house," Burton said. "If they were coming here it would be a different story. They are No. 6 in the nation and hopefully we go there and don't get scared."

Oscar Smith is ranked No. 6 in the nation by Rivals.com and No. 8 in the nation by USA Today and is the top-ranked team in the Triple-A Preseason by VirginiaPreps.com.

"I think it (pressure) is all on them," Peacock said. "They are ranked in the country and people are saying we don't deserve to play in this game. I think the pressure is on their state to show how good their state is for football. They are the No. 1 team in their state and we are No. 25 in our state. We aren't even the No. 1 team in our district."

"We are not even ranked in the nation," Burton said. "We are going to have fun and hopefully we aren't scared of big, bad Oscar Smith. We are the underdog by a lot. We are supposed to lose by 35 points or more, so we can't get embarrassed because

WHERE TO WATCH

Find out to catch the big game, either at home or around town.

Page 14A

we are already supposed to lose. I know if I have fun and I am loose, I won't get embarrassed."

Sleepless nights

Burton said his task as one of the four captains is to keep the team focused.

"I'll make sure they are not scared," Burton said. "There is no reason to be scared. They are good and we are good."

Burton said he will take it as just another game.

"If we win, it doesn't matter. If we lose, it doesn't matter," Burton said. "If we lose, they were supposed to win anyway. It's not a district game and it doesn't get us to the state championship. We are lucky enough to be picked to play on ESPN. We are obviously here for a reason. We know what we can do. Personally, I can't wait. This is one of the biggest games I have ever played in."

The game is causing Burton to lose sleep. "I can't sleep at night anymore," Burton said. "I can't sleep at night anymore."

A big reason might be the 40 family members who will be in attendance, according to Burton.

"I'm just going to try and have a lot of fun," Burton

said.

'Cliche stuff'

With heavy emphasis on the passing game by Oscar Smith and Sims, Venice will have pressure on their cornerbacks, safety and linebackers.

However, Peacock doesn't see it that way.

"They are going to catch balls, get first downs and move the ball," Peacock said. "If they go out there and lose their mind and blow coverages, then it's going to be ugly. They have the No. 1 quarterback in the country who threw for 3,000 yards. They are going to complete some passes. Same thing with Trey Burton. He is going to have some yards. We just have to not turn the ball over, not get beat deep. All the cliche stuff. You got two good football teams. The team that makes the least amount of mistakes is going to win it."

According to Peacock, he can't worry about traveling 876 miles to Virginia but does worry about things he can control like the big play.

"We are not used to seeing a guy that can throw the ball as far or as deep as that guy can throw it," Peacock said. "They are very fast. Worried about the big play and them coming out and throwing the post over our head and not having to work for something. I think if we stop that and make them work for their yards, then we will be all right."

Peacock doesn't see this as just any other game.

"It would be monstrous disappointment if we didn't win the game," Peacock said. "I wouldn't have ever agreed to it (playing the game) if I wasn't planning on winning it. And it does mean something in the grand scheme of things because if we can't beat Oscar Smith, we can't beat (5A defending state champion) St. Thomas Aquinas."

Fort Lauderdale St. Thomas Aquinas, reigning national champions, are ranked No. 1 in the nation in all the preseason polls.

"If we don't beat Oscar Smith," Peacock said, "we are going to have to get a lot better."

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Supporting the cheerleaders



COURTESY PHOTO

From left, Tori Miller, coach Kathy Walker and Taylor McLaughlin, representing the Venice High School cheerleaders at the Sertoma Club of Venice, received a \$300 check from Sertoma president Kevin Lingard. The money is part of the \$6,000 raised by the cheerleaders to pay for their trip to cheer on the Venice High football team against Oscar Smith High in Chesapeake, Va., on Friday.

BRIEFS from Page 12A

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

A parent or guardian must accompany child to register in person. You can also register online at www.venicesoccer.org.

Miss Venice Fastpitch sign-ups start Saturday

Miss Venice Fastpitch softball will be holding registration for girls ages 5-16 from 9 a.m. to noon Aug. 29 and 6-8 p.m. Sept. 1 and Sept. 3 at the Wellfield Complex.

Sign-up is for the fall softball league.

VHS football season tickets on sale

Season tickets for home football games at Venice High are on sale.

Cost is \$36 for the six games at Powell-Davis Stadium.

Anyone who did not have season tickets last year, should visit the law offices of Boone, Boone, Boone, Koda and Frook, 1001 Avenida del Circo between the hours of 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Season ticket holders also get free admittance to all home junior varsity games.

For more information, call 488-6716.

VHS all-sports season tickets on sale

Individual and family all-sport season tickets are now on sale.

The general admission tickets are for the upcoming sports season and the one-priced ticket covers parents and their school-age children admission to all VHS home sports. Playoff or postseason games are not included.

Eligible children must be 18 years

old or younger, living at home and currently attending a school in Sarasota County.

Cost for family all-sports ticket is \$150 while the individual all-sports ticket costs \$60.

For more information, call Larry Sandburg at 488-6726 or the Boone law firm at 488-6716.

Fall sports registration open at YMCA

Registration for fall sports programs is now open at the South County Family YMCA in Venice.

Soccer, volleyball, T-ball, coach pitch and basketball academy will be offered. Register at YMCA or online at veniceymca.com.

For more information, call 492-9622.

Sarasota Scullers open house is Aug. 29

The Sarasota Scullers will be holding an open house from 9-11 a.m. Aug. 29 at Nathan Benderson Park, 2500 Honore Ave., Sarasota.

The open house is a way to introduce teens (seventh through 11th grades) to competitive rowing.

No advance registration is required. Drinks and snacks will be provided.

For more information, visit www.sarasotascullers.org or e-mail sarasotascullers@yahoo.com or call 966-2244 or 284-7111.

After-school junior tennis at Mission Valley

An after-school junior tennis program will start Sept. 1 at Mission Valley Country Club.

For more information, call Brigitte Bressler at 488-8632.

Want to watch the game?

BY PERRY D. PENTZ
SPORTS EDITOR

Can't make the trip to Chesapeake, Va., to watch the Venice High football team's opening game? There are alternatives.

The game is being aired on ESPNU, which is available on Verizon FIOS (channel 63), Comcast (744), DirecTV (609) and the Dish Network (148).

Comcast subscribers can watch the game on channel 744 if they currently subscribe to the Sports Entertainment Tier or have a digital classic.

If you don't currently subscribe to either the Sports Entertainment Tier or digital classic service and have a digital box, call Comcast and subscribe to either service over the phone. Cost for the Sports Entertainment Tier is \$5 a month while the promotional rate for the first 12 months of the digital classic service is \$9.99 a month.

The Sports Entertainment Tier includes 20 channels such as NFL Network, MLB Network, ESPN Classic, Tennis Channel and Big 10 Channel, to name a few.

Those who don't have a digital box or who subscribe only to full basic service can go to Comcast and receive their first digital box at no charge. However, they must still subscribe to either Sports Entertainment Tier or digital classic service.

Don't want to stay home to watch the game? Then try one of these restau-

rants in the area (in no particular order):

- **Applebee's**, 4329 South Tamiami Trail; 14 televisions. Specials: burger, fries and 10-ounce beer for \$5.95; buy 10 wings, get 10 wings free; 2-for-1 happy hour during game; beer pitcher specials.

- **Beef 'O' Brady's**, 4145 South Tamiami Trail; 13 televisions. Specials: pulled-pork sandwiches, slider burger baskets, chili-cheese hot dog baskets as well as a burger and chicken finger family platter for four that includes french fries and cole slaw. Wing and beer specials and for dessert, deep-fried Oreos.

- **Bogey's Restaurant and Sports Bar**, 652 E. Venice Ave.; 28 televisions. Specials: anyone wearing green and white Venice High attire will receive 10 percent off their bill; fish fry for \$8.99.

- **British Open Pub & Restaurant**, 2053 South Tamiami Trail; three televisions. Specials: fish fry, \$9.99 and \$11.99.

- **Beckham's Osprey Grille**, 1272 South Tamiami Trail; 11 televisions. Specials: 10-inch pizza; 50-cent wings, all-you-can-eat fish fry for \$12.95, homemade chili and Beckham's famous fish and chips.

- **Venice Sports Bar & Billiards**, 2107 South Tamiami Trail.

Don't see your favorite spot? Call there to see if it will have the game on.

ppentz@venicegondolier.com

GOLF from Page 12A

53; **Boys 10 & Under**-Patrick Warren 40, Drew Angelo 41, Garrett Wilson 44, Dylan Quinn 47, Jack Cenci 48, Josh Silverman 54; **Boys 11 & Over**-Erik Souchak 36, Nash Neptune 37, Sean Hanlon 44, Justin Otis 45, Jonathan Bozer 48, Bryan Bruce 50, Joey Lauro 52, Evan Murphy 53, William Goddard 55, Grant Marsh 64.

Mcdonnell 75, Landry Miller 79, Jeremy Perna 79, Eduardo Ronderos 81, Jeovani Veloz 83; **Girls**-Crystal Smith 69, Nelly Korda 82, Katie McKenney 88, Erin Lisch 94, Thilda Staubo 96.

GSJGA Elite Tour: Boys 16-18: Vincent Gomes 93-99 - 192; **Boys 13-15:** Brian Eidelbus 86-78 - 164.

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Aug. 1 & 2

GSJGA Regular Tour - Tournament of Champions: **Girls:** 1. Crystal Smith 73-73 - 146; 5. Grace Gildner 105-107 - 212; **Boys 16-18:** 4. Tim Garofalo 74-76 - 150, 6. Tyler Jones 81-77 - 158; **Boys 13-15:** 2. Frank Perilli 71-75 - 146.

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Aug. 8 & 9

Florida State Golf Association (FSGA) Junior Team Championship 2 BB of 3: (Legends Course) **Girls 16-18 (2nd out of 9 teams):** Crystal Smith 74-73, Stefanie Mitchell 90-74, Nella Korda 79-78 = 300; **Boys 16-18 (6th out of 21 teams)** Tim Garofalo 74-75, Walker Yaw 76-74, Tyler Jones 70-79 = 293; (Reserve Course) **Boys 13-15 (5th out of 18 teams)** Ramsey Touchberry 74-74, Frank Perilli 73-80, Rayn Wolfe 74-77 = 298.

SPORTS SHORT

SENIOR SOFTBALL

SUNCOAST ORTHOPAEDIC VICTORIOUS:

The Venice Suncoast Orthopaedic senior softball team captured their third monthly tournament by winning three of four games in Lakeland.

After losing the first game to the Vero Beach Astros, 5-1, Suncoast Orthopaedic defeated Ocala Walnut Security, 20-10; Lakeland

American Legion, 10-4, and the Orlando Young Bucks, 21-10, to capture the tournament.

Venice's offense was led by Lou Giovanini, who batted .800. Vinny Remsen hit .714 while Hansel Faulkner and Mel Eubank had averages of .667 and .643, respectively.

The team, which is managed by John Zoccano, will play in the 70+ National Softball Tournament from Sept. 4-6 in Dalton, Ga.

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8:30AM Shotgun Start
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Contact Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Raffle Prize Sponsor	\$50.00
Address: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Tee or Green Sponsor	\$100.00
City, State, Zip: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Beverage Cart Sponsor (3 Avail)	\$250.00
Phone: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Golfer Grab Bag Sponsor	\$500.00
Fax Number: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Hole-in-One Sponsor	\$500.00
E-mail: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Lunch Sponsor	\$1500.00
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Exp. Date: _____ Card Type - Circle One: MC Visa	Make Checks Payable To:	
Name on Card: _____	"Boys & Girls Clubs of Charlotte County"	
Billing Address: _____	Mail with payment to:	
_____	Boys & Girls Clubs of Charlotte County 21450 Gibraltar Drive, Suite 10 Port Charlotte, FL 33952 E-Mail: ldorier@bgcocc.org Attn: Golf Classic Committee Phone: 941-235-2472 Fax: 941-235-2422	
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Saturday, June 26, 2010 - Dance Party
Patti Schmidt mcnvenice@daystar.net

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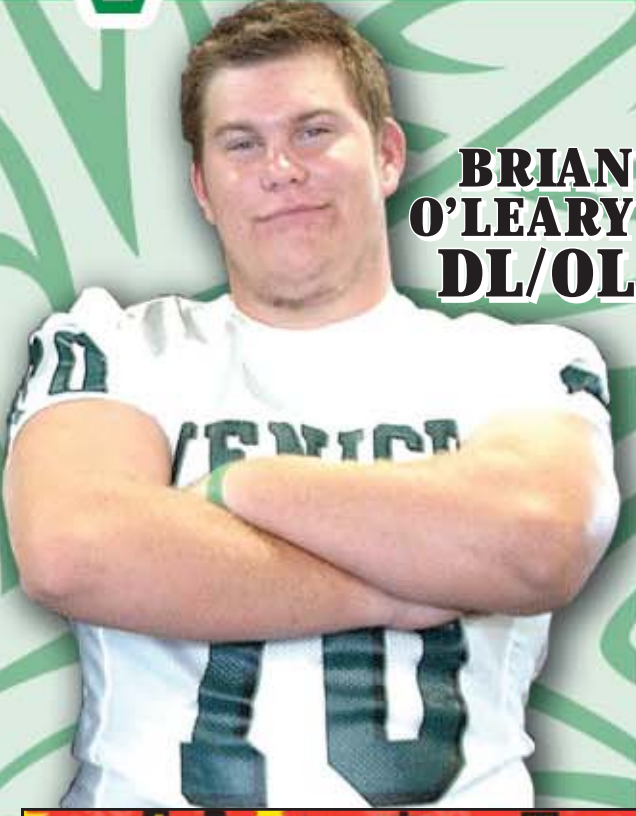
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'09 VENICE VARSITY SCHEDULE = Home Game Dates	Aug. 28	Oscar Smith (at Chesapeake, Va.)	Sept. 25	Riverview	Oct. 23	Sarasota
	Sept. 4	Bye	Oct. 2	Southeast	Oct. 30	Manatee
	Sept. 11	Braden River	Oct. 9	North Port	Nov. 6	Woods Haven Prep
	Sept. 18	Booker	Oct. 16	Charlotte	Nov. 13	Bye



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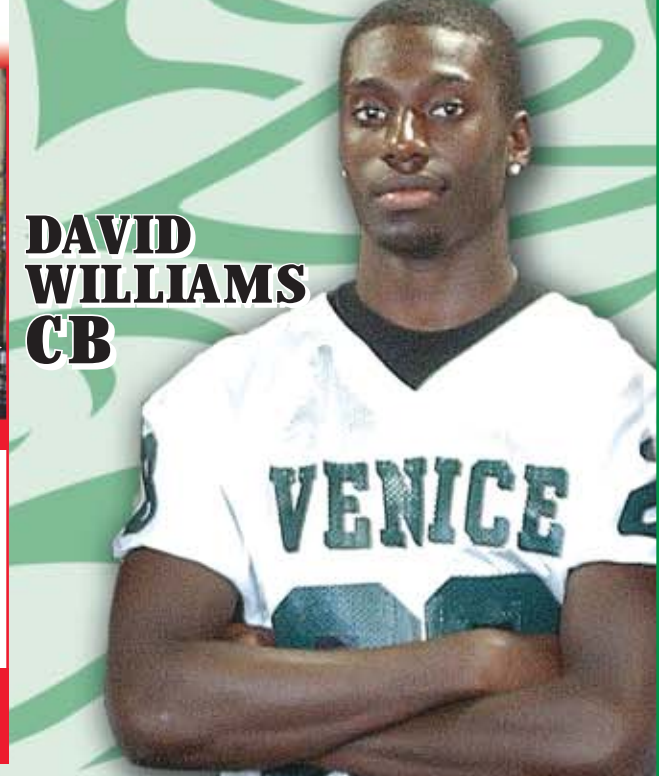


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CLUB EVENTS 3B

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Top right, Karen Murdock, left, and George Borton bring Susie Vine some of the junk found under the pier.

PHOTO BY
MARTY DOVER

Right, Bill Wilson

Below, items such as these are what divers find during their pier and jetty cleanups.

PHOTOS COURTESY
OF BILL WILSON



Above, Bruce and Kathy Spain bring some trash to the surface from below the Venice Fishing Pier.

Hook, line and sinkers

BY KIM COOL
FEATURES EDITOR

Cleaning up after others is a tradition for the Sun Coast Reef Rovers, Venice's dive club. Members clean up the beach from Service Club Park to Sharky's On The Pier and, at least once a year, they clean up the submerged land around the pier and the underwater rocky area off the Venice Jetty. "We're making an impact," club founder Bill Wilson said. "At first we had a dozen black bags. Now we have to look to find stuff."

At first they also had to win over the pier fishermen who didn't want to curtail their fishing for the hour the annual pier cleanup takes.

"The fishermen changed their tune," Wilson said. "Now they love going through the stuff we find and they don't snag their lines as often."

The latest pier cleanup was in July. Bad weather and rough water conditions caused two earlier attempts to be canceled.

"It has to be flat calm," Wilson said. "When the winds and waves are crashing, the divers get too beat up."

Rough water severely curbs visibility, which is not good on the best of days in Venice waters.

The take

In past years, the divers have found a variety of fishing gear, including one rod and reel with fish still attached. Another year they brought up two nearly submerged memorial benches that vandals had tossed off the pier.

"They had to unbolt them from the pier to dump them," Wilson said. "They were totally buried. Just the rung of one was visible."

Not that anything is too visible off Venice Beach.

Divers wear wetsuits or skins for protection from rocks and such creatures as jellyfish. They carry a sharp knife for cutting lines plus other tools individual divers have found

to be useful for cutting snagged lines and freeing objects wedged in place. Wilson said one diver takes a saw with him.

When diving at the jetty they also must watch the tides, for a strong incoming tide could carry the diver to Snake Island and the outgoing tide could take someone too far out in the Gulf of Mexico.

Divers study the tide chart before a jetty cleanup and get ready to enter the water just as the tide is changing. That gives them about 45 minutes before the rip tides form that might endanger the divers. Jetty divers also must be careful that they and their gear do not become entangled in the rocks.

A police officer stands by for added protection of the divers and others who remain on land to help haul up whatever the divers find. Items that are especially heavy are generally lifted with the aid of

Please see **CLEANUP, 8B**

Far left, Emilio Carlesimo hoists trash found below the pier.

Left, Susie Vine looks over some of this year's haul.

Below, Rod Duncan, left, holds a juvenile mammoth tooth with a complete root (top) and a 13 1/4 inch worn-down working end of an adult mammoth tusk, a very rare find. At right, Doug Jones

holds an adult mammoth tooth and two megalodon shark teeth each measuring 6 1/4 inches. The fossils are part of Jones' extensive collection.

PHOTOS BY
MARTY DOVER



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Health UPDATE

MONTHLY HEALTH NEWS from VENICE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER ♦ SEPTEMBER 2009

Health LINK

SEMINARS/LECTURES

LOCATION:

Venice Regional Medical Center
Cardiac Rehab/Easy Street, Venice

Wednesday, September 2
8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 12:00 p.m.
Heart Healthy Nutrition Class
Speaker: Rachel Chambers, RD, LD/N
Register by calling 483-7354.

SUPPORT GROUPS/MEETINGS

LOCATION:

Lions Club Room at Venice HealthPark
1283 Jacaranda Blvd., Venice
No registration necessary.

Tuesday, September 1 – 7:00 p.m.
MS Support Group
Welcome Back! Share, Discussion Meeting
& Cognition and MS

Wednesday, September 2 – 7:00 p.m.
National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of
Sarasota County

Fridays, September 4, 11, 18, 25
9:30 a.m. until 12 p.m.
Amputee Support Group
A roundtable support session that meets
every Friday.

Tuesday, September 8 – 6:30 p.m.
Venice Aglow
Outreach group open to all women.

Wednesday, September 9 – 2:00 p.m.
Live Wires Stroke Club
Sponsored by the Stroke Division of the
American Heart Association.

Wednesday, September 16 – 1:30 p.m.
Ostomy Support Group
Sponsored by the United Ostomy Association
Chapter of the American Cancer Society.

FREE SCREENINGS

LOCATION:

Lions Club Room at Venice HealthPark
1283 Jacaranda Blvd., Venice

Thursday, September 3
Venice Lions Club Vision Screening
(monthly)
Free screenings for income qualified
individuals beginning at 7:30 a.m.
Pre-registration is required by calling
486-6065.

Thursdays, September 10, 17, 24
Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar
Screenings
Home Health Services will provide
screenings from 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Please fast beginning the night before
testing. Refreshments.

LOCATION: HealthPark, Main Lobby
1201 Jacaranda Blvd., Venice

Thursday, September 3
Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar
Screenings
Home Health Services will provide
screenings from 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Please fast beginning the night before
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To Your HEALTH

GET PROACTIVE ABOUT PROSTATE HEALTH

SEPTEMBER 10-16 IS PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS WEEK

Did you know that more than 186,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in the United States this year? After skin cancer, it's the most common form of cancer in men—one in six will be diagnosed in his lifetime.

That's why it's so important to understand the warning signs, risk factors and screening guidelines for the disease. When it comes to prostate cancer, time is your strongest ally—early detection is imperative. This September, be sure to talk to your doctor about your health history, steps you can take toward prevention, and getting screened.

RISK FACTORS The following are some of the most common risk factors for prostate cancer:

- ♦ **Age.** Age is the #1 risk factor for the disease. More than 65% of all prostate cancer cases occur in men over 65.
- ♦ **Personal Family History.** Men whose fathers, brothers, or sons have had prostate cancer are twice as likely to develop the disease.
- ♦ **Ethnicity.** African-American men are 61% more likely to develop prostate cancer than white men.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS The prostate gland—part of the male reproductive and urinary systems—is located deep in the pelvis. Prostate cancer often progresses slowly, and may produce no symptoms for years. If you notice any changes in urinary or sexual function, however, you should contact your doctor right away. Signs to watch for include:

- ♦ Weak, interrupted urine flow or inability to urinate
- ♦ Difficulty starting or stopping urine flow
- ♦ The need to urinate frequently, especially at night
- ♦ Blood in the urine or semen
- ♦ Pain or burning during urination or ejaculation
- ♦ Continued pain in the lower back, pelvis or upper thighs

Experiencing these symptoms doesn't necessarily mean you have prostate cancer. They can have a number of causes, so it's important to talk to your physician to get a proper diagnosis.

PREVENTION AND SCREENING Researchers continue to explore the links between nutrition and prostate cancer. One thing is clear, however: A healthy lifestyle is a sure-fire way to help prevent the disease. Drink plenty of water; eat a diet rich in fruits, vegetables, and whole grains; and exercise regularly.

In addition, the American Cancer Society recommends that all men over 50 talk to their doctors about yearly prostate screenings. Men at higher risk should consider being tested earlier, at about age 40.

The most important screening tool for prostate cancer is the PSA (prostate-specific antigen) blood test. Explains Robert Ross, Jr., M.D., "Since the advent of the blood PSA test, we're able to diagnose and treat the disease much earlier than we could twenty years ago. It's not perfect, but it's the best tool we've got."

In addition to the blood PSA test, digital rectal examinations and transrectal ultrasounds may also be used. "No one enjoys a rectal exam," says Dr. Ross, "but the benefits of early detection are well worth it."

TAKE A PROACTIVE STANCE While a prostate cancer diagnosis can be frightening, there's hope. Early diagnosis and advanced treatment options have remarkably increased survival rates, and local and nationwide support networks abound. The more you know, the better—and by understanding the risks, warning signs, and screening guidelines you can help protect yourself against the disease.

Health BRIEFS



FREE LECTURE

Tuesday, September 8
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Free Physician Lecture

Speaker: Zenobio Aguila, M.D.,
Board Certified Internist

Topic: "The Flu and You: All You
Need to Know for this Upcoming
Season."

Location: Aston Gardens
at Pelican Pointe,
1000 Aston Gardens Drive, Venice
Register by calling 240-1000.

Light Refreshments served.



FREE PROSTATE CANCER SCREENING

Venice Regional Medical Center is offering a free prostate cancer screening for men over the age of 50 and younger men with a family history of the disease. This screening is performed in two phases. **You must participate in Phase 1 to be eligible to participate in Phase 2.**

PHASE 1:
September 16
Between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m.
PSA (Prostate Specific Antigen)
Blood Test

Call for available time slots
486-6925.

Venice HealthPark Lions Club Room
1283 Jacaranda Blvd.
(Center Road Side of Building)

PHASE 2:
September 23
Starting at 5:30 p.m.
DRE (Digital Rectal Exam)

Reservations are required.
Call for available time slots
486-6925.

Venice HealthPark Lions Club Room
1283 Jacaranda Blvd.
(Center Road Side of Building)

Because this is a free service, those who are currently under the care of a urologist or have been diagnosed with carcinoma of the prostate are not eligible for the screening.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 26

Birding walk

Time: 7:30 a.m.-noon
Where: T. Mabry Carlton Jr. Memorial Reserve, 1800 Mabry Carlton Parkway, Venice
Notes: Charlie Sample from Friends of the Carlton Reserve and the Venice Audubon Society will lead the walk.
Call: 861-5000

Lord-Higel House fundraiser

Time: 11 a.m.-9 p.m. every day September-October
Where: Applebee's, 4329 South Tamiami Trail, Venice
Notes: Ten percent of the purchase price will go to the Friends of the Lord-Higel House.
Call: 488-1937

Venice Women's Sailing Squadron

Time: 9 a.m.
Where: Venice Yacht Club, 1330 Tarpon Center Drive, Venice
Call: Penny Washburn, 966-3100
Link: www.bitterendsvenice.com

Kayaking safety

Time: 8:30-11 a.m.
Where: North Jetty/Snake Island
Cost: \$40
Call: Terry Brawley, 960-5505

Peer counseling

Time: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Where: Women's Resource Center, 701 Center Road, Venice
Notes: Peer counseling is available every weekday.
Cost: \$5 donation
Call: 485-9724
Link: www.thewomensresourcecenter.org

Kiwanis

Time: 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m.
Where: American Legion, 1770 E. Venice Ave., Venice
Cost: \$10
Call: Beverly Miller, 484-7394

Watercolors with Walter

Time: 10 a.m.-noon
Where: Woodmere Park, 3951 Woodmere Park Blvd., Venice
Cost: \$20
Call: 861-5000

Evening book club

Time: 6 p.m.
Where: Jacaranda Library, 4143 Woodmere Park Blvd., Venice
Call: 861-5000

Venice Archives

Time: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays
Where: Historic Triangle Inn, 351 S. Nassau St., Venice
Notes: Open to the public two days a week for the Venice Archives & Area Historical Collection. Personal research may be arranged by calling

EDITOR'S NOTE: Please call or e-mail location to confirm the date and time prior to attending an event.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 1

Friends of The Legacy Trail

Time: 6 p.m.
Where: Oscar Scherer State Park, 1843 South Tamiami Trail, Osprey
Notes: Andrew Nouné, executive director of the Alliance for Responsible Transportation, will speak. There is no park entry fee for those attending the meeting. The public is invited.
Call: 861-7245
Link: www.legacytrailfriends.org

SATURDAY, SEPT. 19

Children's vision screening

Time: 9 a.m.-noon
Where: Venice HealthPark, 1289 Jacaranda Blvd., Venice
Notes: Venice/Englewood Lions Clubs will offer free vision screenings for preschool through high school children living between Blackburn Point Road in Osprey, south to Boca Grande, east to



the Myakka River and west to the Gulf of Mexico. Screening will be conducted by Dr. P. Dee G. Stephenson. An appointment is required.
Call: 486-6065

SATURDAY, SEPT. 19, AND SUNDAY, SEPT. 20

Yard sale benefit

Time: 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
Where: Wildlife Center of Venice, 3252 Border Road, Venice
Notes: All proceeds will benefit the wildlife being cared for at the center.
Call: 484-9657

TUESDAY, SEPT. 29

Civility in the workplace

RSVP: Sept. 23
Date: Sept. 29
Time: 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Where: Venetian Golf & River Club, 502 Veneto Blvd. (off Laurel Road), Venice
Notes: Topic is "Increasing Productivity

and Satisfaction in Your Workplace." This is the third in a series of complimentary workshops sponsored by Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice. Preference will be given to organizations participating in the Because It Matters workplace civility program.
Call: 486-4600

SATURDAY, OCT. 3

Community yard sale



RSVP by: Oct. 3
Date: Oct. 17
Time: 7-11 a.m.

Where: New Life Community Center, 1500 South Tamiami Trail, Venice
Notes: Participants can earn money by selling yard sale items at a booth rented from the United Way of South Sarasota County. The fundraiser sale is open to individuals, businesses, non-profits and churches.
Cost: \$35 fee will reserve a spot, and 100 percent of this amount goes to United Way.
Call: 408-0595

THURSDAY, OCT. 29

VMS Silver Jubilee

Time: 6:30 p.m.
Where: Venice Middle School, gymnasium, 1900 Center Road, Venice
Notes: The public is invited to the school's 25th anniversary celebration. There will be a short program, light refreshments, and time to greet old acquaintances and see mementos from the past 25 years. Contact Sharon Lewis by Oct. 1 and let her know if you will attend.
Call: 493-3437
E-mail: slewis9@comcast.net

BEST BET UNDER THE SUN

Homage to Ol' Blue Eyes kicks off Cabaret season



PHOTO COURTESY OF VENICE THEATRE

Allen Kretschmar, left, Kim Gardner Kollar, Bobbi Eschenbach and Chris Caswell will perform 56 of Frank Sinatra's best songs at Venice Theatre. "My Way: A Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra" opens the 2009-10 Cabaret season and will run on the Pinkerton Stage Aug. 28-Sept. 13. Performances are Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$24 (\$12 for students) from the box office, 140 W. Tampa Ave., Venice, 488-1115. Tickets are also available at www.venicestage.com.

James Hagler, director.
Call: 486-2487

Club food



Time: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Where: Venice-Nokomis Elks Lodge, 1021 Discovery Way, Nokomis
Notes: Menu varies weekly. Drive-up available. Authentic smoked meats available Wednesday and Friday in parking lot.
Cost: Prices range from \$5-\$12
Call: 486-1854

Disabled American Veterans dinner

Time: 4-8 p.m.
Where: Disabled American Veterans, 600 East Colonia Lane, Nokomis
Cost: \$5
Call: 488-4500

Bingo

Time: 6-8:30 p.m.
Where: American Legion, 1770 E. Venice Ave., Venice
Call: 488-1157

Game day

Time: 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Where: Venice Art Center, 390 S. Nokomis Ave., Venice
Call: 485-7136

Link: veniceartcenter.com

Euchre, bridge

Time: 6-7:45 p.m.
Where: Jacaranda Library, 4143 Woodmere Park Blvd., Venice
Call: 861-5000

Karaoke

Time: 7 p.m.
Where: Eagles Aerie, 621 East Colonia Lane, Nokomis
Call: 484-4470

Senior beach walk

Time: 8:30-10:30 a.m.
Where: Nokomis Beach Pavilion, 100 South Casey Key Road, Nokomis
Notes: This self-guided beach walk starts at the plaza.
Cost: \$1 one-time fee for a 1-mile walk
Call: 861-5000

Shuffleboard

Time: 7 p.m. Wednesdays; 9 a.m. Mondays and Fridays
Where: Hecksher Park, 450 W. Venice Ave., Venice
Call: Bill, 586-5889

Snook Haven music

Time: noon-2 p.m.
Where: Snook Haven, 5000 E. Venice Ave. (corner of Venice Avenue



and River Road), Venice
Notes: The Hi-Lites play banjo, guitar and have vocals.
E-mail: banjolady@comcast.net

THURSDAY, AUG. 27

Sierra Club coffee

Time: 8:45-10 a.m.
Where: Venice City Hall, Community Room, 401 W. Venice Ave., Venice
Notes: Interested people are welcome to join the group for free coffee, bagels, pastries and informal discussion about the environment.
Call: 951-6084

Lord-Higel House fundraiser



Time: 5-8 p.m.
Where: Wendy's, 4331 South Tamiami Trail, Venice
Notes: A flier is required by the cashier and can be obtained at the Venice Gondolier Sun, 200 E. Venice Ave., or the Venice Chamber of Commerce, 597 South Tamiami Trail (weekdays 8 a.m.-5 p.m.), or Venice City Hall, 401 W. Venice Ave. (week-

days 9 a.m.-4 p.m.), so 10 percent of the purchase price can go to the Friends of the Lord-Higel House.
Call: 488-1937

Gardening answers

Time: 9:30 a.m.-noon
Where: Venice Public Library, 300 S. Nokomis Ave., Venice
Call: 861-1350

Zumba classes

Time: 6:15 p.m.
Where: Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave., Venice
Call: 408-8205
E-mail: mlszerbin@aol.com

Peer counseling

Time: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Where: Women's Resource Center, 701 Center Road, Venice
Notes: Peer counseling is available every weekday.
Cost: \$5 donation
Call: 485-9724
Link: www.thewomensresourcecenter.org

Tap classes

Time: 9-11 a.m.
Where: Nokomis Community Center, 234 East Nippino Trail, Nokomis
Notes: Beginner class 9-10 a.m.; intermediate class 10-11 a.m.
Cost: \$10 per class
Call: 861-5000

Line-dance classes

Time: 11 a.m.-noon
Where: Nokomis Community Center, 234 East Nippino Trail, Nokomis
Cost: \$5 per class
Call: 861-5000

Hula class

Time: 10-11 a.m.
Where: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 800 South Tamiami Trail, Venice
Call: 488-3009

Karaoke

Time: 7-10 p.m.
Where: VFW Post No. 8118, 832 E. Venice Ave., Venice
Call: 486-8551

Guitar class for beginners

Time: 4-5 p.m.
Where: Nokomis Community Center, 234 East Nippino Trail, Nokomis
Notes: Bring an acoustic guitar and notebook.
Cost: \$15 for five weeks or \$3 per class
Call: 861-5000

Dance classes

Time: 6-8 p.m.
Where: Nokomis Community Center, 234 East Nippino Trail, Nokomis
Notes: adult beginner and advanced levels jazz/tap and ballet
Cost: \$30 per month per class; both classes \$50
Call: 861-5000

Please see **VENUE, 4B**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

TUESDAY, SEPT. 1

Friends of The Legacy Trail

Time: 6 p.m.
Where: Oscar Scherer State Park, 1843 South Tamiami Trail, Osprey
Notes: Andrew Nouné, executive director of the Alliance for Responsible Transportation, will speak. There is no park entry fee for those attending the meeting. The public is invited.
Call: 861-7245
Link: www.legacytrailfriends.org

SATURDAY, SEPT. 19

Children's vision screening

Time: 9 a.m.-noon
Where: Venice HealthPark, 1289 Jacaranda Blvd., Venice
Notes: Venice/Englewood Lions Clubs will offer free vision screenings for preschool through high school children living between Blackburn Point Road in Osprey, south to Boca Grande, east to



the Myakka River and west to the Gulf of Mexico. Screening will be conducted by Dr. P. Dee G. Stephenson. An appointment is required.
Call: 486-6065

SATURDAY, SEPT. 19, AND SUNDAY, SEPT. 20

Yard sale benefit

Time: 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
Where: Wildlife Center of Venice, 3252 Border Road, Venice
Notes: All proceeds will benefit the wildlife being cared for at the center.
Call: 484-9657

TUESDAY, SEPT. 29

Civility in the workplace

RSVP: Sept. 23
Date: Sept. 29
Time: 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Where: Venetian Golf & River Club, 502 Veneto Blvd. (off Laurel Road), Venice
Notes: Topic is "Increasing Productivity

and Satisfaction in Your Workplace." This is the third in a series of complimentary workshops sponsored by Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice. Preference will be given to organizations participating in the Because It Matters workplace civility program.
Call: 486-4600

SATURDAY, OCT. 3

Community yard sale



RSVP by: Oct. 3
Date: Oct. 17
Time: 7-11 a.m.

Where: New Life Community Center, 1500 South Tamiami Trail, Venice
Notes: Participants can earn money by selling yard sale items at a booth rented from the United Way of South Sarasota County. The fundraiser sale is open to individuals, businesses, non-profits and churches.
Cost: \$35 fee will reserve a spot, and 100 percent of this amount goes to United Way.
Call: 408-0595

THURSDAY, OCT. 29

VMS Silver Jubilee

Time: 6:30 p.m.
Where: Venice Middle School, gymnasium, 1900 Center Road, Venice
Notes: The public is invited to the school's 25th anniversary celebration. There will be a short program, light refreshments, and time to greet old acquaintances and see mementos from the past 25 years. Contact Sharon Lewis by Oct. 1 and let her know if you will attend.
Call: 493-3437
E-mail: slewis9@comcast.net

VENUE from Page 3B**Tappercise**

Time: 10-11:30 a.m.
Where: Starz Choice Dance Academy, 348 S. Seaboard Ave., Venice
Call: 408-0019

Club food

Time: 5-7:30 p.m.
Where: Venice-Nokomis Elks Lodge, 1021 Discovery Way, Nokomis
Call: 486-1854

Time: 5-8 p.m.
Where: American Legion, 1770 E. Venice Ave., Venice

Time: 5-8 p.m.
Where: Eagles Aerie, 621 East Colonia Lane, Nokomis
Call: 484-4470

Poetry reading

Time: 7 p.m.
Where: Sanddollar Bookstore, 272 W. Miami Ave., Venice
Call: 480-1030
Link: www.poetsrule.com

Jewelry classes

Time: 6-8 p.m.
Where: ErlenBach Studio, 207 S. Nokomis Ave., Venice
Call: 227-4335

Venice-Nokomis Rotary

Time: noon-1 p.m.
Where: Venice Yacht Club, 1330 Tarpon Center Drive, Venice
Notes: The club is now meeting in this new location.
Call: 493-0390
Link: www.venicenokomisrotary.org

Aerobic Walking Club

Time: 5:45-7 p.m.
Where: T. Mabry Carlton Jr. Reserve, 1800 Mabry Carlton Parkway, Venice
Notes: Members of the Aerobic Walking Club walk at Carlton Reserve, led by a ranger. Meet at the pavilion.
Call: 486-2547

Cruise Club

Time: 7 p.m.
Where: Crossroads American Grille, 385 North U.S. 41 Bypass, Venice
Notes: The club's mission is for members to cruise their boats to fun destinations.
Call: 386-0983

Duplicate bridge

Time: 1 p.m.
Where: Rialto Shopping Center, 648 South Tamiami Trail, Venice
Notes: All are welcome to this open, competitive and friendly game sanctioned by ACBL.

Call: 223-3712
Link: www.venicebridge.net

FRIDAY, AUG. 28**Marco Rubio to speak**

Time: 2 p.m.
Where: Village On The Isle, Renaissance Room, 930 South Tamiami Trail, Venice
Notes: He will talk about his candidacy for U.S. Senate. Free refreshments will be served.
Call: 486-5469

Spaghetti dinner

Time: 5-7 p.m.
Where: Salvation Army, 1051 Albee Farm Road, Venice
Notes: A bake sale will also be held to benefit the Home League.
Cost: \$5
Call: 484-6227

Career counseling

Time: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Where: Women's Resource Center, 701 Center Road, Venice
Notes: Career adviser Ania Morris offers one-on-one appointments to help with employment resources.
Cost: \$5 members; \$8 nonmembers
Call: 485-9724
Link: www.thewomensresourcecenter.org

Peer counseling

Time: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Where: Women's Resource Center, 701 Center Road, Venice
Notes: Peer counseling is available every weekday.
Cost: \$5 donation
Call: 485-9724
Link: www.thewomensresourcecenter.org

French Club

Time: 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Where: Venice Public Library, 300 S. Nokomis Ave., Venice
Notes: Basic knowledge of French is required.
Call: 485-3985

Food distribution

Time: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Where: Habitat ReStore, 1400 Ogden Road, Venice

Computer questions

Time: 1:30-2:30 p.m.
Where: Jacaranda Public Library, 4143 Woodmere Park Blvd., Venice
Call: 861-1270

Club food

Time: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; 5-7:30 p.m.
Where: Venice-Nokomis Elks Lodge,

1021 Discovery Way, Nokomis
Notes: Menu varies weekly. Drive-up available. Authentic smoked meats available Wednesday and Friday in parking lot.
Cost: Prices range from \$5-\$12
Call: 486-1854

Time: 5-8 p.m.
Where: Eagles Aerie, 621 East Colonia Lane, Nokomis
Call: 484-4470

Time: 4:30-6:45 p.m.
Where: Veterans of Foreign Wars, 832 E. Venice Ave., Venice
Call: 484-8118

American Legion dinner-dance

Time: 5-8 p.m.
Where: American Legion, 1770 E. Venice Ave., Venice
Call: 488-1157

Fish fry and dance

Time: 5-7:30 p.m. dinner followed by dancing
Where: Venice-Nokomis Elks Lodge, 1021 Discovery Way, Nokomis
Notes: Restaurant is operated by Buffalo Bill's Catering. Lounge is restricted to members and guests.
Cost: \$8
Call: 485-8807 or 486-1854

Jazz project

Time: 7-9 p.m.
Where: Bonnell's Boutique & Winery, 317 W. Venice Ave., Venice

Notes: Band located inside; no cover charge. No minimum sidewalk, inside bars or garden. Reservations recommended.
Cost: \$20 minimum per person inside tables
Call: 480-0011

Tappercise

Time: 3-4:30 p.m.
Where: Starz Choice Dance Academy, 348 S. Seaboard Ave., Venice
Notes: intermediate tap
Call: 408-0019

Sunset sing-along

Time: One hour before sunset
Where: Venice Beach, near lifeguard station
Notes: Bring a chair
Call: 493-0775
Link: www.newlifevenicefl.org

Teen beginning guitar class

Time: 4-5 p.m.
Where: Nokomis Community Center, 234 East Nippino Trail, Nokomis
Notes: Bring an acoustic guitar, pencil and spiral notebook.
Cost: \$3 per class; \$15 for five weeks
Call: 861-5000

Shuffleboard

Times: 9 a.m. Fridays and Mondays; 7 p.m. Wednesdays
Where: Hecksher Park, 450 W. Venice Ave., Venice
Call: Bill, 586-5889

Adopt a pet

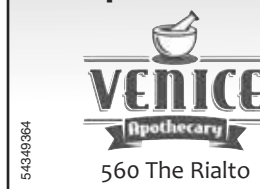
PHOTO COURTESY OF
INGRID SIMKE

Hi, my name is Beau. I am a young, male, domestic short hair. I am a tiger with some white. I have beautiful striking eyes, and am very laid back and affectionate. I am a lap cat. For more information, call the Suncoast Humane Society at 474-7884 or visit www.humane.org.

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(at the hospital entrance)
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DON'T MISS OUT

Discover Venice 2009-2010

Don't miss the Venice Gondolier Sun's annual tour of the city - *Discover Venice*.

Filled with helpful facts, local photography and interesting tidbits about our beloved community and surrounding area, this magazine-style guide is a must read for visitors, relocating families and even our most established, Venetian residents.

Inserted into the Gondolier Sun:
Sat., November 21
and
Wed., February 3

Additional copies will be distributed in the community at high-traffic area locations - reaching 100,000 potential customers.

Final Deadline: Fri., October 23

Contact your marketing partner:

Pete Muzzonigro 207-1211
 Brian Dalton 207-1216
 Connie Ruberg 207-1218
 Jan Lugar 207-1219
 Jeannie Moore 207-1230

VENICE
Gondolier Sun

LOS ANGELES TIMES CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Paul of "American Graffiti"

6 Big Apple sch.

10 One often looking down?

14 Part of Caesar's boast

15 Former manager Felipe

16 Bishop of Rome

17 Exterior attractiveness, to a Realtor

19 Wilson of "Wedding Crashers"

20 Beethoven's affliction

22 Hunk

24 Drei minus zwei

25 Flummoxed

26 Embraces, as a philosophy

28 Site for saplings

30 Old Italian bread

31 Lined up

33 What chambers of commerce do, and this puzzle's title

38 Like a banquet

39 Slightly

41 Thorny shrubs commonly with yellow flowers

44 Livestock food

46 Billiards bounce

47 James of "The Godfather"

49 Bar code?

50 Drug safety test

54 General Bradley

55 Replay feature

58 Soap actress Sofer

59 Isle where Macbeth is buried

60 Rope loop

61 Scott in a landmark civil rights case

62 Clairvoyant

63 Kind of pressure that can cause headaches

DOWN

1 Driver's document: Abbr.

2 Old French coin

3 Vermont music festival town

4 Early Christian pulpit

5 Afternoon service

6 Menu fowl

7 Staff symbols

8 Wordsmith Webster

9 Christmastime

10 Golf pro shop array

11 Not in any way

12 Feature of some corkscrews

13 Popular analgesic cream

18 Pitchfork-shaped letters

21 Hitter of 755 homers

22 Hoedown dancer

23 Lyrical

27 Three-time Editorial Cartooning Pulitzer winner

28 "Parsley is gharshley" poet

29 Ocean State sch.

31 Bird venerated by ancient Egyptians

32 Frat letters

34 "Spider-Man" director

35 New Deal prog.

36 Breeding horse

37 Heroic tale

40 Drops on the grass

41 Agreement

42 More tranquil

43 French satellite-launching rocket

44 Old MacDonald's place

45 Whopper toppers

47 Duplicate

48 Fighting big-time

51 Members of Gil Grissom's team, briefly

52 Medicinal plant

53 Yours, in Tours

56 The Buckeyes, initially

57 Super ___: game console

By Dan Naddor Please see CROSS, 6B

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GOREN BRIDGE

Q 1 - As South, vulnerable, you hold:
▲ K 9 8 6 3 ♥ 7 ♦ 8 7 4 3 ♣ 9 6 3

Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

A - If you could be sure that partner would pass one spade, it could perhaps be excusable to make that bid. It is far more likely, however, that all you will succeed in doing is going from the frying pan into the fire. Pass. If partner is strong, he might be able to get you into the auction later.

Q 2 - Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
▲ J 6 5 ♥ 6 ♦ A K Q 10 9 4 ♣ A Q J

The bidding has proceeded:
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♦ Pass 2♣ Pass

What do you bid now?

A - Regardless of whether you treat North's response as invitational or forcing, you are in slam territory. This is one of the rare occasions where setting the suit can wait. We prefer a jump to three diamonds to show the quality of your suit, then supporting clubs next.

Q 3 - As South, vulnerable, you hold:
▲ A K 6 ♥ A 10 9 6 5 2 ♦ K J 6 3 ♣ Void

The bidding has proceeded:
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♥ Pass 2♦ Pass

What do you bid now?

A - If you play two-over-one forcing, bid three diamonds to set the suit and leave yourself a lot of room to investigate. If, however, it is invitational, a jump to four diamonds is too space consuming. We would start with a reverse bid of two spades — an absolute force — and then support diamonds next.

Q 4 - Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
▲ A 8 5 ♥ A 10 8 7 4 ♦ K 10 6 ♣ 8 5

The bidding has proceeded:
EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH
1♠ Pass 2♥ 3♣ Pass

What do you bid now?

A - It might seem that a raise to four clubs is automatic, but think for a moment. In a club contract the king of hearts might be under the gun on opening lead, making 11 tricks difficult. However, you might have a reasonable shot at three no trump, so why not give it a try?
(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 bidding has proceeded:
EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH
1♠ Pass Pass 2♣

What action do you take?

A - Since partner chose to balance with a simple overcall, you can't expect much more than a longish club suit in a hand of less than opening bid strength. You want to compete, but you can't introduce your poor five-card heart suit. Bid three clubs.

Q 5 - Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
▲ 9 6 5 2 ♥ 5 ♦ Q 10 8 3 2 ♣ K 9 6

The bidding has proceeded:
EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH
1♥ Pass Pass Dbl

What do you bid now?

A - Looking at only 5 points and hearing the opponents bow out of the bidding so early, you can bet partner is loaded for bear and could have any distribution. Under those circumstances, bid two diamonds, your longest and best suit. If the hand belongs in spades and partner does not bid the suit, you can introduce the suit next.

Q 6 - Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
▲ A Q 9 8 4 ♥ K 8 ♦ 10 4 ♣ K J 9 4

The bidding has proceeded:
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♠ 2♥ 3♣ Pass

What do you bid now?

A - don't like her for a variety of reasons not all having to do with the divorce. Until now, it has been easy to remain "cordially distant."

All of a sudden she has become pushy. She says

Please see **ABBY, 8B**

Teenager needs help dodging questions about his dating life



DEAR ABBY COLUMNIST

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 16-year-old male high school sophomore in what I

think is a pretty common predicament. A lot of my friends have had sex, and some are having it pretty regularly. Abby, I've never even kissed a girl!

How can I deflect attention from myself when my friends ask me how far I've gone? And what can I do to make sure I am not in this spot forever? — **IN THE MINORITY IN PALATINE, ILL.**

DEAR **IN THE MINORITY**: Some of your

friends may be having sex, but I have a flash for you. A lot of the boys who say they are may be lying to each other.

You don't need to "deflect" attention from yourself when the guys start asking about something that isn't their business. News has a way of traveling — fast. If they're your friends, they would know if you were interested in someone and the feeling was mutual. If you're asked, just say

you're not seeing anyone. P.S. In order to kiss a girl (etc.), you first have to become friends with one. Be patient and let nature take its course. You won't be in this "spot" forever. It'll happen when the time is right.

DEAR ABBY: My stepmother would like us to have a closer relationship. She and my father married eight years ago while I was in college. She was his mistress. I

don't like her for a variety of reasons not all having to do with the divorce. Until now, it has been easy to remain "cordially distant."

All of a sudden she has become pushy. She says

Please see **ABBY, 8B**

The Los Angeles Times SUDOKU

2						3	7	
5			2	9	3			
1			4	7			5	9
		6	9			1		2
			6	2	1			
7		1			4	6		
8	7		4	1				3
			5	3	9			8
		3	4					1

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, 6B**

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WELL-BEING BRIEFS

Free diabetes screenings

Dates: Aug. 27-28
Time: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Where: Kmart, 501 North Beneva Road, Sarasota
Notes: No appointment is necessary.
Call: Cholestcheck, (800) 713-3301

Dates: Sept. 1-2
Time: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Where: Sweetbay Pharmacy, 1254 Jacaranda Blvd., Venice

Notes: No appointment is necessary.
Call: Cholestcheck, (800) 713-3301

Gulf Gate Health Fair

Date: Saturday, Aug. 29
Time: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Where: Gulf Gate Library, 7112 Curtiss Ave., Sarasota
Notes: Learn more about health care resources in Sarasota County, including reduced-price prescription drugs, Kidcare, insurance options, senior social services, and mental health information. Short presentations will be made on such subjects as home health care, assisted living, long-term care planning and more.
Call: 861-5000, ask about the health fair at Gulf Gate Library.

Free cholesterol and diabetes screenings

Date: Aug. 29
Time: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Where: D & A Pharmacy, 3015 Bobcat Village Road, North Port
Notes: No appointment

is necessary.
Call: Cholestcheck, (800) 713-3301

Family support

Family Support Group, 6:30-7:30 p.m., fourth Wednesday of the month (Aug. 26), South County Resource Center, 7810 Tamiami Trail. Contact Wendy Hernandez at 539-8957 or whernandez@jfccs-cares.org.

Stroke support

Stroke Support Group, 11:30 a.m., fourth Wednesday of the month (Aug. 26), Englewood Community Hospital Rehab Center in the YMCA across from the hospital, 701 Medical Blvd. RSVP to 475-3558.

Parkinson's support group

This group meets at 4 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of every month at Aston Gardens, 1000 Aston Gardens Drive, Venice. This month: "How to Survive Hospitalization" by Dr. Ramon Gil of the Parkinson's Disease Treatment Center of Southwest Florida. To RSVP, call Jen Pietraniec at 484-3958.

Recovery support

Relapse Prevention and Recovery Support group, 6 p.m., fourth Thursday of the month (Aug. 27), Home Detox Inc. at 530 South U.S. 41 Bypass, Unit 12B, in Brickyard Plaza. Led by Sharon R. Mays-Tremain. Call 412-3869 or visit homedetoxinc.com.

Bereavement group

The Bereavement Support Group meets 3-4 p.m., the second and fourth Thursdays of the month in the Administrative Conference Room at Englewood Community Hospital, 700 Medical Blvd. Call 697-0783.

Heart Healthy Nutrition classes

Rachel Chambers presents a free one-hour overview of nutrition options, 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and noon, first Wednesday of the month (Sept. 2) at Venice Regional Medical Center, 540 The Rialto. To RSVP, call 483-7354.

Brain injury

Brain-injury support group, 6:30-8 p.m., first Thursday of the month (Sept. 3), Mid-County Regional Library, 2050 Forrest Nelson Blvd., Port Charlotte. Call Bob at 697-3055.

Nia with Matt

Nia is fun, pleasurable fitness that combines three movement art forms to heal and energize the body, mind, spirit and emotion. Classes are at 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave.; and at 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays at the Nokomis Community Center, 234 Nippino Trail, Nokomis. Contact Matt McCord at 488-6065 or flyndivematt@aol.com.

Help with prescriptions

The Community Pharmacy of Sarasota County Inc., 225 South Tamiami Trail, Nokomis, assists uninsured residents in obtaining their routine prescription medications. Call 445-5687 or visit www.cpsarasota.org.

Medicare help

Associated Medicare Patients Inc., an independent, nonprofit corporation of volunteers, helps those on Medicare navigate the health insurance system. AMP is free and serves Sarasota, Englewood and Venice. Open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays, AMP is on the second floor of the Pat Buster Building at the Senior Friendship Centers, 2350 Scenic Drive, Venice. AMP is always looking to train new counselors. For more information, call 584-0051.

Nar-Anon group

Thursday Nar-Anon Family Group, a support group for families who have someone with drug addiction, 7-8 p.m., St. Mark's Episcopal Church library, 513 S. Nassau St., Venice (behind Venice Regional Medical Center). This group is for the family, not the addict. The program is based on the 12 steps of AA and Al-Anon. Call Ray, 497-6879.

Venice resident receives national leadership award

STAFF REPORT

Robert Cohen, a 16-year Venice resident, recently accepted a leadership award for his service to the Venice Florida Ostomy Support Group.

The award was given by the United Ostomy Associations of America, a national association of ostomy support groups.

Cohen has been president of the Venice group for 15 years. The plaque states that the award was for "exceptional volunteer leadership and committed guidance in enabling the Venice Florida Ostomy Support Group to attain its humanitarian mission of ostomates helping ostomates."

Cohen also acts as the ostomy resource for the Venice area, collaborates with the American Cancer Society, visits ostomates and recently participated in a Venice Regional Medical Center class of nurses on ostomy care.

The presentation was made at UOAA's annual



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROBERT COHEN

Robert Cohen receives an award for his service with the Venice Florida Ostomy Support Group.

conference in New Orleans. Awards were also given to four other support-group leaders.

The local group meets on the third Wednesday of each month, from September through May, at the Venice Health Park at 1:30 p.m. in Suite 1283.

For more information, call 484-0607 or e-mail rac1518@gmail.com.

CROSS from Page 5B

LEMAT	CCNY	SNOB
ICAME	ALOU	POPE
CURBAPPEAL	OWEN	
LOSSOFHEARING		
GOBEINS	ATSEA	
ADOPTS	NURSERY	
LIRA	INAROW	
COURTBUSINESS		
LAVISH	ATAD	
ACACIAS	FORAGE	
CAROM	CAAN	LAW
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OMAR	SLOWMOTION	
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DRED	SEER	SINUS

SUDOKU from Page 5B

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6	1	2	5	3	9	7	4	8
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If you suffer from recurring aches, pains, or stiffness in the neck that last more than 24 hours, you should have your neck examined and treated. When you have a persistent pain in the neck area, it may be caused by nerve irritations or pinched nerves. It may also be the symptom of early stages of joint or disc degeneration. The neck or cervical area of the spine contains the upper portion of the spinal cord and eight pairs of spinal nerves.

These nerves are connected to almost every part of your body. Misalignments in the cervical area cannot only cause pain and discomfort in the neck but in other parts of the body as well.

Because of constant movement, the neck is very susceptible to stress and strains, especially if some vertebrae are out of alignment. Through gentle manipulation and other therapies your doctor chiropractic can correct the misalignments and bring welcome relief from pain and discomfort.

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BEST IN SHOW

The Print Quality Competition honors the best black-and-white and color reproductions in newspapers. This photo of flowers & bumble bee (above) was used to judge the color division.

Sun Newspapers WINS Print Quality Competition

Co-Sponsored by Inland Press Association & Kodak Newspaper Division

This picture was recently printed in the Venice Gondolier Sun and was awarded **Best in Show** honors in the 2009 Inland Print Quality Competition for best color reproduction.

Daily and weekly newspapers from the United States, Canada, and Bermuda participated in this contest administered by Inland Press Association.

The object of the contest was to reproduce the best match on newsprint to the color proof.

the **Inlander**
February 24, 2009 | Vol. 1, No. 1

Venice Gondolier Sun wins Print Quality Competition Color Division

VENICE Gondolier Sun



#1 AGAIN

FLORIDA PRESS ASSOCIATION Better Weekly Newspaper Awards

The *Venice Gondolier Sun* was again named the best weekly newspaper in its circulation category at the Florida Press Association Newspaper Awards ceremony. It's the 10th time in 11 years that the paper has captured the top award.

The newspaper also won a first-place award for general excellence, the second year in a row it received that honor. It took third for overall graphic design as well, improving from an honorable mention last year.

Editor Bob Mudge won four first-place awards, for humor column, headline writing, editorial writing and First Amendment defense, for which he received the Jon A. Rosenraad Award. He also took second place for editorial page.

Photo stringer Justin Fennell won a first-place award in sports photography. Copy Editor Rob Broyles took second in individual graphic and shared in Feature Editor Kim Cool's third-place award for environmental writing.

Projects Editor Brooky Brown won third place for best obituary and former Sports Editor Tripp Miller got second in sports game-day story.

More than 90 papers submitted a total of 1,539 entries, and 73 papers won at least one award.

Officials prepare for flu as school resumes

FROM SARASOTA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Sarasota County Emergency Management, Sarasota County Health Department and Sarasota County Schools provided a briefing Aug. 20 about H1N1 (swine flu) preparations for the 2009-10 school year.

Health department officials say this virus is widespread in the community, so they fully expect to see flu activity after schools have reopened.

"School and health department officials are reaching out to parents and school staff to equip them with the information needed to promote a healthy school environment. It is important that parents keep their children home from school if they become ill. This means that working parents should have a plan for child care if their child becomes ill," said William Heymann, M.D., F.A.C.E.P., medical director for the Sarasota County Health Department.

The school district has worked closely with the health department to train and equip health room staff, nurses and other school staff on ways to reduce the spread of the H1N1 virus.

"Our plan is flexible and may change as warranted," said Lori White, superintendent of Sarasota County Schools. "We are following the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Sarasota County Health Department on any decisions that would impact schools. These decisions will be made

locally on a case-by-case basis."

The district has worked with the health department to put actions in place to address swine flu concerns during the 2009-10 school year:

- School staff will identify students exhibiting flu-like symptoms who will then be evaluated by the health room aide or school nurse, and isolated if necessary.

- Parents or guardians will then be contacted and requested to pick up their children as soon as possible.

- The district will make hand sanitizers available for use in classrooms under the supervision of adults.

- Custodians and building supervisors will continue efforts initiated in the spring to clean commonly touched areas (doorknobs, light switches, handrails, etc.) often.

Students with influenza-like illness must remain at home for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone without the use of fever-reducing medicine. A fever is a temperature that is elevated above 100 degrees. Parents, especially those of medically fragile children — those with ongoing health issues such as asthma, diabetes and

other diseases and illnesses — are urged to seek out early medical care from their doctor or health care provider.

Health department and school district officials will work closely together using a computerized monitoring system to track student symptoms and attendance. Parents will be notified using the district's automated telephone message system and other means as appropriate.

The officials emphasize there are everyday actions that everyone can do to help reduce the spread of swine flu:

1. Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or the inside of your elbow.
2. Wash hands often with soap and water or alcohol-based hand gel, especially after coughing and sneezing.
3. Do not touch eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.
4. Avoid contact with those who are ill.

These topics were included in a telephone message to parents as well as a parent letter that school officials distributed on the first day of school, Monday. The same information will be posted on the Sarasota County School District Web site, www.sarasota-countyschools.net.

Reading tutors needed

Reading tutor training is being offered on Wednesday, Sept. 2, from 8:45 a.m. to noon in Room 221 of the blue awning building at the PALS office of Sarasota County School District, 1960 Landings Blvd., Sarasota.

PALS Partners in Education is the community involvement office of the Sarasota County Public Schools. PALS helps secure the county's students' educational future by offering early proactive intervention for struggling students.

Commitment as a reading volunteer is a minimum of one hour per week, working one-to-one with the same child in kindergarten, first or third grade. One training session is all that is required.

For more information or to RSVP, call 927-9000, ext. 31500.

Back(packing) to school



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROTARY CLUB OF SARASOTA BAY

Tim Cole, left, Rotary Club of Sarasota Bay board member, and Donna Clark, right, club president-elect, presented 50 backpacks to Paula Schuler-Evans, second from left, Venice Middle School exceptional student education leader, and Dr. Karin Schmidt, VMS principal, on Aug. 18. The club's members bought school supplies and donated more than 367 backpacks to six middle schools in the Sarasota County School District, with help from Walgreen's and Smith Barney.

State seeks ideas to enhance education

FROM FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Florida Department of Education has created a Web application for school districts and others to provide ideas for consideration in the state's Race to the Top application.

Announced as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the \$4.35 billion Race to the Top fund represents the largest-ever federal competitive investment in school reform and will reward states for past accomplishments and create incentives for future improvements.

"To help secure Florida's participation in this incredible opportunity, we will need to tap into our communities and schools where individuals are working daily to enrich and improve the lives of our students," said Education Commissioner Dr. Eric J. Smith. "I strongly encourage anyone with a new and innovative idea to visit this site and share their thoughts on how we can further improve Florida's education

system."

The Web application contains an online submission form that is open to the general public and allows for entries of up to 1,000 characters for each of the assurances identified in the federal Race to the Top guidelines. The assurances are: (1) standards; (2) assessment; (3) data systems; (4) great teachers and leaders; and (5) struggling schools.

The department will collect public input from this online submission site through Sept. 11. Once this period closes, the department, in consultation with school districts and education stakeholders throughout the state, will compile and review all input to determine the best ideas to include in Florida's grant application.

To provide feedback for Florida's application for these funds, visit www.fldoe.org/Commissioner/RaceToTheTop.asp. For more information about Race to the Top, visit www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/programs.html.

Girl Scouts seek volunteers to promote Scouting

Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida Inc. is seeking volunteers to assist in gathering stories and photos for media opportunities to promote Girl Scouting in designated areas in southwest Florida.

This is an opportunity to partner with a youth organization, develop public relations and marketing skills, and have

fun at the same time. It is preferred that the potential volunteer have a background or interest in writing, journalism or communications. Some training is required and will be provided.

For information, contact Amanda Jacob, at (239) 561-1800, ext. 406, or at amandaj@gsgcf.org.

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WOMEN'S SERTOMA CLUB OF VENICE SUN FIESTA '09 ART & CRAFT APPLICATION
 October 16th, 17th & 18th - Centennial Park, Venice

RAIN DATE: November 13th, 14th, & 15th

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 non-profit 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.

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INDEMNITY AGREEMENT
 For, and in consideration of permission to participate in the 2009 Sun Fiesta in downtown Venice on October 16, 17, & 18, 2009, 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 Sharon Brown: dssi1199@comcast.net.
 Please call only if e-mail is not available: 941-497-6273
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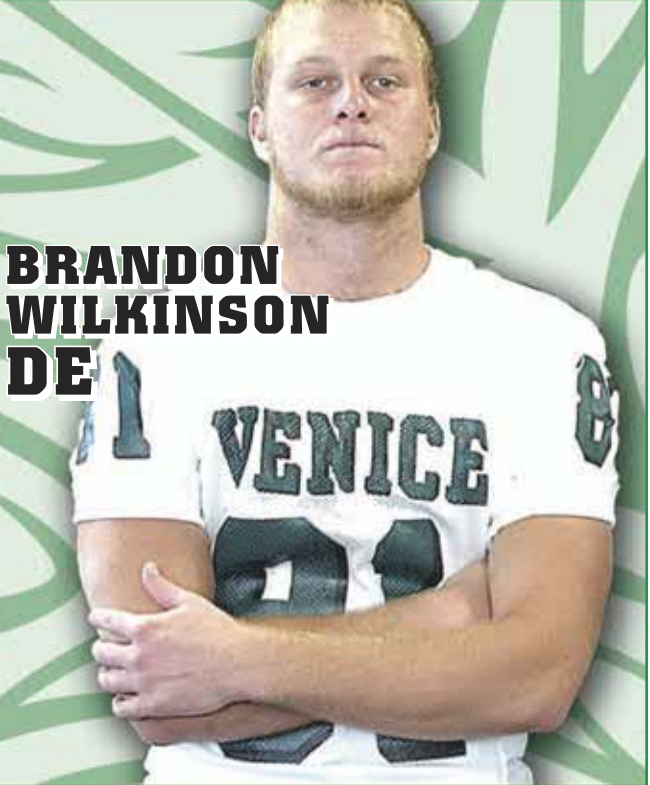
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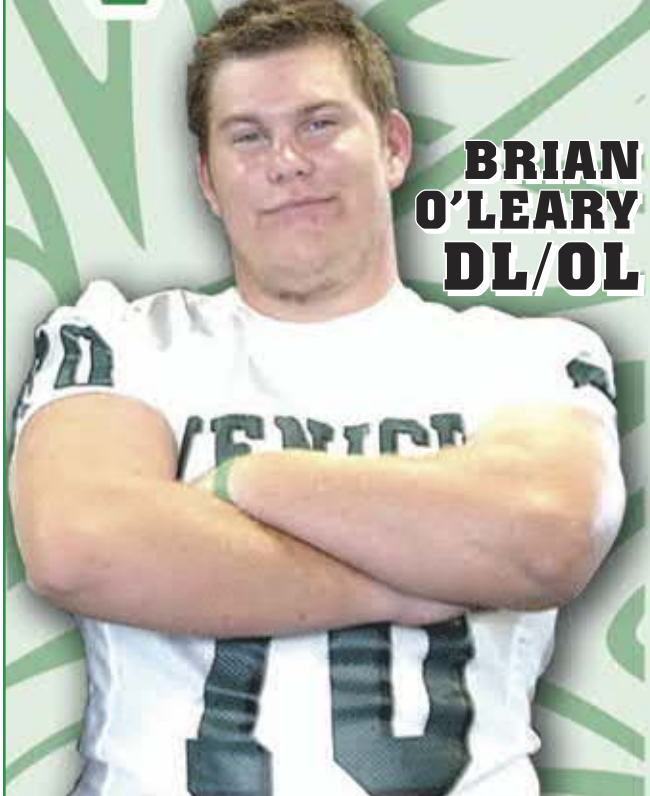
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	'09 VENICE VARSITY SCHEDULE = Home Game Dates	Aug. 28	Oscar Smith (at Chesapeake, Va.)	Sept. 25	Riverview	Oct. 23	Sarasota
		Sept. 4	Bye	Oct. 2	Southeast	Oct. 30	Manatee
		Sept. 11	Braden River	Oct. 9	North Port	Nov. 6	Woods Haven Prep
		Sept. 18	Booker	Oct. 16	Charlotte	Nov. 13	Bye



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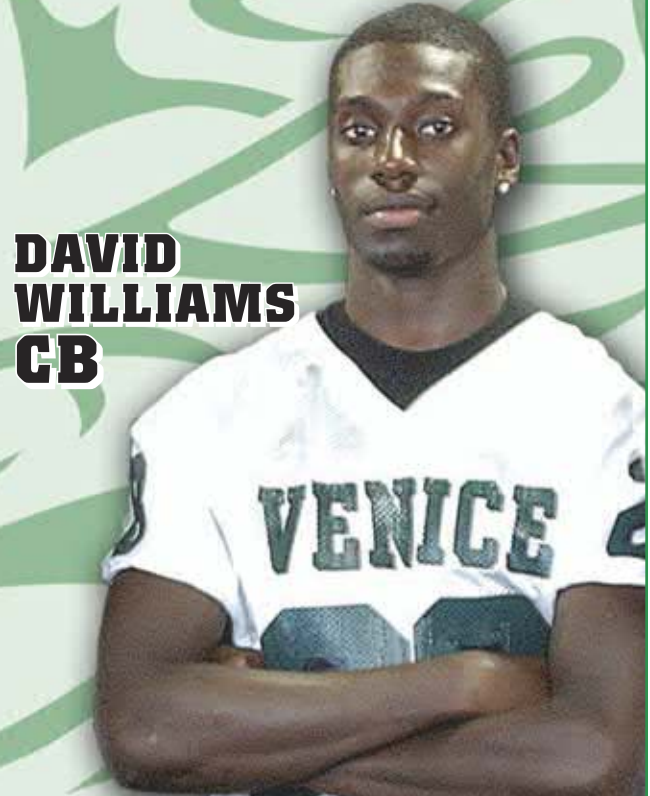


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DAVID WILLIAMS
CB

ABBY from Page 5B

we "have" to be closer and that she's got "rights in my life as my mother." She wants me to call her "Mom" and to get me to tell her I love her. It is not going to happen. But I care about her feelings and also about keeping peace in the family.

How can I let her know that I liked things better when we were more distant and avoid telling her I love her? I need her to back off. Talking to Dad won't help. He's defensive about anything related to his wife and can't understand why everyone doesn't like her as much as he does. — **NOT IN LOVE WITH DAD'S WIFE**

DEAR NOT IN LOVE: Your father's "bride" appears to have the hide of an alligator and a voracious appetite to match. She's trying to "devour" you.

It would not be rude to remind the woman that you already have a mother,

and as long as you are blessed to have one, you do not intend to call anyone else by her name. As for your being asked to tell her you "love" her, explain that while you are grateful to her for making your dad happy, love is something that needs to blossom over time — and enough time hasn't passed yet. (It should not be necessary to mention that "enough time" will never elapse.)

DEAR ABBY: My friend "Rob's" boss has invited him to be a Facebook "friend." The problem is, Rob and his friends gripe about work as well as the usual personal stuff. It's not the kind of info you want your boss to have access to. He feels uncomfortable about the invitation, but how do you say "no" to your boss? Rob is angry to have been put in this situation. — **ROB'S FRIEND**

DEAR FRIEND: A polite way to refuse, if it comes up in conversation, would be for Rob to say that he prefers to keep his work life separate from his

private life. But your friend should be careful about what he posts on the Internet because employers — and prospective employers — have been known to gain access to what folks assume is "private" communication. A word to the wise ...

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.

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby — Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Adopt a pet



PHOTO COURTESY OF INGRID SIMKE

Hi, my name is Titus. I am a 3-year-old neutered doberman/Lab mix. I'm a sweet boy and love affection. I'm a little shy at first, but if you give me a short time to warm up you'll see what a great personality I have. For more information, call the Suncoast Humane Society at 474-7884 or visit www.humane.org.

CLEANUP from Page 1B

an inflatable lift bag, which displaces some of the weight until the item reaches the surface where help is available.

How it all began

The club was founded by Wilson, Fred Hind and Elaine Brosnan in 1997. The goal was to promote dive buddies and local dives. The cleanups started in 1998 when, emulating the Adopt-A-Highway program, club members adopted the Venice Fishing Pier.

"There were eight or 10 of us at a chamber (Venice Area Chamber of Commerce) meeting, and we decided to take diving lessons," Wilson said. "A couple did their first dive in a pond at Punta Gorda. They couldn't see anything and quit."

Hind and Wilson persevered, had the club incorporated and lined up 16 original members. Although Wilson grew up in the area, he never went scuba diving until he took lessons and started the club when he was about 45. He also had to conquer a type of claustrophobia that caused him to use more air than the average diver.

Referred to as an "air-suck-

ing dog," he did 57 dives his first year. To this day he uses a larger, 100-pound tank, which allows him to stay down for about two hours. He said an 80-pound tank is more typical.

Collectors and 'lookers'

Now numbering close to 60, the club has members ranging in age from 15 to 83. They dive regularly all over Florida, hold regular meetings followed by dinner and take an annual trip to someplace special such as the Caribbean island Bonaire, which is known for its crystal clear water and the variety of things to see there.

"We are not shooters," Wilson said. "Our focus is fossils and the promotion of local diving."

Club members have found prehistoric fossil sharks' teeth as large as a person's hand, plus countless fossilized remains and mammoth teeth.

Venice could as easily be called the Fossil Capital of the World as it is the Shark Tooth Capital of the World. Doug Jones, the current club president, has several showcases of his finds in his home. Wilson said they find the most sharks' teeth out where the water is

about 17 feet deep but the larger ones are in deeper water where the bottom is also rockier.

Meetings have been held at Nokomis Community Center, 234 Nippino Trail, since that facility opened. The club was the first organization to sign up, Wilson said. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. They have a swap table each month and generally go out to dinner together after the meeting.

Club members also have adopted a manatee.

Dues are \$25 per person or \$40 per family. Dues are prorated for those joining later in the year.

Wilson is the club secretary and newsletter and Web editor.

What they enjoy are presentations by such important divers as the late Elmer Munk, who was one of the originators of the scuba classes given at the South County Family YMCA. Munk, the retired owner of a dive shop in Illinois, moved to Venice in 1991, working for four years as an administrator with the Venice Fire Department. Munk Haven

Reef, off Bonaire, was named for the avid diver and underwater photographer.

Special dives

Wilson was able to dive at Epcot.

"They only do eight a day, and we had to arrange it months in advance," he said.

Venice divers also were allowed to dive at the Aquarius Underwater Laboratory off the Florida Keys. That, too, had to be arranged months in advance. They could not enter the underwater lab, but even being able to dive next to it was a thrill.

"We had to do it when they were not working on a project," Wilson said. "It is 60 feet down."

In addition to several trips to Bonaire, group members also have gone to the Turks and Caicos and, more often, to places in Florida such as Jupiter and Boynton Beach. While spear fishermen are welcome to join the club, trips are planned strictly for viewing and collecting.

To-do list

The only incident they ever had occurred in 6 inches of water. Greg Vine stepped on a

sting ray, Wilson said.

On another occasion, no one was hurt but Wilson got the scare of his life. Diving at the Venice Fishing Pier he found himself staring straight into the face of a large shark.

"Someone had caught the fish and killed it and thrown the head over," he said. "That's what I saw."

In the Bahamas he has been swimming with sharks, and he saw three bull sharks off Boynton Beach.

"We're not on their menu," Wilson said. "We need them. They play an important role."

On Saturday, club members will participate in a local beach dive. Sept. 19, weather permitting, members will clean up the Nokomis Jetty. In October, don't be surprised if you hear about underwater pumpkin carvers off Venice Beach.

For information on the club, visit www.suncoastreefrover.com.

kc00l@venicegondolier.com

Marty Dover accompanied the divers into the water for their July 24 pier cleanup and contributed to this story.

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The Sun is once again publishing its **Women in Business** page. Each advertisement features a **PHOTOGRAPH** and **BIO** (we suggest a 50 word max) *subject to editing, of the business woman herself and her achievements. It's a way to showcase YOU and how YOU'VE excelled in the world of business.

Cost of the advertisement is \$60.00. It will publish on American Business Women's Day, September 22nd, in the Our Town sections of the following editions of the Sun:

- Port Charlotte • Englewood • DeSoto • North Port & Venice Gondolier on September 23rd.

If you would like to join the celebration of "**Women in Business**" please fill out the form below and send it with your photo, payment and bio to the address below.
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AUG. 26, 2009

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SOCIAL COLUMNIST
franvalencic@comcast.net
SUN NEWSPAPERS



SUN PHOTOS BY FRAN VALENCIC

Members of the Senior Friendship Center Monday morning writers group are Betty Bueter, back row left, Julius Grigore, Pam Cundiff, Carolyn Stephens, Lela Hinden, Marie Kilkenny, June Gurley and Frank Drab; and Ruth Wieclaw, front row left, Venice Gondolier Sun Features Editor Kim Cool, Peg Drab and Joe Roddy. Missing from this photo is photographer Fran Valencic. Cool gave the group members a mini lesson on how to get their work published.



Anita Justice, standing, and Anne Ballagh are co-chairs of the card party sponsored by the Council of Catholic Women of Epiphany Cathedral.

On a summer afternoon, let's make a deal



FRAN VALENCIC
SOCIAL COLUMNIST

Three cheers to the Epiphany Cathedral Council of Catholic Women for a terrific summer fundraiser. Co-chairs **Anita Justice** and **Anne Ballagh** and their committee gave more than 100 people a pleasant afternoon. Men and women enjoyed hot dogs, cupcakes and card games. They also had a chance to win door prizes

and raffle prizes including food, baskets and cash. Two prize tables were filled.

The proceeds from this event benefit local charities.

In addition to raising money, the Council of Catholic Women has two trips coming up. There is a bus trip in October to St. Augustine, Jacksonville and Sanford, Fla. They have a Caribbean cruise scheduled for January.

These friendly women also meet monthly for luncheons, meetings with guest speakers and parties.

For information about joining this group, call president **Edna Rohan** at 497-0038 or membership chair **Barbara Hurley** at 488-5543.

Making history

Congratulations to **Paul and Betty Intagliata** on their 50th wedding anniversary. This dynamic duo is often

seen around town dressed as John and Mabel Ringling.

The Intagliatas were instrumental in starting Venice MainStreet. Betty is a docent at the Historic Venice Train Depot and is the former president of the Venice Historical Society. In addition to all this, the lovebirds find time to travel and enjoy their family and friends. They celebrated part of their anniversary in Connecticut at a family reunion. More celebrating will be cruising the Hawaiian islands with their children.

Warmest congratulations to this terrific couple.

One of our best

The special person of this week is Venice Gondolier Sun Features Editor **Kim Cool**. This nice lady keeps everyone informed about things that are happening in Sarasota, Venice and the

entire world, including her two favorite places, the Magic Kingdom and Bali.

In addition to all this, she writes her ghost story, history and travel books. She generously donates many of her books to organizations for their fundraisers.

She recently took time from her busy day to spend a few hours at the Senior Friendship Centers with the Monday Morning writers group. Several of the aspiring Pulitzer Prize-winning writers wanted to know about getting their work published. She kindly gave them a mini lesson, signed copies of her book and stayed around for a photo session.

Kim Cool is one of the writers and editors who make Venice a great place to live.

franvalencic@comcast.net



Nick Rohan serves hot dogs at the card party at Epiphany Cathedral. His mom is president of the Council of Catholic Women that sponsored the event.



Sally Fitzgerald holds the door prize she won at the card party.



Edna Rohan, left, president of the Council of Catholic Women of Epiphany Cathedral, and Connie Marinak celebrate a successful card party on a hot summer afternoon in Venice.



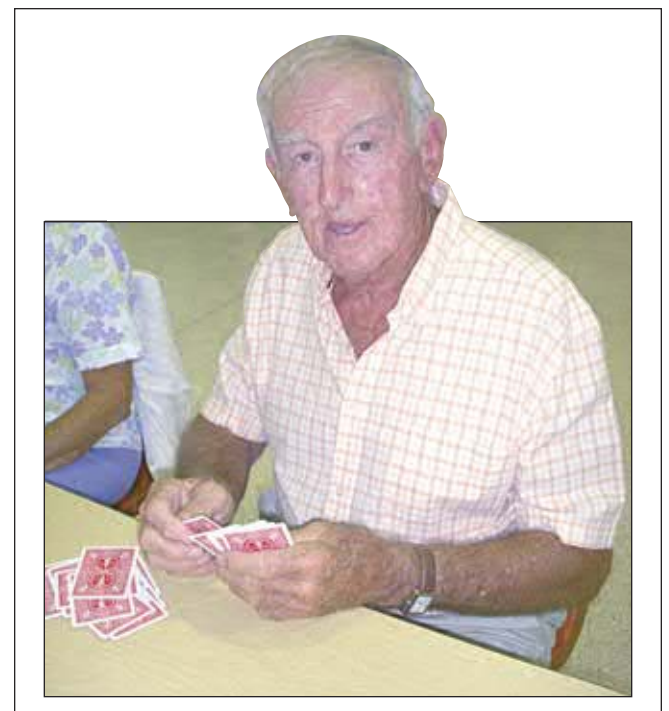
Lorry Doyle, left, and Jane Lachiusa sell raffle tickets at the card party. Doyle is the past president of the Council of Catholic Women.



Paula Pocatello, left, and Barbara Koehler pour iced tea for thirsty guests at the card party.



Estelle Kramer helps a friend by carrying two huge plates of food to her table at Epiphany Cathedral.



Jack Hardies enjoys a game of pinochle with friends at the card party sponsored by the Epiphany Cathedral Council of Catholic Women.

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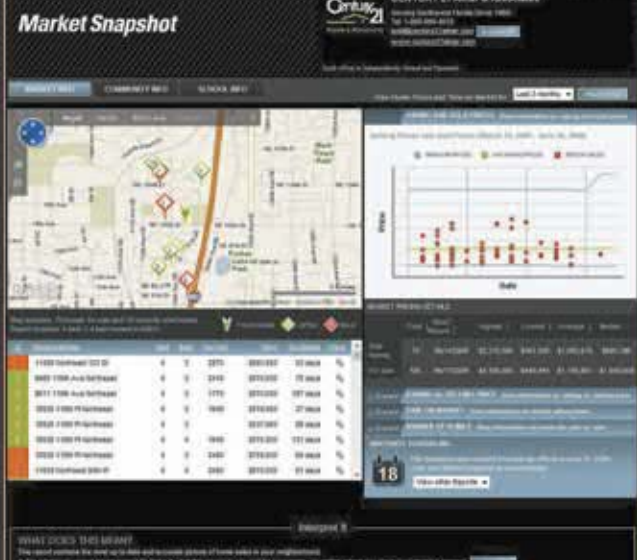
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<p>PRIME PROFESSIONAL OFFICE SPACE! Corner location with high visibility. Large signage in place. Main bldg was built in 2004. 2nd building was built in 1980. Over 5000 sq ft Must see! A#7467 \$895,000 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 627-3321</p>	<p>VIRTUAL TOUR</p> <p>PICTURE PERFECT Antigua model in the award-winning Sawgrass community. Waterfront golf course view. Richness & quality are noticed in this 3/2.5 home. Over 120K in upgrades! V#2186 \$669,900 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>TERRIFIC OPPORTUNITY on the Island of Venice. This property is zoned OPI with potential to build 3 ground floor office units and 3 apartments on the 2nd floor. The value is in the land. V#2123 \$479,000 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>BREATHTAKING LAKE VIEW! New tile roof, new stainless appliances, new A/C on a premium lot. Within walking distance of golf course! Being sold turnkey furnished! V#2134 \$379,000 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>LIVE AT THE BEACH and collect rent from happy tenants! This triplex is a stone's throw from the beach access in Englewood. Well maintained & turnkey furnished. Call for more details! V#2181 \$374,900 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>
<p>OPEN HOUSE AUG. 30, 12-2PM</p> <p>VIRTUAL TOUR</p> <p>500 S PARK BLVD. #19, VENICE Location, location! Island villa in Aldea Mar. Grab your towel & head to the beach! Vaulted ceiling, light & bright. DIR: W Venice Ave, left on Park, right into Aldea Mar. V#2173 \$299,900 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>VIRTUAL TOUR</p> <p>HOUSE FOR YOU, Year RV & boat on 2 lots! No deed restrictions, 3/2 w/ 2-car garage & 3-car detached garage! Large master bedroom with tray ceilings, bath with jetted tub & walk-in shower. Fireplace in living room. V#2184 \$299,000 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>VIRTUAL TOUR</p> <p>IMMACULATE HOME in move-in condition! Lincoln Inc. built with 3053 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, open floor plan, plenty of storage! Great location! V#2195 \$299,000 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>UPDATED END UNIT VILLA with oversized garage. Newly renovated kitchen with wood cabinets, granite counters, stainless appliances. Terrific open floor plan with fireplace. Community pool & spa! V#2178 \$229,000 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>ROTONDA HOME! 1450 sq. ft. lanai and pool area. Perfect home for entertaining. Features gorgeous master bath, large master suite, built-in entertainment center, plant shelves, and more! Fully furnished. V#2143 \$229,950 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>
<p>VIRTUAL TOUR</p> <p>JACARANDA WEST Everything has been done in this lovely home. New kitchen & baths, new tile floors, crown molding, etc. Take a look and fall in love! V#2165 \$224,900 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>OPEN HOUSE AUG. 30, 2:30-4:30PM</p> <p>VIRTUAL TOUR</p> <p>1281 LAKESIDE WOODS DR, VENICE Former model in Lakeside Woods! Porcelain tile throughout, granite counters, front load washer/dryer, lots of updates. DIR: Venice Ave to North on Pinebrook, Left on Pinebrook Way, Left to Lakeside Woods. V#2125 \$224,900 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>TERRIFIC OPPORTUNITY to own a condo on the Island of Venice! Only steps away from deeded beach access. Enjoy this fully furnished 2/2, first floor unit with close proximity to everything Venice has to offer! V#2190 \$195,000 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>CASA DI AMICI is where you will find this immaculate 3/2/1 ground floor, end unit. Just around the corner from clubhouse & pool. Tranquil views of the pond & preserve beyond for complete privacy. V#2171 \$183,900 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>AFFORDABLE ISLAND LIVING in this 2 bedroom, 2 bath updated condo right in downtown Venice! Within walking distance to shopping, restaurants, churches and beach! Come take a look today! V#2192 \$169,900 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>
<p>BOBCAT TRAIL BEAUTY! Maintenance-free end unit villa w/ open floor plan that features a spacious great room. Enjoy serene lake views from this Florida room or lanai. Gated community with 4.5 star rated golf course. V#2166 \$159,900 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>PRIME OFFICE SPACE on ground level with ample parking. Features 2 offices, 1/2 bath, reception area. Adjoining upstairs unit also being offered for sale under a separate contract. V#2119 \$165,000 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>BRAND NEW! Spacious, light & bright home w/ 2 BR plus den/office, screened lanai, open floor, large chef's kitchen, granite counters, design lighting. Heated community pool, fitness area. Convenient location. V#2077 \$149,900 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>CHESTNUT CREEK VILLAS This 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1-car garage home has been freshly painted inside and has a very private yard. Come take a look at all this home & community have to offer! V#2191 \$139,900 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>LOVELY VILLA IN SORRENTO EAST. Sip your morning coffee on the lanai & watch the birds on the lake. New roof, new A/C, new plumbing, new tile throughout. V#2138 \$124,900 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>
<p>LOVELY 2/2 HOME in a wonderful neighborhood. Great room with vaulted ceiling, breakfast room with bay window, large screened lanai, great back yard, plenty of room for pool. Move-in ready! V#2193 \$119,000 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS is all that can be said about this 3/2/2 North Port home built in 2002! Huge screened lanai for your relaxation or entertaining. Come take a look today! V#2189 \$115,000 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION! Turnkey furnished townhome on the Island of Venice within walking distance to Gulf Beaches, dog park, Sharky's Restaurant & Pier, golf course & so much more! V#2180 \$110,000 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>YOUR 2/2 CONDO AWAITS In this active Bird Bay community! Many Upgrades! Community offers tons of activities from swimming to tennis & more! Come take a look! V#2188 \$109,900 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>	<p>MAINTENANCE FREE LIVING! You own the land, and super price! Nicely located in established park with full amenities. V#2196 \$35,000 CENTURY 21 ALMAR & ASSOCIATES (941) 485-0021</p>
<p>PORT CHARLOTTE 19700 Cochran Blvd. (800) 231-0323</p>	<p>PUNTA GORDA 2705 Tamiami Trail #218 (800) 603-9204</p>	<p>NORTH PORT 14972 S. Tamiami Trail (800) 476-7721</p>	<p>VENICE ISLAND 100 W. Venice Ave. (800) 881-2140</p>	

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LOOK

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PORT CHARLOTTE 1/1, Sunshine Villas, near Cultural Center. Fresh paint. Clean. New appl. & AC. Long term. No dogs. \$475 mo. 1st & sec. (941)-258-1904

PORT CHARLOTTE - CUTE 1/1. Close to Shopping. Walk to Wall Carpet. \$400. mo. 1st, Last & Sec. (941)-255-0163

PORT CHARLOTTE 2/1 near hospital, tiled, clean, AC, fenced, \$450/mo. 1st, last + sec. 941-916-1535

DUPLEXES FOR RENT 1300

PUNTA GORDA ISLES, Rent to own, 2/2/CP all appl, \$650/mo. no pets, 1 Month sec. Immediate occupancy. 239-731-5188

PUNTA GORDA nice spotless 2BR, carpet. No pets. \$650 + util. 1st mo & sec. (941)-740-0491

PUNTA GORDA SOUTH 2 Bedroom, Very clean W/D, updated, Semi furn. \$700/mo inclds utilities. (941)-258-5396

PUNTA GORDA - 1BR duplex apt. @ \$550 mo, 1st, & last. 2BR Mobile Home \$600 Mo. (941) 639-8356

PUNTA GORDA completely remodeled, tile throughout, 2/1, \$600 mo. (941)-639-2823

APARTMENTS FOR RENT 1320

DEEP CREEK Sunnydell Commons Apts. 2 & 3BR's, \$700 & \$850. 1st & last req. Call 941-204-3224.

VENICE, DOWNTOWN Embassy 1br apt. \$600/mo. + \$600 Sec. Walk to beach & churches. N/P. (941)-244-0700

ENGLEWOOD, 1/1 Very Quiet, new paint & carpet. \$500/mo includes water. \$300 Sec. 941-223-1809

ENGLEWOOD MANASOTA KEY 1 Bedroom Apt. Clean/Fully Furnished Private Gulf Beach All Utilities Paid \$975 Month Call 914-416-0759

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ENGLEWOOD: MANASOTA KEY, steps to beach. 1 & 2BR, util. & cable incl. Sm. pets, \$175-\$230 wk. Long term. 941-716-3660

HAMPTON POINT APTS. currently is offering 3 & 4 bedrooms starting at \$675. Located off Rampart Blvd. Call (941) 979-1001 today for move-in specials.

VENICE ISLAND Eff, 1 & 2 br, Immed. occup. No pets 941-416-5757 or 323-6466

NOKOMIS WALK to beach, 2/1 New carpet/paint, 1 sm pet ok, \$500 moves you in! \$750/mo (941)-485-1206

NOKOMIS: 2 BEDROOM APT. 1/2 Block to Nokomis Beach. \$800/mo, Less with maint. Assistance. 1st, Last & sec. 941-488-5672

NORTH PORT VICTORIA POINTE APTS. at Sumter & Appomattox between US 41 & I-75 Your cat is now welcome too! 1/1 starts @ \$412 2/1 starts @ \$555 941-423-8720

NORTH PORT, 2/1, New tile, patio. Nice area, close to stores, 1st, Last & Sec. Small Pet OK. \$575. mo 941-426-8353

PORT CHARLOTTE Now accepting applications Subsidized Housing for the elderly, 62 and older, or requiring the features of an accessible unit, please call 941-624-2266 limited availability, Income limits apply. TTY:1-800-955-8771

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ENGLEWOOD Furnished \$400/mo including utilities w/ year lease 55+ Park No pets lease (941)-474-1353

ENGLEWOOD WATERFRONT efficiency on Manor and Placida \$650 per month, Call 698-0414

PORT CHARLOTTE, BANANA BAY Waterfront Motel Extended Stay \$195/wk incl. Cable, internet & util. swimming pool, fishing. Sm pet OK. 941-743-4441 www.bananabaymotel.com

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PORT CHARLOTTE Deep Creek, 2bd/2ba 1st. floor, totally furn. heated pool, \$760 mo. (941)-629-8229 OR 661-9570

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PUNTA GORDA Clean, Cool & Cozy, 1 BR. Furnished, comfy queen bed, laundry, courtyard, utilities incl. PG. 941-575-7006

PUNTA GORDA ISLES 2/2 waterfront. Lg. back yard, patio, walk-in-closet, off st. park. W/D. Annual lease, water incl., \$625 mo. 1st, last, sec. 941-626-0552

APARTMENTS FOR RENT 1320

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VENICE CLUBSIDE APTS. 1 Bedrooms Available. \$99 Moves you in. Call (941)-488-7766.

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VENICE ISLAND APTS Close to Everything F/L/S Util/Laundry incl N/P, N/S 941-483-0053

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VENICE, ALL NEW Large 1/1 Fully furnished. Venice Ave. \$600. mo. incl water & cable. 941-284-9459

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Woodmere Apts of Venice SUMMER SPECIAL! PLUS \$500 CASH 1BD/1BA: \$620 2BD/2BA: \$755 woodmereapartmentsofvenice.com 941-496-4161

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ENGLEWOOD Furnished \$400/mo including utilities w/ year lease 55+ Park No pets lease (941)-474-1353

ENGLEWOOD WATERFRONT efficiency on Manor and Placida \$650 per month, Call 698-0414

PORT CHARLOTTE, BANANA BAY Waterfront Motel Extended Stay \$195/wk incl. Cable, internet & util. swimming pool, fishing. Sm pet OK. 941-743-4441 www.bananabaymotel.com

ROOMS FOR RENT 1360

DEEP CREEK Garden Condos, private bath, pool, tennis courts, smoking OK, no pets. \$475/mo. includes utilities. (941)-255-5935

ENGLEWOOD, FURNISHED, private entrance & bath, W/D available. Utilities included. \$125 weekly + security 941-493-5186

NORTH PORT ROOM, close to Biscayne & 41. No smoke, drink, pets. Furn., \$100/wk. Incl. util. (941)-536-6582

PUNTA GORDA ROOM Furn, full house priviledges, very nice, cable & util incl \$365.mo 941-467-2712

PORT CHARLOTTE, Furn. room Priv. ent. clean & quiet, nice area, close to all, includes util. \$125 wk + dep No Pets 941-626-2832

PORT CHARLOTTE, Private home close to Murdock. Pool, furn. No pets. \$400 mo. Incl util, & W/D. 941-391-5881

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ROTONDA- 3br/2ba N/S Executive Condo, marble B-tub w/spa jets Pool, Beautifully furn. \$1999/mo. Lots of amenities! ALSO 2BR UNFURN. Avail \$725 + utils & dep. 941-268-5275 www.LKVillas.com

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ENGLEWOOD/ROTONDA Great selection available WEST COAST PROP. MGT 941-473-0718 RentalsFlorida.net

VENICE, 2br/2ba HOME, fully furn, 50+ resort fac. Wkly, Mo, Yearly. 516-728-7487 or 516-728-2991

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ENGLEWOOD: Office Space 190 sq.ft., internet, desk & utilities incl. \$350. email: wcpm@verizon.net

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LOOK

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Port Charlotte Executive Office Suites Receptionist, all util. & other support svcs. Omni Executive Center A Friendly Place to be! 4055 US 41 (Across from Bob Evans) Call Marj or Shirley 941-627-9755 www.omniexec.net

VENICE ISLAND Office suite for Rent \$325/mo inclds utilities 941-416-5757

VENICE Offices/Warehouses & office-warehouse combo's, All sizes & locations. 941-485-1119

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NOKOMIS 2 Blocks from Beach. Multi Family Building. Live in one unit, rent out others. \$299,900. Mary Beth or Kim. Preferred Property (941)-321-7229

NOKOMIS NEAR BEACH 4 UNITS Fully occup. \$299,000 Kim & Mary Beth 941-484-6279 Preferred Property Realtors

VENICE MINI Storage Facility 425 units, various sizes, nearly full, low rates. Price reduced. \$1.350M. Preferred Prop. Realtors. 941-321-7229

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FOR SALE OR RENT 14,000 s.f. on 5 acres, fenced, zoned I.L. Rent \$3800. mo. 863-494-2651

MURDOCK Available 900 sf. built out office space behind Mall across from High School. Designed with cabinetry. Easily altered to suit just about any Professional. Hurricane shutters, beautiful grounds & common areas. Plenty of parking. \$14.00 sf + CAM (941)-468-6309

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MURDOCK & CHAR HARB. 800-2400 SF Warehouse/office space. Start \$400 mo 941-639-7532.

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EMPLOYMENT
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2060 Management
2070 Sales
2090 Child/Adult Care Needed
2100 General
2110 Part-time/Temp
2115 Home Based Business
2120 Position/Job Wanted

PROFESSIONAL 2010

EXECUTIVE Real Estate Assistant, Full Time in Punta Gorda, for high volume real estate team. Previous executive level assistant or real estate background required. Salary \$25K-\$30K with bonuses & benefits. Fax cover letter & resume to 941- 639-4998.

INSURANCE, CSR Licensed, Experienced, Fax Resume 941-484-4671 or email: don@insurancecenter.us

NAIL TECHS wanted for Port Charlotte Salon. Clientele preferred. Fax resume to 941-623-4963 or call 941-769-2522

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MEDICAL 2030

CARE GIVER - for group home in Arcadia. Full/part time. Room & board may be incl. Fax resume to 941-475-8793

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CHECK OUT FT Temporary position for busy Physicians office. Medical experience req Fax resume to (941)-624-0941

CNA 11pm to 7am Wednesday - Saturday for 1 patient in Arcadia (863)-494-2550

COOK F/T Needed for LTC facility. Must have previous cooking experience, knowledge of therapeutic diets a plus. Please call for a confidential interview. We offer a better than average salary plus benefits. QUALITY HEALTH CARE 6940 Outreach Way (941)-426-8411 EOE DFWP

EXCITING HOME CARE START UP OPPORTUNITIES! National growing home care company is looking to build an exceptional team in the Port Charlotte region. We are looking for experienced professionals in home health care. These include but are not limited to: • Administrator, RN or PT with home care management experience. Start up experience helpful. • Director of Sales & Marketing with results in healthcare or home care markets, experience driving & bringing business and ability to build and retain a highly productive sales force. If you believe you are a good fit for either position, please fax your resume with cover letter to 866-296-4029.

NEW AD HHA/CNA, Florida Licensed For private home. Great Pay! 941-505-1403

LIFE ENRICHMENT COORDINATOR Sterling House of Englewood a Brookdale Senior Living Community is seeking an energetic, enthusiastic and caring individual to plan, implement and monitor recreational programs to meet the specific needs of our residents. Candidates must have some college training in recreational therapy or related field and experience working with seniors. This is a FT position with competitive salary and benefits. Please fax resume to 941-698-7558 or email dstraw@brookdaleliving.com

Looking for full time **MEDICAL ASSISTANT.** Must have experience. Mail resume to **OFFICE MANAGER** PO Box 494507 Pt Charlotte, FL 33949

LPN - Full Time for physician's office; experience preferred

DMH Human Resources DeSoto Memorial Hospital 900 N. Robert Ave. Arcadia, FL 34266 OR www.dmh.org and look under Careers OR Fax Resumes to: 863-494-8400 E-mail: hr@dmh.org 863-494-8405

LPN for busy Doctor's office. Must be a team player & able to multi task. Exp. necessary. Mail resume to: PO Box 494710, Port Charlotte, FL 33949

LPN for Busy Medical Office. Full Time Position M-F. Great Benefits. Please fax resume 941-625-3754

MEDICAL ASSISTANT for GYN office in Pt. Charlotte Fax resume to 941-625-7123

MEDICAL ASST. FT for busy Orthopedic office. Great work environment. Benefits offered. Fax resume 941-625-0877

MEDICAL COLLECTOR "Outpatient Medical Facility is searching for a Full Time - Experienced Medical Collector. Minimum 3+ years medical collections experience is required. Experience with Advantix is a plus. Offering a competitive benefits package and salary commensurate with experience. Qualified individuals send your resume and qualifications to: hlthctr@aol.com"

MEDICAL SECRETARY needed for Doctor's office. Prior medical office experience preferred but not necessary. Fax resume to: (941)-629-5317

MEDICAL 2030

PHYSICAL THERAPIST needed FT for Out Patient Rehab facility in Port Charlotte. Fax resume 941-766-1644

PORT CHARLOTTE Rehabilitation Center Has the following opportunities available: Experienced Rehabilitation Director and Diet Tech / Clinical CDM. Come join our Team. If you are customer service oriented, have computer knowledge and are self-directed, WE WANT TO MEET YOU! 25325 Rampart Blvd. Port Charlotte, FL 33983 (941)-629-7466

RESIDENT CARE ASSISTANTS, all shifts. FT & PT. Must have Resident Aide Assisted Living experience. Apply in Person Royal Palm, Retirement Centre, 2500 Aaron Street, Port Charlotte, DFWP/EOE

RN /LPN 3-11 Full Time

We need you to become part of a team that works together to provide exceptional care to the residents. Call us or fax us!

Quality Health Care Center 6940 Outreach Way North Port (941)426-8411 FAX 941-423-1572 EOE Drug free work place

SN, PT & MSW. Busy home health agency seeking Per Diem staff with computer skills & experience. EOE, DFWP. Call 941-629-5033 or fax resume to 941-629-5001.

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PREP COOK/LINE COOK & DISHWASHER needed. Experience a must. Part to Full time. Week-ends a must. Apply in person after 2pm - Food is Love - 4

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2070**

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mailto:b.lowmaster@daystar.net

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AGENT Needed, 1 yr. exp. req. Lead & training provided.
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2 Part time Inside Classified Advertising Sales positions now available at our North Port location. Hours 12-5PM Mon.-Fri. We are currently seeking motivated, outgoing, well-organized individuals with computer exp., good typing & spelling skills, and good phone/customer service skills for inbound and Outbound telephone sales.
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2100**

ARCADIA POLICE DEPARTMENT VACANCY
The Arcadia Police Department announces a vacancy for a **CIVILIAN CODE ENFORCEMENT EMPLOYEE** Previous law enforcement, minorities & women are encouraged to apply. Applications and information can be obtained at Arcadia Police Department 17N Polk Ave. Arcadia Monday thru Thursday between the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Fridays Between the hours of 7:30 am to 4pm **AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

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Call Donna (941) 276-2092

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Excellent customer service and organizational skills a must
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PERSON to pull weeds in a Pt Charlotte nursery near Kings Hwy. EXP.only. 941-268-2567

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**PART TIME/
TEMPORARY
2110**

ASSEMBLERS-100 WORKERS
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SALES:
2 Part time Inside Classified Advertising Sales positions now available at our North Port location. Hours 12-5PM Mon.-Fri. We are currently seeking motivated, outgoing, well-organized individuals with computer exp., good typing & spelling skills, and good phone/customer service skills for inbound and Outbound telephone sales.
Please email resume to: jeanakn1@yahoo.com No phone calls please.

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20 YRS EXP-CIVIL Eng/land Dev. & planning/zoning. UCF grad. Joanne 941-347-4687.

21-yr-old mother looking for work. Childcare, pharmacy technician and secretary/receptionist experience. Fast learner if given the opportunity. Great references. Call 863-289-1790.

30 YRS Exp, All Types Stormwater Drainage, Own Backhoe 941-234-6631

A CARPENTER looking for home remodeling work. 13yrs exp.765-543-6338

**POSITION/
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2120**

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ACCOUNTANT FC thru TB & MORE seeks FT/PT job in PC PG or NP 941-740-0398

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ALCOHOL/DRUG free man, 42, Class B CDL, 10 + yrs driving experience. 941-286-8005

ALOHA! CARETAKER, TRUST-WORTHY my_linaka@yahoo 941-629-7896

ANYONE IN need of nanny/housecleaning in north port area call Carlene at 941-876-3797

ANYTHING, ANYTIME, anywhere, AA/BA. Help: Angie 941-623-5326

AUTO INTERNET Sales Mgr. Inventory, CRM, Online advertising, Call Shaun (941) 276 7070

AUTO MECHANIC looking for work. 5.00 hour 941-740;0047 Todd

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CARPENTER, LOOKING FOR PIECE WORK. WORK COMP EXEMP 941-764-1978

CARPENTER, REMODELER, 20 yrs exp looking for any work, pt/ft. Call Rick. 239-200-1368.

CDL-A HAZMAT 10yrs exp. temporary or full time. reliable responsible 941-737-3102

CHAMELEON EXPERIENCED management, marketing, retail, design, parenting 941-268-8668

CHRISTIAN LADY caregiver available. Excellent references. 941-496-8844

CNA WITH Long/Short term care exp. for Hire M-Sun PT/Nights Call Tammy at 941-697-2978

CNA/HHA, 30 yrs. exp. looking to care for you or your loved one in your home. (941)416-3321.

COMPUTER OPER. 24YRS EXP AS/400, MAINFRAME,941-484-5550, frankkarena@juno.com

COOKING, CAREGIVER, housekeeping, driver, desperate: Angie 941-623-5326

CSR /TELEMARKETER looking for full/part-time employment. 941-268-0188 for more details

CUSTODIAN WITH 15 yrs exp. Day position Venice Eng or PC 941-475-7218

DESIGN MGR / Opt. Sales, Highly exp seeks psn w/Resident Home Bldr Wendy 941-235-1602

DISHWASHER / MULTI TASK. ANY SHIFT FT, REFERENCES. 941-505-0423, JEFF

DRIVER- YOUR VEHICLE/ ANYTIME- ANYWHERE. 941-625-2809

ELECTRICIAN, 10 years exp. Install/Repair/Service. Reasonable. 941-416-4204

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR, laborer looking for any kind of work. 941-467-4751

EXEC ADMIN w/mkt, adv & cust svc experience. Call Ann 941-204-0008

EXEC. ASSIST / Personal Assist. Excellent skills and references, mindydoraz@yahoo.com

EXECUTIVE MOM - seeks PT/FT work. Strong work ethic. Please call Rachel 941-286-9546

EXP - GENERAL MAINT. - Plumb, elect, paint, etc \$15/hr 941-629-7999

EXP. LEGAL Asst seeks local position. pgaravalia@gmail.com or 618-694-7885

EXP. PAINTER - Exc. Work \$15/hr (A Veteran) Insured 941-629-7999

EXPERIENCED HOUSEKEEPER needs PT housekeeping position, Englewood area. 941-474-1340

FLOORING, ALL types. 20 yrs experience. Licensed and ins. 941-467-5451 or 941-662-0726

FRENCH TEACHER FOR HIRE: \$34/hr. Grades K-12/Adult. Call: 941-928-1001.

**POSITION/
JOB WANTED
2120**

FRONT OFFICE receptionist seeking pt/ft position professional firm. several years exp. local law office. excellent refs. 941-268-6408

GARDENER WILL do weeding pruning, cleaning, errands, ect. 941-681-2918

GIRL FRIDAY. Companion, meals, errands, transportation, house sit. 941-468-4343

GRAPHIC DESIGN / Pressman / Customer Service 12 years exp. Nick 256-303-4707

GREAT COOK- Meticulous cleaner. Bookkeeping also avail. Venice 941-416-5705

HANDY GIRL: Run Errands, Household Chores, etc... Cat- 941-445-2198

HANDYMAN AVAILABLE, MAINTENANCE, READY TO WORK, PC 941-6132199

HANDYMAN NO JOB TOO SMALL ANYTHING YOU WANT DONE 40 YRS EXP 941-626-9900

HANDYMAN, NO job too small or too big- Roger 941-204-8650

HOUSE CLEANING and more, just ask, call nida, 941-916-2259

INSURANCE CSR w/440 looking for work! Email Buccarrie@yahoo.com

JOB NEEDED: Maintenance, Carpentry, over 30 yrs. exp. Call Ed, 941-235-2223

LICENSED HANDYMAN. We specialize in flooring. (941)662-0726

LICENSED TREE and Lawn care team. reasonable prices. 941-276-3925

**POSITION/
JOB WANTED
2120**

LOOKING FOR EVENING & WEEKEND WORK - accounting, bookkeeping, payroll, sec-retarial. 20 yrs. of experience. **863-512-9123.** Also experienced bartender, cashier and hostess, 25 years.

LOOKING FOR PART TIME WORK - Over 20 yrs experience in the clerical field. Great employment record - Call 863-439-1122

MASTER TECHNICIAN 21YRS Auto, deisel, electric vehical 941-204-1602

MATURE ADULT will care for elderly or children, cook, clean, shop. 941-347-7508

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST, 9 yrs. exp. w/check-in & phones. Call Theresa @ 941-286-0649

MULTI SKILLED Drug Free Non smoking male needs work 941-286-5555 Shawn

NEED WORK, painting, moving, maint & delivery 239-645-9152

OFFICE MGR /BOOKKEEPER/HR extensive in computers. Ven/Eng area. karete@excite.com

P/T TUTORING, Babysitting- A.A. degree, pursuing B.S. in Elem. Ed. Jessica 941-564-8691

PAINTER / TRIM carpenter, all tools & equipment, please call lou 941 465-0674

PAINTER, EXPERIENCED, Please Hire, need to work, small jobs. (941)-286-1368

PHARMACY CERT. Technician Call BOB, 941-412-8602 bworld111@comcast.net

**POSITION/
JOB WANTED
2120**

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN, looking for other work, boehme86@yahoo.com

PLUMBER, SINKS, water heaters, faucets, re-pipes, 941-916-2259

PRIVATE DUTY DRIVER TRANSPORTATION WANT WORK PC 941-6132199

PRO EXEC CHEF w/ degrees needs employment. Ph. 941-429-2657. Will respond ASAP

RELIABLE WOMAN offering adult care, errands, housework, dr. visits, etc. Marilyn, 941-629-3867.

RETIRED NURSE looking for work as caregiver. Over 30 years exp.w/the elderly. 941-468-5277

SALES/ACCOUNT REP. Smart worker, proven results. No MLM. 239-220-3999

SCRAP AND ALUMINUM, will pick up all. 941-661-5815

SECURITY GUARD, Mature, male w/lic & exp. Avail. Imm. Clean background! 941-698-9904

SOPHMORE SEEKING babysitting. Please call 941-497-6769

STU W FORMER OFFICE SUPPLY NEEDS A JOB! CALL ME: 941-743-7947 / 941-268-4582

TILE/MARBLE INSTALLER 30+ YRS EXP NEEDS WORK CALL 941-350-9266

TRACTOR AND 32 Ft dump Trailer Looking For Work Can Haul 25 Tons Call 941-979-2365

TRUCK DRIVER, CLASS A CDL, clean record, tanker endorsement, long distance or team if needed. Call Lewis 863-259-7051.

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Across

- Acronym for Advanced Technology Innovation Center.
- Cravat with wide, square ends secured with an ornamental pin.
- Invites someone to go somewhere.
- Town in Sverdlovsk Oblast, Russia.
- Common name for a large wild or domesticated swimming bird.
- Rotating skewer used for roasting meat over an open fire.
- Famous Dutch clipper launched in 1853.
- State of being purchasable.
- Sharp mountain ridge.
- Social relationship.
- Acronym for Interim Council of Presidents.
- Assemblage of correlated members.
- Groove in the skin.
- Twelfth and last month of the Jewish lunisolar calendar.
- Romance author Mimi .
- Acronym for European Society for Impotence Research.
- Member of the religion of Islam.
- Owl's sound.
- Distant but within sight.
- Dark, negative feminine principle in Chinese dualistic cosmology.
- Third-person singular possessive pronoun.
- Chain of volcanoes.
- Having an oblique direction.
- Rounded extension at a building's end.
- Support consisting of a place to rest the foot while ascending.
- Abbreviation for Development.
- Having a relatively sharp point.
- Clergyman in charge of a parish.
- Acronym for Brotherhood Of Ale Drinkers.
- At a distance in space.
- Cause to become alive again.
- Aramaic word for "father."
- Resembling paranoia.

- fever and swelling of the parotid glands.
- Great number of people.
- Period of calm weather.
- Acronym for Expanded Ocean Thermal Structure.
- Video game character from Street Fighter series.
- Unfledged hawk.
- Quicksand.
- Not meeting requirements.
- Turbulent water with swells of considerable size.
- Grant the use of something on the condition that it will be returned.
- In the midst of.
- Dress worn primarily by Hindu women.
- Governor of Spanish fort.
- Salt of iodic acid.
- Beach, city in Florida.
- Sheet of water flowing over a weir.
- Two items of the same kind.
- Long stories with lots of excitement.
- Form of headdress worn by ancient Persians.
- Jazz pianist Peterson.
- Disposed to rest.
- Establish as genuine.
- Japanese festival celebrating All Souls.
- Sudden, sharp pull.
- Negative vote.

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POSITION/ JOB WANTED 2120

TRUCK DRIVER, full or p/t, local or long distance, 30 yrs. experience. Clean record. Class A. Tank endorsement. Call Ron 678-1727

WEEDS PULLED- PT.CH. AREA/ 941-625-2809

WELDER - PIPE, Plate. Certified. 20 years experience. 941-276-6024

WELDER 8 years, d1.1 structurally certified. all processes william wood @443-957-5286

WOMAN CARPENTER NEEDS WORK! Carpentry, Remodeling, Tiles 941-661-7317

YOUNG MOTHER of 2 with disabled husband looking for any kind of job 239-440-0045 katie

3000



NOTICES

HAPPY ADS 3015

Place your Happy Ad for only \$8.75 3 lines 1 day.

Add a photo for only \$10.00! Please call (866)-463-1638

PERSONALS 3020

ALONE? SENIORS DATING BUREAU! SAFEST since 1977! (Ages 45-90) 1-800-922-4477

2 FOR 1 SPECIALS 11 - 5 No appt. necessary. In/Out Call Svc. Now Hiring 941-554-7141

the girl next door, crystal. in calls only. 941-483-0701

VICTORIA 941-237-7801 Daily Specials Layla 941-237-1157

MISS FYNNE MON - FRI 8AM-7PM (863)-852-6849

RETIRED GENTLEMAN looking for Lady companionship for dinner, travel, theater, etc. (941)-214-8611

KRISTY SPECIAL 239-601-7777

RELAXATION & MASSAGE Venice \$50. 941-487-3696

SINGLES 3050

CHRONOLOGICALLY GIFTED WOMAN seeking Senior gentleman with a mansion, yacht and sense of humor. Send picture of yacht. P.O. Box 510753, Punta Gorda, FL 33951

COMPANION WANTED. Affectionate SWF seeks N/S honest F/S single virile MAN (50-65). LTR No Crim Rec. 941-416-1408

WM 55 seeks sincere black woman, 50's to enjoy, desire & respect. Call 941-204-1558.

SCHOOLS & INSTRUCTION 3060

ED KLOPPER SCHOOLS OF CNA TRAINING - 1 wk class \$249.00 Locations: Sarasota. PC, Ft. Myers 800-370-1570

CNA CLASS 2 WEEK \$300 CNA Refresher course \$125 SPECIAL Books Included. State testing onsite. 941-822-2290

CNA TRAINING - Classes starting at \$225. Day, night & weekend classes avail. 941-918-4800 www.justinwilliscna.com

Want to be a Pharmacy Tech? Workshop, books, national cert. exam for only \$800! 1 night/wk for 6 weeks. Next class 9/17/09. Call Express 866-346-0660 or expresstrainingservices.com

LOST & FOUND 3090

KEYS FOUND: KEYS FOUND WITH LEATHER KEY CHAIN ON COPIAPO & DEEP CREEK, IN DEEP CREEK 941-276-5278

LOST & FOUND 3090

FOUND DOG, 60 lb. female, solid brown. Long floppy ears, healthy, nice family dog. Englewood: off Backburn, Elm, Artist Street area. Call 941-460-0967

FOUND SKINNY young black kitty. Hillsborough Blvd, North Port. on Mon., 8/24/09. 941-423-8586

FOUND: KEYS, Set of 3 on black wrist band in LaPlaya Plaza in Pt. Charlotte. 941-625-5340

FOUND: WEEDEATER- PLEASE DESCRIBE BRAND AND WHEN AND WHERE LOST...CALL TOM @ 941/268/1792 TO CLAIM.

LOST Black & Silver cane, last Friday (8/14), Venice BIG LOTS parking lot. REWARD. (941) 423-7319

LOST BLACK CAT, white spot under chin, bushy tail \$500. REWARD 941-485-6019

LOST CAT. Has no tail. Grey tabby. Laurel Rd & Sorrento Woods sub area. PLEASE Call 941-484-9218

LOST CAT: long hair calico, female, spade, petite, beautiful, will come to her name "Natalie" or "Nattie". Lost in North Port near Amanda Ave. on Monday, 8/17. 941-564-6514. Please call. Child misses his cat.

LOST DRIVER SIDE tail light for 2003 Dodge Caravan, Tues. 8/18, N.Port, on Sumter between 41 & Price.REWARD. (941)-429-0421

LOST HEARING AID at North Port Home Depot. If found, please call 941-426-8356.

LOST: ANKLE BRACELET, GOLD, Venice/North Port Area on 8/20/09. Sentimental value. Reward! 941-525-3432

4000



FINANCIAL

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES 4010

VENICE: 1,500 SF turnkey coin laundry. Rare opportunity in bustling center. Commodore Realty, Inc. 941-485-6246

LOANS/ MORTGAGES

HELP NEEDED "Person out of goodness of their heart to help refinance my home". 20 year resident. 941-743-5780

5000



BUSINESS SERVICES

AN OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE may be required by the City and/or County. Please call the appropriate occupational licensing bureau to verify.

CHILD/ADULT CARE 5050

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

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.

COMPUTER SERVICE 5053

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

MOBILE COMPUTER repairs, virus removal. Flat rate. Free PU & del. Prompt! (941)-743-9787

DOMESTIC CLEANING SERVICES 5060

CHERYL'S CLEANING Exc. ref. of 30 years & reasonable rates. 941-426-8401, 941-961-8598.

FLORIDA'S BEST CLEANING SERVICE, great rates. Res & Comm Cleaners Incl 941-681-1070

HOUSE CLEANING

HOUSES, APTS., OFFICES. Anytime, Anywhere! Also Yard Work. 941-467-2954 Ref. Lic.#176566

HOME / COMM. IMPROVEMENT 5100

BILL JACOBSEN Concrete Services. Concrete or Pavers, Patios, Scenerooms, Driveways, Sidewalks 941-391-0694

BILL'S HANDYMAN Service Ceiling fans, lights, faucets, drains, toilet, small jobs, etc. 941-661-8585

CARPENTER, INC. One call does it all. Lic & ins #RR0067689. 941-627-0657.

CERAMIC TILE installed from \$1 per sq ft AND Wood Flooring installed from \$1.50 per sq ft Call now! 941-769-TILE.

DAN THE HANDYMAN Bath rm & kitchen remodels Painting, Carpentry, Anything? 941-697-1642

DAVE'S HANDYMAN Honest, Knowledgeable & Reliable. Call for all your needs, Small or Large. 941-628-8326 Lic./Ins.

ED'S "HONEY-DO" REPAIR. No job too small. Reasonable rates. Exc. references. 941-961-8447.

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

QUALITY DECKS Enhance the look & Value of your investment. Quality work @ great prices. 941-375-1103

LAWN/GARDEN & TREE 5110

*Washed Shell-1/2 inch shell perfect for driveways, cart paths and landscaping. \$20.00 per ton. *Pea Gravel (#89 size)-Clean, graded 3/8 inch limestone. \$16.50 per ton. *Shell and Limestone Blend-50/50 blend of shell and limestone. \$14.50 per ton. Please call our office for additional information. Southwest Aggregates (239) 567-1800

ALL PRO LAWN CARE Now accepting new accts. Nokomis, Ven & Island. Lic & Ins. For exc. lawn care Call 488-4462

AN OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE may be required by the City and/or County. Please call the appropriate occupational licensing bureau to verify

C.W. Haber,Inc. Lawn maintenance Property Preservation *Online photo service with invoice Now accepting new accounts 941-505-2441 Lic. & insured

EDDIE'S LAWN SERVICE Cust. satisfaction 1st priority. Lowest rates GUARANTEED. All new equip. Lic/Ins 941-467-2712

LANDSCAPING ALL Phases: Grass, Trees, Plants, (941)-474-6922

LITTLE JOHNS TREE & LAWN SERVICE Venice area (941)-493-6022

SANDEFUR'S TREE TRIMMING LANDSCAPING, PRESSURE CLEANING & MORE. 941-484-6042

MOVING/HAULING 5130

HAULING Yard & Constr Waste. Garage Clean Out. Trash. Call Carlton, 564-6049 OR 914-2249

PAINTING/ WALLPAPERING 5140

ACT NOW FOR AMAZING BANG FOR YOUR BUCK! Low odor paint avail. Call Al 941-468-2660 . Lic#AAA00101266 25+ Yrs exp. Former Firefighter

LOOK BEST PRICE FOR QUALITY JOB! Best Coast Painting Residential/Commercial 15% Disc. Visa/mc/disc accepted 941-815-8184 AAA00101254

PLUMBING 5160

THINK PLUMBERS are too high? Give me a try! Retired master plumber. Lic. RF11067393 Ross (941)-204-4286

ROOFING 5185

C.W. HABER, INC. Roofing and Remodeling Full service contractor Repair service - Free estimates 941-505-2441 Lic/ Ins.

KETTER'S ROOFING. Specializing in Re-Roofing & Repairs #CCC1325663 (941)-815-8633

6000



MERCHANDISE

GARAGE SALES

- 6001 Arcadia
6002 Englewood
6003 Lake Suzy
6004 Nokomis
6005 North Port
6006 Port Charlotte/Deep Creek
6007 Punta Gorda
6008 Rotonda
6009 Sarasota
6010 South Venice
6011 Venice
6012 Out Of Area
6015 Flea Market
6020 Auctions

MERCHANDISE

- 6025 Arts & Crafts
6027 Dolls
6030 Household Goods
6035 Furniture
6038 Electronics
6040 TV/Stereo/Radio
6060 Computer Equip
6065 Clothing/Jewelry/Accessories
6070 Antiques & Collectibles
6075 Fruits/Veges
6090 Musical
6095 Medical
6100 Health/Beauty
6110 Trees & Plants
6120 Baby Items
6125 Golf Accessories
6128 Exercise/Fitness
6130 Sporting Goods
6131 Firearms
6132 Firearm Accessories
6135 Bikes/Trikes
6138 Toys
6140 Photography/Video
6145 Pool/Spa & Supplies
6160 Lawn & Garden
6165 Storage Sheds/Buildings
6170 Building Supplies
6180 Heavy Constr. Equipment
6190 Tools/Machinery
6220 Office/Business Equip & Supplies
6225 Restaurant Supplies
6250 Appliances
6260 Misc. Merchandise
6270 Wanted to Buy or Trade

NORTH PORT GARAGE SALES 6005

FRI, SAT, SUN, 8/28-8/30 9am - 4pm 2708 Firebrand Rd. Lots of tools! Outside furniture, jewelry, misc. odds & ends.

PT. CHARLOTTE/DEEP CREEK GARAGE SALES 6006

THURS, FRI, SAT 9-4 Kindel, off Capricorn. HUGE MOVING SALE: Complete Furnishings from 4 room apartment, No large appl.

S. VENICE AREA GARAGE SALES 6010

SAT 8-1 312 Gardenia, Venice Gardens. MOVING SALE: Sofa, loveseat, dinette, armor, & misc. Exc Cond.

SAT, 8am-3pm & SUN, 8am-1pm, 2209 Woodmere Rd. LARGE SALE! Tools, Construction Equipment, 14' Whaler, 32' Camper, Large Fishtank & Assorted Household Goods.

VENICE AREA GARAGE SALES 6011

FRI. & SAT. 8-? 338 Sea Grape Rd. Venice Gdns. MOVING SALE. Linens, jewelry, artwork, books, and more.

FRI. & SAT., 8 - 12. 344 Gulf Breeze Blvd MOVING SALE Furniture, custom jewelry and lots of misc. items.

SAT DEC 5 Vendors wanted to display/sell their wares to benefit the Venice Community Center. Vera 388-7755

FLEA MARKET 6015

VENDORS WANTED to display/sell their wares Dec 4, 5 to benefit the Venice Community Center. Vera 388-7555

INDOOR GEM Mining, \$5 Buckets, RT 41 & Tribune Blv. Just So. of Tuckers Grade 941-234-8457

PUNTA GORDA, Tribune Blvd booths \$100.00 941-400-5337

IT OUT!

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

AUCTIONS 6020

Antique & Estate AUCTION Thursday Aug. 27th @ 5:30pm (preview 4:00pm) Held at: Holiday House Hotel 455 US 41 Bypass N. Venice, FL Antique Furniture, 10K, 14K, Gold and Gemstone Jewelry, Costume, Coins, Roseville, Red Wing, Weller, Porcelain, Carnival Glass, Vintage Stanley Tools, Glass Hand Guns, Long Guns, Sports Odd to the Unusual as well! Very high quality merchandise! www.westcoastauctionco.com Cash, Ck, C.C. 13% B.P. West Coast Auction Co. Ray Sherman Auctioneer AB2448 AU3340 (941) 468-7815

VISIT THE VENICE AUCTION EVERY THURSDAY AT 5:00PM 601 SPUR ST. see our website for pictures VeniceAuction.com 941-485-4964 JOE LAVIERE AB2444 AU3066 10% BP

ARTS AND CRAFTS 6025

ART 4'X5'CANVIS OIL Bird of Paradise pastel \$95. 941-637-4613

VENDORS WANTED to display/sell their wares Dec 4, 5 to benefit the Venice Community Center. Vera 388-7555

EARRING DISPALY case, LUCITE, REVOLVING, key, excel. cond. \$80. 941-916-5570

EASEL, FRENCH STYLE TRIPO-LAR EASEL, vintage, brass, nice \$120.00, 941-916-5570

TATTOO FLASH WALL RACK, 24 PANELS W/FLASH \$200 941-554-2140

DOLLS 6027

DOLLS, 2 German dolls antique \$100.00 both OBO 941-268-2409

LITTLE MISS REVLON doll from the 50's. in original box. exl. cond. \$175. 941-235-2203.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS 6030

AC WINDOW unit \$50 call 941-296-5162

AREA RUG, CONTEMPORARY 7'8"x10'8" Multi Color \$200 (941) 697-8719

CEILING FAN 52" white very nice w/frosted dome light \$75 941-626-3102

CHANDIERS, 5 Tiffany, various colors. Great condition. \$125. takes all. 941-697-4565

CHINA MIKASA Sonnet #8397 serv. 12 + other pieces perfect! \$175 941-882-8149

CHINA, 45 pcs. porc. dishes. Embossed design. Great cond. \$60. 941-697-4565

CHINA, 47 pc. floral design. Very good cond. Must sell. \$65. 941-697-4565

COFFEE MAKER, Braun 4 cup coffee maker in good cond. \$4. 941-423-2585.

DINING SET: Glass top dining table, 4 chairs, like new, \$160. 419-494-7969

FAN, LASKO box style, electric, exc. cond. \$5. 941-882-8149

FREE MERCHANDISE ADS!! To place a FREE merchandise ad go to: sunnewspapers.net and place your ad. Click on Private Party not Business. At the end...you will NOT be asked for your credit card at all. FREE ads are for merchandise UNDER \$500. and the ad must be placed online by you. One item per ad and the price must appear in the ad. Your ad will appear online & in print for 7 days! Some restrictions do apply.

I BUY FURNITURE Or anything of value! 941-485-4964

JUICER, GE 450 WATT motor Juice Extractor used once in box for \$30. 941-474-3592

KING COMFORT SET Reversible 4Pc \$55 941-743 7766

KNIVES, CUTLERY knives, wood box works as cutting board like new \$15 941-882-8149

LAMP FLOOR type, tall w/ Florida carved motif exc cond. \$20 941-882-8149

LIGHT, TABLETOP Motion swimming fish light. \$10. 941-423-2585

LOVE SEAT, GREAT condition, beige \$150.00. turkey fryer, used once, \$25.00. coffee table \$20.00. 2 end tables \$10.00 ea. Sony TV 21" \$100. ladies golf clubs \$15.00. 17" comp monitor, needs some work \$20.00. 941-426-3577

LUGGAGE SET. Patch Leather. 5 pieces. \$45. 941-244-2944.

MANTEL CLOCK. Sunbeam. Quartz movement Walnut. \$10. 941-244-2944

HOUSEHOLD GOODS 6030

MEDICINE CABINET & Mirror, white brand new \$50 each 941-426-8932

MIRROR, SAFARI MIRROR SET 1 Lg. 2 side mirrors \$50.00. 941-416-0460

MOVING SALE! DINING Room set, lanai furniture, BBQ's, Appliances, sporting goods, etc. 941-223-3634

MOVING- Antique & Other Furniture. Quilting Fabric. Craft. Xmas + Much More. (941)-624-2232

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PHONE CORDED talking caller ID, large numbers LCD, NEW \$10 941-882-8149

PICTURE, LG LEOPARD PRINT picture \$75.00 941-416-0460

POTRACK, -REDUCED- LARGE HANGING Potrack-56inx20in \$65 941-623-4043

PUNCH BOWL set glass (new in box) serves 8 \$10 941-629-8955

PUNCH BOWL SET, CRYSTAL PUNCH BOWL set serves 12 for \$5. 941-474-3592.

SAFE, SENTRY SAFE FOR valuables and documents.disk orig 435. \$225, 941-447-2134

SEWING MACHINE, Singer, Indust. Wlk Ft. Self Oil \$495.00 Mike 941-421-4462

SILVERWARE, sets of 8, lots of sets "Must go. Great cond. \$5.00 941-697-4565

SPACE HEATER, BT/LP, heats up to 1300 sq. ft. Brand new in box \$65. 941-697-4565

STATUES, 2 eagle & various other statues antiques. \$45. & up 941-697-4565

STEAM COOKER SANYO brand new unused w/instructions \$15 941-882-8149

STEAMER PRO CLOTHES STEAMER, CONAIR, NEW, \$75.00 941-554-2140

STORAGE CONTAINERS large w/lids, used w/no damage 50 @ \$2 ea. 941-882-8149

FURNITURE 6035

A FURNITURE SHOPPE MF 10-4 1552 S. McCall Rd., Engl. Selling Quality Used Furn. 941-473-1986

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**FURNITURE
6035**

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CHAIRS (2) Living room, Nicely upholstered, oyster white exc. \$110.00 both 941-497-0287

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**FURNITURE
6035**

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Let's GO!

**Tom Becker stars
in John Denver Tribute**
Page 5

**Celebrate the 40th anniversary
of Woodstock at FridayFest**
Page 6

**Venice Theatre reprises
cabaret hit 'My Way'**
Page 10

**19th annual
Caladium Festival**



Kim Cool

Let's Go!
Features Editor
kcool@venicegondolier.com

Some get it, some don't

The Sarasota Arts Council is restructuring itself.

"What's in it for my readers in Lakewood Ranch?" a reporter asked Larry Thompson, the arts council's board chairman.

Whether the restructuring is good or bad for the arts is yet to be seen. A lot depends on how many others there are, who, like that one reporter, simply don't get it.

Lakewood Ranch, like Osprey, Venice, Englewood, Nokomis and other towns are suburbs of Sarasota, just as towns on Long Island are suburbs of New York City. Bloomfield Hills is a suburb of Detroit. Lake Forest is a suburb of Chicago. Wonderful suburbs though they are, they benefit from their location on the fringe of a cultural area.

To live within a half hour of a major opera, a fine ballet, a fine circus, one of the country's finest art museums, several excellent theaters and so much more enhances property values as it draws more people interested in the arts to the area.

That we have one of the finest community theaters in the United States in Venice also adds to the area's reputation.

That said, what's in it for the Cultural Coast from Lakewood Ranch?

Will its residents go to the opera and the ballet and the theater or simply sit back and wait for something to come to them. Venice is important to the Cultural Coast because its residents not only go to the opera and the ballet and the theater but they also have built Venice Theatre and Venice Art Center.

They get it!

Check It Out

'MARRIED ALIVE'

(Through Sept. 26)
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre
1380 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers.
239-278-4422.

MOTLEY CRUE

Aug. 28.
Ford Amphitheatre
Florida State Fairgrounds, Tampa.
www.livenation.com.

JOHN DENVER TRIBUTE

Tom Becker
7 p.m. Aug. 29.
Cultural Center Theater
2280 Aaron St., Port Charlotte.
941-625-4175 ext. 221.

'MURDER BY MISADVENTURE'

Sept. 2 - Sept. 20.
Lemon Bay Playhouse
96 W Dearborn St., Englewood.
941-475-6756.

DEPECHE MODE

Sept. 4.
Ford Amphitheatre
Florida State Fairgrounds, Tampa.
www.livenation.com.

SARASOTA ORCHESTRA

'Portraits in Passion'
Sept. 12.
Beatrice Friedman Symphony Center
709 Tamiami Trail, Sarasota.
941-953-3434.

SARASOTA ORCHESTRA

'From The Start'
Sept. 17.
Beatrice Friedman Symphony Center
709 Tamiami Trail, Sarasota.
941-953-3434.

SUGARLAND

7:30 p.m. Sept. 25.
St. Pete Times Forum
401 Channelside Drive, Tampa.
813-287-8844 or
www.ticketmaster.com.

'DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS'

Oct. 1 - Nov. 14.
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre
1380 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers.
239-278-4422.

'THE NERD'

Charlotte Players
Oct. 2 - 10.
Cultural Center of Charlotte County
2280 Aaron St., Port Charlotte.
941-625-4175 ext. 220 or www.charlotteplayers.org.

U2

Oct. 9.
Raymond James Stadium
4201 Dale Mabry Highway North,
Tampa.
www.livenation.com.

METALLICA

7 p.m. Oct. 3.
St. Pete Times Forum
401 Channelside Drive, Tampa.
813-287-8844 or
www.ticketmaster.com.

SARASOTA ORCHESTRA

'Mozart: Touched by the Gods'
Oct. 10.
Beatrice Friedman Symphony Center
709 Tamiami Trail, Sarasota.
941-953-3434.

MITCHEL MUSSO'S Sunshine Stadium Tour with special guest Leland Grant.

6 p.m. Oct. 14.
Charlotte County Sports Park
El Jobean Road., Port Charlotte.
877-440-8499 (TIXX) or www.sunshinestadiumtour.com.

WALKING WITH DINOSAURS

Oct. 14 - Oct. 18.
St. Pete Times Forum
401 Channelside Drive, Tampa.
813-287-8844 or
www.ticketmaster.com.

'THE BIG BAD MUSICAL'

Kids Onstage - Charlotte Players
Oct. 16 - 17.
Cultural Center of Charlotte County
2280 Aaron St., Port Charlotte.
941-625-4175 ext. 220
or www.charlotteplayers.org.

SARASOTA ORCHESTRA

Cellist Zuill Bailey will perform Elgar's Cello Concerto at Seeing Music at Exhibition. The Orchestra and Maestro Leif Bjaland also perform Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition" and Tchaikovsky's "Francesca da Rimini." Oct. 22 - 25.
Beatrice Friedman Symphony Center
709 Tamiami Trail, Sarasota.
941-953-3434.

DOWNTOWN GETDOWN

featuring BLUES TRAVELER
3 p.m. Oct. 24.
Laishley Park, Punta Gorda.
www.downtown-getdown.com.

ALICE COOPER

7:30 p.m. Oct. 4.
Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall
13350 Edison Parkway, Fort Myers.
239-481-4849 or
www.bbmannpah.com.

'MARY, MARY'

Oct. 28 - Nov. 15.
Lemon Bay Playhouse
96 W Dearborn St., Englewood.
941-475-6756.

BOYZ II MEN

Oct. 30.
Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall
777 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota.
800-826-9303 or www.vanwezel.org.

'GREASE' featuring Taylor Hicks

Nov. 3 - Nov. 8.
Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall
13350 Edison Parkway, Fort Myers.
239-481-4849 or
www.bbmannpah.com.



Marie Merchant

Entertainment Editor
mmerchant@sun-herald.com

Hold a baby gator

Baby alligators are hatching at the Alligator Hatching Festival at Gatorama through Sept. 1.

Hold an egg while the alligator hatches in your hand.

Learn about the history of alligators, alligator farming and see all sizes of alligators throughout the 15-acres.

According to Gatorama, over two thousands alligators are born at Gatorama during the festival.

Shows are held at 10:45 a.m., 11:45 a.m., 1 p.m., 2:30 p.m., and 3:45 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 2:30 p.m. 3:45 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Sunday.

Admission is \$14.95. children under five feet tall are \$6.95. "The Hatch and Hold" package is \$10.

Gatorama also features panthers, bobcats, raccoons ducks, peacocks, geese and crocodiles.

Gatorama is located at 6180 U.S. Highway 27 in Palmdale.

For more information or directions, call 863-675-0623 or online at www.Gatorama.com.

LET'S GO! INFO

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Please submit information at least two weeks before the event.

To send items for the calendar, please include the time, location, cost of tickets and where to get them, and a number to call for more information.

For the complete calendar:

[www.http://www.sunnewspapers.net/specialPublications/letsGo.aspx](http://www.sunnewspapers.net/specialPublications/letsGo.aspx)

Let's Go! features events from Fort Myers to Tampa.

Let's Go! is distributed to Charlotte, DeSoto and Sarasota counties.

Caladiums are hot in Lake Placid this week



PHOTO PROVIDED

By **KIM COOL**
FEATURES EDITOR

Despite the temperatures, caladium fans are flocking to Lake Placid this week for the 19th annual Caladium Festival.

Known by many as "elephant ear plants," caladiums are a tropical plant with fancy and colorful leaves, often shaped like the ears of an elephant. The colorful leaves have made the plants popular with gardens all around the world. In the north, they are grown as houseplants or as annuals but in South

Driving Directions

From Interstate 75 Exit 164, take Duncan Road/US 17 east toward Arcadia. Turn right at SR-70/East Magnolia Road at Arcadia. Travel east to SR-25/US-27, heading north into Lake Placid. Follow signs to festival.

Florida, which has temperatures similar to those in Brazil, where they originated, they thrive. Growing them in Zone 9 northward, is risky for they are not at all cold hardy.

Thriving takes on new meaning in August in Lake Placid, where the colorful plants literally fill nursery fields nearly as far as the

eye can see. Caladiums seem to like heat and humidity. That they have enough fans to draw thousands of people to Lake Placid to share that heat and humidity is an indication of their popularity.

All aboard!

A high point of a trip to

The festival is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday.

the festival is a ride through those colorful fields. Reservations are

made weeks and even months in advance for the bus tours offered on Friday and Saturday of the

FESTIVAL | P16

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& Bud Girls

on Saturday

Brown Suga

performs live

Sunday (3PM)

Bring a non-perishable food item for charity and our bartenders will buy you a draft beer!

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We have NFL Sunday Ticket by DirecTV, catch all the NFL Games here!



Located at Treasure Lanes - 1059 Tamiami Trail - Port Charlotte, FL - (941) 625-3930

Enjoy a Minor walk and talk at Selby Gallery

By **KIM COOL**

FEATURES EDITOR

On view through Sept. 19 in the Selby Gallery at the Ringling College of Art and Design is an exhibition of children's book illustrations by Illinois-born Wendell Minor, a Ringling graduate.

Entitled, "An American Journey," the illustrations showcase America's landscape and also the moon.

The featured moon illustrations are from Minor's newest book, "Look to the Stars," written by Apollo 11 Astronaut Buzz Aldrin. The two collaborated earlier on the best-selling book, "Journey to the Moon." The new book celebrates the 40th anniversary of man's journey to the moon in 1969.

Minor will give a talk about his work and career at 7 p.m. Sept. 3 in the gallery. A reception for the artist will begin at 5:30 p.m. that day. It is free and open to the public.

On display are the original watercolor illustrations used in children's and adult books by the artist. The collection was organized by the National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature in Abilene, Texas.

Minor worked in New York for several book publishers. He also designed covers for such books as "Fried Green Tomatoes," "Prince of Tides" and "To Kill a Mockingbird."

His award-winning work is found in several

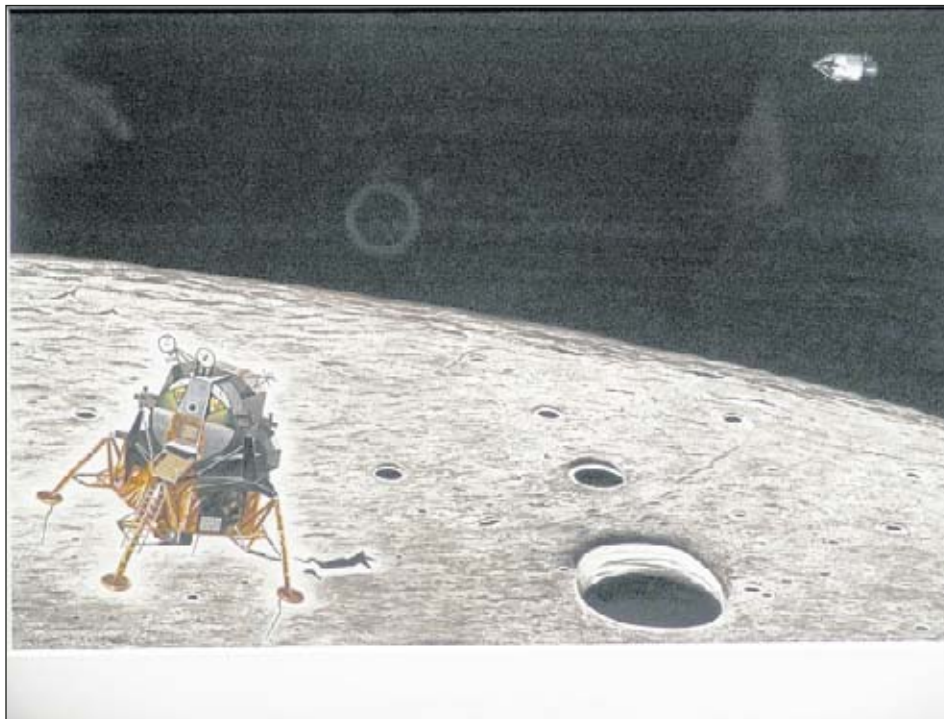


PHOTO COURTESY OF RINGLING COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN

A moonscape by artist Wendell Minor whose work is on display through Sept. 19 in the Selby Gallery at the Ringling College of Art and Design in Sarasota. This picture is from "Look to the Stars," by astronaut Buzz Aldrin.

public and private collections. Visit his Web site at www.minorart.com.

The gallery is on Martin Luther King Way between U.S. 41 North and Cocomanut, in Sarasota.

It is one-half block east of 2700 North Tamiami Trail. During August it is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. During September, it is open the same hours Monday through Saturday, with extended hours until 7 p.m. on Tuesdays.

It will be closed on Labor Day.

For information on the gallery and future shows, visit www.ringling.edu/selbygallery or call 941-351-5100.



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August 26-27, 2009

Tom Becker stars in John Denver Tribute

PROVIDED BY
THE CULTURAL CENTER
OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY
The Cultural Center of Charlotte County Theater will host a Special Premiere Performance of "Rocky Mountain Memories — A Tribute to John Denver."

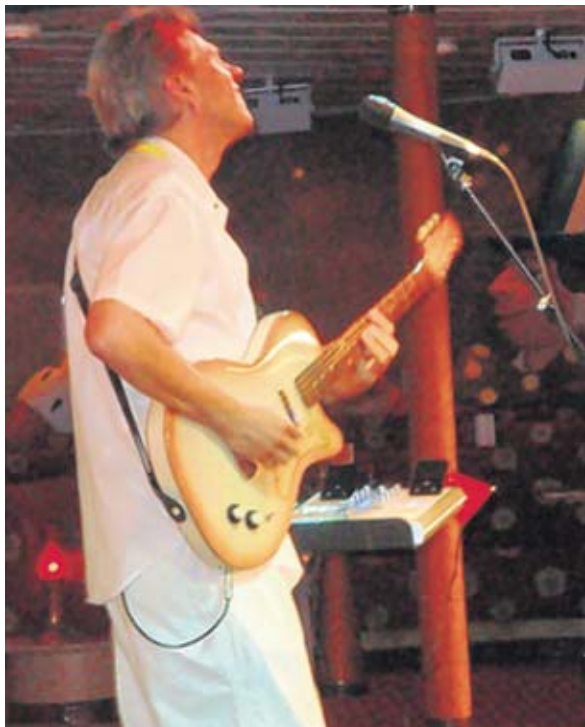
This special debut performance will be held at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Cultural Center of Charlotte County Theater, 2280 Aaron St., Port Charlotte.

The production stars Tom Becker, a former member of the legendary folk group, The New Christy Minstrels, backed by a full band, in an intimate concert setting.

Wrapped around a poignant and often humorous look at his life in folk music, the show features John Denver's biggest hits including "Annie's Song," "Country Roads" and "Rocky Mountain High," along with lesser known Denver songs that are sure to please long-time fans.

The show also includes songs and anecdotes from Tom's days with The New Christy Minstrels, and his own original, Denver-inspired music.

Reserved seating is available for \$12, and tickets are available at the box office or by calling 941-625-4175 ext. 221.



PHOTOS PROVIDED

"Rocky Mountain Memories — A Tribute to John Denver." at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Cultural Center of Charlotte County Theater, 2280 Aaron St., Port Charlotte.

PIONEER DAYS SCHEDULE

Saturday:

2009 Little Miss/Mr. Pioneer Days Pageant.

9 a.m. registration, 10 a.m. start at Suncoast Auditorium at ECH.

Sunday:

Fish-a-thon (ages 4-13)

7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at Tom Adams Bridge.

Bowling Tournament:

12:30 p.m. registration, 1 p.m. start at Englewood Bowl.

Sept. 5:

Cardboard Boat Race

9 a.m. registration. Races begin at 10 a.m. at Indian Mound Park.

Sept 5:

Taste of Englewood, Crafts, Vendors, Music, Contests 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Street Dance 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Sept. 7:

53rd Annual Pioneer Days Parade in Olde Englewood Village.

The parade will start at 9 a.m. from St. Raphael's Catholic Church and proceed down Old Englewood Road before turning left on Dearborn Street and finishing up on McCall Road.

Parade entrants will be judged and trophies will be awarded to winners in several different categories, organizers said.

This year's post-parade celebration will feature live music, informational vendors, craft vendors and concessions located at Pioneer Park in the 300 block of Dearborn Street and Garrett Park in the 500 block of Dearborn for the day.

Information and registration forms for each event can be found at www.EnglewoodJaycees.com.



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Celebrate the 40th anniversary of Woodstock at FridayFest

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SARASOTA —
FridayFest, the free outdoor summertime music series and celebration set along the bayfront of the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall, still has two events left in the season with sixties music and Caribbean music from top Gulf-coast bands. FridayFest begins at 5 p.m. and runs until 9 p.m. Yesterdayze, a sixties tribute band, will be featured at this week's FridayFest with all your favorite songs from the 1960's. Their set includes

everything from the Beatles to Jimmy Hendrix, from Elvis to Dionne Warwick. The band's musicians live and breathe the sound of the '60s and invite their audience to join them in their journey to the past. Not only does Yesterdayze bring a blast from the past in their sound, but the musicians dress the part, recreating the entire '60s experience. This year's performance falls almost perfectly inline with the 40th Anniversary of Woodstock, so it will be an extra special celebration of an unforgettable decade of music.

Also, look out for Big Night Out, a Southwest Florida Latin/Caribbean band, bringing a blend of pulsing congas and bouncing rhythms to the Van Wezel FridayFest stage Sept. 18. The explosive horn section is something you won't want to miss. For the best mix in music, add one part bandstand, one part sunset and one part shimmering Sarasota Bay and what do you get? FridayFest, an ideal way to unwind after a busy week and revive your spirits in an upbeat weekend.

Guests are invited to bring blankets or lawn chairs. Local vendors offer food and beverages. Outside food is prohibited, along with coolers and weapons of any kind. FridayFest runs rain or shine. In the event of inclement weather, the festival will move indoors to the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall. Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall is located at 777 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, just a few blocks north of Main Street. For more information, call 941-953-3368 or visit www.vanwezel.org.

North Port Concert Band announces schedule

The North Port Concert Band has announced their performance schedule for the upcoming season:

7 p.m. Oct. 1, 7 p.m. Nov. 12,
7 p.m. Dec. 17, 3 p.m. Jan. 24, 7 p.m.
Feb. 18, 7 p.m. March 25, 7 p.m. April 22.



Concerts are held at the North Port Performing Arts Center, 6400 W. Price Blvd., North Port.

Tickets are available by calling the box office at 941-426-8479 or 866-406-7722. The box office is open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Monday - Friday.

Tickers are \$8 adults and \$4 for students. The box office opens for the season on Sept. 21. The North Port Concert Band will resume weekly rehearsals starting on Sept. 3.

Rehearsals are from 6:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the music suite at the Performing Arts Center, 6400 W. Price Blvd., North Port.

Anyone interested in joining the band may contact DeVere Fader, conductor at 941-505-7416.

September is Magical Dining Month in Orlando

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for \$20 or \$30. Indulge your inner gourmet with an appetizer, entrée and dessert at a variety of casual bistros and upscale dining destinations. Try a different eatery every week. Or every day! Restaurants will donate \$1 from each meal to Arnold Palmer Hospital For Children.

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Miami is strumming along

By **KIM COOL**

FEATURES EDITOR

South Beach has its art deco flare and now finally Miami has something — guitars — but not for much longer.

Aug. 5, 2008, Miami became known as Guitar-Town. That day 70 replica Gibson guitars, each one standing 10-feet high and hand-decorated by area artists, were unveiled at sites throughout the city and at Jungle Island, 1111 Parrot Jungle Trail. Half are at indoor locations and half outdoors.

The guitar sculpture project is one similar to

the pig project initiated a few years ago in Venice as a fund-raiser for the Venice Art Center, which found sponsors for 40 pigs at \$2,400 each and then auctioned them off a year later, at prices that reached \$7,300 for "Elvis Pigsley."

Cleveland, Ohio showcased similar guitars all over downtown Cleveland in 2006 and will host guitars again later this year. New York City has featured apples. Cows have taken over Cincinnati and Chicago in past years.

Lakeland featured swans

about five years ago. The Gibson Foundation is the Miami project's administrator.

Sponsored by the Gibson Guitar company of Nashville, Tenn., the guitars are a fundraising public art project that will benefit local charities in the Miami area while also serving as a showcase for the local artists who have decorated the sculptures.

The guitar at Jungle Island is the one and only "group guitar," featuring the work of several artists who worked on it together on opening day of the exhibit.

Sept. 26, the guitars will be sold at a celebrity auction hosted by the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood, Fl.

The hotel, like Gibson, is a major sponsor of the project. The auctioneer will be from Juliens Auction house in California, and the event will be live at the Hard Rock and online at www.juliensauctions.com. The guitars will be displayed at Seminole Paradise, site of the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, for two weeks preceding the auction. In addition to the sculptures several autographed

celebrity guitars will be offered at auction.

Celebrities involved include Gloria Estefan, a co-chairman of the project, and the Allman Brothers, Andy Garcia and Katy Perry.

Proceeds of the event will be shared by the Miami Children's Hospital Foundation, The Art and Culture Center of Hollywood and the Miami Music & Art Fund.

A map of the guitar locations can be seen at www.miamiguitartown.com but remember that they will be moved to the resort on or about Sept. 10-12.

For information on the Hard Rock Resort, visit www.seminolehardrockhollywood.com.

▶ TRAVEL BRIEFS

Festivals, craft fairs in Valley Forge area this fall

KING OF PRUSSIA, Pa. (AP) — Twelve events from ethnic festivals to craft fairs will take place in the Valley Forge area and Montgomery County, Pa., this fall.

Green Lane Park will host the 10th Annual Scottish-Irish Festival, Sept. 11-13, with singers, dancers, bagpipers, food, crafts, games and more.

German heritage is celebrated in Norristown, Sept. 19, at Elmwood Park Zoo's Oktoberfest, featuring seasonal craft brews and live music.

Colonial music, storytelling, crafts, games and even a dog show are on the schedule for the Sept. 26 Founder's Day Fall Festival at Washington Memorial Chapel in Valley Forge National Historical Park. Asher's Chocolates Retail Store, in Souderton, will

hold its free Fall Festival the same day.

Another Oktoberfest is planned for Oct. 3 on Butler Avenue, in Ambler, with music, artists, crafts, sidewalk sales, hay rides and beer. Also on Oct. 3, the Apple Butter Frolic takes place at Mennonite Heritage Center, in Harleysville, with demonstrations of antique farm equipment and folk crafts. That night, Pennypacker Mills, in Schwenksville, hosts an event called "Haunted Stories by the Bonfire." Pennypacker also hosts an All Hallow's Eve Fall Festival Oct. 17.

The Laerenswaert Colonial Craft Fair will take place Oct. 10 in Worcester at the Peter Wentz Farmstead. Guests can shuck corn or crush apples with a cider press.

The Pennsylvania Guild Fine Craft Fair, Oct. 17 and 18 at Montgomery County Community College, in Blue Bell, features music,

food and children's activities.

Also in the area, Willow Creek Orchards in Collegeville has pick-your-own veggies and pumpkins, while Freddy Hill Farms, in Lansdale, hosts activities every weekend in October including pig races, pony rides, a farm zoo, funnel cake and more.

Details at www.valleyforge.org.

Chamber music festival

MOAB, Utah (AP) — Chamber music masterpieces are on the program for the 17th annual Moab Music Festival, performed outdoors amid the area's spectacular scenery of red cliffs and the Colorado River.

The concerts will be performed at the Colorado River Grotto, a natural space that the festival organizers call "nature's perfect concert

hall," and at various other locations. The Sept. 3 concert includes works for strings by Dvorak and Schubert. On Sept. 11, the festival celebrates the 200th birthday of Felix Mendelssohn with performances at the Sorrel River Ranch. Back at the Colorado River Grotto, the Brandenburg Concerto No. 6 is on the schedule for Sept. 14.

For more information or tickets, visit www.moab-musicfest.org.

Kansas City Irish Fest

KANSAS CITY (AP) — Kansas City's annual Irish Fest takes place Sept. 4-6 with music, dance, readings, workshops and a children's area.

The event is held at Hallmark's Crown Center Square, south of downtown, 25th and Grand. Admission is \$10 at the

gate each day, \$8 in advance; children and volunteers get in for free. More details at www.KCIRishFest.com.

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Fall movie preview: The good, the bad and the really intriguing

By ROGER MOORE

THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

Here's a look at films headed for a cinema near you. (All release dates are subject to change.)

Sept. 4

"All About Steve" (Fox)

Sandra Bullock and Thomas Haden Church star as an "eccentric crosswords puzzle player" and the CNN cameraman she becomes comically obsessed with in this romance from the screenwriter of "License to Wed."

"Extract" (Miramax) Jason Bateman stars as the owner of a flower-extract plant coping with a cheating wife (Kristen Wiig) and assorted other issues. Ben Affleck and Mila Kunis also star in this Mike Judge comedy.

Sept. 9

"9" (Focus) Rag-doll creatures struggle to survive in a post-apocalyptic world in this sci-fi animation, which features the voices of Elijah Wood, Jennifer Connelly, John C. Reilly and Christopher Plummer.

Sept. 11

"Daybreakers" (Lionsgate)

Ethan Hawke and Willem Dafoe star in this sci-fi vampire movie about a virus that's turned the Earth of 2017 into vampire central.

"Sorority Row" (Summit)

Briana Evigan and Rumer Willis are among the celebrity offspring starring in this horror thriller about sorority girls who try to cover up a death.

"Tyler Perry's I Can Do Bad All By Myself" (Lionsgate)

Taraji P. Henson stars. Gladys Knight sings and Tyler Perry dons the Madea dress for his latest sermon with a silly edge.

Sept. 18

"Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs" (Columbia- Sony Animation) The voices of Anna Faris, Bill Hader, James Caan,

Mr. T. and Tracy Morgan are featured in this comedy about world hunger being solved (sort of) when food begins falling from the sky.

"Love Happens" (Universal)

Aaron Eckhart is a self-help guru who has written of his wife's death; Jennifer Aniston is the woman he meets at one of his seminars in this romantic weeper.

Sept. 25

"Fame" (Lakeshore Entertainment/MGM) Debbie Allen and a bunch of little-knowns and unknowns turn out for this update-remake of the 1980 film and 1982 TV series about ambitious dreamers at New York's High School for the Performing Arts.

"The Invention of Lying" (Warner Bros.) Ricky Gervais plays a man who lives in a world free from lies, until this writer discovers the art of fibbing. With Tina Fey, Jennifer Garner, Jonah Hill and Jason Bateman.

"Surrogates" (Touchstone)

Bruce Willis and Radha Mitchell star in this sci-fi thriller as agents who track murders back to a company that makes humanlike robots designed to step in for their owners.

Oct. 2

"Capitalism: A Love Story"

(Overture) Michael Moore's take on the financial crisis and the people, high and low, who caused it.

"Shutter Island" (Paramount)

Martin Scorsese's adaptation of novelist Dennis Lehane's novel is a 1950s mystery that has Leonardo DiCaprio searching for an escaped mentally ill murderess (Emily Mortimer).

Oct. 9

"The Informant" (Warner Bros.) Matt Damon stars in this Steven Soderbergh farce about a real-life whistle blower

who was almost as dirty as the folks he was blowing the whistle on.

"Zombieland" (Columbia)

Woody Harrelson plays a meek chap who tries to find refuge in a world overrun by zombies. Jesse Eisenberg also stars.

Oct. 16

"Cirque du Freak: The Vampire's Assistant" (Universal)

Willem Dafoe, Salma Hayek and, as a vampire, John C. Reilly, are prime attractions at a "freak show" circus that a young boy (Chris Massoglia) falls into.

"The Road" (Dimension)

Cormac McCarthy's post-apocalyptic sci-fi dystopia about a man and his son struggling to survive on "the road" stars Viggo Mortensen and Oscar winners Robert Duvall and Charlize Theron.

Oct. 23

"Amelia" (Fox Searchlight)

Mira Nair's biography of aviation legend Amelia Earhart stars Oscar winner Hilary Swank.

"Astro Boy" (Summit)

Another animated Japanese TV series from the '60s earns a big-screen outing, with the voices of Nicolas Cage, Eugene Levy and Freddie Highmore as the robot, Astro Boy.

"Saw VI" (Lionsgate) The slasher series that will never die until YOU people stop buying tickets makes its annual .

Oct. 30

"House of the Devil"

(Magnolia) A babysitter takes an unusual job and lives to regret it in this horror tale starring Jocelin Donahue.

Nov. 6

"The Box" (Warner Bros.) A dark fantasy about a family (Cameron Diaz, James Marsden) who receive a magical box, an offer of \$1 million from Frank Langella —

and the promise that pushing a button to ensure that \$1 million will kill someone they do not know.

"Disney's A Christmas Carol" (Walt Disney) Robert Zemeckis made this performance-capture (The Polar Express) version of the Dickens holiday classic.

"The Fourth Kind" (Universal) As in "Close Encounters of the..." Milla Jovovich stars in this thriller about a therapist who notices startling similarities among victims of alleged alien abductions.

Nov. 13

"The Fantastic Mr. Fox"

(Fox) An animated Wes Anderson film based on a Roald Dahl story? We're intrigued. It's about farm folk who tire of the wily fox in their midst (voiced by George Clooney) and resolve to wipe out him and his kind.

"2012" (Sony) Roland Emmerich's latest end-of-the-world spectacle concerns the confluence of disasters that some folks figure accompany the expiration date on the ancient Mayan calendar.

Nov. 20

"New Moon" (Summit) The sequel to Twilight has fetching young Bella recovering from a vampire attack, and cozying up to the cuter vampires.

"The Blind Side" (Warner Bros.) A homeless kid is recruited to a college football power in this drama based on the Michael Lewis book.

Quentin Aaron, Sandra Bullock, Tim McGraw and Kathy Bates are the stars of the John Lee Hancock film.

Nov. 25

"Old Dogs" (Walt Disney) Robin Williams and John Travolta play kid-averse bachelors charged with caring for 6-year-old twins. From the director of "Wild Hogs," if that tells you anything



'Taking Woodstock'

By **CHRISTY LEMIRE**
AP MOVIE CRITIC

LOS ANGELES — They aren't words you hear very often: an Ang Lee comedy.

He hasn't really made one since he directed "The Wedding Banquet" and "Eat Drink Man Woman" back-to-back in 1993 and 1994. And so, on the heels of the emotionally heavy "Brokeback Mountain"

and "Lust, Caution," Lee lightens up with "Taking Woodstock" — and the result is too lightweight.

He approaches the fabled three-day concert from an outsider's angle, which is admirably innovative; truly, the significance and influence of Woodstock have been chronicled ad nauseam, especially lately with its 40th anniversary having just

passed. But in telling the story of the people who inadvertently launched the event, Lee leaves out the substance.

Rather, he ambles amiably among these motley figures, with civic leader Elliot Teichberg (comic Demetri Martin) at the center. When Robert Altman used this structural tactic — and he did it often — it still felt

cohesive, like an intricate but subtle dance. "Taking Woodstock," by comparison, feels scattershot and incomplete.

The script from Lee's longtime collaborator James Schamus, based on Elliot Tiber's memoir, traces the pieces that fell into place to make Woodstock happen.

There's no real sense of the music, though,

which is a bold step — then again, the performances have been so famously documented elsewhere, namely in the Oscar-winning 1970 concert film "Woodstock," it was probably wise of Lee to avoid trying to recreate them and find his own angle into the event. But "Taking Woodstock" also leaves you feeling that something is missing.

Bandslam (PG) B-

When gifted singer-songwriter Charlotte Banks (Alyson Michalka) asks new kid in town Will Burton (Gaelan Connell) to manage her fledgling rock band, she appears to have just one goal in mind: go head-to-head against her egotistical musician ex-boyfriend, Ben (Scott Porter), at the biggest event of the year, a battle of the bands. 1 hr. 51 mins.

Big Fan (R) NEW

Paul Auffero (Patton Oswalt), a 35-year-old parking garage attendant, is the self-described "world's biggest New York Giants fan." He lives at home with his mother (Marcia Jean Kurtz), spending his off hours calling in to local sports-radio station, where he rants in support of his beloved team. One night, Paul and his best friend Sal (Kevin Corrigan) spot Giants star linebacker Quantrell Bishop (Jonathan Hamm) at a gas station in their neighborhood. They impulsively follow his limo into Manhattan. Paul cautiously decides to approach him, but things do not go as planned. 1 hr. 25 mins.

District 9 (R) A-

Aliens become refugees in South Africa where they are kept isolated from any human contact. While being contained in the refuge being ignored of their

welfare, their weapons become the sole interest of Multi-National United (MNU). But only one man, Wikus van der Merwe (Sharlto Copley), can activate these weapons. He becomes hunted for and only one place can give him refuge, District 9. 1 hr. 53 mins.

Funny People (R) B+

George (Adam Sandler) is a successful stand up comedian who learns that he has an untreatable blood disorder and is given less than a year to live. Ira (Seth Rogen) is a struggling up-and-coming stand up comedian who works at a deli and has yet to figure out his onstage persona. One night, these two perform at the same club and George takes notice of Ira. George hires Ira to be his semi-personal assistant as well as his friend. 2 hrs. 16 mins.

G.I. Joe (NR) C

Director Stephen Sommers (The Mummy, Van Helsing) adapts the beloved Hasbro G.I. Joe toy line with this Paramount Pictures production that pits the Global Integrated Joint Operating Entity against the evil forces of the organization known as Cobra.

The Final Destination (R) NEW

While enjoying a day at the track, Nick O'Bannon (Bobby Campo) has a horrific premonition in which he

and his friends all die following a freak accident involving multiple racecars. Nick manages to convince his friends to leave mere seconds before his vision comes true. They may have cheated death at first, but as the survivors start to meet increasingly grisly ends, Nick must figure out a way to escape his fate before death strikes again. 1 hr. 22 mins.

Halloween II (R) NEW

Evil comes home to roost as unstoppable killer Michael Myers (Tyler Mane) pursues injured Laurie Strode (Scout Taylor-Compton) through Haddonfield's hospital. 1 hr. 41 mins.

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) B+

Voldemort is tightening his grip on both the Muggle and wizarding worlds and Hogwarts is no longer the safe haven it once was. Harry suspects that dangers may even lie within the castle, but Dumbledore is more intent upon preparing him for the final battle that he knows is fast approaching. 2 hrs. 33 mins.

Inglourious Basterds (R) A-

"Inglourious Basterds" begins in German-occupied France, where Shosanna Dreyfus (Mélanie Laurent) witnesses the execution of her family at the hand of Nazi Colonel Hans Landa (Christoph

Waltz). Shosanna narrowly escapes and flees to Paris, where she forges a new identity as the owner and operator of a cinema. Elsewhere in Europe, Lieutenant Aldo Raine (Brad Pitt) organizes a group of Jewish soldiers to engage in targeted acts of retribution.

Julie & Julia (PG-13) A-

A frustrated temp secretary (Amy Adams) embarks on a year-long culinary quest to cook all 524 recipes in Julia Child's Mastering the Art of French Cooking. She chronicles her trials and tribulations in a blog that catches on with the food crowd. The film also covers the years Julia Child (Meryl Streep) and her husband Paul (Stanley Tucci) spent in Paris during the 1940s and 1950s.

A Perfect Getaway (R) C+

Cliff and Cydney (Steve Zahn and Milla Jovovich) are an adventurous young couple celebrating their honeymoon by backpacking to one of the most beautiful, and remote, beaches in Hawaii. Hiking the wild, secluded trails, they believe they've found paradise. But when the pair comes across a group of frightened hikers discussing the horrifying murder of another newlywed couple on the islands, they begin to question whether they should turn back. 1 hr. 38 mins.

Ponyo (G) A-

From the Academy Award-winning director and world-renowned Japanese animation legend Hayao Miyazaki comes "Ponyo," the story of a yond and overeager goldfish (voiced by Noah Cyrus) and her quest to become human. It features an outstanding roster of voice talent, including Cate Blanchett, Matt Damon, Tina Fey, Frankie Jonas, Cloris Leachman, Lian Neeson, Lily Tomlin and Betty White.

Post Grad (PG-13) C

Recent college graduate Ryden Malby (Gilmore Girls star Alexis Bledel) has just survived four years of higher education, but when she's forced to move back into her childhood home, the stress of dealing with her eccentric family, landing a job, and finding the right guy leaves her with precious little time to ponder where her life is truly heading. 1 hr. 29 mins.

Shorts (PG) B-

In the little town of Black Falls, every house looks the same and almost everyone works for Black Box Unlimited Worldwide Industries, purveyors of a device that is sweeping the nation. Toe Johnson, 11, is unimpressed with the company and its wares; he just wants a few friends. Then, a wish-granting rock falls from the sky and changes everything. 1 hr. 29 mins.

FILMS AT A GLANCE

Movie	Rating	Grade
Bandslam	(PG)	B
Big Fan	(R)	NEW
District 9	(R)	A-
Funny People	(R)	B+
G.I. Joe	(NR)	B-
The Final Destination	(R)	NEW
Halloween II	(R)	NEW
The Hangover	(R)	B
Harry Potter	(PG)	B+
Inglourious Basterds	(R)	A-
Julie & Julia	(PG-13)	A-
A Perfect Getaway	(R)	C+
Ponyo	(G)	A-
Post Grad	(PG-13)	C
Shorts	(PG)	B-
Taking Woodstock	(R)	NEW
The Time Traveler's Wife	(PG-13)	C+
The Ugly Truth	(R)	B
X Games	(PG)	B

Taking Woodstock (R) NEW

When the proposed Woodstock concert falls through, Elliot Tiber (Demetri Martin) steps in to play a pivotal role in the generation-defining event by helping organizers secure Max Yasgur's nearby farm and offering the El Monaco as their home base. 1 hr. 50 mins.

The Time Traveler's Wife (PG-13) C+

Chicago librarian Henry De Tamble suffers from a rare genetic disorder that causes him to drift uncontrollably back and forth through time. On one of his sojourns, he meets the love of his life, Claire (Rachel McAdams), and they marry. But the problems and complexities of any relationship are multiplied by Henry's inability to remain in one time and place, so that he and his beloved are forever out of sync. 1 hr. 48 mins.

The Ugly Truth (R) B

Abby Richter (Katherine Heigl) is a lovelorn TV producer who, despite a long and arduous search for the perfect mate, is hopelessly single. 1 hr. 35 mins.

Check out the classified section daily in the Sun or Saturday's Venice Gondolier for a complete list of movie theaters and times.

TOWN CENTER 16, Port Charlotte Town Center, Port Charlotte. 941-623-0111.

FRANK THEATERS GALLERIA 12, Galleria Plaza, Tamiami Trail, Venice. 941-408-0011.

MERCHANTS CROSSING, U.S. 41, N. Fort Myers. 888-262-4386.

AMC SARASOTA 12, 8201 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. 941-922-3130.

HOLLYWOOD 20, 1993 Main St., Sarasota. 941-954-5768.

Grade:

A: Excellent B: Good
C: Average D: Fair

— Synopses and grades provided by Sun wire services.

Ratings:

- G - Movie suitable for all ages.
- PG - Parental guidance suggested - May not be suitable for small children.
- PG-13 - Parents strongly cautioned - May not be suitable for children under 13.
- R - Restricted - Contains mature themes. Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.
- NC-17 - No children under 17 admitted.

CHECK LISTINGS ONLINE:
www.sunnewspapers.net/entertainment/movies.aspx

Venice Theatre reprises cabaret hit 'My Way'

By **KIM COOL**
FEATURES EDITOR

Hot on the heels of its Summer Stock hit, "West Side Story," Venice Theatre will open "My Way: a Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra," a Venice Theatre hit of its 2004-05 cabaret season.

"My Way" was first presented in 2003, selling out night after night and forcing the addition of extra performances — no easy task in a theater that has something going on

virtually every day and in each of its two venues as well as on the road. It was extended so often, always selling out, that it was reprised as part of the 2004-05 season.

The cast includes Kim Gardner Kollar, Allen Kretschmer, Bobbie Eschenbach and Chris Caswell. Together, they will present a 56-song tribute to "old blue eyes," celebrating the man and the mystique that seemed always to

surround him.

Directed by Allan Kollar with musical direction by Michelle Kasanofky who performed the same function for Venice Theatre's summer stock hit, "West Side Story," "My Way" will run from Aug. 28-Sept. 13 in the 90-seat Yvonne T. Pinkerton Theatre, home of Stage II and cabaret productions. Michelle Kasanofsky, accompanied by a small combo, also will play keyboards

for the show.

Performances are Tuesday through Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. and Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$24 per person for adults and \$12 for students.

The theater and box office are at 140 W. Tampa Ave. Call 941-488-1115 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays or visit www.venicestage.com anytime. The box office also is open one hour before all performances.

Lemon Bay Playhouse to hold auditions for 'Mary Mary'

PROVIDED BY
LEMON BAY PLAYHOUSE

Lemon Bay Playhouse will hold auditions for their second play of the new season at 7 p.m. Sept. 6, and Sept. 7 in the theater, located at 96 West Dearborn St., Englewood.

The play, "Mary Mary" by Jean Kerr, is being directed by Matt McCord and will run from Oct. 28 through Nov. 15.

The plot focuses on wisecracking cynic Mary and infuriatingly sensible Bob, on the verge of divorce following a nine-month separation, who


meet at his apartment in the hope they can avert an audit by the IRS. A snowstorm forces Mary to spend the night, and the following morning mutual friend and attorney Oscar, Hollywood heartthrob and neighbor Dirk Winston, and Bob's considerably younger fiancée Tiffany arrive on the scene. The comedy's humor is derived from discussions about income taxes, marriage, alimony, divorce, remarriage, extra-marital affairs, weight-loss programs, exercise, and sex.

There are roles for three adult males and two adult females, with all roles available to be cast. Auditioning actors will be required to read

from the script. A copy of the play is available for perusal at the theater box office. The box office is open weekdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

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SUMMERTIME SIZZLE FOOD & COOKING EXPO

The Charlotte County Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources is excited to bring to you the first Food & Cooking Expo at the Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

"Summertime Sizzle" is a free event for lovers of food and cooking everywhere designed to excite the tastes and curiosities of cooking & food enthusiasts from all over the area. Opportunities to purchase cookware, view food preparation and obtain new recipes will be available.

Bring your young chefs along for some hands on children's activities. Come out for a wonderful day of food sampling, savoring, and discovering the best foods, products and ideas available in today's culinary marketplace!

For more information, or if you are interested in being a vendor at this event, please contact Joan Hawkins at 941-639-5833.

The Charlotte County Event and Conference Center is located at 75 Taylor St., Punta Gorda.

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FRIDAY, AUG. 28TH AT 5:30PM
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Come Enjoy Live Entertainment...

Fri. 08/28 - Karaoke Contest 5:30-8:30

Sat. 08/29 - Strawberry Jam 5:30-8:30

Sun. 08/30 - Caribbean Cowboy 1-5,
\$2.00 domestic bottles

Mon. 08/31 - CLOSED, SUMMER HOURS

Tues. 09/01 - CLOSED, SUMMER HOURS

Wed. 09/02 - Hi Lites 12-2, Closed at 4pm

Thurs. 09/03 - Banjo's w/Greg Allen & Friends 11-2,
Closed at 7:30

Fri. 09/04 - Karaoke Contest 5:30-8:30

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August 26-27, 2009

Next Greenfield Prize will go to visual artist

By **KIM COOL**
FEATURES EDITOR

You can't apply for the Greenfield Prize but if you win, you get a \$30,000 commission in your field, a six-week stay at The Hermitage Artist Retreat on Manasota Beach and a partnership with a professional arts organization.

Next year's award, the third, will go to a visual artist. The Greenfield Prize was established in 2008 by Sarasota residents Bob and Louise Greenfield in conjunction with the Greenfield Foundation, which is based in Philadelphia. To insure equality of the arts, a rotation system was established that gives the award in the field of drama one year, music the next year and to a "wild card" field the following year. As this is the third year, it is a wild card year in which the award to be given to someone in any discipline or even to someone in multiple disciplines. Now that it has been decided that the award will go to someone in the field of visual art, it is up to the award committee to find that person.

Hermitage Executive Director Bruce Rogers is the facilitator for the five-person selection panel of experts in American art. The panel, whose members are kept secret until the prize is announced, selects 30 nominees from whom the winner is eventually selected. Panel members are selected by Dan Cameron, Director of Visual Arts at the Contemporary Arts Center of

New Orleans and the founder of "Prospect.1 New Orleans. (Cameron is one of the visual arts representatives on the Hermitage Artist Retreat National Artist Advisory Committee.) Joni Greenfield of the Greenfield Foundation and a producing partner representative join three voting members of the committee in the selection process. Next year's winner will be announced on April 15 in Sarasota. The first recipient of the Greenfield Prize was Craig Lucas who will work on his project at The hermitage in the coming months. Actors associated with the Asolo Repertory Company in Sarasota will present the reading of his work at the April 15 award program. For information on the Greenfield Prize, visit www.greenfieldprize.org

The Hermitage has made an international name for itself since its development as an artist retreat of restored homes and an old beach cottage on an 8-acre beachfront site on Manasota Key. All the buildings are furnished. There are indoor and outdoor common areas, a boardwalk over the dunes to the beach, kitchen and laundry facilities plus internet access from common areas. Resident artists receive a private room and bath plus meals during their stay. Scottish sculptor Malcomb Roberts was the first artist invited to spend time at the site. While there he designed a work that was ultimately placed at the Fruitville

Library.

Playwright Romulus Linney IV was there for three weeks a year ago and returned this year to complete his six-weeks residency. During his first stay he and Rogers participated in a discussion at Venice Theatre with its artistic director, Murray Chase, and later in a similar program at Florida Studio Theatre in Sarasota, which is led by Artistic Director Richard Hopkins.

Such presentations are part of the requirement for resident artists but also become a legacy that benefits the community. That legacy element was a goal of Syd Adler who was instrumental in developing the Hermitage as an artist retreat.

"This is a great thing," Linney said when interviewed at the time of his first visit to The Hermitage. "I hope everyone will come to

understand what these colonies do ... they save careers. Suddenly you are freed and all sorts of stuff comes out."

The Greenfield Prize goes even farther by pairing the winner with one or more experts in the field to further develop the work for public presentation.

To support The Hermitage and its work, sign up for an invitation to its annual Lobster bake, "The Artful Lobster" which will be on Saturday, Nov. 21, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The hermitage, 6650 Manasota Key Road. It is one of very few times each year when the public can meet and mingle with resident artists and see the hermitage.

For information on the Hermitage Artist Retreat, visit www.hermitage-fl.org or contact Executive Director Bruce E. Rodgers at 941-475-2098.



SUN FILE PHOTO

Bruce Rogers is the executive director of The hermitage Artist Retreat on Manasota Key. He is shown in the living area of the first restored cottage on the site which annually awards six-week retreats to artists, writers and musicians for in-depth work on current or special projects.

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WHERE: Charlotte Sport Stadium, Port Charlotte

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DESOTO

- **Nav-A-Gator Bar & Grill**
9700 S.W. Riverview
Circle (off Kings Highway)
941-625-4407.
6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Thursday,
Jim Morris.
6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Friday,
Shawn Brown.
2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday,
Gary and Kerri.
2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday,
John Frinzi.
6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Wednesday,
Nav-A-Gator member
appreciation day.
Free entertainment.
- **Wagon Wheel**
165 S. Polk Ave, Arcadia.
8 p.m. - midnight,
karaoke DJ.

ENGLEWOOD

- **Englewood Eagles #3885**
250 Old Englewood Road,
Englewood.
941-474-9802.
6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Friday, Spotlight.
6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Saturday, MC Squared.
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Andy G.
- **Englewood's
on Dearborn**
(formerly Coconut Grove)
362 W. Dearborn St.,
Englewood.
941-475-7501.
6:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Thursday, karaoke with
WAM Entertainment.
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Tuesday, karaoke with
WAM Entertainment.

NORTH PORT

- **Buffalo Wild Wings**
700 Sumter Crossings
Drive, North Port.
941-429-9722.
5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Friday, c.u. Later Gator.
- **Old World Restaurant**
14415 S. Tamiami Trail,
North Port.
941-426-1155.
8 p.m. - 10 p.m. Saturday,

- comedy/hypnotist.
6:30 p.m. Monday,
Texas Hold 'em Poker.
7 p.m. Friday, karaoke
with Paradise Moon.
- **Riverside Lounge
at Budget Inn**
14000 Tamiami Trail,
North Port.
941-429-1534.
9 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. Friday-
Saturday, karaoke
with J.R. & Janet.
Sunday, poker.
7 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Tuesday, poker.
9 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.
Wednesday, ladies
night/karaoke with
J.R. & Janet.
 - **VFW Post 8203**
4860 Trott Circle,
North Port.
941-426-6865.
7 p.m. - 11 p.m. Friday,
Saturday, karaoke.

PORT CHARLOTTE

- **Bowland**
3192 Harbor Blvd.,
Port Charlotte.
941-625-4794.
Friday, Saturday, karaoke.
12:30 p.m. Sunday,
Texas Hold 'em.
5:30 p.m. Tuesday,
Thursday, Texas Hold'em.
- **Broad Street Bar & Grill**
at Treasure Lanes
1059 Tamiami Trail,
Port Charlotte.
941-625-3930.
Monday, Thursday,
Pool league.
Tuesday, Shuffleboard
league.
Wednesday, Dart league.
- **Deep Creek Elks**
1133 Capricorn Blvd.,
Deep Creek.
941-764-6825.
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Saturday, Sound
Investment.
6:30 p.m. Saturday,
Brown Suga.
1:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday,
bingo.

- **Gatorz**
3816 Tamiami Trail,
Port Charlotte.
941-625-5000
5 p.m. - 9 p.m. Saturday,
Storm Surge.
- **MS Rascal's Loony Bin**
1182 Tamiami Trail,
Port Charlotte.
www.loonybinpub.com.
941-255-5999.
9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Friday,
The Fog.
9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Saturday,
Sammy J.
9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Tuesday,
open mike with Philly Billy.
9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Wednesday,
Thursday, ladies night
with DJ Philly Billy.
Noon, Monday - Friday,
Texas Hold 'em Poker.
- **Port Charlotte Elks #2153**
20225 Kenilworth Blvd.,
off Veterans Blvd.,
Port Charlotte.
941-627-9811.
8 p.m. - 11 p.m. Friday,
Karaoke contest with Breeze.
- **Portside**
3636 Tamiami Trail,
Port Charlotte.
9 p.m. Saturday, '80s
Night with video games,
pricing and DJ T
with '80s music.
9 p.m. Tuesday, Ladies
night with DJ T.
- **Q's Sports Bar and Girl**
4030 Tamiami Trail,
Port Charlotte.
941-764-6969.
8 p.m. Thursday, Texas

- Hold 'em Poker, APA
8 Ball Pool League
10:30 p.m. Thursday, \$100
First Place Open 8 Ball
Tournament.
8 p.m. Friday, Texas Hold
'em Poker, 9 Ball Pool
Tournament.
4 p.m., 8 p.m. Saturday,
Texas Hold 'em Poker,
8 Ball Pool Tournament.
1 p.m., 8 p.m. Sunday,
Texas Hold 'em Poker.
8 p.m. Monday, Texas
Hold 'em Poker,
APA 9 Ball League.
8 p.m. Tuesday, Texas
Hold 'em Poker, Q's In-
House 9 Ball Pool League.
1 p.m., 8 p.m. Wednesday,
Texas Hold 'em Poker,
8 APA 8 Ball Pool League.
- **Sports City**
4660 Tamiami Trail,
Port Charlotte.
941-627-6264.
7:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.
Thursday, Fakahatchee.
8:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.
Friday, Bandana.
8:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.
Saturday, Boca Band.
7 p.m. - 11 p.m. Monday,
karaoke with Holly.
7 p.m. - 11 p.m. Tuesday,
karaoke with Marlene.
7 p.m. - 11 p.m. Wednesday,
Chiki Monkey.
 - **Sun Flea Market
& Kidstar**
18505 Paulson Drive,
Port Charlotte.
941-255-3532.

- Noon - 3 p.m. Friday,
Kenny Anderson.
Noon - 3 p.m. Saturday,
Tim Goodman.
Noon - 3 p.m. Sunday,
Alex Keller.
- **Treasure Lanes**
1059 Tamiami Trail,
Port Charlotte.
941-625-3930.
8 p.m. Saturday,
cosmic bowl.
 - **Visani featuring
The Comedy Zone**
2400 Kings Highway,
Port Charlotte.
941-629-9191.
8 p.m. Thursday - Friday,
live comedy with
Drew Thomas and
Johnny Hobbs.
7:30 p.m., 10 p.m. Saturday,
live comedy with
Drew Thomas
and Johnny Hobbs.
7:30 p.m. Tuesday,
Gregg Baker on Broadway

- featuring George Mancini.
8 p.m. Wednesday, live
comedy with Shaun Jones
and Josh Phillips.
- **Willie's Cocktails**
4095 tamiami Trail,
Port Charlotte.
941-624-2245.
7 p.m. Saturday, Wednesday,
Texas Hold 'Em.
1 p.m. Sunday,
Texas Hold 'Em.
10 p.m. Tuesday,
Beer Pong.

PUNTA GORDA

- **American Legion
Post 103**
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Punta Gorda.
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NIGHTWATCH | P13

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August 26-27, 2009

NIGHTWATCH, FROM PAGE 12

• **Captain's Table Lounge**
1200 W. Retta Esplanade
(Fishermen's Village),
Punta Gorda
941-637-1177.
7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Friday -
Saturday,
The Bob Hanson Trio.
5 p.m. Monday through
Saturday, Mable at the piano.

• **Danny's Deep Creek Pub**
24901 Sandhill Blvd.
Unit 14, Punta Gorda.
941-764-0640.
www.dannysdeepcreekpub.com.
7:30 p.m. Thursday,
karaoke with Stephanie.
9 p.m. Thursday, Ladies
Wii bowling tournament.
Noon - midnight, Friday -
Saturday, Danny's Power Poker.
9 p.m. Friday, Wii Bowling
Master's Tournament.
9 p.m., 10 p.m. Saturday,
Wii Dutch Bowling
Tournament.
5 p.m. Sunday, Wii
bowling lessons.
Noon - 10 p.m. Monday,
Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Sunday,
Danny's Power Poker.
8 p.m. Monday, Bobby's
Monday Madness
Bowling Tournament.
8 p.m. Tuesday, Wii
Bowling Doubles.
9 p.m. Wednesday, Wii
Bowling, Free Men's
Tournament.

• **Harpoon Harry's**
1200 W. Retta Esplanade,
Punta Gorda.
941-637-1177.
9 p.m. - midnight Friday -
Saturday, Buckshot.
Midnight - 2 a.m. Friday -
Saturday, Dance music
with DJ Franco.

• **Jack's Cafe**
201 W. Marion Ave.,
Punta Gorda.
941-637-8800.
9 p.m. - midnight,
Thursday, ladies night
with dance music
by DJ Mo Ron.

• **Fishermen's Village**
1200 W. Retta Esplanade,

Punta Gorda.
941-639-8721.
5 p.m. - 9 p.m. Friday,
Gary Gray.
5 p.m. - 9 p.m. Saturday,
Blue Byou.

• **Mooseheads**
318 Tamiami Trail #111
Corner of U.S. 41 North
and Virginia, Punta Gorda.
941-505-0404.
8 p.m. Thursday, open
mic night.
9 p.m. Friday - Saturday,
live music.
7:30 p.m. Wednesday,
Texas Hold 'em Poker.

• **The Perfect Caper**
121 E. Marion Ave.,
Punta Gorda.
941-505-9009.
7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Thursday
- Saturday, live classic
jazz in the lounge
by Trio "Taste."

• **Punta Gorda Elks**
25538 Shore Drive,
Punta Gorda.
941-637-2606.
Karaoke Monday,
Wednesday until 10 p.m.
Live music and dancing
Friday, Saturday
until 10 p.m.

• **Ryan's Subs
and Sports Grill**
5268 Duncan Road,
Punta Gorda.
941-505-7827.
4 p.m. Monday, Free pool.
9 p.m. - midnight
Wednesday, Sink or
Swim. Dance Music
by DJ Mo Ron.
7:30 p.m. Friday, live music.

• **Slip-Not Lounge**
1601 Tamiami Trail,
Punta Gorda.
941-639-7677.
7 p.m. - 11 p.m. Thursday,
Two Can Jam.
8 p.m. - midnight Friday,
Ladies night with
Sammi J & The Guys.
8 p.m. - midnight
Saturday, Sudden Impact.
4 p.m. - 7 p.m. Sunday,
TBA.
7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Tuesday,
karaoke inside with
M&M.

7 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Wednesday, Tim Good-
man & Rosanne Botts.
8 p.m. Wednesday,
pool tournament.

• **The Tavern Bar
and Grill**
126 W. Marion Ave.,
Punta Gorda.
941-639-7655.
9 p.m. - 2 a.m. Friday,
DJ Dance Party.
9 p.m. - 2 a.m. Saturday,
Pro DJs DJ Ron Dance
Party. Ladies drink
free 10 p.m. - 2 a.m.

• **Tilly's Tap**
3149 Duncan Road (Hwy
17), Punta Gorda.
941-505-0798.
5 p.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday,
Old Hippe Buck.
1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday,
Lisa and Up The Creek.
Free Pool Monday.

VENICE/NOKOMIS

• **Honoluana Island Grill**
222 Airport Ave., Venice.
941-483-3553.
7 p.m. Friday, Storm
Surge.
7 p.m. Saturday, BobLynn
Brothers.

• **The Office Pub**
1195 U.S. 41 Bypass
South, Venice.
941-445-5973.
7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Wednesday,
bar bingo.
8 p.m. Friday, 8-Ball

pool tournament.
9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Saturday,
karaoke with Jim & Deb.
2 p.m. Sunday, Wii Golf
and Bowling.
9 p.m. - midnight
Monday, Free pool.

• **Sal's Restaurant
and Pizzeria**
545 S. Tamiami Trail,
Venice.
941-488-9896.
6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Saturday,
Smooth Moves.

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5 p.m. - 9 p.m.
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7 p.m. - 11 p.m. Friday,
Tony Fiorentino.
7 p.m. - 11 p.m. Saturday,
Gary Leshner.
11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.,
Sunday brunch
with Gary Leshner.
5 p.m. - 8 p.m. Sunday,
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the information to 941-
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Let's Go! Page 14

Lock-N-Key — our appetites were thoroughly satisfied

Arriving at the Lock-N-Key at 6:30 a.m. on a Wednesday evening, we were somewhat distressed to see that there were a number of people waiting to be seated. Assured by the hostess that there would be a short wait, we sat on a bench to study the extensive menu.

The menu includes "Great Beginnings" (from \$4.95 onion rings to a \$16.95 pound of "Shrimp in the Rough") and a large selection of entrees under the headings of Specialties, From the Deep, Shrimp Your Way and more.

Within 15 minutes we were led to a table near one of the picture windows. The tables are placed quite close together, and noisy conversations bounce off the hard surfaces. This effect is softened by ferns and fans hanging from the high shed ceiling. The Florida atmosphere of the large room serves as an extension of the view of the sun setting behind the palm trees on the beach.

After serving our drinks, our charming waitress brought a basket of crispy, warm rolls baked on premises.

As an appetizer she selected a half pound of Stone Crab claws (\$11.95), four cracked claws full of sweet meat accompanied by drawn butter; a rare seasonal treat.

He decided on the



letsgo@sun-herald.com

Hours of operation and pricing are subject to change.

Maryland-style crab cakes (\$9.95). The two large sautéed patties had a delicate flavor and minimal fillers and were surrounded by a light sauce Dijonnaise.

Described on the menu as spicy, they were not too spicy even for her sensitive palate when she sampled them.

All entrees are served with a salad and a choice of potato, or chef's vegetable. From the specialties menu she had the char-grilled "Lollypop" pork chops (\$17.95).

Tempted by the idea of the sweet chili-apricot sauce, but fearful of the chili, she asked for it to be served on the side. The sauce proved to be a good foil for the tender chops, and honey-cinnamon butter came with an outstanding sweet potato. He chose the queen-size prime rib (\$19.95).

The requested end cut arrived filling the large plate. A perfectly baked potato complemented the juicy cut of beef.

Unable to resist home-baked desserts, we shared the turtle cheesecake (\$5.95) and the coconut cream pie (\$4.95). The scrumptious, dense cheese cake comes topped with

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 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Friday - Saturday;
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Value for Money:.....	Kids Menu:	Full Bar.....
Service:	Dress:	Entertainment:

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 Four forks - Excellent • Three forks - Very Good
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2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday - Sunday.

chopped walnuts and drizzled with caramel and chocolate. Fluffy filling topped with grated coconut, the cream pie was reminiscent of a famous New Jersey restaurant version

from our youth. Our appetites thoroughly satisfied, we had to agree with the corny menu line: "The only sad sole allowed in this restaurant is on a platter."

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► COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

Charlotte County Coalition for the Homeless fundraiser

Broad Street Bar & Grill will be hosting their grand-opening and raising funds to aid the Charlotte County Coalition for the Homeless.

The event will be held from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. **Saturday** and will feature the Golden Hippo, music, sports trivia, giveaways, Bud girls, cornhole competitions and King Kong beer pong.

The fun continues from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. **Sunday**, featuring the music of Brown Suga.

There will be special events each day with funds going towards the Charlotte County Coalition for the Homeless.

The new, outside, full service patio bar is located in Treasure Lanes, 1059 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte.

For more information, call 941-625-3930.

Crazy 4 Paws Pet Expo

The Cultural Center of Charlotte County presents Crazy 4 Paws Pet Expo from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Saturday**. Free admission.

First 100 animals get a free gift from Hill's Nutrition.

Vendors will be on hand with various services and information for all your pet needs.

EARS will be hosting a Adopt-A-Thon, and games for children and Canine Castaways will be hosting a dog show.

A menu will be available for your pet, and door prizes will be going on throughout the day. For more information, call 941-625-4175.

The Cultural Center of Charlotte County is located at 2280 Aaron St., Port Charlotte.

Dinner Dance fundraiser

Hearing Impaired Persons group will be holding its first Dinner Dance fundraiser from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. **Saturday** at the Pilgrim United Church of Christ Fellowship Hall, 24515 Rampart Blvd., Port Charlotte. A spaghetti dinner will be served from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., followed by dancing and music by The Reconnections until 10 p.m.

Tickets cost \$15 each per person or \$25 each per couple. Table sponsorships (for eight) also are available for

\$200 per table. Proceeds raised will benefit the group's program services. To purchase tickets or for more information, call 941-743-8347.

Writers group to gather

The Y.R.I. (You Wrote It, You Read It) Literary Group will hold its next gathering at 7 p.m. **Saturday** at 513 Grace St., Punta Gorda. Teresa Evan will host this meeting and has chosen the prompt, "In the pool I..." Attendees are encouraged to bring swimsuits and read original songs, stories or poetry. The public is welcome to join. Bring a dish to share and your own drinks. Attendees should park at the Punta Gorda Library and walk to her house, directly located behind the parking lot of the library. For more information, call 941-286-7603.

Children's reading, arts and crafts

Hooked On Books at

Fishermen's Village will start offering a story reading time and a free arts and crafts session at 11 a.m. every Thursday starting **Sept. 3** at 1200 W. Retta Esplanade, Punta Gorda.

People are encouraged to bring their children.

For more information, call 941-637-8002.

Watercolor art exhibit

The Visual Arts Center will play host to the 38th annual Juried Exhibition of the Florida Watercolor Society from **Sept. 8** to Oct. 27 at 210 Maud St., Punta Gorda.

The center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, Monday to Friday; and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

The exhibit is free and open to the public for

viewing.

The FWS Convention will be held Sept. 25 and 26 at the Hyatt Regency in Bonita Springs.

For information about the convention, visit www.floridawatercolor.com.

For more information about the exhibit, call the VAC at 941-639-8810.

Antique Mall to reopen

The Antique Mall in the restored Punta Gorda Train Depot will reopen **Sept. 8**.

Visitors are invited to explore the Depot, built in 1928 and closed to passenger and freight

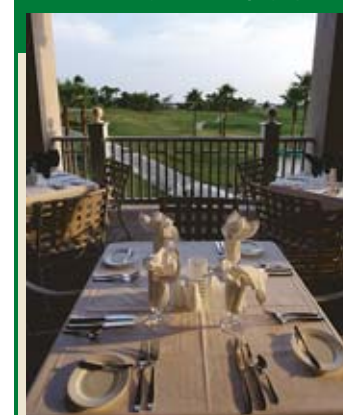
service in 1971.

Restoration began in 1997 with the goal of following the original design of the Depot as closely as possible.

For more information or to schedule a tour, call 941-639-6774 after Sept. 8.



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FESTIVAL, FROM PAGE 3

festival. This year's bus tours will be at 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 12:30 and 1:45 p.m. Friday and on Saturday, at 9:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. plus noon, 12:30 p.m., 1:15 p.m. and 1:45 p.m. There are no tours on Sunday. Tour fee is \$10 per person. For reservations, call 863-465-4331 and have your credit card ready. Just four of the bus tours are handicap accessible. Make sure you ask for those bus times if you need that service.

Imagine seeing 1,000 blooming acres of colorful leaves.

What's in a name

On the internet, a search for information on caladiums yielded Latin names as well as common names for a plant that has nearly 1,000 varieties and countless plant cousins. In addition to the nickname of "elephant ear" the plants also have been called "Angel Wings" or "Heart of Jesus." The Latin root is the family "Araceae" and there are several sub species. Cousins include Alocasia and Colocasia, among others.

In the wild, along creek beds and in open areas of the forest, the plants can reach 35 inches in height and the leaves can be as broad as 18 inches. Cultivars today favor pink and red hues. At your local garden center you will find curly leaves, often mostly pink or red with green edges. While the leaf shapes retain that elephant ear shape, many cultivars feature more pointed leaves and leaves with ruffled edges. There also are some that

are such a pale shade of yellow in the center as to be nearly white.

Size matters

Cultivated plants are generally smaller than their wild relatives, topping out at about 24 inches in height. Dwarf varieties are gaining favor also. There are several growers in Lake Placid, all anxious to speak to visitors and to share their knowledge about the plants and especially about their personal favorites.

Caladiums generally need lots of water, especially during the growing season and they do better in shade, but there are several newer Florida-friendly varieties said to be more drought tolerant. It is interesting to see the large open fields of cultivars in Lake Placid during the festival. The area is said to supply some 98 percent of all caladiums grown in the United States. Propagation in Lake Placid dates to the early 1940s.

To propagate them at home, divide the plant's tubers.

Frost bites

Cold is the caladium's worst enemy. If frost threatens, growers suggest lifting the plants from the ground before the frost hits.

The corm (root area) can be dried and stored safely in a cool spot.

As the entire plant is poisonous it should be plants and/or stored in areas where children and animals are not likely to ingest any parts of the plant. Some people are allergic to the plants.

Festival highlights

While you won't find

caladium ice cream at the festival, there will be plenty of other festival food, arts and crafts, grower exhibits, arts demonstrations, area artists, information about the murals of Lake Placid, a car and bike show on Saturday of the festival, clowns and face painting, live entertainment and more information about caladiums than you thought possible.

Saturday night, there is a dance at the Elks Lodge for anyone 21 and over. Admission is \$10 at the door.

That morning, the Dr. Tom McDonald Caladium 5k race will be run. The car and bike show comes later, in DeVane park.

Sponsored by Florida Hospital heartland Division, the festival is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday.

The Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscapers Association will have a booth at the festival and so will the Chamber of Commerce, where you can buy festival T-shirts.

Henscratch Farms will host a booth featuring products related to grapes and wines.

More to Lake Placid

Lake Placid is equally well known as the Town of Murals and also for its more than 79,000 acres of citrus crops, putting Highlands County in second place behind Polk County in citrus production for the state. The local citrus association will have a booth where visitors can learn more about the Lake Placid that never hosted the Winter Olympics but draws thousands in the

heat of a Florida summer because of its famous leaf crop.

Fame spreading

So popular have caladiums become, that the Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center, 100 miles north in the Orlando area, hosts its own indoor Caladium Showcase each July.

Lodging

If you stay at Pratt's Resort (863-699-1223) during the festival you will receive 19 Caladium bulbs and more than \$19 in Lake Placid area coupons plus a 19 percent discount on room rates in honor of



PHOTO PROVIDED

The festival is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday.

the 19th festival. There is a new La Quinta Inn in nearby Sebring and several other options. For a complete list of lodging

options, call the Lake Placid Chamber of Commerce at 863-465-4331 or visit www.lakeplacidflorida.com.

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