



The Bradenton Times Weekly Recap



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Volume 3, Number 2

April 28, 2011

Hello Reader,

Noteable News

[Want a Better State Legislature? Fix Campaign Finance!](#)



How many friends do you have who could fork over five hundred clams to give you a boost were you to run for office? How many more could bundle \$20-30,000 each for PAC's to give some back-door help slandering your opponent? What, you couldn't put together half a mil to run for the state house, or upwards of a million bucks for the STATE Senate? We're supposed to have a citizen government, but the \$500 "individual donation" limit has proven as effective as a paper umbrella in a summer downpour, in terms of leveling the playing field.

[School Board Looks at New Budget Strategy to Deal with Deficit](#)



From the start of their stint on the school board, both Julie Aranibar and Karen Carpenter have opposed implementing a three-year plan that was voted in before they assumed office. Robert Gause asked that the board discuss a different strategy at last night's meeting. Most of the board agreed something else needs to be done. Public comments warned of ramifications for state non-compliance.

[Weekend Adventures: The Hernando De Soto Grand Parade](#)



It's the big weekend – Manatee County's oldest and most historic event, the Hernando De Soto Grand Parade rolls through Bradenton this Saturday night! Put on your tights and grab your cutlass. It's time for a special Conquistador Weekend Adventure in Bradenton!

Government

Local

[Port Manatee Kicks Off Biggest Expansion Ever](#)



Jubilant Port of Manatee officials celebrated the start of a multi-million dollar dredging project Thursday, that will extend the Port's Berth 12 to a depth of 41 feet and a length of 1,600 feet. When finished, Port Manatee will have capacity to handle 150,000 containers a year, which is more than 3 times what the Port of Tampa currently handles today, and the first shot at increased revenues from the expanding Panama Canal. The \$100,000-a-day dredge ship California will finish the channel in about 90 days, and the expanded Berth 12 should be ready at the end of 2011.

[Commissioners Set to OK Ellenton Library Deal at Roaring 20's Site](#)

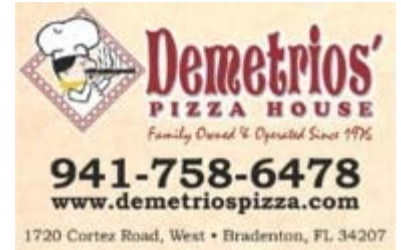


Manatee County is set to acquire a new library site near Ellenton that will answer the longstanding demand for one there, while providing the county with additional building options in the future. The Rocky Bluff Library may even have a brand-new coffee bar to help defray its expenses.

[Venice Bypass Foes of 6-Lane Get a Final Chance](#)



Foes of the Fla. Dept. of Transportation's plan to expand a 1.2-mile segment of the U.S. 41 Venice Bypass from four lanes to six won an independent review of it after the Metropolitan Planning Organization heard arguments Monday that the FDOT plan is dangerous. The segment is part of a \$54-million Venice Bypass improvement political leaders in Sarasota and Venice have sought for 20 years.



[Demetrios' Pizza House](#)
941-758-6478

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since 1976!

The Community Notices



The University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee announced Amanda Kulaw, School of Hotel and Restaurant Management coordinator, as the Employee of the Year for 2011

Featured Business

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

[The Open Mic](#)

Need to get something off your

[Manatee County Achieves Green Local Government Certification](#)



The Florida Green Builders Coalition, has awarded Manatee County with the Green Local Government designation. For more than a year, Manatee County staff and the Green Team, comprised of representatives from each County department, worked toward the certification.

[Manatee County Commission Agenda Results April 26, 2011](#)



The Manatee County Commission convened yesterday for a scheduled meeting at the county administration building in downtown Bradenton. TBT is pleased to provide you with the full agenda results.

[Trolley Ban On Barefoot Beachgoers May Get the Boot](#)



Pity the poor British tourists who recently walked from Holmes Beach to Anna Maria Pier, and then couldn't take the Island Trolley back. They were barefoot!

[McClash Makes 'Multimodal' Buzzword Meaningful - in Cement](#)



When planners added lighting to a stretch of 14th St. W. between 53rd Ave. W. and Bayshore Gardens Parkway, Manatee County Commissioner Joe McClash was startled not only by the timing but the absence of things transportation planners call "multimodal enhancements." For you and me, that meant sidewalks, and there weren't any. Now McClash has done something about it.

State

[Fair Districts Fight Likely to be Racially Charged](#)



Fair Districts would not only end party gerrymandering, but also the practice of creating minority-friendly districts in order to increase representation among these groups. Because of the lack of enthusiasm that's been demonstrated by those who opposed the amendment and are now charged with implementing it, many minorities are now rethinking their support, which could lead to a long court battle.

[Florida GOP to Conduct Major Presidential Straw Poll This Fall](#)



Continuing its effort to become a more important state in terms of deciding the 2012 presidential nominee, the GOP of Florida is planning a major straw poll later this year. Party officials say the poll will be conducted at their 5th annual "Presidency" convention to be held in Tampa Sept. 23-25.

Law Enforcement

[SAR Honors Local Law Enforcement Officers](#)



Law enforcement personnel from seven local departments were recently honored. These Deputies, Detectives and Police Officers, nine in all, together with their supervisors and/or wives were the guests of the Saramana Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution at their annual Law Enforcement Awards luncheon held Friday, 8 April 2011 at the Lido Key Holiday Inn, Sarasota.

[Merriman Chosen to Replace Tibbitts as BPD Captain](#)



Lt. Warren Merriman has been chosen to replace Captain Russell Tibbitts, who is retiring at the end of this month after 22 years on the force. Merriman, who began his career with BPD in Dec. 1996, will be promoted to Captain on May 2. TBT salutes both officers for their service to the city and wishes Captain Tibbitts a happy retirement.

[MSO Announces April Employees of the Month](#)

A happy ending to sad situation thanks to a Child Protection Services employee and a deputy who responded to a woman who had shot herself in the chest and was able to keep her alive with CPR until EMS arrived are saluted as April's employee and deputy of the month for the Manatee Sheriff's Office.

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



The 15th Annual Meadows Cup Raises over \$50,000 for Easter Seals Southwest Florida

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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 4/27/2011)

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

Choice	%
It is about the same	26%



Schools and Education

[Manatee County School Board Regular Meeting Results, April 25, 2011](#)



The hot topic of the night was again the healthcare deficit. The school board is open to considerations other than the three-year-plan that has caused an impasse with unions representing employees. Braden River High School senior, Leo Leonardo Daniel Leal Guerrero was honored for overcoming tremendous obstacles such as being homeless, and almost deported only to be accepted by both Stanford and Harvard. The superintendent has a new policy of presenting the board with more financial statements before asking the board to vote on any budget changes.

Local News

[Groover's 'Super Market' Faces Injunction](#)



Commissioner Michael Gallen kept his promise to take swift action against a notorious "super market" in Palmetto where police have been called at least 1,800 times in recent years.

[Restaurant Owners Agree to Clam Up on Amplified Music at Ramada Inn](#)



A last-minute intervention by assistant county attorney James Minix saved the day for a Manatee County nightclub preparing to host a televised fishing tournament this weekend when the club's operator agreed to a consent injunction to turn off music amplifiers outside after 7 p.m.

[The Bradenton Times](#) Restaurant Advertising Special

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

Community

[Myakka Internet Provider Lands Major Fiber Deal](#)



The tiny town of Myakka Florida will be a high-speed Internet hub, thanks to an \$8 million federal stimulus award that will help Myakka Technologies lay 150 miles of high capacity fiber optic cable throughout the rural area. The award is part of a federal stimulus program and will consist of \$6 million in subsidy over three year, as well as a \$2 million loan.

[2011 Children's Parade Winners](#)



The Hernando de Soto Children's Parade features a procession of floats built in schoolrooms down the historical streets of Palmetto. This year's theme, "space through the eyes of a child", produced many creative and inventive floats. The parade started from the Manatee Fair grounds and traveled south on 10th Avenue West, then along Fifth Street West before finishing in Lamb Park. Food, fun and games followed the parade at Sutton Park.

[U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Awards Wares Creek Dredging Contract](#)



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced today that it has successfully negotiated a contract for the dredging of Wares Creek. The total bid amount and the winning contractor have not yet been announced. Army Corps Project Manager Emilio Gonzalez said the bid was awarded under the 8(a) Program, a Small Business Administration (SBA) program intended to provide assistance to economically and/or socially disadvantaged business owners.

[New G-Wiz Faulhaber Fab Lab to Grand Open May 6](#)



The Science Museum announces that the Faulhaber Fab Lab will open to the public, May 6, 2011. Designed to promote science literacy and cross-discipline collaboration and innovation, the project is the first of its kind in the region. What's a fab lab? The original concept was developed at MIT. Short for "fabrication laboratory," a fab lab is a place "where the practical application of science, technology and craftsmanship finds a home," says Dr. Fritz Faulhaber, whose family is donating the project.

[Community News - Manatee Movers and Shakers, 4/28/2011](#)

It is noticeably safer	3%
It is not as safe	28%
It is much less safe than it used to be	40%

New Poll:

[Vote on this NEW Poll!](#)

What is your favorite local beach?

Let us know what you think!

[View all of our Polls](#)

The Community Notices



Mary Stone of Heritage Park Care & Rehabilitation Center recently celebrated her 104th birthday. Happy Birthday Mary!

Find Local Businesses in our:

[Business Directory](#)
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Over 1,000 businesses listed!



- The 15th Annual Meadows Cup Raises over \$50,000 for Easter Seals Southwest Florida
- Traveling Photo Exhibit Celebrating 20 Years of Progress Restoring Tampa Bay Featured at South Florida Museum
- Manatee Community Federal Credit Union a Five Star Institution.
- Call to Artists: Anna Maria City Pier Centennial Celebration May 14, 2011
- Tidewell President/CEO joins Coastal Behavioral Healthcare board
- Availability of Community Development Block Grant funding
- Kim Mills supports Orange Ridge Elementary School
- Sarasota Bay Watch To Clean Up Marine Debris From The Sister Keys

Share your thoughts and opinions:
Post in the [Discussion Forum](#)

Business and Financial

[Electronics Manufacturer Creonix to Expand, Add 105 New Jobs in Manatee County](#)



Creonix LLC, an advanced electronics manufacturing services company, is expanding its Manatee County facility and plans to add 105 employees over the next five years, according to Eric Basinger, executive director of the Manatee Economic Development Council (EDC).

[Baird's Market Strategy, Week of 4/25/11](#)



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.



Wes Demmon with a nice red

Arts and Entertainment

[Community Crafters Take Buying Local to the Next Level](#)



"Made Here," a unique local craft event, will debut at the Palmetto Art Center on Friday, April 29, from 12:00-8:00 p.m. More than 25 local artists and crafters everything from soap, to handbags to chocolates will be featured. Local musicians will perform and ongoing demonstrations will be held throughout the day.

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As of Wednesday, April 27, we currently have: 1,661 Followers.

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Ask us how. Email sales@thebradentontimes.com

Environment

[Timely Tips for Dry May Lawns](#)



May is the time of the year when Florida experiences the peak of the dry season. The hot, sunny weather dries out lawns and gardens quickly with little or no rainfall relief in sight. The rainy season usually doesn't begin until June. Additionally, Florida's native sandy soil retains moisture poorly so lawns, gardens, farms and ranches can become very stressed.



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Fishing

[Captain Favorite's Fishing Forum Week of April 25, 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.

Get realtime updates of news and events as they are posted.

[Captain Favorite's Weekend Fishing Forecast April 28, 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 to go and help you catch that big one





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!

[Weekend Adventures: The Hernando De Soto Grand Parade](#)



It's the big weekend – Manatee County's oldest and most historic event, the Hernando De Soto Grand Parade rolls through Bradenton this Saturday night! Put on your tights and grab your cutlass. It's time for

a special Conquistador 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

May 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	31				

View the [Full Calendar](#)

Other Notable Events:

April 28, 2011

- [Emergency Preparedness Workshop](#) Time: 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
- [Manatee County Extension Service- Landscaping On Reduced Water Use](#) Time: 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

April 29, 2011

- [Made Here Craft Show](#) Time: 12:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- [De Soto Ball](#) Time: 8:00 pm

April 30, 2011

- [Florida Regata - FSRA \(HS State Championships\)](#) Time: 8:00 am - 12:00 am
- [De Soto Heritage Festival Grand Parade](#) Time: 6:30 pm

May 1, 2011

- [Mattison's Riverside Hosts Benefit Concert](#) Time: 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- [Rock n' Bowl Charity Bowling Tournament](#) Time: 5:00 pm
- [Bradentucky Bombers vs. Ocala Cannibals](#) Time: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

May 2, 2011

- [Manatee County Central Library - Music Mondays](#) Time: 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
- [Guardian Ad Litem: Meet & Greet Volunteer Recruitment](#) Time: 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

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The Bradenton Times

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

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[Beach Bistro](#)
[Bill's Discount Center](#)
[Concrete on Call](#)
[Coral Way Properties](#)
[Cruz Photography](#)
[Corky's Bait & Tackle](#)

May 3, 2011

- [S.W.A.T. Networking - Successful Women Aligning Together](#) Time: 11:45 am - 1:00 pm
- [Lakewood Ranch Kiwanis](#) Time: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

May 4, 2011

- [Bradenton City Council \(workshop\)](#) Time: 8:30 am
- [Manatee County Health Department - Teen Health Clinic](#) Time: 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

[Demetrios Pizza House](#)
[Eat Here](#)
[Early Learning Coalition](#)
[Henry Raines Show](#)
[Kern Construction, Inc.](#)
[Manatee Rural Health](#)
[O'Brien Farms](#)
[Red Barn Flea Market](#)
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