

photo by HUSTON

VOLUME 13

NUMBER 46

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

NOVEMBER 15, 1973

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS

> TheFinest shelling Beaches InThe Westorn

Hemisphere

CAPTIVA ISLANDS

OF SANIBEL AND

TOWN MEETING ON HOME RULE FOR SANIBEL ISLAND

As a result of numberous recent events on Sanibel including last spring's incorporation study and straw vote, frequent subsequent discussion in light of events associated with the development of a land use plan for the islands, and more recent debate including the Community Association's discussion of the subject in October, a group of interested island residents met on October 16 to discuss what action, if any, would be appropriate at this time as a follow-up to the incorporation issue.

The group discussed the need to sort out where we stand on the issue and what should be done next, and out of that discussion evolved a Volunteer Committee to organize a Town Meeting with the following objectives:

1. To provide a consolidated historical update on the home rule issue

2. To provide a suggested plan for a detailed professional study of the home rule sue which would have as its end product a proposition that could be presented to the otting public.

3. To seek endorsement from the community for pursuing this course of action.

4. To seek volunteers for an Advisory Committee to implement the study plan.

In evolving the above approach, the Volunteer Committee made no effort to be persuaded either for or against incorporation; rather, the orientation is towards developing as comprehensive a final view as possible.

The sponsors of the Town Meeting feel that an entire cross section of interests is necessary to effectively study home rule, and urge as many as possible to attend the meeting. All interested in incorporation, a possible form of government for the Island, should attend to express their views, pro and con.



WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

SANIBEL - CAPTIVA

ISLANDER

10¢

In the past six months there has been considerable talk about the need for more home rule and local control of our island's destiny. In several meetings islanders have expressed an interest in pursuing a study of incorporation as a possible answer.

As a result, a group of 26 Sanibel residents and businessmen are sponsoring a Town Meeting to propose a plan for a home rule study. We are interested in the opinions and ideas of all islanders on this matter and strongly urge you to attend.

Date: November 20, 1973

Time: 7:30 p.m

Place: Sanibel Community Association.

Don't miss this important meeting.

Paid for by a group of 26 Sanibel residents and businessmen.

J. Cecil Rhodes Interim Treasurer

SPECIAL FROM THE SANIBEL POST OFFICE

With the desire to do the best job ever in handling the Christmas mail, the management and staff of the Sanibel Post Office request the following procedures be followed to insure the fastest and most satisfactory service possible for the people of our area.

With volume expected in excess of 10,000 letters a day, it is of utmost importance that people mail early in the day.

Take extra care that packages are properly prepared for mailing. If a single item is being mailed, it should be cushioned with shredded paper, excelsior, compressed tissue paper, cloth, or expanded plastic foam.

If two or more items are mailed in the same carton or box, cushioning material should protect all items from contact with each other, and each item should have its own individual wrapper

Cardboard containers, including large soap, cereal boxes, etc., larger than the gift being mailed should be cut down to about the size of the gift to minimize shaking and breaking in transit.

Fragile articles must be individually cushioned, and all four sides of the container should be padded with cushioning material. Tape used to seal containers should cover or secure firmly all flaps.

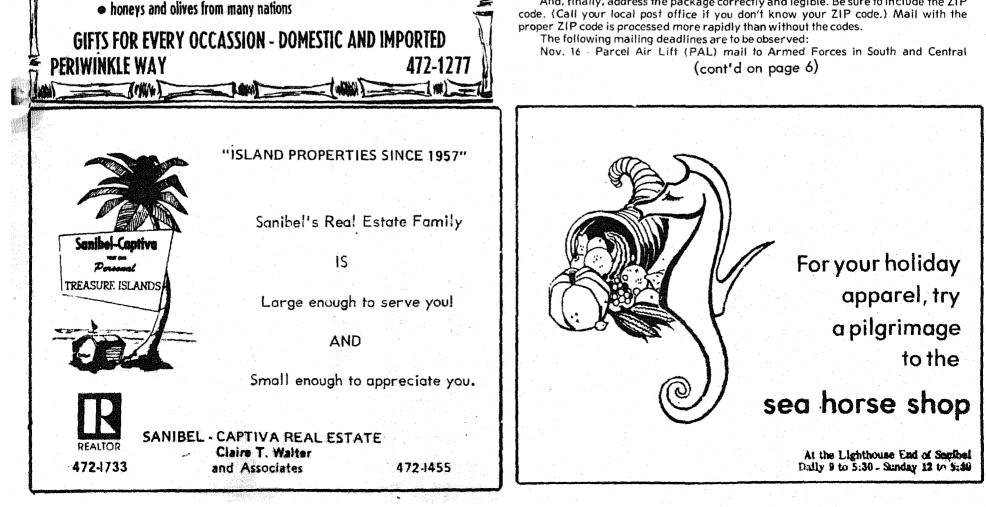
Paper for the outer wrapping should be at least equal in quality and strength to the kraft stock used for grocery bags. Incidentally, such bags, in good condition, provide excellent wrapping when trimmed to the proper size to fit the package snugly.

Wrapped packages also should be secured with strong twine, not ordinary light string. Twine should be knotted at several intersecting points to keep it from loosening. All packages that contain delicate articles should be marked FRAGILE.

Each package should contain the name and address of the person to whom it is being mailed inside the package as well as outside. An address contained inside is insurance that it will be received promptly even if accidentally opened or if the outside address should become obliterated.

Be sure to put your return address on the package.

And, finally, address the package correctly and legible. Be sure to include the ZIP



SANIBEL-CAPTIVA ISLANDER Established 1961 Duff Brown, Owner and Publisher

EditorsVirginia and Duff Brown ProductionLouise Ostling, Carlene Kelly, Emily Koller, Chris Patton, Karen Robinson, Wendy Noden.

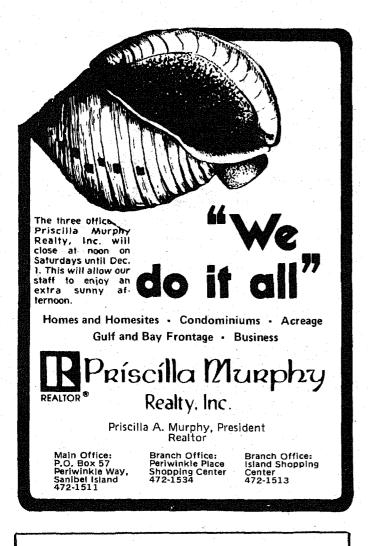
+ + + Unclassified Rates: \$1.00 minimum for 15 words or less; five cents a word thereafter.

+ + + Peadlines: Ad and news copy are picked up Saturday afternoon; SHORT news items and ads may be phoned in (463-6792) no later than Monday noon.

ISLANDER OFFICE

2330 Estero Blvd., Fort Myers Beach. Write P.O. Box 2867, F.M.B. Phone 463-6792 (not a toll call from the Islands). + + + +

Second class postage paid at Fort Myers Beach, Florida 33931.



JUST 1 NUMBER FOR ALL AIRLINES

Churches of the Community

ST.MICHAEL'S AND ALLANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH The Rev. James D.B. Hubbs, Vicar SUNDAY Holy Communion 7:30 & 9:30 a.m. Church School & Kindergarten 9:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY Holy Communion 9:00 a.m. HOLY DAYS Holy Communion 7:30 p.m.

ST. ISABEL CATHOLICCHURCH Rev. Eugene McCarthy Saturday Evening Mass 7:30 p.m. Sunday Mass 10 a.m. Friday Mass in the homes. CONFESSION Sundays before Mass

SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH
Dr. H.E. Sheely, PastorMorning Worship & Nursery11 a.m.Sunday School9:30a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH The Rev. Gilbert Speak, Minister SUNDAY SERVICE: Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. Evening Services 7 p.m. WEDNESDAY EVENING: Prayer meeting 7 p.m. Everyone is someone. Everyone welcome.

CAPTIVA CHAPEL BY THE SEA (Non Demoninational) Dr. Arthur Lee Kinsolving Sunday 11 a.m.

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, open meeting, St Michael's & All Angels Church, Periwinkle Way, Friday nights, 8 p.m. For information, 477-2150

CAPTIVA MEMORIAL LIBRARY will open Tuesday, 9 30 until 12 noon and Friday, 1:30 until 4 p.m.

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.

SANIBEL CAPTIVA AUDUBON Programs open to public at Sanibel Community House, Thursday at 8 p.m., also monthly outdoor events.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 123, American Legion Home, 2nd Tuesday, 8 p.m.

BINGO MUREX, American Legion Home Wednesdays, Ep.m. (no minors)

BOY SCOUTS meet (-30 p.m.). Saturday nights at the school

LIONS CLUB of Sanibel Captival meets at 6.30 p.m. first and third Wednesday of each month at "Tween Waters Inn of Captival

FIRE DEPT meets every 2nd and 4th Thur sday at 8 p.m., Palm Ridge Road Firehouse Q **Reservations** - Information SANIBEL LIBRARY HOURS: \bigcirc Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m./ Saturdays, \mathbf{O} 10 a.m. to noon. 472-1521 SANIBEL CAPTIVA SHELL CLUB meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m. at the O Sanibel Community House AMERICAN SANIBEL CAPTIVA CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, Board of Directors, meets BRANIFF second Tuesday of every month at 3:30 p.m. DELTA KIWANIS CLUB meets each Thursday at noon at South Seas Plantation. **EASTERN** Audubon, Conservation Club and Shell Club only meet November through May NATIONAL DUPLICE BRIDGE every Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the Sanibel Community House. Parnerships arranged. -NORTHWEST 0 TWA WILDLIFE UNITED RESCUE Sour BANKAMERICARD WEEKDAYS ~ 472-1103 uchime hin NIGHTS & SUNDAYS -472-2247 AMERICAN EXPRESS

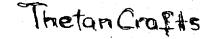






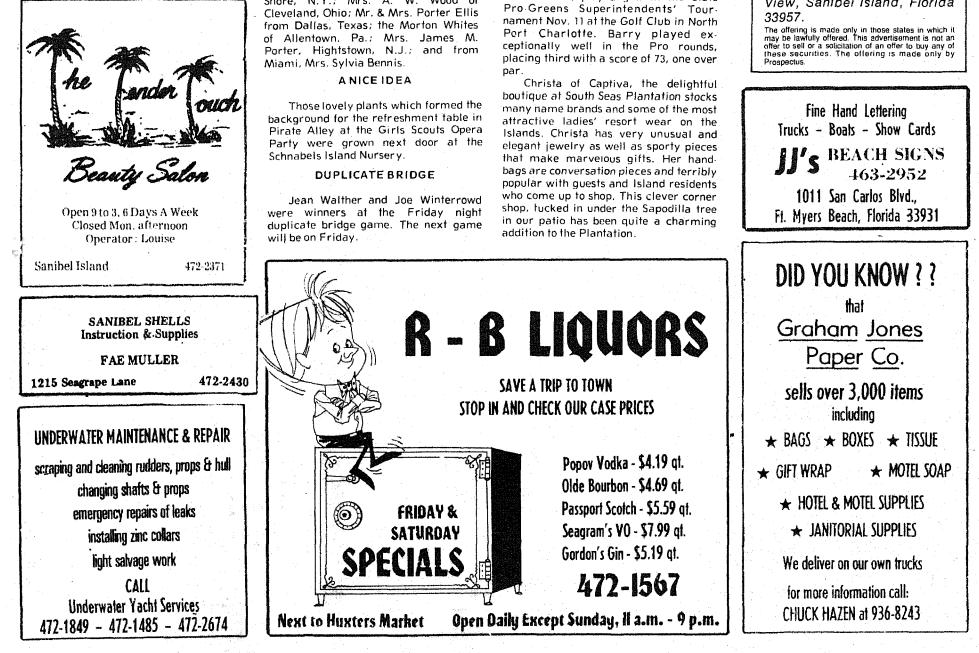
ISLAND HOME PROTECTION SERVICE

SECURITY PATROL for home and business on Sanibel & Captiva Islands **Preston Woodring** 472-1341 P.O.Box 155 Sanibel Island, Florida



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Out of state guests at The Colony this week include Mr. & Mrs. Donald Beck and family of New Albany, Ind.; Dr. A. Palmer of Falls Church, Va.; Mr. Mike Sullivan of Elmhurst, III.; Mr. & Mrs. J. Norman Miller, Jr. of Merchantville, N.J.; Mr. & Mrs. Richard Koss of Des Moines, Iowa; the Vincent Macaiones of Aurora, III.; the J. B. O'Mearas of Burnsville, Minn.; Mr. & Mrs. R. S. Sherer of Westhampton Beach, N.Y.; the Peter Mazurs of Oak Ridge, Tenn.; Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Warren and Mr. & Mrs. J. C. Stephens of Chattanooga, Tenn.; the Richard Wilkinsons of Springfield, Mo.; Mrs. G. David Kelce of Chesterfield, Mo.; Mrs. S. R. Weller of Dayton, Ohio; Dr. Norman W. Johnston and family of Bound Brook, N.J.; Mr. D. C. Luce of Knoxville, Tenn.; Mr. Walter Bran-stetter and family of Dayton, Ohio; Mr. & Mrs. E. G. Radke and family of Ingleside, III.; Mr. Franklin Rau of Amityville, N.Y.; the L. G. Gardners of Northbrook, III.; and Rev. Robert E. Lee and family of Atlanta, Ga.

Florida guests at The Colony are Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Taylor and family of Winter Park; Mr. Albert Knievel of Fort Pierce; and Ms. Sheila L. Shuki of Boynton Teach.

ISLAND INN GUESTS

Arrivals and current residents at Island Inn are Mr. & Mrs. John Colburn of Virginia Beach, Va.; Mr. & Mrs. N. C. Sudduth and daughters, Boca Raton, Fla.; the J. M. Shephards, St. Paul, Minn.; Dr. & Mrs. John Victoreen from Maitland, Fla.; the Arthur Osgoods, Boca Raton, Fla.; Mr. & Mrs. Howard Allen, Tampa, Fla.; the Wilmer Butlers of Towson, Md.; the Wm. E. Knights of Boca Raton; the Edward Grads of Miami; Mr. & Mrs. Ben Scott, Fort Lauderdaie, Fla.; Mr. & Mrs. M. D. Slocum of Cary, N.C.; Mr. & Mrs. Fred Mundy, High Pointe, N.C.; and Mr. & Mrs. Fred Slane of Slatesville, N.C.

Returning to Island Inn for winter stays are Miss Ruth Winans from New York City; Mr. & Mrs. Edward Porter, Media, Pa.; Mrs. Charles Reed of Bav Shore, N.Y.; Mrs. A. W. Wood of

Who's Who 8. Why

PAUL and GERTRUD KUHN of the Two K's Gallery were visited by their son and daughter-in-law, JOHN and JOYCE with their two small children, MARK ALLAN (aged 271/2 months) and JASON JOHN (aged 81/2 months). The grandparents were happy and proud to find the children advanced beyond their age. The elder boy is not only using perfect grammar, he can also count to five, and knows several letters of the alphabet. Though a short visit only, it was a most pleasant reunion for all.

BLUE CIRCLE

"Josh," the blue heron who lives at the Seymours lovely home on the bay at Captiva entertained the Blue Circle ladies with a few tricks last Monday while they rolled bandages for the Catholic Medical Mission Board.

Those enjoying Josh and busily working throughout the afternoon were Mistress-of-the-Manor Dot Seymour of course, Ruth Hunter, Kay Schultz, Dorothy Dickey, Margaret Dunham, Sally Kirby, Dorothy Robinson, Mary Stolz, Georgia Hemphill and Phyllis Mount. The bandages are sent to the poor and sick throughout the world.

SOUTH SEAS PLANTATION

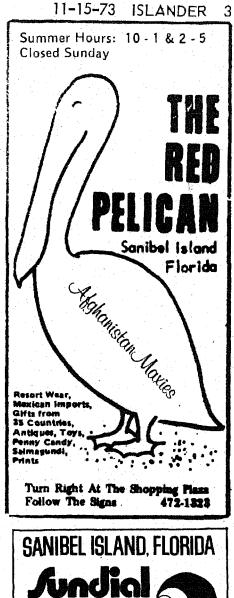
Anticipated date of completion is January 15 for construction underway at the Plantation on the new Villa which will hold, in addition to six efficiency accommodations and one and two bedroom suites, a sixty seat conference room.

Brian Webb takes over as general manager of the resort November 15. He will be in charge of all activities involved in the operation of South Seas Plantation.

Brian is 36 years old, married, and an Englishman from the South Coast of Britain. He is the son of a resort manager, has formal education at the finest hotel school in England, and a wealth of good work experience. He is leaving the position of Resident Manager at Innisbruck in Tarpon Springs, and prior to that served as general manager of a resort on Exuma and executive assistant manager at the Paradise Island and Emerald Beach Hotels in Nassau.

Scott Siler, who has functioned as assistant manager will move into the areas of food and beverage management.

Barry Marrow, our resident PGA golf pro, and Dwight Wilson, grounds maintenance, played golf in the State

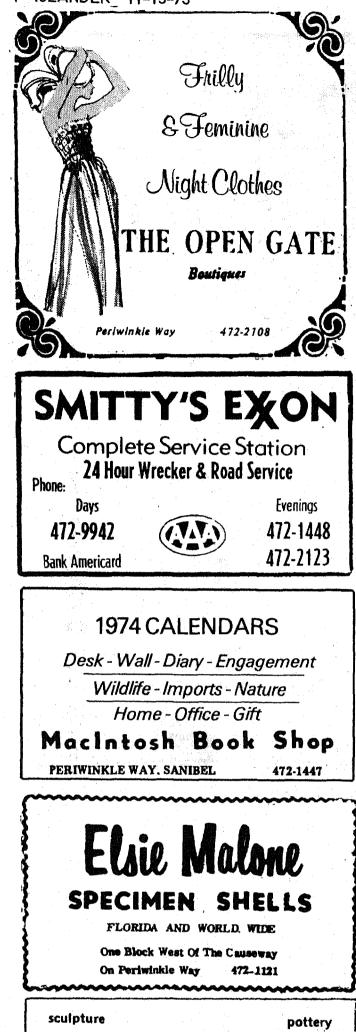


BEACH AND TENNIS CONDOMINIUMS

620 Condominium Units, with **Opportunity to Join Limited** Partnership Rental Pool

The registrant has registered for sale up to 620 residential condominium units. The purchasers of a condominium unit are given the option to enter into a joint venture rental pool arrangement with the registrant and other condominium unit owners. The purchasers also receive the option of joining a Beach and Tennis Club which has available tennis courts and a full service clubhouse.

Copies of the Prospectus may be obtained from REC Investment Corporation, Sundial Beach and Tennis Condominiums, Gulf View, Sanibel Island, Florida



SANIBEL CAPTIVA LIONS CLUB

Lion President Bob Dormer has just announced that the club is donating \$100.00 to the Lee County Association for Retarded Children and also is donating \$1,200.00 to the Foundation for the Blind. The Leader Dogs for the Blind and the Florida Eye Bank are among others who are recipients of donations from the club. The Leader Dog School, established in 1939 by the Lions is the largest producer of its kind in the world because of Lion support.

One hundred and forty-six Floridians have already benefited from this school. From experience we know there are hundreds of eligible folk who do not know they can have a Leader Dog for the asking.

President Dormer wishes to remind all islanders to contribute their discarded and unused eyeglasses to the needy in the carton that will be set up in Bailey's General Store starting November 24.

DOG SHOW

Next Saturday, November 17, starting at 9 a.m., the Greater Fort Myers Dog Club will hold its first American Kennel Club licensed Dog Show. This is the first time ever an AKC licensed show has been held in the Fort Myers area.

The Dog Club which has been in existence for several years has been holding both show and obedience training classes for club members and interested dog owners. Mrs. Josie A. Mitchell is president; Mr. George Nixon, Vice president; Mrs. David Gamble, Treasurer; and Mrs. George Nixon, Secretary. Hewitt Willis, Shirley Scelfo, Phillis Priddy and Barbara Heller are directors, all of whom reside in Lee County.

Mrs. Barbara Heller is chairman of the show committee, she lives on Gulf Drive on Sanibel, and is the owner of Tannenhof Kennels. Her main kennels are located at their farm on Nantucket Island, Mass., which is their summer residence. Barbara Heller is also a licensed American Kennel Club judge.

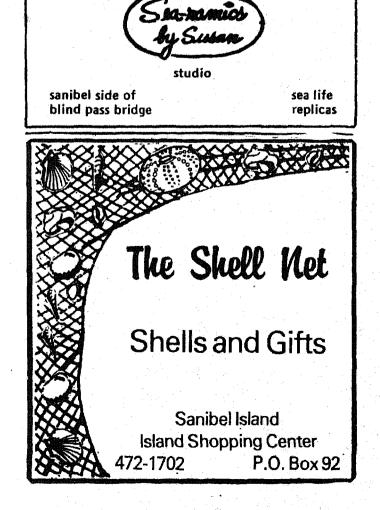
The purpose of this article is to extend to all interested dog owners a cordial welcome to attend this show which will be held at Terry Park located on Palm Beach Blvd., Rt. 80 in Fort Myers. There will be no admission charge.

The official entry is 934 dogs, over a hundred different breeds from all over the United States. The list of judges sounds like the Who's Who of the dog fancy. Best in Show and Sporting Group will be judged by Mrs. Winifred Heckmann from Stevenson, Md.; Hound Group, Mr. Herman Fellton from Atlanta, Ga.; Working Group, Mrs. Charles Ferber of Ft. Lauderdale; Terrier Group, Mrs. Romona Van Court, Georgetown, Ky.; Toy Group, Mr. Ed Bivin, Fort Worth, Texas; and Non-Sporting, Mrs. Edwin Cummings 11 from Dunedine, Fla. Obedience judges are Mr. Allen, Sarasota; Mr. Cordell, Orland; and Mrs. O'Mara, Tallahassee.

You should avail yourself with a catalogue as you enter the show grounds. This will explain the details of the show and entries. The Fort Myers Humane Society will have a refreshment stand for both cold and warm food and drinks.

The prizes have been offered by





various sponsors. The Lee County Bank is giving Best in Show award.

There will be a cocktail party given at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Heller on Gulf Drive Friday evening followed by a dinner at the South Seas Plantation for officers, directors and show committee together with the judges and their respected spouses.

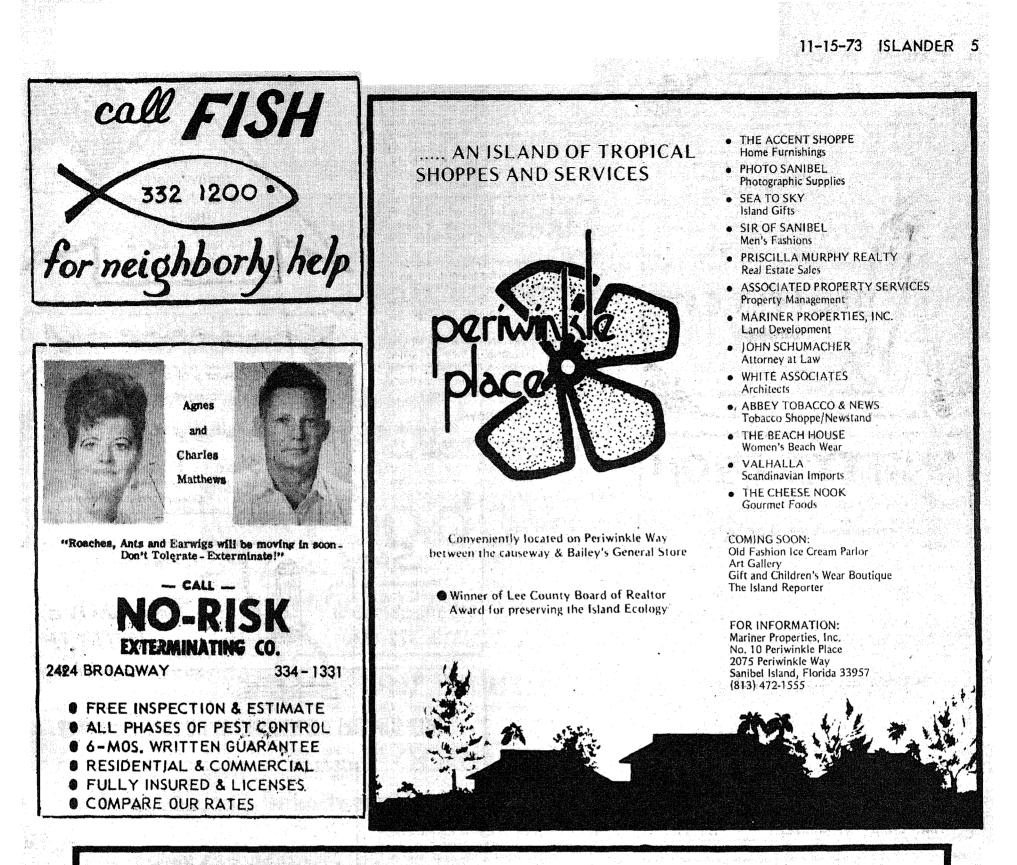
Everyone should help make this first American Kennel Club licensed show a huge success. We hope you will be there.

JINGLE

50 dogs and 50 cats And fifty lily-white Dem-O-crats! 20 needles and 20 pins and 20 dirty - Republicans! Ruth Hunter

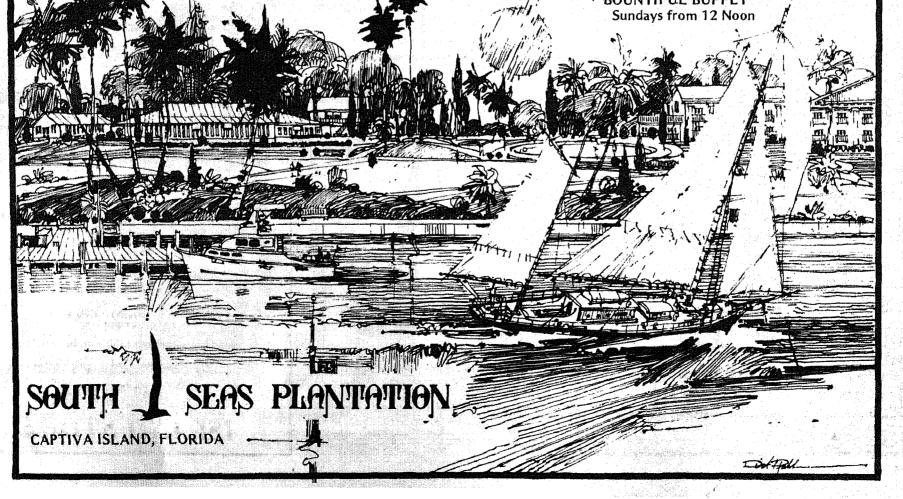
ADVERTISERS, ATTENTION!

Until further notice, please be advised that Vivian Hinternhoff or Duff and Ginni Brown are the only persons authorized to pick up advertising for The Islander on the Islands. (Ads phoned into our office, of course, may be given to anyone there). Thank you for your cooperation. 472-2374 DOWNTOWN CAPTIVA'S MINI SOUP-ER MARKET FOOD AND DRINK AND EVEN FISHING SUPPLIES Monday - Saturday: 8:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Island Store closed on Sunday until further notice. CAPTIVA ISLAND STORE



It's only a little way to South Seas Plantation, and the most luxurious evening - or weekend you'd care to have. Loafing and strolling, golf and tennis, complete marina facilities if you'd rather come in your boat. Enjoy an unsurpassed water vista from the porches of our villas and cottages; relax with refreshments and live entertainment in our Ship's Lantern Lounge, and enjoy the area's largest selection of flaming cuisine in our King's Crown Restaurant.

For Reservations (813) 472-1551 "BOUNTIFUL BUFFET"



POST OFFICE NEWS (Cont'd from front page)

America, the Longo, Liberia, Ethiopia, Iran, Israel, Saudi Arabia and Turkey. In ternational surface greeting cards to South and Central America, and Europe.

Nov. 16 - Space Available Mail (SAM) to Armed Forces in Antarctica, Australia, Burma, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Okinawa. Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam, Belgium, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Norway, Netherlands, Portugal and Spain.

Nov. 17 - Surface Main and Space Available Mail (SAM) to Armed Forces in Canada, Greenland, Labrador, Newfoundland and the Azores. Nov. 20 Parcel Airlift (PAL) mail to Armed Forces in Belgium, Denmark,

England, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Norway, Netherlands, Portugal and Spain.

Parcel Air Lift (PAL) mail to Armed Forces in Antarctica, Australia, Burma, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Okinawa, Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam

Nov. 24 - Parcel Air Lift (PAL) mail to Armed Forces in Canada, Greenland, Labrador, Newfoundland and the Azores.

Nov. 24 - Airmail greetings and parcels to Armed Forces in South and Central America, Ethiopia, Iran, Israel, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Antarctica, Australia, Burma, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Okinawa, Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam. International surface parcels to Canada and Mexico.

Dec. 1 - International surface greeting cards to Canada and Mexico.

Dec. 1 - Airmail greetings and parcels to Armed Forces in Canada, Greenland, Labrador, Newfoundland, the Congo, Liberia, and the Azores. International air parcels to Africa, the Near East and the Far East.

Dec. 3 - Surface parcels within the United States (except Alaska and Hawaii).

Dec. 4 - Airmail greetings and parcels to Armed Forces in Belgium, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Norway, Netherlands, Portugal and Spain. International air parcels to Europe, South and Central America.

Dec. 7 - International air parcels to Canada and Mexico. International air greeting cards to Africa, the Near East and the Far East.

Dec. 8 - Surface greeting cards within the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii.

Dec. 9 - International air greetings to Europe, Central and South America.

Dec. 12 - International air greetings to Canada and Mexico.

Dec. 14 - Air greetings and parcels to Alaska and Hawaii.

Dec. 15 - Airmail parcels and letters within the United States, (except Alaska and Hawaii).

SANIBEL PIER DEDICATION

The new Sanibel fishing pier, located on the bayside near the Lighthouse, was dedicated Thursday, Nov. 8 at 11:30 a.m. by County officials.

The pler was paid for with the cooperation of state, county and the Sanibel Chamber of Commerce.

WILDLIFE NOTES by Griffing Bancroft

The vanguard of our big winter population of ducks is now arriving on the islands, as usual led by the small, fast flying blue-winged teal. Perhaps these ducks know something the others do not for they usually seem to get here safely before the hunting seasons even get underway up north.

The other migratory species here in some numbers already is the shoveler. They are here, but not very noticeable. For most of the males of both the teal and the shoveler are rather sorry looking specimens now compared to what they will look like in a month or so.

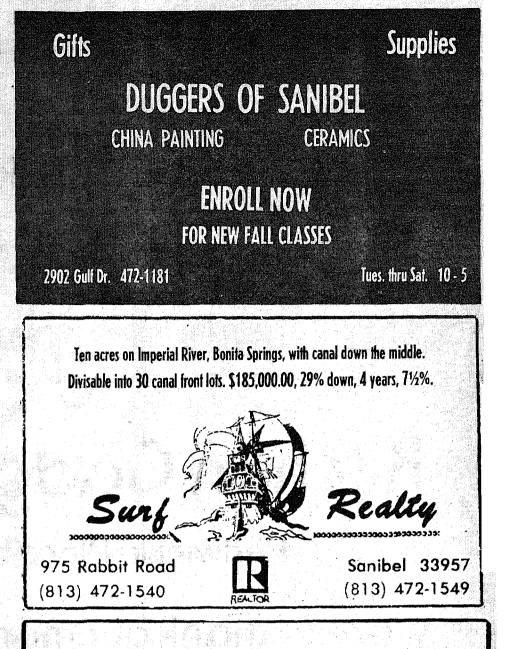
For a peculiarity of these two species is that they usually arrive at their wintering grounds still in what is called their "eclipse" plumage.

That is the name given the drab plumage of male ducks, which most of them wear for only about a month --- so different from a lot of other birds that keep this fall

areas in the north.

quarters and have their first molt. As with all waterfowl and some other birds, this change of feathers entails losing so many wing feathers all at once that they go

resplendent in their gaudy nuptial dress. The female ducks, on the other hand, start their molt while still incubating eggs and do not have a second molt until spring, and this is only a very partial molt primarily for the purpose of acquiring the thick downy



HELP SUPPORT THE BUILDING OF THE LEE COUNTY REEF

Help the marine environment by building an artificial reef off the coast of Lee County

IMPROVED FISHING IS NEEDED NOW!

For more information & donations contact



The folks at THE CHEESE NOOK &



Kitchen Gadget Shop

Periwinkle Place Shopping Center.

want to thank our many friends who helped to make our opening a great success.

We are especially grateful for the many best wishes and compliments offered by our new friends and customers.

Our way of saying "Thank You" will always be to bring you the finest foods at the lowest possible prices.

We have many items to lend a festive note



to your Thanksgiving Day.

Aside from our fine selection of domestic and imported cheeses, you will find delicious soups, a wide variety of choice wines and many, many gourmets items.

lf you want a real treat try our imported French bread.

"Remember To Have A Happy Forever"

GOURMET CHEF AT FLAMINGO

Clarence R. Smith is the new chef at the Flamingo Restaurant which reopened yesterday (Wednesday). Mr. Smith happens to be related to Carl Zambuto, the owner, which is why the Islands are lucky enough to have another fine gourmet cook who has worked in some of the finest name restaurants throughout the USA.

The restaurant will be open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Chef Smith will be preparing daily luncheon and dinner specials, along with his zesty sandwiches and delightful dinners.

HONORABLE MENTION FOR TWEED'S SPECIAL AVOCADOS

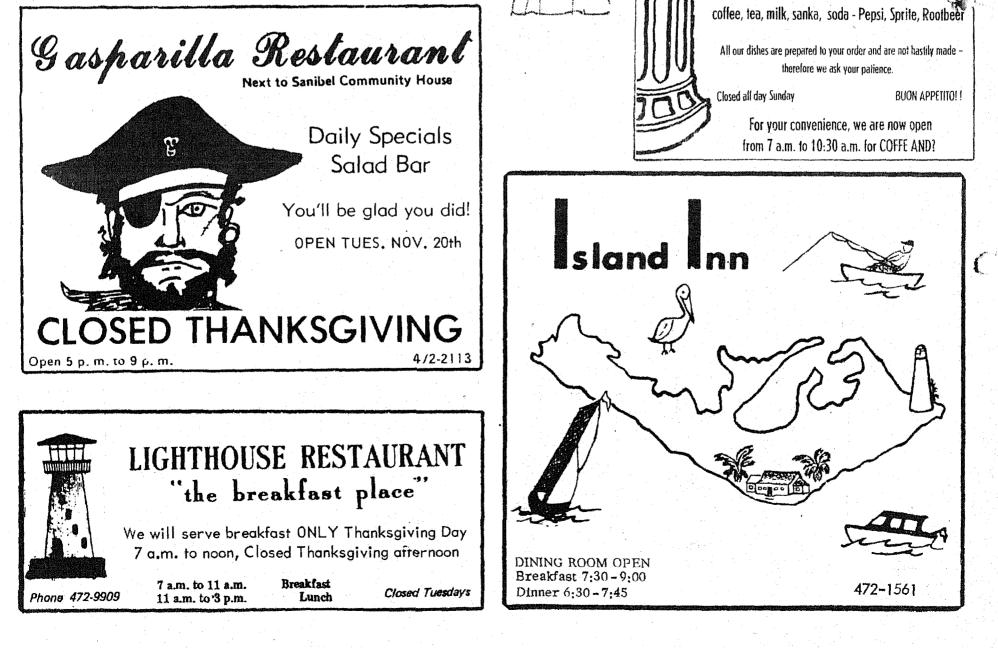
There's no doubt about it, Florida's avocados are the finest and the proof of the pudding is in the tasting. The Hunters received honorable mention for their delicious silver tray of a vocados Tuesday night at the Community Association supper. "And they are grown by our son, Tweed Hunter on his lovely tropical acres at Homestead," says Ruth.

Islanders are also singing the praises of the Hunters' bananas and monsterra deliciousa, a very sweet and rare fruit somewhat like a pineapple.



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Sanibel Island, Fla.

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PRIMO'S

island Pizza

RESTAURANT AND PIZZERIA

DINE IN OR TAKE OUT

1630 Periwinkle Way

2, 3 and 4 items

primo's special sausage, pepperoni, onion, mushroom and green pepper

slices Neopolitan (round pie) lunch time only Sicilian (square cut)

homemade italian classics manicotti, manicotti and meatballs, jumbo stuffed shells, jumbo stuffed shells and meatballs, yeal cutlet parmigian

The above dishes are served with our own delicious sauces garlic bread - and salad with Italian dressing.

italian sandwich specials

sausage parmigiana, meatball parmigiana, veal cutlet parmigiana, sausage and green pepper, "primo dog" - The Original Italian Hot Dog, 2 Dogs on Garlic Bread, Parmigiana

soft beverages

11-15-73 ISLANDER 9



Letters to the Editor

TO THE ISLANDER:

Again, I would like to address a letter to the residents of Sanibel and Captiva.

Well folks, I really pulled a faux pas this time! (Re: my letter of Nov. 1 in the Islander). Here I am, out breaking my neck trying to get signed petitions to present to the Commissioners, to make our feelings heard about the fee on the Sanibel Bridge for year round residents, and where's my backing? Forget it! Nobody wants the fee removed. It's TAX DEDUCTIBLE! If you are in business it is a business expense deduction. Good for the business people, but it does nothing for the retired or home owners. AND! Get this! IRS (Internal Revenue) couldn't even tell me that it was a deduction. "They had no information" under the category of bridges or transportation to verify it. How about that! So, they didn't know if it was or wasn't tax deductible. Our own Government doesn't even know which end is up. But that's not news.

I still feel the same way about the fee. To me it still involves a principle, which is that it is our ON LY access to our homes and no one living in America should be deprived of the right of free access to his home or having to pay a fee. to do so. The bridge is laying a golden egg at our expense and we derive nothing from it. We could use our own police department: a mini-clinic, something between a gloritied first-aid station and a hospital emergency room, that might help to save a life until they are gotten to the hospital; we could use better equipment and more of it, for our fire department. What we now have is not adequate for our needs for the way the island is growing over night. The same goes for our rescue squad. I understand the rescue truck has to be coaxed to start before it can be of service. In a matter of life and death, minutes are precious. These men should have equipment that they can go out to and hit that starter button and be ready to roll. FAST! The list is endless for the island's needs. Both islands are growing ahead of the facilities and necessities we desperately need. And as the growth progresses, so do these needs. Will it take a disaster to wake us up? People yell that they want this or that, but when it reaches the point of really getting involved, they hide their heads like an ostrich. I got three replies in reference to my letter, to back me up. THREE! After so many talked about their feelings that they wanted the fee removed for the residents. My health does not warrant me to go out and push door bells, but I gave it a try. Instead, I implored YOUR help by just sending a post card, making it easy for you and for me to be in contact. But out of all the residents on BOTH islands, only THREE responded. Well, if nothing else, it certainly has been an education to me about what goes on on these islands. I've learned a hell of a lot. Apathy runs high and it's no wonder the island is going to hell on a band wagon. Everybody yelled that they did not have a voice in the way the islands were run; that they were run by a select few individuals. It is obvious now, why these people took it upon themselves. They had to take the island by the hand otherwise it would have folded up long ago, with the lack of genuine public interest.



cannot be any "protest march." It would not serve the purpose.

Wow! No wonder this island is sinking under asphalt and cement, along with campers and garbage! You people out there asked for my letters. Well here it is. Now where are you?

(Mrs.) H. V. Braun

TO THE ISLANDER:

It was indeed glorious to read in your last edition that a fabulous new jetport is in the making for Sanibel. This should take the sting out of efforts to secede from Lee County through incorporation, It would certainly be most ungracious to bite the hands of our Commissioners who have worked so hard to make our Island the ideal and easily attainable site for such a magnificent project.

While details of this vast multimillion dollar project are not yet available because of the Sunshine Law, it can safely be assumed that it will not be built with half-vast plans. Its labor and materials requirements would amply dispel any qualms of economic disaster raised at the recent flap about a Sanibel building moratorium. During the several years' course of construction every bulldozer, dragline, dredge, dump trucket, etc., will be worked around the clock. The local operators of that equipment and the later required army of other construction trades will not lack for job opportunities. Rather, they will have to keep on their toes to compete with their counterparts from Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota and other colder states who will be on the prowl to augment their unemployment compensation during their off-seasons at home. While here their competitors will also give them fierce competition for the limited housing on the island and close by. Obviously, the construction trades, material suppliers, bankers, realfors, land developers, merchants, motel and condominium operators, restauranteurs, etc., will be well compensated by this ietport.

The County's treasury will be swollen by the added revenues from needed facilities tacked onto such things as the Sanibel Causeway. Extra lanes will be added to the width and more decks built to provide rapid access to the jetport by helicopters, buses, elevated railways, automobiles, and boats. Ding Darling Nature Preserve will be given an additional role by converting its mangrove areas into a huge sponge to soak up the overwhelming quantities of sewage produced along with dollars. The Red Tide that is bad for the tourist trade will not have to defer to the wishes of the commercial and sport fishermen by continuing to kill off the predators of shrimp and crabs; pollution of the

overworked and threaten to guit?

q. What are you doing about the type of construction that is being done that makes it prohibitive to get flood insurance against hurricanes?

Q. What are you doing about the socalled seawalls that are being built so far out that at high tide you can't walk on the beach?

Q. What are you doing about law enforcement that permit construction trucks, workers, dump trucks, etc. to speed 60 miles an hour in 35 and 45 mile an hour zones?

Q. Also what type of a campaign are you planning to stop these same workmen from littering our highways with beer cans, pop bottles, empty cartons and other garbage?

Q. What plans do you have for correcting our disposal problem that is now polluting our inter waterways, canals, and lagoons? Last week we had to get out and recover a dozen dead fish each two feel long in our waterway that were stinking the place up and we aren't even a third developed yet.

Q. Oh yes, have you any recommendation on how our beaches can be cleaned of dead fish from the Red Tide?

I don't recall your mentioning any of these problems in the 3000 letters you sent to your members.

Would you please speak a little louder, I can't hear you above the voices of protest by the Fort Myers bankers, real estate operators, contractors, building speculators. You seem to have a rather large fellowing against the Moratorium. What's that you say: "NOTHING ---- ABSOLUTELY NOTHING." Well, that figures, thanks anyway for listening.

John Shepherd Sanibel

LETTER TO A RESORT

Gentlemen:

Dr. & Mrs. T. X. Van Nelson who are my neighbors in Nantucket in the summer: and frequent visitors at our home, in Palm Beach, have recommended your place. I'd like to inquire about your rates for four in the month of July or I'll need two adjoining rooms with baths, a cottage with a screen porch for the Christmas season or sometime in Dec. or Jan. Would you require a deposit? We have your rate sheet for 1969, have the rates changed? If we arrive by plane can we expect transportation from the Sarasota Airport? What items are on your menu and what is the cost of each?

My wife has been ill with distemper so I want a ground floor unit, but if you have bellhops to help her with our luggage we won't mind the second floor. Are all your rooms on a hard surface road? Can we have our meals in our room? I don't want accommodations wifh a kitchen because we don't want to bother with groceries, but I like to have coffee when I wake up, eggs, rolls, grits and juice in the morning. I'm on a salt free diet. Can we also have ice for our drinks? And maybe occasional snacks? We eat very light.

I have severe allergies to sand, salt water and coconuts, so may I have a room away from the westerly wind currents? Can you have the rugs taken up? How often do you prune the palm trees there? Do you rake the leaves?

I'd like a list of the days that you can provide the suggested accommodations. How often do you change the sheets?

Incidentally, we are retired and dependent on a Social Security check, so may I pay for our visit in installments?

> Hopefully, A. Pain

P.S. Is there any land for sale? Just a little inexpensive thing the wife could paint and scrape and have fun with. How are the love bugs? An Air Mail reply. would do nicely?

Dear Mr. Pain:

To answer your inquiry: yes, yes, no, a lot, varies, no, no, yes, yes, no, never and no.

The love bugs here are incredible. May I recommend the Medicare Hilton in Zanzibar?

Cordially,

Lass Straw, Reservationist

ISLAND WATER ASSN. NEWS

The Island Water Association Inc. announces that the new plant is running and the valve to Pine Island was closed Friday, Nov. 2 at 10 a.m. The plant will be run at capacity three separate times for final testing. The Water Company decided on this method so that water would not be wasted. One continuous test would have resulted in spilling over 5,000,000 gallons.

The water treatment plant was decided upon as a necessity by the Board of Directors three years ago and when methods were agreed upon and contracts let it took 14 months to complete the facility. It is expected that your Water Company will accept the treatment plant about Nov. 20.

You should notice a positive improvement in the water at your faucet. The total dissolved solids are now less than $\frac{1}{2}$ what they were; salt is under 250 parts per million, the water is much softer and tastes, we believe, excellent.

Specific details regarding the chemical analysis of the water will be made public in the near future.

The Board of Directors, at the regular meeting, Nov. 7, 10 a.m., put into effect an additional connection fee per unit of \$214.00 for transmission and distribution mains on Sanibel and Captiva. All money collected for this charge will be held in an escrow account until approved by the Lee County Commissioners.



Tax deductible! It boils down to the business people suffering the loss of a tax deduction with the removal of the bridge fee. And for the resident, he just suffers. No wonder everybody on the mainland thinks only millionnaires live on Sanibel and Captiva! Maybe that are right. But what foolish ones.

Foolish I don't feel, but I sure as hell know how Lot felt about the cities of Soddom and Gormorrah when he asked the Lord to save them it he could find 45 good men and the Lord answered, "Yes," he would save the cities if such could be found. But there weren't 45 good men; not 40; not 30; not 20; not 10. And so the Lord reduced the cities to brimstone and fire. Well, I got three better than poor Lot. At least three good people responded to the cause. And I thank you deeply for your interest. I wish there were six more of you, at least. But with so few, there

marshes will take over that function.

We are most certainly in for a marvelous experience on Sanibel. Shall we count our blessings now? Paul A. Howe

TO THE ISLANDER:

A copy of the following open letter sent to Don Bottorff, executive director of the Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce was sent to the Islander tor publication.

Congratulations! You did a terrific job in blocking the moratorium requested for Sanibel with one master stroke. Now that you are dictating to the Lee County Commissioners on how best to develop and handle Sanibel I'd like to ask you help in solving a few Sanibel problems:

Q. What are you doing about getting a doctor on the Island? Now the rearest medical help is 29 miles away.

Q. How are we going to get adequate fire fighting equipment to tight a fire (with volunteer help) above the first floor? This may be one reason why our fire insurance is three times that of other communities.

Q. And we have NO equipment to rescue anyone above the second floor.

Q. What are you doing to supplement the present emergency force of just 5 volunteers who now staff that department in their spare time and are badly



Interior of motor coach that transported the Sanibel group on their 23 day Alpine odyssey



Sanibel group listening to the guide while on a walking tour of Venice



View of Lake Bled as seen from the Hotel Golt, Bled, Yugoslavia

MAC INTOSH TOUR (Part II) by Winifred Iurka

The sun was shing once more as we drove over the Brenner Pass and the magnificent Europa Bridge, the highest in Europe. Along the way were row upon row of neat little gardens and a pint size steam train which kept pace parallel with us. Now we could see the lovely Dolomites and Cortina, where the 1956 Olympics were held.

We arrived in Lienz, Austria, at noon and enjoyed an excellent lunch at the hotel Sonne. Afterwards we drove through Carinthia, and the Carnic Alps, and had our first sight of snow-capped mountains.

As we continued on our way, Claus gave us a brief history of Austria and then suggested a contest. The person guessing the nearest correct time of arrival in Bled, Yugoslavia, would be presented with a bottle of Slivovitz (a plum brandy of Serbocroatian origin) by the guide who would, of course, share it with him. This was going to be difficult, inasmuch as we had to stop along the way for money changing and other necessaries, then when we reached the Yugoslavian border all our passports were confiscated for an "undetermined period."

Claus' charm, however, apparently worked wonders for in half and hour we were on our way again. Clever Leigh Bair got to be the lucky winner!

Our hotel in Bled was elegant. The decor, food and service excellent. However, there was only one small bother due to a general shortage of electric power in the whole of Yugoslavia, for some reason not quile plain, so once in a while you had to grope your way to your room and light a candle. This in itself would not have been so bad except that if your room happened to be on the fourth floor or higher you sometimes had to walk up as the elevator would not be working. Slivovitz helped, though, in getting us through these little irritating inconveniences.

In the morning we boarded our coach for a tour of Bled. It was then that Bill MacIntosh appeared in a very chic, though rather tight-fitting Edwardian type jacket. It turned out that it had been thought lost by one of the more petite ladies on the tour. Bill's jacket was discovered in the rack above his seat in the bus. Oh well! Bled was originally a health resort attracting many tourists, and well it might with its beautiful lake, gardens and Straza (Sentinel) mountains. A lovely old church and museum nestles on the island centered in the lake and we were told that in winter when it is frozen over a snow train hauls sleds across

After an interesting lunch of local food and wine some of us took a ride to the island in a gondola; others a ride around the lake by horse and carriage. The evening was well spent, either attending a performance of Yugoslavian dancers or simply remaining at the hotel and sipping. Unfortunately, this lovely place could accommodate us only two nights, so on to Postojna. Driving here through Ljublyana, the capitol of Slovenia we found this to be a surprisingly large industrial town with many tall buildings. Postojna proved to be a grey, unattractive, unsmiring place with not much to offer except the caves which were cold, cold, cold! Interesting enough though, over thousands of years nature has decorated the caves with fantastic shapes of lime carbonate, stalagmites, stalctites, curtains, canopies and huge columns. The cave was illuminated and part of it was to be seen by means of a small electric train. These caves were hot to a curious kind of amphibius salamander (Proteus Anguinus) which we were informed could live a long time without food.

I didn't think many of us were sorry to leave here for Trieste, the largest port in the Adriatic. We got safely over the border into Italy due to Claus' "Italian approach." A funny thing happened on our way to the Breher in Trieste where we were to lunch. "Mundy" stopped a motorcycle policeman to ask the way, only to have him escort us through the narrow traffic heavy streets straight to our restaurant. As if this was not enough he demanded that a car, already parked, move so that we could take its place.

After a very good lunch we left for Venice. This city built on one hundred and seventeen islands connected by 400 bridges is still beguiling though sadly and slowly sinking into the seal like some enormous stricken ship. We had to leave our coach on the outskirts and were transported by motorboat to the door of our Hotel Luna, old fashioned but comfortable, right on the Palazzo San Marco. San Marco, once represented the political and religious centre but now is the official symbol of Venice's beauty. Pigeons and people were everywhere and it was hard to tell which created the most confusion. Pigeons are protected but the droppings from approximately 100,000 birds are major cause of stone decay which exists.

The Doge's Palace with paintings of the Masters Tintoretto, Veronese, Tiepolo and Titian was awe-inspiring even though its (according to our local guide) necessarily flexible floors did give one a curious feeling of unbalance.

From there the Bridge of Sighs, which enjoys an underserved fame, led prisoners to the awful dungeons on the other side. We wandered up and down interesting little alleys full of shops unusual and expensive --- and expensive it was!

Luncheon at Harry's Bar and the famous (we learned later) Quadri with a modest menu that listed no prices, proved this. But oh, that food! It was delightful sitting in the picturesque old square, sipping Campari, listening to the bells of St. Marks and soaking up the sunshine. Several rather good orchestras were scattered about the square entertaining at the many little sidwalk restaurants. Funnily enough there did not seem to be any musical conflict. It was fun to watch the many motorboats maneuver so cleverly in the crowded canals. A gondola ride in the evening those adroit gondoliers with manipulating one huge oar was a vision to behold besides it all being rather romantic. (To be continued).

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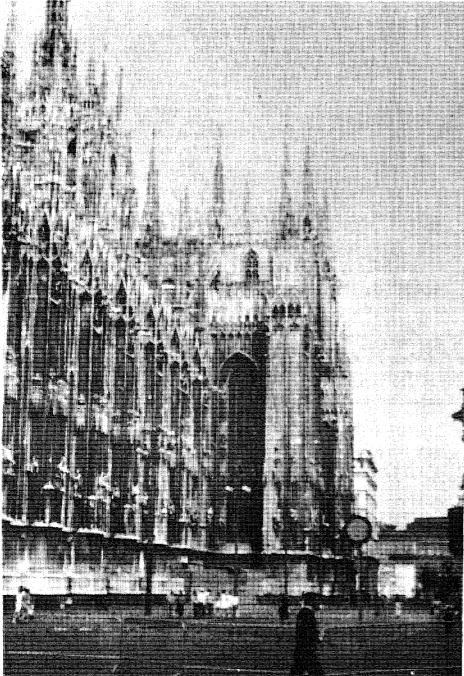


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Hotel Golf, where Sanibel group stayed in Bled, Yugoslavia



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11-15-73 ISLANDER 13

CROSBY, MARTIN & WHITING STARSOF "BIG BAND CAVALCADE"

Bob Crosby, Freddy Martin, Margaret Whiting are the stars of Big Band Cavalcade, the Columbia Artists Festivals Corp. production in which each star will re-create in person his greatest hits during an evening of musical memories at the Fort Myers Exhibition Hall on November 25 at (Perf. Hour) 4 p.m. Especially added to this stellar trio for the 1973-74 season tour are two more

famous band leaders, Art Mooney and Buddy Morrow. And they are joined by guest star, Peanuts Hucko.

Such memorable sounds as Martin's "Tonight We Love," Crosby's "Big Noise from Winnetka," and Miss Whiting's "Moonlight in Vermont" will characterize the nostalgic mood of the show. The stars will be supported by 15 musicians recruited from the ranks of their original bands for the 12-week national tour. Each leader will take his turn conducting this aggregation through a generous sampling of his own modern

classics. Martin will conduct the production's finale, a montage of the memorable hits of such other great bands as Benny Goodman, Glen Gray, Tommy Dorsey, Harry James and Woody Herman. Meanwhile, Miss Whiting's contribution to this revival of big band sounds will be selected from among the dozen hits which earned her Gold Records because they each sold over a million copies.

"The "Big Band Cavalcade" production was inspired by Martin. He suggested that the current resurgence of





national interest in recordings of the 30's and 40's dictated in-person performances of the big band sounds, as well. Columbia agreed and plans for a national tour followed. The subsequent choices of Crosby and Miss Whiting to join Martin resulted when Columbia determined that this lineup would offer a comprehensive view of the styles of the period.

Martin, who became the leader of his first big band in 1931, is the veteran of the line-up. Through all the trends in popular music styles since then, Martin's very special brand of music has never been out of demand. Often called the most melodic of the sweet bands, Martin's crew produced such lasting hits as "Warsaw Concerto," "Why Don't We Do This More Often" and the "Hut Sut Song," all featuring the leader's "silvertone" saxophone.

Crosby, after serving his apprenticeship as vocalist with such leaders as Anson Weeks and the Dorsey Brothers, took over leadership of the old Ben Pollack Band in 1935. The Crosby crew made its lasting imprint on the big band era with its unique Dixieland Swing style which brought fame, as well, to the band within the band, the Bob) Cats.

Miss Whiting can claim the title of the youngest of the big band singers. She made her professional debut at the age of 12 with Gordon Jenkins. Her extraordinary career has continued uninterrupted, ranging from the record charts, to nightclubs, television and the legitimate state. One recent season, for example, she starred in the off-Broadway production "Do It Again" in which she sang a panorama of George Gershwin melodies.

All of the stars of "Big Band Cavalcade" have in fact held their own in the entertainment spotlight through the years since their initial successes. Martin is still in demand for tours and special performances. Crosby continues to display his talents in television and on film.

Tickets for Big Band Cavalcade concert at the Fort Myers Exhibition Hall are available from the box office, open daily 12 noon to 6 p.m., and also at Arcade Cigar Store, downtown Fort Myers, Abbey's Tobacco & News, Edison Mall and Sanibel Island, All seats reserved. Tickets \$7, \$6.50, \$6.

SHOTS FOR FLU

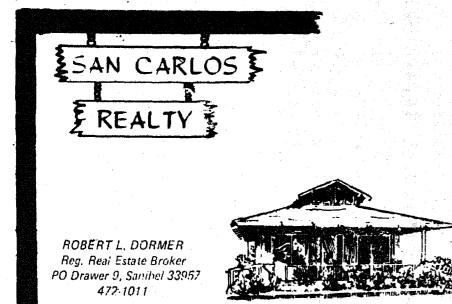
Influenza can be devastating for people who already have long-term diseases. Especially chronic heart or lung diseases.

There is no agreement about recommending flu vaccination for healthy people. But authorities do agree that older people in general and people with chronic heart or lung disease should receive flu shots and annual boosters. The Public Health Service also recommends the shots for people who have severe diabetes and chronic kidney disease.

Unfortunately, many patients who need flu shots and boosters do not gut them. Yet many of these people have direct contact with medical institutions, chest clinics, and emphysema clubs. This year, lung associations across the country are cooperating with public health departments to be sure that people who need flu shots get them.

The flu, which is caused by different types of influenza viruses, can take a considerable toll on a healthy person. People with chronic illness have an even harder time. From 18 to 36 hours after the virus is inhaled, the infected person usually becomes acutely ill with fever. The fever may last several days and leave the person exhausted. The flu infection can pave the way for pneumonia, which can be fatal. The onset of flue is sudden. Chills, headache, and muscular aches are common. The heart and lungs work overtime; and a doctor's care at home or in a hospital may be needed if the breathing orpulse is adversely affected, the fever is high and persistent, or other complications occur. Unfortunately, there is no specific treatment for flu once it develops. But rest, warmth, and aspirin can help relieve distress. To find out more about lung diseases and how to prevent and control them, contact your lung association. And as you live and breathe, give to Christmas Seals. They fight lung disease.

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School News

MR. COMBS, OUR ART TEACHER

Mr. Combs has been teaching art for the past five years. Before coming to the Fort Myers area, he worked for the Board of Education in Middleton, Ohio. He received his Backelor of Arts Degree from Morehead State University in Morehead, Ky. He has also done graduate work at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He hope to continue his studies at the University of South Florida as he likes the west coast area.

Don Stice Jody Welker Roxane Costanzo

PAINTING SCHOOL FENCE

October 19 on a cold windy day we, Mark Kyllo and Kelvin Gavin, went to school on teachers duty day to paint the school fence. We got to the school at 9 o'clock.

The wind was real strong and the paint got all over us. We also had to paint 12 tires and 12 poles. After we got through painting we washed the paint brushes, paint trays and paint rollers. It took about 30 minutes to wash them. After that we went home at 1 o'clock.

Mark Kyllo Kelvin Gavin OUR LIBRARIAN

Julie Nichols, the librarian at Sanibel Elementary School was born in the upstate community of Lowville, New York. She graduated from Fredonia College, Fredonia, New York with a major in Elementary Education and a minor in music. After teaching six months in New York State she moved to Floridateaching second grade at Orangewood Elementary School, Franklin Park, and She received her Masters Degree in library science from Syracuse University. She has also studied at Postman College and the University of Hawaii. Because of low enrollment, Miss Nichols divides her time between Sanibel Elementary and two small schools on the mainland. Active in musical ensembles Miss Nichols is a member of the Fort Myers Symphony Orchestra and plays the organ at Central United Methodist Church.

Shelley Webb.

Albert Hunter

TOM AND THE MUSTANG

On one cold windy day a boy named Tom got up at 6 o'clock to go to school. Tom had to walk a half a mile to school. Tom always wanted a horse. Tom had dreamed about horses. But his favor was a Mustang:

One day Tom told his father the whole story about the horse. So Tom's father went down to the black smith to buy Tom a horse. What do you know!!! It was a small Mustang. And a bit of wildness. But no matter how wild and small he was Tom loved him.



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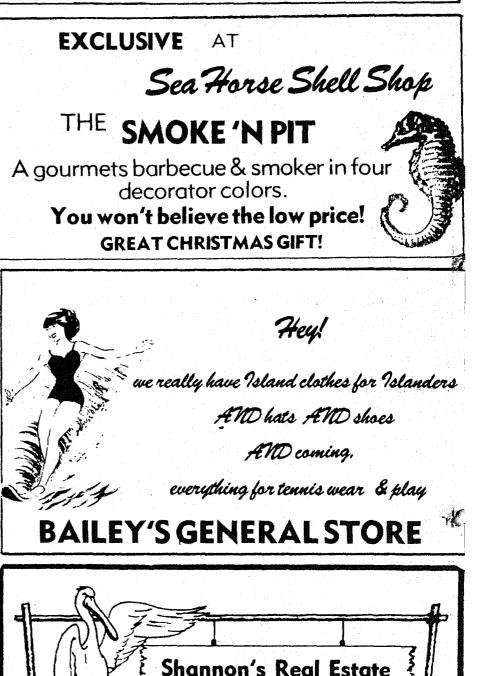
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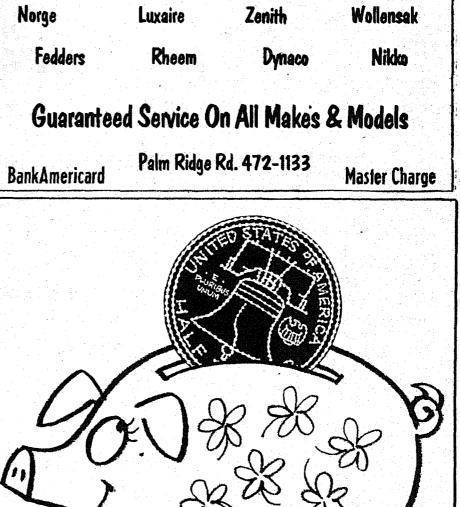




Maud Snook, Margaret Walters, Claire Walter, and behind Claire, Dorothy MacIntosh – off on a night tour of Venice by gondola on the MacIntosh Tour

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BURR. Gore Vidal. | Random. \$8.95. "One of the most impressive literary events of the fall." said PW of this new Candidate, published November 1.

DO WITH ME WHAT YOU WILL, Joyce Carol Oates. | Vanguard, \$7.95

THE LOO SANCTION. Trevanion. | Crown, \$6.95. After the success of "The Eiger Sanction." booksellers jumped the gun on this new Candidate, reporting it before pub date, November 8.

NONFICTION CANDIDATES

ALISTAIR COOKE'S AMERICA. Alistair Cooke i Knopf. \$15. New nonfiction Candidate published October 22. Expanded text from Cooke's TV series of the same title, along with 140 pages of photos, mostly in color, make this "one of the top prospects among this season's gift books," according to PW.

THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LOTTERY. Larry Merchant. | Holt, \$7.50. New nonfiction Candidate in which the New York Post sports writer tells how he gambled during the 1972 NFL football season and came up a winner.

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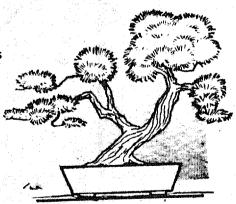
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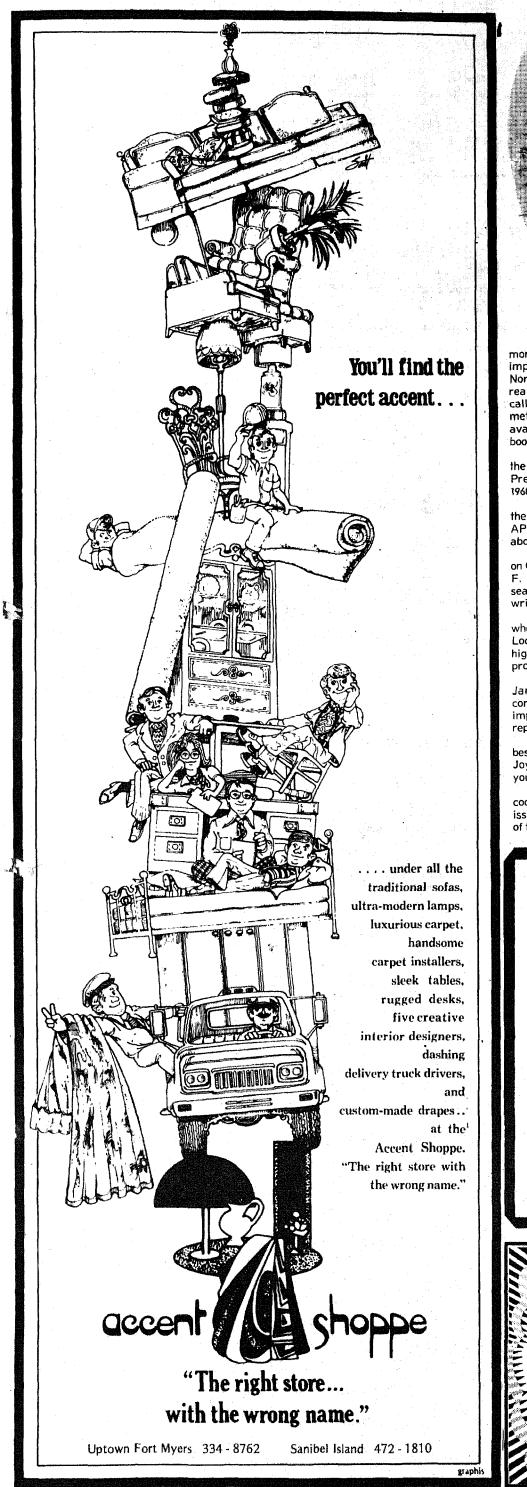


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11-15-73 ISLANDER 17





This Week at the Sanibel Library

by Hal H. Harrison

heaven knows it is not because we have not had it available for you (for several months, in fact) but it is just because I have been too busy telling you about really important books arriving at the Sanibel Library that I have neglected to mention Norman Mailer's "Marilyn." Yes, we have it, in all its glitter and color and beauty. A really expensive book, you know. Nice pictures. In color too. The text by Mailer is called ah''novel biography'' of Marilyn Monroe. Invidentally, Norman Mailer never met Marilynand his entire book is based on material and movies researched. The avant-garde calls this the "New Journalism." If Mailer is your "bag" then this is your book. Personally, I liked the pictures.

In a recent appeal for books to complete our set of Theodore White's "Making of the President Series," Dr. John Willard came through with "The Making of the President 1964." That leaves us with only one to go --- "The Making of the President 1968." Anyone like to donate or buy this book for the library?

Speaking of Teddy White, Vic Hackler tells of an incident when Vic was working the Washington election beat for AP. One election night Vic received a phone call at AP headquarters which opened with this remark: "This is Theodore H. White. I write about presidents.

And speaking of gifts, we are indebted to Mr. & Mrs. Glen Lerch (winter residents on Gulf Dr.) for "Wilderness Days," a beautiful book by their Minnesota friend Sigurd F. Olson. In addition to breathtaking illustrations, the book contains a season-byseason selection of the best loved writings of one of America's best loved nature writers.

The library has acquired a paperback that will be of great interest to residents who are concerned with incorporation of Sanibel. It is "The History and Status of Local Government Powers in Florida," a Florida state publication. The book was highly recommended to us by Dr. Charles Fishburne, Sanibel resident, who is professor of Government at Edison Junior College.

Two new books for those interested in Floridiana: "Ghost Towns of Florida" by James R. Warnke, and "Florida, Land of Images" by Nixon Smiley. The latter contains 18 titles built around real people and real places together with Smiley's impressions after 25 years of traveling around Florida as a roving Miami Herald reporter.

With the exception of one book, the Sanibel Library now has in stock all of the 20 best sellers on the N. Y. Times list. That one missing book is No. 1 in non-fiction: "The Joy of Sex." We do not object to the book. In fact, it may be a good idea to buy it for your own personal edification. But it is a personal book, not a library book.

One year ago, this column made its debut in The Islander. Thanks to the fine cooperation of the publishers, Virginia and Duff Brown, we have never missed an issue in 52 weeks. I have really enjoyed writing it and hope that you have found some of the columns of interest to you.



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A Grain Of Sea Salt by betzi abram

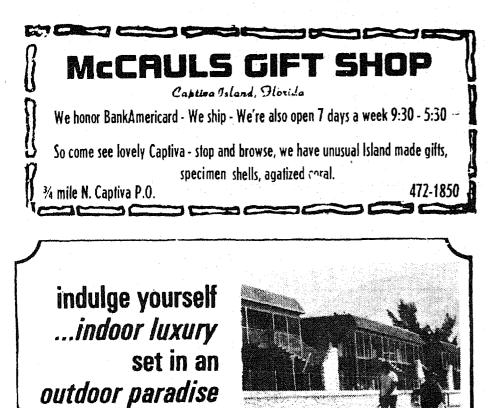
Due to circumstances beyond our control, there will be a column this week. I had to go to Miami for several days and thought that this would give me an excuse for not being able to make the paper's deadline, but I had such an interesting experience it really must be shared. As I was driving early in the misty morning along that stretch where the canal parallels the road and the tall cypresses march in single file, a small blinking and whirling object flew across the road, cleared the cypresses and landed on the canal. Naturally, I'm not the least surprised by flying saucers, but what amazed me was that it immediately hoisted sail and cruised along on the canal keeping abreast of my car, which was going about 75 mph, with no difficulty. Since I had to keep my eye occasionally on the road, it was not quite clear how this little sail-saucer passed over the occasional side roads which crossed the canal, but I determined to speed up and turn into one of those roads, so that, if possible, the strange craft would come to a halt and I could investigate it further.

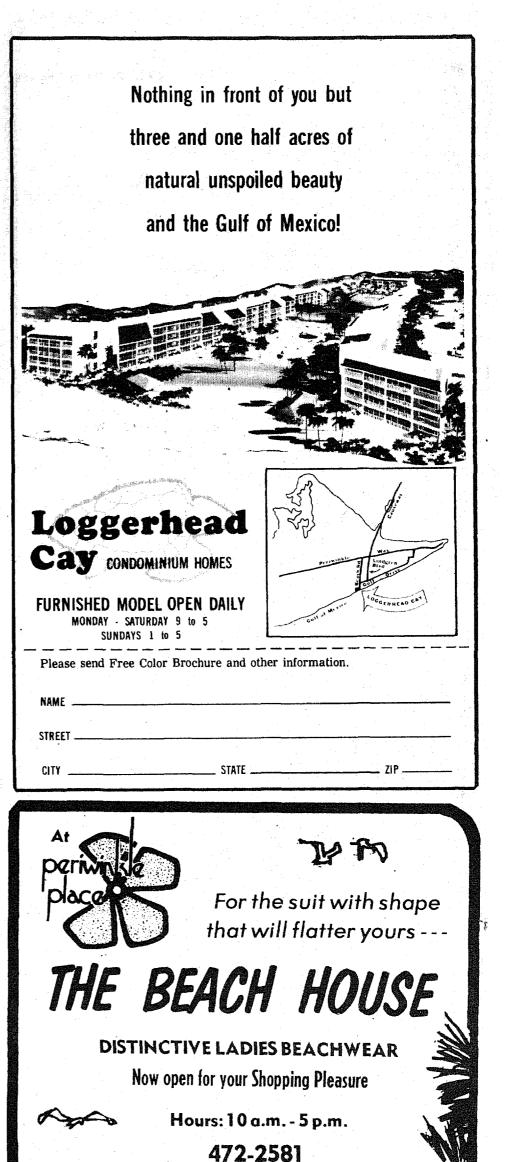
To my surprise and delight, it seemed to be guided by a telepathic intelligence and slowed up almost at once enabling me to execute my plan with no further ado. As I ran toward it from my car, which I had parked beside the road, the hatch opened and a very friendly, bearded face appeared. He was hardly green at all and the small antennae barely showed in his attractive modified Afro hairdo. Of course, he invited me aboard, and of course I went. We sailors, as you know, are a friendly, relaxed bunch and I was not the least bit afraid. After we had introduced ourselves without too much difficulty (for a moment I forgot my name), he asked

eagerly if I would take him "aboard my car." For some reason this surprised me very much. I was happy to comply albeit with a few anxious moments wondering how I was going to explain about carburetors, V-8 engines and disc brakes. This turned out to be no problem, however, as he said he would just ask the Pontiac how she worked. He did, and she told him, and frankly I was relieved that I was not directly involved.

After that we had a short tour of his beautiful vehicle but he offered me no explanations, assuming obviously that I would question the little boat directly. Since I was too embarrassed to admit that I had not yet learned this technique, there isn't much that I can tell you on the mechanical or engineering level, but it certainly was both handsome and comfortable.

Before I left, he offered me a cup of ambrosia which, although I don't usually drink before 3 p.m., I enjoyed thoroughly. Over our drinks we had a delightful conversation, during which he admitted that he had landed on the canal in hopes of attracting my attention. "I knew you were a sailor," he said, "by the way you drove your car --- skimming over the road." (A slight blush rose to my cheeks and the hope that no state troopers would make the same observation!) "And you know how it is with sailors," he went on smilingly, "we're a hardy breed, afraid of nothing, curious, adventuresome. I knew I'd find a warm welcome." "Absolutely," I stated firmly. We parted on the triendliest of terms; he even said he'd try to come visit me again, and I just wanted to tell you all that you have nothing to fear from our visitors in the U.F.O.'s. They're explorers just as we are and as you know, everything in the Universe is One.





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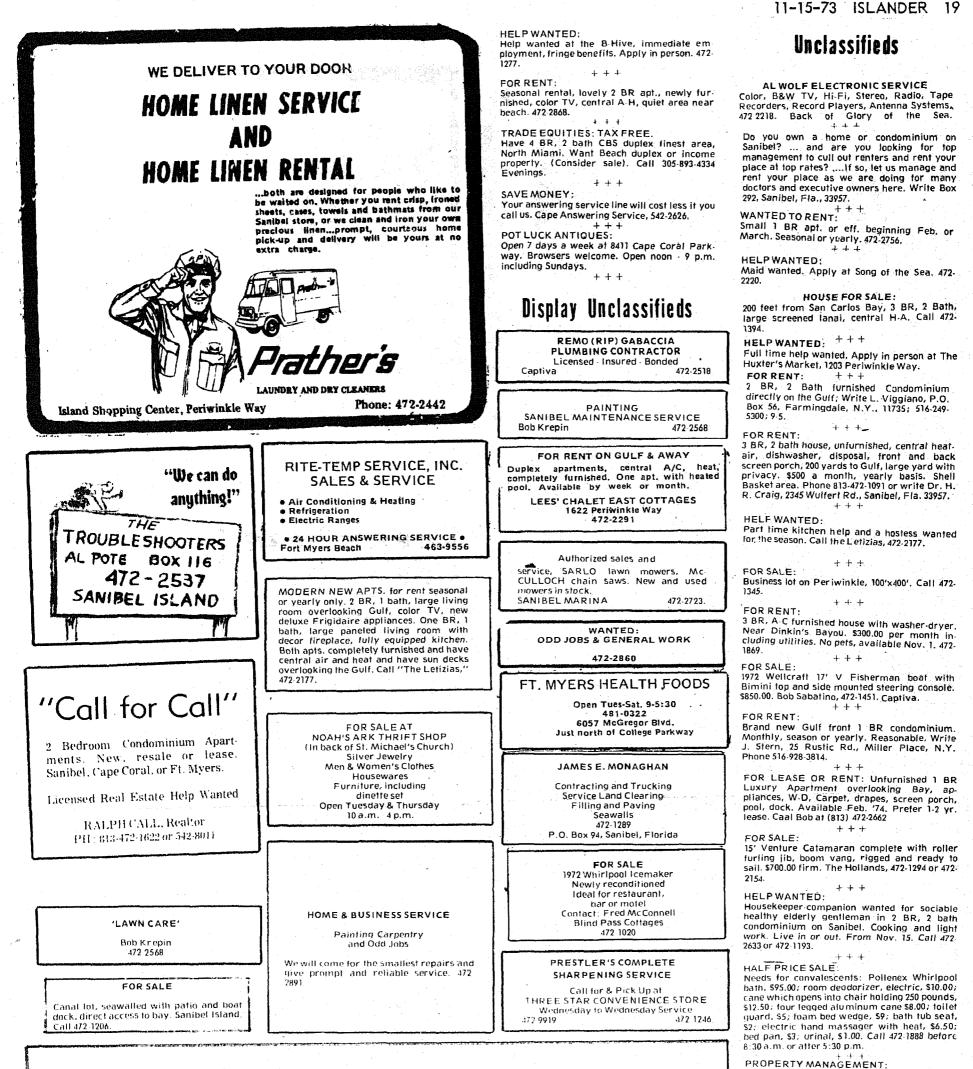


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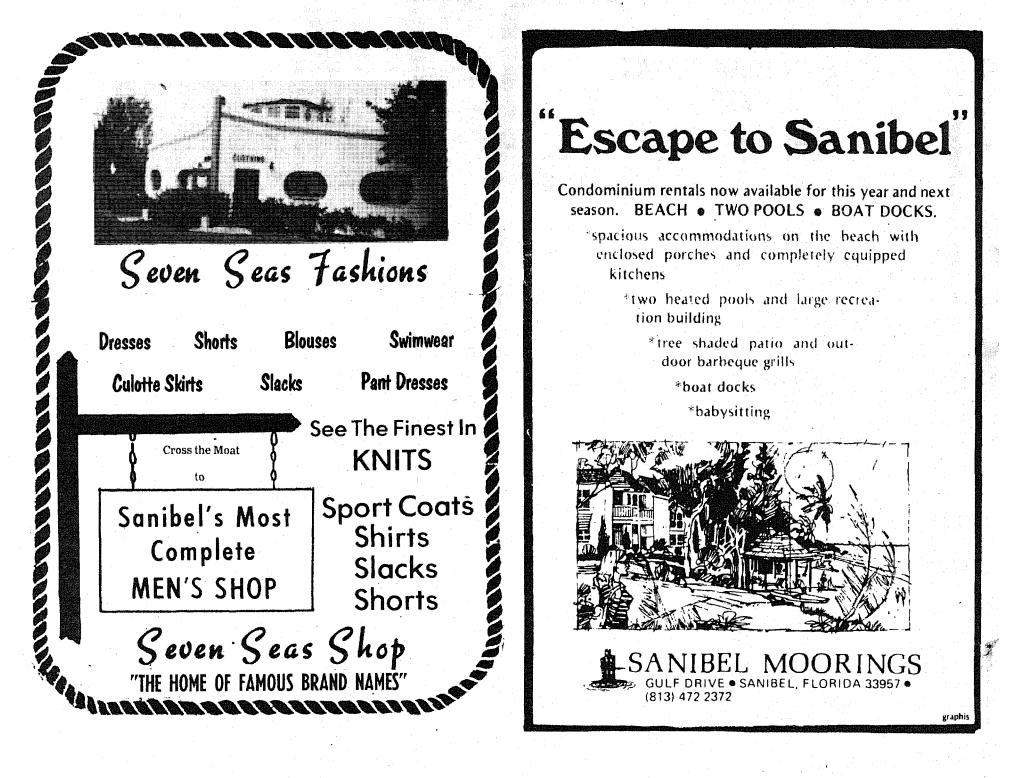
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