

Moratorium imposed on development in three Sanibel subdivisions

By Barbara Brundage

Development of four homes in Sanibel Highlands subdivision north of Casa Ybel Road must wait for six months or until a drainage-sewerage road access study is complete, whichever comes first.

The City Council last Wednesday deferred action on the building permit requests and dashed the hopes of owners that their building plans could be scored in the July Rate of Growth allocation process.

Requests for two other development permits in the highlands subdivision were approved when the owners agreed to improve the access roads to their parcels.

Nancy Dicolia and Michael LaTona were jubilant when the council acknowledged that the lack of adequate access posed the only problem with building on their lots.

Both Dicolia's and LaTona's lots are on higher elevations in the part of Sanibel Highlands south of Casa Ybel Road.

Dicolia said she would be happy to install a paved apron on the East Lake Road exit on Casa Ybel Road as a condition of approval.

For his part LaTona agreed to align Brookhaven Road in the center of the

existing road right-of-way, improve it as an all-weather shell road, provide a paved apron on Casa Ybel Road and maintain adequate visibility for traffic safety at the intersection.

With development permits in hand Dicolia and LaTona were able to submit just under the wire (June 30 was the deadline) their building plans for consideration for a ROGO allocation on July 11.

The Planning Commission on June 13 recommended approval of all six development permits subject to site conditions proposed by the staff and to any other conditions the City Council might impose after reviewing the permits at a scheduled June 29 meeting.

The commission did not consider the applications individually because the council has not yet set standards for developing subdivisions with inadequate or no access.

The planning staff forecast multiple problems in developing the four properties in the highlands north of Casa Ybel Road that also has substandard roads.

All four building sites have low elevations that are prone to flooding, which compounds proper maintenance of on-site septic systems.

The Sanibel River flows across a portion of one of the lots, Mayor Mike Klein pointed out, making that site even more environmentally sensitive.

Three of the requests for development permits for single-family residences were submitted by Sanibel builder Richard Kennedy for John Sawbridge. The fourth was submitted for Ray Dold.

Dold was present last Wednesday and pleaded with the council to approve his permit so he could build a retirement home for his mother. His three lots totalling more than 15,000 square feet were purchased in 1972, and Dold said he would have had no problem building a home there several years ago.

Klein was concerned that a proposed drainage swale through the subdivision might cause Dold's property. The swale is proposed in a drainage study by consulting engineers Howard Needles Tammen and Bergdorff to correct some of the flooding problems in the highlands.

"This may or may not be a good solution," Klein said. "But if we allow you to build there now it might increase the problem for somebody else later."

"We are not taking away your right

to build," Councilman Louise Johnson said. "We're just deferring this decision on your property."

Councilman Bill Hagerup said he felt the same way. "We are aware of the problem in the area (Sanibel Highlands) and to allow another house there just compounds it," he said.

Hagerup's motion to defer approval for six months or until the study is completed, whichever comes first, passed by a 3-4 vote. Councilmen Francis Bailey and Fred Valtin were absent.

A seventh request for a development permit for a single-family home on a lot with no access in Sanibel Center was approved with the same conditions as Dicolia's and LaTona's permits. The request was referred to the council for policy direction.

The applicant, Jackie Fraser, must improve a 125-foot private easement (Court Place) as an all-weather shell road to Main Street.

Planner Ken Palmer said Fraser objected to the added expense of providing a paved apron on Main Street, but the council retained it as one of the four conditions of approval.

Wetlands moratorium declared from page 1A

three subdivisions during the period stipulated.

The prohibition will not become effective until final adoption of the ordinance, which La Croix said can not legally be accomplished before Aug. 16.

Two readings before the council of the ordinance calling for a moratorium are required, La Croix said. The first reading was scheduled for the July 11 council meeting.

To fulfill the legal requirement of giving all affected property owners 30 days notice of the impending action, the second reading cannot be scheduled until mid-August, La Croix explained.

All three subdivisions have been identified by the planning staff as areas where serious drainage problems will be encountered if further development is permitted.

The council has been wrestling for months with the problem of surface water management. The necessity for a firm policy regarding these three areas of the island became critical when the city received a flurry of applications for single-family homes in low lying areas not only prone to flooding but without adequate access roads.

The Planning Commission balked at acting on development permits for construction for which there were no standards. The commissioners urged the council to adopt a policy and set criteria for development in environmentally sensitive areas.

Last Wednesday with final drafts of Howard Needles Tammen and Bergendorff's Sanibel Highlands Drainage study in hand, the council finally got "back to basics."

At the urging of Councilman Louise Johnson the three members present agreed that "interior wetlands including the Sanibel River basin are not suitable for development."

(Councilmen Francis Bailey and Fred Valtin were not present for the meeting.)

Following a recommendation in the HNTB Highlands drainage report the council directed La Croix to draft a general amendment to the Comprehensive Land Use Plan to establish a 300 foot corridor along the entire length of the Sanibel River where future development would be prohibited and public acquisition of private property undertaken.

Structures already existing along the river would become "lawfully existing" when the amendment is adopted, La Croix explained.

The planning staff will have the task of identifying the areas where the lines will be drawn to effectively maintain the water quality of the river.

The council made another policy decision Wednesday when it decided that requiring all-weather roads would not deter development in wetlands but in fact might encourage and aggravate the problem.

Councilman Bill Hagerup pointed out that the council would be remiss if it permitted building in areas without adequate access for emergency vehicles.

Acquisition of unbuildable land and transfer of development rights in wetlands are better ways for the city to control development in these areas than building all-weather roads, Mayor Mike Klein said.

Public purchase of land requires money, La Croix reminded the council.

He suggested that options for financing

acquisitions such as a general revenue bond, should be investigated. Another source for funds would be the city's inheritance from the estate of the late Mario Hutton.

La Croix said the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation had agreed to furnish the city with an appraisal of lots acquired in wetlands that will help determine the probable cost of an acquisition program.

Johnson agreed that the city needs to know the total cost as well as priorities for purchase of lots that would have the greatest impact on solving the drainage problems.

A property inventory furnished by SCFF shows that the foundation already owns 10 of the 134 parcels in Sanibel Highlands, 27 of the 250 parcels in Sanibel Gardens and 32 of the 282 parcels in Tarpon Bay subdivision.

Malcolm Beattie, chairman of the SCFF's Land Acquisition Committee, said other solutions for controlling development are "only nibbling at the problem" and he urged that the city adopt a policy for protection of wetlands.

The council established a special meeting for Wednesday, Aug. 7 to continue the discussion of solutions to the island's surface water management and drainage problems.

Planning commissioners were invited to "all in" as they did at last Wednesday's session.

La Croix pointed out that "drainage, sewage and roads are all tied together" and an over-all plan dealing with all three problems should be in place before the moratorium is lifted.

Plane crash from page 1A

near the crash by pleasure boaters shortly after the accident. It was not until Monday afternoon that the body of her husband, Roger, was spotted floating about 100 yards from the wreckage.

An autopsy by the Lee County Medical Examiner's office showed she died, probably on impact, from multiple trauma that included several internal injuries.

An autopsy on Roger Warren had not been completed at press time.

The Coast Guard said the small plane, built of fiberglass, plywood and styrofoam, had left Key West airport about 4 p.m. Sunday with two people aboard.

It was not known who was piloting the plane but it was learned that Mrs. Warren did not know how to fly.

The couple had traveled to Key West Sunday morning from Clearwater, officials said. They had not filed a flight plan with either Clearwater or Key West airport authorities.

According to a soggy manual found near the wreckage the plane weighed 1,465 pounds and had a wing span of 26 feet. It seats two in tandem fashion with the pilot occupying the front seat. It has the capability of traveling up to 220 miles per hour.

The name of Roger A. Warren, 43, and the date September 1985 was inscribed on a piece of the debris.

Applications for development and building permits made between now and final adoption of the moratorium will be processed by the Planning Department, LaCroix clarified.

But if final disposition of an application has not been made by the time the moratorium goes into effect, the permit will be held up until the ban is lifted, La Croix said.

Weather watch Everybody talks about it...

As we settle into our summer weather pattern, we can expect partly cloudy skies with afternoon and evening thunderstorms likely Thursday through Saturday. Highs should be in the upper 80s to mid 90s with lows in the 70s.

DATE	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
Monday, June 27	82	78	trace
Tuesday, June 28	90	74	0.00
Wednesday, June 29	90	76	1.46
Thursday, June 30	90	78	not reported
Friday, July 1	91	77	not reported
Saturday, July 2	92	77	not reported
Sunday, July 3	92	79	not reported
Monday, July 4			Chamber of Commerce closed

What's inside

Almanac	14B
George Campbell	1B
Classified	11B
Commentary	5A
Entertainment this week	15A
Fishing tips	10A

Movies	16A
Municipal records	8A
Police beat	8A
Portrait	8A
Shelling tips	11A
Sports	6B
Tides	11A



Rotarian Mark Webb, left, with scholarship recipients Laura Burns and Slade Cole.

Sanibel youths receive scholarships

Two Sanibel youths have been awarded \$1,000 scholarships toward their college education by the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club. Laura Burns and Slade Cole were presented the scholarships at the Rotary Club's regular meeting on Friday.

The youths were described by Rotary as "two outstanding students chosen from a very impressive selection of our local island youth."

The daughter of Ron and Nancy Burns of Belding Rd., Laura Burns is a graduate of Fort Myers Christian School. She presently attends Edison Community College and works for Dr. James M. Bell on Sanibel as a dental assistant. In January she plans to attend the University of South Florida at Tampa, where she will begin studies for a career in medicine.

Slade Cole is the son of Ted and Theresa Cole of Surf Sound Ct. A

December, 1982 graduate of Cypress Lake High School, he has been attending Florida State University in Tallahassee where he maintains a 3.67 grade point average. He plans to study business with an eye toward marketing and advertising.

In other Rotary Club news, Bob Dellorto took over the presidency from outgoing president Bob Kunkel. Besides Dellorto, the incoming officers for the 1983-84 year are: President-elect, Jack Slagle; Secretary, Dick Trauch; Treasurer, Tony Balpedio; and Sgt.-At-Arms, Stan Ritter.

The Board of Directors consists of the officers and following members: Mark Webb, Bob Kunkel, Duke McConnell, Bill Angel, Jim Elder, Charlie Gold, and George Christensen.

Islander hosts exchange students

By Scott Martell

Graduation presents often run the gamut from watches and rings to dinners and cars. But teacher Teresa Calahan offers a better deal.

The bilingual teacher in the Lake Worth area owns a home on Casa Ybel road on Sanibel and has a tradition of offering a weekend on the island as a graduation present to some of her students.

Calahan teaches English as a foreign language to exchange students and those newly arrived in the United States. Her students come from a wide variety of countries, including Jamaica, Haiti, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Hong Kong, Taiwan and the Philippines.

Recently Luisa Dolores Alvarez from Mexico and Mei-yuk Leung from Hong Kong were Calahan's guests on Sanibel. Both girls expressed many perceptive thoughts on American life.

Leung, whose family has now been in America for three years, said she finds Americans very different from the Chinese. The Chinese tend to be more traditional, while the Americans are more informal, she said. Yet Americans tend to gossip more and attach more serious meaning to a boy and girl being seen together, she added.

Alvarez was an exchange student in Florida for 10 months and headed back to Mexico soon after her graduation weekend on Sanibel. While she enjoyed her stay in America, she said she was looking forward to getting back to her family. She found it amusing having to take a final exam in physical education courses here in America. To pass, she had to run five miles. She passed, but is not sure how that will help her next year in her first year of college, where she will study journalism.



Theresa Calahan stands beside exchange students Mei-yuk Leung and Luisa Dolores Alvarez. Photo by Scott Martell.

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MUNICIPAL RECORDS

By Barbara Brundage

Council denies exemptions for Blind Pass home

The City Council last Wednesday denied Alan Boers' request to exempt his home planned in Gulf Ridge subdivision from costly certification of flood proof construction by a registered engineer.

Rather than pay the \$2,000 for official certification of safe construction, Boers will move the house to a site more than 500 feet from Blind Pass Bayou as recommended by the Planning Department.

Under Comprehensive Land Use Plan regulations a structure within 500 feet of Pine Island Sound, San Carlos Bay, the Gulf of Mexico or Blind Pass must be floodproofed and the construction approved by an engineer.

The planning staff reported that Boers' property lies within 500 feet of Blind Pass, but the lot is large enough for the house to be sited behind that line.

Doris Frey of Sanibel Homes, which holds the contract for the house, told the council at the first reading of Boers' request June 21 that the

proposed home will be built to all flood proofing specifications including the use of 10x10-foot pilings.

Boers objected to the added cost for the certification he feels is not necessary.

Frey argued that because the Blind Pass area is no longer tidal — "but more like a slough" — it should not be included in the same category as Pine Island Sound, San Carlos Bay and the Gulf of Mexico.

To move the house to the site recommended by the planning staff would require removal of a large clump of sea grapes, Frey said.

The Planning Commission on June 15 followed the staff's recommendation and denied Boers' request for relief from the certification.

Councilman Bill Hagerup said he felt it would be worth \$2,000 for assurance that his home in a flood-prone area was safe.

All three council members present agreed that in view of the history of Blind Pass conditions could change tomorrow and the area could once

again become tidal. Requiring certification of the construction there is a guarantee of the homes' safety to future owners of the home's safety, Mayor Mike Kline pointed out.

On Wednesday Frey's argument that Boers' property is two miles from the open water of Blind Pass and is separated from the Gulf of Mexico by a row of lots failed to change the council's view.

Hagerup's motion to deny Boers' request to waive the certification requirement passed by a 5-0 vote.

As the first order of business at Wednesday's special meeting the council continued to July 19 Meister Development Corporation's request for a specific amendment to permit a four-unit multi-family complex in an uplands wetlands area on East Gulf Drive. Only single-family or duplex homes are permitted by CLUP in this ecological zone.

Ron Weaver, representing the applicant, asked for a postponement until at least four council members were present.

The Planning Commission has recommended council approval of the specific amendment. The council heard Meister's request on its first reading on June 21.

At that time Councilman Louie Johnson argued that two duplexes might be more suitable for the site than the multi-family building proposed. Kline also objected that the building with only 10-foot side setbacks "is waiting in the Gulf of Mexico."

Planning Commissioner Larry Simon said the commission had viewed the project as a "real plus" and added that, "Duplexes would be out of character in the primarily resort area."

Douglas Smith, representing residents of neighboring Tigra Cay (a duplex complex), said they do not feel duplexes are the only solution for the site.

"What they object to is the volume of the structure in relation to the site," he said. "There's no space left for any amenities."

Satellite dish draft ordinance expected next month

The Sundial Condominium Association has been waiting since last November for the city's decision on whether a 15-foot satellite dish television antenna can be installed at the Middle Gulf Drive complex.

Last week Elliot Gelberg, representing the association, agreed to wait until Aug. 8, when the Planning Department expects to have a draft ordinance prepared outlining standards and specifications for the installation of the controversial antenna.

Gelberg and Gary Grim of Great Satellite Television of Cape Coral appeared before the Planning Commission seeking a specific amendment to permit installation of a dish on the roof of a maintenance building at the resort complex on Middle Gulf Drive.

On Jan. 24 the commission turned down Grim's request for a development permit because the aluminum mesh dish, which has the potential of

picking up more than 100 television channels from satellites, is not a permitted use "as an accessory structure in a residential area."

"Pure economics" motivates the 40 Sundial condominium owners' desire to use the satellite system. They say it will be much less expensive than the cablevision service to which they now subscribe for \$30.00 annually.

But the commissioners were concerned about the "aesthetics and the safety" of mounting the dish on roofs in island neighborhoods.

The City Council shared the view and upheld the commission's action when Grim appealed the denial in mid-February. At that time the council, recognizing that home satellite television receivers are "a coming thing," directed the planning staff to develop standards for the proper installation of the dishes in the future.

Grim has said the dish would be

strongly anchored to meet the minimal needs of windloading up to 125 miles per hour. As for aesthetics, he said, the aluminum dish could be painted a drab color that would blend in with the surrounding terrain and could be further accented by vegetation.

By last week's commission hearing the planning staff had not developed any firm guidelines or criteria but indicated it would not support roof-mounted dishes. But if the commission and council chose to approve the specific amendment, Planning Director Bruce Rogers suggested several conditions that should be met.

They include: screening the dish with a vegetation buffer, certification by a registered professional engineer that the structure will withstand winds of up to 130 miles per hour, compliance with all residential setbacks and CLUP's development standards.

But Rogers said he preferred a

continuation of the hearing until firm guidelines and criteria for installation of the dishes are adopted by the city.

Rogers said that because of his department's unusually heavy workload, work had not yet begun on drafting an ordinance outlining these standards. He promised that one could be ready for discussion at the commission's Aug. 8 meeting.

It was commission consensus that the impact of the satellite dish on the neighborhood would be far less at the Sundial, which is in a resort housing area, than on a single-family home subdivision.

But the commissioners agreed they would prefer to defer a vote on the issue until criteria is adopted by the city. They voted 7-0 for a continuation until the ordinance is ready.

Two requests to install satellite dishes in residential neighborhoods, one in Gumbo Limbo and the other in Shell Harbor, are also pending.

Trailer park carport approved

Expansion of "lawfully existing uses" is prohibited by the land use plan. Therefore, to construct a 16x24-foot carport at his mobile home in Periwinkle-Trailer Park, Dave Kindell had to apply to the Planning Commission for a deviation.

The commission last week granted

Kindell's request on condition he remove an existing 12x14-foot carport that is in the wrong location and too small for his current needs.

Commissioner Jerry Muench, who with his brother owns the trailer park, declared a conflict of interest and abstained from voting.

Planning staff suggests changes in ordinance regulating boathouses

Boathouses will have to comply with the 20-foot setback from bodies of water, but davits and lifts will be exempted from the setback requirement. A general amendment to the Comprehensive Land Use Plan proposed by the Planning Department gains City Council approval.

Boathouses are not a typical accessory structure to residential development, and their construction in some subdivisions has caused a controversy, the staff explained.

Requiring compliance with the water setback will permit the Planning Commission and City Council to consider approval on a case-to-case basis.

Boat davits and lifts are accepted accessory structures, and exempting them from the water setback will eliminate the rigmarole of seeking a deviation from CLUP, Planning Director Bruce Rogers said.

Docks and boathouses in commercial or institutional districts must also comply with the 20-foot setback from bodies of water. If a second proposed general amendment is approved, these structures currently are exempted in CLUP's commercial yard requirements.

With a full complement on hand the Planning Commission last week voted 7-0 to recommend council approval of both proposed ordinances.

Coming up at City Hall

A list of upcoming City Council and Planning Commission meetings

Thursday, July 7, MacKenzie Hall, 9 a.m. — Regular meeting of the Vegetation Committee.

Monday, July 11, MacKenzie Hall, 9 a.m. — Regular meeting of the Planning Commission for the July Rate of Growth Allocation.

Tuesday, July 19, MacKenzie Hall, 9 a.m. — Regular meeting of the City Council.



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MUNICIPAL RECORDS continued

Home addition approved

To provide "growing room for his four young sons who have been sharing one bedroom for the past five months," Lynn Mann wants to construct a second floor addition to his single-family residence at Tanglewood condominium.

The addition of 2,475 square feet of living area plus a 405-square-foot porch will raise the roof to 40 feet, 3.7 feet taller than the four duplex buildings surrounding it in the complex.

Planner Jean Isley agreed with Mann that, "in line of sight" his home will appear no taller than the duplexes.

The height could be lowered, Mann said, by sacrificing some energy conservation devices that require a higher roofline.

The neighboring duplex complexes of Sandy Beach and Seagrape Village rise 34 and 32 feet above grade.

The staff pointed out that Tanglewood's developer had agreed that "height and size of the buildings will conform to those of the neighbors

to east and west."

But the building's height was "no problem" for the planning commissioners who voted 6-1 to approve the development permit for the addition.

Commissioner Larry Simon, who viewed the additional space as "only a ploy to make it a duplex," cast the dissenting vote.

In other action last week the commission approved a development permit to subdivide an 8.9-acre parcel of land on Periwinkle Way into eight single family lots and two common areas.

The new subdivision, just east of Sanibel Landscaping Company, will be called Sanibel Place, Ar-

chitect-developer James Foley told the commissioners.

The commission also approved a development to divide a 40,000-square-foot parcel of land on Gulf Drive into two 20,000-square-foot single family lots. Developer Richard Kennedy will be permitted to build a home on each of the lots that will share a common driveway.

CLUP deviation okayed for Sanibel Harbour site

Allen and Mary TenBroek will be permitted to cover 30 percent of their building site in Sanibel Harbour subdivision with impermeable surface even though more than half of the 14,036-square-foot lot is in the Bay Beach ecological zone.

The Planning Commission last week unanimously approved a deviation to the CLUP requirement that limits the impermeable surface in that zone to 20 percent.

TenBroek's property between San Carlos Bay and Isabel Drive is "predominantly altered land" and is not significantly dissimilar from

adjointing properties that have been developed with 30 percent impermeable surface, the planning staff reported.

Planner Jean Isley pointed out that approval of the coverage deviation does not imply approval of the site plan.

Two specific amendments have been granted previously on the property. In 1979 a 40-foot setback from the seawall and a 15-foot setback from the road were approved, and Isley said that compliance must be demonstrated on the site plan before a development permit will be issued.

A deviation from the 50-foot setback from a 15-foot wide roadway easement will permit Jamie and Helen Phillips to build a home on their lot in Del Sega subdivision.

The commission approved the Phillips request to site the house 17.5 feet from the centerline of the easement and 10 feet from the property line.

Two neighbors had objected because they believed the new location would place the Phillips' house too close.

Builder Dave Almas, representing the Phillips, said that in fact the house will be 35 feet away from any child development center and other residence. CLUP requires only 20 feet between buildings.

The deviation was approved by a 6-1 vote with Commissioner Henry McKee dissenting.



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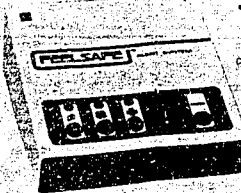


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All information in the following reports was taken directly from Sanibel Police Department records.

Cash, clothing, a camera and a purse valued at a total of \$114 were reported stolen from a locked car that was parked at the Lighthouse fishing pier between 4 and 5 p.m. on Sunday, June 26.

The items belonged to two St. Petersburg, Fla., women and had been left under a towel in the floor behind the front seat. Police were unable to determine the method of entry to the car.

A Columbia, Mo., man reported there was a disoriented alligator near the fence along Periwinkle Way and Purdy Drive on Sunday evening, June 26.

26. Island naturalist "Bird" Westall moved the alligator to a nearby pond.

Police were unable to locate a blue Ford that was reported "ping" through the J.N. "Ping" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sunday night, June 25. The car with Florida tags was reportedly driven by a white male. There was one white male passenger.

Police suggested that a Robinwood Circle man complain to Sanibel Disposal about the garbage man who reportedly threw the lid of the complainant's garbage can into the woods early Monday morning, June 27.

Police contacted Code Enforcement Officer "Dick" Baker after they

received a complaint that water was running to the beach from the Tortuga Beach Club construction site on Monday morning, June 27. Baker reported to police that he advised the construction foreman at the site to correct the problem or risk having the project shut down.

Island naturalist George Campbell was called to remove a six-foot alligator from the yard of a home on Durion Court on Monday afternoon, June 27. Campbell returned the alligator to the canal behind the complainant's house.

A Sanibel-Captiva Road resident reported someone removed the plug

continued page 14A

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ON THE WATER

By Captain Mike Fuery

I want to touch on several things this week, starting with a late reminder that as of June 30, the registration deal on your boat was out of date. I mention this because in the past couple of years on the Fourth of July weekend ticket writers have had a field day on the water.

The Florida Marine Patrol is always out in numbers over our long summer weekends. They are on the water to assist boaters, but keep in mind that outdated decal stickers will get you in trouble. And after the patrolman notices you don't have a valid registration sticker he most likely will check your safety equipment.

For the average weekend boater, if an officer looks hard enough he'll find something else to add to the ticket. Take the warning and keep up to date on this.

Incidentally, the stickers are round this year, not the rectangular shape of the past, so the officers can spot an illegal boat from quite a distance.

You might have noticed an item in the news a few weeks ago about five people whose vessel had engine failure while they were grupper fishing way out in the Gulf of Mexico north of Tampa. Of all the unusual rescues, this one came from the Russians.

It seems that our nation, along with several others including the Soviet Union, has access to a satellite that helps track lost or missing boats that are equipped with a device that sends a distress radio signal to the orbiting satellite.

This particular boat had an EPIRB (Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon) on board. These radios aren't exactly new, but the tiny transmitters are getting some well-deserved attention. They have a range of 200-300 miles and will register on commercial or military aircraft.

Various units are on the market. The Class A units send the farthest and of course are more helpful on offshore boats. Class B and C units have progressively less range for more local boating. Prices range from \$275 to \$450, but some mail order marine supply stores offer them for much less.

One of the rescued boaters in this particular incident said they had the unit on board for several years and when they first activated it they had serious doubts about whether or not it would work. The Russians picked up the signal first and radioed to the United States. The Coast Guard was at the disabled boat's side in two hours.

With equipment that is used only occasionally

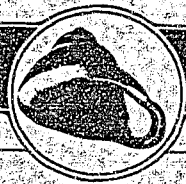
there is good reason to doubt its dependability when you need it most. It's not unusual to have an inflatable raft on board that doesn't inflate or a stand-by outboard "kicker" engine that won't start when you need it to get you home.

I recently had the opportunity to tour a large freshwater trout hatchery in the mountains of North Carolina. This was in the Pisgah National Forest, and as I walked along row after row of hatchery ponds watching the trout it occurred to me that in their younger months they look and act much like our local mullet.

Feeding time would bring hundreds of four- to 12-inch trout to the surface, as our mullet do, often jumping out of the water as they jockeyed for position for good food.

Many first-time visitors to Florida look out on a quiet saltwater bay, see mullet jumping and run for their fishing rods — because that's what trout do back home. Only trouble is mullet don't bite. That's a hard lesson to learn after you've cast your arm out for hours tossing your favorite trout fly or lure.

Good fishing this week, and get your decal updated if your boat is Florida registered. Have a great summer on the water.



SHELLING TIPS

By Captain Mike Fuery

Starfish and sand dollars are among the most universally known "beach" items that come to our beaches on Sanibel and Captiva. Recently, however, I received an inquiry from a collector who found a rare starfish that most collectors agree should not be found here.

Susan Maul of Indianapolis, Ind., wrote me and enclosed a picture of her starfish that she says came alive from the waters of Sanibel. In part, here's what Susan said about this curious starfish.

"On Wednesday, April 27, around 1 p.m. my husband and I were taking a long walk on our last full day on Sanibel. In front of the Sanibel Motel on East Gulf Drive a large starfish literally came rolling along the surf, practically to my feet."

"I started to carry it back to the Sea Grape (adjacent to the Colony) and nearly everyone on the beach stopped us to admire and comment. Harriet Sugars (owners of the Sea Grape) was convinced I had been shopping and claimed she had never heard of someone finding one this size. She has been on Sanibel a number of years, is an avid shell collector and belongs to a local shell club."

"I would very much appreciate your comments on my find. How unusual? How lucky? The and news is that although I have a photograph to prove

my find the actual starfish no longer exists. It was very soft and two legs were squashed in transport much to my disappointment."

The starfish Susan found is quite rare for this far north in Florida. Many collectors in the Bahamas and Florida Keys do, however, find these impressive starfish.

Some of these stars can weigh a pound or more and can reach from leg tip to leg tip more than a foot. The most impressive aspect of the star is its apparent crowned top.

The Florida brown starfish is one of our most often found stars. It could reach six inches from tip to tip but has flattened round legs. In size it's nothing compared to its big cousin of the more tropical areas of the world.

We also have the green flat-legged starfish that are often seen after storms have tossed shells and debris on the beach. These stars have the ability to drop their legs should danger threaten. They do the same when a shell collector attempts to pick up a live one.

In all my years of professional and casual shelling I've never seen a starfish around here as large as the one Susan holds in the photograph. If it was found alive and well there most likely are

others out there.

The waters hardly ever clear enough to allow divers to really explore the gently sloping shoreline, but I would suspect that with a period of clear water and good diving conditions divers could tell us much more about the live marine animal life off Sanibel.

Many skeptics still go back to the shrimp boat nets theory for unusual shells found locally. Shrimpers travel all over the Gulf of Mexico and in the process, of course, haul in all kinds of shell life with their fish and shrimp. Some people say shrimpers have accounted for stunning shell finds where no records of similar shells were ever found.

Finding a monster of a starfish is certainly lucky, and I know how Susan must feel having to "document" her find to make it believable. Now if a second one is found then we'll know that these stars are moving north and could be the beginning of some real collector items.

Capt. Mike Fuery offers daily fishing and shelling trips to North Captiva and Cayo Costa Islands. For more information call Mike at 472-9001.

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Cheese (ol, vinegar, onion, Italian cheese)
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TIDES FOR SANIBEL & CAPTIVA JULY

Tu	5	2:46 AM	*7:31 AM	4:31 PM	10:14 PM
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*Denotes strong tide
**Denotes very strong tide
Tides have been computed at the Sanibel Light House. For each per Sanibel and Captiva subtract 30 minutes for high tide, 1 hour and 15 minutes for low tide.

Chadwick's Sun- downer.

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McJ's
Shrimp House & Lounge



Early Bird
MENU

Served between 5:00 - 6:00 or to the first 100 people.

Choice of:
Steamed Shrimp Platter
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Fried Clam Strips
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Meal includes fresh bread, potato & salad.

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Sunday Brunch 9-1

RESERVATIONS
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Portrait

Marsha Wagner

Age: Fabulously 40-ish

Height: 5'5" when thinking tall

Roots: New York City

Pleasures: Anything to do with
the theatre; the beach,
bicycling, and walking around,
gardening, cooking

Last Book Read: Continuum, by
Robert C. Casselman

Mentor: "My husband Frank, my
daughter, and my friends John
Bartis and Arthur Partington —
they all support my taking risks."

Wish: "That the entire world would
stop the nuclear arms race and
concentrate on developing the
human potential through art and
culture."

Words of Wisdom: "Look for the good
in people, places and things, and
then go find it."

Inside Marsha Wagner's home, ancient painted portraits in American primitive style brighten the walls in a rogue's gallery of smiles and frowns. Maneuvering past New England antique furniture to the screened porch, the eye-level art changes from color portraits to clustered pen and ink drawings.

Outside, verdant island landscaping hides the backyard. A mother cardinal squats on a nest and continually joins the conversation. "Raccoons and other island beasts have been known to use this yard as a highway."

The immediate juxtaposition of culture and nature reflects Wagner's current lifestyle, spawn of two islands, Manhattan and Sanibel.

Wagner leap-frogged from Manhattan to Sanibel about one and a half years ago. After a dancing career that moved through ballet, Broadway, and live television, Wagner and her husband Frank moved to Sanibel where Wagner has opened up a branch of Pinocchio's ice cream parlor at the B-Hive grocery store. Pinocchio's had been started up by Wagner's good friends from the New York theater, John Bartis and Arthur Partington.

The two islands, Manhattan and Sanibel, hold many contrasts, but Wagner loves them both. "I love Sanibel for its peace, beauty, and serenity of its nature. I love Manhattan for all the man-made wonders, the theaters, the technology," Wagner explains.

And the islands' different personalities also spotlight two sides of Wagner's character. One side

is spiritual and in tune with nature. The other loves the "glitter and glamour" life.

The glitter and glamour lifestyle is relegated to one month of the year now, however. Despite Sanibel's charms, that part of her life is important to her.

"I like to feel the pace of New York. The city has a beat. I need to go see the culture there, see where it's all happening," Wagner says.

Wagner's addiction to the big city becomes understandable considering her background.

She met her husband Frank doing summer stock in New York state in 1953. Frank Wagner is a jazz dance teacher and choreographer. He has choreographed shows at Radio City Music Hall ranging from "Circus" to "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," and will choreograph this winter's Radio City Christmas festival.

Mixing her dancing in Broadway shows, and in ballet, Wagner studied under the late George Balanchine, and with other notable geniuses such as Leonard Bernstein, Bob Fosse, and Rogers and Hammerstein.

The 1950's and 60's was a golden age in television, and Wagner felt lucky to get in on the ground floor of such an era—where everything was live and spontaneous. For several years she worked on the Ed Sullivan show.

Working with such brilliant people, "who were not afraid, and therefore totally free," inspired Wagner.

"Those kinds of people open up all their channels, and keep growing. They live in the now. Some

people are always talking about the good old days. These are the good old days!" she emphasizes. And she tries to follow this philosophy.

In the "now," here on Sanibel, Wagner tries to transport some of the best parts of her northern island, Manhattan, on down to her present island, Sanibel.

"I'd like to see more theater down here," she remarks. "I'd like to see more creative outlets. We should make more use of our talent down here. There are an amazing amount of talented people here."

She is grateful that Barrier Island Group for the Arts exists. She also looks forward to the growth of the reader's theater into perhaps a full repertory company when talented islanders gain confidence in performing in front of the public. Her eyes sparkle at the thought of a new "family" that a repertory company represents.

A step after this could be to push for a "home" where visiting artistic groups could perform. Then islanders "would have something to dress up for, something different to experience," she feels.

Meanwhile, Wagner will tend her garden, sell ice cream, and keep up a Manhattan pace on this semi-tropical island.

And chances are this life will not wreak changes on Wagner. She is determined to live in the "now" and prod others away from the trend to be viewers in a more and more technological world. Participation is the essence of Wagner's life. And that is another common trait which seems to link two islands, Manhattan and Sanibel.

By Scott Martell
Photos by David Meardon



Police beat continued

In his boat at Hidesway Marina and caused the boat to sink on Monday night, June 27. He told police the engine and wiring would be ruined by the saltwater.

Police investigated but found nothing suspicious when a Palm Street woman reported someone was trying to tear the screen on her front door shortly after midnight on Monday, June 27.

A West Gulf Drive resident became stuck in an elevator between floors at Sayona of Sanibel condominiums on Tuesday morning, June 28. Lee Control officials were called to the scene.

A Cincinnati, Ohio, woman reported a can of gas or a similar substance splashed on the windshield and hood of her car when a car going in the other direction on Sanibel-Captiva Road struck the can on Tuesday afternoon, June 28.

A Newfoundland, N.J., man was transported to the Salvation Army in Fort Myers after he turned himself in to Sanibel police because he had no money to pay for dinner and several drinks he had at a McT's restaurant on Tuesday night, June 28.

Police investigated a report of a suspicious glow that the complainant worried might have been a fire near

the Timbers restaurant late Tuesday night, June 28. Police found the glow was coming from the lights around the reverse camera plant.

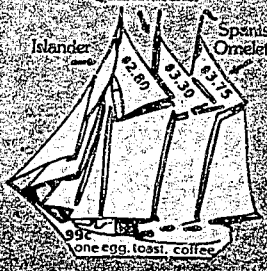
A Sandcastle Road woman was transported to Lee Memorial Hospital for treatment of superficial lacerations after a one-car accident on the Causeway on Tuesday night, June 28.

Police advised the office of a Fort Myers shutter company that their salesmen would have to obtain a

soliciting license from the city before they could make any more door-to-door calls on the island on Wednesday morning, June 29. Police contacted the Wrol-Up shutters office after a Gumbo Limbo resident reported a young man had knocked on her door offering to sell her the shutters.

A men's watch valued at \$340 and cash totaling \$480 were reported missing from two rooms at the Hilton Inn on Wednesday evening, June 29. Police are continuing their investigation of the incident.

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99¢
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1. CHEESE	6. SMOKED SALAD
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4. SALAMI	9. HAM
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Mon. - Sat. **BARNEY'S** Sunday
5:30 - 9:30 472-2555 9:30 - 1:30
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\$6.95 Includes soup, salad, rolls, vegetable and choice of potato.

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ENTREE
Potato
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\$7.95

Serving from 5 to 10 Mon. - Thurs.
Major credit cards accepted.

Captivan honored at alma mater

Captiva resident Richard Angle was honored recently at the annual Alumni Convention at Union College, Schenectady, N.Y. The convocation was part of the college reunion weekend.

Angle received the Alumni Gold Medal for his record of service that showed "a deep and abiding affection" for his alma mater. A former national chairman of the college annual fund, Angle was also a member of the Campaign for Union National Committee. He is a life

member of the college's select giving club, the Terrace Council. His other activities at Union include serving as an admissions interviewer, an association class agent, a member of the Alumni Council and a member of the Trustees Board of Advisors.

The retired real estate developer served for six years on the Marquis, Mass., finance committee and was a selectman for two three-year terms. Angle has also served as director of the Captiva Civic Association.

Marquis Hotels names Regnone recreation director

Michael B. Pecore, president of Marquis Hotels and Resorts here, has announced the appointment of Debra Regnone as director of recreation for the hospitality management company.

As part of the Marquis management team, Regnone will be responsible for the development of recreation amenities, recreation staff and recreation programs at the 12 properties managed by Marquis throughout Florida.

Prior to joining Marquis Hotels and Resorts, Regnone had been the social director at South Seas Plantation Resort and Yacht Harbour, a Marquis

managed property on Captiva Island, Florida.

As director of recreation, Regnone has announced the following appointments: within the newly established recreation staff, Sally Morgan, a 1981 graduate of the Florida State University, has been named social director at Seawatch-On-The-Beach on Estero Island, Florida; LeAnn Hardisty has been appointed social director for Tortuga Beach Club on Sanibel Island, Florida; Hardisty was previously pool supervisor activities coordinator at Casa Ybel Resort and Club on Sanibel Island.

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Antique Furniture
CENTURY Kenredon

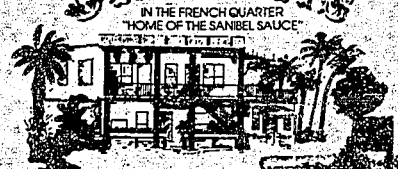
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A TASTE EXPERIENCE

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PREPARED BY CHEF WALLY

ALL THE PORK RIBS YOU CAN EAT!
ALL THE FRESH FLOUNDER YOU CAN EAT!

COME AND PARTY AT *Pepper's*

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"SLINGSHOT" Tuesday - Saturday
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and play
tonight?



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Dine, drink, dance... maybe even a little romance.
At Captiva's most captivating restaurant.
Cartoon entertains in the lounge, nightly except Tuesday.

Chadwick's CHADWICK'S RESTAURANT

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Yes, there is night life on Sanibel and Captiva! The following list will help you decide where to spend your after-shelling and sunning hours should you feel like dancing and relaxing with your friends or meeting new friends.

Cadwick's - At the entrance to South Seas Plantation on Captiva, Tuesdays hear Irvin Ellis and Rhapsody Reggae, a three-piece band featuring Ellis on steel pans. Originally from Jamaica, the Miami-based band plays reggae, calypso and folk songs 6:30 to 10:30 p.m.

The three-piece band Cartoon plays rock and roll, top 40 and originals nightly except Tuesday from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Casual dress. No cover charge.

Crow's Nest - At Tween Waters Inn on Captiva, New featuring Spinnaker Tuesday through Saturday from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. Jazz jam Sundays 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Casual dress. Dancing. Cover charge \$1. Happy hour from 4:30 to 6 p.m. weekdays.

Glade Piano Lounge - At the Ramada Inn on the golf at the end of Donax Street, Sanibel. Lounge is open from 5 p.m. to midnight every day. This week see Sonny Morrow and Igor, his mechanical monkey, with music and comedy. Showtime is 8 p.m. to midnight Thursday through Saturday.

Happy hour 5 to 7 p.m. every day with two for one drinks and complimentary hors d'oeuvres. No dance floor. No cover. Casual dress.

Poppers - In Tahitian Garden shopping center on Periwinkle Way, Sanibel. Slingshot plays rock and roll and oldies Tuesday through Saturday from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Hummingbird appears Sunday and Monday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Casual dress. No cover. Small dance floor.

The Lost Horizon Lounge - At the Sausal resort on Middle Gulf Drive, Sanibel. Closed for the summer for remodeling.

continued next page

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Entertainment this week continued

Thistle Lodge - At Casa Ybel Resort, Casa Ybel Road, Sanibel. Simmonds and Martin, formerly of Unicorn Run, blend superb vocal harmony with a jazz-rock sound Tuesday through Sunday from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Happy hour - entertainment Tuesday through Friday from 5 to 7 p.m. featuring guitarist Chas Firth on Tuesday, guitarist David Mello, formerly of the Bill Strecker Band, on Wednesday and Friday, and guitarist Michael Paul on Thursday. No cover, no minimum. Serving light fare in the lounge all day long. Casual dress. Dancing.

Twigs Lounge - At the Timbers Restaurant at the

corner of Rabbit and Sanibel-Captiva roads, Sanibel. Skip Perry at the piano bar playing contemporary jazz, big band and top 40 nightly except Tuesday from 7:00 p.m. to midnight. Casual dress. Dancing. No cover.

Scotty's Pub - In Scotty's Village on Periwinkle Way, Sanibel. Hear the Alan James Duo play a soft mellow blend of folk and blues, country and western and Beatles in the Backyard Saloon every Tuesday through Sunday from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Shirley's Spirit of Freshness - On Captiva near the new Post Office. Hear one-man band Tom

Reymont take a musical trip through time and space from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. String along sing-along nightly, bring your musical talents. Casual dress. No cover.

Island Cinema - And if you don't feel like dancing or drinking but you don't want to sit at home, why not take in a movie?

Through Thursday this week see *Porky's II: The Next Day*. Shows at 7:30 p.m. nightly.

Starting this Friday see *The Man From Snowy River*. Rated PG. Shows at 7 and 9 p.m. nightly.

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Health Up
From Leri Kessler

COLDS - ASPIRIN

Adults should not routinely take aspirin to lower a fever unless they are extremely uncomfortable, says Dr. R.H. Waldman, head of Dept. of Medicine at W. Virginia University. A low fever kills cold viruses, which makes it one of the body's defense mechanisms. Not should children be given aspirin unless their fever rises above 102.5°, says Dr. Waldman.

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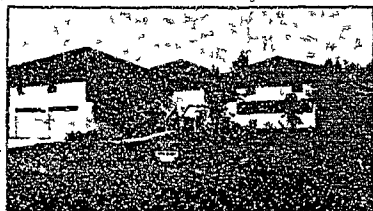
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Islander

Section B
Wednesday, July 6, 1983

Vipers can be dangerous

By George Campbell

Illustrated by Ann Wisterbotham

Back in April of this year a young man broke into the reptile house of the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. and stole two live Gaboon Vipers, *Bia gabonica*. This started a chain of events that was both life-threatening to him and especially interesting to me because it just happens that such vipers have figured rather largely in my life and, I might add, in the life of Wild Kingdom's famed Marlin Perkins too.

The young man in Washington, D.C. one of thousands of young reptile enthusiasts that are legion in our country probably could not resist the beauty of the truly colorful and interestingly patterned Gaboon Vipers.

No Buhara rug is more beautifully designed or richly colored than are these great snakes.

But of course at one end of the stocky heavy bodied serpent that is sometimes five or six inches in diameter and more than four feet long is a great head the size of your hand. Folded into the upper jaw are two inch or inch and a half long hollow fangs, nature's own hypodermic needles capable of delivering a large quantity of very toxic venom that too often spells death to the bite victim.

The young man, Louis Morton, 16 who is suspected of vandalizing the reptile house, rode a bus from the zoo to 16th and K Streets, where he got off with his deadly stolen cargo stowed in a garbage bag slung over his shoulder. Now 16th and K is a place where legless vipers are quite rare although two-legged vipers, the only truly parasitic ones, are common enough.

In any case it wasn't too bright of young Morton to chuck these two animals into a plastic garbage bag which in spite of all the ads we're treated to nightly on television, are really not strong enough to hold two

powerful deadly heavy bodied serpents.

On alighting from the bus Morton was bitten through the bag by one of the snakes. Right then started a drama that could have cost Morton his life but because of the humanity of the zoo people his life was saved. Extraordinary measures were taken to fly antivenin in from zoo stocks. Most zoos keep specific antivenins on hand for the exotic snake species that they display.

The Bronx and Staten Island zoos contributed rare vials of the specific antivenin for this species, and the boy's life was saved.

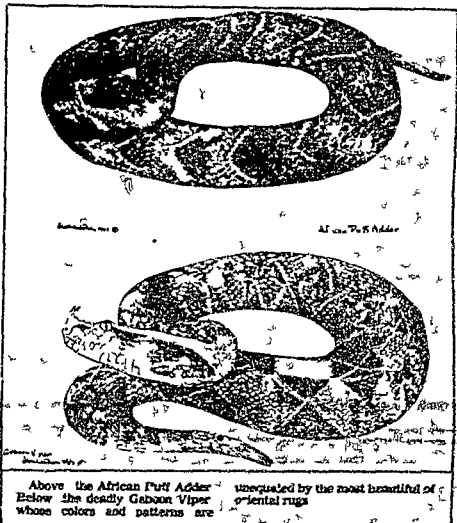
It seems to me particularly generous that zoos that are victims of this kind of vandalism theft would so selflessly and generously contribute to saving a felon's life.

Actually Morton was bitten in a particularly bad place, the shoulder which is rather close to the center of the vascular system, the heart. Such a bite would provide for rapid dispersal of the venom. After all, you can't put a tourniquet around a shoulder can you? That is kind of a frivolous comment because today a constriction band to stop lymph flow is the in thing to do. Tourniquets are definitely out these days.

Famed television host Marlin Perkins of Wild Kingdom was involved with a Gaboon Viper many many years ago when he was director of the St. Louis zoo. Perkins suffered an accidental bite by a Gaboon Viper.

This creature delivered a serious load of venom and Perkins was in grave danger of losing his life. But with true scientific spirit he jotted down his minute-by-minute and hour-by-hour symptoms and thoughts on his fate. He expected I believe that his notes would taper off in an obscure ending.

But through good fortune a remarkably strong constitution the very latest technology of the day and



the highest level of cooperation on his colleagues and the medical community Perkins lived to create Zoo Parade and later Wild Kingdom.

These excellent and informative programs have made an immense contribution to conservation awareness in this country. Many habitats that endure today and many endangered species throughout the

world owe their continued existence in large part to Marlin Perkins' highly accurate and educational programs.

If you want to read about Perkins' experience it's available in the Bulletin of the American Institute of America. I have observed that

continued next page

CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL PARK

BROOKFIELD

DATE RECEIVED		NO. OR NAME OF ANIMAL	AGE	HOW OBTAINED	FROM WHOM	ADDRESS	PHYSICAL CONDITION WHEN RECEIVED	PRICE OR VALUE	SEX	DEATH		
										DATE	CAUSE	DISPOSITION OF CARCASS
June 1934	1	Large	Parasite	Warren Buck	"	"	Good	1500	♀	Feb 14, 57	N.C.	Fixed Tissue
"	2	Small	"	"	"	"	"	1500	♂	Jan 9, 36	N.C.	Fixed Tissue
"	3	"	"	"	"	"	"	1500	♂	Apr 27, 36	N.C.	"
Oct 7, 34	4	Large	"	Geo. Campbell	"	Chicago, Ill.	"	1500	♀	May 16, 37	N.C.	"
July 14, 41	5	Small	"	C.H. Kern	"	Smithsonian Park Zoo Los Angeles Calif	"	3500	♀	Oct 6, 42	N.C.	"

Here reproduced is a page from the inventory acquisition records of the Chicago Zoological Park which is the correct name of the Brookfield Zoo. It deals with African Puff Adder inventory acquisitions for the period of June 1934 to July 1941.

Note item four a large female purchased from the writer on Oct. 7, 1934, for \$15. It died May 26, 1937 after two years seven months and 20 days.

Items one, two and three were furnished by Warren Buck son of J.L. Buck. Both father and son spent many

years as biologists in Africa. Eventually they gave up their mission and became the largest of the wild animal supply dealers with headquarters in Camden, N.J. Large numbers of the zoo animals of the 1930s, '40s and '50s were furnished by the Bucks.



New books at the Sanibel Library

FICTION

Lish, Gordon. *Dear Mr. Capote*. (Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1983) A criminal killer describes his life to a group of 47 women, one for each year of his life, writes to Truman Capote in hopes that the author will write his story.

Smith, Lee. *Oral History*. (Putnam's, 1983) Generations of voices from Houli Owl tell a story of

hunting and murder resulting from a curse on the boiler that follows its inhabitants for 100 years.

Cornwall, Bernard. *Sharpe's Sword*. (Viking, 1983) The fourth novel in the popular series has Richard Sharpe once again at war against Napoleon, which depends not only on military strength and tactics but also on forces of cunning, cruelty and secret intelligence.

Michael, Prince of Greece. *Sultana*. (Harper and Row, 1983) Story of a young French girl who is kidnapped by pirates who she is 15 and becomes Sultana in the harem of the Sultans of Turkey.

Guy, Rosa. *A Measure of Time*. (Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1983)

continued next page

New books at the Captiva Library

FICTION

Anderson, Paul. *Grace Shall Rise*. (Timescape Books, 1983) After a world-wide nuclear war, four disparate cultures attempt to create a new civilization.

Phillips, Morris. *Secret Underdarkness*. (Gnome and Schuster, 1983) The struggles of a civilized, compassionate woman who attempts to define the ultimate meaning of responsibility.

Plaidy, Jean. *Pythagoras for Three Women*. (Putnam's, 1983) Three remarkable, contemporary Katherine of Valois, Joan of Arc,

continued next page

George Campbell from page 18

Perkins does not mention the experience much, nor do I recall ever hearing him mention it on those several occasions when I met with him when he was director of the Lincoln Park Zoo of Chicago, also many years ago.

I, too, have had an experience with one of these huge African vipers — an experience which, in retrospect, is hair-raising.

In an earlier article in this series I mentioned that when I was 15 my first job was with famed "Bring 'Em Back Alive" Frank Buck. This was in Chicago, in 1933 and 1934 at the "Century of Progress" World's Fair.

When Buck's "kampong" or animal camp, closed down for the winter in the fall of 1933, I was engaged in sorting animals for shipment.

One day I recall having trapped and sexed about 250 monkeys, chucking the males into one big shipping cage and the females into another. It was quite a lot of monkey business, I'll tell you. All of the animals had to be shipped to warmer climates for the winter and then returned to Chicago the following spring.

The next day as we were boxing up King Cobras to ship them out also, an Arab who had been operating an intense parlor nearby and who sold various African art and bric-a-brac came to me with the offer of one of these great Bites serpents.

Actually the species he offered me was a little different from the Gaboon Viper, but it was of the same genus and its bite presented about the same level of danger as the Gaboon Viper.

This animal, called the African Puff Adder, Bites arctians, happened to be very tame. The Arab fellow had kept it about his shop in order to intrigue the public and cause people to look at, and maybe buy, his merchandise. Whether the strategy worked was doubtful for, he was a rather seedy type who didn't look at all prosperous. So possibly the creature had repulsed his potential customers.

In any case, he offered this tame creature to me for \$10. I could hardly refuse such a bargain as it came completely equipped with its own three-foot glass greenhouse-like cage. A syringe for force-feeding it liquid food was also provided.

I took the beast home to Evinston where I was not the most popular kid on the block because of all the strange and dangerous animals I maintained in my private zoo. I kept the snake for a long time, during which time it proved to be very, very tame indeed.

It never offered to bite, although it was in full possession of its fangs as could easily be demonstrated by

turning it over, opening its mouth with your finger and lifting a fang out on its "hinge" with the tip of a pencil. In this way one could clearly see one of the long hypodermic needles and demonstrate how it worked.

The animal was as tame as many pet Boa Constrictors, and it would drop itself around my neck, never offering any sign of hostility.

However, as with everything else when one is young, I eventually tired

Being unable to see clearly without the glasses, she made a false move and was bitten.

The bite was fatal.

of the beast and the weekly messy process of force-feeding it. So one day I put it in a lunch bucket and carried it on the elevated to downtown Chicago and then from the Loop west to Brookfield. This was several months after the opening of the Brookfield Zoo, which was then, as now, one of the largest zoos in the world.

In those days, the reptile house, today operated by expert herpetologist Ray Pawley, was under the direction of a very famous lady herpetologist named Grace Wiley. I had got to know Grace quite well because she was interested in young people who were interested in herpetology and she had often taken me "behind the scenes" in the reptile house where we free-handled "King" and "Queen."

King was a huge 14-foot-long (!) male King Cobra; Queen, only slightly shorter, was his cage companion. I almost said "mate," but they never did produce young.

King and Grace were absolutely gentle. Grace would hold them in her arms and pass them to me and they were completely equipped with their most friendly way. We would manipulate them for a while and finally return these most intelligent serpents to their cage.

The King Cobra, without exaggeration, can be considered the most dangerous wild animal in the world. It is the largest of all cobras and has huge fangs in the upper jaw. The head of a King Cobra can be as big as your fist, and these very active animals are actually known to attack people in some parts of their

range.

Raymond Dittmars, another early leader in the field of herpetology who befriended me when I was a boy, used to say King Cobras actually tracked people. He also claimed they were the only venomous serpent that could ever be considered actually to attack man.

Well naturally when I showed up with my tame bite, Grace Wiley was ecstatic. She was most anxious to

acquire another tame venomous snake. She raised up Ed Bean, the then director and founding director of the Brookfield Zoo. His first question was, "Does the Zoo already have specimens of this species?" to which Grace had to answer yes. "But," she said, "you must come and see this lovely animal."

So a few minutes later Bean ambled over from the nearby main office at a moment when both Grace and I were free-handling my beautiful African Puff Adder.

Showing great good sense, Bean asked us to put it back into the lunch bucket, which we reluctantly did. Then he proceeded to ask me how much I wanted for the animal. When I told him a modest \$15 he reached into his own pocket and handed me that sum, saying that although the zoo did not need the specimen at all because of the several already there, he was going to buy it on the spot and take control at that very moment in order to, of all things, "save my life." I am sure that is exactly what Ed Bean did — he saved my life.

Free-handling that dangerous serpent could have gone on only so long before death would have parted. I shall forever be grateful to Bean for his generous act.

He also instructed Grace to stop free-handling poisonous snakes. But this was like asking Karsh to stop clicking his shutter. Grace Wiley could not keep her hands off venomous snakes. Eventually, after several escaped from their cages in the reptile house and at least one turned up in the town of Brookfield,

she was asked to resign from her curatorship.

Years later, when employed elsewhere, Grace was demonstrating to noted nature writer Daniel Mannix how to free-handle a baby cobra. This was not a King Cobra but a small Spectacled or Indian Cobra.

Not a young woman when I knew her, Grace was, by the time of this latest (and final) cobra incident, probably well into her seventies and had to wear glasses — something she had not done earlier in her life. Mannix wanted to photograph her with the Indian Cobra in her hands. She, with what I assume, to be feminine vanity, insisted on removing her glasses to have her picture taken.

Being unable to see clearly without the glasses, she made a false move and was bitten. The bite was fatal. She died shortly thereafter. So ended the controversial and fascinating life of Grace Wiley.

And so might have ended my life had not Ed Bean taken the generous step of buying my snake with the stated purpose of having it.

Recently, Ray Pawley, who is the present curator at Brookfield Zoo's fantastic reptile collection, studied, at my request, the history books of acquisitions of animals at the Zoo and found the entry where my creature had been purchased for \$15. Here reproduced is that authentic old record.

Dittmars, the great herpetologist and leader at the Bronx Zoo in New York for many years, is quoted as having originated the saying, "A fool and his snake are soon parted." I look his admonition to heart. For most of my life I did not ever again handle venomous snakes.

But now on Sanibel I am occasionally forced to get involved with Diamondback Rattlesnakes and Coral Snakes, for I am one of those called when a snake gets stuck in a house, screen door, or swimming pool. I hope my life-in-life reinforcement to venomous serpents ends as happily as did my relationship with the African Puff Adder.

Footnote: Recently there was a panicky demand that I go to the sixth green of one of Sanibel's golf courses to solve a "Water Moccasin problem." No amount of discussion could dissuade the fearful golfer, a grown man who babbled like a child, to give up his erroneous belief. The truth is there are no naturally occurring Water Moccasins on Sanibel.

New books at the Sanibel Library

Trace the pell-mell life of a brash, sassy woman from her escape from Alabama to her blitz on Harlem in the 1920's.

Wilcox, James. *Modern Baptista*. (Doubleday, 1983) Things begin going wrong for a Louisiana man when his half brother — an ex-actor and an ex-con — moves in with him.

NON-FICTION

Collins, Pat. *How To Be a Really Nice Person*. (M. Evans, 1983) With wit and candor, the author offers guidelines on how to be decent and fair without wasting time.

Heller, Dr. John. *Report on the Surround of Turin*. (Houghton, Mifflin,

continued

1983) Fascinating report of the 40 American scientists who used the most up-to-date equipment to determine the authenticity of the Turin Shroud, the ancient piece of material said to have been wrapped around Christ when he was taken down from the Cross.

Artist's reception

The Lee County Alliance of the Arts invites the public to a reception for marine artist John Jacobson at the arts center this Sunday, July 16, from 2 to 4 p.m.

In addition to his seascapes Jacobson's love for realism paved the way for his mastery of the technique of "Trompe L'Oeil," which literally translated from French means "fool the eye."

The Jacobson art show will be open for viewing at the center on the corner of McGregor and Colonial boulevards in Fort Myers from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday through Aug. 3.

New books at the Captiva Library

Eleanor of Gloucester — and their impact on Lancastrian-Plantagenet England.

Wood, Christopher. *A Dove Against Death*. (Viking, 1983) A

remote African outpost in World War I provides the backdrop for an exciting adventure with an unusual heroine.

NON-FICTION

continued

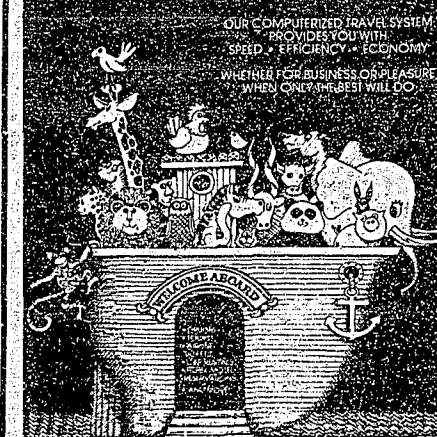
Gage, Nicholas. *Eleni*. (Random House, 1983) An investigative reporter for the New York Times returns to Greece to uncover the truth behind his mother's torture and murder during the civil war.

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New potter adds his touch to Sanibel Pottery

By David Meardon

Tim Smith says he feels fortunate to be employed in his field so soon after finishing school. A potter by trade, Smith recently moved to Sanibel from Chicago to work for A Touch of Sanibel Pottery, artisans Dave and Barb Hoggatt.

A native of St. Cloud, Minnesota, Smith, 21, has spent the last five years studying at the Chicago Institute of the Arts, where his main field of interest was ceramics. As a part of his education, Smith worked as an apprentice with Minnesota potter Richard Bresnahan, giving him hands on experience with digging indigenous clays, creating glazes for pots, and kiln firing.

Smith also helped a friend set up a pottery studio in St. Louis, giving him valuable insights into the workings of a studio.

Smith's job with A Touch of Sanibel Pottery is the result of being in the right place at the right time. Vacationing on Sanibel with his parents last year, he stopped in the pottery shop for a look, and ended up hitting it off with the Hoggatts, who said their growing business would require an additional potter by the time he graduated in May of this year.

"Everything here is a lot slower than Chicago. It's a lot easier to think," Smith said.

Besides making pots, Smith will work in the retail area of the shop. Kathy Sweeney, who has worked for the Hoggatts for the past year, has become an apprentice potter. The apprenticeship under the Hoggatts involves two nights of hands on training per week, and she is currently learning the fundamentals of the potter's wheel.



Tim Smith forms a clay creation on the potter's wheel at A Touch of Sanibel Pottery. Photo by David Meardon.

Smith's Pottery will continue to produce top quality functional pottery at reasonable prices.

"It's a long process," said Dave Hoggatt, "but she's willing to work at it, and that's what it takes." Hoggatt said the crew at A Touch of

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Fitness classes start July 11



COMING
ATTRACTIONS

A five-week session of exercise classes will begin next Monday, July 11, at Rhythmic Exercises, Inc., in Pelican Place, sleeping center on Palm Kidge Road.

The classes feature choreographed exercise routines to music and consist of warm-ups for gentle stretching and flexibility development; floor exercises to tone the muscles with emphasis on thigh, hip and abdominal areas; light dumbbell work for arm and upper body conditioning; aerobics for cardiovascular fitness and a soothing cool down to relax and revitalize.

Classes are offered on two levels, advanced and moderate. The advanced classes are geared toward a high level of fitness, but modifications in technique will allow beginners to work out their own level and progress gradually.

The moderate classes are designed to accommodate beginners, older women and women with a weight problem.

Advanced classes will be held at 7:30 a.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at 9:45 a.m. Monday through Friday, and at 6:45 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Moderate classes will be offered at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Fees for the five-week session are \$20 for one class per week; \$44 for three classes per week; and \$56 for four classes per week.

To register call and specify the days and times you will most consistently attend. Missed classes can be made up during the five-week session or can be deducted from the fee. For more information call Madsen Amrose, 472-5353.

Registration for fall classes starts at community college

Open registration for the fall session of Edison Community College begins Monday, July 11. Information is now available about courses and programs at the main campus in Fort Myers and at the ECC centers in Naples and Fort Charlotte.

Classes for the fall term begin Monday, Aug. 29, and continue

through Dec. 15. Admission is open to everyone who has graduated from an accredited high school, passed the GRE test or who has permission of the college administration. Course fees are \$19 per credit hour. For more information call the Admissions Office, 489-9318.

Cape studio presents World War II artwork

Rudolph Wedow's realistic pencil drawings and paintings will stir old World War II memories when viewed at the Cape Coral Arts Studio from July 6-22.

Wedow was a professional artist, sculptor and teacher. During World War II he built and repaired bridges with the 126th Army Engineers. He did all of the art work on his own, but the Army was so impressed with his work that it was reproduced.

Wedow did return home from the war and died in 1963. His original drawings have been on display at the West Point Museum. The on-the-spot renderings through the eyes of a young soldier appeal to people of all ages.

Meet the artist's widow, Marian Wedow, at a short informal background talk about the work at 7 p.m. this Thursday, July 7, at the gallery in Cape Coral.

The Cape Coral Arts Studio is a non-profit facility of The Cape Coral Parks and Recreation Department. Open hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday. Phone 542-7714 for more information.

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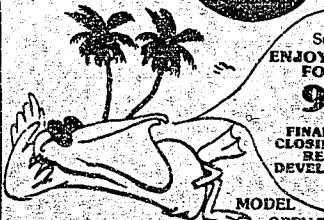
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ISLANDER SPORTS

By Scott Martell

Summer heat and humidity don't stop Dunes tennis women

While sizzling serves followed by remarkable returns hissed onto the grass courts at Wimbledon last week, crisp cross-courts and lary lobbs also graced the harder courts at the Dunes on Sanibel.

It might be hot and humid, but the women on the Dunes women's "B" summer team still take their tennis seriously. Most of the summer strokes also compete in winter's serious match play. When the weather cools in the winter, the women get hotter and more involved with serious competition.

For now though, the summer league "plays just for fun for a change," according to organizer Debby Paul. These summer "get-together" matches usually pit Dunes teams against the same teams they face in the winter. The Dunes has four teams, with right women on each team. The teams are ranked "A," "B," "C," and "D" by level of play. Members



complete with the same level squads from the likes of the Cape Coral Yacht Club to the Cypress Lake Country Club team.

The women on the "B" team opened the summer season June 21 against Bonita Beach and will finish in the summer tune-up July 19 against Cypress Lake Country Club. Team

members hope other matches will be scheduled. Last week the ladies played against a mixed group called the "Wildcats." The ladies played a round robin, with doubles matches set at eight games. Scores were kept as the games were played but were quickly forgotten in keeping with the summertime spirit.

Ellen Hunt, left, shows concentration. At right, Peggy Gieseke charges the net to return a volley. Photos by Scott Martell.



Twelve-year-old takes seven-foot tarpon in two hour struggle

By Scott Martell

You can't measure a thrill. But you can measure a fish.

Last week 12-year-old Timothy Bush caught a seven-foot tarpon with a 36 inch girth that weighed in at approximately 134 pounds.

Tarpon showed up in local waters near the end of May. Since the average sizes run from 70 to 125 pounds, Tim's fish was undeniably a granddad of the species. Yet to listen to Tim tell his tale of the two-hour and 45 minute struggle with the tarpon, it is obvious the thrill was even bigger than the fish.

"For the full two hours and 45 minutes all I thought about was the fish," Tim says. "You wouldn't think you could think one thing for so long, but you can," he emphasizes, his eyes reflecting his determination.

This was Tim's first tarpon after two previous summers visiting his grandparents, the William Hicks of Sanibel. Last year he had a tarpon on the line, but the fish broke loose.

But this year the Kansas City youth, using the lessons learned the past two years, came up with the fish. He caught his tarpon off of Knappe Point



using a 50-pound test line with a mullet tail as bait. The fishermen were out on Hick's 18' Sea Sprite. They saw one other tarpon landed before the long fight for Tim's fish began.

The tarpon leaped into the air about six times. Then in an attempt to get free it charged the Sea Sprite and dove under the bottom of the boat.

Tim kept his head and dropped the point of his rod to the water. This kept the stress off the rod and kept the line from rubbing and perhaps snapping against the boat's side.

All the while Tim battled the fish, keeping the line tight and carefully pinpointing the fish's location, his grandfather guided the boat and yelled encouragement.

From seeing the fish leap in the air, the two fishermen knew the tarpon was of good size. Yet when the fish was finally landed, Hicks was more than impressed. It was the first tarpon either of the two had landed.

"Too bad we weren't in a tarpon derby," laments Hicks. "There was one going on right there at Fort Myers Beach."



SWAT results

The Sanibel Water Attack Team's "dirty dozen" propelled themselves to a second place finish in last week's G.I. CV swim meet at the Cypress Lake pool. Individual results follow:

Boys, eight and under:

Andy Muench placed first with a 15.70 in the 25 yard freestyle. Muench also took first in the 25 backstroke with 21.37, first in the 25 butterfly with 20.35, and picked up a second place in the 25 yard breaststroke. Rio Gralnick picked up second place in the 25 yard freestyle, and a third place in the 25 yard fly. Chad Hatcher added a third place finish in the 25 yard fly.

Boys, ten and under:

Scott Lopez went for first in the 50 yard backstroke with a time of 41.41. He also added a second in the 50 yard breaststroke, and two third place finishes, one in the 50 yard freestyle, and the other in the 25 yard fly.

Boys, 11-12:

Jey Thomas dashed for first in the 50 yard fly with a time of 33.33. He also added three second place finishes, in the 50 yard freestyle, the 50 yard breaststroke, and the 50 yard backstroke.

Boys, open:

Scott Pelosa churned for three first places, in the 50 yard freestyle, with 30.46; the 50 breaststroke, with 35.84; and the 50 fly, with 44.0.

Girls, eight and under:

Faige Horak swam for a first place in the 25 yard backstroke, with a time of 21.29.

Girls, ten and under:

Trish Lowe took a first in the 50 yard freestyle, with 31.16, and added another first in the 50 yard backstroke, with 39.33, and a second in the 25 yard fly. Heather Muench placed first in the 50 yard breaststroke, with 42.56, and added a first place in the 25 yard fly.

Girls, open:

S. Pelosa took second in the 50 yard breaststroke.

continued, page 7B.

SWAT continued

Mixed races:

In the eight and under 100 yard freestyle relay, the Sanibel team of Rio Gralnick, Peggy Horak, Chad Hatcher, and Andy Muench, placed first, racing with a time of 1:11.04. The ten and under team placed second in their 100 yard freestyle relay.

In the open 100 yard freestyle relay, the Sanibel team placed first with 2:05.88. The team competed with S. Pelosa, Heather Muench, Trish Lowe, and Jey Thomas.

Islander staffers place in canoe race

For the second straight year, The Islander was well represented in the media canoe race held as part of the annual Tarpon Bay Marina Fourth of July Celebration this past weekend.

A trio of teams, featuring Paula Acosta and Glenn Petterson, Scott Martell and Suzanne Boettcher, and Julie Niederstuer and Chris Strine, ably manned their canoes and paddled their way to top finishing positions in the event held Sunday afternoon.

Pacing The Islander contingent were Acosta and Petterson, who sprinted home to tie for third place. The duo was also awarded a special plaque for being the first co-ed team to cross the line.

Niederstuer and Strine managed a sixth place finish with Martell and Boettcher coming in a close seventh.

At last count, a total of 22 racing crews were entered in the event, which was organized by Tarpon Bay charter captain Randy White.

Nabbing the first three spots at the finish were television teams from WINK, WBBH and WEVU. Thanks to some pre-race problems, which went along with a few on-the-course mishaps, Niederstuer and Strine earned another special "trophy" for The Islander when they were presented with the "Broken Paddle Award" during the festivities.

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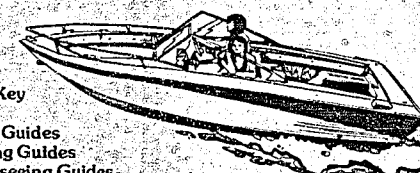
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Scott Pelosa

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Pepper partygoers to clear field for soccer

Saturday, July 16, islanders will have a chance to vent all their anger and frustrations against the scourge of the islands—the infamous Brazilian Pepper tree.
That Saturday, at 8:30 a.m., volunteers are being invited to a "pepper party" in order to clear peppers and create an area for a soccer field behind the two softball fields near the elementary school.
About half the area of a soccer field, 120' by 70' is

already clear. The Lee County School board, which owns the property, and the City of Sanibel have both given their okay for the rest of the area to be cleared.
Recreation center director Dick Noon is taping "body" donations for the work, and also for equipment such as chain saws, pruning shears, and clippers. If you have equipment that cuts, but can't make the party, please consider the loan of the

equipment, Noon asks.
Volunteers should wear long pants, large shirts, and gloves, Noon mentions. To sign up for the "party", please give the recreation center a call at 472-4045.
After the work, there will be a plant giveaway of all the prime native vegetation that will be carefully removed from the designated soccer field.



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