



# THE CITIZEN

KEY WEST

The Florida Keys' Only Daily Newspaper, Est. 1876

## Spain wins World Cup — Page 1B

Monday

July 12, 2010 ♦ Vol. 134 ♦ No. 193 ♦ 16 pages

50 Cents

### WEATHER



William Meares  
Fifth grade  
Glenn Archer Elementary School

Sunrise: 6:46 a.m. Sunset: 8:19 p.m.  
Today: Partly sunny  
High 91  
Tonight: Partly cloudy  
Low 82

Complete forecast on page 2A

### FLORIDA KEYS

#### 600 visit Looe Key's underwater wonderland

Bill Becker's grin was nearly as wide as that of the Cheshire cat as he thanked snorkelers and divers for coming to the 26th annual Underwater Music Festival on Saturday afternoon. Page 3A

### NATION

#### BP happy with new effort, but no promises

NEW ORLEANS: Underpromising with hopes of overdelivering, BP said Sunday that it is making progress on what could prove its most effective effort yet to contain the Gulf oil leak, but cautioned that the verdict could be several days away. Page 7A

### WORLD



#### Soldiers go where Afghan gov't fears

CHARBAGH, Afghanistan: The American soldiers climb over walls, jump ditches and scan the dirt for trip wires in an hourlong hike, all to meet with one man: the new head of a mosque in a tiny village in a southern Afghan river valley. They hope to persuade him to support the Afghan government. Page 8A

### ON THE RADIO



Ellen Freidin, campaign chair of Fair Districts Florida, talks about Amendments 5 and 6, the court ruling against Amendment 7, and how they would affect the state's upcoming legislative redistricting.

Also on today's show:  
• Capt. Pat DeQuattro, Coast Guard  
• Wayne Miller, county judge  
• Roger Hemstadt, Marathon city manager  
• Bobby Dube, state wildlife agency

LOCAL NEWS  
US1 Radio 104.1 FM:  
7:30 and 8:30 a.m. Noon, 5 and 6 p.m.  
98.7 FM Conch Country:  
7, 8 and 9 a.m. 3, 4, 5 and 6 p.m.

## 3 high schools get new principals

### Each faces new tests, accountability rules

BY JOHN L. GUERRA  
Citizen Staff

As part of the Monroe County school district's administrative overhaul, eight principals and seven assistant principals find themselves in new schools — three of them at the

helm of the county's three high schools.

Theresa Axford, Hammond Gracy and Alberto Rodriguez are starting their jobs — at Key West, Marathon and Coral Shores high schools respectively — at a time when the district is changing the way it evaluates its administrators.



Axford

Under the three-year contracts the School Board approved last week, principals must develop measurable goals such as improving the students' environment and performance, and closely managing the instructors' work habits and teaching skills — and prove they've met those goals with statistics.



Gracy

Key West

Axford, a veteran principal of the Sugarloaf School for K-8 students, said she'll know a lot Key West High School students because she was their principal when they were younger.



Rodriguez

See PRINCIPALS, page 3A

## Reef may be slave ship cemetery

KEY LARGO

### Archaeologists working to confirm theory about the site

BY TIMOTHY O'HARA  
Citizen Staff

Buried in the thickets of turtle grass and staghorn and elkhorn coral on the Carysfort Reef is what a group of underwater archaeologists suspect is an African cemetery.

There never has been an official dedication or a plaque installed to mark its existence, but that could change soon thanks to the work of a joint archaeological project.

Countless people unknowingly have boated over what is believed to be the Guerrero and the watery grave of 41 slaves who were chained in her hold when she went down. Diving the area with an untrained eye still reveals very little of the relic.

A closer look reveals a smattering of ballast stones, the most notable remains of a shipwreck. An even closer look reveals much more. Archaeologists recently uncovered a bronze pin, a shard of a ceramic plate, what they think is an inkwell for a pen, and what could be the last remaining piece of the ship itself — a 12-inch piece of wood.

A federation of the National Association of Black Scuba Divers, Mel Fisher Maritime Heritage Society, Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and some Upper Keys volunteers have spent the past week diving, mapping and doing other archaeological work to confirm their suspicions about the site.



Photo courtesy of Don Kincaid

Albert 'Jose' Jones and Jay Haigler, members of the National Association of Black Scuba Divers, conduct underwater mapping work on a site believed to be an African slave shipwreck.

The Spanish piratical slave ship wrecked on the reef off north Key Largo on Dec. 19, 1827, according to Mel Fisher archaeology director Corey Malcom. The British schooner Nimble was chasing the Guerrero, which was carrying its human cargo to Cuba. A gun battle ensued, with dire consequences for the slaves. They either drowned or were crushed by the mast that broke off in the

grounding. The Nimble followed the Guerrero onto the reef, and could only watch as Good Samaritans rescued many of the pirates — and nearly 400 of the Africans. Faring better than the Guerrero, the Nimble was towed to Key West for repairs, with 121 of the rescued slaves aboard. After a long period of living as virtual slaves, those who survived were taken to

Liberia to begin life anew, Malcom said.

The tragic and dramatic loss was newsworthy in its day, and was relatively well documented in newspaper accounts. Because the Guerrero was a pirate vessel operating outside of official systems, however, its origins and mode of operations were not well documented.

See REEF, page 3A

DRY TORTUGAS

## Mudd family unites in KW

BY JOHN L. GUERRA  
Citizen Staff

The descendants of Fort Jefferson's most famous prisoner return to Key West this week, more than 141 years after Samuel A. Mudd left the island prison a pardoned man.

But the Mudd family, which recently abandoned efforts to have him exonerated of any crime in connection with the 1865 assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, still believe their ancestor was acting solely as a country doctor — not a conspirator — when he fixed John Booth's fractured leg.

"He should be totally exonerated," said Thomas B. Mudd, who will lead 49 of his family members on a trip to Fort Jefferson Tuesday.

They'll take the Yankee Freedom early in the morning and return the same day after touring the brick and iron fort and grounds where their famous patriarch attended to yellow fever victims while imprisoned there during the fall 1867 epidemic.

It's been a while since the family has gathered here to honor the part-time doctor and full-time tobacco farmer from southern Maryland, and to teach the youngest generation of Mudds about their ancestor.

Thomas Mudd said he's been boarding vessels in Key West for trips to the fort since 1954; his older siblings and his father had been doing so since the 1940s.

"The last 'Free Dr. Mudd' tour

See MUDD, page 3A

## Biologists create 13 butterfly colonies

BY STEVE GIBBS  
Citizen Staff

America's 13 original colonies grew into one of the most successful nations on the planet. State biologists hope that establishing 13 colonies of one of North America's rarest insects will simply help it survive.

Past attempts to establish Miami blue butterfly colonies have failed to secure a foothold for the endangered insect.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), working with the University of Florida entomology depart-

ment, recently announced plans to set up one colony in the Florida Keys, two in Miami-Dade County and 10 within the nickel-sized butterfly's historic range, which stretches from the Keys along both Florida coasts, to Tampa on the west and Daytona Beach on the east.

"Establishing 13 is pie in the sky," said FWC regional biologist Ricardo Zambrano. "It is very unlikely because it will require a tremendous amount of money and we have a very fragmented habitat. However, if we



Photo courtesy of Paula Cannon

See BUTTERFLIES, page 3A

Miami blue butterflies mate at Bahia Honda State Park.