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VOLUME 32, NUMBER 36

WEEK OF AUGUST 17, 2006

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Chamber  
welcomes  
new  
director  
Working with  
the community  
is a major  
goal.



19



City  
Councilman  
continues  
recovery

Jim Jennings on  
the mend from  
heart surgery

6

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Every Issue

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## County won't reconsider left turn to Punta Rassa

Council tells DOT rep not to  
come to meeting

By EMILIE ALFINO

edlino@breezenewspapers.com

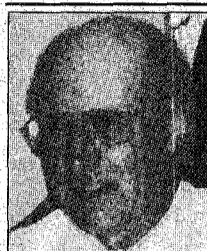
Paul Wingard, Deputy Director of the Lee County Department of Transportation, intended to go to city council's Aug. 15 meeting to discuss the county's determination not to put a left-hand turn into Punta Rassa. But Councilman Tom Rothman suggested taking that item off the agenda.

"Wingard's position is very clear," Rothman said.

Wingard outlined the county's final determination about the left-hand turn into Punta Rassa in an Aug. 8 e-mail to city officials.

"We do not intend to change the current design plans, which will eliminate the left-turn movement into Punta Rassa when traveling in the eastbound direction, or exiting from Sanibel," Wingard wrote.

"I find this disappointing," Councilman Steve Brown said. "It's going to make life very difficult for our fishing guides and many



"Maybe the only way the county will listen to us is after a disaster. It's a very sad situation."

— Vice-mayor Mick Denham

boaters."

According to Wingard, the primary reason for elimination of the left turn was to ease the flow of through traffic at the toll plaza and the traffic light, according to Wingard.

"While we do not disagree that some individuals will be inconvenienced, the benefit for the majority of drivers passing through this intersection far outweighs that inconvenience," Wingard's memo said.

The county's study of the traffic in the area showed that the number of vehicles making the left-hand turn into Punta Rassa was relatively small in comparison to the number of vehicles

passing through the intersection.

"Furthermore, to make changes to the design at this point would require us to revise the permits for the project," Wingard wrote, "and thus have the potential to delay the project considerably."

"I don't believe a lot of consideration was given to [fishing guides and boaters] when this decision was made," Brown said. "The county expects them to go further along McGregor and make a U-turn. The problem is that it's going to be very difficult to make that kind of big U-

See PUNTA RASSA, page 5

## City scholarships



LAURA BLASKOWITZ

Four children of Sanibel employees were awarded \$1000 scholarships. From left to right: Jai Earle, mother of Kristina Williams; Abbey Gudella and mother Karen; Marguerite Jordan, Jimmy Jordan and daughter Alicia.

## City awards scholarships to dependents of employees

By LAURA BLASKOWITZ

lblaskowitz@breezenewspapers.com

At the Aug. 15 City Council meeting, four children of City of Sanibel employees were each awarded \$1,000 from The City of Sanibel Employee Dependent Scholarship Program.

Working with the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, the scholarship was established to commend city employees for their efforts during Hurricane Charley. Dependents of the employees were reviewed in terms of their academic

achievement and financial need. The application process also required reference letters and a student-written essay.

"Basically we have established a committee," explained Administrative Services Director Jim Isom.

The committee which consists of members of the Community Foundation of Sanibel-Captiva, city management, city council and the general public reviews student applications and awards the scholarships.

See SCHOLARSHIPS, page 3

## City honors City Engineer Garcia

By LAURA BLASKOWITZ

lblaskowitz@breezenewspapers.com

A reception honoring Assistant City Engineer in the Public Works Department Carlos H. Garcia's retirement was held at the Aug. 15 city council meeting.

Beginning on July 30, 1990, Garcia was employed by the city. Mayor Carla Johnston explained, "Carlos has been responsible for designing all the City's major capital roadway, drainage and shared use paths over the past 16 years. What will we do without him?"

While working for the city Garcia offered a wealth of knowledge and experience.

See GARCIA, page 7

## City considers shared-use-path funding

Names prototypes for expansion, addresses safety issue

By EMILIE ALFINO

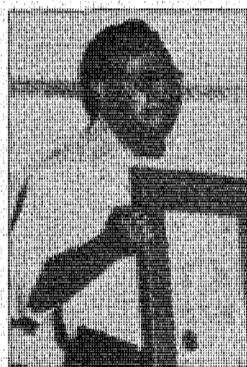
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City council on Aug. 15 reviewed a couple of scenarios for funding the \$1.5 million improvements to the shared-use path on Periwinkle Way between the Sanibel Steakhouse, 1473 Periwinkle Way, and Casa Ybel Road.

"We have no one place where we have \$1.5 million laying around in the couch cushions of the [city] budget, so it took some scrounging around," City Manager Judie Zimomra said.

Without making a binding decision — the bud-

See PATHS, page 7



LAURA BLASKOWITZ  
Carlos Garcia



"...it took  
some  
scrounging  
around."

— Judie  
Zimomra  
City Manager

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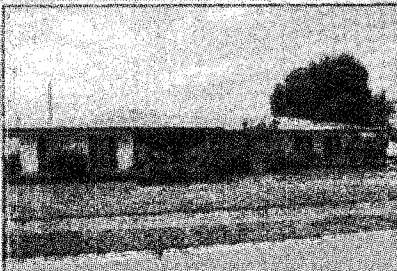
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# Island teens attend conference in Washington, D.C.

Ten teens who attend Youth Group at Sanibel Community Church traveled to Washington, D.C. from June 29 to July 5 to join 9,000 teens from around the globe for a youth event that transformed lives and brought teens closer to their Lord and Savior.

The theme for the event was "Three Story" which consists of God's story, Our story and Their story. We all play a part or have a story in life and that story is most effective when we involve ourselves into God's story and not ours.

The teens were equipped with training on how to connect with friends and family so that they too can experience and live in God's story. In between all of the training we explored Washington, laughed really hard, drank a lot of Pepsi (anything caffeinated actually) and grew much closer to each other.

Sanibel Community Church has weekly programs available to any teen from 6-12th grade. For more information, contact Youth Pastor Tom Walsh at 472-2684. The multi-denominational community church is located at 1740 Periwinkle Way, (Next to Jerry's Market).



## Scholarships from page 1

In its second year, the scholarships have been awarded a second time to three dependents of city employees and one new recipient.

At the City Council meeting Alicia Jordan, Seth Gleeson, Abbey Gudella and Kristina Williams received the scholarships.

Jordan, daughter of Planning Department Planner Jim Jordan and Recreation Department Administrative Assistant in the Museum, Marguerite Jordan attends Howard University in Washington, D.C. She is majoring in Psychology.

"I just want to thank everyone who made this scholarship foundation available to somebody like me, who grew up here. I appreciate it," she said in appreciation.

Gudella, daughter of Fiscal Assistant Karen Gudella

attends Edison College. She is studying in the field of medical care and will graduate in June of 2007.

"Thank you for honoring me this year and last year," she said. "I greatly appreciate it. This helps me reach my dreams."

Williams, daughter of Recreation Department Administrative Assistant Jai Earle, is pursuing a degree in Elementary Education at the Baptist College of Florida. Earle accepted the award on behalf of Williams who was unable to attend.

Gleeson, also unable to attend, is the son of Code Enforcement Officer Terri Cummins, and attends Elon University in North Carolina. He is majoring in Sociology. He earned placement on the President's List in 2006.



Kristina Williams



Seth Gleeson

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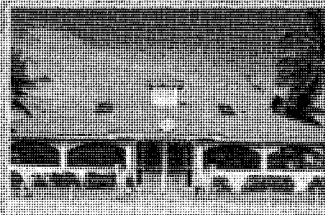
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# Roberts family forms new real estate brokerage with Jane Reader Weaver

The Roberts family announces the formation of Properties of the Islands, Inc., new real estate brokerage company with Jane Reader Weaver. The company will focus on luxury properties located on Captiva and Sanibel Islands.

Larry Roberts, Sr., of the Roberts family, is the founder and CEO of R&L Carrier and RLR Investments, L.L.C. More than 35 years ago he began R&L Carriers, Inc., and soon expanded to property investment and development. RLR Investments, L.L.C., has been actively investing in Sanibel and Captiva properties since 2005.

RLR Investments' Florida properties include Port Sanibel Marina, just off the Sanibel Causeway and Golden Ocala Golf and Equestrian Club in Ocala. RLR Investments, L.L.C. real estate holdings throughout the United States range from transportation and distribution to hospitality, resort, and retail properties.

Jane Reader Weaver is well known on Sanibel and Captiva Islands, where she has been a resident and leader in commercial and residential real estate for more than 20 years. Her experience, knowledge, and consistent performance in real estate sales have made her one of the most successful realtors in Southwest Florida.

Her personal international network of luxury real estate clients and detailed knowledge of the area's best properties have contributed to her uniquely high sales average. Weaver was consistently named Real Estate Agent of the Year in her previous position with South Seas Properties. According to Don DeLuca, Vice President and General Counsel of RLR



Jane Reader Weaver

Investments, L.L.C. and Broker of Record for Preferred Properties of the Islands, Inc.,

"Jane's dedication to the real estate profession has been a true inspiration in the creation of the firm. Her efforts in listing and selling luxury properties on Sanibel and Captiva Islands are always above and beyond expectation," DeLuca said. "She is a true asset to the real estate industry in Southwest Florida. The respect she has earned in the industry, as well as with her clients, is certainly well deserved."

Preferred Properties of the Islands brings together highly skilled and experienced real estate professionals who specialize in Sanibel and Captiva Island luxury estates. A new building for Preferred Properties of the Islands is currently under construction on Captiva

Island, near South Seas Resort, which provides exposure to the thousands of visitors who vacation on the islands each year, as well as to island residents.

The building will serve as the headquarters of RLR Investments, L.L.C. and the main office of Preferred Properties of the Islands, Inc.

Preferred Properties of the Islands is a proud member of the Sanibel-Captiva Islands

Association of REALTORS, the REALTOR Association of Greater Fort Myers and the Beach, Inc., Florida Association of REALTORS, and The National Association of REALTORS. Offices currently are located at 695 Tarpon Bay Rd., #2, Sanibel, FL 33957. For information call (239) 395-9170, or visit on the web at [www.preferredpropertiesoftheislands.com](http://www.preferredpropertiesoftheislands.com).

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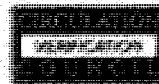
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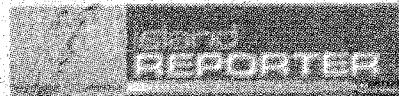
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## Letters

### Keep Sanibel, Sanibel?

#### To the Editor:

There are phrases you hear that make you start thinking, such as "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead!" which I interpret to mean, no matter what stands in your way, keep going. Another is "the sky is falling!" which I interpret to mean "this guy is a pessimist."

Another recent one I heard was "Keep Sanibel Sanibel," which means to me, keep Sanibel the same as when he, or she, moved to Sanibel.

Now, my question is this. At what time frame are you speaking of? Did you mean before causeway, or after causeway? If you mean after causeway, you're too late. With the building of the causeway, Sanibel Island is a thing of the past. It is a "was" and not an "is." It is the City of Sanibel now, no different than any other small city. Just look around you... shopping centers, supermarkets, convenience stores, a mind-numbing amount of restaurants, theaters, a great fire and police department and water and sewer plants. The envy of any small town. And we have a city government looking out for our best interests, whether we like it or not.

If you are truly interested in keeping "Sanibel Island," Sanibel Island, it would have to be some-time before the causeway was built, when it was truly an island. Which of course means everyone that moved here after the causeway was built would have to leave. All homes and buildings would also have to go. No water or sewer plants. No paved roads. Volunteer firefighters and one deputy for both Sanibel and Captiva. And mosquitos you could inhale. And having a rusty car from the spray of saltwater while crossing the bay on a ferry in rough seas. That, my friends, is the time frame I'm familiar with, as I and a few others that are still here remember.

So you see, it's just a matter of a time frame. Other than that, you might as well say let's keep New York City, New York City.

Bob Sabatino  
Sanibel

### Fresh water - how much is too much?

#### To the editor:

In the months after the Army Corps began releasing large amounts of water into the Caloosahatchee, the ecosystem of the waters in Southwest Florida have been drastically changed.

The nutrients found in this water have greatly impacted the water quality. Recently, five different kinds of algae blooms have appeared in the Caloosahatchee estuary. This not only has an effect on the fish and wildlife that inhabit these waters, it also hurts those who are interested in fishing or who make a living from the tourism industry.

The Army Corps' current Tentatively Selected Plan, or TSP, is going to continue to severely damage the fragile ecosystem of the Caloosahatchee Estuary. In order to alleviate the estuary and inhibit the amount of damage done to this waterway, the Army Corps TSP must be altered to recognize the considerable damage that has already been done to the estuary.

The Army Corps biologists have recommended an amount of water that can be released from Lake Okeechobee and still maintain healthy waterways.

However, the TSP for 2007-2010 will release polluted water into the Caloosahatchee at a greater rate than suggested by these biologists.

In order to ensure that these measures are followed, and to allow for increased oversight of the water releases, the language of the proposed schedule should prohibit any water releases greater than the amount proposed by biologists.

The release schedule followed by the Army Corps should reflect the most current data and their biologists' recommended release amount. There are opportunities to relieve the stress that the Caloosahatchee River and the estuary are currently experiencing due to water releases. The South Florida Water Management District currently owns or leases 450,000 acres of land that could possibly be used for water storage.

In addition, the TSP does not propose managing water levels through small, multi-directional water releases. Utilizing both the land for emergency water storage and alternate methods of water release will take the burden off of the Caloosahatchee and its already fragile estuary.

The Caloosahatchee River and the estuary must be protected. The local economy is reliant on these waters through both the tourism industry and the fishing industry. We cannot afford

See WATER, next page

## Last week's weather

	High	Low	Rain		High	Low	Rain
Wednesday	89	76	0.00	Sunday	89	78	0.00
Thursday	89	78	0.00	Monday	90	78	2.45
Friday	89	78	0.00	Tuesday	88	77	0.11
Saturday	90	78	0.00				

Note: Rainfall levels are recorded from the morning of the day given to the following morning.

Source: Island Water Association

## Sanibel-Captiva Tides

Aug. 11 - 17, 2006

### NOT FOR NAVIGATION.

This information is furnished as a service but without any warranty. These predictions are mathematical calculations based on average conditions. They do not include the effects of storm surge caused by hurricanes or other weather conditions.

Feet								
Tidal Range at Redfish Pass		Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
Sunrise		6:58 a	6:58 a	6:59 a	6:59 a	7:00 a	7:00 a	7:01 a
Sunset		8:07 p	8:07 p	8:06 p	8:05 p	8:04 p	8:03 p	8:02 p
Redfish Pass	Lo							
	Hi	3:51 a	4:08 a					7:10 a
	Lo	8:17 a	9:20 a	4:30 a	4:58 a	5:32 a	6:14 a	3:59 p
	Hi	3:06 p	4:04 p	10:27 a	11:39 a	1:01 p	2:31 p	
Punta Rassa	Lo	9:49 p	10:17 p	5:09 p	6:28 p	8:26 p		
	Lo							
	Hi	3:45 a	4:02 a					7:04 a
	Lo	8:12 a	9:15 a	4:25 a	4:53 a	5:27 a	6:09 a	3:54 p
Sanibel Light	Hi	3:00 p	3:58 p	10:21 a	11:33 a	12:55 p	2:25 p	
	Lo	9:44 p	10:12 p	5:04 p	6:23 p	8:21 p		
	Lo							
	Hi	2:56 a					5:19 a	6:15 a
Captiva (Outside)	Lo	8:19 a	3:13 a	3:35 a	4:03 a	4:37 a	2:33 p	4:01 p
	Hi	2:11 p	9:22 a	10:29 a	11:41 a	1:03 p		
	Lo	9:51 p	3:09 p	4:14 p	5:33 p	7:31 p		
	Lo							
Captiva (Outside)	Lo							
	Hi	2:26 a	2:43 a					5:45 a
	Lo	7:03 a	8:06 a	3:16 a	3:44 a	4:18 a	5:00 a	2:45 p
	Hi	1:41 p	2:39 p	9:02 a	10:14 a	11:36 a	1:06 p	
Captiva (Outside)	Lo	8:35 p	9:03 p	3:55 p	5:14 p	7:12 p		

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# Looking back: two years after Hurricane Charley

By LAURA BLASKOWITZ

lblaskowitz@breezenewspapers.com

Only two years after the devastation of Hurricane Charley, the City of Sanibel is back on track.

"Recovery is nearly complete, we are just about 100 percent. It is important to understand that recovery is not an event, it is a process that takes time and commitment," Ava Hinojosa, Director of Operations for the Sanibel-Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce explained. "Sanibel is very fortunate to have a community that has come together and has offered a variety of resources to help overcome our challenges."

On Friday Aug. 13, 2004 Hurricane Charley made landfall on Sanibel and Captiva. The category four storm brought with it savage winds over 138 miles per hour.

Hinojosa, who remained on the island with her husband and family, felt the intensity of the hurricane. "My mom and niece Jamie were visiting from California and experiencing Hurricane Charley with the howling winds and the sound of trees and pool cages falling was eerie for us. At one point I thought our roof was going to peel off."

Hinojosa and her family were fortunate not to suffer as much damage as others. She said, "We ended up faring well compared to most, but did have some damage and part of

our roof was compromised."

Two years later, Hinojosa looks on the bright side. "The storm forced our accommodation industry as well as some restaurants to refurbish and remodel their tired structures and many are looking better than ever," she explained. "With this and the addition to the new tree plantings along Periwinkle Way and Dunlop Road, yes, the vitality of the city is back."

Fire Department Chief Rich Dickerson feels good about the island's recovery from the catastrophic event. "Hats off to the City of Sanibel. I think it went pretty well considering. We've obviously been determined and bounced back."

While the many businesses and homes on the island are doing well two years later, Saint Isabel's Catholic Church on San-Cap Road is struggling to heal from the disastrous blows of Charley. Reverend Christopher Senk explained, "A large portion of the roof was blown off and it caused a failure of all of the inside-pews, floors, walls. We've had to re-do the entire worship space as well as the entire office space."

For Senk and members of his congregation, the battle to re-build has been difficult. "After Charley we thought after a year we would have the construction behind us," Senk said. "We are looking forward and filled with hope for the day we can have normalcy."



FILE PHOTO

Hurricane Charley damaged the roof of St. Isabel's Church to the point it had to be completely replaced.

Due to construction the church's space is limited. "So much of our social life came to a screeching halt," Senk explained.

Saint Isabel's looks to move into the rebuilt church space shortly after the new year.

The effect of the hurricane is not limited to the island. Hinojosa explained, "To this day, we still get calls at the Chamber's

Visitor Center from potential visitors asking if the island is open. There is so much misinformation circulating on a global basis which impacts the economy of our island community. One goal for the Chamber is to combat this negative press and invite guests to come see and enjoy the beauty that our island sanctuary offers."

## Punta Rassa from page 1

turn with their trucks and trailers."

The county is investigating whether it can make some improvements to one of the median openings east of the current Punta Rassa turn, before the traffic signal at Shell Point.

"We do believe this is feasible," Wingard wrote. "However, we do not intend to go any further with this option until the project is complete."

Brown called for the city attorney to draft a resolution stating Sanibel City Council's displeasure.

Brown said such a resolution would support the citizens and professionals on Sanibel who are going to be inconvenienced.

"I don't know what good it will do except show our support," he concluded.

Realtor Betsy Belbedia said she appreciated the council's resolution.

"That intersection is critical for the same reason they put a traffic light there in the early 1990s," Belbedia said. "At least one person died there and there were two extremely bad accidents. Unfortunately, the same thing will have to

happen again before the county will do something."

"Maybe the only way the county will listen to us is after a disaster," Vice-mayor Mick Denham said. "It's a very sad situation."

Belbedia said she is part of an active group at Punta Rassa and the Sanibel Harbour Resort. Mayor Carla Johnston suggested Belbedia and her group meet with county commissioners, Wingard, and the local media.

"The county is just immovable," Johnston said.

Wingard said once the causeway is completed, the county will evaluate the need for a place to make a U-turn, as well as the space needed for westbound cars waiting to go to Sanibel.

Those factors will enable the county to locate the expanded median opening as close to the toll plaza as possible without negatively impacting those waiting vehicles.

The new causeway's grand opening is tentatively scheduled for Jan. 27, 2007.

## Water from previous page.

to lose this most precious environmental and economic resource to the damaging effects of increased water releases from Lake Okeechobee.

Warren J. Wright  
Councilman Ward 1  
City of Fort Myers

Contact the following officials to voice your concerns about water releases:

Ms. Carole Wehle  
Executive Director  
So. Florida Water Management District  
Post Office Box 24680  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33416  
Phone: 561-686-8800  
Email: cwehle@sfwmd.gov

Colonel Robert M. Carpenter  
Commander  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Post Office Box 4970  
Jacksonville, Florida 32207  
Phone: 904-232-2241  
Email: Robert.m.carpenter@sajo2.usace.army.mil

Mr. Dennis Duke  
Chief of Restoration  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
701 San Marco Boulevard, 4th Floor  
Jacksonville, Florida 32207  
Phone: 904-232-2584  
Email: Dennis.R.Duke@sajo2.army.mil

Senator Bill Nelson  
United States Senate  
716 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
Phone: 202-224-5274

Governor Jeb Bush  
400 South Monroe Street  
The Capitol  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
Phone: 850-488-4441  
Email: jeb@myflorida.com

Mr. Pete Milam  
Project manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
701 San Marco Boulevard, 4th Floor  
Jacksonville, Florida 32207  
Phone: 904-232-3432  
Email: j.p.milam@sajo2usace.army.mil

Mr. Paul J. Woodley, Jr.  
Asst. Secretary of the Army for Civil Works  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
108 Army Pentagon, Room 3E446  
Washington, DC 20310  
Phone: 703-697-4672  
Email: Kathleen.mcglynn@hqda.army.mil

Senator Mel Martinez  
United States Senate  
317 Hart Senate Office Building  
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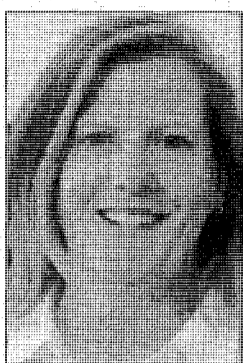
Island Styles Remodeling, Inc. is a Sanibel based business established to support the island community.

# Sarah Ashton tops marketing at RE/MAX

RE/MAX of the Islands proudly announces that Sarah Ashton was the most productive marketing Realtor with their firm in July. Prior to becoming a Realtor, Sarah spent the majority of her career in Financial Services in New York and Boston. She and her husband, Jim, have been island residents since 2001.

Art Corace, broker & owner of RE/MAX of the Islands commented, "Sarah just last month moved her business to RE/MAX and is off to a terrific start. She has been involved in the Sanibel community for several years and her clients appreciate her savvy approach to the real estate sales and marketing."

Sarah received her Bachelors degree in Economics from Drew University in



**Sarah Ashton**

Madison, NJ and has her MBA from Northeastern University in Boston. She is currently the President of the Sanibel & Captiva Islands chapter of the American Business Women's Association. Sarah is also currently serving on the Board of Directors for the Sanibel and Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce.

# Jennings on the mend

Joins council meeting by phone

By EMILIE ALFINO

edalfino@breezenewspapers.com

Councilman Jim Jennings, recovering from Aug. 1 open-heart surgery, participated in city council's Aug. 15 meeting via telephone, his voice sounding strong and cheerful.

"I want to thank my good friend [Councilman] Steve Brown," Jennings said. "I think without his very, very quick action, things might have turned out different. He saved my life."

"Don't forget it," Brown interjected, and the crowd laughed.

"There are so many people walking around that he has probably saved," Jennings continued.

He thanked his family, the city and his friends for their prayers and best wishes. "Everything's like a roller-coaster.



**Jim Jennings**

visited with Jennings and said he looks wonderful.

"It's amazing what a great recovery Jim is making," he said.

The lows aren't as low and the highs get higher," Jennings said of his recovery progress. "I'm bruised but not broken, and I'm back. I'm looking forward to doing the business of the citizens of Sanibel."

Brown reported he'd

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Sanibel Fire & Rescue District will be in Collective Bargaining with the Southwest Florida Professional Firefighters and Paramedics, Local 1826, I.A.F.F. on:

**MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2006 at 8:30 AM**

at Station One located at 2351 Palm Ridge Road, Sanibel, Florida.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the District at 239-472-5525 no later than one day prior to the proceeding. If hearing impaired, telephone the Florida Relay Service Numbers, 800-955-8711 (TDD) or 800-955-8770 (VOICE), for assistance.



## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Permitting Process Review Committee  
[a standing committee of the Sanibel Planning Commission]  
will conduct a public meeting on:

**Tuesday, August 22, 2006 at 8:00 A.M.**

at Sanibel City Hall in the Council Chambers (MacKenzie Hall), 800 Dunlop Road, Sanibel, Florida. The purpose of the meeting is to review the Permitting Process and make such recommendations as deemed appropriate for the amendment of the Land Development Code to improve the Permitting Process generally and specifically to achieve the goals of the Sanibel Plan.

ALL IN THE CITY OF SANIBEL, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

If a person decides to appeal a decision made by the Planning Commission on any matter considered at this meeting/hearing, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, to include the testimony and evidence upon which any such appeal is to be based.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Jim Isom, Administrative Services Director no later than one day prior to the proceeding. Telephone (239) 472-3700 for assistance. If hearing impaired, telephone the Florida Relay Service at 711 for assistance.



## PUBLIC NOTICE

### PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

The Sanibel Planning Commission  
will convene the regularly scheduled meeting on  
**Tuesday, August 22, 2006 at 9:00 A.M.**

Public participation is encouraged during the Planning Commission review of the *Sanibel Plan*:

- Section 3.6.2. Future Land Use
- Article 4. Official Maps

in preparation of the Evaluation and Appraisal Report-based Amendment to the *Sanibel Plan*.

- discussion of the preparation of Land Use Regulations clarifying that Beach Clubs are not permitted as Conditional Use Recreation Facilities.

**THE MEETING WILL BE  
CONDUCTED IN  
MACKENZIE HALL  
CITY HALL, 800 DUNLOP ROAD.  
THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME.**

The Planning Commission meeting agenda is posted on the City's bulletin board. It can be obtained at the Planning Department for no charge or accessed on the City Website at [www.mysanibel.com](http://www.mysanibel.com) after 4:00 p.m. the Friday before a scheduled meeting. Staff reports and other materials related to the Planning Commission agenda are available for \$.15/page from the Planning Department.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Jim Isom, Administrative Services Director no later than one day prior to the proceeding. Telephone (239) 472-3700 for assistance. If hearing impaired, telephone the Florida Relay Service at 711 for assistance.

# Arts for ACT

By KELSEY ANGSTADT

kangstadt@breezenewspapers.com

Lauren Hutton, actress and model, is to return to the 17th annual Arts for ACT auction Saturday, Aug. 19.

"We're very excited and so is she," Jennifer Benton, executive director of Abuse Counseling and Treatment Inc., said.

Hutton was the celebrity auctioneer in 2000 and returns this year to the same position. She will share auctioneer responsibilities with Craig Wolf, NBC2 anchor and Kelly Burns, NBC2 anchor.

Arts for ACT is the annual fund-raiser for the nonprofit Abuse Counseling and Treatment Inc. ACT provides shelter, counseling, advocacy, and information to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

The auction raised \$458,000 last year with Sharon Stone and Hutton is being put to the challenge to aid in raising the groups goal of more than \$500,000 this year. This goal is more than twice what she raised in her first experience as the celebrity auctioneer in 2000.

"It's a really exciting event and should be fun for everybody," Benton said.

With works by 61 artists, there is bound to be more than just fun for everyone, there should also be art for everyone. The pieces range from fun to formal, traditional paintings, a unique rood divider, clay and metal sculptures, even a seven foot giraffe named "George," according to the Arts for Act Gallery Web site. There are an estimated 125 art pieces to be auctioned, including works from the world renowned artists Robert Rauschenberg and James Rosenquist.

The Arts for ACT auction will be held at the Harborside Events Center in Fort Myers on Aug. 19. Tickets are available for \$75 before the event by contacting ACT at 939-2553. At the door, tickets will be available for \$85.

The evening will start with registration and a hor d'oeuvre reception at 5:30 p.m. The Silent Auction will follow registration from 5:30-7:45 p.m. with the Voice Auction starting at 7:30 p.m.

## Correction:

### PURRE response to SFWMD claims

There was an error in last week's article, "PURRE chairman responds to water district letter." In it, Michael Valiquette, chairman of People United to Restore our Rivers and Estuaries (PURRE), responded to a letter from South Florida Water Management District Executive Director Carol Ann Wehle.

The Everglades Agricultural Area reservoir will hold 62 billion gallons of water. We incorrectly stated that 250 million gallons of water were released into the Caloosahatchee during 2005. The number actually is much higher — 855 billion gallons.

"They dumped 855 billion gallons down the Caloosahatchee in 2005 alone," Valiquette. "That reservoir will fill up in 15 days."

We apologize for any confusion.

# Estuary improving, refuge the same

## Mayor urges public comment to Army Corps

By EMILIE ALFINO

ealfino@breezenewspapers.com

City Environmental Biologist James Evans reported on the state of the estuary at city council's Aug. 15 meeting.

"Sea grasses appear to be recovering, and there is a lot of new growth," Evans said. Faster-growing sea grass species are colonizing where other grasses have vanished, he said, still providing habitat.

"Over time, if conditions are good, [the original grasses] will come back," Evans predicted.

If conditions are good.

Evans also reported that the deeper grass beds still are covered with algae.

"There is still a lot of algae in the refuge," Evans said. "There are still large green mats of algae and green filamentous algae."

Fish activity is at a minimum there, he said, with virtually none of the once-plentiful mullet, and there are fewer wading birds as well.

The salinity in the estuary is good right now, as is the water clarity. "These are most likely the result of the lack of rain and discharges," Evans explained.

The matter of how water will be released from Lake Okeechobee in the future current is under review by the Army Corps of Engineers, with a public-comment period about to begin.

Evans attended the recent meeting of the Lake Okeechobee Regional Advisory Committee, where he said the majority of stakeholders, including agriculture, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, utilities, Caloosahatchee River advocates and others were unanimously against the Army Corps of Engineers' Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) for the

regulation of Lake Okeechobee releases.

The official comment period on the TSP begins Aug. 18 and lasts 45 days. Comments sent earlier than Aug. 18 may not be effective, and Mayor Carla Johnston urged people to re-send their comments.

"The lake regulation schedule for 2007 to 2010 that they are about to set within the next couple of months must be our first and top priority," Johnston stressed, "because it sets forth for the Army Corps of Engineers how much they are allowed to release down the Caloosahatchee. If they have a legal document that requires them to release water in excess of biologists' recommendations, we only have a harder battle. It's critical that we not let this one go by."

People should send their comments to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Project Manager Pete Milam at u.p.milam@saj02.usace.army.mil or by regular mail to him at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District, 701 San Marco Blvd., Jacksonville, FL 32207. The Web site is www.saj.usace.army.mil.

## Garcia from page 1

He earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. and a master's degree in urban planning from Simon Bolivar University in Caracas, Venezuela. Prior to his work on Sanibel, Garcia worked for the city of Houston, Texas.

Director of Public Works Gates Castle said, "It's been a pleasure to have Carlos work with me. He has great technical skills and also the personal side, where he gets along with everyone. The only problem I have with him is his hair didn't get as gray as mine did."

Johnston presented Garcia with a proclamation from the city and a gift. Garcia said, "I want to thank everybody, especially to my co-workers. We've really had a wonderful time. And I also want to say thank you to my boss, el jefe. We really had a good relationship. I hope I did my best."

Garcia received a standing ovation. "It's always a wonderful thing when somebody spends many years working for the city and then retires. And it's nice that it brings other employees to our meeting," explained Johnston.

Following his official retirement on Aug. 31, Garcia and his wife, Karen, plan to move to Fort Worth, Texas to be with their daughter.

## Happy Birthdays



Happy birthday to Leslie (47<sup>th</sup>) and Johnny (1<sup>st</sup>) from John Quillin (Daddy).

## Paths from page 1

get will be hashed out with the citizens of Sanibel, beginning with a public meeting Saturday, Sept. 9, at 9 a.m. — council gave staff direction on ways to fund the path improvements.

City staff suggested using funds from building permit revenue, the increase ad valorem revenue gained from increasing the proposed millage from 2.4801 to 2.5, some of the reserve set aside for various initiatives and contingencies and from the recreation center reserve, the first repayment to the general fund from the sewer system loan, and several other sources.

These suggestions will be spelled out in the budget document presented at the Sept. 9 public meeting.

Councilman Steve Brown didn't want to spent \$1.5 million in one year and suggested making the shared-use path improvements over two or three years.

Brown, returning to the meeting a little late after a break, said, "I was late because I was looking for my Santa Clause outfit at home. We don't have \$1.5 million!"

He stressed that spending that much on the shared-use path could take money away from other necessary projects on the city's agenda for the upcoming year.

Mayor Carla Johnston pointed out that spreading out the project over two or three years would involve increased costs in the second and third years, estimated by Public Works Director Gates Castle at about \$75,000 in each delayed year.

Vice-mayor Mick Denham suggested other places to find money in the city budget that might be more acceptable and would result in more money being available for other city initiatives.

His suggestion to reduce the disaster budget, though, was rejected. Zimomra reminded council it isn't just a hurricane fund but is there for all disasters, including storms that don't meet federal standards, a collapsed culvert, or any other emergency.

Ultimately, council directed staff to rework the money sources for the shared-use-path improvements, leaving the disaster fund whole and \$750,000 remaining for other city initiatives.

### Dunlop, Bowman's Beach Rds to be prototypes

The city has selected two locations to be prototypes for the expansion of the shared-use path system.

Dunlop Road and Bowman's Beach Road will be used to develop conceptual plans for two future shared-use paths.

Castle said they were selected in part because they are

so different.

"Dunlop is a winding road and not very well suited to mixing cars and bikes," he explained. It also includes destinations that would make it a popular path for walkers and cyclists, including the library, City Hall, BIG ARTS, and the Historic Village and Museum.

Bowman's Beach Road, on the other hand, is straight with little vegetation and one destination, Bowman's Beach Park.

"This location has been in the beach parking budget for several years now but never was done," Castle said. "There has been a lot of discussion of these sites over the years."

One site suggested by the Parks and Recreation Committee, but rejected by the Public Works Department, was the portion of Bailey Road from Periwinkle Way to Sand Castle Road. Castle said a shared-use path for that segment of road already has been designed and there is no need for a consultant to work on it.

A public workshop regarding the Shared-Use Path Master Plan Update will be held Nov. 14.

### City, Fire District to study flexible delineators

City council voted to leave it to the Public Works Department and Sanibel Fire & Rescue District to study four areas on Periwinkle Way where the Fire District says the flexible delineators along the shared-use path would interfere with the passage of emergency vehicles.

Those four areas are in front of Huxter's, Sanibel Steakhouse, Trader's, and the Island Cow.

"The Fire District has identified these areas as problems for emergency vehicles to get through," Castle explained. "There are either vegetation, signs or ditches. Staff is willing to work with the Fire District to either relocate signs or remove the delineators to make the fire department comfortable with the situation."

"I think this is a very reasonable approach, rather than taking down all the delineators," Councilman Tom Rothman said.

Mayor Carla Johnston said she would support whatever Castle and the Fire District come up with together.

"Hopefully it will satisfy both safety concerns," Johnston said.

The city voted unanimously to repeal the resolution allowing the city to acquire through eminent domain property necessary to construct a "bypass" behind businesses on Periwinkle Way.

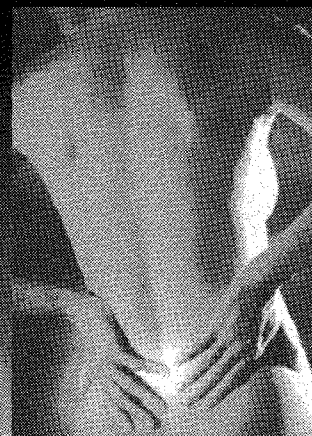
For more council decisions, see page 16.



LAURA BLASKOWITZ

As Assistant City Engineer in the Public Works Department for 16 years, Carlos Garcia, with help from his wife Karen, receives a City of Sanibel Proclamation to honor his retirement.

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## Remove lower branches from your mango tree

Dear Ron:

We had a 40- to 50-foot-tall mango tree before Hurricane Charley hit. It is now about half that size. This year the tree grew lots of branches

along the trunk of the tree, practically down to the ground. And we got loads of mangos. Can we remove the lowest branches to about six feet above the ground without causing damage to the tree? (Talk about low-hanging fruit, the raccoons have enjoyed the season!)

Ann and Dan  
Sanibel



Island  
Gardening  
Ron Simpson

one with a porous potting soil.

The orange bird of paradise (*Strelitzia reginae*) and white bird of paradise (*Strelitzia nicolai*) are native to South Africa and can be planted outdoors in zones 9B-11. They are not salt-tolerant.

### Replanted hibiscus may have suffered root damage

Dear Ron:

Since 2002 I have had a hibiscus in my front yard and it is my pride and joy. The hurricanes of '04 and '05 caused the plant to become partially uprooted, but I restaked it and the plant continued to have gorgeous flowers for a while.

This spring only occasional flowers have sprouted and most of the buds appear shriveled. The plant appears sick. Help!

Bobbi Mathis  
Fort Myers Beach

Dear Bobbi:

There may have been some damage to the roots during the replanting process and this could be depriving your hibiscus of adequate water and nutrients. I suggest you trim your plant by about one-quarter, then dig a trench around the rootball.

Make it about 1-foot wide and 1-foot deep and deep and fill it with soil that has been incorporated with peat moss and composted cow manure. This will provide the enriched soil and good drainage necessary for the growth of healthy new roots.

Watering in a root stimulator may also help. And you should feed your plant at least three times a year, from March through October, with an acid-forming fertilizer — such as one labeled for ixoras, azaleas or palm trees.

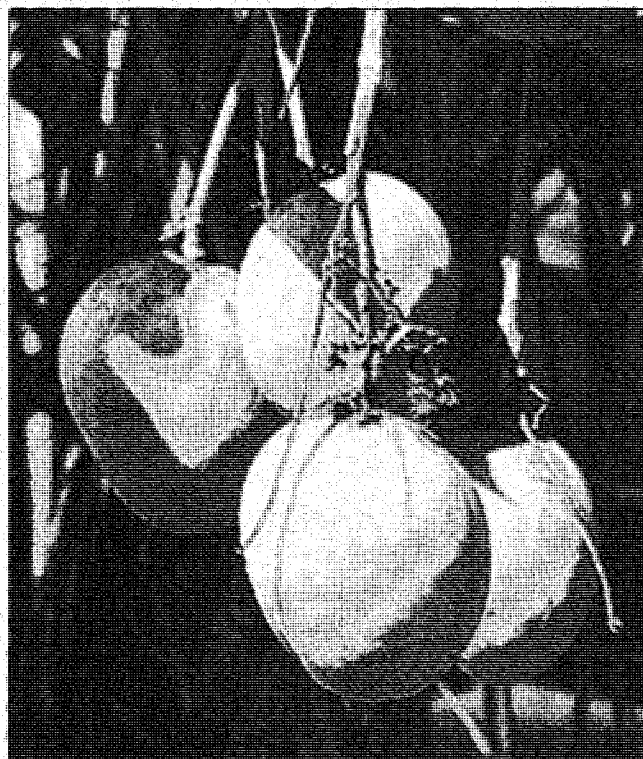
The hibiscus (*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*) is native to China, recommended for zones 9-11 and is slightly salt-tolerant.

### Dig out the invasive asparagus ferns

Dear Ron:

We have a hedge in front of our house and I have noticed a lot of asparagus fern cropping up in it. What is the best way to get rid of the fern?

Jim Morgan  
Matlacha



RON SYMPSON

Mango fruit

Dear Jim:

Because the small white storage bulbs that dangle from the roots of asparagus ferns are very stubborn, digging them out is the only safe way to eradicate the plants. Using a herbicide would likely damage or kill the plants in your hedge.

Asparagus fern (*Asparagus aethiopicus*, *sprengeri* or *densiflorus*), is a category 1 invasive exotic and should never be planted.

Ron Simpson is a landscape designer and consultant. You can send e-mails to [ronsimpson@aol.com](mailto:ronsimpson@aol.com); or write to 11691 Dawn Cowrie Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33908.

Dear Ann and Dan:

Mango trees are very susceptible to breakage during high winds, so it would be wise to trim the lower branches. This will help form a solid trunk and will strengthen the tree.

The mango (*Mangifera indica*) is native to India and Burma, recommended for zones 10, 11 and southernmost 9B, and is moderately salt-tolerant.

### Repot your root-bound bird of paradise

Dear Ron:

When we moved to our house in January there was a bird of paradise plant in a pot, rather pot-bound. I feed it regularly and try to remember to water it, but it has not flowered yet. What's the story with this plant?

Colleen E.  
Cape Coral

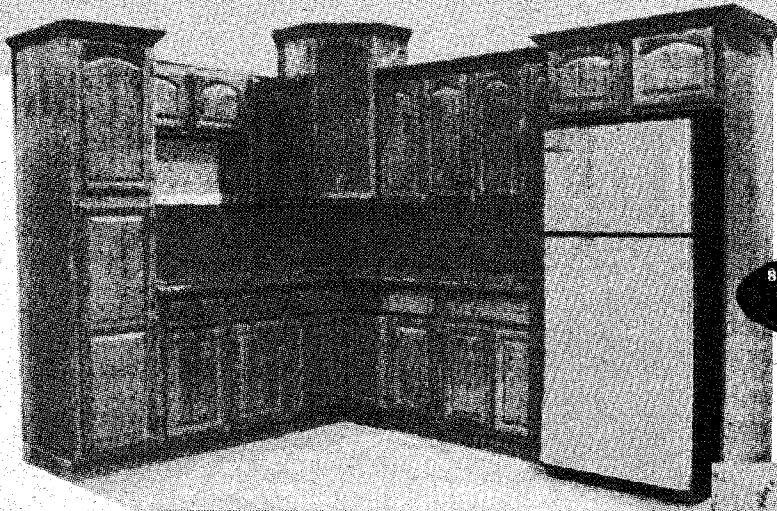
Dear Colleen:

It can take several years before blooms are produced on a bird of paradise, usually in late summer. Once an immature flower emerges, it can take a few months before the bloom opens. To help it along, your bird should be placed in an area that provides full sun during part of the day for optimum flowering, and shade during part of the day to keeps its leaves green.

Birds of paradise are hungry horticultural critters, and during the first few years, they should be fed monthly during the spring and summer months with an acid-forming fertilizer.

Water your plant weekly in the absence of rain. You should also repot your plant. Gently loosen the root ball and place it in a new container slightly larger than the present

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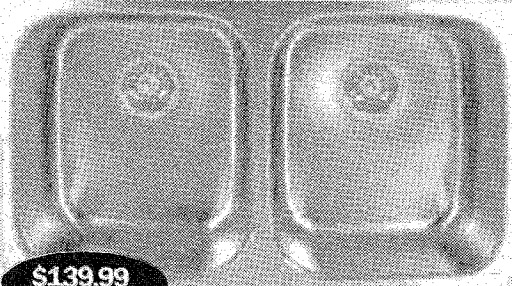
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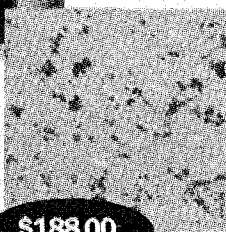
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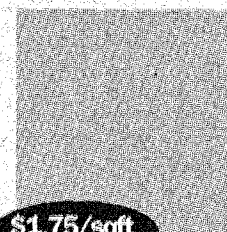
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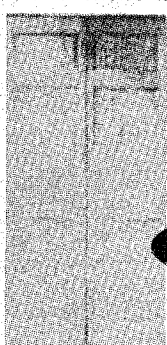
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**EARLY BIRDS \$9.95**

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 SHRIMP AND CRAB PLATTERS  
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 16 Different Award-Winning  
 Jumbo Shrimp Dinners  
 Tavern Menu Available

DINNER SERVED 4:45 - 10:00 PM  
 TAVERN OPEN 4:00 - 10:30 AM

1523 PERIWINKLE WAY SANIBEL ISLAND

## ISLANDS CONTEST RULES

apers office, located at 2340 Periwinkle Way, Unit K1,  
 tember 5, 2006.

be counted.  
 ne along with place of employment.

## ISLANDS CONTEST LOT

PHONE:

ants Cont'd

Shopping

- Art Gallery
- Bakery
- Book Store
- Children's Clothing
- Consignment/Thrift Store
- Craft Shop
- Florist
- Furniture
- Gift Shop
- Home Interior
- Jewelry
- Liquor Store
- Men's Clothing
- Shoe Store
- Shell Shop
- Swimwear
- Women's Clothing

Continued On Other Side

**Sanibel Island Bookshop**  
 A Great Place To Be Stranded

new releases • best sellers • special orders • classics • coffee table  
 books • nature & maritime • children's room • local fiction •  
 new age • poetry • gifts • large card selection

472-5223

1571 Periwinkle Way • across from Jerry's at Casa Ybel Rd.

**Dining - Shopping**  
**TRADERS**

Cocktails, Fine Wines & Select Beers  
 LUNCH • HAPPY HOUR • DINNER  
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 Chef Michael Patnode

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 Shopping Center  
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 uters • Golf Clubs  
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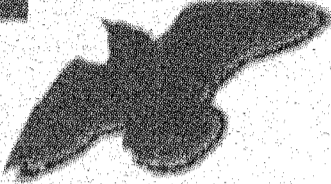
JASON R. MAUGHAN, P.A.

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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## 2006 BEST of THE ISLA

1. Limit one ballot per person.
2. All ballots must be delivered to the Breeze Newspaper, Sanibel, FL., 33957. Mail or drop off ballots by Sep
3. No faxes or reproduced ballots will be accepted.
4. Ballots must have 50 or more spaces completed to
5. When naming an individual, include first & last name

## 2006 BEST of THE I BAL

Continued From Other Side

### Beauty & Wellness

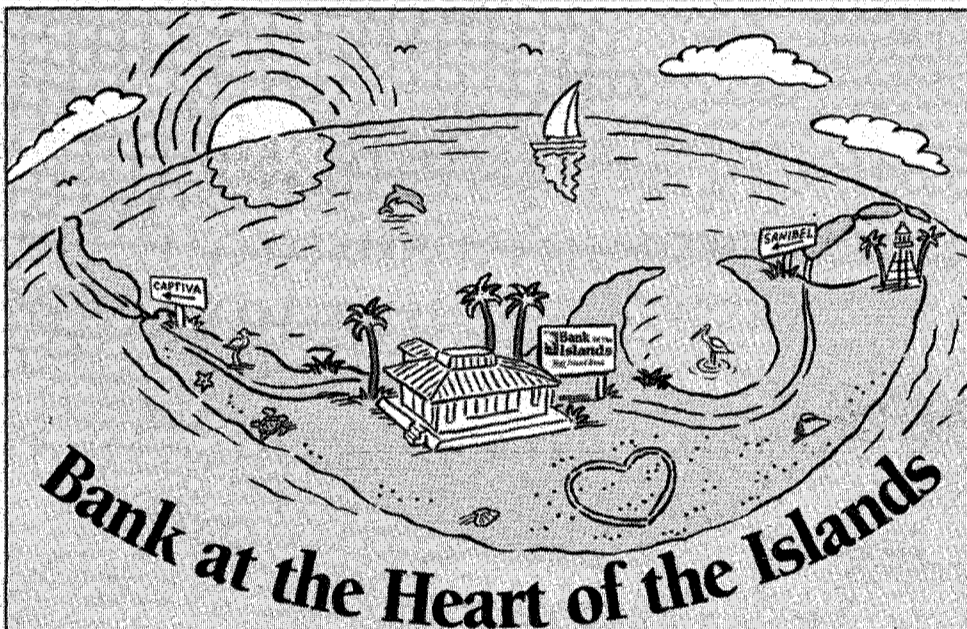
Chiropractic \_\_\_\_\_  
Day Spa \_\_\_\_\_  
Dentist \_\_\_\_\_  
Family Practitioner \_\_\_\_\_  
Hair Salon/Barber \_\_\_\_\_  
Manicure/Pedicure \_\_\_\_\_  
Massage Therapist \_\_\_\_\_  
Medical Center \_\_\_\_\_  
Optometrist \_\_\_\_\_  
Pharmacy \_\_\_\_\_  
Physiatrist \_\_\_\_\_

### Service

Accountant \_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney \_\_\_\_\_  
Auto Service \_\_\_\_\_  
Bank \_\_\_\_\_  
Builder \_\_\_\_\_  
Computer Services \_\_\_\_\_

### Service

Electrician \_\_\_\_\_  
Financial Service \_\_\_\_\_  
Fishing Guide \_\_\_\_\_  
Heating & Air Cond \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Improvement \_\_\_\_\_  
House Cleaning Se \_\_\_\_\_  
Hotel/Inn \_\_\_\_\_  
Interior Design \_\_\_\_\_  
Landscape Contrac \_\_\_\_\_  
Lawn Service \_\_\_\_\_  
Marina \_\_\_\_\_  
Plumber \_\_\_\_\_  
Pool Service \_\_\_\_\_  
Printer \_\_\_\_\_  
Trust Company \_\_\_\_\_



Located at the heart of Sanibel, Bank Of The Islands takes pride in combining the highest level of banking services with a heartfelt commitment to our community.

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We invite you to stop by the bank to join the "We Love Our Islands" program, supporting our local non-profit organizations.

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Islands**  
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Corner of Periwinkle Way and Casa Ybel Road  
(239) 472-7211

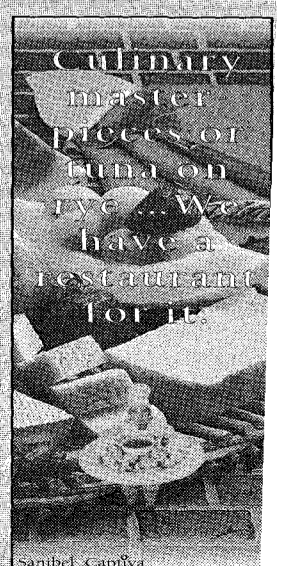


# OF COMPLETED SPACES \_\_\_\_\_

~ BREEZE NEWSPAP  
COUNTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



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*Voted Next to the Best Gift Store  
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 email [decdensanibel@earthlink.net](mailto:decdensanibel@earthlink.net)

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# IDS CONTEST RULES

rs office, located at 2340 Periwinkle Way, Unit K1,  
 umber 5, 2006.

counted.  
 along with place of employment.

# LANDS CONTEST LOT

**Real Estate**

Mortgage Broker/Agency \_\_\_\_\_  
 Property Management \_\_\_\_\_  
 Real Estate Agent \_\_\_\_\_  
 Real Estate Agency \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title Company \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vacation Rental \_\_\_\_\_

**The People**

Citizen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fireman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Police Officer \_\_\_\_\_  
 Service Organization/Club \_\_\_\_\_  
 Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

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 VP, Branch Manager

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**Live Shelling Restriction**  
 Florida law prohibits the taking of live shells on Sanibel Island to conserve this precious marine resource.



VOTE FOR  
**THE DUNES**  
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It's a testament to our commitment.

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Eat, Drink & Be Merry...  
Bring the Kids Too!

Featuring Pizza, Mexican Dishes & Outstanding Seafood!  
Voted "Best Island Dessert" 2006  
Visit Our Pool & Game Room  
The Back Room Bar Open 'til 1 a.m.  
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Corals & Exotic Sea life  
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**20% OFF**  
any single item  
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Shell Shop In SW Florida  
News Press Readers Poll  
2000 thru 2005

Winner - Best Shell Shop  
Island Reporter  
Readers Poll  
2000 thru 2005

## 2006 BEST of THE ISL

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3. No faxes or reproduced ballots will be accepted
4. Ballots must have 50 or more spaces complete
5. When naming an individual, include first & last

## 2006 BEST of THE BAL

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

### Dining & Nightlife

Bar \_\_\_\_\_  
Chef \_\_\_\_\_  
Bartender \_\_\_\_\_  
Deli \_\_\_\_\_  
Happy Hour \_\_\_\_\_  
Ice Cream \_\_\_\_\_  
Local Entertainer \_\_\_\_\_  
Pizza \_\_\_\_\_  
Place for dancing \_\_\_\_\_  
Place for entertainment \_\_\_\_\_  
Place to watch the game \_\_\_\_\_  
Waiter/Waitress \_\_\_\_\_

### Best Rest

Seafood \_\_\_\_\_  
Steak \_\_\_\_\_  
"To Go"/Fast Food \_\_\_\_\_  
Wine Selection \_\_\_\_\_  
Local Artist \_\_\_\_\_  
Actor \_\_\_\_\_  
Actress \_\_\_\_\_  
Photographer \_\_\_\_\_  
Museum \_\_\_\_\_  
Theater \_\_\_\_\_

### Best Restaurants

Breakfast \_\_\_\_\_  
Dessert \_\_\_\_\_  
Dinner \_\_\_\_\_  
Family Dining \_\_\_\_\_  
Fine Dining \_\_\_\_\_  
Lunch \_\_\_\_\_  
Romantic Dinner \_\_\_\_\_

### Out

Bike Path (nicest spot) \_\_\_\_\_  
Golf Course \_\_\_\_\_  
Island Event \_\_\_\_\_  
Place to Canoe/Kayak \_\_\_\_\_  
Place for Family \_\_\_\_\_  
Place for Shelling \_\_\_\_\_  
Tennis Courts \_\_\_\_\_  
Watersports \_\_\_\_\_

Voted Best Restaurant for  
a "Romantic Dinner" 2005

**DOLCE VITA**  
A Taste Of World Cuisine

1244 Periwinkle Way  
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**FINE DINING ON THE ISLAND**

VOTE FOR US!!

VOTED  
ISLAND'S BEST  
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2005

**OVER EASY CAFE**

OPEN  
7 am - 2:30 pm  
7 Days a Week  
Open For Dinner  
In Season

**BREAKFAST:**  
- 6 Varieties of Eggs Benedict  
- 9 Omelet Choices

**LUNCH:**  
Many Local Favorites  
Including...  
- Summer Salad  
- Avocado-Bacon Swiss Burger  
- Waldorf Chicken Salad Wrap  
- Mahi Mahi Sandwich

**GRAND'S MENU**  
**OLDE SANIBEL SHOPPES**  
Corner of Tarpon Bay &  
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**SEAFOOD • STEAK • SPIRITS**  
Serving Dinner Daily  
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## My visit to Sanibel Dazzling.

It was a stormy summer afternoon when Eric and I dashed through the rain into Lily & Co. He said it was a good place to wait for the weather to pass, but I knew what he had in mind. My birthday was a few weeks away. A half-hour later the sun was shining and we left. I didn't know, but he had the most gorgeous pair of earrings I've ever seen—tucked in his pocket and secure in their soft Lily's box. Oh, how I love that man.

**LILY Co.**  
JEWELRY GALLERY  
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Earrings | Magick Collection

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Karen Bell  
Dan Schuyler  
Lily



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

◆

AUG. 18 - 24, 2006

FRI 18	SAT 19	SUN 20	MON 21	TUE 22	WED 23	THU 24
-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------

**SENIOR CENTER**  
2401 Library Way  
**Aerobics** 9 a.m.

**SHELLCRAFTERS**  
Sanibel Community House  
2173 Periwinkle Way  
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
every Monday

**MIAMI DOLPHINS MEXHIBIT**  
Southwest Florida Museum of History  
2300 Peck St. Ft. Myers  
Take a journey through the 41-year history of the Miami Dolphins and see memorabilia, photographs and artifacts from 1966 to the present. Info: 332-5955  
Runs through Sept. 10

**GOURMET SINGLES**  
Meeting every Friday at some of the finest restaurants on Sanibel, Captiva and surrounding areas. An upscale climate for singles to dine, meet and mingle. For information call 332-8191.

**TOPS (TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY)**  
meets at Zion Lutheran Church, Winkler at Gladiolus, every Friday. Weigh-in 9:30, meeting 10:30am. Call 1-800-YEA TOPS.

**RIDE WITH US!** The Sanibel Bicycle Club meets for a ride starting at the Holiday Inn on Middle Gulf Drive at Donax every Sat. at 7:30 a.m. Cyclists must wear helmets.

**ARTS FOR ACT FINE ART AUCTION**  
Harborside Event Center  
1375 Monroe St. Fort Myers  
Lauren Hutton will host the event where more than 125 pieces of art-work will be up for bid in either silent or live auctions, including work by world-renowned artist, Robert Rauschenberg, and international artists, Darryl Pottorf and Greg Biolchini. Proceeds to benefit ACT (Abuse Counseling and Treatment Inc.), a non-profit agency providing shelter, 24-hour hotline, counseling and education to victims of domestic violence and their families.  
5:30-11 p.m.  
Fees: \$75. Reservations are recommended  
Info: 939-2553

**KAYAKING** launches **TUESDAY** at 8 a.m. (time and location determined by kayak leader. Bring water and a small snack, change of clothing (in case you get wet) sun & bug lotion, sunglasses and a hat.  
All kayakers, including those with personal kayaks, are requested to meet at the Senior Center on Library Way.  
\$2 for members / \$4 non-members  
Info: 472-5743



**ISLAND WORSHIP**  
See next page for details on services around the islands.  
**KAYAK TOUR** on the Orange River  
Manatee Park  
S.R. 80, 1½ miles east of I-75 Exit 141 Fort Myers  
Learn about the birds, plants and other critters that call the river home  
10-2 a.m.  
\$45 per person. Reservations required  
Info: 694-5513  
**HOT LATIN NIGHTS**  
Asylum Fitness  
13211 McGregor Blvd. Fort Myers  
One hour of salsa dance instruction, live DJ, open dancing, and refreshments 4-7 p.m.  
\$6 for members or \$8 for non-members  
Info: 334-3782 or talababy2@juno.com

**SENIOR CENTER**  
2401 Library Way  
**Aerobics** 9 a.m.  
**Bridge** 1 p.m.

**SHELLCRAFTERS**  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Monday at the Community House on Periwinkle.

**PICKIN' AND GRINNIN'** on Pine Island  
Greater Pine Island Elks BPOE #2781 Lodge, 5630 Pine Island Rd. Pineland. 283-4388  
All bluegrass, country and old-time gospel musicians are invited to bring traditional acoustic instruments and join in at no cost. Refreshments available. 6-9 p.m. Mondays; doors open at 5 p.m. Open to everyone. Info: 994-2817

**FALL ART CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS**  
Alliance for the Arts  
10091 McGregor Blvd. Fort Myers  
Painting, drawing, jewelry, acting, dance and more are offered for youth and adults through Dec. 18  
Fees vary. Call 939-2787 or visit artinlee.org for a complete listing

**SENIOR CENTER**  
2401 Library Way  
472-5743  
**Kayak** 8 a.m.

**PILATES MAT CLASS**  
Sanibel Fitness Center  
975 Rabbit Road  
4 p.m. with Holly Maiz, MA, DTR, CAP, LPC  
Info: 898-1047

**READING IN THE REFUGE** program enlightens, entertains kids  
To keep elementary-aged children environmentally engaged and learning-active over the summer months, "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society (DDWS) brings back its "Reading in the Refuge" program every Tuesday at 10 a.m., now through August.  
For details call Park Ranger Toni Westland at 472-1100 ext. 236.

**SW FLORIDA SYMPHONY CHORUS AUDITIONS FOR 2006-07**  
The Southwest Florida Symphony Chorus, under the direction of Joseph Caulkins, are holding auditions for open positions in the Symphony Chorus and new members in the Children's Chorus on Saturday, August 19 from 9 a.m. to noon and Monday, August 21 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Fort Myers.  
Auditions are 10 minutes and those auditioning should bring a prepared classical or pop vocal selection with sheet music, be prepared to sing scales, and sight sing (adults only).  
Auditions are by appointment only by calling the Southwest Florida Symphony office at 418-0996.

**SENIOR CENTER**  
2401 Library Way  
472-5743  
**Aerobics** 9 a.m.

**SOLAR OBSERVING**  
Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium  
3450 Ortiz Ave., Ft. Myers  
View the sun through a filtered telescope, weather permitting  
11:30 a.m.  
\$8 for adults  
\$5 for children 3-12  
Info: 275-3435

**HEALTHY CHOICES COOKING CLASS**  
Blue Pepper Gourmet Market and Cafe  
7091 College Parkway Fort Myers  
Reservations required  
5:30 p.m. \$40 / person  
Info: 936-5093

**SOLAR OBSERVING**  
Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium  
3450 Ortiz Ave. Fort Myers 11:30 a.m.  
View the sun through a filtered telescope, weather permitting  
\$8 for adults, \$5 for children 3-12  
Info: 275-3435

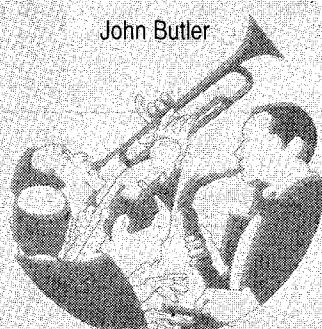


**SENIOR CENTER**  
2401 Library Way  
472-5743  
**Bridge** 1 p.m.  
**Mah Jong** 1 p.m.

**PILATES MAT CLASS**  
Sanibel Fitness Center  
975 Rabbit Road  
4 p.m. with Holly Maiz, MA, DTR, CAP, LPC  
Info: 898-1047

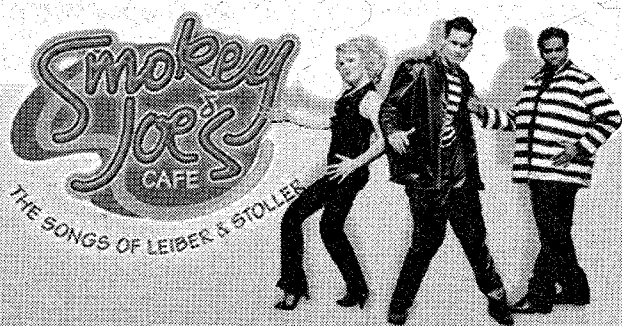
**COMING SOON**  
**YOUTH IN SEARCH OF A CURE CONCERT 2006 6 P.M.**  
**FRIDAY, AUG. 25**  
Harborside Event Ctr. 1375 Monroe St., Fort Myers  
Help to reinforce the education among the youth on the means in which to prevent AIDS. Benefits the AIDS Resource Council of Southwest Florida  
\$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. Bring a toy and receive a \$5 discount at the door  
Info: 298-1309 or unifiedhearts.com or e-mail unifiedhearts@gmail.com

ENTERTAINMENT ON THE ISLANDS							
	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
<b>JACARANDA</b> 1223 Periwinkle Way 472-1771	Renata 8:30 to 12:30 rock, jazz, contemp.	Renata 8:30 to 12:30	Trevor 8:30 to 12:30 Reggae, dance	Renata 8:30 to 12:30 Jazz, dance	Eric Malibu 8:30 to 12:30 Contmp, funk, dance	Trevor 8:30 to 12:30 Reggae, dance	Renata 8:30 to 12:30 Jazz, dance
<b>RC OTTER'S</b> 11596 Andy Rosse Ln 395-1142	Chris Workman Pat McCune	Royce Allgood Harold Mitchem	Harold Mitchem Pat McCune	Harold Mitchem Pat McCune	Bruce Stuhldreher Bruce Stuhldreher	Royce Allgood Chris Workman	Noble Hochmeister Noble Hochmeister
<b>KEYLINE BISTRO</b> 11509 Andy Rosse Ln 395-4000	Noble Holchmeister Noble Holchmeister	Chris Workman Pat McCune	Mark Vee Chris Workman	Bruce Stuhldreher Bruce Stuhldreher	Mark Vee Pat McCune	Harold Mitchem Mark Vee	Bob Bowman Bob Bowman
<b>ELLINGTON'S JAZZ</b> 937 East Gulf Dr 337-5299	Piano, bass, drums Dan Miller - Trumpet Patty Greer - Vocalist	Piano, bass, drums Dan Miller - Trumpet Patty Greer - Vocalist	Piano, bass, drums Dan Miller - Trumpet Dan Sinoff - Piano	Piano & Vocals Tim Ruger - Drums Jay Heavelin - Bass	Piano & Vocals Tim Ruger - Drums Jay Heavelin - Bass	Piano, bass, drums (changes)	
<b>DOLCE VITA</b> 1224 Periwinkle Way 472-5555	Joe McCormick & Marvilla Apointe Broadway, Pop, Dance 7 p.m. 'til close	Joe McCormick & Marvilla Apointe Broadway, Pop, Dance Disco, R & B 7 p.m. 'til close	Joe McCormick & Marvilla Apointe Broadway, Pop, Dance Disco, R & B 6:30 p.m. 'til close	Woody Brubaker's One Man Band Piano/Sax/Vocals Popular Dance 6:30 p.m. 'til close	Woody Brubaker's One Man Band Piano/Sax/Vocals Popular Dance 6:30 p.m. 'til close	Joe McCormick's Classic Piano Lounge Sinatra, Billy Joel, Elvis, Jerry Lee, Elvis 6:30 'til close	Joe McCormick's Classic Piano Lounge Sinatra, Billy Joel, Elvis, Jerry Lee, Elvis 6:30 'til close
<b>THE ISLAND COW</b> Nightly 6 - 9:30 pm 2163 Periwinkle Way	Greg Watts 395-0606	Diana McQuirt	Greg Watts	Jeff Key	Vinny Jacobs	Jeff Key	Jeff Key
<b>THE MUCKY DUCK</b> Music daily 4:30 - 8:30 pm Andy Rosse Lane 472-3434	John Butler	John Butler		John Butler	Greg Watts	Mark Dupuy	John Butler
<b>TRADERS</b> Tues & Thurs 8 - 11 pm 1551 Periwinkle Way	472-7242						
<b>SUNDIAL RESORT</b> 1451 Middle Gulf Dr 472-4151	Diana McQuirt	Danny Morgan 1 - 4 p.m.	Danny Morgan 1 - 4 p.m.		Danny Morgan and Friends		Danny Morgan and Friends



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR ♦ Aug. 18 - 24, 2006

## ON STAGE



For more information on this and other events happening at BIG ARTS, call (239) 395-0900.

**SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE**  
and the songs of Leiber and Stoller take center stage at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre beginning August 17th with good old-fashioned rock n' roll. Features 40 of the greatest oldies ever recorded including 'Stand By Me,' 'Hound Dog,' 'On Broadway,' 'Jailhouse Rock,' 'Yakety Yak,' and many more.

## ON EXHIBIT

### BIG ARTS MEMBERS' SUMMER ART EXHIBIT

BIG ARTS Member's Annual Summer Exhibit is now showing in Founders Gallery at BIG ARTS. This show features a captivating collection of wonderful raku, acrylic, batik, clay, watercolor, mixed media, collage, oil, and pottery pieces - from refined to whimsical.

Gallery hours are 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday - Friday. Exhibit runs now through August 30. All artwork from this exhibit may be purchased directly off the wall or pedestal and priced at \$250 and under.

This exhibit is joined by the Sanibel Christian Homeschoolers. Students aging from 10 through 17 are represented through artwork in a variety of mediums.

### ART BY THE DISABLED HealthPark Medical Center

9981 S. Health Park Drive  
South Fort Myers  
Gallery is open to the public 24 hours a day. 334-5633

## THROUGH THE MONTH

### SANIBEL-CAPTIVA CONSERVATION FOUNDATION SCCF

is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of natural resources and wildlife habitat on and around Sanibel and Captiva through: Land Acquisition, Wildlife habitat Management, Landscaping for Wildlife, Environmental Education, Marine Laboratory and Research and Sea Turtle Monitoring.

**DOLPHIN & WILDLIFE CRUISES** - In cooperation with Captiva Cruises, an excellent opportunity for the whole family to view wildlife in Pine island sound. \$20/adult, \$12.50/children. Reservations call 472-5300.

**OTTERS AND OTHERS: GUIDED TRAIL WALKS** - Tues, Wed. & Fri. at 9 a.m.

Meet at SCCF's Nature Center. Docent-led walk through the interior wetlands and mid-island ridges of SCCF's Center Tract with discussion of wildlife, native habitats, natural and cultural history, and preservation efforts.

\$3 entrance fee for adult non-members

**TURTLE TRACKS** - Learn about the life cycles and habits of the sea turtles that nest on our beaches as well as other local marine life.

Program begins at the Conservation Foundation's Nature Center and marine touch tank and then proceeds to a beach site. Thursdays at 9 a.m. \$3/adult, free for children, beach parking fee approximately \$2.

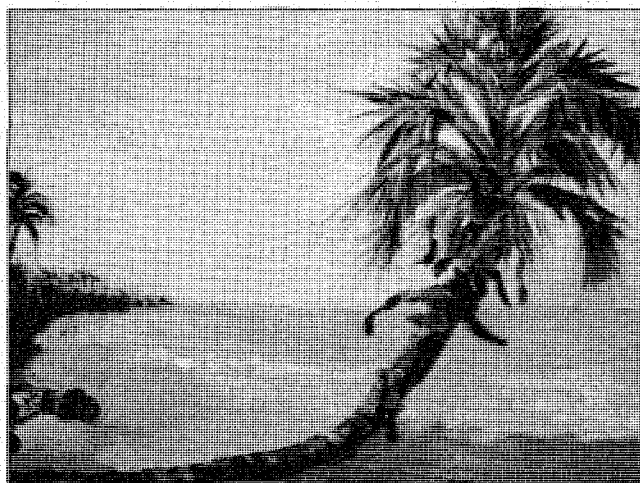
**BUTTERFLY HOUSE** - Learn about the life cycle and behavior of Florida's butterflies and the plants they are dependent on. The Butterfly House is open every day with Conservation Foundation docents in the house on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. to inform you on butterfly life cycles and our Landscaping for Wildlife program.

**NATURE CENTER**, Nature Trails, Nature Center, Nature Shop and Bookstore open 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. \$3/adult, children free and members free.

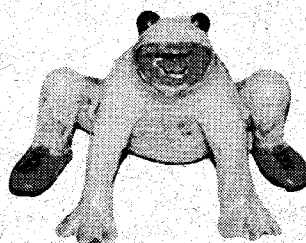
### TARPON BAY EXPLORERS TOURS

For reservations, locations, and specific times, call 472-8900.

**TRAM TOUR** Protect Wildlife and Take the Tram! Join a naturalist aboard an open-air tram for a tour of Wildlife Drive through the heart of the refuge. Sit back and relax while learning the basics of the ecosystem and its numerous inhabitants. Daily except Fridays. (1½ hours)



"Lonely Island" an acrylic by Gloria Krekel. Part of the members exhibit at BIG ARTS through Aug. 30.



"I Love My Jumps" Clay by Jerry Churchill at BIG ARTS through Aug. 30.

### NATURE & SEA LIFE CRUISE

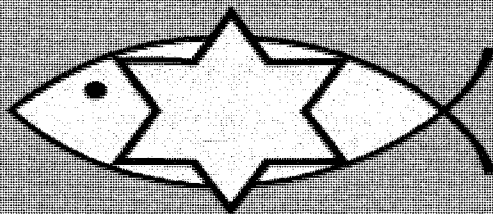
See wildlife up close while cruising the tranquil waters of Tarpon Bay. With a naturalist by your side, discover manatees and dolphins and observe amazing bird life on the rookery islands. Includes touch tank exploration. An excellent program for all ages. And don't forget our popular Breakfast and Evening cruises too! (Daytime, 1½ hours; Evening, 2 hours)

### GUIDED KAYAK TRAIL TOUR

Paddle with a naturalist through the mangrove forest along the Commodore Creek Canoe Trail. Learn about the rich back bay ecosystem and the creatures who live there. Includes kayak rental for the entire day. Daily. (1½ hours)

## VOLUNTEERS

### F.I.S.H.



We are volunteers who care about our neighbors and community. We provide help in several ways:

- Lend wheelchairs and other healthcare equipment
- Meal delivery to house-bound patients
- Transportation to medical appointments
- Visits, companionship, encouragement
- Health referrals and help with medical record-keeping

Join us - call 472-0404

## NEEDED

## ISLAND WORSHIP

**BAT-YAM TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS**, Shabbat worship services will be held at the Sanibel Congregational United Church at 2050 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel every Friday evening at 8 p.m. Rabbi Murray Saltzman. Call 395-3156.

**SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH**, 1740 Periwinkle Way, 472-2684. Dr. Daryl Donovan, Senior Pastor; Ed VanderHey, Associate Pastor; Barb Nave, Ministry Pastor; Tom Walsh, Youth Pastor; Emily Capan, Children's Director. Childcare available at all services. Sanibel Community Church is a Christ-centered non-denominational church. Sunday worship hours:

- 8 a.m. Traditional Service with Communion
- 9 a.m. Contemporary Service with Kids' Church
- 10:45 a.m. Traditional service with full choir.

**SANIBEL CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**, 2050 Periwinkle Way Across from Periwinkle Place Shopping Ctr. Dr. Ran Niehoff, Sr. Minister. Drs. Jim and Sandy Boler, Associate Ministers. Sunday worship:

10 a.m. (full service with Sunday School) Elevators for easy access to sanctuary. Church office open Monday-Friday 472-0497 also see [www.sanibelucc.org](http://www.sanibelucc.org)

**ST. ISABEL CATHOLIC CHURCH**, 3559 Sanibel-Captiva Road, 472-2763. Rev. Christopher Senk. Sunday Mass: 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. • Communion Service on Monday and Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. • Daily Mass: Saturday 5:30 p.m.; Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 8:30 a.m. Confession by appointment.

**ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH**, 2304 Periwinkle Way, 472-2173. Rector Donald Fishburne; Associate Rector Suzy Post. Services: Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and Saturday at 5 p.m.

**CAPTIVA CHAPEL BY THE SEA**, 11580 Chapin Lane, 472-1646.

**FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST**, 2950 West Gulf Drive, 472-8684. Sunday at 10:30 a.m.; Reading room open Wed. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## COMING SOON

### BACK TO SCHOOL BASH AT SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH AUGUST 26

**Who:** Students Preschool-5th grade

**What:** Back to School Celebration with games, ice cream, gifts and more!

**When:** Saturday August 26th, 1-3 p.m.

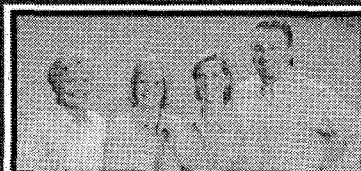
**Where:** Sanibel Community Church, Family Life Center

## Friday is Bag Day at Noah's Ark

Noah's Ark at 2304 Periwinkle, Sanibel is closed starting after the August 18 Bag Day until reopening Monday, October 2. Donations will be welcomed beginning September 1.

Each year there is a brief closing between seasons when the Ark empties its entire inventory and restocks for the fall season.

Noah's Ark is a project of the Episcopal Church Women organization at Saint Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church. Among the more than 30 charitable organizations from Southwest Florida and beyond that were supported by Ark proceeds this year are Brightest Horizons, CCMI Soup Kitchen, Habitat for Humanity, Sanibel Community Housing Resources, FISH Sanibel, Hope Hospice, Quality Life Center and ECHO (Environmental Concerns for Hunger Organization).

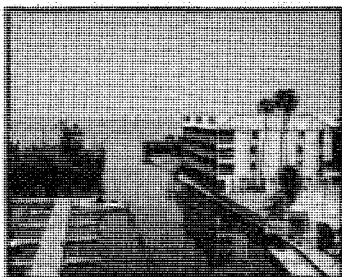


G.G. Robideau Lori Pierot Vicki Panico Fred Newman

**The Group 4 results**

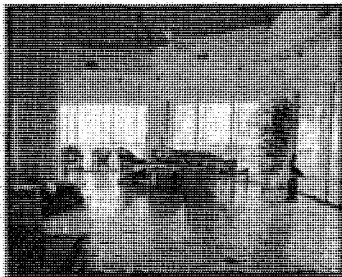
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P.O. Box 759  
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### BAYSIDE VILLA 4306

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Unique near-beach home with octagon design in main living area. Open kitchen area, fireplace, elevator, 4 bedrooms, 4 baths. Numerous sliding glass doors bring the island feel inside. Pool & spa easily accessible from all living areas.

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\$1,995,000



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Contact The Group 4 Results! Call now for your FREE Market Analysis!

## Sewer rates increase to pay debt to general fund

By EMILIE ALFINO

ealfino@breezenewspapers.com

City council took action Aug. 15 to repay over 10 years \$3.5 million owed to the city's general fund by the Sanibel sewer system.

This repayment, which amounts to \$350,000 annually, translates to a rate increase of \$7.92 a month for Sanibelians connected to the sewer system. Their total monthly bill will go up to \$47.53.

The loan was taken in 1998 to build a deep-well injection system and a transmission system to pump sewage from the treatment plant to the deep well at the Island Water Association site.

A letter to the city from resident Candace Hines prompted Mayor Carla Johnston to question the sewer fee structure and whether it is equitable.

Hines wrote, "The entire rate structure should be rethought. Could not the rates be tied to square footage of the house or the number of bathrooms, or both?"

The rates were just reviewed in July and do not come up again for review until July 2007.

"I think it may be useful next July to look at whether we can make it more equitable," Johnston said. Vice-mayor Mick Denham concurred.

Hines lives in an older, one-bedroom cottage. "I have one bathroom (1950 vintage), no dishwasher, no trash disposal, no outdoor spigot," Hines wrote. "That I pay the same as the McMansions and the huge estates is really outrageous. The logic and fairness of that type of charge is baseless and faulty. Do rethink everything."

Complicating any change in the rate structure is the seasonal nature of Sanibel and how to equitable assess homes that are empty for significant portions of the year.

Councilman Tom Rothman requested staff to prepare a report on alternative rate structures, their cost, and a review of how other municipalities structure their sewer charges.

"We have a very compelling letter from a citizen," Johnston said, "and that's why I like getting letters from citizens."

## Council passes outdoor dining after revisions

By EMILIE ALFINO

ealfino@breezenewspapers.com

For the first time, Sanibel has outdoor dining regulations, and restaurants can apply for outdoor bonus seats.

After several revisions, including one during its Aug. 15 meeting, city council approved procedures for restaurants to add seats for outdoor dining.

Council sent the planning department back to the drawing board after the Aug. 1 public hearing, seeking to tighten the language in the ordinance to forestall a few potential problems. The new regulation:

- sets a cap on the maximum number of outdoor seats at 32;
- calls for an initial permit period of 24 months, at which time council will review the performance of the regulations;
- prohibits littering and states that garbage will be properly collected,

stored and disposed;

- prohibits noise disturbances and unreasonable odors.

The two-year initial permit system allows for a trial period after which the city can evaluate performance under the regulation and determine whether it has been consistent with the Sanibel Plan, according to Planning Director Bob Duffy.

Restaurants that receive approval for outdoor dining will have to pay the sewer connection charge for the additional seats. The planning commission had discussed the possibility of deferring this charge.

"After review, it became clear this would be premature, because the fiscal impact and methods of administering it are not worked out," Duffy explained.

After the two-year trial period, the city may abolish or fine-tune the outdoor dining regulation based on information and experience gathered during the 24 months.

"At the end of that two years, we'll report back to council on the perfor-

mance of the ordinance," Duffy said. "If they decide to continue it, then we'll work with applicants to renew their permits."

The city then will review the permits annually.

Florida state law precludes the city from prohibiting smoking in outdoor dining areas as was suggested at the Aug. 1 council meeting. However, Councilman Steve Brown wouldn't let that issue blow away.

"Can we recommend not smoking?" he asked, suggesting signs saying, "We ask that you don't smoke" be placed in the outdoor dining areas.

"I think it's just a common courtesy," Brown said.

Duffy said he would discuss this possibility with the city attorney.

"The regulations recommended by the planning commission and revised by council are now in place, and we look forward to reviewing applications from restaurants," Duffy concluded.

## Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum needs volunteers

As with all non-profits in the Southwest Florida region, The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum is on a constant hunt for new volunteers. The summer and early fall months are especially difficult for the Museum as the majority of our docent staff is staying up north.

If you are a year-round or part-time resident of the Sanibel area, please consider becoming a Shell Museum docent. All tolls for off-island residents are reimbursed.

Our staff is friendly and fun and the atmosphere is great! All shifts are available to meet your scheduling needs and training is provided. You don't have to be shell expert to volunteer, but love of people is a must.

For more information on volunteering at the Shell Museum, call 1-888-679-6450, or contact Barbara Knapp at bknapp@shellmuseum.org.

## Freseis tops for July at RE/MAX

Janie Frese was the top selling Realtor at RE/MAX of the Islands during July. She has been an island resident since 1982 after relocating from Columbus, Ohio and began working for the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation. In 1985 Janie Frese started Island Homewatch, Inc. and in 1998 she obtained her real estate license.



Janie Frese

Broker-owner of RE/MAX of the Islands, Art Corace, said, "Janie has an excellent reputation as evidenced by the fact that she is one of the most productive agents on the islands. She has a very loyal following of clients that appreciate her talent and dedication."

Janie Frese has served on the Board of Directors and as Treasurer of Community Housing and Resources. She is very involved with community service and is currently Vice-President of the Board for the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation.

## Council meeting, other items...

By EMILIE ALFINO

ealfino@breezenewspapers.com

Sanibel City Council's 10-hour meeting Aug. 15 covered 18 agenda items with 33 sub-parts as well as a "shade session" closed to the public for council members to meet with City Attorney Ken Cuyler regarding a pending lawsuit against the city. Here are some highlights.

### Council meets with city attorney in 'shade session'

City Attorney Ken Cuyler met with council members during a "shade session" — a meeting that, because of attorney-client privilege, is not open to the public in accordance with Florida's Sunshine Law. Cuyler called for the shade session to brief council regarding a lawsuit against the city by the owner of the property on which the Winds store sits. The property is on Periwinkle Way near the intersection of Palm Ridge Road and includes another commercial building behind Winds.

Cuyler explained the owner, S.W.F. Sanibel Inc., wants to change the way it owns the property to what is called "condominium ownership." This does not mean residential condominiums. It is a manner of ownership that would allow tenants to own their units as well as an undivided interest in the common elements of the property. S.W.F. Sanibel Inc. sued the city on the premise this change in the form of ownership should not be subject to local review because they are not seeking a change of use, development, or construction.

### Sanibel declares Industry Appreciation Week

Sanibel City Council urges residents to salute local

industries and their employees during Industry Appreciation Week Sept. 18 through 22. By unanimous resolution, Council declared the special week at the request of the Horizon Council, an economic development arm of Lee County.

In its resolution, council credited Lee County's existing industries with the creation of a majority of new jobs and helping to sustain the quality of life in Lee County.

"My favorite one is Chico's," Mayor Carla Johnston laughed. "But we have many industries that have contributed to Lee County."

### Councilman recommends movie

Councilman Tom Rothman suggested everybody see "An Inconvenient Truth," former Vice President Al Gore's look at global warming's deadly progress and the myths and misconceptions that surround it.

"I know what we really need is another problem," Rothman said, "but this is something we should all be aware of."

Rothman said Sanibel will be one of the first places "to go under if, in fact, we have the rise in sea level that's being predicted. Being on the coast here, it will affect us quite severely."

The movie is playing now in local theaters.

### Steve Brown to serve as interim mayor

Council voted for Councilman Steve Brown, a former mayor, to serve as acting mayor from Aug. 29 through Sept. 6 during the absence of Mayor Carla Johnston and Vice-mayor Mick Denham. With Brown always boasting that no hurricanes disturbed Sanibel during his tenure as mayor, Johnston said she assumes Sanibel will be quiet that week.



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### LET'S TALK REAL ESTATE

Presented by  
Margie Davison

### IF IT'S NOT A DREAM OFFER

Your adrenaline is flowing! Your agent just called to say that he or she has an offer on your home. You are really excited, but the bubble bursts when you are presented with the contract. It's just not enough. The buyers asked for your new washing machine, and they also want to postpone the settlement for three months. You don't see how it can work!

Before rejecting any offer on your property, you should consider making a counter offer. Rarely does an offer look the way it would if you had written it yourself. Consider the good and bad points of the offer, and work with the agents to find a middle ground that you end the buyer can live with. You may have to go back and forth several times, and there will probably be compromises on both sides. Unless you are lucky enough to be selling in a strong sellers' market, the buyers will expect to do some bargaining. With a little patience, you and your agent can create a "win-win" situation for you and the buyers.

Margie specializes in Sanibel, Captiva and Fort Myers real estate. She was named Realtor of the Year by Sanibel and Captiva Assn. of Realtors in 2000 and 2002. Her new book, How To Make Your Realtor Get You The Best Deal — South Florida Edition, is must reading if you are thinking of buying or selling. Call Margie at ResortQuest 472-1511, or e-mail her at Margie@MargieDavison.com.

## Olde Sanibel Shoppes

630 Tarpon Bay Road

at the corner of Periwinkle & Tarpon Bay Rd.

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 Lee County Shopper 225,000	 Cape Coral Breeze (Saturday) 52,000	 Lehigh Acres Citizen 21,000	 Pine Island Eagle 8,500
 Beach Bulletin 10,000	 Cape Coral Daily Breeze 2,500	 N. Ft. Myers Neighbor 22,000	 Beach Observer 15,000
 South Lee Messenger 30,000	 Islander 12,000	 Island Reporter 4,700	 Captiva Current 2,000

**CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB:**

Reach readers of the Island Reporter, which is mailed each Thursday to paid subscribers locally and outside the area with racks sales available on Sanibel and Captiva Islands.

**1 ITEM UP TO 28 WORDS \$76-\$126**

Your ad will appear in ALL of the Breeze Newspapers in Lee and Charlotte Counties, with circulation in Pine Island, Cape Coral, Ft. Myers, N. Ft. Myers, Lehigh, Sanibel, Captiva, Ft. Myers Beach, Boca Grande, Port Charlotte & Punta Gorda.

\*Business Ads start at \$110.00

**REACHES OVER 250,000 HOUSEHOLDS!**

Your 28 word classified ad can run in the Island Reporter, the Lee County Shopper, & your choice of any 8 papers listed in the publicationist to the right.

\*Business Ads start at \$75.00.

**REACHES OVER 150,000 HOUSEHOLDS!**

### PERSONAL SERVICE

**ADOPTION** A nurturing family seeks to adopt an infant to love and cherish. We are financially secure to provide a promising future. Please call Christine and David at (888) 322-0924

**DIVORCE \$275 - \$350\* COVERS** children, etc. Only one signature required! \*Excludes gov't. fees! Call weekdays (800) 462-2000, ext. 600. (8am-6pm) Alta Divorce, LLC. Established 1977.

**GOT A BUSINESS? \*\*** Dramatically increase sales by accepting all major Credit and Debit cards. 0% Discount rates! Free start up! Free equipment upgrades! (800) 568-9115

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alone?? Seniors Dating Bureau. Safest since 1977!! (Ages 45-90) 1-800-922-4477 or log onto: RespectedDating.com

### LEGAL NOTICE

Sanibel Fire Rescue District intends to designate the present position of the District Administrator to the Senior Management Service Class, as written in the Florida Statute #121.055

### SCHOOLS/INSTRUCTION

**HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT:** Bulldozers, Backhoes, Loaders, Dump Trucks, Graders, Scrapers, Excavators; National Certification Job Placement Assistance; Associated Training Services (800) 251-3274  
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### BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

**ALL CASH CANDY ROUTE** Do you earn \$800/ day? 30 Machines, Free Candy All for \$9,995. (888) 629-9968 B02000033. CALL US: We will not be undersold!

**Certified mold inspection and remediation training.** Get certified as a mold inspector or remediation contractor. Recognized nationwide. Great small business opportunity. Contact [www.MoldCareer.com](http://www.MoldCareer.com) (800) 813-6653

**Looking for successful entrepreneurs only -** to open franchise businesses in town, must be proven in management, a born risk-taker. DO NOT CALL otherwise (800) 819-2634.

### DRIVERS

**Driver - HIRING QUALIFIED DRIVERS** for Central Florida Local & National OTR positions. Food grade tanker, no hazmat, no pumps, great benefits, competitive pay & new equipment. Need 2 years experience. Call Bynum Transport for your opportunity today. (800) 741-7950

**Driver- \$1000 Sign on Bonus** for Experienced Flatbed Drivers. Home Weekends- \$950 +/Week. Great Benefits & Equipment. Students w/CDL-A Welcome. Call PGT: (800) 837-7748.

**DRIVER: YOU WANT IT, WE HAVE IT!** Solo, teams, owner operators, company drivers, students, recent grads, regional, dedicated, long haul. Van, flatbed. Must be 21. CRST Career Center. (800) 940-2778. [www.driveforcrst.com](http://www.driveforcrst.com).

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### GENERAL HELP WANTED

The Sanctuary Golf Club, Sanibel Island, has immediate openings for several golf course maintenance positions. Join our team on a newly renovated golf course with excellent starting wages and a benefit package including employee lunches, uniforms, bridge tolls, health insurance and 401K program. The Sanctuary is a drug free workplace. Contact Golf Course Maintenance at (239) 472-8612.

### MEDICAL/HEALTH HELP WANTED

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**MEDICAL STAFF NEEDED !!SIGN ON BONUS!!** All Areas of Fla. LPN (1yr exp.) FLOOR STAFF for HOSPITALS. Per Diem or 13/26 wk. C.N.A.S. PHELB. P.C.T. 1-877-80-S.T.A.F.F.

### PROFESSIONAL HELP WANTED

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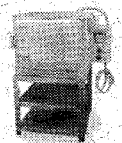
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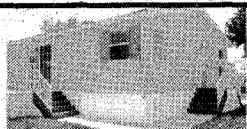


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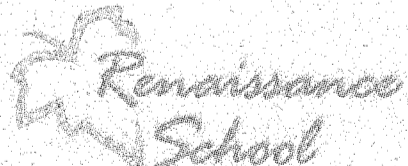
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# Chamber welcomes Base as exec. director

By LAURA BLASKOWITZ

lblaskowitz@breezenewspapers.com

The Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce recently hired Ric Base as the new, dynamic Executive Director. With six years experience with Florida chambers in Fort Lauderdale and Coral Springs, a former president of the Hotel/Motel Association and twenty years as the owner of a business geared towards training sales people, Base has a wealth of useful expertise to share with the knowledgeable staff at the chamber.

Base is pleased to be the newest addition to the chamber's staff. "I bring some good background," Base explained. "This is my sixth year in the chamber business, and I think that is one of the things I've learned is how to be a consensus leader and really understand how to work with a large group of people."

The Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce consists of 17 board members. Base said that his position requires that he take the decisions of the board members and find a way to make their ideas work. "They basically are the people who create the direction of the chamber and my job is to take that direction and make it happen on a day-to-day basis."

Re-elected for the second time to the board of the state association for chambers, Base has

developed lasting connections with knowledgeable people in the business. "My sort of tag-line is that I know everything there is to know in the chamber business, just give me ten minutes to make a phone call to the right person. In other words, I've got a good circle of friends within the business. I can pick up the phone and make a call to that 30-year veteran who really knows all there is to know or has a lot of the answers. If that person doesn't have it, I can phone another person," said Base.

While he has a solid foundation among chamber groups in Florida, he also understands how each chamber is different. He equated the variances: "As somebody said, 'Once you've seen one chamber, you've seen one chamber.' They're all different."

Base explained that while the missions of chambers are similar—to help increase business and decrease costs for members, and also act as a voice for business in the community—each chamber carries out the missions differently. He said, "If you look at that then there's a whole smorgasbord of things or ideas and concepts that you can pick along. Each chamber then will pick different ones from that."

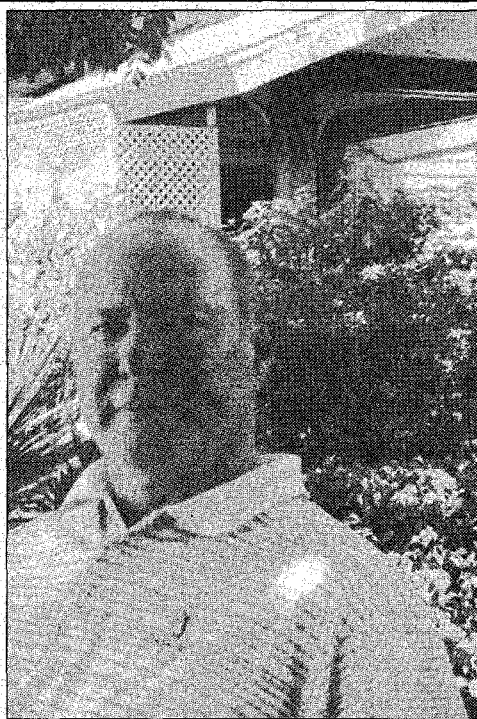
Because the city's chamber has established strong roots already, Base is eager to learn

more and find ways to improve the chamber's good system. "I think they have done a fabulous job of building a credible Web site and the Visitor's Center," he explained. "We'll crank it up a notch. I think there are some marketing opportunities. We could put different packages together for our members, continue to enhance the Web site. We're focusing right now on optimizing."

Some of the challenges Base faces are difficulties many other chambers in the area are facing. With the issues of red tide, algal blooms and water quality, Base said, "Our own media is doing things out of context. We're our own worst enemy. We've got a public relations situation here. People see that, and I think it's that somebody's here and they call back to Aunt Milly in New Jersey. They say, 'Oh, jeez. We've got this smelly tide coming up on shore.' Then they tell someone, so that's how that whole sort of telephone game starts."

However, Base hopes to find ways to assuage the media and word-of-mouth issues. He said, "I think there are a number of things that we as a community have to try to overcome. It's not just a Sanibel issue, it's a com-

See CHAMBER, page 20



LAURA BLASKOWITZ

New Executive Director Ric Base works to offer more to businesses and the community

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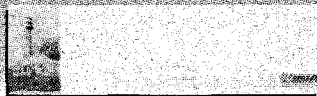
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# Don't Miss

# This Week!



### THIS WEEK!

The South Florida Water Management District presented their C-43 West Reservoir plan at a WRAC workshop on August 10. And meet jewelry designer Gretchen Wilson, whose whimsical Emerald Frog Designs can be found at Traders on Sanibel. Check out the *Islander's* Website at [sanibel-captiva-islander.com](http://sanibel-captiva-islander.com).



### THIS WEEK!

To find out what's going on on Captiva this week, you're just going to have to pick up a *Captiva Current* at the Post Office or log on to the *Captiva Current's* Website at [captivacurrent.com](http://captivacurrent.com).



### THIS WEEK!

This week in the *Shopper's Guide* read about the neatest gift ever at Shell Net by Woven Moments, a grandchild's photo woven into a beautiful afghan! Also, check out Sanibel Marina's inventory clearance.

# Word on the island

## How has Hurricane Charley affected your life?



Zoraida Guzman  
Ft. Myers

"It affected me a little bit. It changed the land, the trees and the water."



Billy Kirkland  
Sanibel

"It made me aware how much you need to prepare for a hurricane. I thought we were well prepared but you can never be over-prepared for a hurricane."



Claire Mallon  
Sanibel

"As a newcomer to Florida coming from New York, I didn't even realize that there were hurricanes on Sanibel, so now I know that you must prepare."



James Komsa  
Ft. Myers

"I rent, so it didn't affect me as far as property. But it made me more aware of the power of Mother Nature and the destruction hurricanes can cause."



Armand Ball  
Sanibel

"It certainly sensitized us to the possibilities of what can happen and made us much more sensitive to preparation."

### Please Watch For Manatees



For more information on manatees, the Adopt-A-Manatee program, or for a free manatee protection tips packet, contact:

Save the Manatee Club  
1-800-432-JOIN (5646)  
500 N. Maitland Avenue  
Maitland, FL 32751  
www.savethemanatee.org

#### You can help:

- Stay in deep water channels. Avoid running your motor over seagrass beds.
- Look for the manatee's snout, back, tail, or flipper in the water.
- Call 1-800-DIAL-FMR, FMP, or use VHF Channel 16 if you spot an injured manatee.
- Wear polarized sunglasses.
- Don't discard trash into the water.
- Look, but don't touch. Please don't feed manatees or give them water.
- Watch for posted speed zone and sanctuary signs.

### OPERATE WITH CARE

## Chamber from page 19

munity issue, and we've all got to be on the same page."

Base looks forward to boosting ecotourism on the island, despite the challenges. "This is a very, very unique situation. Our role at the chamber is to work with the community and balance [tourism] and reinforce or give confidence to the community that we're not trying to build a Myrtle Beach here. We're trying to build within the environment we've got," he said.

A native of Canada, Base's first trip to the island was during a business trip with the company he owned. He said, "I thought it was the greatest spot in the world."

He is excited about his move from Florida's east coast with his wife, Alicia, a middle school English teacher. "There's a real significant difference between the east coast and the west coast. I call this the kinder, gentler coast."

While Base has two children, one is

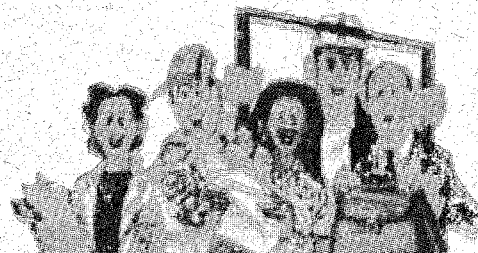
starting college and the other recently graduated from Florida Atlantic University with a degree in business.

Base enjoys golfing and recently retired from hockey. Some of the things he appreciates on the island are bike riding and visiting "Ding" Darling.

He said, "It's very laid back, where you go to kick up your heels and have a good relaxing time. I think that's the message that we've got to get out to the tourists along with conservation."

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### WEATHER FORECAST FOR AUGUST 19-20

SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Scattered showers throughout the day and evening.		More rain expected for both the afternoon and evening hours.	

WEEKEND TIDES				
City	Sat. High	Sat. Low	Sun. High	Sun. Low
Cape Coral	2:20 a.m.	7:42 a.m.	2:37 a.m.	8:43 a.m.
Bridge	12:57 p.m.	8:55 p.m.	2:06 p.m.	9:34 p.m.
Captiva at	12:10 a.m.	4:26 a.m.	12:27 a.m.	5:27 a.m.
Redfish Pass	10:47 a.m.	5:39 p.m.	11:56 a.m.	6:18 p.m.
Fort Myers	3:13 a.m.	8:24 a.m.	3:30 a.m.	9:25 a.m.
	1:50 p.m.	9:37 p.m.	2:59 p.m.	10:16 p.m.
Matlacha	1:48 a.m.	7:08 a.m.	2:05 a.m.	8:09 a.m.
Pass	12:25 p.m.	8:21 p.m.	1:34 p.m.	9:00 a.m.
Pineland	12:46 a.m.	6:06 a.m.	1:03 a.m.	7:07 a.m.
	11:23 a.m.	7:19 p.m.	12:32 p.m.	7:58 p.m.
Point Ybel	9:52 a.m.	4:28 a.m.	11:01 a.m.	5:29 a.m.
	11:32 p.m.	5:41 p.m.	11:50 p.m.	6:20 p.m.
Punta Rassa	12:04 a.m.	4:21 a.m.	12:21 a.m.	5:22 a.m.
	10:41 a.m.	5:34 p.m.	11:50 a.m.	6:13 p.m.
St. James City	12:35 a.m.	4:56 a.m.	12:52 a.m.	5:57 a.m.
	11:12 a.m.	6:09 p.m.	12:21 p.m.	6:48 p.m.

PORT CHARLOTTE 91/75 Sat 92/76 Sun

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

PUNTA GORDA 91/75 Sat 92/76 Sun

LEE COUNTY

BOCA GRANDE 90/78 Sat 91/77 Sun

CAPE CORAL 90/77 Sat 91/77 Sun

FORT MYERS 91/76 Sat 92/75 Sun

LEHIGH ACRES 92/75 Sat 92/75 Sun

PINE ISLAND 91/76 Sat 91/77 Sun

CAPTIVA ISLAND 88/80 Sat 91/77 Sun

SANIBEL ISLAND 91/77 Sat 91/77 Sun

BONITA SPRINGS 90/78 Sat 87/67 Sun

FORT MYERS BEACH 90/79 Sat 92/75 Sun

COLLIER COUNTY

NAPLES 90/77 Sat 91/74 Sun

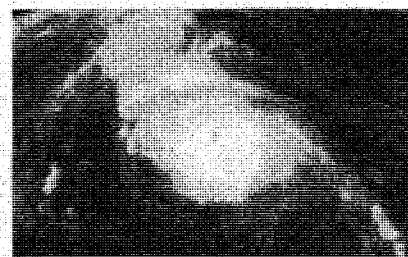
MARCO ISLAND 88/79 Sat 89/77 Sun

Gulf of Mexico

BOATING FORECAST

Wind: S 10-20 Knots  
Seas: 3-6 Feet  
Bay & Inland: Moderate Chop

## FOX 4 CAST



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### STATE FORECAST-SATURDAY

CITY	FORECAST
CAPE CORAL	90/77
DAYTONA BEACH	90/77
FT. LAUDERDALE	89/79
FT. MYERS BEACH	90/79
GAINESVILLE	92/73
JACKSONVILLE	94/75
KEY WEST	90/80
KISSIMMEE	92/76
MIAMI	89/84
ORLANDO	92/76
PANAMA CITY	91/77
PENSACOLA	90/76
SARASOTA	90/77
ST. PETERSBURG	89/80
TALLAHASSEE	91/74
TAMPA	91/77
VERO BEACH	89/75
WEST PALM BEACH	89/78

SATURDAY  
SUNRISE  
6:54 AM

SATURDAY  
SUNSET  
8:14 PM