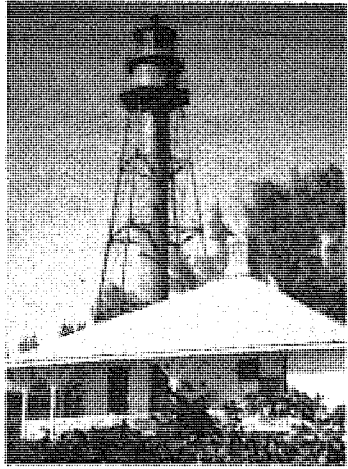


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Vol. 38, No. 40

Friday, October 1, 1999

28 Pages

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Michael Pistella

Grace Whitehead laughs as she looks at the parrot called Ju-Ju that her husband Don bought for her in 1964 in Nigeria. In the Nigerian dialect where Don bought the bird, Ju-Ju means 'magic.' For the second part of this Island Matriarch's story, please see pages 3-4.

Turtle report
See page 12

The good life
See pages 16 - 17



Colors . . . they are a changin'

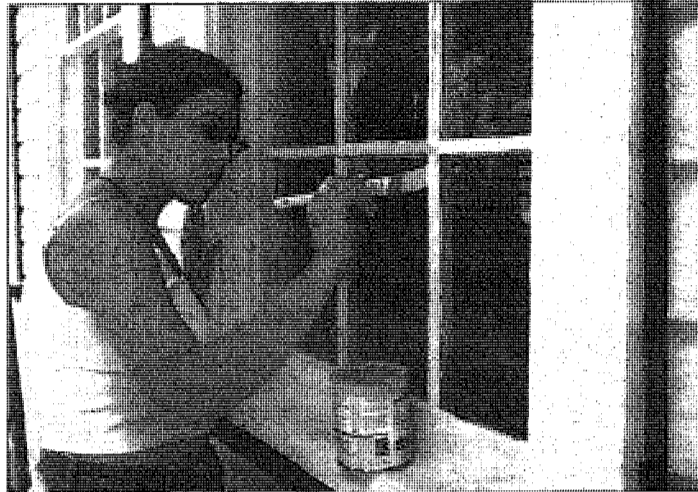
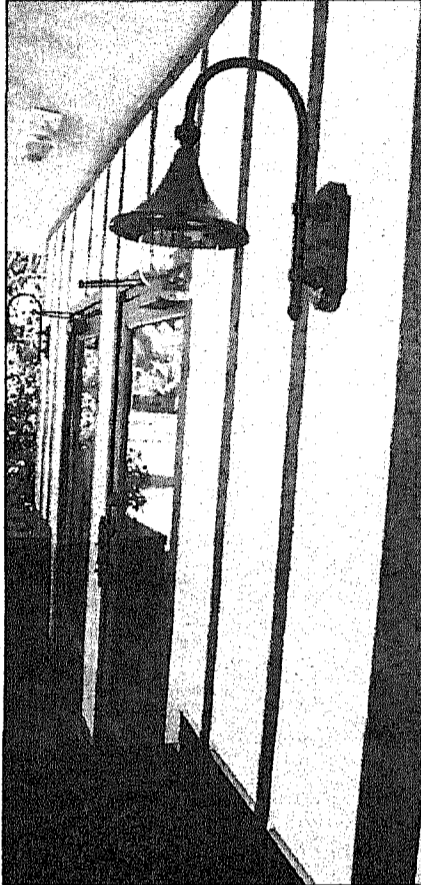


Photos/Michael Pistella

ABOVE: From basic white to Florida flair the building that's home to Subway and Johnny's Pizza, has gone a little orange...green...and fuschia.

RIGHT: The Seafood Company has painted over the Tarwinkles Teal for a more retro brown and white. Does anyone remember the Coconut Grove?

For more community information and photos see pages 18 - 19.



AT LEFT: Colleen Cortes paints the trim around the windows of the Old Schoolhouse Theater. Cortes works as a stage technician when not volunteering her time in the remodeling efforts at the theater this summer.

island REPORTER

In our companion newspaper, the *Island Reporter*, don't miss the following:

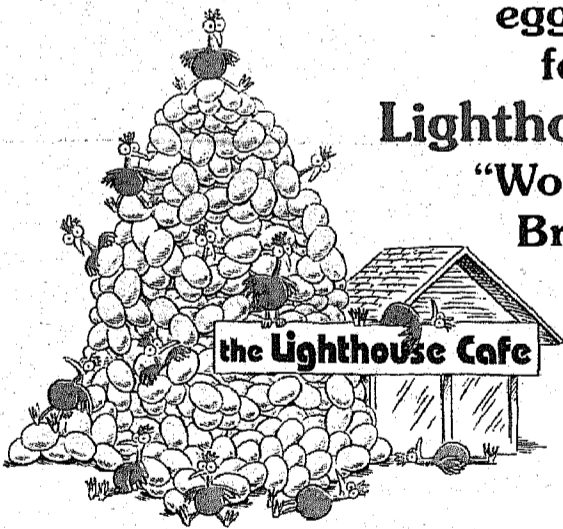
- Final budget report. See what top city employees are paid.
- Buck Key. DCA nixes the transfer of development rights and Mariner may consider selling.
- The FOP and the city reach a tentative agreement. See the proposed contract details.

Mission Statement: The *Islander* is the islands' favorite community paper; our sister paper, the *Island Reporter*, is the islands' official newspaper. By working together, the two papers are complementary to one another and, together, provide the full flavor of these fascinating islands.

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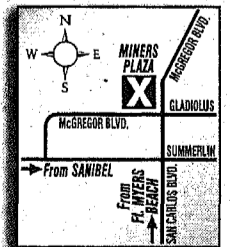
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Island Matriarch

Part Two

After a successful nursing and military career, serving in World War II and falling in love, Grace Whitehead, along with her husband Don, found Sanibel. And on Sanibel, they found and helped preserve paradise.

By Barbara Linstrom
Islander Special Feature

It was May 1969 when Don and Grace Whitehead first crossed the causeway in an overcab camper, with Don's mother, a poodle and a parrot.

"Don had decided to take early retirement from the C.I.A. and he wanted to go where it was warm and do free-lance writing," said Grace.

Given his professional skill as a researcher, Don solicited information from Chambers of Commerce all along the Southwest Florida coast. From Sanibel, he received a letter from Priscilla Murphy of PMR Realty.

"We had been two days en route from Sarasota down to Fort Myers looking for a condo and we didn't like anywhere we'd seen — Don said, 'Well why don't we try that island?'" she recalled.

However, when they met with Priscilla Murphy, who told them there were no condominiums on Sanibel and there never would be, the Whiteheads decided to keep trying their luck down the coast of Florida.

"We were sitting in Key West at midnight and we still hadn't seen anything we liked and Don said, 'What'd you think of Sanibel Island?' and I said, 'Lovely,'" said Grace, adding that they left immediately and were on the island by 8 a.m. the next morning.

That's when the Whiteheads bought a lot on Lindgren Boulevard for \$6,100 and built a modest one-story block home with a swimming pool on the canal.

While their home was being built, the Whiteheads took Don's mother back to Kansas and then stayed for about five months in the Muench family's Periwinkle Trailer Park, where they enjoyed the quiet, laid-back pace of the island. Their house was one of eight of the first homes to be built in the Shell Harbor subdivision and the island was barely developed yet.

"I thought it was paradise — it was different from anywhere I'd ever been in my life," said Grace.

About that time, Porter Goss, who had worked for Don in the C.I.A., moved to the island. Goss and the Whiteheads started up a boat rental business at the Sanibel Marina. During those first couple of years here, the Whiteheads really got into enjoying the friendly island atmosphere as well as the natural beauty of the beaches and the surrounding waters.

"I'd never seen such pretty water any-

where in the U.S. — and the fishing was something that you just couldn't believe," said Grace, adding that she used to be able to set a crab trap in the canal and within two days have enough crabs to feed eight people.

They also enjoyed getting to know fellow islanders at potlucks once a month at the community center.

"Everybody knew each other — it was delightful," she said, adding that Bailey's used to give islanders a card and then bill them once a month.

As the Whiteheads got to know the community and deepened their affinity for the island's natural endowments, they realized that paradise was in jeopardy.

"The interesting thing about the people here is that they were really interested in the island and in keeping it the way it was," said Grace.

In the early '70s, it became increasingly apparent that development was threatening to take over the island and that high-rises, traffic lights and strip malls were all very real possibilities.

"Sanibel was going to be overrun with cement," Grace remembered. "Most people here resented the causeway to begin with and then all these condos started and Lee County didn't care what was going to be built."

That's about the time that Don decided to start up the *Island Reporter* in response to a "demand from business and civic leaders for a newspaper edited on the islands for islanders," as an October 1973 promotional brochure stated. At that time, the *Islander* was being edited on Fort Myers Beach.

Aside from the serious purpose behind the paper to protect island interests and, eventually, to generate support so that Sanibel could be incorporated and take control of its destiny, there also was a light-hearted spirit underlying the civic duty.

"It was fun — we really had a good time," said Grace.

Of course, the fact that Don started the paper with two other men who had been in the C.I.A. did stir up some sand.

"This one woman printed up flyers and put them in all the island mailboxes that said the C.I.A. was buying up land and trying to start a city so that it could own the whole thing," Grace remembered, adding that the "spooks" pointed out that stuffing mailboxes was a federal offense.

While Don literally wrote the whole



Special to the *Islander*

The Whiteheads, Grace and Don, enjoying "paradise" and the boating life in the early 1970s.

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Continued, page 4

Island Matriarch

from page 3

paper at first, he did have one columnist that he bamboozled into writing. In promoting the paper prior to its initial publication, Don promised readers a column from Grace.

"I told him he'd lost his mind — he could write, but I couldn't," she said. "He told me my problem was I was trying to be too intelligent — just write like you talk."

The result was a refreshing column called "Scene on the Beach," that Grace wrote weekly.

"It turned out to be nutty, zany and fun," she said, with a hearty laugh.

At the same time, things were really serious as the paper chronicled the road to incorporation. Especially after the islanders found out that they had to get their articles of incorporation approved before the legislative session was over that year.

"We never would have been able to become a city if we hadn't gotten the articles of incorporation into the statehouse before the spring recess because the following January they were going to make a law that no city without more than 5,000 registered voters could incorporate and we only had 1,200 registered voters," she said.

All in all, Grace believes that the *Island Reporter* played a big role in keeping islanders on top of the incorporation effort.

"After all, starting a city is not easy, and I think we did a wonderful job — everyone came right to the forefront and really worked," she said. "I think the paper was vital in letting people know what was going on."

After the city was incorporated in November, 1974, the Whiteheads continued to play a key role in it's formation. Grace was even dubbed "queen" of Sanibel in the city's first official 4th of July parade. She wore a cardboard crown and rode in a convertible that was followed by the *Island Reporter's* kazoo band.

"We really had a lot of fun," she said.

Grace, who has never driven a car due to poor eyesight, also jumped on a couple of other bandwagons, including the building of the bike path and fundraising to buy an air conditioning system for the grade school.

"Mariel Goss, Starr Thomas and I raised the money for the bike path — what surprised me was the amount of money we were able to raise," she said, adding that matching funds from Lee County D.O.T. led to the island's first strip of bike path, from Bailey's down Periwinkle Way to Lindgren Boulevard.

Grace also remembers sitting out in front of Bailey's many an afternoon raising money for the school.

"We were getting more and more people with little kids and the kids were being eaten alive by no-see-ums at school," she recalled.



Special to the *Islander*

ABOVE: Queen for a day. Grace Whitehead is "queen" in the City of Sanibel's first official Fourth of July parade.

She and Don also were avid contributors to the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation.

"The paper took most our energy though," said Grace, who considered herself to be a "Girl Friday," doing everything from cleaning the offices to stuffing mailers.

The Whiteheads remained with the *Island Reporter* for eight years, over which time it peaked at more than 100 pages a week and earned numerous awards from the Florida Press Association.

"The paper was well established and the fun was going out of it," said Grace. "We just thought it was time and Don decided he wanted to travel."

After selling the paper in 1981, the Whiteheads stuck to their plan to travel. Reminiscent of their original encounter on a hospital ship in World War II, Grace and Don took as many as four cruises a year.

They went all over the world from the Far East to France, immersing themselves in their love of people and their thirst for adventure.

During all their travels, the Whiteheads always looked forward to coming home to their island paradise.

"It was always lovely to come back to the island," said Grace.

Having known that the island could have become just another Miami Beach — but didn't — instilled a certain degree of pride in those who worked hard to save the island.

"It was such a new idea that a bunch of people could get together on an island in the United States and keep it so that it was a grand place to live — a paradise — but the main thing was that the people were willing to work at it," she said. "They worked at it because they knew that what they had here was unique and that there was a place in the United States where developers couldn't just move in and do what they wanted. Anyplace can become concrete — anywhere you look it's concrete, concrete, concrete."

Three years ago in February, Don passed away while they were in Panama as a stop-off on a cruise. Since then, Grace almost sold the house twice and moved off-island.

"They backed out twice after it sold — so I figured that was a sign," she said, adding that she's no longer interested in leaving.

"I've loved it — I was going to leave and then I thought, 'Well, I'm just as happy as I can be here — why should I leave?'"

Grace still gets out and enjoys her initial attraction to the island, by walking the beach and swimming in her pool every day.

"Recently, I tried kayaking," she added.

While she's seen a lot of change, including far fewer fish and crabs, during her 30 years on the island, the 81-year-old still calls it paradise.

"I think it's done very, very well — it was a difficult thing to stop development and what they've done is keep it at a percentage," she said.

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Bill Frey has interesting Sanibel history

By Jean Downes
Special to the Islander

During the campaign for Sanibel's first City Council in 1974, candidate Bill Frey was labelled "the only Ph.D. in the race." And he feels he didn't do badly coming in seventh or eighth in a field of 16 vying for just five positions. He attributes his near miss to the fact he was a builder, a group generally looked upon with suspicion in those days, because many of them opposed incorporation.

Many developers, as well as workers in the building industry, saw their profits threatened by regulations Sanibel was fighting for, i.e. controlled growth, height restrictions, and a building moratorium.

Frey had previously been through the incorporation process in Pennsylvania where he also had chaired his local zoning board of adjustment, so he had solid experience to offer. And despite failure to win election, he loyally attended every council meeting during the young city's first years.

Frey had no conflict between his livelihood as a builder and his campaign stood for "sensible regulation of growth." He was building single-family homes rather than large projects and he and his wife Doris were raising their three sons in this island community.

The story of how a Ph.D. on sabbatical as an assistant dean of the School of Business at the University of Massachusetts, was building houses on a barrier island off the southwest coast of Florida is an odyssey in itself.

Frey's career began in education where he collected degrees and taught at the college level. The rewards of that experience

are clearly defined by his statement "teaching graduate students was the best thing I've ever done." He taught at Penn State and the at U. Mass.

It was at the invitation of a former student that he took a one-year leave of absence to assist in a business venture in Clearwater, but that turned sour within three months, leaving him with the balance of the year free.

At the suggestion of a friend, he and Doris investigated Sanibel and came down to live in 1973 when he began to build houses to fill his time. The Frey family never moved back north.

During his career in teaching, Frey authored a book on finance and edited two others on organization and management. Flashing his at-the-ready grin, he confesses "with my first royalty check, I sent my parents to the Bahamas and with the second, I started flying lessons." The latter was at Doris' suggestion, allowing him to chase a long-time dream.

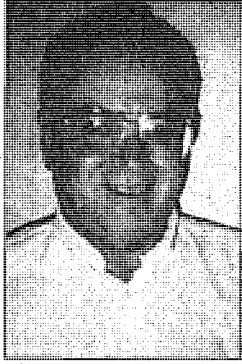
Frey has been flying ever since and did use the now-defunct air strip off Casa Ybel Road, although he has always based his planes at Page Field. He recalls landing once (precariously) on Useppa Island; and relates the Captiva air strip was being ripped up at the time he arrived in Southwest Florida. It ran across Captiva, just south of the entrance to South Seas Plantation, the widest part of the island.

Frey remains active in countless groups. His son now runs Frey & Son, the family business, but Frey serves on various boards of directors and advisory boards, is a trustee of Sanibel Community Church and a pilot with Angel Flight.

He will be taking part in the reenactment of the first City Council meeting Dec. 10 which is part of the celebration of Sanibel's 25th year since incorporation.

It takes a busy person . . .

This reminiscence from the era of incorporation 25 years ago is courtesy of the Historical Village and Museum at 950 Dunlop Road. The entire village is presently closed for hurricane season. It will reopen Nov. 3.



Bill Frey

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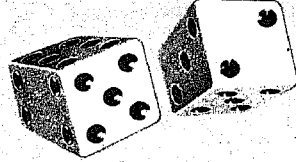
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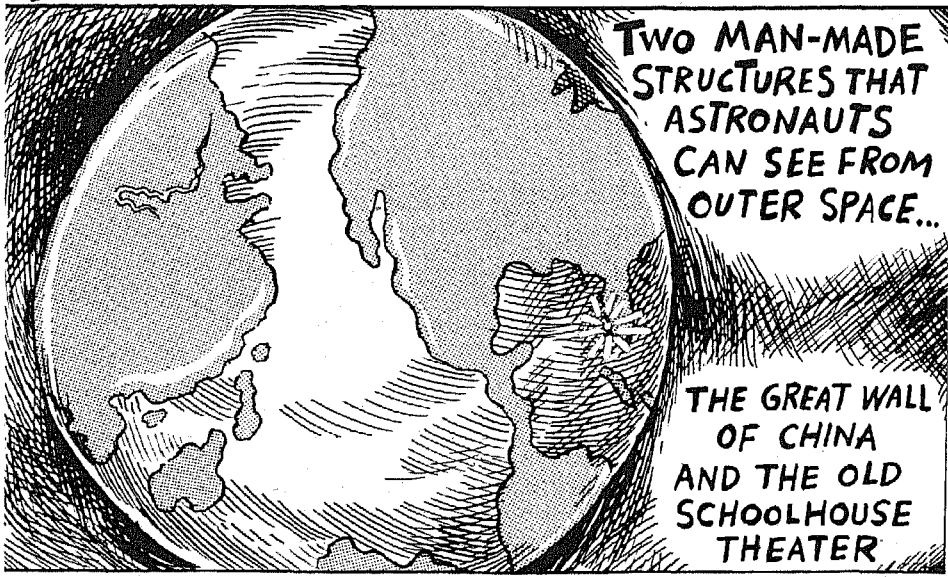
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"TOO MUCH SUN"

By Dave & Lee Horton of Sanibel Print & Graphics



letters

Thanks for tribute

To the editor:

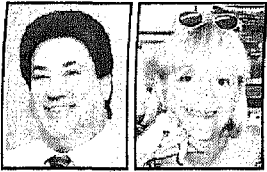
A sincere thanks to you and the staff of the *Islander* for that wonderful front page sketch of Frank Wagner and the heartfelt memories of that dearest of men. There are not many places or newspapers that would

have paid tribute to one of their own so eloquently as you did. The islands have many treasures, but we have lost a very special one with the passing of Frank Wagner from our lives.

Jay Halcrow
Sanibel



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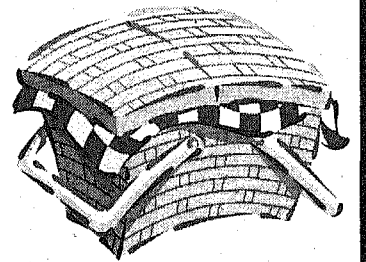


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Wednesday

- ★ Bratwurst with Sauerkraut and potato salad
- ★ Homemade Taco
- ★ Roast Beef with spaetzle

Thursday

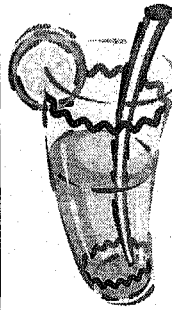
- ★ Monte Cristo with fruit
- ★ Sirloin Tips over rice
- ★ Gourmet Pizza of the Day

Friday

- ★ Tuna Melt with fruit
- ★ Chicken Marsala with spaghetti
- ★ Corned Beef on Rye with potato

Saturday

- ★ Loin of Pork with Apple Sauce and potato
- ★ Lasagna with garlic bread
- ★ Shrimp over Rice with a Cheddar sauce



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Bring it on

Remember when your teachers used to ask you to write an essay on what you did with your summer vacation? Remember when you had a summer vacation? Remember when you wrote in that essay about how bored you were all summer? Remember being bored?

Summer on Sanibel and Captiva isn't at all about being bored. Hurry up, the sentiment is. You only have a few months to do everything you can't do the rest of the year when the roads are crowded, the businesses are busier and there are more activities to rush off to. So, hurry up and rush off now to the activities you enjoy, but don't get to do. Hurry. Hurry. Hurry.

Suddenly, those enjoyable-but-you-don't-get-to-do-them activities are no

What I'm Saying



Jennifer Workman

longer so much fun. If you have to do something in a certain amount of time, then it's work. It's a deadline. It's not fun.

Mind you, I'm a fan of deadlines. My days — actually my life — are governed by them. I don't get anything done without them. But, when I go to the beach to read my book and soak up some of the sun, I want to do it because I want to do it — not because if I don't do it now, there won't be a spare square of sand when I want to do it in March.

But just because we hurry, doesn't mean we don't have fun. I had some — well a lot — of fun this summer. I didn't have fun by doing what I was supposed to do. Instead, I stole away to my favorite secret hiding spot. I can't tell you too much about it with out giving it away (and it's not where you think it

is), but my friend Jennifer and I idled away a lot of summer hours there, free from phones and mail and deadlines. Well, I was free — she was working. Nonetheless, it was an escape and it rejuvenated me, if even for a moment. No one told me I had to go there. No one told me if I didn't go there today, it would be too crowded tomorrow. I just went. That's how summer should be.

For many of us there's no such thing as summer vacation anymore, but if we're lucky, we'll all find our own secret hiding spots to take escape to all year 'round.

So, be gone, Summer. Who needs you and your added pressure? Bring on October (incidentally my favorite month) with the warm glow of the sun, the cooler (hopefully) afternoons, the final calm before the tourist-season storm and, of course, Halloween.

Now, write an essay: where did you hide for your summer vacation?

And beyond October, bring on the increased activities and bring on the crowds and the traffic. Bring on the busy season. It will just make my time in my secret hiding spot all the more special.

As an aside, I would be remiss if I didn't

take the opportunity to wish Islander Staff Writer Anne Bellew a happy birthday today. And Group Manager Carlene Brennen a happy birthday tomorrow. And, of course, I would not only be remiss, I would be a supreme slacker, if I didn't wish my beloved mother a happy birthday today and I would never hear the end of it if I didn't wish Ozzie Lessinger a happy birthday Sunday. They kick off a slew of birthdays in this, my favorite month. Happy October.



Anne Bellew, the birthday girl

Jennifer Workman is the managing editor of the Islander and she'd like to know what you're saying. Give her a call at 472-5185.

Sports

CROW's 3rd annual "Swing Fore An Eagle" Golf Tournament

When: Sunday, Oct. 24 at 1 p.m.

Where: The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club

Why: To raise funds for CROW (Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife, Inc., a non-profit wildlife hospital serving all of Lee County)

Details: Foursome scramble, shotgun start with a post-tournament bar b'que, prizes and raffle

Cost: \$75 per person includes cart, golf, food, beer and prizes

Yes! I will participate in the tournament.
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For more information, please call Ben Johnson at CROW at 472-3644.

Canterbury Cougars

The Lady Cougar volleyball team will play against Community School Oct. 12 at 5:30 p.m. and Oct. 21, Bishop Verot at 7 p.m.

Youth programs needed?

The City of Sanibel is researching the public's interest for a youth tennis program and a youth golf program. Times, days and prices will be determined at a later date.

If you have a child or children who would like to participate in this program, contact the Sanibel Recreation staff at 472-0345 or 472-0302.

This isn't a registration, it's an avenue to determine demand for these programs.

Championship skating

The 1999 Aggressive Skating Association (ASA) Pro Tour World Championships and Amateur Championships will take place at Sanctuary Skate Park in Fort Myers Oct. 8 through 11. The competition will run from 2 to 8 p.m. Oct. 8, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Oct. 9, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 10 and noon to 4:30 p.m. Oct. 11. Admission is free for all events. The world championships will be televised on ESPN and ESPN2.

Co-ed softball

The City of Sanibel Parks and Recreation is looking for any interested individuals — men or women — to play co-ed softball. If interested, please call the Sanibel Recreation Complex at 472-0345 or Frank Vetter at 482-6484.

The Islander is your community newspaper.

Snook rules and regulations

Size limits: 26 to 34 inches
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OUR TOWN



CROW ON FILM



Michael Pistella

Chris Skornicka films Dr. P.J. Deitschel and other CROW workers performing a physical on an alligator found at "Ding" Darling.

Catch CROW on Animal Planet

This Sunday, islanders can join a national audience in a behind-the-scenes look at CROW when *Wildlife Emergencies* on the Animal Planet cable network begins its new season.

Chris Skornicka, an Animal Planet field videographer, has spent the last several months chronicling some of CROW's patients on their journeys from injury to recovery, from life as orphans to freedom as self-sufficient adults. "Be it 7 a.m. or 7 p.m., Chris was part of the scenery at CROW," reported Office Manager Anita Pinder, "always exhibiting the fine art of getting his story while staying out of the way."

A coyote drowning in Cape Coral, a baby gray fox abandoned by her mother, a raccoon with a severely fractured jaw that had been hit by a car, a Florida soft-shell turtle run over by a truck — these and other stories will be featured on the season opener. "And remember, our patients don't concern themselves with scripts," Pinder laughed. "Nothing was staged, No retakes were allowed. We're really thrilled to be one of the featured wildlife rehab centers this year and are honored to be part of such a great show."

The program airs Sunday, at 8:30 p.m. On MediaOne, Animal Planet is channel 64; on Adelphia, it is channel 53.

NOTICES

Fire Prevention Week

The Sanibel Fire Control District and the National Fire Protection Association, in cooperation with fire departments, Red Cross chapters, emergency service provider and other safety advocates across the United States and Canada are sponsoring Fire Prevention Week Oct. 3 through Oct. 9.

Sanibel residents are urged to participate this Wednesday at 7 p.m. in *The Great Escape* by developing a home fire escape plan and practicing it collectively. Some 250,000 families throughout North America participated in last October's Great Escape; 25 saved lives have been documented as a direct result.

For more information call Ron Ritchie or Mary Hickey at 472-5525.

Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed for the front desk and the gift shop at the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge new Center for Education. The Center will be open Fridays, although the Drive will still be closed, and volunteers are particularly needed on this new day. Until Nov. 1, shifts run from 9 a.m. to 12:30 and 12:30 to 4 p.m. Standard shifts in the fall and winter months run from 9 a.m. to noon, noon to 3, and 3 to 5 p.m. Training is provided. Interested persons should contact the volunteer coordinator, J.D. Bolden, at One Wildlife Drive, Sanibel 33957, call him at (941) 472-1100, or send him a FAX at (941) 472-4061.

Yoga classes begin

Pamela Wortzel's popular yoga classes begin for the season tomorrow, at BIG Arts. The series is open to all interested participants — no previous yoga experience is required.

Wortzel has been teaching at BIG Arts for four years. She has been involved in the practice and study of yoga for more than 20 years, receiving her teacher training in Iyengar style yoga at the Yoga Institute of Miami. The course is priced at \$10 per session. Call 395-0900 to register.

Nutrition classes

The Sanibel Community Association and Dr. Terry Baldwin are offering a seven-part nutrition series entitled Nutrition for All Seasons of Life Monday evenings from 7 to 8 p.m. Topics range from children's nutrition to nutrition after fifty.

Each seminar is \$5 for SCA members and \$7 for non-members. All seven programs cost members \$30 and \$45 for non-members.

New Alliance class

A new story-telling class will begin Wednesday and run from 4 to 6 p.m. for six weeks at the Alliance of the Arts in Fort Myers. The classes are open to everyone. The instructors, Bert and Noel MacCarray, the Storytellers of Sanibel, have been teaching storytelling in the area for 15 years.

Cost of the class is \$48 for members of the Alliance and \$60 for non-members. To register, call the Alliance at 939-2787; class size is limited. For more information call the MacCarrays at 472-1781.

PEOPLE

Ellenberg chosen

Sanibel resident and Canterbury School junior Clint Ellenberg has been selected for the National Young Leaders Conference to be held in Washington D.C. this month. Chosen for his leadership potential and excellent grades, Clint will be among 350 students attending the conference. Last year's selection from Canterbury was Mandy Reynolds, also from Sanibel.

EVENTS

Today is First Friday...

James Lee Clayton of Lakeland will be the featured teller at the Library's *First Friday Stories for Grownups* today at 2 p.m. Clayton is a writer, storyteller and five-string banjo player recently retired as a middle school teacher, an occupation he likens to "taming some of the wildest creatures known to man." He writes and tells humorous stories and tall tales from the Ozark Mountains of Northwest Arkansas, from which he hails.

First Friday... is hosted by Maggie and Steve Mullins. The program is free and open to the public. For more information, call 472-2483.

RELIGION

Community Church Seminar

Deepening Relationships in Your Church, a four-part seminar featuring teacher and author, The Rev. Bill Mills of Palos Heights, Ill., will be at the Sanibel Community Church Sunday from 6 to 8:30 p.m. and Monday from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Continued, page 9

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CRUISES AND TOURS

Coastal Cubs don't 'pass' up litter



Photos/Special to the *Islander*

Above left: Sam Halverson, Palmer Rosen, William Harmon, Aaron Walton, Nathan Papanicolas, all Cub Scouts from Pack 33, cleaned the beaches of Blind Pass during the Coastal Cleanup Sept. 18 with Mike Papanicolas the troop's Cubmaster. Also participat-

ing, but not shown are Alec Cohn, Johnathan Cain, and Tony DiBiase. Above right: Scouts Johnathan Cain and Palmer Rosen searched every nook and cranny for trash to clean up.

ART LEAGUE



Special to the *Islander*

Gordon Coughlin's rendering of *Old Port Sanibel*, just one of the many pieces of artwork included in the San-Cap Art League exhibits at BIG Arts and at the Sanibel Public Library.

From page 8

According to Dr. Ed VanderHey, the church's membership pastor and coordinator of the seminar, "Everyone high school age and above is encouraged to participate in this seminar that explores the nature of the church and how the Christian life is lived out in the context of relationships." Churches throughout the area are invited to participate. There is no registration fee, although an offering will be taken to help pay for the costs of the seminar. For more information, to pre-register, or to make arrangements for child-care, call 472-2684.

teachers, and community members at large to join and support the organization and Sanibel's students.

The next PTA meeting Monday will feature Meg Krieg, parent education specialist for the Lee County School District (and a parent) who will talk about getting kids to take responsibility for their homework.

■ **The Sanibel School Website** is <http://sites.netscape.net/thesanibelschool/homepage>.

■ **A part-time technology assistant** position is available. If interested, call the school at 472-1617.

of caramel corn with peanuts and a 2.5-pound popping corn pail at \$7 each; a 15-pack butter flavor (or light butter) microwave popcorn for \$10; and, at \$15, 24 ounces of white chocolate caramel crunch, 24 ounces of chocolate caramel crunch, or 28 ounces of gourmet caramel corn with almonds and pecans.

If you don't know a Cub Scout and wish to order, call 472-0344. Seventy percent of the money from the sale stays in the local council and the boys earn incentive prizes from the Boy Scout Store.

next meeting — with dinner and then a movie at Bell Tower — is at 5:15 Tuesday at Nino's Pizzeria & Italian Restaurant at 6900 Daniels Parkway.

Beachcombers is an ecumenical group open to all churches and ages in the Sanibel/Captiva/Fort Myers area. Often the meetings are less structured than this one with informal talks about local and state art and community activities, as well as individual reports on personal projects, hobbies or travel.

Anyone interested in attending should call Jack Middlebrook at 433-5145 for a reservation and directions. Members pay \$5 for each meeting; the first meeting is free for visitors.

KIDS

The Sanibel School

■ **Congratulations to Citizens of the Week** Nicole Ogden, Aaron Benzrihem, Katie Greten, Cody Moore, Amanda Steele, James Shannon, Melissa Aronoff, Stephanie Shapiro, Heather Degele, Katie McCurry, Abby Traucht, and Chris Brown.

■ **Cross-country running** will begin for 5th and 6th graders Oct. 5 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Students will meet every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon, weather permitting. No pre-registration is required.

■ **The PTA** is striving for 100% membership this year and encourages all parents,

Canterbury School

Remember *Get Smart*? Well, Canterbury thespians are bringing the loveable but bumbling secret agent Maxwell Smart and his cronies back to life. Karl Canty, a Sanibel resident and a senior at the school, plays Smart, otherwise known as Agent 86, and Devon Risher brings the lovely and sharp Agent 99 to life.

Performances are Oct. 8 and 9, at 7 p.m. in the school's Performing Arts Center. Tickets can be reserved by calling 481-4313 or can be purchased at the door.

Scouts selling popcorn

Cub Scout Pack 33 is selling popcorn through Oct. 24. Choices include 12 ounces

Children's program date change

The Children's Christian Formation Program will resume Oct. 20. All students, new and returning, must be registered. A baptismal certificate is required for new students. The parent orientation meeting is Oct. 13 at 7 p.m. For more information, call 395-0070.

GROUPS

Beachcombers meeting

The Beachcombers, a friendship/social club for singles in the community, meets the first Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. The

Gardening workshop

A free workshop on Fall Gardens is being offered Tuesday at 10 a.m. at the Sanibel Library by the Horticulture Society and the Master Gardeners.

Local gardening expert, Kaye Cude, will teach the group how to best develop a garden on Sanibel using natural materials with an emphasis on gardening to protect the environment. Other master gardeners participating will be Cel Luke, Faye Granberry, Vince Hanlon and Mary Ann Lilton. No reservations are needed. For questions call 472-6940.

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AT LEFT: Kirk Williams of Offshore Sailing School talked to the Power Squadron at its last meeting on bareboat chartering, a term that started when boats were not only bare of a captain, but most everything else too. Although charters today can still be had with or without a captain, they are far from bare — some boats come fully provisioned.



AT RIGHT: Power Squadron Commander Bob Healey with members Jean Klein and Nancy Healey.

Photos Special to the Islander

POLICE APPRECIATION



Jennifer Workman

Above: Officer Anthony Thompson, Chief Lew Phillips and Sergeant Brenden Fitzgerald at a recent island event. They along with with the rest of the members of Lee County law enforcement agencies were acknowledged Wednesday during Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. The day was celebrated with a breakfast at Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Fort Myers.

This Weeks Top Ten Best Selling Books on the Island

1. **Big Trouble**
DAVE BARRY
2. **Florida Roadkill**
TIM DORSEY
3. **So Others May Live**
SEAN DEVER
4. **Diana: In Search of Herself**
SALLY SMITH
5. **Anonymous Rex**
ERIC GARCIA
6. **Family Honor**
ROBERT B. PARKER
7. **The Poisonwood Bible**
BARBARA KINGSOLVER
8. **'Tis**
FRANK McCOURT
9. **Blind Pass**
SEAN DEVER
10. **Harry Potter and The Socerer's Stone**
J. K. ROWLING

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3. **Forces of Nature**
4. **Cookies Fortune**
5. **Analyze This**
6. **Ed TV**
7. **The Other Sister**
8. **Payback**
9. **True Crime**
10. **October Sky**

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OUT TOWN

Optimist Club news

■ Check presentation

The Sanibel-Captiva Optimist Club presented a check to the Sanibel School Monday. The \$6,000 check will fund the school's new accelerated math program.

The accelerated math program will be used for more than 200 students in the third through sixth grades. It is a computerized math management system which tracks the individual progress and mastery of skills for students. The program generates math assignments and quickly identifies student areas of weaknesses.

Barbara Von Harten thanked the club for its generous donation indicating that it is only through such help and generosity from the community that the Sanibel School can hope to provide the best education possible for its students.

The club raises its funds through a pancake breakfast and the Fourth of July Road Rally. Club activities benefiting the youth of the island include the Community Connection meetings, Oratorical and Essay contests and the activities of the Junior Optimists.

For more information, call Richard McCurry at 472-2800 or John Basher at 395-0739.

■ New president

Richard McCurry, president-elect of the Sanibel-Captiva Optimist Club, will take over as president of the club Oct. 1. He was presented the gavel and bell from outgoing president John Turansky who served for the past 18 months.

Other club officials for the next year include club secretary/treasurer John Basher, vice president Randy Carson, current board of directors Lisa Bilske, Robert Jura, Jacque Owens and Nola Theiss and newly elected board members Steve Faraone and Linda Turansky. As a thank-you from the club, John Turansky was presented with an anniversary clock by Nola Theiss in recognition of his leadership the past 18 months.

The Optimist Club focuses its activities on island youth by helping them achieve higher goals and self-esteem with community involvement. The club meets monthly at 7:30 a.m. in the NationsBank board room at 2450 Periwinkle Way.

For more information, call Richard McCurry at 472-2800 or John Basher at 395-0739.



AT LEFT: Sanibel-Captiva Optimist Club president John Turansky, right, presents the gavel and bell to president-elect Richard McCurry.

Photos/Michael Pistella

AT RIGHT: Richard McCurry, president-elect of the Sanibel-Captiva Optimist Club; Randy Carson, vice president; and John Turansky, president of the club present Sanibel School principal Barbara Von Harten and curriculum technology specialist Trish Herman with a \$6,000 check from the club.



Obituaries

Robert E. Kessler

Former Sanibel resident Robert Kessler died Sept. 15, 1999 at Shell Point Village. He was 79.

He was a native of Tipp City, Ohio and retired to the island in 1973. Kessler was a board member of Captiva's Chapel by the Sea, served as president of the Captiva Civic Association, as Commander of the Sanibel-Captiva Power Squadron, participated in the Coast Guard Auxiliary, was a Life Member of the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation and volunteered at "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge.

Some "old-timers" may remember Kessler as the man who, soon after he arrived on the island, rescued some girls on a raft who were being carried out to sea by an unanticipated strong current.

Kessler is survived by his wife, Lois, of

Shell Point; his children — Steve, a daughter and her husband, Abby and Mike Bowling, and a grand-daughter and her husband, Amy and Drew Hackenberger, all of Tipp City; his sister-in-law, Rose Timmer of Shell Point; and a sister, Alice Wenzlau, of Colorado Springs.

A memorial service will be held Friday, Oct. 8, at 3:30 p.m. at the Shell Point Village Church. Memorials may be made to the "Ding" Darling Society or to the charity of your choice.

Ann Stidman Krausse

Long-term Sanibel resident Ann Krausse died at home August 10, 1999 after a short battle with cancer. She was 81. Her husband, Charles, died in July, 1998.

Born in Maryland, Ann graduated from Towson State College with a teaching

degree, but immediately opened her own photography studio in Baltimore.

She and Charles were married during World War II. After the war they lived in Bel Air, Md. where Ann worked full-time as a social worker for the State of Maryland and Charles was a photographer for the government at Edgewood Arsenal.

The couple retired to Sanibel in 1972, and Ann immediately became active in the island's move toward incorporation as a city. In addition, she established a neighborhood association for the area in which they lived, Tahiti Shores — now known as Gulf Shores.

The Krausses bought a boat and, when Charles wanted to take a course in boating, became active in the Sanibel-Captiva Power Squadron. In 1983, the first year women were "officially" recognized by national, Ann became the first woman ever to receive

the U.S. Department of Commerce/ NOAA award for cooperative charting. The year Ann took the award, she had 3,774 credits. Ann is also credited with naming Picnic Island at the mouth of the Caloosahatchee in San Carlos Bay.

The Krausses had no children. Ann is survived by three nephews — Frank Stidman of Herndon, Va., Fred Stidman, M.D., of Joplin, Mo., and William McCandlish of Lockport, N.Y. Her ashes were deposited in the Gulf of Mexico at the same latitude and longitude as those of Charles the year before.

The nephews hosted a memorial dinner for Ann Sept. 18, primarily for members of the Power Squadron. "They were such good friends to her the last year of her life," said Frank. "They got her to meetings, went to see her — just gave her a lot to live for."

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Getting better each year

Sanibel-Captiva turtle season comes to an end

By **JENNIFER WORKMAN**
Islander Managing Editor

At season's end, the number of nests counted by the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) Sea Turtle Research Program looked pretty good. Though the nest count was down 19 percent from last year's remarkable season of 524 total nests, program coordinator Beverly Ball was still pleased with this year's nests. "What it says to me is we're doing a better job each year," said Ball last week at the season wrap-up turtle meeting as she went over the total number of nests each year from 1992 when SCCF took over the program. And SCCF Executive Director Erick Lindblad said he remembered when

there were no more than 90 or 100 nests on Sanibel and Captiva. "We couldn't do it without you," he told the volunteers.

As of Sept. 21 the program recorded 433 nests on Sanibel and Captiva with 44 in Sanibel's east end, 233 in the west end and 156 on Captiva. Of those nests there were 31 unhatched and 34 washouts, but with the recent rains experienced from Hurricane Floyd and Tropical Storm Harvey, the washout numbers were still coming in.

But the end-of-season meeting wasn't all about numbers. Ball and Lindblad along with permittees and other volunteers gathered together to tell turtle stories and give thanks to the many people who dedicate their time to the program. Ball thanked SCCF's Marti Bryant and Jean Beach for



AT LEFT: Erick Lindblad gives Beverly Ball a thank you gift for her duties as program coordinator.

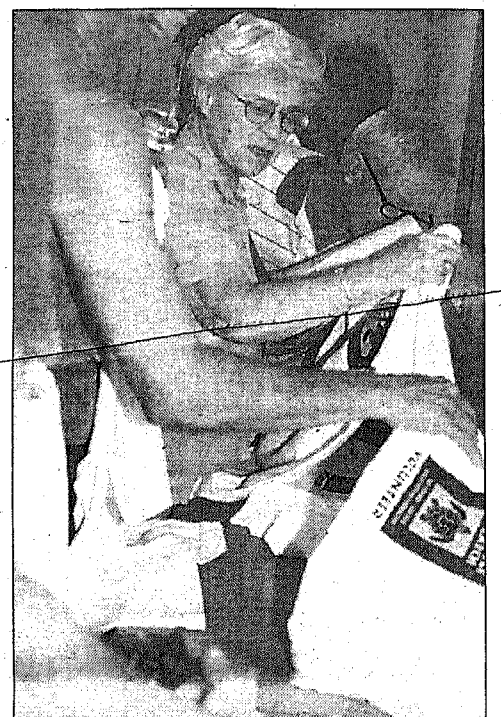
Photos/Jennifer Workman

their help in fielding "endless" telephone calls. But it was the east end walkers who got recognition as the heart of the program. For their efforts, the turtle walkers got T-shirts donated by Mary Irving of Lifeline designs and stationary pads provided by Barry and Nancy Gordon of Big Red Q Quick Print.

Also recognized were Captiva Coordinator Sam Landry, East End Coordinator Armand Ball, Kathleen Campbell who distributes the "lights out for sea turtles" fliers to all the Gulf front condominiums, Tim Gardner who maintains the turtle patrol vehicles, Sandra-Kyne who is in charge of the Adopt-a-Nest program and, of course, Ball, who was recognized for her efforts as program coordinator.

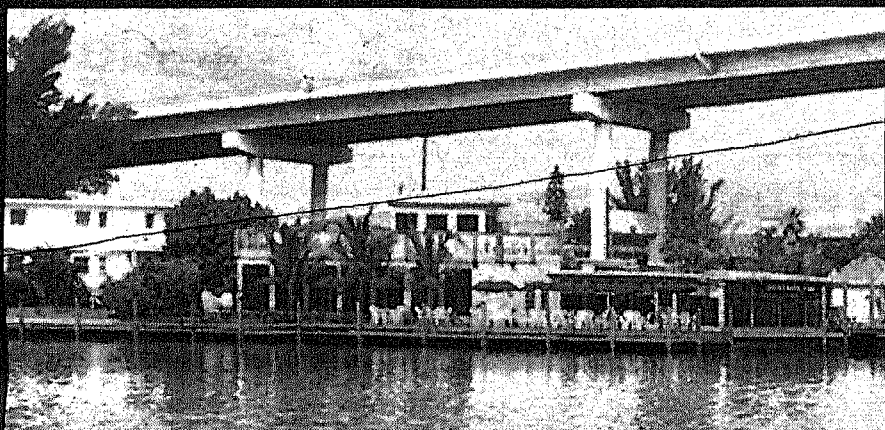
And with the next turtle season a mere half a year away, Ball made announcements for the 2000 season and said the first meeting, required for all walkers, is scheduled for April 11. The new season will bring some changes with volunteers Paul and Chris Andrews joining the permittee team and permittees Bill and Tory Burch taking over as the east end coordinators.

With that, and as the few remaining nests hatch, another turtle season will draw to a close with the hope that, as Ball said, each year the sea turtle volunteers will continue to do a better job and the numbers of nests will continue to grow.



ABOVE: Phyllis Bogen and her fellow turtle walkers choose T-shirts provided by Lifeline Designs as their reward for a season well done.

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Dee Fulk

Last week I was suddenly sick of computers, airplanes, rent-a-cars, meetings, the facades of everyday life, schedules and even the drone of my refrigerator. Unexpectedly though, and right in the middle of all this agitation, an entire half-day opened up in my appointment book. The shutter company had postponed an installation for another month and even though I had already waited nearly three months, I realized this was indeed a blessing in disguise. The things on the schedule for the afternoon were quickly whited out and moved to Thursday or Saturday. And, instead of filling the space with other undone "stuff," I decided to spend the day outside. Major annoyances often fade in the sun, what really matters comes to light, and, overall, getting out is a great leveler. Nature offers potent restorative powers.

So, before I filled in the blank space with more ho-hum stuff, a kayak trip around Cabbage Key was in the works. Just laying

the plans had already begun to heal my wounded soul. I called to see if I could load my little sit-on-top seayak aboard the Lady Chadwick and hitch a ride north. Then I started a pile by the front door: personal flotation device, paddle, back rest and water. Into the dry bag went binocs, camera, sun block, an enlarged version of the marine chart for that area and money — in case I missed the boat back.

In the morning darkness, Bill helped me load my yellow water buddy up on top of the car. By sun-up she was carefully tied down and all my gear stowed in the front seat. I still had over an hour to wait so I headed to the kitchen to bake cookies to thank my friends for making this venture possible. I sneaked a few for the road — justifying that I would need the extra calories for the paddle. I turned out of the drive about 9 a.m. and drove to Captiva. There, I off-loaded the kayak onto a set of wheels, piled in my gear and walked it all to the big boat. I rarely pace, but today after

getting everything settled, I found it hard to wait the hour before departure. First I climbed upstairs to see if I could help set up for the day, then downstairs to straighten tables, then to the aft deck to look around and see if there were any manatees in the marina and then to the fore deck to see what was going on up there. I was pretty excited; it would be new territory and I knew it would be just what I needed. At Cabbage Key Captain Jim helped me off-load next to the sea wall.

Everything in place, I paddled out around the docks then west along the mangroves on the north side of the island. The sunshine began melting away the tension. I skimmed along the edge of the red prop roots taking advantage of stretches of shade and cool breezes. It blew away some of those negative thoughts. Overhead a few double crested cormorants were drying their outstretched wings.

A startled osprey called out then flew down along the water a yard in front of me. I could see his curved talons being raised beneath him as he swooped up and away to the north. About mid-island I noticed an enticing break in the trees and pointed the kayak in that direction. Up close I could see there was a shallow, narrow waterway that disappeared into the interior of the island. But, first, I needed to paddle around two far reaching branches that bowed low into the water. A gentle single stroke took me beyond the first and then I back paddled on

one side to swing the bow around the other way. I had lowered my head to slip under the leaves above. As I felt the branch clear away down my back I looked up. It stole away my breath. Before me was a natural sanctuary. It seemed a sacred place so quiet and serene.

The morning light streamed through the green and yellow leaves overhead. They glistened like stained glass. The rays continued down through the forest and penetrated the tiny ripples on the water's surface then on into the shallows below. There I could see half-inch fingerlings finding refuge amongst the mangrove roots. A never-ending variety of plankton and algae provided plenty of food. All in all it was a safe haven in which to grow.

The small fry swam along in schools just above a velvet carpet of detritus. A few darted away stirring up the nearly invisible clouds of disintegrated matter. The tiny cloud of debris was then swept away in the ebbing tidal flow.

Overhead, a choir of raspy voiced cicadas sang heartily. And way back in the trees a yellow crowned night heron was maneuvering silently among the roots. The current was pulling me out and since the water level was dropping at a fairly good clip I reluctantly turned back toward the entrance, but not before I thanked Mom Nature for the therapy session. I skipped through the branches and out into the bay refreshed and energized for another hour of paddling and a new lease on life.

Art meets nature

AT RIGHT: Ernest Hemingway's son, Patrick and his wife Carol, tour the J.N. "Ding" Darling Wildlife Refuge Sept. 24. Carol is finishing the research for her children's book on ospreys. The book is due out next year with an introduction by island naturalist and founder of The International Osprey Foundation, Bird Westall. Patrick, renowned in his own right, was an instructor at the College

of African Wildlife Management in Mweka, Tanzania for 12 years. **AT FAR RIGHT:** (l to r) The Hemingways and Jean and Bill Rankin, Pete Ingham, Marilyn Kloosterman — all officers of the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society — and refuge manager Lou Hinds.



Photos/Carlene Brennan

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Eco-notes

Docent training

Captiva Cruises will hold its fourth docent training program on seven Saturdays from Oct. 23 to Dec. 11 and is accepting applications from motivated and qualified candidates. The program is offered in conjunction with the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, and trainees learn from leading local experts about island ecology, natural history, marine science, conchology and wildlife. Included are lectures, field trips and hands-on experience plus extensive reading and reference materials.

Upon successfully completing the program, trainees become natural history docents who lead one tour each week for the cruise line. Tour options include narration of the 90-minute Dolphin & Natural History Tour or the 60-minute Marine Life Tours.

People who have taken this course have said it's one of the best there is, and it provides an excellent opportunity for individuals who are interested in learning about island wildlife and wildlife habitat, then sharing that knowledge with others.

Space is limited. Call Gary Swanson or Chris Moore at 472-7549 for information and applications.

Fish & Wildlife seeks comments

For the first time the public is to be formally involved in decisions about recreation and other public uses of national wildlife refuges. Sept. 15, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, which administers the 23-million-acre system, started accepting written comments on a proposed refuge use/compatibility/regulations policy paper. The draft proposal is one of the most significant management and public use policies the system will have.

As required by the 1997 National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act, the draft policy outlines standards for reviewing the impacts of proposed and/or existing public uses. Managers would have to consider the entire refuge system's mission along with the purposes of their individual refuges in the review. The actual standard (uses that "will not materially interfere with or detract from specified con-

servation goals") would not change. Incompatible public uses will simply not be allowed.

The 1997 law established "priority public uses" — hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, environmental education and interpretation — that are especially welcome in refuges and receive preference over other uses — provided they are otherwise compatible. The proposed policy would not allow making a proposed refuge use compatible through mitigation or other compensation. The policy does not apply to private property within refuge boundaries or affect the terms of conservation easements and other agreements between the service and private landowners.

In addition to satisfying the legal requirement imposed by the new law, revising the policy represents a major step toward realization of *Fulfilling the Promise*, a long-term road map developed by the Service and its partners last year as guidance for strengthening the System.

The full text of the proposed policy and regulations can be found on the Internet at www.refuges.fws.gov and is available for study at the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge.

Potato hunting?

Look along Junonia west of the Nerita corner, along Periwinkle west of Dairy Queen, at the corner of Donax and Periwinkle, around the perimeter of the Promenade parking lot, and next to Shell Island Realty on Periwinkle for starters. There are also "good" growths on Rabbit Road near the weir, along the right-of-way at Island Woods, and in just about any vacant lot. Happy hunting.

Volunteers needed

Volunteer interpretive naturalists are needed at the Lee County Manatee Park. Training sessions for adults are Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. The sessions cover the world of the West Indian manatee as well as the various volunteer opportunities available both inside and outdoors at Manatee park.

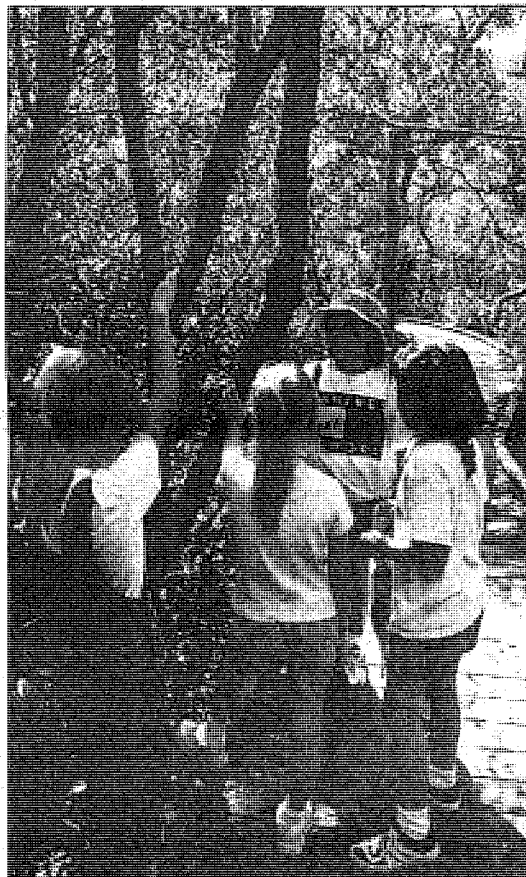
For information, call John Kiseda at 432-2038.

— Anne Bellew

Junior Naturalists



Photos/Michael Pistella



ABOVE AND AT LEFT: Sanibel School fifth-grader Meaghan Grinstead talks to students from Allen Park Elementary School in Fort Myers during their field trip to J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge Tuesday. Meaghan is part of the school and the refuge's joint Junior Naturalists program. She and other fifth-graders go through a month of preparation to conduct field trips for fellow fifth-graders from schools in the area.

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BUSINESS

Belpedio top lister at JNA

Elizabeth "Betsy" Belpedio was named John Naumann & Associates' listing associate for August.

Betsy offers a wealth of services to her customers. She maintains a video library of island listings and is the island specialist in tax deferred exchanges.

Harrell top associate at JNA

With more than \$5 million in sales, Steve Harrell was named top sales associate for August by John Naumann & Associates' sales manager Jay Richter.

Steve is a long-time area resident and business owner. The knowledge he has gained over those years benefitted him greatly when he made the transition into real estate.

VIP names top producers

VIP Realty Group, Inc. has announced the top producers at the Sanibel office for the month of August. Susan Andrews was named top sales agent and Mike McMurray earned the designation of top listing agent.

Andrews is a licensed real estate broker and the 1999 President of the Sanibel and Captiva Islands Association of Realtors, Inc. its Multiple Listing Service, Inc. and its Real Estate Guide, Inc. She is a continual Honor Society recipient since joining the association in 1992, was its Realtor of the Year in 1996 and was VIP Realty's top agent on Sanibel in 1997.

McMurray, a Florida-licensed real estate broker, has six years of real estate experience in Lee County. A consistent top producer, he is a

member of the Sanibel-Captiva Board of Realtors, the Florida Association of Realtors, and the National Association of Realtors.

Potts leaving RE/MAX

It is with regret that RE/MAX of the Islands announces Steve and Julie Potts are leaving Sanibel to pursue a new venture.

Julie and Steve Potts joined the RE/MAX organization in 1987 and have been consistently recognized for their outstanding achievements on both state and national levels. For nine consecutive years they received the distinction of being members of the RE/MAX International's 100 percent club, an honor within the RE/MAX system. In 1998, Julie and Steve were inducted into the RE/MAX Platinum Club, reserved for only the top 1 percent of RE/MAX agents worldwide. They have also been inducted into the RE/MAX Hall of Fame, the most prestigious RE/MAX award.

Lawson joins PMR

Barbara Lawson has joined Priscilla Murphy Realty as a licensed Realtor, according to Rebecca L. Reid, vice president of PMR's Island Sales Division.

Lawson's background includes a B.A. degree in elementary education; social service coordinator for Lee County H&R; voted "Rookie of the Year" in 1997 by the Sanibel-Captiva Association of Realtors; current member of the Sanibel-Captiva Association of Realtors MLS and Internet committee; current member of the education committee and the grievance committee; and three years experience with VIP Realty on Sanibel.

THERE'S 'BEAN' A CHANGE



Michael Pistella

The former owners of The Bean, Del and Carolyn Straub, order some coffee and orange juice from the coffee and ice cream shop's new owners, Daniel and Monica Dix. Monica says she and her husband couldn't have made the ownership transition so smoothly without the Straubs' extraordinary help.

ABWA celebrates 50th

The Sanibel-Captiva Chapter of the American Business Women's Association celebrates the 50th anniversary of ABWA and the 21st anniversary of the Sanibel-Captiva charter chapter at a dinner meeting Oct. 12. Festivities start with networking in the lounge at the

Sundial at 5 p.m. followed by dinner at 6 p.m. Dinner is \$15 and reservations are required.

Anyone wishing to attend the meeting should call Trudie Kohlbrenner at 472-4969 no later than Thursday, Oct. 8 to make reservations. The Sanibel-Captiva Chapter of ABWA meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the Sundial.

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Coming up at the Theatre Conspiracy

The entire community mourns the loss of Islander entertainment critic, Frank Wagner. For me, and his many friends, Frank's memory will always have center stage, never to take the final bow.

— Jill Goodman

By Jill Goodman
Islander Staff Writer

Southwest Florida has all the sparkle of Broadway but under balmy skies and swaying palms.

From musicals to comedies, revues, international symphonies and deep drama, fall '99 and winter 2000 promises to slake the thirst of the most devoted theater-goer and lover of music.

In the following weeks I'll be telling all about the wonderful entertainment in store for you this season and offer my thoughts as to how I think they measure up.

The Theatre Conspiracy spearheads the theatrical season with their opening play,



Bill Taylor

Lonely Planet by Stephen Dietz.

Known for often selecting plays with controversial content, director Bill Taylor promises another season of dramatic entertainment.

Taylor chooses plays that make audiences think. Plays that have substance and emotional value.

In a recent interview with me for the *Island Reporter*, Taylor said, "I'm trying to find the shows that, for whatever reason, have slipped through the cracks and the other theaters in this town aren't doing. A lot of companies in this area do the tried and true and I try to find the untried yet true."

He admits that the plays selected for this season, while thought provoking, lean more toward comedy-drama than straight drama.

Multi-talented, Taylor, who acted before he directed, will perform in *Lonely Planet* along with his former acting teacher, director of the Theater Department at Edison Community College, Richard Westlake.

Taylor said this play is about an improbable friendship of two men done with an original perspective.

"It takes place in a map store owned by Jody (Westlake) who has a need for fixed, unchanged facts in his life. Jody's world is continually shaken by Carl (Taylor), a quirky character who seems to have many jobs or perhaps none at all, as he carries the first of many chairs, which he plunks down on the floor. The reason? You have to see

Theatre Conspiracy season line-up

Some Things You Need to Know Before the World Ends: A Final Evening with the Illuminati, by Larry Larson and Levi Lee
Selected dates Nov. 26 - Dec. 5

As Bees in Honey Drown by Douglas Carter Beane
Selected dates Jan. 13 - 29.

Three Days of Rain, by Richard Greenberg
Selected dates Feb. 17- March 5

The Cripple of Inishaan, by Martin McDonagh
Selected dates April 13 - 30.

the show to find out," Taylor said.

Taylor pointed out that even if you don't recognize the name of the play, it doesn't mean that it's not a good show.

"(*Lonely Planet*) is a very funny, provocative play with original perspective that is theater at its best," he said.

Lonely Planet runs through Oct. 17. Thurs.- Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m. \$14.

The Theatre Conspiracy is at the Alliance of the Arts, 10091 McGregor Blvd. Fort Myers, 936-3239.

Show time

Jazz Concerts

When: first Wed. of each month, 7:45 - 10 p.m.

Where: Cape Coral Yacht and Racquet Club, 5819 Driftwood Parkway, Cape Coral. 945-7916 or 352-1242

Ticket Price: \$15

The next concert features Skip Hanes, and the Black Tie Band, featuring, Sylvia Shaw, Phil Bondi, Gary Leone and Harry Hellings.

More Jazz

The pioneering contemporary jazz group, The Rippingtons, with special guest, Paul Taylor, will be at Gateway Golf and Country Club, 11360 Championship Drive, Fort Myers, Oct 9, 4 p.m. Tickets \$15 in advance or \$18 at door. 477-4683.

Theater in the Woods

Monthly outdoor entertainment starts Oct 17 at The Theater in the Woods, US 41 in Estero with BJ's Big Band 2:30 p.m. \$5 adults. Call 992-2184.

Continued, page 17

NIGHT LIFE

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Oct 1st - Oct 3rd R & R with Ten Feet Thick

Oct 5th & 6th John Salomon ¥ Oct 7th - 9th Mad Hatter

Mondays only - Tim Jardas & his Crab Races at 6 & 9 p.m.

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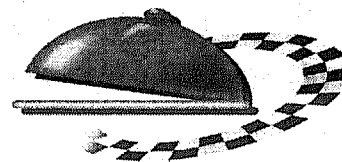
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Restaurant Review Dining Guide



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The Sanibel Grill

703 Tarpon Bay Road

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Stilling Nature

Clyde Butcher preserves everglades on film

By Jill Goodman
Islander Staff Writer

Photographer Clyde Butcher has had a love affair with nature for more than 35 years. He preserves on film what many of us never get to see — untouched areas of the landscape and Florida's greatest natural resource, the Everglades.

In the exhibit of his work currently on display in the Fine Arts Gallery at Edison Community College, "The 1995 Limited Edition Collection," Butcher creates almost a spiritual ambiance. Gazing at his photographs, some of which are huge, the viewer becomes enveloped in the scene. In stunningly clear black and white, each image isolates the magnificence and mystery of the world's greatest estuary.

Butcher's vast number of achievement awards includes the highest award the state of Florida can give to a private citizen, the 1998 Artist Hall of Fame Award. He hopes that his photographs will draw attention to the beauty of Florida and the need to preserve its beauty.

Looking like an out-of-costume Santa Claus, the 50ish photographer works with the assistance of his wife, Niki. He said his large format camera enables him to capture the elaborate detail and textures that distinguish the landscape of Florida. Indeed, the depth of field is so acute that the closest blade of grass is as clear in detail as the leaf that is farthest away. One can almost feel the splinters in the wood of an old dock.

Lugging his upgraded antique view camera, easel, film and various other equipment in a flats boat, Butcher and Niki disregard mosquitoes and swamp critters to settle in on remote photographic locations. Once there, he slogs through muck and mire, setting the camera with its eased legs firmly set in the water, to preserve on film what he sees.

Butcher does all his own developing including the largest of pieces that can be up to seven feet wide. The photographs are printed on fiber base paper and selenium toned for archival preservation.

Butcher's work is in museum exhibits and collections throughout Florida and at his gallery — the Big Cypress Gallery —



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located on 13 acres in the center of the Everglades mid-way between Naples and Miami.

He has several books of his work: *Clyde Butcher - 1995 Limited Edition Collection*, *Clyde Butcher: Portfolio I, Florida Landscapes*; *Seeing the Light: Wilderness and Salvation, a Photographer's Tale*.

According to Ronald Bishop, curator of ECC's Fine Arts Gallery, the 50-piece plus exhibition is a limited edition series. Only three copies have been made of each piece — one is in the Brevard Museum and one belongs to Butcher.

Butcher will have a book signing Oct. 20, 6-7 p.m. in the Fine Arts Gallery followed by a lecture and open discussion in Corbin Hall. This event is open to the public with no charge.

In addition, Butcher is scheduled for a full day photographic workshop at J. N. "Ding" Darling Wildlife Refuge Oct. 17. The workshop is sold out but interested people can add their name to a waiting list. Call 472-1100.

The exhibition at ECC will be on display until Nov. 7. Call 489-9314 for further information.

At your leisure

Florida Rep. classes

The Florida Repertory Theatre in Fort Myers is offering acting and tap dancing classes for adults.

Both classes are under the instruction of artist in residence, Niels Miller.

Acting classes begin Oct. 11, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. through Nov. 22. \$100.

Tap dancing classes will be every Tuesday and Thursday starting Oct. 12, 10 - 11:30 a.m. \$125.

Beginners are welcome to both classes. Tap dancers need tap shoes. For more information, call associate director Stephanie Davis at 332-4665.

Young dancers

Auditions for the Sarasota Ballet's *The Nutcracker* will be hosted at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall Oct. 17, 12:30 p.m. For more information call, Jeanne Bouchette, 334-3274 or Eva Calhoun, 489-3033.

Marco Island Festival

Four days of lectures, seminars and hands-on workshops in all aspects of film making.

Experts share their knowledge in cinematography, animation, scriptwriting and much more. Oct. 20-24; times of events vary. Call (941) 642-3378 for details.

Show time

From page 16

Friday Concerts

Bell Tower Shops, Fort Myers offers a series of free, live outdoor concerts throughout the year with the exception of December.

Music is in the air every Friday and Saturday from 6 - 9 p.m. and the last Friday of the month concerts feature local bands and musical acts with proceeds from beverage sales benefiting local charities.

Enjoy Ray Mabalot, pianist, tonight and Ted Myerson, guitarist, Saturday night.

At the Phil

5833 Pelican Blvd.
Naples
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The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra's new resident conductor Clotilde Otranto will debut Friday Oct. 8, 8 p.m.

The orchestra also will air on NPR the next three Thursdays (Oct. 7, 14, 21) at 8 p.m.

Grammy Award winner, baritone, Isaac Hayes will perform Oct. 9, 8 p.m.

Gary Lewis and the Playboys, Mitch Ryder and the Shangri-Las team up for an evening of "Sensational '60s" Oct. 10, 7 p.m.

Broadway Palm Dinner Theater

1380 Colonial Blvd.
Fort Myers
278-4422

A rollicking revue based on Rodgers & Hammerstein, *It's A Grand Night for Singing*.

Plays through Oct. 9.

Theatre Conspiracy

10091 McGregor Blvd.
936-3239

Lonely Planet opens the season at Lee Alliance of the Arts, Foulds Theater. A two person play, artistic director Bill Taylor promises "A very funny, provocative play with original perspective that is theater at its best."

Oct. 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16; 8 p.m., Oct. 3, 10, 17; 2 p.m. \$14.

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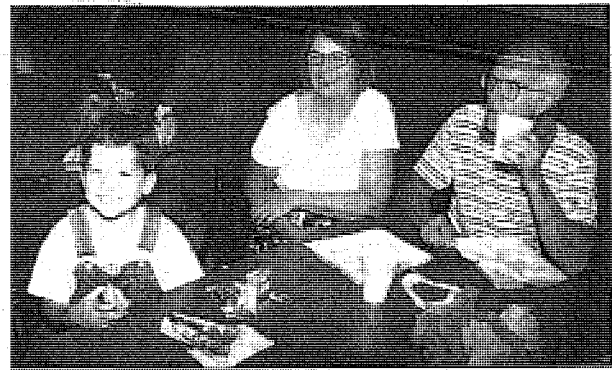
The Sanibel School dared the hurricane gods this week by rescheduling, for the second time, Grandparents' Day — when the school's kindergarten students host their grandpar-

ents for a song, lunch, and a story or two. The special day was postponed twice because school was cancelled because of Hurricane Floyd and Tropical Storm Harvey.



AT LEFT: Sanibel School media specialist Beverly Pierce reads grandmother and grandfather stories to the kindergarten students and their grandparents as part of Grandparents' Day at the school.

Photos/Michael Pistella



AT RIGHT: Collin Harlow is all smiles with his grandparents Viola and Bob Handwerk.

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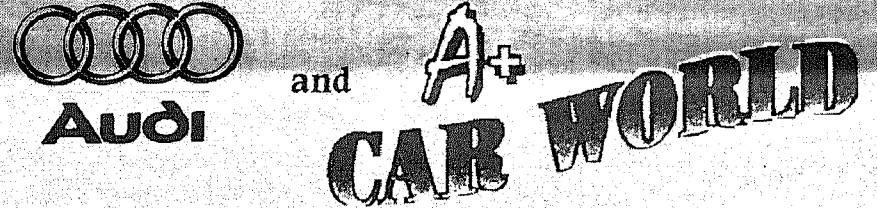
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Community

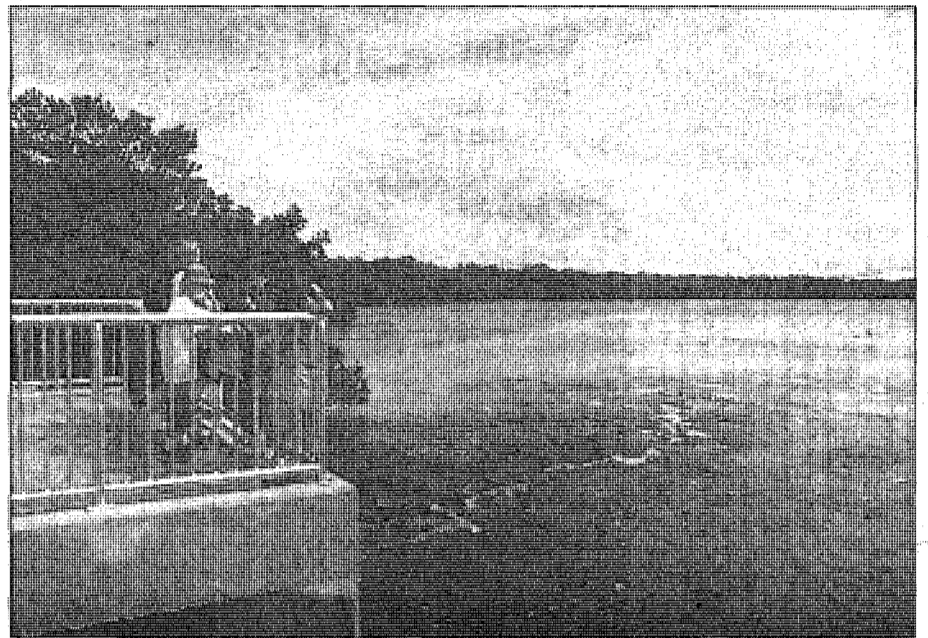
GRANTED WISH



Michael Pistella

(l to r) Sanibel School fifth-grade teacher Georgia Brown, principal Barbara Von Harten and fifth-grade teacher Cheryl Darbyshire, hold the Toyota Tapestry Grants for Teachers' plaque. The grant provided the funds for the bicycles the students will use to get them to field trips within a 3-mile radius of the school.

DRIVE AWAY



Michael Pistella

Kids from the Sanibel School and Allen Park Elementary look out at birds on a sandbar at J. N. "Ding" Darling Wildlife Refuge on a newly built fishing platform along the soon-to-be-opened Wildlife Drive. The drive is scheduled to reopen tomorrow.

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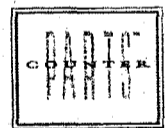
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'Florida Roadkill' worth four paws

Now read this

There is a new author on the Southwest Florida scene. His name is Tim Dorsey, and any comparison between his style and that of, say, Carl Hiaasen or Laurence Shames should be quite favorable. Dorsey, a news coordinator for the *Tampa Tribune*, has submitted, for our enjoyment, his first novel, *Florida Roadkill*.

That anyone would attempt to top *Native Tongue* or *Florida Straits* for off-the-wall humor may seem futile, but this well-wrought tale of bumbling bad guys is hereby declared an unmitigated success.

Our heroes of the tale, David Klein and Sean Breen, successful thirty-something friends since high school, certainly are likable enough, but this tale isn't really about them, per se, but rather about how they survive the criminal antics of a plethora of baddies — of which there are no shortages. Allow me

to acquaint you with a few.

The main antagonist of the plot, our antihero, is one Serge Storme, a psychopathic Florida history-buff who likes to get high by not taking his medication. His loyal sidekick is Coleman Bunsen, a borderline moron with a wide mean streak and an uncontrollable lust for Sharon Rhodes, a world-class beauty with a penchant for homicide. These three wend their way from Tampa, through Cocoa Beach to Key West in pursuit of \$5 million that has been secretly stashed in David and Sean's trunk by an insurance beneficiary to keep it out of Serge's hands. Meanwhile, Mo Grenadine, former state congressman and fledgling gay-basher shock-jock, has been hired by the insurance company CEO

to retrieve the funds. The insurance company is just a front that was never supposed to pay any claims, especially with \$5 million

Florida Roadkill
By Tim Dorsey

"...is a hilarious roller coaster ride... that richly deserves all four paws from Steve and Travis, the bookstore dog."

of laundered Colombian drug money. The drug lord adds to the throng by sending three well-dressed enforcers to ensure the recovery.

Purely by coincidence, all of these characters attend game seven of the Miami-won World Series before forming an impromptu caravan down to the Keys. Then a seemingly random series of highly entertaining vignettes is presented to the reader. They are humorously violent and apparently unrelated. But, all the characters and events in this book are related by a common thread that is rather neatly tied up before the end.

I have always avoided repeating in my reviews the quotes and comments from the dust jacket, but this once I will succumb to the temptation, for this novel is truly "a blend of Hunter Thompson, Quentin Tarantino, Elmore Leonard and Carl Hiaasen, with political commentary from John D. MacDonald." There are few authors with the skills to make a sane man howl and

cackle with mirth while reading about a murder. There are several murders in this story, and I believe that I laughed through every one. Dorsey's ripe and vivid imagination has provided us with outlaw bikers hired to protect retirement home residents from vandalistic maintenance staff, a Malathion-swilling housewife ("The newspaper said it was safe"), and a daredevil TV tabloid reporter who never gets the story right. His choices of murder weapons include a pair of hot dog rotisserie skewers, a pair of wet Levis, and a Rube Goldberg device where a shotgun is triggered by a space shuttle key chain.

Florida Roadkill is a hilarious roller coaster ride of murder, thievery and extortion laced with new-found love and foot-racing Hemingway lookalikes. It is a marvelously amusing treatise on local history and mayhem that richly deserves all four paws from Steve and Travis, the bookstore dog.



Steve Beck and Travis

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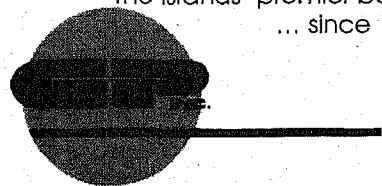
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back page news



City briefs

DCA opposes transfer from Buck Key

The Department of Community Affairs in Tallahassee recommended last week that Lee County Commissioners not allow the transfer of development rights from undeveloped Buck Key to mature mangrove forests at South Seas Resort. The commissioners have 60 days to address the issue.

The issue of replacing the causeway drawbridge was not addressed in the DCA's report.

FOP and City reach tentative agreement

The City and the Fraternal Order of Police reached a tentative contract agreement last week on key issues such as retirement benefits, wages and scheduling. Sanibel FOP members are expected to meet this week to vote on the contract and, if ratified, the contract will be addressed by the City Council Oct. 5.

Final budget adopted

The Sanibel City Council adopted the final budget for fiscal year 1999-2000 Tuesday with the operating millage set at the rolled-back rate of 1.981 mills and the voted debt service millage rate set at .3638.

A mill is equal to a \$1 tax on every \$1,000 dollars of assessed property value.

Proposed expenditures in the final 136-page budget are \$28,388,414. The budget is based on taxable value of real property of \$2,352,939,770, personal property of \$39,736,940 anticipated non-ad valorem revenues of \$8,181,741.

Dark Skies discussion moved to Oct. 12

The Sanibel Planning Commission delayed discussion of the so-called "Dark Skies Ordinance" to 9:10 a.m. at its Oct. 12 meeting.

— Pattie Pace

For more details on these issues, see this week's edition of the *Island Reporter*.

Police say, be on lookout for burglars

Four Sanibel businesses were burglarized during the early morning hours last Friday. The island businesses were — Comfort By Design, located at 1640 Periwinkle Way; Pandora's Kloset, located at 455 Periwinkle; Show Case Shells, located at 1614 Periwinkle; and Periwinkle Florist located at 1719 Periwinkle.

Entry into each business was gained by windows being broken. Money from cash registers was taken from each business. Total monies taken from all the businesses was \$240.

The Sanibel Police Department is investigating the burglaries. If anyone has knowledge of the crimes, please call SPD at 472-3111.

Parking permits expire at end of November

The 1998-99 Sanibel beach parking permits expire Nov. 30. The 1999-2000 beach parking permits go on sale Oct. 1. Permits can be obtained at the Sanibel Police Department located at 800 Dunlop Road during normal business hours only. Current vehicle registration or rental car papers must be presented at the time of purchase. For information, call SPD at 472-3111.

Improving Paradise

Recognizing the need for some improvements in amenities for island families, an island committee, headed by Rob DeGennaro, has rolled up its sleeves and is making changes.

Within just a few months the committee members have increased the available space at the Civic Center to accommodate the growing number of new members and added activities.

Doors have been added to the rest room stalls at the recreation center and the pool hours will be expanded next year during daylight savings time.

Investigations continue regarding the feasibility of installing bleachers in the gym and preliminary research is underway to determine the practicality of air conditioning the facility. The committee is contemplating several sites for the proposed installation of a mid-island outdoor recreation area for island youths.

The next meeting will be Oct. 25 at 3:30 p.m. at the Civic Center.

— Jill Goodman



DeGennaro

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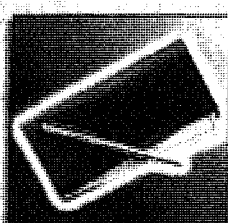
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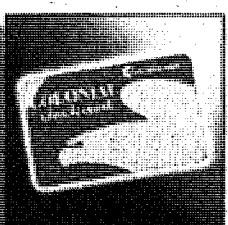
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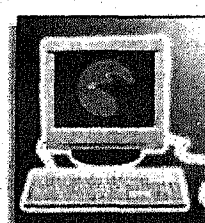
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Dodge Neon 1996, low miles 29K, like new, one owner, only \$169 a month w/\$500 down cash or trade WAC. See Ken Busch at Roger Dean Chevrolet 574-3326

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Week 49, Apt. 301
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Sanibel Beach Club II
Week 5
Apt. 3D
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South Seas Plantation Cottages
Apt. 1514
Week 37
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INTERVAL FOR SALE

Tortuga Beach Club on Sanibel
Week 14
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Tortuga Beach Club on Sanibel
Apt. 139
Weeks 9 & 10
PRICE REDUCED
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•Herb Simon has 44 years experience in real estate sales & counselling.
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Spa.
2 car garage.
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Near Preserve, Beach, Golf and Shops.
AVAILABLE: NOVEMBER 1st.
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Spa.
2 car garage.
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Near Preserve, Beach, Golf and Shops.
AVAILABLE: NOVEMBER 1st.
847-492-1075

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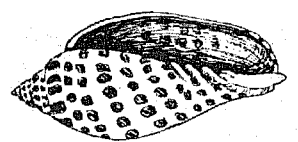
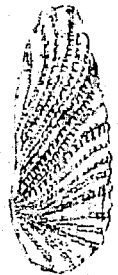
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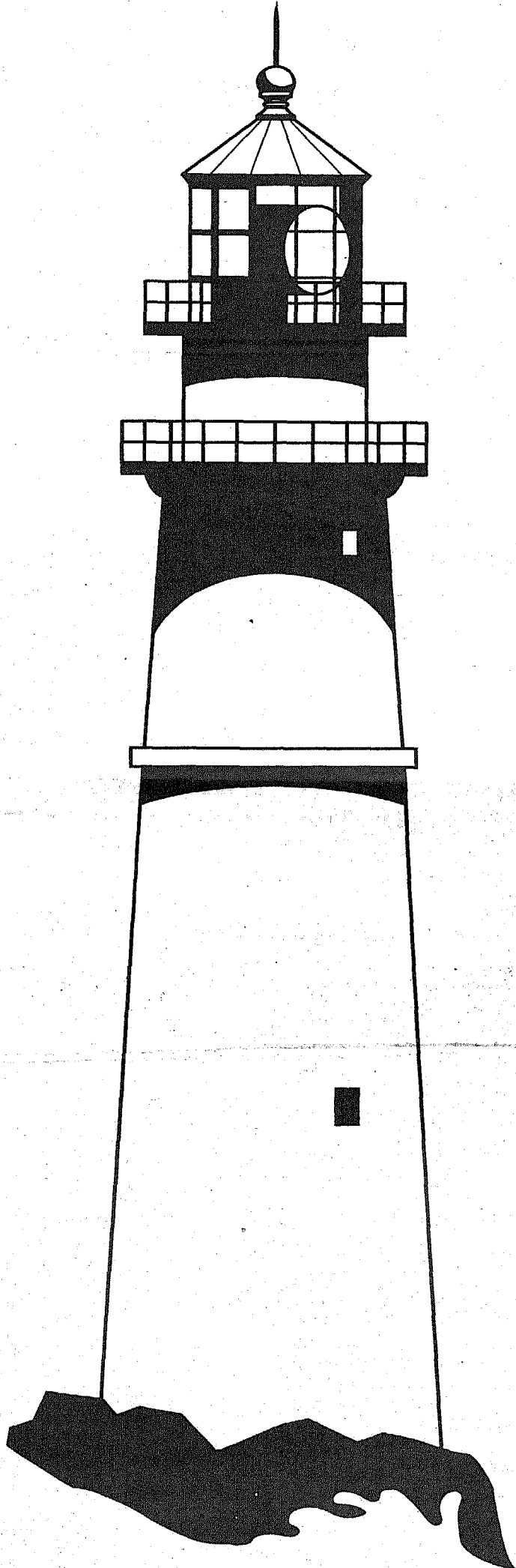
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Samuel Caplan
Islander

CROSSWORD



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
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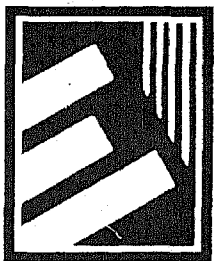
- ACROSS**
- 1 -di-dah
 - 4 Make ready
 - 8 Big rig
 - 12 "Wheel of Fortune" name
 - 17 Scottsboro's st.
 - 18 Lucca lucre
 - 19 Island outfit
 - 21 "F Troop" corporal
 - 22 Start of a remark by Melanie Clark
 - 24 '82 Toto smash
 - 25 Light boat
 - 26 Spellbound
 - 27 Actress Verdugo
 - 29 Give a squeeze
 - 31 Nationality suffix
 - 32 Tombstone lawman
 - 35 Handbag part
 - 38 Voids
 - 41 Part 2 of remark
 - 46 Ivy Leaguer
 - 47 That's no bull!
 - 48 Fairy queen
 - 49 Reference volume
 - 53 Beam bender
 - 55 Solves crosswords?
 - 58 Strauss opera
 - 61 Spock's forte
 - 63 Shade of green
 - 64 ___ Aviv
 - 65 Fence part
 - 66 Tavern staples
 - 68 Hill dwellers
 - 70 Way out
 - 72 With 101 Down, baseball's "Little Giant"
 - 73 Computer whiz
 - 76 "___ pro nobis"
 - 77 Mendel's field
 - 79 ___ trip
 - 80 Medieval mental
 - 83 Artist Magritte
 - 85 Way to pass the time?
 - 86 "Shane" star org.
 - 88 Teachers' org.
 - 89 Saw
 - 91 "The Last of the Mohicans" hero
 - 95 Ernestine, for one
 - 97 Museum piece
 - 98 Ration, with "out"
 - 99 Eisenhower's birthplace
 - 100 Schmaltz
 - 102 Deck out
 - 105 Curly poker?
 - 106 Part 3 of remark
 - 112 Trailblazer
 - 115 Like some music
 - 116 Hint
 - 117 Wind up
 - 118 Bro or sis
 - 120 Unsullied
 - 123 ER exclamation
 - 125 Confuse
 - 129 "Mama" Cass
 - 132 End of remark
 - 135 Annoyed
 - 136 ___ Leone
 - 137 Lean's river
 - 138 Entertainer Peeples
 - 139 Authority
 - 140 Freshwater fish
 - 141 WWII site
 - 142 Pitch
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Lion's den
 - 2 Communications word
 - 3 Event
 - 4 Arafat's grp.
 - 5 Torn or Taylor
 - 6 Perry's creator
 - 7 Rind
 - 8 Pay hike?
 - 9 Be off base
 - 10 Miss Piggy's pronoun
 - 11 Move like molasses
 - 12 Cul-de-___
 - 13 Palindromic title
 - 14 Jamie Lee's mom
 - 15 Cropped up
 - 16 Places for patches
 - 19 Present company?
 - 20 Too thin
 - 23 Coup d'___
 - 28 "CHiPs" star Erik
 - 30 "Holy cow!" monogram
 - 34 Cherry stone
 - 36 Charitable donation
 - 37 Green org.
 - 39 Snatch
 - 40 Fall flower
 - 41 Farmer's place
 - 42 Pat on the buns?
 - 43 Capsizes, with "over"
 - 44 Architect Saarinen
 - 45 Lessen
 - 50 Camel cousin
 - 51 UFO pilot
 - 52 Foray
 - 54 Kitchen fixture
 - 56 Murcia mister
 - 57 Beseech
 - 59 Reason or Read
 - 60 Slip cover?
 - 62 Stage prompts
 - 67 Ecumenical Council site
 - 69 Actress Dominique
 - 71 Soybean product
 - 73 Spartan slave
 - 74 Dumbstruck
 - 75 Manuscript book
 - 78 Man the bar
 - 81 Rock's ___ Speed-wagon
 - 82 '96 Frances McDormand film
 - 84 Fit to feast on
 - 85 Suspicious (of)
 - 87 Haggard
 - 90 Spiritual guide
 - 92 Able
 - 93 ___ vera
 - 94 Cassandra or Merlin
 - 96 Tennis legend
 - 97 London district
 - 101 See 72 Across
 - 103 '70 Jackson 5 hit
 - 104 Actor Brynner
 - 107 "Of course!"
 - 108 Produces prunes
 - 109 Repeat performance
 - 110 Black Sea city
 - 111 Perfume ingredient
 - 112 Tenor Peter
 - 113 Curry country
 - 114 In a strange way
 - 119 Oscilloscope image
 - 121 Questions
 - 122 Pkg. abbr.
 - 124 Merrill melody
 - 125 Dictator
 - 127 Berlioz's "___ Troyens"
 - 128 Maestro de Waart
 - 130 Maui memento
 - 131 Vex
 - 133 Adjectival suffix
 - 134 Merger inits. of 1955

Solution on page 26

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Serving the Residents of Sanibel and Captiva

FINANCIAL



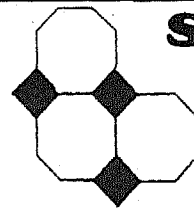
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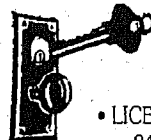
email: allwaysave@aol.com

Bailey's Shopping Center

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ISLAND LOCKSMITH

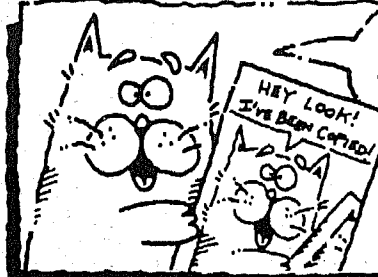
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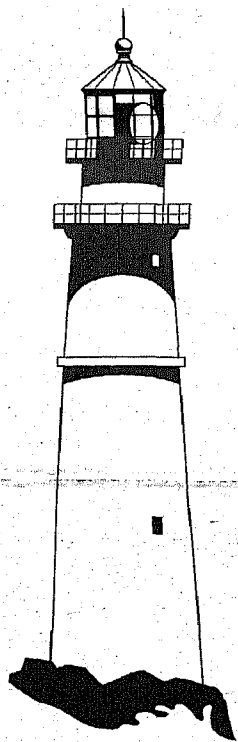
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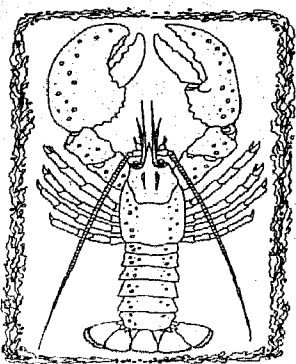
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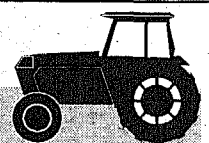


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- The Islands' Hot Spot for Fun!
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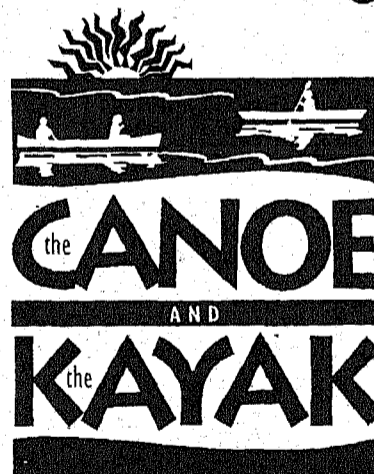
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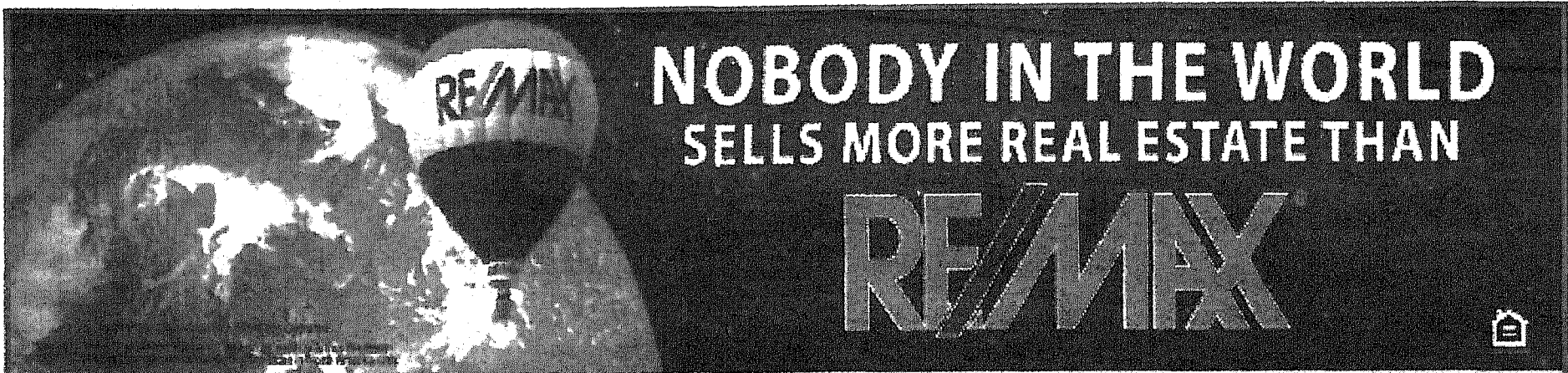
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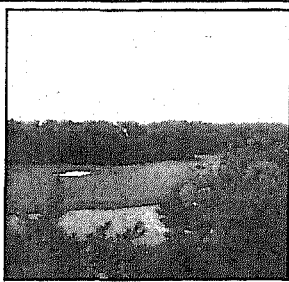


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SANCTUARY GOLF COURSE LOT



- Build your dream home
 - Overlooking 13th tee
 - Best lot value at Sanctuary
 - Million \$ neighborhood only \$179,000.
- Call...Angie Lapi

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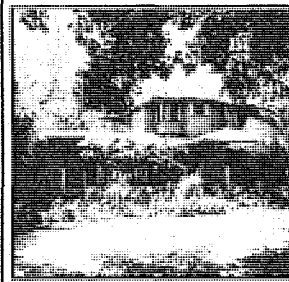
LISA COCHRANE



ANGIE LAPI



UNDERSTATED ELEGANCE



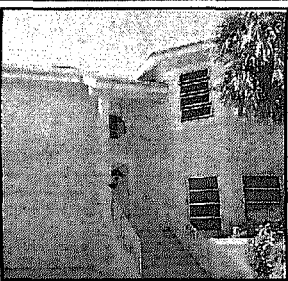
- Superb Captiva beach front home with 150ft. panoramic views of the Gulf of Mexico.
 - Custom built one of a kind.
 - 4 BR +, family room, pool + spa.
 - Separate guest house.
 - \$6,950,000
- Call...Barbara

SECLUDED WOOD LOT



- Backs up to Bailey's tract
 - Off West Gulf Drive
 - Deeded beach access
 - \$135,000
- Call...Lisa Cochrane

TWO STORY FAMILY HOME



- 3 bedrooms & den
 - 2 large screened porches
 - Mangrove & river view, near Sanibel
 - Reduced to \$244,000.
- Call...Pat Eichenlaub

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- Estate size water front parcel w/ beach access
 - Subdivision of 49 homes near beach
 - Wonderful water views
 - Ownership interest in tennis court parcel
 - Priced at \$210,000
- Call...Steve Fisher

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY



- 12 Yr Proven Track record
 - Retail Lamps, Gifts & Home Furnishings
 - Gross Sales Consistently Over \$200,000
 - \$135,000 With Terms to Qualified Buyer
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SANCTUARY CONDO



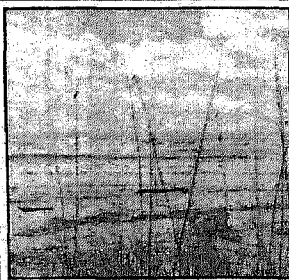
- Brand new 3 BR
 - Great golf course views
 - Very motivated seller
 - Asking \$445,000
- Call...Chuck Andrews

YOUR CHOICE SANIBEL/CAPTIVA



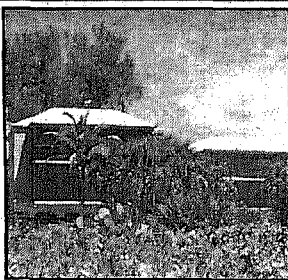
- All Sanibel & Captiva locations, houses, condos & lots
 - Certified residential specialist, with 20 years experience
 - Island resident for over 22 years
- Call...Barbara

BEST CHOICE



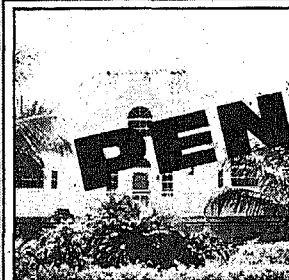
- Gulf & golf specialist
 - Over 22 yrs in Island sales
 - Island resident
- Call...Angie Lapi

GULF FRONT CONDO



- Top Floor with Vaulted Ceiling
 - 3 BR/2 BA - 2 Units per Bldg.
 - Weekly Rentals
 - Terrific Gulf Views
- Call...Chuck Andrews

SEA OATS



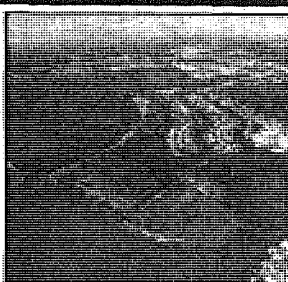
- Olde Florida Style home
 - 3 1/2 Bath w/ waiter
 - Lovely Pool w/ Spa
 - 479,000
- Call...Lisa Cochrane

KINZIE ISLAND



- Bahamian-style canal home
 - Private gated community
 - Complete Amenity Package
 - Price \$975,000.
- Call...Steve Fisher

DON'T RUN AGROUND!!



- Deep water direct access canal front lot with super views.
 - Large boat dockage at your doorstep, minutes to the gulf.
 - Just off Sanibel in the gated Old Pelican Bay area of Siesta Isles.
 - Very well priced in today's market, asking \$179,000.
- Call...Art Corace

LOVELY LAKEFRONT HOME



- Yacht Club area
 - Gated riverfront community
 - Spacious great room
 - Priced at \$219,000
- Call...Pat Eichenlaub