Spanish Fiesta fun
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The Anna Maria Island SUN

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The Island's award-winning weekly newspaper

Trolley route gets new life

By Tom Vaught
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BRADENTON BEACH – After a week of talks with Sarasota and Manatee county transit officials, it appears the Sarasota trolley run will be safe until the end of the year.

Manatee County Commissioners will to finalize an arrangement next week in which each county would pay its share to continue the southern

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Real estate sales improve

By Tom Vaught
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Real estate sales for August continue the trend toward recovery, at least on Anna Maria Island. That's the word from Alan Galletto, of Island Real Estate, in his latest monthly newsletter.

According to his findings, using sales figures from the Manatee County Multiple

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The SUN Survey

Let us know how you feel about the issues that affect our Island. Vote in The Sun Survey at www.amisun.com. To see results from our previous poll, go to **Page 6.**

Should Manatee County help pay for the trolley route to Longboat Key and Sarasota?

The Anna Maria Island SUN www.amisun.com

PHOTO/SCOTT DELL

Soccer kicks off
Grace Garza, right, of the Island Real Estate team, tries to dribble past Beach Bum's Colin McKinley during the Community Center's Spirit Day games on Saturday. The event marks the opening of the Center's soccer season, which will see a record 30 teams competing in various divisions. Complete coverage and more photos on **Page 30.**

Fire chief defends district

By Pat Copeland
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HOLMES BEACH – After months of listening to resident Al Robinson assail the fire district, West Manatee Fire Chief Andy Price defended it at Thursday's fire commission meeting.

"I spent the past couple of weeks going through all the items in here (a package of information Robinson left with the board at its August meeting)," Price explained. "Everything in it is either untrue or misinformation."

Price addressed Robinson's handout point by point, correcting errors in Robinson's figures for the cost of equipment, work week hours, budget, wages and benefits, retirement program, administration building

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Recall election certified

By Laurie Krosney
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ANNA MARIA — It's now official. Former City Commissioner Harry Stoltzfus has been removed from office, and Gene Aubry has been officially elected to fill the remainder of Stoltzfus' term.

In a historic recall election – the first in Manatee County – the will of the people was finalized Monday morning by the city's canvassing board.

The 2nd District Court of Appeal lifted a stay of the certification process last Thursday, and on Monday morning, City Clerk Alice Baird, George McKay and Cheri Oehler, officially certified the election at 9:16 on Monday morning.

"This is an historic moment," said Mayor Fran Barford. "I feel

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SUN PHOTO/LAURIE KROSNEY

The Anna Maria canvassing board certified the recall election results Monday at city hall. Pictured from left to right are George McKay, Cheri Oehler and City Clerk Alice Baird.