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Vol. 41, No. 48

Week of January 17 - 23, 2003

20 Banies

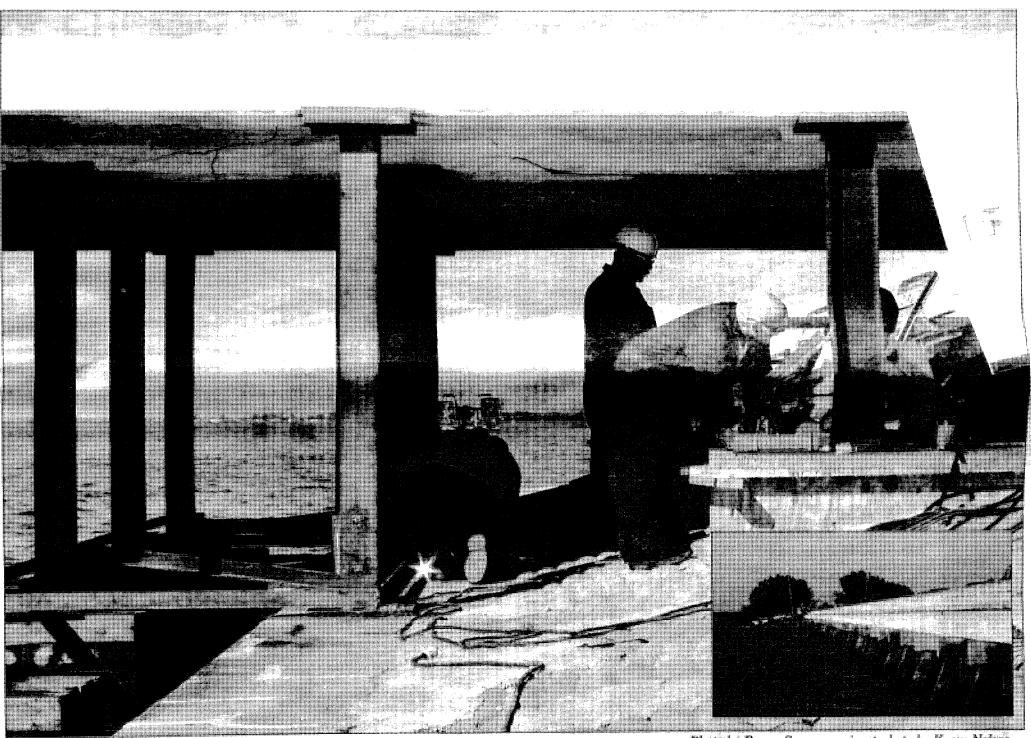


Photo by Renny Severance; inset photo by Karen Nelson

Workers under the cracked span of the Sanibel Causeway on Saturday, Jan. 11; inset photo of traffic and TV vans on the causeway on Wednesday, Jan. 8. See page 2 for more details on how the islands are coping with the causeway closing.





Islanders cope with causeway closing

By Kate Thompson Staff Writer

Residents, employees and visitors to Sanibel won't be able to drive on or off the island from 10 p.m. Sunday through 6 a.m. Tuesday, when the Causeway will be closed.

But that doesn't mean people will be completely stranded either on or off island. There are a variety of plans in place to handle most contingencies.

Although 9 p.m. was initially announced as the closing time for Sunday, the county moved the time to 10 p.m. to accommodate some restaurants and a BIG ARTS program.

Starting Sunday evening, the Lee County Department of Transportation will replace a 48-foot span of the causeway from the abutment at Island A to the pier cap. By 6 a.m. Tuesday, department officials say four concrete girders as well as the roadway surface, will all have been replaced with steel.

The 32-hour closing includes more time than officials believe will be needed to make the repairs, department spokeswoman Amy Davies said.

Martin Luther King Day was selected as the date for repairs to minimize the impact on island residents and visitors. Post offices, schools and some other government services will be closed for the holiday.

County crews making minor repairs found a cracked beam on the middle bridge of the causeway Jan. 6.

"Within 24 hours, we had it stabilized," said deputy transportation director Paul Wingard. By 9 a.m. Tuesday, additional posts were in

place to support the beams, he said. Tuesday afternoon, a structural engineer from URS Greiner arrived to examine the situation.

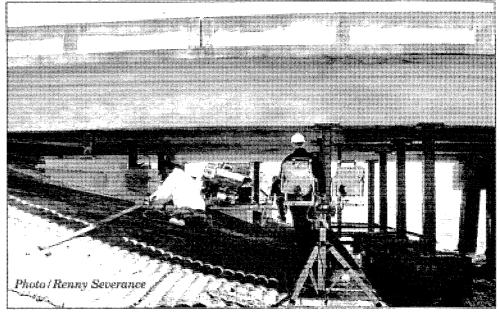
After making calculations, the engineer recommended both a limitation on weight over the bridge and reduced speed. Limiting the weight of vehicles allowed on the causeway to 10 tons reduces stress. Reducing speed also lowers the stress on the bridge. At higher speeds, vehicles can add 20-40 percent in additional load, Wingard explained, as they hit potholes and other imperfections in the roadway. Between Wednesday and Friday, crews put additional posts in to support the causeway's usual 34-ton load limit. By Friday evening, the weight limit had returned to normal although speed limits were kept at 20 mph.

The bridge, on a two-year inspection schedule from the Florida Transportation Department since it opened in 1963, was last inspected in August 2001 and wasn't slated for re-inspection until next August, Wingard said.

"That span is rated structurally deficient by the FDOT," he said. "It has been for years." Cracks, railing repairs and other deterioration all have been identified.

County maintenance crews were on the bridge to make small repairs and noticed the cracks, Had they not been seen, it could have "potentially" been a problem, Wingard said, "but it was not in imminent danger of collapse."

Although the entire bridge is slated to be replaced in about five years, Wingard said a fairly extensive repair couldn't wait. The initial stabilization cost \$10,000-\$30,000 and the replacement of the 48-foot span will cost \$200,000-\$300,000, he said. The final replace-



ment of the bridge is estimated to cost in the range of \$38 million.

A 100-foot crane will be used to install four steel girders, replacing the current concrete ones. A metal grate deck, similar to the metal grate used on the drawbridge portion of the Causeway will be installed over the top, Wingard said.

While steel would not normally be used on a bridge built over saltwater because it rusts, he said it eliminated the curing time which would be required for concrete repairs.

By the time repairs to the Sanibel Causeway are completed Tuesday morning, island residents and visitors will have weathered nearly two weeks of challenges.

When load limits were initially put into place Jan. 8, heavy vehicles delivering everything from mail to beer to school children were turned back at the toll plaza.

Undaunted, the community coped.

"It's all about getting to the other side of Monday," said Steve Greenstein, executive director of the Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce. While dozens of volunteers with boats offered to help, liability issues made that impossible except for those with Coast Guard certification, he said.

The single biggest problem was the several thousand visitors scheduled to fly in or out of Southwest Florida International on Monday, Greenstein said.

The Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau, with the Port Authority, will have volunteers at the airport to alert arriving tourists. While the bureau will have a list of hotel rates and vacancies as a contingency, the Chamber of Commerce has been attempting to arrange for ferries to bring visitors to the island. Coast Guard-certified captains may be able to operate pontoon boats between the first causeway island and Sanibel Harbour.

Monday's closing won't affect schools which have the day off for the Martin Luther King hol-

When the causeway closes Sunday evening, it will pose some problems for stores because most employees live off-island, "We may have some people stay on the island," Greenstein said.

Jessica Burke, general manager of Bailey's, also said there'd be some delivery problems. "It was inconvenient, but we did what we needed to," she said.

Bailey's will close at 7 p.m. Sunday, to ensure employees are able to get off the island, and will

be open Monday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. "All departments and services will be available as usual," Burke said.

Jerry's Supermarket will close at 8 p.m. on Sunday, and Monday hours will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Assistant Manager Tracy Millis noted that they are planning to open at 6 am on Tuesday, provided the causeway work is on schedule.

City services will be maintained during the closure, City Manager Judie Zimomra said, City offices will be closed in observance of the holiday.

Sanibel Fire & Rescue District will operate as usual, with the help of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, which will ferry employees, Chief Rich Dickerson said.

Lee County EMS will provide emergency patient transport to hospitals via helicopter. If fog restricts flights, the Iona-MacGregor Fire Department and the Pine Island Fire Department will have boats available.

Zimomra said those who have serious, pre-existing medical conditions are advised to consult their physicians to determine whether they should remain on the island during the closure.

The Sanibel Police Department and Traffic Control will operate at augmented holiday levels with additional marine and beach patrols. Island Water Association will be open Monday and will maintain services.

Residential solid waste collection will be on a holiday schedule and will be picked up one day later than normal all week. Monday's commercial collection will be picked up on Saturday, two days early.

The Sanibel Rec Center will operate on a holiday schedule from 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday through Monday. The Civic Center will be closed Monday. City of Sanibel Public Works and Utility departments will have core staff on the island.

Beach restrooms will be open, and parking permits will be available at the Police Department from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday. The Sanibel Public Library will be open Monday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. And J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 4.

All of the plans have focused on getting visitors and employees to and from the island. But those who live on Sanibel and work on the mainland aren't part of contingency plans. "If you live on Sanibel and work off Island, we don't have a plan for you," Greenstein said.

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Dave Horton



Lee Horton

IN AN EFFORT TO KEEP BUSINESSES OPEN DURING THE CAUSEWAY BRIDGE REPAIR, BUSINESS OWNERS VOLUNTEER TO KEEP TRAFFIC MOVING. HANG ON GREENSTEIN

fell, now they've done it. Or not... depending on your interpretation...

We pay taxes, we pay causeway tolls. We buy car licenses, boat licenses, registrations for all of the above, fishing licenses... We pay causeway overweight fees. We're yoyo'd up and down (up mostly) on gas prices/taxes for roadway upkeep.

We have to know how to drive a car before we get a license (or we're s'posed to... admittedly, questionable in some cases). The law now even mandates that we know a little something about driving a boat before we can do that, too.

Where do all those revenues go?

Certainly not for boater education, or we wouldn't see those yachts — sterns down, props poorly trimmed, huge wakes behind passing under the Sanibel Causeway bridges. (Ever notice that the Sanibel Princess puts out less wake than some of the yahoos screaming toward the bridge from upriver?) In fact, if a tiny bit of all those licensing fees/taxes we pay were put toward NO WAKE signs for the bridges, the scouring that attacks the bottoms of the causeway pilings would be far less than



Anne Bellew Associate Editor

Furthermore, the vibrations caused by heavy trucks weaken both the pilings and their connecting roadways, as do the even faster vibrations caused by speeding cars; salt spray and fuel residue weaken them still further.

What has the county done with our money?

Where, for example, are the law enforcement officers (both county and Sanibel) who used to be on the causeway almost every day enforcing the speed limit?

What has happened to the thousands of dollars in county revenue — purportedly dedicated to causeway upkeep and maintenance — users of the bridge have provided Lee County? If even a modicum of what we've paid since 1963 for the upkeep of the Sanibel Causeway had been spent on upkeep of the Sanibel Causeway, we wouldn't be looking at those horrifying pictures of a bridge we traverse every day crumbling into the gulf.

If even a portion of the taxes we've paid since 1963 for the upkeep of the Sanibel Causeway had been spent on upkeep of the Sanibel Causeway, we wouldn't need to be struggling with a Department of Transportation that seems hellbent on replacing roadway/bridges that should not need to be replaced at all... if they had only been properly maintained.

We finally got our 20 MPH signs back on the bascule bridge and, surprisingly, even before this latest scare, I saw more and more people who appeared to be crossing the movable parts slowly. Not all, of course, but people coming toward me, not just those stuck in line behind me.

As islanders, I believe it is up to us to lead the way — show the way, if you will by crossing the causeway at the posted speed, particularly the bridges. (And, once upon a time, the posted speed on the bridges was 30 mph. Wonder why that was changed...?)

Would our favorite roadway be in this fix if former City Manager Gary Price had convinced Lee County to sell it to us way back

COLUMNISTS

Fishing & Shelling Capt. Mike Fuery - page 8A





The Metastatic Life $Lisa\ Pierot$ - page 5A

Business Profile Nancy Santeusanio page 11A





Center Stage Marsha Wagner - page 6B

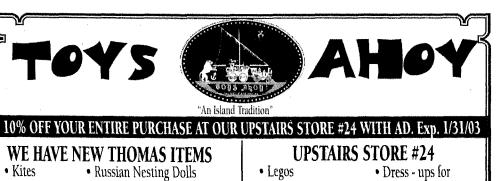
Up another persicope

ow hear this islanders: Set your time machines back 40 years. It's now 1963 and the causeway has yet to open. The pace of life plummets to a level that is difficult to comprehend from a 21st century context of instant communication from wherever you happen to be. Get out your hurizance lamps and fire up the grill time once again. Reality gets put on hold for a day and we can all pretend we're kids again. There's no school, no this, no that... responsibilities are suspended for the duration and it's play time.

Being a New Englander by birth, this outs me in mind of those winter storms that knocked out the electricity from time to time. I recall one when my parents had a party planned. It went ahead despite the ice storm that coated everything with a quarter-inch of ice and brought down the power lines for several days.

We were well prepared with kerosene heaters, a fireplace and lots of wood. When the guests arrived, the only thing

Up Scope, see page 15



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HAPPENINGS

Due to the bridge problems, the January Chamber of Commerce AfterHours has been postponed for one week to Jan. 27 at Gulf Harbor Yacht & Country Club, 14500 Vista River Drive (off McGregor) — 5:30-7 p.m.

Arbor Day 2003

Today, Jan. 17, has been designated as 2003 Arbor Day. The annual celebration, which is chaired by Vegetation Committee member Berdenna Thompson, takes place from 12-12:30 p.m. at Sanibel School where the 51 third graders will plant a dahoon holly in honor of Island Seniors. Mayor Steve



Thompson

Brown and Lamar Williamson, president of the Island Seniors, will be participating. The tree will be planted across San-Cap Road in the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Founda-

Graphic Design

Production :

tion's Pick Preserve where the last 12 trees were moved to make way for the Sanibel School expansion.

Fun and games at the Bean

Island writers welcome resident, enighboring and visiting writers and readers to participate in the monthly Open Mic at The Bean, 2240 Periwinkle, on Friday, Jan. 24, from 4 to 6 p.m. Open Mic's are informal, enjoyable and entertaining occasions. Readers sign in and everyone in the audience is encouraged to participate. You may read your own, other writers' poetry or prose, or a piece by your favorite writer. Anything goes, but selections should be limited to five minutes or under. The informality of these readings makes them attractive to both beginning and seasoned writers as well audiences who love the spoken word.

For more information, call 472-1280.

Duplicate Bridge winners

Erica Amsterdam and Patty McConnell were first East-West and first over all in the Jan. 13 duplicate bridge session, with Ginny Reeves and Dorothy Suechting first North-South and second over all. Shirley Skaugstad and Alaine Jass were second

Wedding Announcement



Monet Rachelle Caputy and Joseph Greg Armenia.

Monet Rachelle Caputy and Joseph Greg Armenia were married on October 12, 2002 at the Church of the Ascension in Fort Myers. A reception for the newlyweds was held at the Sanibel Harbour Resort following the ceremony. After a honeymoon in Hawaii, the couple is at home in Fort Myers.

The bride is the daughter of Frank and Alison Caputy of West Seneca, New York, and the bridegroom is the son of John and Lucy Armenia of Captiva, Florida. The bridegroom was raised on Captiva and attended Bishop Verot High School.

Mrs. Armenia is a graduate of Cornell University, Mr. Armenia is a graduate of the University of Florida and received his MBA from Pennsylvania State University. The bride is a real estate consultant and the groom is a principal in a real estate development firm on Sanibel.

North-South and Bob and Sue Jeffrey tied for third North-South with Tom McCarthy and Nancy Lynd, Rick Hurd and Ellie O'Connor were second East-West and Eleanor Walz and Lacy Fendley were third East-West,

Duplicate Bridge meets every Monday at 7:30 p.m. at the Sanibel Community Center. All levels of skill are welcome and partners are provided if needed. Fees are \$4 for members and \$5 for non-members.

Help for the Caregiver

Caring for our Loved One at Home is the subject of a presentation at the Sanibel

Blood Shortage Alert

Lee Memorial Blood Center is experiencing an extreme shortage to its blood supply. The supply is approximately 1/3 of what it should be. Most critically needed are Types 0 and A, both positive and negative, donors. This blood supply stays within Lee Memorial Health System to assist patients and trauma victims.

The blood centers and their hours of operation are as follows:

- Cape Coral Hospital 573-5402 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday; 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Tuesday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
- HealthPark Medical Center 432-3604 Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Wednesday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
- Lee Memorial 334-5333
 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Thursday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.

For further information, call the phone numbers listed.

Community Center Friday, Jan. 24 at 1 p.m.

Islanders Susan Bluehs, RN, of Susan Bluehs Health Care Services, and Bonnie Clancy, OTR, of Blue Skies Bodyworks, will provide information and helpful tips on caring for a loved one at home. Topics to be addressed are safe lifting and transferring, adaptive equipment for the home, managing medications, respite care and when and how to call in outside help. A question and answer period will be included at the end.

There is no charge to attend.

Craft/White Elephant Sale

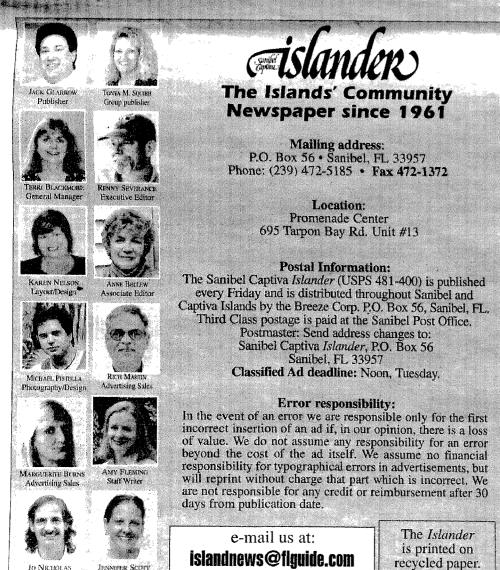
Palmetto Palms RV Resort will hold a Craft and White Elephant Sale tomorrow, Jan. 18, from 8 a.m. to noon. The Resort is located at 19681 Summerlin Road, on the right when approaching from Sanibel. Coffee and donuts will be available and the public is invited to attend.

Additional information can be obtained by calling Marge Gregg at 466-5331.

SCA scheduled activities

Monday: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Shellcrafters 9:30-10:30 a.m. Fitness With Pam 5:15-6:15 p.m. Yoga with Pilates 7:30 p.m. Duplicate Bridge

Happenings, see page 6





"I want to seize fate by the throat." —Ludwig von Beethoven

t seems all I am capable of this week is regurgitating the events of last week. I can't find a particularly interesting way of putting it all down and tying it all up with a bow. I am still reeling and spinning and

tripping over it. I have lost my way and I am trying to find it again.

My sister Cynthia came down on Jan. 3 for a 10-day vacation. We made all kinds of plans including daily pilgrimages to Barnes & Noble for Scrabble and coffee. This was Cyn's first vacation in almost a year and she only gets two of them. She'd had an emergency appendectomy the week

before Christmas and so you can imagine how stressful the holidays were. I wanted everything to be easy and wonderful for her when she was here.

I knew that Mom had her tumor markers done and was waiting for the results. I could have let it go until her appointment at the end of the week, but it would have been a first for me. And so I called for them on Tuesday and was told that the lab had given them to one of the nurses. This immediately sent a wave of panic through me. I was told the nurse would call me back. And she did, several hours later, only to tell me that Mom's markers for ovarian cancer had gone from 11 to 67, clearly out of normal range. It has been less a year since she began the awful ordeal of debulking surgery and extensive chemo.

I wrote to Dr. Harwin right away and he wrote back almost as quickly to tell me that it was likely a sign that the cancer had returned. We agreed to put it on hold until Mom's appointment on Friday. My aunt and uncle were visiting my parents for two days and they were having so much fun. I didn't want anything to spoil that. Cynthia and I talked and talked about it. There was

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no point in telling them until Friday.

But I couldn't get a particular memory out of my head. Post-transplant almost two years, I had a biopsy of my sternum and was seeing Dr. Harwin for the results. My husband had rarely attended any doctors, appointments, always finding excuses to be busy. This day he surprised me by

showing up at Dr. Harwin's office in a separate car. He gave concerned looks to Joanie who was accompanying me.In the examining room Dr. Harwin gave me the bad news and I saw that this man I had married so many years ago had only shown up for the excitement of bad news. I wanted to throw up... on him.

And so, I get out of bed at 4 a.m. Friday morning and spend some time in front of the fire. Then, at 5:45, I drive over to Mom and Dad's and I come in through the back porch so I won't wake my father. I am not sure Mom will want him to know. I want it to be her

I reach her room in the dark and sit on the other side of the bed. She wakes up and we talk. She is not surprised. She is not upset. She is, as always, amazing. She doesn't want Dad to know yet. He has his aneurysm surgery coming up. I tell her I understand. She fills him in a few days later. He takes his cues from her and is amazing as well.

There are CT scans that confirm what we already know. There will be more chemo and a trip to MD Anderson in Houston to see about a clinical trial. We will get through all of this and my father's surgery somehow. Don't ask me how because I'm taking it almost a minute at a time just now. God's grace? Perhaps. Sheer determination? Most likely. One foot in front of the other even as the foundation is crumbling beneath our feet.

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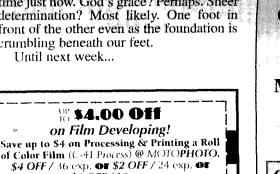
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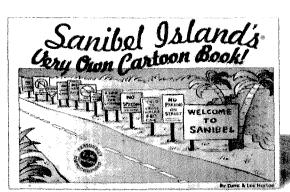
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at their damn cartoons."

My Raccoons II: An islander's lament

Dear Friends,

In retrospect, the evidence is overwhelming. It scares me to think that it's taken me this long to put the pieces together. Too long. I know they're on to me, and I don't have much time.

This morning when I went out for an early jog, they'd left their disgusting calling card at the bottom of my stairway. Three piles, neatly deposited. One pile is a warning shot. Two piles, you'd better watch your step, but three? That's their final warning, their definitive mark. Like the horse head in The Godfather, it's their last calling card. Now, it's only a matter of time. A week, probably less.

It began four months ago. It was late, around four a.m. I was sleeping soundly when suddenly, a loud, muffled explosion awoke me. At first I thought a small plane had crashed, or a truck had run into an Australian pine in my front yard. I got up, grabbed my flashlight, and ran outside.

It was a Tuesday morning, my garbage pick-up day, and what I found that morning sent shivers down my spine. They had blown one of my garbage cans wide open. The smell of explosives still lingered in the moist air as I surveyed the damage. In the distance I could catch an occasional glimpse of their beady little red eyes. I could hear them, my raccoons, chattering and communicating with their shrill screams.

My garbage was everywhere. They had carefully placed all of my recycled newspapers on top of the plastic lid to help suppress the noise. When it blew, the newspaper and the leftover snow crab legs co-min

Sanibel City

gled into a scene that resembled an Enron New Year's document-shredding party. Suddenly, I heard gunfire and, as Uzi rounds struck my gravel driveway, I hurried back inside.

It wasn't until much later, as I was picking up the mess, that I found it. One of them must have torn it up and pitched it in amid the rubble, thinking no one would find it there. But this time they were wrong. When I picked up the first fragment, what struck me immediately was that the writing was in Arabic. Oh, my God, I thought — they've joined the al-Oaida. I carefully sifted through the broken mayo jars, the leftover Huxter's chicken legs and the pizza crusts and found the rest of their memo.

When I got to my office I faxed it to a client of mine in Switzerland who speaks Arabic. He faxed it back to me after translating it and, as I read it, I broke out into a

MORE C-4 IN PIPELINE - STOP -CONTINUE TRAINING - STOP -OPERATION KNOCK OUT CAUSE-WAY STILL ON FOR EARLY 2003 -STOP - WAIT FOR FURTHER ORDERS STOP - OSAMA

Why didn't I see it coming? It's too late now, but I can assure you that the day those inspectors found the cracks in the middle span they walked right past countless raccoon footprints, numerous droppings and, had they only done their job, traces of high explosives. For my raccoons, it's never

Raccoons, see page 18



James F. "Jim" Gear

Jim Gear died away suddenly on New Year's Day, 2003 from injuries suffered when his gyrocopter crashed into a field at the Lansing, Ill. airport. He was

Born Dec. 18, 1960 in Joliet, Ill., to the late James C. and Dolores Gear, he was a graduate of Joliet West High School in the class of 1979 and received a degree in Engineering from Illinois State. Formerly employed with Superior Piling and Norman Equipment, he was self-employed at the time of his death. According to local Illiniois papers, Gear fell in love with gyrocopoters as a young boy; he was a member of the Greater Midwest Rotorcraft Club which sponsors the New Year's Day Polar Bear Fly-In. An infamous collector who appreciated all motorized vehicles, he was a talented tinkerer, who could fix just about anything, according to his friends and family, and a lifetime member of St. Jude Parish.

Gear is survived by his beloved son, James Carl Gear, and his mother, Carla J. Faxel of New Lenox, Ill. His sister, City of Sanibel Finance Director Renee (Gear) Lynch of Fort Myers, survives him as does another sister, Michelle Gear-Kleikamp and her husband, Larry, of Joliet; two brothers — Brian P. Gear of Fort Myers and Kevin M. Gear of Joliet, and his wife, Jody; a nephew and two nieces — Larry James Kleikamp, Jenna Connor and Kailey Gear; and an uncle Gene Gear and his wife Patricia of Manhattan. Many cousins and his girl friend, Yvonne Temen, of Joliet also survive. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Shawn Gear.

Funeral services were Jan. 6, at 8:45 a.m. followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Jude's. In lieu of flowers, memorials in his memory to St. Jude Parish would be appreciated.



Travel Expo

Jan. 25

imagine the possibilities"

Great Savings!

Travel representatives will be present. Door Prizes, booking incentives and much more!

When: Saturday, Jan. 25, 2003 Time: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Where: Cape Coral Wal-Mart Supercenter 1619 Del Prado Blvd. (Under the Tent)

Wal-Mart Vacations Cape Coral Wal-Mart Supercenter 1619 Del Prado Blvd. South 941-772-4128 or toll free 866-772-6291

Happenings, from page 4

Tuesday: 9:15-10:15 a.m. Pilates

9:15-10:15 a.m. Cardio Pump & Kick 1:30-3.30 p.m. Supervised Bridge Play

Wednesday: 9:15-10:15 a.m. Fitness With Pam Thursday: 9:15-10:15 a.m. Cardio Pump & Kick

9:15-10:15 a.m. Yoga Friday: 9:15-10:15 a.m. Pilates

9:15-10:15 a.m. Fitness With Pam

Seminar on managing memory

The first seminar of a new series on memory will be Understanding and Coping with Changes in Memory. It will be presented by Dr. Bill E. Beckwith on Saturday, Jan. 25 at St. Michael & All Angels Church from 9 a.m. to noon. The focus will be on understanding how memory changes as we age, as well as understanding memory disorders which are not a part of normal aging. The seminar will also present techniques to help those who have or those who care for someone with changes in memory.

Beckwith was a professor of psychology for 13 years at the University of North Dakota. When he moved to Florida in 1991, he served as clinical director of the Memory Disorders Clinic at Lee Memorial and had his own private practice. He is founder and director of behavioral health at Shell Point and continues to specialize in diagnosis and treatment of memory complaints such as mild cognitive impairment. He has served on the Advisory Board at the Alvin A. Dubin Alzheimer's Resource Center since 1995.

Beckwith is co-founder (with Pamela Travis) of Memory Management & Life Planning, a new company to assist persons who are concerned about either their own memory or the memory of someone else, regardless of age. The company provides consultation services, seminars, education, and evaluation.

The cost of the seminar is \$25.

Garden & Landscape Conference

On January 25, 2003, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. the Lee County Extension Service, in collaboration with the University of Florida Master Gardener program, is sponsoring the 5th Annual Southwest Florida Garden & Landscape Conference. Open to the public, the conference costs \$20 general admission and \$30 for commercial persons requiring

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If a second home is attractive to you but you do not think you can afford it, consider a second home that doubles as a rental property. Buying a second home as rental property may also make a great addition to your retirement plan, by requiring you to establish regular savings in the form of mortgage

payments that become your equity.

An experienced real estate agent can help you evaluate the factors involved in the purchase of rental real estate including down payment, matching rental income with costs (principally mortgage, taxes, insurance) and tax benefits such as depreciation, deductible interest, and costs. A relatively small ent (your down payment) will grow over time as you pay down your mortgage and your property appreciates. Housing has appreciated in value all over the country in recent years, making a second home an important hedge against inflation. Most experts predict that interest rates for fixed-rate and adjustable mortgages should remain in single digits for the foreseeable future. Lower interest rates make a considerable difference in the amount of the mortgage payment, which makes this an opportune time to consider

payment, which the continues and Fort Myers real estate since 1991, Specializing in Sanibel, Captiva, and Fort Myers real estate since 1991, Margie was just named 2002 Realtor Of The Year by the Sanibel and Captiva Association of Realtors. She was also Realtor of the Year in 2000 and is a continuous award winner with Priscilla Murphy Realty, Inc. Call Margie at PMR, 472-1511, or e-mail her at Margie@MargieDavison.com

CEU's, if pre-registered — \$25 and \$35 the day of the meeting. A box lunch is \$6.50 extra (deadline for ordering: Tuesday, Jan. 21).

Your landscape can be a source of comfort and refuge! The Southwest Florida Garden & Landscape Conference offers the home gardener as well as the professional landscaper information on the latest in plant care from the experts. A broad selection of topics by professionals is presented in three concurrent sessions - Florida Plant Pests from 9 a.m. to 3:50 p.m. in Building H, Room H101; The Kitchen Experience from 9 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. in Building K, Room K143, followed by Florida's Habitats from 1 to 3:50 p.m.; and Florida Authors in Building J, Room J103 from 9 a.m. to 3:50 p.m.

Speakers include Chef Martin Murphy, culinary director at Blue Pepper Gourmet Food & Bakery; Dee Serage of the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation; Roger Clark, county biologist with Lee County Parks & Rec; and Wae Nelson, editor and publisher of Florida Gardening

For a registration form, call the Extension office at 461-7514 and ask for Letha.

Health & Safety Fair

A Health & Safety Fair will be held Saturday, Jan. 25, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at First Christian Church, 2061 McGregor Blvd., (one block west of the Caloosahatchee Bridge in downtown Fort Myers). Admission is free and the public is invited. This event is a community outreach to inform people of the various services that are available to them in our area.

Services available at the fair will include eye exams from the Eye Care of Southwest Florida mobile unit; free screening tests for Parkinson's, memory loss, and other related illnesses from Lee Memorial Health System (also stroke prevention screening for a small fee); Cancer Guard/Disease Guard blood test for prostate PSA, ovarian, liver, thyroid, heart, diabetes, hepatitis, estrogen, allergy testing, and rheumatoid arthritis by Firstlink (pre-registration required 866/302-5663). Flu and pneumonia shots, plus blood testing for cholesterol and glucose tolerance, will be available for a nominal charge.

Southwest Florida Regional Medical Center will conduct CPR courses for all ages free of charge. Pre-registration is required for this also, due to the size of instruction classes. Call the church office (334-0316) to make reserva-

Many other medical services will have displays and offer free information on a personal basis.

ABC Sale shirts at Bank

Bank of the Islands is selling T-shirts for the 2003 AB€ Sale and Auction. They sell for \$20 and part of the proceeds will go to the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation's

Happenings, see page 16



16660 Pine Ridge Road, Ft. Myers (Only 3 Miles from Sanibel & Ft. Myers Beach)

THE ENVIRONMENT

ECOSanibel program

The Healthy Earth! Healthy Island! Healthy You! series continues at the Sanibel Library on Monday, Jan. 20, with "How Healthy is Our Watershed?"

In Southwest Florida we see water almost everywhere we look. Have you been wondering just how healthy that wet environment is and how it may affect you? Two experts on this subject will speak at the next event in the Healthy Earth! Healthy Island! Healthy You! series. The program, sponsored by ECOSanibel, will follow the group's 6:30 business meeting.

Our "water world," including Tarpon Bay, is part of the Charlotte Harbor Watershed and the Caloosahatchee Estuary system. The evening's topic, "How Healthy is Our Watershed?" will feature presentations by Greg Tolley, Ph.D., associate professor of Marine Science at Florida Gulf Coast University, and Susannah Lindberg, campaign director for the Wildlife Advocacy Project.

About the Speakers

Tolley is an Associate Professor in the College of Arts and Sciences at Florida Gulf Coast University. As a recipient of the Knight Fellowship in Marine Science at the University of South Florida, he received his doctorate in 1994. Tolley has been awarded over \$2 million in grants and contracts from such agencies as the National Science Foundation, the South Florida Water Management District, and the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation. He is the author of publications ranging from estuarine ecology, deep-sea fishes and fish physiology, to novel approaches

in science education. He has taught courses in estuarine ecology, fish biology, biogeography and oceanography. His current research interests include the influence of freshwater inflow on estuarine ecosystems, the ecology of marine fishes, and the role of oysters as essential fish habitat.

Tolley is a Certified Fisheries Professional with the American Fisheries Society, an Associate of the American Institute of Fisheries Research Biologists, chair of the Advisory Board of the Florida Institute of Oceanography, and a campus coordinator for Florida Sea Grant. He is also an active member of the local community of Southwest Florida, serving as a trustee of the Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum.

Susannah Lindberg is manatee cam-paign director for the Wildlife Advocacy Project (www.wildlifeadvocacy.org), an advocacy group affiliated with the public interest law firm, Meyer & Glitzenstein, Her presentation will focus on the health of manatees as an "indicator species" located fairly high up on the food chain, and how their health is linked to human health as well as the ecological health of our watershed. Lindberg coordinates grassroots outreach and media efforts for an 18-organization coalition effort. In addition, she recently founded a next-generation Florida environmental leadership coalition called Green Behind the Ears, which she hopes will strengthen the effectiveness and clout of the Florida environmental community.

She has worked for the Public Interest Research Group (PIRG) on such campaigns as campaign finance reform, clean air, the National Forests Roadless Rule, and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. She served as chair of the Florida PIRG board of directors for three years.

ECOSanibel, see page 15

Stars over Sanibel

Ever since people have been walking this planet they have been marveling at the stars shining, down on us. Take part in our natural curiosity for the mysteries of our universe and learn about some the constellations, the neighboring planets within our solar system and distant stars within the Milky Way galaxy. The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation will be offering weekly Stars Over Sanibel programs on Wednesday evenings starting Jan. 29 through the first week of April. Space will be limited for these programs, so reservations are required. Additional information and reservations can be obtained by calling the Conservation Foundation at 472-

and the second s

CROW V.E.R.T. Training and Refresher Course

On Saturday, Jan. 18, from 10 a.m. to noon at CROW's Schneider Education Pavilion on Sanibel, a V.E.R.T. (Volunteer Emergency Rescue & Transport) Training and Refresher Course is being offered. New volunteers are welcome and badty

All current V.E.R.T.s are encouraged to attend. Bring a neighbor, friend or family member. Volunteers who have never tried being a V.E.R.T. should come and see what it's all about. It's a very rewarding experience. Capture skills, safety tech The state of the s

niques and the use of capture equipment will be demonstrated.

Call 472-3644 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to register.

Conservation Forums Begin

Lee County is asking interested residents to come learn about what's been happening with the Conservation 20/20 Program at one of five public forums beginning Jan. 16. The forums are being conducted by the citizen-led Conservation 20/20 Advisory Committee and are intended to give an update on the results of the program and take input from residents about any changes they'd like to see.

Lee County voters approved Conservation 20/20 in November 1996and it will raise about \$15 million a year to buy, restore and maintain environmentally sensitive lands for long-term preservation. With the expected closing of a parcel later this month, more than 10,000 acres will have been purchased through the program.

Public forums will be held at 6:30 p.m. following the regular meetings of the advisory committee as follows:

- Feb. 13, Cape Coral Library, 921 SW 39th Terrace, Cape Coral.
- March 13, East County Regional Library, 881 Gunnery, Lehigh Acres.
- April 10. Bonita Springs Middle School, 10141 West Terry, Bonita

20/20, see page 8

The Timbers Restaurant

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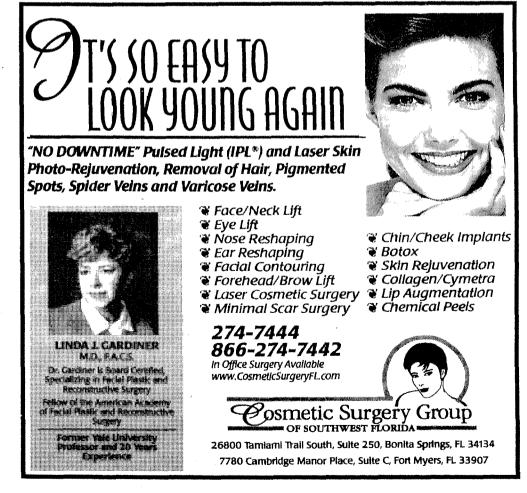
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1/31 Italian Meals in a Hurry 2/1 Romantic Make Ahead
Valentine's Day Dinner

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The Loretta Paganini School of Cooking
1-888-434-5987
Email: LPSCInc@MSN.com



Audubon manager to speak

the subject of Paul Gray's slide presentation at the Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society's weekly meeting at on Thursday, Jan. 23. The meeting, at 8 p.m. at the Sanibel Community House on Periwinkle Way is open to the public for a suggested donation

of \$4. "Are we going to save Florida's largest lake?" asks Gray, who is the science coordinator for the Lake Okeechobee watershed program and manager of Audubon's sanctuaries at the lake. Okeechobee is the second largest freshwater lake in the United States. Gray will discuss the Everglades Restoration Project, and its impact on this 470,000-acre lake, which in many respects serves as the heart and lungs of the

20/20, from page 7

Springs.

 May 8, Lee County Community Development/Public Works Building, 1500 Monroe

To learn more about the program, visit its Web site at http://leecounty.com/ countylands/Cons202O/cons2020.htm or go to www.lee-county.com, then click on "Departments" and "County Lands

"Lake Okeechobee: On The Brink" is Everglades. Southwest Florida also is impacted by the lake's water quality and quantity as runoff comes CAP

down the Caloosahatchee River into the waters surrounding Sanibel and Captiva islands.

Okeechobee, which means "big water" in Seminole, has been linked to southwest Florida since 1887, when humans connected it to Gulf of Mexico via Caloosahatchee River. In 1926 it was connected to the Atlantic via the St. Lucie River.

In 1967 the Army Corps of Engineers constructed a 38-foot-high dike around the lake to further control water levels. These manipulations, combined with abnormally high levels of phosphorus from the sugar cane, citrus, and cattle that surround the lake, and the straightening of tributaries like the Kissimmee River, have wreaked havoc on the entire Everglades ecosystem.

Gray does see some hope as steps are being taken to restore the natural system. But "it's not a sprint," he said, "it's a Stuart Strahl, Horida marathon.' Audubon's president and CEO will introduce Gray and provide additional information on the Everglades Restoration Project.

There is plenty of parking both at the Community House and at the parking lot across the street in front of the former J. Howard Wood Theater. For additional information, contact program chairman David Meardon at 472-2346.

FISHING & SHELLING

The curious Paper Figs

About once a year, usually in the winter months, I get reports of the appearance of lots of paper figs on Sanibel beaches. Outside of the rough winter winds, there

doesn't seem to be any reason why these lovely shells come washing in. I am very familiar with the more northern beaches of North Captiva, Cayo Costa and Gasparilla Islands but I have yet to see figs this numerous on the beaches of these long, open shorelines. However, just about every winter, the thin-walled paper figs somehow find their way to shore

without being broken in strong storms. The fig is a univalve standing about three inches tall. It has a similar body form to a whelk, horse conch or tulip. It feeds on the two-sided shells like coguinas or other clams. The one shell which the fig most closely resembles is the pear whelk.

The paper fig has a hatched design on the outside of the shell. It usually is a light brown color but, inside, there can be a yellow hue. It has a right-handed opening. Some collectors get the two mixed up and actually have a pear whelk instead.

While the paper fig likes the offshore waters of the gulf beaches, the pear whelk prefers the bay waters of Pine Island Sound. The pear whelk often is found in the same flats with left-handed whelks and horse conchs. Both living shells can be crossover species if they are living near the big passes. Pear whelks can be swept into the shallow gulf waters and survive, and paper figs can do just fine on the insides of the passes as long as there is a lot of sandy

As to why paper figs come in droves for a few days each year... I guess it is a combination of winds and tides which uncover, then push the shells to the beaches. We can have sustained westerly winds in the winter which will pile up all kinds of shells,

A few weeks ago I heard that lots of live Florida fighting conchs were appearing in the shallows off the beaches. This happens several times a year and it is a big temptation for collectors to take the living ones. Please remember there is a total ban on taking any live shells on Sanibel as well as on all other county beaches.

Certain kinds of shells appearing in large numbers can happen with other species, too. On the southern end of Cayo Costa, I have seen times when it looks like the number of dead angel wings could not be counted. That only happens following a prolonged westerly storm in the winter.

Good shelling this week and perhaps you will come upon a few perfect paper figs in your beach walks,

Fishing News

Capt. Mike Fuery

Cold weather hurts most kinds of fishing in January, but the old reliable sheepshead is one which seems to thrive on our most brisk winter days.

These are the black-and-white striped fish with sheep-like teeth

expert shell crackers that eat barnacles off the bottom of boats. They will eat just about any bait, but shrimp or cut bait like squid will also work.

While other kinds of fish seem to go into cold water shock, the sheepshead thrive and they can be seen feeding under docks, piers and bridges and over the shallow rocks near shore. An average fish goes about 14 inches. A really big one might be 20. The minimum size is 12 inches and the bag limit per day is 15.

This fish has those protruding front teeth for grabbing food, but inside their mouth is a hard, flat surface for crushing baits. That nearly armor- plated mouth makes it hard to set a hook so expect a lot of bait stealing when looking for

sheepshead. One of the things I have found over the years is that it's almost impossible to use too small a hook. If you are snapper fishing and using a common 2/0 hook, it is wise to drop down one or two sizes when sheepshead show up. If you are getting lots of good bites and not hooking any-

thing, go smaller. Also, don't waste a whole shrimp on them. Big shrimp this time of the year will allow you to break one into thirds. It's funny, but some of the anglers who have fished with me over the years develop "lucky" parts. Some will only use the tail section over the middle of the head parts. The tail also works best with jigs or when casting to fish.

On some cold winter days, the otherwise ignored sheepshead makes the difference between catching something and catching nothing.

Have a question or comment? You can reach Capt. Mike Fuery at 466-3649 or by email at junonia4@aol.com





SERVICE CLUBS

Put Your Trust in Paul

Bob Wimbush

The featured speaker this week was Paul Flynn, head of The Southwest Florida Community Foundation (TSFCF), which is both a granting foundation and overseer and administrator for numerous other community foundations, including the Community Foundation of Sanibel &



Nineteen-year Spaghetti Dinner veteran Rich Caiabrese has worn this hat every year while concocting Sanibel Captiva Kiwanis' (now world famous) sauce. That's at least one stain for every year.

Captiva (CFSC) and Sanibel's Bailey Fund. All are 501(c) 3 organizations and great vehicles for leaving an island legacy.

It's always a pleasure to talk with Rotarian Flynn, but he is hard to describe. As a former newspaper publisher and founding member of the team that established USA Today you would expect he is cultured, suave and erudite (he is); you would expect he would move easily in high falootin' circles (he does); you would expect avuncular sophistication (yep!). Because he's a foundation president you would also expect a compassionate sense of community seamlessly blended with a businessman's steely acumen (all of the above). Need I mention devastatingly handsome? (He could easily be mistaken for almost any member of our club.)

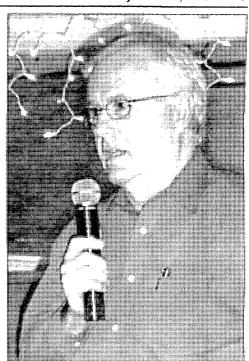
Sanibel's Bailey Fund, which began 2 1/2 years ago and is administered and invested through TSFCF, has grown to \$1.2 million and has given over \$175,000 to worthwhile island causes, ranging from the Sanibel School Fund to aiding troubled individuals and families to assisting island organizations and providing scholarships. Most recently it issued a \$45,000 challenge grant supporting the trauma center. In Paul's homey words, "We want to be sure the docs understand we want them to stay around." (Relax, manatee myopics, that's "Docs" not "Docks").

Flynn also emphasized what he referred to as the island's Good Samaritan fund, part of the Bailey Foundation. It will

provide one-time emergency assistance to any island resident or worker. Referrals come through the schools, or island social agencies. Checks — some have been requested and written in less than 2 hours — are directed back through the referring 501 (c) 3. Many referrals come from FISH but surprisingly few from churches. The number is 274-5900.

Flynn opened his remarks by noting that the foundations "complement a lot of what you [Kiwanis] do here." Small coincidence. Many CFSC board members are Kiwanians. (mmmm, it's such a temptation to name them here so they will be fined...) According to Flynn, The Bailey Foundation is "the greatest thing to belong to because you don't have to do anything." That alone may explain Kiwanians' participation. Also, it isn't very exclusive. Anyone, even a Lion or Rotarian can join the Bailey Society for 150 bucks. I guess they'd even take a Zonta who could raise the cash. 274-5000

- Mark your calendar for Feb. 22nd Kiwanis' (recently) world renowned Spaghetti Dinner. Tickets are available from Kiwanians, at Bank of the Islands, at Periwinkle Park and from Jaimie at Colonial Bank.
- Tom "The Music Man" Uhler announced that the Kiwanis Marching Band has joined into a cooperative effort with BIG ARTS. Undoubtedly this has raised quality overall, and dissuaded one member who wanted them to come play and drive the rats out of his building. The combined group will hold its first practice on Monday at 7 p.m. I forgot to ask "Which Monday!" so call BIG ARTS at



Kiwanis Type?

395-0900 for details and to get in on the fun blending of island talents and organizations. Hopefully they can perform at Kiwanis San-Cap Revue on March 22. Hopefully we'll let them.

Kiwanis meets for breakfast every Wednesday at the Island House. Everyone who enjoys laughing at themselves is welcome. Even if you don't, show up. We'll laugh for you.

Self-Acceptance workshop

A six-class series on self-awareness, Finding Me: An Inside Job, began on Jan. 14. The two-hour classes, led by Suzanne Weinheimer, are being offered free of charge on Tuesdays at 7:15 pm at the Sanibel Library. Even if you missed the first class, newcomers are welcome to join the group during the second class on Jan. 21.

The series is "about finding out who we are, not what everyone says you are," explained Weinheimer. So many people go through life feeling that "I am whoever you say I am...The goal is to not have our lives driven by other people's fears — don't do this, be careful of that — and other people's prejudices, which is also fear."

Classes will include meditation and even if you have never tried it before, this is a "wonderful way to learn — in a group—because of the power of group meditation." One of the things she works on through meditation is finding one's "inner child." There are probably many who share Weinheimer's own first reaction to the exercise: "nobody liked that child, why do I have to have her dragging around with me the rest of my life?"

Her interest in inner growth developed when she was living on a farm, growing sheep and running a yarn business. She was deeply moved by "the time in the barn with the animals, especially during lambing: sheep that would never come near you walk right up when it's time to lamb. It's a feeling of power the first time you reach inside another being and pull out a baby...The organic part of it: this is

life and death and not everyone makes it: it's not fair."

While there is a wealth of material about self-help, healing, inner peace and self-acceptance, "at some point in your life you have to say, okay, let's make it simple...and...decide that the world we live within is a safe place. We have to live with courage and we have to learn that."

Weinheimer, a Sanibel resident since 1987, is a teacher, a facilitator of meditation and a healer. Her classes were also offered last year. For more information, please call Suzanne Weinheimer at 472-0214.

Randy Wayne White seeks recipes from Fishing Guides

Who knows better how to cook a fish than a fishing guide? Author Randy Wayne White is asking fishing guides to send their recipes to him for a book, the Fishing Guides' Guide to Tropical Cooking, that he is editing. He is also include commentary about the fishing guide's life.

Please include a couple of sentences about yourself and how you use the recipe, and if you have a headshot, send that as well. White would like to have everything within the next couple of weeks.

You can e-mail the photo (if available) and information to Randy Wayne White at useppagin@aol.com or at randywaynewhite@aol.com or you can mail them to Randy Wayne White at Post Office Box 486, Pineland 33945.

CORRECTION:

In last week's Islander, Anita Pinder's title was incorrect. Pinder is the operations manager for the Clinic for the Rehabilition of Wildlife. As a clarification, CROW has not entered into any discussions with the Island Water Association regarding a possible land purchase.



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Jan. 25

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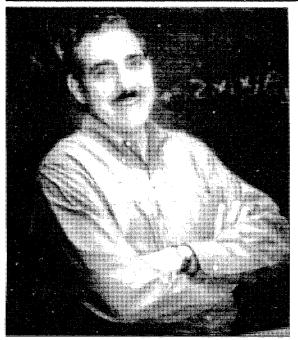
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Professor John S. Strong, will be speaking Jan. 19, at BIG ARTS.

FORUM lecture series to begin Jan. 19

In a "first ever" for Sanibel and Captiva, BIG ARTS is launching a Distinguished Scholar Lecture Series this weekend, bringing speakers of national and world-wide stature to the island.

The seven-lecture series, known as THE FORUM at BIG ARTS, will feature Senator Richard Lugar, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, David Broder, nationally syndicated political correspondent for the Washington Post, and Marvin Kalb, Senior Fellow at the Harvard Center for Press and Public Policy and former Chief Diplomatic Correspondent for CBS and NBC News, among others.

Professor John S. Strong will launch the new series Jan. 19 at 7:30 p.m. Strong, professor of Finance & Economics at the College of William & Mary, will speak on the "Current Crisis in International Finance and What it Means for the U.S.

In addition to his academic career, Strong has had extensive experience in the worlds of international finance, banking and development. A six-time winner of the coveted Outstanding Professor Award at William & Mary, he has served as a consultant to governments around the world, with particular expertise in Latin America and Europe.

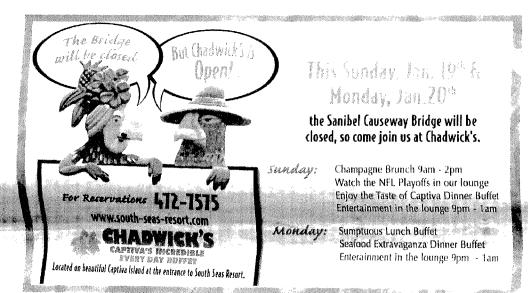
His recent corporate and government consulting activities include work with the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice and the National Academy of Sciences, among others.

Dick Wright, who came up with the idea for the FORUM at BIG ARTS, figured that on this island there must be people who knew some outstanding

right," he said. "Every one of our speakers was at least an acquaintance of someone on the committee." Strong, for example, is a former student and associate of the nation's pre-eminent transportation economist and islander John Meyer. This week, Meyer received the Roy W. Crum Award in Washington, D.C. from the National Academies' Transportation Research Board for his pioneering contributions to transportation economics.

"I'm really pleased to bring this intellectually stimulating program here. I think it will be well received. There are questions and answers after each lecture plus a reception where people will be able to talk one-on-one with the speakers ...Much better than TV!"

For tickets, call BIG ARTS at 395-





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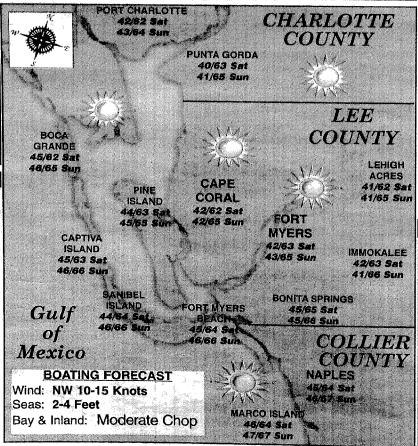
WEEKEND FORECAST FOR SATURDAY DET CHARLOT

Dool temperatures and plenty of sunshine make for a great

saturday

Another day full of sunshine with warmer temperatures in

WEEKEND TIDES					
City -	Sat.High	Sat. Low	Sun. High	Sun. Low	
Cape Coral	1:42 a.m.	10:46 a.m.	2:29 a.m.	11:24 a.m.	
Bridge	5:42 p.m.	9:03 p.m.	5:56 p.m.	10:00 p.m.	
Captiva at	•	7:30 a.m.	12:19 a.m.	8:08 a.m.	
Redfish Pass	3:32 p.m.	'5:47 p.m.	3:46 p.m.	6:44 p.m.	
Fort Myers	2:35 a.m.	11:28 a.m.	3:22 a.m.	12:06 a.m.	
	6:35 p.m.	9:45 p.m.	6:49 p.m.	10:42 p.m.	
Matlacha Pass	1:10 a.m.	10:12 a.m.	1:57 a.m.	10:50 a.m.	
	5:10 p.m.	8:29 p.m.	5:24 p.m.	9:26 p.m.	
Pineland	12:08 a.m.	9:10 a.m.	12:55 a.m.	9:48 a.m.	
	4:08 p.m.	7:27 p.m.	4:22 p.m.	8:24 p.m.	
Point Ybel	2:37 p.m.	7:32 a.m.	*	8:10 a.m.	
	11:24 p.m.	5:49 p.m.	2:51 p.m.	6:46 p.m.	
Punta Rassa	-	7:22 a.m	12:13 a.m.	8:03 a.m.	
	3:26 p.m.	5:42 p.m.	3:40 p.m.	6:39 p.m.	
St. James City	-	8:00 a.m.	12:44 a.m.	8:38 a.m.	
· ,	3:57 p.m.	6:17 p.m.	4:11 p.m.	7:14 p.m.	



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JACKSONVILLE	28/58
*KEY WEST	55/65
KISSIMMEE	32/58
MIAMI	45/62
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You Can 'Deep-End' On DEEP-END POOL SERVICE



by Nancy Santeusanio Special to The Islander

William Chandler, owner and operator of Deep-End Pool Service, is an islander who had cared for his own pool up North for many years. When he rented a home in Captiva, he discovered that the pool service was minimal but at an excessive price. As the owner of a chain of video stores up north since 1987, Chandler had always recognized the importance of customer service. When he decided to move to the islands in 2001, he chose the pool service business. Here the customer relies on service totally and Chandler takes pride in offering unrivalled customer

What makes good service? "We are there when we say we are going to be and we do what we say we are going to do," emphasizes Chandler. "If a customer has an emergency, we go right over and take care of the problem. We work Saturdays and even answer service calls on Sunday in an emergency." Since Deep-End only services pools on Captiva and Sanibel, the firm can provide excellent service quickly and professionally, whether it's an emergency or weekly maintenance.

Chandler places a high priority on ser-

vice to rental properties. He knows, "First impressions count" and one of the unique features he offers is that his pool service coincides with the "changeover" day of each rental property so that guests see a sparkling clean pool on their arrival. He adds, "The property should be spotless and the pool should be the same." That's another reason why he's willing to work on Saturdays.

With his business experience Chandler knows that everyone shops

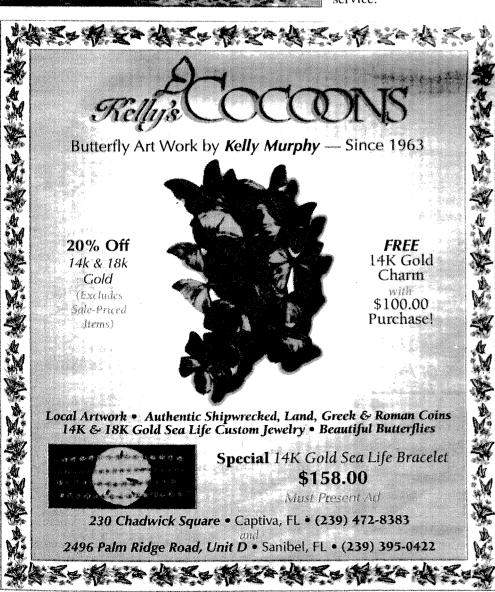
Deep-End, see page 12

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Deep-End, from page 11

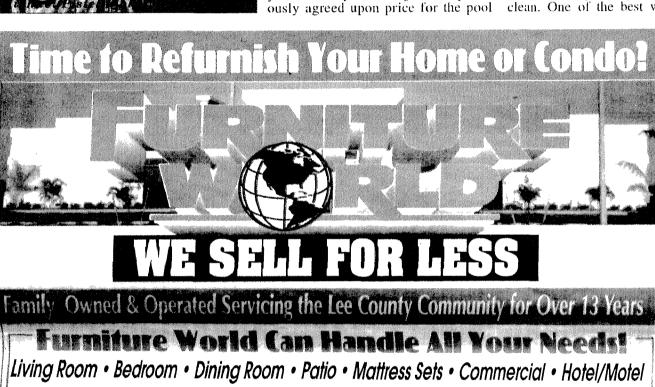
price and most certainly people want the most for their money. He gives a no-obligation estimate on pool cleaning service and if the quote doesn't beat the price you are already paying, his policy is to reduce his estimate by five or ten dollars. Also his quote is an all-inclusive pricing plan with no additional charges for chemicals, filter cleaning or vacuuming. As an added incentive, Chandler offers a free month of service for the first month and, after six months of paid service, he offers an additional free month. He states that Deep-End Pool Service never requires long-term contracts and you will see no surprises on your monthly bill — just the previ-

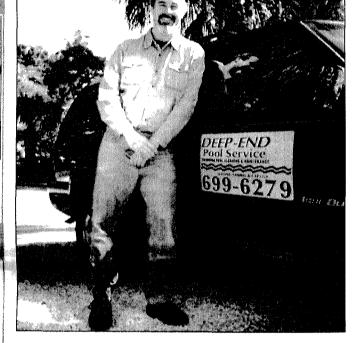
Occasionally, there are surprises while servicing a pool, like the client whose pool has a resident raccoon that eleverly takes the spa activation switch apart and leaves his tracks around the pool at least once a month. There are dog "pool swimmers" who enjoy their swim as much as their owners and cleaning out the dog hair from the pool is all part of a day's work. Many people tell Chandler that he has to watch out for their dogs, but he's happy to report that none have chased him yet. Usually they become friends and look forward to Chandler's visit.

Chandler reminds people about some pool "basies" and some preventive measures to keep the pool sparkling and clean. One of the best ways to reduce

pool debris is to keep the trees trimmed back and away from the pool. An open pool with overhanging sea grape branches is one of the worst possible offenders. Another priority is balancing the water chemistry or "ph level" by testing and adding the proper amount of "ph" to increase or decrease the level. Most important in keeping the water sanitized is to maintain the proper level of chlorine - remember that the warmer the pool, the faster the chlorine will dissipate.

If you want top-quality pool cleaning by a professional serving Sanibel and Captiva exclusively, call Deep-End Pool Service at 699-6279 for a no-obligation estimat. Give this service you can "deepend" on a try and decide for yourself.







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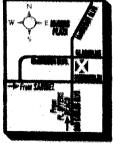
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(NAPSA)-While longing for peace and quiet in their homes, Americans have surrounded themselves with decibel-raising high-tech gadgetry including big screen TVs, computer games, CD players and stereo systems. Coupled with a love of home offices, media rooms and spacious "great rooms," these noise-laden environments can adversely affect sleep, stress levels and quality of life.

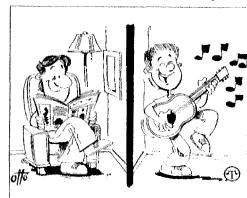
But, homes can easily be a haven of peace and quiet, with just a little insulation. In most homes, walls between rooms are only marginally effective at blocking noise. Made of drywall and lumber, these interior or partition walls have poor Sound Transmission Class STC ratings. An STC rating is a number used to characterize the sound insulating value of a wall, floor or ceiling-the higher the STC rating, the less sound will be transmitted between rooms.

Home builders typically take steps to increase the STC rating for rooms that tend to be the noisiest, such as kitchens and bathrooms, but it may not be enough. There are a number of simple measures that can be taken to raise the STC number in any home. By far the easiest and most economical method for controlling noise is to install insulation in the wall cavity. Adding insulation beneath drywall in a typical wall configuration can increase

Contact a professional insulation contractor about installing loose-fill fiber glass insulation. Loose-fill fiber glass can be blown into walls in an afternoon. If you are doing any renovations on your home where drywall is removed or a new wall constructed, fiber glass batts or rolls can be put in place by any do-it-your-

If a new wall is being constructed, homeowners can also build what is called a resilient channel between the drywall and the studs or joists. Properly installed resilient channels will break the noise vibration path, providing a dramatic reduction in sound transmission.

For a free brochure on noise control. or to find out the many benefits of fiber glass and mineral wool insulations, visit www.SimplyInsulate.com or send a message to email@Simply Insulate.com. With a little time spent installing acoustic insulation in the walls, homeowners can ensure peace and quiet all year long.





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Pet-friendly luxury vinyl tile

(ARA) - While most pet owners love their pets, none are fond of the damage pets can do to furniture, drapes and floors. Fortunately, there are ways to balance affection for Fido with the desire for beautiful

Thanks to today's luxury vinyl tile, pet owners can have the look and feel of ceramic, slate, stone or marble while maintaining luxury vinyl's many advantages. Luxury vinyl has many pet-friendly qualities including:

- * Low allergen great for the combination of kids and pets
- * Moisture resistant no need to worry about the water bowl spilling
- * Quiet no more clickety-clack from pet
- * Easy maintenance quickly and easily remove pet hair, paw prints and dirt

"I go to great lengths to cater to my dog - a beautiful Great Dane with a wonderful personality," says Diane Martel, vice president of marketing for Nafco, a leading lux-ury vinyl brand. "However, she can be a mess! When I had hardwood floors I couldn't keep them clean. With luxury vinyl, pet owners can appreciate the beautiful looks of wood without the worry of damage from pet

Where traditional flooring options would suffer from the everyday wear of pets, Nafco's Tritonite wearlayer protects your floor up to five times better, allowing your floor to stay beautiful longer. Design a floor with the confidence it will look great — even if dogs, cats of kids tread on it every day.

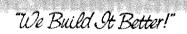


With luxury vinyl flooring, having a pet in the house can be a joy instead of a burden. You no longer have to agonize over things like potty training on hardwoods or muddy paws on carpet. You can spend less time worrying about your floors and more time loving your pets.

Thanks to GroutFit, a new realistic grout treatment, it is almost impossible to tell the difference between Nafco and the materials it replicates. GroutFit fits tiles together eliminating the tell-tale seamlessly seams of conventional vinyl tiles. A beautiful option, luxury vinyl flooring not only replicates the look of fine-grained wood, ceramic, slate, stone and marble, but it is affordable and pet-friendly.

For more information on luxury vinyl flooring, visit www.nafco.com or call (800) 248-5574.

Courtesy of ARA Content





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BUSINESS.

STS names island event to Top 20

The Southeast Tourism Society has named the Sanibel Shell Fair & Show, to its select list of Top 20 Events.

The Shell Fair & Show was one of only 20 events that was recognized by the Society for the month of March. "We are very excited and very thrilled that we were worthy of it," said Ann Arnoff, president of the Sanibel Community Association.

Now in its 66th year, the event is the longest running and most prestigious of its kind in the country. Hosted by the Sanibel-Community Association and The Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club, the Shell Fair & Show will run March 6-8 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. each day. Admission to the Shell Fair is free, while admittance to the Shell Show, which consists of juried scientific and artistic exhibits, is \$3. The artistic show attracts some of the finest artisans, while the scientific show features shells from around the world.

From its small beginnings, when just a few islanders gathered together to display their prized finds, this event has grown over the years into a major attraction. Artists will demonstrate how they create their shell art and there will be many shells and shell crafts for sale.

December's top producers

John Naumann announced Monday that Jim Artale and Trevor Nette were named Top Producers for Coldwell Banker Previews International for the month of December.

Artale, received top honors for Sales Associate of the month. Jim, a long time island Realtor, is currently heading up the Caloosa Creek Sales Team, in addition to his everyday island real estate business. "Jim is, doing a great job with Caloosa Creek as well as the island properties. It is such a benefit for his customers for him to





Jim Artale

Trevor Nette

have off- and on-island knowledge. Our market is continually expanding and Jim is staying right with it," Naumann said.

Nette was named Top Lister. "Trevor has contributed many quality properties to our inventory over the last several months," sales manager Jay Richter said. "He consistently lists and sells high end properties, working very long hours to make sure all of his customers are well taken care of."

Grand Reopening Celebration

Camping World at 5600 Enterprise Parkway, off I-75, is entering 2003 with a bold new look, expanding the company's presence in the outdoor supplies retail marketplace. Stores have been transformed, including new layouts, signage and displays. Even the logo has changed. The company has also enhanced and expanded

its selection of RV-specific products with a growing line of camping equipment marketed under the heading "CW Gear."

Camping World will be holding a Grand Reopening at the I-75 location from Jan. 16-20 during its regular store hours.

Camping World is the world's largest supplier of RV accessories and equipment. For more information on Camping World's Grand Reopening event contact 693-8300 or, for a free catalog, call (800) 838-1923 or visit the website at campingworld.com.

E.D. named Person of Year

D.T. Minich, C.D.M.E., executive director of the Lee Island Coast Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB), has been named Person of the Year by the Fort Myers News-Press in its Jan. Ledition. The Gamett publication also recognized Gary Ewen. VCB director of sports development, for a "Job Well Done in 2002."

Since 1987, The News-Press has awarded the Person of the Year distinction annually to someone who has made an extraordinary contribution to the community during the past 12 months. Minich was honored for his unfailing and decisive leadership in the tourism-devastating aftermath of Sept. 11, just months after he took the position. "...Lee County fared much better than many other Florida destinations, including the Orlando area," due in part to Minich's marketing tactics, The News-Press said.

Minich received his bachelor of arts degree in history and marketing from the University of Kentucky in 1986. He came to the VCB as a public relations intern in 1992 and soon became tourism sales manager. Two years later, he was promoted to senior tourism sales manager, director of sales in 1996, deputy director in 1997, and executive director in 2000. He graduated from the International Association of Convention & Visitors Bureaus' (IACVB) executive program in destination management and received his Certified Management Executive Destination (CDME) designation in 1998. The program is recognized by the tourism industry as its highest educational achievement.

With Minich's commitment to maintaining the cohesiveness and integration of the organization's various departments—sales, community relations, visitor services/community relations, travel agent help desk, and administrative support—the VCB has attained a solid stature within the tourism industry around the world for its innovative destination marketing.

The News-Press selected Ewen for A Job Well Done in 2002. According to the publication, Ewen is responsible for landing the 2003 Florida Firefighters Physical Fitness games that will bring more than 5,000 athletes to the area. In 18 years with the county, Ewen has brought more than 50 national championship events to the Lee Island Coast and played a major role in acquiring grant funding for sporting events.

A graduate of Springfield College in Massachusetts, Ewen earned a bachelor of science degree in community services. He holds prestigious certifications and positions, such as being a Certified Parks & Recreation Professional and a member of the board of the National Association of Sports Commissions.

Paganini back for cooking series

Loretta Paganini School of Cooking is flying south for the winter again! The Sixth Annual Tropical Cooking Extravaganza runs from Jan. 27 to Feb. 1 at Timbers on Tarpon Bay Road. Another outstanding line-up of chefs from LPSC are set to dazzle you with their culinary skills.

This year you'll meet the Three Italian Chefs — Maurizio Parisio, Claudio Barisone and Alberto Armano, three of Italy's top chefs from the Piedmont region, of Italy, which is known for its fine cuisine and outstanding wine. This year, too, there will be wine pairings with all the classes and for students taking the full week of classes, a recipe binder. There's something for everyone, from the avid cook to the novice. Plan to join Paganini, the Italian chefs, and pastry chef Brenda Kelly and enjoy great cooking demonstrations, delicious food and good friends. All classes meet from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

- Grilling Florida Favorites Jan. 27
 Gulf Shrimp wrapped in Pancetta with
 Citrus Pineapple Salsa; Grilled Corn
 Chowder; Grilled White Pizza; Grilled
 Homemade Sausage Kabobs served
 with Red, White and Blue Potato
 Salad; Grilled Flank Steak on Micro
 Greens Salad with Orange Vinaigrette;
 Grilled Plums with Ice-cream;
 Chocolate-Macadamia Shortbread
 Bare
- Under the Tuscan Sun Jan. 28
 Roasted Garlic and Olive Spread; Wild Mushroom Flans; Homemade Pasta with Spicy Tomato Sauce; Scaloppine di Vitello al Limone (Veal Medallions with Zucchini in Lemon Sauce); Carote in Insalata; La Torta Di Mandorle (Almond/Chocolate Torte) with Vin Santo Zabaglione.
- Upscale Crab Shack Jan. 29
 Dungeness Crab Soup; Avocado-Crab
 Salad with Gazpacho Vinaigrette;
 Steamed Spicy Crab Cakes with
 Smoked Tomato-Chipotle Sauce; Crab
 Stuffed Scampi with Wild Mushroom
 Ravioli and Lemon-Ginger Broth;
 Creole Crab Cakes; Corn Salad;
 Lemon Madeleines with Lemon Curd.
- Hors D'oeuvres & Appetizers Jan. 30
 Corn Cakes with Fresh Tomato Salsa and seafood; Paté à Choux filled with Herbed Goat Cheese; Smoked Chicken; Sun-dried Tomato Tapenade Empanadas; Marinated Shrimp in Filo; Duck Spring Rolls with Mango Chutney; Tomato-Ginger Jam on Brioche; Orange Crême Brulé for dessert.
- Veloce! Italian Meals in a Hurry Jan. 31
 Artichoke Pesto on Crostini; Pork
 Tenderloin with Figs; Gorgonzola
 Mashed Potatoes and Wood Smoked
 Grouper served with White & Green
 Bean Salad; Tomato Basil Linguini
 with Chicken; Fontina Cheese
 Paillards; and, for dessert, Pears and
 Amaretti Strudel.
- Romantic Make-Ahead Valentine's Day Dinner - Feb. 1 Seared Tuna Carpaccio on Sizzling Risotto Cakes with Truffle Sauce followed by Lobster Agnolotti in a Light Saffron Cream Sauce; Roasted Beef Tenderloin au Poivre served with Porcini Glace; Demi-Touméed

Potatoes and Vegetables Bundles; Chocolate Molten Cake and Tuxedo Strawberries.

For more information and reservations, call LPSC at (888) 434-5987 or e-mail LPSCIncC@MSN.com. Space is limited. Do not wait to sign up; classes sold out last year. Fee: \$350 for full series of six classes or \$75 per class.

ECOSanibel, from page 7

Future Presentations

All programs in the Healthy Earth! Healthy Island! Healthy You! series are free and open to the public. The calendar for future presentations, all held at the Sanibel Public Library, is:

Mar. 17: "Switches that Save: Energy Conservation & LCEC"

The previously announced Feb. 17 session, "Where Does Your Tap Water Come From?: Water Conservation and IWA," has been CANCELLED.

Each evening's agenda includes the ECOS anibel business meeting from 6:30-7:15 p.m., followed by the presentation at 7:30, and at 8:30, audience questions or small group discussions.

In addition, a Florida Humanities Council Grant is helping to fund The Book of the Everglades readings which take place on Feb. 5.

ECOSamibel (Earth Charter Of Sanibel) is a non-profit, non-partisan, educational organization dedicated to promoting and upholding those principles of the Earth Charter appropriate for the sanctuary island of Sanibel through discussion, publications, programs, advocacy, and public events.

The Earth Charter is a multi-national declaration of fundamental principles for building a just, sustainable, and peaceful global society in the 21st Century. ECOSanibel also seeks to forge links with the wider community to enhance understanding of global interdependence, sustainability, and the importance of shared responsibility. For more information, call 472-9159.

Up Scope, from page 3

missing was ice for the drinks — the refrigerator had been out for a couple of days so they went outside and pulled ice straws off the bare tree twigs. Resourceful, those New Englanders.

Here on the islands, a lot of people have been working hard to figure ways around this transportation inconvenience which is scheduled to last all of 30 hours. They deserve our thanks, but at the same time let's not lose sight of the opportunity to kick our shoes off and enjoy the break in the action.

You really can make a silk purse out of a sow's ear if you think about it the right way.

- R. Severance

Happenings, from page 6

Marine Laboratory Fund. Stop by bank to pick-up your T-shirt and have a freshly baked cookie and cup of freshly brewed coffee while you are there.

Brightest Horizons Benefit

Back by popular demand, Eric Watters & Friends will perform a musical revue to benefit Brightest Horizons Child Development Center at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 27 at the Arcade Theater in downtown Fort Myers.

Eric Watters & Friends will perform some two dozen production numbers in song and dance, including "Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend," which will feature a chorus line of subway dress Marilyn Monroes; "Proud Mary," featuring Tina Turner clones in Vegas costumes; and Eric Watters own Dum Dee

Doo Wah quartet.

Tickets are \$50. Each dollar will be matched by the State of Florida's Childcare Partnership program.

"All expenses for the evening are underwritten by generous sponsors, including use of the theater, which is donated for the evening by Florida Repertory Theatre," said Al Park, Brightest Horizons board director.

This is Brightest Horizons' second annual musical fund-raiser. Last year's event raised \$20,000, which was matched by the state.

The center offers full-time programs for infants and pre-schoolers and after school care and summer programs for school age children.Brightest Horizons Child Development Center is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children — a designation shared by fewer than 10 percent of such centers nation-

wide. The programs are part of Brightest Horizons Mission, Inc., which also provides emergency assistance to individuals and families in need.

For information, contact Kathleen Shaddock, executive director, at 481-2100 or online at Kathy@brightesthorizons.org.

Island Seniors Bazaar

Join the Island Seniors at the Civic Center on the corner of Palm Ridge and Library Way on Saturday, Feb. 1, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be a huge Trash 'n' Treasure Sale of items donated by members... something for everyone — a wide avariety of crafts and collectibles, plants, calamondin marmalade, shell decorations, ornaments, dolls, jewelry, European soaps, and much more.

Delicious baked goods will be for sale as well as hot dogs, sodas, and coffee. Tables are available for \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. For more information, please call Yolande at 395-3372 or Pat at 472-8078.

Dinosaurs II & Ice Age Giants

The blockbuster, robotic-exhibit, Dinosaurs II & Ice Age Giants opens to the public at the Imaginarium Hands-On Museum tomorrow, Jan. 18, and will be open to the public through Sunday, May 11.

Fifteen dinosaurs and ice age mammals arrived at the Museum last week. The robots include new and different dinosaurs like the apatosaurus, maiasaura and the pachycephalosaurs plus some of the mammals of the Ice Age—the woolly mammoth, sabertoothed cat, baluchitherium, smilodon, and the megatherium (giant ground sloth). And, of course, t-rex will be back plus the giant flying pteranodon.

This past week, the Imaginarium staff and technicians from. Kokoro Dinosaurs, Inc., the California-based company that created the exhibit, will install the air compressor driven robots in prehistoric settings. These huge creatures will roar and growl throughout the main exhibit hall.

The Imaginarium is located at 2000 Cranford Avenue in historic downtown Fort Myers. Hours are Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5. The phone number is 337-3332.

SBI Sale and Auction

Sanibel Beautification, Inc's second annual "Take Pride in Sanibel Silent Auction & Garden Social" will be hosted



Ada Shissler

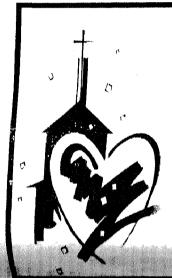
this Sunday, Jan. 19, by Pippins Restaurant on Periwinkle Way from 3 to 5 p.m. The event will raise money to improve landscaping along the medians on Lindgren Boulevard, using a design created by landscape architect Welles

Jones. Bill Blauvelt, of Southern Traditions Landscaping, is donating his services as well as equipment and materials at cost. Estimated costs for the project come to \$30,000.

Sanibel Beautification recently completed landscaping at the intersection of Periwinkle Way, Causeway Road and Lindgren Boulevard.

Ada Shissler, a member of the SBI board, unveiled some of the things that will be offered at Sunday's auction. "We have a lot of interesting items," she said. "Randy Wayne White will use the name of the highest bidder in one of his book, for

Additional goodies include several landscaping packages that include a consultant and professional landscaping services — a butterfly garden, geiger trees and perotus palms, among other goodies. Art objects by İkki Matsumoto, Bob Radigan, Danny Morgan, Sheila Hoem, Terry Causey, and others were donated, as well as jewelry from various local jewelers. VIP, PMR and the Sanibel Inn donated accomodations, plus Jack and Leslie Samler have provided a week-long South Carolina vacation. There will be savings bonds from Bank of America and the Community Bank, as well as certificates to several local restaurants. Gift items and services from She Sells Sea Shells, Sanibel Pottery, a massage at the Sanibel Day Spa, and beauty items from Escentials will be offered, as well as many other goods and services from all over the



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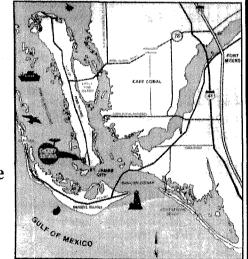
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CHURCH NEWS

Looking at Galatians

The Rev. Suzy Post and Lee Williams are leading an eight-week Bible Study and Prayer group at St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church. The group spends some time in prayer and then moves into the study group. They meet Fridays 10-11:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Everyone is invited to come to any or all sessions and bring a friend. For more information, please call.

St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church at 472-2173.

Looking at the end times

Do you want to know what the end times are going to be like? Then come to the Island Bible Study at Sanibel Community Church this year. The group is studying the book of Daniel to help understand today's tumultuous world.

The study group meets Monday nights for eight weeks at 7 p.m., actually starting this past Monday, at the church at 1740 Periwinkle Way.

For more information or to register, call Al or Carol Larson, 472-6534, or Dave or Jinny Kelby, 472-2432.

Women's Guild to meet

The St. Isabel Women's Guild will hold its January meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 28 at 9:30 a.m. in the Church Hall.

After the business meeting the guest speaker will be Hal Brand, Comic Relief. His motto is "Laughter is the best medicine." Hal has many stories that will make everyone sit up and take note that life does have a sunny side. "A smile is your umbrella on a rainy, rainy day.

All the women of the parish are invited to attend and bring a friend.

Local churches sponsor series

Continuing in the Scholar-in-Residence Series program — exploring what is universal in the Protestant/Jewish Religions and what is unique — three island congregations have announced the 2003 Program Series. Congregational United Church of Christ, St.Isabel Catholic Church, and Bat Yam—Temple of the Islands will offer an ecumenical program for three consecutive Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. beginning Jan. 23 at St. Isabel's. This year's theme is "The personal search for the Holy"

suggested by Father Ratzmann, refined and focused by the Rev. Randall Niehof and Rabbi Murray Salzman. On Jan. 23, there will be a panel of six laymen, two from each Congregation, and a discussion led by Bill Hillebrandt. On Jan. 30, the panel will consist of the three spiritual leaders personally discussing this aspect of their lives, and another discussion period. The event will cuminate on Thursday, February 6th, with the appearance of Blu Greenberg, a religious adviser to NPR, a prolific writer and poet, and an ardent feminist who has elected to stay withing the orthodox community to work for change.

UUs sponsor lectures

Nobel Prize nominee Dr. Helen Caldicott, world renowned author, environmentalist and peace advocate, will speak at the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Fort Myers on Sunday, Feb. 9. In her timely address, "Solutions for the 21st Century," Caldicott will discuss the dire consequences of nuclear war and other threats to human survival.

Caldicott, who began her career as a physician in her native Australia, was on the staff at Boston's Children's Hospital and a member of the faculty at Harvard Medical School. In 1980, after leading the opposition to France's testing of nuclear devices in the Pacific, she re-directed her energies to nuclear and environmental issues. She is president of the Nuclear Policy Institute and founded Physicians for Social Responsibility as well as Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament. She addresses forums throughout the world, is widely published and is an advisor to world leaders.

A documentary film featuring Caldicott's work, Eight Minutes to Midnight, was nominated, and If You Love This Planet, also focusing on her work, won an Academy Award. The Feb. 9th lecture is being sponsored by the Environmental & Peace Education Committee of Southwest Florida and by the Social Action Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Myers. Church officials feel that hosting Caldicott's lecture affirms the commitment of the church to be a forum for in-depth discussions of religious, moral and philosophical issues.

Admission is \$10, \$5 for students. For further information and to reserve tickets, call 561-2700.

• Religious Diversity and Human Community will be the theme of the 2003 Lecture Series to be presented by the Unitarian-Universalists. Distinguished scholars, authors and clergymen will focus on the commonalities that Hindu, Islamic and Humanist traditions have with the predominant faiths of this

The series will open on Feb. 2 when Professor Wendy Doniger of the University of Chicago will speak on "Women and Other Genders in the Kama Sutra," Doniger is the author of numerous books on cross-cultural studies, mythology and gender issues.

On Feb. 23, Dr. Uma Mysorekar, executive director of the Hindu Temple Society of North America, will discuss "The Power and Practive of Love in Hinduism." Mysorekar Is a recognized spokesperson for programs on social and

cultural awareness as they relate to issues

The series will continue on March 16 with a lecture by Professor Seyyed Hossien Nasr titled "The Heart of Islam." Nasr, who teaches Islamic Studies at George Washington University, is a native of Iran and the author of more than 20 books on Islam.

On March 22, "Humanism for the 21st Century" will be the subject of an address by The Rev. William R. Murry. Murry, who is president, academic dean and professor of ministry at the Meadville-Lombard Theological School in Chicago, is the author of A Faith for

Admission for all four lectures is \$25; adults are \$7.50 and students \$5 per lecture. For information or to order tickets, call 561-2700.

All lectures, including Caldicott's, will be at 3 p.m. in the Miller Sanctuary at the church, located on Shire Lane off Daniels Parkway in South Fort Myers. The church is wheel-chair accessible.

Health Seminars

New series starts at Sanibel Fitness

Sanibel residents who are interested in a holistic health approach to osteoporosis, heart disease, or improving total body health are invited to participate in one or more of a series of seminars and support group meetings at Sanibel Fitness on Rabbit Road.

Hosted by lifestyle and nutrition coach Carol Simontacchi, CCN, MS, local physicians, nutritionists, and other health care practitioners will present this interactive series that includes medical, nutritional, and holistic health information.

• Osteoporosis Support Group

A 12-week osteoporosis support group begins meeting on Saturday, Jan. 18, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Some of the topics covered in this series include nutrition for bone health, diagnostic testing and evaluation, designing your personalized exercise program, and medical issues surrounding the onset and progression of osteoporosis.

Holistic Health Series

An educational series on holistic health will also begin on Jan. 18 from noon to 1:30 p.m. Some of the topics covered in this series include holistic nutrition and menu planning, herbal traditions from around the world, homeopathy (medicine of the kings), stress reduction.. strengthening the immune system, and others.

Tuesday Night "Tea and Talk"

A discussion group on various health topics will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 14, at 7 p.m. and will continue through May. Some of the topics in this series include "Supporting the Warrior Within" (immune system). The Belching, Bloating, and Burping of Bad Digestion," "Allergies and the Bucket Theory," "When Everything Hurts" (fibromyalgia), "Normalizing Cholesterol Naturall," and many others.

Health, see page 18

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To date, Bank of the Islands has raised \$3,200 for local charities through its We Love Our Islands program. Dec. 16, John Carney took home the prize... literally. He is shown above left





senting his \$100 to his wife, Fay Carney, president of the San-Cap Chapter of ABWA, who said the money will be used to benefit the Take Stock in Children program. The week of Dec. 23, Chris Nagot was the lucky winner and chose the Bailey Soceity as her charity, presenting a check to Francis Bailey on Dec. 30 at the bank.(shown right) with Nagot and Bailey are (L-R) Pat VanAlstyne, Brenda Wendt and Elaine Smith of the bank.

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Health, from page 17

Healthy Heart Support Group

A 12-week support group for individuals interested in improving the health of the heart begins on Wednesday, Jan. 15, at 7 p.m. Topics include the diagnostics of heart disease, "What About Cholesterol and Other Markers?" "Exercising the Heart," "Feeding The Heart," and many

The cost of each 12-week support group is \$90 for Sanibel Fitness members, \$120 for non-members. The cost of the Tuesday Night Tea and Talk health class is \$8 per class for members, \$10 for non-members, or \$125 (members) and \$150 (non-members) for the entire 19-week

Pick up a complete class schedule at the front desk at Sanibel Fitness. Pre-registration is required. Call Sanibel Fitness at 395-2639 for more information or to register.

Raccoons, from page 5

been a debate about a high span or a low span. It's all about no span. It's all about letting the garbage pile up on Sanibel until the island sinks under the weight of its own refuse. Nothing could make them happier.

And, don't think it's over. Once they shut down the causeway, the problems will only worsen. These are trained operatives, with clear links to the Taliban. They've got small Zodiacs hidden throughout Lee County — some in Pine Island, some on Fort Myers Beach - and they know what they're doing. They've been trained — Soviet weaponry, mini-mortars and hand-to-paw combat. They're ruthless.

The closure won't end on Tuesday. There will be unexpected accidents. The crane's huge diesel engine will abruptly freeze up. Innocent DOT workers will mysteriously disappear during the night. Jack-hammers missing, huge cement trucks ending up in the sound... it's too horrible to fathom.

For them, it's all about garbage — trash, offal and worse. Far worse. For myself, I doubt I'll make it through the week. Their three droppings were my last warning. I'm checking my brake lines for gnaw marks. My phone's tapped, and my computer's been hacked into. No, it's over

But together, all of you might still have a chance, though a slim one. Do whatever you can to stop them. Call friends, relatives, the County Commissioners and let them know who's really behind those baffling cracks in the causeway. Don't listen to the fools who keep going on and on about normal wear and tear and deferred maintenance. Listen to me, I'm not crazy. There's no doubt in my mind that this is their handiwork, their personal brand of island terror. They'll stop at nothing, for these are my raccoons. Goodbye and good luck.

Charles Sobczak

Sobczak is the author of Six Mornings on Sanibel. Way Under Contract and Rhythm of the Tides. His books are available at throughout the island.

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How do 1 apply?

In person at your local property appraiser's office. Bring a valid Florida driver's license or a valid Florida ID Card; Florida vehicle license plate numbers for all vehicles; voter registration number or declaration of domicile; Social security number for applicant (spouse's also, if married); date(s) of birth; and the most recent paid tax bill with parcel ID number, or copy of the recorded deed or recorded contract for deed.

Where?

The main office is in downtown Fort Myers on the fourth floor of the Constitution Complex at 2480

Thompson Street (take McGregor to MLK Boulevard; veer left one block west of Fowler). There is parking on site. The office is open Monday-Friday from 8:30-5.

If driving in "downtown Fort Myers" is more stress

than you can handle, former Islander columnist Betty O'Neal Kapla (who, once upon a time, couldn't find her way out of a paper bag) says to try the Government Complex in Cape Coral at 1039 S.E. 9th Place (cross either the Cape Coral or the Midpoint Bridge, turn right on Del Prado, left on Vizcaya and left onto 9th Place). This office is open Thursdays only from 8:30-5 through March 1.

If you would prefer to file by mail, applications are available at all Lee County Tax Collector's offices and at most libraries, including Sanibel and Captiva.

After the first year, the exemption automatically renews unless one's primary residence changes.

Deadline? March 1.

More information? Call the Lee County Tax Appraiser at 339-6100.

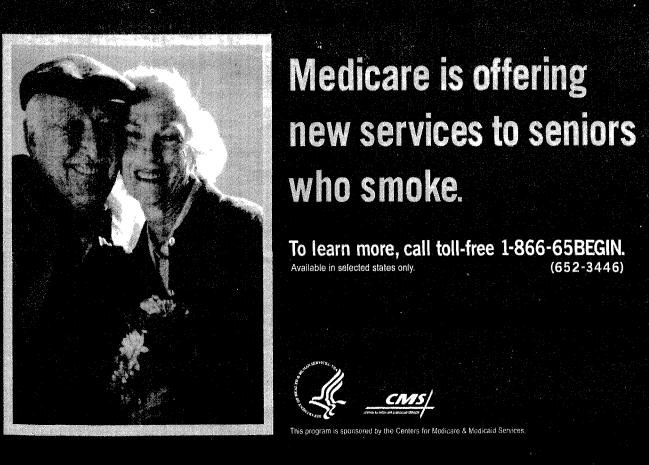
Sanibel and the Town of Fort Myers Beach homeowners over the age of 65 on Jan. 1, 2002 may be eligible to receive additional exemptions from property taxes, depending on the previous year's income. To find out if this applies to you, ask the property appraiser.

Information supplied by the Florida Association of Realtors and the Lee County Property Appraiser



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Anne Joffe (right) of She Shells Sea Shells, presenting a check for \$700 to Karen Pati, accepting on behalf of the Harry Chapin Food Bank. The money was raised in December during She Sells Sea Shells' 25th Anniversary celebration.

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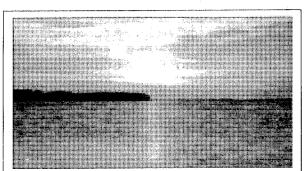


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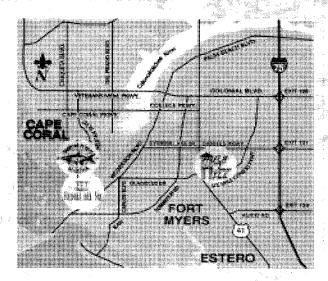
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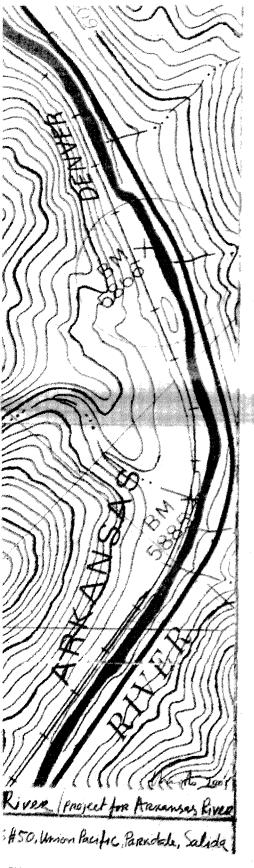


Artslieisure

Vol. 41. No. 48

Week of January 17-23, 2003

32 Pages





Christo and Jeanne-Claude's rendition of their installation, Over the River, Project for the Arkansas River, State of Colorado — at the Edison College Gallelry of Fine Art through Jan. 29. The exhibit is presented in conjunction with Eckert Fine ArtNaples, Inc. where an exhibit of the artists' original work will be on display from Jan. 30 to Feb. 2.

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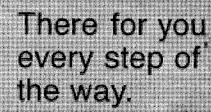
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Sanibel Music Festival 2003: The Magic of Music

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Wolfram,



Juilliard String Quartet

Virtuosos from around the world, with repertoires as diverse as their roots. will cast their spell on audiences throughout the month of March during Sanibel Music Festival 2003: The Magic of

Music. "Historically, the festival strives to bring our audiences a different kind of experience with each concert," said SMF Artistic Director Mary Jaqua. Over the years, audiences have been delighted by the likes of pianist John Nakamatsu; the Emerson, Juilliard and Jerusalem string quartets; the Sejong Soloists and the Beaux Arts Trio.

This year, the festival's 17th season, is no different. "Our performers stretch beyond the traditional repertoire of many classical performers, and we've worked with them to develop programs for 2003 that combine the tried-and-true with the cutting-edge in music today," Jaqua said.

On the 2003 program are two worldrenowned string quartets, a gold-medal pianist, a Metropolitan Opera diva, two master ensembles and Mozart's most seductive opera. All concerts take place at Sanibel Congregational Church. Daye Music Inc., of Naples/Fort Myers has provided a Yamaha concert grand piano

for the month-long festival, and several concerts will be recorded for broadeast locally over WGCU-FM and nationally over 360

National Public Radio stations. This year's concerts are:

• Tuesday, March 4 - Russian pianist Olga Kern, Gold Medalist at the 2001 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. Recent critics have described Kern's presence at the keyboard as "highly communicative," "technically effortless," and "pure poetry." The first woman to achieve the Cliburn gold since 1969, Kern will perform pieces by Schubert, Brahms and Rachmaninoff, with the second half of her program consisting of all Russian compositions. Kern's concert is sponsored by Christine S. Johnson.

Saturday, March 8 - The Juilliard String Quartet, the Grammy Award-winning ensemble that has enjoyed international acclaim for more than 50 years. At their appearance with SMF, the Juilliard will perform works by Haydn and Schumann as well as contemporary com-





Gunther Schuller's Quartet No. 4, especially commissioned for the Juilliard's 2003 season. Juilliard is sponsored by Northern Trust.

• Tuesday, March 11 - The Rubio String Quartet, lauded as "the rising stars from Belgium" and securely placed "among the elite of today's young quartets," with American pianist William Wolfram, medalist at the Naumberg, Kapell and Tchaikovsky piano competitions. Since 1991, the Rubio has won international recognition for innovative programming and strong performances of 20th century repertoire. The quartet's 2003 tour includes collaborations with Wolfram, performing the Chopin Concerto No. 1



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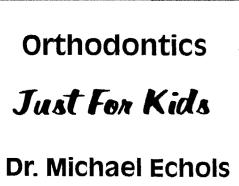
originally scored by the composer for string quartet and piano. Wolfram will also perform a selection of Bach $\neg Goldberg$

Variations, and The Rubio will perform the Borodin String Quartet No. 2, The Rubio is sponsored by Congress Jewelers.

Saturday, March 15 - New York Chamber Soloists — two violins, viola, cello, flute, clarinet, oboe and piano - is the first such configuration of artists at SMF. This versatile ensemble will perform seldom heard works by Mozart, The Concerto for Five Instruments by de Falla, Prokofiev's Hebrew Themes and the Quintet for Clarinet and Strings by Brahms. Sponsored by Sue and Tom Pick, Lynn and Lee Seidler and Friends of Chamber Music.

· Tuesday, March 18 - Elizabeth Futral,

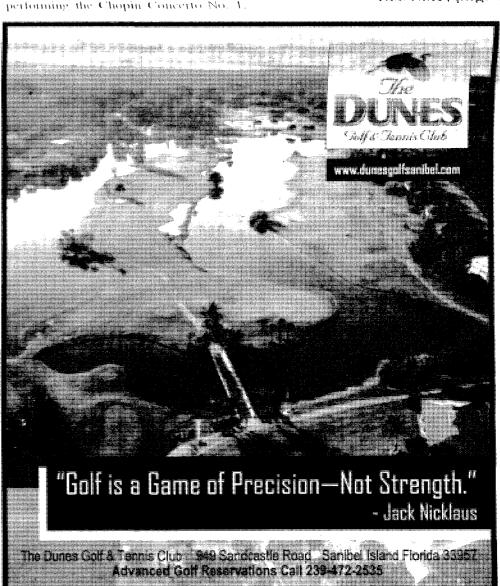
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Jacques Thibaud String Trio

The Jacques Thibaud String Trio from Berlin will be at BIG ARTS, Monday, Jan. 27, at 8 p.m. Performing with the Trio as guest artists will be Tao Lin on piano and Laslo Varga on cello. Founded at the Berlin School of Art in 1994, the Jacques Thibaud String Trio first toured with extraordinary success that same year. Since then, the ensemble - comprised of Burkhard Maiss, violin, Philip Douvier, viola, and Uwe Hirth-Schmidt, cello has performed throughout Europe, Japan, the United States and Canada, receiving tremendous acclaim from audiences and critics alike. The trio's name pays homage to their inspiration, the great French violinist, Jacques Thibaud.

Prize winners in the prestigious 1999 Bonn Chamber Music Competition, the Trio is nearly unique among today's chamber ensembles — they play "by heart" (without music). Calling their playing "spontaneous and commanding." The New York Times said, "This could be the first string trio in some time to have a major career... These musicians are clearly on a mission... But they are also having fun.'



The Thibaud Trio is invited year after year to the world's most prestigious festivals and venues; among their recent international engagements are London's Wigmore Hall, Brussels' Musica Mundi Festival and Luxembourg's prestigious Echternach Festival to name just a few.

The highlights of the Trio's recent North American tour included a critically acclaimed New York debut at the Frick Collection, a concert at Alice Tully Hall in Lincoln Center. They also appeared at the National Gallery and in Boston, Baltimore, Chicago, Cleveland, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Pittsburgh, Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, Phoenix and Montreal.

Tickets are \$25 each.



Tenor Simon O'Neill at BIG ARTS

perform at BIG ARTS, Thursday, Jan. 23, at 8 p.m. as part of a Marilyn Horne Foundation grant, O'Neill has an impressive list of operatic roles to his credit performing as Alfred in Die Fledermaus, Alfredo in La Traviata, Romeo in Romeo et Juliette, Truiddu in Cavaleria Rusticana, just to name a few. He is a graduate of the University of Otago in New Zealand and studied at several schools there until he came to the United States. He studied at the Manhattan School of Music, the Opera Theatre of St. Louis, and the Juilliard Opera Center where he enjoys membership.

As an oratorio soloist, O'Neill regularly performs throughout the United States, the Middle East and New Zealand. Recent performances include the Mozart Requiem at St. Patrick's Cathedral for PBS, the Evangelist and tenor soloist in the St. John Passion, St. Matthew Passion, Christmas Oratorio, Messiah, Carmina Burana with the Singapore Symphony and Die Schopfung and Elijah with the Haifa Symphony on Mount Carmel, Israel. He has performed in concert with symphonies worldwide including Avery Fisher Hall where he made his New York City debut as the tenor soloist in Beethoven's 9th

Symphony.

O'Neill has gained numerous awards and scholarships — a 1998 Fulbright, Manhattan School of Music President's Scholarship, the 1996 Tower Opera Scholar Circle 100 Scholarship and the inaugural Opera New Zealand Artist-in-Residence—Creative New Zealand Professional Development Award and the 1999 Metropolitan Opera Audition Competition Encouragement Award in New York, among others. He has been the focus of several television, radio and print articles in the United States, New Zealand and Ireland and recently was featured in the New Yorker. O'Neill appears as the "Opera Singer" on the New Zealand onedollar postage stamp.

This concert is presented in association with the Marilyn Horne Foundation

Tickets are \$22.



BIG ARTS will present three One-Person Shows this year beginning with one of Sanibel's favorites, Will Stutts. Returning once again by popular demand, Stutts, a mesmerizing acting talent, will bring Tennessee Williams to life on stage in Schein Hall, Wednesday, Jan. 22 at 8 p.m.

Stutts has worked longer and more in the genre of the one-person plays than any other actor in the world. Over three decades, he has appeared in more than 1,000 performances in the U.S. and Canada. In the absence of other actors to play off, he imagines the audience as characters. The consummate actor, Stutts' performances have been hailed as "the stuff of which magic is made."

"Nobody anywhere is better than actor Will Stutts. A master craftsman ... a master of the one person play. His Tennessee s a powerful piece of theatre... you will thrill at the sheer artistry on stage." News-Journal, Wilmington, Del.

Tickets are available at \$15 each, or \$40 for the series of three. Other performances include, "Pretty Fire" (Harriet Tubman) with Cathy Simpson and "Thomas Edison" with Hank Fincken.

Judy Collins to star in BIG ARTS Gala

There is still time to support the BIG ARTS Gala benefit with Judy Collins in concert Monday, Feb. 17, at Schein



Performance Hall. This major fundraiser will benefit the many cultural activities of BIG ARTS. The evening will begin with a Champagne Welcome at 7 p.m. Vinny Jacobs, an accomplished classic guitarist, will provide romantic background music as he strolls among the arriving guests. At 8, Collins will present her concert with no intermission.

The fun will continue with a post-concert "Sweet Soiree" featuring the music of the John Chapman Trio for listening and dancing. A variety of desserts and coffees will be served.

A living legend with nearly 40 years in the music industry, Collins has produced 39 albums, many top ten hits, Grammy nominations, and gold and platinum -selling albums. Drawn to folk music in her teens, she began playing guitar and singing in the clubs of Denver and Boulder, gradually migrating east to New York where she appeared at the Village

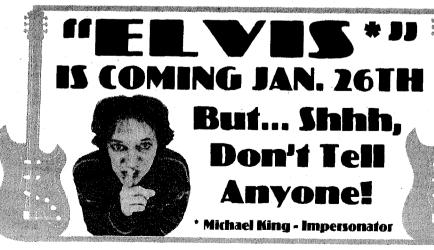
Her influence in music and politics has spread over decades and she owns her own record company, Wildflower. She does charity work for UNICEF and Amnesty International. In 2001, she was honored with a lifetime achievement award from the National Museum of Women in the

John Chapman has been a professional musician for the past 25 years, playing through out the United States, Europe and South America. He played piano with the Lester Lanin & Peter Duchin Society Orchestras, Nelson Riddle's orchestra and the US Navy Show Band among others Members of the trio have played in many great bands backing artists such as Harry Connick Jr., Sarah Vaughan, Earl Hines and Tony Bennett.

Gala Chair Maryann Bell encourages people to get their tickets now before in evening is sold out. Unlike most BIG ARTS concerts, seats will be assigned. Bell is assisted by a hardworking volunteer committee that includes Hazel Barber, Nancy Bonser, Jeanne Fuchs, Judy Goldenberg, Maddy Hanlon, Linda Kramer, Suzanne Lurie and Jana Stone.

Tickets are \$125 each.

Call or stop by BIG ARTS, 900 Dunlop Road. Box office hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday — 395-0900.



SMF, from page 3

soprano, who performed for SMF in 1989 as an apprentice with the Lyric Opera of Chicago is, today, considered one of the major coloratura sopranos in the world. She embraces a diverse repertoire that includes Vivaldi, Handel, Mozart, Donizetti, Rossini, Verdi, Glass and Previn. Futral's leading roles have ranged from Lucia in

Lucia di Lammermoor to Stella in *Streetcar Named* Desire. In 2005, she will sing the title role of Anna Karennina at the opening of the new Miami Opera House in an opera commissioned for her. For SMF 2003, she will perform works by Handel, Verdi, Debussy, Hugo Wolf and Carlisle Floyd. Futral is sponsored by Friends of Opera.

 Saturday, March 22 -Mozart's Cosi fan Tutte, presented by Opera Theater of Connecticut. For its 10th consecutive year with the festival, the ever-popular

Mozart's Cosi fan Tutte

OTC presents Mozart's seductive comedy of love and fidelity. The music is fit for angels, but the characters are defiantly and infuriatingly human in this tale of two young men who decide to test the faithfulness of their fiancées. Heartbreak threatens when the joke goes too far. The OTC concert presentation of Cosi fan Tutte will



Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra

include Music Director Garold Whisler and six vocalists. The Opera Theatre of Connecticut is sponsored by Oswald Trippe & Company and Friends of Opera.

 Tuesday, March 25 - The 19-member Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra, with Chief Conductor Dennis Russell Davies, has received tremendous critical acclaim during tours of North America, Europe and the Far East since 1945. In cooperation with Mercedes Benz, the orchestra is in the midst of a Haydn Decade, during which they will perform and record all 104 Haydn symphonies. The Stuttgart's SMF repertoire will include his Symphony No. 49, Divertimento by Bartok, and Seranade for Strings by Tchaikovsky. The island concert wraps up an 11-state tour that includes Carnegie Hall, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Philadelphia's Kimmel Hall and the Kravitz Center in Palm Beach. The concert is sponsored by Mrs. J. Howard Wood.

Money-saving subscription packages are now on sale for Sanibel Music Festival 2003: The Magic of Music. A subscription to all seven concerts is \$170 per person (which includes a bonus gift of pianist Olga Kern's latest CD recording on the Harmonia Mundi label, a \$20 value). Subscriptions for the four Tuesday evening concerts are \$100; and for the three Saturday programs, \$80.

Single tickets for Sanibel Music Festival 2003 performances range from \$25 to \$30 and went on sale (checks only, please) at Bailey's and at MacIntosh Book Shop on Sanibel on Wednesday.

All concerts begin at 8 p.m. (opera "Informance" at 7:30 March 22) and take place at Sanibel Congregational Church, 2050 Periwinkle Way.

For more information, call the Sanibel Music Festival hotline at 336-7999 or visit www.sanibel musicfestival

AT BARBARA B. MANN...

2nd show added

It's time to turn back the hands of time to 1959 as Grease slides into the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall in a brand new production on Saturday, March 8, at 8 p.m. Due to the huge demand for tickets, a second performance at 2 has been added. The show is sponsored by BMW of Fort Myers.

Grab your favorite Pink Lady and travel back to when beehives were in and coifs were cool. Grease, one of Broadway's longest running musicals, takes a hilarious, tuneful and loving look at what it was like growing-up in the super-cool '50s with the funniest gang of high school students you'll ever meet. Taking place in a time when hot-rod-loving boys in black leather jackets chased boycrazy girls in white bobby socks and pedal pushers, Grease is complete with drive-in passion pits, sock hops, pajama parties, hubcap stealing and sneaking cigarettes at the senior prom.

The musical brings back the classic rock 'n' roll sounds of the fifties with songs that include "We Go Together," "Since I Don't Have You," "Beauty School Dropout" and "It's Raining on Prom Night," And for those of you who just can't get enough of this kind of music, special arrangements have been made to include three songs from the movie — "Hopelessly Devoted to You" and "You're The One That I Want" (by arrangement with Warner/Chappell Music) and Barry Gibb's "Grease" (by arrangement with BMG Music Publishing). Come early and have fun with the coolest of cool dee jays, Vince Fontaine, as he spins your favorite tunes from the era at the best dance party in town!

Grease is the story of Danny Zuko — king of the Burger Palace Boys — and Sandy Dumbrowski — leader of the Pink Ladies gang — the wholesome, naive and pretty transfer student whose life changes forever after meeting the tough yet vulnerable Rizzo. It was written by

Warren Casey and Jim Jacobs. Direction is by Ray DeMattis, with choreography by Christopher Gattelli, set design by James Youmans, costumes by Wendall Goings, lighting design by Mike Baldassari and sound design/musical direction by Steve Bishop. *Grease* is produced by Phoenix Productions; the co-producer is Magic Arts & Entertainment.

Tickets range from \$25 to \$45 and, due the huge demand, you'll want to get yours as soon as possible. Call the box office at 481-4849.

Fort Myers will jump & jive

The original Broadway musical Swing! will play the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall for five performances, starting tomorrow, Jan. 17, through Jan. 19. Performance times are 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 17 and 19, 2 p.m. Jan. 18 and 19, and 8 p.m. Jan. 18. Tickets, which range from \$30 to \$50, are available at the box office at 481-4849.

Swing! was nominated for six Tony Awards including: Best Musical, Best Director, Best Choreography, Best Orchestrations, and two nominations for Best Featured Actress, It was also honored with nominations for Outstanding Broadway Musical and Outstanding Choreography by the Outer Critics Circle and Best Cast Album by the Grammy Awards committee.

The show is a celebration of the music and dance phenomenon that swept the nation in the '30s and '40s and has returned to become one of today's fastest growing trends. It opened on Broadway at the St. James Theatre Dec. 9, to powerful praise for its music, its dance and its style. More than a dance revue, the show crosses ethnic and cultural barriers, highlighting an eclectic mix of Jive, Latin Swing, West Coast Swing, Hip-Hop Swing and

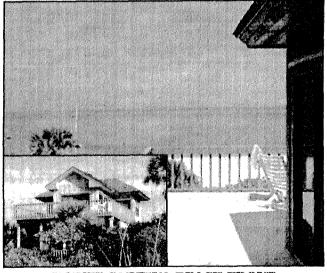
See Mann, page 8



Mike Shevlin

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large entertainment area, elevator and much, much more. Two boat spaces, boat lift and the best waterfront view anywhere. \$1.595,000

Bravura performance by Tanner

Terrence McNally's dramatic play Master Class opened last week at the Arcade Theatre to a standing ovation. This play — a compilation of playwright McNally's fan notes about the famous singing artist Maria Callas — features the talented Florida Rep Company and actress Melinda Tanner in a brayura performance as the diva Callas. If what attracts you to opera is the private life of this diva rather than her vocal gifts, then you will enjoy this play as much as I and the entire opening night audience did. Master Class is a well-crafted, efficient play expertly directed by Maureen Heffernan (who directed the brilliant performances of Art last season) imaginatively designed by Ray Recht, brilliantly lighted by Todd Wren and uniformly well acted by the east of six. This play, in which McNally observes the diva as she conducts a master class for the students at Juilliard, is one of my personal favorites. It is one of McNally's most humorous dramas, at the same time managing to remain one of his most consistently affecting. McNally 's play is basically an artistic drama about art itself; it's an evocation of Maria Callas, the intensely dramatic soprano known to opera lovers simply as "la Divina."

Master Class puts Tanner (Callas) on a rehearsal hall stage with a pianist named Manny (Edward Reichert) and a sequence of three aspiring student singers. The audience at the Arcade is asked to double as an auditorium full of voice students whom Callas addresses, full of waspish quips and commentaries, while critiquing Sophie (Jennifer Swiderski), Tony (Terry Gsell), and Sharon (Danielle Plisz). What carries us along is the tartness of Callas—that prickly European impatience with what she finds substandard — plus her biting humor and, above all, her earnestness about the demands of art. This latter theme sounds loud and clear at the end of Act II with her final instruction to the audience to perform earnestly, courageously and above all honestly.

As the play opens, Tanner/Callas strides onto the stage

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out in a black pants suit, a brightly flowered scarf — a slash of red lipstick highlighting her pale strong features. She silences the tumultuous reception she



receives with the businesslike comments of a diva/teacher ("No applause, please, we're here to work"), then goes on to lecture the audience as if it were a bunch of first-year Juilliard students.

As *she listens to the three opera students, Callas is transported into her past by the arias of Bellini, Verdi, and Puccini. In these revelations Heffernan's direction remains

perfectly and elegantly simple. Alone in the spotlight, Callas relives moments in her volatile career and her tortured relationship with Aristotle Onassis. What unfolds is a lovely symphony of poignancy, swelling to the crescendos of Callas' own operatic passionately emotional recordings, and underscored by the telling of her everyday heartbreak and longing. We are treated to her dismissively, scalding evaluations of her "rivals," a glance at her strange marriage to her elderly



Melinda Tanner

husband Batista Meneghine, a man who dotes on her but does not attract her, and then her affair with Onassis, whom she does love but who treats his "Canary" coarsely, even forcing her to have an abortion. During these soliloquies, the lights on stage dim, the boxes in the set light up and we are transported to the stage of La Scala, while Callas listens to her own voice on record, and reflects on her life.

The first student Callas encounters, is an insensitive, giggly young soprano (nicely rendered by Swiderski) in a foofy pink nightmare of a dress. She is allowed to sing no more than a single note before Callas' ("stop right there!") is criticizing her posture and her diction ("I'm not hearing any consonants, you're singing in Sanskrit')....Followed by a young tenor (tenuously sung by Terry Gsell) whom she labels as a bella figura. He manages to move her to tears when she finally allows him to perform an aria from Tosca. Another soprano, Sharon (nicely sung and well acted by Danielle Plisz), is scorned for her over the top gown ("This is a master class, not some Cinderella's ball') and leaves the recital hall in tears. Later she returns, having thrown up in the ladies' room, to perform Lady Macbeth's letter scene, which allows Callas to expostulate on entrances and emotional sense memory.

Tanner captures all of the playwright's commands, all the demands of the difficult task of evoking this tempestuous diva's life, with humor and style, plus lots of dramatic technique. This was a bravura performance to which the opening night audience as well as this critic responded by rising to our feet for loud applause, many shouted bravos and a well-deserved a standing ovation. The Tony Award winning Master Class plays the Arcade 'til Feb. 2nd, and my suggestion is get tickets at once by phoning 332-4488. Don't forget to tell 'em Marsha sent you.

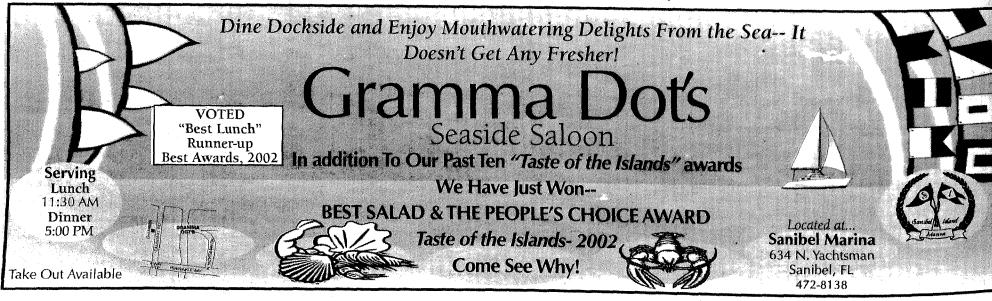
Studio Company impressive

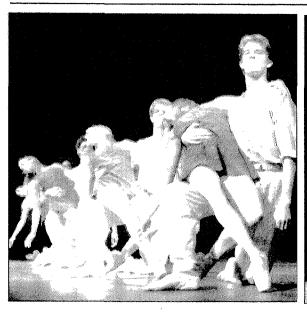
The ABT Studio Company under the direction of John Meehan leapt onto the stage of BIG ARTS last Saturday night and dazzled the audience for 1 1/2 hours of absolutely brilliant dancing. It never fails to impress me that we lucky few who are blessed with living in this small island paradise called Sanibel can see or hear world class performers without ever leaving the comfort of our island home. Thanks to the tireless efforts of Joy Schein, a world-class student ballet ensemble of 12 outstanding young dancers (ages 16-21) was introduced to us for our viewing pleasure and delight. Now in its sixth season, the Studio Company takes these young dancers and prepares them to enter American Ballet Theatre — at the same time providing opportunities for new as well as established choreographers and composers to try out fresh material. The dancers are handpicked from around the world by the artistic staff of ABT; they are then trained in the program for one to two years before joining ABT's main Company or other leading national and international professional compa-

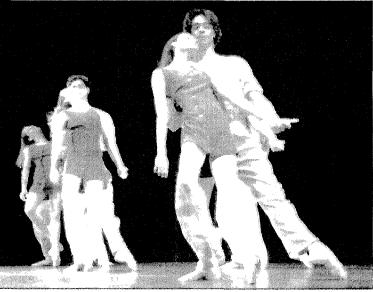
The evening's proceedings opened with the dancers on the unlit stage in practice clothes, warming up—kind of a backstage glimpse of the work that goes on before a performance begins. It is interesting to note that this was not the usual audience we see at BIG ARTS for, along with the regular attendees, there was a myriad of young people—ballet students from the various schools around town.

The opening piece The Long and Winding Road (choreography by Stanton Welch) had a long and winding musical introduction that set the stage for this contemporary ballet based in classical technique. The music is rather interesting and was comprised of selections from Peter Breiner's Beatles Concerto Grosso No. 1-4 from the CD Beatles Go Baroque. It was the plusperfect piece of choreography and music to introduce us to this youthful, exuberant, talented group of 12 dancers. The Australian choreographer Welch has a firm touch, making the complex appear simple and the simple appear strong. The action in this piece glided between the brilliantly fast and the elegantly slow with the dancers performing authoritatively and looking as though they had been rehearsed to a fare-thee -well. They held long, crisp clean lines effortlessly while displaying their firm grasp of ballet, as well as modern dance technique, along with the art of partnering that this difficult choreography required. The relatively small stage at the Schein was filled with energy and youthful exuberance, powerful dancing... yet the dance space never appeared cluttered. It was well used and showcased the dancers' performance skills as well as their superb training. A tall order for an opening ballet, but one that set the tone for the great dancing that followed.

After intermission came the ballet *Return to a* Strange Land with choreography by Jirí Kylián. This incredible piece, by one of the world's greatest living









Photos/Janet Pluckett

Studio Company

choreographers, was an intimate work set to the piano music of Leos Janacek. It was made up of duets and trios and was created to honor the untimely death of another brilliant choreographer, John Cranko. The ballet explores the subject of death and the strange land of the unconscious from which we emerge at birth and to which we return when we die. This beautiful and startling dirge was not only challenging dance — wise with its complex lifts and the formidable partnering skills it also tested the dancers' dramatic abilities. The company proved proficient in all areas, easily equalling and executing the demands of this truly creative choreography. I, for one, wanted the ballet to be performed again - immediately — so I could feast my eyes on any sections my senses couldn't absorb in just one viewing.

Lost Language of the Flight Attendant (choreography by Brian Reeder, set to Mozart's music), was the final piece of the evening — an unlikely subject but, nevertheless, a delicious bit of fun to end this altogether wonderful evening of ballet. This final ballet of the evening proved that not only is the ABT Studio Ballet comprised of extraordinary dancers blessed with exceptional talent, they are also equally blessed with delightful senses of humor. My final word on this evening's events is Bravo ABT Studio Company!

(Also, can we please arrange to have this extraordinary group of dancers back next season? If that happens, be sure and reserve your place in the audience, then don't forget to tell 'em Marsha sent you.)



Joy Schein, the power behind the BIG ARTS ballet program



\$1,395,000 (102934) Ada Shissler 472-5187 x 254



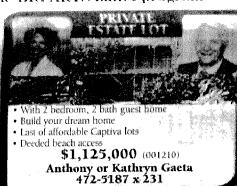
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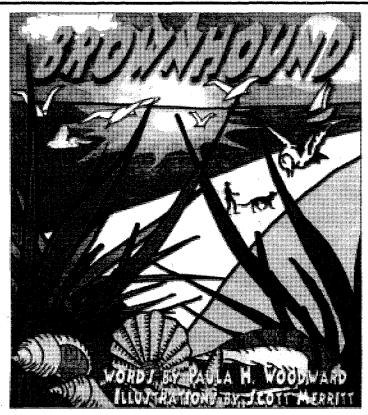
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Brownhound — A Child's Story by Paula Woodward

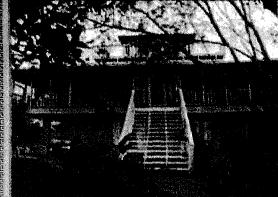
Reviewed by Berdenna Thompson

This is a story of a young boy and his dog seeking seashell treasures on Sanibel Island, Florida, where taking of live shells is not permitted.

This point was made early on in the book but should have been said again when Brownhound, Jaye's dog, found a junonia further out in deeper water.

The little book has a good storyline for children who enjoy exploring for outdoor treasures and is very readable for a child; and the cartoon-like pictures would certainly appeal. One suggestion, however — I think fewer words would capture the reader's interest fester. reader's interest fester. 🤭 📜 🔭





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Mann, from page 5

Country Western Swing.

It is this multi-dimensional quality that garnered critics' praise - Clive Barnes of the New York Post called it "A major breakthrough and the most exhilarating show in town!" Anna Kisselgoff of The New York Times wrote, "Swing! is terrific! Flashy artistry and virtuosity in distilled emotional vignettes that also speak of human relationships, time and place."

The first national tour opened at the Ahmanson Theatre in Los Angeles Nov. 20, 2000 and played a record breaking eight-week engagement. Lewis Segal of the Los Angeles Times said, "Swing! jumps, jives and wails. The high-energy choreography is invariably sensational." Evan Henerson of the Los Angeles Daily News commented, "... You'll be dancing in your seat." And Joe Adcock, theatre writer for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer said, "Swing! is literally wonderful. Literally... Full of wonders.'

This all-singing, all-dancing evening features a mix of new and classic songs and over 30 tour de force dance numbers - some comic, some romantic, some nostalgic, some sexy. It also features spectacular vocal performances, while the entire show is driven by the dynamic sound of a hot neo-Swing band. In addition to several original songs, Swing! feation to several original songs, *Swing*: reatures classic Swing tunes such as "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy," "Harlem Nocturne," "It Don't Mean a Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing)," "Jumpin' at the Woodside," "Sing, Sing, Sing!," "Stompin' at the Savoy" and "Blues in the Night,"

Swing to was originally directed and

Swing! was originally directed and choreographed by Lynne Taylor-Corbett with Tony Award-winning director Jerry Zaks serving as production supervisor. The original direction and choreography is recreated for the tour by director Lori

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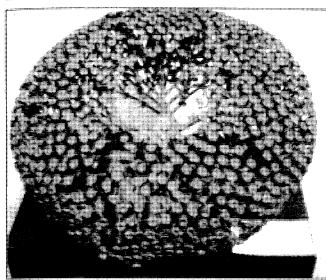


Steinberg, who most recently directed A Child's Garden, a new musical, and the acclaimed production of Ice Island: The Wait for Shackleton by Marjorie Duffield. She has been on the creative team of many original productions, including Assassins, Six Degrees of Separation, and Jerry Zaks' revivals of Anything Goes and the Tony Award-winning Guys and Dolls.

Swing! is choreographed by Kim Craven who trained and danced under Lynne Taylor-Corbett. Sets are by Thomas Lynch, costumes by William Ivey Long, lighting by Marty Vreeland and orchestrations by Harold Wheeler, based on a original idea by Paul Kelly. The 2002-2003 tour of Swing! is produced by Troika Entertainment.

The original cast recording is produced by Sony Classical. For further information, visit the official website, www.SwingOnBroadway.com





"Bush" by Harry Bertosa

By Amy Fleming Staff writer

BIG Arts unveiled tits latest exhibition Saturday with the opening of *Sanibel - Captiva Collects*, now on view at the Phillips Gallery. A selection of art work from collectors all over the island, it runs the visual gamut from Abstract Expres— sionist to Photorealism.

Enid Packard, recently the chair of BIG Art's Visual Arts Committee, came up with the idea of scouring island homes in search of art.

"It was something I had done with businesses in Grand Rapids," Packard said, "Lola [Katchen] and I are co-chairs. We put notices in the Articulator last spring, and this fall we started to get a few phone calls. We began putting together a list of people we thought might have interesting art."

That was just the beginning of the legwork. Packard and Katchen began visiting one home after another, talking to collectors and looking at art.

The result is an interesting glimpse at what islanders like to collect. The works of such artistic luminaries as Frank Stella and Romare Bearden, Robert Motherwell and Chuck Close now grace the walls at BIG Arts. Work

~ SAN-CAP COLLECTS ~

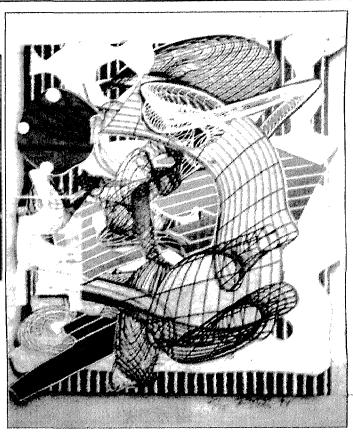




Above: "Two Chevy's in Wreck Yard" by John Salt.

Left: "Shaman"

Above right: "Figlefia" by Frank Stella



by Christo, as well as prints from the *Marrakesh* series by Robert Rauschenberg and Darryl Pottorf indicate that Eckert Fine ArtsNaples is fast becoming a favorite place to buy art.

Residents have an eye for whimsical sculptures, traditional oils of sailing ships, lively street scenes and bluesy jazz clubs. Quiet pencil drawings of trees hang with brillantly colored abstract prints, and delicate bronzes share space with striking wood carvings.

Kudos to the team who hung the show for bringing such a range of styles and materials into one unified exhibition.

Sanibel Captiva Collects will be on display through February I. Gallery hours are 1 to 4 p.m. daily.



ART HAPPENINGS

New exhibit at Edison

On display in the Gallery of Fine Art at Edison college are more than 50 documentary images of projects created by environmental artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude. The chronology of the exhibit starts in the early 60s with the *Iron Curtain, Wall of Oil Barrels, Rue Visconti, Paris 1961-62* and progresses through projects in the '70s, '80s and '90s. Some of the projects included from that time-frame are:

- Wrapped Coast, Little Bay, One Million Square Feet, Sydney, Australia, 1968-1969
- Valley Curtain, Rifle, CO, 1970-1972
- Running Fence, Sonoma and Marin Counties, California, 1972-1976
- Surrounded Islands, Biscayne Bay, Greater Miami, Florida, 1980-1983
- The Pont Neuf Wrapped, Paris, 1975-1985
- The Umbrellas, Japan and USA, 1984-1991
- Wrapped Trees, Foundation Beyeler and Berower Park, Switzerland, 1997-1998
- The Wall, 13,000 Oil Barrels, Gasometer, Oberhausen, Germany, 1999

The exhibit also includes reproduced renderings of projects in progress such as *Mastaba of Abu Dhabi* for the United Arab Emirates, *The Gates for Central Park*, and the *Over the River* for the Arkansas River, Colo (on front page, this section).

The exhibit is presented in conjunction with Eckert Fine ArtNaples, Inc. After the documentary exhibit and lecture on Jan. 29 at Edison, Eckert will be hosting an exhibit of the artists' original work from Jan. 30 to Feb. 2.



Presents

Understanding and Coping with Changes in Memory A half-day seminar

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Board member - Alzheimer's resource center

Bill E. Beckwith, Ph.D.



Christo and Jeanne-Claude were both born on June 13, 1935. He was born in Bulgaria of a Bulgarian industrialist family and she was born in Morocco of a French military family. Christo studied at the Fine Arts Academy, Sofia, from 1953 through 1956 and also at the Vienna Fine Arts Academy in 1957. Jeanne-Claude received a Baccalaureate in Latin and Philosophy from the University of Tunis in 1952. The couple met in Paris in 1958. Their son, Cyril, was born in 1960. Their first artistic collaboration was in 1961.

The two artists create temporary works of art of amazing allure in enormous scale. Their high profile, site-specific environmental work leads to some of the most extraordinary art experiences the public can have in both rural and urban sites. Their work combines what is with what they envision can be, broadening our perception of art and our perception of space, function and form.

The work of Christo and Jeanne-Claude evolves over years of planning, with interviews and lectures and environmental impact studies among the critical parts of the process. It took 25 years before the Reichstag could be wrapped, seven years to organize *The Umbrellas*, ten years to plan *The Pont Neuf Wrapped* and three years for the *Surrounded Islands in Biscayne Bay*. And, if it wasn't enough to create the project, educate and interact with the public and various agencies and governments, as well as develop impact studies, each project is funded entirely through the sales of prepatory drawings and early works from the '50s and '60s. They do not accept grants, gifts or sponsorships.

Christo and Jeanne-Claude will be on campus Jan. 29 to give a talk about *The Gates* Project for Central Park, New York and *Over the River* Project for the Arkansas River, Colorado. The talk is from 4-6 p.m. and will be held in Corbin Auditorium-J Building at Edison. Following the presentation there will be a reception for the artists in the Gallery of Fine Art where the artists will sign books.

The Gallery would like to acknowledge with great appreciation, the generosity of Christo and JeanneClaude. The artists have graciously donated all of the images in this exhibit to the Gallery. Each piece in the show is hand-signed by the artists and will be sold at the end of the exhibit. All proceeds from the sale of the images will go to develop future exhibits in the Gallery.

For a complete biography and project information, please visit the artists' web site at http://christoicanneclaude.net/.

Gallery hours are Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m.-3., Sunday, 1 p.m.-5. The exhibit space is closed Monday. Contact the Gallery at 489-9313

8th annual artists' studio tour

The eighth annual Artists' Studio Tour promises to be a tantalizing feast of fine art—along with food and conversation—featuring the work of six internationally recognized artists. This year's tour includes visits to artists' homes and studios as well as a stop at Naples' new Botanical Garden. The tour will be held over two days—Sunday, March 16, from 1 to 5 p.m., and Monday, March 17, from 11 a.m. to 4.

At a glance:

• Beverly Albrets' distinctive carved, etched, stained and blown glass art has won her a wide following, including national corporate clients and local collectors. Albrets blends craft with art to create works that are both functional and non-functional, traditional and avant-garde. Albrets will conduct glassblowing demonstrations at her home studio.

• Jessica Geraghty and Debra Stone are two painters who have collaborated on mural, trompe l'oeil and commission paintings for interior designers and individual clients. The artists have also won recognition for their

thought-provoking individual canvases. Both will display their art in the elegant, new Botanical Gardens.

• Jonathan Green is considered one of the most important painters of the Southern experience. His internationally acclaimed paintings reflect an intrinsic sense of place and history, as they chronicle the vibrant lives of people pursuing a mission of work, love and belonging. Green's home and sculpture garden — works of art in themselves — will be open to guests on this year's tour.

• Oswaldo Ventura's acrylic paintings capture the warnth of the people and the richness of the land in his native Peru. In both abstract and representational works, Ventura is known for his unique, subtle combinations of color and gesture. The artist will conduct painting demonstrations for tour patrons

Abby Warman's soft, sensitive oil paintings evoke a singular world of color and beauty. Her painterly, representational depictions of flowers possess a quietly stirring, highly individualistic quality.

The Sunday tour includes light refreshments; Monday's features lunch. Costs for the Artists' Studio Tours are \$35 Sunday and \$40 Monday. Patrons' tickets are \$75 for either day with special recognition noted. Carpooling is encouraged — as are comfortable walking shoes. Tour proceeds benefit the Naples Museum of Art & Galleries programs, including transportation for school children.

For more information, or to order tickets, contact Customer Service at (800) 597-1900.

FLORIDA ORANGES IN LAKE WALES EXHIBIT

Still life oils of Florida Oranges by Southwest Florida artist William North will be featured at a Celebrate Citrus event from Jan. 25 through Feb. 1 in Lake Wales.

The exhibit will be held at the Grove House welcome center of the Florida Natural Growers in Lake Wales. A meet-the-artist day will take place Saturday, Feb. 1, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Grove House at Florida's Natural Growers is located on Highway 27, just north of its intersection with Highway 60. The plant for Florida's Natural Growers is right across the highway.

Tours are not allowed in the plant, but there is a crackerstyle welcome center where you can sample the juices and learn about the citrus industry in general, a little history of Lake Wales and sit in the comfortable theater to watch a 14-minute video which shows the entire process of making the best juice in the world. The gift shop specializes in all things citrus but everything else about the Grove House is free.

Additional information can be obtained from Florida Natural Growers at (863) 679-4110.



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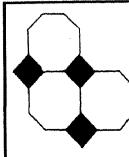
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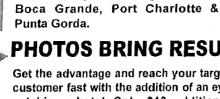


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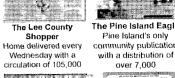


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A New Year, a new theatre

The Sanibel Com-Association munity (SCA) is in the process of plans to former J. formulating reopen the Howard Theatre as SCA Periwinkle Playhouse.

In August last year, the SCA board was informed of the insolvency and bankruptcy of the Wood Theatre. SCA became involved because the theatre building was constructed on SCA property and the building had been under a long-term ground lease agreement with the SCA.

Sanibel Com-The munity Association Board met and discussed their options as to the future of the theatre, ultimately voting to obtain ownership of the building and contents of the theatre company through the bankruptcy court. The SCA felt a community obligation to try and keep this building as a theatre for our community. Built for and through community support, the theatre has a long history on Sanibel.

On Dec. 30, SCA was notified that the long and expensive takeover process was completed. Bank of the Islands was extremely cooperative regarding the theatre's outstanding mortgage obligation and SCA has assumed that responsibility. The Bankruptcy Court awarded the property assets of the theatre to SCA as the successful bidder. With these legal and financial details arranged, the Community Association could move forward toward seeking a theatre schedule for the new SCA Periwinkle Playhouse.

The Sanibel Community Association does not intend to operate the theatre itself. The board is currently reviewing proposals from producers interested in establishing a new theatre company here on Sanibel. The SCA will play the role of landlord to a theatre building and will establish the necessary finances and safeguards to sustain a building, not a theatre company.

Finding the appropriate theatre operation will take some time. Richard Calabrese, theatre committee chairman, is seek-

ing help with this daunting task — ideas, suggestions and input from the community. And, we are looking for anyone with theatre operations and/or administration background to help find a proper occupant.

Contact Calabrese by e-mail at PastaRich@ aol.com (Ref-Playhouse)

How to help

Since the Theatre closed its doors, SCA has committed a sizable amount from its current reserves to the building. Monies had to be available for the outstanding mortgage, cost to purchase building and contents (seats, light, sound ewuipment, etc.), legal fees, insurance coverage for the building, utilities, immediate maintenance, etc.

The SCA is investing in the future of a theatre for our community and would like the Sanibel and Captiva comminities to lend their help. The Association wants a healthy financial start for this theatre project. It is hoped that the community will come forward and help defray these unexpected expenses by involving themselves in the CATCH A FALLING STAR campaign and, if desired, have a star artistically designed with individual name or names in the center of the star. Your donations will help us provide a financial fufutre for the Sanibel Community Association and the SCA Periwinkle Playhouse.

There are five levels of commitment available all tax-deductible, as SCA is a 501(c)3 organi-

zation. Gold Star Silver Star \$2,500 Blue Star \$1,000 Red Star \$ -500 Yellow Star \$ 250

Please send donations to the Sanibel Community Asociation CATCH A FALLING STAR, 2173 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL 33957.

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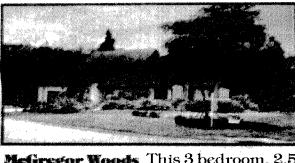
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