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SANIBEL - CAPTIVA

ISLANDER

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CAPTIVA ISLANDS

The Finest
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In The
Western
Hemisphere

VOLUME 11

NUMBER 37

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SEPTEMBER 20, 1971

Conservation and Kindergarten - Two Firsts in County

Mr. William Hammond, head of the Biology and Ecological studies department at Cypress Lake High School is scheduled to talk with the teachers of Sanibel Elementary School today about ecological and conservation programs that are being integrated into the school curriculum at Sanibel School.

Since the school is located almost in the middle of the Ding Darling Wildlife Sanctuary, it is inaugurating a pilot program in ecology, conservation, and marine biology which will be taught to the children along with all of their regular programs of study.

The different phases of conservation will be incorporated into each study, such as mathematics, reading and social and regular science. "It will be an almost painless way for the children to learn first-hand about these vital programs," said Principal George Dissette.

Another pilot program, a first in Lee County too, is the kindergarten under the able direction of Mrs. Judith Schaick (it rhymes with Mike.) "The whole of Lee County will be eyeing Sanibel to see how these pilot programs shape up," said Mr. Dissette.

TURNER BEACH TO BE ENLARGED

One and one half miles of new territory in the Turner Beach area will be developed this year for more and better recreational purposes, according to action taken by the County Commissioners at a special meeting Friday.

Bruce Scott, Chairman of Commissioners, said, "This coming year there is a seven percent increase in the parks department budget." The County budget for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1 shows that \$365,644 has been budgeted for Parks and Beautification programs. One of the other big projects listed for development this year is a huge park planned for "many activities" in the Big Hickory Pass area situated across from the Carl E. Johnson Park on the Bonita Causeway.

Seventy-seven acres of beach property with 2,160 feet fronting on the Gulf has been offered to the County by Big Hickory Corp. of Kansas for \$248,400, and the County has been considering the offer, but no firm action has been taken as yet.

SERENITY HOUSE STILL PLUGGING

Serenity House, the hope of many reformed and reforming alcoholics, is still plugging along in an attempt to reach its goal of \$15,000 for the maintenance of the home. Mr. Ernie Gurtner, director of the home said they now have \$7,191 on hand, but they also have money pledged to the cause, but it is not yet in the bank. "We can't count our chickens until they are hatched," he said.


"Everyone has been so generous in their response to our appeals," he said. "We have collected so many items for our planned rummage sale that we must store them in a warehouse until the actual sale, but we are having trouble locating one centrally situated for the sale. We do not want to have to move the items again before the sale. Just as soon as we find the right spot, we will let you know. So when the big day comes, we hope you will all come and buy some of the goodies that will be offered."

AMERICAN LEGION

Peter Pavel, chairman of the House Committee of Legion Post 123, has announced the completion of installation of the new air conditioning system at the Legion Hall on Captiva Road. The old inadequate system was augmented by the installation of a new 3-ton unit. According to Mr. Pavel the overall system now assures complete air conditioning comfort at the Legion Hall. He also indicated that work is proceeding in the installation of a new floor to the hall and the formation of a regular member maintenance crew to keep the building and premises "spruced up" at all times.

In view of these added improvements the Entertainment Committee hopes all Islanders, Island guests and the many friends of the Legion will avail themselves of the new comfortable atmosphere in the Legion Hall and turn out in greater numbers for Legion Bingo held every Wednesday night in the Legion Hall starting at 8 p.m.

At the first meeting of the Post on Tuesday, Sept. 14, the Fish Fry Committee reported that the Labor Day event made some money but had fallen short of the net revenue from the previous Fish Fry on July 4. However, all factors considered, the committee deemed the Labor Day event a success. Other social events are in the planning stage for the winter season and future announcements will be made as they occur.



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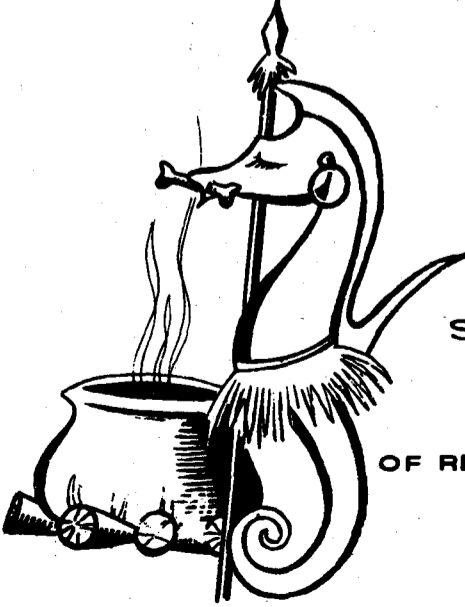
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SANIBEL - CAPTIVA ISLANDER

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Duff Brown, Owner and Publisher

Editors..... Virginia and Duff Brown
Production: Louise Ostling, Carlene Kelly, Judy Hendrie,
Robin Franklin, Karen Robinson, Ruth Keys
Reporter..... Fran O'Callaghan, 463-9671.

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5¢ a word thereafter.

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(463-6792) no later than Monday noon.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

All subscriptions expire Nov. 1,

subscriptions beginning	Off island	On island	Canada
Oct. - Dec.	\$4.00	\$3.50	\$4.50
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April - July	2.00	1.75	2.50
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Church School and
Kindergarten..... 9:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY:
Holy Communion..... 9:00 a.m.
HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion..... 7:30 p.m.

CAPTIVA EPISCOPAL SERVICES
Rev. T. R. Madden
Manor House..... 7:30 a.m.

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Rev. J. Normand Hardy
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Friday Mass in the homes.
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The Rev. Jack E. Otis, Minister
SUNDAY SERVICES:
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Worship..... 11:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY:
Prayer meeting..... 7:30 p.m.

SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH
Dr. H. E. Sheely, Pastor
Morning Worship..... 11 a.m.
Sunday School..... 9:30 a.m.
Nursery..... 11 a.m.



Activities
Calendar

Sanibel Library hours: Monday & Thurs-
day, 2-4 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday,
Friday & Saturday, 10-12 noon.

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

Public Health Nurse - Third Tuesday of
every month, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the
Community House.

Lions Club of Sanibel-Captiva meets at
6:30 p.m., first & third Wednesday of
each month at Webb's Castaways Res-
taurant.

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

Bingo Murex, American Legion Home,
Wednesdays, 8 p.m. (no minors).

Captiva Memorial Library is open 9 a.m.
till 12:30 on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Shell Club, beginning in December, 3rd
Wednesday of each month, 8 p.m. Alter-
nating between Sanibel and Captiva Com-
munity Houses.

Boyscouts meet 7:30 p.m., Saturday
nights at the school.

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WHO'S WHO AND WHY

STEVEN GLASS, age 3, of Hallandale, Fla., caught his first fish, a three pound catfish in the Gulf the other day. Mr. RANDY GLASS, his dad, said that the expression of delighted astonishment on Steve's face was worth the price of the whole trip!

MOORE - BIGGINS

In an afternoon ceremony, Mrs. Doris Moore became the bride of Charles Biggins on Wednesday. The Reverend James D. B. Hubbs of St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church officiated at the double ring nuptials in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Ross Gamble of Captiva.

The bride wore a turquoise blue A-line crepe dress with wide white belt and white accessories, and wore a yellow orchid corsage. A champagne reception with tiered wedding cake followed the ceremonies at the South Seas Plantation.

After a honeymoon in the Keys, the bride and groom will return to the South Seas where both are employed and make their home.

BEACHVIEW COTTAGES

John and Sarah La Rocca drove over from Daytona Beach. "It is amazing what a hundred miles difference will make," she said, and we are happy to welcome them on their return to Sanibel.

The John Roberts family of Cocoa, Fla., are down here for some quiet recreation. "The children love the freedom of the beach and pool," they say. They brought some mutual friends along, the Richard Purvis family also of Cocoa, who have had fantastic luck fishing. They caught 30 large redfish, though they did not keep them all. Mrs. Fred White, Helen Garilleo and Grace Bombardall of Warwick, R.I., have been enjoying a late summer vacation together and are sporting good tans. Mr. & Mrs. Robert Johnson and family of Orlando are also happily beachcombing and swimming and shelling.

SHELL HARBOR INN

Several groups of guests came down from Ohio to enjoy the between seasons outing. The Robert Stuarts of Newark, Mr. & Mrs. R. Forbush of Chagrin Falls and the Clyden Bowdens of Cincinnati are the Ohio contingency enjoying the beach. The William Gabbys of Lexington, Ky., are devotees of sun, sand and surf, and here from West Palm Beach for a change in pace are the Charles Confers, Mr. & Mrs. Walter Hillen of Patchogue, N.Y., are enjoying the summer sun and fishing. Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Frisbie of New Orleans drove over to Sanibel for some of its famous shelling, and to soak up some sun. We are happy to have good weather for them.

COLONY GUESTS

Guests enjoying The Colony from Florida are Mr. & Mrs. H. F. Garrison and baby of Miramar; Mr. & Mrs. David B. Roye of Gainesville; Mr. & Mrs. John Peterson of Altamonte Springs and Mr. & Mrs. Alan C. Coltman and baby of Sarasota.

AT THE SEGUNDA

Back for an extended visit to fair Sanibel are Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Bodnarczuk of Clifton, N.J., who were among the very first guests at the Segunda when it was opened in 1966 by previous owners Herb and Jackie Purdy. In addition to swimming, shelling, sunning and sight-seeing, the Bodnarczucs are considering what use they will make of island property acquired on their earlier visit.

Also returning again are Canadian friends, Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Lake, of Hamilton, Ontario, accompanied by their pair of handsome schnauzers, Shelly and Hildegard. Mr. Lake is on a brief vacation from the staff of Hamilton's daily newspaper, The Spectator.

Other new arrivals are Mrs. Jack Weinstein and her sisters, Miss Ruth and Frances Williams, all of Williamsville, New York. They are, respectively, mother and aunts of new Segunda owners, Rob Alberts, and have recently pulled up roots up north to become permanent Sanibel residents. They will be sojourning at the Segunda until completion of their new Michigan-built bay front home in Sanibel Harbours later in the year. With them is Lori, their beguiling apricot poodle.

DANIEL M. MALONE

Daniel M. Malone, 42, son of Mr. & Mrs. Daniel E. Malone, died of a heart attack Sept. 6 while enroute to his home in New Bern, N.C.

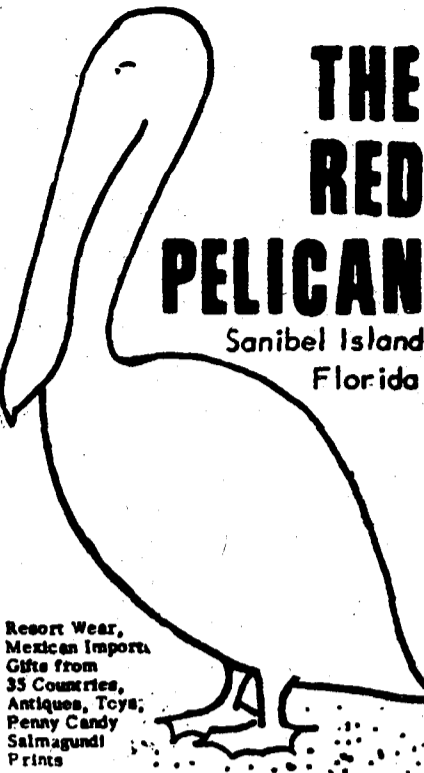
Besides being survived by his parents, he is also survived by his sister, Elsie Malone, and had been visiting here on the islands over Labor Day before traveling to Daytona and subsequently enroute home. Also his wife, Glennie, and 3 children, Daniel, Jr.; Kandy; and Mike Malone live in New Bern, N.C., where he was buried.

NOTICE TO ALL SUBSCRIBERS:

Due to a more efficient, automatic system, ALL subscriptions will expire November 1, 1971. Any subscription which now expires Before OR After that date will be charged on a pro-rata basis. There will be NO renewal notices sent before November 1, 1971. ALL NOTICES FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS WILL BE SENT FOR AN EXPIRATION DATE OF NOVEMBER 1.

If your subscription expires: MONTH, YEAR	You will be charged 11-1-71		to expire
	off-island or split	on island	YEAR
May, 1971	5.70	5.25	Nov., 1972
June, 1971	5.35	4.35	"
July, 1971	5.00	4.35	"
August, 1971	4.70	4.35	"
September, 1971	4.35	3.50	"
November, 1971	4.00	3.50	"
December, 1971	3.70	3.50	"
January, 1972	3.35	2.60	"
February, 1972	3.00	2.60	"
March, 1972	2.70	2.60	"
April, 1972	2.35	1.75	"
May, 1972	2.00	1.75	"
June, 1972	1.70	1.00	"
July, 1972	1.35	1.00	"
August, 1972	1.00	.85	"
September, 1972	.70	.50	"
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HOURS:
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TO THE ISLANDER:

Could anyone please tell me, through this same newspaper column, what the Combs property is all about?

I've traveled to every corner of Sanibel and I know where I'm welcome; and I also know where I might be on the receiving end of rude words if I overstep onto another's property.

I've driven the entire length of Gulf Drive West and I know, when I come to a certain point, that I don't dare go a step farther because signs make it quite clear that I can't go a step over the "border."

I've heard it said that the Combs property has "given joy to so many people." To whom? To the public? To any visitor looking for a quiet place to meditate? Or is it reserved for just a few personal friends? Is the Combs property open to the public? I'd really like to know. If it is private property and the public be damned, as the signs indicate, they why all this fuss and all the demands for public support to keep a road out? Since when must the public fight in behalf of a private property owner? A sanctuary? Yes. A public park? Yes. A sign that says "Keep Out?" No.

Am I wrong in thinking that private property owners must fight their own battles? Am I a spoil-sport if I refuse to go to bat for a piece of property that neither benefits the public nor can even be seen by them? Why all these demands for public support? Why? Will someone please tell me?

/s/ Emerson H. Bewley
Sanibel

(Ed. note: Many, many people have visited Woodmere Preserve. One has only to ask. The Combs even have a list (numbered for easy identification) of all the plants which they have had printed at their own expense which they give out to visitors. We know from personal experience, as well as by reports of others who have toured the Preserve, that all are met with unfailing and courteous hospitality.

As for fighting for private vs. public property, see letter below.)

TO THE ISLANDER:

Without the help of the following persons and establishments if would have been impossible to complete publication of petitions to save Woodmere Preserve.

Shirley Walter of Sanibel-Captiva Real Estate; John Cook; Paul Howe; George Winterbotham, Lee and Wayne Woodring; Ellie Dormer; Katharine Scherman Rosin; Bailey's Store, The

B-Hive; the Captiva Island Store; The Captiva Civic Association; Fur, Feathers and Scales, Inc.; The Bait Shop; Island Inn; the Island Beach Club; Ye Scottish Pub; The Dairy Queen; Gulf Coast Girl Scout Council; The Island Bake Shop; Lions Club; Sanibel Community Association; Mario Hutton; William H. Snyder; and Jean Niswonger of Florida Nature Conservancy.

Help from these people and organizations is gratefully acknowledged, and, of course, to the 400 Lee County citizens who signed these petitions will be forever indebted.

Offer to County: Because of the overwhelming sentiment to save Woodmere shown by these petitions, my wife and I are offering the Preserve to the County as a public arboretum, provided it can remain forever wild. We hope by doing this we can save Woodmere from complete destruction.

This offer is made in good faith because we feel, as many others do, that Woodmere Preserve should be saved for the enjoyment and education of future generations as well as our own. We are willing to work out the details of this offer with the County Commissioners at an early date.

/s/ Willis and Opal Combs

TO THE ISLANDER:

The big question at the Community Association meeting on Sept. 7 was what can I do in my own way to help with the drug situation and assisting the young people on Sanibel Island.

It was most touching to note that this thought was in everyone's mind. And frustrating to feel so helpless.

The main purpose of the meeting surely must have been to aid our young people in finding things to do. So far as any progress was made in this direction, was that the teenagers have a dance at the Community Association House (whatever happened to all that beautiful game equipment the teens purchased) AND three teenagers could meet with board of directors the 21. Having a dance is most certainly a good thing to do but from being a chaperon in various parts of the country including Sanibel this writer comes to the conclusion that records, dancing and a case of cokes is a poor way in the long run of assisting our young people.

One cannot attend a meeting of this kind without a sleepless night afterwards wondering how one can best help.

How about a band concert project for our young people? It is most certainly evident that music is a big factor in young people's lives, so why not encourage them along these lines. There are drums, guitars, trumpets, young people who play the piano, organ, etc. Let's have them organize a Sanibel Island Young People's Band. A small charge can be made which would go toward building a band shell --

a good place for this perhaps would be the park which Mrs. Daisy Mayer gave to Sanibel, which is on the bay. A gazebo or band stand could be erected on this sight at a small cost if everyone would "put their shoulder to the wheel." If this is not feasible then perhaps one could be put up on the Community House grounds. (We put a shelter up for our artists, why not our young musicians.)

We love our young people and they need things to do. Remember work is the cheapest form of amusement.

/s/ Ruth Hunter



SAFE BOATING CLASSES

Be sure to plan ahead to participate in the free boating classes being offered by the U. S. Power Squadron starting Monday evening, Oct. 4, 7 p.m., at the Sanibel Community Association Hall. Plan to attend and keep it in mind and be sure to mark the date on your calendar.

IN 5th GRADE OR AGE 11? JOIN THE BOY SCOUTS

A boy who has completed the fifth grade or is eleven and with the approval of his parents or guardian is eligible now to become a Boy Scout, according to James H. Watson, Scout Executive of the Southwest Florida Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Formerly, boys had to be at least 11 years of age to join a Boy Scout troop, but the executive board of the national organization has changed the membership requirement so that a boy is eligible when he has "completed the fifth grade or is eleven," James H. Watson said.

The Southwest Florida Council which serves Lee, Collier, Charlotte, and Hendry counties have 117 scout troops. Watson reported that the council also expects to organize about 20 new troops in the next 3 months during the fall-roundup, a 3-month membership campaign.

The Boy Scouts of America is in partnership with over 100 local schools, religious institutions, service clubs, PTS's, civic organizations, and other community groups that are chartered to use the Scout program, Watson said.

Information about scouting in this area is available from the Scout Service Center, 2050 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, Fla., phone: 334-2317, 334-2318.

SOUTHERN AMBULANCE GETS COUNTY SUBSIDY

Southern Ambulance Service will receive \$15,000 of its annual subsidy ahead of schedule to help cover losses during the summer months after expansion into North Fort Myers and Cape Coral, Lee County Commissioners decided.

The firm will receive the money at \$5,000 per month for three months beginning Sept. 15.

The firm received \$42,000 annual subsidy from the fiscal year starting May 1. Walter Wilson said the firm has carried 13,000 persons in the 2-1/2 years of operation. He said 60% of the firm's expenses are salaries.

Commission Chairman Bruce Scott said he thought ambulances should be paid for by Lee Memorial Hospital.

Commissioner Ken Daniels said he could see nothing wrong with using county funds for ambulance service, since the Chamber of Commerce advertises about the County and receives \$40,000 a year. He further suggested they wait until the Hospital Study Committee reports to the Legislature in January. Julian Hudson defended the ambulance service. Wilson said the company did not plan to make a profit during the summer months, just break even. Pine Island asked to retain their own ambulance service.



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Mondays & Thursdays 2-4

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4:30 PM

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INFORMATION

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IT WAS A LONG WADE!

Mike and Barbara Gretchen set out Thursday morning for some fishing from Castaways in Pine Island Sound, but they ran into some engine trouble and then among the confusing group of islands, got lost.

When the couple did not return toward evening Thursday night, the Coast Guard was notified. Two Coast Guard vessels and a helicopter from St. Petersburg searched all night for the lost boat and the missing couple, who had managed to get to Buck Key, where they spent the night fighting mosquitoes and no-see-ums. The next morning, at low tide, Mike Gretchen, with Barbara's help, managed to tow the small craft back to Captiva by hand. Both returned tired but thrilled to be back in civilization after "walking back."

REFUGE BUILDINGS UP FOR SALE

Bob Barber, Refuge Manager of the J. N. Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge, announced recently that the Refuge will offer for sale two surplus buildings. The structures are of frame construction and were formerly used as residences. The larger of the two contains 988 square feet; the smaller, 480 square feet.

Sealed bids will be accepted at the refuge office, Sanibel Lighthouse or P.O. Drawer B, until 10 a.m., Oct. 15, 1971. Inspection of the houses can be made by appointment only, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bidders may bid on either building or both buildings. The buildings are to be moved or salvaged and removed from the property by January 15, 1972.

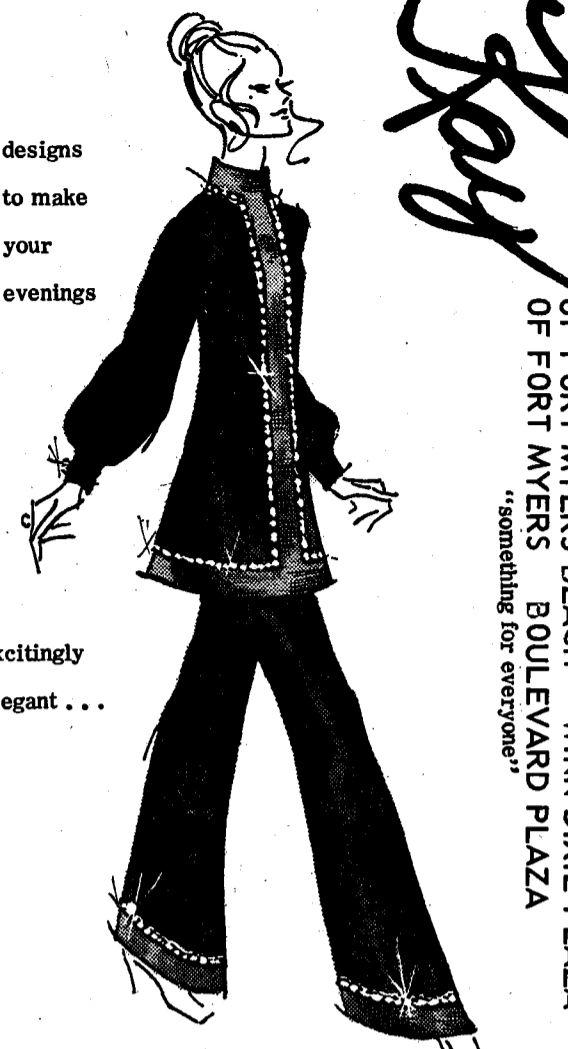
Refuge Manager Barber stated that either structure would be suitable for possible residential, rental or employee quarters. Interested persons are invited to telephone the refuge office, 472-1100, for further information.

REAL ESTATE NEWS

Priscilla Murphy, Realtor, reports the following sale:
 From Mr. & Mrs. George B. Christensen to Mr. & Mrs. Bill Bunting of Sanibel Island, a lot in Sanibel Estates.

Laughrey & Holtz Island Real Estate announce the following sales:
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert F. Ferrari of Bronxville, N.Y., a lot in Lagoon Estates from Mr. Andrea Lertora.
 Major & Mrs. Bert L. Meek, Cherry Point, N.C., a canal lot in Sanibel Harbours from John and Isabel Kirkpatrick and Robert F. Mayer.
 Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Bogott of Fort Myers, commercial road frontage in Palm Ridge from Mr. & Mrs. Gerald T. Martin.
 Mr. & Mrs. Raymond J. Cooper of Hialeah, Fla., a residential lot in Lagoon Estates from Mr. Lertora.
 Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Knoedler, Sr. of East Meadow, N.Y., a residential lot in The Rocks East from Sanibel Properties.
 Mr. & Mrs. John J. Lichti of Miami, Fla., two residential lots in Lagoon Estates from Mr. Lertora.
 George Edward Cooke, M.D. of Nashville, Tenn., 450 feet of commercial road frontage in Palm Ridge S/D from Mr. & Mrs. Gerald T. Martin.
 Mr. & Mrs. Earl F. Weisner of Hialeah, Fla., a lot in Lagoon Estates from Mr. Andrea Lertora.

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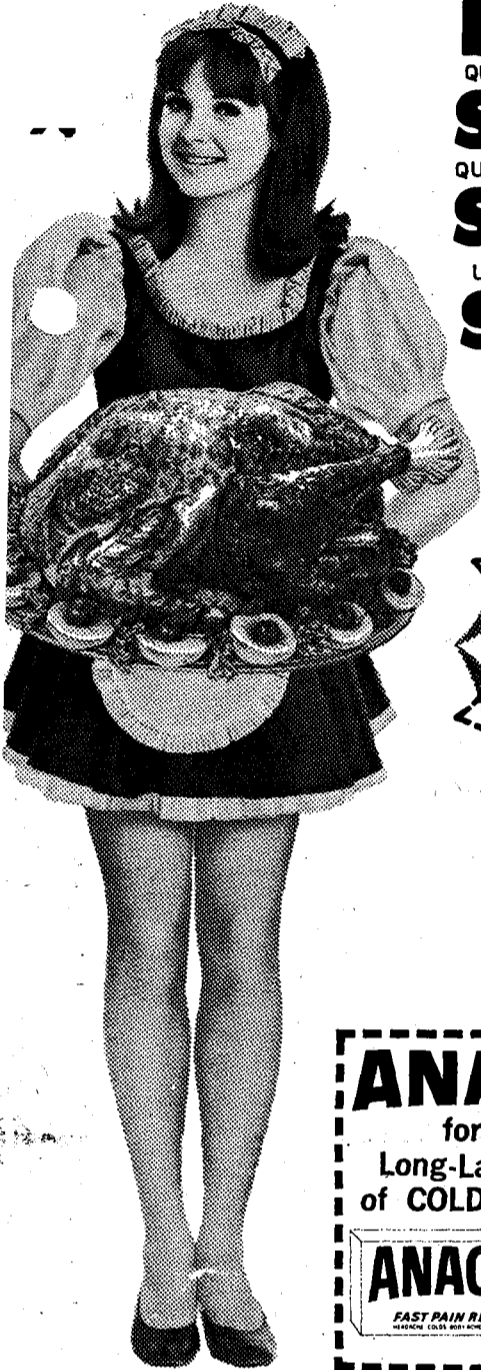
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HISTORY of PRISCILLA MURPHY as told to Fran O'Callaghan

Priscilla Murphy, Sanibel Realtor and long time resident and lover of the islands, recounted to us the history of Sanibel with business slants and from her point of view.

About 1875 Sanibel opened up for homesteading and about 40 families came on the islands and began to settle Sanibel. Before that time, only the Lighthouse keeper and his family lived on the island. After the new homesteading families, came the houses ending at Bailey's road and the Sanibel Reservation, as it was known, extended to the Beach Road next to the gas station.

In 1926, Mr. Kinsey, Simmons and Wolfe purchased the remaining land known as the reservation that reached from the Bay to the Gulf to the Lighthouse. A Mr. Veal surveyed the land and settled on the corner where Priscilla Murphy's is now. The plat of the subdivision where Sanibel Trailer Park is now located listed one acre lots on the Gulf of Mexico at \$500. A Mr. Stewart lived by the Bait Box on that strip of land.

Sanibel, because of its fresh waters in the Sanibel River and because of its fertile lands, became a great farming area. It was at this time that some farmers moved up to Captiva even and began the South Seas Plantation. Things went well with the Kinseys moving the vegetables out by boat to Fort Myers and other towns nearby for sale. Then in the 20s a devastating hurricane came along. It was the same hurricane that damaged the railroad bridge beyond repair to Key West, and wreaked so much havoc throughout Southwest Florida by causing Lake Okeechobee to overflow and inundate Moore Haven and other lake settlements killing over 2000 people in the lake area alone.

Many of the Sanibel farmers became acquainted with the "Black Gold" of the Lake Okeechobee area and moved their farms there where there was not such a transportation problem, and a railroad could be used to transport the ripe vegetables. There had been 25 or 30 farms in the Wulfert Road area before farmers moved to the Lake Okeechobee area.

Out on Captiva the Bryant home was established near the tip which was subsequently washed out into the waters of Redfish Pass which was formed by a hurricane which separated Captiva from Upper Captiva, which can only be reached by boat.

Meanwhile, a boarding house for farmers and others who came to visit on Sanibel was started and operated by Mrs. Hallie Matthews, which became the Island Inn. Casa Ybel started out as a refuge for church members. Mr. Charlie Knapp worked as a maintenance man at Casa Ybel, and eventually he was able to buy the property from the church group and it, too, became a hotel.

Grey Gables on Sanibel was owned by Letitia Nutt before being sold to G. T. Martin. As family members died, a little cemetery was formed and now contains six bodies of the Nutt family including a maid who died in service. The Nutts had migrated to Sanibel from Canada.

Pappy Shanahan was the rural route mail carrier, and delivered mail by mule and wagon, along a trail by the Post Office to the Casa Ybel Road. His daughter, Snookie Williams, still lives near the Lighthouse on the Gulf.

The only real business on Sanibel in 1945 was Bailey's Packing House besides Casa Ybel and Island Inn, which were engaged in renting rooms to the island's visitors who had to find a place to stay. Scotia Bryant was Sanibel's post mistress and was also in the rooming house business and a Mrs. Cockrell rented rooms and sold some sea shells.

The first Sea Shell Fair started on the porch of the Island Inn by Mrs. Raines and others who were interested in collecting the shells. It grew and became so popular that it is now the largest shell fair in the world.

In 1943 about 20 people in all were invited for a Thanksgiving dinner on Sanibel, a sort of covered dish affair. John Engle and Andy Rossi were the only family summer residents of Captiva at the time.

The first real business on the island was Hasta Manana Ceramics by Priscilla Mur-

phy and on the side she sold real estate for Douglass Chambers. She finally decided to give up selling ceramic dishes at 50¢, deciding to sell lots at \$500 instead.

Jack Coles was next in the business line. He started out with orange crates for a counter and sold cokes and cookies and snacks. It later became Harbor House. Jack's daughter is Martha Woodring, Ralph Woodring's wife, one of the first settler families.

The first gas station was owned by Pearl and Jake Stokes, and Clara Stran had the first gift shop on Captiva. Andy's pier, (a marina) was the first business on Captiva. The first dress shop, which also featured gifts, was in a little beach house run by Miss Ethel Snyder, the second being the Sea Horse Shop.

The first marina on Sanibel was Bill Way's Sanibel Marina and later Dewey's. Dewey's is now part of the government owned reservation in Tarpon Bay. The first cocktail lounges were at the Casa Ybel and South Seas Plantation, which had ceased to be a farming plantation long ago.

One of the oldest homes is the original Hurricane House which was blown down during a hurricane crushing a car under it, the only car on the Island at that time.

Clarence Rutland cut trees for wood on Wulfert Ridge and at the site across from the American Legion Home. The oak trees on the present site are planted by one of the early families.

Sanibel was one of the first vegetable shipping points, and much of the land along the Sanibel River was once under cultivation as truck gardens. Mr. Bryant, related to Scotia Bryant, grew peppers on South Seas Plantation land.

Margaret Mickle's family also had a large farm on Upper Captiva. Margaret, who wrote a school paper for Snyder's School for Boys on Captiva, interviewed Teddy Roosevelt once. She rowed out to the Presidential Yacht where Margaret had lunch with the president and interviewed him for her school paper, and a very successful interview it was, too.

One of the first businesses again was the Beach House, a true boarding house operated by Mrs. Christine Jenkins. "Everybody loved her," says Priscilla. The Saturday Evening Post had an article in it about her good cooking, which was served up with help and enjoyed with gusto by people living in her house.

The Pirate Playhouse is the first legitimate theatre group and has been on the island five years and is a popular attraction under the aegis of Philip and Ruth Hunter. The building now housing the theater was the original "one room" schoolhouse attended by children of residents and visitors for many decades. Classes were still held in it up through the early 60s, when the present school building was built.



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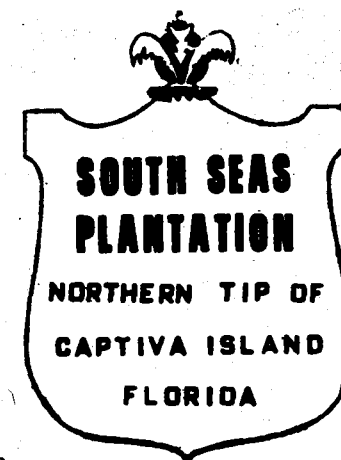
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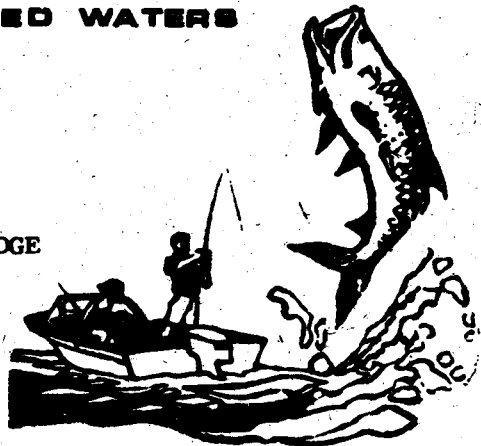
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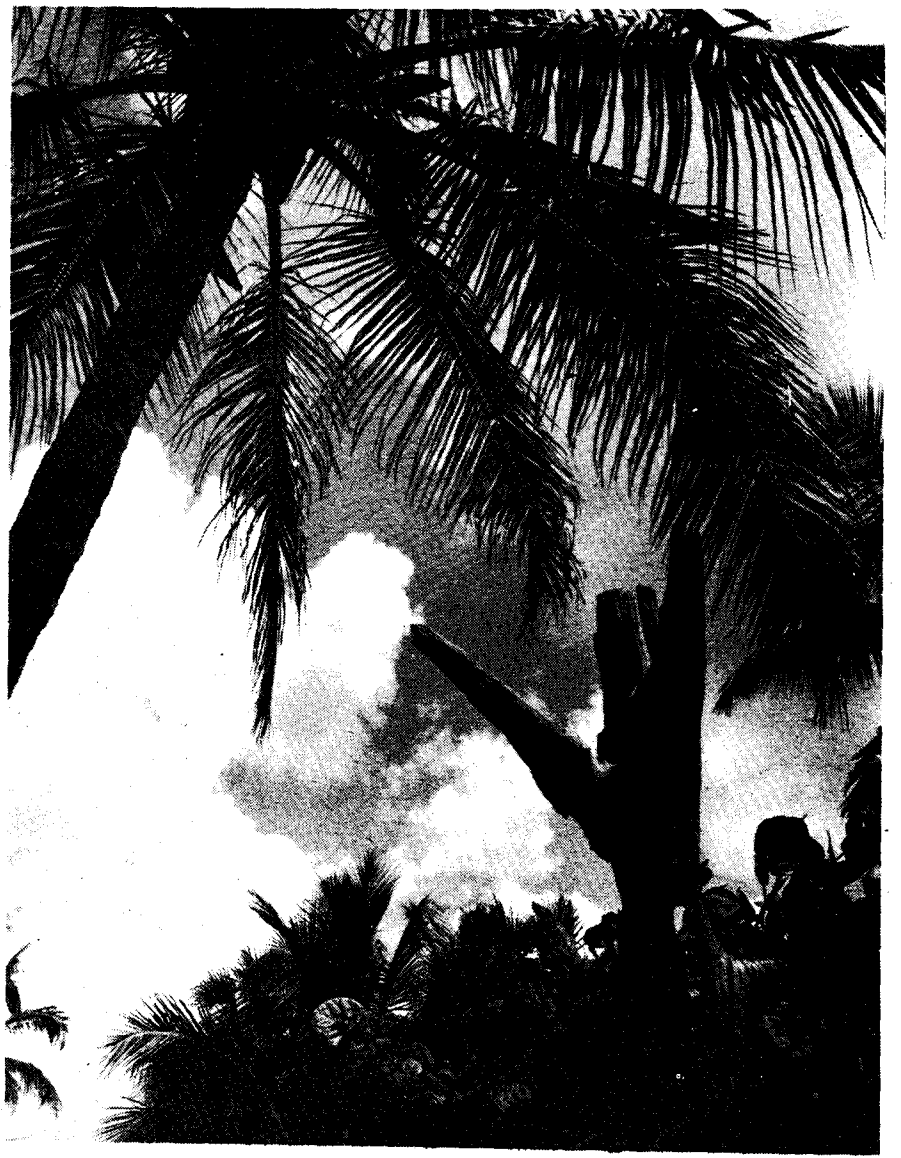
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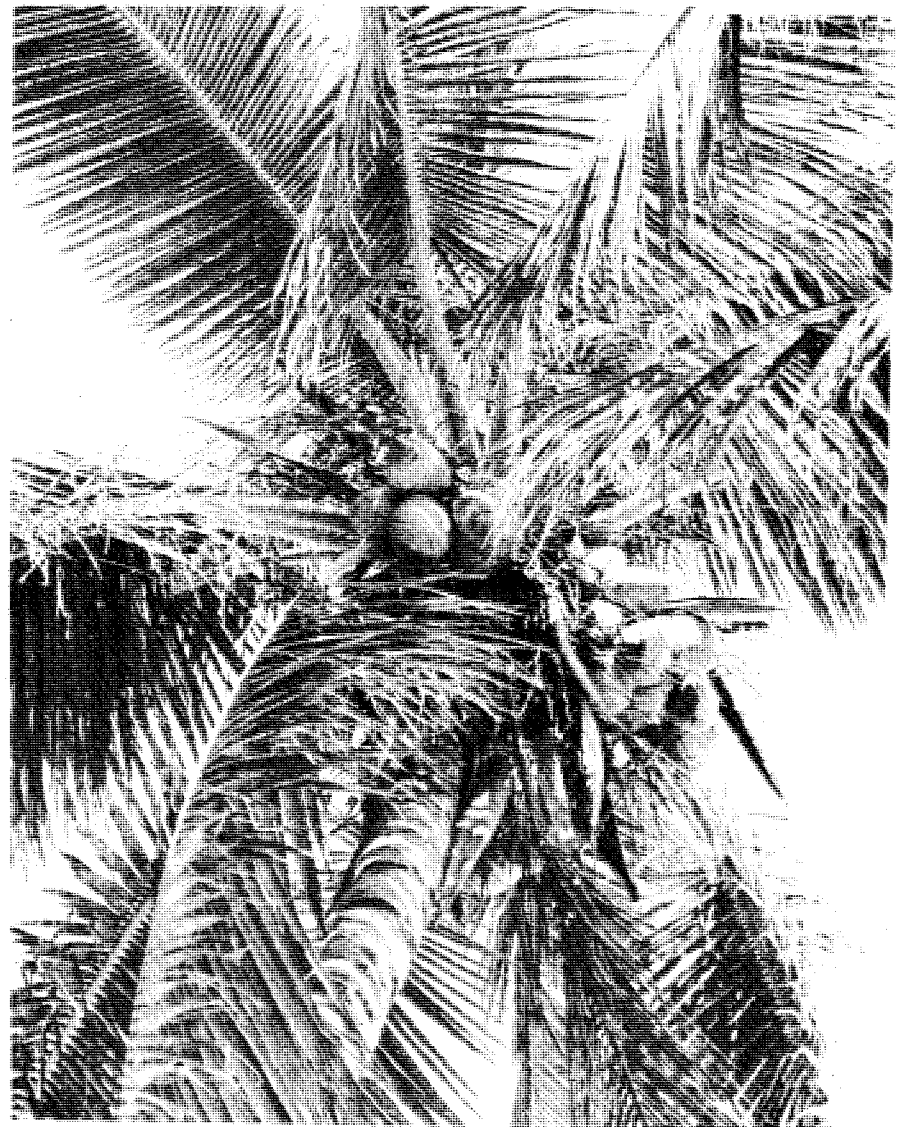
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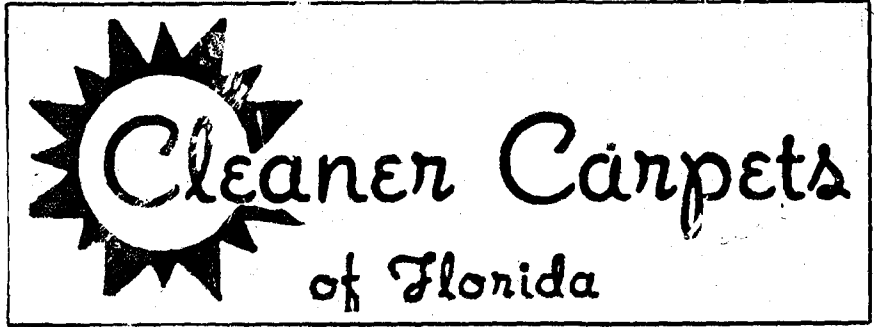
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BROWSING AROUND by fran o'callaghan

It was a gorgeous day Thursday for browsing, and so we really enjoyed a field day on the Islands. The sun was out and the puddles were drying up, and the birds were enjoying every minute of it. The Ding Darling Sanctuary had lots of water in it, instead of the almost dry marshes encountered all during the dry months, and though we did not see large numbers of birds, we did see quite a variety of them about one at a time. We saw a couple of gorgeous roseate spoonbills, an ibis or so, and many of the dear little sandpipers and other tiny shore birds, and ruddy turnstones, barred hawks, fish crows, osprey, herons, egrets, and a pair of the dearest little fuzzy, black mudhens with their mother. We also saw some tiny hoof marks in the road. Are there any deer in the Sanctuary? They looked like deer tracks.

Then we came out of the Sanctuary and stopped in Smitty's Enco for gas. Did you know that he can perform miracles with an air conditioner which isn't doing the job in your car? Also, he accepts Bank Americard and your regular Enco charge account, besides cash.

We stopped by to see Mrs. Reynolds of Reynolds Craft Shop. She has such fantastic bargains right now, and everything is on sale: all kinds of shells that are becoming rarer as we write this, and findings. For instance, she has an assortment of gem stones that won't quit at the unbelievable price of 5¢. We just couldn't believe it.

"The Kelly Green snail type shells you are admiring come from New Guinea," Mrs. Reynolds said. "But the natives have reverted to head hunting again, and so buyers cannot get the shells, and it won't be long before they are all gone."

Other shells are become extinct too by virtue of over-shelling, she explained. Let's please not have this happen on our Islands. Let's all plan to be very careful about the taking of any live shells right now, until the shells are replenished after the devastation caused by the Red Tide.

Driving along, we noted that some work is in progress on the clearing of Turner Beach of loose debris in the form of broken, fallen and cut limbs from the Australian pines on the beach. Park Pigott, Park Director, has said he is glad that the public is becoming conscious of the need for better and more numerous parks, and he hopes to have better response from the County Commissioners in providing the money for these recreational facilities. We hope so too.

Betty Flinspach at the desk at Shell Harbor Inn told us a fascinating story of the baby squirrel she has been mothering. "Squirrely" came to the Flinspaches when they were in St. Petersburg one rainy day.

"He just fell out of a disintegrating nest at our feet. He had practically no fur, and so we have been feeding him with an eye dropper. Now he has fur, a lovely brown body with white tail, and teeth, but he has been such a pet, he doesn't know he is an animal. But we don't know what to feed him. We tried nuts, but he had never seen one and refused it, and he must be outgrowing just baby formula."

We suggested she get in touch with Mr. LeBuff of the U. S. Wildlife Refuge, and in case he did not know the ins and outs of feeding squirrels, then try a veterinarian. Also, Squirrely is in need of a cage, and if anyone has one to spare, please call Betty at Shell Harbor.

Incidentally, Mrs. Flinspach is presently collaborating on a book on motel management due to be printed shortly by McGraw Hill.

Ella Mae Rasmussen at the Chamber of Commerce asks if anyone has seen Pete the Pelican with the crippled wing? He just disappeared after the recent stormy weather, and he had become a frequent visitor on the Causeway. He was completely fearless and quite tame and would approach anyone for a handout.

All our inquiries about the fishing pier have come to naught. Nothing is being done, and now many think nothing will ever be done. And so it has been suggested that some enterprising soul build a pier on private property as is done on the east coast and charge admission for its use. We do not really like this idea, but it is better than no pier at all. An alternate suggestion is to construct a catwalk along the bridge span nearest Sanibel, but that would entail action by the County Commissioners. Do we have a volunteer to spearhead this program? Many are asking about the fishing pier even now at this early date, when we are looking forward to a greater season than ever before on the Islands.

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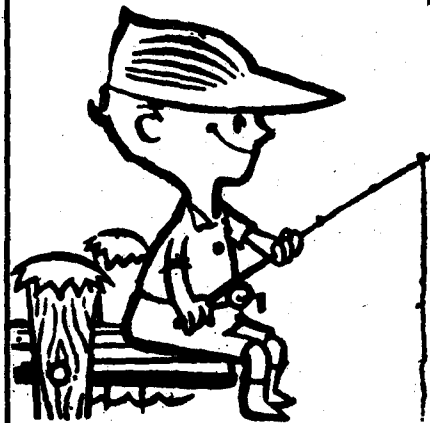
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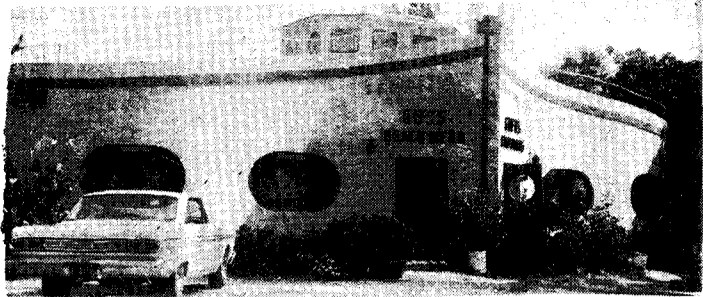
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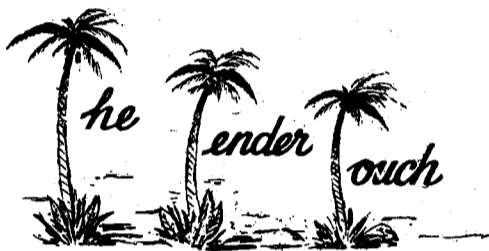
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STATE WATER STUDY

A conference on water management in a threatened water shortage for South Florida in coming years is scheduled for Sept. 22 to 24 in Bal Harbour, according to Gov. Reubin Askew. Main topics of discussion will be the Everglades, Lake Okeechobee and the Kissimmee basin. Dr. John DeGrove, head of Social Sciences at Florida Atlantic University, is chairman of the conference.

"In less than two years, the Everglades has experienced both extremes of nature with respect to rainfall," said the Governor, "Because of this, problems running the gamut of drowning wildlife to muck fires have beset us.

"Lake Okeechobee is becoming utrophic; salt water is intruding into our well fields, and a water shortage in South Florida is predicted in a few short years," said Governor Askew. The conference will seek solutions to these problems.

Elsie Malone
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