

MONDAY 8-1-2011 **FASTCLICK** — TODAY'S NEWS DAILY SHOP GOOD BITE THINGS TO DO BUSINESS PARTY PIX REVIEWS LETTERS

SRQ Daily

FRESHLY SQUEEZED CONTENT EVERY MORNING

"This doesn't mean we will go back to where we were before the cut. It is a completely new few now."

- Sharla Fouquet, Manatee County

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TODAY'S NEWS

[Government] Jurisdictions Explore Impact Fee Changes

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Various jurisdictions in Southwest Florida are taking a new look at impact fees, but are moving in very different directions. Manatee County officials this year are adopting an entirely new schedule for charges which will end a two-year suspension of road impact fees, but officials in Sarasota right now are trying to stop water and sewer impact fees for the next decade.

Sharla Fouquet, Manatee County impact fee coordinator, says a consultant spent six months developing a new impact fee schedule, which will go into effect in October. For a majority of land-uses, she said, the fees will actually go down, but for some categories, notably the construction of single-family homes, the total impact fee costs will spike up about \$700.

A suspension of road impact fees is ending as well. "But that doesn't mean we're going back to where we were before the cut," she says. "It is a completely new fee schedule now."

Further south, Sarasota city officials are looking at ways to cut fees down, but will have negotiate with Sarasota County officials. Chris Lyons, Sarasota finance director, says a 10-year suspension of water and sewer impact fees is being explored because the city is basically built out. Fees in the city vary depending on the size of pipe being used by different developments.

But the fee schedule is consolidated right now with county government, and there is still untapped development potential in many of the unincorporated ares of the county. Lyons said the legal possibilities for stopping the fees have to be explored before the City Commission can make any decisions.

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HUNTING & GATHERING

[Good Bite] Namaste, Drink Up

ASHTON GOGGANS, ASHTON.GOGGANS@SRQMEDIAGROUP.COM

The Beer Brains down at Mr. Beery's have tapped into some seriously New Age brew: Dogfish Head Namaste—named after the Indian greeting and salutation popular often found in bumper sticker form on many an enlightened Sarasotan's high-MPG vehicle. The brew is a Belgian style white made with coriander, fresh cut lemongrass, dried organic orange slices and makes for a light, crisp, super drinkable summer beer. Stop in this week, as it's sure to not last long. SHARE: [f](#) [in](#) [t](#)

Mr. Beery's, 2645 Mall Dr., Sarasota, 941-343-2854

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Beverly A. Smith, "Black Ice," 36" high x 48" wide, Oil on Canvas, The Celery Barn, 226 South Links Avenue, 941-504-0792



THINGS TO DO

[TODAY] EXHIBIT: Mote's Service Industry Summer, Mote Marine, Through Sep. 30

Tip for servers: Summer deal at Mote. If you're a maitre d' who loves manatees or a server fond of seahorses, then Mote's Service Industry Summer is your made-to-order discount. Employees of Southwest Florida hotels, restaurants, and bars who show proof of employment will receive Mote Aquarium admission for a special rate of \$5. Discount applies to you and one guest. Mote serves up ocean wonder for all ages and houses more than 100 marine species, including some big eaters. Just imagine serving lunch to Mote manatees Hugh and Buffet—they eat 72 heads of lettuce each day! **Mote Marine, 1600 Ken Thompson Pkwy., Sarasota, 941-388-4441.** SHARE: [f](#) [in](#) [t](#)

[TODAY] ART: KidsArt Exhibition , ArtCenter Manatee, Through Aug. 12