



The Bradenton Times Weekly Recap



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Volume 3, Number 1

April 21, 2011

Hello Reader,

Special Feature

[How to Make Florida's Legislature More Representative: Step One - Pay Them More!](#)



This is probably not a column headline that you would expect from someone who has been as critical of the state's government as I have, but hear me out. The Florida legislature has become a fraternity of millionaires that is anything but representative of the people it serves. The very low salary combined with the demands of the position make it a near-impossible occupation for most people in the working class, shrinking the pool of potential candidates, which is not something a healthy democracy should strive for. Would we have better legislators if we paid them a reasonable wage?

[Budget Committee Warns that Taxpayers will Be Paying for the School Board Deficit](#)



While the School Board has been sheltering teachers and not raising insurance premium rates, the deficit has grown to over \$12 million. While teachers and employees have remained relatively unscathed, some say classrooms are losing out. The budget committee reveals hidden debts, unauthorized plans and that the school board is shuffling money from the operational fund to cover costs.

[Sarasota Journalist, Paige St. John Awarded Pulitzer Prize](#)



When it comes to journalism, good work is often soon forgotten. Long hours and plenty of sweat equity is put in, but then it is published into the wind-tunnel with a shorter lifespan than yellow bananas, where it competes for limited readership, most of whom have greater interest in who's winning Dancing With the Stars. This week, a local investigative journalist's series received a rare dose of immortality.

[Code Enforcement Officer Expresses Frustration with Sheriff's Office over "Houses of Ill Repute"](#)



A county code enforcement officer claims that the Manatee Sheriff's office has repeatedly ignored his warnings that nine of the "houses of ill repute" identified by the division remain open. Sheriff Brad Steube says the businesses, as opposed to the prostitutes, are the job of the county attorney's office to close, while explaining his inability to bring criminal charges against the businesses themselves.

[The Bradenton Times Enters Its Third Year of Publishing The Weekly Recap!](#)



Today's Volume 105 marks the start of our third third straight year publishing the Weekly Recap, our online magazine-style anthology of the past week's articles at TheBradentonTimes.com and we've got exciting news about the success of our publication!

[Oil Spill Lawsuits Raise Questions of Fault and Responsibility](#)



Though many small businesses have already settled claims with BP, the ultimate reparations remain far from certain. While Rick Scott made news earlier this week when he announced Florida would not be joining the multi-state lawsuit against Transatlantic, the operator of the Deepwater Horizon rig, legal experts are still debating the ramifications

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The Community Notices

[California Comes to Florida](#)



Dredging for Birth 12 begins at Port Manatee

Featured Business

[Ronald J. Hernden, CPA
PA](#)

[The Open Mic](#)

Need to get something off your

of that decision.

[Weekend Adventures in Bradenton, April 22-24](#)



There's baseball, live music and 36,000 easter eggs up for grabs. It csn only mean Easter weekend in Florida! Grab you Easter bonnet, the one with all the flowers on it... it's time for an Easter Weekend Adventure in Bradenton!

Government

Local

[Manatee County Planning Commission Agenda Results, 4/14/11](#)



The Manatee County Planning Commission met for a regularly scheduled meeting yesterday at the county administrative building in the BCC Chambers.

[Ordinances for "Sexually Oriented Businesses" Discussed at BCC Session](#)



Manatee County's sexually-oriented businesses will get some attention from the Board of County Commissioners at their 9:30 a.m. work session Tuesday morning on the 4th Floor of the County Administration Bldg. The morning session goes from 9:30 a.m. to noon, and the afternoon session from 1:30 pm. to 5 p.m., if necessary.

[City of Bradenton Launches New Constituent Services Platform](#)



The City of Bradenton has launched a new constituent service request platform that is available online and on mobile phones. Through the platform, residents are able to request a variety of City services, including road repairs, tree trimming, garbage pickup, traffic safety as well as the ability to obtain help accessing their accounts and making on-line payments.

[Palmetto City Commission Approves 4-1 Development Adjacent to Snead Island](#)



The Palmetto City Commission approved 4-1, with Brian Willaims opposing, a new development located on the south side of 10th Street on the way to Snead Island. Villa por la Marina will consist of 12 "Key West style" single family units 35 feet in height and 5 feet apart. The 1.66 acre property was formerly Pelican Bay, condos that some considered dilapidated.

[City of Palmetto City Commission Meeting Agenda Results April 18, 2011](#)



At the Regular Palmetto City Commission Meeting last night, board members approved, 4-1 with Brian Williams opposing, a development of 11-12 single detached housing units located at 4009 11th St. Court W.on a 1.66 acre of land. Several stipulations were added to the original design, including the removal of a drive-way because of possible safety issues with traffic coming off the Humpback Bridge. The commission also approved the first read for a new sign ordinance.

[Backflow Repairmen Concerned New Manatee County Policy Will Hurt Business](#)



Two backflow repairmen gave public comment at yesterday's BCC work session in opposition to a new county policy that they fear will hurt their trade. The gentleman expressed concern about the county's plan to put testing and repairs for more than 50,000 backflow devices under the Manatee County utilities department.

State

[Analysis: Florida Ranks "Below Average" on Health Outcomes](#)



An analysis by the Florida Public Health Institute (FPHI) of the recently released County Health Rankings reveals Florida's health outcomes to be below the average of all states and the District of Columbia. Florida's Mortality Rate is 35th in nation, based on data supplied by the national County Health Rankings, an annual study conducted by the University of Wisconsin Center for Population Studies and funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

chest? Just want to express yourself on the issues facing our community? Let your inner editor loose in the Open Mic. Sound of and let everyone know whats on your mind!

[The Open Mic](#)

The Community Notices

Feeding Empty Little Tummies



The Feeding Empty Little Tummies event at Starbucks last weekend raised over \$600 toward feeding homeless children in Manatee County.

Free Classified Ads

Post your own **free** Classified Ad!

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Note: Our Free Classified ads expire 30 days after posting. Don't forget to re-list your ads for free if they have expired.

Last Week's Poll Results (as of 4/20/2011)

Schools and Education

[Saint Stephen's Episcopal School's Media and Broadcasting Class Wins Film Competition](#)



The high school Media and Broadcasting Class at Saint Stephen's Episcopal School recently won the Healthy Teens Coalition of Manatee County Student Film Competition in conjunction with the Sarasota Film Festival YOUTHfest "Hollywood Nights Student Cinema Showcase".

Opinion

[Guest Op/Ed: A Campaign Finance Conspiracy?](#)



Despite an average incumbent re-election rate of 97.5% in Florida, fundraising records are broken every single election cycle. This phenomenon limits the access of average people to run for political office, as most are neither independently wealthy nor have the connections to that 0.36% of the U.S. population that donated 84% of federal campaign funds in 2010, according to the Center for Responsive Politics. The Florida Initiative for Electoral Reform (FLIER) believes the rising flood of campaign cash, among other

features of Florida's stagnant and plutocratic electoral system, severely undermines representative democracy.

[Letter to the Editor: Restoring Historic Hotels Brings More Economic Benefits than Meet the Eye.](#)



In a recent column, we questioned the sensibility of committing nearly \$4 million of public money to the restoration of the Manatee River Hotel. The Deputy Director of Historical Resources & Public Relations for the Clerk of Courts, thinks we missed some of the potential value in our assessment.

[The Bradenton Times](#)

Restaurant Advertising Special

Only \$50! Contact [Sales](#) before Joe comes to his senses!

Community

[Manatee Animal Services Unveils New, Simplified Fees for Reclaiming Lost Pets](#)



Pet owners whose lost pets are impounded at Manatee County Animal Services facilities now have a simpler way of reclaiming their pets. Under a new fee schedule approved last week owners of sterilized pets will now pay \$100 for cats or \$115 for dogs the first time their pet is impounded.

[David McDonald Honored as Maritime Person of the Year](#)



The Port Manatee Propeller Club honored Port Manatee Executive Director David L. McDonald PPM® with its highest honor as Maritime Person of the Year during ceremonies April 14th at the Bradenton Yacht Club. McDonald received the award based on his effective leadership as Port Manatee's executive director for the past 19 years and his dedication and commitment to the maritime community.

[MTI Nursing Student Saves Man's Life](#)



Amy Hamilton is a hero and an angel to one 40-year-old Sarasota man. He attributes saving his life to her. On her break from clinicals, the Manatee Technical Institute nursing student administered the Heimlich maneuver when she noticed him choking in the Blake Hospital cafeteria last week.

[Community News - Manatee Movers and Shakers, 4/21/2011](#)



- Manatee Habitat Welcomes Two New Board Members
- Tom Brady Returns To Lakewood Ranch Brady Insurance Group Opens On Main Street
- Blake Medical Center becomes 1st HCA Hospital in the State of Florida to be an Accredited Vascular Laboratory

If the election were today, who would you vote for?

Choice	%
Rick Scott	38%
Alex Sink	48%
Neither	13%

New Poll:

[Vote on this NEW Poll!](#)

How do you feel the local area compares in terms of safety compared to 5 years ago?

Let us know what you think!

[View all of our Polls](#)

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[Business Directory](#)
(Click to find out more)

Over 1,000 businesses listed!

Share your thoughts and opinions:

Post in the [Discussion Forum](#)

**** Catch of the Week ****

- The Plumbing Connection Announces New Employee
- Dick W. Woodall, AAI joins MGA Insurance
- Manatee County accepting applications for Myakka City Fire Control District
- California Comes to Florida

[Local Battery Celebrates Earth Day with Battery Recycling Program](#)



In honor of Earth Day, Discount Battery Supply is asking customers to join the company in its efforts to keep rechargeable batteries and cell phones out of landfills. Discount Battery Supply serves as a collection site for Call2Recycle®, North America's only free rechargeable battery and cell phone collection program, making recycling of these items convenient for both customers and employees. Since joining the program in 2010, Discount Battery Supply has collected more than 4,000 pounds of rechargeable batteries.



Jason Richardson and Merab Favorite hold up a monster wahoo.

Business and Financial

[Baird's Market Strategy, Week of 4/18/11](#)



The popular averages were mixed last week reflecting the uneasy backdrop of reduced expectations for global economic growth in 2011. Rising inflation pressures caused China to increase bank reserve requirements over the weekend and the European Central Bank indicated that higher interest rates will be employed in the event inflation pressures remain strong. The only holdout in the battle against inflation is the Federal Reserve.

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As of Wednesday, April 20, we currently have:
1,652 Followers.

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Arts and Entertainment

[PCC Approves First CRA-Funded Mural](#)



Monday night the Palmetto City Commission voted in favor, 3-2 with Mary Lancaster and Tamara Cornwell opposing, the first painted mural funded out of the Community Redevelop Agency's budget. The mural is an abstract design that will be painted by students from the Manatee School for the Arts as part of a store-front grant for Dr. Amanda Nevin's office on Seventh Street.

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Environment

[Manatee County Residents Encouraged to Join Millions of Volunteers Nationwide in Great American Cleanup 2011](#)



Looking to make Manatee County a cleaner, greener, more livable place? Keep Manatee Beautiful encourages you to get involved in the 2011 Great American Cleanup™, a national campaign organized by nonprofit Keep America Beautiful. Keep Manatee Beautiful will kick off activities in Manatee County at the Great American Cleanup on Saturday, April 16.

[The Army Corp of Engineers Seeks Phosphate Comments](#)



The Army Corp of Engineers is currently accepting comments until April 25, 2011 concerning the scoping process for the Area Wide Environmental Impact Statement for Phosphate Mining in the Central Florida Phosphate District. This Areawide EIS (AEIS) is one of the most significant reviews that the Army Corps of Engineers can perform for the protection of Florida's water supply, air quality and the general well being and health of

Florida's citizens

Fishing

[Captain Favorite's Weekend Fishing Forecast April 21, 2011](#)

Your fishing forecast features, coastal temperatures, sea conditions, tides and peak fishing hours. However, the best part of this fun feature is that you can customize your own forecast by following the links. So utilize The Bradenton Times to get you where you need

Need a Quote?
Medical Needs

Electrical

AC

Fencing

Tree

Swimming Pool

Plumbing

EASY CLICK



to go and help you catch that big one

[Captain Favorite's Fishing Forum Week of April 18, 2011](#)



Our forum has everything you need to know for fishing this week. The Bradenton Times will now feature a catch of the week, fishing regulation updates, a fishing report from a local charter captain and weather forecast. This forum is unique because it allows for the reader to send in questions, pictures and comments. Its purpose is to promote interaction between average anglers and the fishing experts.

Sports

[Bradenton Marauders Fall 1-0 Despite Sterling Outing From Miller](#)



The Bradenton Marauders, Class A-Advanced affiliate of the Pittsburgh Pirates, dropped a tough 1-0 decision to the Jupiter Hammerheads at Roger Dean Stadium in Jupiter Tuesday night.

The Internet makes it easier than ever to find a service, get information, ask for a price, or buy something.

Our Goal: Provide at a click of the mouse a qualified business to provide a response to your request.

Upcoming Events

There are hundreds of things going on in Bradenton and Manatee County every week. Our Events Calendar is the most comprehensive in the area. Take a look and find something going on that is just right for you!

Updated! Visit our Restaurant Guide

Find great places to eat.

[Click Here Now!](#)

[Weekend Adventures in Bradenton, April 22-24](#)



There's baseball, live music and 36,000 easter eggs up for grabs. It csn only mean Easter weekend in Florida! Grab you Easter bonnet, the one with all the flowers on

it... it's time for an Easter Weekend Adventure in Bradenton!

April 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

View the [Full Calendar](#)

The Bradenton Times

Proudly supports the following local businesses and urges you to seek out a local business whenever you can.

[Anthony's Cooling - Heating - Electrical](#)

[Bill's Discount Center](#)

[Concrete on Call](#)

[Coral Way Properties](#)

[Cruz Photography](#)

[Corky's Bait & Tackle](#)

[Demetrios Pizza House](#)

[Eat Here](#)

[Early Learning Coalition](#)

[Henry Raines Show](#)

[Kern Construction, Inc.](#)

[Manatee Rural Health](#)

[O'Brien Farms](#)

[Red Barn Flea Market](#)

[StaffMarket Services](#)

[USA Fence](#)

Other Notable Events:

April 21, 2011

- [Bradenton Get Down Downtown](#) Time: 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm
- [Manatee Audubon Monthly Meeting](#) Time: 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

April 22, 2011

- [De Soto Heritage Festival Children's Parade & Party in The Park](#) Time: 10:00 am

April 23, 2011

- [De Soto Heritage Festival Easter Egg Hunt](#) Time: 9:00 am

- [Manatee County Parks and Recreation - 17th Annual Easter Egg Hunt](#) Time: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
- [Conga for a Cause Event](#) Time: 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

April 24, 2011

- [De Soto Heritage Festival Sunrise Service](#) Time: 6:30 am
- [Bradenton Marauders Vs Palm Beach](#) Time: 5:00 pm - 12:00 am

April 25, 2011

- [Bradenton Marauders Vs Palm Beach](#) Time: 10:00 am
- [Manatee County Central Library - Music Mondays](#) Time: 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

April 26, 2011

- [Lakewood Ranch Kiwanis](#) Time: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
- [Friends of the South Manatee Library present Travel Films](#) Time: 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

April 27, 2011

- [Manatee Young Professionals Host Mypower Networking Lunch](#) Time: 11:45 am - 1:00 pm
- [Manatee County Health Department - Teen Health Clinic](#) Time: 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

[FORWARD TO A FRIEND](#)

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