

COMICS/10C DEATHS/4C

Gulf Coast News

Friday, March 21, 1986

The Miami Herald Section C

Old man's help plea met with abuse, state says

By TODD HOLZMAN Miami Staff Writer
At the age of 81, falling health forced Warren Hastings, a single, independent loner, to ask for help.

Hastings lost most of his life's savings in the process. Assistant State Attorney Dwight Brock said, opening the state's case against Joseph's Hart.

Hastings confined by a strapjack in a room Hart rented at the apartments. Hart said the show saw Hastings harnessed in a chair while he watched television.

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League surveys the needy

By TODD HOLZMAN Miami Staff Writer
A countywide search to gather information about social services was recently started by the Collier chapter of the League of Women Voters.

'We seem to be ignoring some age groups, particularly young people. There is a definite need to coordinate services.'

of the chapter, is heading a group of 28 volunteers who are circulating detailed questionnaires among 200 social service agencies and clients in the county.

The project is necessary for existing agencies to keep pace with growth and to identify new areas of need, Frank said.

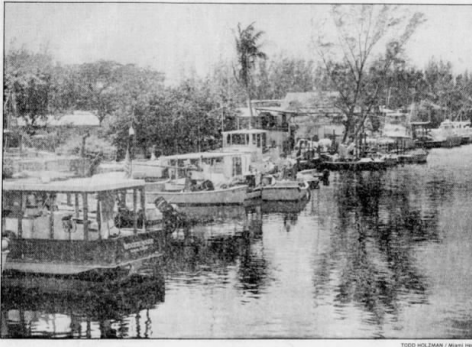
'We seem to be ignoring some age groups, particularly young people,' she said. "There is a definite need to coordinate services."

Frank said available lists of social agencies and administrators are out of date.

The survey also may show the county needs a central information service that could direct people to the proper social agency and track their progress.

'We don't have any place that follows up on a client to see if they're satisfied with services,' she said.

Frank said some of the topics on the questionnaire may become controversial. The league is asking direct questions about how agencies are financed, she said.



View from the bridge
The bridge on Bayview Drive is only half a mile from Naples banks locally in the sun outside Capt. Paul's bait shop, a Bay where sleek pleasure craft slice the waters on a splendid remainder of quieter times in the March afternoons. That this squadron of aging fishing boats

Council delays rate hike

By LOREI ROZSA

The Naples City Council Wednesday night decided to postpone a vote on raising sewer and water rates for one month to give the public more time to examine the rates.

City Manager Frank Jones said the proposed rate hikes, which would be five percent in each of the area's two zones, are necessary because of rising administrative costs and salary hikes.

Rose said Naples water and sewer rates are the lowest in a three-county area. He said that 75 percent of city residences use 20,000 gallons of water every two months. For that amount of consumption, the water rate would go from \$21.10 for two months to \$21.18. Sewer rates would go from \$28.10 to \$31.24. The increase would take effect in three months.

At the rate increase vote in December 1984, city Finance Director Bill Harty said.

Naples resident Sandy Spitzer said the council's move gives the public enough time to inform themselves to study the proposed increases. The proposal was made last month, and the mayor and council held a two-hour workshop on it then.

'Every year we get an increase,' Spitzer said. "You need to give the public a chance to study this in depth."

The council voted to delay a decision on the rate hikes until April 15.

In another issue discussed at Wednesday's meeting, the council asked engineers and architects for Arlington Associates Inc., developers of a proposed residential development in Naples, to look into changing their proposal. The plan for the right-of-way development, to be called Hawthorne Place, garage for the units would be on Ninth Avenue, rather than in the back of the buildings facing an alley.

The area is zoned for single-family housing. Developers requested a zoning change to allow four-, two-unit apartment buildings.

"This is a development area," Spitzer said. "Changing that zoning is a bad idea. It's not in the public interest."

But Craver said he might approve the project if the developers moved to the back of the buildings.

Parents of dead girl have new hope

By LOREI ROZSA

Next month, Betty and Paul Pikartz will try to keep the case open.

'We have been going to the sheriff for the last six years,' Betty Pikartz said. "We thought they were working on it, doing something."

Last June Sheriff John McDougall, appointed in May to replace suspended Sheriff James Skipp, decided to re-investigate the murder. He assigned Ken Burton, one of 11 detectives in the department, to work full-time on the case. McDougall's Charlotte County Commission to grant \$12,000 for work on the case. The renewed effort paid off.

Earlier this week, Burton gave State Attorney Joseph D'Alessandro a 2,000-page report of his investigation, naming a suspect. Burton said new testimony from witnesses, along with re-evaluating old evidence, resulted in a breakthrough.

Some of the techniques for examining evidence that are available now were very new then, Burton said. "One of the things we were able to get that they didn't have then is a psychological profile of the perpetrator. That doesn't give you a suspect, but it helps direct an investigation."

Burton, a 10-year sheriff's department employee, said testimony gathered in the last several months helped him build the case.

"People here haven't forgotten about it," Burton said. "It's very indelibly burned in their minds. This is a small community, when you get a crime like this, it rocks them. It stays with them forever."

D'Alessandro said Thursday his office will take about two weeks to review Burton's report.

"We will probably sometime after Easter assign the case to an attorney," D'Alessandro said. "We're working on it as quickly as we can. I've been pleased with the report. I had been under the impression they had gone as far as they could go. I had not expected to get a report."

Betty Pikartz said Thursday the sheriff's department should have been trying to solve her daughter's murder all along.

"We know there had to be a way to find out who did it," she said. "How can someone do something like that and slip away and not be arrested, some kind of cheat?"

The Pikartzs, who live at Village Center Bar in Punta Gorda, have two sons and a daughter. Linda was their youngest child.

"I'm just praying this is the end," Betty Pikartz said. "Our life has become somewhat normal, but it's still hard. Certain things bring out something, and it can be rough."

Lee Civic Center offers a weekend of fun for every taste

A three-theme package of fun is offered at the Lee Civic Center in North Fort Myers today through Sunday as the center hosts a sports and recreation show, food festival and a wood-crafting exhibition under one roof.

The Southwest Florida Sports & Recreation Show highlights boats and water-sport equipment. The 30-foot Wilcraft Scorah KV used by Don Johnson on the television show Miami Vice will be on display. Continuous clinics on fishing and diving are scheduled, those attending can stock up on such fresh seafood from a pond fish market.

Fans of Southern Florida food fest features chefs from nearly 20 top restaurants from Naples to Sarasota, competing for honors in various contests.

Meanwhile, several dozen wood carvers will be on hand to demonstrate their talents and sell their creations.

Hours are noon to 8 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$3 for adults, no charge for children under 12. Parking is free.

Friday
HIS STORY — His Story, a annual dramatic depiction of the life of Jesus Christ, is presented by amateur actors from area churches at 8 p.m. on Golden Gate Community Center.

VISIONS IN METAL — Four Winds Gallery in the Corner Building at 1107 Third St. S. in Old Naples, presents "Visions in Metal," an exhibition by sculptor Michael Nurnag and jewelry artist Carl Krenn 7 to 10 tonight. The exhibition also will be open Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday
FESTIVAL PARADE — The 12th annual Spring Festival parade begins at 11 a.m. on Homestead Road in Lehigh. One hundred groups will march, including some entries from the recent Edison Pageant of Light Parade. U.S. Ray Conner Mack of Cape Coral will be the parade marshal.

MACRO CRAFT FAIR — More than 60 craftsmen from around the country are converging on Marco Island for the fourth annual Craft Fair sponsored by the Art League of Marco Island. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 1025 Westberry Dr. The fair is free.

TENNIS BENEFIT — The Windermere Challenge tennis tournament begins at 8:30 a.m. at Windermere Country Club. Singles and doubles matches will be played between Naples and Boca Raton tennis pros. Proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society. Tickets are \$25. Details: 261-6337.

HOSPITAL VISIT — From 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m., Lee Memorial Hospital in Fort Myers offers an open house for kids and their parents. A visit designed to teach children about hospital features visits to the emergency room, the same-day surgery department, the children's health center, the nursery, and a look inside an ambulance. There is no charge, but reservations are required. Details: 334-5114.

Happenings

PARADE CONCERT — Merle Evans, conductor of the Bayling, Ross and Barrow & Bailey circus band for 50 years, gives concert the Naples Concert Band, 8 p.m. in Camber Park in Naples. Selections will feature music from circus acts. The concert is free. Blankets or lawn chairs are suggested for seating. Details: 261-1000.

ISLAND FISH FRY — The St. James chapter of the Organized Fishermen of Florida put on a fish fry from 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Double Lounge in St. James City on Pine Island. Live entertainment is featured. Details: 262-2000.

MONDAY
GOLF TOWN ART — The Community Foundation of Collier County sponsors Golf Town Events, paintings of the Naples area by local artist Paul Aronson at an exhibition and sale today and Tuesday from noon to 4 p.m. at the 2196.

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Wednesday

FARM TOUR — Tourists and locals are invited to visit farms, vegetable fields, citrus groves, a packing plant, the largest strawberry plantations in the United States and enjoy a straw barbecue during the annual Collier County Ag Fair, sponsored by the Naples Area Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Collier County Agricultural Office. Events go on county A-11 clubs. Air-conditioned buses leave at 8 a.m. at the Manatee Presbyterian Church, 791 Harbour Dr. Tickets are \$20 and are available at the chamber office on U.S. 41, just south of Coastal Mall.

TYKE VANDER ZEE
Happenings covers every Friday in The Herald. If your organization would like to let the public know about concerts, plays, art exhibits or other Gulf Coast events, write: Happenings, The Miami Herald, 602 Fifth Ave., S., Naples, Fla. 33960.