



# NEWS CLIPS

***Your "Voice" for Transportation!***

Quote of the Week: "The difference between fiction and reality? Fiction has to make sense." -Tom Clancy

**MONDAY, 10/18/04**

## [Silversea cruises to top of poll](#)

(10/18/2004 © Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel )

Silversea Cruises displaced Radisson Seven Seas Cruises as the top small cruise line in the 2004 Reader's Choice survey conducted by Conde Nast Traveler magazine. Silversea had been No. 1 in the annual poll in 2002, but was dethroned in 2003. Both lines have their headquarters in Fort Lauderdale.

## [Sanibel merchants fear overall cost of toll](#)

(10/18/2004 © Ft. Myers News-Press )

As island businesses struggle to stay afloat in the aftermath of Hurricane Charley, some on Sanibel say the \$6 bridge toll may hurt them as much as the storm did.

## [AirTran has history of jump-starting troubled airports](#)

(10/18/2004 © Sarasota Herald-Tribune )

AirTran Airways, which starts service at Sarasota-Bradenton airport Dec. 17, typically has a big impact on airports to which it flies. Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport will receive an early holiday present Dec. 17, courtesy of the federal government and AirTran Airways.

## [Let's talk about pedestrian safety](#)

(10/18/2004 © South County Marion Citizen )

More than ever people are trying to live a healthier lifestyle by walking, biking, and exercising. Combine this with fall activities and young people being back in school and you end up with busy sidewalks, crosswalks and parking lots. Each year almost 6,000 pedestrians are killed by motor vehicles. That's an average of 16 people hit and killed each day in the United States.

## [Streets still showing damage from hurricanes](#)

(10/18/2004 © Vero Beach Press Journal )

The northern portion of Indian River Drive remains closed to through traffic, but the main section of the road going through Sebastian is open — although reduced to one lane in some spots. Sebastian Public Works Director Terry Hill said workers were able to reopen the hurricane damaged road "much quicker" than originally anticipated.

**TUESDAY, 10/19/04**

[JAA changes direction on screeners](#)

(10/19/2004 © Florida Times-Union )

The Jacksonville Airport Authority will not ask the Transportation Security Administration to replace federal passenger screeners at Jacksonville International Airport with those hired by private companies, authority Executive Director John Clark said Monday. Beginning Nov. 19, airports can ask the TSA to make the switch provided that they demonstrate that security won't slip.

[County voters facing decision over road maintenance](#)

(10/19/2004 © Gainesville Sun )

Many residents of Alachua County have grown to accept pavements scarred by cracks and potholes, unpaved roadways and traffic signals that seem almost malicious in their patterns. But officials from the county and its municipalities said the maintenance needs of local infrastructure are becoming a serious problem, and a referendum on the Nov. 2 ballot aims to bring the county a little closer to fixing many of the problems.

[Continental Posts Quarterly Loss](#)

(10/19/2004 © Lakeland Ledger )

HOUSTON Continental Airlines said Tuesday that rising oil costs and \$280 million in federal transportation, security and airport fees charged on passenger tickets drove the carrier to post a loss in the third quarter.

[New device keeps Sunpass in right place](#)

(10/19/2004 © Miami Herald )

For harried South Florida commuters, the SunPass is a time-saving marvel. But there is just one problem with these windshield-mounted gizmos that whisk you through toll plazas, deducting the toll from a bank account or credit card. The adhesive is wimpy. After several months on the windshield, the plastic transponder tends to fall to the dashboard like an overripe mango.

[FLORIDA Bailey Bridge work may cause delays](#)

(10/19/2004 © Panama City News Herald )

Motorists traveling State 77 across the Bailey Bridge will encounter minor delays today from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. while Florida Department of Transportation crews perform routine maintenance work on the bridge. Traffic restrictions will be in place and work will take place in the southbound lanes.

[Construction job fair coming to Davie](#)

(10/19/2004 © South Florida Business Journal )

A three-day event that spotlights career and training opportunities in the construction industry is returning to the Bergeron Rodeo Grounds in Davie. This year's job fair and exhibition is to be Oct. 19-21. "There is an industry-wide need for qualified engineers, field managers, equipment operators, technicians and surveyors," organizers said.

[Island link nears completion](#)

(10/19/2004 © Stuart News )

With about \$3.5 million in hurricane repairs nearing completion, motorists should be

able to drive across the new Jensen Beach Causeway on Monday. "I'm confident that we could open up this coming Monday," George Denti, Florida Department of Transportation bridge operations engineer said of the Jensen Beach to Hutchinson Island link.

### **WEDNESDAY, 10/20/04**

#### [Beating those traffic jams likely to mean more money](#)

(10/20/2004 © Florida Times-Union )

Jacksonville's plan of attack against rush-hour traffic jams at busy Southside intersections has officials considering a boost in funding for the Better Jacksonville Plan. Mayor John Peyton is open to the possibility of looking for additional money, but no decisions will be made for several months.

#### [Sanibel asked to give up revenues](#)

(10/20/2004 © Ft. Myers News-Press )

Lee County commissioners voted Tuesday to ask the city of Sanibel to forgo receiving millions of dollars in Sanibel Causeway toll revenues to help cut the cost of bridge tolls. The toll on a two-axle vehicle is scheduled to double Nov. 1 from \$3 to \$6, and other tolls are going up because of skyrocketing costs to replace the causeway's three bridges, which opened in 1963.

#### [Alachua urged to back proposed sales tax for roads](#)

(10/20/2004 © Gainesville Sun )

Elected city and county officials are urging the City Commission to change its mind about Alachua County's proposed half-cent sales tax for road improvements. The City Commission voted earlier this year to not support the county initiative, which would use a new sales tax to pay for improvements to certain county roads if voters approve it Nov. 2.

#### [Amendment 6: Derail the bullet train](#)

(10/20/2004 © Palm Beach Post )

At just 12 words, Amendment 6 is short. It's so short that the actual text of the amendment is shorter than the "summary" that will appear on the ballot. But it isn't short on financial impact. A "Yes" vote on Amendment 6, which The Post recommends in the Nov. 2 election, will save Florida residents more than \$2 billion per word.

#### [Transportation Chief To Get Jannus Award](#)

(10/20/2004 © Tampa Tribune )

ST. PETERSBURG - U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta will be honored tonight in St. Petersburg with the 2004 Tony Jannus Award for contributions to the commercial airline industry. A noon luncheon today in Tampa and dinner tonight in St. Petersburg will mark the 41st annual award, which commemorates the first scheduled commercial flight in U.S. history, piloted by Tony Jannus.

**THURSDAY, 10/21/04**

[Bullet train fight escalates](#)

(10/21/2004 © Bradenton Herald )

Opponents of a proposed bullet train renewed warnings Wednesday that if voters don't take the requirement to build the train out of the constitution next month it could mean long delays or cancellations of needed road projects. Voters approved a constitutional amendment four years ago saying they want a high-speed rail network in Florida.

[Invisible on ballot: money for port tunnel](#)

(10/21/2004 © Miami Herald )

The word "tunnel" doesn't appear anywhere on the Nov. 2 ballot or the hundreds of pages of legal documents detailing more than 300 projects that Miami-Dade County voters are considering in the Nov. 2 bond-issue referendum. But buried in the fine print of the support documents for Question 3, amid dozens of community projects and bridges, lies this little nugget: \$100 million for "the planning, design permitting and construction of infrastructure to improve access to the Port of Miami."

[Four years after passage, bullet train goes back to voters](#)

(10/21/2004 © North Port Sun Herald )

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) -- Will a bullet train help free Floridians from snarling traffic or is it one-way express to financial disaster? The argument comes to a head on Nov. 2, when voters decide whether they really meant it when they said four years ago they want a high-speed rail network crisscrossing Florida.

[Billboard repairs raise legal issues](#)

(10/21/2004 © Orlando Sentinel )

Billboard companies quietly and, in some cases, illegally began to rebuild signs damaged since the first of four hurricanes plowed into Florida more than two months ago. To commuters on Interstate 4 and other roads, the repairs likely signal a return to normalcy, but the fixes are sure to be followed by legal challenges.

[Encourage smarter solutions](#)

(10/21/2004 © Orlando Sentinel )

On Nov. 2, Floridians will have the chance to reverse what could have been a costly decision to squander billions of dollars on high-speed rail in the state.

[Floridians should vote no](#)

(10/21/2004 © Orlando Sentinel )

Now that Floridians have begun voting, we must all finally sort out truth from scare tactics on a host of issues. High-speed rail is one issue that has suffered from a misleading scare campaign against it.

[Storms whack billboards, renewing debate over replacement](#)

(10/21/2004 © Palm Beach Post )

Florida's billboard industry took an unprecedented beating from this year's fearsome foursome of storms. Thousands of signs were damaged or destroyed, costing billboard owners millions in lost revenue. And the destruction has renewed the debate over whether billboards are an economic engine or eyesore.

### [First use of Penny tax may fix roads](#)

(10/21/2004 © St. Petersburg Times )

The county is still two months away from collecting the Penny for Pasco, but officials already are working on the plans to spend it. Engineers are drawing up improvements for 10 tricky intersections - adding turn lanes in most places, realigning a couple of trouble spots and hanging traffic signals over two or three crossings.

## **FRIDAY, 10/22/04**

### [2 major upgrades planned for port](#)

(10/22/2004 © Bradenton Herald )

MANATEE - Port Manatee is preparing to start two major construction projects, one designed to improve security and the other expected to boost business.

### [SW Florida International sets record for September traffic](#)

(10/22/2004 © Ft. Myers News-Press )

The hurricanes of September didn't blow a record-setting month for the local airport. More than 319,000 passengers traveled through Southwest Florida International Airport last month. It was the busiest September in the airport's history up 12.6 percent from last year and the first time that month's passenger total topped 300,000.

### [County to spend billions on mass transportation in next 25 years](#)

(10/22/2004 © Palm Beach Post )

WEST PALM BEACH — Slightly more than half of the \$6.1 billion that Palm Beach County will spend on transportation through 2030 will go toward buses, trains, shuttles and water taxis. That's a significant increase from the 38 percent designated for mass transit in the Metropolitan Planning Organization's current 2025 Transportation Plan.

### [TIA may speed up plans for expansion](#)

(10/22/2004 © St. Petersburg Times )

TAMPA - Tampa International Airport officials, who hoped to squeeze another 15 years out of their terminal complex, learned Thursday they might have to build a second one in the next five years.

### [Port of Tampa expects significant boost in container business](#)

(10/22/2004 © Tampa Bay Business Journal )

TAMPA -- The Port of Tampa continues its evolution into a cargo container port. A 10-year plan for container terminal facilities development is in place. By January, the port will have completed its extension of Berths 212/213 from 750 to 1,750 feet and expansion of paved terminal storage area to 24 acres.

### [Airport Aims To Peg Travel Trends](#)

(10/22/2004 © Tampa Tribune )

TAMPA - Louis Miller created an experiment on a recent Tampa-Atlanta journey by planning and flying his entire round-trip without speaking to a single person. The director of Tampa International Airport wanted to test the idea that factors like Internet ticket purchases and self-service kiosks have altered people's needs at airports.