

island REPORTER

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**Tarpon Bay
Explorers
adds six
to staff**

- Page 24



EAR, applications pass through Planning

By JIM LINETTE

jlinette@breezenewspapers.com

The Sanibel Planning Commission heard and approved two applications and reviewed parts of the Sanibel Plan Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) at Tuesday's meeting in City Hall.

While each item was dealt with at length and in great detail, it was a new experience for John Talmage, the newest member of the commission attending his first public meeting.

"I enjoyed the interaction with the board and the applicants," said Talmage, who was appointed to his seat

by the City Council to fill the unexpired term (until January 2014) of Paul Reynolds, who resigned. "I am impressed and happy to be part of this."

The entire commission unanimously approved a conditional use permit application for a formula retail store known as J. McLaughlin. The apparel and accessories store will occupy a 1,500-square-foot unit in the Heart of the Island Shopping Center at 1616 Periwinkle Way.

The applicant will occupy an existing structure with no external architectural modifications. The interior of the unit will be remodeled and customized

for the display and sale of the brand name apparel.

J. McLaughlin will share the center with Three Crafty Ladies, a gift shop, Sanibel Home Furnishings and B. Unique Boutique, a small store to open in the near future, and is considered complimentary to those businesses.

The other application under consideration was an after-the-fact variance

See PLANNING, page 31

Heart of the Island Shops will soon be welcoming a new business, J. McLaughlin, an apparel and accessories store. JIM LINETTE



Hitting^{the} Road Running



New CHR executive director gets right to work

By JIM LINETTE

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Kelly Collini is on an orientation fast track this week as the new executive director of Sanibel's Community Housing & Resources. One of her first duties was meeting with the board of directors at their regular monthly meeting on Monday.

Collini moves to Sanibel from Wyoming where she had served for six years as executive director of the Albany County SAFE Project in Laramie, a women's shelter program for domestic violence and sexual

assault victims.

"I've worked in non-profit fundraising in Wyoming for 33 years," said Collini, who grew up in Michigan before starting her career in Wyoming. "My husband (Jim) graduated from Florida, so he's a Gator. We've talked about moving to Florida and wanted to be on the Gulf

See CHR, page 20

Kelly Collini settles into her office as the new executive director of the Community Housing & Resources. JIM LINETTE

STATE OF IWA

Water association remains financially sound, efficient

By JIM LINETTE

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Island Water Association general manager William "Rusty" Isler will carry out his previously announced retirement on June 17 after 32 years of employment on Sanibel Island.

Isler's replacement is Don DuBrasky, who has served as assistant manager for the past several years. Isler was recognized for his service by the IWA board of directors at the association's annual meeting on April 9.

"It will be a sad day for me to leave this staff and board," said Isler. "Island Water is a great place to be and I want

to thank all the employees and this board, who have been so good to me."

IWA board president Robert Lindman addressed the meeting for the last time as his third two-year term expired at the end of the meeting. One other board member's term also expired, but secretary Jack Cunningham was reappointed to serve a second two-year term. Tim Gardner's appointment by the board's nominating committee was overwhelmingly approved through proxy voting. Having served six years on the board twice before, Gardner returns for a third time.

Lindman reported that though energy and fuel costs continue to rise, the IWA has made great strides in becoming more efficient and energy-saving

See IWA, page 31

Assistant general manager Don DuBrasky (left) has accepted the position as general manager of the Island Water Association when current GM William "Rusty" Isler (right) retires on June 17.

JIM LINETTE



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Parrot Key hosting European car show

Parrot Key Caribbean Grill on Fort Myers Beach is revving up to host the second annual European Sports Car Show on April 21.

Parrot Key, home of the Caribbean Cruise In Car Shows and Corvette Shows added the European Car Show to its lineup last year for the first time and is pleased to offer it as an annual event. Sponsored by the Alfa Romeo owners club, the European Sports Car Show adds a new dimension to the various types of cars that are featured at the popular events.

Free and open to the public, visitors have the opportunity to see some of the area's premier European sports cars. Live music, food and drink specials are offered along with a number of door prizes for participating display cars, including Pirate Cruise tickets and gift certificates for Parrot Key and the Big Game Waterfront Grill.

"We will have exotics representing the finest European cars from Italy, Germany, Great Britain and more," says Bob Lombardo, president of the Alfa Romeo Owners Club of Southwest Florida. "We will also have a few of the new hot Fiat 500s that you can take for a test drive. If you like gleaming new Ferraris and Maseratis or vintage Alfas and Triumphs, we will have something for all car lovers."

The entry fee for cars is \$15 with proceeds donated to the Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida.

Open for lunch or dinner with entertainment three nights a week, Parrot Key is located at 2500 Main Street, Fort Myers Beach. For more information visit www.MyParrotKey.com or call 239-463-3257.

Republicans host Congressional candidate

Byron Donalds, candidate for the House of Representatives in the United States Congress for the district covering Sanibel and Captiva, was the guest speaker at the April 7 meeting of the Sanibel-Captiva Republican Caucus.

Donalds spoke of tough times growing up in Brooklyn, NY, and of his mother's hard work and determination that he receive a good education. He said that due in large part to those efforts, he was able to earn a degree in finance from Florida State University and has a successful career in banking and financial management. His career experience is in long term cost analysis and containment, focusing on providing additional certainty and reducing risk.

Donalds addressed a number of issues affecting our government, our businesses and our future. He discussed the baseline budget-

ing currently used by the federal government, explaining that it includes an increase of five to eight percent annually for no good reason. He said he believes in cut, cap and balance: cutting unnecessary programs, capping spending and balancing our budget.

He stated that our government needs to cut back on spending other people's money on programs that are unsustainable and he believes the Paul Ryan plan would help stabilize spending.

In addressing education in our country, Donalds said he would like to see the elimination of the Federal Department of Education as it is impossible for the federal government to organize education policy effectively throughout the United States. He believes education should be a local respon-

See REPUBLICANS, page 17

Emily's List rep to speak to island Democrats

The Democratic Club of the Islands is delighted to sponsor the Florida Political Director for Emily's List on Thursday, April 19. The event at 7 p.m. at the Sanibel Public Library, 770 Dunlop Road, is free and open to the public.

Emily's List is a Political Action Committee dedicated to building a progressive America by electing pro-choice Democratic women as candidates, contributors, campaign professionals and voters, to bring about change in our country.

Julie Petrick, of Orlando, joined the Emily's List family in October 2009. Her region includes states in the Midwest, South and Northeast working with races at the Federal and Gubernatorial levels.

Petrick, a Florida native, worked as an organizer for John Kerry's 2004 presidential campaign, and later in Virginia for Tim Kaine's 2005 campaign for governor. She

became the Florida Democratic Party's South Florida Regional Director in 2007 and was praised by the Washington Post for running a "smart, strong campaign" for managing Karen Schultz's bid to win an open seat and take back the majority in the Senate.

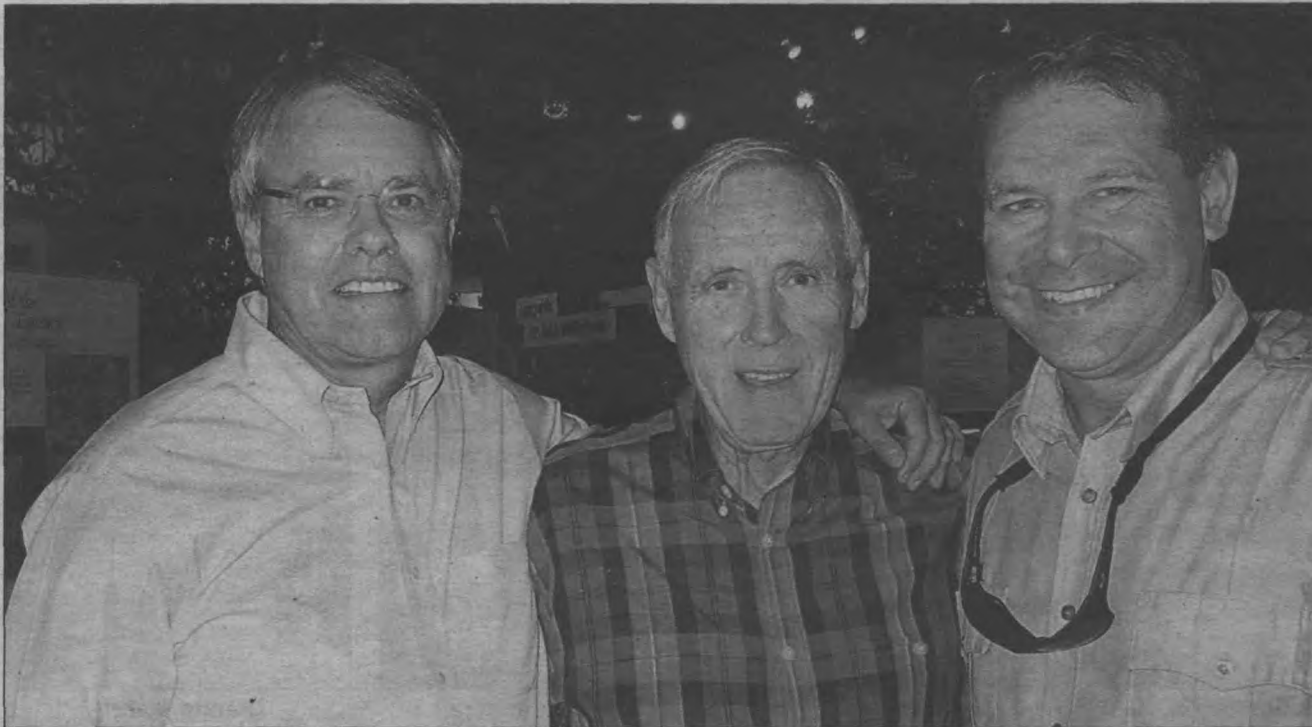
Before joining Emily's List, Petrick was hired as the Virginia State Director for the Service Employees International Union's "Change that Works" Campaign.

Petrick will address some of the attacks on women's issues flooding the airwaves by conservative Republican candidates. The Democratic Club of the Islands urges all progressives and anyone wishing to become better informed about women's issues included in the current political discourse, to join them on April 19.

For more information call 395-9078 or email demclubislands@gmail.com.

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Decoy exhibit



Jim Sprankle, one of the best known wildfowl wood sculptors in the world, chose to donate his extensive collection to the Ding Darling Education Center after being offered the opportunity by other world class exhibits. Chip Lesch (left) of Sanibel Captiva Trust Co. attended the April 5 ceremony to honor the generosity of Sprankle (center) along with Wildlife Refuge Manager Paul Tritaik. Sprankle's 46-piece Duck Decoy Exhibit was enhanced by a new touch screen. Sprankle and his wife, Patty, moved to Sanibel in 1994 and have been involved with the Ding Darling Wildlife Society since 1995, serving as President for five years. "I'm so honored to have my decoys here on permanent display in the Ding Darling Wildlife Education Center," Sprankle said.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Twilight talk

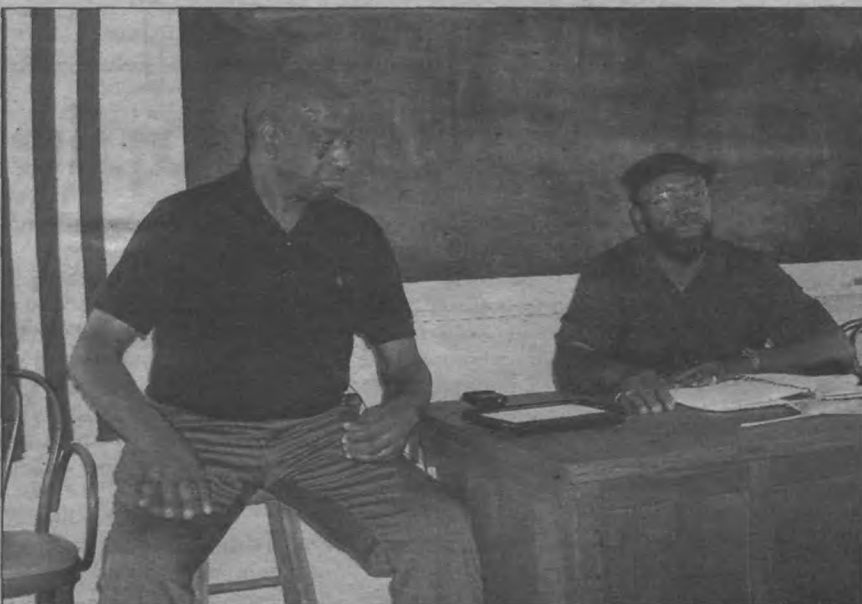


PHOTO PROVIDED

Sanibel Planning Commission director Jim Jordan (left) and his cousin Oscar Gavin of Gavin's Plumbing will be at the Sanibel Historical Museum and Village on April 20 for their second Twilight Talk. The meeting runs 7-8 p.m. in the Old Schoolhouse in the village, 950 Dunlop Road. Both have lived on Sanibel since the 1950s and will share stories of island life. Admission is \$5 (members free). Tickets are available in the museum manager's office in the old Bailey's General Store in the village 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays.

Republicans

From page 16

sibility and that students should be taught skills necessary for future jobs, rather than concentrating on how to pass a government imposed test.

Donalds also spoke about ending birthright citizenship, how congress needs statesmen rather than legislators, a limited government, maintaining the constitution and how foreign policy should benefit America instead of appeasing foreign countries.

The next meeting of the Sanibel-Captiva Republican Caucus is 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 21, at the Sanibel Library.

Candidates for the Florida State Senate in the district representing Sanibel and Captiva are scheduled to speak. The meeting is open to the public. Please call Robb Moran at 239-472-9035 for more information on the caucus or joining.

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OPINIONS

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Word on the Island

How do you celebrate Easter?



Savannah & Stella Gaines
Minneapolis, Minn.
"We have ham, an Easter egg hunt and go to church."



Gabrielle Fiscus
Milford, Ind.
"I hunt for eggs, get an Easter basket and go to church."



Kat Smith
Long Island, NY
"I celebrate with my brother in New York."



Robin Lemmerz
Montville, NJ
"I always celebrate Easter in New Jersey with family."



Dianne Maret
Mukwongago, Wis.
"We usually have family visit (in Wisconsin)."

We want your opinion

The views expressed on the Opinions Pages are just that — opinions. These pages are intended to convey a range of viewpoints; opinions printed on these pages do not necessarily reflect the views of The Island Reporter. Opposing views are welcome. All letters must be signed and must contain a phone number for verification purposes. Letters considered for publication must relate to subjects of public interest. Letters to the Editor may be e-mailed to Jim Linette at jlinette@breeze.newspapers.com; posted to the virtual newsroom at captivasanibel.com; or mailed to 2340 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL 33957. The Island Reporter reserves the right to edit or reject any submission.

Close call for will of the people

As anniversaries go, number seven doesn't usually get much attention. This year it should.

It was seven years ago that Sanibel citizens went to the polls and adopted the "Peoples Choice" amendments to the Sanibel City Charter. And there is reason to take special note this year, because we came very close to losing those amendments — through an act



LARRY SCHOPP
Committee
of the Islands

**Guest
Commentary**

by the Florida State Legislature that put them in jeopardy. More on that in a moment, but first a little background on the Charter amendments. The "People's Choice" amendments were about the fundamental right of citizens, by means of a referendum at the polls, to prevent or undo

unwise or unpopular decisions of their elected representatives. The means of ensuring such referenda was to enshrine critical land-use protections in the Sanibel Charter, which would render them unchangeable without a vote of the people.

The Charter amendments were written by members of Committee of the Islands to help insure that Sanibel's small town sanctuary character would never be compromised over the objection of its citizens. The formula is simple: There can be no weakening of fundamental land-use restrictions on (1) building height, (2) residential density, or (3) clearance and coverage of

building lots, without voter approval.

The campaign for passage Even a highly successful petition drive to put the amendments on the ballot was no guarantee they would be passed. During a hard-fought campaign for votes, a recurring argument against the amendments was that they were unnecessary because bureaucrats in the Florida Department of Community Affairs — which had oversight over local land-use policy under the Growth Management Act — would provide all the protection neces-

See GUEST COMMENTARY, page 19

Web Poll

Web Poll Results

Which event(s) of the Shellabration 2012 did you attend?

- Sanibel Stoop — 44%
- Shellabration Gala — 11%
- Shell Fair & Show — 22%
- Other events — 22%

Current Web Poll Question

What do you believe will happen with Obamacare?

- It is unconstitutional
- It is constitutional
- Constitutional or not, the law should stand
- The Supreme Court should reject it entirely
- Regardless, it should be repealed
- No opinion

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Agree?

Disagree?

Your views on the editorials, letters and the guest opinions that appear on The Reporter opinion pages can be shared on-line. Tell us what you think at Share your opinion at captivasanibel.com

Also visit our opinion page poll on the main news pages. Vote or leave a comment.

Guest Commentary

From page 18

sary.

Those of us who wrote and believed strongly in the amendments were not persuaded. We asked why Sanibel residents should trust the vagaries of state law or the state bureaucratic process to protect their vital interests. Instead, we proposed that the people themselves could do it more reliably by simply amending the City Charter. A majority of Sanibel voters apparently felt the same way and voted "yes" on the amendments.

In addition to giving citizens the peace of mind of knowing they are in control of their own destiny, at least on major land-use issues, the Charter amendments contained language which enabled action by the City Council on two long-neglected issues — post-disaster build-back and redevelopment — both of which have now been addressed.

Changes in the wind

Now let's fast forward to Tallahassee in early 2011, where major changes were in the wind. Under the banner of job creation, economic growth and reduced state regulation, the state legislature scrapped the Growth Management Act of 1985 and replaced it with a much more development-friendly "Community Planning Act." It also dismantled the Department of Community Affairs and replaced it with a relatively toothless "Department of

Economic Opportunity." These were fundamental changes in the state's approach to land-use regulation that few would have anticipated a few years ago.

The argument against reliance on state bureaucrats to protect Sanibel's character proved prophetic. For all intents and purposes, state oversight of the local comprehensive planning process is over. The very state law and state agency that opponents said made the "Peoples Choice" amendments unnecessary are now gone, and the focus at the state level is once again on growth — not growth management.

Attack attempted on citizens' rights

But that's not all that happened. A year earlier, citizens concerned about Florida overdevelopment had tried, unsuccessfully, to enact a "hometown democracy" amendment to the state constitution that would have required voter approval of all comprehensive land-use plan amendments.

Subsequently the legislature, in what appeared to be a punitive overreaction to this failed effort, prohibited any "referendum or initiative process in regard to any ... local comprehensive plan amendment."

In other words, the prohibition abolished the right of citizens statewide to reverse unwise or unpopular land-use decisions made by local governing bodies! Since the "Peoples Choice" amendments could trigger a vote on changes to the Sanibel Plan which would involve building height or residential density,

they were in potential conflict with state law and likely unenforceable — a major setback for the right of self-determination for Sanibel citizens.

End of story?

That might have been the sad end of the story but for one final twist, involving the tiny north Florida town of Yankeetown. Like Sanibel, Yankeetown had a charter provision that required voter approval of certain comprehensive plan amendments, and it was not about to give that up without a fight. It retained Lee County attorney Ralf Brookes, who went to state court and challenged, on several grounds, the constitutionality of the new Community Planning Act.

The people in power in Tallahassee were understandably concerned. The Community Planning Act was a major legislative enactment, and they were reluctant to risk a successful court challenge. So, with a nod of approval from the legislative leadership, attorneys for the state agreed to a settlement by which the legislature would do some back-pedaling and "grandfather" any local charter provision like Yankeetown's or, for that matter, Sanibel's.

And that's just what happened.

With little fanfare, the following new language was recently added to the Community Planning Act's sweeping prohibition of referenda on plan amendments: "However, any local government charter provision which was in

effect on June 1, 2011, for an initiative or referendum process in regard to ... local comprehensive plan amendments ... may be retained and implemented." This legislation passed by overwhelming majorities in both houses and was signed into law by Governor Scott on April 6.

So, whether or not Sanibel's "Peoples Choice" charter amendments are in conflict with state law has become a moot question, thanks to the Yankeetown case. If our amendments were in conflict, they no longer are. They are clearly grandfathered and fully enforceable, as written — and that's the end of the story.

Happy seventh anniversary!



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--Hippocrates 460 BC



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Obituaries

Paula Ruocco

Paula Ruocco, 68, of Sanibel, Fla., died early Tuesday, April 10, 2012, at Shell Point Hospice in South Fort Myers. She was born in Nutley, NJ, and later resided in Chester, NJ, before moving to Sanibel Island 12 years ago.

Paula earned her RN at Orange Memorial Nursing School, Orange, NJ, and later a bachelor's degree at Upsala College and a master's degree in Counseling and Human Services at Montclair State College.

She was an RN and former head nurse of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center at St. Clare's Hospital, Denville, NJ, for 24 years. Later professional endeavors included consulting hospital administration.

With Lorraine, Paula sought to enjoy life while she could still climb the mountains, hike, bike, and travel the world.

She leaves behind her life partner of 34 years, Lorraine Mazzucco, their son, Anthony Ruocco, his wife, Caro and grandchild, AJ, all of Tampa, their daughter, Tara Ruocco and grandson, Ethan, of Laurel, Md., and her sister, Ruth Sammon of Ormond Beach, Fla.



Paula Ruocco

Friends of Paula and Lorraine are invited to a celebration of Paula's life at The Community House, 2173 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, on Friday, April 13, 2012 at 11 a.m.

At a future date, a celebration of Paula's life will be planned in New Jersey. In lieu of flowers, donations to F.I.S.H. of Sanibel, 1630 Periwinkle Way # B, Sanibel, FL 33957 are suggested. Friends may sign the guest book at www.horizon-funerals.com.

CHR From page 15

Coast. I was looking for a job down here and we were visiting on vacation when I saw this position."

Collini replaces Nancy Fash-McHenry, whose contract was terminated in December after a tumultuous six months of service.

"I hope to bring some stability and positive will to the position," said Collini. "This board has some committed individuals who have been through some tough times and they work really hard. I aim to strengthen the organization financially by finding new sources of funding and provide leadership."

"We feel that Kelly is a great fit for both CHR and our community," said CHR board president Richard Johnson. "We have already identified key areas of focus and look forward to getting her started on longer term projects soon."

Collini gets her first chance to meet CHR tenants and any members of the public who wish to attend the organization's annual meeting at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday. CHR is located at 2401 Library Way.

"The meeting is open to the public and we invite everyone to join us on Saturday morning for the meeting and afterwards for a potluck luncheon," said Collini.

After introducing Collini, Johnson opened Monday's board meeting by

announcing the closing on another Limited Equity Ownership (LEO) property since the April board meeting. The most recent LEO helps a local family with two children remain in the community through the below market rental housing program's equity-building program.

It also was announced that four new tenant applications are ready for approval, helping to fill vacant rental units.

More than 30 rental units needing minor to major maintenance had work completed in the past 30 days, including 23 units that were identified and work completed within the 30-day period. A backlog of maintenance projects has been reduced to nine, according to board member Dorothy Donaldson.

Three residents, including former board member Mike Cuscaden, were nominated for board positions. The others nominated are Melissa Rice and John B. Talmage. Cuscaden was a CHR board member during Fash-McHenry's tenure before he resigned in November 2011.

The board then went into executive session to discuss the nominees. Johnson reported afterward that Rice, a Sanibel resident, was elected to join the board at this time.

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FLORIDA COUNTY APPROVED

Historical Village observes Civil War anniversary

The Civil War touched Sanibel, as it did the rest of the country, even though just a handful of people, if that, lived on the island in the 1860s.

One of Sanibel's pioneer women, Laetitia Nutt, kept the conflict alive by remaining an outspoken Confederate until her death in 1914. She never forgave the "Yankees" for her husband's year as a prisoner of war. Nutt had followed her husband to all his battles, taking her three daughters along and suffering the hardships of war while remaining a "Southern lady."

The Nutt Homestead on Sanibel, originally called The Gables and later Gray Gables, was built in 1889 and is the oldest house on Sanibel. Nutt and her three daughters came to Sanibel from Louisiana after her husband's death was followed by a fire that destroyed her home and all her belongings. She became the first postmistress of Sanibel and taught school. Every year on Jan. 19, Gen. Robert E. Lee's birthday, Nutt hung the Confederate flag at the schoolhouse, along with the American flag. She also refused to let her daughters marry "Yankees" and two daughters remained unmarried for life.

Across the bay in Fort Myers, Union soldiers occupied the abandoned fort, the only federally occupied fort in South Florida. The soldiers confiscated livestock from area cattle ranches to prevent the animals from being used to feed the Confederate army.

Learn more at the Sanibel Historical Museum and Village, located at 950 Dunlop Road, open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday.

The Museum gift shop carries a variety of Civil War items for children, including coloring books and paper dolls, replicas of Confederate silver and Union gold, certificates of parole, and more.



Ken Newton (left) from Indiana and Harrison Rau from Virginia pose as Civil War soldiers with a parole certificate available at the Historical Village gift shop.

PHOTO PROVIDED



PHOTO PROVIDED

F.I.S.H. Easter baskets delivered to Sanibel and Captiva neighbors

Contributed to the REPORTER

F.I.S.H. (Friends In Service Here) of Sanibel volunteers prepared and delivered 39 Easter baskets, 12 restaurant cards for senior or disabled clients and 54 children's bunny baskets this year to our Sanibel and Captiva neighbors in need this Easter. These lovely baskets and restaurant cards will ensure that FISH clients have a happy and enjoyable Easter. These baskets and restaurant cards were made possible by some very generous donations by island individuals (who wished to remain anonymous) and several island

businesses who supported FISH financially this year to enable them to put together the Easter baskets. They were all delivered in time for the Easter celebrations. F.I.S.H. of Sanibel, Inc. is a non-profit, staffed by more than 200 volunteers, assisting Sanibel and Captiva islanders and visitors with a wide range of services. F.I.S.H. relies on community support to fund all programs and accepts unopened, unexpired food items which are delivered directly to island families in need. For more information: www.fishofsanibel.com

BMSM participating in North American Reciprocal Program

Membership in The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum has become more valuable than ever.

The Museum is pleased to announce its participation in the North American Reciprocal Museums (NARM) program. Join the museum at the \$100 level or above and automatically become a member of the reciprocal membership program.

NARM gives you free admission as well as program, lecture, and store discounts and other benefits at nearly 600 museums across North America. Area participating museums include the Edison & Ford Winter Estates in Fort Myers, the Naples Museum of Art, and the John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota.

Members will receive a special membership card, validated with a gold North American Reciprocal sticker. Some museums restrict benefits and "Family" benefits are defined by each participating institution, so contact the institution prior to your visit for more information. (To see a list of participating museums, visit the Museum's Membership website page at www.shellmuseum.org).

To join The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum and to learn more about the reciprocal membership program, contact John Suau at (239) 395-2233, or at jsuau@shellmuseum.org.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Qualified members of the Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum will be eligible to visit hundreds of North American museums for free.

BUSINESS

island REPORTER

Report your news to CAPTIVASANIBEL.COM

Chamber of Commerce sets annual meeting

The Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual meeting at 5:30 p.m. on April 17 at Tween Waters on Captiva. A cocktail reception follows the meeting.

The Chamber is gathering to review with its members the key activities and achievements over this past year. Also on the agenda is the appointment of three new Chamber Board Members and the appointment of a new Chairperson. In

addition to these appointments, there will be a ceremony where awards including New Business of the Year, Business of the Year, Citizen of the Year and the Susan Rosica Gray Volunteer of the Year will be presented.

Traditionally this event attracts all the key business owners and managers of Sanibel and Captiva's thriving economy. Approximately 200 members and guests are expected to attend this event.

Agents of the month



Premier Sotheby's International Realty of Sanibel and Captiva named Denise Chambre (left) as its top marketing agent for March and Jennifer Berry as the top selling agent for March.

PHOTOS PROVIDED

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Easter surprise



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Sanibel resident Kari Wheeler (center) with daughter Abbie, is the winner of the Coffee Bar at Bailey's Easter Basket Raffle. The basket, valued at \$200, was filled with Coffee Bar goodies including a \$100 gift card, two bags of chocolate covered espresso beans, one bag of regular and decaf coffee, a hot cup and a cold cup. "I'm so excited that I won," said Wheeler. Coffee Barista Lenora Jones (left) and Lochlainn Kane handed over the prize.

Island Inn Beach Easter Egg Hunt winners

Contributed to the REPORTER

The Island Inn, Sanibel's most established resort (1895), hosted its Second Annual Easter Egg Hunt on the property on Easter Sunday. This year the egg hunt was opened up to the whole community and more than 80 children came to run around the beachfront property finding the 520 eggs that were hidden.

Miss Silvia was on hand to do creative face painting and her able assistant Osa entertained the children with her balloon artistry.

There were three lucky golden egg winners this year - they were Michael from Fort Myers, Island Inn guests Philip from Germany and Andrew from St Louis, Missouri who all won special eggs containing candy and a surprise \$20 bill in each egg.

As the oldest inn on Sanibel, Island Inn has hosted families for Easter Sunday since 1895 and by a quirk of history, the great, great granddaughters of "Pop" Furneaux, one of the original and most



PHOTO PROVIDED

well-known Island Inn guests, joined in the Easter Egg Hunt this year.

They come to Sanibel to celebrate Easter every year and this year was no exception - pictured here are Ashton Parker (aged 2) and her sisters Harrison (aged 5) and Waring (aged 6) Furneaux who came to the egg hunt with their mother Jennifer Riek-Parker. The photo of "Pop" Furneaux is prominently displayed in the lounge at Island Inn.

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Nature Notes

Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation

**3333 Sanibel-Captiva Rd.
Phone: 239-472-2329**

Dolphin & Wildlife Adventure Cruises:

Daily, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Where: Pine Island Sound; departs McCarthy's Marina, Captiva

In cooperation with Captiva Cruises, an excellent opportunity for the whole family to view wildlife in Pine Island Sound. Cost is \$20/adults, \$12.50/children.

Reservations required, call 472-5300.

Butterfly House: Call for schedule

Learn about the life cycle of the Zebra Longwing, the state butterfly, on a self-guided tour of the Butterfly House.

Human Uses of Florida Native Plants

Explore our Ethnobotany garden to learn about Florida's native plants. Signs briefly explain how plants have been used for centuries for food, shelter, medicine and art.

Guided Native & Tropical Garden Tour

The Gardens at Sanibel Moorings Resort overflows with many unusual exotic and native tropical plants. Walking tours of approximately two are offered at 9 a.m. Wednesdays. The cost is \$5 per person.

Sanibel Moorings Resort is located at 845 E Gulf Drive, Sanibel. For information and RSVP call 472-4119

Tarpon Bay Explorers

**900 Tarpon Bay Road
Phone: 239-472-8900**

Tram Tour Protect Wildlife and Take the Tram!: Daily except Fridays

Join a naturalist aboard an open-air tram for a tour of Wildlife Drive at 'Ding' Darling through the heart of the refuge. Sit back and relax while learning the basics of the ecosystem and its numerous inhabitants. 90 minutes.

Nature & Sea Life Cruise: Call for schedule

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, 90 minutes; Evening, 2 hours)

Guided Kayak Trail Tour:

Daily at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.

A great introduction to Tarpon Bay! Paddle with a naturalist through the mangrove forest along the Commodore Creek Water Trail. Learn about the rich backbay ecosystem and the creatures that live there. Includes kayak rental for the entire day. (1.5 hours with naturalist, then you can keep the kayak out on your own afterwards.)

Sunset Rookery Paddle: Call for schedule

Join us as the sun goes down on a paddle to the Rookery Islands as hundreds of birds return to roost for the night. Days offered vary, please call for current schedule. (2 1/2 hours)

Touch Tank Exploration: Call for schedule

Get to know our local marine life during an interactive touch tank presentation with a marine biologist. Discover first-hand the creatures beneath the surface, including conchs, sea urchins, seastars, horseshoe crabs and more.

Captiva Cruises

**11401 Andy Rosse Lane, Captiva
Phone: 239-472-5300**

Web: www.captivacruises.com

Cabbage Key or Useppa

Lunch & Dolphin, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Cruise Pine Island Sound, the prime habitat of dolphins. Visit unique island destination where lunch is available at waterfront restaurants. Adults \$35, Child \$20

Cayo Costa State Park Beach & Shelling

Half-day (9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.) and Full-day (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

Beach and Shelling cruise to premier barrier island state park. Pack a lunch, your swimming gear and adventurous spirit! Full-Day: Adults \$45, Child \$35; Half-Day: Adults \$35, Child \$20

Boca Grande on Gasparilla Island

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Escape to this quaint seaside village with banyan trees, historic churches, lighthouse, unique shops and restaurants. Adults \$45, Child \$35

Dolphin & Wildlife Adventure, 4-5:30 p.m.

Narrated by the Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation. This is an excellent cruise to view dolphins and other wildlife in their natural setting. Adults \$25, Child \$15

Sunset Sightseeing

Time varies with sunset (call for schedule)

Enjoy the fresh sea air and live music while watching the sun set over the Gulf of Mexico. Adults \$25, Child \$15

Sailing Cruises

Times vary (call for schedule)

Two-hour cruises aboard a 40-foot Sailing Catamaran. A spectacular Gulf of Mexico sailing adventure. Adults \$45, Child \$35

Private Cruise Expeditions

Times are customized to guests needs. Beach, shelling, lunch or sailing "custom tours." Boats can accommodate groups of 1-6 and 7-48 passengers.

Adventures in Paradise

Port Sanibel Marina

**14341 Port Comfort Rd., Fort Myers
Phone: 239-472-8443**

Backwater Fishing: Daily 9 a.m. to noon.

All fishing equipment, bait, tackle and license provided.

Sealife Encounter Excursion:

Daily 12:30 to 3 p.m.

Join the marine biologist/naturalist and cruise aboard "Miss Paradise" for a hands-on learning experience for the whole family complete with touch tanks and aquariums! See everything from seahorses to dolphins. Wear your beach shoes and bring your towels.

Shelling the Outer Islands:

Tues., Wed., Thurs., Sat. 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Cruise to the Outer Islands for Shelling and lunch at Barnacle Phil's. Cruise through San Carlos Bay, by the rookery and spoil islands while enjoying dolphins, herons, egrets and osprey! Wear beach shoes and bring your towels.

Afternoon Dolphin Cruise:

Tues., Wed., Thurs., Sat. 3:30-5 p.m.

Cruise through San Carlos and Pine Island Sound to see and learn about the mangrove islands and estuaries where Calusa Indians once lived. Learn the history, see the dolphins!

Sunset Dolphin Cruise: Daily

Call for departure time.

Complimentary champagne is served as you cruise out by Bird Island where all the birds come to roost for the night, along the coast of Sanibel and out by the Lighthouse. Canoe/Kayak Rentals & Eco-Tours: Rentals daily. Tours 9 to 11 a.m. Paddle through Larry's Lagoon, along Stingray Bay through the Mangrove Forest. Discover where manatee visit, dolphins feed, birds flock and eagles nest!

Sanibel Marina

**634 N. Yachtsman Drive
Phone: 239-472-2723**

Dolphin and Wildlife Cruises

Tour the islands aboard "The Sanibel Thriller." Not just a boat ride but a narrated seagoing adventure. Call for reservations. Also, enjoy the dolphins aboard "The Stars and Stripes" on beautiful Pine Island Sound. \$15 for adults, \$9.50 for children. Both vessels are available for private parties.

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*served daily until 6 p.m.



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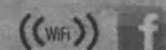
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Stacy Nigon



Wendy Rex



Tim Monaghan

Tarpon Bay Explorers adds six to staff

Tarpon Bay Explorers, the official concessionaire for The J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, continues to expand staff numbers to ensure the best possible service during this busy tourist season. Six additional staff members have been added to fishing guide, boat ramp,

naturalist and gift shop positions.

The Explorers provides guided eco-tours by kayak, boat and tram for the Refuge. They also offer fishing charters on Tarpon Bay as well as kayak, canoe, family pontoon boat and bicycle rentals. A unique, nature-themed gift shop is

onsite.

Dave Johns joins the Explorers as a fishing guide. Joel Lohnes and Timothy Monaghan were added as boat ramp professionals. Stacy Nigon and Wendy Rex were hired as naturalists while Julie Wesley is the new gift shop associate.

Tarpon Bay Explorers invites everyone to experience the many adventures they have to offer seven days a week at 900 Tarpon Bay Road. Call 239-472-8900 for information and reservations.

Gopher tortoises emerge for 'spring training'

Submitted by DIANE HIRTH

Like a baseball player stretching muscles and sharpening skills during spring training, the gopher tortoise is emerging from its winter dormancy and slowly, steadily transversing the landscape in search of food and a new place to dig its burrow.

Gopher tortoises have a distinctive domed brown shell and stumpy legs as these land-dwellers make their way around Florida's forests and sandy areas. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) reminds residents and visitors that gopher tortoises are good neighbors, so leave them and their burrows alone.

"(FWC) works with, and is grateful to, the homeowners, landowners, businesses and public agencies willing to share their lands with gopher tortoises and their burrows," said Deborah Burr, FWC gopher tortoise plan coordinator. "This state has made progress in reversing the decline of gopher tortoises by providing direction to developers, including re-locating tortoises if necessary, and help to people interested in making room for tortoises."

Florida's first Gopher Tortoise Management Plan was adopted by the FWC in 2007 and is being updated this year. More than 50 individuals and stakeholders have made suggestions on improving the plan. Proposed draft revisions to the plan are available online. Go to MyFWC.com/GopherTortoise and click on the "Management Plan" link.

Since the Gopher Tortoise Management Plan took effect, an annual average of 36,000 acres of gopher tortoise habitat has been restored and managed; protected tortoise habitat expanded by more than 6,500 acres; and more than 4,000 gopher tortoises were humanely relocated from development sites.

"In addition to changes in Florida's economy, the needs of the gopher tortoise have changed since the plan was first approved in 2007," Burr said. "The proposed revisions to the plan include new actions that the FWC and our partners can implement together to improve the status of the species, and help secure viable populations well into the future."

There will be additional public comment opportunities through July on each improved draft of the plan.

In Florida, it is illegal to harm gopher tortoises or their extensive burrows, which provide shelter to more than 350 other native species. Generally, the only time people should pick up and move a gopher tortoise is to help it get across a road. Remember, though, not to put the tortoise in your car. Point the tortoise in the same direction it was going when you picked it up, but never put it in the water because it is a land animal.

The best protection for this state-threatened species is people being aware of the tortoises' needs and happy to share their lawns and lands with the tortoise that can live 40 to 60 years in the wild.

Shell proceeds



PHOTO PROVIDED

Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club president Jeff Oths (left) presents a check for almost \$300 to Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum director Dr. Jose H. Leal from proceeds raised at the Museum's Live Shell booth during the annual Shell Fair & Show in March. Museum volunteer Sue Sprout, along with Sanibel School sixth-graders trained by Sue and teacher Peggy Drennan, displayed shells and answered questions for fair visitors, while Rick Sprout maintained the exhibits.

Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum adds shells to World Record display

Contributed to the REPORTER

The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum has added three pieces to its World Record-Size Shells exhibit: a *Fasciolaria hunteria*, found off Sanibel, and an *Opeatostoma pseudodon*, found off Ecuador, are from the collection of William G. Lyons of St. Petersburg, Fla. The other shell, a *Spondylus tenellus*, was discovered in Australia and is displayed on loan from Dr. William Reid of Marco Island, Fla.



Keep Sanibel beautiful...Please recycle!

SCTC, employees participate in charity walk

Submitted by **KATHLEEN McCLANAHAN-GRUHL**

Danny Thomas once said, "Success in life is not measured by what you gain or accomplish, but rather by what you do for others."

The Sanibel Captiva Trust Co., its Board of Directors and clients would measure up very well as they do for others every day. The company supports charities that are important to their clients.

A recent example occurred on March 24 when many of SCTC's employees participated in the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Walk in Naples as a Corporate Sponsor. The event drew more than 500 volunteers and raised more than \$125,000.

"Our commitment to NAMI stems from our commitment to support worthy causes in the communities that we serve and to support Elaine and Tom August, who have been inspirational in their commitment to NAMI and so many charities," says Al Hanser, CEO and Co-Chairman of Sanibel Captiva Trust Co.

The Augusts, clients of SCTC, are passionate supporters of NAMI after tragically losing a son to mental illness 10 years ago. Kathryn Leib-Hunter, who then had a mental health practice in Fort Myers and is now Executive Director of NAMI of Collier County, helped them thru that painful experience and also helped the Augusts establish an emergency program for the mentally ill.

"The Trust Company's wonderful support means so much to us," says Elaine August. "Their endorsement helps us rid the stigma of mental illness — those people who need help, not closets them in. These funds help NAMI with the tools and programs for those in need and their loved ones."

"Tom and Elaine are quietly active in helping others," said Terry Igo, President of SCTC and Tampa Bay Trust Co. "This event is very dear to them ... we enjoy participating each year to honor their son and support the fine work of NAMI."

NAMI is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the 60-plus million Americans affected by mental illness.



PHOTO PROVIDED
Elaine and Tom August pose with acclaimed television, movie and stage actor Eric Roberts (center), who served as Grand Marshal for the National Alliance of Mental Illness Walk in Naples last month.



Rotary taking scholarship applications

Rotary taking scholarship applications

The Sanibel-Captiva Rotary is now accepting applications for two college scholarships for the 2012-2013 academic year, each with its own special requirements.

The Rotary Club has a long tradition of providing scholarships to students with outstanding academic achievement and financial need. The amount of the scholarship is governed by the annu-



al budget of the Rotary Trust Fund. No scholarship is less than \$3,000 annually, and will be disbursed in increments of \$1,500 per semester (fall/spring).

The scholarship may be renewed for up to the fourth year of college to students who maintain superior scholastic performance and financial need. The deadline for applying for these scholarships is April 30. Students must live on Sanibel Island or have parents that work on the island.

The Dick Aldrich Scholarship: Aldrich exemplified all the qualities of a fine Rotarian. He was an active member for 20 years and served on numerous committees. He lived the Rotary motto of "Service Above

Self." The funds for this scholarship came from fellow Rotarians, his many Sanibel friends and family. The Rotary Club of Sanibel Captiva matched all funds received from those honoring Dick's memory. The recipient of this award can attend any post secondary higher education school they choose and must meet the requirements spelled out in the application, available as a download at www.sanibelrotary.org. This is a one year scholarship, renewed on yearly bases with all previous recipients and new applicants being considered each year.

The Bill Angst Florida Gulf Coast University Scholarship: This scholarship is named in honor of Angst, a former president of the Sanibel Water Commission Board and past president of the Sanibel Rotary Club. He was very active in the community and the club. The recipient must go to the Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers and meet the requirements spelled out in the application, available as a download at www.sanibelrotary.org. This is a four-year scholarship, given the recipient continues to meet the requirements of the scholarship application of need and grade average.

The Jimmy Traucht University of

No Rotary meeting

The Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club will not meet on April 13. Some club officers and club members are cruising the Caribbean with fellow Rotarians from Rotary District 6960 for this area's district meeting. Meetings resume at 7 a.m. on April 20th at the Beachview Bistro, Par View Drive, Sanibel.

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- Very private, good rental history
- \$289,600 (2120445)

Rose Dakos 472-5187 x 233

Heron Model at Sanctuary

NEW LISTING



- Awesome golf course views
- Desirable 3/2.5 ground floor unit
- Completely furnished, corner location
- Private garage, pool shared w/5 other units
- \$624,000 (2120446)

Judy Reddington 472-5187 x 331

It's Like Living in a Park

NEW LISTING



- Desirable East/West orientation
- Short stroll to nearby beaches
- Continuous wildlife viewing
- Private country lane
- \$239,555 (2120451)

Charlie Sobczak 472-5187 x 255

Beautiful Beachview

NEW LISTING



- 3 BR/2BA remodeled near beach home
- New floors, bathrooms, cabinets
- Renovated pool, new pool enclosure
- Community tennis, restaurant, golf course
- \$799,000 (2120452)

Fred/Shane Spring 472-5187 x 284/285

Vacant Land Opportunity

NEW LISTING



- River views from 2nd story
- Last opportunity to build in San Mateo
- Excellent lot value, great location
- Near Sanibel & Ft. Myers Beach
- \$84,900 (2120457)

Jason Lomano 472-5187 x 286

Beach Front Pool Home

PRICE REDUCED



- 4BR/4BA furnished home, great sunsets
- Cathedral ceiling & wood floors in great room
- Large master bedroom with his & hers baths
- New metal roof 2006; pool resurfaced 2009
- \$2,365,000 (2101151)

Janie Howland 472-5187 x 268

Captiva Beach

PRICE REDUCED



- 3BR/3BA near beach home
- Screened pool, hardwood floors
- Furnished with some exceptions
- Fireplace, excellent rental income
- \$1,399,000 (2601601)

Les Pendleton 472-5187 x 266

Very Near Beach Home

PRICE REDUCED



- 3BR/2BA with newer metal roof
- Elevated home with deeded beach access
- 12,500 SQ FT lot, room for a pool
- Well maintained, split bedroom floor plan
- \$399,000 (2111034)

Glen Simmons 472-5187 x 332

Lake Front Pool Home

PRICE REDUCED



- 3BR/2BA on coveted cul-de-sac
- Immaculate condition, new kitchen & baths
- Over 2400 A/C area, tongue/groove ceiling
- Fireplace, recently painted, new roof in 2004
- \$597,000 (2111165)

Dan Cohn 472-5187 x 294

The Dunes...Tradition Matters

PRICE REDUCED



- 3+Bedroom, 2.5 bath home
- Western views overlooking lake
- Pool, serene grounds, elevator & porches
- Oversized lot, soaring ceilings, sunny rooms
- \$629,000 (2120274)

Mary Lou Bailey 239-472-5187 x 246

Cape Coral



- 4BR/2BA nicely appointed large home
- Plantation shutters on all windows
- Large fenced backyard w/playground set
- Room for pool, near new shopping centers
- \$116,000 (2110601)

Jayne Lumley 472-5187 x 237

Quality Built Bay Front Home



- 5BR/5BA, 2 offices, bay views
- Pier-like 225' dock & boat lift
- Double sided fireplace, elevator
- Furnished, pool/spa, 28' Pursuit
- \$4,995,000 (2900324)

James & Penny Hetmanek 472-5187 x 219/202

Secluded And Private Sandpiper Beach



- Two bedroom, two bath, corner unit
- Light, bright decor, well furnished
- Excellent pool & gulf views
- Popular weekly rental complex
- \$610,000 (2110059)

David Schuldenfrei 472-5187 x 227

Room for a Crowd



- Ground level, 3 bedroom corner unit
- Sleeps eight, great rental, close to pool
- Updated with granite, tile, washer/dryer
- Gulf views, beautifully remodeled
- \$799,000 (2100395)

Ada Shissler 472-5187 x 254

Beautiful Beach Condo



- New kitchen, baths, tile, etc.
- Over \$55,000 in renovations in 2011
- Storm proof sliders & windows
- 1st floor walk-out, no stairs or elevator
- \$450,000 (2120334)

Ron Smiley 472-5187 x 334

Top Floor Heron Condo



- 2BR/2.5BA plus den
- Over 2,569 square feet
- 10' ceilings, crown molding, marble bath
- Skylight, single car garage
- \$609,000 (2120082)

Steve Harrell & Toby Tolp 472-5187 x 252/253



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International Director candidate speaks to Sanibel Captiva Lions

The Sanibel Captiva Lions Club enjoyed a special event when C. David Lloyd, one of three candidates for the position of Lions Club International Director, visited the club to discuss his candidacy and ask for the members support.

Lloyd, from Brevard County, explained the importance of the election. Population growth outside the USA is leading to a rapid increase in the number of Lions from non USA countries. It is therefore important for each of the U.S. directors to be prepared to play an active role in the international

organization. Lloyd confirmed that he is fully committed to this and indeed relishes the opportunity.

His experience includes serving in all Club Officer Positions and as Club Bulletin Editor, Webmaster, and IT Chair. He has also served as Zone Chairman and District 35-R Governor, Cabinet Secretary, Credentials Chair, and Constitution & By-Laws Chair.

In recognition of his Lions service he has received numerous awards including three International President's Certificates of Appreciation, an LCI membership key, four Golden Chain



C. David Lloyd

Awards, the Governor's Achievement Award, two club Anchor Awards, a Club Presidents Excellence Award, and four 100 percent Club Secretary Awards.

His wide experience will help him considerably in the demanding role of director and the many public events that will require his presence.

Members of the Sanibel Captiva Lions Club found Lloyd's insights into the complex structure of Lions Club International very useful in building a clear understanding of the wide ranging Lions activities at international level.

Big Arts offers Recreation Center members 'Tavern' discount

The BIG ARTS Herb Strauss Theater is offering Sanibel Recreation Center members a 30 percent discount ticket price to attend evening performances of "Over the Tavern."

Admission for Sanibel Rec members (adult, senior) is \$30 plus tax. All participating members can purchase tickets at the Strauss Theater box office, 2200

Periwinkle Way, or BIG ARTS Marks box office, 900 Dunlop Road, with a valid Sanibel Rec membership card (6-month or annual) or receipt of a currently valid daily/weekly pass to the rec center.

The discount ticket offer is good for selected seats at all 8 p.m. shows at the Herb Strauss Theater through April 21. One ticket per membership card.

Set in Buffalo, New York, playwright Tom Dudzick's hometown, Over the Tavern relives the Eisenhower years of the 1950s and the dysfunctionally delightful Pazinski family. Chet and Ellen Pazinski and their four children live above the Polish-Catholic family's tavern and each are struggling in their own unique and sometimes mischievous ways to abide by the true meaning of family values.



When wise-cracking 12-year-old Rudy explains to his teacher, Sister Clarissa, that he is going to "shop around for a more fun religion" the stage is set for this heart-warming comedy. Don't miss the show that The Chicago Sun Times calls "utterly charming."

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TRANSACTIONS & LITIGATION



F.I.S.H. donation



The Sanibel Captiva Trust sponsored the Opening Night Reception for the "Retrospective" showing of J. Charles McCullough's historical images of Sanibel and Captiva at The Tower Gallery. The month-long showing netted a \$1,300 donation to F.I.S.H. On hand for the check ceremony, from left, were Terry Igo, F.I.S.H. president Bill Fellows, and Al Hanser and Chip Lesch from SCTC. Dolores Karp won of the signature piece donated by McCullough.

PHOTO PROVIDED

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through facility improvements and equipment while keeping revenues at a sustainable level.

"Our last rate increase was in March 2009, but inflation over that time has increased 48 percent," said Lindman. "Revenue has stayed the same and I attribute that to good management and the stability of our employee work force."

Five job vacancies at IWA have been filled in the last year, bringing the total number of employees to its highest level at 33.

"We have an aging work force," said Lindman. "One-third of our workers are under the age of 40, one-third are 40 to 50 and one-third over 50. We have addressed ways of replacing workers when they leave through training methods."

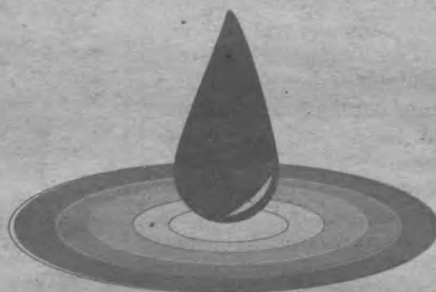
Board treasurer William Carr reported on the financial status, declaring the IWA "financially sound." He said revenues have remained steady since the 2009 rate increase at about \$7 million a year with costs expected to exceed \$5 million for the first time this year. Higher costs are due in part to the hiring of five new employees.

Capital improvement projects are expected to cost the IWA a little over

\$2 million this year plus about \$650,000 in debt service. Those two items will be paid with the help of \$1.2 million from reserve funds.

"We have plenty of reserves," said Carr. "There will not be a need to ask for a rate increase at this time. We are financially sound."

The largest current capital project for the year is the replacement of aging and failing pipes in the Dunes subdivision area, scheduled to start this week. Isler demonstrated improved material and technology being used in the Dunes and everywhere throughout the system.



request to the Land Development Code regarding marine structures.

Joint applicants Robert and Anita Smith and Mark and Deborah Wlaz, next-door neighbors and recent property buyers in the Shell Harbor subdivision, sought approval for a common walkway connecting their two existing boat docks across the required 15-foot side lot line requirement. The connecting walkway at the corner of a canal was constructed by previous owners in 1995. The adjacent properties were developed before the City of Sanibel was incorporated.

The nonconforming dock came to the attention of the Planning Department during a site inspection and subsequent search for development or variance permits in city records.

After much discussion of five conditions, the variance was unanimously approved.

Previously discussed changes to three parts of the EAR regarding human support systems, water supply and wastewater treatment elements met with little opposition. Most of the revisions were described by planning

director James Jordan as "housecleaning" by removing references to the Florida Administrative Code.

Special attention was paid to the fact the city essentially has reached "build-out" status. Remaining lands available for residential development consists of a few vacant lots in existing subdivisions and no vacant lands in the Resort Housing District. The city also has less than 10 acres of vacant commercially zoned land.

The city has matured to a redevelopment phase, focusing on maintenance and upgrades to existing facilities.

"I like bringing the certainty of a conclusion," Talmage said after adjournment. "I'm interested in people bringing properties to us with ease and under the same code. And I'm excited about all the green elements."

The next commission meeting on April 24 will include a public hearing on a conditional use permit application for onsite food preparation association with the operation of a proposed juice bar as an incidental use to the Sanibel Sprout, an existing health food store.

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- 4307 NW 39th Street.....SOLD!
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SPORTS

Grouper offshore, reds and trout inshore

Calm seas over the first several days of grouper season led anglers to some impressive catches offshore, and inshore the reds and snook were biting on both calm and windy days.

Good reports of red grouper came offshore from depths ranging from 55 to 85 off the coast southwest of Knapp's Point north to the waters off Boca Grande. Fishing over structure including hard Swiss cheese bottom, rock piles, and ledges yielded grouper up to 29 inches with many boats limiting out. Baits included live pinfish, grunts, blue runners fished live and dead baits included mullet strips and Spanish sardines.

Grunts, porgies, lane and mangrove snapper were also caught with the grouper and a few anglers reported that large goliath grouper were often a nuisance as they were stealing grouper off the hook.



Capt. Bill Russell

On the Water

Tarpon are beginning to arrive off the beaches, early last week before the winds picked up fish were both sighted and hooked off Sanibel between Bowman's Beach and Sundial Resort. Tarpon in singles and pairs were also found in Charlotte Harbor and between Captiva and Redfish Pass sunning over sandy potholes.

Trout fishing remained steady with fish reported in about all the inshore waters, not as many "gator" trout were reported over the week, but plenty of fish from just undersize up to 20 inches.

A few notable areas that held fish included the grass flats south of Bert's Bar in Matlacha Pass and Buzzard Bay to the north. In Pine Island Sound, grass flats from Blind Pass Channel north to Redfish Pass and grass flats and potholes west of Cabbage Key. Baits included live shrimp, pilchards and a host of artificials including white and chartreuse soft shad tails and top water lures early in the mornings.

Finally, some days with good tides made it easier to target redfish. On the morning low water, fish were found moving across the turtle grass flats with the rising water in Pine Island Sound from Pineland south to Panther Key and also across the Sound off the eastern shore of Cayo Costa. On the higher water, reds were caught under the mangroves and on oyster bars on the eastern side of Buck Key, in south Matlacha Pass between Tropical Point and the power lines and in Charlotte Harbor on the eastern shore and Bull Bay. Reds were averaging 21 to 25 inches with a few up to 30 inches reported. Baits included shrimp, pilchards, pinfish, gold spoons, and Gulp shrimp. Anglers targeting redfish with live bait are also reporting snook in good numbers. The warm weather has snook on the move and hungry, while they are a blast to catch snook season remains closed. Have fun catching

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See GROUPEr, page 33

them, just make sure to use circle hooks with live or dead bait to prevent deep hook-ups, handle them with care, and get them back in the water safely and quickly. They appear to be on the rebound from the devastating winter freeze two years ago, if we all do our part, then just maybe we will have a snook season again, sooner rather than later.

If you have a fishing report or for charter information, please contact us at: 239-283-7960; www.fish-pineisland.com or gcl2fish@live.com.

Have a safe week and good fishin'.



Visiting from Minnesota over the Easter Holiday, 10-year-old Aaron TerHaar caught an inshore slam that included trout, snook, and this hard fighting 29-inch redfish, plus another redfish that measured 26 inches. He was fishing in Charlotte Harbor with his dad Keith, Grandpa Dave Hubner, and Capt. Bill Russell. The boy is gonna be a fisherman for sure!

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SPORTS

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Beachview crowns winners

Beachview Men's Golf Association played two events last week.

A very modified stableford event on April 7 (1 point for a bogey, 2 points for a par, 3 points for birdie, 4 points for an eagle) was won by Fred Zimmer, Wayne Turner and Dick Choccol. They threesome played well but also have to thank Guy Tober, who had a great game and was the blind draw for any threesomes.

Their final score with Tober filling in on the scorecard was 167. In second place were Jim Mulka, Bob Cushman and Roger Cogswell. They also had a

good round and were rewarded with Tober as their blind draw for a score of 166. In third was a real foursome of Bill Stell, Gus Young, David Wright and Jerry Mader, who turned in a score of 157.

A two-man best ball event on April 3 was won by "Dead-eye Dick" Cordair and new BMGA president Jerry Mader. They wound up with a net score of 50.

In second place were Bob Richlin and Dave Lewis with a score of 52. Third place with a 56 went to Dick Waterhouse and Ralph Barton.



PHOTOS PROVIDED
Winners on April 7, from left, were Dick Choccol, Wayne Turner, Fred Zimmer.



Winners on April 3, from left, were Dick Cordair and Jerry Mader.

Tarpons crush Rampage 60-7

Special to the Reporter

The Florida Tarpons remain undefeated with a 60-7 win Saturday against the Rome Rampage. The Tarpons rolled before 4,174 fans at Germain Arena.

New quarterback Chris Wallace finished his first game in a Tarpons uniform by completing 17-of-31 passes for 307 yards and eight touchdowns. The first play from scrimmage was a deep touchdown pass from Wallace to Donal Fusilier.

Fusilier, the leading scorer in the UIFL, finished the game with seven catches for 130 yards and three TDs. Carlos Singleton had six catches for 89 yards and four touchdowns. Chuck Walker caught four passes for 88 yards, and one TD.

Linebacker Harriel Moore led the team

with eight tackles and three sacks. Jordan Green also had eight tackles with one interception.

The Tarpons travel to Lakeland this weekend to take on the Lakeland Raiders. Their next home game is "Sanibel Night" on April 28 against the Mississippi Hound Dogs at Germain Arena.

Special reduced ticket rates for adults and children are \$7 for end zone and \$12 for sideline seats. Tickets are available at the Sanibel Recreation Center through April 27.

Teens ages 12-15 can join the fun as a group for \$10 (members) or \$10.75 (non-members).

Call the Recreation Center for more information (239) 472-0345.

Dunes golf results

Dunes Golf & Tennis Club Men's Golf Association

April 4 Results

Individual Points Quota

A Flight — 1. Jim Burkholder +1-; 2. Knud Christensen +8; 3. Felix Cucuru +7; 4. Ron Leavitt +7.

B Flight — 1. Don Weymouth +8; 2. Jerry Nichols +7; 3. Robert Orr +5; 4. Jack Cohen +5.

C Flight — 1. Charles Simms +11; 2. David Parmelee +9; 3. Bruce Sprinkle +8; 4. Don Sikkema +6.

Men's Interclub Qualifier

at Old Hickory

Individual Points Quota

April 4 Results

Qualifiers — 1. Knud Christensen +8; 2. (tie) Felix Cucuru, Ron Leavitt +7; 4. Bob Kent +6; 5. (tie) Ed Greenberg, Bruce McLaughlin, Dave Jones +3; 8. Bob Schoen +2; 9. Mike Hnatow +1; 10 (tie) Jack Roberts, Dick Hopkins 0; 12. Howard Dwyer -1.

Alternates — Bill Hotchkiss, Gordon Rains, Phil Pilibosian, Douglas Mallon.

Women's Golf Association Hibiscus Member-Guest Day

April 6 Results

Stars Flight — 1. Claudia Finzen, Cookie Lehtinen, Maureen Rains, Cindy White -24; 2. Daphne Hellmuth, Kandi Sanger, Bobbie Kimber, Lena Brown -18; 3. Annie Wainwright, Lesley Simmons, Gussie Blue, ZoZo Younger -17.

Stripes Flight — 1. Doris Dewitt, Sandi Hanson -16; 2. Judy Yenköle, Fay Chestnut, Ann McDonald, Kate Sergeant -14; 3. Linda Defrancisco, Gay Nichols, Carol Brodersen, Julie O'Neill -13.

Nifty Niners

Dunes Golf & Tennis Club Low Putts

April 5 Results

1. Joan Kelly 13; 2. Sue Norpell 14; Roberta Rohl 15.

Chip-In Birdie — #1, Julie O'Neill; #4, Jan McLaughlin.



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SportsCalendar

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Island Reporter

BASEBALL



■ Home
□ Away

April 11 vs. Jupiter 7:05 p.m.	April 12 vs. Bradenton 7:05 p.m.	April 13 vs. Bradenton 7:30 p.m.	
April 14 vs. Bradenton 6:05 p.m.	April 15 at Jupiter 5:05 p.m.	April 16 at Jupiter 6:35 p.m.	April 17 at Jupiter 6:35 p.m.
April 19 vs. Bradenton 7:05 p.m.	April 20 vs. Bradenton 6:30 p.m.	April 21 vs. Bradenton 6:30 p.m.	April 22 at St. Lucie 4:00 p.m.
April 23 at St. Lucie 6:30 p.m.	April 24 at St. Lucie 6:30 p.m.	April 25 vs. Palm Beach 7:05 p.m.	April 26 vs. Palm Beach 7:05 p.m.
April 27 vs. Palm Beach 7:05 p.m.	April 28 vs. St. Lucie 6:05 p.m.	April 29 vs. St. Lucie 1:05 p.m.	April 30 vs. St. Lucie 7:05 p.m.
May 1 at Palm Beach 6:35 p.m.	May 2 at Palm Beach 6:35 p.m.	May 3 at Palm Beach 10:35 a.m.	May 4 vs. Lakeland 7:05 p.m.
May 5 vs. Lakeland 6:05 p.m.	May 6 vs. Lakeland 1:05 p.m.	May 7 vs. Lakeland 10:35 a.m.	May 8 at Dunedin 6:30 p.m.
May 9 at Dunedin 6:30 p.m.	May 10 at Dunedin 6:30 p.m.	May 11 at Dunedin 6:30 p.m.	May 12 at Charlotte 6:30 p.m.



Sanibel Rec Center Calendar

Monday Hours 6:30am-8pm

- 6:45 am Power Sculpting
- 7:15 am Low -Impact Aerobics
- 8:30 am Cycle Zone
- 9:00 am Shallow Water Aerobics
- 10:00 am Hi-Low Impact aerobics
- 10:30 am Deep Water Aerobics
- 12:00 pm Hatha Flow Yoga
- 5:15 pm BOSU Pilates
- 6:30 pm Zumba

Tuesday Hours 6:30am - 8:00pm

- 6:45 am Flow Yoga
- 7:15 am Cycle Zone
- 8:30 am Cycle Zone
- 9:00 am Deep Water Aerobics
- 10:00 am Power Sculpting
- 10:30 am Water Pilates
- 12:00 pm Aquaritis
- 12:00 pm Zumba Gold
- 4:15 pm BOSU Ball & Strength
- 5:30 pm Cycle Zone
- 6:00 pm Flow Yoga

Wednesday Hours 6:30am - 8:00pm

- 6:45 am Power Sculpting
- 7:15 am Low- Impact Aerobics
- 8:30 am Cycle Zone
- 9:00 am Shallow Water Aerobics
- 10:00 am Hi-Low Impact Aerobics
- 10:30 am Deep Water Aerobics
- 12:00 pm Hatha Flow Yoga
- 1:00 pm Weight Room Orientation
- 4:15 pm BOSU Pilates
- 5:30 pm All-Level Yoga
- 6:30 pm Zumba

Thursday Hours 6:30am - 8:00pm

- 6:45 am Flow Yoga
- 7:15 am Cycle Zone

- 8:30 am Cycle Zone
- 9:00 am Aqua Jogging
- 10:00 am Power Sculpting
- 10:30 am Water Pilates
- 12:00 pm Aquaritis
- 12:00 pm Zumba Gold
- 5:30 pm Flow Yoga
- 5:30 pm BOSU Ball & Strength

Friday Hours 6:30am - 6:30pm

- 7:15 am Low -Impact Aerobics
- 8:30 am Cycle Zone
- 9:00 am Shallow Water Aerobics
- 10:00 am Hi-Low Impact Aerobics
- 10:30 am Deep Water Aerobics
- 12:00 pm Hatha Flow Yoga

Saturday Hours 8:00am- 5:00pm

- 8:15 am Cycle Zone
- 9:00 am Deep Water Aerobics
- 9:30 am Power Sculpting
- 10:00 am Flow Yoga

Sunday Hours noon - 5:00pm

Beginning April 8, the Rec Center will be open noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays for weight room, tennis courts, gym, water slide, features pool, splash pad and lap pool use.

The Sanibel Recreation Center is located at 3880 Sanibel-Captiva Road. Daily, weekly and annual memberships are available. For more information call the Sanibel Recreation Center at 239-472 0345 or visit our web site at www.mysanibel.com



ISLAND FACES

Enchanted Sanibel Sea School evening

By DINA CRAIG
Sanibel Sea School

The last Saturday before Easter, Sanibel Sea School celebrated six years on the islands of Sanibel and Captiva with their annual fund-raising party — Octifest on the Beach — in a big tent on Causeway Island A.

It was a perfect night for a gourmet local and sustainable dinner, good music, twinkling lights, good friends and a good cause. Proceeds benefit scholarships to Sanibel Sea School and the gap between tuition and the cost of the programs for all students who attend.

Principal corporate sponsors for the Octifest on the Beach were PURRE, who dedicated some of the last funds of PURRE to kids' ocean education, and Lily and Co., who was the key ingredient of a grand prize adventure that involved floating coconuts, glow sticks, and bobbing wishes cast off into the ocean.

The night ended with the blue glow of coconuts bobbing in the ocean, representing hopes and dreams cast off into the sea from guests. The first coconut to reach shore wins their choice of a \$5,000 diamond or equal-valued gift certificate from Lily & Co.

To learn about Sanibel Sea School, a 501c3 dedicated to a world in which all people value, understand and care for the ocean visit sanibelseaschool.org.



Heidi Marinello, Julie O'Neill and Chrissy Basturk.



Arlene Dillon and Daniel Wexler.



PHOTOS BY CAROL ORR HARTMAN
Susie Flinn, Allycia Kimball and Marcia Kimball (sponsor)



Marilyn Kane and JoAnn Paul-Young.



Tim O'Neill and Ginny Fleming.



Kate Pozeznik, Dina Craig.



Mary Ellen Pfeifer.



Evelyn Neill,
Lawrence
Leigh,
Jennifer
McMillen,
Jitka Vasek
and Dr.
Bruce Neill.



Rol Campbell, Dick Cohan, Bob Vinson and Dan Davidson (visiting from Portland, Maine)



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Zimomra and Barry Roth.



Mary Jane Vinson, Evelyn
Neill and Carol Hayduk.



Jay Yandle and Gentry
Thomas.



Jeff Haungs and Kathy
Polk.



Jon Finstrom and Sandy Stilwell.



Kristin Ubersax, Christine Kelly, Arlene Dillon
and Mary Ganske.



Nancy
and Peter
Bender
with
Lynne
Campean.



Cristin Bishara and Nicole McHale.



Kirsten and Marjorie Recker.



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