

SANIBEL - CAPTIVA ISLANDER

7¢

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THE INTERESTS
OF
SANIBEL
AND
CAPTIVA ISLANDS

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The Finest
Shelling
Beaches
in the
Western
Hemisphere

VOLUME 6 NUMBER 45

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

NOVEMBER 10, 1966

UNITED FUND UNDER GOAL

Mrs. Paul Stahlin reported that the Islands' United Fund collections lacked more than \$300 of the pledged amount needed to meet the Sanibel-Captiva obligations. If you have not been called upon, or have forgotten to send in your check, it may be mailed to Mrs. Stahlin or Mrs. Joe Gault.

The United Fund supports local Lee County agencies --- every dollar you give helps your community.

COUNTRY CLUB RESEARCH GIVEN GO-AHEAD

Approximately 70 Islanders gave virtual unanimous approval to see if a country club on the Islands would be feasible. This project, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, was the main subject of discussion at a specially-called meeting last week in the Community Center.

Mr. Clemmie Williams of the local F.H.A. (the U.S. Department of Agriculture agency which guaranteed the loan for the Island water system) was the principal speaker, although most of the meeting was devoted to a question and answer session, which apparently satisfied the minds of those present. John Kontinos, who was appointed chairman of the committee of investigation by the Chamber of Commerce Board, asked for a show of hands from those favoring the proposal; the response was prompt and positive.

Basically, what is needed is one subscriber for each \$1,000. of indebtedness, under F.H.A. regulations. The project may include whatever facilities the local group desires, and can finance, within that limitation (golf course, clubhouse, swimming pool, handball courts, croquet fields, tennis courts, etc.)

Punta Gorda, for example, has just completed an 18 hole golf course, with clubhouse (includes restaurant and bar), swimming pool and pro shop, for \$250,000.

Considerable valuable information was provided at the meeting by Mr. Ernie Smith, who designed and supervised the new course at South Seas Plantation, among the more than 60 he has built in various parts of the world.

The meeting was opened by President Al Muench of the Chamber of Commerce Board, and John Kontinos of the Board introduced Mr. Williams and presided over the question and answer period.

FRIDAY NIGHT CARD PARTY

Don't forget the weekly Friday night card party at the Sanibel Community House. The 8 p.m. gathering is a wonderful place to socialize, gossip, meet your friends, and incidentally, play cards. The 50¢ a person donation covers door and table prizes and refreshments. Sponsored by the Sanibel Community Association, the party is open to guests and residents alike.

In response to
popular demand, the B-Hive
announces its
new hours
Daily 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sunday
9 a.m.-6 p.m.



THE STORE WITH THE ISLAND FLAVOR.

A PICTURE OF PROGRESS



EXPANSION AT "IDLE TIDE"

photo courtesy of

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Islander news and ad copy deadline is SATURDAY
Last minute SHORT news items or unclassifieds
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SUBSCRIPTIONS

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Morning Service and Sunday
School.9:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY and HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion. . . .9 a.m.

ST. ISABELL'S
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Father MIGUEL M. GONI

HOLY MASS:
Sundays11:30 a.m.
Thursdays 7:30 p.m.
Holy Days 5:30 p.m.

CONFESSION
Sundays before Mass
SANIBEL COMMUNITY
CHURCH
The Rev. TAD ALLEN, Pastor

Morning Worship. . .11:00 a.m.
Sunday School.9:30 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
The Rev. W.A. McCain, Pastor

SUNDAY
Sunday School.10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship. . .11:00 a.m.
Young People's Hour. 6:30 p.m.
Evening Worship. . . 7:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study
.....7:30 p.m.

TEENS IN ACTION
by kenan fishburne

Have any stray White Elephants around the house? Teen Club is planning a White Elephant and Bake Sale November 19. All "Elephant" donations would be appreciated. Those interested should contact Mrs. John Ridge for further information.

On Saturday night Teen members were able to use the new pool table they ordered some time ago. The treasury has now become large enough for the members to decide whether they want to buy a record player or hire a band for a Christmas dance. Nothing definite was decided but it seems as if a dance is favored.

BLUE CIRCLE

When the ladies met for the first time on Monday, November 7, at the Pirate Playhouse, they began their first session of bandage rolling for the Missions with a fine present of white sheets (no longer usable for beds) donated by Prathers of Fort Myers. Ruth Hunter and the girls are very grateful to Prathers and also thank the kind neighbor who brought three during the happenings last week, and to the editor, Virginia Brown, for her contribution of sheets to the cause. Blue Circle will meet each first Monday of the month. For information phone GR 2-3943.

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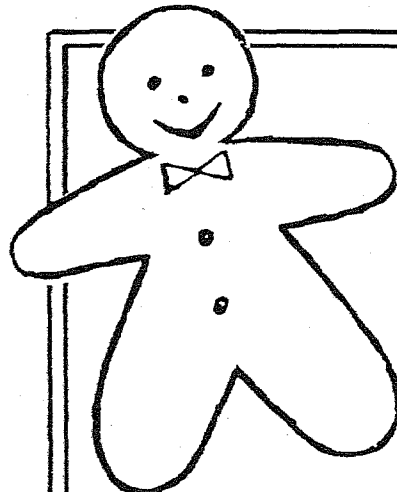
GR 2-4961



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WHO'S WHO AND WHY

This week started off with a bang --- literally --- since someone put two cherry bombs in SAMMY SHARP's Trick 'n Treat bag! Frankly, his mother hadn't realized such small things could make THAT much noise.

But the kids all had fun going out in costume, and collecting money for UNICEF, and treats too. Next day, November 1, was Sam's 11th birthday, and he had a small party at home with swimming and games and a real yummy cake made by Jack of the Bakery. It said "Good Grief! Happy Birthday, Sam," and a cute picture of Peanuts and Snoopy.

The guests were CURTIS NAVE, KEVIN STEVENS, KIM BILLHEIMER, BUTCH WEBB, and LEE and WAYNE WOODRING.

ISABEL McWHORTER is looking forward to Island life very soon. "Isabel of Sanibel" --- and Lexington, Kentucky, --- has had a rough summer which has included three operations. We'll all be glad to see her back again.

Mr. and Mrs. DICK MALPASS were back on the Islands last week for a long weekend. Long time vacationers here, they recently purchased a home near Leesburg, but continue to make regular visits to the Islands. The Malpasses stayed at High Tide.

All of ROSA BRYANT's many friends will be delighted to know that she returned from Lee Memorial last Friday. Welcome home--we're all glad to have you back.

Three junonias were found in two days last week, according to reports from Mr. and Mrs. COCHENOUR (they own a lot in The Rocks Subdivision), who found one on the 3rd and another on the 4th. On the 4th, also, Miss DOROTHY CHAPMAN of Frederick, Maryland, advises that she found a junonia at Bowman's Beach.

The many friends of WILLIS and OPAL COMBS will be happy to know that they are back on Sanibel after spending the summer in upper New York state as usual. Willis says they must think Sanibel is the best because they come back earlier and stay later each year.

Mr. and Mrs. A.E. COBURN are busily completing the furnishing of their new home in Sanibel Estates, after spending the summer at their camp at Bower Bank, Maine. Also, WALLIS and LOUISE COUSINS are putting the finishing touches to their brand new house in Sanibel Estates and will no doubt be moved in by the time this goes to press. Both the Coburns and the Cousins purchased through SANIBEL-CAPTIVA REAL ESTATE.

Visiting Sanibel to check up on their new home, approaching completion, are Dr. and Mrs. REASON A. GOODWIN of North Tarrytown, New York, and looking over the construction just started on her new home is Mrs. WALTER PFEIFFER of Chicago. The Goodwin home is on Gulf Drive, near Rabbit Road, and the Pfeiffer home on Gulf Drive, adjoining the Blue Dolphin.

The GAULTS expect to have their new area of the SeaHorse Shop open within the next week or ten days.

The shop is being extended toward the back, opening into the art gallery. The new addition will house a patio furniture shop as well as a room devoted entirely to beach wear--- which, in turn, will give more room in the older section for sports and casual wear.

Although part of the oriental garden was used for the new building, a new garden area will be incorporated in the plans.

JOHN OSTER, Jr., of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has been on the Island approximately a week, staying at his family place, Oster's Cottages.

The LEW FUNKS of Gulf-breeze recently got back from a 7,500 mile trip out west to see their elder son, PAUL, and a cousin in Costa Mesa, California, and to see the sights. They visited many interesting places including Mexico.

Mrs. DELLMAR (ETHEL) REYNOLDS and Mrs. JAMES (HELEN) DENNY, and their friends, Mrs. GREGORY and her daughter, ELLEN, took off for a shelling trip to the Keys. Four friends --- Mrs. CONNIE BOONE, Mrs. HELEN McIVOR, Mrs. LEOLA GRACE and Mrs. MARY SUTTO --- who had flown into Sanibel for some shelling decided to come along for the trip and joined the other group at the Ranch House Motel on Marathon. The latter four friends are all members of the Shell Club of Houston, Texas, and are friends of Admiral and Mrs. CARLOS CARDEZA, who have a summer home on the Islands. (While they were in Houston, they stayed with the Cardezas while shelling --- found some nice ones, too!)

Mrs. Sutto's husband is an M.D. who is assigned to Japan twice a year to check those injured during the A bombings of Japan during World War II. He is also an authority on shells, and is a malacologist.

While in Marathon, the eight ladies met a friend, Mrs. ANN YOUNG, who showed them some hidden spots filled with beautiful shells --- and even took them to a place where they could dive for chammas.

During their visit, Leola celebrated her birthday, so the group got together and Mrs. Young prepared a surprise spaghetti dinner in her honor. Her husband --- who, she says, never forgets --- called during the dinner to wish his wife a happy birthday. Each guest gave her a beautiful shell to add to her collection.

All in all, everyone decided the trip was so profitable, both in shells and social enjoyment, that it would be nice to do it again. As a matter of fact, Mesdames Boone, McIvor, Grace and Sutto had collected so many shells during their sojourn that they were worried about getting back with all of them on the plane.

The SANIBEL - CAPTIVA REAL ESTATE office received their usual weekly letter from KEN and CLAIRE WALTER. It came from Barcelona, Spain, this time and stated they would soon be heading north to spend a few days in Paris before sailing for the States.

SOUNDING OFF

AN OPEN LETTER
TO SANIBEL;
ONE YEAR LATER

Just one year ago today, a new life began on Sanibel; mine. These three hundred and sixty-five days have been the happiest of my life in that the escape from Suburbia has been complete. Gone is the hollow feeling of being just another data processing number enveloped by the multitude. Instead - island life has fulfilled the desire to be part of a community. Gone also is the race to nowhere which permeated the daily atmosphere of former years. In its place is the eternal warmth of the Islanders, the beauty of spoon-bills in flight, the majestic arrogance of Pete the Pelican at the fishing pier, the grace of porpoises patrolling the Bay, the odor of burning buttonwood at the fish-frys, the magnificent sunsets and the joy to awaken each morning. Even the infamous "No-Seeums" and sand spurs annoy a little less. It may be impossible for most tourists to believe, but I consider it a privilege to pay the causeway toll just to return from the hubub of the mainland to this isle of tranquility. Yes Sanibel, I truly love you and thank you for allowing me to live here.

/s/ Marty Holtz

TO SET THE RECORD
STRAIGHT

No one in the wide world objects to laughs and we humbly try to put a lot of them into life. But when you come and find that someone has dragged out furniture from your home, smashed a lamp chimney by kicking over a stand, broke off an umbrella from an overturned chaise, pitched a shell collection to the winds, ripped a soldered wire from an antenna and pulled down an electric wire, dug up a pole which withstood the hurricane and pried off a statue of St. Francis, throwing it on the ground to be smashed, kicked over a valuable power Sarlo, as well as a fence and broke it, besides a lot of other things, then you feel that some one or some ones are unfair and it must be because they are unhappy. Can we help?

/s/ Ruth and Philip Hunter.

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GR 2-3041



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photo by wanderin'

Elsie Malone

SPECIMEN SHELLS

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Captiva, Florida GR 2-3011
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BAZAAR TODAY

The annual Lee Memorial Hospital Auxiliary bazaar is being held today (Thursday) at the Exhibition Hall in Fort Myers. Proceeds from the bazaar have bought much necessary equipment for the hospital, and if it is at all possible for you to get int town today, please do so. You will be able to pick up a wide assortment of goodies, from the edible kind to the gift hand, and you will be helping a worthy cause at the same time.



Professor ROBERT MULLIKEN, who has been coming to the Islands a number of years with the quantum theory winter foundation which meets at Casa Ybel, was awarded the Nobel prize for chemistry. Professor Mulliken retired from the University of Chicago.

TONS OF SHELLS

Once upon a time (last August, to be precise) a young Londener, Bryan Bainbridge by name, decided to redecorate his digs (flat, apartment, pad) and decided a box of fancy shells just might be a delightful conversation piece---so he wrote to a shell firm in Zanzibar asking for samples.

A while later, the samples arrived---2,912 pounds of them accompanied by a freight bill for \$308.

"There are thousands and thousands of shells in the shipment," said Mr. Bainbridge. "They range from giant clams and coral flowers to weird things like tiger shells, white cowries and assorted rugosis. What am I going to do with 2,912 pounds of sea shells?"

"I was just redecorating and when I was in the Navy, I visited Zanzibar and I remembered the pretty shells I saw there. 'Just the thing!' I thought. . . This firm in Zanzibar I wrote to replied that as I hadn't specified what shells I wanted they would send me their whole range.

"They did! They obviously think I'm a dealer in shells---they said I can pay for them when I have sold them."

In the meantime, the 29 year old security guard in a factory hired a truck to take the shells to a friend's garden where he can leave them a while, which is about as good a place as any, one supposes.

The moral of this story, friends, is an easy one to see---he should have written to Sanibel instead!

dotti ^{Or} Sanibel Island
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Mister Pants
Shorts - Pants

Serben
Shifts & Dresses

SHAHEEN
Pants - Blouses - Skiffs & Skimmers

TANNER of North Carolina
Shifts & Dresses

DAILY 9:30 to 5:30 CLOSED SUNDAYS

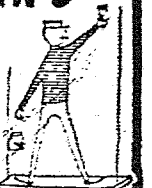
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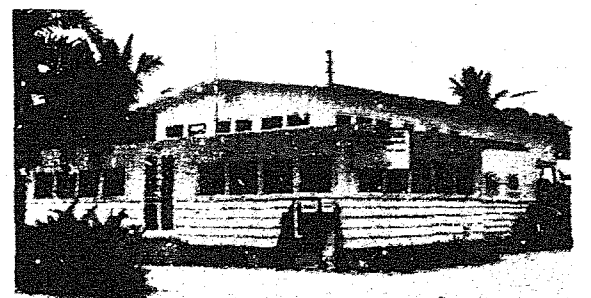
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lunch which they ate aboard the boat.

The boat returned to Sanibel to pick up the outgoing mail and freight, and the passengers making the trip from the island got off. The home port, Fort Myers, was reached exactly at four o'clock. On time!

Just once in all the years did I make the trip to Fort Myers and back returning two days later on the mail boat. That was in October 1944 after THE hurricane.

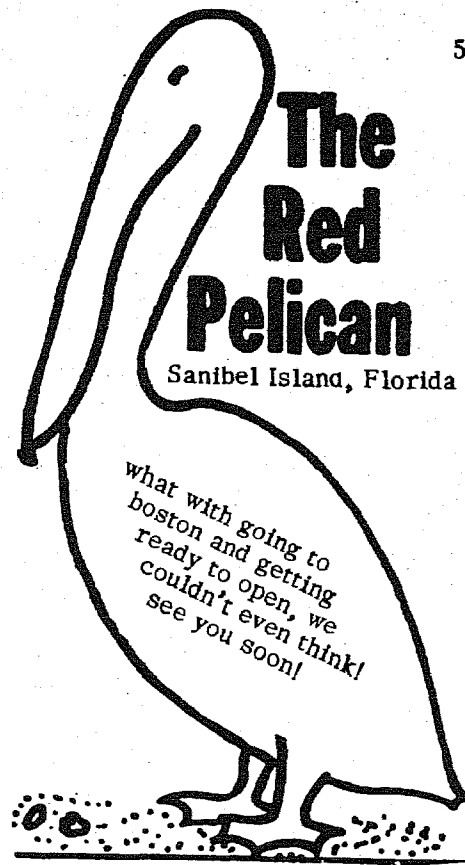
The storm had an aftermath of mosquitoes which was almost worse than the blow. I just had to get away for a few days. My car was one of the few which had a full tank of gas. A flood of saltwater had ruined the gas tank at Bailey's store and what with rationing during the war years, nobody had any gas to spare. I turned my car with the precious tank of gas over to Mr. Chaplin of Chicago, a yearly guest at Island Inn, to use as needed for cleaning and clearing up after the storm. Everything was in a mess.

The boat trip was quite an experience. There were several passengers on the upper deck and Captain Singleton was giving a sight seeing spiel to them. Once we got out into San Carlos Bay headed for the mouth of the Caloosahatchee River he steered the boat from the upper deck, sticking his bare foot down the hatch and getting a good grip on the steering wheel with his toes, especially his big toe.

He pointed out to us the daily escort, three large porpoises which joined the boat at the mouth of the river, followed the boat all day in the bay, swimming along in a row at exactly the same space from each other and the boat. They departed in the afternoon when the river was reached. I watched them in a row alongside the boat, at the top of the water. They kept exactly the same speed as the boat and they had been doing this for some years. The passengers marvelled at these great fish!

And then there were the cormorants which look like black ducks and they do diving specialties. They swim about singly and suddenly one will tip over and dive under the water. Then it emerges as much as fifty feet away from the spot where it dove under. They were very nonchalant about this stunt. I never knew what they were after or why they did it but it is interesting to watch and guess where and how far away they will emerge.

There are beautiful estates along the river which you cannot see from the shore. The Single-



ton brothers knew every historical spot and these waters had been the scenes of adventures with pirates, and skirmishes with Seminole Indians. The name Caloosahatchee is the Seminole word meaning Beautiful River.

Exactly at four the boat docked at Fort Myers and it was another day! But not for the Singletons! They had to unload the boat, do errands for the islanders in the shops, from buying a hank of yarn, exactly the right shade, to selecting just the right frying pan at the hardware store.

Times have changed things. Now we have telephones, and trucking lines, U.S. mail trucks and the causeway. Slabs of ice dripping on the decks is as extinct as the dodo!

AUDUBON TONIGHT

The first meeting of the year of the Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society will be held at the Sanibel Community House tonight, Thursday, November 10. A film and reports by Mario Hutton and Charles LeBuff will highlight the meeting, which is open to the public.

WAR OIL TANKER

A recent Sunday afternoon, looking out over the Gulf of Mexico from the comfortable chair in the living room of my beach cottage I could see on the distant horizon two flat boats going in the same direction. It brought back to memory very clearly a thrilling and dramatic incident which hap-

contd. on back page

NOTICE

The Island Water Association, Inc. requests bids on the construction and/or installation of future service connections to the present system.

All construction will be under the direction of the Association or their representative, and will be completed in accordance to plans and specifications. All materials will be furnished by the Association.

This contract will be effective for one (1) year. Copies of this proposal can be secured at the Association office on Sanibel, Fla.

All bids must be presented on or before 12:00 Noon, Dec. 1, 1966.

/s/ John Kontinos, President
Island Water Association, Inc.

EARLY DAY VIGNETTES
by ethel snyder

THE MAIL BOAT

In the old days, all freight, express, mail, slabs of ice in hundred pound chunks and miscellaneous deliveries of all sorts from Fort Myers stores and shops AND passengers to the islands came over on the mail boat from Fort Myers.


The boat left town at 8 a.m. sharp and it was a busy place over on the mainland---getting the cargo aboard, and what with the mail truck from the post office, the ice wagon dripping water all over the place while slithering huge slabs onto the ground and the delivery truck from The Home Supply (a popular grocery in Fort Myers)---well, the passengers making the trip would arrange themselves comfortably on the upper deck and watch with interest all the goings-on below.

For many years the two Singleton brothers, Ray and Cleon, skippered the boat and a very efficient and satisfactory job they did. Both men were most agreeable, efficient, obliging and sunburned. Their schedule was maintained to the split second. You could set your watch by the arrival of the mail boat. It reached Sanibel at ten o'clock and it got there pronto, barring a hurricane when it didn't come at all.

If you were expecting any sort of a delivery you met the mail boat yourself. It was fun to go whether or not you needed to. Nearly all the islanders managed to get there. If a package came for a neighbor who had not come to the dock the nearest neighbor took it to him. Sometimes it was a carton of groceries, or a fascinating express box. I received foreign shipments for my shop, Mexican chairs done up in ratan mats, things from Pago Pago, Samoa, in gunny sacks, hand-embroidered pocketbooks and bags from Kingston, Jamaica in British cartons.

Most of these were too bulky for me to handle and Joe Goddard from the store delivered them to my cottage from the dock in his truck for a consideration. Everytime a foreign shipment arrived and any of the women saw it unloaded from the mail boat, word got around and my customers rushed to get to my cottage before I or the delivery did. Everyone was there to see what he brought and in a jiffy the cartons or bags or whatnot were opened and the contents strewn all over the place. Everyone talked at once. It was terrific. A lot of it was sold even before it could be checked in against the invoice or even the price had been determined. That was fun and a source of excitement for Sanibel.

Tourist enjoyed the boat trip from Sanibel to Captiva and on to St. James City of Pine Island and return. There were brief stops at each place but not long enough to permit anyone to eat a meal at a restaurant, so everyone carried a

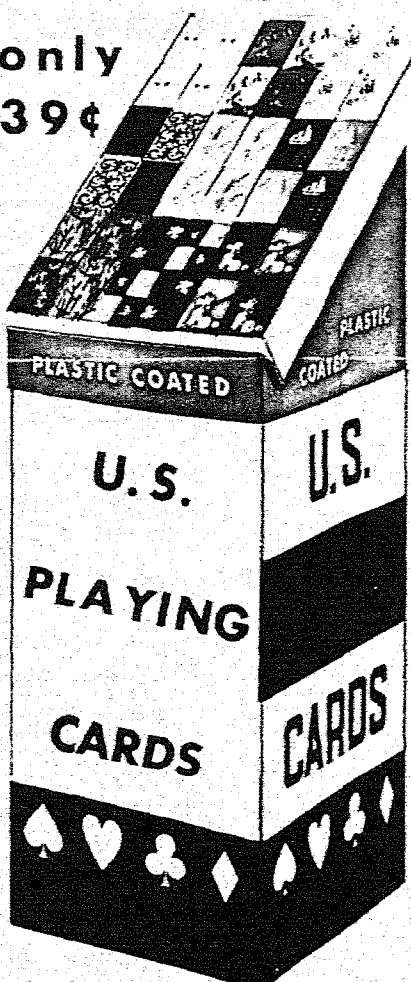


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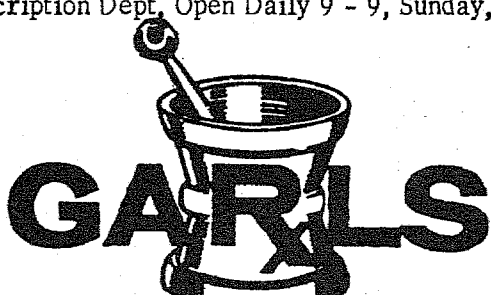
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Sanibel Island, Florida
CLOTHING - IMPORTS - SPECIALTY ITEMS
THE MOST UNUSUAL GIFT SHOP IN FLORIDA

TANKER from p. 5

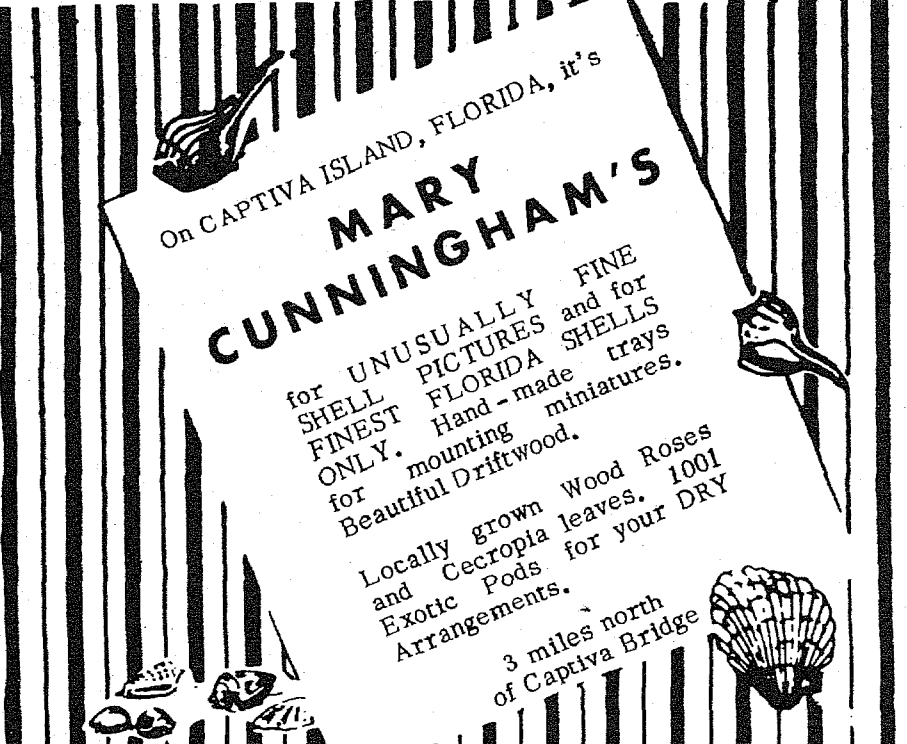
pened during the war in the same spot and it seemed that it was just yesterday when it happened.

In those war days almost anything could happen and often did, but we loved our Sanibel Island and all stayed on and followed the regulations. An army post was established and the entire length of the beach from the lighthouse to the Captiva bridge was patrolled every two hours during the night. Two men went together. One section of an ice box at kitchen of Island Inn contained cookies and milk and sandwiches for the men and each night it got emptied. No cottage lights were permitted at any hour on the gulf side.

One Sunday afternoon just at sunset I had put my car in the garage and the cocker Dolly Varden and I had gone down to the beach to see the last sunset glow. There on the horizon was a long string of oil tanks being towed along going west by a large motor boat (or rug) when suddenly there was a

muffled explosion and one of the tanks of oil blew up. German submarines infested the gulf and no shipping was safe. Great flames leaped high and white smoke billowed! I was stunned! Quickly realizing that it should be reported I rushed back to the garage and my car and drove to Island Inn.

Charlotta Matthews was in charge of our section of the island. The guests were all at dinner, but my news brought everyone out on the beach. Oddly enough, it had gotten quite dark and there was not a sign of fire. Charlotta was not convinced that I had seen anything and suggested I drive at once to the lighthouse to report. Her sister, Mrs. Roger Clapp, offered to go with me, so off we dashed. That was long before the days of telephones. We drove as fast as we could to the lighthouse where a guard was stationed. The man on duty dashed up to the lighthouse tower at our report. We left. Afterwards we learned that



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the blown-up oil tanker had burst into flames again by the time it was opposite Island Inn and everyone there was shocked and impressed. In flames it floated down to the lighthouse. We never heard anything more about that oil tanker!

But we knew German submarines were prowling around in the gulf as twice periscopes

were seen looking up quite close to shore. It was a risky business living on an island in the Gulf of Mexico those war years but not one of us left! Mrs. Clapp and I went into town one day at the request of the War Department to have our pictures taken. Mine looked like an inmate of The Rogues's Gallery! But better so!

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