

# SANIBEL - CAPTIVA ISLANDER

## 7¢

DEVOTED TO  
THE INTERESTS  
OF  
SANIBEL  
AND  
CAPTIVA ISLANDS

The Finest  
Shelling  
Beaches  
In The  
Western  
Hemisphere

photo by either huston or pickens or waghorne  
or kautz or wanderin'

VOLUME 8

NUMBER 28

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

JULY 11, 1968

## MEMORIAL FUND STARTED

To honor the late Mrs. Spencer Ewing, the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation has set up a special fund to be used for a permanent memorial in the Nature Center-Marine Laboratory which the Foundation seeks to establish on Sanibel. Island friends and neighbors who wish to contribute to the fund may make out checks to the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, Mark checks "For Ewing Memorial." Please mail contributions to Mrs. Susan Karr, Sanibel, who will turn them over to the Foundation's Treasurer. Contributions are tax deductible.

## FUN DANCE

A very successful dance was held on Fourth of July night at the Casa Ybel Hotel by the Sanibel-Captiva Sharks Men's Softball team for the benefit of the Sanibel School Athletic Field.

The team wishes to thank all who purchased tickets for the affair and especially those who turned out for a fine evening of dancing to the music of the Tommy Mason Trio.

Also a special thank you to our good Island merchants who were so generous with their donations of the many various door prize awards.



## ISLAND VISITOR



# Bon Appetit

"ALL YOUR NEEDS FROM FOOD TO FILM"

## ISLAND REFLECTIONS



SANIBEL-CAPTIVA REAL ESTATE

Claire T. Walker, Realtor  
and Associates.

GR 2-4011

GR 2-3031



IT'S STILL THRIFT SEASON AT  
THE SEA HORSE SHOP  
MIDSUMMER  
CLEARANCE SALE  
VALUES FOR EVERYONE

AT THE LIGHTHOUSE END OF SANIBEL

**SANIBEL CAPTIVA ISLANDER**

Established 1961  
Duff Brown, Owner and Publisher

Editors . . . . . Virginia and Duff Brown  
Reporter: Evelyn Bailey, GR 2-7071 or GR 2-5781  
Production: Lou Rice, Chris Meyer, Grace Underhill

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ISLANDER OFFICE:  
140 Delmar Road, Fort Myers Beach; write P.O. Box 2827, FMB. Phone: MO 4-6792 (Not a toll call from the Islands)

Islander news and ad copy is picked up Saturday. Last minute SHORT news items or unclassifieds may be called in Monday morning.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS**

On-Island . . . . . \$3.00 yearly  
Off-Island or Split . . . . . \$3.50 yearly

*Priscilla  
Murphy*  
**Realtor**

**SANIBEL ISLAND, FLORIDA**

MAIN OFFICE GR 2-4501  
BRANCH OFFICE in Sanibel Shopping Center GR 2-4521  
BRANCH OFFICE CAPTIVA GR 2-2051

You're Invited To Stop By The Office To Read  
The Wall Street Journal  
Closed 12 noon Saturdays For The Summer

**GOLDEN SANDS**

RESTAURANT  
COCKTAIL LOUNGE



Periwinkle Drive, Sanibel Island GR 2-3171

**Reynold's Craft Shop**

Main Road, Near Casa Ybel Road

FLORIDA MINIATURES  
RARE SHELLS  
SHELL BOXES - FRAMES - TABLES

Shellcraft Supplies and Findings  
Ceramics - Leather & Misc. Items  
The Handmade Gift is the Thoughtful Gift

**ZENITH**  
TELEVISIONS  
BLACK & WHITE OR COLOR

**Fedders**  
AIR CONDITIONERS

**WOOSTER TELEVISION**  
SALES & SERVICE  
Gulf Drive, Sanibel GR 2-2101

**ISLANDER**



**ST. MICHAEL'S AND ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
The Rev. T.A. Madden, Vicar  
SUNDAY:  
Holy Communion . . . 7:30 a.m.  
Morning Service and Sunday School . . . . . 9:30 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY:  
Holy Communion . . . 9:00 a.m.  
THURSDAY:  
Holy Communion . . . 7:30 p.m.  
\* \* \* \* \*

**ST. ISABEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
The Rev. Claude E. Brubaker  
Sundays . . . . . 11:30 a.m.  
Thursdays . . . . . 7:30 p.m.  
Holy Days . . . . . 5:30 p.m.  
CONFESSION:  
Sundays before Mass.  
\* \* \* \* \*

**SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
50th Anniversary Year  
Dr. H.E. Sheely  
Morning Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday School . . . . . 9:30 a.m.  
\* \* \* \* \*

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
The Rev. Arthur Sims, Pastor  
SUNDAY:  
Sunday School . . . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Training Union . . . . 6:30 p.m.  
Evening Worship . . . 7:30 p.m.  
WEDNESDAY:  
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study . . . . . 7:30 p.m.  
FRIDAY:  
Youth Ranch . . . . . 7:30 p.m.  
\* \* \* \* \*

**BINOCULARS**  
for rent \$1.00 a day  
We have binoculars for sale, also.

**MacIntosh Book Shop**  
Sanibel Island, Fla. GR 2-3041

**ISLAND ACTIVITIES**

Sanibel Community Association, Inc., Sanibel Community House -- 1st Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Sanibel-Captiva Teen Club, Sanibel Community House -- Saturday, 8 p.m.

Game Night, Sanibel Community House -- Fridays, 8 p.m.

American Legion Post 123, American Legion Home -- 2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.

American Legion Auxiliary, Members Homes -- 2nd Mondays, 8 p.m.

Bingo Murex, American Legion Home -- Wednesdays, 8:00 p.m. (No Minors)

A.A. open meeting - Fridays 8 p.m. at St. Michael's Episcopal Church. GR 2-3121.

Lions Club, dinner meeting at South Seas Plantation, 6:30 p.m., first and third Wednesdays of each month.




**A SECOND CAR WITH HELP FROM THE FIRST**

For second . . . or first car . . . financing see us first at the First!

**FIRST NATIONAL Bank**  
\* \* \* IN FORT MYERS \* \* \*

Largest and Most Experienced Trust Dept. in S.W. Florida  
MEMBER: FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM  
FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORP.



**ISLAND BAKE SHOP**

**WEEKLY SPECIALS**

Mon: Almond Macaroons  
Thurs: Lemon Pectens  
Fri: Chocolate Eclairs

GR 2-3121

Hours 8 to 5 Daily  
Closed Sunday

**SANIBEL - CAPTIVA CAR RENTAL**


Periwinkle Way  
BONDED - LICENSED - INSURED  
GR 2-3231

Become a member of,  
**Friends of the Sanibel Public Library**

Memberships \$1 "or more."  
YOUR Library needs YOUR support!  
Library hours:  
Tuesday and Saturdays 10-12  
Thursdays 2-4

**H. A. VROOMAN TV**

Phone Number Changed To  
**GR2 - 6611**  
CAPTIVA ISLAND, FLORIDA



**GOURMET CORNER**

S.S. Pierce old fashioned  
candies in nine different flavors



MRS. SPENCER EWING

The Sanibel-Captiva Islands community and the cause of island conservation lost a sturdy friend in Mrs. Spencer Ewing, who died at Beacon Manor, Fort Myers, Saturday, June 29.

A staunch supporter of many island activities, Mrs. Ewing had helped to organize the Chapel-by-the-Sea on Captiva and continued to participate in its support throughout her life. An ardent shell collector, she was dedicated to all causes of conservation. She served for a number of years as President and Vice-President of the Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society. Even during her final illness at Beacon Manor, she continued to seek news of what was doing in the island community, and reports on conservation work gave her great satisfaction.

At her family home in Bloomington, Indiana, Mrs. Ewing had engaged in broad and diverse community work. Her activities included Woman's Club, Musical Club, Philharmonic Society, Community Players, League of Women Voters, YWCA, Illinois Historical Society, American Association of University Women and Smith College Alumnae Assn., among others, she organized the Illinois Home Bureau Federation, and was its first President. She acted as delegate from the Federation to the International Triennial Conferences of the Associated Country Women of the world in London, Washington, Amsterdam and Toronto.

Mrs. Ewing was 94 at her death. For the last 20 years she had spent winters on the islands, and summers in Connecticut, her husband having died in 1952. She is survived by a niece, Mrs. William E. Stevenson of Captiva.



THANKS FROM TWO TOO MANY

Monday, June 24, 1968 was a day of adventure that we will not soon forget.

We decided to take a tour of Sanibel. It all started out as much a fine idea without too much risk involved. You know, just a short little trip to see how others on this beautiful island live.

Right away we discovered that the wide path with the hard surface was much easier to walk on than tramping through the bushes and sand spurs, so we decided to take this easy route. Well, there seems to be a large metal animal called "automobile" which also uses these paths, and we are not used to them. (They're bigger than we are.)

When we were just a short distance from home we came to another paved path upon which there were many of these "automobiles." Not being used to this we became quite confused and forgot from whence we came. We kept running back and forth across the paved path and some of the big animals chased us, but we somehow managed to out smart them and they didn't catch us.

Several people called and tried to coax us, but we were not too sure about the whole thing to talk to strangers. After having time to think it over, however, we realize these people were trying to be very nice to us. Though we have been on the island for a year, we have never taken a tour alone before, and these people didn't know where we belonged though they certainly did try to find out.

We were getting tired so we finally gave in to one very nice man and let him catch us. (He looked like he might like us and perhaps know where we lived.) From there we went to a very lovely home on Gulf Drive to spend a few hours while our owners were being located.

Of course, when our owners arrived home from town and found we were gone they were worried, but it didn't take too long to locate us as most everyone knew of our adventure by then.

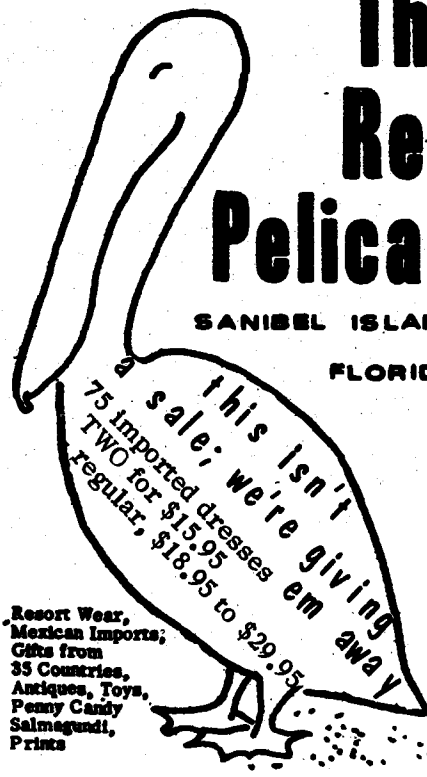
We feel that we are now pretty well known on the island, but we have decided that we won't take any more tours alone, right away.

We want to thank all the many people who helped us and were so concerned and a very special THANKS to Father Madden who made many phone calls on our behalf (He's the one we let catch us.) and to the Winterbothams who allowed us to spend a few hours in their lovely home while we

NEW HOURS 9-9

# The Red Pelican

SANIBEL ISLAND  
FLORIDA



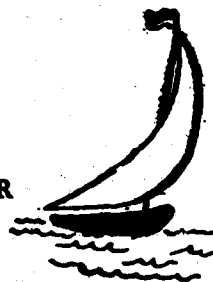
Resort Wear,  
Mexican Imports,  
Gifts from  
35 Countries,  
Antiques, Toys,  
Penny Candy  
Salmagundi,  
Prints

Turn Right At The Shopping Plaza  
Follow the Signs GR 2-2741

## BOATS

WATER SKI BOATS  
BY THE HOUR  
LESSONS AVAILABLE

Sail Fish  
Sun Fish  
Moths  
Cat Boats  
Fishing Boats  
Canoes  
CHARTERS OR  
FOR RENT



Shelling Trips  
Bait  
Fishing Poles For Rent

### Tarpon Bay Marina

Turn Right At The Shopping Plaza  
Follow the Signs GR 2-2741

were waiting to be found.

We are really very sorry to have caused so much concern, but we are also very glad to know that there are so many nice people on our island.

Stardust Juno (RED)

&

Stardust John-A-Dreams (JOHN)

Two Blonde Cockers who are glad to be home.

EVERY FRIDAY

## Fish 'N' Chip DINNERS

All you can put away ... \$2.00

Where a Sandwich is NOT a Sandwich  
IT'S A MEAL!

**Scotty's Pub**  
restaurant

SERVED 'TILL 2 A.M.

phone ahead for take out orders -- or order 'em and eat 'em here!

(formerly known as Isabel's Tavern)

GR 2-4322

The Fridays'

## HOUSE OF TREASURES

Sanibel Island, Florida



- We Take Pride In Your Jewelry And Gifts -



Erica Wilson CREWEL EMBROIDERY KITS

SWEATER KITS By Columbia - Minerva

Hours 1 to 5 Mon. - Tues. - Wed. - Thurs. - Sat.  
Turn Left At The Colony Road Phone GR 2-4875  
PILLOWS, PURSES, EYEGLASS CASES, ETC.

Muriel Way

VILLA VICTORIA



PRICES EFFECTIVE  
THURSDAY, FRIDAY, & SATURDAY  
JULY 11, 12, & 13

# BAILEY'S GENERAL STORE SANIBEL ISLAND



RACORN BRAND  
**BA**

QUICK  
**LAMB  
SHOULDER  
CHOP**

QUICK FROZEN YOUNG SPRING  
**LAMB SHOULDER ROAST**..... LB 39¢

USDA CHOICE BONELESS  
**SIRLOIN TIP ROAST**..... LB 99¢

BETTY CROCKER ASSORTED 18 OZ SIZE  
**Cake Mixes**..... 3 FOR \$1.00  
PERSONAL SIZE

**Ivory Soap**..... NET 4 FOR 25¢

**Armour Treet**..... 12 OZ CAN 49¢

*SALAD DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN... SERVE*  
**Vegetables**

FRESH JUICY  
**GEORGIA PEACHES**..... LB 15¢

RED RIPE  
**SLICING TOMATOES**..... LB 25¢

ALL PURPOSE  
**WHITE  
POTATOES**  
10 LBS 59¢

**SOFT  
WEVE  
TISSUE**  
ASSORTED COLORS

2 ROLL  
PAK  
**19**¢

LIMIT TWO  
2-ROLL PACKS  
WITH A  
\$5.00 ORDER  
OR MORE,  
EXCLUDING  
CIGARETTES.

**ROMAN  
BLEACH**  
GAL

**29**¢

LIMIT 1 PLEASE  
WITH A \$5.00 ORDER OR MORE,  
EXCLUDING CIGARETTES.

U.S.D.A CHOICE  
**SIRLOIN  
STEAK**

LB **99**¢



U.S.D.A CHOICE  
**T-BONE STEAK**  
LB \$1.09

**FOLGERS  
COFFEE**

LB CAN **39**¢

LIMIT 1 PLEASE  
WITH A \$5.00  
ORDER OR MORE,  
EXCLUDING CIGARETTES.

**SAVE  
HERE!**

**SAVE MORE!**



SLICED  
**CON** ..... LB PKG **39¢**

Quantity Rights Reserved

**Geisha Tomato Sardines** 15 OZ CAN **29¢**

**Rosedale Peas** ..... 3 17 OZ CANS **49¢**

**Libbys Fruit Cocktail** ..... 17 OZ CAN **29¢**

**Whole Sweet Pickles** ..... CAIRO BEAUTY 22 OZ JAR **39¢**

**3 Kittens Cat Food** ..... 4 6 1/2 OZ CANS **25¢**

**Planters Cocktail Peanuts** ..... 1 3 1/2 OZ CAN **59¢**

**Angel Food Cake** ..... SOUTHERN PKG. **49¢**

YOUNG SPRING

**SLIDER**  
..... LB **49¢**

U.S.D.A CHOICE FULL CUT

**ROUND STEAK** ..... LB **89¢**

HYGRADE BALL PARK  
**FRANKS** ..... LB PKG **69¢**

COPELAND ALL MEAT  
**BOLOGNA** ..... LB PKG **59¢**

ASST. FLAVORS

**RITZ  
SODAS**

**12** 12 OZ CANS **89¢**

FROZEN & DAIRY  
FOODS

ROSEDALE SLICED  
**STRAWBERRIES**

10 OZ  
PKG. **19¢**

GREEN GIANT 10 OZ PKG.  
**FANCY FRUITS**

SLICED PEACHES  
MIXED FRUITS &  
BLUEBERRIES **25¢** EA.

**STOUFFER'S MACARONI & CHEESE** ..... 12 OZ PKG. **39¢**

**STOUFFER'S POTATOES AU-GRATIN** ..... 12 OZ SIZE **39¢**

**TREASURE ISLE PRE-COOKED SHRIMP** ..... 10 OZ PKG. **99¢**

**HAWAIIAN PUNCH** ..... 2 6 OZ CANS **29¢**

**PARKAY SOFT MARGARINE** ..... LB PKG. **39¢**

**KRAFT PHILADELPHIA CREAM CHEESE** ..... 8 OZ PKG. **29¢**

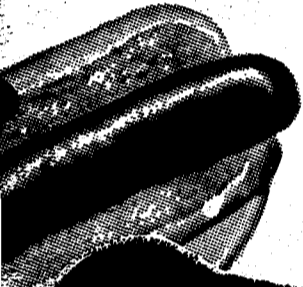
INDIVIDUAL WRAPPED  
**KRAFT AMERICAN CHEESE** ..... 12 OZ PKG. **55¢**

SMALL OR LARGE CURD  
**MASTER COTTAGE CHEESE** ..... 12 OZ CTN. **25¢**

**MASTERS HALF & HALF** ..... 16 OZ CTN. **29¢**

U.S.D A CHOICE BONELESS

**TOP ROUND STEAK** ..... LB **99¢**



**FIRST CUT  
PORK  
CHOPS**  
..... LB **39¢**

**Banquet**  
DINNERS  
CHICKEN, BEEF, TURKEY  
11 OZ SIZE  
**3 FOR \$1**

ALWAYS GOOD

**ICE MILK** ..... HALF GAL. **39¢**

LEMON OR ORANGE

**Tropi Ca Lo Drinks** ..... HALF GAL. **29¢**

HEALTH & BEAUTY AIDS

VITALIS  
**HAIR TONIC** ..... LARGE SIZE REG. \$1.19 **89¢**

JOHNSON & JOHNSON  
**BABY OIL** ..... MEDIUM SIZE REG. 69¢ **59¢**

JUST WONDERFUL REGULAR & HARD TO HOLD  
**HAIR SPRAY** ..... 13 OZ CAN REG. 99¢ **49¢**

ALPO HORSEMEAT

**DOG  
FOOD**  
1 1/2 OZ CAN **31¢**

**NABISCO  
COOKIES**

CHIP AHOY  
CHOCOLATE  
CHIP PKG **39¢**

## LOBSTER TAIL DINNER

Select 1 large lobster tail per person. Scrub tails and place on rack in broiler pan with 1/2 cup of water. Seal pan tightly with aluminum foil and place in preheated 425 degree oven for 30 minutes. Remove meat from shells and split, remove sand vein. Serve with drawn butter sauce, French fried potatoes and tossed salad. Florida lobster prepared this way, equal in tenderness and flavor, the famous New England lobster.

**dotti**<sup>®</sup>  
of Sanibel

THE ISLAND BOUTIQUE  
FOR THE DISCRIMINATING  
"timeless classics"

OPEN 9-5 DAILY - CLOSED SUNDAYS

*artisan shop*  
DESIGNER GIFTS

ISLAND PAINTINGS  
FROM \$2.00

Summer Hours 9 - 2  
Closed Thursday

GULF DRIVE SANIBEL

HAWAIIAN FASHIONS  
Pantops o Dresses o Patio Dresses

**THE OPEN GATE**  
BOUTIQUE




WE ONLY LOOK EXPENSIVE  
Next Door to the Bookshop  
GR 2-6051

*Thanks to All*

FOR YOUR NICE CARDS, LETTERS,  
FLOWERS AND THOUGHTS  
WHILE I WAS IN THE HOSPITAL

*Marshall Tabacchi*


VILLA CAPRI

**SANIBEL** 

**SERVICE STATION**

Atlas Tires -- Batteries -- Accessories  
Wrecker -- Road Service -- Inspection  
HAVE IT CHECKED BEFORE YOU GO!

Auto Painting & Body Work  
Tune Up -- Muffler Service

 **GR 2-4961**

**Coconut Grove** Restaurant

GR 2-2751

OPEN: 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
7 DAYS A WEEK

Corner of Tarpon Bay Rd. & Sanibel Blvd.

## NOTICE TO ALL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERS

At the last Chamber of Commerce meeting the new Sanibel-Captiva brochure booklet was approved to replace the mailing list now in use. It was agreed that the new booklet would save a tremendous amount of duplication and that the cost of an ad would be less than the brochure's stamps, stationary now being used by each motel. In addition the Lee County and Florida Developing Commission lists will be answered which should offset the possible vacancies created by the 250 new units planned to be built on Sanibel in the next year.

The revenue raised would enable us to quadruple our advertising budget, pay for a much needed full time assistant for Bill Neuman and enable the Chamber of Commerce to stay open for longer hours.

Any member of the Chamber of Commerce can place an ad although no one is required to do so. There will be a free listing of all members of the Chamber of Commerce printed in the booklet with address and telephone number. The cost of an ad will be \$1,000.00 for a full page ad in color and \$700.00 for a full page in black and white. 1/2, 1/4, and 1/8 page ads would be divided into a full page cost plus 10%. Businesses will supply their own color or black and white prints. The printing company will provide free layout assistance to any subscriber. Deadline for photos is August 15th and August 30th for ads.

For additional information contact Larry Bruno at Gr 2-4401.

## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

M. T. Dixon, director of the Fla. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, said today that recent changes in the GI Home Loan Program should make it easier for thousands of unremarried widows to get GI home loans. Basic eligibility requirements are that the widow's husband either die on active duty or from a service connected disability, and the Veteran's service was during World War II, Korean Conflict or the Vietnam era.

A new law permits the VA to guarantee home loans up to \$12,500 of the loan amount, but not more than 60% of the loan. The higher ceiling on GI loan interest rates which went into effect recently, should help these widows get a GI loan from a commercial lending institution. Many eligible widows had husbands who served in World War II, and under current legislation they still have more than two years to obtain a GI loan - until July 25, 1970. Entitlement for qualified widows of men who served in the Korean Conflict is not scheduled to expire until January 1975.

Widows whose spouses served during the Vietnam era, or any time after January 31, 1955, will have their eligibility expire (a) 20 years from the date of the veteran's death in service, (b) 20 years from the date of the veteran's discharge, or (c) March 3, 1976, whichever is later.

Widows who think they might qualify for GI loans should obtain further information from the Veterans Administration or from their local Veteran County Service Officer.

*Cranes*

FINE STATIONERY In Gift Boxes

**MacIntosh Book Shop**

Sanibel Island, Florida GR 2-3041

## CRAB CASSEROLE

1 cup cooked crab meat, 1 1/4 oz. can mushrooms, sliced, 3 drops Tabasco sauce, 2 cans cream of celery soup (condensed), 1/2 lb. grated American cheese, Buttered cracker crumbs. Heat soup and cheese, stirring constantly to prevent sticking to pan. Add mushrooms and crab meat. Remove from heat and stir in Tabasco sauce. Pour into buttered casserole. Cover with buttered crumbs. Bake at 350 degrees about 20 minutes or until browned. Serves 6.

**NOW OPEN**

*The* **SNACK SHACK**

8 am - 8 pm

Open Everyday except Tuesday

We Also Have Carry-Outs

**Elsie Malone**

**SPECIMEN SHELLS**

E. corner of Priscilla Murphy, (Realtor)  
Bldg. Periwinkle Way GR 2-2001

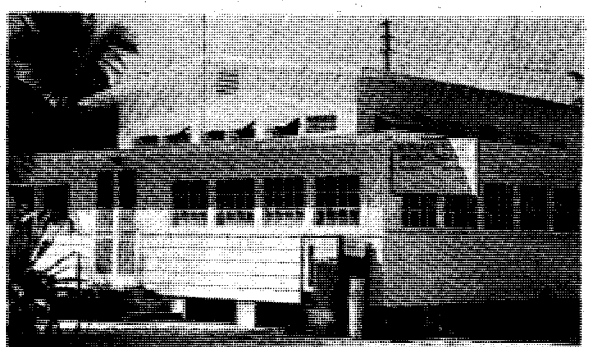
**SAN CARLOS REALTY**

**Robert L. Dormer**  
REG. REAL ESTATE BROKER

Town Square  
Sanibel Island, Florida 33957

Personal Attention Given All Listings  
Associates: Marty Holtz Dan Moore

Office GR 2-5371 Home GR 2-3771



**THE ISLAND STORE**

CAPTIVA

groceries  
frozen foods  
additions

**UNCLASSIFIEDS**

Motel owners and business people. You can now get color post cards and brochures. Beautiful full color reproduction, highest quality, low price. Call Larry C. Huston, commercial photographer MO 4-6655.

**NEED OCCASIONAL HELP?**  
Call Jeanne Hopwood at GR 2-4551.

**JOB PRINTING:**  
Letterheads, envelopes, rate sheets - anything. Fast service - best prices anywhere. B.R. Brown, MO 4-6546.

**ART SUPPLIES:**  
Paints, brushes, etc. Also Flex-Bon paints, designed for tropical weather, at LEGEL SUPPLY, Sanibel Island, GR 2-4051.

**HELP WANTED:**  
Male or female. Short order cook or waitress. 40 hour week, good pay. Apply at the Snack Shack or call GR 2-3321.

**Something New  
Has Been Added!**

**DINNER DANCING**

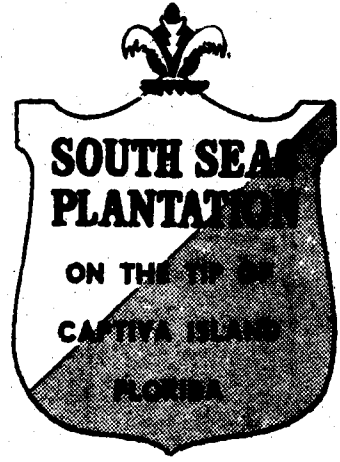
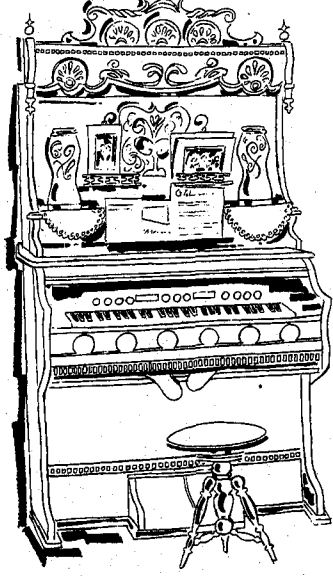
**AT SOUTH SEAS  
SATURDAY NIGHT**

**2 KINGS & A QUEEN  
CLYDE MASON & HIS BAND**

**9:00 to 1:00**

**DINNER 6:30 TO 10:00**

**FOR RESERVATIONS CALL GR 2-4801**



**State Board of Health**



**THE HOME OF OUR LADY  
OF SOLITUDE**

This year was 1597 and the little Spanish garrison on the northeast Florida coast was in danger of annihilation by disease, pirates, fire and poverty. It had been established for the purpose of protecting the shipping lanes of the gold-laden Spanish fleets as they traveled from the Americas to Spain. Then, too, they were there to rescue sailors and other persons who were continually being wrecked by storms in the Bahama Channel.

When Gonzalo Mendez de Canzo arrived in the garrison of St. Augustine in June, 1597, to take over the governorship, he brought with him a priest to serve as Chaplain for the garrison, 24 soldiers and 10 or 12 women "of good reputation" who were expected to become wives of the soldiers. They found that there were at least two "barber surgeons" and a hospital being built at the Hermita Nuestra Senora de la Soledad (Home of our Lady of Solitude.)

Governor Mendez gave the hospital his support because he felt it was of great benefit to the garrison. In fact, if there had been no hospital during the sum-

mer of 1597, many soldiers, Indians and royal slaves would have died because of the "extensive fever."

But like hospitals today, the cost of founding the hospital in St. Augustine exceeded the contributions collected by more than 500 ducates. Governor Mendez asked the Spanish monarch, Phillip II, for financial support and for the assignment of an old female royal slave to serve in the hospital, make beds, cook for the patients and keep the place clean - all of which was lacking. The Crown eventually authorized the release of 500 ducates from the treasury in Mexico and allowed the Governor to select the slave to serve exclusively in the hospital.

But despite the surface appearance of success, the first hospital on the North American Continent was not to flourish long. On March 14, 1599, less than two years after the hospital was completed, the nearby Franciscan convent and much of the town was destroyed by fire. The missionary priests then moved into the Hermita and the hospital.

The latter ceased to exist. Further privations resulted from a tidal wave which swept over the garrison in September 1599. The following year the lack of food forced many residents to abandon the colony.

In 1600, Governor Mendez, moved by charity, organized another hospital in honor of Santa Barbara and asked the Crown to make a gift to the hospital, which

was an "institution of decent appointments" with six beds, constructed of palm and well built. The staff consisted of a majordomo, who was to visit the sick and see to the operating of the hospital, and a female slave who would care for the patients. Surgeons from the presidio were to attend to the patients.

The Hospital Santa Barbara flourished for eight years. When the Convent of San Francisco was rebuilt, a hospital was reestablished in the Hermita of Nuestra Senora de la Soledad. Other royal hospitals were to follow through the centuries. These were frequently staffed by soldiers who were too old to do other types of military service. Eventually Brothers of the Order of San Juan de Dios came from Havana to minister to the sick.

Like hospitals today, early St. Augustine healing institutions were plagued by a shortage of funds. A form of "medicare" was instituted by royal decree in 1597 to partially support the Spanish hospital at St. Augustine. A soldier was to contribute six reales a year and officers were to give a proportionate amount. Later a similar royal decree was issued that said each soldier would give 12 reales toward the hospital maintenance. This amounted to approximately 60 cents a year. Unlike the hospitals of today, the clothing and belongings of patients who died in the institution were kept by the hospital as alms.

Next column: Born in time of terror. In the summer heat of 1888, people were fleeing Jacksonville by the thousands. The rumors of a yellow fever epidemic became fact as death carts clattered down the streets. No State Board of Health existed. Should the Governor call the legislature into special session to create one?

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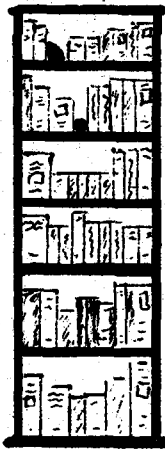


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### REAL ESTATE NEWS

Priscilla Murphy, Realtor  
sales closed week ending July  
6, 1968:

Dr. Jonas Juozevicius of Chi-  
cago, Ill., from Howard Potter of  
Detroit, Mich., Lot 8, Block 5,  
San. Estates; Mr. John Racek of  
Evanston, Ill., from Mildred On-  
stine of Captiva, Lot 19, Blk 3,  
in Captiva Beach Subdivision; Mr.  
Geo. C. Armstrong of Toronto,  
Ont. from Rubie Reif, acreage in  
Leisure Acres; and Mr. Donald  
G. Saltman from Norristown, Pa.,  
2 lots in Sanibel Shores, Unit #1.

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## After A Bang-Up 4th

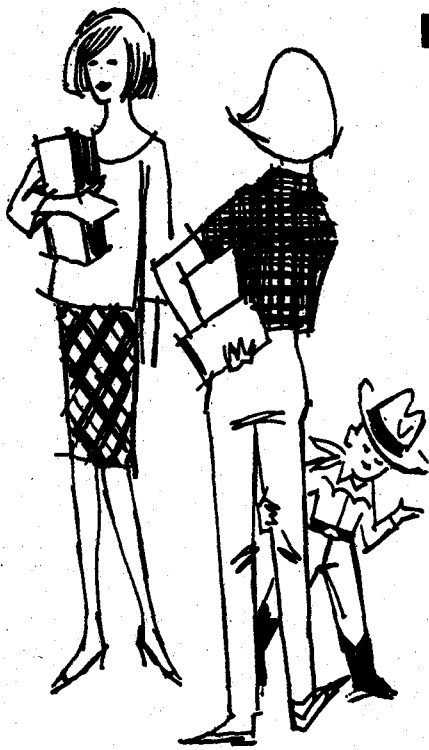
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