



# COMMENTARY

## Shell Club member responds to La Croix letter

**To the Editor**  
The Islander

Regarding the David La Croix commentary in the Dec. 6, 1984, Islander, the Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club, Inc., responds to the account regarding the club's rental of space from the Sanibel Community Association for its club meetings as follows:

1. No Shell Club member sells any item at the Shell Fair for personal profit. All items and labor are donated to the Shell Fair, and all proceeds from the Driftwood Shop, the Shell Booth and the Live Shell Exhibit go directly to the Sanibel Community Association.

2. The Shell Club uses the community association hall for a total of eight monthly meetings for a three-hour period at most for each meeting.

3. The Shell Club did not pay a rental of \$1,400 in 1983. We did, however, give a \$1,400 donation in 1984 to the community association to assist in paying

off the mortgage on the building.

4. The Sanibel Shell Fair is a joint effort by the Sanibel Community Association and the Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club. The club receives 10 percent of the net profits from the Shell Fair up to the first \$15,000 and 10 percent of any additional net profits over and above the first \$15,000, if any. There is no payment made for the many hours of work done prior to the Shell Fair by the members of the Shell Club, nor for all the many hours put in by many Island people for the Driftwood Shop, nor for the collection of shells sold at the Shell Booth.

Thank you for your help in clearing up this situation so people will know the part played by the Shell Club, which is done willingly. I am

Sincerely,  
Ralph Moore  
On behalf of the  
Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club

## Chairmen thank all who helped make craft fair 'the best ever'

**To the Editor**  
The Islander

We would like to thank the craftsmen, the public and the many willing volunteers who made the Dard of the Islands' Fifth Annual BIG Arts Craft Fair the best ever.

Also special thanks to BOTT employees and Arnie's Deli for food preparation, the Island Reporter for a super supplement and the Schoolhouse Gallery, Treehouse Gift Shop, The Islander, The Island Reporter, BOTT and BIG Arts for prize money.

Let's do it again next year, Nov. 30, 1985!  
Fely Mastromoto  
Cecelya Smith  
Chairmen

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## Island Lions bring Christmas cheer to special guests from page 1

than the others and had a familiar shape. A big fellow opened it and found a suitcase.

"I'm going home! I'm going home!" he shouted with excitement. A man who'd been one of the quietest all afternoon suddenly became one of the most talkative and happy.

Another man, "James," was among the more outgoing, but in a quieter moment said he never heard a word from his parents — "not a call, not a letter, nothing."

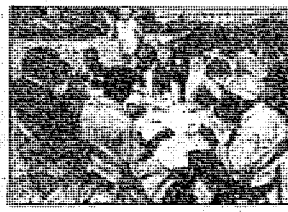
But soon he was talking about his "family" at the center — his "brothers," and how they had put up two Christmas trees this year instead of one.

Most of the men came right up and introduced themselves, sticking out their hands.

"We try to give them the chance to get out as much as possible," Wilson said. "They go out on dates, to parties, sniping, ball games all kinds of things. It helps them develop their social skills."

One man introduced himself as Santa's son for the day.

"Hey, I've already said I would give away more than 10 red sports cars — this is great," he laughed.



Clockwise from top: Santa made many friends at the party; the Gulf Coast Center resident enjoyed a picnic lunch in the backyard at Dormer home; Lion Bob Dormer watched with Santa handed out presents to eager and appreciative guests. Photos by Mark Johnson.

## Committee will determine whether SCA rates are reasonable from page 1

community, preferably a CPA, could arbitrate the dispute.

Some of the council opposed the city's interfering in the operation of a private organization.

"Let the community association solve its own problems," Councilman Mike Klein urged.

"The association has tried to justify its rates," Councilman Louise Johnson said. "I don't want to impose anything on them. If they want the committee, fine."

Councilman Bill Hagerup had no objection to a committee, but he said he did not think there should be council participation.

Valtin pointed out that one stipulation of the city's agreement to donate \$10,000 annually to the SCA to help pay off the mortgage was that "rents charged must be reasonable."

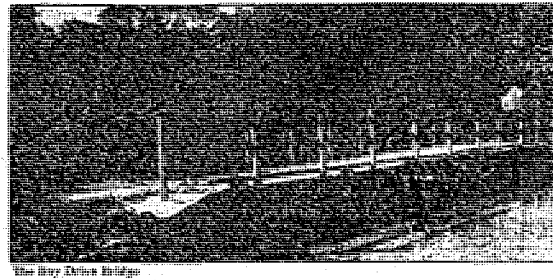
"The purpose of this committee is only to make this determination," he said.

Palmer agreed it might be the only way to settle the issue once and for all. But he said SCA does not consider the city's contribution a donation by SCA.

"We have it on our books as a loan and intend to pay it back," he said.

Councilman Francis Bailey said he had been associated with SCA longer than anyone in this room and it has a warm place in his heart.

"We should help bail them out," he said.



## City considers vacating Bay Drive bridge from page 1

might be perceived as a benefit to a single landowner.

"The referendum was passed on a great deal of misunderstanding about the issues," Klein said. "Is saving the taxpayers \$50,000 worth taking a little flak?"

Councilman Louise Johnson agreed with Klein's position.

City Attorney David La Croix suggested that the council could consider vacating just the bridge and put the question to a referendum for voters' approval.

It was consensus that La Croix should ordinance calling for vacation of public use of the bridge. The council will consider the at its Jan. 15 meeting.

"Every effort should be made to be public with a clear understanding of the Klein said.

Islander Paulette Durton, who spearheaded 1982 referendum movement, said without it the public would be unable to get access to beach.

16A Tuesday, December 11, 1984 The ISLANDER

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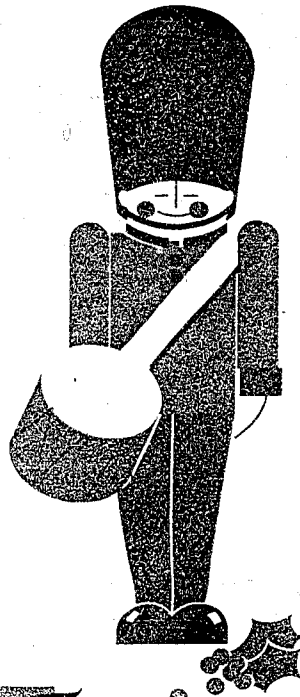
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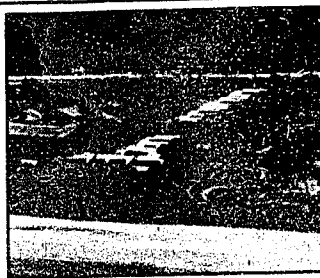


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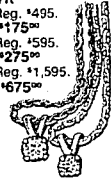
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**Needlework news**

Customize stuffed toys for the holidays with a knitted Santa's hat

By Barbara Boulton  
Certain members of my family cannot resist the antics of a very popular cartoon cat. Stuffed replicas of him are in every room of our home. But we don't have one with a Santa's hat. So in the card shop the cat with the hat jumped into our arms as we talked to the cash register. But when I

opened my wallet reality took over. "Why can't I knit a Santa's hat for the cat?" Since you need to buy a full skein of red yarn and a skein of white fuzzy yarn you might as well knit a hat for your pelican statue, someone's teddy bear, Kermit the Frog, gift wine bottles and even coffee tins filled with

cookies. I used worsted weight yard and number six single point needles. (I have told you before that I hate double pointed needles!) The pattern is written for miniatures. Average and large size directions are in parenthesis. With white, loosely cast on 15 (31-45) stitches (I use two needles

held together). Knit four (6-8) rows. Cut the yarn, leaving enough to sew the white band together. Tie on the red yarn and work the stockinette stitch (knit a row, purl a row) for four (6-8) rows. Decrease by knitting two stitches together at each and every other row until five stitches are left. Leaving a long enough end to sew the

seam, cut the yarn, thread it in a yarn needle and draw the needle through the leftover stitches. Make a small white pom-pom and stitch it on with the red yarn, then weave the hat seam together. If you have any questions stop by Idle Hours, 2440 Palm Ridge Road.



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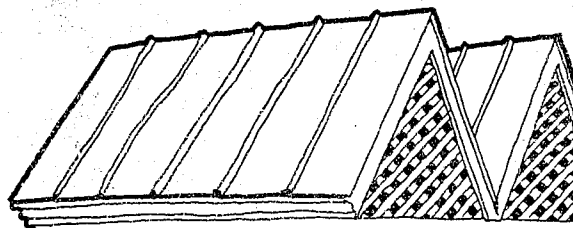
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# The Bailey Tract: Sanibel as it once was

An aerial view of Sanibel shows a tropical nature — a jungle-like canopy, white sandy beaches and marks of human habitation such as homes, condominiums and businesses.

But one area stands out as very different from the rest — the Bailey Tract of the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge off Tarpon Bay Road.

The 100-acre parcel is scooped out of the jungle of pines and Brazilian peppers which line the tract like leaves around a flower. A series of mosquito control canals outlines the parcel. In the interior sections open ponds sit like craters in the landscape. Dikes that serve as two miles of walking trails run throughout the small wetlands preserve.

Walking on the trails with Ralph Lloyd, assistant manager at the refuge, and Chris Olsen, recreation planner, we come across some bobcat scat. All kinds of birds chirp in the scattered buttonwoods and cabbage palms. Something burrows deeper into a spartina grass clump as we go by — a rabbit or Sanibel rice rat, perhaps?

Later we see a small alligator eyeing the unusual mangrove clump that sits near the middle of the refuge. Fish, larger than gumbusia, splash in the canals. Involving cattails sway in the breeze.

The Bailey Tract is special for many reasons — it is one of the best birding places on the island; it is one of the few places on the island where you can walk in the wilds; and it is quiet and peaceful. But another, more unique aspect makes the area extra special.

The tract gives residents and visitors a chance to experience what much of Sanibel was once like. But, just as Sanibel has changed dramatically with development and invasion of exotic vegetation, so has the Bailey Tract.

And the tract continues to change, as a natural succession of generally native vegetation begins to change what was once an open spartina marsh.

The refuge staff's current management plan is to keep out all exotic vegetation and to mow the walking trails.

But last week Lloyd presented a paper to the refuge advisory board that is the first step to evolving a new management plan — a plan that might introduce land management techniques such as fire or flooding a small area of the Bailey Tract in order to create a more diversified habitat and one that is even more historically accurate.

"A lot of people come down here to Sanibel for other parts of South Florida like where I grew up, and many of them think it's pretty neat now," Lloyd says. "But they have no idea how much it has changed. It's like you take someone home to show them your hometown, but you hardly even recognize it yourself."

The Bailey Tract is only 100 acres of what once was a large wetland area dominated by spartina grass and low lying ridges. Early photographs



Story by Scott Martell  
Photos by Mark Johnson



show that as much as 30 to 40 percent of the area was open water sloughs at the end of the rainy season.

The tract represented how much of the island used to look. One pioneer once described it as an island where you could stand near Periwinkle Way and see the sun hitting the gulf water.

And while it is only 100 acres, the changes that occurred on this parcel are representative of changes that occurred throughout the island and, in some ways, throughout South Florida.

The biggest change likely came with the digging of the mosquito control ditches, Lloyd says. The spartina marsh relied on a fluctuation of high water levels in the rainy season and a complete drying out in the winter season. This all changed with the digging of the mosquito control ditches.

The ditches have cut into the natural slough areas. Therefore, water caught in the sloughs in the rainy season drains much quicker off the island through the ditches, and the average water level has fallen.

The flooding in the past helped kill off competing vegetation that was less tolerant to high water than spartina grass. Without the flooding, other species began a rampage into the area.

And the water control structures also keep some water in the area all year around, instead

of allowing a drying out period. This allows detritus to accumulate in the slough areas and build up the bottom. The higher ground then is fertile for invasion by other species.

Because of these factors there is no longer any natural open water on the tract. The only open water is the excavated ponds.

Other factors that have added to the change in vegetation have been less salt water intrusion into the wetlands — because of fewer than normal hurricanes and the closing of natural drains out to the gulf — and the loss of wildfires, which now are extinguished quickly by firefighters.

The lowering of the water's salinity has increased the invasion of the less salt tolerant species such as cattail, buttonwood, leather fern and wax myrtle.

And in the past, fire would periodically remove these invading species while allowing more fire resistant species such as spartina to flourish.

"And only these three factors came to play and the vegetation started to change. It really began to roll and is continuing to do so now," Lloyd explains.

In fact, the vegetation change could be dominated by pine and Brazilian pepper instead of the above-mentioned native species — except that the refuge initiated an exotic control program to eradicate these exotics at the Bailey Tract. This has been one of the refuge's biggest success stories.

The refuge has manipulated the land a great deal since it acquired the property from Francis Bailey in 1954 for \$50 an acre. The property was bought with Duck Stamp money — which is appropriate since many of the land management projects were designated for wildlife.

In the late 1940s and early 1950s, when the refuge leased the property, a series of ponds was excavated and dikes constructed. Early managers felt that open water would produce waterfowl food plants in the summer, provide food and resting habitat for migrating ducks in the fall and winter, and provide nesting and brood habitat for Florida ducks in the spring and summer.

Further excavations continued up to 1983. But they were too deep to serve as the historical slough habitat, and those dug shallow were soon invaded by cattails. Some of the old slough habitat does remain, but it, too, is clogged by cattails.

So the vegetation is changing dramatically — does it matter?

"The change in the vegetation means a change in the wildlife," Lloyd says. "This area used to be a large rookery for part of the year. Now that's altogether gone. The area is no longer at-

continued page 7B

## Second annual meeting shows progress of refuge society

By Scott Martell

The tremendous strides the J.N. "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society has taken in its second year of operation were very much in evidence at last Wednesday's second annual meeting of the society.

The group met to review finances, elect new officers and present awards to members.

The growth in the society was demonstrated by several figures. Volunteer hours have almost doubled since last year, from 2,740 hours to more than 5,000 hours. The number of volunteers has increased from 50 to 76. And the society's budget, which edged into the red last year with about \$4,500, has now accrued a positive balance of almost \$15,000, according to Treasurer Art Johnson.

"While these numbers are all good," said Refuge Manager Ron Hight, "There are other factors equally important. It is the people who are making the refuge such a success — the personal bonds they are making with the people who come here is most important."

Among the people who were recognized last week for outstanding service were:

• Diane Pierce, who created 14 pen and ink drawings and donated them to the refuge for use in the upcoming interpretive guide — Pierce was presented a framed National Wildlife Federation Duck Stamp series done by "Ding" Darling;

• David Meardon, who in a recent Fish and Wildlife Service sponsored photography contest won first place in the public use category for his "Fishing Sunset" photograph — Meardon was presented a plaque, certificate and a large framed color print of his award winning photograph;

• Barbara Hulman, for her volunteer work ordering and stocking books for the refuge book rack — Hulman was presented a framed photograph of a roseate spoonbill by Al Milliken; and

• Bud Ryckman, for his work and dedication as president of the society — Ryckman was presented a framed 1983-84 Duck Stamp and a new National Audubon field guide series. Three new members were also added to the society's board of directors: Milena Eskew, Reed Toomey and Bud Ryckman. Ron Hight, Barbara Hulman and Chris Olsen were added as ex-officio members. And Paul

Brundage was selected the new president of the society.

The society is a volunteer "cooperative association" that assists the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's Service regular staff at the refuge. The society's volunteer service focuses on handling the more than 1.5 million visitors who use the refuge each year. Because the society is a non-profit

organization, all the money it raises through either the sales of books at the Visitor Center or donations at membership dues — is returned to the refuge and stays on Sanibel. Money given directly to the refuge would have to be sent to the regional office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service — Atlanta.



Left to right: David Meardon, Diane Pierce, Barbara Hulman and Bud Ryckman with their gifts of appreciation from the society. Photo by Scott Martell.

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### New directors installed at SCCF annual meeting

By Scott Martell

The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation used its 17th annual meeting last Friday night to announce a grand finale to the 1984 Year of the Wetlands.

For the next three months, SCCF will feature a "Celebration of the Wetlands" that will involve everyone from children to photographers, land use planners, developers and anyone who is interested in keeping Florida a more natural state.

"We're really going to lay it on for the next few months," said SCCF President Bill Webb. "We're going to have all kinds of events and activities — there's going to be excitement all over the place."

Among the activities will be a South-

west Florida Wetlands Conference, a series of Tuesday at the Center programs devoted to wetland issues, a photo and poster contest and special guided trail trips.

The Southwest Florida Wetlands Conference will be held Jan. 25 at Sundial resort. The conference should be a major event bringing together preservationists and developers and others to discuss Florida's future.

"There have been many laws created within the last year concerning wetland preservation," said Mark "Bird" Westall, coordinator of the conference. "Many people are questioning what they all mean. The SCCF will put the answers down on the board and show how the laws do not have to have a detrimental effect on

development. You can learn how to develop and preserve the environment, too."

Westall said the conference will bring the two opposing sides together so they can work closer in the future.

continued next page

### Wetlands celebration line-up

The following events are scheduled as part of the SCCF's "Celebration of the Wetlands":

- The Southwest Florida Wetlands Conference will be held Jan. 25 at Sundial resort.
- The Tuesday at the Center program of 7 p.m. every Tuesday (commencing Jan. 8) will feature a series of wetland issues.
- The SCCF will have a guided photography tour of the wetlands in January.
- The SCCF will have a guided photography tour of the wetlands in February.
- The SCCF will have a guided photography tour of the wetlands in March.
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- The SCCF will have a guided photography tour of the wetlands in September.
- The SCCF will have a guided photography tour of the wetlands in October.
- The SCCF will have a guided photography tour of the wetlands in November.
- The SCCF will have a guided photography tour of the wetlands in December.

### New directors installed at SCCF annual meeting continued

"That's the only way we're going to have Florida develop as a more natural state," he added.

"The tension is there between preservationists and developers," said Webb. "And already there has been tremendous response from developers about the conference. Some of the biggest developers in the area want to

get together with those who are the biggest protectors of the environment and try to eliminate some of those tensions."

Besides announcing the "Celebration of the Wetlands," the SCCF nominated new members of the board of directors at the annual meeting. Those joining the board this

year are Charlotte Carrington, Bob Hanger, Peg Johnson and Jerry Melum.

Retiring members of the board are Rose Rogers, Bill Webb and Malcolm Beattie. Each was presented a drawing by SCCF Manager Steve Phillips.

Webb also announced that mem-

bership in the foundation stands about 2,400 members.

"We've got to do better in convincing people that this is the white organization on Sanibel and Captiva," he said.

### Wetlands celebration line-up continued

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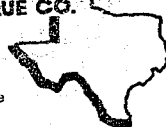
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### Nature programs, lectures, tours

#### Islands will participate in nation-wide Christmas bird count

The Sanibel-Captiva segment of the annual nation-wide Christmas Bird Census sponsored by the National Audubon Society will take place from dawn to dusk Saturday, Dec. 22.

Dr. K.C. Emerson, coordinator of the count on behalf of the major bird-oriented groups on Sanibel and Captiva, says many birders will spread their quest over the entire 24-hour period of Dec. 22 in an effort to include in the count as many as possible of the islands' owls and other nocturnal species.

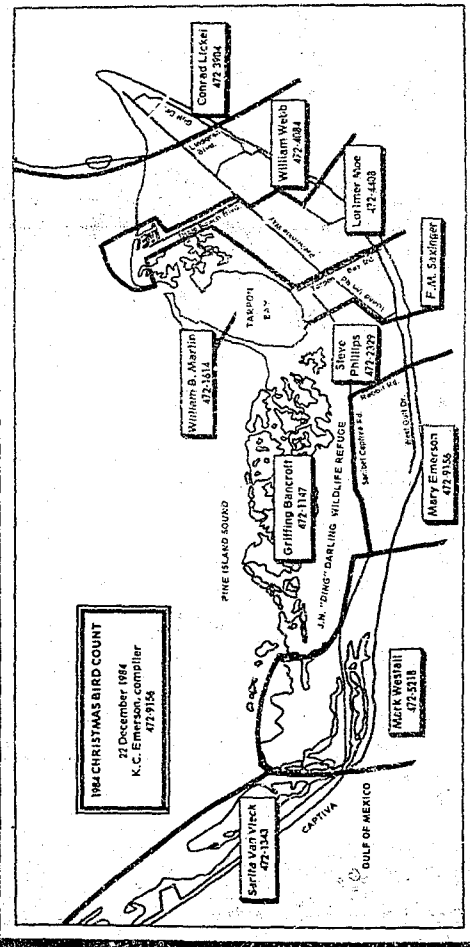
The updated bird checklist recently published by the local Audubon Society in cooperation with the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation and the Ding Darling Wildlife Society will be used to record bird observations and other findings of 10 teams designed to cover the 10 areas of the islands as shown on the accompanying map.

Leaders of the 10 teams include a number of professional naturalists as well as several skilled amateur ornithologists. They are: Mark Westall, Griffing Bancroft, Steve Phillips, Dr. William Webb, Sarita van Vliet, Mary Emerson, F.M. Saxinger, Lorimer Moo, Conrad Lickel and William Martin.

Experienced birders who have not already signed up for the count are invited to volunteer by calling the team leader for the volunteer's special interest area as shown on the map.

Participants in the count will assemble at the Dunes clubhouse at 5 p.m. to submit their findings for inclusion in the overall compilation. An informal dinner will be served starting at 6 p.m. Reservations for dinner should be made no later than Dec. 15 through team leaders.

Results of the census tabulation will be submitted to the National Audubon Society for inclusion in the nation-wide bird census published each year.



### Nature program, lectures, tours

#### Tuesday at the Center features local alligator expert

Sanibel's own George Campbell will discuss "Alligators and Other Reptiles and Amphibians" at today's Tuesday at the Center program beginning at 2 p.m. at the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation.

Campbell is chairman of the Southwest Florida Regional Alligator Association and is the international coordinator for the Fund For Animals, Inc.

This week's program is the last until after the New Year's holiday. The series will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 9, with a talk by a lieutenant from the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. All Tuesday at the Center programs are free and open to the public.

### Refuge needs part-time recreation aide

The J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge is recruiting for a recreation aide. The person who is hired for this six-hour-a-week position will spend time working at the refuge Visitors Center information desk, assisting in volunteer coordination, doing general office work and operating audio-visual equipment.

The job is funded through the city of Fort Myers' Senior AIDES Program.

Some training will be given for the job, which requires working from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. A person with some office experience who enjoys working with people and has some knowledge or interest in birds and/or nature is required. Applicants must be 55 or older and must meet certain earned income guidelines.

Interested persons should call Edith O'Berry, 331-1281 during normal working hours.

### Wildlife refuge offers car caravan tour

A car caravan tour will be taken through the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge beginning at 1:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 17.

The two-hour tour explores the management efforts of the refuge. Bringing binoculars, friends and family. Interested participants should meet at the Dunes in front of the Visitors Center.

Visitors are also reminded that the Visitors Center is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday for viewing of wildlife exhibits and an orientation slide program.

Walking trails and canoe trails are available in addition to the Wildlife Drive. Facilities are open daily from sunrise to sunset.

As fall migration progresses white pelicans, green-winged and blue-winged teal, Eurasian wigwags, pintails and many other birds return to the mangroves of Sanibel.

For more information about any refuge program call the Visitor Center, 472-1281. The center will be closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

### The Bailey Tract: Sanibel as it once was

from page 2B

tractive for migrating ducks — it is no longer an open marsh area.

The vegetation is continuing to change, and this could mean further effects on wildlife as well as the loss of the historical landscape.

Lloyd sees three options for future management of the tract.

One, the refuge could try to alter existing conditions so the area would again be influenced by the natural forces as they existed historically — but Lloyd sees this as impossible because of the reality of development and mosquito control.

Two, no action could be taken. Then the Bailey Tract would continue to see the natural succession of the area into a tree- and brush-dominated area — with less and less spartina marsh.

Lloyd likes the third option the best. In this plan most of the tract would continue its natural succession. But in certain areas artificial methods such as handcutting, controlled fires and flooding would be studied as a means to keep a portion of the property as a spartina marsh.

"This could result in the preservation of an example of the historical habitat of Sanibel's interior wetland and would create the greatest habitat diversity," Lloyd says.

Keeping some areas as they were historically could be important to the vegetation could be good for wildlife.

"Right now the birding is pretty good here," Lloyd says. "The buttonwood is good for species like warblers, so it wouldn't be our goal to turn the whole area back to spartina."

"But the diversification would be good for other species. And changing maybe just 10 percent of the land back to spartina — that's also a practical thing to do."



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# ARTS ON THE ISLANDS

By Julie Niedenfer

## 'Madame butterfly' of Sanibel

She collects, displays, sells butterflies—not seashells

Most of us can remember having to collect bugs for school science projects. In fact, for some of us the ideal is fondly marked in our memories.

Kelly Van Heemst recalls it well, for it marked the beginning of a lifelong interest in collecting insect specimens—specifically, butterflies.

For many years gathering the winged creatures provided a pleasant diversion for Kelly, but in 1979 when she moved to Sanibel with her husband, John, and three sons, she decided to capitalize on her hobby. "Suddenly there was such a demand for my butterflies I decided to go into it as a business," she says.

150 of Kelly Van Heemst's original butterfly creations will be on display at the SCA hall from 1 to 5 p.m. this Saturday and Sunday.

Kelly's specimens are especially mounted and arranged in sealed cases—and are truly works of art. 150 of her original creations will be on display at the Sanibel Community Association hall from 1 to 5 p.m. this Saturday and Sunday.

Kelly's annual Sanibel show have grown in popularity, and judging by the specimens she has prepared so far, the trend will continue this year.

Tables and counters throughout her home are covered with flecks of brilliant colors where the butterflies rest on their plastic mountings in various stages of preparation. Some butterfly wings look like patchworks, intricately patterned with several hues. Others are crisscrossed with fine black lines and colored in—as if someone with a tiny brush painting a miniature map of Europe, whose yellow for Switzerland, green for Germany and orange for Austria.

Indeed, Kelly says she is often asked just how she paints these tiny wings. Her response is that even if she tried, any colors or patterns she could think up would never rival nature's own.

One of the largest and most stunning works Kelly has done presently dominates an area in her house. As if captured in one fluttering moment of flight, 173 iridescent blue butterflies swarm up one wall in the living room. (For that person on your list who has everything, you might consider buying "the swarm" for Christmas. It can be purchased for \$2,500, and it's sure to be a unique gift—though it might pro-

ve a bit difficult to fit under the tree.)

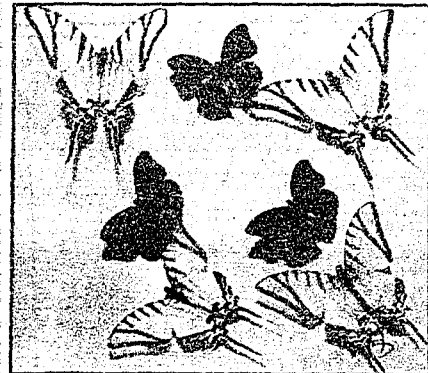
Collecting butterflies in many parts of the world is a government-regulated activity. In many places butterflies are actually bred and raised for export purposes, so the language of the butterfly hunter changes about the wife's weeping a net doesn't apply much anymore. And Kelly says that's something she would leave to the experts, anyway. "I could never kill one," she says emphatically, and adds that more than once that aspect of her work has caused hard feelings. She remembers, during one show, being severely berated by a man who said what she was doing was cruel and that perhaps she might make a good display inside a case someday.

"People don't realize they're raised for that purpose," she admonishes.

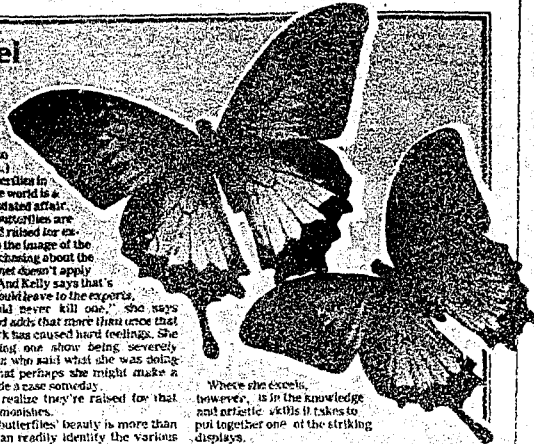
For Kelly, the butterflies' beauty is more than skin deep. She can readily identify the various species, speaks with knowledge about their behavior patterns and expresses concern over their diminishing habitat.



Kelly Van Heemst



For last: In one phase of their preparation, the butterflies are left to dry for 24 hours after being treated with preservatives. Left: Black and white photographs don't do justice to the insects' brilliant colors. Photos by Julie Niedenfer



Where the excellent, however, is in the knowledge and artistic skills it takes to put together one of the striking displays.

From the time a butterfly arrives to the scaling of its case, it will be weeks of preparation. Bored, dried and neatly folded, the specimens must be carefully treated before their final mounting. Kelly explains that the chemicals are necessary to keep the butterflies intact, prevent them from being devoured by other insects and preserve their original color. That color, she explains, is actually contained in millions of tiny scales on the butterfly's wings. (Remember the soft dust that would rub off when you tried to handle one of the postcard little creatures when you were a kid?)

The butterflies are arranged carefully, Kelly says, "so when you look at them from any angle they look like they're flying."

Cases, which range widely in size and price, come with a card that identifies the insect and the country it comes from.

Kelly says tourists are her biggest customers. "They come to Sanibel and say, 'We love shells but we need something different.'"

Who knows, if the idea catches on in a few years Sanibel and Captiva may be re-nicknamed The Butterfly Islands.

## ARTS

### BIG Arts auction will raise funds for Island cultural activities

Barrier Island Group for the Arts is holding an auction to raise money at 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at Sausalito.

While the event is intended to be a fund-raiser for IUG Arts, it promises to be a FUN-raiser as well. The auctioneers are strictly local talent, and what they might lack in auctioneering experience they make up for in wit.

Admission is an "artifact" from home—perhaps an unidentifiable house gift your last guest left or a pic-

ture that looks as good this way—as that way. Blind wrapped "surprise" art donations will be accepted. Or, if you are fortunate enough to adore everything in your home, a \$5 donation will admit you to the festivities.

Succulent will offer coffee and desserts. A cash bar will be available. Prior to the auction, artifacts can be delivered to the Unicorn Shop, Around the World Travel and Calcasieu Canvas. All donations are tax deductible.

### Symphony concert features violinist

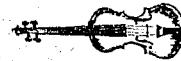
The Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra and Chorus Association present violinist Reiko Nitya-Tigges in concert with the orchestra at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, in the Cape Coral High School auditorium.

Tigges is a native of Japan and a graduate of the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music. She has performed with the Tokyo National University Symphony Orchestra and the Indiana University Philharmonic Orchestra as co-concertmaster. In addition to her duties as concert master for the Southwest

Florida Symphony Orchestra, Tigges teaches violin at Edison Community College.

For her performance Dec. 12 she will perform "Spring" from Vivaldi's Four Seasons and the "Trigona" by Ravel.

Tickets can be purchased at the door, or call 334-3258 for more information.



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"Dramatic Kids and Co., under the direction and management of Kathy Greene and Sandy Johnson, will present the play "The Best Christmas Pageant

Ever" by Barbara Robinson, a hilarious yet touching comedy, at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 21, and at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22, at the Cypress Lake Middle School cafeteria in South Fort Myers.

Tickets will be on sale at the door for \$3. For more information call Kathy Greene, 482-3985, or Sandy Johnson, 481-2965.



**Juried show continues at arts center**

The Southwest Florida Craft Guild presents an exhibit of work by its juried members through Dec. 21 at the Lee County Arts Center in Fort Myers. Fiber, clay, metal, enamel and glass

**Photography, calligraphy, poetry exhibit opens in Fort Myers shop**

The varied work of artist Philip Ketover is on display at Island Interiors and Art Gallery in downtown Fort Myers through January. Ketover's works include wildlife photography, calligraphy and poetry.

are some of the media represented. The show is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The arts center is at the corner of McGregor and Colonial boulevards.

Included in the exhibit is his collection of African artifacts gathered during his travels in Africa.

For more information call Island Interiors, 534-7121.



**Over the airwaves**

WSP-FM Concert 90, the public radio station of the University of South Florida at Fort Myers, broadcasts 17 hours a day — from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. The following programs of interest are scheduled for the coming week:

"Adventures in Good Music" with host Karl Haas is heard weekdays at 12:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Tonight's program, "Aspects of Romanticism" illustrates various qualities that characterize the music of the masters of romanticism.

Wednesday, Dec. 17, "Periodically Speaking" examines the transition from Renaissance to early Baroque.

Thursday, Dec. 15, "Heine in Music" looks at the influence of German poet Heinrich Heine upon the music of his time.

Friday, Dec. 14, "Beethoven's Beloveds" looks at the many friendships and loves that inspired some of Beethoven's finest compositions.

Monday, Dec. 17, "The Beethoven Impact" assesses the power of Beethoven's works on musicians and music lovers of our time and of past generations.

"About Books and Writers" with host Robert continued page 18B

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The action starts at 8:30 with a clinic for those interested. A Pro-Am will follow with 12 area pros teamed with the first 36 entrants that call Greg or Bill at 472-3522

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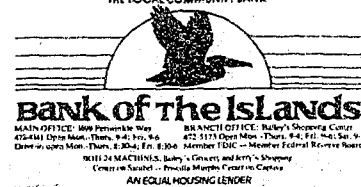
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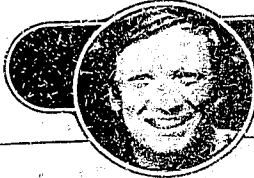
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# ON THE WATER

By Captain Mike Fuery

The sea trout and the redfish are two of the most important fish to the economy of Florida, but studies and fish counts are starting to indicate that increased protection under the law could be needed to keep stocks healthy.

State conservationists have been talking about changes in length for these two fish for some time. Currently the law says trout or reds over the 12-inch legal length size can be taken by sport or commercial netters — in any number. There is no bag limit or total number of these fish that can be taken.

The result is that all around Florida, and particularly here in Southwest Florida, the stocks of these fish are decreasing. Many of the guides have noticed that the average size of a trout has declined.

A couple of weeks ago a fellow I had out on a fishing charter caught more than 30 trout in less than two hours. But only five of all those fish were "keepers" (longer than the 12-inch minimum), and none were more than 15 inches long. Perhaps five or six years ago a 14-15-inch fish was about average.

In St. Petersburg recently the Department of Natural Resources and the Florida Marine Fisheries held a meeting to discuss the trout and redfish problem. Here's a sample of some ideas discussed:

One of the suggestions was to up the size to 14 inches for sea trout. If that were so, I believe you would surely see a lot of anglers come back from fishing trips with less fish. But in a year or so, I bet the fishing would be much better and 14-inch fish would not be so easy to come by.

Redfish are a different story. They can reach 20 pounds or more and be more than three feet long at that weight. The problem is — and most knowledgeable anglers agree — that large reds are not very good to eat. The meat gets coarse and has a strong flavor.

An 18-inch red is perfect for the table, and one fillet will fill up most hungry anglers.

The meeting over these fish produced an interesting proposal. A bag limit of one size or perhaps five reds, was discussed. And since reds get big and tough, a maximum size limit of 30 to 33 inches would protect those larger, re-producing females from anglers and let those females produce millions of offspring.

Many people in Florida would like to see both reds and trout put on game fish status, such as the snook

currently is, which does not allow the sale of fillets. I can't see that this would harm many restaurants or diminish their business appreciably. It is a rarity that I see either redfish or sea trout on the menu. Snapper, grouper and other offshore reef fish make up the bulk of the fish sold locally.

Incidentally, a bag limit of only 10 sea trout was examined, too. That also would increase the overall fish populations in the next couple of years. Nothing fish dramatic would happen either way. It takes the fast growing trout a year to reach 12-inches in length, but would not be so easy to catch.

Many people around the Islands feel the commercial netters do the most damage to the trout and red fish stocks. They primarily look for mullet but can sell any trout or reds they get, too. But greedy, non-commercial anglers can do just about the same damage. I can't count the times I've seen people trying to clean 10- and 11-inch trout — taken either out of ignorance of the law or in spite of it.

Nothing has been done at present to charge the laws on trout and reds, but something will have to be done to protect these two fish, which are a couple of the main reasons thousands of anglers vacation in Florida each year.

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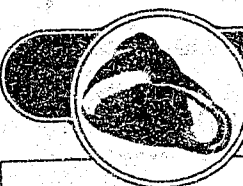
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# SHELLING TIPS

By Captain Mike Fuery

Junonia luck — or the lack of it, is starting to hunt me again. Let me tell you the latest Junonia story, and we'll talk about a couple of other shells, too.

The Junonia, as you might know, is just about the most valuable shell that expert collectors can find. The trouble is, the experts rarely find them. Nope, it's the ones who can't tell a whelk from a cement block that find Junonia. Well, not always, but it's alarming to see how easy it is for some novice shells to find their first Junonia.

A few days ago we were in the mist of a windy, cold, rainy front that was sweeping over the area. The northeast wind was blowing right through my sweater, shirt and jacket. But there I was at 3 a.m. — and secretly hoping they had slept in instead.

The two couples arrived right on time. Once we had discussed the weather, however, we decided to postpone the trip a day or two in order to let the nasty, cold weather pass.

And I in all innocence suggested that they might return to the motel and walk the beaches there on Sanibel. It was still early and few people would be braving the elements.

When we met again the next day one of the ladies carefully unfolded a colorful, spotted shell and ask-

ed something like, "Is this what I think it is?" Of course it was. Not only that, but she had a second shell wrapped up, too. That one turned out to be a perfect Scotch bonnet. She found them at about the same time on the beach near the West Wind Inn — a proven Junonia producer for some reason.

I couldn't believe it! She finds two of the three most prized local shells (the lion's paw is third) on the same beach!

I told my wife the story and she said, "What do they need you for? They've already found the best shells right in front of where they are staying!"

So much for Junonia luck. I'll find one myself one of these years.

There are few dangerous elements of shelling, outside of stepping on sharp shells. But in the warmer months collectors walking the shallow waters around the Islands have to keep an eye out for stingrays.

These flat, sand colored fish have a sharp barb on their whip-like tail. If stepped upon, they can inflict a painful wound. Well, for once there is good news about stingrays.

The return of cooler waters usually sends the rays offshore or south for the winter. Yes, some rays stay around the Islands all year, but we'll hear few reports of stingray incidents now. What this means

is during periods of calm waters along the beaches you can wait a bit easier than in the summer months.

The spawning times of the year bring the rays out by the dozens. They hunt for tiny crabs and shrimp right at the shoreline, and a careless sheller might easily step on that tail!

I am often asked by those on chartered if there are seasons for shelling and, if so, which might be the best. Well, dead shells are at the mercy of the elements of the seas. All the shells are here year around, it's just that certain conditions of rough weather in the cooler months sometimes yield a wider range of shells on the shores.

One of the shells you might start to see more of is the paper-thin shells. These are a light tan color, very fragile and light. They could reach perhaps four inches in length. Very few are found alive. Their paper-thin shells break easily, but some fine specimens do make it to the high shell line of our beaches. Keep an eye out for them — and good shelling this week.

Capt. Mike Fuery offers daily shelling trips to North Captiva and Cayo Costa Islands. Call 472-4153 for information.

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**DECEMBER**

Tu 11	**12:15 AMH	**9:16 AML		
W 12	**1:02 AMH	**10:05 AML		
Th 13	**2:02 AMH	**10:58 AML	6:16 PMH	9:49 PML
F 14	**3:08 AMH	**11:48 AML	6:38 PMH	11:59 PML
Sa 15	4:37 AMH	**12:35 PML	7:03 PMH	
Su 16	5:43 AMH	6:57 AMH	1:17 PML	7:34 PMH
Mo 17	6:59 AMH	8:32 AMH	1:59 PML	7:59 PMH
Tu 18	**4:08 AML	10:12 AMH	2:31 PML	**8:31 PMH

\* Denotes strong tide  
 \*\* Denotes very strong tide

Tides have been computed at the Sanibel Lighthouse. For upper Sanibel and Captiva subtract 30 minutes for high tide, 1 hour and 15 minutes for low tide.

### SPORTS

#### Sportsmen of the week: Bobbie Craig and Joan Rogers

Teamed up for the first time this season, Joan Rogers and Bobbie Craig seem to have become as a doubles tennis team in the Dunes Women's Tennis League C division.

Both Craig and Rogers have been playing tennis for a number of years, but this is the first time they have participated in league play.

The two Sanibel residents are undefeated within their division and have helped their team stay tied for first place in the Lee County Tennis League. The Dunes C division is tied with the Cape Coral Yacht Club's A division team.

"I play tennis because it is fun," said Rogers. Her partner said one of



Joan Rogers, left, and Bobbie Craig

the best parts of the game play is the team friendships.

"The team is fun and the game is a great part of it," said Craig.

The Sportsman of the Week recognizes local athletes of all ages, from fishermen to

#### Undefeated basketball teams will meet

Timbers will butt heads with Corner Drug at 8 p.m. tonight in a game of undefeated teams.

Timbers picked up a "bye" win last week as Sundial has dropped out of the week as Sundial is in the Corner league. Timbers is 2-0, as is Corner Drug, which beat South Seas Plantation last week, 59-43.

In other games last week Arnolds beat Island Store 39-36. And Sanibel beat Island Medical Center, 68-49. Sanibel Glass is also undefeated as the league goes into its third week of

competition tonight.

Other games tonight include Island Medical vs. the Island Store at 7 p.m. Standings as of Dec. 7 are:

- Sanibel Glass, 2-0
- Timbers, 2-0
- Corner Drug, 2-0
- Island Medical, 1-1
- Arnolds, 1-1
- Island Store, 0-2
- South Seas, 0-2

#### Sundial tops Sales and Marketing continued

double failed to first and caught Paul Dugan between third and home. Then Sundial tussled quickly to third to catch baserunner Greg Mellick for the double play.

Then to end the game Sundial pulled another double play, again with Sales and Marketing threatening. The play was somewhat controversial, with one Sales and Marketing player sprawled in the dirt, but the referee's ruling held and the game was over.

To get to the championship game the two teams beat their way through a tough field with the following results: Front Desk beat Chadwicks; Cap'n

AI's beat the Dunes, 22-13; Sales and Marketing beat Human Resources, 7-5; Sundial beat Marquis, 17-1; Sales and Marketing beat Front Desk, 13-4; Sundial beat Cap'n AI's, 12-6.

The most important players from the league teams were as follows: Human Resources — Glen Trematore and Sharon Fisher; Marquis — Tom Britt and Jan Rueber; Dunes — Mark Carney and Ellen Jacobs; Front Desk — Tom Smith and Samantha Karcher; Cap'n AI's — Joe Yost and Greta Gross; Sales and Marketing — Ron Cadrette and Dori Weisman; Sundial — Larry Appleby and "all the ladies."

### SPORTS

#### Sports quiz

Last week so many people guessed both parts of the quiz we decided to celebrate. Part of the celebration is adding a bottle of Beaujolais from the racks at the B Five to our sports quiz prize pot.

This month everyone who guesses both parts of The Islander sport's quiz has a chance of a bottle of wine, a Sanibel Light newspaper or one prize per winner during the month, please (except subscriptions).

In last week's quiz Matt Asen, "Jimmy the Greek," Mark Ziegler, Pete Walker, E.P. Belune, Doug Wedley, Jim Murphy, Terry Welfie, Jim Walsh and Jim Duplex all knew that Cleveland Municipal Stadium has the largest seating capacity of any major league ball park. And they also knew that Shea Stadium is the National League park and is the home of the New York Mets.

This week we turn to basketball. First: Name the basketball player who led the NBA in scoring a record seven consecutive times? And second: Name the Boston Celtic who won the most valuable player award in the NBA for the 1972-3 season? Think you know? Give us a call at 472-5185.

#### Over-50 softball

Jim Cook knocked out a homerun in his first at bat last Tuesday — his first at bat since he was injured last month. But it was not enough to keep Sanibel's over-50 men ahead of Holiday Inn.

But the team bounced back with a 8-1 victory over Dovetail Cabinet on Thursday to keep the record 7-6 for the season.

In official standings as of Nov. 29, Holiday Inn leads the league with a 9-2 record. Three teams, including Sanibel, are tied for second place.

Sanibel hit well against Holiday Inn on Tuesday, but Holiday Inn hit just a little better to win, 8-5.

Besides Cook's homerun, Mark McClintock and Sanny Volgner hit doubles. McClintock also went 4-4, Allan Nave hit 2-3, as did Cook, Dick Traucht and Francis Bailey.

Sanibel played a defensive masterpiece on Thursday in defeating Dovetail Cabinet, 0-1. No Dovetail runner made it to third base until the last inning.

The Island men powered out only two extra base hits, doubles by Mark McClintock and Dick Traucht. Sanibel hit well against Holiday Inn on Tuesday, but Holiday Inn hit just a little better to win, 8-5.

#### Dunes men's golf

The Dunes Men's Golf Association teed off last Wednesday to see how many points they could tally up when the rounds were over.

John Seabrooke, George Mills and Harry Glacser won the round in nine-hole competition.

In 18-hole competition Clarence Glenden, Al Lloyd, Bob Maloney and George Christensen took first place, closely followed by Oscar Clark, Don Bush and Ed Leighton.

#### Beachview men's golf

The Beachview Men's Golf Association played tough competition last Saturday.

Eug Walters, Bob Sagers, Bill Blankenship and Don Roberts placed first with plus 10.

Bob McFarlane, Bill Reynolds, Jeff Dean and Ed Konrad shot plus seven to grab second place.

#### Sanibel volleyball league

Members of the newly formed Sanibel volleyball league played a series of exhibition matches last Monday. This week the competition begins in earnest.

In exhibition matches last week, Michipijou slammed their way through the Captiva Spikers, 14-15, 15-8. And the Sanibel Slammers beat Island Condo Commandos, 15-5, 15-10, 15-2.

Games this week will throw the Sanibel Slammers at the Captiva Spikers and Island Condo Commandos against Michipijou.

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