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T h e Novicks from Fairway, Kan, have been shelling as a family on Sanibel for 13 years. Colin, 10 who's (his mother said "Well, you might say

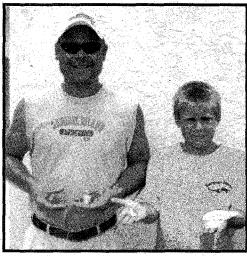


actually been shelling for 10 1/2, 'cause I went out when I was pregnant with him!'), found a junonia on Tuesday, July 19, near Sand Dollar Resort on Middle Gulf Drive. He and his shell are shown with his brother, Chase, and his cousin, Callie Moore, who's from Englewood, Col.

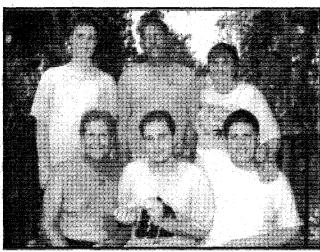


Ashley and Suzy Jones from Jacksonville have been coming to Sanibel every summer since 1987 — shelling every year. The last week in July this year, while staying at White Sands, they found three almost-perfect alphabet cones at low tide in the late afternoon on the gulf side of Sanibel between Casa Ybel and Tarpon Bay Roads.

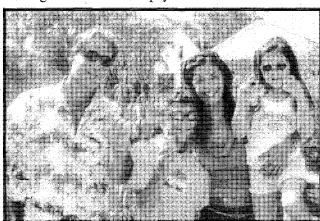
Islander subscriber from Buffalo Grove, Ill., Daniel Forsman, came in with his son, Kevin, to show us their "haul." Not only had they found alphabet cones,



along with many other lucky hunters, but these two had angel wing and lace murex specimens as well. They found them near Pointe Santo de Sanibel on West Gulf. Dad has been shelling for 15 years without luck like this!



Mark Heidbrink from Greeley, Colorado (back row: Scott, Richard, Pam; front: Craig, Mark and Joshua) found a junonia while scuba diving off the Lighthouse Beach on August 9. He was out with diving buddy Joshua, in about seven feet of water and about 150 feet offshore, but still in the No Wake zone. They "found a lot of nice shells... including a horse conch" and saw lots of crabs, hermit crabs and even a school of angel fish. This is Mark's first week shelling - not bad for a neophyte!







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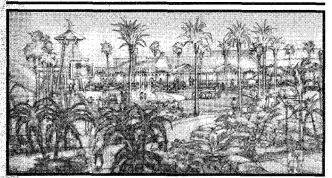
2005 Hurricane Passes

Don't wait til the last minute to get your 2005 Hurricane Pass. To expedite re-entry, the City of Sanibel Police Department has revised the Hurricane Pass program to include hangtags. The following are changes to last year's hurricane pass program:

- 2005 Hurricane Passes are laminated.
- Hangtags: In order to make re-entry easier after an event, rear view mirror, color-coded hangtags are being issued to residents, property owners and business owners on Sanibel.
- Drivers License: Drivers license with a Sanibel address may still be used; however, a Hurricane Pass will expedite your return. Persons with a driver's license with a Sanibel mailing address are strongly urged to also obtain a hurricane pass and hangtag.

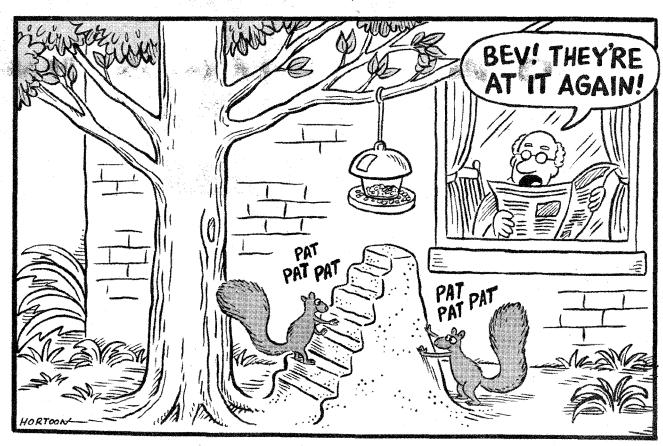
Hurricane passes and hangtags are available from the Sanibel Police Department, 800 Dunlop Road between the hours of 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

If you have questions, please contact Major Michael Murray or Stephanie Dowd, Emergency Management Technician, of the Sanibel Police Department at 472-3111.



Plans provided by South Seas Resort Plans for the new grand entrance to South

TOO MUGH SUN





South Seas Resort looking forward to grand opening

By Amy Fleming afleming@breezenewspapers.com

After being closed for more than a year, South Seas is preparing to unveil a brand new resort.

Meristar, owners of South Seas Resort, commissioned the Orlando based marketing communication firm of Yesawich, Pepperdine, Brown & Russell to survey property owners in the resort to find out what kind of changes they would like to see made. In June 2004, they issued their findings, with the results that people wanted to see the entrance beefed up, upgrades to accommodations, dining

establishments, and a bigger, better swimming pool.

Meristar is seeing to it that they get what they want.

According to Earl Quenzel, regional director of marketing and sales, they are remodeling more than 400 units, at an average cost of \$85,000 each...

Along with the new and improved amenities, South Seas Resort regulars said they wanted to see a higher quality of service throughout the resort, a request that Meristar is taking as a mandate.

We have the opportunity to take the grade of service up an entire notch," Quenzel said.



Alec Cooper, of Fort Thomas, Kentucky, found his junonia on the shore in front of Sanibel Arms West. Alec shared the secret of his success: "I dug deep."

Domine Marsha Wagnerh - summer month her Center Stage odlumik rem Mound in the Island Reporter starting next week. See the August 18 Reporter for her review of Curtisville Consortium playing Mozart.

Marsha return to the pages of the *Islander* in

See the August 11 Island Reporter or the August 12 Captiva Current for the rest of the story. South Seas is taking reservations from December 15 on, with a soft opening planned for the beginning of January and a grand opening set for Presidents Day, February 20.

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John E. Turansky

Well-known islander and Fort Myers resident John Turansky died August 2 2005. Born March 28, 1938 in Jersey City, N.J., he was 67.

Turansky had been a resident of Fort Myers since 1994 after living on Sanibel for quite some time. He was with John Naumann Associatés on the island a decade or more and, when the firm merged with Coldwell Banker a few years ago, he remained an even more vital part of the organization.

John was with us for 10 years," Naumann said. "He applied for the position when we advertised for an in-house advertising person, and he came in with a tremendous amount of expertise from having owned his own agency in New York. He was a perfect fit for the company. And he was a perfect fit for the

— very downpeopleto earth

"It was a joy coming in to work in the morning and meeting with him... Invariably, he spent the first 15 minutes talking about his family and the second 15 minutes talking about the wonderful dinner he'd had the night before or was planning to cook for that evening -- all before we ever got down to business. It was so refreshing he was just a delight-

miss him dearly.

ful individual. Realtor and author Charlie Sobczak continued in the same vein. "He had a great smile and a well-honed sense of humor... What I really loved about John was his sense of family. He so loved his kids and, whenever we would spend some time together, we updated each other as to how our respective children were doing. He was hard-working and a real asset to John Nauman/Coldwell Banker. I'm sure I speak for everyone at our office when I say that we will all

"We do miss him, tremendously." Naumann added. "His going is an enormous shock and a huge loss — not only to us but to Kiwanis, in which he was very active. And what a terrible shock and loss for his family...

"We worked together for 10 years," Rhonda Henning said. "He was a good,

John Turansky

kind, very sensitive man., and a terrific storyieller.

"The whole company shared holidays. We vacationed together some-times. His family and my family went on cruises together occasionally. Obviously our kids grew up together and we shared their triumphs and their traumas all the way up through the trials and tribulations of college life — tuition, the price of books and the like. He was so proud of his family - they meant every-

thing to him." Before moving to Southwest Florida, Turansky had owned marketing and advertising agencies in New York and New Jersey. When he first came to town, he worked at the Island Reporter in the sales division. "For about 10 years, as I remember," long-time receptionis/office manager Shirlene Grasgreen said. "We used to have the most delicious talks in our off-moments! He was a very compas-

I will miss him very much." "I knew John for many years and,

sionate, very fun person. I loved him and

regardless of what was going on with him. he always seemed to have a smile in reserve," commented Terri Blackmore, general manager of the Islander and the Shopper's Guide. "And he always moved along on an even keel?

Turansky is survived by his wife of 24 years, Linda Turansky, of Fort Myers; a son, John William Turansky, and a daughter, Laura Turansky, both also of Fort Myers; and two sisters — Gloria Scanlon of South River, N.J. and Betty Lopes, of Edison, N.J.

A mass was celebrated on Saturday, August 6, at St. Columbkille Catholic Church in Fort Myers. Those wishing to may contact Henning at 472-3121 concerning contributions to the children's college fund.

Ada Austin

Fort Myers and former Sanibel resident Ada Austin died in Fort Myers on July 26, 2005. Born in New York City in 1910, she and her late husband, Hal, had been resi-

dents of Lee County for 30 years.

Ada was a devoted and loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and was deeply cared for by all who knew her. Surviving her are three sons — Carl and his wife, Jill, Mitchell and his wife, Jayne. and Andrew; six grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. Hal died in May.



The Islands' Community Newspaper since 1961

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Elaine Stacy, long-time islander, American Legion Post 123 manager, and avid sheller found this over ten inch horse conch at the north end of West Gulf Drive at low tide on August 1t. Also collected were alphabet cones and two, two-inch apple murexes. Elaine's Category 4 Designs, made from self-collected shells, can be found at the gift shop at 'Tween Waters Inn on Captiva. The creations take on the forms of picture frames (as shown above), jewelry & memory boxes, candle sticks, Christmas ornaments, mirrors and more... and they make nice gifts

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Sanibel physician turns new leaf

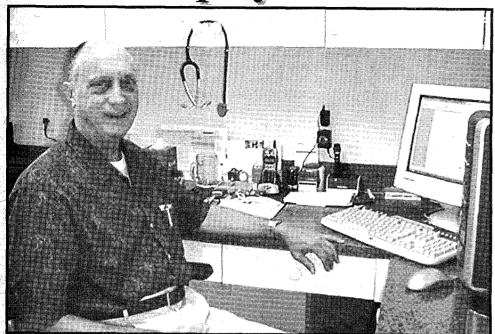


Photo provided

Dr. Bill Fulk of Sanibel

Bill Fulk pens a mystery

A few years ago as Physician Bill Fulk and his wife, Dee, were walking on Bowman's Beach, Fulk surprised her as he blurted out, "I have an idea for a book! It's about an old man who moves about with the uncanny ability to heal and he does this anonymously worldwide with no recogni-

tion. He requires nothing, asks nothing and accepts nothing from the people whom he helps." Dee encourhelps." Dee encouraged, "Why don't you write it?" After a momentary hesitation, he replied, "But I've never written anything in my life. I've never had any writing experience." Almost jokingly, he added, "I did read the Hardy Boy mystery series as a kid, but that's no qualification for writing a novel."

Ideas for the book started becoming more and more vivid until, finally, Fulk felt com-

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pelled to begin writing. "Wait a minute" he

experiences some very close encounters in her work as a writer and member of the CIA, and she is miraculously rescued from terrorist activity by the old man who asks nothing, tells nothing and accepts nothing from the people whom he helps. In her frustrating search to learn his identity, Underwood calls him "Alex." Now, with the 2005 publication of his first book, Elijah, Fulk makes his debut among

With his newly discovered commitment to writing, Fulk is excited

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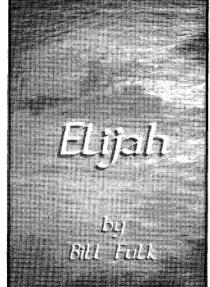
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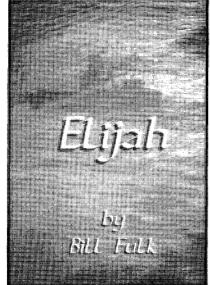
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reminded himself, "every good story needs a main character." At that time his office happened to be next to Hollie Smith's Sanibel Island Bookshop and that gave him the idea for the character and her name, Holly Underwood. Underwood





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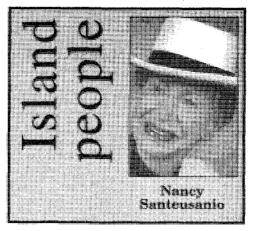


about the new ideas which keep popping into his head. He now assiduously dedicates several hours each day to creating his next book. With his primary job as a successful physician, this means finding "odd moments" and, sometimes, creating extra time out of nowhere. With his proclivity for writing, Fulk is already at work on his next mystery, which is scheduled for publication in three or four months. Holly Underwood will again appear as the main character, this time in One-Across, written about Butch Smith. Butch is a high school sophomore who is a crossword puzzle genius and wins contests for his school by picking out letters "one across." With his notable success, Butch expands his skills to more sophisticated schemes and becomes part of a syndicate whose destination is a bit risky but Butch becomes a winner again.

What's next? Fulk must be slowing down... oh, no! Now he's working on The Lethal Gene, again featuring Holly Underwood. Fulk also includes a cameo appearance from the old man in each of his books. With this book, Fulk explains, he made an outline of the whole book before starting to write. "Sometimes you can write the last chapter first and focus the context toward that last chapter. That's just a different approach and I'm using it to write The Lethal Gene."

Fulk tells that he never anticipated becoming a writer but as a self starter he soon discovered that the only way to learn to write was to write. He adds, "No one can do that for you. What's exciting is to develop characters — to create characters that live on paper. This is work I want to do and if I don't write, I think I'm missing something.

Whoever would have thought that those walks on Bowman's Beach would inspire

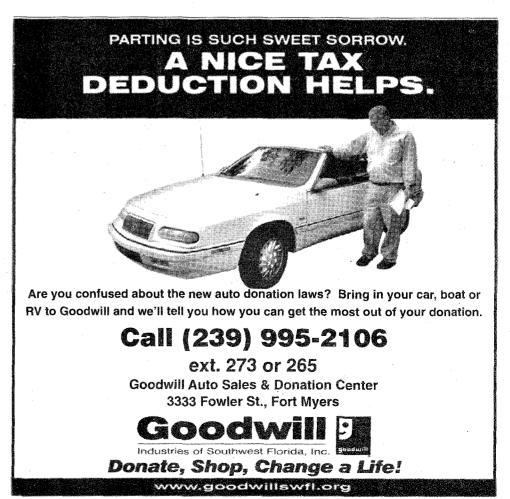


Fulk to blurt out, "I have an idea for a book!" and to write his first mystery Elijah!

Islander Bill Fulk's Elijah is a must-read By Nancy Santeusanio

Bill Fulk's Elijah is a compelling first novel which keeps the reader turning the pages, unwilling to put down this mystery with its relentless intrigue, fascination and pace. Fulk's imagination is full speed ahead with his miraculous old man who is a healer who says nothing, wants nothing and accepts nothing in return for his healing. Even Holly Underwood, the book's main character — who is a writer and former CIA agent — can't unravel this enigma. Wisely, Fulk has chosen to write this book using many short chapters, which works in tandem with the pace of the story line and adds to its zest. This is a "keep you guessing" novel with a familiar Sanibel and Key West setting that you won't want to miss.

Elijah is available at island bookshops.



Charley party at the Legion

American Legion members and guests are invited to the First Annual Hurricane Charley Anniversary Party scheduled for Saturday, August 13

The festivities will begin at around 2 p.m., about when Islanders first learned that Charley was headed their way, one

year before.

Refreshments and drink specials will be offered and local musicians will entertain throughout the day. Bottled water and ice will be complimentary. Bring your photos and tall tales! See you there!

Take Ten at Timbers

This time last year, Hurricane Charley ravaged Southwest Florida and the barrier islands, causing millions of dollars in damage and causing our restaurant to close for nearly three months. It's a time we will never forget, and to show our thanks (so far) to the hurricane gods and because we are glad to be able to serve you, our loyal customers, Saturday, August 13 - Friday, August 20, each adult

dining patron at The Timbers Restaurant will receive a Ten Dollar Gift Certificate good for use at a future visit to The Timbers Restaurant anytime through the end of September, 2005.

Adult must order a dinner entrée from The Timbers menu. Not valid for takeout or in combination with any other discounts or coupons. Not valid at The Sanibel Grill or the Retail Fish Market.

Chamber AfterHours

The Dunes Golf and Tennis Club will host the Sanibel-Captive Islands Chamber of Commerce AfterHours, Monday, August 15 from 5:30 to 7 pm.

Reservations must be made by Friday, August 12 before 5 pm for all attending.

There is a \$5 charge for guests; at the door without reservations, the charge is \$8. Please call 472-1966 or register on line at http://www.sanibel-captiva .biz/events/afterhours.html.

Youth Volleyball League

Serve, set, and spike! The Rec Center will be running a youth volleyball league this fall. It is for boys and girls between 4th and 8th grade. Kids do not need to attend the Sanibel School to participate. The mission of the league is to provide the children an opportunity to learn, practice, and play volleyball while having fun and making friends. Youth sports is a great way to teach kids many life lessons about teamwork, winning and losing, respect for others, and much, much more. Be a part of the fun and excitement by joining the

The season will run from September to November. Parents can register their children at the Finance Department at City Hall from 8AM to 5PM Mondays through Fridays beginning on August 15 and ending on September 2. The cost is \$35 per child. The league is currently looking for parents willing to coach a team and be an active part of their son's or daughter's childhood. For more information, call Nick Brown at the Rec Center at 472-



LET'S TALK REAL ESTATE

Presented by Margie Davison

IS THERE REALLY ANOTHER BUYER?

You have found the perfect house and are thinking about making an offer. Even though you trust your Realtor, you are feeling some pressure just when you feel that you need time to consider the matter. The agent tells you that another party is thinking about making an offer, so you shouldn't delay if you really want the house. What should you do? Trust your agent!

It is natural to feel some pressure from even the

most easy-going Realtor -- and some uncertainty about whether to make an offer. If you really like a house, there is always the possibility that someone else with share your enthusiasm for it. Sometimes you can "sleep on it" and it won't matter. Whether the market is lively or sluggish, it is a good idea to assume that another offer is likely to come in. If your heart is set on the property, move as quickly as possible to minimize the possibility of another buyer materializing.

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

Cruise for a brighter purpose raffle

Win a Sunset Dinner Cruise for six people on the White Pelican, a 42-foot Silverton Yacht, with Captain Ken Lohr.

Only 200 tickets will be sold. Your odds are excellent. Brightest Horizons Child Development Center was established on Gladiolus Drive over thirty years ago to help low income families in Harlem Heights. Now it has become an award winning multicultural early childhood development center with 162 kids from four weeks to twelve years old, including an after school and summer program. Community, state and private donations subsidize scholarships for low income working families so parents can work while their children are nurtured in a loving and stimulating environment. Brightest Horizons needs your help and we know you need a cruise. All donations are tax deductible. We cannot serve a child we cannot fund.

Cruise in style around the islands or on the river. Captain Ken and his first mate will treat you to a cruising experience second to none. The While Pelican is equipped with high tech cruising gear and features satellite TV, two staterooms with a well appointed salon, and a fly bridge for viewing. The proceeds of raffle will be donated to Brightest Horizons as the White Pelican has been graciously donated to Brightest Horizons for fundraising purposes. Plan now to win.

The White Pelican will be amply stocked with trays of fresh seasonal fruit, veggies, cheeses, pate and assorted crackers. A bountiful dinner buffet will feature fresh Gulf shrimp, sliced tenderloins of beef, smoked salmon, gourmet salads, fresh baked croissants, breads and rolls and a select tray of desserts. A bottle of champagne for the winning toast awaits your arrival; a full bar, beer and wine are also included.

All trips are based on six passengers plus the Captain and a first mate. Custom trips may also be arranged. The date would be determined by you and Captain Ken and the cruise must be used in 2005 unless other arrangements are made upon

winning. No holiday periods apply.

Drawing will be held September 1,
2005. Raffle tickets may also be purchased at Brightest Horizons or the Sanibel Captiva Community Bank at 1037 Periwinkle Way or 2475 Library Way on Sanibel.

For further information, call first mate, Dian Eddy at 472-6196, or e-mail dian@leaftd.org. Brightest Horizons, PO Box 08072, 10320 Gladiolus Drive, Fort Myers, Fl 33908, 481-2100.

Soccer news

Soccer Registration Deadline
The Sanibel Youth Soccer season is fast approaching and league organizers are expecting another banner year.

The registration deadline for the fall season is August 13. The price is just \$60 per player with additional family members receiving a \$10 discount. Teams will be announced the week of August 22 and practices begin August 29. Games are held on Saturday mornings beginning September 17. The season wraps up November 12 with playoff games and an awards pienic.

Forms are available by calling league registrar Holly Smith at 472-0026 or Kirk Williams at 472-0871 or on-line at www.sanibelsoccer.org

Registration forms should be mailed to Sanibel Youth Soccer, PO Box 392, Sanibel, FL 33957. For further information visit the league website or call Kirk Williams at 472-0871.

Special Soccer Skills Clinic

August 13, Sanibel Youth Soccer is holding a special one-day soccer clinic from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the island soccer fields adjacent to The Sanibel School. All boys and girls ages 8 to 14 are invited to attend. The clinic is being conducted by the director of coaching for the Fort Myers Florida Premier team.

The price is just \$15 per participant. Pre-registration is not required. For further information call Rob Price at 472-9622 or 433-2235 or Kirk Williams at 472-0871.

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First day of school

Monday was the first day of school and this year's Kindergarten classes learned the ropes at the Sanibel School Rotary Cafetorium.

Beth Hight and her team come together like clockwork as they handle 400 kids in 1-1/4 hours. Each class has 25 minutes to eat and teachers bring their classes in one by one. Every class has a designated table and, as each class is seated, those wanted to purchase lunch proceed over to the food line, where they are helped by Nelly, Dolly and Donna.

After lunch, the tables are dismissed one by one, with trays and trash dumped in bins at the head of each table. Assigned table washers for the class (a special honor!) clean the tables as each class lines up and return to their classroom.

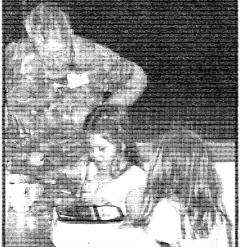
Hight explains that good behavior is encouraged through a point system. "Each class earns 10 points a day. If they have 50 points at the end of the week, they get a certificate and a cookie treat on Monday. But if anyone in the class is caught running, or acting in an appropriate manner, or if they are out of their seat without permission and not using dining room manners, then points are taken away." When classes lose points, Hight adds, the teachers want to know who was responsible

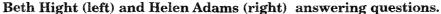
Kids also vie for the chance to be tablewashers. "I had kids find me this morning, wanting to be table helpers," she said, and she keeps lists of those requesting this special privilege. Anyone caught breaking the rules is not eligible.

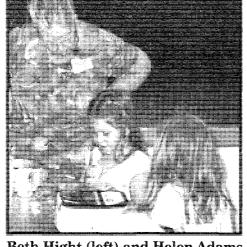
Principal Barbara Von Harten, Vice-Principal Nancy McDole and Officer Kurt Schulte of the Sanibel Police Department were on hand, looking for bewildered faces, answering questions and helping out where needed.

Hight has one request for parents: for pre-packaged foods, like milk cartons and sealed snack packs, please practice opening them with your child. Kids get frustrated when they are defeated by the packaging, and most of the requests for help are to open recalcitrant packets of this or that.

With Beth Hight and Helen Adams out front, and Nelly, Dolly and Donna in the kitchen, lunch in the new Cafetorium is a delicious treat.







First grade table helpers squeeze their washcloths before tackling the table.

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Officer Kurt Schulte assisting a first grader

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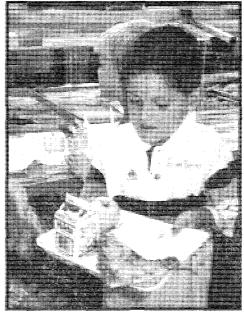
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Nutrition

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Kindergarten teacher Barbara Simmons guides her brood through the food line. Carefully, carefully... balancing the tray; and pausing for a photo op while ordering lunch.



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Zonta, Sanibel and Human Trafficking

By Joan Good Special to the Islander

Ever since the Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva became involved in the issue of Human Trafficking, members have been asked how this happened. After all, the club has been honored by the Federal Department of Health and Human Services as a "role model of citizen activism" and a little more than a year ago, members barely knew what the term "human trafficking" meant.

Zonta's involvement is a direct result of two things: its mission to advance the status of women and last year's strategic planning process, the "Futures" project, spear-headed by Darla Letourneau. The strategic plan revealed an interest in developing a local service project with ties to Zonta International. Six members of the club went to the July 2004 International Conference and began researching the international projects. They chose the issue of Human Trafficking upon learning that Florida had the second highest prevalence of the crime in the United States and that slavery had become the second largest international crime.

Back in Sambel, they further researched both the issue and local organizations with the goal of finding an existing not-for-profit to partner with. They found and partnered with Anna Rodriguez, who recently founded the Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking after serving 10 years as a victim's advocate for the Collier County Sheriff's Department and being involved in a number of landmark cases. Anna has been an integral partner and the club has advanced her work with a \$10,000 training and education grant. The research has been organized and made available to the public on the website www.zontasancap.com.

Convinced of the merits of the project, yet stunned by the lack of knowledge of the crime, Zonta members introduced a resolution to fight human trafficking at the September 2004 District meeting. It was unanimously passed and has been enthusiastically worked on by many clubs in the district.

Darla, Karen Pati and Nola Theiss approached newly elected Sheriff, Mike Scott, to discuss the issue. He confirmed that the department had not been educated on the subject and agreed to join training classes and initiate a Task Force,

At the same time, Letourneau, Pati and Theiss invited Anna Rodriguez to speak to the club and to teach a series of Renaissance Academy classes. Anna has shared her expertise and brought in experts from the FBI, the U.S. Prosecuting Attorney's office, the Center for the Advancement of Human Rights and the Federal Department of Health and Human Services. Participants included local law enforcement officials, Zontians, service providers and the public at large. Many members joined the effort, training to become educational speakers and helping organize the Sheriff's Task Force meetings.

At the first meeting, on April 20, a service provider told



Photo provided

Learning about human trafficking at a coalition meeting.

one of the Zonta facilitators that she thought one of her clients might be a trafficking victim. The Sheriff's Department, which, by this time and at the request of the local FBI agent had formed a Human Trufficking Unit, took the lead and three weeks later arrested four people on charges of Human Trafficking. The second meeting led to the formation of a steering committee, of which Nola Theiss is a co-chair, and the announcement of the task force's name "The Coalition Against Human Trafficking in Southwest Florida." At the third meeting, Steve Wagner, the Federal Director of the Rescue and Restore Campaign of the Department of Health and Human Services, called the Coalition a role model for the nation.

Meanwhile, Zonta services include organizing Task Force meetings, developing educational materials, collecting supplies for local victims, and speaking to local community groups, including the News-Press, BIG Arts Woman Studies class, Catholic Charities service providers, Women of Vision and Action and other Zonta clubs. They are scheduled to speak at Lee Memorial Hospital, the Lee County School Board, the Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club and a local Sanibel church. Nota and Anna also helped the Sarasota Zonta club organize a meeting of local law enforcement and service providers in order to start a task force in Sarasota County.

Human Trafficking is crime where victims do not or cannot speak for themselves and their safety and freedom is dependent on individual citizens who spot the signs of human trafficking. With a little information, you may be able to save someone from slavery. You may schedule a presentation for your organization, neighborhood or church by e-mailing zontasancap@lycos.com or calling 472-3400.

A Kiwanian Talks About Schools

Submitted by Bob Wimbush

Bob Chilmonik, Cape Coral Kiwanian and Lee County School Board member, started rapid fire with his boiler plate summation, and we will too, because often people do not realize the impact of the school district in

For starters, the Lee County School District is the county's largest employer with around 10,000 employ-ees. It serves about 71,000 students - 5,000 to 6,000 more than last year.

This year's School District budget is \$1.3 billion including capital improvements (so it is only slightly less affluent that Sambel's Lions Club). The district will complete eight new schools this year, five next year, and five the year after that. There are two reasons for all this construction: growth and the state's constitutional class size amendment. The class size amendment has added 1/3 to Lee Schools' capital budget. Fortunately, according to Chilmonik, this class size situation is not playing well with the electorate now that they are seeing the cost on their tax bills, and he expects it will be ameliorated.

And he leaked some good news. We can report it, because it will be public information by the time this runs, and no one's wife's undercover identity that we care about will be compromised: It appears that impact fees coupled with the rapidly rising property values may obviate the need for the District to request a sales tax increase.

So what do we get for all this money? Well, Lee County Schools have earned a "B" overall in reading. Barbara Von Harten, Sanibel's principal and Kiwanis favorite who was present, announced (but only when asked) that The Sanibel School had just gotten it's seventh consecutive "A.". Bob talked about two closed K-marts that are being converted into schools and the fact that schools are now being built to standard designs in order to control costs and accelerate construction.

The first question asked concerned busing and included the novel (in the questioner's mind) idea of having neighborhood schools. Bob explained it more elegantly, but here's the straight skinny: We can't build neighborhood schools per se because Lee County is still in the iterations of a discrimination suit filed about a quarter century ago by the NAACP. So, for about 25 years, schools have been located with an eye to racial balance,



not neighborhoods. The assumption created by that suit, that busing will be with us forever. lats now become fact. A lot of neighborhood land is gone, and even if the suit went away, neighhorhood schools can now not be built. The district realizes the fiscal ramifications of busing and will hegin this year to out down student seat time and



Bob Chilmonik



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Parsley, Sage, Rosemary and Thyme

I am not a child of the sixties. I wandered through the decade in my private psychic fog. Certain aspects of that era cannot be forgotten, however. Tie dyes. Stringy hair. Psychedelic VW vans. I didn't do lrugs back then, and eschew their use today.

I do remember some of the music, however. Mention a specific herb, and I'm likely to burst into song: "Parsley, sage, rosemary, and thyme..." I have no idea what it means but my kids roll their eyes when they hear me vocalizing. "There she goes again..." they sigh. "Keep her away from our friends."

We use these herbs today as culinary flavorings. People of the medieval era would have cherished the symbolism. Parsley is thought to alleviate physical and spiritual bitterness. Sage is a symbol of strength, rosemary represents faithfulness and remembrance, and thyme is a symbol of courage. Perhaps the lover singing about these favorite flavorings was considering his partner's health rather than his love life.

Do not discard the parsley sitting on the edge of your plate. Nibble it as an aperitif to stimulate the appetite, promote good humor, and (according to the ancient Greeks), ward off drunkenness. Parsley is a good source of vitamins A and C, folate, and acts as a diuretic. The herb is especially helpful pre-menses by removing excess fluids before they cause discomfort.

Think Thanksgiving stuffing when you think of sage. The Latin word from which our word is derived means "to cure." According to the healers in Frovence, France, "he who has sage in his garden needs no doctor." Traditionally, sage oil is used to treat inflammation of the mouth and GI tract, but modern science affirms it is antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, and

antioxidant. Menopausal women sometimes use sage to help reduce hot flashes.

Shakespeare wrote, "There's Rosemary, that's for remembrance." Spoken by Ophelia after her father's death, rosemary was known for its ability to improve the memory. Rosemary is one of the oldest known medicinal herbs, with claims from centuries ago that it enhanced mental function and memory, but today, we use rosemary for its astringent, tonic, carminative (gasexpelling), and antispasmodic properties. It is used for something else but I forget what.

Medieval Greek women embroidered a branch of thyme onto scarves worn by knights to give them courage before going into battle. It has a reputation as a digestive aid, antiseptic and wound healer. Thyme is one of the top ranking antioxidant herbs. Several years ago when my daughter contracted whooping cough, the remedy I used was thyme; it helped break up the mucus and relieve the spasmodic, frightening cough.



If you want a recipe that uses all these herbs, do not ask me. Unflattering things have been said about my cooking skills on this island recently, and you will have to devise your own concoction. Bring me a taste, however, and I'll review it for you...

For more information, contact Carol at the Island Nutrition Center (472-4499).

Kiwanis

from left

expense by confining busing within three zones. At today's fuel prices it costs \$1.87 per mile to run a bus.

What about teachers? Due to growth and the class size amendment, the district will add approximately 400 additional teachers this year at approximately \$30,000 each. Is there a problem getting them? Most defi-

nitely. What Chilmonik fears more than not getting the numbers is not getting the quality. Given our growth he says, "At some point we hit the wall."

Next question: What about a Sanibel/Cape Coral School District? Answer after a short gasp, "In Florida, districts are all county wide."

And finally, why is school starting so early this year? That's because the district wants students to take final exams before the Christmas – er...

ah... HOLIDAY break. Testing has become a high stakes game since schools are now paid for performance. He sees a necessity for accountability but feels they have not hit a balance yet.

He complimented his fellow Kiwanians (and, in fact, the community) for the incredible support given the Sanibel School.

Jim Jennings and Barbara Von Harten



One year ago, August 13, Charley...

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to hit...



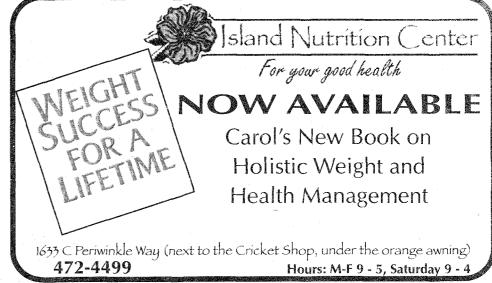
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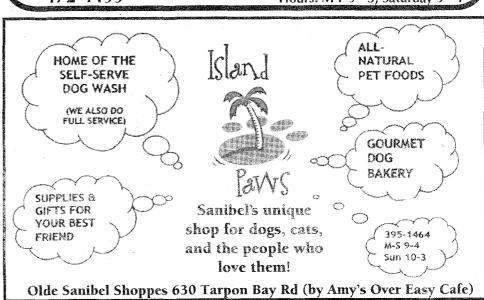
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The return of a dangerous thing

I knew it was too good to be true.

We had two years with practically no stingrays, but now they are back -- the only true threat to a pleasant walk in the surf for shells or fish.

In the spring of 2003 I started to notice that - by the early weeks of May, when we start to snorkel for shells — there was an obvious absence of the sand-colored stringrays. Not that anyone missed them. These rounded rays with the black whip tail inflict painful wounds to those unlucky enough to step on one as it burrows, half buried in the sand, searching for fred.

A misguided step can alarm the ray. It will whip its tail back and forth as the barb on the top of the tail comes up. If it winds up between your feet, it likely will get you under the ankle bone and a very painful wound will result. A light penetration of the barb can be an inch or less; a bad one can be two inches. You won't walk normally for a few days... make that weeks for some of the more serious cases.

Of course, when the rays were around in much lower numbers than in normal years. I had to wonder what was causing the decline. One of the few natural predators of rays is the hammerhead shark, and big ones - eight to 12-feet in length come close to the beaches in the hottest times of the year. They eat huge tarpon in a couple of bites, but they will also use the sensors in their T-shaped heads to pick up buried rays. The poison in the ray's tail doesn't seem to bother the sharks at all, but the barb will leave a sear around the shack's mouth.

On some of the beaches where I could always count on rays being present, there were none. This is TOO good to be true, I was thinking. And the next year, there was also a pleasant decline in rays, although there were a few more than in 2003.

In the past couple of years we've experienced an increasing number of red tide blooms. This toxin will kill fish, shellfish and many kinds of sea creatures along the beaches, including the rays. Was the absence of rays due to the red tide? I couldn't tell, but something was responsible for fewer rays those two years.

One morning a few weeks ago, we pulled up to a secluded beach on Cayo Costa Island and I got ready to throw the anchor. Then I saw them, perhaps a dozen, along a stretch of surf not 50 feet long. As you learn to pick out the black whip tail, your eye alarms you to the potential for danger. The splashing anchor spooked several, but I could see others nearly wing towing feeding not a yard from dry sand.

There goes the neighborhood. We carefully got off, walking single file. Splashing loudly and pounding down our heels on the sand sent most scattering. but for how far? When we got safely to the beach someone had forgotten a shell bag. I went back for it, reversing the noise and splashing drill.

Here are some things I've observed about the stingrays...

They are the worst at the highest tide. The high water allows them to reach far up on the beach, searching for crabs and other things to eat. As the waters drop, of course, they have to go with

the tide, so at the lowest tides, fewer rays will be in the beach water.

Rays can't back up. If you see one heading away from you, make some commotion and it will quickly scoot on straight ahead. Now, if the next ray is looking you in the eye, pointed in your direction, it will come at you when frightened. They can barely turn left or right.

It's important to wade only in clear water. When it's dirty water, as often is the case on Sanibel beaches, you have no idea if a ray is near.

For snorkelers? No problem. Snorkelers float over the rays. The first two or three steps in and out of the water are your only concern. For you anglers. waking and casting the beaches for snook, ladyfish and jacks, you are just as vulnerable as shellers, perhaps even more so because you will be wading, looking for fish and not what you are about to step on.

For years, I had wished someone would make some foot gear which will protect us. About 10 years ago, I started wearing a wading boot sold by Cabelas Outfitters (www.eabelas.com) which had 900-denier nylon as a liner. This is a cousin of bullet proof material. Since I have never been struck while wearing the boots, I can't say that I ever put it to a test. However, the same company is carrying another wading boot - this one called, appropriately, the Hodgman Stingarce for \$99.95, this one is much thicker and is said to be a great protection from rays. (When I was a boy growing up in Florida, no one called the rays "stingrays." they

were always referred to as "stingarees.")

So the pests are back. Don't let them ruin a trip to the beach. In a few months they will leave our waters - although some do stay all through the winter, but never in the same numbers as in these hot months of summer.

If you are struck, get a bucket of water as bot as you can stand — and put the wounded part in it. The hot water helps nullify the throbbing sting. The wound will bleed a great amount, but try to ignore that as the hot water takes away the sting.

Sometimes self-help is not enough some people have a very bad reaction and paramedics have to be summoned.

I have never known anyone who has been struck twice. I realize there must be some hapless person who has, but usually one encounter cures waders for life. Don't let a sting ray cause you to lose your love of the beaches, whether for shelling or

Rays, see right below





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The frogs are calling

Learn about Sanibel's frogs at the Conservation Foundation

Roll down your car window after dark following a good rain on island roads and what do you hear... sounds like fingers rubbing the surface of hundreds of balloons and wet squeaky boots. These are the sounds of the Southern Leopard Frogs and the Cuban Tree Frogs calling you to the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation to learn more about island amphibians. On Tuesday, August 16 at 10 a.m., the Foundation's herpetologist, Chris Lechowicz, will present "Frogs Of The Islands". Please call 472-2329 for reservations.

The cost of the program is \$3 for non-members with children attending for free.



Photo from SCCF web site Herpetologist Chris Lechowicz

"Ding" Darling Days unveils Sunday Youth Day calendar

For the first time ever in its 16-year history, "Ding" Darling Days this year devotes an entire day to youth by adding an extra day to its weeklong calendar.

Sunday Youth Day on October 9 kicks off the week with a fishing event, crafts, reading, and a nature photography workshop geared specifically for children and teens.

The fun begins at 9 a.m. with Kids Fishing Day at Tarpon Bay Recreation Area, co-hosted by Tarpon Bay Explorers, Sanibel Island Fishing Club, Schnapper's Hots, and the Bait Box.

The event runs until 1 p.m. Participation is limited to 30 kids between ages 5 and 13 and reservations are required.

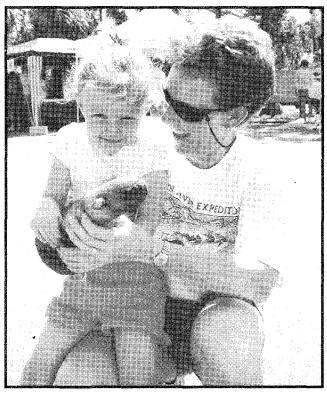
At the refuge's Education Center, a Nature Crafts program — where children learn to make stuffed manatees out of pantyhose, paper wildlife masks, and more—runs from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Reservations are not neces-

Reading at the Refuge takes place from 2 - 3 p.m. Environmental Educator, Ranger Toni Westland, will read Florida Owls and show participants how to dissect owl pellets. Participation is limited to ages 5 to 13 and reservations are required

From 2 to 4 p.m., island photography instructor, John Carney, conducts his **Kids Wildlife Photography** Workshop for ages 7 to 18. (Kids under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult.) Participants should bring their own cameras and call in advance to reserve.

To make reservations for the photography workshop, fishing event, and Reading at the Refuge, call 472-1100

For more information about "Ding" Darling Days'



Dana Klassen from Bonita Springs, with her mother, Sandie, shows off the stuffed manatee she made at last year's "Ding" Darling Days.

Youth Day and other weeklong (Oct. 9 -15) events and activities, visit www.dingdarlingdays.com.

Rays

from left above

fishing.

Does the string ray shuffle really work? If you pound your heels down on the sand so the ray can detect your position, it does. If you think just fluffing up the bottom sand is going to scare the ray, remember, they live in the surf where it's always riled up, so that's normal to them.

If I see a ray ahead of me, headed away, I take a cou-

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ple of stout shells and throw them at it. They scatter every time, but only do this if the ray is going the other direction, away from you; otherwise it will come at you.

Good shelling and fishing this week.

Have a question or comment? You can reach Capt. Mike Fuery at 466-3649 or by e-mail at junonia4@aol.com

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Late summer at the Nature Center means seasonal visitation has slowed down, but at the Nature Center, we like to be there to welcome people and help them find their way. It is our job, and the staff always needs assistance while other duties call.

The Conservation Foundation is inviting you to stop in August 30 or September 1, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to learn more about us, the nature of the islands and the volunteer tasks with which we need your help. Light refreshments will be served. Kristie Anders will lead a brief class on the work of the organization, some of the common wildlife of the area, and how you can help our island visitors

Call us at 472-2329 and let us know you are coming. We welcome your service to our islands.

Sea Turtle Nesting Totals

August 8, 2005 Nests False Hatches Crawls to date 2005 Captiva 82 123 Sanibel East End 13 3 67 Sanibel West End 83 110 Blind Pass Renourishment 29 51 Totals 207 351 38

Relocations due to Renourishment: Captiva - 41 nests relocated

*		2004
Captiva		65
Sanibel	East End	39
Sanibel	West End	1 151
Totals		255

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Loggerhead nests laid on Florida beaches, which have 70% of all U.S. nests, statistically hatch only 80% of their eggs.

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Upcoming events

Every week at the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation:

Buck Key Kayaking Adventures - In cooperation with Captiva Kayak Company we will explore the back bay estuary in the vicinity of Buck Key and discuss the natural and cultural history of the area. Appropriate for all ages; kayaking experience not required. \$35/person. For reservation and additional info call 472-2329 or 395-2925.

Butterfly House at the Conservation Foundation - Learn about the life cycle and behavior of butterflies and the plants they are dependent on. The Butterfly House is open every day and Conservation Foundation docents are in the house on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. - 12

Dolphin & Wildlife Cruises (Pine Island Sound), In cooperation with Captina Cruises, Conservation Foundation-trained docents narrate, with an excellent opportunity for the while family to view wildlife in Pine Island Sound. \$20/adult; \$12.50/children. Reservations 472-5300.

Turtle Tracks, Thursday mornings at 9 a.m. Learn about the life cycle of the sea turtles that nest on our beaches. Talk begins at the turtle exhibit and marine touch tank in the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation Nature Center and then goes to a beach site. Cost for this program is \$3/adult and free for children, a beach parking fee of \$2665 is necessary at the beach stille. The Conservation Foundation monitors the sea turde nests on Sanibel and Captiva.

Lessons from the Eye of Charley - Offered on August 12 only - A joint effort of Captiva Cruises and the Conservation Foundation, the two-hour boat trip looks at construction of homes, hurricane preparation activities and stories of real-life experiences before and after the storms of the summer of 2004. Call 472-5300 for more

The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation is at 3333 Sanibel-Captiva Road (one mile west of Tarpon Bay Road). The Nature trails, Nature Center, Nature Shop and Bookstore are open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. \$3/adult, children and members free.

The Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of natural resources and wildlife habitat on and around Sanibel and Captiva through: land acquisition, wildlife habitat management, landscaping for wildlife, environmental education, Marine Laboratory and research and sea turtle monitoring.

Sailing and Kayaking

Adventure - Cruise local waters on a 30-foot C&C sloop; arrangements through Captiva Cruises. Depart from McCarthy's Marina. Phone 472-5300.

New Moon Sailing - Capt Mick Gurley sailing on a 40-ft. Pearson. Phone 395-1782

Adventure Sea Kayak Wildlife Tours - Departing from 'Tween Waters Inn Marina on Captiva. Call the marina at 472-5161, x 3 or call 437-0956 after 6 p.m.

Captiva Kayak Company / Wildside Adventures
Departing From McCarthy's Marina on Captiva, Call
395-2925 or EZ-KAYAK

Off-Island - GAEA Kayak Tours

Tuesdays - Ostego Bay Foundation Kayak Tour - 2 p.m. - 5PM - Enjoy a guided tour of this wonderful Marine Sciences facility and then take a guided paddle on the Great Calusa Blueway to see the critters you just learned about but in their natural habitat. A portion of the proceeds goes to support the Foundation (www.ostegobay.org) - \$45 per person

Friday, August 12 - 7 p.m - Perseids Meteor Shower Kayak Tour - We will get to see the glorious sunset and be in the dark and quiet of Estero Bay to observe one of the year's best meteor showers - The Perseids. 3hrs+.

\$45 per person.

Thorsday, August 25 - Archaeological Kayak Tour -10 a.m. - Learn about our native Calusa Civilization by visiting Josslyn Island that was inhabited by them for about 800 years. See the mounds and unusual plants - a real history lesson about this fascinating ancient culture. 4 hours -\$50 per person - sponsored by the Randell Research Center at Pineland on Pine Island. A portion of the proceeds goes towards support of the Research Visit... Center. their at:http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/anthro/sflarch/pineland.htm

For more information and a reservation for any of our tours call 239 694-5513

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New externs at CROW

The Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife on Sanibel, welcomes two new externs this month to join the other four students currently working at CROW

Her first visit to the Limited States. Anne Reuter, traveled from her hometown of Serkenrode. Germany a small town near Frankfurt, to spend two months at CROW expanding her knowledge of wildlife medicine. Anne will be entering her fourth year of veterinary medicine at the Veterinary School in Giessen, Germany.

Aberdeen, Scotland is home to Lindsey Carruthers who will be spending the next three weeks at CROW



CROW externs Lindsey Carruthers (left) and Anne Reuter

helping in the efforts with ward to her time on Sanibel. the wildlife patients. Lindsey will be a fourth year student at the Glasgow School of Veterinary Medicine. She is unfamillar with Florida's wildlife species, and is looking for-

During 2005, CROW anticipates having more than 40 students visit.

CROW relies exclusively on private donations For info, call 472-3644, or visit www.crowclinic.org.



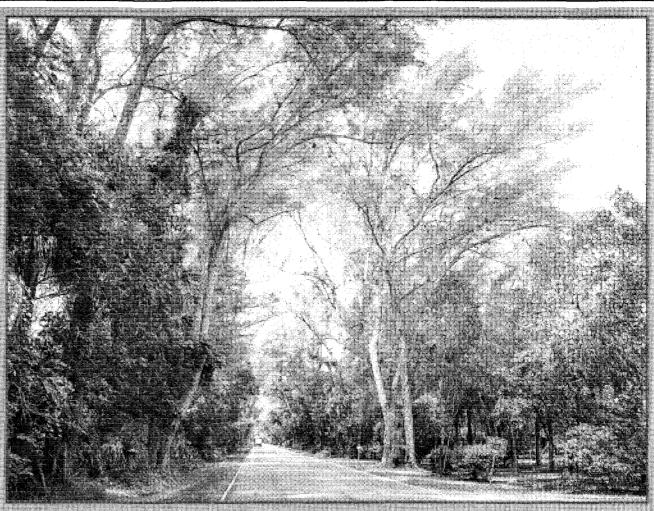
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Remembering August 13, 2004





Phala de Koren ivelaar

August 12, 2004 on the shared use path and Periwinkle Way, looking west. Photographed near the Sanibel Community Church.

Remembering what we lost in Hurricane Charley, including our sense of immunity from hurricanes ... and celebrating all those who gave so much of their time and their selves in the recovery.

Chamber members cruise for lunch

The Sanibel Harbour Resort played host to the Sanibel-Captiva Chamber luncheon aboard the Sanibel Harbour Princess II this Tuesday past.

A great luncheon and good camaraderie between the Chamber business members made the sail eventful.

Right: Ron Rutz, Southwest Florida's premier DJ and singer; Diane Hertz, director of catering at Sanibel Harbour; and Robin Calabrese, group publisher for Sanibel Breeze Newspapers along for the ride.

Below left: Jane Lumley, a top producer for Coldwell Banker, enjoys the upper deck of The Princess.

Below right: Barb Rich and Beth Rizzo at

the chamber luncheon planning their strategy as bartenders in the 2005 "Celebrity Guest Promo for Charity." Barb will be participating in the TNT Nike Women's Marathon in October. Therefore, their chosen charity for the celebrity guest promo will be the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.





Island snapshots



Enjoying a laid-back Sunday afternoon at Keylime Bistro on Captiva's Andy Rosse Lane.



Pam Kursel from Milwaukee, Wisconsin saying hello to GW (A/K/A "Gold Wing") at Jerry's on Sanibel.

Sea turtle hatchlings

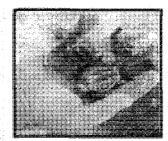
By Karen Nelson Managing Editor

Following up on the story about sea turtle nest relocations on Captiva due to the scheduled beach renourishment, this reporter went out with Sam Landry and Sandra Stilwell on Tuesday, August 2.

On June 5, sea turtle nest #13 had been relocated. Landry called on August 1 to advise that the nest had hatched two days earlier. As part of the sea turtle monitoring program, coordinated by the Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation, all sea turtle nests are dug 72 hours after they have hatched. That 72 hours was up for Nest #13 on August 2; Nest #16 was also due to be dug.

As digging started on Nest #13, one live hatchling was recovered but the majority of the eggs had never hatched. Landry attributed this to inundation because of the recent storms and high tides.

However, Nest #16 proved to be a happier experience and 27 live hatchlings were recovered. The 28 hatchlings



from both nests were released after dark that day, after spending the day resting in two covered buckets.

There are about 200 nests in the beach renour-ishment relocation zone, which runs from Blind Pass to the "s" curve (including nests that were placed there by the turtles). Nests laid from the "s" curve all the way north to Redfish Pass are relocated to this zone.

The early start of the hurricane season has adversely affected the nests on both islands. Waves from Hurricane Dennis washed over nests on Captiva in July. Landry and Stilwell found 16 eggs from Nest #7 rolling on the beach. However, only two nests were entirely lost due to Dennis.

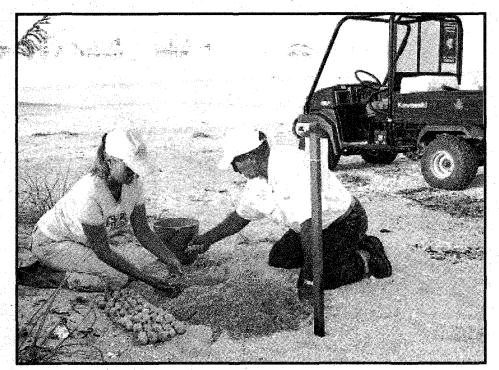
For three days during the July full moon, the Captiva beach was again underwater, with water all the way up to the vegetation line. Landry noted that the really high tides usually do not come until late August. "Once we get the first major storm of the summer," he explained, "the tides seem to get worse."

As of August 2, the turtles are still laying eggs, with about two new nests each day. Gestation times have been down slightly on Captiva this year, to about 55 - 60 days, probably because of the high water. As of

e August 8, 24 nests had thatched on Captiva. Eandry does a lighting

Landry does a lighting run two to three times a week, looking for beachfront properties with unshielded beach lighting (the City of Sanibel also patrols the Sanibel beaches). Most lighting offenders are visitors and don't know about the sea turtles nesting on their beach. See below right for more about lights and sea turtles.

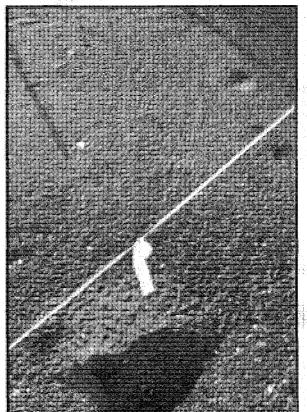
Landry found one unmarked nest this year when hatchling tracks appeared on the beach where there was no known nest. Between the heavy rain and high tides, the track of the nesting turtle is sometimes obliterated before sea turtle volunteers hit the beach the first thing the following morning. There was also a nest in Zone 1 that was discovered, probably from the landward side, when someone found the crawl up in the dune vegetation.



Photos by Karen Nelson

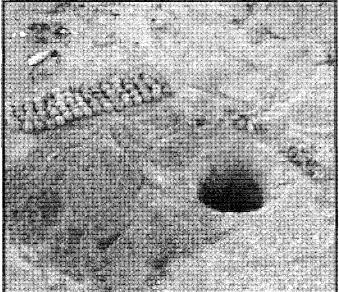
Above: Sandra Stilwell and Sam Landry sifting through the sand from Nest #13 in order to account for all of the eggs. The relocation of Nest #13 from the renourishment area was pictured in the June 10 issue of the *Islander* and, unfortunately, this nest did not fare well. Middle below: Digging out the hole. Note the sea oat roots, which have grown into the nest in 60 days. Landry noted that sometimes, they can be dense enough to trap the hatchlings. Right below The lone live hatchling rescued from the nest. Bottom:

The final tally for Nest #13.



Hatchling tracks from Nest #16. "This time of year we're not only looking for big tracks, we're looking for baby railroad train tracks," explained Landry.





Nest stats

Nest #13
Hatched 14
Unhatched 78
Hatched dead * 2
Total: 94

Noted Landry, Nest #13 was probably under water. "Only four nests have been this bad."

Nest #16
Hatched 81
(including the 27 found in the nest on August 2)
Unhatched 16
Total: 97

* The turtle only made it partially out of the egg.

Turtle Tracks

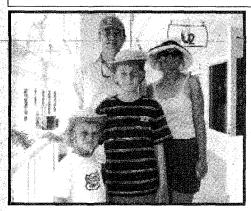
Learn more about sea turtles at Turtle Tracks, at the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation's Nature Center at 9 a.m. on Thursday mornings.

Starting at the turtle exhibit and marine touch tank in the nature center, learn about the life cycle of the

Loggerhead Sea Turtle. The group then goes to a beach site to discuss sea turtle nesting habitat as well as other fascinating marine life. Cost for this program is \$5/adult and free for children, a beach parking fee of \$2/car is necessary at the beach site.

For more info about the Turtle Tracks program or the Sea Turtle Research Program, call the Conservation Foundation's Nature Center at 472-2329.

Question of the week: What brought you out to Captiva?



"We visited Captiva for one day a month ago and decided to come back and have a relaxing, two-week vacation." They lost their home in the storm surge from Hurricane Ivan last year but it has since been rebuilt.

> At O2 at the Celebration Center Harry, Dad Richard, Oliver and Karen Fogerty Grand Cayman Island



Barbara and Laura have been friends for 42 years. "This is where we go every year for our friend-ship vacation." They tried the Bubble Room for the first time on this trip and this is already their second visit. "We'll come back here every time."

> At The Bubble Room Laura Rank and Sloan, Barbara and Connor LeGrande Lee's Summit Missouri



George is a hair transplant surgeon, originally from Colombia; Andrea is a dentist in Pembroke Pines. "We're staying on Sanibel, at the Castaways. Andrea found it through the internet, the Chamber web site. We're here celebrating my birthday.'

> At R.C. Otter's George Gaviria with Andrea Trujillo Boca Raton and Pembroke Pines,



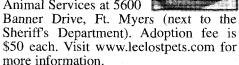
"We love it here, we've been coming for five years. We went swimming on Sanibel and we came to Captiva for dessert."

> At The Bubble Room Brian, Patrick, Janice and Victoria Clarke Ajax, Ontario (near Toronto), Canada.

Pet of the Week

Say hello to Tony, a two-month-old kitten with black tiger stripes and bright blue eyes. Tony and his brothers and sisters have been looking for a new home since August 2nd. Welcome him into your home and you will be glad that you did. He would make a great feline companion.

He is super sweet and gentle too. Visit Tony and his brothers and sisters at Lee County Animal Services at 5600





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Please! Lights out for sea turtles!



Please respect the "lights out for sea tur-tles" rule. When the nest that is on the herons and other predators.

into the water.

beachfront of this Captiva home hatches, the hatchlings may well head up into the dune vegetation rather than into the water. Hatchlings find their way into the Gulf because, under natural conditions, the water is lighter than the land. Hatchlings stranded in the dunes fall easy prey to fire ants, ghost crabs, raccoons, yellow-crowned night

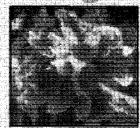
When the August 2 hatchlings were released, it was obvious that the light from just one or two camera flashes was disorienting the hatchlings, who were only a few feet from the water's edge and not 60 feet away on a sand dune. Obviously, cameras were put away as the 28 hatchlings cautiously found their way

Transaction of the control of the co

libiscus: Local growers for fun and profit















By Laura Nickerson Staff Writer

The beautiful hibiscus blossoms we see in Florida gardens are almost always hybridized varieties today, though the original plant comes from China.

On Sanibel, one gentleman who grows hibiscus strictly for pleasure is Bill Wollschlager. It is a pleasure he shares, every time he gets a nice new bloom, by taking the best specimens to the Sanibel Public Library so that all islanders may view their beauty. Some days, there will be four or five different varieties neatly lined up on the Library counter.

Wollschlager said, "I did not originate this idea myself; I am following the lead most beautiful varieties are Tropical of another islander, a botanist from Fantasy, a pink with colorful shadings, Hawaii named Frank Ranzoni.

He lived on Henderson, in the Sanctuary, and was particularly known for growing orchids and bromeliads. He brought samples of his blossoms to the Library, but he continued in his footsteps.

Wollschlager belongs to the James E. Hendry chapter of the American Hibiscus Society, which covers the Fort Myers-Cape Coral area. He is a member under the "strictly collector" category, which means he grows under 75 varieties.

The next category is commercial col-lector, which would allow him to hybridize and register new varieties, and though he's getting close in numbers, he doesn't really think about growing commercially:

Wollschlager keeps the beautiful hybrids in pots, finding it easier to control their feeding and watering in Sanibel's subtropical barrier island elimate conditions that way. Some of his Herm Geller, an old-fashioned yelloworange, and Byron Metts, a spectacular true white.

He also grows a deep rose mallow with edible blossoms that is called a moved to the state of Washington, I have Caribbean Hibiscus, and the native

Hibiscus varieties, from left: Volcano, It's So Easy, Pink Splendor, Australia #1037, Sly Fox, June's Dragon, Samantha Dubin and below: Bridal Bouquet.

Florida Turk's cap hibiscus, with its never-fully-opened blooms, both of which are planted in the ground.

Florida's other native hibiscus, or swamp mallow, which blossoms a bright coral red with a green and white center, is planted in the water behind his bome.

Wollschlager knew Arthur Hunter, an islander and hibiscus grower in earlier times, whose daughter had been searching for a particular variety of hibiscus that Hunter himself hybridized, called Sanibel Sunset, or Sanibel Red. A few years ago, a plant was located, and a piece of it was given to Wollschlager

for propagation. The plant, now a large specimen known as Hunter's Offspring, will be given a permanent place of honor in the garden at the Historical Village and Museum.

He fully recommends that those interested in hibiscus join the local chapter of the American Hibiscus Society, which holds meetings September through June. They meet on Virginia Street off Cleveland Avenue in Fort Myers, in facilities shared with the Lee County Garden Club. An annual show is held at the Shriner's Center each June in Fort Myers.

Slightly further afield on Pine Island, Gary and Donna Schneider are no less enamoured of the beautiful hibiscus hybrids. They are commercial growers, and their nursery, Pine Island Tropicals was begun in 1981 specifically to grow hibiscus.

Gary Schneider's ancestors were Tennessee farmers, so he feels it is in his blood to grow things. In 1980, the Schneiders were trav-

eling down Route 41 through Punta Gorda when they saw a sign advertising a hibiscus

They decided to stop.

The couple were amazed at the huge room full of dinner-platesized blossoms in a wide variety of

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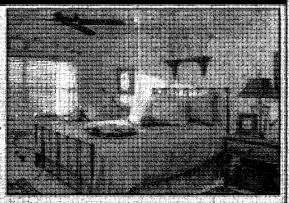
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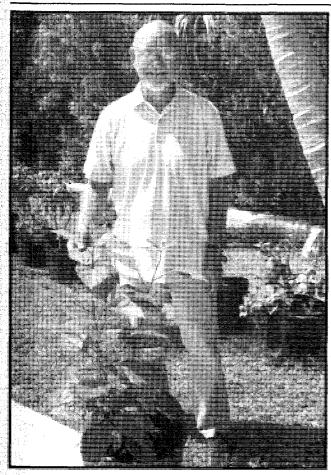
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INTERIORS

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Above: Bill Wollschlager with his four-year-old "Sanibel Sunset" affectionately called Hunter's Offspring. Above right: Arthur Hunter.

colors and something just clicked.

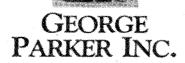
On 17 acres of newly purchased land on Pine Island they began growing hibiscus. Soon after, Gary was trying his hand at hybridizing. "Back then, there were only a few of us doing it," he said. "We met 'King' Harry Goulding' who had been hybridizing hibiscus for 50 years, beginning with just 10 or 12 varieties known world-wide. Because of him, Punta Gorda is called the City of Hibiscus. Other early local experimenters included Gordon Powell, the Hendrys, and the Pottingers."

There are no patents on the lovely hybrids, but some do have attached royalties, paid to the original grower who registered a particular variety.

Gary explained, "Hibiscus come from species plants known as Rosa Sinensis, which are relatives of old species roses. There is one from China, one from Tahiti, and a couple from Hawaii. Mallows are distant cousins. Closer relatives are cotton and okra."

Hybridizers strive for unknown colors or color combinations, size of bloom, and lately, bloom duration, as growers try to find a way to lengthen the ephemeral beauty of individual flowers. Donna said, "Each blossom only lasts a maximum of two days. The race is on for blooms that last three days without refrigeration."



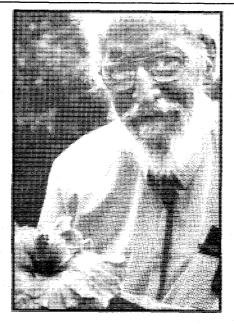


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The Schneiders have had many success stories with their hibiscus, including one called Lovely Lil, named after Donna's grandmother. A close friend introduced the variety to style maven Martha Stewart, and it was even sent to the White House.

There are two ways to propagate hibiscus, through cuttings, and by grafting. The Schneiders only graft. They grow hibiscus in sandy, slightly acidic soil. "You need a soil P.H. of 5 1/2-6 1/2 for flowering. The plants won't bloom in alkaline soil," said Gary.

Plants are pruned throughout the year, as needed for shape or bloom, except in November and December.

"We fertilize regularly with a palm fertilizer," said Donna.

The couple belong to the American Hibiscus Society, as

"members at large" rather than maintaining direct affiliation with one branch. They are past members of the Harry Goulding Branch, which has been in existence since 1950. It now primarily serves the Charlotte County area.

Pine Island Tropicals is open by appointment, and though the Schneiders suffered extensive damage in Hurricane Charley, their recovery is progressing nicely. Dozens of their own grafted hybrid hibiscus varieties are available in one gallon containers at \$15 each. They also now grow and sell other exotic plants, many of which would be otherwise almost unobtainable at the retail level. Specialties

Hibiscus, see page 18





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Why gumbo limbo has so many names

Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation Special to the Islander

How does the Gumbo Limbo tree (Bursera simarouba) come to have so many great names? This intriguing native tree has hundreds of common names according to the Atlas of Plants of Middle America and Florida Ethnobotony, Names like Incense Tree, Gum Elemi, Naked Indian, Torchwood, Turpentine Tree, and our local favorite ... Tourist Tree. The Gumbo Limbo's red smooth sunburned bark is very eye catching, but the reason for so many names is its use by so many cultures.

Throughout the vast range of this native tree, people past and present from Florida, Cuba, South and Central America, the Caribbeam, Mexico, even the Bahamas have used the wood, bark, leaves, and even resin of the Gumbo Limbo tree in their daily lives. From the book Rainforest Remedies, author and ethnobotanist, Rosita Arvigo, documents that Gumbo leaves and bark are widely used in Belize to treat skin irritations, rashes, insect bites, poison ivy, and even psoriasis. Following Hurricane Charley,



residents of the Keys were breaking out in rashes from the leaves of the Poisonwood trees that were blown to the ground. Luckily someone remembered that a tea brewed from Gumbo leaves and bark was an effective topical antidote. Bark resins of Gumbo have even been found to contain an antibiotic substance. What would you do if the drug stores closed?

The names Incense Tree, Gum Elemi, and Turpentine Tree all allude to the many uses of the Gumbo's sap. myrrh and frankingense come from two close plant relatives. The name Gumbo Limbo was likely given by African slaves who applied the tree's san to branches, sticky-trapping birds that perched there. The turpentiney but sweetish amber resin has been used as a glue and varnish for canoes, burned as an insect repellent, as a paint binder in Mesoamerica frescos, and has even been mistaken for ancient amber. The resin can be dripped on a thorn puncture then peeled off when dry to draw the thorn out. Who needs tweezers? In Guatemala the resin of this and related species is still collected today and sold as Copal incense. The Mayan burn the copal resin as an offering to the gods... the "blood" of the Gumbo tree being the primary food of the deities. The smoke from the incense is passed over the body for protection and cleansing. Catholic churches of the area burn copal in their cer-

This medium sized tree cannot be beat for island landscapes. The Gumbo is drought and salt tolerant but will also grow in moist areas. The tree can photosynthesize through the greenish tint in the bark, handy for when the leaves have been blown off by storms or dropped to save energy during times of drought. Gumbo gets an A for wind resistance, ranking on top of the list of plants surviving recent hurricanes. The bright red seeds are migratory bird favorites, which is how the Gumbo Limbo got to Florida in the first place. Branches stuck in the ground will easily take root and are used to make living fences in



Above: A majestic gumbo limbo tree; Below left: Gumbo limbo seeds.

the tropics. The lightweight wood of Gumbo was used to carve Calusa ceremonial masks, Seminole medicine bowls, and even carousel horses.

Getting to know the history of Florida native plants is like an armchair travel through the tropics since many native plants originated further south and flew in with the birds or drifted in on ocean currents. To learn more about the human uses of Florida native plants visit the ethno botany garden at the Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation or call Dec at 472-2329 to set up a tour of the garden or a native landscape housecall



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Hibiscus

from page 17

include many "Elephant Ears," botanically known as colocasias and alocasias, several varieties of ginger, and a huge assortment of haliconias.

Gary and Donna also have a permanent spot at the Pine Island Farmers Market, located on Stringfellow Road, and open Fridays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. 4 p.m.Call Pine Island Tropicals at 239/283-4874.

Donna and Gary Schneider at their home and plant nursery on Pine Island.



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Final Week of Rock'n Roll Beach Party

The Schoolhouse Theater's successful end of season show is coming to a close Saturday, August 13 — don't miss your last chance to see this fabulous summer hit! Audiences and critics alike have raved about *Rock 'n Roll Beach Party* playing at The Schoolhouse Theater on Sanibel.

Set right on the beach (The Schoolhouse stage is covered with sand and includes a beautiful Sanibel Island backdrop) you'll be rockin' to famous tunes including "Rock Around the Clock," "Good Vibrations," "The Twist," "Under the Boardwalk," "Dancin' in the Streets", plus MANY more!

A "fun, cool, family evening," said Anne Bellew of

The Islander

"This Beach Party rocks!" said Drew Sterwald of The Fort Myers *News-Press*. This '50s and '60s revue "is a fun show full of wonderful nostalgia and fantastic music," said Di Saggau of the *Island Sun*. You don't want to miss this toe tappin' hand clappin' fun in the summertime sun!

Rock 'n Roll Beach Party is playing at The Schoolhouse Theater, Wednesday – Saturday at 8 p.m. through August 13. Don't miss out! New summer ticket prices are \$20 for adults and \$15 for kids under 16. Call our Box Office at 472-6862 for reservations

Later Life playing at Theatre Conspiracy

New season schedule to be announced soon

Theatre Conspiracy, now in its eleventh season at the Foulds Theatre in Fort Myers, is proud to announce its up-coming summer production of *Later Life* by A.R. Gurney. The production will run through August 27, Thursday, Friday and Saturdays at 8 p.m. with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$16 or \$7 for students.

Tickets are \$16 or \$7 for students.

A.R. Gurney, one of America's most celebrated playwrights and best known for *Sylvia* and *Love Letters*, weaves the tale of Austin and Ruth, who are introduced at a party, Ruth is the only one aware that they had met once decades before. After she slowly and playfully refreshes Austin's memory, they rediscover each other and romance begins to bloom. However, the reunion is continually interrupted by a stream of off-thewall personalities from the party.



Directed by Richard Westlake, Later Life stars Mitch Haley as Austin, Joann Haley as Ruth and Jim Yarnes and Annie Wagner as the

Joseph Pacheco

unending stream of party guests.

"Charmingly clever" N.Y. Post

Pianos For Primates (Found Poetry Series)

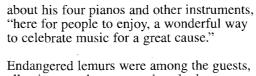
More than 130 guests dressed in jungle attire paid \$150 each to attend Pianos for Primates, a fund-raiser aimed not at raising funds to teach chimpanzees Chopin or baboons Beethoven but to provide the lemurs of Jungle Jim's Gardens

with long overdue recognition and resources for their endangered brethren on Madagascar, one of the world's most endangered places.

After last year's successful Pianos for Panthers raised \$80,000, Jungle Jim's co-owner John Weissmuller decided pianos would provide the key for helping wildlife: "We've held lemurs captive in our zoos for a couple of decades and we wanted to do something for them."

World-renowned conductor M. T. Joseph Young who has performed in such places as Carnegie Hall, Covent Garden and La Scala opened his megahouse for the event that featured an evening of music, food and Primate Education.

"That's what they're here for," Young said



allowing people to get a close look at the world's most endangered primates while they participated in a silent auction of paintings, photographs, jewelry and antique barrel organs.

BMW of SW Florida contributed a two-year car-lease of the top-rated X5 SUV ("Beemers for Lemurs" was the dealer's recommended slogan)

for the raffle won by Robert Armstrong, who donated several primate finger paintings, watercolors and collages from his famous Endangered Species art collection. "I really believe in the zoo and what they're doing. Some of my best pieces have been produced in their cages."

All the money raised will go to the Madagascar Animal Farm and Ringtail Rights Group, 50 zoos and organizations around the world that pool their resources to help find suitable foster-care and zoo environments for the endangered fauna of Madagascar, 80 percent of whom are found nowhere else on the planet.

Weissmuller plans to have music help even more wildlife in the future. "Next year, Tunes for Tigers," he beamed with anticipation.





BIG Arts/Rauschenberg Award winners

BIG ARTS is pleased to announce the winners of the 2005 BIG ARTS/Robert Rauschenberg Awards. In alphabetical order, the recipients are:

Mr. James Milne, Ms. Courtney Sauer, Ms. Leslie Tharp and Ms. Persephone Thorn-Hauswirth.

The BIG ARTS/Robert Rauschenberg Award encourages the development of artistic ability in various fields of artincluding photography, writing, producing, directing, dance, radio and recording, film, artistic technicians, or anyone involved in an artistic endeavor. Candidates must show local ties to the community, or BIG ARTS, accomplishments in their chosen field, and how the award would help accomplish his or her artistic goal. Previous recipients may reapply for up to four years providing their academic work is in good standing, and they continue to pursue the arts.

This is James Milne's third year to receive a BIG ARTS/Robert Rauschenberg Award. James, a 2003 graduate of Cypress Lake High School Center

for the Arts, is currently a student at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He has found that the Art Institute is changing the way he conceptualizes his art and how he chooses to produce it. "I've come to feel that the process by which art is made and the materials that are used to make it are just as important as the finished piece itself," states James. James taught this important concept to some very enthusiastic island youngsters at BIG ARTS Summer Camp this year.

Courtney Sauer graduated this past spring from Cypress Lake High School Center for the Arts' Dance Department. Her teachers recommended her for the scholarship because of her drive, determination, strong ability in many forms of dance and potential as a teacher and leader. Courtney had the unusual opportunity to attend the Cultural Traditions Project at the 2004 Pillow Festival (Jacob's Pillow). She will attend the New World School of the Arts in Miami, Florida beginning this fall where she is especially interested in exploring her pas-



sion for choreography. Someday she hopes to have her own dance company – and anyone who has met Courtney, knows that she will.

The University of Florida at Gainesville is where Leslie Tharp, a 2004 Graduate of Cypress Lake Center for the Arts, will return for her sophomore year. She is majoring in art with a minor in business administration. During her years at Cypress Lake, Leslie was a leader in the visual arts department. Ava Roeder, the Visual Arts Department Chairperson noted that as a leader, artistically, Leslie is ... very innovative in her choice of subjects, themes... She has a cunning way of putting out messages through her art." In the more traditional definition of leadership, Roeder noted that Leslie did a superb job as the elected president of the National Art Honor Society, innovatively organizing a number of community service projects and fundraisers for the group. BIG ARTS was thrilled to have Leslie return again this summer to teach at BIG ARTS Summer Camp where she inspired many young artists with her sense of fun and energy.

Persephone Thorn-Hauswirth is also a 2005 graduate of Cypress Lake High School Center for the Arts. On her way next to New College of Florida, Persephone's fine leadership abilities, inquiring mind and excellent academic abilities were highly regarded by her instructors and peers alike. "Her art is thought provoking and she has the rare ability to create a mood in her work that enhances the message in each piece," notes teacher Ava Roeder. In the future, Persephone hopes to use her unique point of view through art, to bring positive change to her community by challenging the norm and giving her viewers a fresh new perspective.

BIG ARTS congratulates all the award recipients for their hard work, talent and accomplishments. If you would like to know more about the artists, or the BIG ARTS/Robert Rauschenberg awards and how to apply next year, please contact BIG ARTS at 395-0900.





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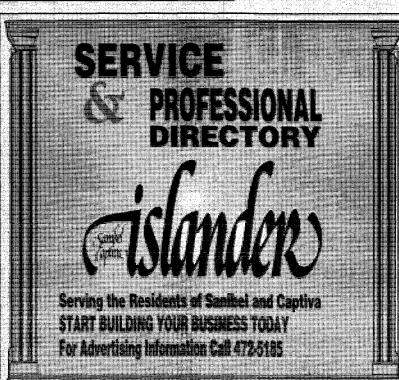
SanCap Art League

Visitors and residents are welcome to see paintings by members of Sanibel-Captiva Art League and local school students at Sanibel Public Library and BIG ARTS on Dunlop Road near City Hall. The Art League has fifty paintings of local scenes, florals, portraits and nature studies along with the large acrylics by Florida's Migrant Summer Institute Students and the School PEOPLE-Sanibel WORKS mobile. BIG ARTS Phillips Gallery, 900 Dunlop Road, is open weekdays from 1 to 4 p.m. Call 395-0900 for information.

Fifty more paintings are on view throughout the Sanibel Public Library at 700 Dunlop Road, and the artwork extends into the new media/computer addition. There are oils, acrylics, watercolors, pastels and mixed media. Call 472-2483 for library hours.



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2 BR2 BA, 1100 square test £1500/month (239) 410-6049

Coco Bay, 3 BRVZ BA beautiful new condo unfurnished, great location next to beaches and shopping, \$1600/month plus uffities. Gall for details. (239) 691-1975.

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Gulf access pool home, SE Cape, bridge, 4br/2-1/2 bath, 2 ca garage, washer/ dryer included clean move in condition landscaped, great neighborhood 31550/mb, Boat davits, Pool service & laver care included, (239/ 540-9216, 470-0826.

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Besumh 3BD/2BA/2Car plus den 1,467sg it buit 05,2354 kW 3stt Place, Unit-61, Won't last! All offer considered \$255,000. Make offe today! Across gulf access homesite. Realbor/Owner (785 444-8961.

Gulf access, SW, 3/2 pool with spa dock, shows immediately, prices to sell, \$649,900. Michelle Ochran Really Executives, (239) 841-460.

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"Speak Up-Speak Out!" debuts at Alliance

The Alliance for the Arts, 10091 McGregor Boulevard will open "Speak Up-Speak Out!" with a free public reception on August 19, from 5 - 7 p.m. "Speak Up-Speak Out!" is this year's theme for the annual Alliance Member Show. Alliance members are invited to submit artwork of any kind that relates to the theme, leaving interpretation open to the artist. Work shown will run the gamut from political statements

to literal representations and everywhere in between.

This exhibition is sponsored proudly by Hal Adams, P.A., Attorneys at Law and DJC Insurance and Financial Services. The artwork of Joelene Black will be showcased in the Member Gallery. For more information, please call 239/939-2787 or www.artinlee.org.

Southwest Florida Symphony

The Southwest Florida Symphony Chorus rehearses Monday evenings from 7:00-9:30 pm at Canterbury School in the Performing Arts Hall. This fully auditioned premier choral ensemble performs major choral works with the SWFLS for Classical Concerts, presents an annual Holiday Pops Concert, and their own 4concert Stained Glass Series. The Southwest Florida Symphony Chorus

rehearses mid September through early May, and will be concluding their 2005-06 season with a kick-off concert to the European Tour of London, Paris, Giverny, Chamonix, and Germany in June, 2006. Patrons are welcome to join the choir for this amazing 13-day tour. Call 418-0996 for info. Also call 418-0996 for information on the Southwest Florida Symphony Children's Chorus

Churches & Temples

St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, 2304 Periwinkle Way, 472-2173. Rector Fishburne; Associate Rector Suzy Post. Sunday worship hours: 8 a.m. (shorter service) and 10 a.m.; Saturday at 5 p.m. and Wednesday at 9 a.m.

Sanibel Community Church, 1740 Periwinkle Way, 472-2684. Dr. Daryl Donovan, Senior Pastor; Ed VanderHey, Associate Pastor; Barb Nave, Ministry Pastor; Tom Walsh, Youth Pastor. Childcare available at all services. Sunday worship hours:

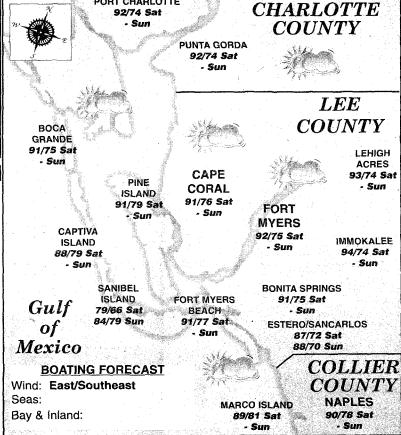
- 9 a.m. Traditional Service with Communion
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service with Kids' Church

Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, 2050 Periwinkle Way (across from Periwinkle Place Shopping Center), 472-0497. Pastors and Teachers of the church are Dr. Randall H. Niehoff, Dr. Sandra R. Boler and Dr. James E. Boler. Continuing through September, Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ will gather for worship at 10a.m. each Sunday morning. Child Care and Sunday School will be available during this 10 a.m. service. There are elevators for easy access to the sanctuary.

Bat-Yam Temple of the Islands, Shabbat worship services will be held at the Sanibel Congregational United Church at 2050 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel every Friday evening at 8 p.m. Rabbi Murray Saltzman. Call 395-3156

FORECAST FOR AUGUST 13 & 14 SATURDAY P.M. P.M <u> A.M.</u> Another typically hot day with 40% chance of thunderstorms High 91. scattered showers in the mid to late afternoon.

WEEKEND TIDES				
City	Sat.High	Sat. Low	Sun. High	Sun. Low
Cape Coral Bridge	7:51 p.m.	4:32 p.m.	9:23 p.m.	5:43 a.m.
Captiva at Redfish Pass	5:41 a.m.	1:16 a.m.	- 7:13 p.m.	2:27 a.m.
Fort Myers	8:32 p.m.	4:53 a.m.	10:04 p.m.	6:04 a.m. -
Matlacha Pass	7:19 p.m.	3:58 a.m.	8:51 p.m.	5:09 a.m.
Pineland	6:17 p.m.	2:56 a.m. -	- 7:49 p.m.	4:07 a.m. -
Point Ybel	4.46 p.m.	1:18 a.m.	6:18 p.m.	2:29 a.m.
Punta Rassa	5:35 p.m.	1:11 a.m.	- 7:07 p.m.	2:22 a.m. -
St. James City	6:06 p.m.	1:46 a.m.	7:38 p.m.	2:57 a.m.



PORT CHARLOTTE



STATE FO	RECAST	<u>r-SATU</u>	RDAY
CITY			SH/LOW
CAPE COR.	AL	9	1/76
DAYTONA E	BEACH	9	0/76
 FT. LAUDER 	RDALE		0/80
FT. MYERS	BEACH .	. 9	1/77
GAINESVIL			2/74
JACKSONV	ILLE	 9	4/75
KEY WEST		9	1/81
KISSIMMEE		9	3/75
MIAMI		8	9/80
ORLANDO		, . ,9	3/75
PANAMA CI	TY	9	2/77
PENSACOL	Α	8	9/78
SARASOTA		9	1/76
ST, PETERS	BURG	9	1/79
TALLAHASS	3EE		4/75
TAMPA			1/77
VERO BEAG			0/74
WEST PALA	A BEACH	9	1/78



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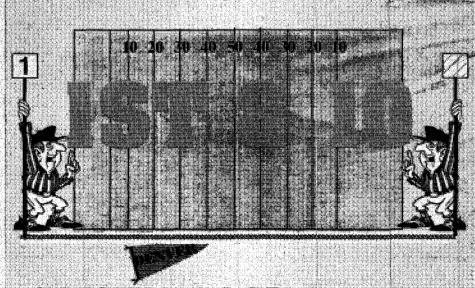
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