Island Sun

VOL. 13, NO. 25 SANIBEL & CAPTIVA ISLANDS, FLORIDA DECEMBER 23, 2005

DECEMBER SUNRISE/SUNSET: 23 07:12 17:43 24 07:12 17:43 25 07:13 17:44 26 07:13 17:44 27 07:14 17:45 28 07:14 17:46 29 07:14 17:46

Merry Christmas

from around the world!

Russian: Pozdrevlyayu s prazdnikom Rozhdestva is Novim Godom

Chinese: (Cantonese) Gun Tso Sun Tan'Gung Haw Sun

Dutch: Vrolijk Kerstfeest en een Gelukkig Nieuwjaar!

Slovakian: Sretan Bozic or Vesele vianoce

Brazilian: Boas Festas e Feliz Ano Novo

German: Froehliche Weihnachten

Bohemian: Vesele Vanoce

Arabic: Milad Majid

Croatian: Sretan Bozic

Danish: Glædelig Jul

Finnish: Hyvaa joulua

Irish: Nollaig Shona Dhuit

Navajo: Merry Keshmish

Hawaiian: Mele Kalikimaka

Greek: Kala Christouyenna!

Indonesian: Selamat Hari Natal

Iraqi: Idah Saidan Wa Sanah Jadidah

Hebrew: Mo'adim Lesimkha. Chena tova

Hungarian: Kellemes Karacsonyi unnepeket

African/Eritrean/Tigrinja: Rehus-Beal-Ledeats

Eskimo: (inupik) Jutdlime pivdluarit ukiortame pivdluaritlo!



Czech: Prejeme Vam Vesele Vanoce a stastny Novy Rok

Japanese: Shinnen omedeto. Kurisumasu Omedeto

Turkish: Noeliniz Ve Yeni Yiliniz Kutlu Olsun

Polish: Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia

Italian: Buone Feste Natalizie

Lithuanian: Linksmu Kaledu

Korean: Sung Tan Chuk Ha

Rumanian: Sarbatori vesele

Portuguese: Feliz Natal

French: Joyeux Noel

Spanish: Feliz Navidad

Thai: Sawadee Pee Mai

Serbian: Hristos se rodi

Yugoslavian: Cestitamo Bozic

Ukrainian: Srozhdestvom Kristovym

Vietnamese: Chung Mung Giang Sinh

Latin: Natale hilare et Annum Faustum!

Swedish: God Jul and (Och) Ett Gott Nytt År

Bulgarian: Tchestita Koleda; Tchestito Rojdestvo Hristovo

Iroquois: Ojenyunyat Sungwiyadeson honungradon nagwutut.

Old Fashioned Christmas Display by Gail Meier • The Rutland Home • Sanibel Historical Village & Museum

Shared-use Path Clean-Up Day

The Sanibel Bicycle Club will be sponsoring the island's 3rd annual Shared-Use Path Clean-up Day on January 12.

Last year, participants picked up an estimated 153 pounds of litter. The path system is one of the great treasures of Sanibel and the annual path clean-up day gives the community a chance to demonstrate its pride in the paths by keeping them litter-free for all to enjoy, say the organizers.

Additional details will be published soon, but interested parties should save the date, Thursday, Janaury 12, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

For further information, contact George Sousa at 395-1695.☆

Kiwanis Gears Up For The Santa Run

It's not to late, but it will be soon. Friday night, December 23, Kiwanis Santas will visit all the good little boys and girls (and pets and parents and grandparents and friends) delivering gifts.

If you would like Santa to deliver your gifts, wrap them, label them clearly, sack them up, put a clear concise label with driving directions, a phone number, an address and everything else a Santa needs to know on the outside of the sack, and drop it off at the main fire house before 3:30 p.m. on Friday, December 23.☆

SCA Holiday Miniature Golf



Minigolf at the Community Association

This year marks the 10th for the Sanibel Community Association's holiday miniature golf fundraiser. It will be a four-day event from Monday, December 26 through Thursday, December 29, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. The fee per round of golf is $3. Prizes will be given away for the winner in each division each day.

The Community House is at 2173 Periwinkle Way. Light food and refreshments will be available at a nominal cost. In previous years nearly 1,000 people took part each year.

For information call the office at 472-2155.☆



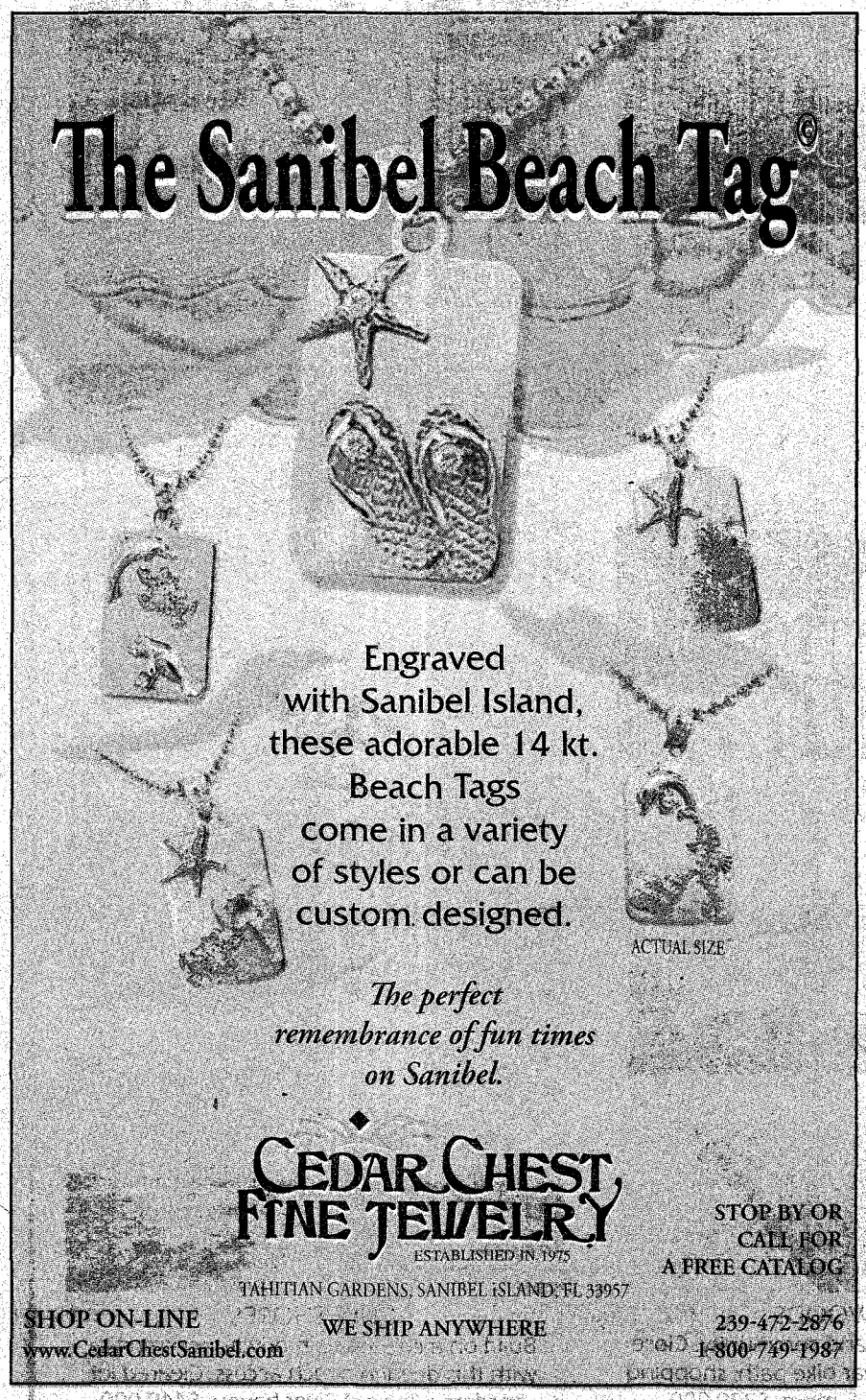
Antique toys are on display at The Sanibel Historical Village and Museum through January 7

Toy Show At The Museum

The Sanibel Historical Village and Museum is currently showing off precious treasures from the 1920s

Come to the Rutland Home and Bailey's old store to view these magnificent antiques. See Raggedy Ann smile as she sits among all these toys. The toys will be on display until January 7.

Days for viewing are Wednesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A donation of $5 is appreciated. The museum is located next to BIG ARTS. For more information, call 472-8871.☆



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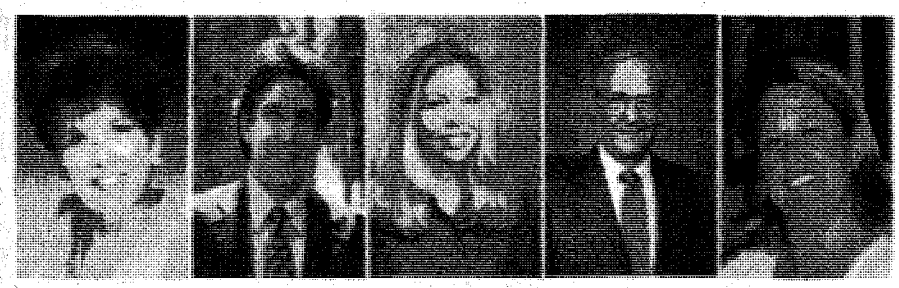
ring in the Holidays

May you and those you love share all the joys of the holiday season, and may you have a new year filled with blessings and happiness!
Your Friends at

Bailey's General Store
ESTABLISHED 1900

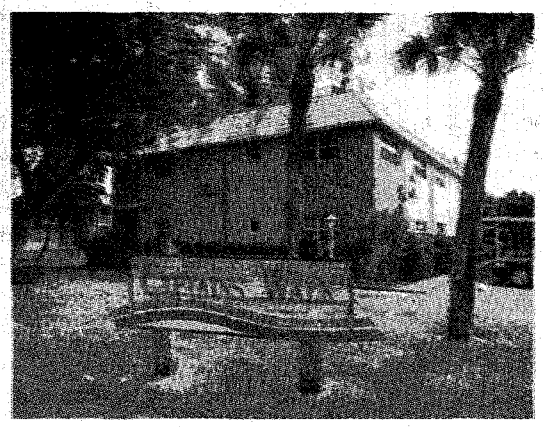
Corner of Periwinkle Way and Tarpon Bay Road
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Canal-side 2 bedroom on top floor. Screened porch with water view. Washer/dryer. East-end convenience. $349,000 partly furnished



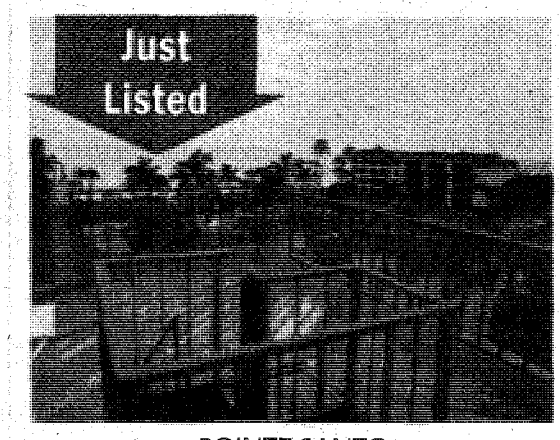
KINGS CROWN
Top-floor 2 bedroom 2 bath with den & this view. Pool & tennis, covered parking, plus on-site manager. Income too. $749,000 furnished



POINTE SANTO
Rare 1 bedroom. 3rd floor facing gulf with this view from balcony. New sliders, paint, & washer/dryer. Rental income too. $749,000 furnished

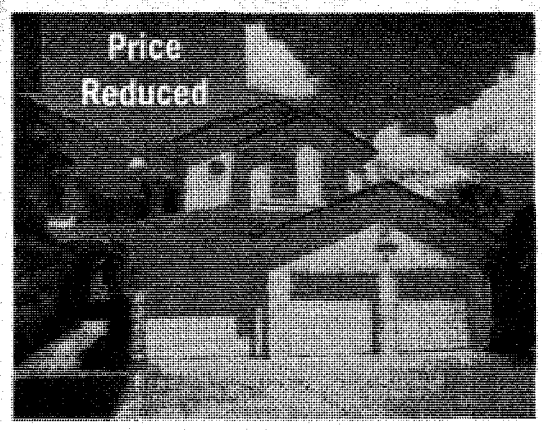


SAND POINTE
Tropically furnished 2 bedroom with this pool & beach view. Top floor with vaulted ceiling. Excellent rental income too. $899,000

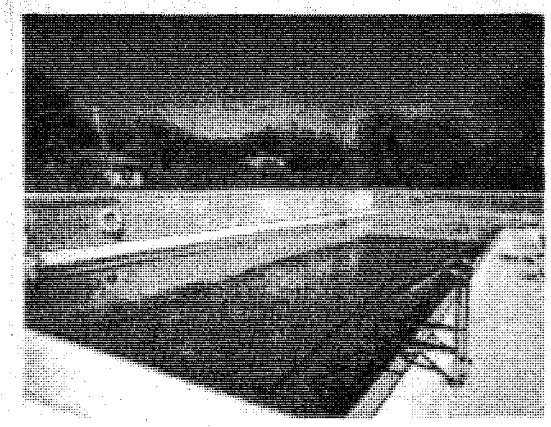


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GULF SHORES
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Mark Your Calendars

The Sanibel Community Association (SCA) knows that the next few months on Sanibel and Captiva will present a whirlwind of activities, so they want to make sure you'll mark your new 2006 calendars with the following dates:

January 20: SCA/Schoolhouse Theater Dinner Theater, *Let's Go To The Movies*

The Schoolhouse Theater cast sings and dances its way through some of the big screen's most memorable moments. Dinner is catered by The Two Party Guys and served at The Community House with the show at The Schoolhouse Theater. The dinner theater Event was sold out in November. A limited number of seats are available. Social hour is at 6 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. Then walk across the street for the performance at 8. Tickets are on sale now at $35 per person. Call the SCA at 472-2155.

This is a terrific group activity. Celebrate a birthday, anniversary or get together with your neighbors and friends. If you're celebrating a special event, SCA can arrange to have a cake.

January 25: The ReUnion Band, back by popular demand.

You can't help but have a good time at this event. The ReUnion Band brings everyone to their feet and up on the dance floor. The Two Party Guys will provide one of their fabulous buffets and then you'll have to dance all the calories off. Social hour is at 6 p.m. with dinner at 6:30, and then the band plays on. Members cost is $17; nonmembers, $20

January 31: The River Rats.

This is a very special event, a Branson-style show sponsored by Jensen's Twin Palms Marina – "We Don't Do The Top 40-We Do The Back 40."

The River Rats play a variety of songs including western, swing, blues, country, ballads, and old pop tunes, topped off with rib-splitting clean humor. Delightful entertainment for all. If you like good singing, harmony and family-friendly comedy, this is the show for you.

The River Rats are better than the Smothers Brothers. Show time is 8 p.m. Tickets are $15 per person. If you're ready to have fun this year, call the SCA business office at 472-2155 or stop by 2173 Periwinkle Way. Visa/MasterCard are accepted.✲

Our E-Mail address is
IslandSunSanibel@aol.com

Christmas Eve

5 o'clock – A special service for everyone including children and families, with Eucharist.

8 p.m. – The Christ's Mass, with congregational hymns and choir.

Christmas Day

10 o'clock in the morning –
A simple, traditional service of hymns for congregation and the Parish Choir, and the Christ's Mass.

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We Are Good Friends, You Know

by James E. Monroe

This is a little story I wrote when my grandson was beginning to doubt that there was a Santa. My son-in-law read it to the grandkids Christmas Eve.

It was December 24th, Chrismas Eve. The presents were wrapped and under the tree. The milk and cookies were out where Santa could find them. The kids were finally all asleep.

I was tired but everything was all done as I settled into my favorite easy chair to relax for a few minutes before I too went to bed. The satisfaction of a job well done and the comfort of my overstuffed chair soon took its effect as my eyelids grew heavy and soon closed.

How long I had dozed, I'm not sure. What I was sure of was some movement and muffled sounds over by the Christmas Tree. As my eyes became more accustomed to the dim light, I could make out the outline of a figure in a red outfit placing gifts under the tree. With that realization, I became fully awake.

"My God, it's Santa Claus."

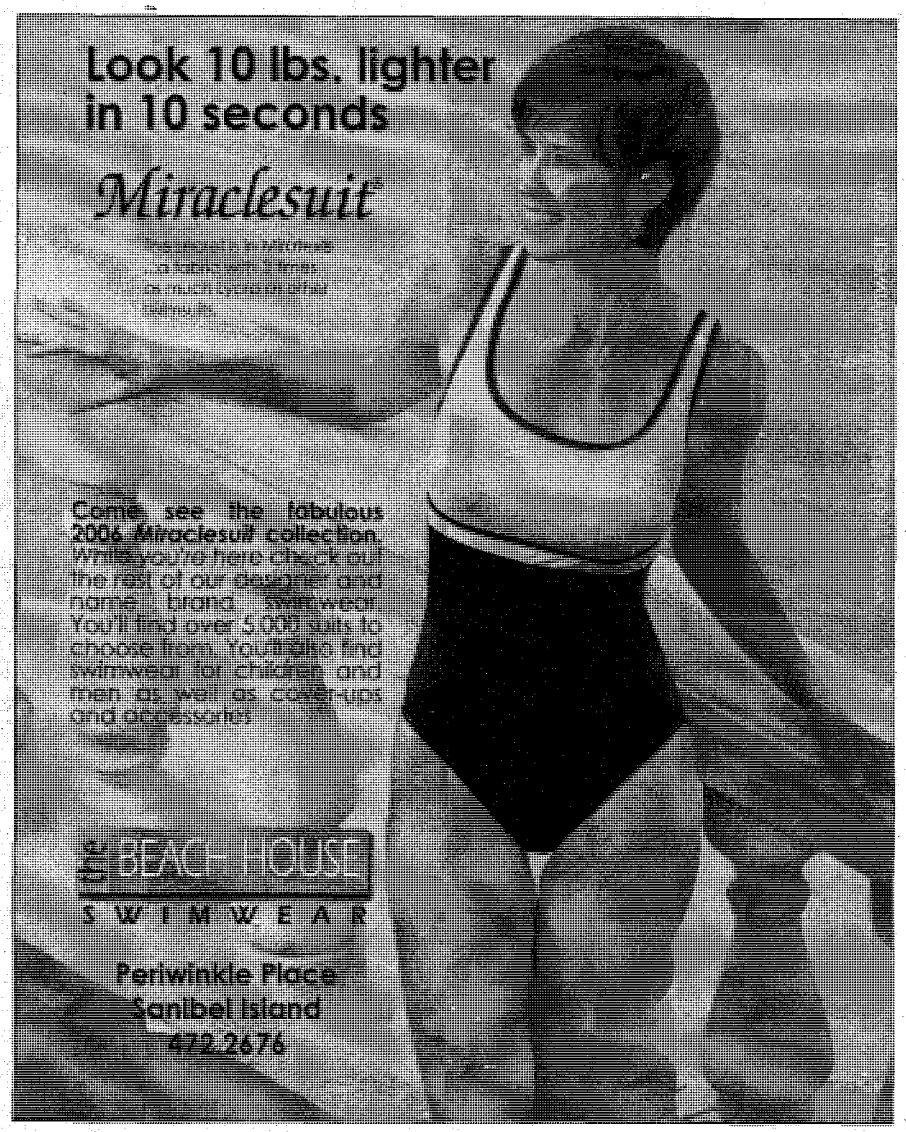
"No," he said, "not your God, but it is Santa Claus, but we are good friends you know."

"It was the birth of his son that started this whole idea of gift giving. In celebration of his birth each year, we give gifts to our loved ones and those in need. I kind of like the idea and I never seem to get tired of my part. I like to give people the idea of gift giving at this time of year. Wouldn't it be nice if we could do it all year round? Oh, I don't necessarily mean presents. Kind words and deeds would be enough. What a happier world this would be.

"Well, I have enjoyed sharing this time with you, but I must be on my way. You see that cloud up there? Wel, it is my last stop before going home. I will stop to pay my respects and thank God for allowing me to spread joy around the world again this Christmas season."

With a poof and a sprinkling of stars Santa faded into nothingness and was gone.

I sat there for some time not quite believing what had just happened. If it was a dream, it was one I wanted to remember. I closed my eyes, leaned back and thanked God for my visit from Santa Claus.☆





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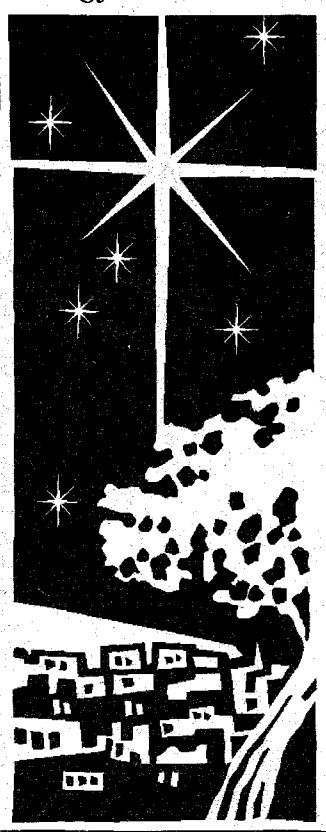


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CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Christmas Eve
Saturday, December 24
Mass With Children At 5:30 PM
Midnight Mass Celebrated At 10 PM

Christmas Day
Sunday, December 25
Mass At
8:30 AM And 10:30 AM

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INSIDE CITY HALL

Police Officers Honored For Water Rescues



From left: Officers Richard Griffin, Mark Steele, and George Krivas, Dispatcher Sandra Wall, and Police Aide Raymond Lacen (not pictured, Sgt. Anthony Thompson and Aide Antoine Williams)

by Anne Mitchell

Seven members of the Sanibel Police Department were called "heroes" Tuesday when the city council recognized them for rescuing a stricken kayaker at the fishing pier.

It happened the afternoon of August 17. Police received a call from Rita Stauss who said her son had fallen out of a kayak and was clinging to a barnacle-covered piling on the fishing pier in the strong current.

"Officer (George) Krivas, outfitted in his personal flotation device, swam out to a piling near the victim. Officer (Mark) Griffin remained closer to the shore... Officer (Antoine) Williams positioned himself a little further down the beach in the chance he lost his grip and was swept out and away from the pier," according to the police report.

Sanibel Fire and Rescue arrived and provided a rope to toss to the victim, Cliff Hogan, who was unable to correctly place it around himself. Officer Krivas was pulled by a flotation ring to the victim and was able to place it around him. Both were pulled safely to the shore," the report stated.

Dispatcher Sandra Wall was commended for her calm handling of the call and Police Aide Raymond Lacen for clearing traffic so officers could get quickly to the scene.

Krivas was honored for lifesaving, Sgt. Anthony Thompson for leadership, and the others for support.

Officer Griffin was also given a lifesaving award for rescuing two people who fell off a Jetski August 28. He got them aboard the police boat and also retrieved their personal watercraft.

Council also recognized Bruce Cochran who has left the police auxiliary after 16 years of service.☆

City May Ask Islanders To Vote On Lake Lawsuit

by Anne Mitchell

City leaders are moving ahead with plans to sue over the releases from Lake Okeechobee and may ask for residents' support by way of a referendum.

The council had hoped Lee County would make a similar move and that Sanibel could join in. But members learned Tuesday that commissioners had decided to wait 35 days to give staff lawyers time to research their legal options.

The uncertainty and the delay was not something the council was willing to accept.

At the urging of Council member Steve Brown, council made a series of decisions:

- To direct City Attorney Ken Cuyler to identify some law firms with the expertise needed to sue the federal government and the state of Florida;
- To have staff prepare the language by January 3 for a referendum that could be held 120 days later, probably in May;
- To direct staff to keep researching the issue;
- To continue coalition-building with other affected communities;
- And to ask City Manager Judie Zimomra to find $1 million in city coffers to fund the lawsuit.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers controls the lake water at the direction of the water management district.

It was an emotional meeting that lasted for about two hours.

Brown said he didn't want to wait for Lee County's decision, saying he didn't think they'd vote for a lawsuit. And time was wasting. "I liken it to every time I go to the beach I see people strangling our pelicans and ospreys and we say 'Oh, isn't it awful.' Shame on us for going as long as we have watching people strangle our wildlife."

Council member Jim Jennings didn't "want to jump on it that quick," but when it came to a vote it was unanimous.

Earlier in the meeting, Paul Andrews, president of Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society, said at last week's annual Christmas bird count, 6,000 fewer birds were counted than last year. Shore bird numbers dropped most, with 76 sanderlings being counted compared with more than 1,400 last year. The willet count, at 128, was down from 495 last year.

Andrews said he didn't know the reason, but said it was important to continue the counts.

The council also decided to send a whole battery of letters to gubernatorial candidates, two members of the South Florida Water Management District board whose terms are about to expire, to make sure they're aware of the problems Sanibel and other cities are facing from the polluted water that's being released at the rate of about 50,000 gallons a second.

continued on page 54

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Sanibel & Captiva Islands

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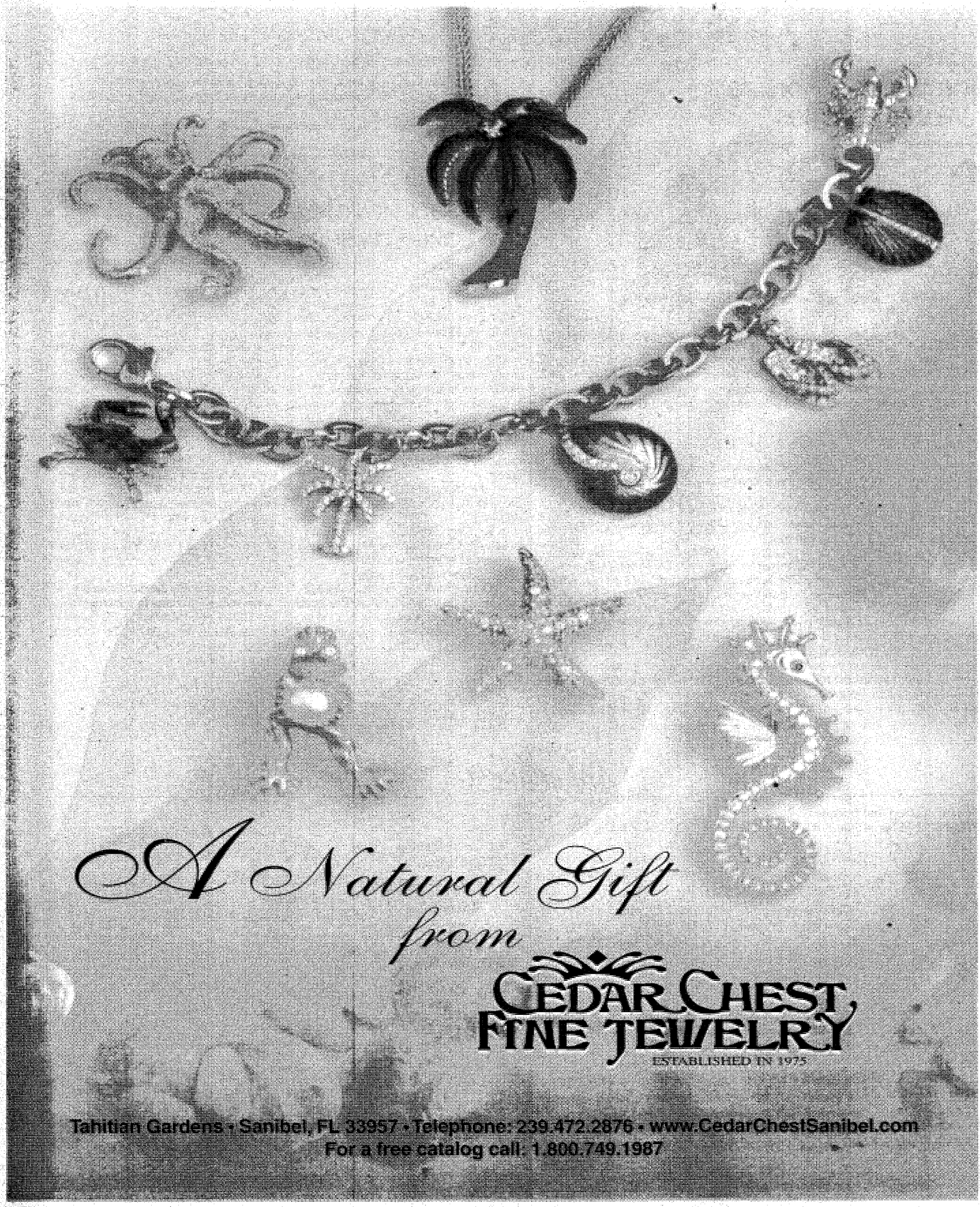
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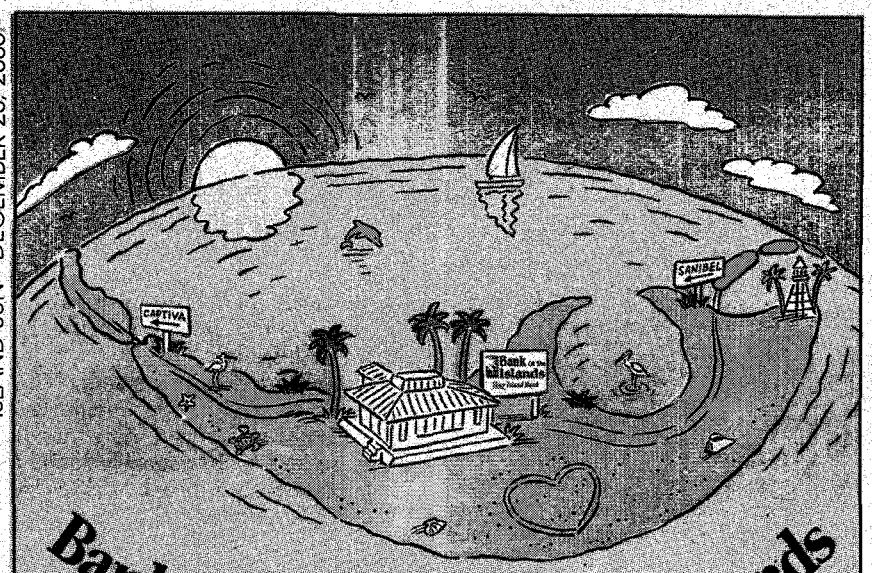
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Party For Children

St. Isabel's Women's Guild held its 18th annual Christmas party for the children of migrant workers on Sunday, December 18.

Because the church sustained extensive damage from Hurricane Charley and services are now held in the church hall, it was necessary to meet the children at St. Joseph the Worker in Fort Myers.

Guild members felt it was a good move since they were able to give gifts to 200 children due to the generosity of parishioners and visitors, John and Debbie Naumann and the associates of Coldwell Banker. After a visit with Santa (Paul Andrews) each child, accompanied by a guild member or member husband, was able to choose two gifts from a large selection.☆



St. Isabel's Women's Guild member Lynn Kern hands out gifts



Bring your family to celebrate JESUS...
THE REASON FOR THIS SEASON!

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

Saturday, December 24

5:00 p.m.	Contemporary Worship
7:00 p.m.	Contemporary Worship
9:00 p.m.	Traditional with Choir
11:00 p.m.	Christmas Communion

CHRISTMAS SUNDAY • DEC. 25
ONE WORSHIP SERVICE • 10 AM

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City Leaders Plan For Sanibel's Future

by Anne Mitchell

On the evening of December 14, the city council and planning commission met for a joint workshop on the topic of redevelopment with the goal of creating a blueprint for Sanibel's future. They're keenly aware of a whole slew of issues that threaten island life, some within their control, others not.

The new planning director, Robert Duffy, gave them some data to help focus the discussion, such as:

- During 2005 there were 322 active commercial businesses operating on Sanibel; in addition, there were 30 vacant commercial spaces;
- Within the past 12 months, six island commercial centers have been sold containing 46 spaces, and five "substantial" commercial properties are for sale containing 17 units, two of which are restaurants;
- The city's department of natural resources has estimated that 10 to 15 percent of the island's 12.6 miles of beaches experience a level of human activity during daylight hours to exclude "virtually all usage by shorebirds;"
- Lee County lost an estimated $3.4 million to $3.8 million in tourism expenditures in September and October due to poor water quality;
- The number of hotel and motel rooms on Sanibel fell from 924 in 1975 to 739 in 2003.

After listening to the discussion, Duffy said priorities that emerged included water quality, determining a "carrying capacity" for beach use to prevent harm to wildlife; keeping a balance between resort housing and residential as more hotels are converted into condos; and maintaining the island character.

In a memo to the council and planning commission members, Mayor Carla Johnston, who was not present, said the basis for work on redevelopment over the next 30 years should be Sanibel's "constitution," the Sanibel Plan.

Some of the factors for change are beyond Sanibel's control, such as burgeoning population in Lee County and beyond, which affect the island in terms of traffic and beach use.

They held the workshop in the evening in hopes of getting public participation. They got some, but mostly from residents who attend the daytime sessions, including Herb Rubin. He said Sanibel was up against a Florida trend "to make it newer, posher, better." Sanibel's buildback ordinance – passed to make sure owners of non-conforming property wouldn't suffer hardship when building back after major damage from a storm or other event – would limit the city's ability to preserve the island character, Rubin said.

Claudia Burns said poor water quality was a big issue, one that is causing "more cases of toxicosis in shorebirds... and dead turtles floating in the water." She added, "Unless we find a way to handle these issues, they will be handling us."

And resident Larry Schopp wanted to see some "objective standards for appropriately sized houses" among other things.

There will be more meetings on the subject of redevelopment. The next step is for planning staff to report back with a "flow chart" of how the council and planning commission will work through the various issues.☼

Holiday Closings

Sanibel City Hall offices and recreation center will be closed in observance of Christmas on Monday, December 26 and will resume regular operating hours on Tuesday, December 27. The offices will also be closed in observance of New Year's on Monday, January 2 and will resume regular operating hours on Tuesday, January 3.

All recreation facilities will follow regular operating hours, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m, on Saturday, December 24, and Saturday, December 31.

All garbage, recycling and vegetation waste collection by Waste Pro will be on the regular waste collection schedule.

For questions regarding the holiday schedule, contact Sanibel City Hall at 472-3700.☼

Evening Meeting Of Council Fails To Draw Crowd

by Anne Mitchell

An after-hours joint workshop of the Sanibel City Council and Planning Commission Wednesday – scheduled for 6 p.m. so that more residents could attend – had a disappointing turnout.

Of about a dozen members of the public in the audience for the discussion on redevelopment, more than half were residents who routinely attend the daytime meetings, people such as Herb Rubin, Claudia Burns, Louise Johnson and Larry Schopp.

Also, two council members – Jim Jennings and Mayor Carla Johnston – asked to be excused, along with Tony Lapi, a planning commissioner.

Council member Steve Brown was less than happy with the turnout.

"It seems to me that some of the people who called for these evening meetings aren't here. I will not be coming to any more evening meetings," he said. He'd looked at the faces in the crowd and with one or two exceptions they were the regulars.

"If it doesn't work and people don't attend, we won't have any more evening meetings," said Vice Mayor Mick Denham.☼

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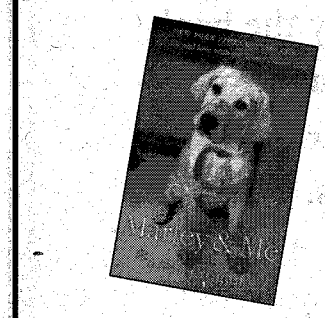
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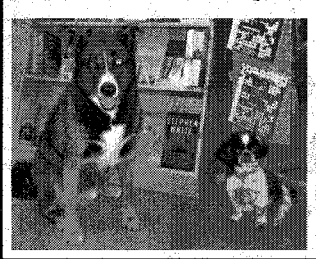
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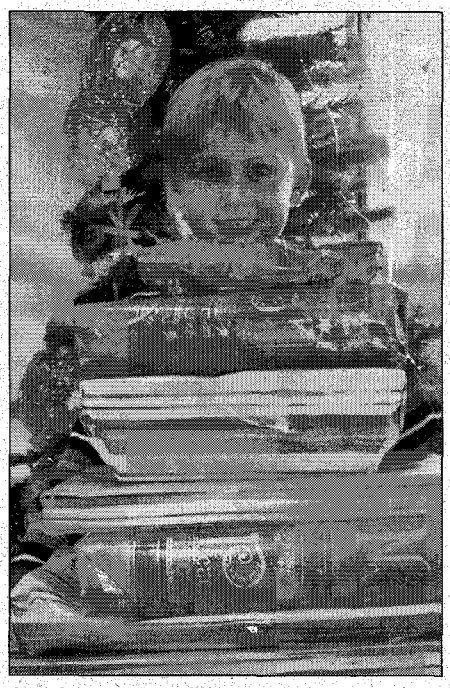
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Jacob Lemmon with wrapped gifts



Aden Phoenix and Jacob Lemmon are Santa's helpers with holiday gifts

Children Give To Children

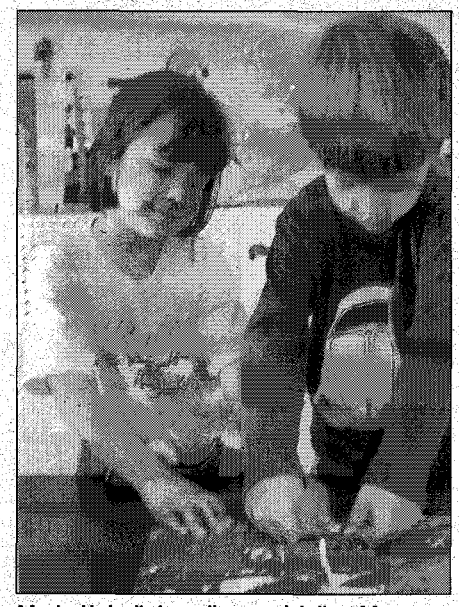
The Children's Education Center of the Islands provided holiday gifts for two local needy families. The Children's Center's parents donated the funds to purchase the gifts.

The pre-K classes at the center prepared and wrapped the gifts. This activity helped the children learn the meaning of giving that is so important this time of year.

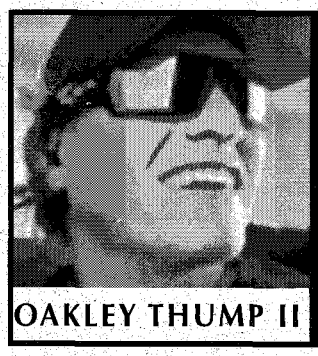
This is the annual holiday project for the Children's Education Center.☆



Devin Welsh packs a gift



Maria Heindl-Angelino and Julian Meyers



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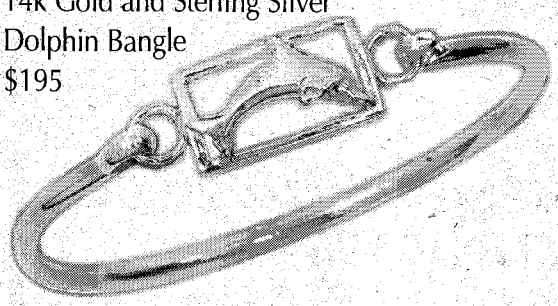
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Christmas Services At Community Church

Four candlelight services of worship will be held at Sanibel Community Church on Saturday evening, December 24. Contemporary services with full Praise Band will be at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. At 9 p.m. there will be a traditional Christmas Eve Service with Chancel Choir. A service of worship concluding with holy communion will be held at 11 p.m.

Family Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25, young and old will gather for one service of worship at 10 a.m. The Chancel Choir will lead in traditional carols, with the help of the contemporary praise band. There will be a special time for children in the service. Dr. Daryl G. Donovan, senior pastor, will give an encouraging Christmas message from the Book of Revelation entitled: Jesus is Coming to Town.

Following the worship service, the opportunity for believer's baptism will be given at Dixie Beach at 11:30 a.m.

Sanibel Community Church is located at 1740 Periwinkle way, next to Jerry's Market. For more information call 472-2684.☆

Congregational Church Christmas Beach Service

The SanibelCongregational United Church of Christ will have a December 24 Christmas Eve family service at 5:30 p.m. at Lighthouse Beach. There will be a 9 p.m. worship at the church at 2050 Periwinkle Way.

On Christmas Day, December 25, there will be one service only at 10 p.m.☆

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The Linstrom family celebrated Bob and Mary Linstrom's golden anniversary in Italy

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Year-round Sanibel residents Bob and Mary Linstrom marked their golden anniversary with a family trip to Italy last summer.

The glorious occasion began with all 15 family members converging in Milan, Italy, home of eldest daughter, Cathy, her husband, Roberto and daughter, Meagan. The entourage then traveled to the hill-town of Sarteano in Tuscany where they stayed for a week in a historic residence built into the medieval town wall.

The expansive views of vineyards and fields of sunflowers, not to mention the incredible Tuscan food and hospitality, made the stay very memorable.

A wonderful feast of Tuscan delicacies made for an incredible anniversary dinner.

Eldest son, Jeff, his wife, Reeny, and their three kids, Sean, Patrick and Cali, who live in Chicago and also own a condo on Sanibel, found the trip to be a marvelous way to celebrate.

Sanibel residents Barbara Linstrom-Arnold, her husband, Chris, and daughter, Caitlyn, also enjoyed the two-week-long celebration, which culminated with a week's stay in a villa south of Rome.

Daughter Tish and her husband, Chris, residents of Vermont, were absolutely thrilled to immerse themselves in Italian culture while honoring Bob and Mary.

Having met during graduate school at Washington University in St. Louis in 1955, the aspiring social workers married soon after. Their love for one another and for their family has been grounded and celebrated with many such family holidays.

Since 1975, the family has spent every Christmas on Sanibel. Their first trip to Europe was in 1974. All of their children agree that the family that travels together, stays together.☆

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Chapel By The Sea

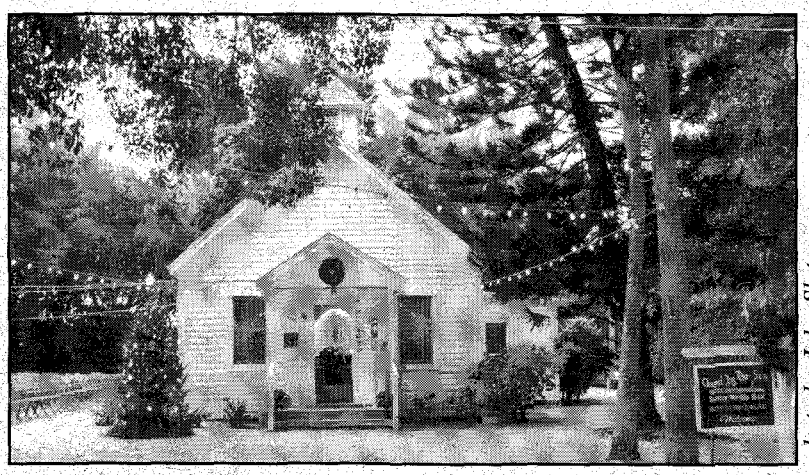


photo by John Slater

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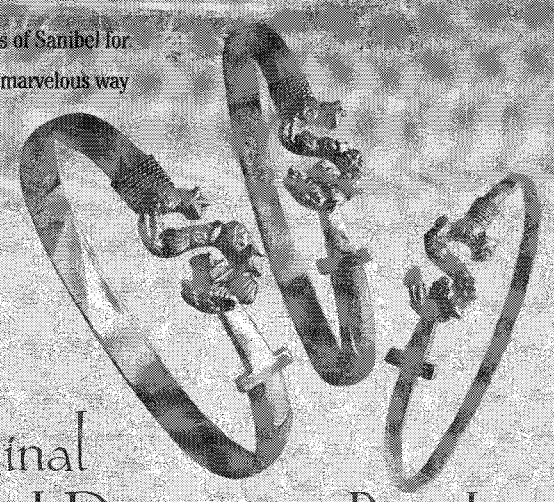
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CARD OF THANKS

On October 9, just one week before Hurricane Katrina, Ellie See, realtor and co-owner of Island Celebrations, and Ken Mattfield from The Lending Group sponsored the Hurricane Katrina Student Relief Golf Benefit at The Dunes. Ellie and Ken purchased a golf tournament at the annual Bishop Verot High School dinner auction last fall, with the intent to host a tournament for friends and raise money for a charitable organization. They just weren't sure which one. Within weeks of the hurricane they learned that Bishop Verot High School had taken in five students from Mississippi and Louisiana, each arriving with little more than an overnight bag. *Within two days the students were given* uniforms, books and lots of welcoming new friends. One of the boys had been on his school football team, so after special exception was granted, he was placed on the Bishop Verot varsity team.

Looking into their story further, Ellie and Ken learned that the school in Mississippi had been destroyed and the students left behind were literally attending classes in an office building.

the decision was made that the money raised would go to the students left behind.

Resident artist Joanne Marriott created the sponsor signs, Bishop Verot students volunteered to help with check in, set up sponsor signs and run the on-course contests.

At the end of the day the tournament had raised $8,200 thanks to the generosity of the 110 players and 57 sponsors. Ellie and Ken would like to thank these contributors who helped make this tournament a fun and successful day:

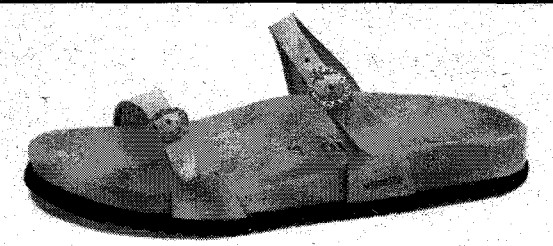
Tournament committee: Joanne Marriott, Saundra Healy, Susan Grinstead, Joan Black, Ellen Lai, Patty Webber, Kim Scott, Raye Scott, Lifeline Designs, The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club;

Bishop Verot High School students: Zack See, Sean Murphy, Scott Messinger, Justin Messinger, Joshua Messinger, Dan Scott, Britney Mattfield, John Petrarco, Jordan Webber, Jennifer Webber;

The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club: Manager Kevin McCune, Head Pro Brett Graham, Director of Food and Beverage Chris Polak;

Sponsors: A Slight Indulgence, Adventures in Paradise, Barrier Island Title Service, Beach Floor and Decor, Betsy Belpedio-realtor, Billy's Bikes, Buzz Murphy-handyman, Captain Joe's Charter Service, Captiva Cruises, Coldwell Banker Previews International, Colonial Bank, Dawn Shamlian at Tonic Hair Salon, Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille, Finnimore's Cycle Shop, Floral Artistry, Flower Shop of the Islands, Forever Green Ace Hardware, Fred Spring-realtor, Joanne Marriott Signs, GG Robideau-realtor, Geez Leweez, Goumas Chocolates, Gulf Coast Appraisal-Gary Neese, Hairs What's Hot, Island Celebrations, Jacaranda, John and Denise Beggs-realtors, John Naumann, Kevin Farrell-island architect, Lori Pierot-realtor, MacIntosh Books & Paper, Mark Webber-SWFL Regional Medical Center & Gulf Coast Hospital, Needful Things, Omar and Donna Sisto-Sunset Captiva, Paul A. Harris Financial, Progressive Pension Administrators, Inc.-Bob Puls, Rick Herman-South Seas Beach Villa, Sanibel Art & Frame, Sanibel Island Bookshop, Schnapper's Hots, Shane Spring-realtor, Southwest Florida Regional Medical Center, Scott Bakos-Lee Dental Care, Tai Tamarind, The Beached Whale, The Sanibel Bead Shop, The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club, Great White Grill-John and Kim Nader, Sanibel Marina Gramma Dot's, Three Crafty Ladies, Timbers/Sanibel Grill, *Times of the Islands*, Why Knot, YOLO Watersports-Marcel Ventura.☆

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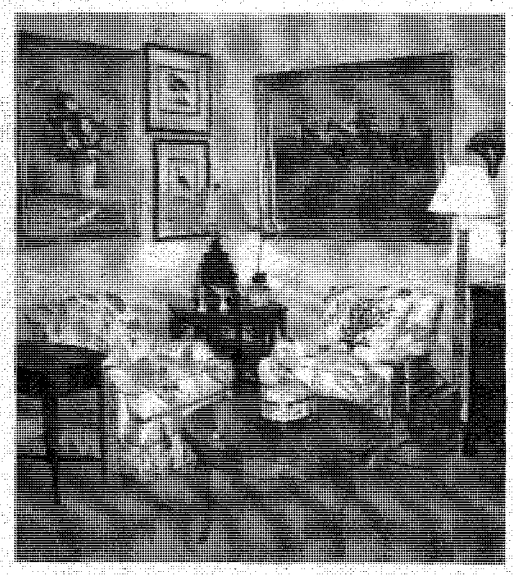
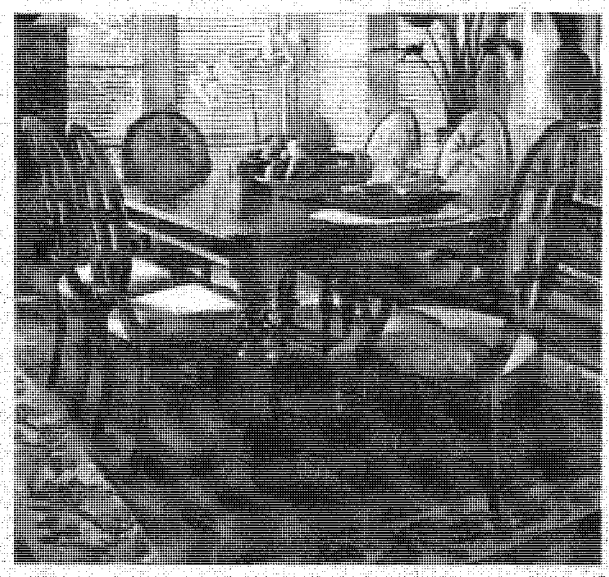
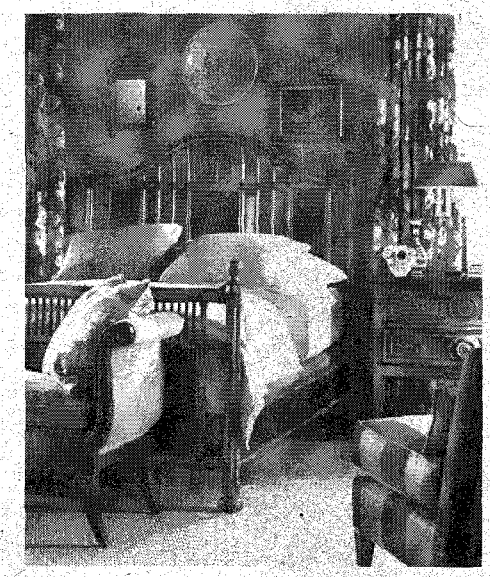
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Rev. Dr. James Boler & Rev. Dr. Sandra R. Boler, associate pastors
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http://www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org
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The Rev. Suzy Post
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Saturdays at 5 p.m.
Wednesdays at 9 a.m.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF THE ISLANDS:
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A pot luck is held at a member's home on the third Sunday of each month.
For more information call 395-3112 or email uuislands@comcast.net.☆

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Garmager Dances At Congregational Church

by Brian Johnson

Tricia Garmager, 9, caught the attention of parishoners at the Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ this past Sunday with a dance performance during the service's offertory.

Tricia danced to *Praise Him Through The Storm*, a piece about God sustaining people through Hurricane Katrina. It was choreographed by the owner of the Dance Theater Academy, Kym Pearsall.

"I thought it was wonderful," said Sandy Boler, the associate minister. "It was very well done. She's really a good dancer."

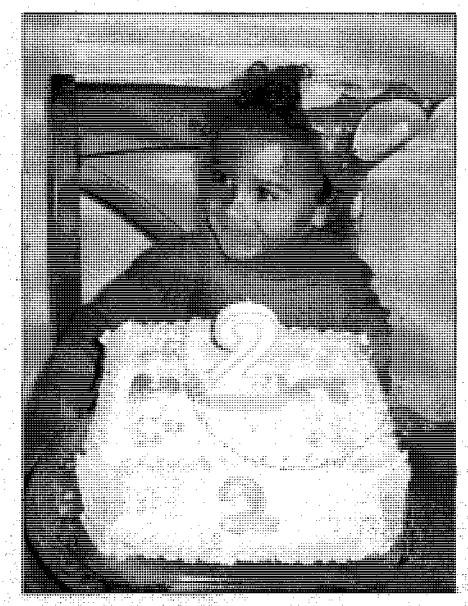
Tricia, a 3rd grader at The Sanibel School, trains at the Christian-based academy several times per week.

After her dance, she joined 12 other children from the Congregational Church's Sunday School in a pageant. Tricia moved to Sanibel when she was three and the Garmager family has been involved with the Congregational Church since then. She has two older brothers, Britton and Travis.☆



Tricia Garmager

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Indigo Rain Fordham-Theiss

Indigo Rain Fordham-Theiss celebrated turning two years old on December 14. Happy birthday from grandparents Hal and Nola Theiss.☆

Saint Michael's Christmas

Christmas hymns and carols will fill the air this weekend at Saint Michael and All Angels Church at 2304 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel Island.

At 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve the church will proclaim the gospel story in a service designed to include participation by children and families. Congregational hymns, carols and music for flute and organ are part of the Eucharist.

At 8 p.m. Christmas Eve there is a Festal Eucharist with the Parish Choir. This is perfect for adults who prefer a later service and strong hymns.

On Christmas Day there will be a service at 10 a.m. – a Festal Eucharist (Rite I) with Parish Choir and different Christmas hymns from the night before.

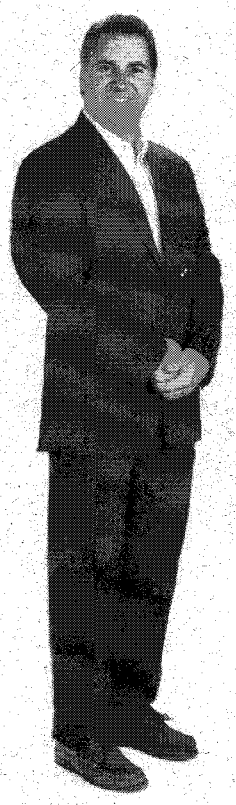
Seventeen different hymns and carols will be sung at the three different services.

Saint Michael's is the Episcopal church on Sanibel Island. It is located in the middle of the island between The Bean and Bailey's. Visit www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org. Phone 472-2173.☆

Please send all Editorial Copy and Ad Information to:

IslandSunSanibel@aol.com

THE SANIBEL CAPTIVA TRUST COMPANY – TEAM PROFILES



Timothy Vick
Senior Vice President, Investments

It's our pleasure to profile Tim Vick. As a member of The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company team, Tim helps our clients achieve their wealth management objectives.

PRIOR EXPERIENCE
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VOLUNTEER WORK
- Tim serves as a board member for the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra, Tradewinds Rehabilitation Services, and the Jim and Betty Dye Foundation.

EDUCATION
- M.A., Purdue University
- B.A., Purdue University

DID YOU KNOW . . .
- Because of his investment expertise, Tim has appeared on CNN and CNBC and has been quoted by the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Barron's*, *Newsweek*, *Washington Post*, and *Los Angeles Times*.

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Island Parish Builds Bridges Of Hope And Caring Relationships

Saint Michael's Church, the Episcopal Church on Sanibel Island, is getting to know the congregation of Christ Church, Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi, 500 miles across the Gulf. Christ Church's buildings, including the church, parish house and rectory, were wiped off the face of the earth by a wall of water more than 30 feet high as Hurricane Katrina came ashore in late August.

Since then, the people of Saint Michael's have asked the people of Christ Church what they need and have tried to meet those needs.

Gifts and partnerships to date:

Saint Michael's Outreach Commission immediately passed along parishioners' special gifts of $5,325, followed by a visit by the Reverend Donald Fishburne and his wife Sarah, who took $1,009 worth of goods specifically requested by the people of Christ Church. The membership list of the Mississippi congregation was published to leaders of Saint Michael's Church as a prayer list.

Discovering a need for a digital keyboard for the choir and congregation to use while worshipping every Sunday under a tent on the slab of the former church building, Outreach Chair John Pryor purchased and shipped one.

On the day after their new rector led worship for the first time in Bay Saint Louis (three months after the storm hit), Saint Michael's Outreach Commission sent a check for $3,500 to the Parish Discretionary Fund administered by the Reverend Elizabeth Wheatley, to meet the needs of parish families – most of whom saw their homes destroyed in the storm.

Saint Michael's also helped support two work trips by teams of volunteers from St. James' Church, Port Charlotte, in the Diocese of Southwest Florida, led by Saint James' parishioner John Skinner. He has since visited Saint Michael's Church, presenting the gift of a handmade cross as a sign of common ministry.

A box of over the counter cold medicines sent from Saint Michael's Church to the Coast Care Hurricane Relief Center near Bay Saint Louis was opened by a Trinity Church Boston volunteer who had worshipped at Saint Michael's Church the year before.

Two dozen new blankets were distributed to the Mississippi congregation the first Sunday of December. Some of those families are living in travel trailers or tents more than three months after the storm.

The Episcopal Church women (ECW) of Saint Michael's collected new Christmas gifts for more than 75 children of Christ Church and the Outreach Commission of the parish shipped them to temporary addresses before families were once again on the move during the Christmas season. Cash gifts were also sent to the households with children -- about half of the families of Christ Church. This allows parents to purchase necessities for the families or special Christmas gifts for their children.

Kimberly King, the secretary of the Vestry and recovery coordinator of Christ Church, will spend part of Christmas week with her two sons at Saint Michael's Church as guest of the parish.

The Reverend Michael Carlisle, the just retired rector of Saint Peter's Church, Paris, Kentucky, recently spent two weeks as a volunteer relief worker in and near Christ Church parish and was guest preacher at Saint Michael's December 10 and 11. He returns as theologian in residence January 4 through 16.

Saint Michael's is only one of a number of congregations responding to the needs of Christ Church – which had also lost its building in Hurricane Camille in 1969.

Saint Michael's Hurricane Relief Ministries are not limited to Mississippi. The Outreach Commission also responded to the needs of two congregations in Southeast Florida in the wake of Hurricane Wilma. The ECW of the parish sent $3,000 to Trinity Church and School in New Orleans after Katrina and $1,000 each to Episcopal Church relief in Belle Glade, Immokalee, and Clewiston, Florida after Wilma. Associate Rector Suzy Post housed a parish family during and after Wilma and coordinated the congregation's in-state relief ministires. The rector of the parish, Donald Fishburne, arranged for free housing for four months or more for the pastor of the Episcopal Chapel of the Holy Comforter in New Orleans after he and his wife lost everything they owned to flooding. The Reverend Roger Allen will come to Saint Michael's in March as a Lenten speaker.

Saint Michael's has also responded to its own parishioners' needs and is continuing a needs assessment in the Harlem Heights neighborhood not far from Sanibel. Total hurricane relief efforts in 2005 are an amount equivalent to five percent of the church's annual budget. The church has a Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Plan which coordinates the work of the Pastoral Care Commission, Outreach Commission, and other ministry teams to check on parishioners before, during, and after a storm, and is prepared to coordinate the communication and work of the parish after local or widespread emergencies.

continued on page 39

The Sanibel Community Association

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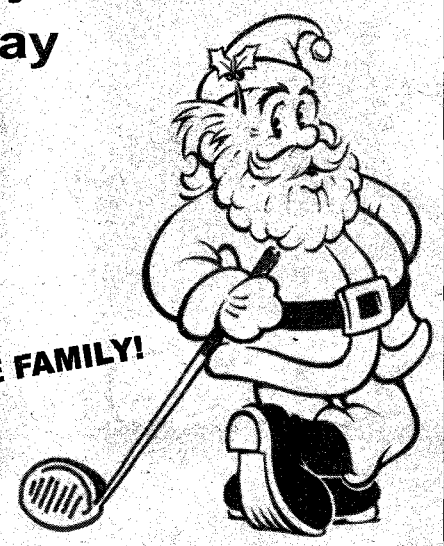
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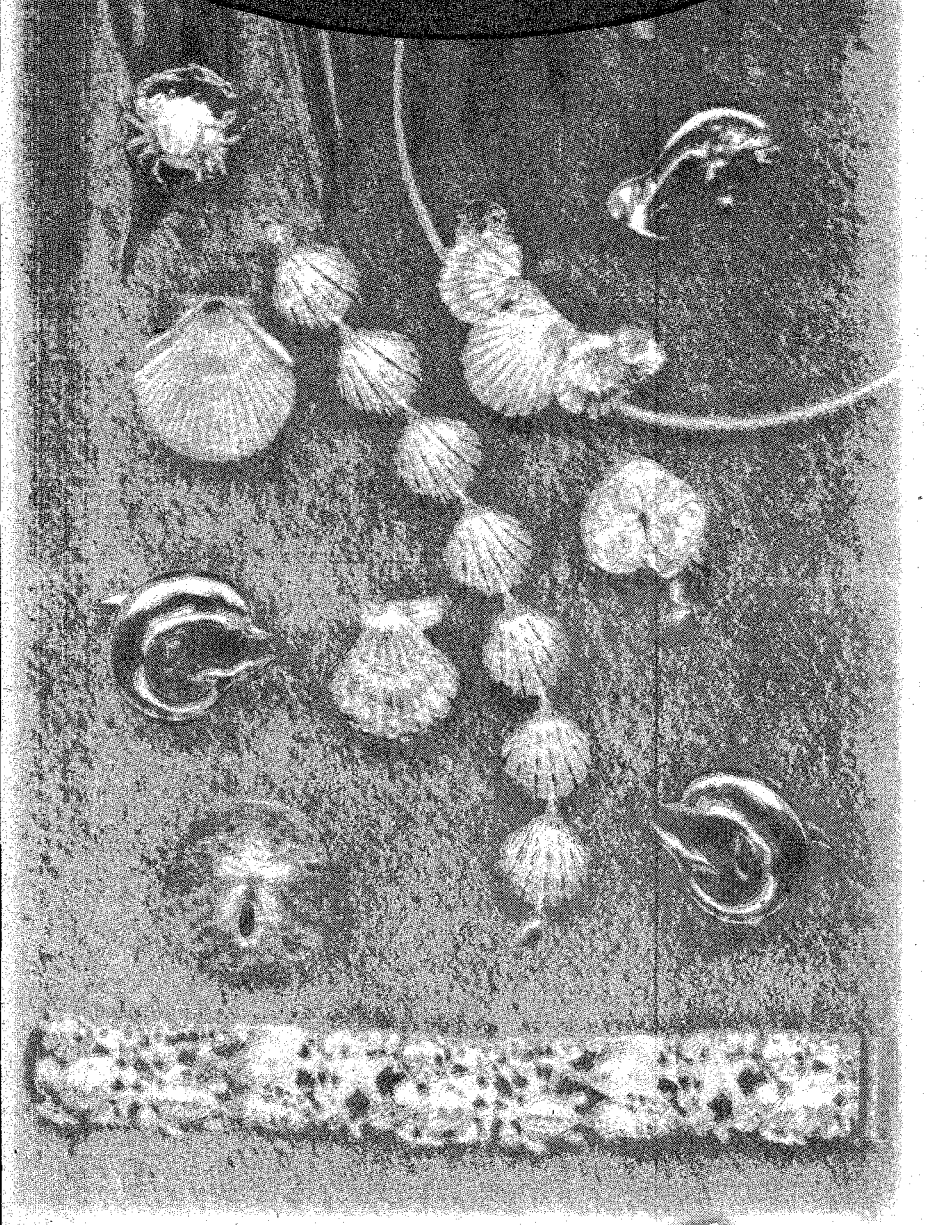
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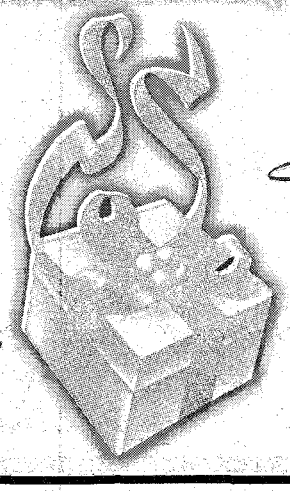
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Gold Coin Shows Up In Red Kettle

Each night, dedicated workers at The Salvation Army deliver red kettles to The Salvation Army. Key Salvationists review kettle contents to prepare for counting the next day. Last night, a special golden surprise dropped out of a kettle from North Fort Myers: a $20 Liberty Double Eagle gold coin that had a small label affixed to its case with these words carefully printed, "In memory of Mimi."

"What a great surprise at the end of a busy day," said Major Austruberto Flores. "It apparently was meant as a donation, since it was in a clear vinyl casing with a note to dedicate it to Mimi. I want to thank this anonymous donor publicly for this generous act of goodwill. I will personally handle the counting of this particular coin!" Flores added.

The gold coin, after research, proves indeed to be most generous. The Liberty Double Eagle $20 gold coin is one of the largest gold coins ever issued by any country and sometimes is referred to as the "King of American Coins." The term "double eagle" is derived from the fact that the $10 gold coin of that era was called "eagle." The double eagle coin weight is .9675 oz. of pure gold, which at the time of minting made it worth $20. The 1885 date makes it a type III variety, minted from 1877 to 1907.

As for estimated value, most Liberty Double Eagles currently sell in the $600 to $900 range. Some specimens from the 1850s are quite rare and are among the most valuable, with some dates selling for as much as $50,000.



This $20 Liberty Double Eagle gold coin was dropped into a Salvation Army Red Kettle on Thursday, December 15 in North Fort Myers. This anonymous donation provides a shining example that the true meaning of Christmas is all about giving. A printed note with the coin read, "In memory of Mimi."

Help when it's needed

The Liberty Double Eagle gold coin comes at a time when the Army really needed it to boost red kettle funds. With only a week left for bell ringing, the $350,000 goal is still short – about $11,500 a day is still needed through Christmas Eve.

"We hope shoppers will continue to be generous this Christmas. We are praying they will drop an extra dollar or two in the final days, so we can give to those who need it the most" said Major Flores, The Salvation Corps officer in Lee County.

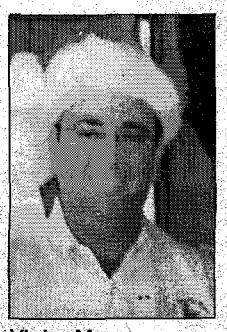
To donate to the red kettles with a check or credit card, call 278-1551. Designate red kettles with your donation. As good stewards, the Army is firmly committed to using all these gifts wisely – from quarters to gold coins. And for the right reason – helping the least of us in our community.☆

Friends In Service Here

FISH Lines

The person to person program is especially geared to those who live alone, are ill or housebound. It combines a daily morning reassurance phone call with investigative follow-up if there is no response to the call. The program functions in cooperation with the Sanibel Police Department. To obtain additional information, please call 472-0404.☆

Garden Club Auction Coming Up



Victor Mayeron

Victor Mayeron of The Mucky Duck of Captiva will once again be the celebrity auctioneer at the Shell Islands Garden Club annual auction. This will take place on Tuesday, January 10 at the Sanibel Public Library on Dunlop Road.

The public is invited to participate in this fundraising event. Bidding will begin at noon following a brief business meeting.

Beverages and desserts will be provided by hostesses Betty Fisher, Mona Bacchus, Nancy DeBenedictis, Sandy Travis, Miriam Moody and chairperson Fran Kieling.

Members and friends are asked to donate as many treasures as they can to ensure the success of this event. Proceeds help fund the clubs' many charitable community projects.

For information pertaining to the auction or membership, call club president Janet Wight at 267-9183.☆

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Islanders Contribute To Toy Drive



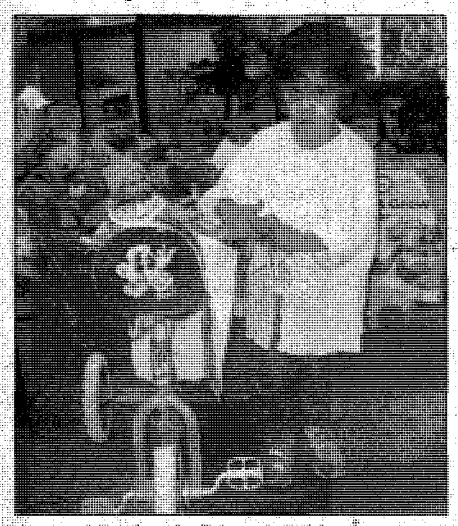
Santa's elves gathered at Ellington's to wrap presents

Sharon Wise, JB Novelli and many other realtors and friends contributed over 200 toys to the Harlem Heights and Edisto children's toy party on December 19.

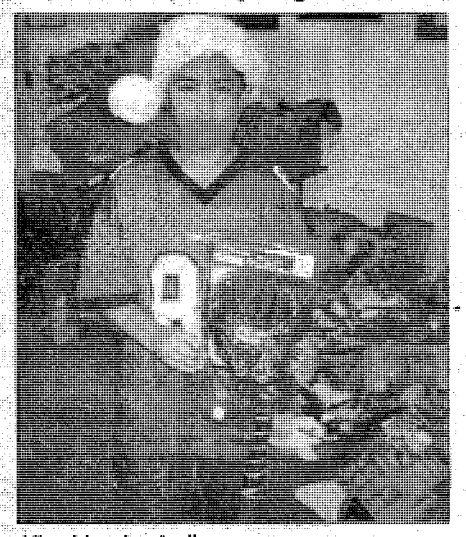
Each year Ellington's Restaurant and Jazz Bar hosts a wrapping party and encourages everyone to bring toys for underprivileged kids. Lisette Hitt, Linda Gornick, Fred Spring, Chef Amy Visco and many more elves attended the annual wrapping party.

This year, Brightest Horizons Child Development Center on Gladiolus Drive was the recipient of the gifts. A community toy party is organized by Brightest Horizons staff and held at the United Way in Harlem Heights to celebrate the Christmas season. The United Way meeting room is converted into a holiday wonderland for the children. This celebration was sponsored by Ellington's and Century 21 who gave funds to buy toys for this occasion.

Over 300 children ranging from two months to 12 years of age attended the event. The children go into the holiday wonderland to pick their toys of choice. Parents accompany children through age two and children ages three and older go through with the help from staff and volunteers. Any remaining toys are then donated to other toy drives.



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The Simple Language Of Orchids
The Christmas Tree

by Dr. Faye Laurent Granberry, Sanibel orchid hobbyist



On December 27, 2002, the *Island Sun* published a Christmas story I had written about my father titled *The Christmas Tree.* The little story became a favorite of many readers as it reminded them of their own father. Here it is again this year.

The Christmas Tree



I knew without answering the phone that the early 6 a.m. call would be my father who was living on Riverside Drive in Fort Myers. It would be the same kind of call I had come to expect and to love. His 80-plus years had not weakened the strong, resonant, sonorous, vibrant voice or his demanding need for a hearty breakfast at Farmer's Market Restaurant on Edison Avenue in Fort Myers. One-half-inch thick, well-fried bacon, eggs soaked in butter, hot biscuits covered with sausage gravy and black coffee would once again be his chosen breakfast. As usual, he would comment that the coffee could use a little chicory, New Orleans style.

This day, early in December, was special to him and to me, as he called it his "Christmas Tree Day." He could no longer drive any distances, although his van, keys in the switch remained by his garage. I often noticed his van was in different areas of the double panel driveway- that was the style for concrete driveways in the early 40s.

Knowing and appreciating his determination to be independent in his advancing years and the pride he took in his Florida driver's license that stated it was good for five more years) I respected his feelings and made no comments.

At breakfast he talked about his Christmas trees in other years. This year he said he wanted a pine tree, not unlike the trees he remembered that grew on the back forty of his land in South Louisiana. He asked if this year all the lights could be red. With his diminishing eye sight he remembered the red ones seemed brighter.

Our tree journey, that lasted for several hours, began on South 41. Here he held long conversations with the tree shoppers and clerks alike. I do not think he ever met a stranger in his life. By the time we left the tree lots, he knew their stories and they knew some of his stories. If I heard sounds of laughter, I knew, from years of experience, he was sharing another one of his Cajun stories, complete with a Cajun French dialect.

Back in the car he was appalled that a tree worth only $10 could be priced at $30, or five more, with no bargaining power.

The day was marked as we traveled from one Christmas tree lot to the next, up U.S. 41, turning at Second Street to go over to Seaboard and north on Palm Beach Boulevard.

It was the same story – from lot to lot – a $10 tree costing $30. He remarked that back in the Depression years, he gave away cut pine trees to people-people who could not afford a dollar for a tree but wanted one for their children.

"Thirty dollars! Did you see that one for $90?" he said as he reminisced about the importance of getting a dollar value for a dollar.

As we drove under the I-75 overpass, he was beaming with anticipated delight as he suggested we travel on Route 80 to Alva, Buckingham and distances beyond.

"Now, I tell you, Faye, those farm boys, up in the country off Route 80 will know how to price a Christmas tree reasonably," he announced.

Tree lots, tree farms, same price story, same $10 request, same importance to shop wisely, all ended when we pulled into a little stand by the side of the road with a few seven to 10-foot pine trees and a variety of citrus in orange bags.

I jumped out of the van, ran into the back of the shed and whispered, "Give that gentleman any tree he wants and charge him $10 and I will pay the difference."

He selected a pine tree and negotiated a price of $10. He beamed with pride as they loaded it into the van.

Back down Route 80 to Fort Myers, he suggested we stop at a truck stop for lunch, as he shared, "Those boys who drive those big trucks know where to get the best hickory smoked barbecue".

Over a lunch of hickory smoked beef barbecue, baked beans, garlic bread, lemon custard pie and ice tea, he remarked, "I hope, Faye, this has been a lesson for you about buying a Christmas tree. You have to come up here in the country and negotiate with these farm boys to get a tree for $10."

My father, Jacque Lavelle Laurent, passed in July 2001 at the age of 99. He had a pine tree with red lights every year until his death.

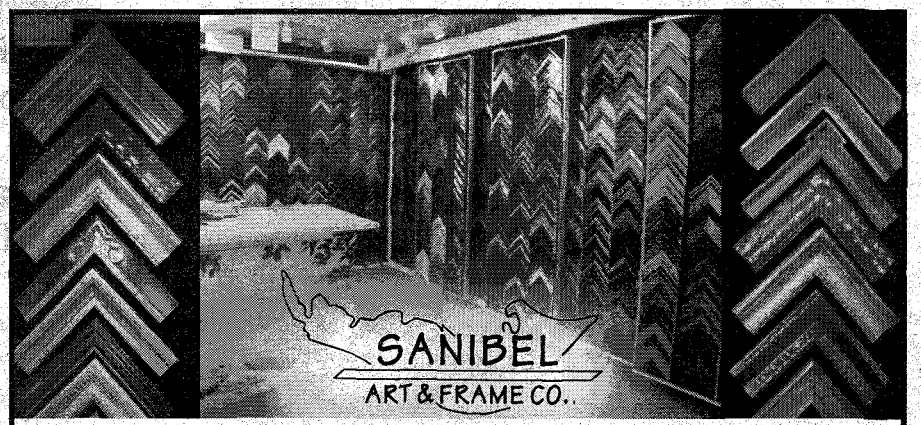
Dr. Granberry is president of the Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society. She is a well-known orchid hobbyist, lecturer, writer and a Master Gardener. She holds a BS degree in horticulture and graduate degrees in psychology.



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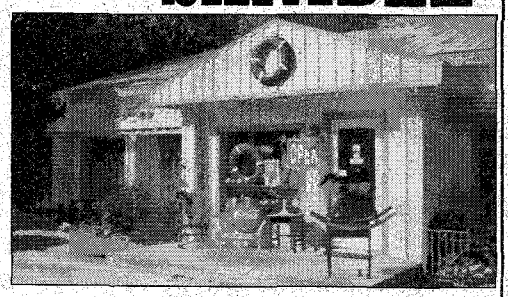
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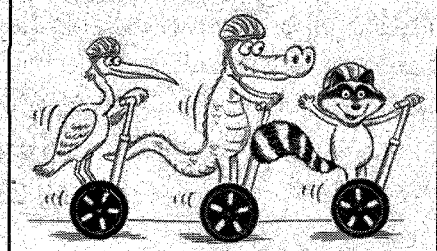
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Kiwanis Gets Update On The Estuary



Dr. Steve Bortone gives an update on the estuary



Kiwanis presents a check to Lee Ann Harder of BIG ARTS



Mark Tesoro presents Klair Snelbacker and Candlelighters with a check

Steve Bortone, director of the Marine Laboratory at the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, was this week's speaker at the Kiwanis Club of Sanibel. Bortone presented a slide show that summarized the Lab's annual State of Our Coastal Environment report. The report (soon available on SCCF's Website: www.sccf.org) is the current summary of ongoing research to determine the environmental trends in Sanibel's coastal waters.

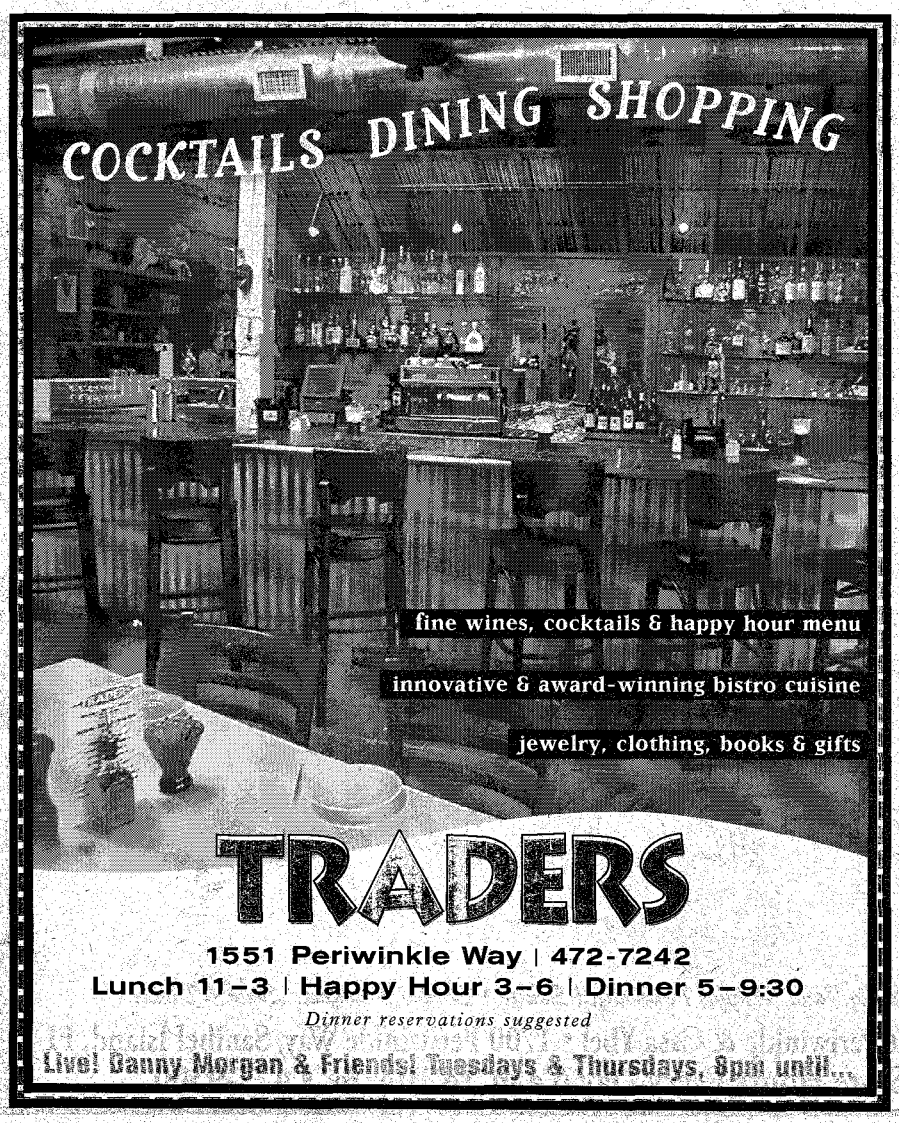
There has been an increase in both larvae and adult scallops in Pine Island Sound. While the increase in larvae may be a harbinger of improved conditions for scallop reproduction, the increase in adults may actually reflect recent restoration efforts.

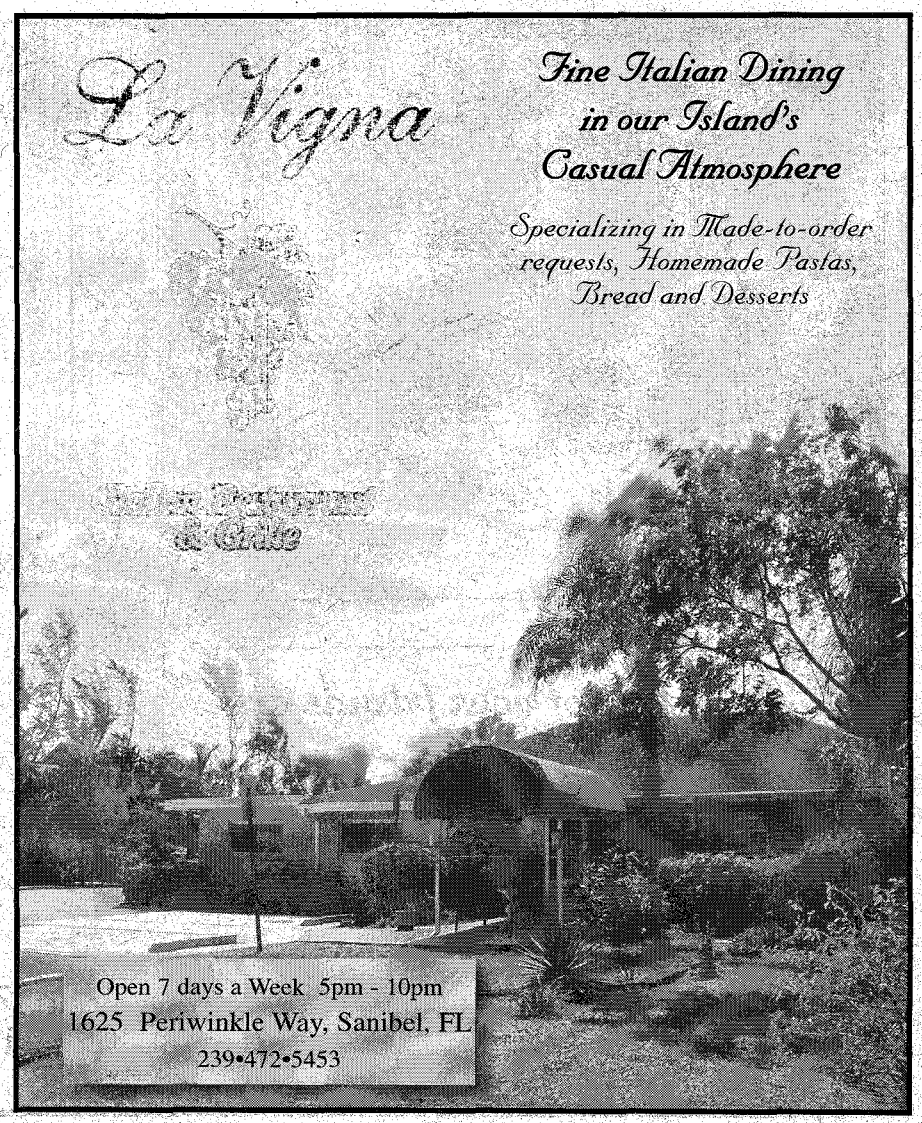
Salinity in lower Pine Island Sound declined in 2005, principally because of the freshwater releases from Lake Okeechobee. Seagrass beds are still widely distributed but their relative "health" has declined, (same area, less grass). While juvenile fish associated with the seagrass beds have not yet responded to the decrease in salinity (or grass), there is a hint that bacteria communities living among the seagrasses may be changing. Bortone cautioned that it's hard to say if the differences between years were due to the decline in salinity or to the impact of the hurricanes.

Spotted sea trout live their entire lives in the estuary and their earstones can be analyzed much like the rings in a tree. Spotted sea trout growth seems to decline when salinity declines; therefore, the growth response of this fish may serve us well in establishing guidelines as to the salinity levels that should be maintained.

Some good news: Our mangroves, heavily damaged by Hurricane Charley, are beginning to show signs of recovery. The leaf canopy is returning in most areas and the number of young plants is increasing in areas furthest from the storm's eye – although slowly.

Kiwanis breakfasts every Tuesday at The Dunes, and all are welcome to join. Don't forget to call the Fort Myers Beach Kiwanis Club Thrift Store at 454-8090 if you would like to donate furniture and other items you are through with but that others might be able to use.☼





Come Along On A Resident Environmental Orientation

by Kristie Anders, education director, Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation

Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation

Percentages vary, but the word is that up to 50 percent of our land and home ownership turns over every five years. This means there are a lot of new people on the islands who know they enjoy the nature of the islands, but have no idea about the hard work that went into making the islands what they are.

This year, the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation is asking for those of you who are long-time residents to help with the Resident Environmental Orientation (REO) programs.

Programs are offered free to residents, seasonal or year-round, every Monday from 2 to 6 p.m. from January 9 through March 27. Those who attend meet at the Conservaton Foundation for a brief orientation and then head to Captiva to board the *Lady Chadwick* for a boat trip through the estuary.

Instead of simply telling neighbors and friends about the program when you first welcome them to the islands, greet them with an invitation to come along with you for an afternoon to learn about the geology, conservation history, native landscaping, and challenges to our estuary.

Research shows people are more likely to attend if they have someone with them who is a bit more familiar with the area and the learning opportunities.

There is a unique sense of place connected to our islands, our identity as a community. Maintain the specialness in light of the rapid turnover of residents. Reach out to newcomers. Help the Conservation Foundation tell the story. Help us keep the spirit alive. Call SCCF for more information or simply make reservations by calling 472-2329 and reserve spaces.

Bring your whole neighborhood. Make it an afternoon by going to dinner afterward. Give folks a gift of learning that lasts much longer than the plate of cookies you may be accustom to sharing when you greet the new people next door.☆

Boaters Be Aware

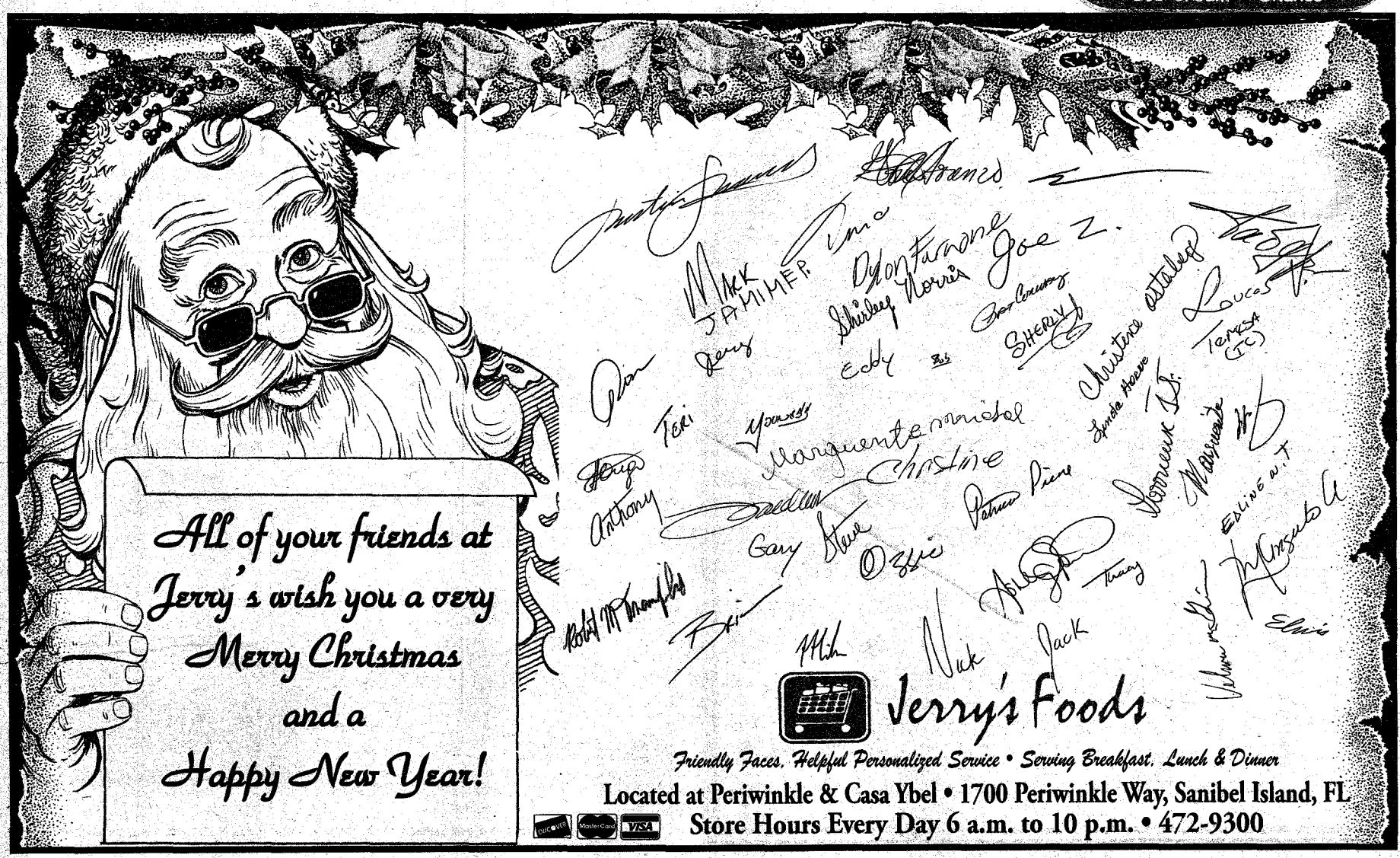
Starting Friday, December 16 for approximately one month, construction barges will encroach in the main channel of the Sanibel drawbridge by approximately 50 feet in support of the construction of the new bridge. There will be approximately 40 feet of the channel open for boats to use. Intermittent closures of the channel will be necessary during this period for boater safety while overhead operations occur.

Boaters should also be aware that due to the construction, barges are working alongside Bridge A on either side of the main channel and boaters will be unable to pass underneath the bridge where these barges are located. Boaters are encouraged to use the main channel for their safety.

- There is a federally declared no-wake zone 100 feet on each side of the drawbridge.
- Anyone in violation of breaking the no-wake rule could be subject to tickets and fines of up to $31,500
- Two-way traffic is prohibited in the main navigable channel.
- Boats must slow down and abide by the no-wake zone signs at the site of this construction.

For more information and project updates see the project website at www.sanibelcauseway.com, or contact Kris Cella, Cella & Associates, at 337-1071, 877-496-1076 (toll-free), or e-mail kcella@cella.com.☆





Island Weather Outlook

Dec. 23, 2005

FRIDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 69 Low: 57

SATURDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 71 Low: 60

SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 70 Low: 56

MONDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 66 Low: 52

TUESDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 65 Low: 48

WEDNESDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 65 Low: 45

THURSDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 69 Low: 50

Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 69°, humidity of 73% and an overnight low of 57°. The record high temperature for today is 86° set in 1951. The record low is 32° set in 1973. Saturday, skies will remain partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.

Last Week's Local Almanac

Date	Hi	Lo	Normals	Precip
Tuesday	71	48	77/56	0.00"
Wednesday	74	45	77/56	0.00"
Thursday	79	56	76/56	0.00"
Friday	75	61	76/56	0.00"
Saturday	82	61	76/56	0.00"
Sunday	81	66	76/56	0.00"
Monday	66	60	76/56	0.00"

	Today			Saturday		
City	Hi	Lo	Wx	Hi	Lo	Wx
Atlanta	58	36	s	56	41	r
Baltimore	50	33	s	49	39	pc
Boston	43	29	mc	45	29	mc
Chicago	36	26	pc	34	26	mc
Cincinnati	43	35	s	44	32	r
Cleveland	41	32	mc	40	33	sn
Detroit	38	31	rs	36	27	cl
Nashville	56	39	pc	51	37	sh
New York City	44	35	pc	45	37	pc
Philadelphia	47	32	s	47	34	pc
Richmond	56	32	s	57	36	sh
Washington, D.C.	50	34	s	50	39	pc

Weather (Wx): cl/cloudy; fl/flurries; pc/partly cloudy; r/rain; rs/rain & snow; s/sunny; sh/showers; sn/snow; t/thunderstorms; w/windy

National Weather Summary This Week



The Northeast will see partly cloudy to cloudy skies with a few showers today through Sunday, with the area's highest temperature of 55°, found in Salisbury, Md. The Southeast will see mostly clear skies today, partly cloudy to cloudy skies with a few showers Saturday, scattered showers Sunday, with the area's highest temperature of 75°, found in Miami, Fla. The Northwest will see partly cloudy to cloudy skies today through Sunday, with the area's highest temperature of 62°, found in Brookings, Ore. The Southwest will see partly cloudy to cloudy skies today, mostly clear skies Saturday and Sunday, with the area's highest temperature of 79°, found in Yuma, Ariz.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

UV Index
0-2: Minimal, 3-4: Low,
5-6: Moderate, 7-9: High
10+: Very High Exposure

Weather Trivia

What type of lightning occurs most frequently?

Answer: Cloud to cloud lightning.

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Sun & Moon Times



Last 12/23 First 1/6



Sunrise today . . 7:13 a.m.
Sunset today . . . 5:42 p.m.



New 12/30 Full 1/14



Causeway Bridge Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	7:51 am	3:07 am	9:07 pm	3:23 pm
Sat	9:20 am	4:28 am	9:34 pm	3:59 pm
Sun	11:11 am	5:40 am	10:04 pm	4:34 pm
Mon	1:12 pm	6:42 am	10:37 pm	5:07 pm
Tue	11:14 pm	7:36 am	None	None
Wed	11:55 pm	8:27 am	None	None
Thu	None	9:16 am	None	None

Point Ybel Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	5:41 am	12:07 pm	6:57 pm	None
Sat	7:10 am	1:12 am	7:24 pm	12:43 pm
Sun	9:01 am	2:24 am	7:54 pm	1:18 pm
Mon	11:02 am	3:26 am	8:27 pm	1:51 pm
Tue	9:04 pm	4:20 am	None	None
Wed	9:45 pm	5:11 am	None	None
Thu	10:31 pm	6:00 am	None	None

Captiva Pass Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	4:46 am	12:09 pm	6:02 pm	None
Sat	6:15 am	1:14 am	6:29 pm	12:45 pm
Sun	8:06 am	2:26 am	6:59 pm	1:20 pm
Mon	10:07 am	3:28 am	7:32 pm	1:53 pm
Tue	8:09 pm	4:22 am	None	None
Wed	8:50 pm	5:13 am	None	None
Thu	9:36 pm	6:02 am	None	None

Boca Grande Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	5:35 am	12:02 pm	6:51 pm	None
Sat	7:04 am	1:07 am	7:18 pm	12:38 pm
Sun	8:55 am	2:19 am	7:48 pm	1:13 pm
Mon	10:56 am	3:21 am	8:21 pm	1:46 pm
Tue	8:58 pm	4:15 am	None	None
Wed	9:39 pm	5:06 am	None	None
Thu	10:25 pm	5:55 am	None	None

The Night Sky



Lately, I have gotten a number of phone calls and e-mails regarding that "bright star" hanging low in the southwest after sunset. Perhaps these inquiries have resulted from our focus on Holiday preparations and the "star" that announced the birth of Christ. It is, however, only the planet Venus, but it's been around in our evening sky since late spring. At that time it was just pulling away from the sun's glare and in the company of Saturn and Mercury. Venus' location was to the left or east of the sun, so it had an eastern elongation. This apparition of Venus, however, was not as spectacular as most. Throughout the summer and fall, Venus' orbital path remained at a low angle to the western and southwestern horizons, even though it was over 47 degrees from the sun at its greatest eastern elongation on November 3. Put simply, by the time it got dark, Venus was too close to the horizon to be easily seen. Through a telescope at greatest eastern elongation, Venus would have appeared like a quarter moon, half in light and half in its own shadow. Since then, Venus has been rapidly approaching the Earth headed for inferior conjunction on January 13, when it will be positioned between the Earth and the sun. Still prominent in the twilight sky, Venus will set about 1-1/2 hours after the sun on New Year's Day and a scant 35 minutes after sundown on January 5. Through a telescope, watch as Venus' crescent rapidly shrinks during the next several weeks as the planet's apparent size becomes larger. On January 5 Venus will be only six percent sunlit, and it will appear as a very thin crescent. By late January, Venus will have traveled well west of the sun, and it will be rising more than an hour before our daystar, an easy target in the brightening eastern dawn sky. www.astronomy.org

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Tour Fish Houses Of Pine Island Sound

Cherished by owners, tattered by storms, and burned by arsonists, the fish houses of Pine Island Sound make for great storytelling. Take a tour in the waters around these estuary icons on January 14, with the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation.



A fish house in Pine Island Sound

Leaving at 9 a.m. from McCarthy's Marina, the tour participants will travel northward to see some of the few remaining fish houses in Florida. Some of the buildings have made quite a journey – recycled and relocated more than once. Some have been ravaged by storms. These stilt houses were used to store ice and fish and for shelter to the hearty anglers that made their living from the Sound.

Learn more about START, Solutions To Avoid Red Tide. Enjoy tales of fishing from Ralph and Jean Woodring. Hear from the Conservation Foundation's Marine Lab expert, Jaime Greenawalt about scallops, their lifestyle and population trends.

The trip is $40 for members of SCCF and $65 for non-members. Barnacle Phil's famous beans and rice is included during a lunch stop on North Captiva Island. Call Kristie Anders at 472-2329 for more information and reservations.☼

Bird Count Has 128 Participants

On Saturday, December 17, the Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society conducted its annual Christmas Bird Count. One hundred twenty eight participants counted a total of 12,250 birds of 100 different species. The results of the count will be reported to the National Audubon Society and will become part of the 106th Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC).

Audubon Christmas Bird Counts are conducted throughout much of the western hemisphere from mid-December through early January. The CBC is a fertile source of historical information on the status and distribution of early winter bird populations and is studied by scientists and interested individuals the world over.

San-Cap Audubon thanks all who took part in this year's successful count.☼

Saturday Birdwalk

The next Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Birdwalk is December 31 at "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge.

Participants should meet in the overflow parking lot near the trolley stop at 8 a.m. Entrance fee is required.

San-Cap Audubon's Saturday birdwalks are open to the public, and all levels of birders are welcome. Call Hugh Verry at 395-3798 for details.☼

Turtle Tracks

The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation is sponsoring Turtle Tracks at the Nature Center at 9 a.m. on Thursday mornings. This interpretive program delves into the life cycle of the sea turtles that nest on the beaches. Participants start at the turtle exhibit and marine touch tank to learn about the life cycle of the loggerhead and then go to a beach site to discuss their nesting habitat and other fascinating marine life. Cost for this program is $5 for adults and free for children; a beach parking fee of $2 per car is necessary at the beach site. The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation monitors the sea turtle nests on Sanibel and Captiva. If you have questions about the Turtle Tracks program or the sea turtle research program, call the Conservation Foundation's Nature Center at 472-2329.☼

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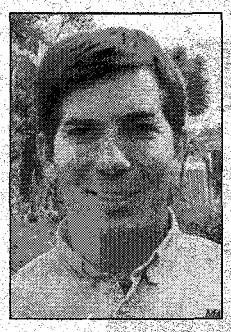
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CROW Case Of The Week: Raccoon

by Brian Johnson

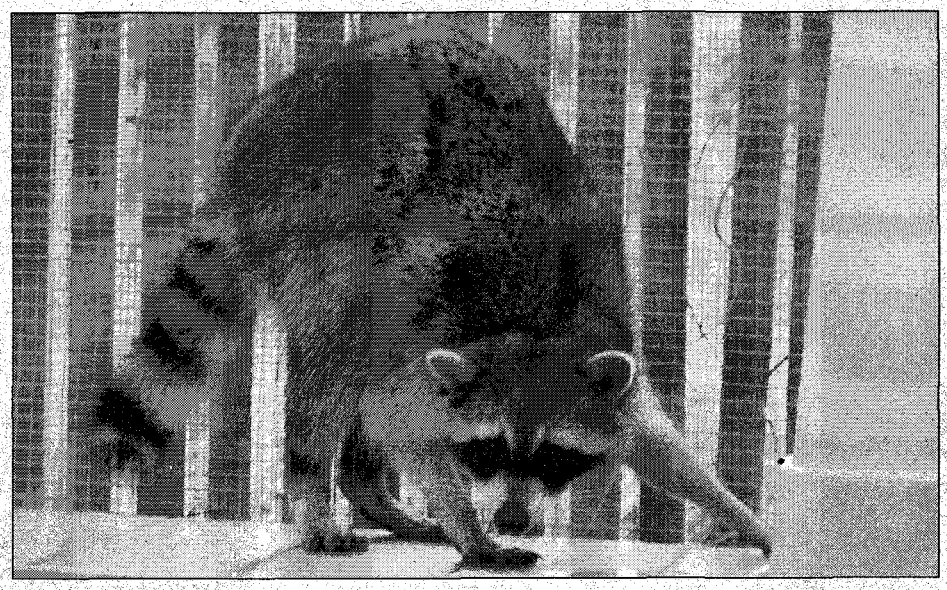


On the morning of November 15 Charley Staub, a utilities employee for the Lee County School Board, was driving down Buckingham Road when he noticed the cars ahead of him swerving.

Seeing a raccoon on the edge of the road, he stopped his vehicle and got out. It was 7:45 a.m. He spoke to a woman standing in the yard – she thought the animal was hit during the night.

Staub asked her if she had a box, then went to his car to grab a pair of leather gloves. He secured the raccoon and placed the box in his car, then called his wife, who had experience with CROW. She called the clinic and found out about a drop-off point at East Side Animal Hospital in North Fort Myers. He took the raccoon there directly, and later in the day a CROW volunteer picked her up.

"I hate to see so many 'coons get hit," said Staub, who frequently stops to ferry turtles across the road. "The development here is going crazy. It's terrible to see so many animals killed – they were here first."



Raccoon

Veterinary associate Dr. Amber McNamara admitted and examined the raccoon, a large adult female. "She came in very, very dull – she was really pretty out of it," said McNamara. "There was a gurgling sound in her throat, a scrape under neck and an abrasion on her side."

She also noticed that the raccoon's jaw was not correctly aligned. She suspected a fracture, but could not confirm it, possibly because of the extensive swelling to the area. Staff treated her with fluids, pain meds, and valium and placed her in a quiet cage in intensive care.

The next morning she was still down and disoriented, and her feet buckled when she attempted to stand. For the first 48 hours there was little in the way of progress, but at least she was surviving the brush with the automobile. "She must have had quite a bit of head trauma," said McNamara.

On the third day the staff tube fed her. "We hardly ever do that with an adult raccoon," said McNamara. "They are usually alert enough that you don't want to go near their mouths. But she allowed us to tube feed her for the next four days, which amazed me."

By November 22 the raccoon was looking brighter and starting to become mobile. Staff could no longer hazard to tube feeding her and placed soft food in her cage, which she ate. They put Chinese herbs in her meals as well as St. John's wort, an herb that promotes healing of nerve endings.

On November 27 she was moved into the mammal complex where she could see and be near other raccoons. However, staff kept her in a separate cage from the babies that CROW had been raising as a family unit. They continued to give her soft food when she didn't take an interest in fish or dog chow.

CROW hopes to release the raccoon in early January. It usually takes about four to six weeks for a mammal to heal a fracture, and McNamara will wait until her jaw is fully functioning before returning her to the wild. The raccoon has made a strong recovery after a very difficult, touch-and-go first week at the clinic.

"Mentation-wise she has come all the way around," said McNamara. "She is moving well, growling, and almost back to normal."

CROW – Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife, Inc., 3883 Sanibel-Captiva Road; 472-3644, www.crowclinic.org.

A non-profit wildlife hospital providing veterinary care for native and migratory wildlife from Lee County and along the Gulf Coast of Florida. The hospital accepts patients seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ma donations to PO Box 150 Sanibel, FL 33957.

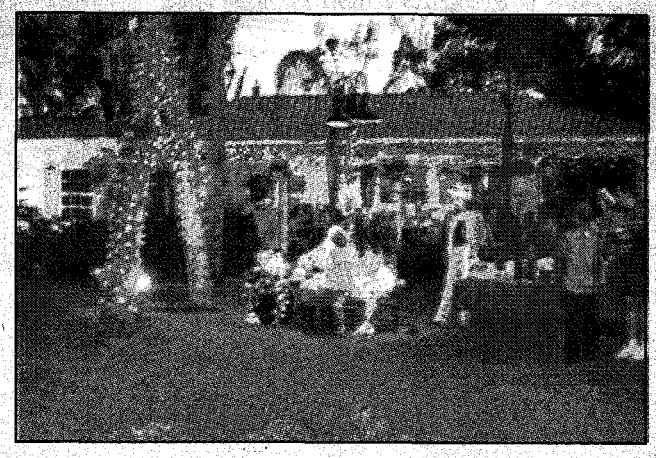
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Manatee Park Winter Schedule

Manatee Park winter programs are offered from November 1 through March 31.

Kayak Clinics

The clinics are the second Saturday of each month from 9 to 11 a.m. Learn the basics of kayaking and paddle on the Orange River with an instructor. Dates are January 14 and February 11. Register online at www.leeparks.org or call 461-7440. The cost is $25.

All About Manatees

Did you know the Florida Manatee is an endangered species and a native *marine mammal? Come any day of the* week for a free program about the biological characteristics and habitat of the Florida manatee. All ages will enjoy discovering where manatees live, what they eat, and the challenges they face in the shallow coastal waters of Florida.

Presented free daily at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the Live Oak Amphitheater.

Gardening for Butterflies and How Butterflies Grow

Visitors to Manatee Park can watch the life cycle of butterflies right before their eyes. There is a 30-minute introduction on how to plant a butterfly garden. No matter where you live, whether you *have a big yard or container garden on* a condominium patio, this program will motivate family members of all ages to grow host/larval and nectar plants for butterflies.

Presented free Thursdays and Saturdays at 12:15 p.m. Meet at the back porch of the visitor center

Manatee Park Habitat Walk

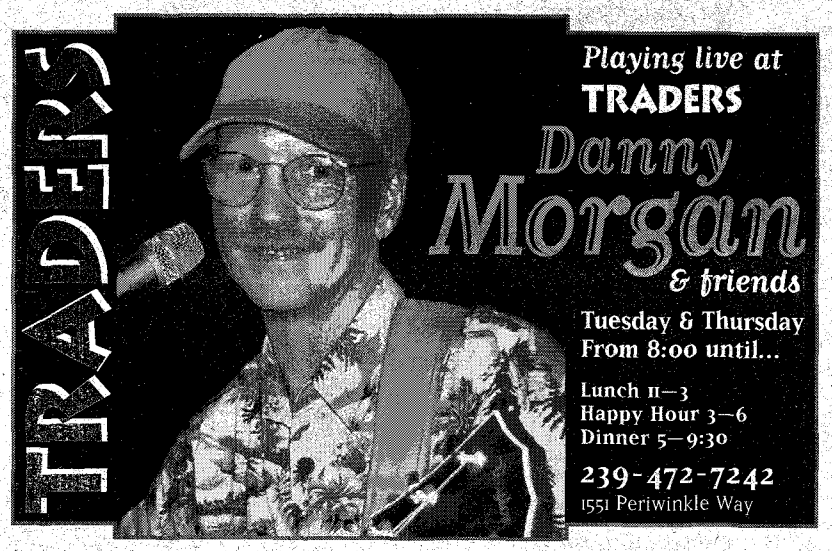
Manatee Park is an outdoor classroom. Since 1996 volunteers of the Coccoloba Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society have created butterfly gardens and south Florida native plant habitats. A guided walk through the park shows how a plain piece of flat ground evolved into a space that provides food, water, shelter and space for many species of wildlife and birds.

Presented free Thursdays and Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Meet at the back porch of the Visitor Center.

Winter hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Gift shop hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Kayak rentals operate from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily.

Manatee Park is located at 10901 SR 80 in Fort Myers, directly across the road from the FPL power plant. Pets are not permitted. Parking is $1 per hour, with a maximum of $3. For further information call 694-3537.

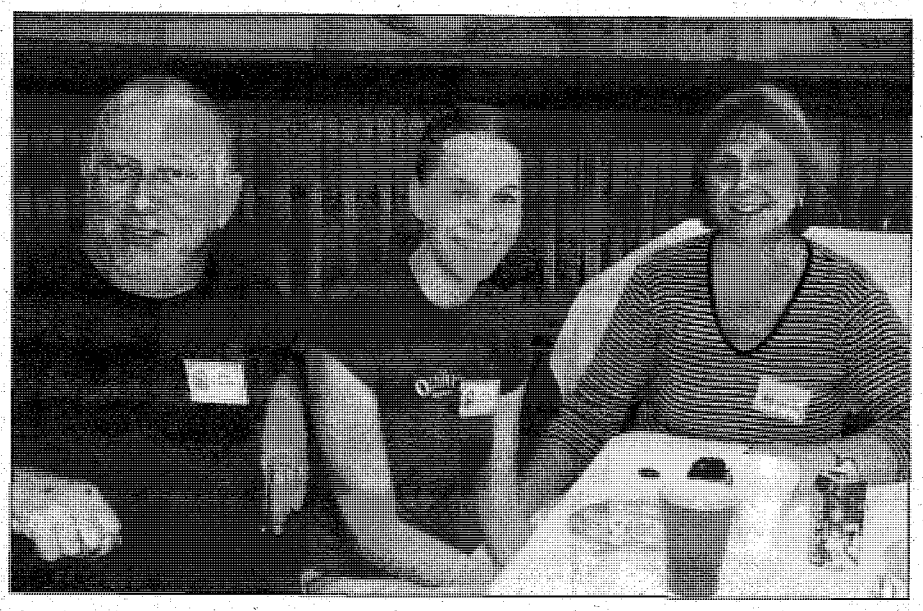
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'Ding' Darling Volunteer Luncheon



All of the Schweitzer family volunteers at the refuge: Jurg, Simone and Helen (Catherine not shown)

by Brian Johnson

Approximately 150 volunteers for the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge gathered at the Sanibel Community House on December 16 for a holiday luncheon.

This particular luncheon did not include an awards ceremony recognizing hours of service, but was more of a social event.

"It was a lunch for the volunteers to mingle and have a good time," said refuge volunteer coordinator, Jeff Combs. "A lot of them have worked together through the years, and it's a chance for them to get together again. Many of them are just coming back for the season, and it lets them get reacquainted."

"It was a nice luncheon because there was time for the staff to socialize with the volunteers," said education specialist, Toni Westland.

After lunch Refuge Manager Rob Jess fielded a number of questions, including the new alligator study being conducted at "Ding" Darling. He also handed out the one prize of the day: volunteer Whit Smith was selected for the Regional Director's Award.



Refuge Manager Rob Jess and Refuge Volunteer Whit Smith

"He comes in every day for half a day," said Combs. "He's a good worker. He unlocks the gates for the golf carts, uses the blower to clear off the trails and does the recycling. He keeps the grounds around the Visitor's Center looking nice."

"He's a great guy," added Westland. "He's upbeat, funny, and smiles a lot. He's at the refuge early, and wishes us a happy morning."

Winter Programs

With high season here, staff and volunteers are ready to put on the annual winter programs and tours. They will begin January 1 and end March 31. For more information, call 472-1100.

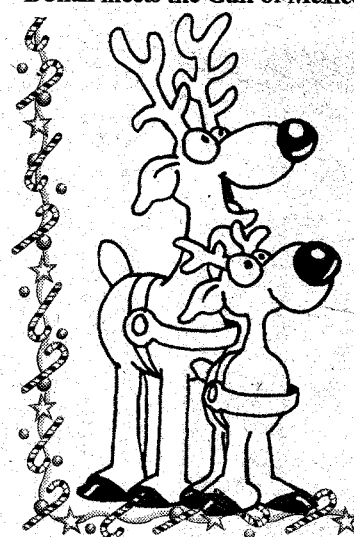
Wildlife Drive is closed every Friday. All tours are one and a half to two hours long and cost $5 per vehicle or $1 per bicyclist.

Birding the Refuge

Meet a volunteer naturalist for a birding tour along Wildlife Drive. This car caravan tour takes you through some of the most popular birding locations in the refuge. By highlighting the many fascinating natural wonders of this unique mangrove ecosystem, the naturalists give you an overview of all facets of the refuge. Bring water and bug spray. Meet at the flagpole in front of the Education Center. Begins at 8 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays; 9:30 a.m. everyday except Fridays.

continued on page 30

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From page 29

Volunteer Luncheon

Exploring the Bailey Tract

Join volunteer naturalists as they lead you on a two-mile walk through this unusual spartina ecosystem to learn about the freshwater flora and fauna. Bring water and bug spray. Meet in the Bailey Tract parking lot. Begins at 8:30 a.m. on Thursdays.

Refuge Bike Tour

Bike enthusiasts, bring your bicycle and join a volunteer naturalist on the four-mile Wildlife Drive/Indigo Trail loop to learn about the refuge's bird life and ecology. The drive is paved while the Indigo Trail is hard-packed shell, so the tour is suitable for people of all abilities. Bring water and bug spray. Meet at the flagpole in front of the Education Center. Begins at 10 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays.

Calusa Indian Talk and Indigo Trail Tour

Meet volunteer naturalists who will enthrall you with tales of Calusa Indian history and teach you about native Florida plant life on this enchanting half-mile boardwalk trail. Bring water and bug spray. Meet at the flagpole in front of the Education Center. Begins at noon on Wednesdays.

Programs:

All programs are 45 minutes long. Programs that meet at the cross-dike cost $5 per vehicle or $1 per bicyclist, and programs meeting in the Education Center are free.

Animals in Jeopardy

The habitat of animals throughout the world are disappearing, affecting species everywhere. Learn the reasons why animals become endangered. There is hope as people examine this difficult issue. Meet at the cross-dike pavilion. Begins at 11 a.m. on Mondays.

Gators and Crocs

Is it an alligator or crocodile? Learn about the order Crocodilia, how to identify each species, and which species live in the refuge. Fun for adults and children alike. Meet at the cross-dike pavilion. Begins at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and 11 a.m. on Thursdays.

Birds, Bills, and Beaks – How do they eat?

What is on the menu for the birds in the estuary? Learn how to identify the birds found in the refuge, their adaptations, and interesting facts about them. See how these birds use their specialized bills to find food in this diverse mangrove ecosystem. Meet at the cross-dike pavilion. Begins at 11 a.m. on Wednesdays.

Fabulous Flyways

Which birds travel across Florida to their destination and who travels the furthest? During this presentation, learn ways to help migrating birds by creating backyard habitats and other helpful actions. Meet in the Education Lab in the Education Center. Begins at 11 a.m. on Fridays.

Beautiful Butterflies of the Refuge

Always wanted to create a wonderful butterfly garden and attract such butterflies as Florida's state insect, the zebra longwing? Learn what native and host plants attract them, their amazing life-cycle, diet, senses, and defense mechanisms. Meet in the Education Lab in the Education Center. Begins at 1 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Our Feathery Friends

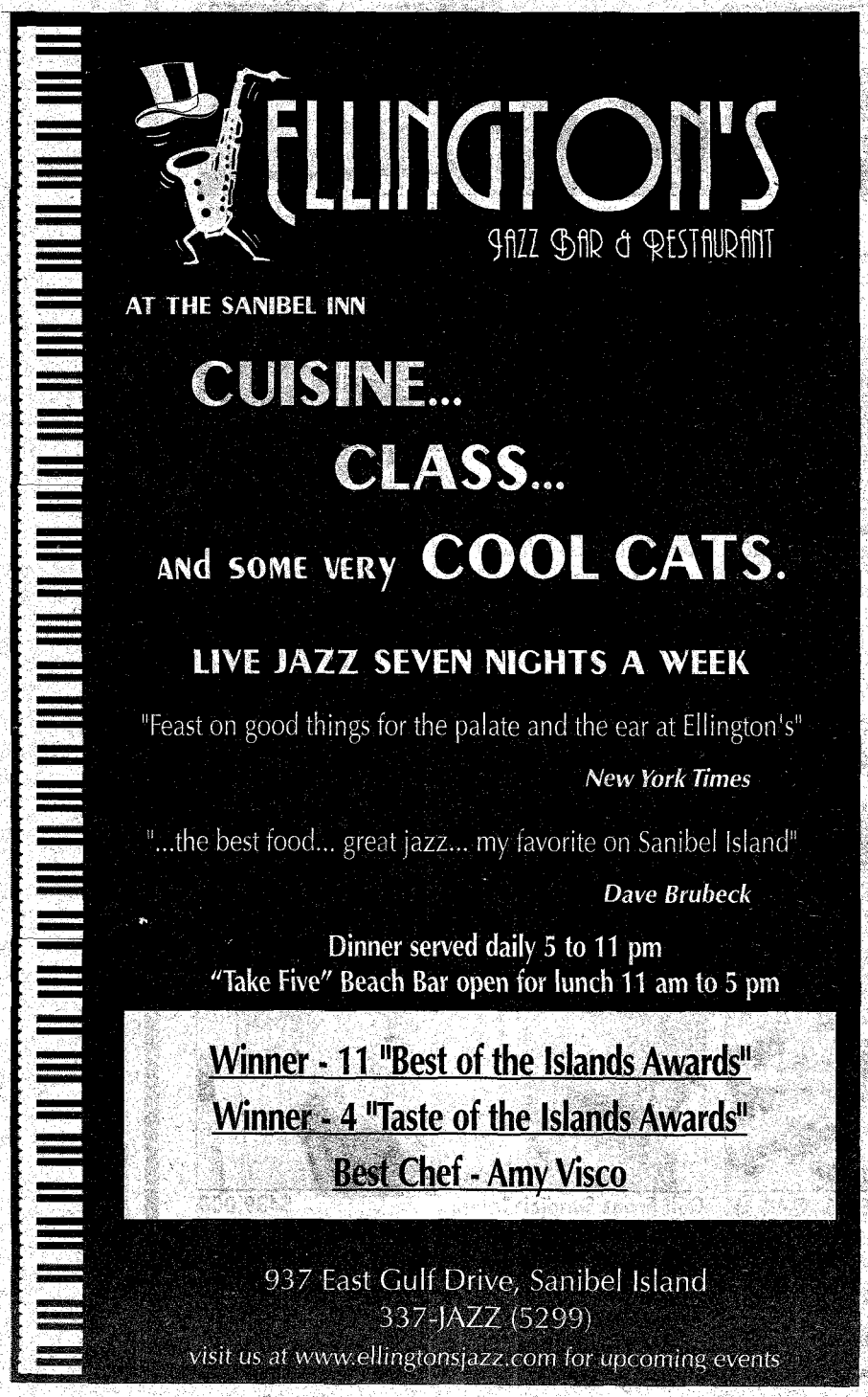
Not sure which feathery friends you are seeing through your binoculars? Learn interesting facts about birds and how to identify them in the estuary. Meet at the cross-dike pavilion. Begins at 1 p.m. on Mondays and 11 a.m. on Saturdays.

Magnificent Manatees

Explore the world of one of America's most endangered species, the West Indian manatee as it faces a challenging future. Find out what you can do to help save this species. Meet at the cross-dike pavilion. Manatee viewing site. Pick up a brochure at the information desk for Lee County Manatee Park. Begins at 11 a.m. on Sundays and 1 p.m. on Thursdays.

Reading in the Refuge

Join a naturalist for story time at the refuge. Bring your family to hear an exciting book followed by a program highlighting the estuarine ecosystem. Story time is appropriate for pre-K through 8th, but everyone is welcome to attend. Meet in the Education Lab in the Education Center. Begins at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays and Saturdays.



Please send all Editorial Copy and Ad Information to:
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CROW Campaign Getting Stronger

For the first time in CROW's 37-year history, a capital campaign is underway to raise money for a new and renovated wildlife hospital, re-built student housing and a new wildlife education center.

With a $2.8 miillion goal, co-chairs Bob Wigley and John Schubert have raised nearly 67 percent in gifts and pledges, but still need to raise an additional $900,000 before calling it a success.

"This Commitment to Compassion Capital campaign will improve all aspects of CROW's operation from direct animal care in the new and renovated hospital to our student education program which attracts students from around the world and enhancing our public outreach in the new wildlife education center," said Wigley.

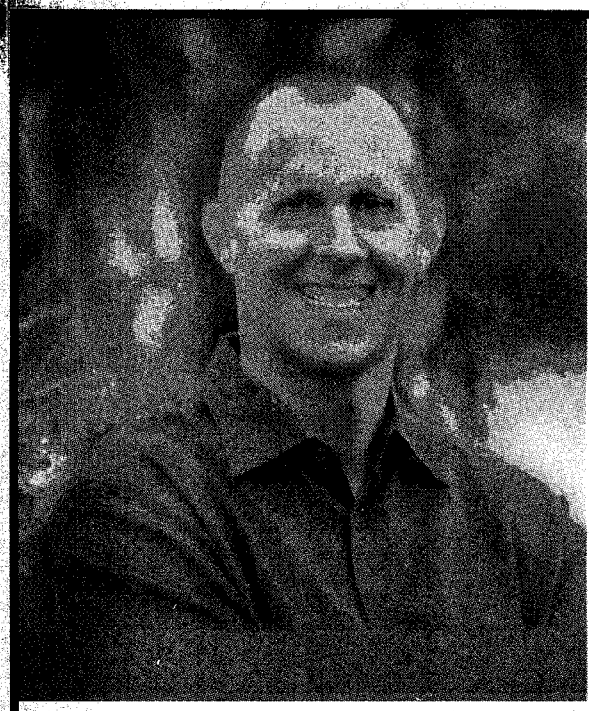
CROW receives no state or federal support and of private philanthropic support is more important than ever said Wigley. In an effort to help charities during this time of natural disasters, Congress passed a bill to allow unlimited gifts to charity up to a donor's total income. Section #HR 3758 of the Katrina Emergency Tax Relief Act of 2005 allows donors who make cash gifts to qualified charities by the end of 2005 to deduct an amount equal to virtually 100 percent of their adjusted gross incomes, double the normal limit of 50 percent of income. These changes may present some donors with an opportunity to fund outright gifts with assets withdrawn from an IRA or other qualified retirement plan. CROW recommends contacting your financial advisor to see how this law can benefit you and a qualified non-profit. This provision expires December 31, so people must act quickly, Wigley said.

"The continued pressure of growth in Southwest Florida creates a real sense of urgency for CROW's mission in caring for our wildlife," said Schubert. "Using a comprehensive approach, CROW will be adding the necessary muscle to its work with this capital campaign."

CROW members will be hosting a number of small parties around Lee County in sharing the story of CROW and the importance of the capital campaign, encouraging support from people who understand and appreciate wildlife.

CROW also has an opportunity for donors to double their gift by taking advantage of two anonymous matching grants, that will match dollar for dollar up to a $200,000. CROW will not receive this money unless it is matched, said Schubert. There are people and organizations in this area dedicated to the vital work of preserving natural habitats. CROW is working to help preserve the species that live within those habitats through rescue, care and rehabilitation.

To receive a campaign packet and learn more about how to support CROW's Commitment to Compassion Campaign, call Birgie Vertesch or Anita Pinder at 472-3644, ext. 5.



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Turn key, beautiful Wolter Group home. Decorator designed by Norris Furniture, perfect from top to bottom. Huge great room, open eat in kitchen, lush tropical vegetation & pool area help make this a very secluded oasis. **Call the 24 Hour Hotline at 800-585-8859: CODE# 2042**



One of the Best to Choose From **$1,095,000**

Gulf front condo in Gulfside Place. This oversized 2 bedroom with den, 1st floor walk out staircase from the Gulf front screened porch to pool and beach. Gulfside Place has made many upgrades to maintain and continue as one of the best condos on the island. Newer kitchen with new appliances, Corian counters and more! **Call the 24 Hour Hotline at 800-585-8859: CODE# 2212**



Popular South Ft. Myers Location **$274,900**

2 BR/2.5 BA townhouse in Paddle Creek. High ceilings, hardwood floors in entry, dining room and kitchen with step down into roomy carpeted living room. Large master suite with vaulted ceilings and balcony. Covered tiled patio overlooks lake w/fountain, mature landscaping, tin roof, great architectural design. Choice location, minutes from beaches with shops and restaurants in walking distance.



New Bay Front, South Seas Opportunity **$2,695,000**

Olde Florida style 4 bedroom home with huge loft. Gorgeous bay views with private deeded beach path. Lots of deck space with beautiful pool/spa area. Big kitchen, decorator furnishings, tin roof, & elevator. Excellent rental investment! **Call the 24 Hour Hotline at 800-585-8859: CODE# 2182**



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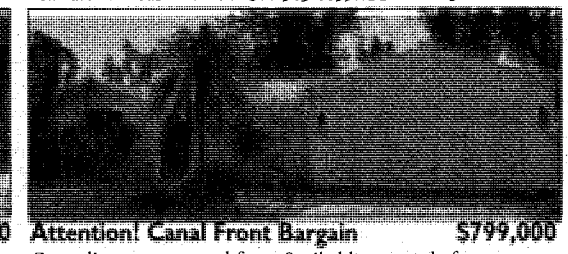
East End Near Beach Canal Home **$1,049,000**

Remodeled canal home on Sanibel's East End. Spacious, vaulted ceilings, great room with built-in entertainment center, fireplace, plantation shutters, and Mexican tile. Master bedroom with private porch. Southwest exposure pool with lots of deck space and mature landscaping. Large boat dock. Deeded beach access. **Call the 24 Hour Hotline at 800-585-8859: CODE# 2052**



Popular Sundial Resort **$899,000**

Hard to find 3 BR, furnished condo in this price range. Lots of upgrades, tile throughout, multiple balconies, awesome direct gulf/beach views with great rental history. This condo is fully equipped & ready to go. A must see! **Call the 24 Hour Hotline at 800-585-8859: CODE# 2232**



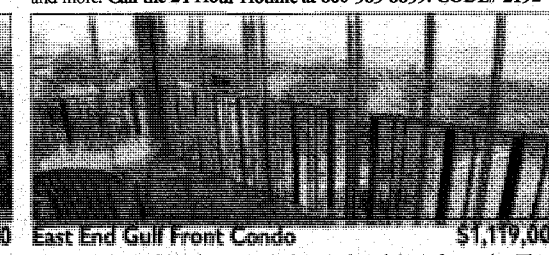
Attention! Canal Front Bargain **$799,000**

Great direct access canal front Sanibel home ready for immediate occupancy. Ground level home which is a great value, investment and rental property. Can't go wrong with this price range on the canal. **Call 800-585-8859: CODE# 2202**



East End Deep Water Canal **$1,649,000**

The best deep water canal home on Sanibel's East End. Spacious 3 bedroom, 3 bath with a short walk to beach, shops and cafés. 60' boat dock, huge open pool, tropical landscaping, great floor plan, elevator, 2 fireplaces, 2 screened porches, gourmet kitchen, high ceilings, woodfloors and more. **Call the 24 Hour Hotline at 800-585-8859: CODE# 2192**



East End Gulf Front Condo **$1,119,000**

Absolutely beautiful and completely furnished, with lots of upgrades. This top floor corner unit has views of the Gulf & night lights of Ft. Myers/ Naples Beach. Great East End locale with views of Sanibel's historic light house. **Call the 24 Hour Hotline at 800-585-8859: CODE# 2122**



Gulf Front Sundial Condo **$489,000**

Great remodeled rental investment condominium on Sanibel Island. Full service amenities, onsite management rentals. 1031 exchange property. **Call the 24 Hour Hotline at 800-585-8859: CODE# 2142**

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Jumbo Shrimp & Mango Cocktail Martini
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Mixed Greens Topped with Toasted Pumpkin Seeds,
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or
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FILET of TENDERLOIN

Beef Medallion Topped with Wild Mushroom Ragout and
Crispy Fried Shallots, with Garlic Mashed Potatoes
and Baby Vegetables

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Sweet Basil Oil and Roasted Pepper Coulis,
Lobster Infused Jasmine Rice and Buttered Sno Peas

STUFFED CHICKEN

Spinach and Smoked Gouda Stuffed Chicken Breast with a
Herbed Butter Sauce, Garlic Mashed Potatoes & Baby Vegetables

OCEAN PLATTER

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Cold Water Lobster Tail & Grilled Prawns with Garlic Butter.
Accompanied by Wakami Salad,
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Grilled Colorado Venison Chops Drizzled with a
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with Smoked Bacon and Garlic Mashed Potatoes

Desserts

Apple Crisp with Cinnamon Ice Cream, Key Lime Pie,
Flourless Chocolate Torte, Pumpkin Pie

Appetizers from $12 - $14 per person
Entrees from $31 - $46 per person

RESERVATIONS FROM 11:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.
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Community Theater Returns To Sanibel

The Off Beach Players aAnnounce that community theater returns to the Sanibel Community House. While there were still oil lamps burning at The Sanibel Community House and a confederate vine-covered privy standing out in back, Lillia Cockerill and Ernest Bailey put on sketches to help raise money for electricity.

Keeping with the history of early activity at the Community House that included plays, the Off Beach Players will provide Summer Community Theater this coming summer in The Community House North Room, 2173 Periwinkle Way. The Sanibel Community Association is pleased to see the revival of an old island tradition. Summer on the island is going to be fun. Don't miss the first play, *The Odd Couple* – Neil Simon's unique female version, scheduled to open Memorial Day Weekend, running for three weeks on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights, starting at 8 p.m. An adult ticket will be $15 and $5 for children. For additional information and auditions, call June Koc at 246-3207.☆

Our E-Mail address is
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IT'S TIME TO SPREAD A LITTLE HOLIDAY CHEER.



AND CHEER A LITTLE HOLIDAY SPREAD.

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Saturday, December 24 5:30 pm – 10:00 pm	Christmas Eve Celebration Dinner • Special Holiday Menu The Old Captiva House
Sunday, December 25 11:30 am – 8:00 pm	Christmas Day Celebration Buffet • Holiday Feast • $26.95 The Old Captiva House
Saturday, December 31 5:30 pm – 10:00 pm	New Year's Eve Celebration Dinner • Special Party Menu The Old Captiva House
Saturday, December 31 9:00 pm – 1:00 am	New Year's Eve Blow-the-Roof-Off Party With the Modulators • $25 The Crow's Nest

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Rotary This Week



Colonel Tom Madigan and Sergeant Major John Humphries spoke to island Rotary members

Last Friday's Rotary meeting proved that a few good men can make a great deal of difference to the youth of our county. Colonel Tom Madigan, director of Lee County School District's JROTC (Junior Officer Training Corps) program and Sergeant Major John Humphries, instructor at South Fort Myers High School, gave an overview of the mission and goals of the Army JROTC.

The National Defense Act of 1916 established the JROTC program and although all branches of the military participate, the largest program is within the Army. Its mission is to motivate young people to be better citizens and to develop each cadet to achieve goals of ethical values and good citizenship, leadership potential, effective communication and logical thinking, improved physical fitness, incentive to live drug-free, positive self-motivation and management, the skills to work as a team member, motivation to graduate from high school and pursue a successful career.

There is no military instruction in the JROTC program. The program's objective is to build citizenship, develop leadership qualities, build self-esteem, and have fun. Focus is on adventure training and leadership development, not war-fighting skills. There are 12 programs, 27 instructors, and 2,065 students in the JROTC in Lee County.

Humphries demonstrated the high-tech CPS (Classroom Performance System) used in the program. This CPS is a state of the art walk around chalkboard. This portable etch-a-sketch looking piece of equipment is an interactive computer that allows the instructor to instantaneously update curriculum material on a LCD projector screen in the classroom. The use of joystick controllers also allow cadets access to the system. According to Humphries the CPS is a completely effective teaching tool from both the instructor's point of view and the student results.

Both of these Army officers held the attention of the Rotarians and received a lot of questions during the Q & A session.

The Rotary speaker on Friday, December 30, will be Sanibel Mayor Carla B. Johnston on the topic of Sanibel's future. For further information call President John Carney at 395-1767. Rotary meetings are held Friday mornings at 7:30 a.m., at The Dunes.☆

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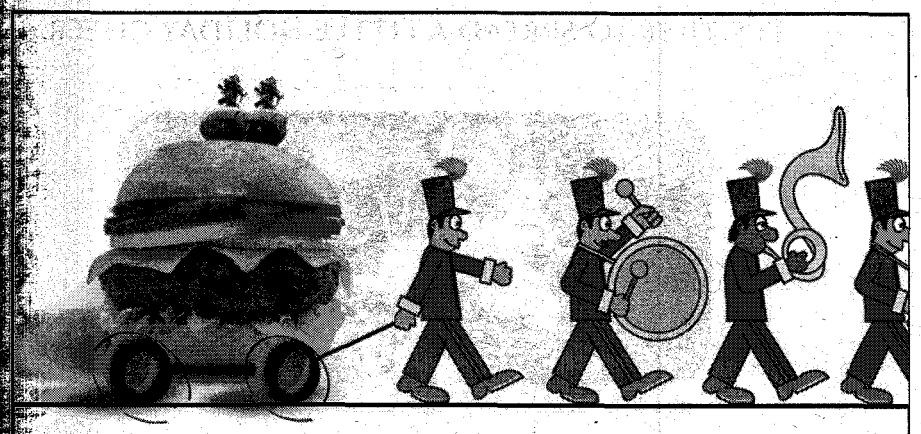


Enjoy our fresh baked desserts,
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Red Velvet Cake, Bootlegger Rum Cake, Midnight Mermaid, Snowball, Tropical Carrot Cake
and **Raspberry Delight!**

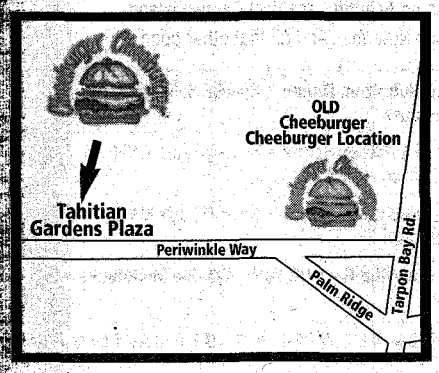
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INCLUDES:
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Rotary Rose Parade Float



submitted by John Carney

Rotary International's entry in the 2006 Tournament of Roses Parade, entitled The Magic of Caring, celebrates its continued commitment to the global eradication of polio by Rotarians worldwide. What better way to acknowledge the immunization of children than with the scene depicted on our float? The theme of this year's parade is It's Magical and this will be Rotary's 26th consecutive year of participation in the annual Rose Parade in Pasadena, California. For the past 100 years Rotary International has shown that it cares by performing many humanitarian, charitable, and educational projects around the world. Thus, the float celebrates more than a century of service and caring by Rotary clubs.

Rotary's participation in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade is a wonderful way to reach out to millions of people. Television coverage amplifies our efforts by delivering a message of what Rotary stands for and what Rotarians do for mankind. The Pasadena Tournament of Roses estimates that the parade is seen by 90 million people in the USA and 325 million people internationally in more than 100 countries. What an extensive audience to tell about the efforts of 1.2 million Rotarians to improve the quality of life by educational and humanitarian help to people around the world. Paul Harris, founder of Rotary, said, "In the promotion of Rotary, it is important to reach large numbers and you cannot reach them privately."

When Rotary International's directors approved the first entry in the parade over 25 years ago, they saw it as unrivaled opportunity to bring Rotary's name into public view. They reasoned that an eye-catching float would capture the interest of network commentators and remind the world of Rotary's good works. And so it has!

Rotary is an organization of business and professional people united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

The parade will be on Monday, January 2 in observance of the Tournament of Roses "Never on a Sunday" tradition.☆

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Zontians Celebrate The Holidays

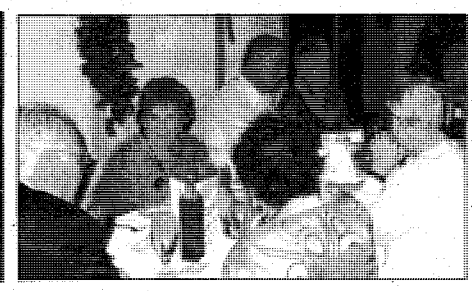
The Jacaranda was packed with members of Zonta, their friends and partners as they gathered for the seasonal celebration. In addition to the scrumptuous food and attentive service, guests were treated to beautiful lights, festive decorations and carols evoking sleighrides of both a different time and a very different place.☆



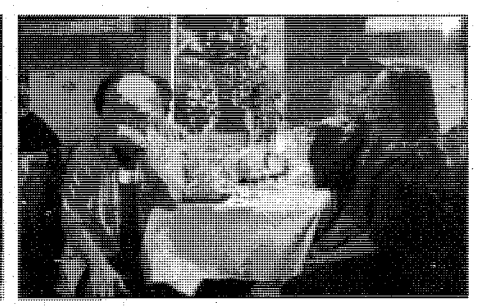












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Served from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.

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DINNER HOURS, 5:00-9:00 PM
THE DUNES GOLF & TENNIS CLUB • 949 SAND CASTLE ROAD SANIBEL ISLAND

Cats Coming To Broadway Palm

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre presents *Cats*, the theatrical sensation that has dazzled the world, December 29 through March 4.

Unlike any musical before, *Cats* took Broadway by storm, breaking new ground in concept and staging, sending audiences reeling. Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Cats* has won countless awards including seven Tony Awards.

The high-voltage production is a colorful mix of sound, music, movement and songs. The show is based on TS Eliot's classic book of poems, *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats,* which is an entertaining look at the amusing antics of cats and the eccentricities of people. *Cats* tells of a particular feline tribe, the Jellicles, who have assembled at an abandoned amusement park to decide which of them will be reborn. Each cat "auditions" with a different song or dance number, and some minor complications occur before a cat is chosen.

Performances are Tuesday through Sunday with selected matinees. Ticket prices range from $25 to $48. Children 12 and under are $21 for dinner and the show. Group rates are available. Tickets can be reserved by calling 278-4422, by visiting www.BroadwayPalm.com or by stopping by the box office at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.☆



The ensemble cast of *Cats*

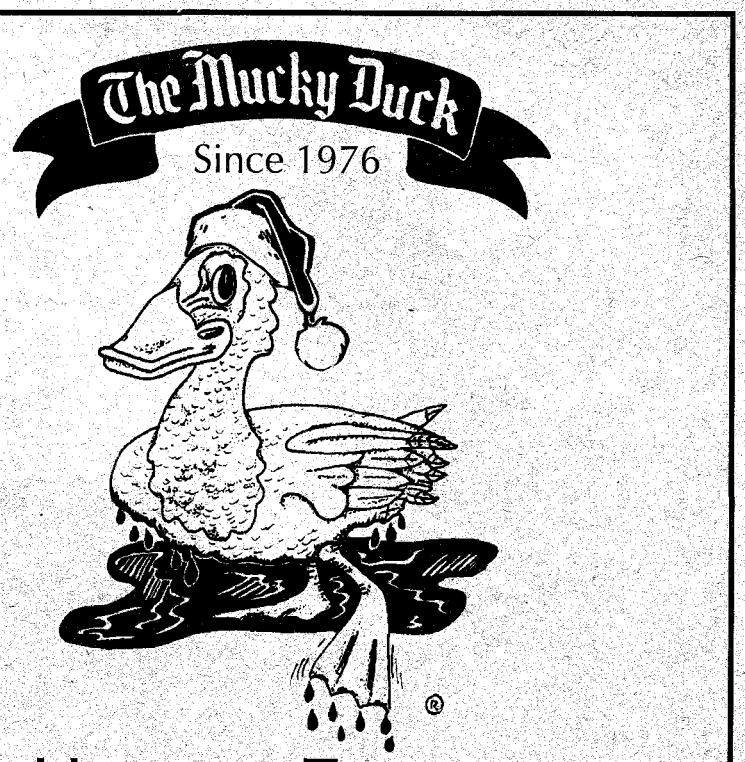
Auditions For *Tom Sawyer*

The Alliance for the Arts, 10091 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers, is holding open auditions for the musical *Tom Sawyer* on Saturday, January 14 at 10 a.m. for ages eight to adult. No preparation is needed for this stress-free audition. Invitations to participate in the musical by joining The Creative Theatre Workshop will be issued following the audition. This unique theater experience includes 10 Saturdays of classes, beginning January 21, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., followed by a lunch break and rehearsal for the musical from noon to 2 p.m.

This production contains many children's parts and several adult parts. Parents are welcome to participate.

There will be four performances, two for the public and two for school field trips, the week of April 3. Note that participating in this class does require one day off from school or work. Cost for the Creative Theatre Workshop is $100 for members and $125 for non-members. For more information, call 939-2787 ext. 27.☆





Kids Celebrate The Holidays

Last Friday was a very busy day at the Children's Education Center of the Islands.

In the morning, Rebecca Congress' mother, Melissa, came to the school and provided the children with a Hanukkah program.

In the afternoon a special holiday program was presented by the children for the parents, grandparents and friends. The children sang their favorite holiday carols. Homemade holiday goodies and punch were enjoyed by all to complete the festivites.☼



Melissa and Rebecca Congress



Singing *Jingle Bells*



Lisa Arce



Jarod Berube, Isabella Sbarra-Michelland and Kate Kupsaw

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LOBSTER THERMIDOR
Succulent Maine lobster sauteed with mushrooms, onions, fresh thyme and cream. Served with Asiago bread crustinis, Saffron rice and seasonal vegetables
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Jumbo prawns wrapped in salt cured Prosciutto ham, broiled and served with mission fig bbq sauce, saffron rice and seasonal vegetables
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AHI TUNA
Wood grilled to desired temperature, served on a teriyaki painted plate with red and green wakimi, pickled ginger, wasabi peas, teriyaki rice and seasonal vegetables
25.95

SUNSET SCALLOPS
Jumbo scallops broiled in sweet cream and butter, topped with spiced breadcrumbs and parmesan cheese and accompanied by saffron rice and seasonal vegetables
28.95

PAN-SEARED RED SNAPPER
Fresh red snapper topped with tarragon pansy butter and garnished with fried leeks, saffron rice and seasonal vegetables
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LOBSTER & ASPARAGUS STUFFED CHICKEN
Fresh Maine lobster and crispy asparagus enveloped in a single chicken breast, Served with sauce Warnaise, wild rice and seasonal vegetables.
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VEAL CHOP
Herb crusted and fire roasted veal chop served with a gorgonzola port wine reduction, asparagus, mashed potatoes and seasonal vegetables
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NEW YORK STRIP STEAK
12oz wood grilled steak lavished with pearl onions, wild mushrooms and roasted garlic and ruby port demi glace. Served with garlic mashed potatoes.
26.95

BABY BACK RIBS
A full rack of hickory smoked pork ribs smothered in homemade bbq sauce, garlic mashed poratoes and seasonal vegetables
25.95

FILET MIGNON
Aged center cut Angus filet, wood grilled and topped with Chevre cheese. Served atop a sun dried tomato and artichoke sauce, with garlic mashed potatoes
29.95

Check Out Kiwanis



Ted Tyson accepts a check for Angel Flight



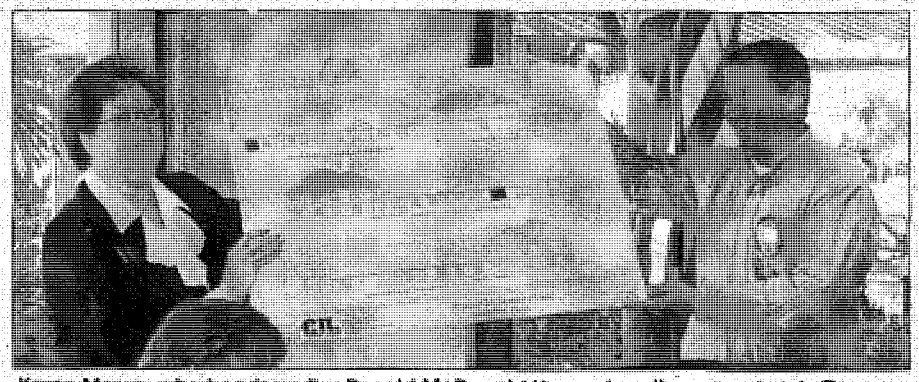
Betsy Alderman describes the Chrissy Brown Cancer Unit at HealthPark and accepts a check



Jessica Boles, the new American Cancer Society representative for this area, gets her first lesson in Kiwanis from Mark Tesoro and emerges unscathed

by Bob Wimbush

It was the December and, in the spirit of the season, Kiwanians were giving out money.



Karen Moran, who heads up the Ronald McDonald House, lays the groundwork. They are expanding their six-room house by adding 12 more rooms. Mark Tesoro assists.



Nancy McDole, assistant principal of The Sanibel School, accepts a check for Junior Achelvement at The Sanibel School from program sponsors and Kiwanians Alan Myers and Russ Bogen

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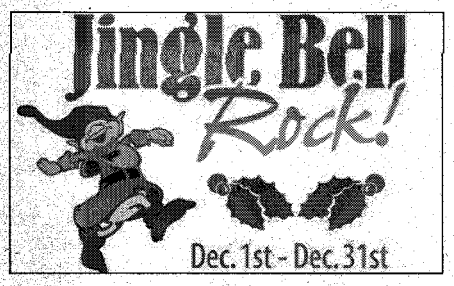
From page 16

Island Parish

The parish was one of several recognized recently at Diocesan Convention for relief and recovery response ministries after Hurricane Charley in 2004. In February of 2006 the rector helps coordinate a workshop on disaster preparedness and response at the annual national conference of the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes.

For more information, call Reverend Donald Fishburne at 472-2173.☆

Rock On New Year's Eve



The Schoolhouse Theater is having a special early bird performance of *Jingle Bell Rock*! at 7 p.m. on New Year's Eve.

It's the perfect rockin' holiday show to get in the mood to ring in the new year. In addition to the favorites, there are holiday shenanigans that bring laughter and joy.

This special New Year's Eve performance is perfect for families who have celebration plans before or after the show. *Jingle Bell Rock!* is playing Monday through Saturday until December 31. Call the box office at 472-6862 for reservations.☆

Friends In Service Here

FISH Lines

FISH Volunteers visit the homes of those who are ill, shut-in, or lonely in order to provide companionship and encouragement. To obtain additional information, please call 472-0404.☆

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Ring In The New Concert At The Phil Celebrates Old Vienna

The Philharmonic Center for the Arts will present *Ring In The New*, an Old Vienna-themed concert featuring music and dance with Music Director/Conductor Jorge Mester leading the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra and some very special guests on Monday, January 2 at 8 p.m. This program is a repeat of the New Year's Eve program without the reception and toast.

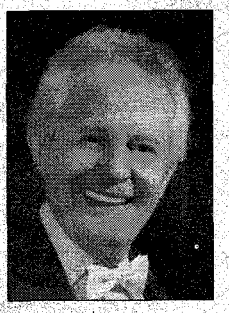
Transporting audiences back to the splendors of Old Vienna, Maestro Mester guides the Orchestra through selections such as Strauss' *Blue Danube* Waltz, Suppe's *Light Cavalry Overture* and other favorite waltzes and polkas. Soprano Sharon Blake Hill, tenor Randall Bills and renowned dancer Alec Lazo and partner will perform in this exciting concert event.

Tickets for *Ring In The New* are $78. For more information or to order tickets, contact Customer Service at 239-597-1900 or toll-free at 800-597-1900. Tickets are also available online at www.thephil.org. The Philharmonic Center for the Arts is at 5833 Pelican Bay Boulevard in Naples.✡

New Year's Eve Gala At The Phil

The Philharmonic Center for the Arts will present *A Night In Vienna*, a New Year's Eve gala featuring music and dance with Music Director/Conductor Jorge Mester leading the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra on Saturday, December 31 at 9 p.m.

Transporting audiences back to the splendors of Old Vienna, Maestro Mester will guide the orchestra through selections such as Strauss' *Blue Danube* Waltz, Suppe's *Light Cavalry Overture*, and other favorite waltzes and polkas. Soprano Sharon Blake Hill, tenor Randall Bills and renowned dancer Alec Lazo and partner will perform in this exciting concert event.



Jorge Mester

Tickets for the New Year's Eve gala are $125, which includes a reception prior to the performance at 7:30 p.m. and a champagne toast after the concert. For more information or to order tickets, contact Customer Service at 239-597-1900 or toll-free at 800-597-1900. Tickets are also available online at www.thephil.org. The Philharmonic Center for the Arts is at 5833 Pelican Bay Boulevard in Naples.✡

Safe Sitter Course Offered

Lee Memorial Health System is offering a Safe Sitter course as part of its childbirth and family education programs.

The course is February 18 and 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at HealthPark Medical Center rooms H3 and H4.

The Safe Sitter program is a medically oriented instruction course that teaches children ages 11 to 13 techniques for safe babysitting.

Topics will include rescue breathing, choking, safety and first aid.

Call 432-3271 for a registration form.

Located in HealthPark Medical Center and part of the Lee Memorial Health System, The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida is dedicated to giving children and teenagers the highest level of medical and surgical care available anywhere. Both inpatients and outpatients can receive comprehensive care for medical problems ranging from minor ailments to critical injuries.✡



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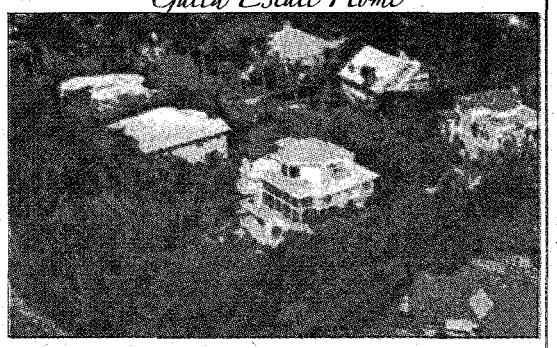
4/5 bedrooms, media room, office, dock with lift, wood floors, elevator, pool, incredible views. Priced to sell at **$3,995,000. Call Jim Hall!**

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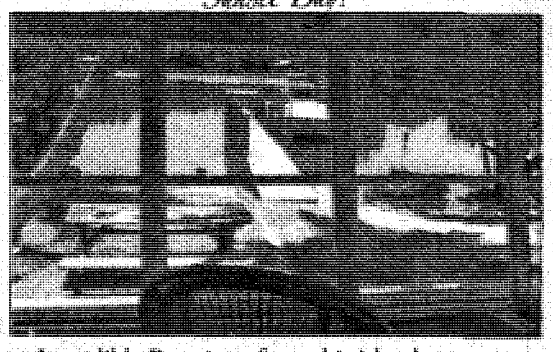
Gated Estate Home



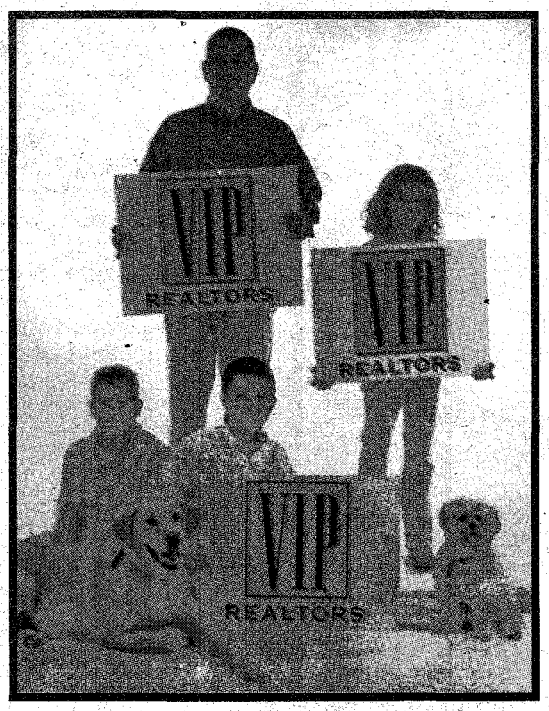
Five bedroom, 4.5 bath, fireplaced library, and breathtaking Gulf views. Located across from private beach access. **$3,895,000. Call Jim Hall!**

Happy Holidays from the Hall family!

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Incredible Bay views from this island cottage. Deeded beach access directly across the street, 3 boat docks, and resort housing allows nightly rentals. A great value **$1,495,000. Call Jim Hall!**



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Three bedrooms, 2 baths - All new! Seawalled canal, pool, and boat dock. Brazillian Cherry floors, gorgeous granite kitchen, elevator, intersecting canal views, and beach parking. Meticulous! **$1,495,000. Call Jim Hall!**

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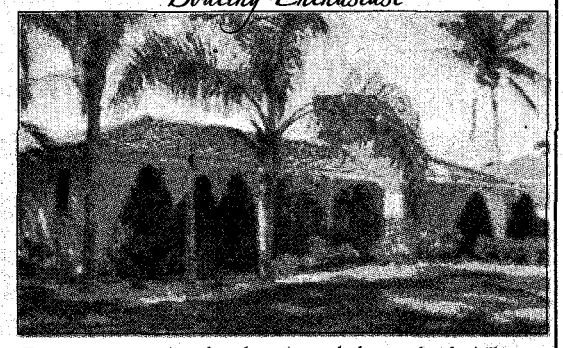
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Direct access (no bridges!) with boat dock. Three bedrooms, lots of upgrades and shows great. In law quarters, office, family room. Pool with new screen enclosure. **$1,095,000. Call Jim Hall!**

Theater Series Features Laura Ingalls Wilder

Florida Repertory Theatre will present *Laura Ingalls Wilder: Voice of the Prairie* as part of its Lunchbox Theatre Series, from January 14 through February 4.

Written by celebrated children's playwright, Katherine Schultz Miller, *Laura Ingalls Wilder: Voice of the Prairie* is a stirring, dramatic adaptation based on the true-life story of Laura Ingalls Wilder, a person whose life and writings left an indelible impression on American culture.

Children and adults the world over have always been fascinated by American frontier life. The beloved stories of Laura Ingalls Wilder, such as *Little House on the Prairie* and *Little House in the Big Woods*, allow the reader to journey to that era. The play shows how the events of Wilder's life shaped her stories.

From the *Little House in the Big Woods* to her fascinating rise as a literary star, from log cabins and covered wagons to the simple joys of farm life in the Ozarks, this new play brings insight and meaning to Wilder's charming books.

Families are invited to Florida Rep's studio theater where these productions are performed. After the performance, a bag lunch is served, and participants get an opportunity to meet the cast and director of the show in a talk back session. The cast and education director will then lead the audience in an interactive workshop, which gives children the opportunity to be onstage. The day winds down with a tour of Florida Rep's historic main stage theater. This production is sponsored in part by Publix Super Market Charities.

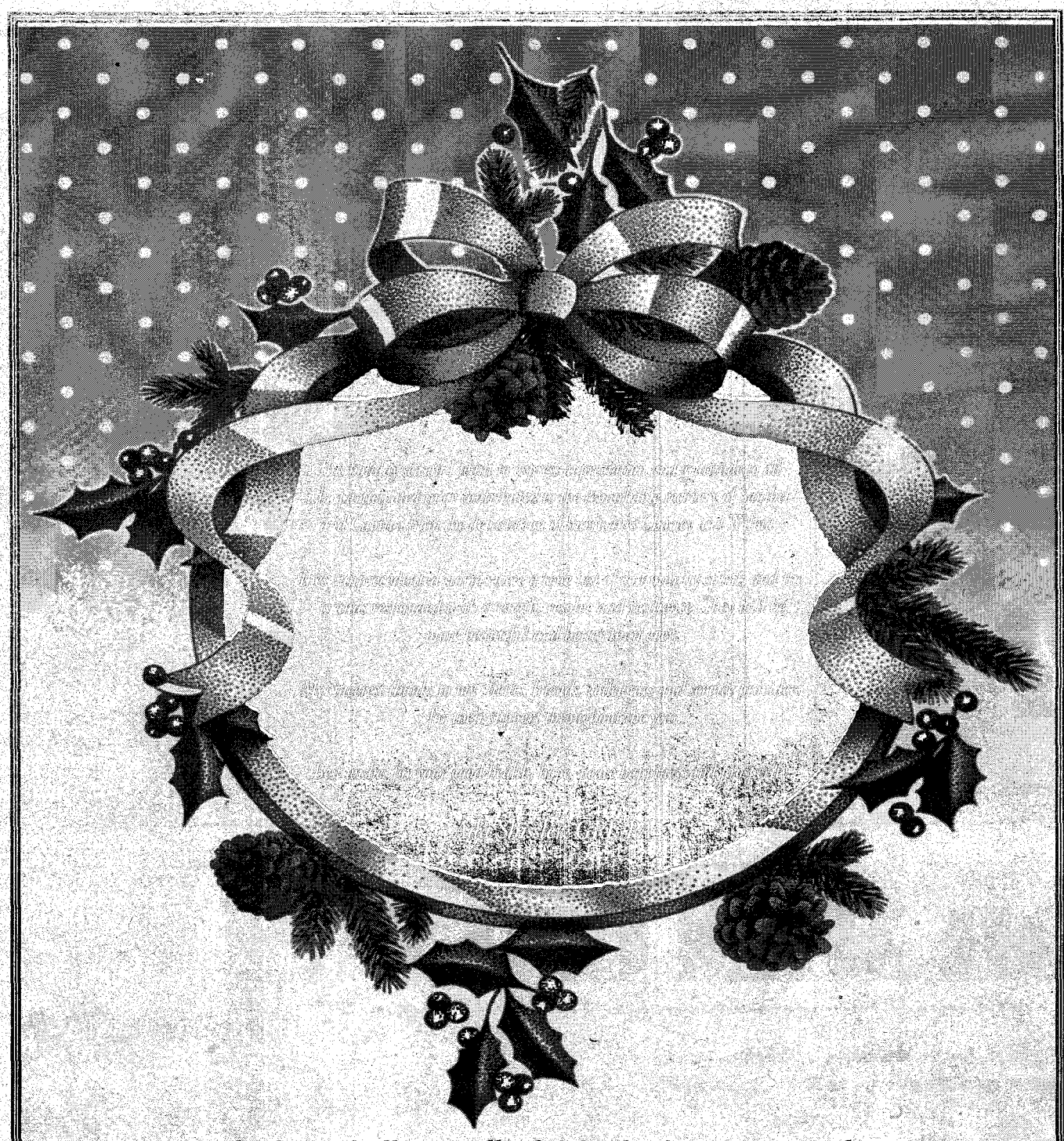


Laura Ingalls Wilder: Voice of the Prairie

Lunchbox Theatre takes place on the following Saturdays: January 14, 21, 28 and February 4. All performances are at 11 a.m. and take place at Florida Repertory Theatre, in its on-site studio location. The $10 price includes a 45-minute interactive performance, a bagged lunch catered by Ida's Bon Appetitery and The French Connection, and a brief workshop with the actors. Call 332-4488 to reserve tickets.

Florida Repertory Theatre is located in the historic Arcade Theatre in downtown Fort Myers, between Jackson and Hendry Streets. For more information, visit www.floridarep.org.☆

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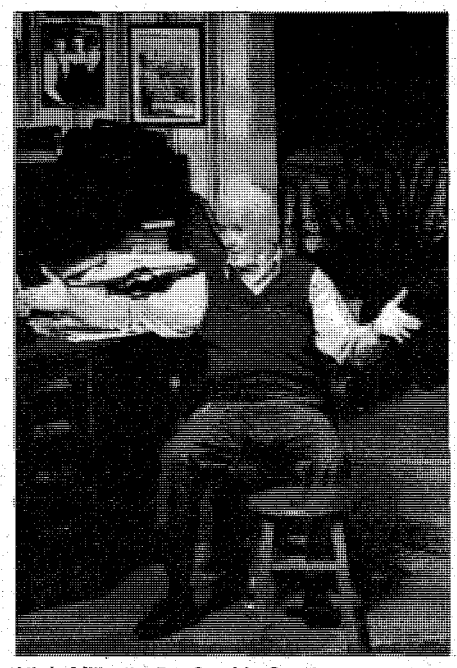
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Secrets Of Acting Class Offered



Niels Miller in *Dr. Cook's Garden*

Would you like to know the secrets of acting? Here is your chance. Florida Rep is offering a new adult acting class with actor Niels Miller.

Adults ages 14 and up are welcome to enroll. This intensive six-week program will begin January 9 and continue through February 13.

Participants will learn the fundamentals of acting, experiment with creativity and hone their dramatic skills. Students will benefit from Miller's experience on the stage while becoming familiarized with the rare and fascinating Delsarte technique for acting. Miller is one of a few actors or teachers in the country who are qualified to teach this type of acting. All experience levels are encouraged to participate.

The class will be held in the Florida Rep studio on Monday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. The cost of enrollment is $120.

For more information or to enroll call Florida Rep's education director, Jamie Carmichael, at 332-4665 ext. 20.

Florida Repertory Theatre is located in downtown Fort Myers in the historic Arcade Theatre, on Bay Street between Jackson and Hendry Streets. Visit Florida Rep on the web at www.Floridarep.org.☆

International Exhibition At Alliance



Domestic Couple by Yuji Hiratsuka

The Alliance for the Arts, 10091 McGregor Boulevard, embarks on a series of impressive international exhibitions in 2006, starting with the opening reception of the Florida Printmakers 14th Juried International Print and Drawing Exhibition on January 6, from 5 to 7 p.m. This exhibition, sponsored by Press Printing, can be viewed in the Alliance gallery from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays, through January 28.

The Florida Printmakers Exhibition consists of 57 pieces by 47 artists, chosen from a total of 514 entries from around the world. Juror Robert Watson, professor emeritus, Florida Atlantic University, chose seven extraordinary pieces to give special recognition. "The individual direction and personal search of these artists is refreshing and significant. The creative imagery and energy in these exceptional works exemplifies the quality and diversity of concepts investigated throughout the exhibition," he said.

Florida Printmakers is a non-profit organization first incorporated by David Hunter in Orlando in 1986 for the purpose of better educating the public on handmade prints. Since then, Barry Wilson (Jacksonville), Bradlee Shanks (Tampa) and Marcia Stewart (Fort Myers) have served. The current president is Lise Drost and the organization is housed in the Art Department at the University of Miami in Coral Gables. The goal of the present Florida Printmakers board is to promote the art of printmaking in the State of Florida through exhibitions of the membership and they aim to attract members from around the world.

The Member Gallery will feature the work of Pat Collins, a local artist whose work has been exhibited in venues throughout the state, nationally and internationally. Her work has been featured in many other publications.

For more information, contact the Alliance at 939-2787.☆

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A Short Summing Up Of Two New Films

by Priscilla Friedersdorf

The standout among the new films just released in December is *The Chronicles of Narnia, The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe.* The book by C. S. Lewis is considered a classic for children but the film interpretation of the adventure will appeal to all ages. A climactic battlefield scene is breathtaking in its level of excellence in cinematography and controlled direction. Peter, the hero, sits motionless astride his white horse, poised on the brow of a steep hill overlooking a wide valley rimmed with green hills. He faces his opponent across the empty expanse.

Peter has his silver sword raised, his helmet visor open and next to him is Edmund, a hard-eyed warrior. The opposing army, terrifying in their buffalo-head masks, suddenly charge by the thousands, swarming down from the heights and into the valley; but still Peter waits and then he turns, calm and totally composed, to his left, and says to his mounted warrior companion, "Are you with me?" and he replies, "Till the death." And you, the viewer, with beating heart, will have rarely experienced such high-pitched drama and intense excitement as the hero lowers his sword, firmly shuts his helmut's visor, and quietly exclaims, "For Narnia." The



forces of both armies charge the field led by bounding leopards and Narnia's other feathered secret weapon. A truly magnificent film example of exquisite timing and amazing cinematography combined to bring viewers to the edge of their seats.

The Chronicles of Narnia is currently being shown at the Island Cinema and is rated PG. For further information telephone 472-1701.

Rent begins with its best: the cast singing, at full voice, the rousing, *Five Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand, Six Hundred Minutes* (How do you measure a year in the life – how about love? Love? Measured in love.)

The year is 1989, the day December 24, and Benny, a young, black, businesslike man, has come to collect the rent. The cast sings, "How we gonna pay last year's rent?" and the staging of fire bombs thrown from balconies looks like last month's riots in France. A good beginning, but this is New York in an era of AIDs and drug addiction. Young people are talented but afflicted and/or addicted, and there is nothing redeeming in their terrible plight; not even their wasting talents.

The AZT treated HIV sufferers assemble at their group support meeting and it is a sorry sight. The tempo of the music is dated; the same as Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Evita* and the cadence of the words replicate Tim Rice's lyrics to those songs.

The plot does not contain depth or variety; it soon becomes a tiresome treatise on the sorrow of AIDS. This is the common denominator of their lives. Every person – gay, transvestite, bi-sexual, lesbian, drug addicted – is touched in some way and exudes a weary hopelessness. A dancer quotes the tired, old Ginger Rogers line, as she dances, "You should try it backward in heels"; bravado is contrived, "I'm a New Yorker – fear is my life." Voices are shrill, with a sameness to the volume of every song, even the imaginative words of *La Vie Boheme.* Their song, "We'll open up a restaurant in Santa Fe – and leave this to the roaches!" must have struck terror in the whole populace of New Mexico.☆

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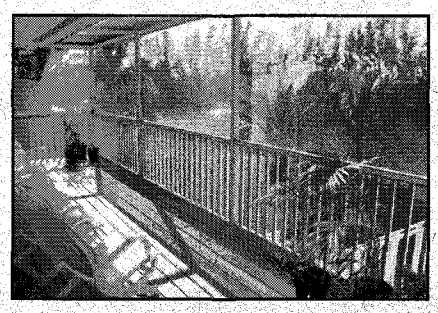


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1418 CAUSEY COURT

Picture Perfect! Old Florida style home, 3 bedroom, 3 bath plus den/office located on one of the most charming streets on Sanibel! Owners have meticulously maintained this home offering beautiful lake views. Split floor plan with private guest suites, spacious great room with high vaulted beamed ceilings, custom designed cabinetry opening to beautiful enclosed porch area equipped with plantation shutters. Screened back porch overlooks the lake, fabulous wildlife and sunsets. New roof, new hurricane resistant garage doors. a delight to show!

1312 SANDCASTLE



Charming 3bedroom 2 bath home in The Dunes overlooking historic Bailey land offering peaceful views and privacy. Fabulous oversized pool with patio area and white fencing. Open living area with vaulted ceilings, great expansive porch and light &bright kitchen. Gardens and tropical vegetation and fruit trees are superb at this lovely home. Furnishings are negotiable. **Offered at $825,000**

11535 CHAPIN LANE



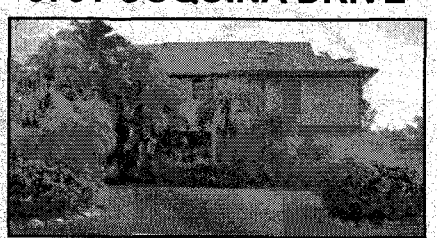
Beautiful, like new home in the charming village area of Captiva. Just 3 lots from the beach on a quiet street. This 2 story home offers 3 bedrooms, each with their own bath, great room/family room, new appliances, new carpet, new roof, new decking, and more. Lovely expansive windows create an atmosphere of bright and open living. Conveniently located, within 2 streets away from wonderful Captiva restaurants and shopping and just steps to the beach. This is a great family home that also offers excellent rental potential. **Offered totally furnished and equipped for $1,650,000**

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3781 COQUINA DRIVE



Charming lake front home and also close to the beach! Great room with vaulted ceilings, 3 bedrooms 2 baths with large porch and screen enclosure, oversized Diamond Brite pool located in a lovely subdivision and very private setting. Owner prefers short lease back or delayed closing. Furnishings are negotiable. **Offered at $775,000**

View pictures and location at WWW.FLORIDAMOVES.COM/ELLIE.SEE

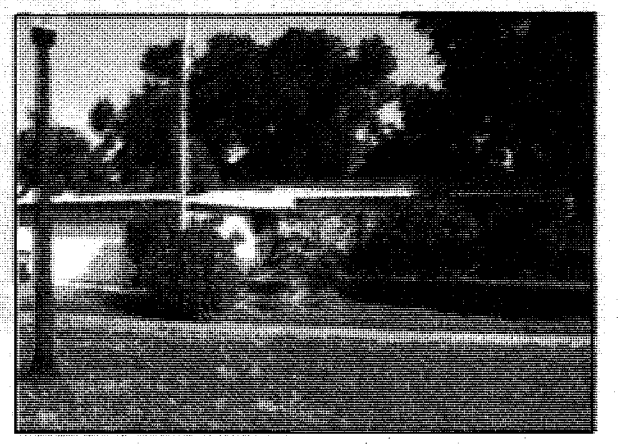
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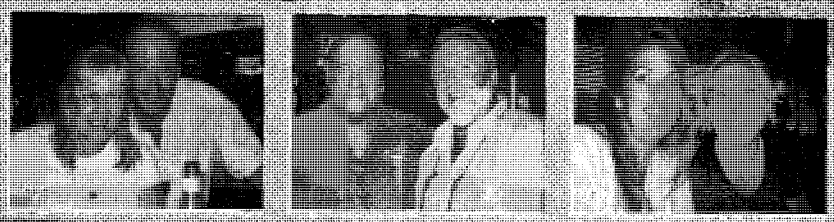


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Memories Of Gold I Features Rock 'n' Roll Hit-makers



Peggy March



Frankie Ford

Four hit-makers from the early days of rock 'n' roll will perform at the Philharmonic Center Wednesday, December 28 at 8 p.m.

Memories of Gold I will showcase "Little" Peggy March, who topped the charts with *I Will Follow Him*; Frankie Ford, best known for the rock 'n' roll classic *Sea Cruise*; doo-wop legends the Flamingos, whose hits include *I Only Have Eyes for You* and *Heavenly Angel*; and the Duprees, of *You Belong to Me* and *My Own True Love* fame.

Tickets are $47. For more information or to order tickets, contact customer service at 239-597-1900 or toll-free 800-597-1900. Tickets are also available online at www.thephil.org.☆



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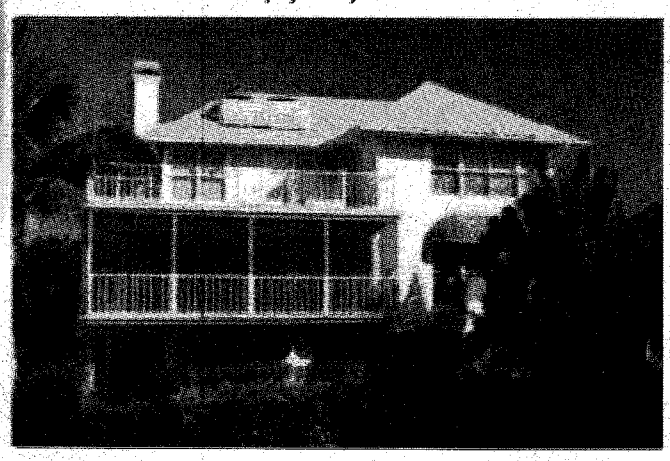
Happy Holidays!

Spectacular Sanctuary Golf Community Home

Exquisite designer and architectural touches. Completely furnished. Over 3,700 sq. ft. featuring 3 bedrooms, 4 bath plus den. 18' ceilings, intricate tray ceiling details with 2ft. wide moldings. Plantation shutters, sound system throughout, stunning tile floors. Master bath features marble floors, counters, shower and views of private garden. Custom cabinets throughout with built-ins in den. Pass through bar area with glass door cabinets. Sunset views over the 14th green from the expansive oversized pool/spa /patio area. Limitless features for a fantastic price.

$1,695,000





Colony Beach Estates

Elegant four bedroom, four bath, single family home within the gates of Sanibel's most sought after gulf front community. This Colony Beach Estates home has partial gulf views, two fireplaces, elevator, crown molding, screen lanai, laundry room, skylights and is impeccably maintained by its current owners. Gourmet kitchen area with center island & breakfast bar. Spacious master suite with own sun deck. Yard and garden area open to the picturesque pool with spa and waterfall. 'Aqua Link' type of pool system.

$1,975,000

Spectacular Sanctuary Homesite

If you are looking for a beautiful lot with a lovely view, this is it! Overlooking the 12th green at the Sanctuary Golf Community, the view includes a tranquil lake surrounded by countless wildlife. Adjacent to the property is a protected preserve visited by eagles. Membership is available at the private golf club, which just completed a total renovation of the course and updating of the club.

$435,000



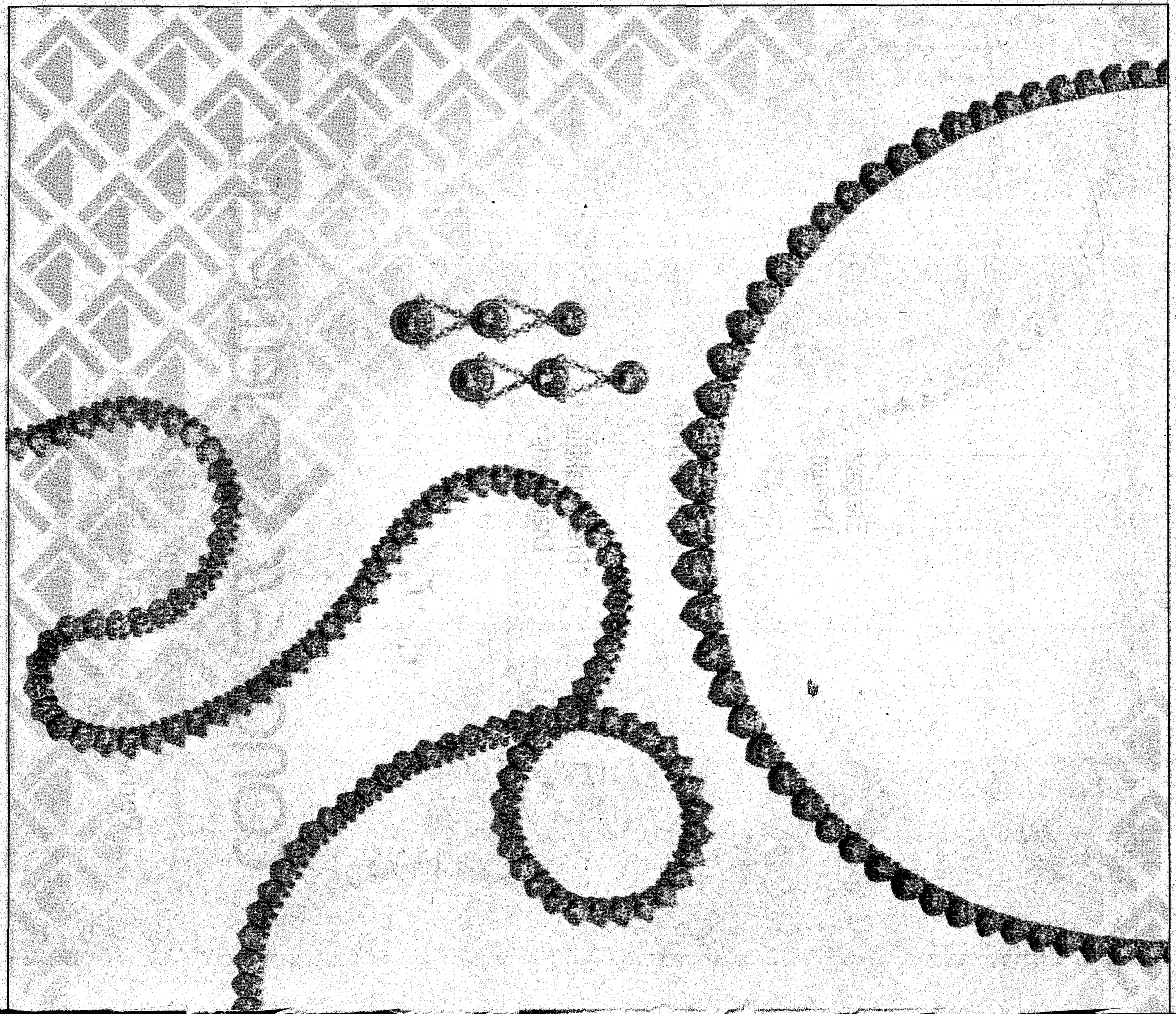


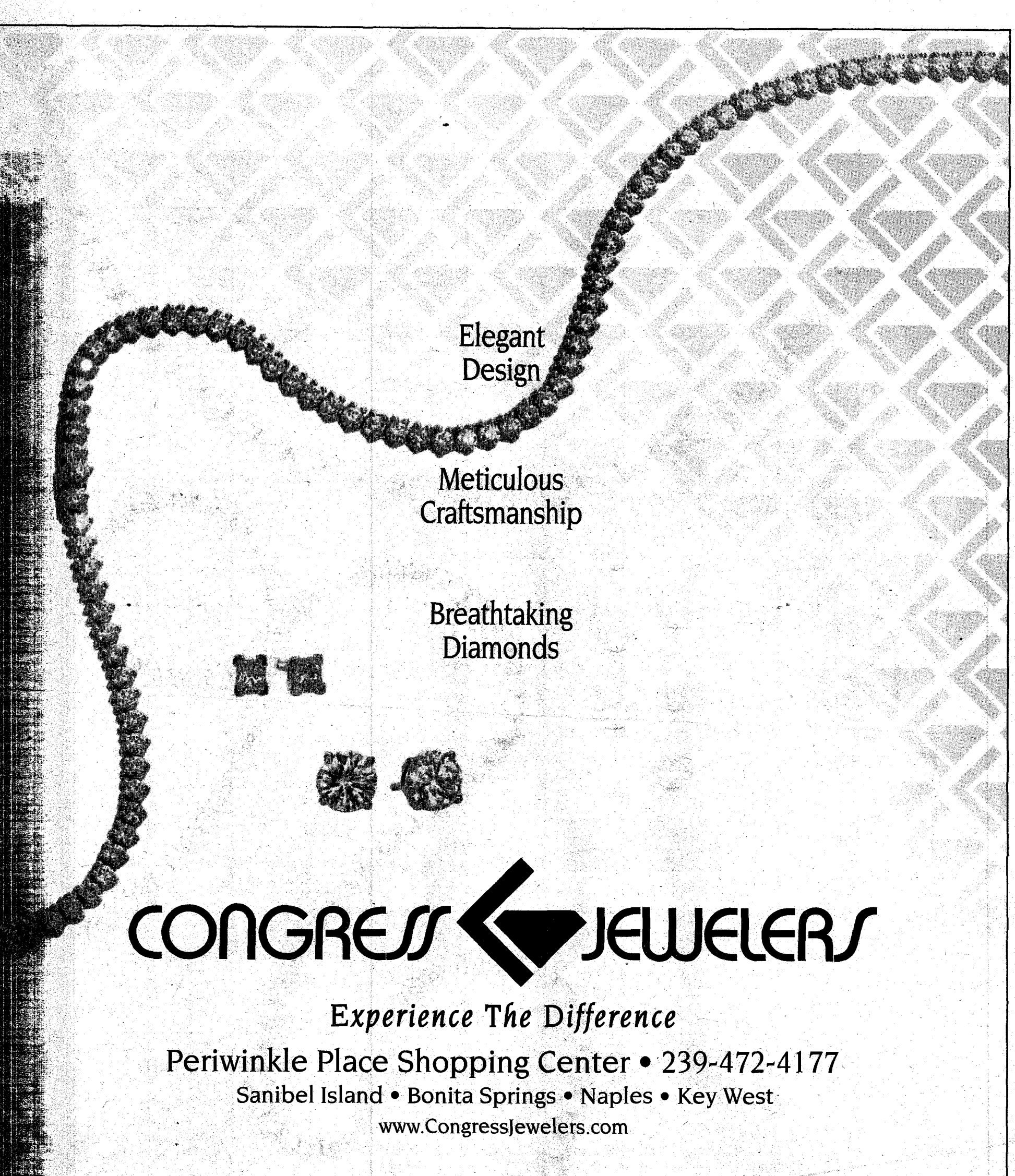
Beachview Country Club

Well-built home with a great view of lake and 13th green, privacy and upgraded landscaping. Master suite main level with two guest suites plus a loft on the second floor. Upgrades include concrete pilings with 10 foot ceiling in basement. Brazilian cherry hardwood floors, beautiful granite counter tops from Egypt, marble baths, custom cabinetry and beautiful rock pool.

$1,695,000

These offerings subject to errors, omissions, change of price or withdrawal without prior notice.





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My Stars ★★★

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Handle that potentially awkward situation by warming up your confidence reserves and letting it radiate freely. Also, expect an old friend to contact you.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) It's not too early for the practical Bovine to begin planning possible workplace changes for 2006. A recent contact can offer some interesting insights.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A request for an unusual favor should be carefully checked out. Also check the motives behind it. Your generosity should be respected, not exploited.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Party time beckons, but for some Moon Children, so do some workplace challenges. Deal with the second first, then you'll be free to enjoy the fun time.

LEO (July 23-August 22) A warm response to an earlier request might be a positive indicator of what's ahead. Meanwhile, Cupid could pay a surprise visit to single Leos looking for love.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) How you respond to a proposed change in a project could affect your situation. Be prepared to show how well you would be able to deal with it.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) The revelation of a secret could cause some changes in how to deal with a workplace matter. It very likely also validates a position you have long held.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) An attempt to get too personal could upset the very private Scorpio. Make it clear that there's a line no one crosses without your permission.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) The savvy Sagittarian might be able to keep a family disagreement from spilling over by getting everyone involved to talk things out.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Be careful not to push people too hard to meet your ideas of what the holiday weekend's preparations should be. Best to make it a cooperative, not a coerced, effort.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) An unexpected request could make you rethink a position you've had for a long time. Meanwhile, plan a family get-together for the weekend.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Someone might find that it was a fluke to try to use your sympathetic nature to get you to accept a situation you're not comfortable with. Good for you.

BORN THIS WEEK: You like challenges that are both mental and physical, and you enjoy always beating your personal best.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

• On Dec. 28, 1869, the Knights of Labor, a secret-society labor union of tailors in Philadelphia, holds the first Labor Day ceremonies in American history. In 1894, Congress designated the first Monday in September a legal holiday for all federal employees and the residents of the District of Columbia.

• On Dec. 31, 1879, in the first public demonstration of his incandescent light bulb, American inventor Thomas Alva Edison lights up a street in Menlo Park, N.J.

• On Dec. 29, 1908, Otto Zachow and William Besserdich of Clintonville, Wisc., receive a patent for a four-wheel braking system, the prototype of all modern automotive braking systems.

• On Dec. 26, 1917, President Woodrow Wilson announces the nationalization of a large majority of the nation's railroads because the existing railroad system was not up to the task of supporting the war effort. The railroads became private property again in 1920.

• On Dec. 27, 1932, at the height of the Great Depression, thousands turn out for the opening of Radio City Music Hall in New York City. Since its opening, more than 300 million people have gone to Radio City to enjoy movies, stage shows, concerts and special events.

• On Jan. 1, 1951, the Zenith Radio Corporation of Chicago demonstrates the first pay-per-view television system. The company sent movies over the airways via scrambled signals, and the 300 families who participated in the test could send telephone signals to decode the movies for $1 each.

• On Dec. 30, 1985, rock musician Rick Nelson, who got his start by starring in his parents' TV series, "The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet," is killed in a plane crash enroute to a concert in Texas. Nelson was one of the best-selling male singers of the 1950s, with 53 Hot 100 hits -- 17 in the Top 10.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

• Everyone knows that Alaska is the largest of the United States, but many people don't quite grasp how big the state really is. The second-largest state, Texas, would fit in the area covered by Alaska two and a half times over. If some cosmic force could pick up the northernmost state and superimpose it over the continental United States, it would stretch from California to Florida and nearly all the way up to Canada.

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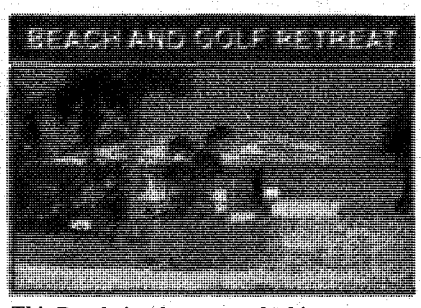


From Our Family To Yours... Happy Holidays!

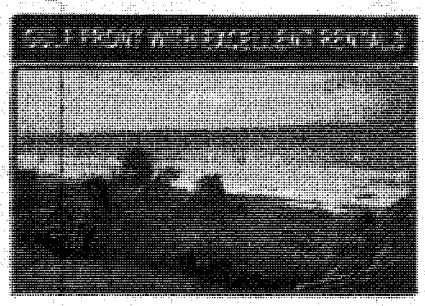
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This Beachview home, overlooking the golf course and the Sanibel River, features beautiful custom cabinets, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, French doors, large brick paver patio, pool and pond with rock waterfall. $895,000



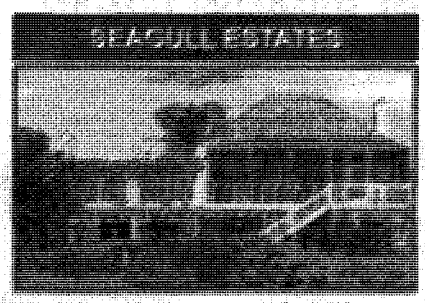
Enjoy spectacular direct gulf views from this top floor unit featuring 3 bed / 2 bath, private roof top sundeck, excellent rental income. $1,325,000 Completely Furnished



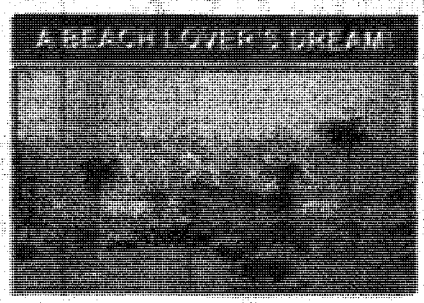
This ultra luxurious 2,600 square foot, 4 bedroom, 3 bath, canal home has all of the finest features and is a boater's dream complete with a dock and lift situated on a direct access canal just seconds from San Carlos Bay. $2,300,000



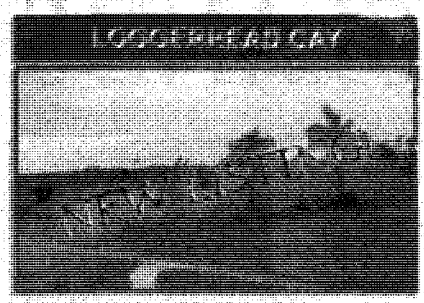
This 2,650 sqft home offers beautiful views of intersecting canals from almost every room and exudes casual elegance with beamed cathedral ceilings, stone fireplace, and a 10,000 lb boat lift. $1,795,000 Furnished



This large near beach home has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, soaring ceilings, fireplace, screened porches, and rooftop sundeck. Subdivision amenities include beach access, swimming pool, and tennis courts. $1,349,000



This 2 bedroom / 2 bath unit has great Gulf views and a cheery, beach décor complete with new furnishings, great income producer. $729,000



Enjoy fantastic Gulf and beach views from this 2 bedroom, 2 bath unit. Community amenities include large pool, tennis courts, clubhouse, on-site management, and excellent income potential through weekly rentals. Furnished $795,000



Spacious Gulf front 2 bedroom / 2 bath Snug Harbor unit complete with den and convenient ground floor cabana. Snug Harbor is a well maintained, low density complex. $1,299,000



This historic east end home's large decks and cozy, intimate setting begs to entertain. The 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath, ground level home was recently remodeled and includes brick fireplace, tile and wood floors, pool, and spa. $1,450,000



Enjoy pristine lake views from this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with pool, spa, and well designed, open floor plan. The property abuts conservation land, ensuring private, natural views. $749,999



This 2BD/ 2BA Gulf front condo has excellent Gulf views from the two large screened porches and numerous windows. This unit is an excellent income producer with all rentals handled by the convenient, onsite management office. $989,000 furnished



Cheeburger Moves To Tahitian Gardens

by Anne Mitchell

Cheeburger Cheeburger has made the move to its new location, the large circular building that anchors the east side of Tahitian Gardens shopping center on Sanibel.

The move not only gives Cheeburger Cheeburger more space, it's welcomed by tenants in the shopping center. Having the restaurant occupied after seeing it sit vacant for two years is a big boost to their businesses.

"I am thrilled to have them," said June Koc, owner of Needful Things. She said the difference in traffic to the center was immediate. "The shopping center is already busier."

Cheeburger Cheeburger, which began on Sanibel 19 years ago, has since grown into a 51-restaurant franchise up and down the east coast and stretching as far west as Denver.

Just this week saw the opening of restaurant number 51, in historic Williamsburg, Virginia, said Bruce Zicari, CEO, who was on hand for opening day at the new Sanibel location.

Another location is planned in the JetBlue terminal at New York's JFK Airport. And with franchise opportunities being offered in San Francisco and Los Angeles, the chain will soon spread all the way to the west coast.

Even though the company didn't advertise its "soft" opening December 12, other than posting a notice at the old location half a mile away, fans flocked in to chomp down on Sanibel's most famous burgers.

The new location quadruples the size of the original restaurant and the re-do has also made the space lighter and brighter, said Carol Barbato, manager.

The round building with 40-foot vaulted ceiling — formerly Pippins — has been reworked to resemble an old-fashioned hamburger joint, complete with separate soda fountain.

Burgers are its mainstay, ranging from the classic 5.5-ouncer up to The Famous Pounder which gets your picture on the Cheeburger Wall of Fame if you manage to eat it all.

Freshness is the key, said Barbato. "Everything is fresh. Everything is cooked to order." And the fried items are cooked in cholesterol-free peanut oil.

Diners can invent their own burger flavor by combining any of about 20 free toppings, from pineapple to banana peppers, horseradish sauce to sun dried tomatoes. There's also an invent-your-own-salad option. The same goes for the milk shakes and old-style ice cream sodas featuring Edy's ice cream. Follow their suggestions, or come up with your own combination.

The larger space also allows for more wine and beer selections — by the glass or bottle — from a self-contained wine bar.

It also means plenty of room for Cheeburger Cheeburger logo T-shirts, from infant to 3X. The shirts could be considered an investment because the house rule is that the soft drink is free for customers wearing the Cheeburger shirt.



The old-style soda fountain at Cheeburger Cheeburger

Cheeburger Cheeburger is open daily from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. at 1975 Periwinkle Way.

Entrepreneur Magazine ranked Cheeburger Cheeburger as the best full-service burger restaurant in its annual Franchise 500 issue in 2003 based on such factors as financial strength and stability, size of the system, growth rate, length of time franchising, start-up costs, litigation, percentage of terminations and more.

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PARTIAL GULF VIEWS



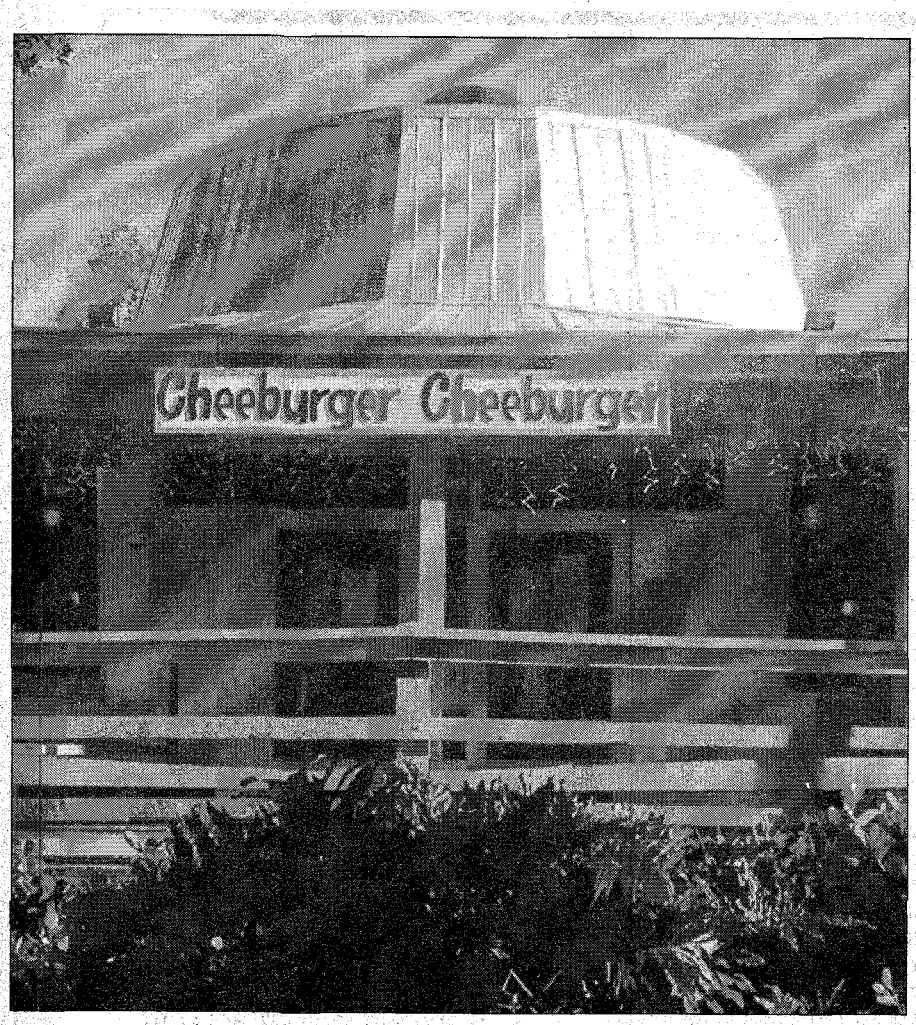
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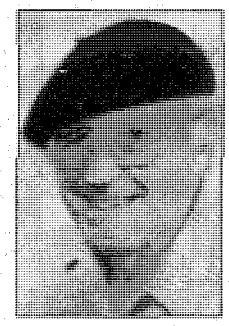
Marlene Donaldson
Catch The Spirit Of The Islands

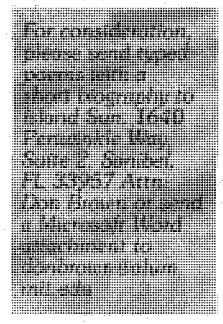
VIP REALTORS



The familiar domed restaurant at Tahitian Gardens now sports the famous Cheeburger Cheeburger sign

Poetic Voices





selected by Don Brown

Bill Hallstead, a Pennsylvania native, is an active writer living on Sanibel. He is a former flight instructor, highway designer and Wall Street Week publicist. Among his many accomplishments are 17 novels and over 200 stories and articles in national publications. He has recently co-authored two books for scheduled publication in March '06, I'll Fly Away (University of Scranton Press) with John T. Race and Hiding (Valentine Mitchell, London) with fellow islander Benno Benninga. On rare occasions the poetry muse visits him.✡

Blue Tarp Blues
Bill Hallstead

I got them blue tarp blues
From my head down to my shoes
And I just got dreary news:
The roofer's runnin' out of crews.
No wonder I got blue tarp blues.

Half my rooms I cannot use
I'm living with a too-short fuse
I'm tempted to abuse the booze
I just got one more thing to lose:
My mind-in FEMA's trailer zoos.

I got them blue tarp blues
The lost roof chinkin'
innards shrinkin'
soul sinkin'
Blue tarp blues.

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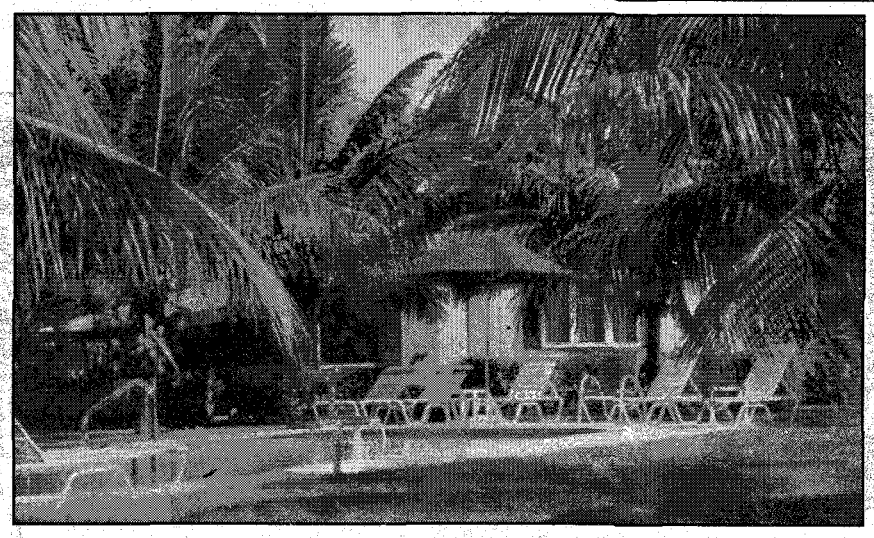
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Captiva Island

From page 6

Lake Lawsuit

The council will also ask Governor Jeb Bush to declare a statewide emergency and urge him to "stop further degradation of these fragile estuaries."

Buildback Law Goes Back For More Changes

by Anne Mitchell

If Sanibel Planning Commissioners thought all the t's were crossed and the i's dotted in the long-debated buildback ordinance, they were wrong.

When this proposed law that deals with the building back of non-conforming structures after a disaster had its first reading before council Tuesday, there were still plenty of bones to pick both by the council members and the public.

In the end though, council determined the ordinance presented to them by the planning commission didn't need a re-write, just some tweaking by staff so that it can have its second and final hearing January 3.

One of the premises of the ordinance is that no one will lose the use of their home under the new law. But that could lead to greater density than The Sanibel Plan allows.

Resident Karen Storjohann said the word home was loaded and shouldn't be used because many dwellings are investment properties, not homes. She was concerned about what the ordinance would do to already escalating insurance rates on barrier islands.

The proposal allows for a short-form application to build back in the same footprint as before whether it be a house, condo or commercial structure. However, that might not be the best use of the land from an environmental point of view. But varying from the original footprint would require the applicant to go the costly long-form route.

In discussing the Gulf beach zone, Planning Commissioner Jack Samler favored an easier application process if it meant reducing encroachment on the beach frontage. But city staff had pointed out that moving it could affect neighboring properties and therefore might require a public hearing process.

Any movement of a structure, said Vice Mayor Mick Denham, would change the application from buildback to redevelopment – and that is a completely different process with its own set of rules.

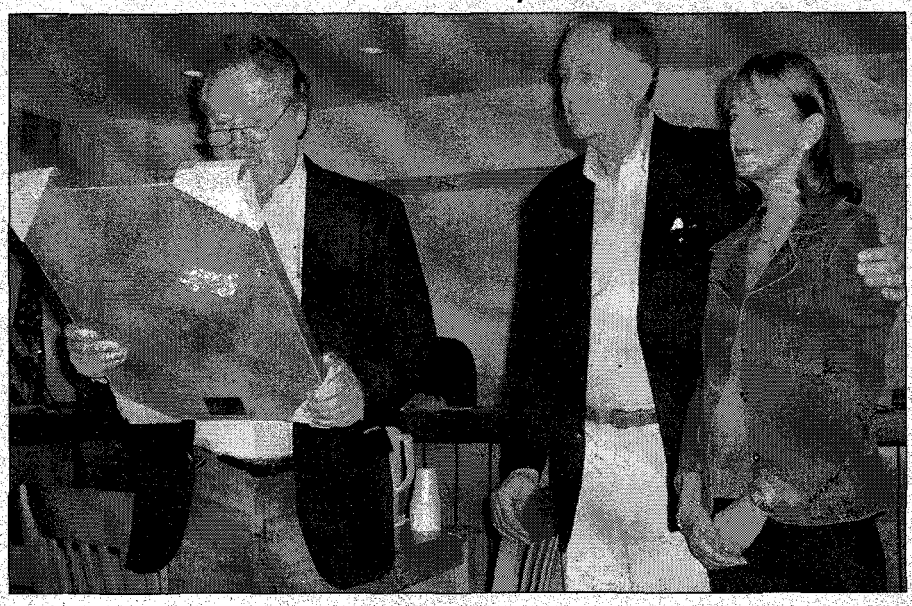
Some Pines May Be For The Chop

by Anne Mitchell

City council made a move Tuesday to get rid of Australian pines and other exotic trees that could damage sewer lift stations and power lines if they topple in a storm.

continued on page 66

Al Hanser Honored By Council



Council member Steve Brown reads the proclamation to Al Hanser and his wife Sally

Sanibel City Council on Tuesday recognized Al Hanser, chairman and CEO of the Sanibel Captiva Trust Company, for his contributions to local causes.

Hanser was recently chosen as one of Southwest Florida's 2005 Philanthropists of the Year, and named among Lee County's Outstanding Small Businesses.

In a proclamation, City Council member Steve Brown said the company and its directors and management team are valued members of the island community.

He said the company has made numerous financial and/or leadership contributions to organizations such as CROW, the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Refuge, Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, BIG ARTS and The Schoolhouse Theater.

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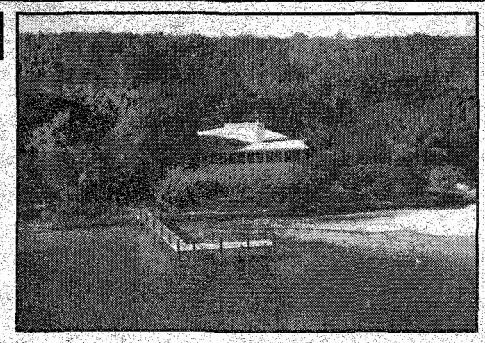
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Fashion Show Lights Up Sanibel School

by Brian Johnson

After preparing for most of the autumn, a group of students from The Sanibel School impressed and entertained parents and faculty at the first annual holiday fashion show, held at the school on December 10.

Wearing outfits from stores such as Fresh Produce, Her Sports Closet and Key Lime Clothing, the kids walked down a runway like real life models and sustained smiles as a battery of cameras flashed around the stage.

"I thought the kids did a phenomenal job," said Michelle Clark, the fashion show director, choreographer and emcee. "They worked hard for two months to learn how to model, and they were all terrific."

"The kids had a blast," said press director Arlene Wexlar. "This event will only get bigger and better in the future."

"The children had an incredible time," added stage director Trish Vanderydt, who coached them throughout the show.

The Sea Shells and Snow Flakes fashion show started at 1 p.m. with a silent auction and ice cream social. The cast from the The Schoolhouse Theater followed with a performance of *Jingle Bell Rock!*

At 3 p.m. the models appeared. They ranged in age from kindergarten to 7th grade. Clark announced them over the speaker system and described their clothing as they walked around the stage. The Sanibel Dancers closed out the first set.



Sanibel School models wear their Santa hats before the show

The models acted quite grown-up, and helped each other out if one of the group members forgot what to do next. They carried off the few mistakes with style. "The show was to develop self-confidence," said Clark. "During rehearsals, we would ask them, what is this about? And they would shout, confidence! We told them, if you make a mistake or a wrong turn, smile! It's about personality."

Kindergartner Daniel Shoup was the only boy in the event. Dressed in a tuxedo, he was a big hit with the audience and closed the show. "He was great," said Clark.



Daniel Shoup

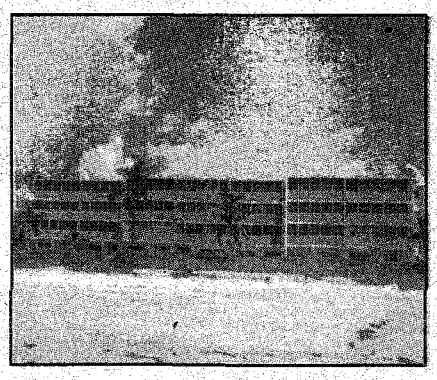
Bonnie Bondurant, accompanied by Marj Nordstrom, displayed her singing talent with several Christmas songs. "She was excellent," said Clark.

Presented by The Sanibel School PTA, the show raised well over $2,000 for the school. The show drew on a wide base of community support.

Clark had held fashion shows as fundraisers while living in Deerfield Beach on the east coast of Florida. New at The Sanibel School PTA this year, she offered to run a show on Sanibel.

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Olivia Lohnes and Destiny Kosloske

ed a 2006 Family Social Membership as well as tennis and golf lessons.

"The Sanibel Fire Department built the runway and brought it to the school," said Clark. "That was huge."

The Mucky Duck, The Sanibel Steakhouse, Congress Jewelers, The Sanibel Bead Shop, Costco, Segway Tours, Sporty Seahorse, and The Etiquette Academy donated silent auction items. There were also two Glamour Shots portrait certificates and a Vanderydt Family Gift Basket. Other retail vendors that provided fashions and accessories were Dazzle Too, Lil' Sandy Toes, Peach Republic, Oshkosh, Gap Outlet and The Sanibel Bead Shop.

Clark also thanked press director Arelene Wexler, silent auction director Karen Aulino, Shelly Lockard, Leslie Logan, Sandra Johnston, Kevin McCune, Sherrin McCune, art teacher Tyler Compton, the Hortons, music teacher Joe Angelo, Richard, Meg and Kelly McCurry, Jerry Melin and Michael Clark.☆

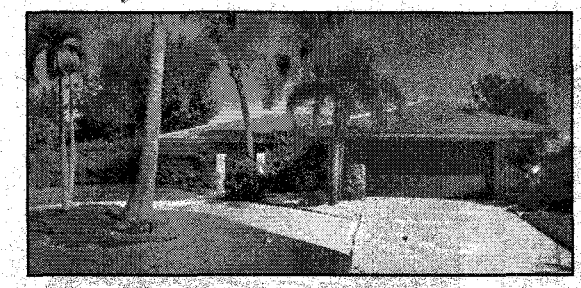


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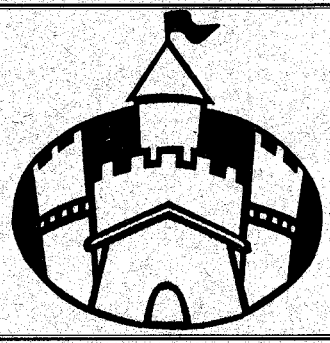
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SPORTS QUIZ

. When was the last time before 2004 and 2005 that the Kansas City Royals had a season in which none of their pitchers won at least 10 games?
2. How many times did Philadelphia Phillies great Chuck Klein have 100 or more extra-base hits in a season?
3. What Division I school had a pair of players each rush for 1,000 yards in consecutive seasons?
4. Who was the youngest NBA player to record a triple-double before Cleveland's LeBron James did it at 20 years and 20 days in 2005?
5. When was the last Stanley Cup Finals that went fewer than seven games?
6. What country won the most medals in the first Winter Olympic Games in 1924?

ANSWERS

1. The 2004 season was the first time it happened for the Royals, who began play in 1969. 2. Twice -- 1930 (59 doubles, 8 triples, 40 homers) and 1932 (50/15/38). 3. The University of Minnesota's Marion Barber III and Laurence Maroney (2003-04). 4. Lamar Odom was 20 years, 54 days old when he did it for the Los Angeles Clippers in 1999. 5. It was 2002, when Detroit beat Carolina in five games. 6. Norway, which won 17 medals (four gold, seven silver, six bronze).



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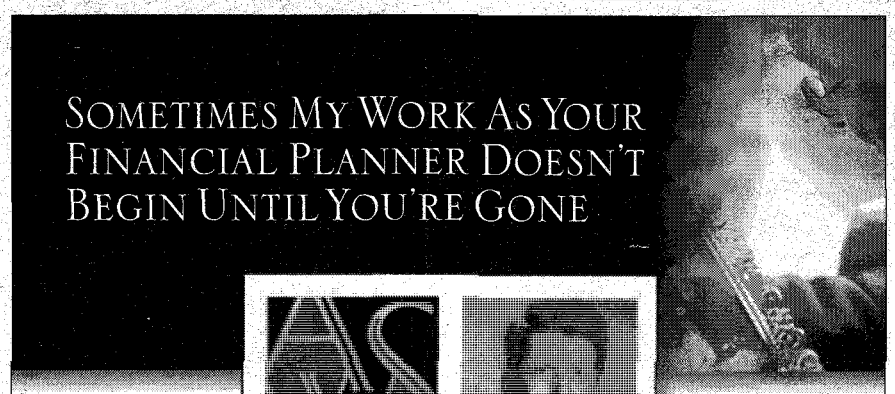
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Dunes Men's Golf

Results of 18-hole, two man scramble with 50 percent of combined handicap are as follows:

A Flight

First place – 62, Dick Hopkins and Al Larson

Second place (tie) – 63, Tom August and Otis Timberlake; Bob Kent and John Griesbaum

B Flight

First place – 60, Skip Richard and Greg Jennings

Second place – 61, Bill Glenn and Dan Alton

C Flight

First place – 60, Jay Allen and Mike Hochschild

Second place – 62, Hubie Whitaker and Peter Perkins

D Flight

First place – 62, David Parmelee and Larry Coddens

Second place – 65, Jack Roberts and Herb Hoover.☆

Dunes Women's Golf

Results of the December 16 two-person scramble are as follows:

A Flight

First place: 59 – Mary Ann Parmelee and Jana Stone

Second place: 61 – Donna Griesbaum and Nan Frymoyer

Third place (tie): 64 – Toni Warren and Pat Sawin; Betsy Cox and Carol Brodersen

B Flight

First Place: 63 – Doris Dewitt and Lee Bogan

Second place: 66 – Joan Baumler and Adrienne Cross

Third place: 69 – Muff Morton and Linda Kramer

Chip-ins: Jana Stone, Mary Vernon and Lee Bogan.☆

Beachview Men's Golf

by Ed O'Neil

Christmas arrived early this year for Rene Lohser. Great putting helped the native of Switzerland to reel off three straight victories in the days leading up to the mistletoe.

It even got to the point where Lohser shared a win using a demonstration putter. "This is easy, putting in this country. They mow the grass. In Switzerland you often find yourself putting in a pasture," Lohser laughed.

Either someone steps up to stop his streak or everyone in the Beachview Men's Golf Association will be required to pass Yodeling 101 by Valentine's Day. Do you know how hard it is to yodel? Just read page one of the manual which says, "First, find yourself a tall mountain and two valleys!'

At seven feet above sea level, Beachview already is one of the highest points on Sanibel, so it is easier here to play a tune on a conch shell than to find a valley.

The two events that extended Lohser's streak were both Best Ball tournaments. On December 13 it was a four-man event in which two best scores were recorded on each hole.

Frank Kiepacki, Al Krause and Ralph Suechting joined Lohser in carding a 54 net in the nine-hole event. Bill Blankenship, Jerry Mader, Dick Grant and Bob Myers were just a stroke behind at 55.

On December 17 two-man teams played a single best ball event. Tony Baldino, a long hitter from New Jersey, joined Lohser in posting a net 53 over 18 holes. Baldino credited Lohser with four "unbelievable" putts using a borrowed "demo" club.

That led to a five-shot triumph over Bill Fellows and Bob Myers who registered 58. Dan Seaward and Guy Tober took third with a 60.☆

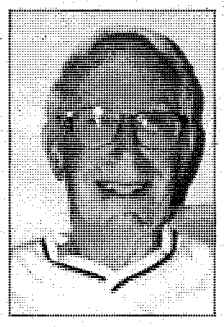


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Will Golf Great Tom Watson Break His Florida Jinx? February's Ace Group Classic Could Be the Answer



by Ed Frank

College football bowl games are upon us. The 1972 Miami Dolphin's perfect 17-0 record remains unmatched now that the Indianapolis Colts fell from the unbeaten last week. Baseball's Hot Stove League grabs headlines every day. And, of course, there's the NBA and the return of the National Hockey League after a strife-torn year of contract haggling.

But this week, let's discuss golf, namely the upcoming Ace Group Classic that returns to our area for the 19th year February 13 to 19 at the Club at TwinEagles in Naples.

Tickets already on sale for the tournament, one of the top attractions on the Champions Tour, where more than 70 of the world's top senior golfers will compete for the $1.6 million purse.

For every one of these athletes there is an interesting story to tell, but none more compelling or perhaps frustrating than that of Tom Watson's.

Recognized as one of golf's all-time greats, Watson has won 45 times on tour, 39 on the PGA circuit and six times on the Champions Tour. He has eight major championships to his credit.

Yet Watson has never won a tournament in Florida. And that's hard to believe.

Since joining the Champions Tour in 2000, he has finished second in the Ace Group Classic four times, 2000, 2002, 2003, and 2004.

I can still see the likeable, friendly Watson sitting outside the media tent after the 2004 tournament when he lost in a sudden-death playoff to Craig Stadler. Sipping a soft drink, he sat alone while the media interviewed Stadler.

One of his famous quotes from an earlier interview certainly applied to that loss: "I learned to win by losing and not liking it."

You can bet that Watson will once again attempt to break his Florida jinx come February in Naples. Although he didn't play well here last year (he finished 44th), he compiled an amazing record on the Champions Tour.

He finished fifth on the money list in 2005 with winnings of $1,532,482, an improvement from the year before when he was 42nd, winning only $475,203.

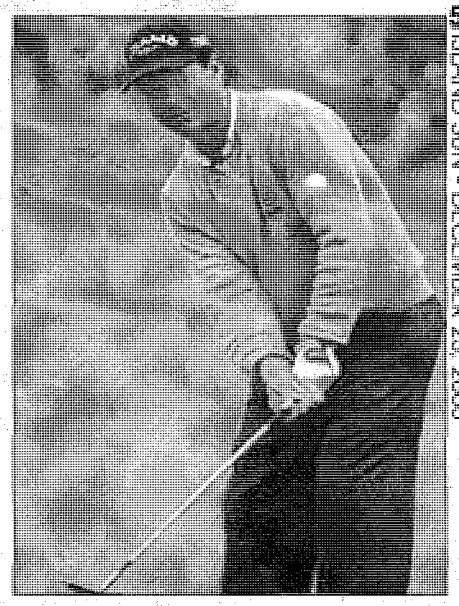
That improvement of $1,057,270 was second only to iron man Dana Quigley who jumped from 14th to first on the Champions Tour money list.

There are numerous ticket plans available for the popular tournament that is always well attended. Children under 16 will be admitted free all week. Ticket packages include play on some of the most popular courses in the area.

For example, the $110 ticket includes 24 rounds of golf at four different courses, four at the beautiful Club at TwinEagles.

New this year is a $400 package on the Seminole Party Deck located between the 10th and 18th fairways. The price includes unlimited food and beverages each day plus the 24-round golf package.

General admission tickets are $20 each day. Additional information is available at www.AceGroupClassic.com



Tom Watson

Florida Flame Basketball Team in First Place

Last weekend's sweep of the Fayetteville Patriots vaulted the Florida Flame into a virtual first-place tie in the NBA Development League.

What a difference a year makes! Last season, the Flame, in its first season, struggled to escape the league's basement.

The 6-2 Flame defeated Fayetteville last weekend at Germain Arena 83-80 and 95-92 in two hard-fought contests.

Saturday night's win, the third straight for the Flame, came with the league's leading scorer, Bracey Wright, playing only seven minutes due to back spasms.

The Flame is on the road at Fayetteville and Roanoke for the next five games. They return to Germain January 3 for a five-game home stand.

Everblades Back in First Place

Sunday's 4-3 overtime victory over the Charlotte Checkers put the Florida Everblades back into first place in the ECHL South Division, one point ahead of Gwinnett. The victory snapped a two-game road losing streak.

The Everblades were home at Germain for a mid-week series (Wednesday and Thursday) against the Pensacola Ice Pilots.

They will host second-place Gwinnett next weekend.☼

The Sanctuary Golf Club Memberships For Sale Sanibel Island

Sanibel Land Investments, Inc. ("SLI") a developer in The Sanctuary, has only a **FEW** remaining memberships for sale to interested parties. These memberships do **NOT** require you to live in The Sanctuary. For those memberships sold by **December 1st,** SLI will pay your first year dues and food allowance (a **SAVINGS** of approximately **$11,000**). For more information, please call Steve Cochlan at 312-587-9923.

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Beachview Women's Golf Association

by Bea Maggio

Back in days of yore, the members of the Beachview Women's Golf Association played only nine holes of golf. That was necessitated by the fact that the course consisted of only nine holes instead of its present 18. On Wednesday, December 14 the ladies got a chance to relive the days of yore by playing a nine-hole shotgun scramble.

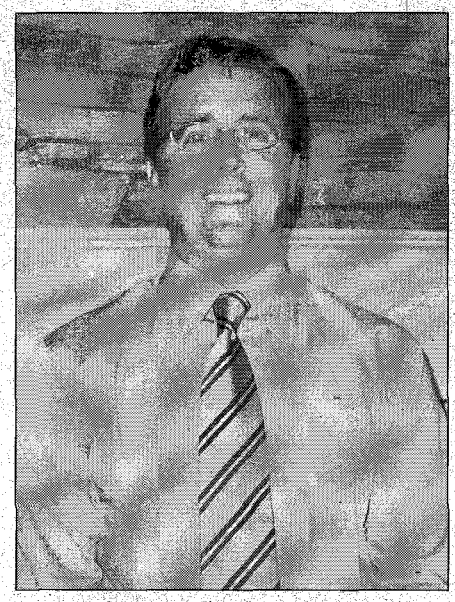
Taking the top spot was the team of Terry Lohser, Kathy Krauss and Nancy Ruedig who posted a 25.34. Missing out by only 4 tenths of a point to take second place was the foursome of Nancy Carlile, Lenora Hoffman, Alfie Sheft and newcomer Jose Baden with a 25.74. Right behind them with only one stroke off the lead with a score of 26.34 was Diane Metz, Betty Puff and Tina Tober.

The closeness of the match was noted by Beachview's Pro Scott Hatto and became the subject of conversation at the luncheon that followed at Beachview Steakhouse.☆

Sanctuary Appoints New Golf Professional

The Sanctuary Golf Club named J. Edward "Ed" Lockard as head golf professional recently, replacing Art Smithwick who retired. General Manager Ned Welc said more than 140 candidates from around the country were considered. Lockard comes from the Grey Oaks Country Club in Naples where he had been head professional since 2001. Lockard was formerly an assistant professional at The Sanctuary. His prior experience included the position of director of golf at Indian Pond Country Club in Kingston, Maine, Head Golf Professional at The Dunes Golf Club on Sanibel, and Assistant Golf Professional positions at Longmeadow Country Club in Longmeadow Maine and Fiddlesticks Country Club in Fort Myers. Lockard is a resident of Sanibel.

One of Lockard's notable on-course achievements was tying the Long Meadow Country Club course record of 64 set by Bobby Jones.☆



Ed Lockard

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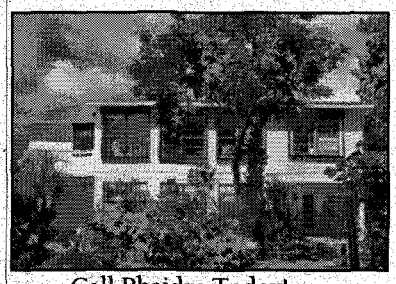
Rec Closings

The City of Sanibel Recreation Department will be closed Sunday, December 25; Monday, December 26; Sunday, December 31 and Monday, January 1.☆

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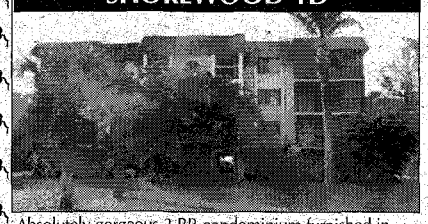
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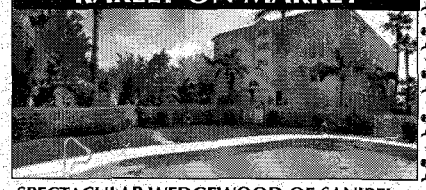
MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM MY FAMILY TO YOURS

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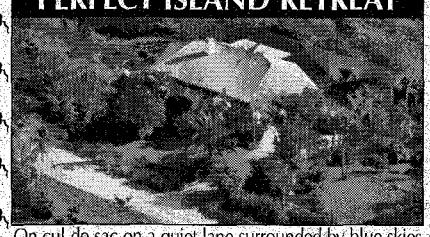
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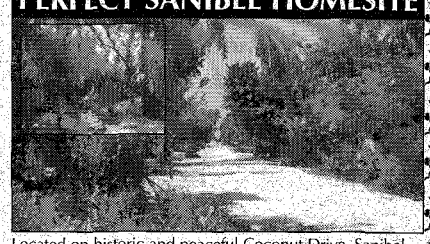
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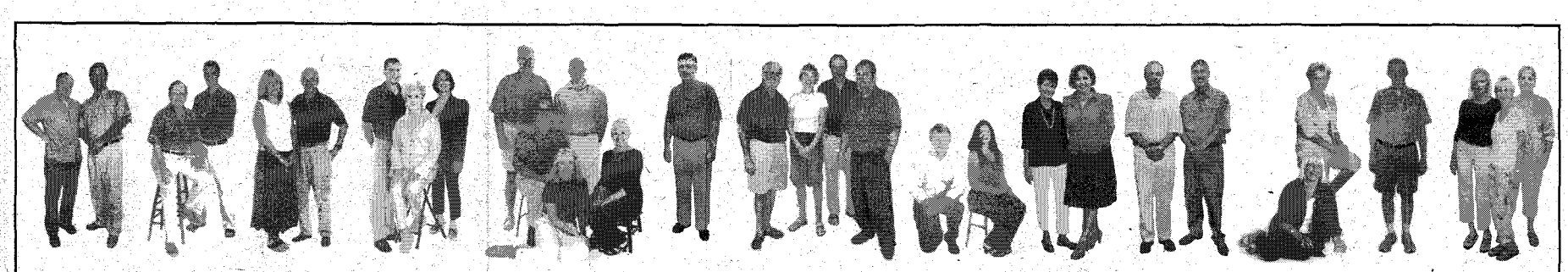




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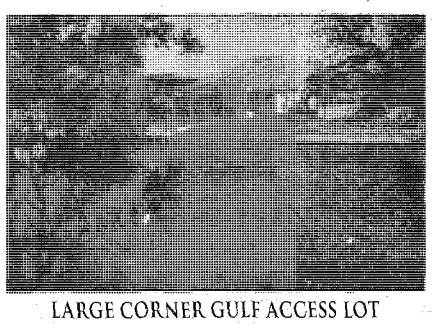
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



BOATER'S DREAM
Gracious ground level 3/3 Shell Harbor home renovated & updated to satisfy the most discriminating buyer. Luxurious & designer touches throughout make this home excellent for living the "good life". Eastern exposure to a 174 ft. wide, direct access lagoon accommodates sailboats as well as cruisers up to 50'! Walk-around boat dock complete with a 13,000lb boat lift. Screened, heated pool with generous outdoor living area accentuated by mature, tropical plants & fruit trees. $2,299,000. Call Glen Simmons at 472-1511.



WAKE-UP TO INSPIRING VIEWS
Rare bay front beauty. Surround your senses with 180-degree views of the bay. Equipped with a 10,000lb boat lift, covered boat dock plus extended dock. Large pool located directly on the bay. Home is tastefully decorated and with tile throughout. 2,100,000. Call Janie Pritchard for more details at 980-7474.



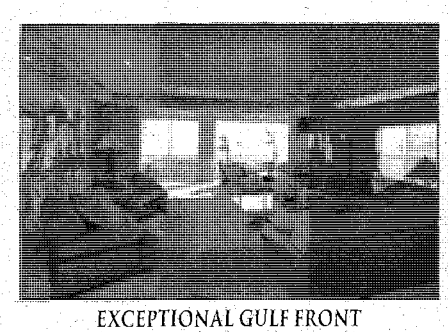
LARGE CORNER GULF ACCESS LOT
Large corner lot off Surfside residential homesite, gulf access, wide 140' canal adjacent to bridge leading directly to South Spreader Canal. Desirable SW Cape Coral location. $475,000. Call Diane Stocks at 292-7804.



NEW 3/2 WATERFRONT HOME IN CALUSA PALMS
Brand new sago model on choice waterfront lot. Many upgrades including granite countertops, wiring for surround sound, driveway, pavers, tile cut on the diagonal. Beautiful + restful view of the water from the kitchen/ living room & master bedroom. Room for pool and rewiring in place. $409,000. Call Glen Simmons at 472-1511.



SUNSET VIEW
This 2-2 well maintained unit is located on the east end of McGregor Park Complex with a direct view (facing west) of the pond from the enclosed lanai and living room. $289,900. Call Tom Roderick at 472-1511.



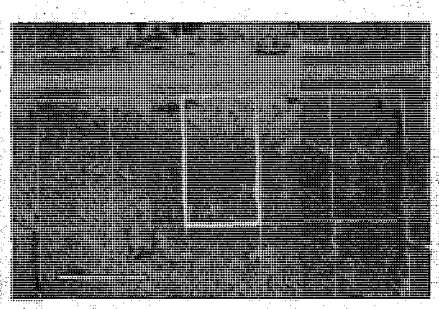
EXCEPTIONAL GULF FRONT
Almost new, large condo with wide Gulf views. Completely customized by owner 3BD/ 3 ½ BA + den. As large as a house without the upkeep. $3,400,00. Call Elisabeth V. Smith at 472-1511.



ACCESS TO DINKINS BAYOU
Oversized lush lot on West End of Sanibel. Offering privacy and access to Dinkins Bayou at the end of a cul-de-sac. This beautiful piece of land offers everything needed for your dream home or vacation island getaway. Lot is partially cleared! $699,000. Call Kelly Lowden at 472-1511.



SOUTH SEAS RESORT CONDOMINIUM
Enjoy all the amenities of world renowned South Seas Resort in your own condominium. The resort features a golf course, marina, fine dining, shopping and restaurants, all on the Gulf of Mexico and Pine Island Sound. A vacation destination and a good rental income are yours with this condo. $564,900. Call Mary O'Leary at 472-5154.



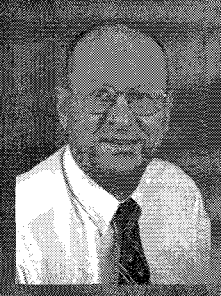
VACANT LOT FOR YOU HOME
Take advantage of this terrific lot located in Lehigh Acres. This area is developing quickly, so don't miss this opportunity to own now. $54,500. Call Don Peters or Judy Reddington at 472-1511.

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Around The Islands With Anne

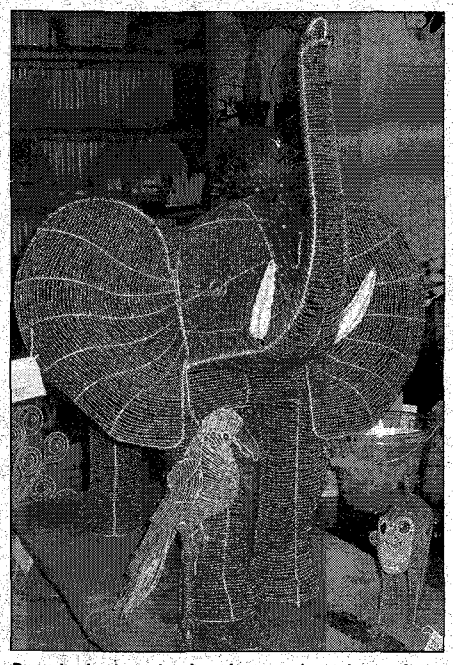
Shop Bazaar-Style At Traders; More Decor, Gift Ideas



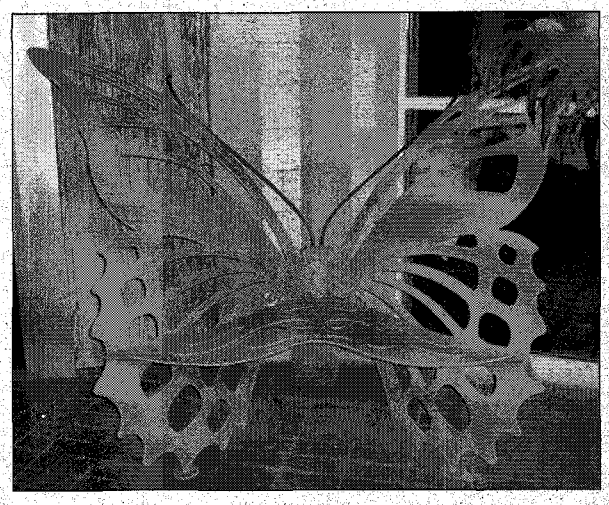
by Anne Mitchell

Traders Store and Cafe always makes me feel as though I am in an exotic bazaar in another country. And in a sense I am, because Traders has merchandise from all over the world. The most recent arrivals are a menagerie of wire and bead animals, birds and even a mermaid or two from Africa. Centerpiece of the display is a huge elephant fashioned from what must be thousands upon thousands of tiny beads strung on a wire frame. Prices start at $15 for the smaller critters, which include monkeys, alligators and peacocks.

If you're looking for last-minute gifts, Traders has plenty of suggestions: funky lamps that look like sunflowers and lilies; silk table runners and scarves from Thailand; purses with bold embellishments; wine glasses whose stems are fused with colorful animals and sea creatures; and great jewelry at reasonable prices. The store also carries a selection of children's books and cute toys such as five-finger puppets featuring dolphins and other creatures.



Beaded wire elephant, parrot and monkey from Traders



Steel butterfly chair at Traders (matching occasional table also available

When in doubt, buy jewelry. That's a good motto in this gift-giving season, and on Sanibel-Captiva, there are many fine jewelry stores, each with its own specialty items.

With family and friends visiting for the holidays, most of us are looking to make some little enhancements around the home, whether it be fresh pillows, a new lamp or two, or something larger.

I can tell you that **Sanibel Home Furnishings** is just bursting with fabulous new items all with that classy island flair that it's noted for.

The store has been growing in leaps and bounds. Earlier this month, it expanded by another 2,000 square feet, so it now occupies three storefronts in Heart of the Islands shopping center. That's how popular this retailer/interior designer has become after less than three years in business here.

With so much to see, I can only give you the highlights, so here goes:

- Sofas and chairs covered in Sunbrella fabric that's beautiful enough for indoors and tough enough for outside, and best of all, it wipes clean. Times have changed since Sunbrella meant only canvas. Now there are rich looking chenilles and embossed fabrics that can even withstand washing with a bleach solution. So even if you have small children or pets, you can have that white sofa after all.
- Lots of casual-but-classy hand-painted furniture including a sideboard with a larger-than-life scallop on one door and a lightning whelk on the other;
- Needlepoint and embroidered pillows with sea-life designs;
- Seagrass furniture such as easy chairs that give a tropical look to a conventional item;
- Original oil paintings; and
- Simply Sanibel fabrics that offer a quick turnaround — four to six weeks — on custom-made sofas, sleepers and chairs.

The store is at 1618 Periwinkle Way.





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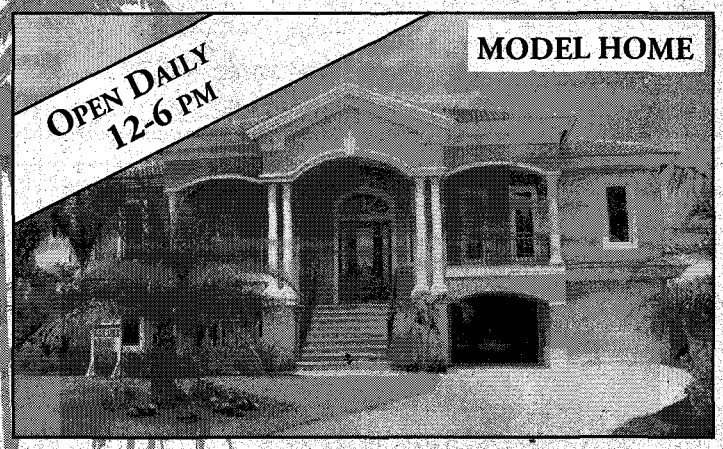
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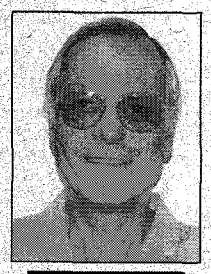
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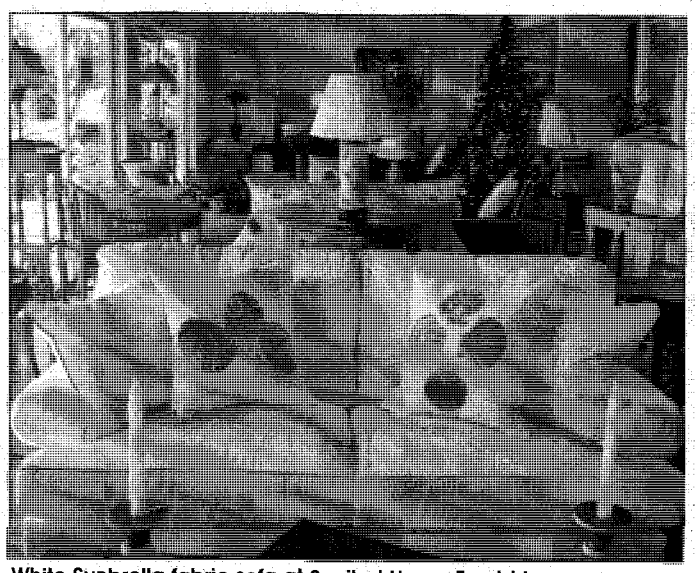


Our most popular home has an open area design featuring split bedrooms, gorgeous views of the golf course and Sanibel River, 4 car garage and bonus space for workout/recreation room.

One home is completed and ready for you or you can choose from our 4 remaining building sites. Prices start at $1,595,000. Call Dave Boyce today at 239/850-6669.

Century 21 Fine Homes & Estates
J.B. Newell International

The Cedar Chest Fine Jewelry in Tahitian Gardens, while it has gold and diamonds, may be best known for its unique collection of authentic, ancient coins, some from sunken Spanish galleons and others dating back to before Christ. There are also bronze crosses and arrowheads and Chinese ceramic pieces that include ancient gambling tokens. Each is mounted in 18-carat gold and comes with a certificate of authenticity.



White Sunbrella fabric sofa at Sanibel Home Furnishings



Bamboo desk with hidden keyboard at Sanibel Home Furnishings



Shell-motif sideboard at Sanibel Home Furnishings

The Cedar Chest is known for its Sanibel hook bracelet, the hook being formed by the letter "S." They are in sterling silver and gold and in one design, the "S" is encrusted with tiny gold seashells. Prices run from $100. Also popular are the white gold palm tree pendants set with diamonds, at $595 and up.

Sanibel's signature periwinkles are re-created in gold for another collection, while the bold nautilus shell embellished with blue enamel is the focus of another. If it's color you want, rainbow sapphires have it all, as the name implies, and the store has a large selection.

Friday's Creative Jewelry in Jerry's shopping center is home to the amazing Gelin Abaci Tension Collection of diamond rings, earrings and pendants in white, yellow and rose gold.

The tension mountings allow more of the diamond to be exposed — and more light to reflect — compared with traditional settings, said Phyllis Starks, sales manager. And there are no prongs to catch on clothing. These trademark Sanibel Diamonds, laser inscribed and therefore always identifiable, are exclusive to Friday's. Fewer than one percent of all diamonds meet the criteria of the Sanibel Diamond, said Starks.

And here's a deal: buy the one you can afford now and you can trade it in later for a larger diamond and receive the full amount you paid.

Painting and poetry will be offered on Wednesday, December 28 at **Seaweed Gallery**, Captiva, from 6 to 9 p.m.

The featured artists will be Susan Sadler of Sanibel, a watercolor and acrylic artist whose work is impressionistic and vibrantly colored; and Maria Dyer of Punta Gorda, who mostly paints landscapes and coastal scenes of North Captiva.

Brenda Goodwin, impromptu poet will also appear. Seaweed Gallery is at 11513 Andy Rosse Lane.☆

Anne Mitchell can be reached at 395-1213 or islandsuncity@aol.com.

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large enclosed lanai
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Brand New Key West II Carriage Home, bright & spacious end unit on 2nd floor. 1871 sq. ft. with garage & all the upgrades,raised panel cabinets,countertops, tile & fixtures. Many amentities offered in this Calusa Palms Community, tennis, putting green, pool, playground, clubhouse, gated community.

Offered $349,900

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December 26th through January 3rd

LOCATION	DATE	TIME	PRICE	COMMENTS
2445 West Gulf Drive, C42	Dec. 26	1 pm to 4 pm	$1,200,000	Spectacular gulf views from this 2/2 penthouse unit. Private roof top sundeck.
1123 Sandcastle	Dec. 26	1 pm to 4 pm	$789,000	Dunes golf course and lake views, open concept, updated, no stairs.
206 Daniel Drive	Dec. 26	1 pm to 4 pm	$975,000	Spacious 4+ bedrooms, elevator, near beach home in Seagull Estates.
1252 Eagle Run	Dec. 26	1 pm to 4 pm	$1,149,000	Beautifully furnished, granite countertops, high end appliances, great floor plan.
2445 West Gulf Drive, C42	Dec. 27	9 am to 12 pm	$1,200,000	Spectacular gulf views from this 2/2 penthouse unit. Private roof top sundeck.
720 Birdie View	Dec. 27	9 am to 12 pm	$1,349,000	Beautiful custom built Wolter Group home on 18th fairway of Beachview.
425 Lighthouse Way	Dec. 27	9 am to 12 pm	$1,999,999	Fabulous sunset vistas! Deep water direct access. .54 acre. Special location!
998 Fish Crow Road	Dec. 27	1 pm to 4 pm	$699,000	Well kept 3/2 home overlooks Sanibel River. Steps to beach. New roof.
2445 West Gulf Drive, C42	Dec. 27	1 pm to 4 pm	$1,200,000	Spectacular gulf views from this 2/2 penthouse unit. Private roof top sundeck.
1121 Skiff Place	Dec. 27	1 pm to 4 pm	$859,000	Canal front home on East end. Upgraded kitchen, boat dock, fully furnished.
11551 Wightman Lane	Dec. 27	1 pm to 4 pm	$4,990,000	Brand new, direct beach front. Fully furnished, security, fireplace.
1299 Middle Gulf Drive, 141	Dec. 27	1 pm to 4 pm	$1,299,000	Gulf front, 2/2 with den. Weekly rental, great income potential. Views.
48 Oster Court	Dec. 27	1 pm to 4 pm	$950,000	Renovated home with pool, beach access, tennis boat docks. Furnished.
1259 Sand Castle Road	Dec. 28	9 am to 12 pm	$829,000	Updated Dunes home, 3/3, new roof, new pool cage and views, views, views.
737 East Gulf Drive, B2	Dec. 28	1 pm to 4 pm	$1,695,000	Gulf front. Updated 3/3, quality built, private elevator, cabana, garage.
8991 Mockingbird	Dec. 28	1 pm to 4 pm	$840,000	Popular Dunes area, lake views, hardwood floors, fireplace, large pool
1250 Tennisplace Court, E33	Dec. 28	1 pm to 4 pm	$429,000	Charming 2/1, 2nd floor w/views of canal. Dockage, pool, tennis, beach access
760 Sextant Drive, 842	Dec. 28	1 pm to 4 pm	$649,000	Great bay views from spacious 2/2 corner unit. Enclosed porch, sold furnished.
1252 Eagle Run	Dec. 28	1 pm to 4 pm	$1,149,000	Beautifully furnished, granite countertops, high end appliances, great floor plan.
1299 Middle Gulf Drive, 141	Dec. 28	1 pm to 4 pm	$1,299,000	Gulf front, 2/2 with den. Weekly rental, great income potential. Views.
1259 Sand Castle Road	Dec. 29	9 am to 12 pm	$829,000	Updated Dunes home, 3/3, new roof, new pool cage and views, views, views.
576 Lighthouse Way	Dec. 29	9 am to 12 pm	$4,295,000	Bay views, raised pool, soaring two story living room, fireplace, exquisite.
1605 Middle Gulf Drive, 124	Dec. 29	9 am to 12 pm	$1,095,000	Lots of amenities. Updated kitchen, walk out to pool, beach, gulf views.
998 Fish Crow Road	Dec. 29	1 pm to 4 pm	$699,000	Well kept 3/2 home overlooks Sanibel River. Steps to beach. New roof.
737 East Gulf Drive, B2	Dec. 29	1 pm to 4 pm	$1,695,000	Gulf front. Updated 3/3, quality built, private elevator, cabana, garage.
1337 Par View	Dec. 29	1 pm to 4 pm	$839,000	4/3 located on quiet cul de sac with an open, airy floor plan and many windows.
1123 Sandcastle	Dec. 29	1 pm to 4 pm	$789,000	Dunes golf course and lake views, open concept, updated, no stairs.
1250 Tennisplace Court, E33	Dec. 29	1 pm to 4 pm	$429,000	Charming 2/1, 2nd floor w/views of canal. Dockage, pool, tennis, beach access
206 Daniel Drive	Dec. 29	1 pm to 4 pm	$975,000	Spacious 4+ bedrooms, elevator, near beach home in Seagull Estates.
760 Sextant Drive, 842	Dec. 29	1 pm to 4 pm	$649,000	Great bay views from spacious 2/2 corner unit. Enclosed porch, sold furnished.
1299 Middle Gulf Drive, 141	Dec. 29	1 pm to 4 pm	$1,299,000	Gulf front, 2/2 with den. Weekly rental, great income potential. Views.
1605 Middle Gulf Drive, 124	Dec. 30	9 am to 12 pm	$1,095,000	Lots of amenities. Updated kitchen, walk out to pool, beach, gulf views.
250 Christofer Court	Dec. 30	1 pm to 4 pm	$990,000	Expanded Egret model. Large corner lot. Spacious 3/2.5, fireplace, lake views.
749 Pyrula	Dec. 30	1 pm to 4 pm	$1,550,000	3/3 Ashlar model w/many upgrades. Robb & Stuckey furnished, pool, spa.
760 Sextant Drive, 842	Dec. 30	1 pm to 4 pm	$649,000	Great bay views from spacious 2/2 corner unit. Enclosed porch, sold furnished.
1123 Sandcastle	Dec. 31	9 am to 12 pm	$789,000	Dunes golf course and lake views, open concept, updated, no stairs.
749 Pyrula	Dec. 31	9 am to 12 pm	$1,550,000	3/3 Ashlar model w/many upgrades. Robb & Stuckey furnished, pool, spa.
8991 Mockingbird	Dec. 31	1 pm to 4 pm	$840,000	Popular Dunes area, lake views, hardwood floors, fireplace, large pool
737 East Gulf Drive, A3	Dec. 31	1 pm to 4 pm	$1,975,000	Spectacular views of the gulf from this 3 level townhome.
1123 Sandcastle	Jan. 1	1 pm to 4 pm	$789,000	Dunes golf course and lake views, open concept, updated, no stairs.
425 Lighthouse Way	Jan. 2	9 am to 12 pm	$1,999,999	Fabulous sunset vistas! Deep water direct access. .54 acre. Special location!
11551 Wightman Lane	Jan. 2	9 am to 12 pm	$4,990,000	Brand new, direct beach front. Fully furnished, security, fireplace. fireplace
48 Oster Court	Jan. 2	9 am to 12 pm	$950,000	Renovated home with pool, beach access, tennis boat docks. Furnished.
8991 Mockingbird	Jan. 2	1 pm to 4 pm	$840,000	Popular Dunes area, lake views, hardwood floors, fireplace, large pool.
3001 Singing Wind Drive	Jan. 2	1 pm to 4 pm	$749,000	Quality construction, island style near beach.
749 Pyrula	Jan. 2	1 pm to 4 pm	$1,550,000	3/3 Ashlar model w/many upgrades. Robb & Stuckey furnished, pool, spa.
8991 Mockingbird	Jan. 3	9 am to 12 pm	$840,000	Popular Dunes area, lake views, hardwood floors, fireplace, large pool.
1259 Sand Castle Road	Jan. 3	1 pm to 4 pm	$829,000	Updated Dunes home, 3/3, new roof, new pool cage and views, views, views.
3894 West Gulf Drive	Jan. 3	1 pm to 4 pm	$1,549,000	Beach get-away! Spacious 4/2, seconds to the beach.
1250 Tennisplace Court, E33	Jan. 3	1 pm to 4 pm	$429,000	Charming 2/1, 2nd floor w/views of canal. Dockage, pool, tennis, beach access
206 Daniel Drive	Jan. 3	1 pm to 4 pm	$975,000	Spacious 4+ bedrooms, elevator, near beach home in Seagull Estates
749 Pyrula	Jan. 3	1 pm to 4 pm	$1,550,000	3/3 Ashlar model w/many upgrades. Robb & Stuckey furnished, pool, spa.
1121 Skiff Place	Jan. 3	1 pm to 4 pm	$859,000	Canal front home on East end. Upgraded kitchen, boat dock, fully furnished.
760 Sextant Drive, 1062	Jan. 3	1 pm to 4 pm	$595,000	Direct bay front 2/2, 2nd floor. Screened porch, vaulted ceilings, furnished.
11551 Wightman Lane	Jan. 3	1 pm to 4 pm	$4,990,000	Brand new, direct beach front. Fully furnished, security, fireplace.
998 Fish Crow Road	Jan. 3	1 pm to 4 pm	$699,000	Well kept 3/2 home overlooks Sanibel River. Steps to beach. New roof.
1299 Middle Gulf Drive, 141	Jan. 3	1 pm to 4 pm	$1,299,000	Gulf front, 2/2 with den. Weekly rental, great income potential. Views.

FOR DIRECTIONS AND A MAP, CALL: (239) 472-5187 OR STOP BY VIP REALTY AT 1560 PERIWINKLE WAY OR 14870 CAPTIVA DRIVE

Chateaux Sur Mer

NEW LISTING!



- Secluded and charming pod home
- 174 feet on the Sanibel River
- Approximately 1 acre lot
- Detached, raised pool w/ slide and diving board
- $1,995,000 (441927)

James and Penny Hetmanek • 472-5187 x 219/202

Totally Redone - Shell Harbour

NEW LISTING!



- Three bedrooms, 2 baths - All new!
- Seawalled canal, pool, and boat dock
- Brazillian Cherry floors, gorgeous granite kitchen
- Elevator, intersecting canal views, and beach parking
- $1,495,000 (441945)

Jim Hall • 472-5187 x 215

Ready To Move In

NEW LISTING!



- 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo
- Beautiful expansive views
- 15th floor, brand new
- You won't believe your eyes
- $494,000 (441921)

Rose Dakos • 472-5187 x 233

Wonderful Condo

NEW LISTING!



- Directly on the gulf with gorgeous views
- Corner unit with side windows overlooking pool
- Large screened lanai
- All remodeled in 2005
- $1,150,000 (441920)

Lynda Traverso • 472-5187 x 226

Sundial Walkout To Beach

NEW LISTING!



- Wonderful 1 bedroom ground level
- Updated - fully furnished
- Excellent income potential
- Large screened porch
- $589,000 (441934)

Robin Humphrey • 472-5187 x 218

Across From Gulf Of Mexico

PRICE REDUCED



- 3 bedroom, 2 bath, custom built in Captiva
- Intricate details with antique flair, great rentals
- Great room, fireplace, carhedral ceilings
- Built-ins, newer appliances, veranda
- $1,595,00 (440870)

Jim Hall • 472-5187 x 215

Sanibel Siesta

PRICE REDUCED



- Ground floor 2/2
- Large screened porch
- Great investment with rental history
- Resort complex on the Gulf
- $634,000 (441770)

Fred and Cathy Gerasin • 472-5187 x 236 or 232

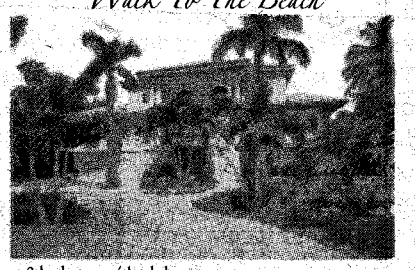
...a Sanibel Gem



- Gated community
- Canal dock and lift
- Private beach access
- 3 bedrooms, 3 baths
- $1,595,000 (440945)

Ralph Hansen • 472-5187 x 221

Walk To The Beach



- 3 bedroom, 4 bath home
- 4,000 sq ft of Mediterranean elegance
- Spectacular Bay views from every room
- His and hers master bath
- $3,997,000 (441414)

Sheryl Lesch • 472-5187 x 295

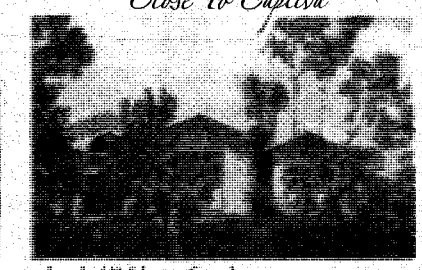
Short Walk To Gulf Of Mexico



- Beautiful golf and lake views
- Many custom upgrades including tile & granite
- Community offers golf, tennis, and restaurants
- Brand new Walter Group custom home
- $1,349,000 (441603)

Eric Pfeifer • 472-5187 x 259

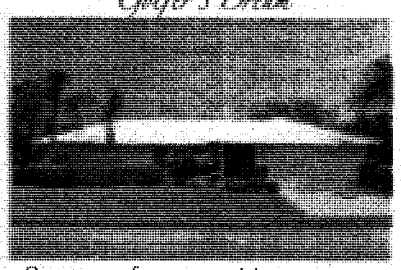
Close To Captiva



- Lovely 4/3.5 home
- Community pool, tennis & beach access
- Media room with 12x7 screen
- Elevator, office, elegant furnishings

Ada Shissler • 472-5187 x 254

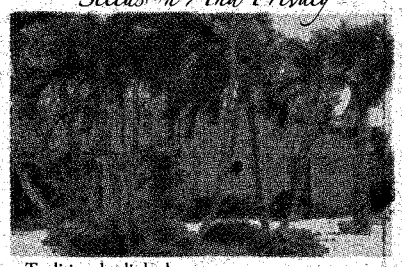
Golfer's Dream



- Open concept for easy entertaining
- Pool and spa overlook golf course
- Tastefully decorared - plantation shutters
- Great vacation home with no stairs!
- $789,000 (441392)

Debbie Staley • 472-5187 x 258

Seclusion And Privacy



- Traditional split bedroom
- 115 x 130 lot, 1804 living SF
- Interior storage, workshop
- Open and Screened porches
- $699,000 (441564)

Linda Gornick • 472-5187 x 261

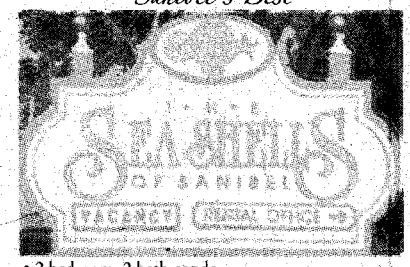
Down On The River



- Riverfront
- Dock and boat lift
- Sold furnished
- Pool waterfall and spa
- $1,175,000 (441390)

Susan Dunn • 472-5187 x 238

Sanibel's Best



- 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo
- Pergo flooring, granite countertops
- Tastefully furnished
- Steps to the Gulf of Mexico
- $579,000 (441579)

Peter Wilkens • 472-5187 x 260

Adorable Townhome



- 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath
- Large master suite with vaulted ceilings
- Overlooks lake with fountain
- Perfect Ft. Myers location
- $274,900 (441556)

Mike McMurray • 472-5187 x 250

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From page 54

Some Pines

That happened during Hurricanes Charley and Katrina, said Council member Jim Jennings, who made the proposal. Council voted 3-1 in favor, with Mayor Carla Johnston against and Steve Brown absent during that part of the meeting.

But first they need an inventory of the trees, something that will require outside help, said City Manager Judie Zimomra. She will report back to the council on what it will cost to do an inventory.

At that point, council will decide on the next course of action and how to prioritize the work if they do go ahead.

Zimomra said removing trees is costly. It can cost between $100 and $3,000 per tree depending on the height and girth and location.

One thing's for sure, there will be some opposition as well as support to felling the pines.

Jennings wants trees to be removed on private as well as public land if they pose a threat.

Roger Roberts, property owner, said, "There seems to be a perception that Australian pines fall down more than other trees. All trees fall down. You have only yourselves to blame because these trees (on Periwinkle) weren't managed, weren't topped. If you eradicate them you are going to eradicate part of Sanibel's charm," he said.

Meanwhile, the vegetation committee is preparing long-term recommendations for all Australian pines.✡

Resident Survey, Roundtables Aimed At Helping Local Businesses

by Anne Mitchell

City council's ongoing efforts to help small businesses survive got bogged down somewhat at Tuesday's meeting over the definition of "small."

That would exclude Bailey's General Store, said Council member Tom Rothman, yet Bailey's is exactly the type of business Sanibel needs as it strives to maintain the island's small town character.

In the end, council settled on a mission statement using the term "locally owned," even though it was pointed out that many owners of island businesses don't live on Sanibel.

Council also approved a survey that will be sent to residents in early January asking about their shopping, dining and entertainment habits and how much of that is done off-island. It also asks how much they value Sanibel's small businesses.

In addition, the city will hold a series of small business roundtables starting in January.

Robert Parks, owner of the Twilight Café, urged the city not the hold the meetings in February and March, in the height of season, because no one would attend. He also suggested the meetings be in the morning rather than the evening, as planned, because most business owners can't get away in the evening.

City staff will rework the meeting timetable.✡

Dog Licenses Renewal

City of Sanibel dog licenses for 2006 are available starting January 3, 2006. Mail your renewable forms with proof of current rabies inoculation or bring in current rabies inoculation and fill out form at: City of Sanibel Finance Department, 800 Dunlop Road, Sanibel, FL 33957. 472-9615. Open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. $10 a year.✡

Events On City Land Must Have 'Drinks Garden'

by Anne Mitchell

Sanibel City Council is clamping down on the way alcohol is served during events on city property and in city parks.

Under a new policy approved unanimously on Tuesday, alcohol sales will be allowed only in a designated area — such as a beer garden — that's closed to people below drinking age.

Council member Steve Brown said he wants to prevent minors from being exposed to alcohol.

He had mixed feelings, however, because he's a supporter of CROW, whose major fundraiser each year is Taste of the Islands, held at the city's Algiers Park.

The initial draft policy would have prevented people from carrying their drinks outside the designated area, but that was dropped.

Current policy for special events already requires law enforcement presence where alcohol is served. Also, events must abide by all other city and state codes and organizers must obtain a permit.

Resident Barbara Cooley commented that having a "separate drinking area is completely unnecessary." She said children learn about responsible drinking by going with their parents.✡

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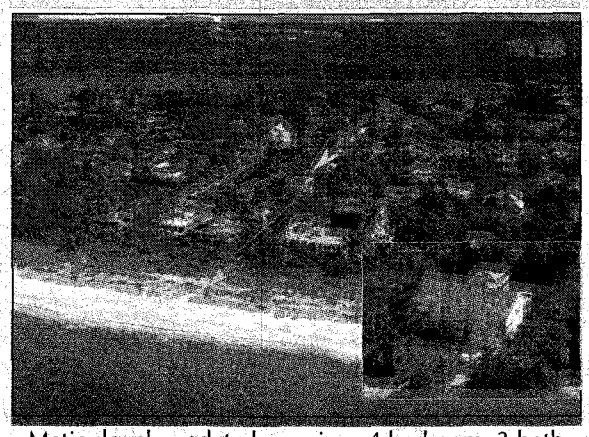
GREAT BUYS FOR THE HOLIDAYS...

LARGE ACRE LOT NEAR THE BEACH



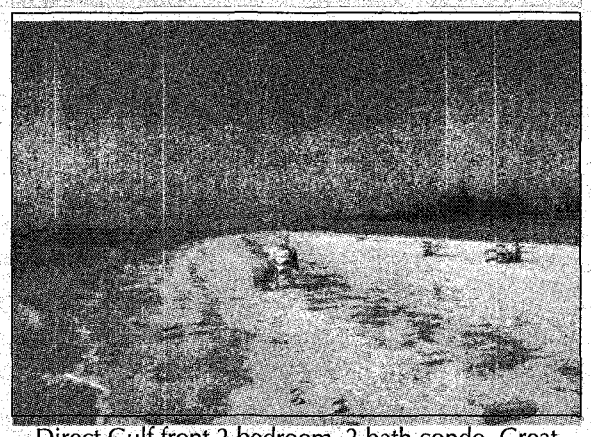
Beautiful, estate sized lot on Sanibel. Plenty of privacy and the beach is just steps away! Prime location off of West Gulf Drive.
Asking price is $489,000

BEACH GETAWAY



Meticulously updated, spacious 4 bedroom, 3 bath home offers over 5,000 square feet. New wood and tile flooring, gourmet kitchen, elevator and more. Beach access directly across the street leads to beautiful sandy beach on the Gulf of Mexico. Spectacular sunsets, the enchanting pool and hot tub offer luxurious tranquility. A wonderful oasis that is a peaceful getaway and a place to have fun in the sun.
Offered furnished at $1,549,000

PANORAMIC VIEWS OF GULF



Direct Gulf front 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Great location, fully furnished and brand new! Completely redone like it was just built. Top floor unit with great views and rental income.
$1,199,000



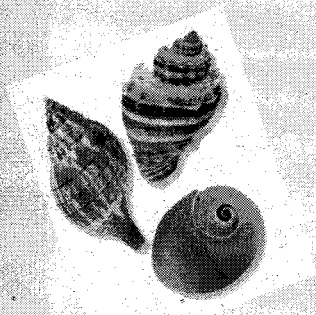


Happy Holidays

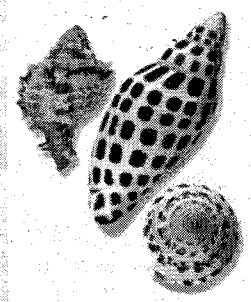
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A Few Special Finds





BAYSIDE LIVING AT ITS BEST

This beautiful 4-bedroom plus study, 3.5-bath Sanibel home overlooks San Carlos Bay and boasts water views from every room. Great room with hardwood floors, designer kitchen with custom cabinets, master suite with huge bath and closets, captain's quarters, heated pool and hot tub, plus its own private beach perfect for swimming, fishing and kayaking. **1083 Bird Lane is offered at $4,495,000.**



PRIVACY AND SECLUSION

There's plenty of room for family and guests in this lovely 5-Bedroom/5-Bath, 3-story home which offers deeded beach access just steps from the front door, as well as sunset views overlooking the Sanibel River. Other notable features include a magnificent gourmet kitchen, large pool area with a summer kitchen, and an air conditioned garage. **489 Sawgrass Place is a special offering at $2,795,000.**



LUXURY ABOUNDS HERE

This newly remodeled, direct Gulf front condo offers a long list of features, including gorgeous furnishings, diagonal tile flooring and an all new kitchen. Located on West Gulf Drive in a small complex with only 16 units and a beautiful pool and spa which overlook the beach and Gulf of Mexico. Gross rental income of over $50,000. **Pine Cove- Unit A is a must have property at $1,150,000.**



THIS GULF CONDO HAS IT ALL

Located on West Gulf Drive, this direct Gulf front, 2-Bedroom, 2-Bath condominium offers under building parking and storage. Residents enjoy a walkway leading directly out to the beach, as well as pool, tennis and is within walking distance to Bailey's and all surrounding shops. A terrific rental and second home too! **Tarpon Beach 302 is worth seeing at a price of $875,000.**



DISCOVER LAGUNA LAKES

Gated community near beaches and Healthpark. This brand new 3-Bedroom/2-Bath ground floor unit has lake views and numerous upgrades throughout, including large tile and luxury master bath and kitchen with premium fixtures, appliances and Corian counter tops. Amenities include a swim center, fitness center, Har-tru tennis courts, and children's playground. **9221 Calle Arragon Unit #102 is a bargain priced at $339,000.**



TURNKEY CONDO OFF ISLAND

This 3-Bedroom, 2-Bath ground-level condo comes fully furnished and has a private paved patio area. Located in South Fort Myers's Beachwalk community, Bellamar is close to Sanibel & Ft. Myers Beach and shopping and features a lovely community pool. This unit has a great rental history and grossed over $8,000. in 2004-2005. **Bellamar Unit 814 is truly a bargain at $249,000.**

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Ecosystem Restoration Task Force Chair Announced

Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton announced that Kameran Onley, presently the associate director for environmental policy at the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), would join the department in January 2006 as assistant deputy secretary of the interior. Among her other assignments, Onley will serve as chair of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force. Onley succeeds Marti Allbright, current Task Force chair, who is departing at the end of December to join the law firm of Patton Boggs. Established by Congress in 1996, the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force is a key forum to coordinate and develop consistent strategies, policies, plans, projects and programs to address the restoration, preservation and protection of the South Florida ecosystem.

"I am pleased that Kameran will serve as Task Force chair. Collaboration among the many affected interests in South Florida has produced extraordinary accomplishments during the last decade. Kameran brings considerable skills and experience within the executive branch to this effort. I look forward to her leadership for the Task Force, as well as for the department's Everglades management team, which includes senior managers from the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Geological Survey."

In her capacity at CEQ, Onley advised the CEQ chairman, the White House and members of the Executive Office of the President on environmental policy issues, particularly those involving ocean, coastal, and fisheries policies. Most recently she was responsible for leading the interagency development of the president's U.S. Ocean Action Plan. Prior to joining CEQ, Onley served as the associate director for the Regulatory Studies Program at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University in Arlington, Virginia. She holds a BA from Seattle University in economics with a minor in biology and a MS in economics from Clemson University.☼

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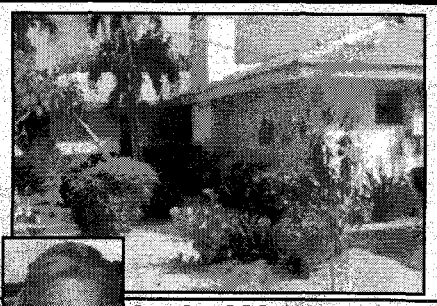
TRIVIA TEST

1. FOOD & DRINK: What is Japanese rice wine called?
2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What was the name of the yacht that Ted Turner sailed to victory in the America's Cup in 1977?
3. MEASUREMENTS: How many are represented by the measurement called a score?
4. TELEVISION: Which famous TV family was led by a dad named Steve Douglas?
5. HISTORY: When was Francis Gary Powers' spy plane shot down over Russia?
6. GEOGRAPHY: The Libyan Desert is part of which larger desert?
7. MOVIES: What was the name of the priest played by Bing Crosby in the classic movie "Going My Way"?
8. INVENTIONS: In what decade was Velcro invented?
9. MUSIC: Who wrote the opera "The Marriage of Figaro"?
10. RELIGION: In what ancient religion was Mithras the god of light?

ANSWERS

1. Sake 2. "Courageous" 3. 20 4. "My Three Sons" 5. 1960 6. Sahara 7. O'Malley 8. 1940s 9. Mozart 10. Persian

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Merry Christmas A HOLIDAY TREASURE Happy New Year

WALK TO THE BEACH!



This well kept 3/2 home has unobstructed water views and is surrounded by mature fruit trees. It offers a spacious, open floor plan, breakfast bar, Florida room, interior storage, master bath with double vanity, 2 car garage, oversized screened porch, hurricane shutters, and deeded beach access. New roof as of 11/2004.
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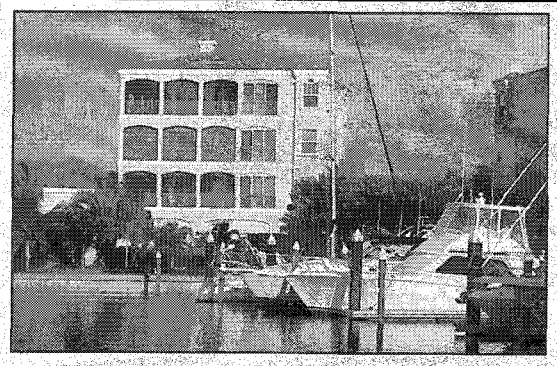
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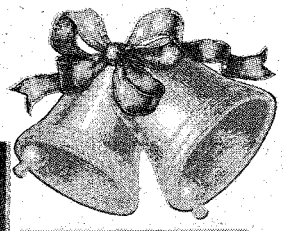
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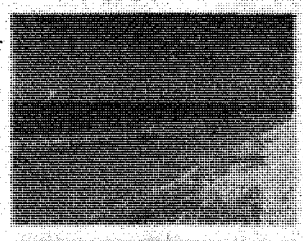
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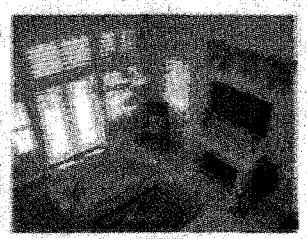
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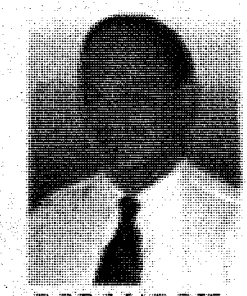
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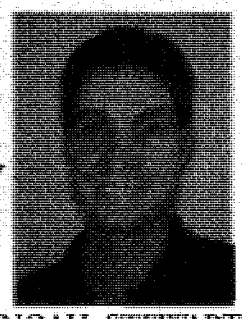
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'Tis The Season

by Joan Hooper



'Tis the season to decorate the house with holiday charm, both inside and outside. That accomplished, it's time to bake the family favorites everyone loves.

Scents from the Christmas kitchen waft through the house this time of the year, sending mesmerizing signals to your family. You may even have to fight off the hands reaching for samples as you prepare for holiday dining.

The lesson here is bake enough to let your family enjoy the perks of the season not only with lighting and decor, but let them sample the cookies and the fancy nuts, the breads, the candies, and the brownies. Double the recipe wherever you can, and put one in the freezer and the other on the table that evening for your family, or perhaps give it as an unexpected gift for a friend or neighbor. After all, this is the season for sharing.

One of the first recipes of the season must be made early enough to develop their flavors while these Florida rum balls rest in a securely closed tin. They are easy to make, require no baking, and are truly worth the effort.

Florida Rum Balls

Makes about three dozen

2 1/2 cups vanilla wafers, crushed
1 cup powdered sugar
1 cup pecans, finely chopped
2 tablespoons cocoa
2 tablespoons corn syrup
3 ounces Mount Gay or Cruzan rum (two jiggers)
Powdered sugar or cocoa

Combine first four ingredients. I put all in a Cuisinart. Dissolve syrup in rum and add to dry mixture. Form into balls and roll them in powdered sugar or cocoa. Do some of each for variety. Store in tin for several days before serving.

A few more of our family favorites of the season follow, including the following recipe for cranberry bread. The bread is delicious and colorful in the bread basket with our Christmas dinner. If I have room in the freezer, I double the recipe, using the whole package of fresh cranberries instead of just half.

Holiday Cranberry Bread

1 egg
2 tablespoons melted butter
1 cup sugar
2 cups sifted flour
3 teaspoons baking powder
1/4 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
3/4 cup orange juice
1 cup broken walnuts
1/2 package fresh cranberries
3 tablespoons orange marmalade (optional)

Beat egg and stir in butter and sugar. Sift flour with baking powder, soda and salt. Add flour alternating with orange juice (first 1/3 flour, then 1/2 of orange juice), repeat until all flour and liquid has been incorporated. Fold in nuts and cranberries, mixing well. Place in greased and floured (or sprayed with Pam) loaf pan. Bake in preheated 350 degree oven for one and a quarter hours. Before loaf cools, the following orange-cranberry glaze may be poured over the top (optional).

Glaze (optional)

1/4 cup sugar
1 tablespoon orange juice
2 tablespoon coarsely chopped cranberries

Cook a few minutes and pour over top before loaf cools.

Our favorite restaurant in Kohler, Wisconsin, is in the log cabin at Blackwolf Run golf course. This house dressing from Blackwolf Run is incredible, can be made ahead, and stored in the refrigerator. When you want to transform ordinary greens into something special for your holiday table, simply heat up this flavorful dressing and serve it warm. This masterpiece recipe may be found in *The American Club Cookbook* Kohler, WI 53044, along with other superb recipes.

Hot Maple Walnut Dressing

1/4 cup chopped fresh ginger root
1 teaspoon powdered mustard
1/2 teaspoon celery seed
2 tablespoons packed brown sugar
1/2 cup chopped walnuts
1/2 teaspoon paprika
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup diced onion
1 tablespoon butter
1 pint mayonnaise
2 tablespoons white wine
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 cup sour cream
2 tablespoons maple sugar

In a small bowl, mix ginger root, mustard, celery seed, brown sugar, walnuts, paprika, and salt. Using a medium-sized saucepan, saute the diced onion in the butter over medium heat. Reduce heat to low. Combine mayonnaise, white wine, lemon juice, sour cream, and sugar with sauteed onion. Add the spice mixture to the sauteed ingredients. Heat on low; do not boil (it will separate if you let it boil). Serve hot. Refrigerate unused dressing. Dressing may be heated in small amounts in a microwave oven.

It isn't Christmas without one of the very best Scandinavian cookies in the world, and I make them year after year, as my mother and grandmother did. Again from *The American Club Cookbook* where this perfect, dainty cookie is served each afternoon at tea time in the American Club Library. Cardamom spice enriches the buttery flavor. One will never be enough. We went back for seconds.

Sandkakor Cookies

Yield three to four dozen

1 cup butter, room temperature
1 3 cup sugar
1 large egg yolk
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon ground cardamom
1/4 teaspoon baking soda
2 cups unsifted flour
1/2 cup superfine sugar

In a medium bowl with electric mixer, cream the butter and sugar until smooth

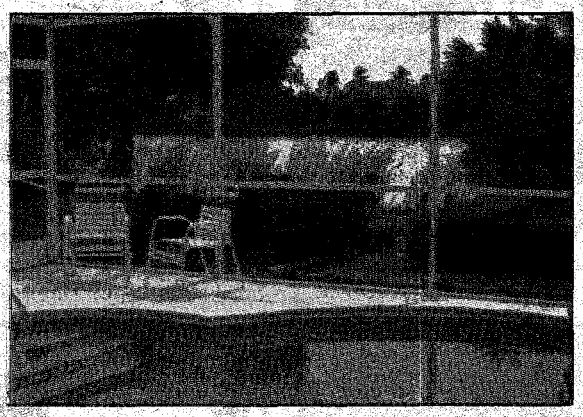
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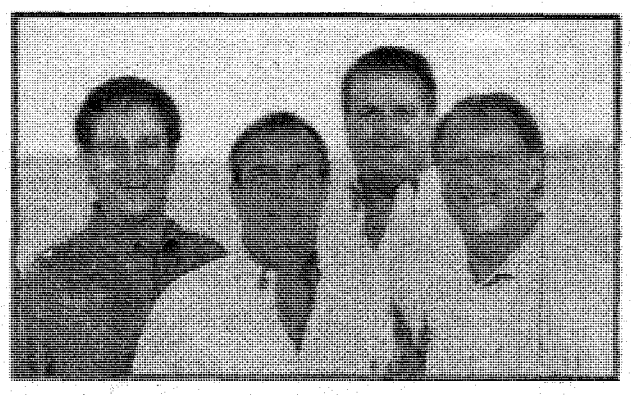


1117 Captains Walk
Best value canal home on Sanibel! Desirable & quiet east end location, groundlevel pool home with dock & mature plantings including fruit bearing citrus. Ceramic tile & terrazzo floors, large lanai/florida room adjacent to pool, newer metal roof, offered for $675,000.



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Merry Christmas! Happy Hanukkah!

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11515 Lailea Ln. New Construction-Fully furnished Captiva Estate home featuring 4 bedroom, 4 bath, sundeck, Lg. Heated pool/spa, very near beach and quiet village location. $2,749,000



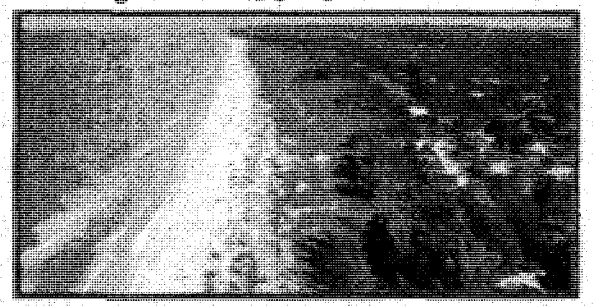
17020 Captiva Dr. Private Gated Direct Gulf Front Estate with 128 ft. of white sandy beach, 25 ft. beamed ceilings, huge master suite, raised pool/spa, and features a guest house. $7,000,000



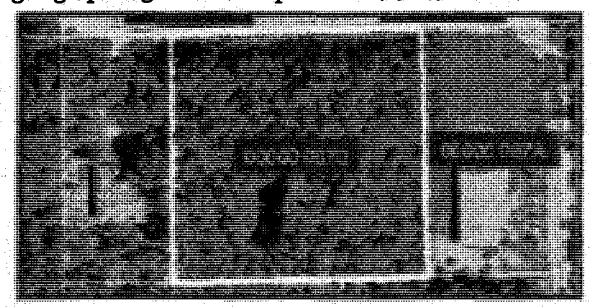
Cyprina Beach. Direct gulf-front 3bed/3bath townhome with a two-story wall of glass overlooking the beach. New kitchen, new paint, tile floors, vaulted celings, garage, pool, great income potential. $1,776,000.



Sanibel Arms West. Direct gulf-front ground floor walk out with incredible views, pool, tennis courts, tile floors, new kitchen and great rental income. $1,035,000



4767 Tradewinds Dr. Direct Gulffront Building Site!! Enjoy over an acre of privacy, beautiful sunsets, white sandy beaches(100 ft.), and panoramic gulf views. Ready to build. $2,199,000



13390 Shire Ln. Build your dream home on this 2.5 acre parcel right off Daniels Pkwy. Your own private estate-yet close to everything! Ready To Build. $449,000



1460 Angel Dr. Boaters Paradise featuring an 85 ft. dock, 2 lifts, 4,500 Square ft. of living area, elevated pool, spectacular views-in a premier yachting location. $3,495,000



High Tide. Penthouse luxury 3/2 condo + den with tile & marble flooring, granite countertops, solid wood cabinetry, stainless appliances, crown molding, breathtaking gulf views plus pool & tennis. $1,995,000.



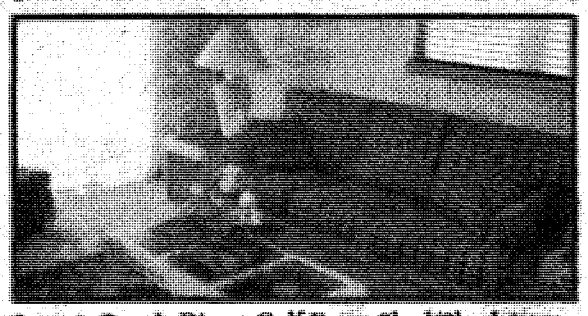
7935 Rabbit Rd. Stunning lake view, abundant wildlife, concrete construction and a short walk to the beach make this 2bed/2bath home a Sanibel gem. $469,000



West Shore. Gulf front 3 BR, 3 BA condo. Remodeled kitchen, stainless appliances, new cabinets, granite countertops. This is a beauty. $2,395,000.



Summerwind at Gateway. We have three brand new 2bed+Den/2bath units with tile, granite, vaulted ceilings or ground floor walkout, golf course views, community pool and tennis from $279,900 to $285,900.



Ocean's Reach. Direct Gulf Front 2bed/2bath in mint condition with new kitchen and baths, new tile, new fixtures, new paint and an excellent on site rental and management. $1,095,000

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



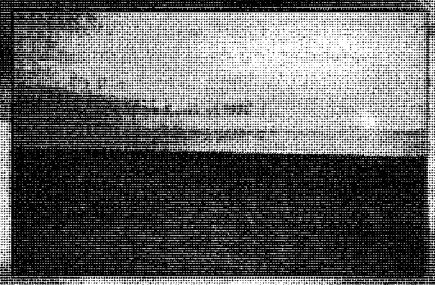
SANIBEL STYLE

Gorgeous Bayou front home offering 4 bedrooms, 4 baths and 2 half baths. This home has a dock and boat lift with Gulf access, fenced, heated pool with spa, poolside entertainment area with full kitchen, surround sound throughout, private elevator, 3 car garage, wood, tile and carpet flooring, custom kitchen with granite counters, volume ceilings, walk-in closets, 2 zone air conditioning, security system and much more. Truly a dream come true for island living. **$2,795,000**



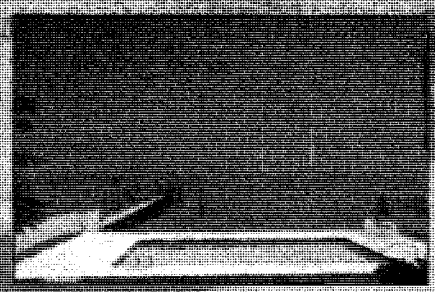
THE SANCTUARY

Lease as nice as a condo and half the price of a home. Beautiful 3 BR/3.5 BA duplex with wonderful views of the golf course and lake. This home offers a private pool with spa, kitchen with granite, 3 bay, cook top stove, double oven, security system, great room with fireplace, volume ceilings, home office with built-ins, 2 car garage and furnished with a few exceptions. **$1,350,000**



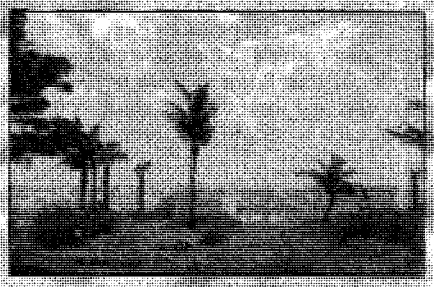
GULF FRONT COMFORT

The serenity of 4 private acres, exquisite and spacious 2 story 3,000 sq. ft. open, spacious and well appointed floor plan. Expansive Gulf of Mexico views, 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, tile and hardwood floors throughout, loft/office area, great room with a wood burning fireplace, custom kitchen with breakfast bar, screen enclosed, heated pool with spa, private elevator, 2 garages, oversized bedrooms, furnished with some exceptions and so much more. **$4,495,000**



CAPTIVA HIDE-A-WAY

Spectacular views of Pine Island Sound from this 2 BR/2 BA Bay-front condominium located in a small complex of only 8 units. Buyers can finish the interior to their own taste and specifications. Community amenities include a pool, fishing piers and docks with Gulf access. **$939,000**



SOUTH SEAS BUILDING SITE

Direct Gulf-front building site in South Seas Resort. Lot measures approximately 154 x 137 and offers private beach access. South Seas Resort is a private & gated community, build your dream home on the Gulf of Mexico. **$1,790,000**



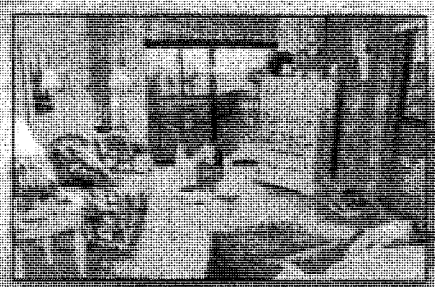
CAPTIVA'S "VILLAGE" 5/5

Custom built in 2002 this home offers 5 BR/5 BA and a screen enclosed, heated pool and spa. Custom details throughout with a private elevator, two garages, two fireplaces, wood, tile and carpet flooring, private sundeck with water views, gourmet kitchen with custom cabinetry, steps to the beach and Bay and solid hurricane shutters. **$2,395,000**



SANTA FE GULF FRONT ESTATE

This breathtaking direct Gulf front estate offers a 2 BR/2 BA main home and a 2 BR/1.5 BA guest house. The main home has beautiful tile and wood floors throughout, 2 story living room with fireplace, formal dining, storm shutters, 3-car garage and a heated Gulf front pool with spa. The guest house has a full kitchen, living room, covered lanai and storm shutters. **$6,395,000**



CAPTIVA SHORES

Situated on a quiet, direct Gulf-front, corner lot in a small, complex consisting of 21 units on Captiva Island, this unit has 2 BR/2 BA, tile & carpet flooring, bright island decor, expansive lanai, cabana, 1-car garage, deck with Gulf access, deeded beach access, community pool and more. Sold with exceptions. **$1,495,000**



CAPTIVA VILLAGE

Great opportunity to own property in the heart of the village of Captiva. Lot measures approximately 100 x 125 and is zoned for residential use. Build your island paradise. Lot is located on Captiva Island. **$1,585,000**



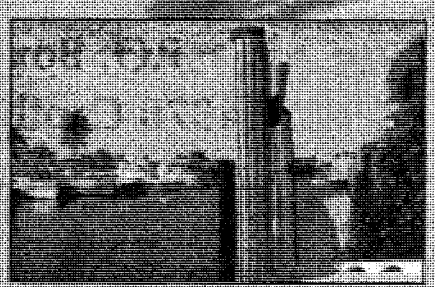
HISTORICAL COMMERCIAL SITE

Incredible opportunity for anyone on Sanibel Island. Lee County records show that this historical building was built in 1930. Buy or lease and open your business in paradise today. **$1,395,000**



HISTORICAL CAPTIVA COTTAGE

This single family home is on the Lee County historical Registry and is located on a quiet street, just steps from the beach. This island cottage offers 2 BR/1 BA, upstairs apartment, tile & carpet floors and a lovely patio with BBQ area. Close to the "Village" with island shops and great restaurants within walking distance. **$1,095,000**



LIGHTHOUSE WAY

Gorgeous canal-front lot with deep water access to the Gulf & Bay. This property offers a new deep water dock, spectacular views and is located on the quiet East end of Sanibel Island. The lot measures approximately 100' x 125. Build your island paradise on Sanibel Island. **$1,395,000**



BEACHVIEW ESTATES
Custom built, 4 BR/3.5 BA Waller Group home in Beachview Estates located on the golf course with lake views. Features include screen enclosed, heated pool & spa, upgrades throughout, phone/internet, camera security, elevator, 10 ft. ceilings, fireplace and so much more. **$1,595,000**



BUILDING SITE - CAPTIVA ISLAND
Recovered bay view lot for sale in Captiva's "Village". Quiet neighborhood, close to everything you need and want for your island lifestyle. Steps to the Gulf of Mexico beaches and the Bay. **$1,230,000**



CAPTIVA CHARM
Wonderful beach cottage on Captiva Island with partial Gulf views. Two bedroom, two bath steps from the beach and [illegible] tile & carpet flooring, [illegible] screened porch, den and [illegible] **$1,545,000**



BREATHTAKING GULF VIEWS!
Direct Gulf-front, cleared, estate-zoned lot. Property is 1 +/- acres with 100 ft. of beach frontage. Build your paradise on Captiva Island. **$4,595,000**



NEW CONSTRUCTION
Construction is almost complete on this custom built 4 BR/4 BA home. Featuring a heated pool with spa, location close to the Bay & Five Mile Cove Park, gourmet kitchen with stainless appliances, 2 zone [illegible] and flooring throughout and [illegible] **$2,195,000**



CAPTIVA WATERFRONT & GATED ESTATE
Renovations have started on this 6 BR/5.5 BA main house and remodeling is complete on the charming 2 BR/2 BA guest house. Professional landscaping, new pool, dock, deeded beach access and frontage on direct-access Roosevelt Channel are all included. **$3,595,000**



ONE OF A KIND
See your wildest expectations in their native habitat in this Captiva estate property. Situated amidst lush, tropical vegetation and waving palms, this is a prime beachfront opportunity on Captiva Island. The 2+ acre lot boasts 200' of private beach to enjoy world renown sunsets and Gulf views. The property has been cleared and is ready to start building your dream retreat. **$9,300,000**



BOATERS & FISHERMAN
Fantastic one acre "Estate Zoned" lot in the New Osprey Bay Estates subdivision. This subdivision consists of three parcels all having dockage on Roosevelt Channel with direct access and short stroll to the deeded beach access. **$1,395,000**

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Mariner Pointe



Bayfront in Paradise Beautifully remodeled 2 bed 2 bath direct bayfront dockage available. Deeded beach access. All amenities, rare find!
$759,900

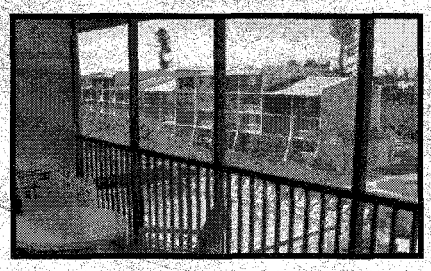
At The Gulf



Point Santo This 2 bedroom, 2 bath second floor direct gulf front condo has wonderful views of the Gulf of Mexico. This unit is nicely furnished and has everything that you need for a second home or rental. Complex has pool, hot tub, community room, tennis, shuffleboard and onsite management. Great Sanibel location close to everything. Unit does very good rental income.
$845,000

Three bedroom, 2.5 bath luxury gulf front unit will be completely remondeled. All new kitchen baths. New tile, carpet, cabinets, bathrooms, proches. Call for more details in regards to the remodeling.
$1,899,000





Loggerhead Cay 574 This 2 bedroom 2 bath top floor gulf view unit is in the process of a complete remodel. The unit will be totally new and ready for you and your renters.
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Shop Local, You'll Be Glad You Did

by Anne Mitchell

If you want a feel-good shopping experience this holiday season, I have two words for you: shop local.

We all know it's the right thing to do – support your local merchants – and many islanders do. But it's tempting to head off-island thinking there's more choice out there and prices will be lower. That's not necessarily true.

Remember, though, that people come from all over the country and the world to Sanibel and Captiva, and one of their favorite things is to shop the islands' exclusive boutiques and stores. You find things here that you won't get anywhere else. Things like tropical-theme dog collars from Island Paws, Bailey's own brand jalapeno mandarin jam or seagrape jelly, jewelry depicting the islands' sea life at several jewelry stores, and Ikki Matsumoto print T-shirts from his gallery.

The payback for the shopper comes in many forms.

When you walk in an island store, you'll be greeted by someone who is happy to see you. More than likely, they'll know your face if not your name. At the big off-island chains, you'll be lucky to get any kind of personal service at this time of year.

Having myself recently returned to working on Sanibel, I still marvel at being able to walk across the street from the *Island Sun* to do my banking. My bank puts out coffee and freshly-baked cookies for its customers every day, all day. I hear other island banks make similar gestures. And there are never long lines like the ones at my previous bank in Fort Myers, so long that I'd often postpone my banking until another day.

One island furniture store cheerfully lets clients walk out with items to "try out" in their homes, no strings attached. Islanders tend to trust each other.

And I just heard how a Sanibel jeweler gracefully honored a customer's purchase after a wrongly-tagged and valuable item was sold to her at half its intended price.

The independent island pharmacy that filled my prescription two weeks ago invited me to sit in an easy chair and take a complimentary beverage from the machine while I waited for just a few minutes. What a contrast to the chain pharmacies that have kept me wandering the aisles trying to kill time.

Alas, it's not possible to buy everything you need on the islands. But Sanibel's leaders are looking for ways to retain and encourage businesses that cater to locals – such as book stores, pharmacies and dry cleaners – to ensure that the island doesn't get saturated with souvenir shops. That way, Sanibel won't be totally dependent on the ups and downs of tourism.

It's a challenge, but we all can help by supporting independent local merchants when we can, thereby letting them know that we appreciate what they do to save us from making that trip over the bridge.

If we don't give them our business, they will gradually disappear and perhaps be replaced by national chains whose employees won't know us from Adam and whose merchandise is the same from coast to coast. That's something else the city council is working to avoid, but they need our help.

It's not just the price of the toll and wear and tear on our vehicles and our sanity that we can save. By shopping local not just at Christmas but year round, we can help preserve the unique island lifestyle most of us came here for.☆

Holiday Decorating Tips

by Kym Nader



1. Supplement your customary display of holiday decorations with some of your favorite accessories.

2. Group your holiday collections together for more impact.

3. Make use of candles and votives. They will look better if grouped in odd numbers.

4. Place some holiday decorations in unexpected places – windowsills, armoires and bathrooms.

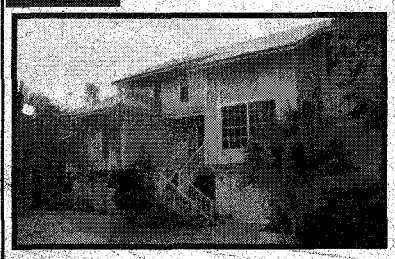
5. If you accessorize with greenery, include ornaments and other smaller accents. Remember to also add a few tall objects to provide visual balance.

continued on page 75



Waterfront Sanibel Home

Call Jayne Lumley, Realtor
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Secluded 2-story Florida style home at end of cul-de-sac, on 300' canal front with cathedral ceilings, fireplace, all new appliances, hot tub pool, marble kitchen counters, bathroom & all new tile in pool area & cabana. Large lot. Surrounded by walkways. Loft area overlooks living room. Elevated home backs onto canal only 5 minutes to bay. All new landscaping, includes buildable lot.
$1,375,000

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6. Use white lights on trees in formal areas, and colored lights for fun.

7. Birdcages and topiaries are popular centerpiece items, as well as cornucopias filled with fruit or ornaments arranged to spill out onto the dining table.

Finally, put on your favorite holiday music, sit back, relax, and enjoy the beauty you've created in your home for the holidays!

Kym Nader is an interior decorator on Sanibel.☆

Sandcastle Kitchen

by Barbara Beardsley



Sometimes a stir-fry dish is just the thing for a quick supper. This one is just right... light, low fat and delicious. There are so many varieties of veggie burgers available now; feel free to experiment with your favorites, as this recipe adapts to lots of changes.

Tropical Stir Fry

1 package of your favorite veggie burgers, thawed (I use Morningstar Farms Original Grillers for this)
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 can (20 oz.) unsweetened pineapple tidbits
1 can (10 to 12 oz.) mandarin oranges
2 tablespoons light brown sugar
1 tablespoon cornstarch
1/4 teaspoon ginger
2 tablespoons rice vinegar
1 cup julienne cut carrots
1 package frozen sugar snap peas
1/2 cup sliced green onions
1/2 cup chopped raisins
5 cups hot cooked rice (I mix brown and white rice half and half)

Cut burgers into half inch strips and set aside. Drain pineapple and oranges, reserving liquid. Add enough orange liquid to pineapple juice to measure one cup. Set aside. Combine sugar, cornstarch, and ginger. Stir in vinegar. Set this aside.

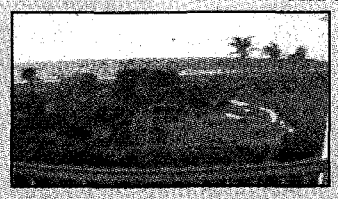
In a 12-inch frying pan, cook burgers and carrots in oil over medium heat, about two minutes, or until thoroughly heated, stirring gently. Add pineapple, peas, reserved liquid and cornstarch mixture, stirring slightly. Bring this mixture to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer, stirring occasionally for about two minutes. Stir in oranges, raisins, and onions. Serve over hot rice.☆

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What's your property worth?

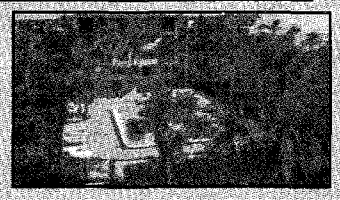
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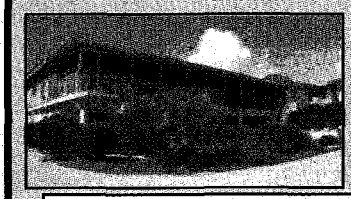
The Real Estate Leaders



South Seas
Rarely offered beachfront with three bedrooms and three baths.
$1.3 million

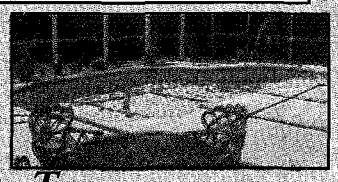
Tarpon Beach
Direct beachfront. Excellent rental income. **$895,000**





Moonshadows
Private beachfront residence for under $1 million. **$995,000**

Winter Rental
Three bed, 3 bath near beach lakefront. **Available 2006**



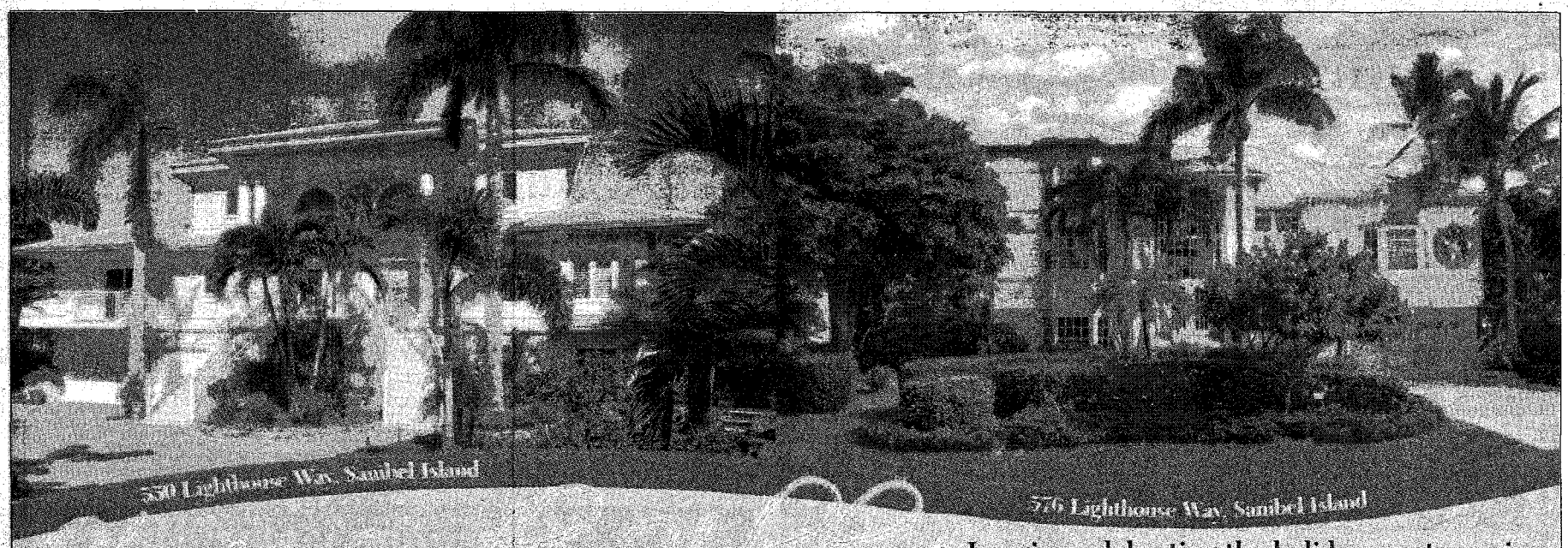
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Imagine celebrating the holidays next year in one of these magnificent waterfront homes.

This majestic bayfront home features 4,000 square feet of Mediterranean elegance that invites you to live and entertain in lavish style. Breathtaking bay views from every room are highlighted with spacious outdoor verandas. List Price: $3,997,000

Expansive bay views on a tidal sandy beach await you at this truly spectacular home. Every detail of this grand bayfront home has been tastefully appointed by renowned interior designer Collins and Dupont. List Price: $4,295,000

For more information or to schedule a private showing, please contact:



Sheryl Lesch, Realtor®
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Mobile (239) 565-9510
slesch@viprealty.com

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Drowning Prevention Conference

Proposed federal legislation to reduce the incidence of drowning will be announced in Lee County next month as part of the National Drowning Prevention Symposium at Fort Myers Beach.



Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz

Florida Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, who is sponsoring the bill in the U.S. House of Representatives, will be a keynote speaker at the fifth annual conference January 26 and 27 at DiamondHead Beach Resort.

The symposium is sponsored by the National Drowning Prevention Alliance (NDPA) and SWIM Lee (Safe Water Instruction Messengers in Lee County). It is the first time the national event has been hosted on the eastern seaboard of the United States, according to NDPA First Vice-President Diane Holm, who also is the drowning prevention coordinator of the Lee County Health Department.

"We're looking forward to hearing Congresswoman Wasserman Schultz's proposal. She was responsible for drafting the Florida legislation now in place that requires barriers, alarms, or locks on access routes to pools and spas," Holm said.

Florida is more prone to drownings and near-drownings because of the easy accessibility to water of all types - swimming pools, ponds, canals, lakes, and the Gulf of Mexico. Lee County alone has 238 miles of waterways.

That's one of the reasons why drowning is the leading cause of death for children under five years old in Florida, Holm said. Nationally, drowning is the leading cause of unintentional death for children in the same age group, she said.

According to the National Safe Kids Campaign, for every child who drowns, four more are hospitalized after a near-drowning experience.

"It is a serious health concern everywhere, but especially in Florida and other warm weather states," Holm said.

Up to 300 people from throughout the United States and several foreign countries are expected to attend the two-day symposium including educators, building inspectors, medical and aquatic professionals, and parents of children who have drowned or nearly drowned.

The overall goal is to discuss how to prevent drownings of all types, not just those that take place in swimming pools.

Registration is open to the public for $150 per person if the registration is received by January 3 or $175 per person after January 3. The registration fee includes two continental breakfasts, two luncheons and two receptions, in addition to all of the presentations.

Registration is available online at www.drowning prevention.info.

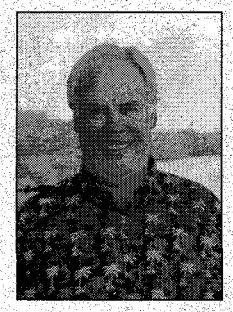
Other key topics and speakers during the symposium include:

- How the aquatics industry is adapting to promote water safety by Shawn DeRosa of the Aquatic Safety Research Group in Boston, Mass.;
- A Parent's Story by Carol de Ibern, who lost her child to drowning after a two-year struggle;
- Boating-related carbon monoxide poisoning by Jane B. McCammon of the Double Angel Foundation;
- How new model building codes make pools safe by Gary S. Duren, representing the Pool Safety Consortium;
- Hyperbaric oxygen therapy for brain injury caused by near-drowning by Dr. S. Tracy Rhodes of Central Florida Hyperbarics; and
- The American Academy of Pediatrics policy on toddlers and swimming lessons, and what's being done to change it by Dr. Barbara M. Garcia Pena of Miami Children's Hospital.

For more information about the symposium, contact Holm at 239-332-9590 or visit www.drowningprevention.info.☆

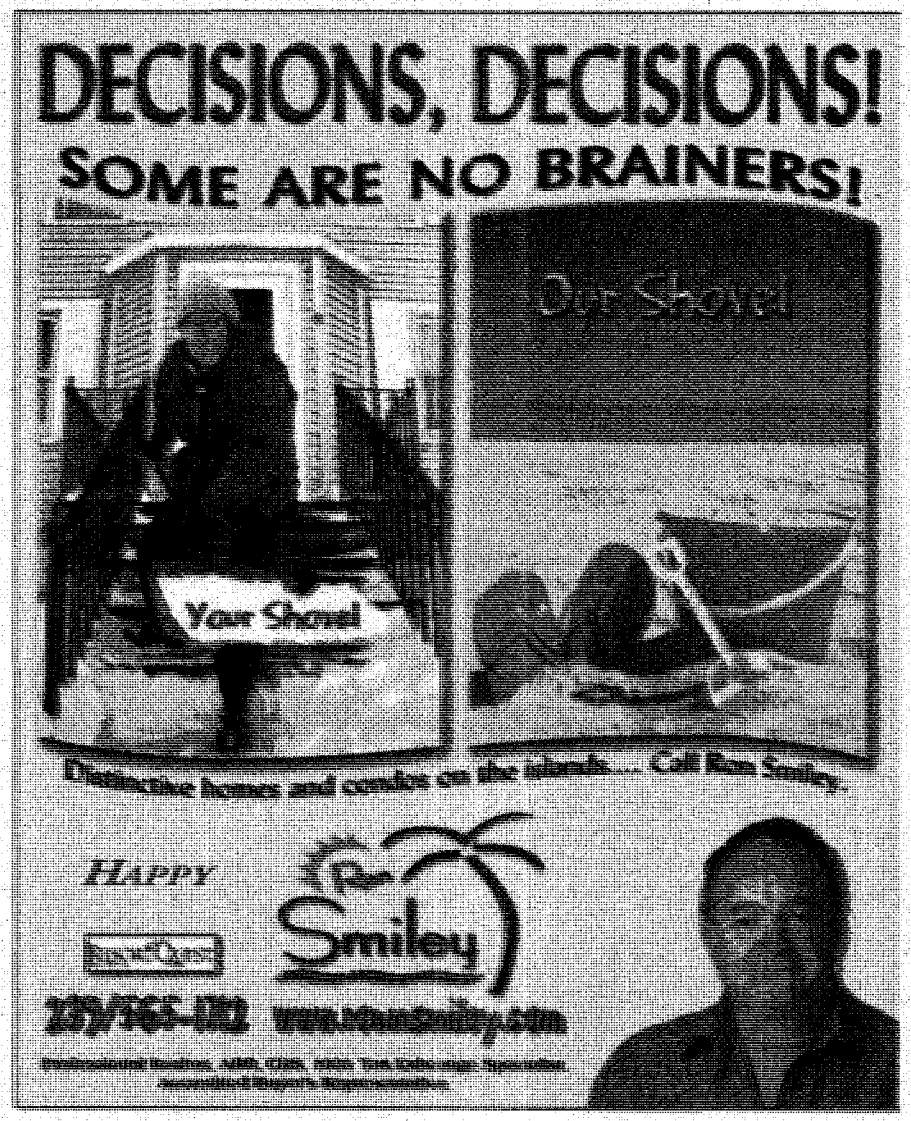
New Associate

VIP Realty Group, Inc. announced that Jack Samler has joined its Sanibel real estate team. Samler has been an island resident since 1978 and is an experienced Florida-licensed real estate broker with over 26 years representing Southwest Florida properties.



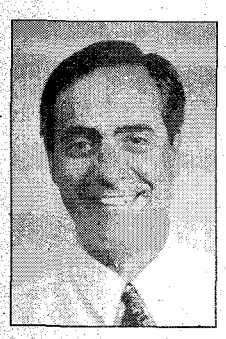
Jack Samler

He is very active member in the community as the current chair of the Sanibel Planning Commission and serves on the finance committee of the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation. His past involvements include serving as president of the Sanibel-Captiva Lions Club and as one of the founding members of Sanibel Beautification, Inc. His professional memberships include the National, Florida and Sanibel-Captiva Islands Association of Realtors for which he also served as president, has been an Honor Society member for 12 years and has been honored by the association as realtor of the year and is a three-time recipient of the Community Service Award.☆





See Your Chiropractor Before It Hurts



by Dr. Michael Tolisano, BA, MA, DC, Chiropractor

Adults are used to seeing a doctor for a physical exam to check for high cholesterol, hypertension, colon cancer, etc. The emphasis is on taking a preventive approach and not waiting until a problem becomes evident. The same should be true with chiropractic care. People should not wait for back, neck or shoulder aches and pain.

Chiropractic is concerned with the preservation and restoration of health and focuses special attention on subluxations or structural changes in the spine that may influence organ function and general health. Doctors of chiropractic evaluate, diagnose and manage a spinal misalignment through the use of gentle, hands-on procedures.

The use of healthcare procedures on outwardly healthy patients is commonplace in all medical and alternative care fields, both as a preventive measure and because many health conditions do not show symptoms in the early stages. Many people, for example, do not realize they have disc problems in their back until the pain becomes intense. Preventive chiropractic care is the answer.✡

From page 70

Tis The Season

and very, very fluffy. Stir in egg yolk, salt, ground cardamom, soda, and flour. Blend well. Shape dough into one-inch diameter balls. Place about one inch apart on ungreased baking sheets. Bake in a preheated 350 degree oven for about 15 to 18 minutes until golden. Remove to wire cooling rack. When completely cool, roll in superfine sugar.

Bon appetit and happy holidays.✡

Our E-Mail address is
IslandSunSanibel@aol.com

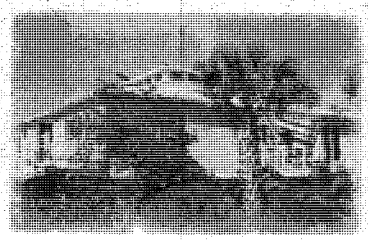
HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM "THE BAILEY BUNCH

BEAUTY BY THE BAY



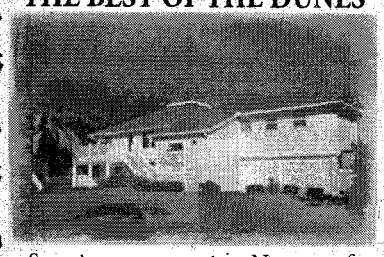
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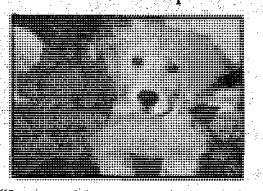


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Organ Donor Group Joins Community Foundation

by Brian Johnson

On December 1 the Organ Transplant Recipients of Southwest Florida, Inc. signed an agreement with the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, paving the way for increased funding for people with organ transplants. Group members named it The Fletcher Fund For Organ Transplantation in honor of the founder, Newman "Mac" Fletcher.

"I think it's wonderful," said Fletcher. "There are a myriad of expenses incurred during serious medical problems that you don't anticipate. Helping organ recipients and families is what this fund is about."

The Organ Transplant Recipients of Southwest Florida, Inc. now numbers more than 140 members and meets the first Thursday of the month at Southwest Florida Regional Hospital. They pool their experience and resources to help each other through the complexities and difficulties of life with an organ or tissue transplant. Guidance and support is also given to caregivers. The meetings are open to anyone with an interest in organ or tissue transplantation.

"This organization is blessed with good people," said Fletcher.

When The Fletcher Fund was first introduced, Mac's wife, Barbara, wrote letters to people she knew. Of the $17,000 the fund has already raised, Barbara has personally raised more than 60 percent.



Mike Terry, Tom Oringderff and Newman "Mac" Fletcher

"I think The Fletcher Fund will be able to help a lot of people," said Tom Oringderff, who is the chairman of trustees of The Fletcher Fund. "I am optimistic that we will be able to get additional exposure and donations now that we are part of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation. We're looking for our organization to skyrocket."

To attend one of the group's meeting, call Sharon Terry at 574-8822 to make a reservation. For more information about organ transplantation, go to www.organsupport.org. Fletcher, who is now battling cancer, continues to be involved with the activities of the group.

"There was no place for people to go back in 1992," said Mike Terry, the treasurer of the trustees of The Fletcher Fund. "He has helped others, and encouraged people to receive the gift he received."

"He is an inspiration to us," said Oringderff.

Fletcher received a new heart on August 6, 1992. As he recovered, he wanted to make contact with other organ recipients or potential recipients and help them and their families. The first group numbered just five people.

The first meetings were held in the Fletcher kitchen or whatever other venues could be found. Mac made sure the families were involved. "It's scary for the caregivers," he said.

Fletcher, an ex-Marine, had a dream to visit every state in the Union. He fulfilled this wish (except Alaska) in the years after the transplant. His zest for life and his strength of character during adversity have given new members courage.

Fletcher himself has been able to see his experiences as an organ recipient in a positive light. "It drew us closer as a family," he said. "The Lord knows we never know how much time we have left."

To make a donation, make a check payable to The Fletcher Fund For Organ Transplantation and mail to Southwest Florida Community Foundation, 8260 College Parkway, Suite 101, Fort Myers, FL 33919.☆

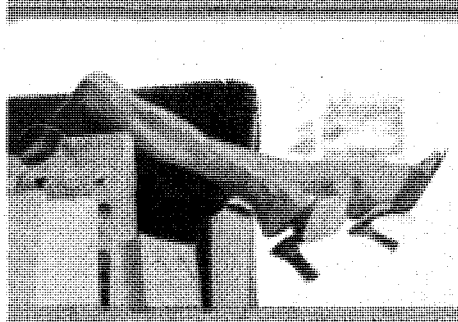
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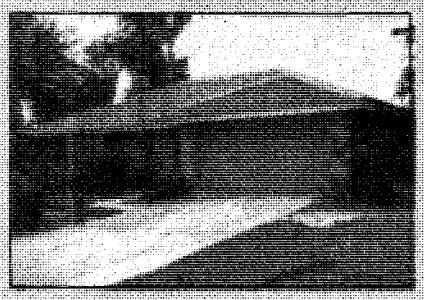


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Peek At The Unique Tour



View of "In The Pink" from Blind Pass

On Saturday, March 11, Zonta of Sanibel-Captiva will hold its fifth annual Peek at the Unique. This popular house tour features intimate views of four outstanding island homes.

The first home offered through the generous spirit of the homeowners is the first house on Captiva just over the Blind Pass Bridge. Named "In The Pink," for its bright pink exterior paint, this three-story structure commands gorgeous views of the Gulf, the bay, and the wildlife haven bordering the waters. Entering through the front door, the Tara-like staircase is only the first of the many impressive architectural details which the visitor will experience first hand from inside this house that so many islanders pass by so often.

continued on page 81

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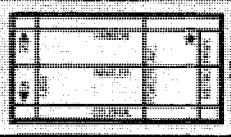
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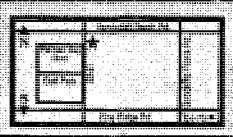
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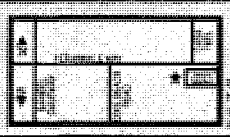
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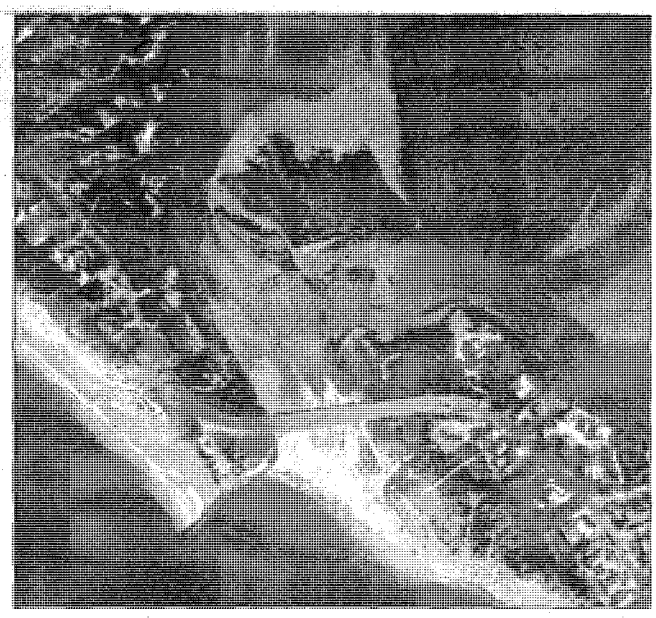
View of house from Captiva Drive

The speaker at the house will be Alison Hagerup, full-time administrator of the Captiva Erosion Prevention District. This is a governmental body created by a special act of the Florida Legislature whose mandate is to handle erosion-related problems on Captiva Island. The county and CEPD are focusing their efforts on reopening Blind Pass, and placing sand on adjacent eroded beaches. This will restore the natural tidal flow.

The sponsor of In The Pink is Sanibel-Captiva Trust Company. Zontians are especially grateful for support as they have been house sponsors for all five years of the house tour.

There is a range of sponsorship opportunities available associated with the Peek at The Unique. For more information contact Gini at 699-4545 or at ZontaPeek@comcast.net.

Peek at the Unique has been sold out for the past four years. The three-hour tour of a variety of houses represents a diversity island styles. Tickets will go on sale in mid February.



Aerial view of home from CEPD website

As in previous years, the proceeds are awarded in grants to Zonta's tax-exempt charitable partners.

- Girls Making It On Purpose, providing emotional and practical support for young women transitioning out of foster care;
- The Transitional Living Center at Southwest Florida Addiction Services, also in Fort Myers, providing education and support for women in recovery from addiction; and
- Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking aiding local efforts to combat human trafficking in Southwest Florida, as well as supporting to Zonta International's anti-trafficking project in Eastern Europe.

The Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva is a service organization of professional women working together to provide hands-on assistance, advocacy, and funds to strengthen women's lives on the islands, in Lee County, and around the world through Zonta International.☆

WEST END CONDO



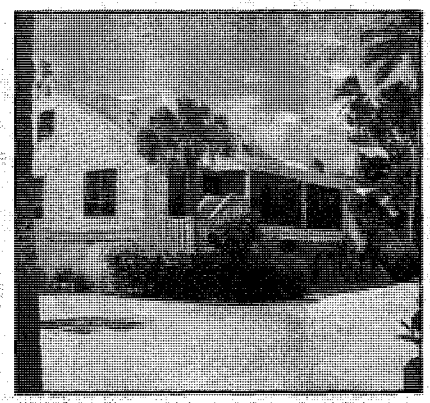
Remodeled two bedroom, second floor at Blind Pass. New kitchen, wallpaper and king bedroom furniture. Excellent condition. **Asking $575,000 furnished.**

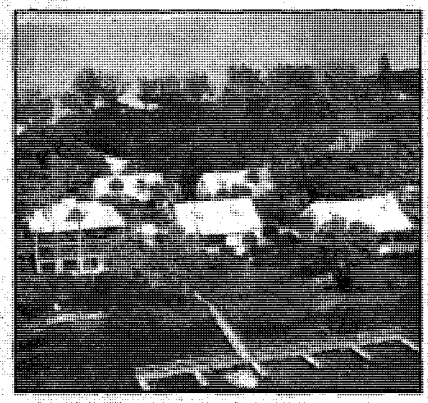
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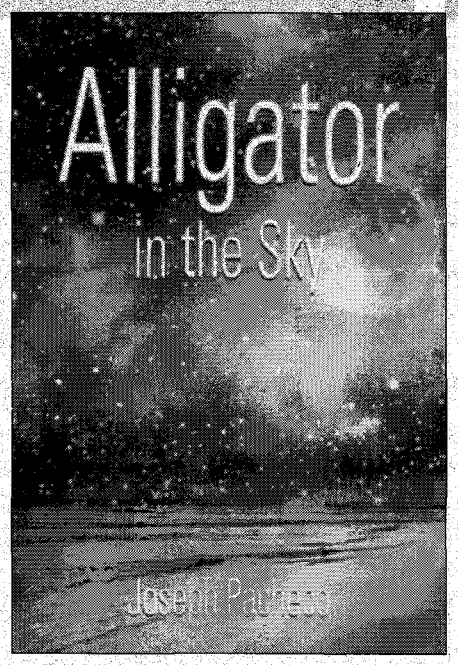
by Priscilla Friedersdorf

As readers we are fortunate to be able to share Sanibel poet Joseph Pacheco's wide range of life experience. Pacheco's new collection of poetry, *Alligator in the Sky,* demonstrates to those of us who object to the tedium of oblique and obscure sentiments in most poetry that poetry reading can be amusing and the emotions understandable. We are rewarded by his return to writing after bypass surgery three years ago; he notes in the preface, "...poetry became the major therapy for my restoration."

His compositions reflect a life change and possess new depth and sensitivity without sacrificing his often irreverant and humorous take on life and island living.

The opening collection of poems *Where Were You On...?* recalls in a personal way memorable events as he experienced them, from the Hindenberg disaster through his encounter with a famous poet. The poem *Where Were You on December 7, 1941?* begins "In the back storage room of our family bodega sitting on a sack of kidney beans, listening to the football Giants-Dodgers game when the announcer interrupted..." And with him we also relive these momentous times and remember our own humbled emotions.

Mr. By-Pass Five includes mostly



short ironic takes on current events but contains a poignant account of his new grandson, Quds Amador, "Born In Bethlehem (April 23, 2003)"; a child whose Arab father is held in a detention facility. "...his father and I still share the dream and meaning of Quds, of one day cradling him in the warm manger of our arms... as he unites and turns our generations and cultures full circle into new life and hope."

The section *Alligator in the Sky* contains poems relating to events and peculiarities of our island, the title poem noting his sentiments: "That was why I sat uneasy at the Sanibel Island Council meeting while they voted to harvest the alligators..." and from a funny, crisply written alligator complaint, *Minority Alligator*

"You said you'd protect us
From growing extinct,
But now that we're thriving
You've had to rethink..."

You will laugh out loud at *Tribute to Trespass,* Pacheco's wry take on having his Kerry sign stolen, "God Bless America! We're more secure today! An unknown hero's sneaked by to take my Kerry sign away..." and *Sore Loser Blues,* "...My coffee's cold and bitter with the sore loser blues..."

The imaginative biblical poetic retelling *All in the First Family (Genesis 4 Quartet* includes *The Godfather Raises Cain* and *Almost All About Eve* among them. The collection ends with the lovely poem *To Marjorie (Valentine's Day 2005).*

Pacheco's poetry has been featured on National Public Radio, and he has performed at the Cornelia Street Cafe in New York City. *Alligator in the Sky* is now available at all local bookstores and The Company Store.☆

On The Shelf: New Books At The Sanibel Library

by Priscilla Friedersdorf

Fiction: *Dashiell Hammett: Lost Stories*

These 21 stories by Dashiell Hammett have for the most part never before been published. There is a wide variety in the selection made by Vince Emery, a Hammett researcher. Emery includes Hammett's early detective fiction, a *Thin Man* story, humorous satires and one of the famous mystery writer's sensitive autobiographical essays.

Emery examines the events in Hammett's life which shaped his writings and how the stories, in turn, affected his life. Hammett was best known as the creator of Sam Spade; and the films *The Maltese Falcon* and *The Thin Man* were based on his mysteries. Dorothy Parker said of him, "Dashiell Hammett is as American as a sawed-off shotgun...he is so hard-boiled you could roll him on the White House lawn."

Non-fiction: *Menchen, The Last American Iconoclast*

Fifty years after his death HL Mencken continues to be one of the most quoted and quotable sages on American life. His witty criticisms of the foibles of the middle class, known to him and his readers as the "booboisie," are still

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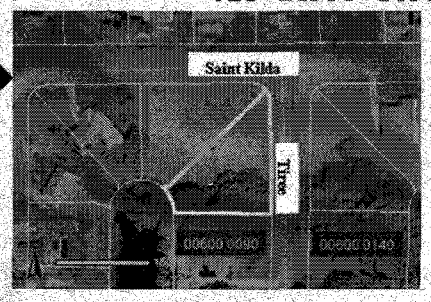
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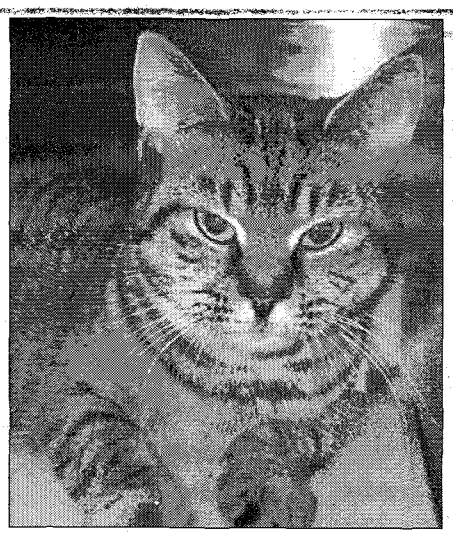
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very near the mark. This scholarly and thorough biography by Marion Elizabeth Rodgers, is sub-titled *The Life and Times of the Bad Boy of Baltimore* and indeed, as columnist for the Baltimore Sun, he lived life large and free-form. Author Russell Baker in commenting on Rodgers's biography of Mencken wrote, "In this full-length portrait of the great hell-raiser and his era, Marion Rodgers discloses an old-fashioned mama's boy and a warm and apparently irresistible lover of women. Also – what a rarity – a truly independent mind."☆

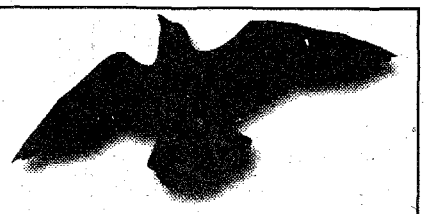
Pet Of The Week



Cookie

Hi, I'm Cookie and I am one and a half years old. I am a little girl with a brown tiger stripe coat and golden eyes. They tell me that I have been a good girl, so I hope I get my wish to be Home 4 the Holidays. Lee County Animal Services hopes to adopt out 250 pets during the Home 4 the Holidays campaign, which runs throughout the month of December.

To adopt Cookie, call Lee County Animal Services at 432-2083 and ask about ID# 297857. Cookie's adoption fee of $50 includes age appropriate vaccinations, spay surgery, flea treatment, worming, feline leukemia and feline aids test, a county license and a microchip ID. The shelter is located at 5600 Banner Drive, Fort Myers, next to the Sheriff's Department off of Six Mile Cypress Parkway. Adoption hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m Tuesday; and 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday. Pictures of pets available for adoption can be viewed on line at www.leelostpets.com.☆



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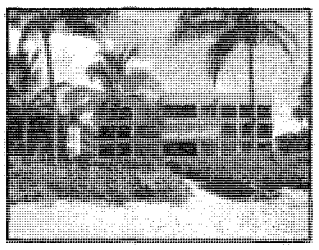
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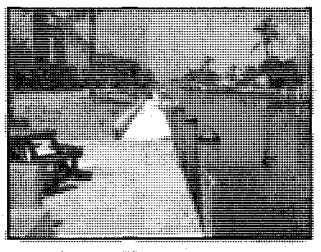
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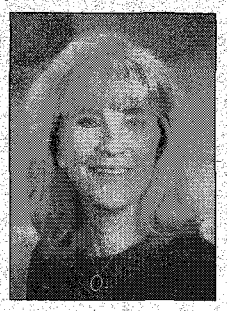
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Top Producers

VIP Realty Group, Inc. has announced October Associates of the Month from the Sanibel office. Gloria O'Flannery was named Top Sales Associate, Lynda Traverso was named Top Listing Associate and Karen Bell was named Top Producer.☆


Gloria O'Flannery


Lynda Traverso


Karen Bell

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Mom And Me





by Lizzie and Pryce

Lizzie and Price answer your questions and give advice about aging concerns from a two-generational perspective. A mother and daughter team, Lizzie is a retired RN and health educator, and Pryce is a licensed psychotherapist in private practice who specializes in the care of elders and people with chronic illnesses.

Dear Mom & Me,

I am not the grandmother my family would like me to be, but I try to do my best.

For years I devoted my time to our kids and their activities. We went to their games; their lives were the center of our focus, but now we think these retirement years are our time – time to have fun and enjoy and do the things we weren't able to do when we were raising kids. We are a part of the grandkids' lives but not as involved as the parents think we should be. What do other grandparents do?

Aubrey

Dear Aurey,

Recently I read parts of a new book *The New Face Of Grandparenting* by Donald Schmitz, a former teacher who holds graduate degrees in education and human development. Donald Schmitz talks about the three varieties of grand parenting: First, been there done that, second, help when asked grandparents, and third, the parents forever grandparents.

My personal experience and with friends, some are so involved they want to micro manage their grandchildrens' lives and make up to them what they did not do or regret not doing for their own children. Others are less involved and don't want to interfere, then others are so fed up with their own kids and the grandchildren they now want a totally different life. Time to do the things they couldn't do before. We all probably fall somewhere in between.

It seems that so many adult children are shocked when their parents don't act like they did when they were in their 40s and don't seem to realize their parents are in their horizon years and have different emotional needs.

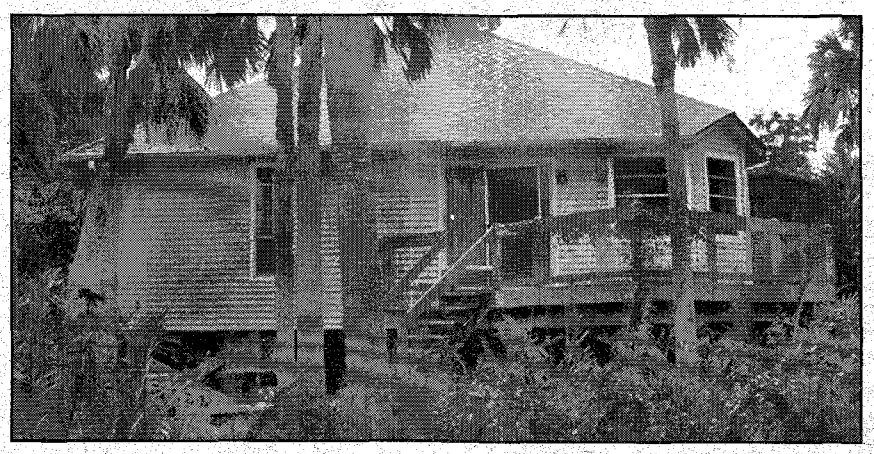
Lizzie

Dear Aubrey,

The role of grandparent can take on very different shapes. What I think is important is that the role of grandparent remain flexible and meets the needs of everyone, including the person in the grandparent role. Not all grandparents want or can be a grandparent for a variety of reasons. Not all adult children can or want their parents involved with their

continued on page 86

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deaRPharmacist

by Suzy Cohen, RPh



Dear Pharmacist: I'm worried about my heart. I read that flaxseeds can help, so I bought some at the health food store. What can they do for me and how should I use them?

- T.L., Decatur, Ill.

I don't know if you bought the actual seeds or the powder (which is just ground-up seeds.) The itty-bitty seeds contain alpha-linolenic acid, which is similar to the omega-3 fatty acid found in fish oils. Vegetarians who are seeking omega-3 fatty acids always opt for flaxseeds over fish-oil supplements.

Don't be thrown off by the name, though; these aren't fattening at all. In fact, the fatty acids found in flaxseed protect the heart. Plus, when you consider the fiber content in the flaxseeds, you realize they can lower cholesterol and help digestion. Some people like flaxseed oil, but it goes bad quickly and you can't fry with it.

One more thing: Flaxseeds contain lignans, which are antioxidants. They sweep up harmful, cancer-causing substances from the body. Just don't overdo it. All good things should be consumed in moderation, except of course, chocolate.

As for flaxseed powder, you can sprinkle it in salads, sandwiches, baked breads and muffins. You can put it in smoothies and, really, just about anything. My kids don't even know when I use it, and what they don't know might help them.

Dear Pharmacist:

Is it true that St. John's wort can help with HIV infection?

- Y.D., Portland, Ore.

The supplements that are currently available now probably won't, but a recent study published in *Gene Therapy* pointed to some benefit.

The herb is best known for its ability to stabilize mood and improve depression. Let's get off on that tangent. What really sets St. John's wort apart from traditional prescribed antidepressants is its side-effect profile. It does not usually cause dry mouth, anxiety, tremors or sexual side effects, as do many of our prescription antidepressants. There is evidence to suggest that the "weed" might help with menopause. So to find any advantage in treating a deadly viral infection seems like divine intervention.

Researchers weren't investigating St. John's wort for its anti-viral abilities, they were examining other effects on the brain. To everyone's surprise, they found a protein (labeled p27SJ) that stifled HIV replication in brain cells. That's good news because current pharmaceutical drugs commonly suppress HIV levels in the blood, while the infection still eats away at the brain.

Granted, these results happened in a Petri dish, but I read hope between the lines of all that clinical jargon. Scientists noted something important, that over-the-counter St. John's wort supplements don't have enough of p27SJ protein to combat the AIDS virus. And taking too much of the herb (in order to get more protein) creates harmful side effects. There are also many interactions. When researchers tested supplements, no effect was seen. Still, there's hope that researchers will one day make pills out of this protein and help people.

Reader's Alert:

There is a new warning for pregnant women taking the antidepressant Paxil (paroxetine) about possible birth defects.

This information is not intended to treat, cure or diagnose your condition. Suzy Cohen is a registered pharmacist. To contact her, visit www.dearpharmacist.com.☆

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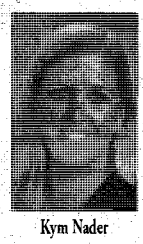
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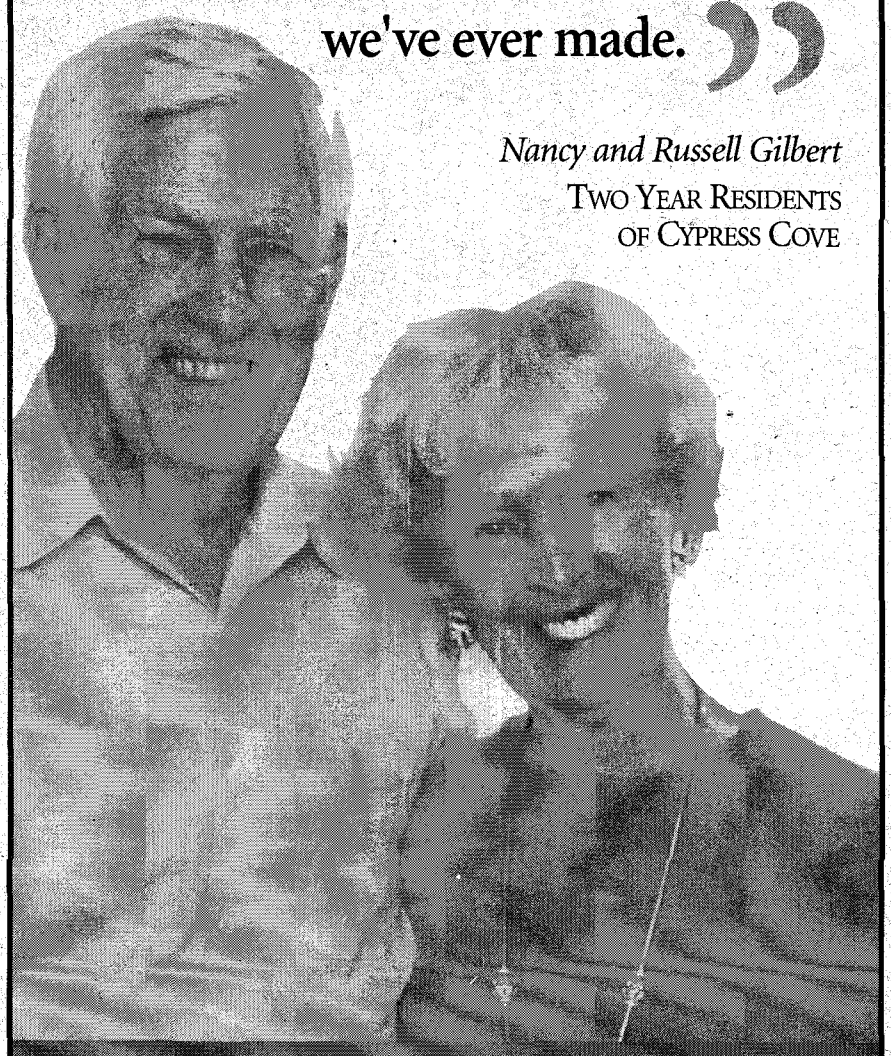
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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

From page 84

Mom And Me

children for a variety of reasons. Not all children want or can have their grandparents around.

You and your family need to determine the grandparenting expectations. At first blush it is great to have grandchildren that want you around and adult children that want you around as well. That is something very good to work with. So work with it and enjoy family time as well as free retirement time.

Pryce

Lizzie and Pryce's email address is momandmeaging@hotmail.com or PO Box 91673, Raleigh, North Carolina 27675.☆

Got A Problem? Dr. Connie Is In

by Constance Clancy



Q: I recently lost a close friend to cancer. We grew up together and although we lived in different states, we remained very close. I am having a hard time shaking this loss. This is the first friend who has passed away. I am asking so many questions and just cannot fill this emptiness. How long will this grief last?

A: First of all, my condolences for your loss. Please know that the grief you feel is a natural process and there is no magical time for overcoming grief. Everyone grieves in their own way and you cannot expect to handle this pain in a specific time frame. There will come a time when you will feel a certain amount of healing taking place. You may want to talk to your friend or write a letter to your friend and while she cannot respond, at some level she will hear you and you will hear yourself. You don't fill the emptiness, rather you honor your friend for being in your life for as long as he/she was. It's what you do with the time that is most healing. Be patient with yourself and know that your friend would want for you to move on in a healthy way.

Dr. Clancy is a licensed mental health therapist, certified hypnotherapist, life coach, author and public speaker. You may contact Connie at 472-3797, email Connie@drconstance.us and visit her Web site at www.drconstance.com.☆

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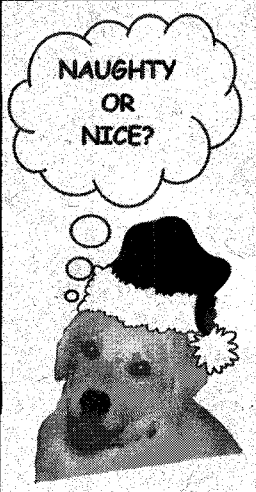


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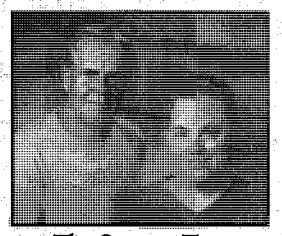
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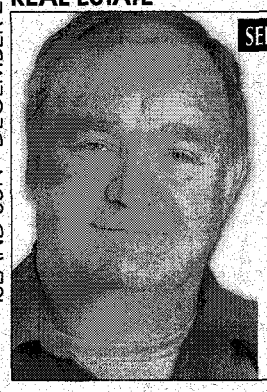
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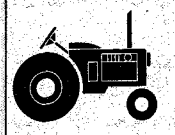
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	3	8						9
			9	1	8			4
						6	2	
2		4	5		3			
	9	7				4	5	
			2		7	3		1
	6	9						
8			4	5	2			
1						7	8	

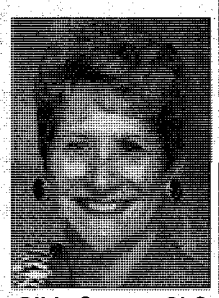
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SR NC TFN

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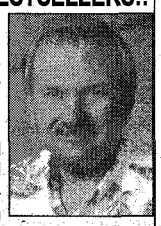
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S 11/25 AX 1/06

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S 12/9 MC 12/30

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S/R 8/12 BM TFN

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SR 11/8 V 12/30

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RS 11/18 MC TFN

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SR 12/2 V 12/30

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S 12/2 AX 12/23

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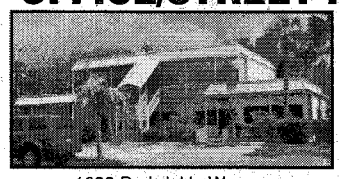
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S/R 8/1 BM TFN

SITUATIONS WANTED

SAILING OPPORTUNITY WANTED for month of February '06. Email gretboy@cox.net
SR 12/9 A 12/30

COMMERCIAL SPACE

OFFICE/STREET RETAIL for LEASE



1633 Periwinkle Way
Sanibel Island, FL 33957
On Periwinkle Way across from Heart of the Island Shopping Center, ½ block south of Jerry's Market on west side of Periwinkle Way
Dawn Johnson-Cox
239-860-4370
DOWNING-FRYE REALTY, INC.

Lowest rents on Periwinkle. Low fees - High visibility on Periwinkle Way. Large paved parking lot. High visibility signage on building and on directory sign. Easy access with center turn lane on Periwinkle Way. New A/C units. Ready to move in. $22.00/sq. ft. NNN - 1354 sq. ft. Get away from the rat race and... make your dreams of doing business in paradise on a tropical island come true! Call me to inquire about the future potential of this site!

SR 11/18 MC 1/13/06

RENTAL NEEDED

ROOM/EFFICIENCY APT. NEEDED on Sanibel or Captiva from 3/22-4/22/06 for Island resident. Call 565-8873.
SR-12/23-B-12/23

Island Sun
NEWSPAPER
Sanibel & Captiva Islands

ROOMMATE WANTED

ROOMMATE WANTED
To share 2BR/2BA duplex on quiet street near beach on East End. Tile floors, large yard. $600. Call Brian at 910-3099.
S 11/4 NC TFN

LOST AND FOUND

REWARD
Black purse and contents. Important personal papers and IDs. Cardium St. area. Please Return. No questions asked. Call 239-395-1635.
S 12/16 NC 12/23

LOST CAT-CALICO yellow/black/white. East end of Island. Reward. Call 472-1788 or 277-0058
S 12/9 NC 12/23

PETS FOR SALE

10 WEEK OLD MINI FEMALE MALTEPOOS
White with taffy colored ears. Raised in a loving home. First shots, doggy door trained. Asking $600. ea. Ready for Christmas.
Call 239-823-4909
SR 12/9 NC 12/23

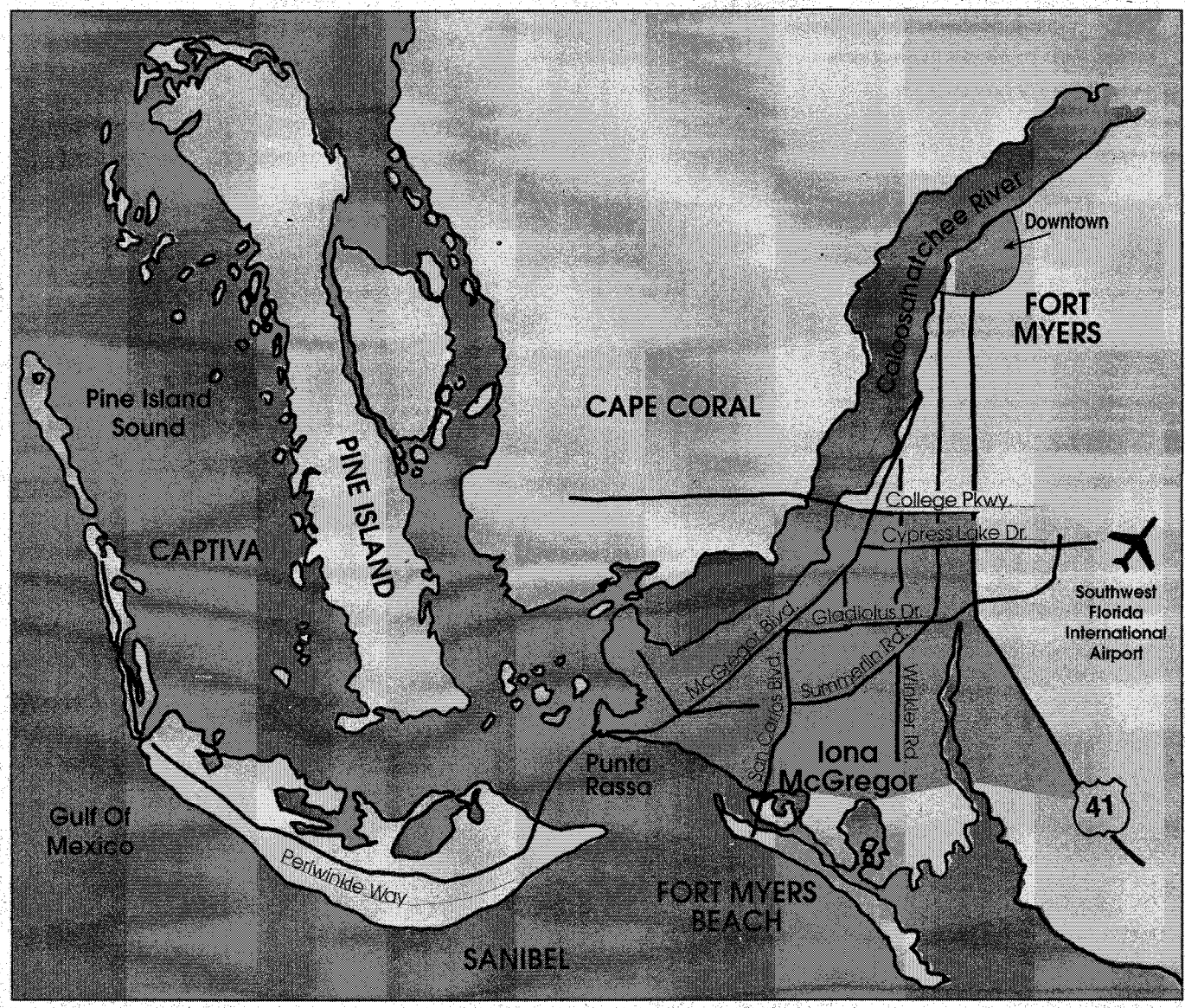
MINIATURE PINSCHER
6 mo female AKC, all shots, ears and tail done. Loves people and pets. Loves to fetch and play with toys. $850 OBO. Call 239-395-1635
SR 12/16 V 12/23

FURNITURE FOR SALE

FURNITURE and other good stuff for sale. CHEAP. Call 395-2283 and leave message.
S 12/23 PP 12/23

Why Did The Advertiser Cross The Causeway? To Get To The Other Side!

Ask us about special combination rates in our sister publication, *The River Weekly News*.
Call your *Island Sun* advertising representative at 395-1213.



NOTICE - Section 804 of the federal fair housing law states that it is against the law to make, print, publish, or cause to be made, printed or published, any notice, statement of advertisement with respect to the sale or rental of a dwelling that indicates any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, physical or mental handicap or because there are children in the family. The *Island Sun* does not knowingly or intentionally accept advertising in violation of federal, state, and local laws prohibiting discrimination in connection with the sale or rental of real estate. All housing advertised for sale or for rent in the *Island Sun* is subject to applicable fair housing opportunities, you may contact the Lee County Office of Equal Opportunity at 335-2267.

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE MONDAY AT NOON

PUZZLE ANSWERS

KING CROSSWORD

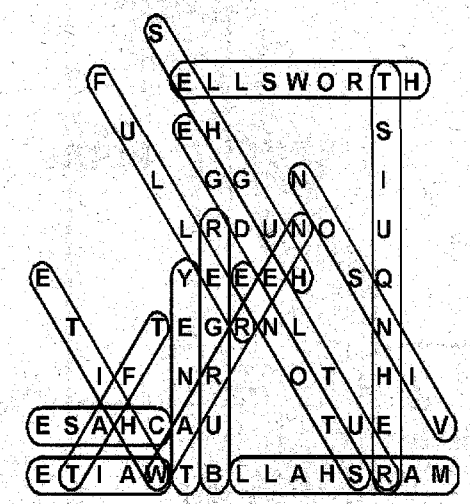
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■	■	■	D	I	N	■	P	E	N	U	R	Y
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H	I	R	E	■	D	O	L	O	R	E	S	■
E	N	G	■	S	E	L	L	S	■	D	O	E
■	D	O	L	L	I	E	S	■	E	A	R	N
■	■	■	L	U	C	Y	■	A	I	M	E	D
S	A	L	A	M	I	■	A	L	G	■	■	■
O	V	U	M	■	D	O	L	P	H	I	N	S
F	O	R	A	■	A	L	L	O	T	T	E	D
A	W	E	S	■	L	E	S	■	Y	A	W	S

SUPER CROSSWORD

J	A	B	■	O	I	L	E	D	■	P	E	A	T	■	■	C	A	L	A	F
A	L	E	■	P	R	I	D	E	■	A	P	S	O	■	C	A	M	E	R	A
I	M	A	B	E	A	V	E	R	■	R	A	P	T	■	A	T	O	M	I	C
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P	I	N	U	P	S	Q	U	I	R	R	E	L	■	S	T	A	I	N	■	■
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L	O	C	A	L	■	■	O	U	R	S	■	■	O	D	E	■	E	D	I	T
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D	A	H	■	S	K	I	M	■	L	I	S	I	■	E	Y	E	L	I	D	S
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P	O	M	A	N	D	E	R	■	K	E	Y	P	A	D	S	■	■	J	C	E
P	E	S	T	O	■	■	Y	A	N	■	■	L	I	D	O	■	A	G	A	R
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MAGIC MAZE

CHIEF JUSTICES OF THE U.S. SUPREME COURT



SUDOKU

4	3	8	6	2	5	1	7	9
7	2	6	9	1	8	5	3	4
9	5	1	7	3	4	6	2	8
2	1	4	5	9	3	8	6	7
3	9	7	1	8	6	4	5	2
6	8	5	2	4	7	3	9	1
5	6	9	8	7	1	2	4	3
8	7	3	4	5	2	9	1	6
1	4	2	3	6	9	7	8	5

TRIVIA TEST

1. FOOD & DRINK: What is Japanese rice wine called?
2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What was the name of the yacht that Ted Turner sailed to victory in *the America's Cup in 1977?*
3. MEASUREMENTS: How many are represented by the measurement called a score?
4. TELEVISION: Which famous TV family was led by a dad named Steve Douglas?
5. HISTORY: When was Francis Gary Powers' spy plane shot down over Russia?
6. GEOGRAPHY: The Libyan Desert is part of which larger desert?
7. MOVIES: What was the name of the priest played by Bing Crosby in the classic movie "Going My Way"?
8. INVENTIONS: In what decade was Velcro invented?
9. MUSIC: Who wrote the opera "The Marriage of Figaro"?
10. RELIGION: In what ancient religion was Mithras the god of light?

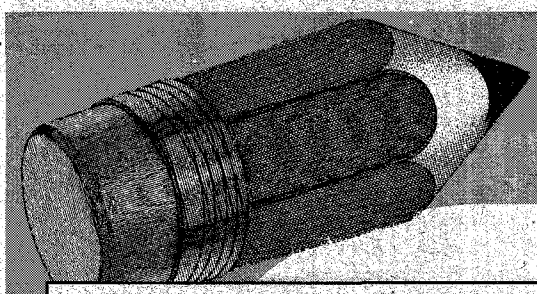
ANSWERS

1. Sake 2. "Courageous" 3. 20 4. "My Three Sons" 5. 1960 6. Sahara 7. O'Malley 8. 1940s 9. Mozart 10. Persian

Island Sun
NEWSPAPER
Sanibel & Captiva Islands

CALLING CARD 239-395-1213

Emergency	911
Sanibel Police	472-3111
Lee County Sheriff's Office	477-1200
On Call Captiva Deputy	477-1000
Fire Department	
Sanibel	472-5525
Captiva	472-9494
Florida Marine Patrol	332-6966
Florida Highway Patrol	278-7100
Poison Control	1-800-282-3171
Chamber of Commerce	472-1080
City of Sanibel	472-4135
Administrative Office	472-3700
Building Department	472-4555
Community Housing and Resources	472-1189
Planning Department	472-4136
Library	
Sanibel	472-2483
Captiva	472-2133
Post Office	
Sanibel	472-1573
Sanibel (toll free)	800-275-8777
Captiva	472-1674
Sanibel Community Association	472-2155
Senior Center	472-5743
ARTS	
Arcade Theater	332-4488
Art League Of Fort Myers	275-3970
BIG ARTS (Barrier Island Group for the Arts)	395-0900
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre	278-4422
Gulf Coast Symphony	472-6197
Lee County Alliance of the Arts	939-2787
Naples Philharmonic	(239)597-1111
The Schoolhouse Theater	472-6862
Sanibel Music Festival	(239)336-7999
Sanibel-Captiva Art League	472-4258
S.W. Florida Symphony	418-0996
CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS	
ABWA (American Business Women's Assoc.)	466-0548
American Legion	472-9979
Angel Flight SE (Ted Tyson)	472-8394
Audubon Society	472-3156
Sanibel Beautification Inc.	418-9693
Community Foundation of Sanibel-Captiva	274-5900
CROW (Clinic For The Care & Rehabilitation of Wildlife)	472-3644
FISH of Sanibel (Friends in Service Here)	472-0404
Fishing Club	472-7257
Horticultural Society of the Islands	472-6940
Horticulture and Tea Society of Sanibel and Captiva	472-8334
Kiwanis Club	395-0328
Lion's Club (Jack Samler)	472-1511
Master Gardeners of the Islands	472-6940
Newcomers	472-9332
Notre Dame Club of Lee County	768-0417
Optimist Club	466-7675
PAWS	472-1027 or 472-9383
Rotary Club	472-7257 or 472-0141
Sanibel Beautification Inc.	418-9693
Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society	472-6940
Sanibel-Captiva Power Squadron	472-3828
Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club	395-1770
Sanibel Youth Soccer	395-2040
www.sanibelsoccer.org	
The Military Officers Assc. of America (MOAA, Alex MacKenzie)	395-9232
Zonta Club	671-6381
ISLAND ATTRACTIONS	
Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum	395-2233
J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge	472-1100
Sanibel Historical Village & Museum	472-4648
SCCF (Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation)	472-2329



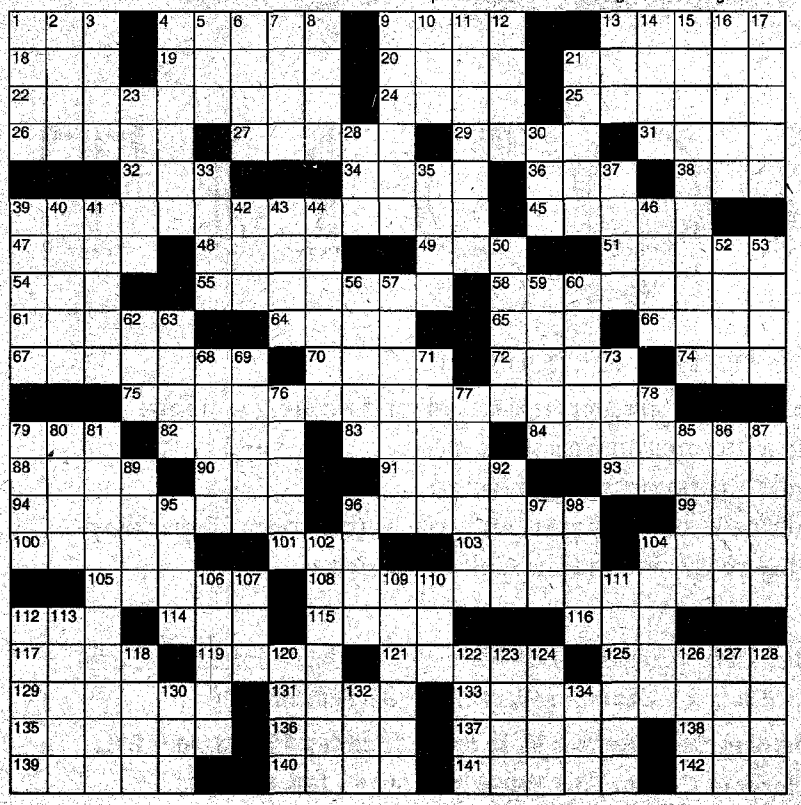
BEACH CHAIR PASTIME

Super Crossword

SWEET GNAW-THINGS

ACROSS
1 Pugilistic poke
4 Silenced a squeak
9 Fuel source
13 "Turandot" tenor
18 Heady quaff
19 Savanna sight
20 Lhasa —
21 Arbus apparatus
22 Rodent's favorite Monkees tune?
24 Lost in thought
25 Nuclear
26 Brimming
27 Join up
29 Take into account
31 Hook's mate
32 — reaction
34 Diva Ponselle
36 Moon crawler
38 Relative of -ator
39 Rodent cheese-cake?
45 Laundry problem
47 Frigga's fellow
48 Young boxers
49 Relished a roast
51 "Taras Bulba" author
54 Emulate Pinocchio
55 Brandy cocktail
58 Protect with plastic
61 Resident
64 "Yours, Mine and —" ('68 film)
65 Keatsian creation
66 Redact
67 "The Bartered Bride" composer
70 Serenade accompaniment
72 TV's "South —"
74 Road curve
75 Rodent's educational level?
79 Dit's cousin
82 Read quickly
83 Actress Virna
84 Peeper protectors
88 Oomph
90 Tokyo, once
91 Like some cellars
93 It may suit you
94 Closet freshener
96 Calculator features
99 Winter hazard
100 Trattoria treat
101 TV chef Martin
103 "— Shuffle" ('77 song)
104 Seaweed product
105 Bobby's flashlight
108 Rodent's Olympic motto?
112 Broad st.
114 "Gotcha!"
115 Article
116 "— Night" ('58 hit)
117 Apt rhyme for squirm
119 "L'—, c'est moi"
121 Matches
125 Inception
129 Cartoonist Charles
131 Writer Charles
133 Fictional rodent?
135 Rink rental
136 List ender
137 "Peer Gynt" composer
138 Psychic Geller
139 Veronica of "Hill Street Blues"
140 Surrender
141 Big revolver?
142 Sticky stuff

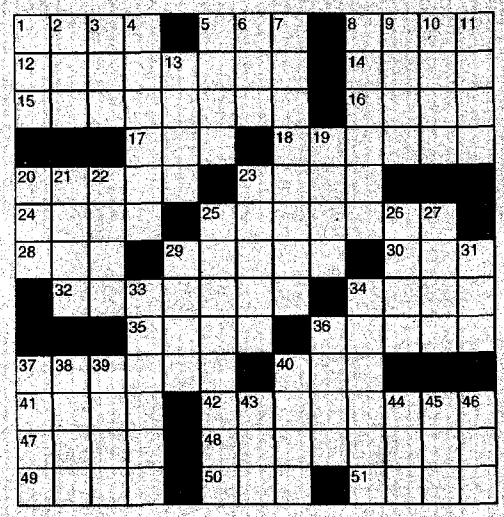
DOWN
1 Secure spot
2 — mater
3 Rosary part
4 Speak freely
5 Roth —
6 Exist
7 Temptation location
8 Earl — Biggers
9 Living room
10 Antipollution grp.
11 "The — Jungle" ('50 film)
12 Carry
13 Purrfect pet?
14 Grandpa McCoy
15 Rodent refreshment?
16 Pisces follower
17 Sapphire side
21 Future officer
23 "We've Only Just —" ('70 hit)
28 Hockey legend
30 Urban transport
33 Sugar amts.
35 Barbecue
37 Christmas visitors
39 Voting venue
40 Turn of phrase
41 Sib's kid
42 On the — vive (alert)
43 Summer coif
44 Tristan's tootsie
46 Actress Skye
50 Take the honey and run
52 Mayberry town drunk
53 "Why don't we?"
56 Sadistic
57 In the saddle
59 Saying
60 Cheerful
62 Bk. convenience
63 Neighbor of Thailand
68 Used the microwave
69 Digression
71 Prose piece
73 Boat bottom
76 Atlanta campus
77 Indentation
78 Mintz or Whitney
79 Johnny of "Chocolat"
80 Soap additive
81 City of rodents?
85 Architect Jones
86 Window dressing?
87 McCarthy's trunkmate
89 West. alliance
92 Brace
95 Asta's mistress
96 Snarl
97 Banned pesticide
98 London district
102 Shake up
104 Actor's actor?
106 Spassky's game
107 Pillbox, e.g.
109 Bit of a beach
110 Medical grp.
111 TV's "Eight Is —"
112 About to sink
113 Screwdriver ingredient
118 Spouse
120 Composer Wilder
122 Prod
123 Binchy's "— Road"
124 Tend the sauce
126 Wallop
127 Architect Saarinen
128 Small combo
130 Gibson or Tillis
132 Unbalanced
134 Wager



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Puzzle Answers On Page 93

King Crossword



ACROSS
1 Periods of time
5 Distant
8 Oafish one
12 First State
14 Staffer
15 Listless despondency
16 Broadway flasher
17 Cacophony
18 Extreme frugality
20 Work in a refinery
23 Roll-call reply
24 Put on the payroll
25 Mrs. Bob Hope
28 Chang's brother
29 Succeeds in business
30 Anonymous John
32 Wheeled platforms
34 Be worthy of
35 Early sitcom heroine
36 Pointed (at)
37 Deli meat
40 Math course (Abbr.)
41 Egg
42 Miami team
47 "Queen - Day"
48 Apportioned
49 Evokes idolatry
50 French article
51 Goes way off course

DOWN
1 Do sumthing?
2 Earth (Pref.)
3 Building wing
4 Tack-shop item
5 Satyrlike figure
6 Get ready to rumble
7 Edits a letter?
8 Vegetable worker, maybe
9 Stead
10 Stench
11 Say it isn't so
13 Formal document
19 Piccadilly statue
20 That girl
21 Behave
22 Therefore
23 Like Swiss
25 Serving to destroy a god
26 Cheese choice
27 Angry
29 Run-down urban area
31 Conclusion
33 Camels' kin
34 Septuagenarian's next milestone
36 Dog-food brand
37 Parlor piece
38 Declare openly
39 Dangle a carrot
40 Shakespeare title start
43 Bullring bravo
44 Call - day
45 Fresh
46 Campus protest grp.

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MAGIC MAZE

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K N K I F C Z W U R P M J H E
C Z X U S S Q N L J G E C Z X
V R F T R E L L S W O R T H P
N O L U J E H H E C A Y S W V
T B R P L N G G L N K I I G E
C E B Z X L R D U N O W U U S
E R R P O Y E E E H M S Q L J
I T G E T E G R N L D B N A Y
X S I F W N R U T O T S H I Q
E S A H C A U P O N T U E L V
E T I A W T B L L A H S R A M

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Burger
Chase
Ellsworth
Fuller
Hughes
Marshall
Rehnquist
Rutledge
Stone
Taft
Taney
Vinson
Waite
Warren
White

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From The Management Staff & Real Agents



Barb Rich
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Barb.Rich@ihrco.com

Sanibel View



4 Floor Plans from the high $300s. Garages, Clubhouse w/fitness center, Pool, Spa & Tennis Courts. Located in Ft. Myers near the Sanibel Causeway.



Pam King
239.565.3636
Pam@pamking.com

1643 Atlanta Plaza Drive



3 BR, 2 BA Pool home near the beact. Move in condition.
$470,000.



Brian Murty
239.565.1272
SanCapRE@prodigy.net

Mariner Pointe

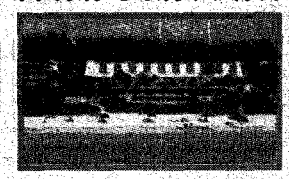


Boater's Dream!
2 BR/2 BA Breathtaking views of the bay, pool and grill steps away. The best docking rates! 1st year $26.40 per foot and $18.00 per foot the following year!
$779,000



Liz Lydick
239.823.3621
LizLydick@aol.com

Sundial Beach Resort



G-205
Partial view of the Gulf Mexico. 1 BR/1 BA
Completely renovated. $595,000



Jean Baer
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Jean.Baer@ihrco.com

Caloosa Creek



New Development - 3 BR/3 BA
Chino II Model. Lake View, Large Corner Lot
$649,000



Joni Stokes
239.472.5958
JoniStokes@earthlink.net

South Seas Resort



BEACH VILLA 2532
Direct Gulf Front
2 BR/2 BA with loft. Ready to add personal touches!
$989,000

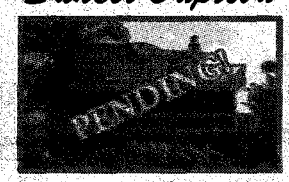


BAYSIDE VILLA 5126
1 BR, 2 BA, beautiful bay views.
Your chance to own Captiva's finest.
$499,900



Marty Stokes
239.395.6105
MartyStokes@earthlink.net

Sunset Captiva



Beach Home #5 - $2,499,000
Marty Stokes is the Agent to Speak with!
Visit Marty at our Chadwick's Office or call today!



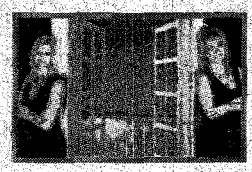
Beth Rizzo
239.810.4693
rrprealty@aol.com

Meadowlark Cove



3 BR/3 BA Located conveniently close to Sanibel and the Islands. A marina community on the Caloosahatchee River. Beautiful Mexican Tile through the dining/living and family room. Surrounded by a lush tropical private courtyard. Great value in wonderful neighborhood. $256,000

Mary Ann Cowart
239.851.6447
MaryAnn@windowtocaptiva.com



LeAne Suarez
239.872.1632
LeAne@windowtocaptiva.com

Lifestyle

2313 Beach Villa
1 BR/1 BA
On The Gulf Of Mexico
Spectacular Sunset Views
Private & Spacious
$640,000



2436 Beach Villa
2 BR/2 BA
Beachfront
3rd Floor 2 Story Villa
The Best of The Best Sunsets!
$999,000

