

Coming Sunday



\$418
 IN COUPONS
 AND SAVINGS



MOBILE HOMES

The mobile-home business model that once helped drive Florida's tourism and retirement economy is no longer viable, experts say. See how mobile home park owners and homeowners associations are adapting to survive in the changing economy.

LIABILITIES

Taxpayers are on the hook for \$530 million in debt for retiree benefits — other than pensions — for local government workers. The "pay-as-you-go" approach most governments take to financing the perks, mainly subsidies for health insurance premiums, passes the cost of current employee benefits onto future taxpayers.

AMENDMENT 1

Guest columnists face off in the fight over spending for natural resources. Maggy Hurchalla says lawmakers ignored the will of voters when spending Amendment 1 funds. Brewster Bevis says the Florida Legislature ensured those dollars benefit everyone.

SEINING RESULTS

Is the Indian River Lagoon on the road to recovery? Columnist Anthony Westbury looks at the evidence.

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90°/72°
 Rain: 45%
 Page 6C

"They ask for equal dignity in the eyes of the law. The Constitution grants them that right."

— Justice Anthony Kennedy

Gay marriage ruled equal

Same-sex couples won the right to marry nationwide Friday as a divided Supreme Court handed a crowning victory to the gay rights movement, setting off a jubilant cascade of long-delayed weddings in states where they had been forbidden.

"No longer may this liberty be denied," said Justice Anthony Kennedy.

The vote was narrow — 5-4 — but Kennedy's majority opinion was clear and firm: "The court now holds that same-sex couples may exercise the fundamental right to marry."

To read about the monumental decision, go to Page 15A.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
 The crowd reacts as the ruling on same-sex marriage was announced Friday outside the Supreme Court in Washington.

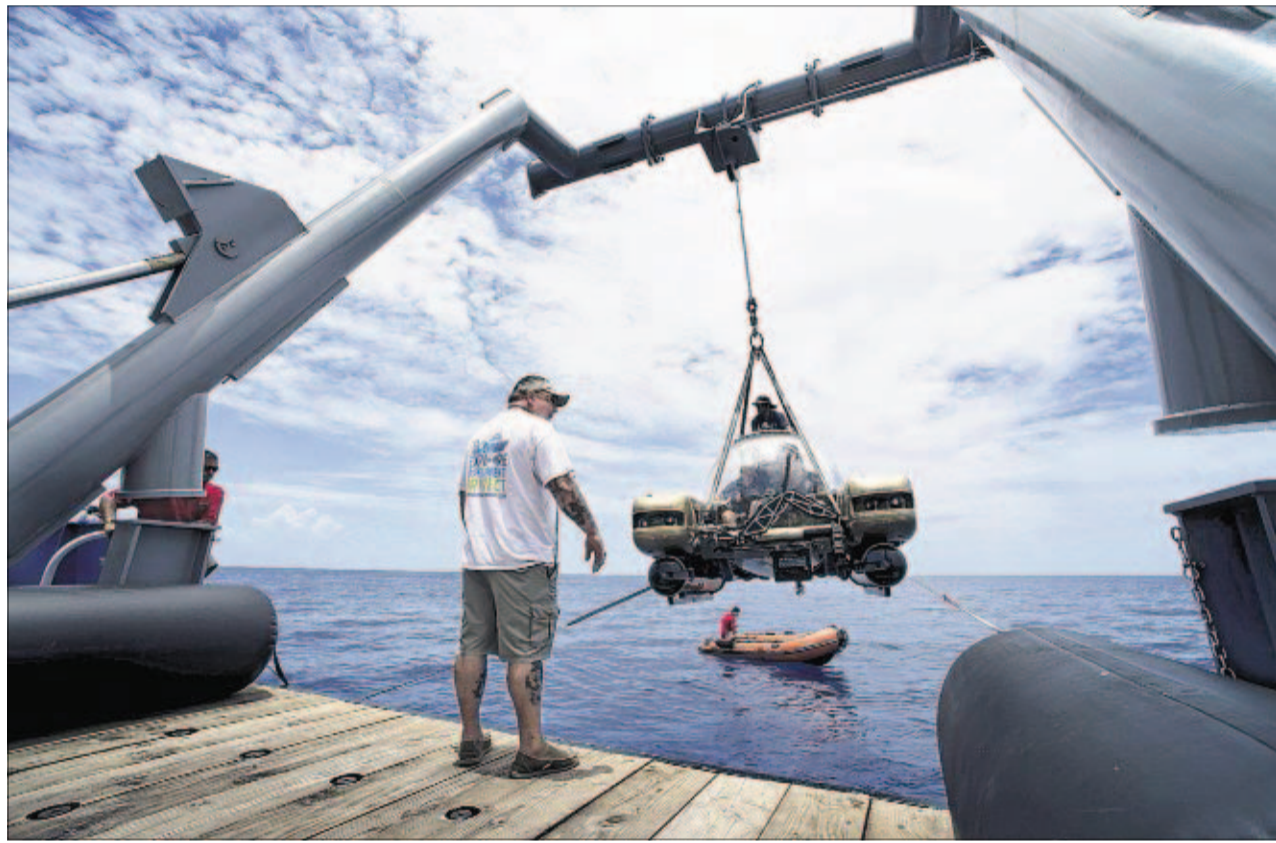
COVERAGE ON 15A

STORY: Court's ruling puts end to remaining bans on same-sex marriage.

OPINIONS: Read some of the majority and dissenting opinions, plus what other prominent names had to say.

HOLD-OUTS: Marriage licenses denied or delayed in 14 states yet to legalize gay marriage.

TIMELINE: Take a look back at selected rulings that led to Friday's decision.



PHOTOS BY SAM WOLFE/TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS

Deck boss Jeremy Addaway cleared the back of the Baseline Explorer research vessel as a Triton 1000/2 submarine carrying assistant research professor Joshua Voss and Brownie's Global Logistics founder Robert Carmichael prepare to search the sea floor in 300 feet of water for Oculina coral.

In search of Oculina

■ Coral reef can't be found, but life thrives in some spots

By Tyler Treadway
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Three days of searching with divers and submarines this week, and all scientists found on the deepwater Oculina Bank reef was a few dozen pieces of coral, most no bigger than a person's finger.

They had hoped to find a thriving reef several miles off the St. Lucie Inlet to further protect it, and the multitude of snapper and grouper that live and spawn on it.

The reef, stretching from Cape Canaveral to the Fort Pierce Inlet, is protected



Assistant research professor Joshua Voss (right) points out an area that could be home to Oculina coral while talking with project manager Todd Kincaid before heading to the sea floor to search for the protected coral.

from bottom fishing, particularly coral-crushing trawler nets, but it hasn't been seen south of Fort Pierce since the mid-1980s. That's when Fort Pierce-based Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute

researcher John Reed first discovered extensive reefs of "Oculina varicosa," also known as ivory tree coral, swarming with 70 species of fish.

See OCLINA, 6A



TOP TAKEAWAYS

1. Scientists who surveyed two spots on the Oculina Bank for the first time in 20 years could not find the coral reef.
2. It's unknown whether hurricanes, trawling nets or something else destroyed the coral.
3. Yet sea life thrives in patchy deepwater reefs that are replacing the coral.
4. More exploration is needed because finding the reef could help protect it.
5. Protecting the reef would protect an important spawning ground for fish, such as snapper and grouper.

Local science facility at risk

■ Invasive species center hurt by veto

Staff report

FORT PIERCE — The Invasive Species Quarantine Facility could close in the wake of a \$900,000 state budget cut this week.

That would leave the Treasure Coast's native plants unprotected, its invasive species growing unchecked and its farmers without the facility's advice on controlling pests that damage agricultural crops.

Gov. Rick Scott on Tuesday vetoed the center's \$720,000 annual funding for operating expenses plus an \$180,000 increase facility officials thought they were getting. They even issued a news release Monday expressing their thanks for the money.

"The funds cut will affect the jobs of a total of 12 people — a mix of scientists and support staff," said Jack Payne, senior vice president for Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Florida. "I'm trying to find some way of keeping the center open and maintaining a skeleton staff until we can request new funding for next year. Since the Legislature meets earlier next year, we won't have to wait as long for an answer."

The Legislature's regular session typically runs from March to May, but lawmakers changed it to January through March

See FACILITY, 6A

Sullivan's attorneys bemoan 'rush to judgment'

■ Prominent lawyer charged with sexual battery

By Laurie K. Blandford
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VERO BEACH — Prominent local attorney Charles Sullivan Sr. is out of the Indian River County Jail on

a \$25,000 bond awaiting a court date in August, as his team of lawyers accuse police officials of rushing to judgment in charging him with sexual battery.

He was charged Thursday based on the

accusations of a female employee who has worked in the 82-year-old's law office for a year. She told police his behavior started becoming inappropriate a few months ago.

The woman accuses

Sullivan of making lewd comments, brushing up against her, placing his hand down her blouse, exposing himself to her, reaching up her skirt and fondling her, police said. She said she warned him to stop, but she told detectives the advances continued.

INSIDE

Reisman: Case against local legal icon should be interesting. **2A**

Sullivan's attorneys said they will do their own aggressive investigation into

See SULLIVAN, 6A

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MOVIES	5B	TELEVISION	7B

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