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Daily Briefing West Shore's first office development sold

TAMPA — The Austin Center, the West Shore district's first office development, was sold Monday to an affiliate of Redstone Investments for an undisclosed amount. Built in 1976 by the late Al Austin, known as "the pioneer of West Shore," Austin Center is considered a landmark by some, located in the heart of Tampa's West Shore Business District. Austin Center includes five office buildings totaling 300,000 square feet on 10 acres. Redstone Investments is a commercial real estate company with offices in Tampa and Youngstown, Ohio.

► **The machinists' union** has dropped an election among Delta Air Lines flight attendants after questions were raised about support cards submitted by the union. The International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers says it will try again next year. Delta has about 20,000 flight attendants, and the union's decision is a reprieve for the company, which has the lowest percentage of union workers of any leading U.S. airline. Only 18 percent of Delta's employees are represented by a union, compared with 83 percent at Southwest Airlines, 82 percent at American Airlines and its US Airways affiliate, and 80 percent at United Airlines, according to recent filings by each company.

► **Media giant Viacom Inc.** on Monday announced a round of layoffs and restructuring that will result in it booking \$785 million in special expenses in its recently ended quarter. A Viacom spokesman declined to say how many people would be laid off. The New York company said it will write-down underperforming TV shows and abandon some shows it bought, as well as make severance payments.

► **Tank cars carrying oil** or ethanol by rail urgently need to be retrofitted or replaced to make them more fire-resistant after a spate of explosive accidents revealed the shortcomings of voluntary industry standards, U.S. safety officials said Monday.

The National Transportation Safety Board issued a series of recommendations calling for tank cars to be fitted with protective systems better able to withstand fire than the bare steel construction now widely in use. It said a decade-long retrofit timeline that's been suggested by the tank car industry was too long to wait.

► **The federal government** could reopen an investigation into headlight failures in older-model Ford and Mercury sedans. A North Carolina consumer group asked the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration this week to investigate the Ford Crown Victoria and Mercury Grand Marquis from the 2003 to 2005 model years. The probe could affect as many as 517,945 cars. The government investigated headlight failures in those models previously, but closed its investigation in 2009 after finding a defect didn't exist.

—From staff and wire reports

TIA committee begins to deliberate restaurant bids

Panel members give 'The Gasparilla Bar' top rankings

BY RICHARD MULLINS
Tribune staff

TAMPA — Avast, ye weary travelers to Tampa! You may soon be greeted at the airport terminal by a huge "Captain Morgan" cocktail bar, built into the shape

of a giant pirate ship — masts, cannons and all.

"The Gasparilla Bar" ship could anchor one end of a promenade on Airside F at the airport, and is one of the more colorful potential outcomes from an extensively complex vetting process airport staff is now considering for the planned \$1 billion renovation of the terminals.

AIRPORT, Page 6



TAMPA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Derek Jeter is teaming up with Danica Patrick and Blake Griffin on a Players' Tribune-themed restaurant, part of a bid for a spot in TIA's \$1 billion renovation.



JIM REED/STAFF

Swedish students, teachers and crew eat lunch in the galley of their floating school, the T/S Gunilla. The 42 students' vessel is moored behind the USS American Victory near The Florida Aquarium.

Swedish students sail for knowledge

Their floating school, the T/S Gunilla, is docked at Port Tampa Bay

BY YVETTE C. HAMMETT
Tribune staff

TAMPA — Imagine as a high school student taking two months out of each school year to travel the world, learn new cultures, see poverty first-hand and visit war memorials whose stories, for you, until then lived only on the pages of textbooks.

Moored behind the USS American Victory near The Florida Aquarium, a 162-foot square rigger — a former dry bulk carrier turned tall ship — is temporary home to 44 Swedish students doing just that.

At home on a cluster of tiny

SHIP, Page 7



The 162-foot T/S Gunilla began its existence as a dry bulk carrier and was converted into a tall ship and school.

Euro down; retailers pocketing difference

U.S. consumers aren't seeing any savings on hot high-end items

BY MATTHEW CRAFT AND CANDICE CHOI
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Americans hunting for a bargain on a new BMW, bottle of Chateau Margaux or Hermes handbag — thanks to

the tanking euro — should put away their gold cards. European luxury goods sold in the U.S. still carry luxurious prices.

The European currency has fallen 10 percent against the dollar this year. In theory, car dealerships, department stores and other companies that sell goods from Europe could pass on the savings to their American customers, said Ira Kalish, chief

EURO, Page 7



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The new Salvatore Ferragamo store in Beverly Hills, Calif., is profiting from a 10 percent fall of the euro against the dollar this year. The fall isn't reflected in the prices of European luxury goods sold in the U.S.

LocalStocks

NAME	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG
AT&T Inc	33.33	+20	-0.8
Alico	50.83	+14	+1.6
AlliBern	30.54	-36	+18.2
AutoNatl	64.91	+44	+7.8
BB&T Cpn	39.20	+24	+0.8
BkofAm	15.51	-03	-13.3
BlkGlbOp	13.91	+11	+5.9
BrwnBrn	33.23	+10	+1.0
CGG	6.16	+14	+4.4
CSX	33.24	-08	-8.3
CVS Health	103.43	+72	+7.4
Cardica	.61	+02	-12.7
Carnival	47.76	-21	+5.4
CntrStBks	12.05	+05	+1.2
Chicos	17.72	+01	+9.3
Cisco	27.22	+09	-1.5
Citigroup	51.62	-24	-4.6
CitrixSys	63.16	+98	-1.0
CocaCola	41.17	+49	-2.5

NAME	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG
CoreLogic	35.77	-04	+13.2
CrsdCtryHl	11.79	-18	-5.5
Darden	66.55	-90	+13.5
Delhaize s	23.17	+08	+27.9
Dillards	138.04	+18	+10.3
Disney	105.63	-37	+12.1
DukeEngy	78.24	+127	-6.3
FidNatInfo	68.15	+07	+9.6
FifthThird	18.98	-06	-6.8
FrankRes	51.57	-02	-6.9
HSN Inc	67.11	-26	+1.3
HomeDp	114.95	+41	+9.5
HonWllIntl	104.49	+98	+4.6
Humana	178.26	+28	+24.1
IntlSpdw	33.85	+25	-7.0
JPMorgCh	60.47	-05	-2.8
Jabil	23.29	+15	+6.7
Kforce	22.23	-02	-7.9
LennarA	52.06	-113	+16.2
Lowe's	75.06	+22	+9.1
MarineMx	25.09	-47	+25.1
MarIntA	80.28	+13	+2.9

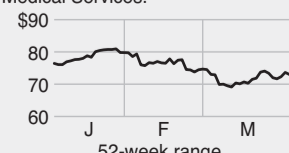
NAME	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG
Mastec	19.89	+40	-12.0
MediaGen	17.19	-21	+2.7
MetLife	51.17	+07	-5.4
NatlBevrg	24.57	-01	+8.6
NextEraEn	105.54	+79	-0.7
NichFncl h	14.27	-08	-4.2
OdysMar h	.73	+03	-21.1
OfficeDpt	9.28	+09	+8.2
Penney	9.29	+16	+43.4
QJyDistr	9.91	-16	-6.9
RJamesFn	57.01	+01	-0.5
Rayonier	26.78	+33	-4.2
Raytheon	109.15	+69	+0.9
RegionsFn	9.55	-03	-9.6
StJoe	19.00	+09	+3.3
SwstAirl	41.09	-177	-2.9
Starbucks	94.52	+13	+15.2
SteinMart s	12.17	-24	+19.6
SunHydrl	41.19	-64	+4.6
SunTrst	41.08	-29	-2.0
SupUnifm s	20.54	+98	+39.9
SykesEnt	25.03	-03	+6.6

NAME	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG
Synovus rs	27.68	-19	+2.2
TECO	19.78	+14	-3.5
Target	83.34	+67	+9.8
TechData h	57.87	+1.11	-8.5
TimeWarn	85.28	+28	-0.2
VerizonCm	49.63	+16	+6.1
Vodafone	33.03	+14	-3.3
WalMart	80.99	+26	-5.7
WalGBoots	88.01	+2.04	+15.5
WalterEn	.73	+04	-47.4
WalterInv	16.60	+32	+0.5
Wellcare	92.53	-11	+12.8

StoryStocks

Ventas

Close: \$76.90 ▲ 3.67 or 5.0%
 The real estate investment trust, which focuses on health care facilities, will pay \$1.75 billion for Ardent Medical Services.



Vol.: 4.7m (1.5x avg.) PE: 48.4
 Mkt. Cap: \$25.44 b Yield: 3.0%

Williams Partners

Close: \$47.72 ▼ 1.04 or -2.1%
 The energy infrastructure company said it is buying an additional stake in Utica East Ohio Midstream for about \$575 million.



Vol.: 1.8m (1.3x avg.) PE: 38.3
 Mkt. Cap: \$28 b Yield: 7.8%

Russian inflation at fastest annual rate since 2002

'Price growth could have peaked over March,' official says

BY OLGA TANAS
Bloomberg News

MOSCOW — Russian inflation accelerated in March to the fastest on an annual basis since 2002 even as slowing weekly readings allow the central bank to press ahead with cutting borrowing costs.

Consumer prices rose 16.9 percent from a year earlier, compared with 16.7 percent in February, the Federal Statistics Service in Moscow said in a statement.

The median estimate of 20 economists was 16.8 percent, according to a Bloomberg survey. Prices

gained 1.2 percent in the month.

The Bank of Russia has started to ease monetary policy this year, following six increases in the benchmark rate last year, as the world's biggest energy exporter enters its first recession since 2009. The economy has replaced inflation as the population's top concern, according to a survey published by state-run pollster VTsIOM on March 31.

"Price growth could have peaked over March," Dmitry Polevoy, chief economist for Russia and Commonwealth of Independent States at ING Groep in Moscow, said by email before the statement. "It's important that weekly and monthly inflation continue to deceler-

ate."

The balance of risks has shifted toward "a more significant cooling of the economy," the central bank said in a statement March 13 after reducing the benchmark rate by 100 basis points to the current 14 percent.

The gross domestic product may shrink as much as 4 percent in 2015 and continue to deteriorate until the first quarter of next year, Bank of Russia Governor Elvira Nabiullina said after the March 13 decision. The regulator will consider further easing if inflation expectations slow, she said.

The next meeting on rates is scheduled for April 30.

Price growth has started slowing on a weekly ba-

sis. It stabilized at 0.2 percent each week in March, the lowest since November. Weak economic activity will act as a brake on inflation, while the impact of ruble depreciation and trade restrictions that ignited price growth will wear off this year, according to the central bank.

The Russian currency has strengthened this year, showing the best performance among emerging markets in February and March. The ruble gained 1.4 percent to 55.8110 against the dollar as of 3:54 p.m. in Moscow.

"The central bank will in our view have ample room to cut rates more aggressively than priced," Goldman Sachs economists said in emailed report Thursday.

Euro

From Page 3

global economist at Deloitte, the consulting and accounting firm.

"But what would be the point of doing that?" Kalish asked. Demand for anything made in Europe is so strong that they have little trouble moving merchandise. "From their perspective, it's better to leave the price unchanged and pocket the profit."

The euro long has been in a tailspin. In April 2014, it was trading just shy of \$1.40. It sank as low as \$1.04 in March before bouncing back to \$1.10 on Monday.

In other words, you used to have to pay \$1.40 to buy a single euro; today, you pay just \$1.10.

So where are the bargains? There's no reason to think that prices for Italian shoes and French red wines will fall along with the euro, analysts said. Part of the reason is that most European consumer products sold in the U.S. aren't aimed at most consumers. Armani, Hermes and Prada cater to the affluent, selling well-made products as well as the perception of prestige and status. They have an image to maintain, and slashing prices isn't part of it, Kalish said. Loyal customers might consider it, well, gauche.

"If a luxury product becomes really cheap, they might think, 'Why am I buying it, then?'" Kalish said. "The high price makes it attractive for some people."

Bill Earle, president of the National Association of Beverage Importers, said customers shouldn't expect to see lower prices for French and Italian wines anytime soon.

Part of the explanation, Earle said, is that U.S. importers pay well in advance for wines that often take years to age. With Brunello di Montalcino from Italy, for instance, the wine sits in an oak barrel for about four years before it's ready.

"One way to look at it is, the earliest you're going to see cheaper



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
The Louis Vuitton in Beverly Hills, Calif., isn't cutting prices for European goods just because of a sinking euro.

Brunello is in 2019," Earle said.

But even then, there's no guarantee that businesses will pass on savings to customers. Earle said a bottle of wine has to pass through layers of businesses before it shows up on the shelves — importers, distributors and retailers — and each business has its own costs.

Because currency markets can be volatile, businesses are slow to cut prices because any savings could quickly vanish with a sudden swing in currency trading.

Doug Bell, a wine buyer for Whole Foods Market, also said he doesn't think people will see a significant fall in prices for European wines. Any drop would start showing up with the 2015 vintage, and even then, he said, other factors, such as bad weather, easily could offset a currency move.

The only way people might benefit from cheaper European wine, Earle said, is if they're "bringing it over on an airplane."

Similarly, anyone looking to score

a Chanel handbag on the cheap is in for a letdown.

Chanel's classic handbag carried a \$4,900 price last year, according to Robert Burke and Associates, a luxury consulting firm.

That's up from \$2,250 in 2007. Chanel reportedly is tweaking prices in other parts of the globe while leaving them alone at its U.S. stores. Robert Burke said he expects other luxury retailers to follow Chanel's cue.

Demand remains so solid for these products in the U.S. that high-end retailers have no reason to pare prices. It would only tarnish their elite image.

Nate Herman, vice president of international trade for the American Apparel & Footwear Association, said higher manufacturing costs give these companies another reason to keep prices high. In the past decade, luxury brands such as Louis Vuitton and Prada shifted some of their production to Asia as manufacturers in the region improved their ability to craft high-end goods. As a result, the euro's fall against Asian currencies has driven up their costs.

It's the same story with German luxury cars. Americans with a taste for fancy rides already are able to afford them, so there's no need for Mercedes-Benz, BMW or Audi to pass along the benefit of a falling euro to customers by slashing prices.

Demand for these German cars remains solid. Audi's U.S. sales climbed 15 percent last year. Mercedes' sales rose nearly 10 percent, and BMW's were up 6.5 percent. Each company is likely to pocket the extra money from exchanging dollars to euros, no matter whether the cars are made overseas or in the U.S.

The exception might be Volkswagen, whose U.S. sales sank 3 percent last year. The company behind the Beetle, Golf and Touareg could use the weak euro to cut prices and lure more buyers.

the air.

"Here, kids hang out at the mall," Svensson said. "At home, there is no mall to hang out in. If we want to go shopping, it's an hour by bus. Here, you take the car everywhere. At home, we take our bikes."

"And we talk about different things," Stensson said. "We like to talk politics, and they talk about not so important things."

Here, the students and their parents all declare their religious affiliation, Svensson said. In Sweden, while the majority are Christian, most don't attend church regularly or discuss religion. Like here, they said, there is a separation of church and state.

They did find another stark difference during their Tampa visit, they said. The Hillsborough High International Baccalaureate students are laser-focused on getting into a university immediately and pursuing a profession. Many of the Swedish students plan to take a year or two off from school to work, travel and think for a while about their future. In their school of 300 students, only about three seniors plan to go right into college, they said.

"It's a great experience in American culture and gives them a chance to compare their lives with others their own age," said Brita Malmcrona, director of studies for the group. "They find they have a lot in common, but that they are also very different."

On Wednesday, the Swedish students will shadow Hillsborough High students during the school day.

OBITUARIES

ARMOLD, Patricia, "Pat" passed away April 4, 2015 at her residence. Visitation will be held from 1pm until the funeral at 2pm Tues 4/7 at Marion Nelson Funeral Home in Frostproof.



DIOGUARDI, Leo, 67, of Apollo Beach, Florida, passed away on Thursday, April 2, 2015 surrounded



by his adoring family after a brief illness. He was born on June 6th, 1947 in Kearny, New Jersey. He is predeceased by his parents, Virginia and Leo Dioguardi. He graduated from New Jersey Institute of Technology with a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering. Leo was a veteran and proudly served in the U.S. Army. He was married to the love of his life, Patricia Dioguardi on June 21, 1985. Leo retired in 2012 after enjoying a long and successful career as an information technology executive.

Leo's courage and zest for life enabled him to live every minute to the fullest and share it with everyone he loved. His intelligence and drive led him to pursue his many adventures with passion and energy - whether it be sailing, scuba diving, traveling the world with his soul-mate, or cruising to Sturgis on his Harley Davidson. His dedication to his family enabled him to foster uniquely close relationships with his children, grandchildren, nephews, and niece. His devotion to his wife enabled Leo and Trish to share a life and a love that many people only dream of. He was a loving son and brother, a loyal friend, and a consummate gentleman.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Patricia Dioguardi, his daughter, Catherine Aguiar of Tampa, his sons Joseph Zannone (Jennifer) of Dover and Angelo Zannone (Karen) of Tampa, his grandchildren: Vincent Aguiar, James Zannone, Michael Aguiar, Victoria Zannone, Annabel Aguiar, Caitlin Zannone, and Jenna Zannone, his brother Paul Dioguardi (Patricia) of Morris Plains, N.J., his sister Kathleen Squires (Daniel) of Vernon, Vermont, his nephews Daniel Squires, Adam Dioguardi, Nicholas Dioguardi, and his niece Lauren Dioguardi, and his faithful canine companion Bucky. Private interment service to be held at the Sarasota National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers a donation to Lifepath Hospice would be appreciated.

HORRIGAN, Mary H, 97, passed away on April 5, 2015 at her daughter's residence in New Port Richey, Fl. Michels-Lundquist Funeral Home

HUNT, James A., passed April 2, 2015. Memorial service Weds, April 8 at 11am at Palm Harbor United Methodist Church. Curlwe Hills

MCQUAIG, Janice, 65, of Tampa, passed away on April 6, 2015. Friends received on Wed. April 8 from 5-8 p.m. with funeral Thursday, April 9 at 11 a.m. at Trinity FH.

MIRANDA, Jacobo, 67, of Tampa, passed away Monday, April 6, 2015 in Tampa. Preceded in death by his parents, Jose and Carmelina and a sister Maria Alvarez. Survivors

include his siblings, Jose (Sue), George (Lynda) and Josephine (Roy) Barry; numerous nieces, nephews and friends. Affinity Cremation

PETRELLA, Joseph R., Sr., 77 of Palm Harbor, died April 5, 2015. Survived by wife, Elizabeth; children, Joe, Jr. (Kathleen), Lori & Angie; 10 grands; 3 great grands. Dobies FH

STEELE, Justin C., 30, of St Petersburg died April 3, 2015. Survived by mother, Sandra; father, Eddy; sister, Lacy and grandmother, Evelyn Dukes. Veterans FC 727-524-9202

HERNANDO

JANKOWSKI, Daniel A., 76, Spring Hill, passed April 2, 2015. Survivors: son, Daniel, II; daughter, Kimberly; 4 grandchildren & 2 gr grandchildren. Visit: Brewer & Sons/352-596-4991

TRONCONE, Alphonso 89, passed away March 29, 2015. He was a USMC WWII Veteran. He is survived by his loving wife, Catherine, 2 daughters, Wendy Schuller, Tracy Gee, son in law, Arthur Gee, 3 granddaughters, Casey, Kelly, Samantha and 3 great grandchildren, Hadley, Kendall and James, as well as foster son, Jimmy Donlon. Also, 3 sisters, Madelyn Bradford, Winnie McCauley and Esther Thomas. Predeceased by parents, Samuel and Jennie Troncone, brothers, Carmen and Samuel Troncone. Funeral Mass will be held April 7th at 9:30am at St. Frances Cabrini with burial to follow at Florida National Cemetery. See full obit and sign guest register at Brewerfuneral.com 352-688-4991

PASCO

BARNES, Lillian Marie Turley, 76, of Trinity, died April 2, 2015. Survivors son, Eric; daughter Amy; brother Donald; 7 grandchildren; 3 great grandchildren. Dobies FH/Old CR 54

CRISLIP, Dean, 50 of Wesley Chapel, died March 21, 2015. Survived by brothers, Dennis & Darryl Crislip & Duane Paolucci. Dobies FH/Old CR 54

GARTNER, Donald, 76 of New Port Richey, died April 4, 2015. Survived by children, Lydia, Donald & Arthur; granddaughter, Heidi; numerous other grands. Dobies FH

JIMENEZ, Manuel, A., 88, Holiday, died April 5, 2015. Ret. Publisher with Thompson Newspapers. Survivors 3 daughters; 5 grands; 3 gr grands; great great grandson. Dobies

MCGRATH, Senta, 83 of New Port Richey, died April 4, 2015. Survived by sons, Eugene & James; grandson, Christian; brothers, Skip & Eugene. Dobies FH/Congress

THOMAS, Michelle Fersch, 35 of Hudson, died April 4, 2015. Survived by husband, Joseph; mother, Sharon; brother, Michael; several aunts, uncles & cousins. Dobies FH/Hudson

WRIGHT, Lucy, 96 of Dade City, passed away Saturday, April 4, 2015 at home surrounded by her daughters and grandchildren. She was born June 29, 1918 in Georgia to John Amos & Mittie Lominac Welch and was a longtime area resident. She is survived by her daughters: Bertha Lee Wright-Frassrand, Pearl Mae & Bobby McCann; 1 sister: Audrey Lee Adams; 22 grandchildren, 24 great grandchildren and 13 great great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband: Andrew Jackson Wright; 5 sons: Jack, L.T. "Bud", Merlin, Joe and Raymond Wright; 2 sisters: Odie Rathel, Viola Geiger; 2 brothers: Curtis and Lannie Welch; and 1 grandson: Sean McCann. Funeral services will be held 3pm Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at the 301 Chapel of Hodges Family Funeral Home in Dade City.

Hodges Family Funeral Home
Highway 301 Chapel
Dade City, Florida
352.567.6100
www.hodgesfuneralhome.com

Ship

From Page 3

islands in the Danish straits, the teens spend their free time together studying, baking, talking politics, riding bicycles and hitting the gym. Coming to Tampa, they say, is like living on a movie set, with big cars, shopping malls and sunny, sandy beaches so unlike the stony, chilly shorelines of home.

In 1999 when he was consul to Sweden, Tampa ship agent Arthur Savage, of A.R. Savage & Son, was called on to arrange this annual visit. Working with Bill Kuzmick, president of the American Victory Ship Mariners Museum, he arranged for a pilot to guide the T/S Gunilla into Port Tampa Bay, to tie it up to the former World War II cargo ship and get the students through customs and a Coast Guard inspection.

Every year since, the ship, owned by the municipality of Öckerö on the coast of Sweden, has visited here, partnering with Hillsborough High School to show the students the U.S. education system and give them a taste of teen life here in central Florida.

"It's amazing to have been able to see this much," said Emma Svensson, 18, who comes from a small city outside Gothenberg, Sweden. "Being on this ship is the best thing I've ever done."

Because the ship is owned by the municipality, only students who live there can make the trip. They only pay for meals and a few special excursions.

Svensson moved to Öckerö and

into a friend's basement at age 15 to be eligible for the program. "It was all new and very scary, but I'm really glad I did it."

On the ship, the students live in 10 cabins, eat their meals together and learn to sail the vessel between ports.

Celine Stensson, 19, from the island of Kalvsund, very near Öckerö, takes a ferry or her own boat to get to high school. Three of her four siblings had sailed on the Gunilla, and when she applied, she had no backup plan, she said. "It's all I wanted to do."

The Gunilla has visited Morocco, Spain, England, the coast of Sweden and other countries, learning culture and history and studying the social sciences.

In this instance, the ship sailed to Miami, where the students flew over to meet it. From Miami, they have visited Havana, Punta Gorda, Guatemala and Progreso, Mexico, staying five or six days in each location.

In Havana, they found Cuban people to be just as poor as they'd heard but better dressed than the indigent people in other regions of the world. One student got a book of ration tickets to take home as a souvenir. They discussed what it must be like to live under a dictatorship.

Tampa has been unlike their other stops. Some of the Hillsborough High parents have invited them in for slumber parties, to go play laser tag, visit the beach and shop. Some of the students have even gone mudding and visited local radio station WMNF-FM, where they were interviewed on