

SANIBEL - CAPTIVA ISLANDER

7¢

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THE INTERESTS
OF
SANIBEL
AND
CAPTIVA ISLANDS

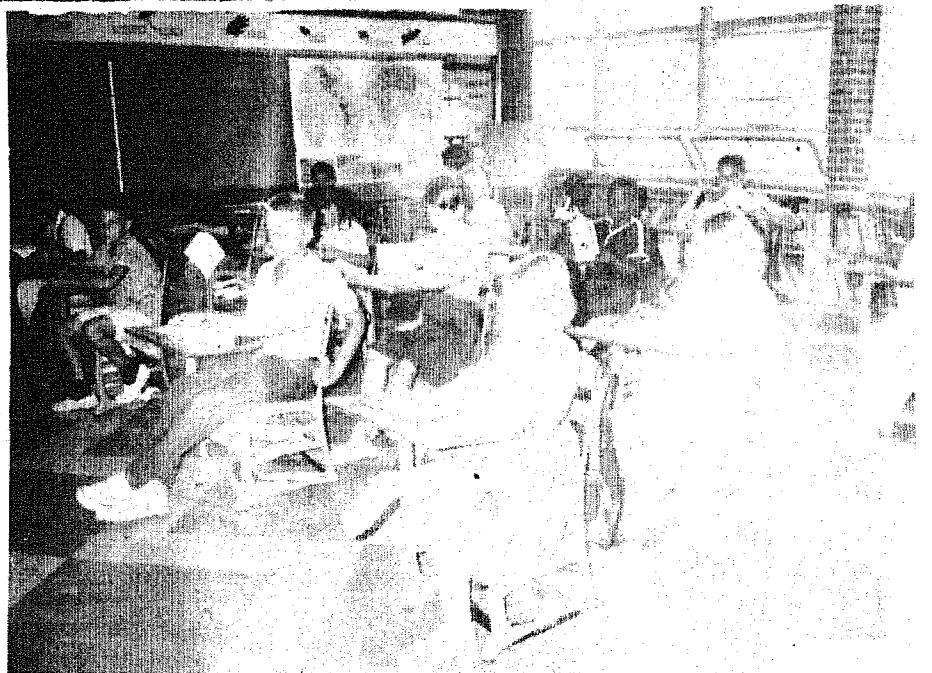
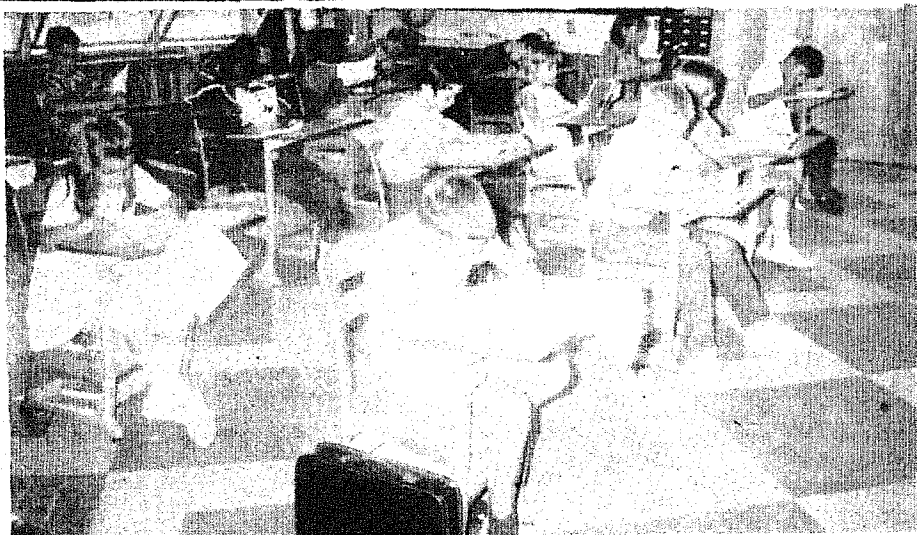
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VOLUME 6

NUMBER 38

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SEPTEMBER 22, 1966



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THE STORE WITH THE ISLAND FLAVOR

READIN', WRITIN' & 'RITHMATIC, ISLAND STYLE

Fifty-five Island children are enrolled in three classes in the Sanibel-Captiva Elementary School this year---quite a few more than the 36 pupils who first moved into the new building a few years ago.

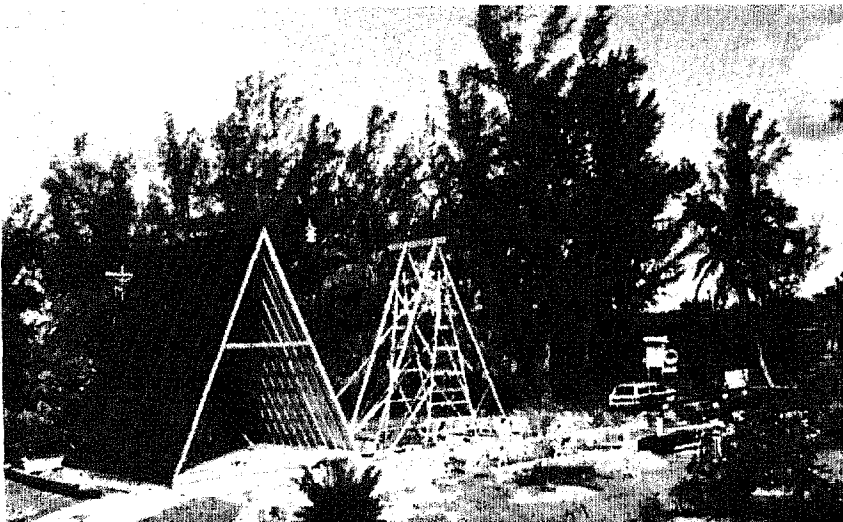
The teaching staff consists of Nick Kontinos, principal, Margaret Sloat and Tom H.P. Amberg, plus a supplemental staff---Ethel Stockard, teacher aide; Mrs. Roberta McIlwain, who teaches music each Wednesday afternoon; Al Harwood, the county art coordinator, who will set up the school's art program; Kelsa Nixon, physical education consultant, who is setting up a daily program; and Miss Carol Lee, librarian, who is on duty each Friday.

Mr. Amberg, who formerly taught at Tropic Isles Elementary, teaches seven 3rd grade and thirteen 4th grade students. A graduate of Auburn University in Alabama, he lived in Florida in his youth and now lives in North Fort Myers.

Miss Sloat, who teaches seven 1st grade and eight 2nd grade students, is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and also lives in North Fort Myers and formerly taught at Tropic Isles.

Mr. Kontinos, the principal, has eight 5th grade and twelve 6th grade students in his class room.

A PICTURE OF PROGRESS



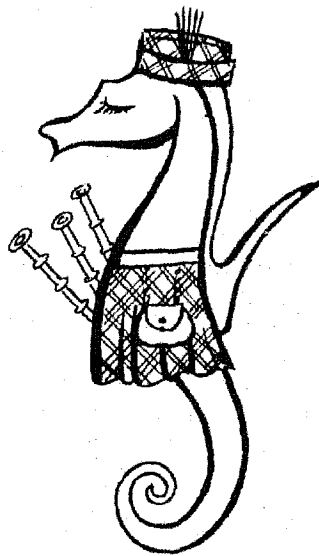
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photo courtesy of

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AT THE LIGHTHOUSE END OF SANIBEL

Editors.....Virginia and Duff Brown
Production.....Carolyn Lowry
Sanibel Reporter.....Dorothy Stafford
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ISLANDER OFFICE:
140 Delmar Road, Fort Myers Beach, or call
MO 4-6792.

Display ad rates given on request. Minimum
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Islander news and ad copy deadline is SATURDAY
Last minute SHORT news items or unclassifieds
may be called in Sunday afternoon.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

On- Island.....\$3.00 yearly
Off-Island or Split.....\$3.50 yearly
Second class postage paid at Fort Myers Beach,
Florida 33931.

THE ISLANDER

THE HURRICANE - 1944
AT THE LIGHTHOUSE AT
SANIBEL ISLAND

by ethel snyder

The Islander has already published the experiences of the 1944 hurricane at Island Inn where the soldiers from the radar tower, two other Army boys on vacation, and Albert Colcord, the weather bureau man from Fort Myers, and some of us nearby cottagers had taken refuge. My cocker Dolly Varden also was included.

The Jake Stokes family, Pearl Stokes, his wife and the five children had gathered together what food they could, some blankets and hurried to the light house at the end of the island. Besides the tall light house tower there are two large houses built to withstand storms, so there was ample room. Broward Keene, Pearl Stoke's stepfather, was a light house keeper and in the coast guard and of course was on duty at the light house. Mrs. Keene would not leave the island and she brought the Jake Stokes family there for the duration of the blow. Also Mr. Palmer, the head light house keeper, and his family were there.

The exciting event had been the arrival in San Carlos Bay of two of the Cuban fishing smacks from the Gulf of Mexico. They had as securely as they could anchored their boats. The crews and the two captains from the two boats and what food they could carry came to the light house for safety. They were made welcome. There were twenty one seamen and the two captains. Only two of the men spoke any English but they managed to make themselves understood and were most friendly and grateful and cooperative. They all brought their musical instruments. Some played guitars, they had mouth harps and harmonicas. Some had splendid voices and sang all sorts of Spanish songs. Broward Keene sang with them and played his guitar. This kept everyone's spirits up and kept the children happy and calm. They all got acquainted and in spite of language barriers they learned to know each other. One crewman was Roberto, studying to be a priest, and was fishing to make money for college. Pearl said several years later she heard that Roberto had fallen in love and didn't follow through with his plan. Another named Danello was studying to be a doctor and was fishing to earn the money for his education. One was a Communist. He knew no English but made the Communist sign.

Everyone sang, the men played their guitars, and others hummed along with the music. They kept very gay in spite of the uproar of the terrific hurricane raging outside. They made great pots of coffee. Mrs. Keene had piles of sandwiches and snacks, and fed the Cubans just like she did her own family and neighbors.

The storm kept getting worse and worse. When water covered the floors and kept rising everyone went up to the lighthouse tower. This lasted four hours. The sailors were so good to the children. They carried them up the steep steps wrapped in blankets. Held them in their arms and sang to them. It kept their courage up and the children finally slept.

Next morning the wind and water had started to subside. One of the Cuban boats was on Shell Island, and the other had completely disappeared. The crew of the lost boat had dif-

contd. on page 3



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Realtor

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THE STORE WITH THE ISLAND FLAVOR

CHAD WAY, the son of MURIEL and BILL WAY, left the Islands last week to return to the University of Cincinnati, where he is a Junior and a geology major. He brought a friend, DAVE STEVES of Cincinnati, with him, and the boys enjoyed life on the islands, particularly sailing. They also went to a pig roast beach party on Fort Myers Beach, given by CATHY BOOTH. VICKY WAY was also a guest at the party.

Mrs. BERNICE SUTTLE of Captiva Island has been visited by her daughter and son-in-law, TONY and JULIA STANFORD, and her young grand-daughter, MICHELLE. They stopped here for two weeks after leaving Miami, where Tony was editor of the Junior Chamber International Magazine for two years. The Stanfords left last week for Wellington, New Zealand, where Tony was born. He'll be associated with the New Zealand Jaycees.

Dr. and Mrs. WILLIAM SUR have returned to East Lansing, where Dr. Sur is Professor in the music department at Michigan State, after one of their frequent Sanibel visits with Mrs. JOHN P. GLASS. Reports go that they're checking off the days until they can return at Christmas.

TOM BOWERS has been batching it at Whitecaps while MARY is visiting relatives in Umatilla.

Mr. and Mrs. PHIL DEBERARD of Deland have been visiting the FLOYD PFLOUGHS at Sanibel Cottages. BLANCHE and ELLA are long-time friends. The two couples were island-hopping when they discovered Sanibel together in 1948.

Ella is author of "Steamboats and Hyacinths," "Retirement For Two," and a number of plays. She is president of the Florida Democratic Women's Club, and installed the Lee County officers September 14.

After the Deberards left Sanibel Cottages, they visited the Floughs' daughter and son-in-law, FLOYJEAN and BURLY HALE, who are managers of the Port San Carlos Quality Courts.

HARRY JORDAN, 10, the son of Mr. and Mrs. CARL JORDAN, had a ruptured appendix last Thursday and was taken to Lee Memorial Hospital, where his condition is improving.

DICK and MARY WOMBWELL have returned to their home on Seagrape Avenue after a visit with Dick's sisters and brothers and Mary's parents and sisters and brothers in Trenton, New Jersey. ARTHUR J. DORETY, Mary's father, came back with them.

ED and ANNE KONRAD arrived on the Islands last week after spending a little over two months visiting their family, which is scattered all over the country.

First stop was to see son PAT, who is a sophomore at Boston University. He was summering in Wyoming working with an anthropological dig known as Hell Gap area, near Guernsey. The dig is sponsored by Harvard and the National Geographic Society, and the purpose is to search for evidence to support an hypothesis that the Clovis Indians migrated from Mongolia. The diggers are from all over---one is from Istanbul, and there are many from various portions of the U.S.

The Konrads then went on to Bainbridge Island, near Seattle, to visit JACK and PEG AKERS, Anne's brother and sister-in-law (who, by the way, say hello to all the friends they met on the Islands in 1962 and 1963 when they stayed at the Ridges' Sanibel Trailer Resort). The four of them took a Canadian National steamship to Alaska via the inland waterway. The eight-day boat trip took them to Katchekan, Juneau, Skagway, Wrangell and Prince Rupert along the way.

They then went down the west coast to Los Angeles to see their oldest son, MIKE, who will be teaching at UCLA and is now moving into a new home with his wife and two children. The Konrads returned to the Islands via the southern route through Texas and Montgomery, Alabama. Their Welsh terrier, WENDY, accompanied them on the entire trip.

ED and FRANCES LEGEL have opened their paint shop, Legel Supply, which carries Flexbon paints. If your fancy runs to different colors, they have a machine which will mix 2,000 different colors and shades---and out of that many, there must be at least one to suit!

PAT and MARY SIEGENTHALER of Mansfield, Ohio, were the guests of honor at a pool and beach party Sunday evening at the Gallery given by JIM and GAIL McGUIRE, DICK and MARY WOMBWELL and JOE and MARY GAULT. Over forty people attended and everyone had a wonderful time. The Siegenthalers have bought property on Sanibel and construction will start soon on their new home, which they plan to be able to move into by February.

Mr. and Mrs. LAWRENCE BRUNO of Floral Park, New York, made a leisurely trip to Florida and went first to Miami. From there, they visited the Keys, back-tracked and came up the west coast through Naples, Bonita Springs and Fort Myers Beach. After deciding to return to Miami for the rest of their vacation, they somehow or other got lost and ended up at the mainland approach to the Sanibel Causeway.

"If it costs \$3 for toll," said Mr. Bruno, "there has to be something good on the other side." So across the causeway they went to find our Island paradise. They did NOT return to Miami, and it is quite possible that they will become resident Islanders one of these days.

JOE and MARY GUALT of the Sea Horse Shop have their world-trotting daughter, CHRIS, home again from more adventures, and gave a small dinner Friday night to celebrate her return.

Chris, as you may know, has finished her sophomore year at Antioch. Antioch formally programs alternating work and study sessions, and this summer Chris spent her time working in a resident clinic for disturbed children in Philo, California. This experience led to the next; she took off for England and spent three weeks observing the program at a school in Kent for delinquent and disturbed boys. A unique feature of the school's operation is that rules are not uniform, but are tailored by the headmaster, Mr. Lywood, to suit the particular problems of each boy.

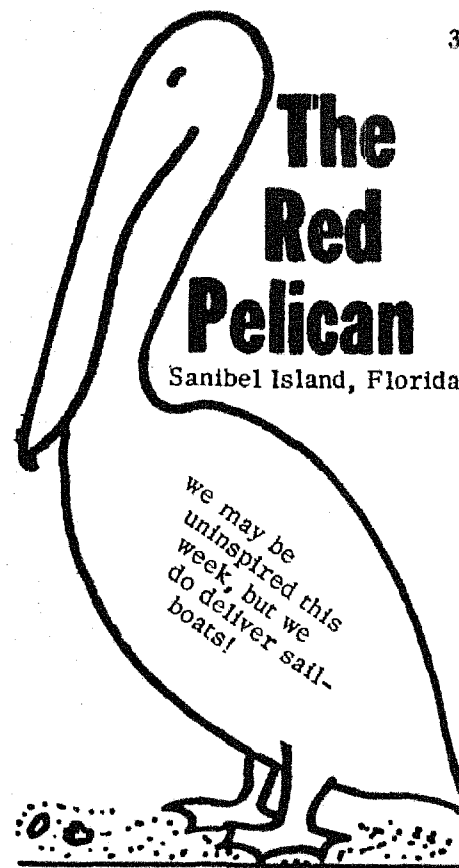
EDWARD MATHER of Stanford, Conn., also an Antioch student, is visiting the Gaults. He and Chris met this summer on their work assignment.

During the month of August JENE and HELEN EVANS toured England, Scotland and Wales. On the North Cornish coast in a lovely village named Tintagel they happened upon a place called "The Shell House." Since they have a home on Sanibel, they were curious and much interested when told it was the only place in the world where the public can view or study the use of shells in past generations up to the present.

It was a revelation and thoughts drifted back to Sanibel as she wondered how many people from Sanibel and Captiva know of the existence of this "Shell House" and its contents. She was told that no advertising is done and no brochures available but she is sure if anyone is interested and wants information that it can be obtained by writing: The Shell House, Tintagel, England.

By the way, the lady she spoke with had never heard of Sanibel Island! Hard to believe, isn't it? But then, she had never heard of "The Shell House" before and that was really an education. If only Sanibel had the same to offer.

ALBERT and JAMES EVANS spent part of their summer vacation touring the Holy Land. They had many interesting experiences---like swimming in the Dead Sea, camping at Petra, wading through Hezekiah's tunnel (ancient miracle of engineering), visiting Jerusalem, Mount of Olives, Bethlehem, wading in the Jordan River and spending the night in a Bedouin camp just to mention a few. It was of special interest to them since they visited so many of the places they had studied in school where Bible study was compulsory, and, one might add, they are glad it was, since now the Old Testament is more personal to them.



REAL ESTATE NEWS

Priscilla Murphy, Realtor, reports the sale of a lot in the Rocks Subdivision to Mr. and Mrs. Roy H. Axling.

Sanibel Captiva Real Estate reports the sale of a residential lot in Palm Lake subdivision from D. Veenschoten to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Purdy of Segunda on Gulf Drive.

HURRICANE from page 2

difficulty in restraining their captain from going outside and shooting himself. The captain is never supposed to desert his boat. But two days later the return tide brought the vessel floating back - drifting in to the island. They had tied the long boats up to high trees and brought the oars to the light house. All the food on both boats was ruined except some tins of sea biscuits which nobody wanted.

Broward Keene went to Bailey's store and bought great quantities of beans, and rice, meat and vegetables, and for two weeks the Cuban fishermen ate at the light house.

The Stokes children walked home in water to their waists, and later the government reports said this was the worst hurricane on record and due to instruments in some cases going to pieces, no accurate record is available.

But no one on the island was much the worse for the experience. The Border Patrol and the Immigration Authorities took over the Cuban sailors in a few days. The owners of the fishing smacks arrived from Cuba. The boats were towed back to Cuba - much gratitude was expressed and farewells made. The Sanibel Islanders and the Cuban sailors got to know each other and love each other. Pearl Stokes said for some years they kept in contact with Roberto. So this is one true story about the 1944 hurricane which few islanders have ever even heard of. Ask Pearl Stokes. She was there!

The Reef

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BOWLING 'EM OVER

The bowling season has started again and pins are (or soon will be) flying in all directions. The Islanders Bowling team of the Beach Classic Bowling League has a 1-3 record, with anchorman Doc Bryant away on vacation, leaving Gogo and Ed Legel to hold the fort with a minus handicap of 18 points till Doc gets back in October.

The team this year is sponsored by three businesses ---Dotti's Fashions, last year's sponsor, will have Gogo wearing her shirt. Doc Bryant will do the honors for the SeaHorse Shop and Ed Legel is bowling for a new business on the islands---can you guess?--- Legel Supply!

The Sanibel Sailors, sponsored by 7 Seas, have a 2-2 record to put them in 6th place in the Pros and Cons Mixed League, but since the Adamses are away, we don't have more detailed information about them yet.

LIBRARY NEWS

Wasn't the "Smokey Bear Reading Club" great fun, Boys and Girls? The Sanibel Public Library Board of Directors thinks so, too! At a recent meeting, there was much discussion about a program for our Islands' children during the winter season.

With so many talented people ready and willing to give of their time and talents, it looks as if many interesting projects are in the making. Keep watching the newspaper to learn about the many fine programs that will be made available for you.

In the meantime - don't forget your Library is open each Tuesday and Saturday morning - 10 to 12 - and there are many books selected just for YOU--- (and please tell your older sisters and brothers, your parents and grandparents that the Sanibel Public Library invites them to come and "browse and borrow," too).


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