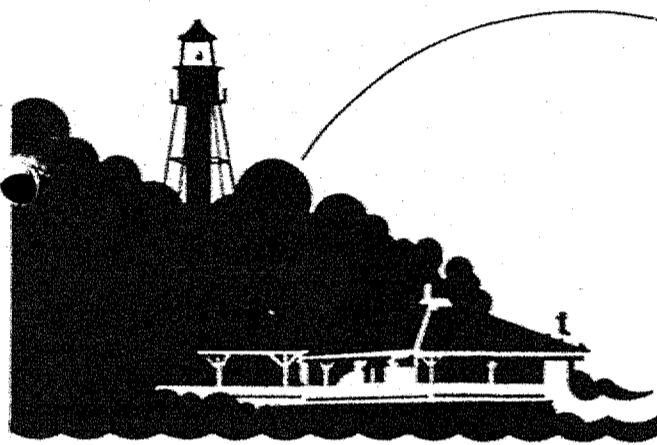


dogs aren't the only
friends of man

meet George:
a very special
raccoon

see field notes page 20.



Sanibel-Captiva
Islander

since 1961

Volume 17, no. 37

Tuesday, September 20 1977

one section ten cents

city fact-finding team discusses settlement for Sanibel Bayous

The Sanibel City Council's fact-finding team and representatives from Nationwide Realty Corporation met in an arduous three-hour session last Thursday to continue discussions aimed at reaching an out-of-court agreement between the City and developers of the Sanibel Bayous project on Sanibel-Captiva Road.

Developer William Brodeur of Miami first purchased the 110-acre tract in 1968 and had Lee County's permission for a build-out of 283 units on the property. Under the City's comprehensive land use plan adopted last year, the same area now has a total density of 37, according to the City's Planning Department.

At the outset of last Thursday's meeting, Brodeur stated that unless he

were able to build 125 units south of Sanibel Captiva Road, the development would be economically futile for him. That breaks down, according to his plan, into approximately 25 single-family dwelling and 100 condominium units. "This," said Brodeur, "is less than 40 per cent of what I had previously planned."

There are approximately 15 acres in the condominium area and the City had previously agreed to consider allotting a 2.2 unit per acre density to the area, a number consistent with the land surrounding the Bayous development.

Councilman Duane White argued that while a density of 24 single-family dwelling units in the condominium or multi-unit housing area might be ac-

cepted, Brodeur imposed four times the number of people, vehicles, water and sewage on the environment.

Brodeur's attorney, Steve Helgemo of Fort Myers, said that City had much more of a problem with the Bowman's Beach recreational area, since beach visitors generate more pollution than residents. "The impact of permanent residents who wish to maintain the aesthetics of their surroundings is far less than that of transients," Helgemo said.

Vice-Mayor Butler agreed, but reminded the committee that multi-family housing tends to be utilized as rental units, providing a substantial turnover. "Single-family dwellings, in the other hand, have much less im-

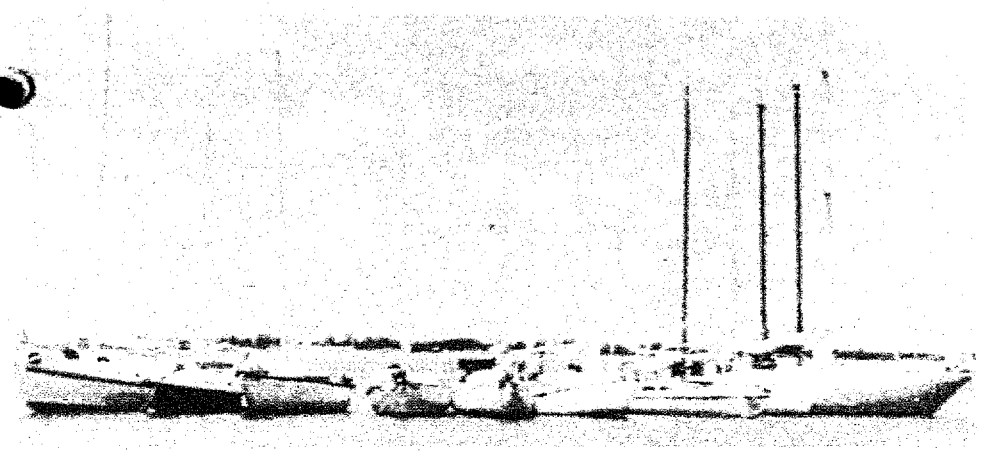
pact," Mrs. Butler said.

Helgemo argued that, because of the increased control the landlord has with multi-family units, they are actually more desirable than single-family homes.

Brodeur and Helgemo said, during the session, that they will fight the lawsuit right to the end — even if that end is several years and dollars down the road. "With over a million dollars invested in the project, I have no choice," said Brodeur. It is this investment in water pipes, sewage and roads that, according to Helgemo, gives them a strong chance of winning in litigation on the issue of "vested rights".

con't. on page 3

The raft-up after a fast Ladies Day race for the Caloosahatchee Marching & Chowder Society Saturday. Gretchen Wilson took a second in Class B with Beschwippst



Islanders arrested in raid

Tom Hines, 26, and Tom Stokes, 22, were arrested at their home on Saturday, September 17, and charged with possession of marijuana and possession of stolen property. They live at 1215 Periwinkle Way.

A search warrant was obtained for the premises when a parent of a minor told the Sanibel Police Department (SPD) that Stokes and Hines had allegedly invited her daughter to participate in the use of marijuana.

Upon arriving at the residence, SPD officers also found property that had apparently been stolen from a van at

the Jolly Roger last summer.

Officers Don Case and Bob Dysart escorted the two men to Lee County jail where they posted bond and were released.

The state statute regarding penalties for corrupting a minor was removed from the books last year and will not go back into effect until October 1, 1977.

"At that time, we will prosecute anyone caught involving a minor in a criminal offense," SPD Sgt. Trefney told the ISLANDER.

Hines and Stokes operate a lawn care service on the islands.

public budget hearing brings small attendance, no changes

A small but vocal group of Sanibel residents appeared at Mackenzie Hall last week to listen to a line-by-line review by City Manager Bill Nungester of the City's proposed budget for fiscal 1977-78, which begins October 1, 1977.

The public hearing began with an explanation of the published 19 per cent increase in taxes, which had to be done to comply with what Mayor Porter Goss termed a "bad law".

"The county has control of the assessments on properties," said Goss, "while the City controls the millage for its own taxes." Last year there was 125 million dollars of assessed land value, which, when taxed by a millage rate of 3.75, yielded revenues of 455,000.

In 1977, Goss continued, Sanibel has 160 million dollars of assessed value. To achieve the same revenue — \$455,000 — the millage rate would be 2.98. However, the city requires more than that so that an assessment of 3.5 mills is needed to produce revenues of 583,916.00. A mill is a \$1 tax for every thousand dollars of assessed property value.

A millage rate equivalent to last year's 3.75 would yield over \$600,000 but Goss told the audience that the city does not require that much money.

"Sanibel assessments have gone out of site and we can't control them," Goss said. "We have the highest property valuation of any city in Lee County but we have the lowest millage."

Revenues in the budget are derived from various sources: ad valorem taxes, franchise fees, license and permit fees, state revenue sharing, state and federal grants, services and miscellaneous sources such as tax anticipation notes.

Expenditures for the various city departments were drawn up according to the goals the department wishes to

achieve in the coming year and the projects they wish to complete.

Nungester proceeded through the budget review with relatively few interruptions until reaching the segment for the Sanibel Police Department (SPD) when Sanibel resident Ralph Woodring complained that the SPD is performing too many services that are not enough of an emergency and "I'm tired of paying for it." The people who receive those services should pay for them," he suggested.

"I don't want to have the best police department in the state," said Woodring. "Some people on this island want the best and can afford it. Some little people can't and I am one of them."

Woodring specifically complained about the Island's 26 emergency call boxes. "Damn few of us use them" he said.

Goss defended the call boxes on the grounds that they had been installed through a federal grant which didn't cost Island taxpayers anything and that they make sense in terms of service to tourists who support businesses who pay hefty occupational license fees.

Goss went on to say that the whole council is sensitive to the fact that long-timers are in danger of being priced off the Island and the Council had made the decision to keep the millage down as much as possible for that reason.

Woodring also brought up the fact that newcomers to the Island won't bear the brunt of the costs for three-five years and suggested that an impact fee be imposed on new Island arrivals.

Both Mayor Goss and Vice Mayor Butler agreed with Woodring, saying that they had lobbied hard in Tallahassee for that very thing and

that the Constitutional Revision Committee is currently examining the possibility of establishing an impact tax but, Goss said, it could go either way.

Woodring also feared that the City would become overly dependent on the CETA employees now working in various government departments and, should the program be discontinued, feel that they had to make up the deficiencies.

LaVerne Hickey suggested that, if the CETA contingency allotment of \$65,455 were dropped, it would decrease the assessment by about a quarter of a mill.

The audience had mixed views on the priority of extending Middle Gulf Drive. Maxine Michl objected to an allocation of \$29,436 in revenues the City gets from the federal government in lieu of lost revenue from the 5,000 acres in the Refuge, plus the cash carryover of \$35,000 from 1976-77, on bike paths.

"The big problem on this Island is getting around in a motor vehicle," she complained. "The problem isn't bikes, its cars."

Judy Workman, on the other hand, said that "not everyone is in favor of connecting Gulf Drive because then the Island would have two congested streets instead of one and we will still have everyone converging on the the Causeway."

Goss told the audience that the \$65,000 was matching funds for a grant the city is still hopeful of obtaining for the bike paths and the Nov. 21 revalidation includes Middle Gulf Drive.

"If it doesn't go then," Goss said, "than Middle Gulf Drive will become a number one priority. Engineering of the East Gulf Drive connector is going on right now."

Paulette Burton, President of the Sanibel Taxpayers Association accused Mayor Goss of trying to circumvent the law by using the connector as a political issue in the causeway bond revalidation issue.

Mrs. Burton also asked that the city consider budgeting some money for the transportation of the elderly via a small bus both on the Island to Bailey's and the library and off-Island to localities such as Winn Dixie and the Edison Mall. Zee Butler said that she would look into it.

Mayor Goss said after the meeting that he felt the crowd had been only partially representative and he would have liked to have seen more younger residents in attendance.

"It's a shame that we have to do it at this time of the year with everyone away" he said, "but its a requirement of the state law."

A second reading and possible adoption of the budget is scheduled for September 27 at 4 p.m.

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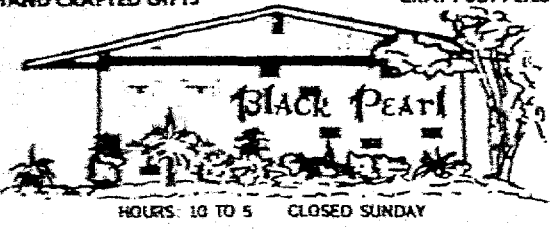
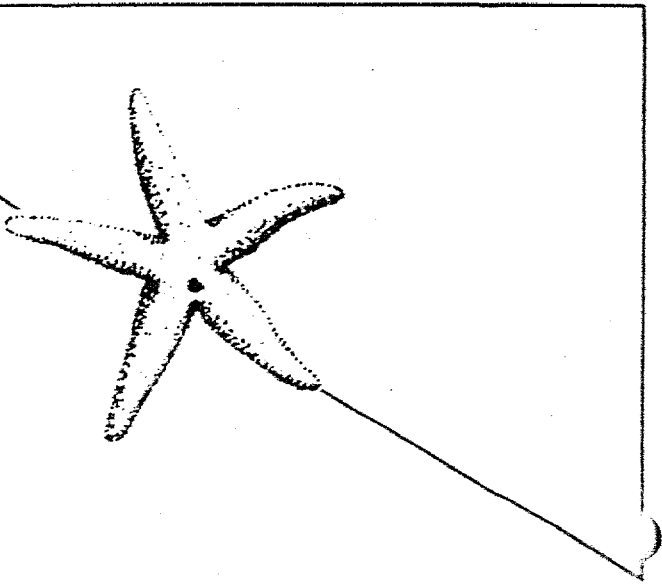
As reported by Walter Klie of the Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce weather station on Causeway Road, the Islands' weather report for last week is as follows:

| DATE | HI | LO | RAINFALL |
|--------------|--------------------|----|----------|
| September 9 | 92 | 78 | None |
| September 10 | 92 | 78 | None |
| September 11 | (no reading taken) | | |
| September 12 | 93 | 79 | .31 |
| September 13 | 88 | 77 | .21 |
| September 14 | 90 | 79 | None |
| September 15 | 90 | 78 | None |

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Sanibel Bayous

from page one

Deliberations appeared to be at a standstill until attorney Bosselman indicated that the density allocations for the for the entire tract could be clustered in certain portions.

Discussions then centered upon the idea of increasing the density in the multi-unit area, with the few remaining units scattered throughout the 80 plus acres north of Sanibel-Captiva Road.

The primary land under consideration continued to be the multi-unit area where there is an elevation of three and a half to four and a half feet and natural drainage, according to the developer.

Planning Commission Chairman, Ann Winterbotham, another member of the City's fact-finding team, indicated that the idea of evacuating over 200 people from that area worried her, in addition to environmental concerns.

Brodeur's final offer to the fact-finding committee was to cluster 85 units in the condominium area—possibly in the form of single-family attached housing or townhouses (a suggestion from Bosselman), 25 single-family homes in Phase Three South of Sanibel-Captiva Road, and 23 homes in the area north of Sanibel-Captiva Road scattered over the 80 acres for a total of 133 units.

Helgemo told the team if they can agree to the numbers, then he and his client would be agreeable to sit down and examine the "periferal restrictions" that Council might suggest.

After a meeting of the fact-finding team with City attorney Bowen and consulting attorney Bosselman, Bowen will indicate to Brodeur and Helgemo whether or not the team feels that they can recommend the final figures to the City Council. The Council is slated to hear the fact-finding team's report at their regularly scheduled October 4 meeting.

Meanwhile, there is a hearing tomorrow night in circuit court on the City's motion to dismiss the lawsuit Brodeur has brought against the city.



original plan for Sanibel Bayous

Community church bazaar workshops underway

Plans are in full swing for the annual Sanibel Community Church Christmas Bazaar, scheduled for December 3 this year. Bazaar coordinators are Nancy and Jerry Wierman and they can be reached at 472-3411. Don Marshall is the head cashier.

Shellcraft workshops are held every Monday. (How neat to learn something about a craft and help out as well.) Fae Muller leads the workshop, held from 10 A.M. until 2 P.M. at Sunset South recreation room. Workers bring their own lunch and beverage.

The 11 ladies who attended the initial workshop worked on shell tree ornaments.

- Booth chairmen in other areas are:
- Books - Kitty Brunner
 - Food - Blanche Ford
 - Hot Dogs - Joan Martin
 - Christmas Crafts - Pat Milligan & Alda Irwin
 - Crafts - LaRugh Stormer
 - Baked Goods - Betty Johnson
 - Jewelry - Ginger Von Eiff
 - Shellcraft - Fae Muller
 - Plants - Zelma Herndon
 - Stationary - Marian Chaplin
 - Stocking Stuffers - Ruth Searing
 - White Elephants - Helen Hoffman & Katie Boyle
 - Raffle - Lois Morton & Mary Lou Scott
- Many of these areas will be having workshops as well. If you are interested, contact the Wiermans.

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commentary

A free press

When is a press truly free? Is there such a thing? One wonders when there is much discussion about major network lobbying against extending the television network system or establishing competing network chains.

It has been said that the thoughts of America are controlled by the approximately 20 square block area that houses NBC, CBS and ABC headquarters in Manhattan.

Who controls the John Chancellors, the Babe Paleys? Who, indeed controls the major newspaper chains in the country? Who pays the bills and signs the paychecks on our own home front? Who dictates what does and doesn't reach print?

These are questions that any concerned and enlightened citizenry should ask, for as the Washington Post proved, the power of the pen can be mightier than the power of the sword.

A free press is a constitutional guarantee and yet, there is no news medium yet encountered that is a non-profit organization; someone pays the tab and it is the experience of the American people that he who pays the piper usually calls the tune.

Newspapers are a business - as are radio and television stations. People invest in them as they would any commodity, some reap a reward, others absorb a loss. What, then, is a free press?

In this day and age, it is a surprising phenomenon to find as many people in a single field motivated by the searching out of truth as there are in the reportorial ranks. (There are, of course, many journalists who will distort that same truth for a "better" story.)

But, even for them: who pays the piper and what tunes does he call?

In the ISLANDER's case, no locally vested interest other than that of publishing a good newspaper. The ISLANDER was purchased in 1974 by the Breeze Corporation, a division of the Ogden newspaper chain. Ogden newspapers owns weeklies all across the country and it is their policy to allow the individual papers to retain their autonomy.

ISLANDER news policy is simply this: report it as it happens; make sure all sides have been covered.

Editorial comment, reflecting the position of the paper, appears on those pages marked commentary - as do other viewpoints submitted to the ISLANDER. Commentaries are not purported to be omniscient and your comments are more than welcome.

One would anticipate that, Islanders being the special people they are, no affront is taken, for none is intended. Commentaries are designed to provoke comment. Share yours.

We are a small island. No-one is infallible (rhyming with the new pronunciation of Sanibel!) Your trust is important. We shall strive to be accurate in our reporting, objective in our selection of news items and impartial in any editorial comment.

We, too, call the Islands home. Our vested interest lies in the welfare of that home, its people and its thoughts. Perhaps, in that case, there is a prejudice, for the Islands are indeed special. To fairly reflect and report their people and activities does presume a vested interest, although not in the usual sense of the term. From that viewpoint, perhaps we are guilty of vested interest, but we regard it as a trust and one that we shall not knowingly violate.

first RIF distribution Thursday

All Island students enrolled in the Sanibel Elementary School will receive a free book to add to their personal reading libraries this Thursday, September 22.

Free books of the students' choice will be distributed beginning at 12:30 p.m. this Thursday at the Sanibel Elementary School in an effort to teach children that reading is fun (damental).

"Reading is Fundamental" (RIF) is a national non-profit organization designed to motivate children to read by making inexpensive books available to them for personal ownership.

RIF feels that through freedom of choice and pride of ownership, children will find that books are fun.

Locally, the RIF program involves the cooperation of the RIF national organization, the Lee County School Board, and various parent organizations involved with each individual school in Lee County. The effect is coordinated by Al Tapio, director of the media center for Lee County Schools.

On Sanibel, the RIF book distribution effort has been spearheaded by the Sanibel-Captiva Parents-Teachers Association (PTA), which has donated \$250 to be matched by equal contributions from the two other agencies participating in the RIF program.

With the \$750 raised in this manner, a group from the Island PTA selected and purchased approximately 1,200 books to be distributed among Island students this year. Members of the PTA book selection committee were Mrs. Pat Kair, Mrs. Emily Muench, Mrs. Sandy Kessler and her daughters, Jill and Robin.

Each student at Sanibel Elementary School will be given the opportunity to select three free books over the course of the school year, with any remaining books to be placed in the school library for all of the children to enjoy.

Countywide, the RIF program has acquired approximately 25,000 paperback books to be distributed among 6,500 students in 15 participating Lee County Schools.

"I think this is a wonderful program," said PTA President Pat Kair last week. "The program didn't limit us as to what kinds of books we could buy, and as a result, we ordered many books dealing with our unique natural resources here on the Islands."

Mrs. Kair added that there will be a wide selection of books for Island youngsters to choose from on Thursday. She also said that the program will be infinitely more successful with the support of parents of Sanibel Elementary School students.

Parents are urged to encourage their children to select a book that will interest him or her, as well as to encourage the child to read the entire book and discuss it with his or her parents.

Additionally, parents are warmly invited, nay encouraged, to come to Sanibel Elementary School and take part in the special activities planned for the first RIF distribution of the school year, which will begin at 12:30 p.m. this Thursday, September 22.

A child's parents are perhaps the most important agents when it comes to teaching the child that reading is fun(damental)!

PUBLIC NOTICE

PLANNED ELECTRICAL POWER OUTAGE
RESIDENTS NORTH OF CALOOSAHATCHEE RIVER AND WEST OF NEW 41
WITH EXCEPTION OF NORTH FORT MYERS AND BAYSHORE AREA
EARLY WEDNESDAY MORNING SEPTEMBER 21, 1977
3:00 A.M. - 4:00 A.M.

The Lee County Electric Cooperative will require an electrical power outage to make necessary switching changes which will improve the service reliability to our consumer members being served north of the Caloosahatchee river and west of new 41 including Cape Coral, Pine Island, Sanibel and Captiva.

The Cooperative sincerely appreciates the understanding and cooperation of its members in their enduring this inconvenience which will help insure a more efficient power supply for now and the future.

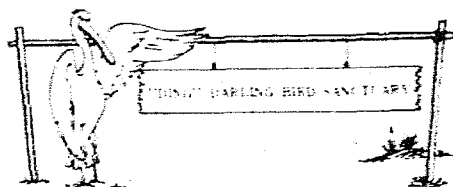
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Howe's that? by paul howe

It seems to me that an adversary-type atmosphere is developing at our City Council's public meetings. The traditional easy rapport between the Council members strikes me as tending toward a stilted facade found too often in our courtrooms where posturing of the opposing lawyers rather than fact-finding is the setting.

This emerging relationship is perceptible in the answers given to questions that are not-so-simple to the inquiring taxpayer not well-versed in the jargon of the political being. Too often those replies are legalistic and ambiguous to the point of being evasive. (From second-hand reports, the responses of some of the staff are similarly vague.) This atmosphere is noticeably in contrast to the open-faced frankness and neighborliness that prevailed in the early days of our new city. It was that earlier milieu that distinguished Sanibel's City Council

members from the cavalier disregard of Sanibel's needs and aspirations exhibited by our County Commissioners.

It was such an adversary type atmosphere that had also developed in the State Senate by 1972. Its rising level had reached the dangerous point that triggered Senate President Mallory Horn to form an Ombudsman Committee to respond to the mounting complaints from the public. He defined the Committee's duty as: "It will be a place where people can call to complain about government—and get some answers." Our current Lt. Governor Jim Williams was appointed Chairman of the Ombudsman Committee, and Howard Walton, former aide to ex-Senate President Jerry Thomas, was selected as Staff Director. Chairman Williams set the Committee's parameters as: "... to make the

government more responsive to people. We are not out to do a hatchet job on the executive branch of government." This seems to me as a most laudable goal for an Ombudsman.

The drafters of the Sanibel City Charter were aware of this new Tallahassee approach to better the response of government to the governed. Such a device was considered by the drafters. Because of the "era of good feeling" that prevailed at the time, however, the need for it then seemed remote. The proposal was passed over as surplus baggage for our close-knit community.

The winds of change now blowing over Sanibel suggest to me that a second look at the desirability of an Ombudsman is now in order. It just may be the slight change that will restore the town-meeting atmosphere envisioned by Sanibel's Charter writers and supporters. Fortunately,

our founders provided for such a change in Article VI of that Charter.

The Charter procedure is a simple one. Five qualified Sanibel voters step forward to serve as a Petitioners' Committee and be responsible for circulating and filing a petition requesting City Council to adopt a specific ordinance establishing the Ombudsman mechanism. Only 478 Sanibel voters are required to sign the petition. Should Council fail to adopt the measure within sixty days, the proposal is automatically placed on the ballot within the next sixty days. A majority vote in the election in favor of the proposal makes the Ombudsman mechanism the law of the City.

It is my feeling that the City Council would not be inclined to ignore the petition from twenty-five per cent of Sanibel's voters but would affirmatively respond to a reasonable proposal for the Ombudsman feature.

SPD swims again

Sgt. Bill Trefney and Officer Dick Noon travel to Jacksonville this week to compete in the Jacksonville Open Swim Meet, slated for Saturday, September 24.

They will be swimming for the Sarasota Suncoast Masters Swim Club, representing the Sanibel Police Department.

Trefney will be competing

in the 50-yard free style and the 100-yard free style and two relays while Noon will swim both the 50-yard free style and 50-yard breast stroke and the 100 yard individual medley. He will also participate in two relays.

Trefney is swimming in the 50-54 age group, while Noon is in the 30-34 division.

If they win in Jacksonville, they will go on to compete in the South East National Championships in Oakridge, Tennessee October 23 and 24. Their swim club won the championship last year.

The ISLANDER wishes them both much luck and we'll keep our fingers crossed this Saturday.

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THURSDAY: London Broil, (Flank Steak) Mushrooms,
Potato, Vegetable or Seafood Crepes, Shrimp and
Crabmeat with Marnay Sauce, Vegetable

FRIDAY: Pepper Steak, Yellow Rice, Vegetable or
Stuffed Flounder, Potato, Vegetable

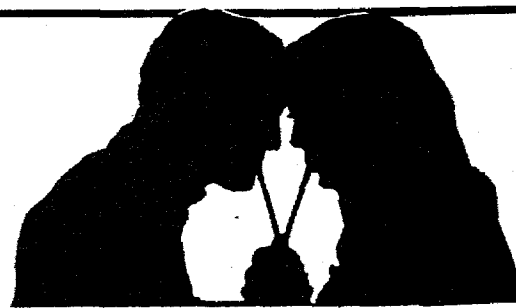
SATURDAY: Bar B Q Beef Back Ribs, Potato, Vegetable
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SUNDAY: Roast Leg of Lamb, Mint Jelly, Potato,
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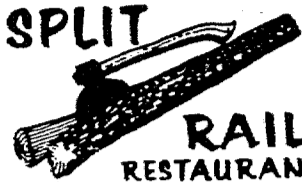


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dual taxation battle proceeds slowly

When we asked Sanibel Vice-Mayor Zee Butler how the City of Sanibel's struggle to outwit a beaurocracy-bred monster called dual taxation has fared this year, her reply was a solemn, "Not well."

For taxpayers in the City of Sanibel and in many other municipalities in Florida, dual taxation means simply that they are being taxed twice for some government services which taxpayers living in unincorporated areas must pay for only once with their ad valorem tax dollars.

Hence, dual taxation is a malady, or inequity, in the ad valorem tax structure which is particular to property owners who have opted for the joys of city life, and who, therefore, must pay taxes to both the city and the county in which they live for dual services which are, in some cases, essentially the same.

Sanibel Vice-Mayor Zee Butler has been almost single handedly fighting the dual taxation battle with Lee County ever since the young city incorporated in November of 1974.

It was only in June of that year that the state legislature passed a law making it possible for city taxpayers to get some relief from the burden of dual taxation through the creation of special taxing districts called municipal service taxing units (MSTU's).

According to Vice-Mayor Butler, the MSTU's are special taxing units which have been adopted for the unincorporated areas of Lee County. Theoretically, the annual budget for any government service which directly benefits residents of the unincorporated areas alone is placed into the MSTU's, for which city taxpayers are not taxed, thereby reducing the tax burden on residents of the municipality.

"Unfortunately, I didn't realize how hard it would be to get the county to make any concessions in this area," Mrs. Butler said last week.

"But we're not alone in this battle," she added, in keeping with the old adage that misery loves company. "Many other cities in Florida are

having the same problem."

Some cities are finding their problems in this respect so acute that Florida courts have recently felt the pressure occasioned by a proliferation of lawsuits over the dual taxation issue.

In Lee County, Mrs. Butler's efforts have met with full cooperation from officials of the cities of Cape Coral and Fort Myers, which are similarly burdened with the bane of dual taxation. Representatives of Lee County's three municipalities began meeting back in the spring of this year in preparation for the annual battle of the budgets, which is currently upon us.

Dual taxation talks with County Administrator Lavon Wisher began this year in mid-June and have continued unabated ever since, albeit to very little effect, according to Vice-Mayor Butler.

Additionally, the dual taxation problem has been amply addressed by the Southwest Florida League of Cities, of which Sanibel is a member and for which Mrs. Butler is the city's voting delegate.

The "little league," as it is affectionately called, is working to get the statewide Florida League of Cities to adopt a resolution in support of the MSTU's at their convention to be held next month.

On June 21 of this year, the Sanibel City Council adopted a resolution addressed to the Lee County Board of Commissioners requesting that the MSTU's include the county departments of engineering, planning, drainage and water control, recreation, parks, and the Lee County Sheriff's patrol, from which city officials feel that the residents of Sanibel derive little, if any, benefit.

A September 5 memorandum to the county commission outlined County Administrator Lavon Wisher's recommended response to the city's plea for equity in taxation.

Among those county departments which Mrs. Wisher has recommended for funding through the MSTU's are: the administrative department of the

Division of County Development; the building department; the zoning department; the house-numbering department; the planning department; 20 per cent of the engineering department of the Division of Transportation; 25 per cent of the engineering department of the Division of Environmental Protection Services; and a list of 16 neighborhood parks in Lee County.

Sanibel's community park at the Sanibel Elementary School is to be funded countywide, Mrs. Butler said, because it is classified as a district park by the Lee County Department of Parks and Recreation.

Over the past year, additional recreational facilities have been developed at the Sanibel Elementary School through a matching funds arrangement between Sanibel and Lee County, although Mrs. Butler reported that the county has pledged \$30,000 to the continuing development of the facility over the coming fiscal year which the city will not be required to match.

"That is at least a small plus for the taxpayers of Sanibel," Mrs. Butler commented.

Two areas in which Mrs. Butler's efforts toward equity for Sanibel taxpayers have failed this year are the budgets for Lee County's drainage and water control program and for the Lee County Sheriff's patrol.

In last year's budget, the MSTU's included allocations of \$250,000 for the Sheriff's patrol and \$390,000 for drainage and water control -- allocations which have been deleted from the MSTU's this year, meaning that those services are to be funded countywide.

"Our big concern is the Sheriff's patrol," Mrs. Butler said, "and by that we are only talking about the actual patrol work and not about the other services which the Sheriff renders to Island residents."

She indicated that the deletion of the Sheriff's patrol budget from the MSTU's this year was predicted on a recent Broward County court case in which the judge ruled that local

Sheriff's patrols should not be funded through MSTU's.

Mrs. Butler pointed out, however, that Broward is a charter county, while Lee County is not.

According to Vice-Mayor Butler, Sanibel taxpayers will pay 8.01 per cent of Lee County's ad valorem taxes for the coming fiscal year—a slight increase over last year's percentage occasioned by the recent reassessments of Sanibel property values undertaken by Lee County Tax Appraiser Harry Schooley.

Lee County Sheriff Frank Wanicka claims that Sanibel residents derive benefits from 6.3 per cent of his overall budget for routine patrol work, although only 1.6 per cent of his department's countywide arrests, 3.3 per cent of criminal investigations, and 3.3 per cent of all requests for assistance which his department receives come from Sanibel.

"These figures give you an idea of why we feel we are not getting our money's worth from the Sheriff's patrol," said Vice-Mayor Butler. "We feel that our own police department can do a more thorough job at less cost to the taxpayers and of greater benefit to the community."

Mrs. Butler cited one instance in which a Sheriff's deputy attempted to enforce a county lease law on Sanibel in direct contravention of the city's more lenient dog control policy.

"It proves that they are not familiar with our laws and our community," she said, "and this upsets people."

Despite the deletion of the Sheriff's patrol and the county's drainage program, there will be a slight increase in the overall dollar value of the services allocated to the MSTU's this year, Mrs. Butler reported.

Last year, a total of \$3,417,000 was allocated to the MSTU's, she said, as opposed to \$4,095,000 allocated to the MSTU's in the county's proposed budget for the coming fiscal year.

Vice-Mayor Butler revealed that the proposed MSTU allocations represent

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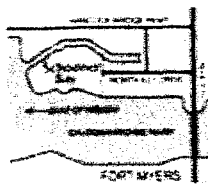
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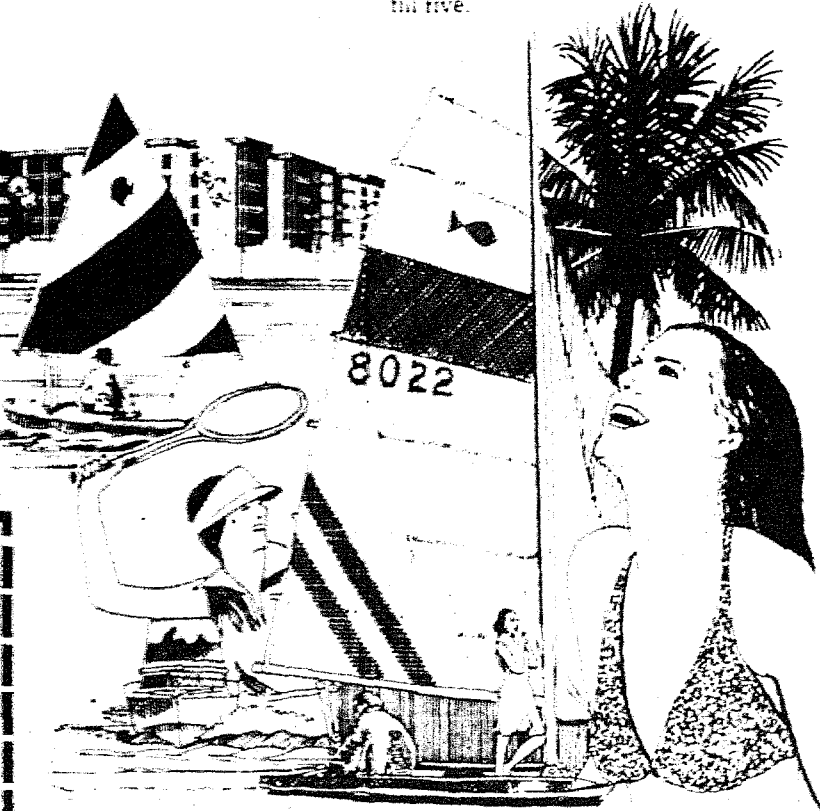
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dual taxes

from page 8

only .0687 per cent of this county's total budget for fiscal year 1977-78 an increase of only .001 per cent over the percentage of the county's overall budget funded through the MSTU's last year.

"It's a step in the right direction," Mrs. Butler commented with little enthusiasm. "At least we didn't go backward."

"As far as the City of Sanibel goes, I still don't believe that this is an equitable solution to our problem," she added, "but for the moment, I think it's the best we're going to do without going to court. And I don't recommend going to court at this time."

In light of the city's other priorities and numerous current legal headaches, the city council as a whole concurred with her recommendation at their meeting on September 12.

However, it means that county taxpayers living on Sanibel as well as those in Lee County's other municipalities will be bearing a heavier tax burden than other county taxpayers for the services they receive over the coming fiscal year.

"But I do not intend to stop fighting for an equitable solution," said Zee Butler optimistically, despite the seeming futility of her efforts over the past three years.

"We'll do it again next year," she concluded with a determined smile.

body sighted under causeway

The body of a nude male was spotted by a visiting Del Ray couple last Wednesday as it floated underneath the Causeway about 5:30 p.m. on the outgoing tide.

An unidentified truck driver also saw the body and Bob and Linda Rodrigue thought that when he left, he was on his way to report the occurrence.

When they checked with the Sanibel Police Department an hour later, they found out that no report had been filed, resulting in a subsequent delay of an hour and a half between the time the body was first spotted and the time that boats and choppers could be mobilized for the search.

When the units were activated, there was no sign of the man. A search the following day also proved fruitless.

The victim was described as a younger male with dark hair. Mr. Rodrigue said that, from the odor emanating from the corpse, it was his opinion that the body had been in the water at least a couple of days.

Chief Butler reported that no-one had been reported missing on the Islands.

Police were wondering if there could possibly be any connection between the victim and the incident bomb scare on the causeway Friday, Sept. 9. Without a body, however, that is all it can remain—speculation.

well drilling halted

On Sept. 15th the City of Sanibel issued a stop work order to the Mariner Pointe Condominium Association to halt work on a well being dug in violation of an unwritten city policy at the Mariner Pointe Condominium on Sextant Drive.

John Goode, director of the city's Department of Engineering and Public Services, hand-delivered the stop work order last Friday to Mariner Pointe Condominium Association Director Robert W. Taylor and to the foreman of H2O Systems, Inc. of Cape Coral, contractor for the project.

According to Goode, the order was issued primarily because the well digging was initiated without a required city development permit.

"Any work which alters the land of this island requires a

development permit," Goode said, adding that one other instance of illegal well drilling has been noted on Sanibel in the past few weeks.

Goode also indicated that the recent work at Mariner Pointe was done in violation of an unwritten city policy prohibiting the digging of any new deep wells on Sanibel because of the uncertainty over the adequacy of the Islands' potable water supply to meet future demands for water on Sanibel and Captiva.

"This policy was put into effect when we found we had a problem with the water," Goode explained.

Goode added that the work at Mariner Pointe had been halted shortly after the well drilling was commenced and that no damage had been done to the Island's water table.

He said that it was his understanding that the

well was being dug for irrigational uses, and that Mariner Pointe is already hooked into the Island Water Association (IWA) system.

"They can either continue watering their lawn with IWA water or let it go dry," Goode concluded.

Robert W. Taylor, a member of the Mariner Pointe Condominium Association's board of directors, said that work on the project was commenced pursuant to the advice of the Association's contractor, H2O Systems, Inc., who can find no city ordinances prohibiting well drilling on the Island.

"If they don't want any well drilling here, they ought to pass an ordinance to that effect," Taylor commented.

"I think our contractor is looking into it and I really don't know what's going to happen at this point," he said.

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first women EMT's in county now on the islands

Sanibel has added another to its growing list of "firsts". The first female medics in Lee county have been assigned to the Islands. Based on the success of the program on Sanibel, Capt. Terry Dillon, Operations Chief for Lee County Protective Services, told the ISLANDER that other female EMT's will be placed in other areas.

We chatted with one of the lady medics and it is not difficult to understand why Lee County Protective Services is proud of their first female medic contingent.

Nancy Jerz, 35, is one of the "pioneers" assigned to Sanibel. A bright and vivacious gal, Nancy applied to Lee Control (as Lee County Protective Services is more commonly known) in 1976. She had almost become an EMT in her home town of Buffalo, but went to school and practiced in cytology instead.

One problem in hiring female EMT's has been a physical one. All EMT's, regardless of sex, are required to pass the fireman's agility test and it is TOUGH. "That's one reason," Capt. Dillon said, "why we haven't been able to hire women before. They couldn't

pass the test."

"You have to be in pretty good shape," Nancy grins. "200 yards in 35 seconds isn't easy."

Either is a medic's schedule. They all work a 24-hour shift with 48 hours off. And they also go to school. An average work shift runs 56 hours per week.

Nancy is a trainee in the Emergency Medical Technician program and is going for the paramedic designation. Paramedics can administer certain drugs under a doctor's supervision. Sanibel is currently without that facility because their communications equipment is not powerful enough to reach Lee Memorial Hospital.

"Our main job," says Nancy, "is to stabilize and transport."

But there is a program underway for the installation of more sophisticated radio equipment in the ambulances before the onset of the winter tourist season.

Calls average about two hours each on Sanibel, according to Nancy, and she learns something from each call. "They range from strokes and heart attacks to miscarriages and, at this time of the year, heat exhaustion."

Nancy is the veteran of a seven-week old marriage to a Fort Myers policeman who is proud of her job.

"It helps that we are in related fields," Nancy said, "he even helps me study."

Nancy has ridden "shotgun" with her husband and there are plans for him to do the same with her so each gains an even better understanding of the other's job.

Lee Control has made some changes, apparently for the good. They used to rotate their medics; now medics are permanently assigned to a station. Nancy, for example, is permanently assigned to Sanibel.

"This is a help," she said. "We get to know the area, the people and the kind of problems that crop up."

(Ed. note: It makes sense to us; the best medic team in the world can't do any good if they get lost enroute.)

Nancy doesn't regard her job as a women's lib thing. "The important thing is if you like your job," she says, "carry your own load and you'll gain the men's respect. All the guys here have been really great." Fellow paramedic Ted Hogenson has shown Nancy a lot, and one can sense an easy professional rapport in the room as she speaks.

Nancy lives in Fort Myers and probably will continue to do so since her husband has his job in the city. But she doesn't mind the drive.

When not at work, the Jerz's are taking up raquetball (for him) and SCUBA diving (for her). They met when Nancy had a radio stolen and her husband was the investigating officer. The couple generally manages one day off together a week. Nancy also has a 15-year old son by a previous marriage.

The future of women in the EMT

program is wide open, thanks to the success of people like Nancy.

"In fact," says Terry Dillon, "we're looking for females as much as males. The fact that we didn't have women in the program before was due to the lack of qualified individuals stepping forward. There are openings."

Most girls hired have some medical background. Nancy says that she is able to keep her cytology experience current because of the cooperation of Dr. Wallace Graves, Lee County Medical Examiner.

Lee County Protective services has a well-deserved reputation for professionalism and dedication. The addition of the women to its staff like Nancy Jerz and her colleagues will, from all indications, do nothing but help make a good thing better.



Nancy Jerz demonstrates to the ISLANDER the proper techniques for bending and lifting a stretcher, providing that the "weaker" sex can indeed pull their own weight.

Emergency medical technician Nancy Jerz practices first aid techniques while waiting for a call to the real thing.

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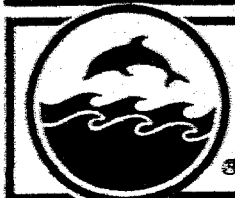
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new faces at Sanibel elementary school

Now that the new school year is three weeks along and classes have had time to settle into a routine learning environment, the ISLANDER thought it was high time to introduce the three new instructors at the Sanibel Elementary School this year, to the community at large.

Aside from Charles Wainright, the new principal at Sanibel Elementary, three new teachers have joined the excellent instructional staff at the Island's elementary school. They are:

Brenda O'Neil

Mrs. O'Neil, as her students in the fourth and fifth grades at Sanibel Elementary School call her, is an experienced educator whose specialty is in teaching of reading.

Last year, Brenda O'Neil was a special reading consultant for elementary education in the Charlotte County school system.

Prior to that time, she served in a variety of positions in all levels of education, including the role of consultant and supervisor at Lesley College in Cambridge,

Massachusetts, as well as in the role of consultant to the state Division of

"I just love working on Sanibel," said Brenda O'Neil after only three weeks in her new job. "I've found the children here to be extremely nice and I'm really looking forward to working with them this year."

"I'm relatively new to Lee County," she added, "and I'm very pleased to be working with Mr. Wainright and the staff here at Sanibel Elementary."

Linda Uhler

Mrs. Linda Uhler is the new first and second grade teacher at Sanibel Elementary School.

Linda Uhler is proud to report that she hails from eastern Pennsylvania, where she embarked upon her teaching career as a fifth grade teacher in Littlestown, Pennsylvania, for three years.

Since moving to Florida, Mrs. Uhler taught third grade for two years and sixth grade one year in the Osceola County School system. Last year, she taught first and third grades at the Beach Elementary School on nearby Fort Myers Beach.

"I really like working at Sanibel Elementary School," she said last



Linda Uhler

specialty is elementary education. "Right now we're studying animals, and I'd love to get some of the wildlife authorities on the Islands to come in and share their knowledge with the children."

Linda Uhler and her husband, an investment banker, are currently living in Fort Myers while awaiting the construction of their new Island home in Gumbo Limbo.

Peggy Wainright

Mrs. Peggy Wainright, a new media specialist and guidance counselor at Sanibel Elementary School, is the wife of the school's principal, Charles Wainright.

Mrs. Wainright has served in the role of media specialist at Edison Park Elementary School in Fort Myers for the past ten years, although she has previously had extensive classroom experience in public school systems in several Florida counties.

As media specialist at the Island Elementary school, she is responsible for managing the school's reading library as well as audio-visual materials and equipment, which represent her particular field of educational specialization.

In previous years, Sanibel Elementary School did not have a full-time librarian available to help the children check out books and materials five days a week. As a result, students could only use the school's library at limited given times during the week.

This year, Mrs. Wainright wants to encourage Island students to make free use of the school's library.

"The more they read, the happier I'll be," she said last week.

Peggy Wainright is also in charge of the gifted students program at Sanibel Elementary School, which she introduced to parents and students last week with the assistance of Jim Garrett of the Lee County Schools media center.

"What I would like to do in our program for gifted students is to get talented people from the Islands to instruct them in their individual areas of interest," she reported. "There's such a wealth of knowledge on these Islands to be shared with the children."

In the gifted students program, children who are interested in learning about the environment, for instance, will be given the opportunity to use the school's portable video-tape camera to film scenes of the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel as well as other nature sites on the Islands in order that their experience may be shared with other students in Lee County via the medium of closed circuit television, Mrs. Wainright explained.

In this capacity, Peggy Wainright will be helping Island students to prepare their special student productions to be entered in the Lee County Children's Film Festival, an event sponsored by the school system which will be judged in May.

"My job is to teach the children the procedures they need to follow in making their special productions," she said.

"I think that these are the kind of learning experiences that children will get excited about," Mrs. Wainright added.

"It's a big challenge to work in a small school where you can get to know the children personally and give them individual help," she continued.

The Wainrights are now living in Fort Myers, but like just about everyone else, they are looking forward to moving to the Islands as soon as they find the right house.

When asked how she likes her new job thus far, Peggy Wainright responded, "The children here are phenomenal. They're so well travelled and have had so many learning experiences which many children never get."

"I just love it," she concluded.



Peggy Wainright

Youth Services and the federal Department of Housing, Education and Welfare.

Additionally, she has had eight years of experience as an elementary school teacher, and has taught art for grades 1 through 12.

A strong advocate of recreation for young and old alike, Mrs. O'Neil has also served as director of girls' and women's recreational activities for the town of Branford, Connecticut.

When asked about her goals for her fourth and fifth grade students over the coming year, Mrs. O'Neil said, "I hope to help the children build a solid base in English and reading to prepare them for middle and high school."

"I think this is very important when you consider children's declining performance in reading skills all over the country," she continued. "A lot of children can read, but few of them seem to understand the meaning of what they read anymore."

"I also want to get into doing plays, book reports and using television equipment with our language arts program," she added.

Brenda O'Neil is the wife of Sanibel Building Inspector Frank O'Neil who has been employed by the city for the past year. The O'Neils are currently living in Fort Myers but hope to move to the Islands in the near future.

week. "It's a really nice school, and it's comparable to the first school I ever taught in, which was also very small. I enjoyed that experience very much."

"Also, I think this is a good group of children to work with," she added.

Over the coming year, Linda Uhler will be working with a new special program in the field of health education called the Seattle Model Program so named because it was developed in Seattle, Washington.

In the new program's application on Sanibel, Mrs. Uhler's students will study their senses and the way in which their organs of perception work to help them develop self-awareness and a good self concept, she said.

"Of course, the first graders will be starting to read, which is always an exciting experience for them," she added. "they're very enthusiastic about it already."

"I like to do a lot of fun-type learning experiences as we progress through the school year," Mrs. Uhler continued. "For instance, I'd like to cook with the children sometime, although there are no kitchen facilities here at the school."

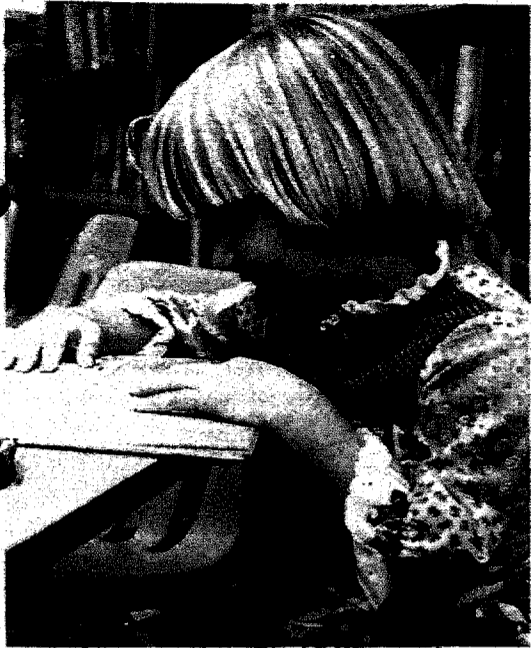
"We would also like to get the people of the community involved in our programs here at Sanibel Elementary," said Linda Uhler, whose



Brenda O'Neil

in your opinion...

how do you like being back in school?



I like it but I'm not even five yet. I like coloring - that's the best I like.
Heather Muench, kindergarten, age 4



Fine. My favorite things are reading and math. But what I like best is playing games and reading books.
Todd Noon - 3 rd grade, Age 8



Fine. My favorite thing is going outside because we get to play on the playground.
Randy Hale, 2nd grade, Age 7



I like it. I like Math. My favorite subject is art.
Janine Kelleher, 4th grade, age 9.



What I like about being back is getting a new cafeteria because we used to eat out with all the bugs and that was terrible.
Dina Knorr, 5th grade, age 9.



I like being back. I'm a good artist. Two times, I've had things in the art show in Pennsylvania - that's where I just moved from.
Tina Sherrow, 5th grade, age 10.



I like school because I like being away from home - I got sick of seeing the same old shows on T.V. plus I like being back with all my friends.
Peter Evans, 5th grade, age 10.

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police report

An Island resident called SPD last week to report a possible disturbance at the home of his neighbor. The complainant said that he believed there was some kind of trouble at the house because his neighbor did not answer the telephone.

Officers dispatched to the scene found only an enigmatic note affixed to the door which read, "Out to lunch—will be back later."

Upon learning this, complainant was reassured.

An Island samaritan came to the station last week bearing a wallet he had found containing \$16.58 and identification cards.

The wallet's owner, a female visitor, had already called SPD to report her loss and was delighted at its speedy return with her prodigious fortune still intact.

A disturbance broke out at an Island discotheque last week when a young Island buck had the effrontery to engage in dance with a young woman who was desired by another young Island buck.

The amorous dancer was somewhat surprised when his rival for the young lady's hand walked up and punched him soundly in the face, thereby rearranging his nose somewhat.

Upon arrival at the scene, patrolmen were quick to quell the disturbance, although no legal action was required as the injured dancer did not wish to press charges against his rival.

Islanders called SPD to complain of a noise disturbance occasioned by the operation of construction machinery on a Sunday.

While SPD could take no action at the time because

there are currently no city laws governing this type of disturbance, the city council has recently taken steps to prepare an ordinance to control noise pollution on Sanibel, which will undoubtedly give complainants of this type a little more weight to throw around.

SPD was called in to investigate a pot party in progress on the Island last week.

Details of the case are confidential as the matter involved juvenile offenders.

An Islander called SPD last week to complain of having received a number of obscene phone calls from an unknown caller soliciting homosexual entanglements.

At the direction of SPD, the complainant attempted to schedule a meeting with the lewd caller in order to determine his identity. This could not be arranged, although the complainant was able to obtain a telephone number where the mysterious caller could be reached. The number proved to be that of a pay phone on the Island.

Patrolmen were dispatched to stake out the pay phone, and ultimately an arrest was made and a man was charged with making obscene phone calls.

An Islander called the station to report speeding motorcycles on the Captiva side of Blind Pass Bridge.

As the alleged offenders were last seen on Captiva, Lee County Sheriff's officials were notified to give pursuit, and for SPD the case was closed.

An Islander called SPD last week to complain of persons trespassing on private property, but before

patrolmen could answer the call, the complainant called back to report that the trespassers had departed.

Which only goes to show that if you are inclined to trespassing, you had best do it quickly and be satisfied therefore.

An Island condominium dweller phoned the station to report that the door to her apartment had been forced open while she was out, although nothing was found to be missing upon her return.

SPD promised to step up surveillance in the area hereafter.

An Islander reported the theft of his boat trailer valued at \$750 from his place

of business last week.

County Sheriff's officials were notified and the search proceeds apace.

The manager of an Island golf course called SPD last week to report that unknown vehicles have taken to trespassing on the links at night, thereby marring some of the fairways.

SPD took prints of the unwanted tire tracks from the golf course and advised the complainant to erect "No trespassing" signs in the area, while at the same time promising to patrol in the vicinity of the course more frequently.

Complainant called back the following night to complain of patrolmen

teeing off at the golf course which they were asked to observe, which, it should be noted, is this reporter's idea of a joke. Yuk yuk yuk.

Sorry folks, but some weeks these reports are duller than others, and you can hardly blame a well-meaning reporter for trying to spice up a dull story. Well can you?

Don't answer that.

An Island citizen called SPD to complain that two large dogs had chased his family down the beach last week in menacing fashion.

The upshot of the matter was that the owner of the unruly dogs finally took his pets home for a hearty meal of raw meat.

At last count, Sanibel patrolmen escorted three large trucks across the Islands last week, secured five insecure premises, answered two defective burglar alarms, issued one speeding ticket, investigated three traffic accidents, assisted in one confidential domestic matter and the return of one lost dog, and answered seven miscellaneous calls for assistance on the Islands.

Emergency medical technicians answered five calls for assistance on the Islands last week, while the Sanibel Fire Department was called into action four times.

All told, it was a slower than average week for both SPD and this reporter.

SPECIAL NOTICE:

The Captiva Erosion Prevention District Commission announces that, until further notice, the Board will meet at the Captiva Island Association building, starting at 4:00 p.m., on the first Tuesday of Each Month. Workshop meetings will be held on the third Tuesday of each month, with the meeting place determined at the regular monthly meeting.

s: Max McCord, Chairman, CEPD



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mind the step by ruth hunter

Ed. note: The following is the second part in a continuing series of articles written by Ruth Hunter describing their fascinating summer trip to Great Britain in search of material to present for the upcoming season at The Pirate Playhouse. We hope you enjoy it as much as we did.)

Three days out at sea, and we were sitting in our deck chairs crossing the Atlantic Ocean. Among the 700 or so passengers, I had grown quite fond of the young girl sitting beside me, "Meredith".

She said "I've only been to one place in Florida and that was because we visited with one of my mother's good friends. Her daughter and I were chums when we were small." "And where was that?" I asked. "Sanibel Island! and my mother's friend is Zee Butler and she is so proud of her because she's a councilwoman." "Well" I told Meredith, "Mrs. Butler's daughter, your childhood friend is extremely talented - a gifted pianist." "We are all fond of little "Zee".

There were so many interesting passengers aboard the Lermontov. Our table companions were a French couple who were returning to France after five years of teaching in Missoula Montana and they often attended Missoula's beautiful Wilma theater where I once played in vaudeville. Andre was very handsome and kept a clarinet which he played in his cabin. Jacqueline wore a long braid. Together with the other couple Paul and Marsha, we six had a whale of a time, telling stories, trading portions (Paul could never get enough cheese which he had mountains of at breakfast time), and sometimes singing. Andre sang in French which sounds most attractive.

The waitresses never smiled. As a matter of fact, none of the Russians on the ship ever laughed. A stewardess did once at my pronunciation of Russian good morning, "Dubra-Utra".

All the shipboard crew performed on two evenings. Never, never have I experienced such talent. The male

singer Leonid was a combination of Caruso and Mario Lanza. The leading lady vocalist, did tricks with her magnificent voice. She sang too, in Russian but it made no difference, one couldn't understand the words, yet you felt the heartache and the tragedy, the sadness of the Russian people.

I think she waited on passengers in the ship's shop, which had a raffle, one dollar a chance. A Russian fur coat was top prize.

the musical program read "Sintsev plays clarinet and saxophone, Tatyana Davidowva plays piano Nina Petrova plays harp and Kokovkina and Vladimir danced as I never saw a couple dance the like before. Michael Gray, an Englishman with whom we had some delightful evening times, had said "Wait till you see the evening entertainment". He was right - KOHILEP THAR IIPORPAMMA was a terrific show. In the morning little Anya served us our breakfast. I told her how fascinated we were with her the night before in her white chiffon playing the balalakai, along with a Russian mime in a black velvet costume that fit him like a banana peel. In fact, all the costumes were out of this world; gold embroidered, velvet, stenciled, applicaed, etc.

the M.S. Lermontov was built in East Germany and she was named for a Russian poet, Michail Lermontov, a bust of him stands on a pedestal at the entrance of the ballroom. Lermontov - (1814-1841)

Michail, the Russian wrote:
And with a secret heartfelt sadness
I thought, 'How pitiable is man,
What does he lack! Clear shines the sky
Beneath the sky there's room to spare
for
All men. And yet unceasingly he wages
war-why? "Wherefore?"

The Captain's farewell party is always very gay on any ship with flaming Alaska etc, but the Russians go all out. The Entertainment officer with a Neptune crown carried a gold trident. It took three to tote a replica of the ship on a big silver platter (I imagine they froze this because this ship cake wasn't

served at dinner), and then a parade of all the chefs (I think 45), the waiters and waitresses...to a magnificent Russian march, played by the ship's orchestra.

Though all the lights were out each member played his instrument as he walked, the rest carried big lighted torches. I wondered what Michail, the poet would have thought could he have seen it for he must have been a most gentle quiet man to have written the Cossack Lullabye:

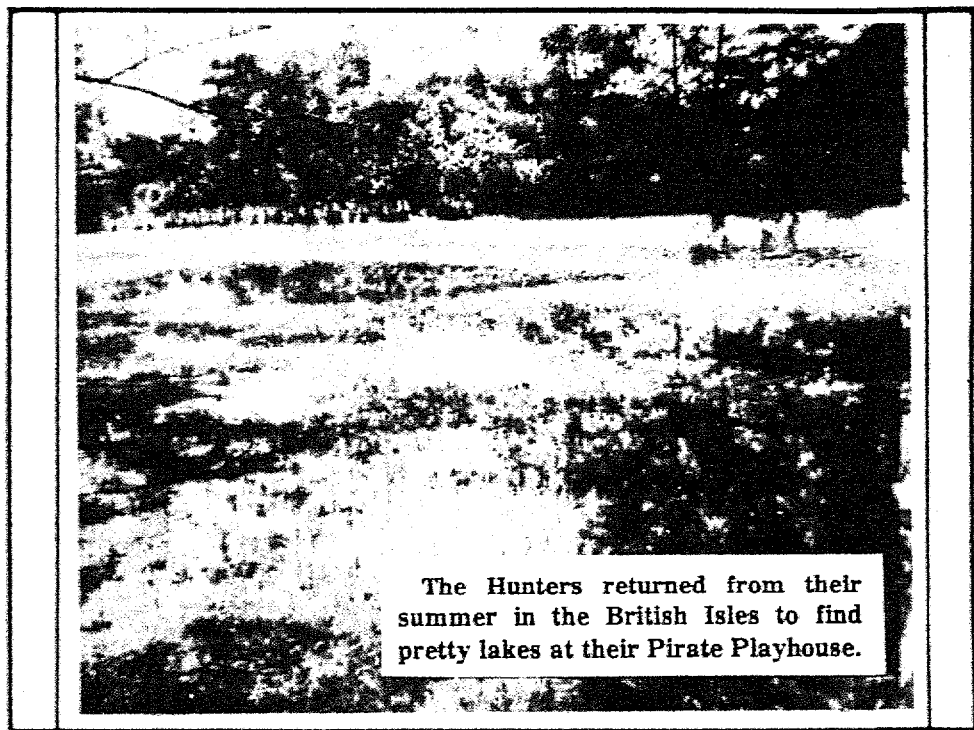
"Sleep my darling, sleep my baby
Close your eyes and sleep
Darkness comes; into your cradle
Moonbeams shyly peep.
Many pretty songs I'll sing you

And a lullabye
Pleasant dreams the night will bring
you...

Sleep dear, rock-a-bye.
And from the "Cross atop a Cliff"
"If I could but climb to the top of the
steep,
What prayers would I chant there and
how I would weep!"

there were lectures about Russian life which we were invited to attend, if we wished. "How come you named your ship after Lermontov" I asked, "He speaks of God many times in his works".

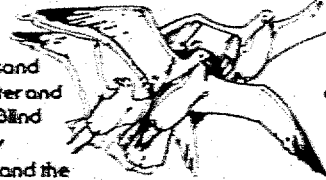
"That was a long time ago" the Russian speaker said, "I am not a believer!"



The Hunters returned from their summer in the British Isles to find pretty lakes at their Pirate Playhouse.

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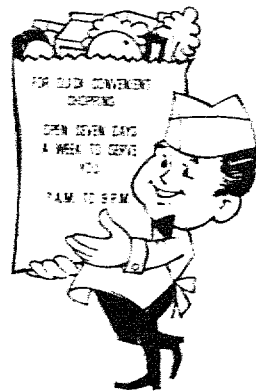
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municipal records

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND BURGEONING

Thanks to a widespread plea for support of the Sanibel Environmental Defense Fund circulated recently by a group of Island residents calling themselves the Sanibel Support Group, the Environmental Defense Fund is growing rapidly, city officials reported last week.

From a cash balance of only \$1,833, the fund has recently grown to a whopping sum of \$42,677.99 including a number of shares of Colgate-Palmolive and other valuable stock, according to City Clerk Mildred Howze.

Miss Howze said that the recent efforts of the Sanibel Support Group yielded about \$19,792 in cash donations for the fund, with contributions having come from friends of Sanibel in 29 states, the District of Columbia and Canada.

Responsible for the valuable work of the Sanibel Support Group are Admiral and Mrs. Carlos Gardeza, Anina Hills Glaize, Charlotte P. Heimann, Arthur T. Hunter, Leonard Lesser, Robert S. Maurer and Chairman Ed Underhill.

The Environmental Defense Fund is employed by the young city in defending Sanibel's comprehensive land use plan from the numerous legal challenges which have come forward in the past few years.

"We are very grateful for people's confidence and faith in the City of Sanibel," said Councilman Duane White last week.

ROCKS RESIDENTS CONCERNED OVER PARKING PROPOSAL

City officials revealed last week that their proposal to permit limited parking at certain public beach accesses along West Gulf Drive has elicited objections and concern from residents of the area, most notably from the Rocks Civic Association.

It was complaints from the Rocks residents and other Islanders living along West Gulf Drive over the parking abuses committed by day-trippers along the residential street that forced the city to prohibit public parking in the area last winter. Other Islanders, however, have recently asked the city to open up some limited parking along the road to enable

them to enjoy the beach in that area.

Thus, the city is currently trying to determine the locations of dedicated public easements to the beach along West Gulf Drive in order to institute a pilot parking experiment there.

Last week, City Manager Bill Nungester assured concerned Islanders that the city will erect "Parking Permitted" signs only at dedicated public easements to the beach, and that limited parking along the road will be closely regulated by Island policemen in the attempt to avoid the type of problems that arose last winter.

According to Sanibel Mayor Porter Goss, the city has also written to officials of Boynton Beach, Florida, for a copy of the parking control ordinance currently in effect there, which, Goss said, includes a system by which parking stickers are issued to area residents to enable them to use local beaches without being subject to the restraints placed upon visitor parking.

Many Islanders have long proposed a similar system to regulate beach parking on Sanibel.

GROWTH CONTROL A TOP PRIORITY FOR SANIBEL

The Sanibel Planning Commission was to have met yesterday in a special workshop session to continue their deliberations in regard to developing a formula to control the rate of growth in the rapidly growing Island city.

Among other problems exacerbated by continuing development of the Island, a limited water supply and grossly inadequate traffic circulation network have received close attention from city planners in their efforts to formulate a phased development policy for Sanibel.

Their efforts are geared to working up a formula under which only a given number of new dwelling units would be permitted within a given length of time to enable vital public support systems to keep pace with the growth of the Island.

"I think it's become crystal clear that at some point we are going to have to adopt a way to control the rate of growth," said Sanibel Mayor Porter Goss during the city council's meeting on September 12.

"I suspect that it will be a volatile issue,"

Goss added.

"I think we should take immediate steps to cope with this alarming problem on an emergency basis," urged Councilman Duane White.

The council directed the planning commission to give the highest priority to the job of formulating a phased development policy for the city council to consider. Commission Chairman Ann Winterbotham said that she hopes the commission's recommendation in this regard will be ready for presentation to the city council by November 1.

The council is to continue their consideration of a rate of growth formula for Sanibel at their meeting today, September 20, in MacKenzie Hall.

MAYOR PROCLAIMS CONSTITUTION WEEK

At the city council's meeting on September 12, Sanibel Mayor Porter Goss signed a proclamation calling for all citizens of Sanibel to participate in the observance of Constitution Week, as requested by the Caloosa Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Thus, the week of September 17 through September 23 has been proclaimed Constitution Week on Sanibel in observance of the 119th anniversary of the adoption of the United States Constitution.

Members of the Caloosa Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution were present at last week's meeting to thank Mayor Goss and accept the proclamation.



In a brief ceremony last week in MacKenzie Hall, Sanibel Mayor Porter Goss proclaimed the week of Sep-

tember 17-23 as Constitution Week on Sanibel in recognition of the adoption of the United States Constitution.

con't on next page



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CITY MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE CREATED

In recent weeks, the Sanibel City Council has created a new city advisory committee to provide them with advice on the management of Sanibel's marine resources.

Councilman Charles LeBuff is ex-officio member of the new committee, which has been dubbed the Marine Advisory Committee.

On the basis of LeBuff's recommendation, the city council voted unanimously last week to appoint Islanders Ralph Woodring, Ted Cole, Clark Newcombe, Fritz Stoppelbein, and Mary Barnes of Pine Island to the new committee.

As of the city council's meeting last week, all but Ralph Woodring had accepted the appointment.

According to Councilman LeBuff, the committee will hold its first meeting later this month.

FEES PROPOSED FOR AMENDMENT PROCESSING

At their meeting on September 12, the Sanibel City Council heard a proposal to establish fees for the processing of specific and general amendments to the city's comprehensive land use plan.

According to City Manager Bill Nungester, the city's administrative costs involved in processing applications for amendments to Sanibel's land use plan are considerable.

Therefore, Nungester recommended that the city council adopt an ordinance establishing a fee of \$125 for processing each application for a specific amendment to the plan, and \$175 for each general amendment to enable the city to recover some of the cost

of administering the plan.

Vice-Mayor Zee Butler suggested that the city charge fees of \$150 and \$200 for the service as those fees would come closer to the city's true cost of processing amendment applications, according to Nungester's calculations.

"I would rather undercharge than overcharge for the service," Nungester responded, and the council as a whole ultimately agreed with him.

The proposed ordinance was referred to the city planning commission for review before it comes up for an official first reading before the city council.

WULFERT SUIT ASSIGNED TO FEDERAL COURT

City Attorney Neal Bowen reported last week that the lawsuit of Sanibel Bayshore Associates vs. the City of Sanibel over the density allocated to the firm's holdings on Wulfert Point has been reassigned to the Federal District Court in Tampa.

The case, originally filed in circuit court, has been assigned to Federal District Judge Ben Krentzman, Bowen said.

The city was granted a 40-day extension of the deadlines for filing a response to the charges outlined in the suit, Bowen added, with the city's response now due toward the end of this month.

ALL SIGNS MUST BE REGISTERED BY THURSDAY

By this Thursday, September 22, all advertising and other signs displayed in the City of Sanibel must be registered in city hall to comply with the provisions of the city's new Street Graphic Ordinance.

According to City Manager Bill

Nungester, there were about fifty signs on Sanibel which had not been registered with the city as of last week.

Nungester said that the 90-day registration period provided in the new ordinance will expire this Thursday, and that thereafter, all holders of unregistered graphics will be cited and taken to court on a violation charge.

As non-enforcement was the most common complaint aimed at Sanibel's former Sign Ordinance, it is reasonable to assume that city officials will be strict in their enforcement of the new Street Graphic Ordinance.

CONTROL OF NOISE POLLUTION REQUESTED

Last week, the Sanibel City Council moved with unanimity to direct City Attorney Neal Bowen to begin work on the preparation of an anti-noise pollution ordinance for Sanibel.

The move came after Vice-Mayor Zee Butler and Councilman Duane White reported that they have received numerous complaints of late concerning loud disturbances occasioned by construction crews working at odd hours of the day and night.

In particular, it seems that many Islanders have been disturbed by loud transistor radios and tape decks employed by early-bird construction workers to get them through their days, as well as by the noise produced by large trucks hauling construction materials to Island building sites during early morning and late evening hours.

Thus, the city council directed Bowen to draft an ordinance to control noise pollution which might interfere with Islanders' rest and tranquility.

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT RESIGNS

City officials announced recently that city Administrative Assistant Charles Kline has submitted a resignation which will become effective before the end of the month.

Kline, who has worked for the city under the auspices of the Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) program, has been employed as Sanibel's administrative assistant since November of 1975.

As a result of Kline's resignation, City Manager Bill Nungester said that he has stepped up his efforts to hire an assistant to the city manager, a position which has been vacant since early this year.



City Administrative Assistant Charles Kline recently handed in his resignation. Kline has worked for the city since November, 1975.

con't on next page

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Captina Island

municipal records

ISLANDER OBJECTS TO MIDDLE GULF DRIVE EXTENSION

At the city council's meeting on September 12, Islander Charlotte P. Heimann appeared during the time allotted for public inquiry on the agenda to register what she called a "class objection" to the city's efforts to extend Middle Gulf Drive north to Casa Ybel Road, thereby making it a through street linking previously unconnected sections of Gulf Drive.

A resident of Sunset South Condominium on Middle Gulf Drive, Mrs. Heimann objected vehemently to the city's Gulf Drive extension project last week primarily because it will transform Middle Gulf Drive, currently a heavily populated residential street, into a collector road bearing an even heavier burden of visitor traffic.

Saying that this was the first time she has ever gone on record as opposed to the city's actions, Mrs. Heimann informed the council that Middle Gulf Drive is already "a speedway," while asking the city not to increase traffic on the road for the sake of the many neighborhood youngsters who play in the vicinity of the street.

She also pointed out that Middle Gulf Drive should not be opened up as an alternate evacuation route to Periwinkle Way because the road would be subject to early flooding from nearby canals as well as the

Gulf in times of hurricane conditions. She suggested that the city investigate the possibility of using Parkview Drive, a less populous street to the north of Middle Gulf Drive, to connect Tulipa Way, on the east, with Casa Ybel Road.

"I know you have a problem with traffic," she told the council. "It just doesn't seem like you've investigated enough alternatives."

Mrs. Heimann added that although many other residents of the area are opposed to the project, she has had little success with gaining her neighbors' support for her protest. She threatened to sit in front of the bulldozers when work begins on clearing the right of way for the planned road extension.

Work was to have begun on the project around September 19, she said, although City Manager Bill Nungester reported that the project will be delayed because an "unknown person" recently removed the stakes which had been placed along the future alignment of the road by city engineers.

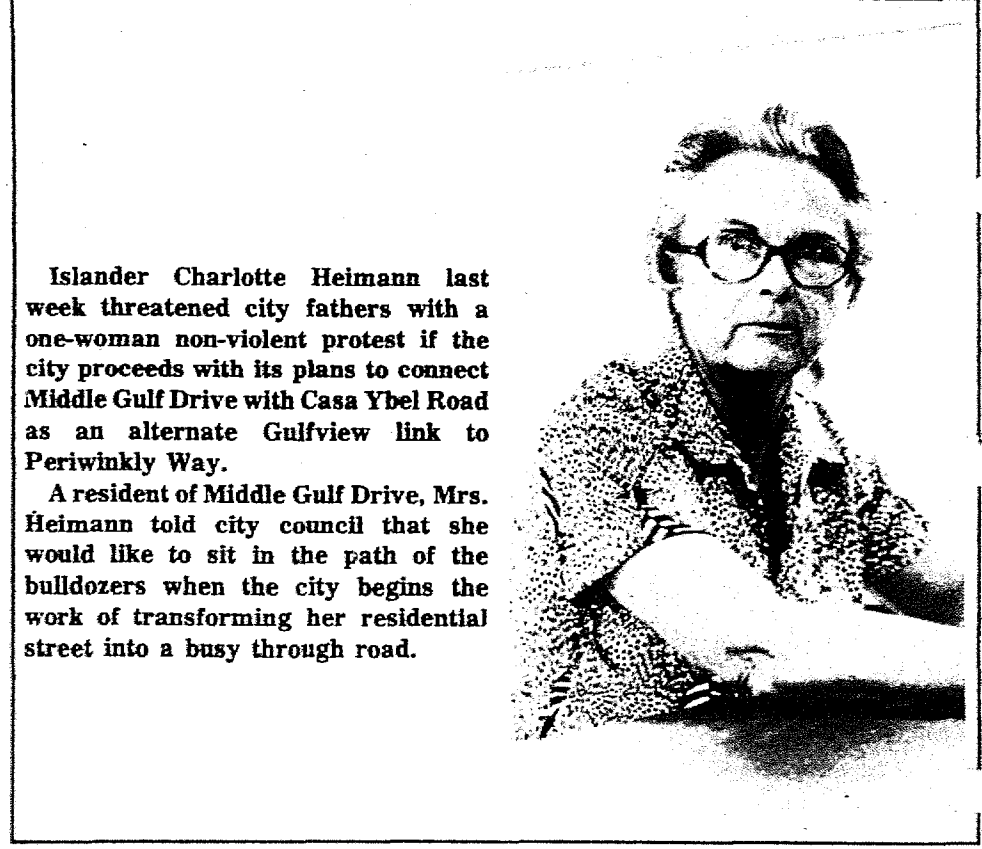
Finally, Mrs. Heimann asked that if the project proceeds as planned, the city allow no truck traffic on Middle Gulf Drive.

"This is the first objection I've ever heard to this," said Councilman Francis Bailey, who claimed that plans to complete the Gulf Drive loop have been in the mill for almost fifteen years. "I'm really surprised."

"I think every road on this Island is going

to experience increased traffic in the coming year," said Mayor Porter Goss apologetically.

Ultimately, the city council promised to take Mrs. Heimann's concerns under advisement.

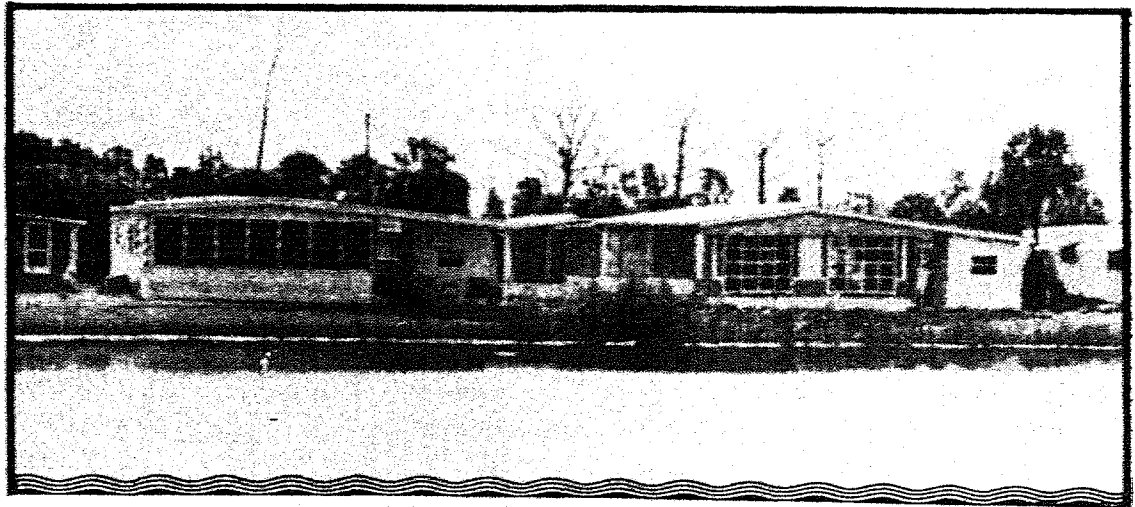


Islander Charlotte Heimann last week threatened city fathers with a one-woman non-violent protest if the city proceeds with its plans to connect Middle Gulf Drive with Casa Ybel Road as an alternate Gulfview link to Periwinkle Way.

A resident of Middle Gulf Drive, Mrs. Heimann told city council that she would like to sit in the path of the bulldozers when the city begins the work of transforming her residential street into a busy through road.

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"OLD CEMETERY" TO BE DEEDED TO CITY

At long last, the city Historic Preservation Committee's efforts to acquire title to the old cemetery off Casa Ybel Road are on the point of bearing fruit.

City Manager Bill Nungester reported recently that Messrs. Howard Dayton Sr. and Jr., owners of the property, have agreed to dedicate the old cemetery to the city.

Nungester said that Johnson Engineering has prepared a legal description of the property, while City Attorney Neal Bowen is at work on drawing up the necessary documents to transfer title of the cemetery to Sanibel's municipal corporation.

SUNDIAL SETTLEMENT SIGNED

Sanibel Vice-Mayor Zee Butler reported
con't. on next page

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last week that Circuit Judge Jack Schoonover has signed into law a stipulated settlement between the City of Sanibel and Sundial Associates Ltd. to bring an end to the litigation between the two parties.

The Sundial group won an early circuit court battle when the city tried to halt work at the site of their Sundial Beach Resort on Middle Gulf Drive, but the city subsequently appealed that decision. The completion of the Sundial development has been a subject of negotiations between the two parties for much of the past year.

The recently enacted settlement entitles the developers to build an additional 186 dwelling units at the Sundial Resort, while the city has agreed to drop their appeal of the original circuit court decision in favor of Sundial.

In return, the developers have agreed to remove all footers and other partial construction which exists seaward of Sanibel's coastal construction setback line, and to complete the additional development at the resort in full compliance with the performance standards mandated by Sanibel's comprehensive land use plan.

COUNCIL HEARS NUMEROUS AMENDMENT PROPOSALS

At their regular meeting on September 12, the Sanibel City Council considered a variety of specific and general amendments which have been proposed for adoption into Sanibel's comprehensive land use plan.

Among others, the council heard a first reading of a general amendment to the land plan proposed by the Virginia South Corporation to permit the development of 143 building lots on their 70-acre parcel running between West Gulf Drive and Sanibel-Captiva Road west of Rabbit Road, which is known as the Sea Oats Subdivision.

According to the development intensity allocated to Sea Oats in the city's land use plan, the developers would be entitled to a density of only 16 units for the entire 70-acre tract, although city Planning Director Carleton Ryffel has proposed an alternate solution which would enable the group to develop 33 dwelling units on their property.

Virginia South President Charles H. Smith and attorney William T. Haverfield requested that the council consider the transitional nature of the case in making their decision with respect to Sea Oats,

although there was some dispute last week over whether the development was commenced before or after Sanibel's incorporation in November of 1974.

Smith and Haverfield contended that the city discriminated against Sea Oats in drawing up Sanibel's land use plan, as the modern platted subdivision is allocated a maximum density of .7 units per acre as opposed to the 2.2 density allocated to other modern platted subdivisions on the Island.

The case is slated for a second and final action by the council on October 18.

In another hearing last week, the council entertained a first reading of a general amendment introduced by the city planning commission to correct the permitted uses map contained in the plan as it relates to areas of the Island which are more than fifty per cent built out as single-family neighborhoods.

The amendment was prepared after residents of the Rocks area along West Gulf Drive discovered that the plan's permitted uses map would have allowed duplex and multi-family housing to be constructed in their neighborhood.

Thus, an amendment was drawn up to

exclude duplex and multi-family housing from areas of the Island which are allocated a density of less than 3 units per acre in the comprehensive land use plan, as well as from all modern platted subdivisions which are more than fifty per cent built out as single-family neighborhoods.

In effect, the adoption of the amendment will mean that only single-family housing will be permitted in the Gulf Beach Ridge zone west of the West Wind Inn.

Councilman Duane White voiced reservations about the amendment last week, asking if the city's discrimination against duplex and multi-family housing will be legally defensible if challenged in court.

"I predict that if we pass this amendment we are writing the first branch into the plan that is going to get sawed off by the courts," White argued.

"It seems to me that we're just asking for trouble," agreed Councilman Francis Bailey.

According to City Attorney Neal Bowen, the proposed amendment verges on a "grey area" of land use planning law—an area for which no legal precedents exist.

"I strongly support this amendment," said mayor Porter Goss. "I think it's very

important because it seems to me that at least a part of this community should consist of only single-family development."

Goss revealed that both the Rocks Civic Association as well as the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council have submitted letters in support of the proposed amendment, which is scheduled for a second reading and possible adoption by the city council at 5:01 p.m. on September 27.

The council also voted unanimously on September 12 to adopt a number of specific amendments intended to clarify and correct certain inconsistencies and problem areas in the land use plan.

Foremost among them was a specific amendment realigning the commercial zone boundaries outlined in the land plan and adopting a set of modified Lee County tax maps as city base maps for the commercial zone designations.

In other hearings at last week's meeting, the council voted unanimously to approve a specific amendment to the plan requested by Claire and E. W.P. Smith to permit the construction of an addition to an existing single-family home at 220 Hurricane Lane in Kern's subdivision.



Sanibel Softball Association Summer Schedule

POSITION WEEK

| Teams | Teams |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 20th — 5- 6 Women | 21st — 5- 6 Men |
| 22nd — 3- 4 Women | 23rd — 3- 4 Men |
| 25th — 1- 2 Women | 25th — 1- 2 Men |

position week: numbers indicate position not the team name.

Key of number denoting TEAM NAMES

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. WEST WIND INN | 8. SOUTH SEAS |
| 2. KIWANIS | 9. FOXES |
| 3. NAVE PLUMBING | 10. ANGLES |
| 4. IWA | 11. LIONS (WOMEN) |
| 5. LIONS | 12. E.S.I. |
| 6. TIMMY NOOK | 13. SEA HORSES |
| 7. WEEDS AND THINGS | 14. CEDER CHEST |



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outdoors

field notes

by fleur weymouth

Did you ever see your dinner walk into the diningroom? That's what the Sparkes family saw last Tuesday when their raccoon George stole the three pound ham from their refrigerator and walked into the room with the ham in his mouth.

George belongs to John Sparkes of Captiva, son of Jack and Helaine Sparkes. He was found when he was only a few days old at South Seas Plantation, right by the main pool; he'd fallen out of a coconut palm. He was very skinny and dehydrated. Two other brothers fell out of the tree too. One was found dead. One found another home.

George was brought to John Sparkes who had always wanted a raccoon. John fed him on warm milk and honey and, later, dogfood, and within a month, George looked very different, and very healthy. He's now between three and four months old and thriving.

His home is part of a hollow Royal Palm in the Sparkes' yard. There's a wire door at one end and, at the other end, one of Jack Sparkes' three foot by three foot by six foot pinfish traps with a wooden floor in it. George can go in and out all day, and when he gets hungry, he hits the little bell dangling from the top for "room service." He rings it most of the day," says John. "He eats three meals a day and he eats all the time in between."

George is normally a night creature, but he gets so much attention daytimes from friends and family that the only time he can sleep is at night!

He takes a midday nap with John's mother, Helaine. John says George hogs the pillow.

Though his house is outdoors, he spends a lot of his time indoors with the Sparkes. When asked if he was housetrained, an embarrassed look came over John's face. "Well," he said

"I can tell when George needs to go out—he either runs around looking for a door or looks bug-eyed."

George would rather chew on feet than watch television. He can't make it up a palm tree all the way yet—he chickens out about half-way up. He also can't figure out how to eat a whole fish yet. Jack gave him one, one day, and George pulled it under the house and tried to figure it out and then left it. The Sparkes have on African date tree and two Canary Island dates. Raccoons don't like the dates that drop to the ground, said John; they prefer to go straight to the top and pick them fresh.

I first met George when John had taken him to Dr. Phyllis Douglas to get his second distemper shot. George draped himself around John's shoulders in the waiting room and chewed on his nose. They are each obviously very fond of one another.

George likes dinner parties, too, and he is introduced to the Sparkes' guests when they arrive. However, when they sit down to dinner, he likes to climb legs at the table — people legs — so he is deposited into his Royal Palm tree trunk before the meal begins.

John is busy teaching George about wild foods he can eat and he will release George when he is mature. Actually, George is free to come and go as he pleases, but John says he never

leaves the boundary of their yard. Except once: he followed John's brother Bill when he walked to the Island Store one day. Bill didn't realize George was tagging along, and George was later found on the steps of the store, moaning and groaning.

Thanks to John, George survived to become a beautiful young raccoon. The Sparkes' have a year 'round home on Captiva, and when George is on his own one day, he'll probably find it very easy to get a free handout from his friends now and then.



"George" and John Sparkes



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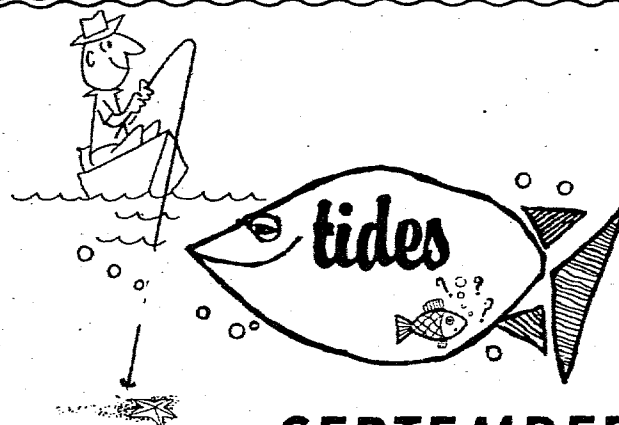
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SEPTEMBER

| | | | | | | |
|-----|----|----|------------|---------------|--------------|------------|
| Tue | 20 | ** | 5:17 AM H | 2:25 PM L | --- | --- |
| Wed | 21 | ** | 6:47 AM H | 3:52 PM L | 10:54 PM H | --- |
| Thu | 22 | | 2:49 AM L | * 8:26 AM H | 4:57 PM L | 11:22 PM H |
| Fri | 23 | | 4:17 AM L | ** 9:52 AM H | 5:50 PM L | 11:43 PM H |
| Sat | 24 | | 5:28 AM L | ** 11:01 AM H | 6:28 PM L | --- |
| Sun | 25 | * | 12:05 AM H | 6:17 AM L | * 11:57 AM H | 7:05 PM L |
| Mon | 26 | * | 12:23 AM H | 6:59 AM L | * 12:45 PM H | 7:32 PM L |

Tides courtesy of THE REAL EEL - Herb (Skip) Purdy

Conversion table: The above tides are for the lighthouse point of Sanibel only. To convert for Redfish Pass (north tip of Captiva), add 55 minutes to the time shown for every hi-tide, subtract two (2) minutes for every low tide. (NO, we don't know why, but it works. Instructions following are even less sense-sical but as we stated, they do work.)

For Captiva Island, Gulf side, subtract 30 minutes from each high tide, and subtract 1 hour and 16 minutes for each low tide.

For Captiva Island, Pine Island Sound (Bay) side, add 1 hour and four (4) minutes for each high tide, and add 52 minutes for each low tide.

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LICENSED GUIDE

CAPT. HERB PURDY

472-1849

on the water

by mike fuery

For some reason, the dock area at Tween Waters Marina seems to draw some of the most unusual birds I could imagine. Of course every dock which has a fish cleaning table is like a magnet for pelicans, but we have a zany pair this time.

It wasn't long ago that the marina somehow became the adopted home to two fledgling flyers of the pelican family. They have kept us learning and laughing since their mysterious arrival.

Both birds are youngsters and neither were able to fly when we first noticed them. One had suffered a broken leg. They were dedicated walking birds, with neither one displaying any desire to fly, let alone cope with the problem of landing.

It wasn't long before the pair figured out that the funny looking box at the end of the dock contained bait fish. Then the lid of the box was opened the pair would waddle up, bills open, giving their baby calls for food. They generally came away with a fish or two.

Then a week or so after their arrival, I

looked up one day when I heard a woman who was fishing call out for help. The two beggars got between her and the end of the dock. She had the fish and you can guess who were intently in pursuit of the scaled creatures flopping around on the dock. The woman thought that the birds were after her when one of the little fellas reached out his bill and nipped her on the leg.

They were herded off the dock, but we have had other incidents like this happen. The pelican has a hook at the end of the bill which can cause some alarm if you got a good hard bite, but these fellas only clamp their bills on a hand or arm, and are quite confused when the clampee doesn't respond with food and kind words.

We realized that a time was fast approaching when no more handouts could be made to the pair. You have to remember that these two didn't fly when they came. Now, with coaxing from the staff at the marina, they both can somewhat soar, but with none of the grace of their older counterparts.

Landings are something for the eyes to see. And sometimes it's best not to

watch. I've seen these two crash into each other, the docks, fall off boats and walk backwards off the dock. Perhaps it's their injuries when younger, but grace is not in abundance.

The other day one was attempting to perfect his diving. So far the highest it has gone is six feet, that from the top of a piling. It sits there on the piling, bill aimed down, intently studying the water. About once an hour, just for looks, it dives in. So far the fish haul is slim, but it's learning.

After one of these hunt-and-peck fishing trips, pelican number one landed back on the piling just seconds before number two was due to touch down. There they were, one on top of the other, totem pole fashion until they both fell off.

If there is one lesson we have learned from the two youngsters, it is that when people get into the act and disrupt the natural habits of hunting and feeding, we eventually do them a real disservice.

Free lunches turn wild birds into pests in many instances. It's difficult to stop visitors from wanting to feed the birds, but when the lean fishing months arrive, or a bad winter storm keeps fishermen in, then these birds gather, waiting at the docks for fish scraps.

Day by day now, the two are seen less and less around the docks. Sure, they still sit on the bait box when around, but finally they are learning to fly and fish for themselves. There for a time we thought the two would never learn to fly and had planned to walk the rest of their lives.



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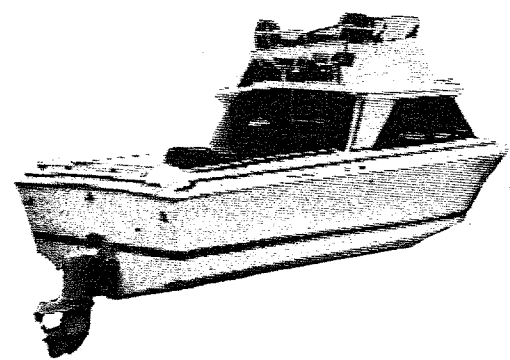
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Canada candidly by lorraine ashford

Labor Day weekend is traditionally Canada's good bye to summer. There is already a hint of fall in the air, even if the sun is warm. My devoted husband of 30 years agreed with me that we should invite friends for dinner on the holiday Monday.

It would surely be a nice day and the adults could sit out and sip something long and cold while their 2 little boys, aged six and four, could play ball or frisbee or whatever little boys do these days. I planned a cold buffet and looked forward to the activities.

Like most women, I have appliances on which I depend greatly and if one is to show signs of ailing, my first reaction is to reach for a phone and a repairman. My husband, on the other hand, is convinced if erroneously that most repairmen are, at best, overpriced mechanics and, at worst, legalized unarmed robbers.

The Friday before the holiday, my dishwasher flooded the kitchen carpet. "Never mind," said my beloved, "I will look at it." So, on Sat. while I peeked through my fingers, he took the machine apart and with a little twist of the lower agitator and a seal of electric tape on the rinse dispenser (where the plug had fallen out) the machine was operable again and my husband was delighted at keeping the repairman from the door.

That same day, he emptied a bucket of dirty water down the commode and, unbeknownst to him, a small cleaning brush went with it. On Sunday, when I got up, my husband who was already in full stride for the day (believe me, the early bird has NOTHING on him!) greeted me with, "Dear, be careful with the toilet. It seems to be acting up."

As I watched the water rise to the rim of the bowl, I thought that was the understatement of the year. Clutching the phone book, I ran back to the kitchen and said, "We HAVE to call a plumber; we have people coming for dinner tomorrow."

"What," asked my better half in the voice of sweet reason, "was one thing got to do with the other? We tell them to use their own facilities well and when they drive home, they can sit with their legs crossed."

"Even the driver?" I wailed. Besides, little boys and strange bathrooms go together like ham and eggs and once they find out ours doesn't work, they'll both develop an instant case of Montezuma's revenge.

My husband could see the wisdom of this but he was not yet down for the count. "Call a plumber if you want," he agreed. "But, you won't get one. It's a lovely day and they'll all be out on the golf course—with the doctors."

"Surely," I cried, "there still must be one or two around who haven't made their first million and will make a house call on Sunday!" With a martyred sigh, my darling took a long piece of wire, a small bailing bowl and a pair of pliers and departed for the bathroom. In about 20 minutes, I heard a triumphant "AHA!" and when I entered, there he was with the recalcitrant brush in the pliers.

"You know," he mused, "maybe I should moonlight. If I were a plumber I could have made \$30 for this 20 minute job." "Oh sure," I said, "Some plumber-with a margerine tub, a coat hanger wire and a pair of pliers"

Well, the holiday dawned wet, cold and thoroughly miserable. Our guests and we were confined to the house and two little boys full of pent-up energy can be pretty wearing on us the Geritol set. So, it was pretty early that night when we fell into our twin beds.

You'd think the gods would have left us alone, wouldn't you? Not so. About midnight, my bed fell down. I kid you not. One minute, I was soundly asleep and the next, I woke to find my head on the floor and my feet pointing towards heaven. My husband was already scrambling up and after I climbed uphill and out, he had the bed apart in no time and solidly fixed. It took an

hour to find the dog but we finally made it back to the sack.

It wasn't til the next day that I remembered that we have a spare room with two beds already made up and unoccupied and I could have crawled into one of them and my own bed could have sailed. No, by that time, my loving husband was programmed into the original Mr. Fix-It. Besides, he wasn't too sure I wouldn't have called a furniture repairman even at THAT hour.

Well, that was our Labor Day Week End. I hope yours was as much fun (?) or at least, relaxing for all of you.

power out tomorrow

Officials of the Lee County Electric Cooperative announced last week that a brief power outage on the Islands is planned for the hour between 3:00 a.m. and 4:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 21.

Officials of the utility said that the temporary power outage is required to enable the Co-op to make necessary switching changes which will improve the service reliability to customers living north of the Caloosahatchee River and west of U.S. 41, including Cape Coral, Sanibel and Captiva.

Anyone wishing additional information about the planned power outage is urged to call the Co-op's chief engineer, Roswell Sherling, at 995-2121.

PTA meets Thursday

The Sanibel-Captiva Parent-Teachers Association (PTA) will hold its first meeting of the current school year this Thursday, September 22, at the Sanibel Elementary School on Sanibel-Captiva Road.

The meeting will include an open house at the school for parents and teachers beginning at 7:30 p.m., to be followed by a general meeting of the PTA membership beginning at 8:00 p.m.

Among other items to be discussed at the meeting are the group's plans for evening and special activities over the coming school year will be presented.

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SEPTEMBER 20, 1977

today at city hall

9:00 a.m. 1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance (Goss) 2. Approval of Minutes of previous Meetings 3. Correspondence
9:10 a.m. 4. Planning Commission Report (1) Status report of study for controlling rate of growth.
9:30 a.m. 5. Public Hearing and First Reading of an Ordinance providing for Development Permit Specific Amendment, and General Amendment Application fees under the Comprehensive Land Use Plan.
9:40 a.m. 6. Public Hearing and First Reading of an Ordinance regulating and prohibiting certain excessive, unnecessary, unnatural, or unusually loud noises.

10:00 a.m. 7. Public Hearing and First Reading of an Ordinance Fixing a Supplemental Budget Appropriation; Reappropriating Estimated Revenues Within the General Fund; transferring Funds Within Various Expenditure Accounts and Eliminating Overages in Accounts.
10:15 a.m. 8. Resolution pertaining to Sanibel Causeway Bond and Inter-Local agreement.
10:30 a.m. 9. City Attorney's Report
10:45 a.m. 10. City Manager's Report
11:00 a.m. 11. Mayor and Councilmen Report. 12. Public inquiries and comments
Recess for lunch
1:30 p.m. 13. Public hearing and first reading of an ordinance specifically amending ordinance No. 76-21, The

Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Section 3.2.3: Permitted Uses map, 3.4.7: Mid-Island Ridge and 3.3.11: Lawfully existing uses, to allow an addition to the Sanibel Community Church located on a parcel of land in the Northeast Quarter of Section 25, Township 46 south, range 22 east, Sanibel, Lee County, Florida (1740 Periwinkle Way), as submitted by Banks G. Prevatt, Chairman of the Board, Sanibel, Community Church, Inc.
1:45 p.m. 14. Public Hearing and first reading of an Ordinance Specifically Amending Ordinance No. 76-21, The Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Section 3.9.1: Development in The Gulf Beach, Gulf Beach Ridge and Special Blind Pass Zones, to permit an addition to an

existing structure to be used for additional storage, laundry and maintenance at the Sanibel Mooring Condominium located at 800 East Gulf Drive, as submitted by James R. Click for Sanibel Moorings Condominium.
2:00 p.m. 15. Public Hearing and Second Reading of an Ordinance Specifically Amending ordinance No. 76-21, The Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Sections 3.3.1: Residential Densities and 3.2.2: Development Intensity Map, to permit development of a single family dwelling on lots 15 and 16, block 7, Sanibel Highlands Subdivision, Section 25, Township 46 South, range 22 east, Sanibel, Lee County, Florida, as submitted by Robert York.
Adjournment.

classifieds

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announcement

Al Anon meets every Friday, 8 p.m., St. Michael's and All Angels Church. For information, call 472-2491.

ART CLASSES

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Eight week courses begin the week of Oct. 3rd. Continuing short courses in batik, sand-casting, and on location painting trips.

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FOR SALE '69 Chevy Bel-air, white. In good shape, \$200. 472-9979. TFN

SAVE! SAVE! SAVE!
1973 Coupe de Ville Cadillac, fully equipped, stereo, blue and white top. \$3300.
Days 472-4055
Nights 472-3215 TFN

Car for sale - 1972 Gremlin, 6-cylinder, tires in good condition. Call 332-1529.

FOR SALE 1974 Porsche, 914, 2.0 liter, 34,000 miles, excellent condition, below book. Call for appointment 463-4969.

boats for sale

BOAT FOR SALE 1975 Manatee, 15 1/2 ft., 40 H.P. Johnson motor, and 1976 trailer, fully equipped. \$2,500. 481-6741.

miscellaneous merchandise

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Help Wanted - Full time gas station attendant wanted apply in person at Three Star at Tarpon Bay, Palm Ridge Rd.

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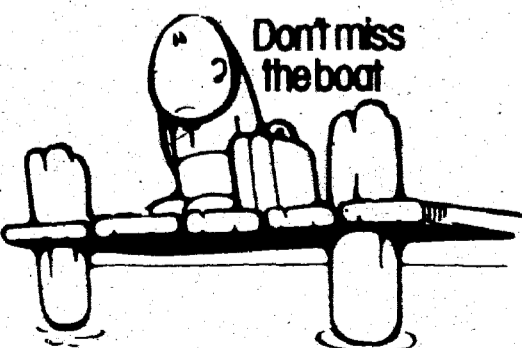
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city proposes to tighten weight restrictions

At their meeting on September 12, the Sanibel City Council heard first readings of permanent ordinance imposing speed limits and weight restrictions upon vehicles travelling Island roads.

The proposed ordinance setting the speed limit at 35 mph on Periwinkle Way, Sanibel-Captiva Road and Palm Ridge Road met with little opposition from citizens of Sanibel last week, while proposed legislation establishing highly restrictive weight limits on traffic using city streets elicited a loud outcry from the Island's business and construction industries at the September 12 meeting.

Both ordinances are intended to replace emergency legislation adopted by the city council in the wake of a March 25 report from City Manager Bill Nungester to the effect that fast-moving overweight vehicles were threatening to ruin some Island roads.

At that time, the council took emergency measures to reduce the speed limit on Sanibel-Captiva Road from 45 mph to 35 mph, while enacting the first weight restrictions on truck traffic using city thoroughfares. The weight limits imposed at that time and still in effect are 40,000 pounds for two-axle vehicles, 55,000 pounds for three axles, and 65,000 pounds maximum.

Those restrictions, too, met with staunch opposition from Island builders and contractors who are principally affected by the limits they have imposed on the volume of building materials which can be carried by construction trucks in any one load.

Last week, City Manager Nungester recommended that the city adopt even more restrictive weight limits than those established by the current emergency legislation. His proposed ordinance calls for the city to adopt a more specific set of weight restrictions ranging from 32,000 pounds for a two-axle vehicle up to 63,000 pounds maximum on any vehicle using city roads—limits identical to those enacted by Lee County for the bridge over Blind Pass at Sanibel's Western extremity.

"I recognize that these weight limitations may work a hardship on contracts underway on Sanibel," Nungester noted in a memorandum to the council, "However, I believe that careful interscheduling of contract projects on both Islands can offset some of those increased hauling costs."

Members of the Island's construction community, however, were quick to take exception with Nungester's observations.

"It would make it almost impossible to continue construction on Sanibel," Bill Ashwill of Construction Managers, Inc., told the city council.

Ashwill said that the proposed weight restrictions would allow trucks hauling concrete to building sites on Sanibel to carry less than 20 per cent of the volume they are allowed to carry elsewhere in Lee County. He indicated that the proposed ordinance would impose similar hardships on haulers of building blocks, concrete slabs, pilings and other construction materials.

It should be noted that Nungester has proposed in the new ordinance to permit limited exceptions to the weight restrictions on a reasonable basis for heavy pieces of construction equipment and other unusual deliveries, as the city had done in the past.

City consulting engineer Vernon Lynch of Howard, Needles, Tammen and Bergendoff said that the county

allows similar exceptions to the weight limits for Blind Pass Bridge under closely regulated conditions, which include that no other vehicle be permitted on the bridge at the same time as the oversize load, that the truck move across the bridge at a steady speed of no more than 15 mph, and that flagmen be posted at either end of the bridge to control other vehicular traffic.

The city council agreed that similar conditions for permitting exceptions to the weight limits should be written into the city's proposed ordinance.

Mariner Properties Executive Vice-President Allen Ten Broek asked what basis Nungester had for recommending the particular weight restrictions contained in the proposed ordinance.

The city manager replied that his recommendation was in many instances less restrictive than the weight limits recommended by city consulting engineers, who, for instance, proposed that no truck traffic whatsoever be permitted on Casa Ybel Road because of its rapid structural deterioration.

Ten Broek then asked if the city might permit Island developers to pay voluntary impact fees to offset the damage done by construction trucks to city roads as an alternative to the stringent weight limitations proposed by the city manager.

"I have my doubts as to whether it would work too well," Nungester responded.

Ten Broek argued that the weight restrictions proposed by Nungester will allow trucks using Sanibel roads to haul only 10 to 20 per cent of the volume they are permitted to carry elsewhere in Lee County, and if adopted, will require trucks to make five times as many trips to haul the same volume of construction material.

"I'm saying that the effect of this ordinance will be to create more traffic on the Island," Ten Broek said.

"I certainly hope that this ordinance is not a disguised way to halt construction on Sanibel," he added—a

statement which was hotly refuted by members of the city council.

"Is there an equitability problem with allowing one type of supplier to pursue his business and not another?" Ten Broek queried finally.

"It's not just limited to construction," added Island businessman Sam Price, saying that other types of delivery trucks also stand to be adversely affected by the proposed weight restrictions.

Both the proposed ordinance imposing permanent weight restrictions and that establishing a permanent speed limit on city roads have been scheduled for a second reading and possible adoption by the city council at their special meeting set for Thursday, September 29.

Prior to that time, however, both legislative proposals will be amended so as not to reference the state's uniform traffic code because of an attorney general's opinion to the effect that local governments cannot receive fines collected from violators of local ordinances which reference state laws.

school lunch menus

September 20
Meatloaf, Rice—Gravy, Buttered Carrot Coins, Slice Tomato Salad, ½ Bread & Butter Sand., Pineapple Upside Down Cake, Milk.
+Bologna Sandwich

September 21
Beatnik, Perfection Salad with O.J. Concentrate, Buttered Peas, Raisin Cup, Sugar Cookie, Milk.
+Chicken Salad Sandwich

September 22
Corndog, Tater Tots, Marinated Salad, Banana, Milk
+Pizzaburger

September 23
Beef Noodle Casserole, Buttered Carrots, ½ Peanut Butter Sand. on Whole Wheat Bread, Tossed Salad, Orange Juice Bar, Milk
+BBQ Beef—Bun

September 26
Pigs-in-a-Blanket, Buttered Corn, Tater Tots, Coleslaw, Chocolate Chip Cookie, Milk.
+Creamed Chicken—Biscuit

September 27
Hamburger—Bun, French Fries, Lettuce-Tomato-Pickle, Spice Cake, Chilled Peaches, Milk.
+Cheeseburger—Bun



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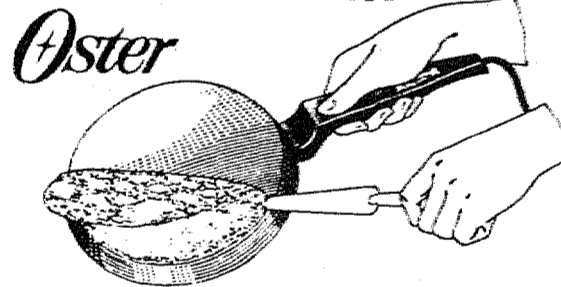
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