



The Bradenton Times Weekly Recap

TREMENDOUS BUSINESS
OPPORTUNITY

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1707 1st Street, Bradenton

Volume 3, Number 36

December 15, 2011



Hello Reader,

Features

[Citizens Review Panel is Too Valuable to Lose](#)



Earlier this week, Manatee County Citizens Review Panel volunteers received a letter from Manatee County Clerk of the Circuit Court, R.B. "Chips" Shore, informing them that Judge Scott Brownell would not be referring cases to the panel when he resumes the juvenile court bench this January, effectively ending a successful program aimed at further protecting our community's most vulnerable children. I only hope he'll reconsider.

[Manatee County Graduation Rate Drops Almost 5 Percent](#)



Data issued by the Florida Department of Education this week shows that the county's graduation rate dropped to 74.6 percent in 2010-2011, almost 5 percentage points less than in 2009-2010, when it was 79.2. It is the lowest graduation rate for Manatee County since 2002-2003.

[State Championship Preview: Manatee vs. Jacksonville First Coast](#)



When Manatee takes the field against Jacksonville's undefeated First Coast Buccaneers this Friday in Orlando for the 7A state championship game, their biggest advantage might be the quality of opposition they've faced. Early in the season, Manatee lost a razor close game to consensus national champion Don Bosco Prep, as well as a controversial overtime loss to Good Counsel, who




finished an undefeated fifth and seventh in the two major polls, while winning the D.C. Metro title.

[Weekend Adventures in Bradenton: December 16-18, 2011](#)



It's time once more for a fun-filled holiday weekend in Manatee County! There's another lighted boat parade this weekend, plus MCAT's annual tour of lights and Christmas is coming early to Bridge Street on Bradenton Beach! Grab your Santa hats and ring your sleigh bells, it's time for a Christmas Weekend Adventure in Bradenton!



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The Community Notices

[Be An Angel for An Angel!](#)



Featured Business

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

[The Open Mic](#)

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

Save \$50 on the New
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myGofar
12/11-12/17

Government
Local

[Bradenton City Council Meeting Results Dec. 14, 2011](#)



At Wednesday's meeting, the Bradenton City Council extended the hours of the Bill Galvano One Stop Center, approved Bradenton's first microbrewery and set the event schedule for the Desoto Crewe. Seafood Fest will still remain in Bradenton and the Manatee Public Library will offer their parking lots for additional space.

[The Open Mic](#)

[In the City of Bradenton, Microbreweries and Resource Centers Can Coexist](#)



A population of destitute residents continually walks back and forth on 17th Avenue West utilizing the array of services provided by the Bill Galvano One Stop Center. While the facility offers financial help, counseling, health care, and employment assistance to those in need, the impoverished clientele might deter a business owner looking to open up across the street. But proprietor Michael Wagner sees only positive things from his recent relocation.



[BOCC Looks at Criminal Justice System in Work Session](#)



The last workshop walked the BOCC through the County Jail to view its maintenance issues and what it would take to put the facility in tip-top shape. This workshop examined methods to achieve recommendations that offer effective long range improvement to arrest, pre-trial, trial, incarceration and re-entry programs. BOCC members were asked to review the Public Safety Coordinating Council's mission and vision, and to explore cost options and more effective juvenile detention. Is there a way to get from the symptoms to the disease?

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[Venice Bypass Dominates Manatee/Sarasota MPO Meeting](#)



The MPO got closer than ever to finalizing the U.S. 41 Venice Bypass decision. Would the plan be top to bottom or completed in stages; six lanes all the way or six and four; roundabouts or signals. It wasn't easy finding a consensus. What was easy, was choosing the new MTO chair and vice-chair. Palmetto Mayor Shirley Grover Bryant is now MPO Chairwoman, while Sarasota County Commissioner Nora Patterson assumes the vice-chair.

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Law Enforcement

[Man Shoots Dog During Attack in Bradenton](#)



Richard Rucker, 52 Bradenton, was walking his dog a few blocks west of the IHOP on U.S. 41 in Bradenton when a pit bull that had been chained to a tree at a domestic residence broke free and charged him, according to a report from the Manatee County Sheriff's Office. The pit reportedly began attacking Rucker's dog before coming toward him.

Last Week's Poll Results

(as of 12/14/2011)

Which area football team(s) will win on Friday and advance to the state finals?

[Detective Salvatore Levita Named Deputy of the Year by MCSO](#)



On Halloween of this year, a child nearly died choking on a piece of candy when a strobe light exacerbated a post-concussion seizure that resulted from an injury at wrestling practice earlier that night. Detective Levita's quick thinking helped avert a tragedy and for his actions, he has been named MCSO's Deputy of the Year.

Choice	%
Manatee	49
Palmetto	11
Both	29
Neither	9

New Poll:

[Four MCSO Employees Receive Annual Awards](#)



Four MCSO employees were honored with prestigious awards at the annual Sheriff's Awards Luncheon this past Friday at the Renaissance on 9th in Bradenton. Categories included: Deputy of the Year, Employee of the year, the Beall's Humanitarian Award and the Robert Molter Memorial Volunteer Award.

[Vote on this NEW Poll!](#)

What is your favorite local Christmas event?

Schools and Education

[Manatee County School Board Meeting Results Dec. 12, 2011](#)



During Monday's school board meeting, the district adopted districts aligning with Manatee County's commission seats. Barbra Harvey was absent from the meeting, but that didn't stop the board from settling two lawsuits, adopting a new evaluation process for the superintendent and saying goodbye to a longtime employee Lynette Edwards, who retired from the district after 36 years.

[School Board Takes Stern Stance on Spending, but Approves Two Lawsuit Settlements](#)



Members of the School Board aren't taking any chances when it comes to next year's budget. They have been questioning every contract brought forward by Superintendent Tim McGonegal. At Monday night's meeting, they tabled several items citing limited information, unrealistic estimates and extended contracts as explanations for not moving forward. But when it came to settling two pending lawsuits – they were approved without much debate.

[The Bradenton Times](#)

Restaurant Advertising Special

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

Business and Financial

[Baird's Market Notes: Week of 12/12/11](#)



The equity markets followed the worst Thanksgiving week performance since 1932 with the best effort in three years last week. Stocks found support from renewed confidence that the Eurozone will discover a path out of the debt crisis and from a fresh set of statistics that show improving business conditions in the U.S. Over the very near-term stocks are likely to rally off and on anticipating that additional progress will result from this week's European summit meeting that begins Thursday.

Community

[Community News - Manatee Movers and Shakers, 12/15/2011](#)



- Island Real Estate of Anna Maria Island, Inc. purchases Betsy Hills Real Estate
- Anna Maria Oyster Bars Host Dinner for Three Elementary School's Faculty & Staff
- Rebecca Samler, PA Names New Administrative and Operations Consultant
- Be An Angel for An Angel!—A Clerk's Favorite
- The 47th Annual Antiques & Collectibles Show and Sale February 17, 18, 19
- "Ripple Effect for Manatees" Fundraising Campaign Reaches \$40,000 Goal
- Pines of Sarasota Foundation announces the election results of its recent Board of Trustees Annual Meeting

[Local Church Seeks Support for Gun Buyback](#)

A church located in the Palmetto Community Redevelopment Agency district is working with the Palmetto Police Department to organize a gun buyback. Anyone who would like to turn in a weapon could do so at this event and receive one gift certificate, just in time for the holiday season.

Let us know what you think!

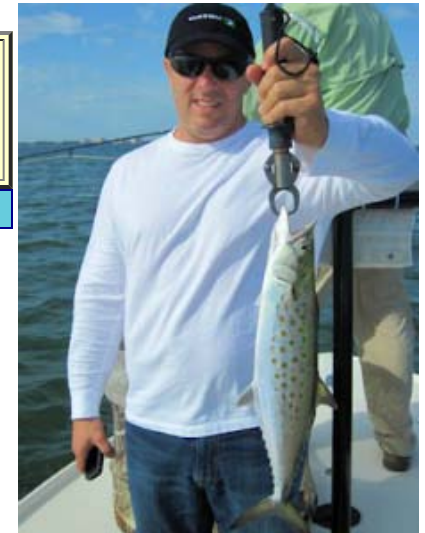
[View all of our Polls](#)

Find Local Businesses
in our:

[Business Directory](#)

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Ocean Harvest
* * **Catch of the Week** * *



John Damico, from Sarasota, FL, caught and released this nice Spanish mackerel on a CAL jig with a shad tail while fishing Sarasota Bay with Capt. Rick Grasset.

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As of Wednesday, Dec 14,
we currently have:
2,008 Followers.

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[Win a Boat: The Florida Maritime Museum at Cortez Sailboat Raffle](#)



Ahoy mate. You can cruise the high seas in your own 22' Catalina sailboat. For just \$5, some lucky sailor will win this Catalina sailboat complete with outboard motor and sails when it will be raffled off by the Florida Maritime Museum at Cortez's lottery. You can have the boat loaded on your trailer, or it can be put in the water for you to sail away. It's in great shape too. Come and take a look at it. The boat is parked by the Florida Maritime Museum at 4415 119th Street West in the Cortez Fishing Village. Inspect the boat and then go inside to buy your raffle ticket and visit

the museum. Tickets can be purchased at the museum or by mail at the same address.

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Arts and Entertainment

[Reels at McKechnie Debuts Friday Night!](#)



As you probably already know, the popular Reels at Rossi Park is on hiatus because of construction along the riverfront that has closed part of the park. But Reels is returning this Friday at another nearby park: McKechnie Field ballpark, home of the Pittsburgh Pirates and Bradenton Marauders.



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Fishing

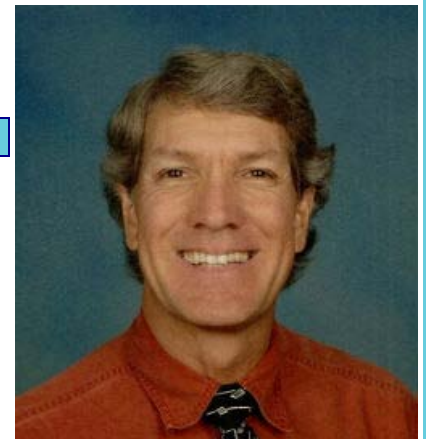
[Captain Favorite's Fishing Forum December 12, 2011](#)



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.

The Community Notices

[Rebecca Samler, PA](#)
[Names New Administrative and Operations Consultant](#)



Sports

[Former Palmetto Star Gets First NFL Start](#)



Mistral Raymond's path to the NFL is one of the most unlikely and inspiring sports stories ever. On Sunday, a new chapter was written when the Viking's rookie safety got his first start in the pros. Raymond answered the call and introduced himself to the Detroit Lions with a big tackle on the very first play from scrimmage.

[Hurricanes Lag in National Polls Despite Solid Credentials](#)



Perhaps no other high school football team in the nation has played the level of competition that Manatee has faced this season. But for all of their accolades, the Hurricanes have failed to secure a spot in the top 10 of the major national polls, where teams are rewarded more for remaining undefeated and blowing out their opponents, than facing tough competition.

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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 in Bradenton: December 16-18, 2011](#)



It's time once more for a fun-filled holiday weekend in Manatee County! There's another lighted boat parade this weekend, plus MCAT's annual tour of lights and Christmas is coming early to Bridge Street on Bradenton Beach! Grab your Santa hats and ring your

sleigh bells, it's time for a Christmas Weekend Adventure in Bradenton!

December 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](#)

Notable Events:

December 15, 2011

- [Bradenton Movies](#)
- [Manatee Memorial Hospital and The Mark Wandall Foundation Car Seat Check Up](#) Time: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
- [Manatee Port Authority Meeting](#) Time: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
- [Bradenton Unit of Parliamentarians - Monthly Meetings](#) Time: 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
- [Manatee Audubon Monthly Meeting](#) Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
- [The Tabernacle Church presents The Living Nativity](#) Time: 7:00 pm

December 16, 2011

- [Bradenton Movies](#)
- [*** Jingle Bell 5K at the Ranch ***](#) Time: 5:00 pm
- [Reels at McKechnie Field](#) Time: 5:00 pm
- ["Rock Around the Clock Tower" with "THE PLATTERS"](#) Time: 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
- [The Tabernacle Church presents The Living Nativity](#) Time: 7:00 pm

December 17, 2011

- [Bradenton Movies](#)
- [Cortez Yacht Club 8th Annual Holiday Lighted Boat Parade](#) Time: 12:00 am
- [Ocean Harvest Live Music and BBQ](#) Time: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
- [De Soto National Memorial Winter Luminary Walk](#) Time: 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
- [The Tabernacle Church presents The Living Nativity](#) Time: 7:00 pm
- [Tampa Bay Buccaneers Vs Dallas Cowboys](#) Time: 8:20 pm - 11:20 pm

December 18, 2011

- [Bradenton Movies](#)
- [The Tabernacle Church presents The Living Nativity](#) Time: 7:00 pm

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

[A Alterations](#)

[Advanced Custom Countertops](#)

[Ainent Ways Martial Arts](#)

[Armored Dade Storm Shutters](#)

[Bayshore Family Haircare](#)

[Bill's Discount Center](#)

[Beach Bistro](#)

[Bradenton Windows](#)

[China's Internet Cafe](#)

[Concrete on Call](#)

[Coral Way Properties](#)

[Cruz Photography](#)

[Corky's Bait & Tackle](#)

[Demetrios Pizza House](#)

[Driftwood Galleries](#)

[Eat Here](#)

[Early Learning Coalition](#)

[Evan Guido Financial Advisor](#)

[Framing by Robin](#)

[Henry Raines Show](#)

[Heintz & Becker](#)

[Gulf Coast Kendo & Iaido](#)

[Hurricane Computers](#)

[J & J BBQ and Catering](#)

[Juci Sun](#)

[Kern Construction, Inc.](#)

[KMK Lawn Care](#)

[Kreations by Kathleen](#)

[Los Cabos Mexican Restaurant](#)

[Manatee Rural Health](#)

[MAR/KIS Insurance Agency](#)

[Millers Dutch Kitchen](#)

[Mr Cheesecake and More](#)

[Nana's Treasure Chst](#)

[O'Brien Family Farm](#)

[Planet Beach](#)

[A Purple Rose Florist](#)

[Riverhouse Reef & Grill](#)

[Red Barn Flea Market](#)

[Speed Wireless](#)

December 19, 2011

- [Bradenton Movies](#)
- [Downtown Bradenton Chanukah Celebration](#) Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- [Temple Beth El & Congregation Ner Tamid](#) Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- [The Tabernacle Church presents The Living Nativity](#) Time: 7:00 pm

December 20, 2011

- [Bradenton Movies](#)
- [Florida Blood Services at Lowe's Home Improvement](#) Time: 11:00 am - 6:00 pm
- [KIWANIS CLUB OF BRADENTON](#) Time: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
- [Magic of Manatee Sweet Adelines](#) Time: 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm

December 21, 2011

- [Bradenton Movies](#)
- [Storytime at South Manatee Library](#)
- [Bradenton City Council \(workshop\)](#) Time: 8:30 am - 12:00 pm
- [Palmetto Branch Library Storytime](#) Time: 10:00 am
- [South Manatee Branch Library Holiday Program](#) Time: 10:00 am - 11:00 am
- [Community Picnic at Katie Pieola Park](#) Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Looking Further Ahead

December 31, 2011

- [*** Bradenton Runners Club - Manatee River 5 mile Run ***](#) Time: 7:30 am

[A MetroPCS Dealer](#)
[StaffMarket Services](#)
[Suncoast Massage & Skin Care](#)
[USA Fence](#)
[USA Dumpsters](#)
[Wilson's Dancesport](#)



The Community Notices

[Island Real Estate of Anna Maria Island, Inc. purchases Betsy Hills Real Estate](#)



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