S'IBEL PUBLIC LIBRARY SWIBEL ISLAND, FLA. 33957 O BOX 8 P



The new bank building progresses at a Sanibel pace. Photography by Photo-Sanibel, Inc.

VOLUME14

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SANIBEL-CAPTIVA

10¢

Devoted to the interests of Sanibel and Captiva Islands since 1961

The Finest Shelling Beaches In The Western Hemisphere

Sarah 25, 1974

WATER TANK SITE RECOMMEDED

... 39

by Vivian Hinternhoff

The Lee County Zoning Board recommended the site for the new water storage tank on Sanibel at a location adjacent to the County Park, off Periwinkle Way Monday. Still to be settled is the Island Water Association's proposal to locate the tank in this area zoned for light residential and light business use. This proposal will be heard by the Lee County Commission on October 14 when the group will request a special permit to build on the site.

Vernon MacKenzie, chairman of the

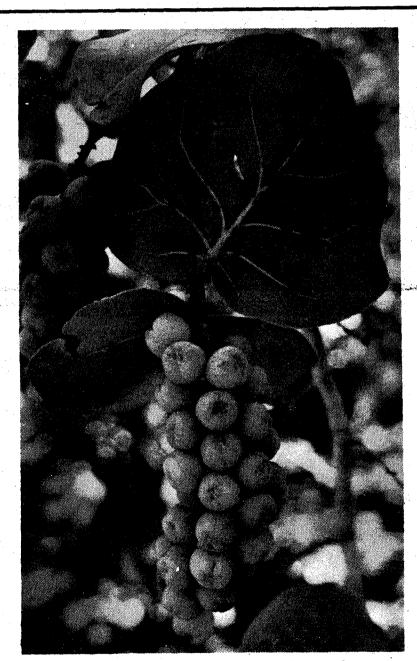
Sanibel Planning Board said that the Board had not taken a position on the erection of the water tank in this area but he said that there was no question but that such a storage tank was an essential part of the water system and that water needs on the Island were constantly expanding which meant that something has to be done.

Warren Tucker of the Island Water Association said that he had no comment to make at this time.

A week ago Wednesday the Island Water Association lifted its moritorium on new water connections.

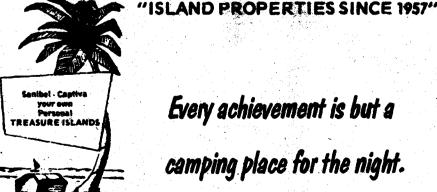


Open Monday - Saturday 9 - 8; Sunday 9 - 6 Periwinkle Way 472-1277





september seasrapes



REALTOR

Every achievement is but a camping place for the night.





line o'type, daguerre's brother says

stop the presses, put my byline on the sea horse shop story for the latest scoop in clothes and gifts.

Sea Horse Shop

At the Lighthouse End of Sanibel Daily 9 to 5:30 - Sunday 12 to 5:30

2 ISLANDER 9-26 74

SANIBEL - CAPTIVA ISLANDER

Established 1961 Owned by Printers, Inc. Duff Brown, Publisher

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

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

ISLANDER OFFICE

1300 Estero Boulevard, Fort Myers Beach, Florida 33931. Write P.O. Box 2867, FMB - Phone 463-6792 which is not a toll call from the Islands.

Second class postage paid at Fort Myers Beach, Florida 33931



Bayfront lot on North Captiva Island \$10,000.

RED CROSS NEWS

An orientation in Red Cross--its origin, history and services-- will be given Wednesday, September 25, 7:30 pm at recreation bldg. South, by James Wichert and Dan Ball. All Red Cross volunteers and other interested persons are urged to attend. The program is free of charge.

RUMMAGE SALE

The "C" BELLES (auxillarys) of the Ft. Myers Power Squadron are holding a rummage sale on Saturday, September 28 and Sunday, September 29 in the King Bidg. 3227 Palm Beach Bivd. in Ft. Myers each day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

AL ANON - First and third Friday of each month, 8:00 p.m. at St. Michael's and All Angels Church.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS - open meeting. St. Michael's and All Angels Church, Periwinkle Way, Friday nights, 8:00 p.m. For information call 472-2150.

LADIES GUILD of the Sanibel Community Church meets at 1:30 every third Thursday of the month. For details, phone 472-2425.

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

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL - area meetings. Fort Myers, Tuesdays at 12:15 in the Shrine Bldg. off Cleveland Ave.; Fort Myers South, Mondays at 12:15 in the Sheraton Inn on Rt. 41; Fort Myers Beach, Thursdays at 12:15 in the Holiday Inn on Estero Blvd.; Cape Coral, Wednesdays at 8:00 a.m. in the Cape Coral Country Club. For information call Dick Vann, 463-9436.

SANIBEL COMMUNITY ASSOCIA-TION, INC. - Sanibel Community House, 1st Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION POST #123 -American Legion Home, second Tuesday of the month, 8:00 p.m.

BINGO MUREX - American Legion Home, Wednesdays 8 p.m. - no minors.

BOY SCOUT TROOP #88 meets at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the school.

LIONS CLUB of Sanibel-Captiva meets at 6:30 p.m. the first & third Wednesday of each month at Island Beach Club.

FIRE DEPARTMENT meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday at 7:30, Palm Ridge Road Firehouse.

SANIBEL LIBRARY HOURS: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 2 to 4 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon.

SANIBEL - CAPTIVA CONSERVA-TION FOUNDATION, Board of Directors, meets the second Tuesday of every moath at 3:30 p.m.





One homesite on Sanibel \$1995.

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Hi. We're Pauline & Bob. We Sell Seeshells By The Seeshore!

at the Tuttles' Seahorse Shell Shop Island Art at its Best 10:00 - 5:30 Tues. - Sun. Lighthouse end of Sanibel KIWANIS CLUB meets each Wednesday morning at 8:00 a.m. at Case's Harbor House.

> KELSO LANDSCAPING SERVICE SPRAYING For LAWNS - TREES - SHRUBS

436 SCOTI

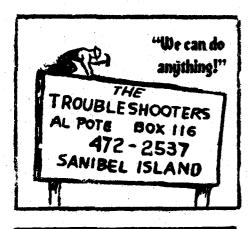
694-3273

TICE

Will re-open on October 1st. Open 10 - 5, Closed Sunday & Monday



9-26-74 ISLANDER 3







Who's Who 8. Why

JOCK-LA RUGH STORMER have recently moved to their new home on Sanibel in the Rocks. Mr. Stormer is retired from 20 years Federal Civil Service in the Washington area.

THE COLONY

Out of State guests this week at THE COLONY include: Mr. and Mrs. John A. McSherry, San Mateo, Calif: Mr. and Mrs. Theodore R. Wieseman of Milwaukee Wisc.: Mr. and Mrs. John C. Steinmetz of Atlanta, Ga.: and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Doke of Winnetka, II.

Our Florida guests this week include: Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Rawlings of St. Petersburg, Fla.

CHURCHES OF THE COMMUNITY

ST. MICHAEL'S AND ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. James D.B. Hubbs, Vicar SUNDAY:

Holy Communion7:30 & 9:30 a.m. Church School & Kindergarten 9:30 a.m. WEDNESDAYS:

Holy Communion 7:30 p.m.

ST. ISABEL CATHOLIC CHURCH Rev. Gerard Beauregard Saturday Evening Mass5:30 p.m. Sunday Mass......10:00 a.m. Friday Mass:

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH The Rev. Gerald Frost, Minister SUNDAY SERVICE:

> Every one is someone. Every one welcome.

DR. DAVID ROBINSON, PRESIDENT ECC, TO FILL PULPIT OF SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH

There will be a brand new minister in the pulpit of the Sanibel Community Church Sunday, September 29, when Dr. David G. Robinson occupies the pulpit for the first time ever.

The pulpit committee were very pleased they could persuade Dr. Robinson to be one of the visiting ministers this summer. Dr. Robinson, greatly in demand to talk in this area, has never before addressed a Sanibel Audience and should have much to say.

Dr. Robinson is a graduate of Wilson Junior College, Chicago. He obtained his B.S. degree in Education from Northern Illinois University and his Masters from the University of Indiana. For his Ph.D. in Education he attended Florida State University in Tallahassee.

He has been President of Edison Community College since 1965 and is credited with bringing that institution a long ways towards being one of the finest colleges in all of Southwest Florida.

Dr. Robinson is married to Mary Alice, has three children, Charles Alexander, Mary Janette, and Amanda Kelsey ages 8, 6, and 3.

This will be the first time Dr. Robinson has ever preached from the pulpit of the Sanibel Community Church.

ONE BAG-FULL

Ever wonder how it all adds up-that bag of clothes, or shoes, or household goods you gave Goodwill?

Well, think about this.

In the first seven months of 1974, your bag-full was one of 17,098 bags deposited in those bright yellow Goodwill deposit boxes you find at many shopping centers and super markets around Fort Myers.

Since every bag represents one man hour of work available to the handicapped served by Goodwill, it all adds up to 17,098 hours of pay (and work experience) that your contributions make possible.

The work experience is vital in rehabilitating the handicapped. It provides them with the background needed to find a job in private industry, which helps them become self-sustaining members of society, the goal of Goodwill.

Your one bag-full is the means to a very important end-helping the handicapped to help themselves, the Goodwill way.

LALECHE FALL SERIES

The Cape Coral-Fort Myers LaLeche League will be continuing their fall series Thursday, October 3, at 8 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Jack B. Olsen, 1666 N. Fountainhead Rd. Fort Myers. The discussion will be on the art of breastfeeding and overcoming difficulties. Anyone interested is invited to attend. For further information please contact Mrs. Olsen at 481-4886 or Mrs. Martha Rhea 542-0654, or Mrs. Clare



Subscriptions to the Sanibel-Captiva Islander run from Nov. 1 to Oct. 31 each year and cost \$5.00. Renewal cards will be sent the end of this month to subscribers.

All subscriptions purchased after Dec. 31 will cost 50 cents a month for each month until Oct. 31, 1975.

If you have two addresses a year, we will be glad to switch your subscriptions on notification. For more than two addresses, please add an extra 50 cents for each additional address.



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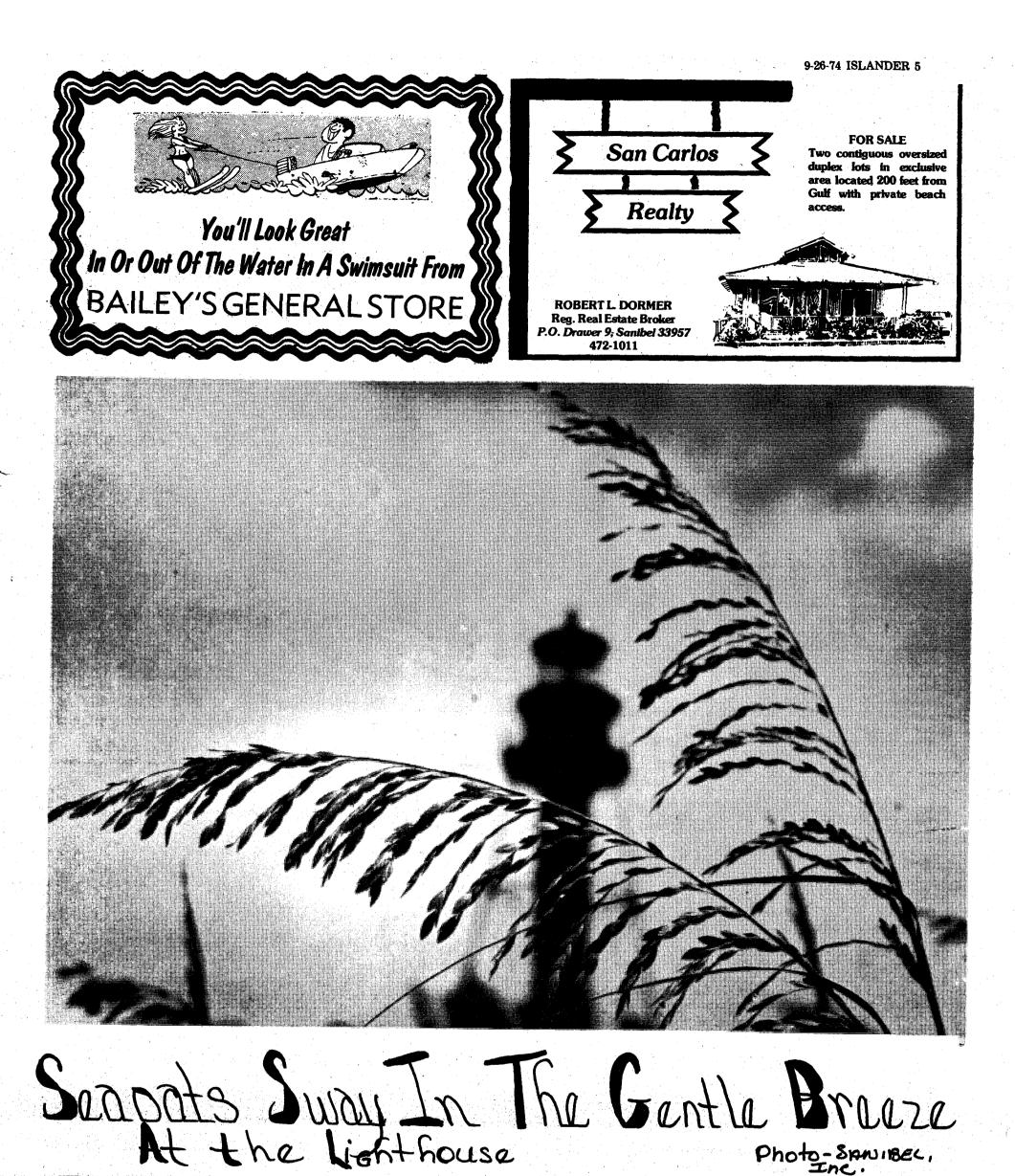




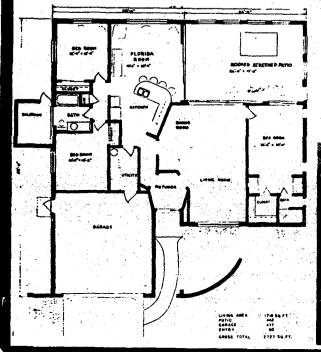


September Photo-Savibel, Inc.





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3 bedroom - 2 bath - double garage central air and heat ON YOUR IMPROVED LOT-



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6 ISLANDER 9-26-74

Remember, Saturday, Sept. 28, the PANTHER BAND is having a FISH FRY at Cypress Lake High School Cafeteria from 1:00 to 6:00. Price only \$2.25 and music by the Panther Band from 3:30 to 4:00. This is for the benefit of the Band Uniform Fund. Any additional donations will be cheerfully accepted.

NATIONAL STRIKE THREATENS WINTER TOURIST SEASON

W. Thomas Howard, President of the Fort Myers-Lee County Chamber of Commerce, announced today the Chamber is redoubling its efforts to get Jackie, Susie and the other planes of National Airlines back in the air at the earliest possible moment.

Howard said the strike is beginning to threaten our tourist business for the Winter Season. Reservations for the early part of the Fall and the Christmas season are being booked now, and many of them are being made on the basis of what the situation is and not what may be when the time comes for them to fly.

The Fort Myers Resort Area is particularly vulnerable, Howard continued, since National is the only major carrier serving Southwest Florida and since the CAB denied Marco Airway the rights to add flights with larger planes which would have at least relieved some of the overload problems Florida Airlines faces, and would have offered some relief as far as connections with other airlines in Tampa or Miami.

We will make renewed contacts with officials of National, The CAB, representatives of the striking mechanics' union, the Pilot Association, President Ford, our Senators and Representatives and anyone else who might have a remote chance of influencing a quick settlement, Howard continued. With our present unstable economic status we cannot sit idly by and face the threat of a disrupted tourist season too, he concluded.

Mr. Howard also stated that he was going to ask other clubs and organizations to write letters.



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4/2-1/3/

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1000' Private Beach All Weather Tennis Courts Sparkling Pool Complete Marina Service

Efficiencies, Cottages & Full Homes Available

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DOLPHIN BLACKOUT PETITIONS

Over 2,000 signatures on petitions protesting local T.V. blackout of Miami Dolphin home games have been collected by the office of State Representative Paul Nuckolls, District 91, expressing protest over that recent action taken by Pete Rozelle, Commissioner of the National Football League and Joe Robbie, General Manager of the Miami Dolphins. The action would black out television coverage to Lee County of those Dolphin home games.

On September 24, at 11:00 a.m., the petitions will be presented to U.S. Congressman L.A. 'Skip Bafalis, in his office in the Federal Building on First Street in Fort Myers, bafalis will in turn send copies to Rozelle and Robbie.

Nuckolls distributed the copies of the petition to all seven locations of the First Federal Savings and Loan offices in Ft. Myers and Punta Gorda and to many individual citizens who requested petitions.

The petition was circulated in the hope that Rozelle and Robbie would reconsider their decision and not allow a few in the Miami area to deprive Southwest Floridians of one of their favorite pastimes watching the Miami Dolphins in action.

The petitions read:

We, the undersigned, do hereby wish to express our protest to your recent decision to blackout the Dolphin football games to the lower Southwest Florida coast, with the understanding that the Dolphins have an extremely enthusiastic and faithful following in this area. Also, numerous fans have regularly attended the Dolphin home games in Miami, notwithstanding the airing of telecasts in Southwest Florida overWBBH TV, Channel 20.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED BY REP. PAUL NUCKOLLS

Dear Representative Nuckolls

I heard from my neighbor that the law has changed in Florida pertaining to disability insurance benefits. I have two nsurance policies and was wondering if I was hospitalized, can I collect on both?

R.P.

Sanibel

Dear R.P.:

We have received many inquiries on this subject, and that law has been changed. It was changed during the last session of the Legislature.

Senate Bill 579 did pass during the 1974 Session and, as of Oct. 1st, allows the insured to collect all benefits available from each insurer regardless of other available insurance. This bill allows an injured party to collect more than the value of the injury, up to the total amount of coverage he holds with all insurers.

Before, a number of disability insurance policies provide that the insurer may withhold payment of a claim or pay only a portion of that claim, such portion to be determined by the ratio of : (1) the amount of coverage provided by them and (2) the total amount of insurance coverage held by the insured. The original Senate Bill 579 submitted would have allowed an insured to collect more than the valu of his injury, that is, up to the total amount of coverage he held with all insurers, but the substitute provides for payments to the insured only up to the actual amount of loss. This was the result of committee review and making substantial changes in the original bill.

GARDEN COUNCIL NEWS

Four aims were announced for 1974-75 by Mrs. E. H. Harrington, president of the Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council, meeting Friday in North Fort Myers First Federal. They are: plant more flowering trees, organize more garden clubs, beautify College Parkway, and have a flower show.

The flower show will be held in Exhibition Hall March 19 and 20 under the direction of Mrs. Carl Irvin, assisted by Mrs. T. J. McElroy. Using the history of Fort Myers as a basis, the theme of the show will be "Remember When..."

Two sections of College Parkway have been planted, according to Mrs. Sam Smith of Jasmine Garden Club, who is spearheading the project. So far \$1,300 has been spent, \$335.00 of which was donated by participating federated clubs other than Jasmine. As more funds become available, the final plantings will be put in.

The Council will sponsor a flowering tree planting contest among the clubs. These trees may be planted as a club project or by individuals, and prizes will be awarded for the most trees effectively planted. Application forms must be completed and returned to Mrs. Fritz Salmar by March 1.

Mr. Bob Thomas, author and lecturer, will be presented in a flower arrangement demonstration featuring traditional, modern, and abstract use of flowers on January 6 at the Hall of Fifty Flags. This show is open to everyone and tickets may be obtained from any garden clubber for \$2.00.

District Forester Michael Long was introduced. He told of the necessity for an urban forester for our area. The present forester has been eliminated from the 1975 budget, after having served since 1971. Among many projects on which he is working, the interesting has been a maleleucca (cajeput) use study. This tree has proliferated in southwest Florida, and is thought to have properties similar to the walnut. Wood from the maleleucca has been harvested in the experimental program and sent to Iowa for processing into furniture and gun stocks. If the experiment proves successful, the foresters invision a re-vitalization of the lumber industry here.

The fall meeting of District IX will be held in Fort Myers October 10 at the Sheraton Inn beginning at 9 a.m. The host club, Edison, expects 200 delegates from the six counties comprising the district.

TO THE ISLANDER: Fellow Concerned Candidates:

I was distressed, as I am sure you were, to the low voter turnout in the Primary and dismayed at projected turnout on October 1 at 15 percent of the total vote.

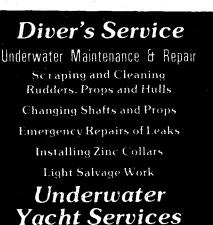
We must work together in common



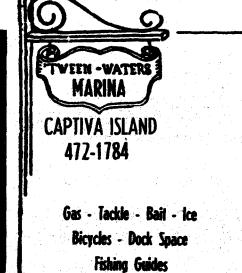
Robert Rehr does it again! A 17 lb. snook, caught with a shrimp from Hook, Line and Sinker, fishing off the Sanibel Pier. Keep up the good work.



Mike Rehr, son of Robert Rehr, caught a 12 lb. snook with a shrimp from the Hook, Line and Sinker, fishing off of the Sanibel Pier.



472-1849 - 472-1485 - 472-2674



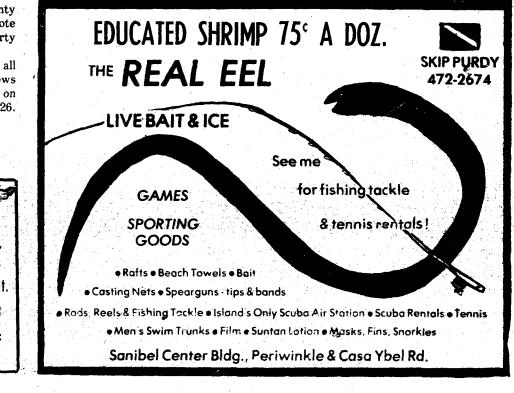
What all this means is, if you have five policies, you could draw from all, thus if you are paying for it, you are due coverage from it.

Rep. Paul Nuckolls Representative Nuckolls will be glad to personally answer your questions pertaining to state matters. If your question is of wide concern, it may appear in this column. Address your inquire to Representative Paul Nuckolls, P.O. Box 6631, Fort Myers, FL. 33902 cause to encourage every Lee County voter of both parties to get out and vote their convictions for their party nominee. Apathy must be defeated. Therefore, I am encouraging all candidates to attend the open air News Conference at Lyons Park at 11 a.m. on Cleveland Avenue on September 26. Thank you.

/s/Scott DOUGLAS Concerned Candidate

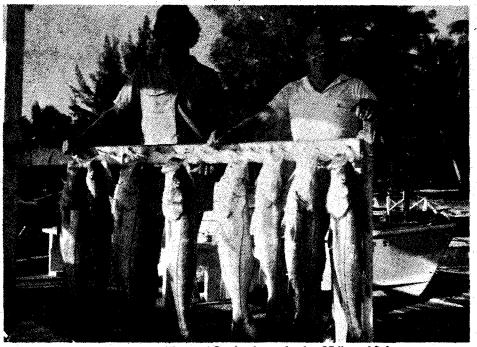


Water ski along Sanibel's bay front. Rates by the hour. All equipment furnished. Call Capt. Herb Purdy: 472-1849 after 6.





Mark Braden and Dave Magill of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, with their limit of snook caught September 21. Bob Sabatino, guide.



Mark Bruno of Sanibel Seafood caught this 35 lb. red fish.

SYMPHONY WEEK

The membership drive for the 14th season of the Fort Myers Symphony Orchestra and Opera Association will start with a Kick-off Breakfast on September 28 at the Sheraton Inn. Guest Speaker will be S. Leonard Pas, Jr., Executive Director of the Fine Arts Council of Florida. The purpose of Symphony Week is to acquaint everyone in our area with the activities of the Fort Myers Symphony and to make Season Tickets available to those who want them.

Subscription Series Tickets for five performances are \$18 for adults and \$10 for students and include the following artists:

October 26,1974 - Armin Watkins, Pianist and Symphony Orchestra

December 19, 1974 - Staged production of "Elijah" -John Darrenkamp as Elijah, Full Chorus and Orchestra

January 25,1975 - Pilerre Feit, Oboist and the Slovenian String Quartet with Full Symphony Orchestra

March 15, 1975 - Mozart's "Cosi Fan Tutte", completely staged opera, Chorus, Soloists and Orchestra

April 26, 1975 - Hiroko Yajima, Japanese Violinist with Full Orchestra

Volunteers will be at five locations in Edison Mall all week with more information about your Symphony Orchestra activities. Opening ceremonies for week-long activities in Edison Mall will begin at noon. Guests of honor, in addition to Mr. Pas, will be Mrs. Anna Price, Performing Arts Coordinator for the Fine Arts Council of Fla. and city officials. Winners of the Poster Contest will be awarded their prizes at the noon ceremonies. This contest, which is open to Middle and High School students in Lee County, has met with much enthusiasm among our local students. First prize is \$50, second prize is \$25, third prize is \$20 with five prizes of \$5 each for honorable mention. Judges for the poster contest are Mrs. Veronica Korjus, Mr. Robert York, and Mrs.

9-26-74 ISLANDER 9

Patricia Eng.

There will be musical performances all during the week at Edison Mall under the chairmanship of Mrs. Eileen Cripps. "Mini-Concerts" about 15 minutes long will be presented on September 28, October 1 - October 4.

The entire Edison Mall will be decorated with an International Flair under the direction of Mrs. Veronica Korjus. Overall Chairman of Symphony Week is Mrs. H. Donald Roberts, President of the Society of Symphony Women.

LUCHEON AND FASHION SHOW

The Lee Memorial Hospital Auxilary Bazaar Committee will hold a luncheon and fashion show at the Sheraton Inn on Cleveland Ave. on Thursday, October 31 at noon. The overall look is "Gatsby" and Maas Brothers of Fort Myers will stage "View From The Top", a show pointing up the evolution of fashion interest moving from the miniskirt of the past years through the bare midriff, halter and bra top stage to blouse and shoulder interest.

The show will be in the round with black and white art deco buildings and be done in five scenes.

Scene One: The Big Top-Fashion eyes the shoulder with collars and blouses with focus on the top.

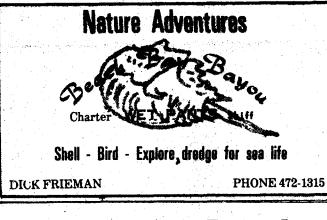
Scene Two: The Soft Touch-Solf Fabrics, gentle lines on the fashion scene.

Scene Three: Colors To Be Seen In-The entire fall color story.

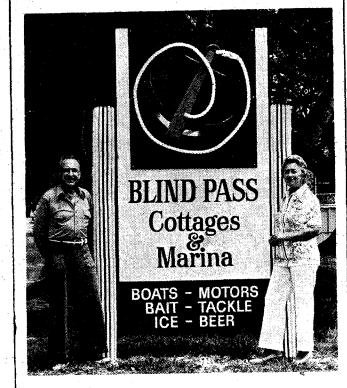
Scene Four: Finishing Touches-The importance of accessories in changing the look of a dress and how to make one dress do the work of several.

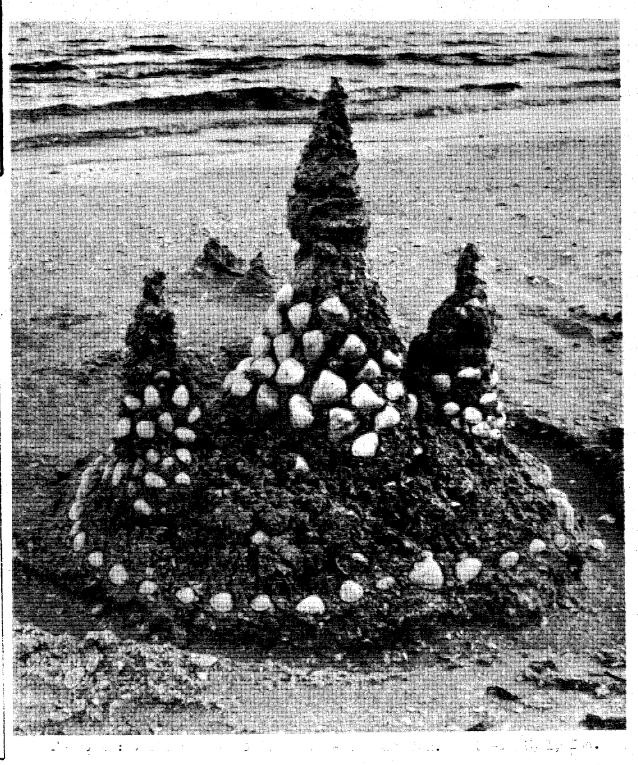
Scene Five: The Romance of Evening-Soft pajamas, floaty chiffon, feathers, trims and boas.

Tickets are \$5.00 and are available now. Call the fashion "HOT LINE" 694-3900.



A Fisherman's Paradise





Where you can shell beside the Gulf and fish in your backyard.

west end of Sanibel at Captiva bridge 7:30-5:30 daily (813) 472-1020

10 ISLANDER 9-26 74

TO THE ISLANDER: Dear Mrs. Emily Koller:

I read your nice, long letter in the "Islander". I agree with a lot of it, but am in direct opposition with a few things.

"IF"-the bicyclists would only know, and obey the laws, we would have many less accidents. The cyclists, both up here on L.I. as well as in Florida, actually tease, and taunt the motorist!! I have been "cut-off" on purpose, many times by bikers. I have been driving for 46 years, as an autoist, and as a "biker" for several years, when in my teens, so I feel that I know both sides. I rode almost 7 miles a day, on a triple size paper delivery route when I was a boy, BUT-we ALLrode on the right side of the road!! No one dared do anything different. There were far less autos, but accidents between cars & bikes were almost unknown, due to the observance of the "riding" & "driving" rules. The "LAW" is clear; the bikers are supposed to obey all the traffic laws, so why do the police not ticket them, and or "impound" the bikes as they are mandated to do, by law? The bikers ignore the "STOP" signs, by riding right through!! This, almost always results in an auto getting "cut-off" and an accident, or near accident.

If you really do love your children, and pets, you and all others should obey the law, and KEEP YOUR PETS AT HOME* NOT loose, on the street. The children should be taught to RIDE ON THE RIGHT, and keep out of the way of autos, NOT the other way around!!

I have developed a nice, sure-fire way to stop the "wrong side of the street" biker. When I see one coming toward me, I SLOW-DOWN, and start toward the curb, with my auto. If the biker still persists in trying to pass between the right side of my car, and the curb, (the bike is on the wrong side of the street!!), I then "park" with my wheels up against the curb. This of course forces the biker to choose between: 1. stopping. 2. going over the curb (on my right) or 3. passing me on my left side, headlong into the oncoming traffic. I then inform him, or her "You are on the wrong side of the street". I get everything from "amazement" to the well known vertical finger motion. But, I have already won my point, by not letting the biker pass me, head-on, on my right side.

I am more concerned for my own auto safety, than the safety of the biker. By this, I mean that I have a drivers license to lose, when the biker causes an accident, and my right to drive will be given up. The biker of course, does NOT have, or need a license. And the biker is almost always, the real cause of the accident, as the records show. It is unfair to autoists to allow this condition to continue.

A friend of ours was recently hit in the side of her car, by a biker, coming out of a side street; the boy bike rider, ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE ROAD hit her car at full bike speed, threw himself over the handlebars, and was killed instantly. The judge suspended the autoists drivers license for 6 months!!!

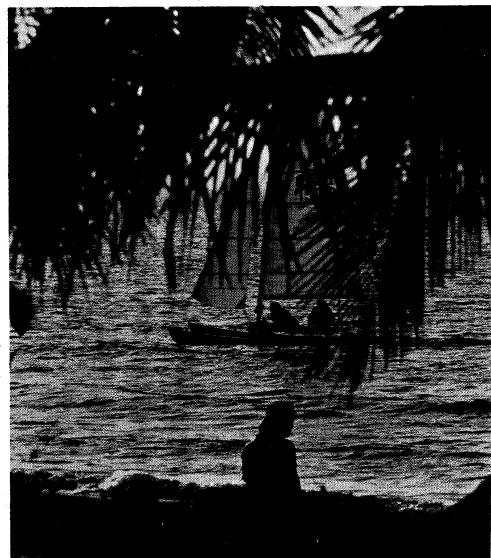
As for bike paths, I am sure they would not do much good. The bikers would not use them. It is much more fun to annoy the motorist, on the highway!! Also, I see no reason to spend money on bike paths out of the general tax monies. We all have been told: "belt-tightening" many times. The motorist has paid taxes for many, many years, while the bikers ride "for free". TAX THE BIKER for his bike-path!! And make them comply with ALL the laws, before we even think reg. bike paths. It is impossible, to construct a bike path along each & every road,

In the Ed. Note: "did not have headlights, and were riding on the pavement"--same old story!! "Overpopulation is the worlds biggest problem"!! Perhaps this is a natural method of "pruning", as in the jungle world. We have constructed a concrete jungle.

Last spring, Comm. Goldtrap called the bicycle: "a child's plaything", when he did not want to have to enforce the road riding rules & regulations for bikes. I wonder how he feels these days!!

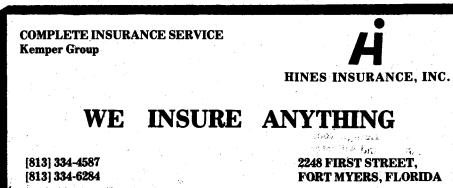
It is far from a "child's plaything!! If it really WERE a plaything, it should not be allowed on the road at all. /s/Joe Smith

Long Island, N.Y.



SANIBEL SAILING

Photo by Huston



CONDOMINIUMS - NEW OR RESALE \$31,800 to \$73,000

RESIDENTIAL LOTS FROM \$8,000 NON-WATERFRONT FROM \$25,000 CANAL FRONT

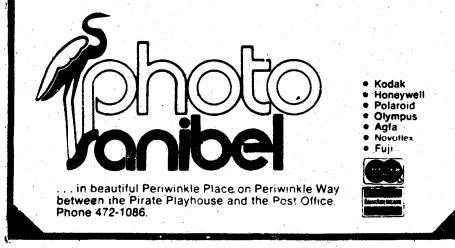
HOMES FROM \$31,990

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TO THE ISLANDER Oliver A. Houck, Counsel National Wildlife Federation 1412 16th St. N.W. Washington, D.C.

Received your letter of 5 September 1974 yesterday. Thank you for the valuable information as I have been writing certified letters to State and Federal Officials since May, in order to get copies of Public Law 93-205 (passed 28 December 1973) and current copies of the Federal Register.

The greatest enemy of the American Alligate: (alligator mississippiensis) and other endangered or threatened species is Public Law 93-205 - another example of bureaucratic stupidity. The average citizen cannot obtain a copy of the law itself without extreme difficulty. If one does locate a copy, it is almost impossible to understand the twenty one pages of fine print. My lawyer, H. P. H. Nuckolls, who is also my State Representative (District 91) has been unable to interpret it because of lack of time

I have a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Northwestern University (Evanston, Illinois) and I believe that Public Law 93-205 is unconstitutional.

This law is contradictory because it prohibits even an accurate head count of the American Alligator by qualified officials employed by the State and Federal Governments. I think it should be repealed and a new one drafted by knowledgeable conservationists. The American Aligator should not become extinct in a few years or less just because the Hon. Governor Edwin Edwards of the State of Louisiana possibly thinks that the State can make a big profit selling American Alligator hides to Foreign Countries. I do not believe that any conservation minded American would purchase them in any form.

Re: accurate local statistics. Glen Bond. Refuge Manager of the "Ding" Darling National Refuge took a head count of Sanibel Island Alligators using a night light and a motor vehicle over a limited area on Tuesday September 10. He and his assistant counted seventeen alligators. Rumor has it that there are thousands of alligators on Sanibel. To my knowledge, this was the only count officially taken in Lee County.

I personally know Lt. Barry Cook, one of the six Florida Game and Freshwater Fish Commission Law enforcement Officers, and he told me that during dry spells, the larger alligators must eat the smaller alligators to keep from starving to death. He also told me that the Spectacled (common) Caiman is able to survive and possibly reproduce itself in Florida. The Caiman is far more vicious than the docile American Alligator, and may prove to be a dangerous predator.

We cannot get an accurate census of the number of existing American Alligators unless we have an accurate method of counting them. The only valid data (to my knowledge) on reptiles has been obtained by the numbered tagging of Green Turtles (chelonia mydas) initiated by my friends, Professor Archie Carr and Dr. Peter Pritchard. At this time, there are not enough officials to physically accomplish this. There are however, many conservation volunteers, like myself, willing to co this without pay. However, it just about takes an Act of Congress to obtain a Federal Alligator permit. I have been trying to get one since May to legally keep six alligator hatchlings rescued by a North Ft. Myers bulldozer operator who accidentally dug up a dried up gator nest. His wife gave them to me because she knew I could save them.

On July 10, 1974, Lt. Barry Cook and his aide, confiscated my six. (REceipt for Confiscated Game or Fish No. 4029). Five were released on Sanibel and the crippled one which had been injured by the bulldozer was, at my insistance, given to the care of C.R.O.W. (Care and Rehabilitation of Wildlife) which has both Federal and State Permits. I and my mother visited C.R.O.W.'s hospital Thursday September 12, and "Crip" as I call him, and he is in excellent nealth. and eventually may be able to be released and survive. (I also took color slides).

According to State and Federal Law, I committed two Felonies, which I freely confessed in a letter to Ken Black, REgional Director, USDI, Atlanta, Ga., via certified mail. I have his signature on the Post Office card. I have not been cited, as an act of mercy is not a (slony.

It may be simpler and quicker to write to Gerald Ford and have him issue Federal Permits directly to all serious conservationists. It would not only save the American Alligator, but save the American Taxpayer a lot of money.

I intend to draw up a petition against the petition submitted by Edwards and get as many signatures as possible, send it to you so that you can assure that it arrives in Mr. Reed's office on time. I have already collected the signatures of over 48 local citizens and registered voters, but am not certain if the format is correct or whether the individual citizen must personally write Mr. Reed.

Florida State Officials have a meeting scheduled at Jacksonville Beach Wednesday Sept. 18 concerning Edwards' petition and hope some conservationists will be able to attend.

AMNESTY FOR THE AMERICAN ALLIGATOR!!!! /s/ Ardis Allen

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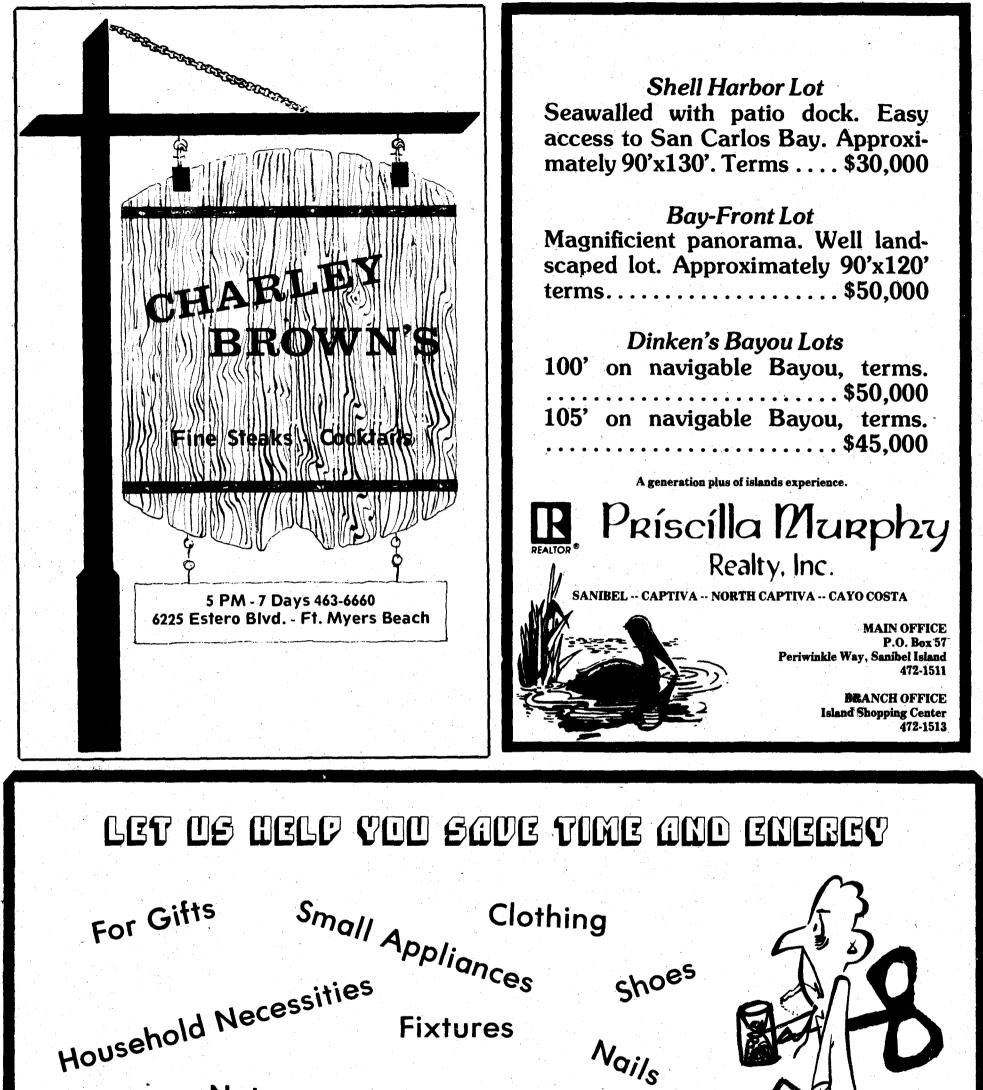
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