

Sanibel Islander

Vol. 42, No. 13

Week of May 16 - 22, 2003

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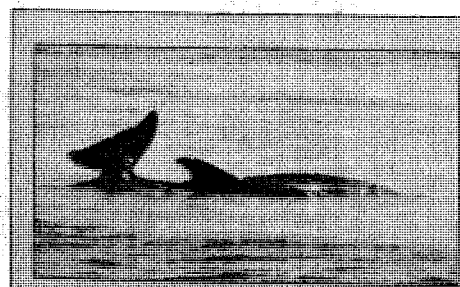
32 Pages



Long-time Sanibel residents, John and Debbie Friedlund, are pleased to announce the arrival of their first grandchildren on April 3, 2003. Their daughter, Tara Geissinger, and her husband, Mark, of Fort Myers are the proud parents of (L-R) Owen, Jack and Kaia. Their April 3rd was also John and Debbie's 32nd wedding anniversary!

Mark Geissinger photo

Inset: Tara and Mark Geissinger on the left, Megan Friedlund, Tara's sister on the right, and Debbie and John in front.



**Mother and baby
dolphins rescued
off 'Ding' Darling.
See page 13.**

**Gulfoast Ballet director
Melinda Roy nominated
for TONY award for
Urban Cowboy.**

See page 17



VCB debuts marketing plan at chamber lunch

What do Francis Bailey, the Jensen Brothers and Eve Haverfield all have in common?

They can claim photo appearances in the New York Times. They all appear on the cover of MY FLORIDA, an elegant, sepia-toned promotional piece designed by BVK for the Lee Island Coast Visitors and Convention Bureau.

This is an insert going into selected markets covered by the New York Times, Sunday edition. Not making the cover, but appearing inside the piece is Mark "Bird" Westall, former mayor of Sanibel and noted naturalist, environmentalist and canoe guide.

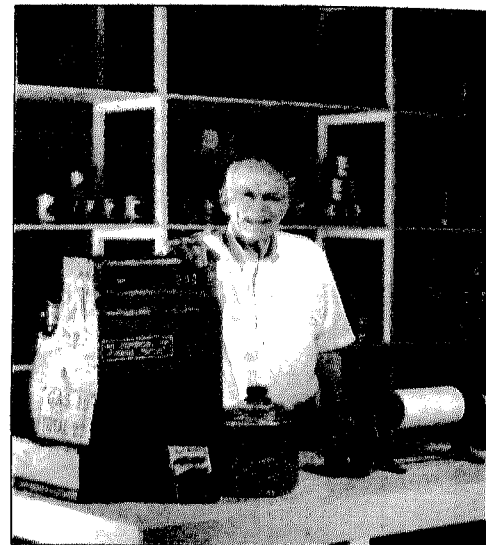
This will be inserted into Sunday editions of the New York Times in Boston, Chicago, and Florida, as well as other markets around the country such as Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Pittsburgh, and Cleveland. In researching the project, DeLong said she learned that the New York Times has 60 percent of its circulation outside the city of New York — clearly making it a national newspaper.

By Renny Severance
Executive Editor

The feature attraction at the chamber lunch on Tuesday, May 13 was D.T. Minich, the executive director of the Lee Island Coast Visitor & Convention Bureau. Mr. Minich made a compelling and vigorous presentation despite the technical difficulties which made his PowerPoint presentation inoperable.

Aided by Mary DeLong from BVK, the agency which does marketing and design work for the bureau, Minich was able to dazzle the diners with detailed descriptions of new and unusual marketing campaigns designed to bring new visitors from various parts of the United States to the Lee Island Coast. His statistics showed that his office is already doing an effective job when Lee County is compared to other tourist destinations in the state. While tourist occupancy rates here were flat this year compared to last, Orlando has suffered a 10 percent decline and Key West is down 13 percent.

An important focus of the marketing



Francis Bailey



Mark "Bird" Westall

campaign for the balance of the year will be in specific markets like Chicago, Boston and New York. To do this, the VCB has been and will continue to advertise our coast in banner ads, full page spreads, publication inserts and television advertising in specific parts of the country.

DeLong went on to describe other markets that will be saturated with descriptions of the delights that await visitors here. The VCB has signed a 52 week contract with the Westchester County Journal for advertising to appear on the front page on Saturdays, soon to change to Sundays. Westchester is an affluent suburban area just north of New York



Dave, John and Jimmy Jensen



Eve Haverfield,
founder of Turtle Time

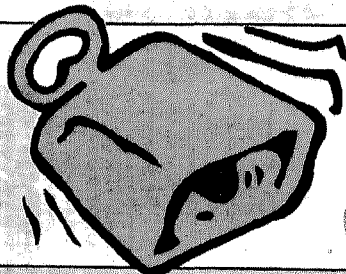
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Dave
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Lee
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Mary DeLong and D.T. Minich

City. Another 52 week contract has been signed with the Miami Herald for the weekly travel section and yet another with the St. Petersburg Times.

Minich and DeLong described a new saturation campaign aimed specifically at the Tampa/St. Pete area in addition to other national advertising in magazines such as Home & Garden and the Ladies

Home Journal, as well as in specialty publications like Canoe & Kayak and Sophisticated Traveler.

Print is not the only medium for their marketing. The VCB is a title sponsor of ESPN's TV program, The Walker's Cay Chronicles. This has resulted in the show's star, Flip Pallot, coming to our coast to shoot scenes for the show. VCB will also put commercials on national programs like Good Morning America and others.

The combination of 156 different Island Coast ads, said DeLong, will reach a total of 50 million people over the campaign, a number that is bound to put heads in beds for the hospitality industry on the Lee Island Coast.

In closing, Minich noted that Field & Stream has designated Pine Island Sound as one the best fishing destinations in the country — the only one in all of Florida to be so named.

He went on to say that he and his staff will be busy this summer visiting many cities around the country and even some in Europe drumming up interest in the islands as a tourist destination.

Along the way, island culinary arts

Now in its eleventh award-winning season, The Chronicles is historically the highest rated outdoors show on ESPN, averaging around one million viewers per week. It is regarded by ESPN's programming department as the finest fly fishing show ever made. The Walker's Cay Chronicles achieves its specialty status because it is beautifully photographed on film; hosted and produced by well-known outdoorsman Flip Pallot; produced by multi-E Emmy award-winner Angelo Bernarducci; and magnificently written by Parker Bauer.

— The Walker's Cay Chronicles website www.walkerscay.tv

will be on display for three of the nine days of the Taste of Chicago. The VCB has been invited by the mayor's office of that city to be their guest and treat some 30,000 visitors to exquisite samples of island cuisine. Since a 20-foot table at the event goes for \$20,000, the city's gift of a 30 by 60-foot tent is generous indeed — and they're buying the food!

All in all, the VCB has been quite creative in its approach to marketing and

COLUMNISTS



The Metastatic Life
Lisa Pierot
— page 5

Business Profile
Nancy Santeusano
— page 10



Spiritual Optimism
Murray Salzman
— page 5

Dateline Hollywood
Little Joe Micale
— page 19



Looks at Books
Nola Theiss
— page 25

Center Stage
Marsha Wagner
— page 16



Minich took pains to thank the local businesses for their support in an effort that is the envy of similar organizations around the state.

For more on the May luncheon of the Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce, please see page 14.

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HAPPENINGS

Support group meeting

The local prostate cancer support group will meet this coming Wednesday, May 21, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Patty Berg Cancer Center 3 South Conference Room.

The group's facilitators are Carlo C. Lane, Rod Alexander and Leland Henemeyer. This month's speaker will be Lee Cancer Care Outreach Education Coordinator Jan Anderson, MPH, RD, LD/N. She will discuss Nutrition after a Diagnosis of Prostate Cancer.

Classic cruise-in

Mel's Diner and Fast Fords of Lee County are having a Classic Vehicle Cruise-in to benefit the Gabriel House, a loving compassionate home for abandoned, displaced, underprivileged and medically needy children.

The classic vehicles will be on display in the parking lot of Mel's Diner in

San Carlos (US 41, 2 miles south of Alico or 2 1/2 miles north of Corkscrew Road) on Saturday, May 17, from 4-7 p.m. There will be a cook-in, door prizes, giveaways and live entertainment by Mild 2 Wild — plus a charity drawing, a raffle for a 1991 Pontiac Grand Am. The proceeds will benefit The Gabriel House. There is no admission charge.

For additional information, please call Tom Brown of Fast Fords of Lee County at 267-6284 or Richard Karp at (239) 596-7955, x204.

75%-off sale

Second Act Thrift Store & Boutique located at 1388 Colonial Blvd. in Royal Palm Square is having a 75%-off sale on tomorrow, Saturday, May 17, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Everything in the store will be 75% off the original price unless marked otherwise.

Second Act also has a large selection of costume jewelry, antiques and collectibles, books and housewares... Stop by and check it out.

Bring in a donation of a new hairbrush, a large size deodorant or a large size shampoo & conditioner to enter a drawing for \$25 in merchandise from the store. The donations go to Abuse Counseling & Treatment, Inc., a non-profit agency established to provide shelter, counseling, and education to victims of domestic violence and survivors of sexual assault, that serves Lee, Hendry and Glades Counties.

For more information call 939-2553. ACT is always in need of the following:

1. New hair brushes
2. New African American hair brushes
3. New hair combs
4. New African American hair combs
5. Hair products - shampoo and conditioner (large bottles)
6. Cosmetics and hair coloring products
7. African American cosmetics
8. Bath towels, hand towels, face cloths
9. Twin sheet sets

10. Feminine hygiene cleansing products
11. Ladies underwear — all sizes, especially larger ones
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13. Children's socks — all sizes
14. Q-Tips
15. Large size deodorant
16. Toilet paper
17. Paper towels
18. Crib Sheets
19. Disposable diapers, especially larger sizes 4 & 5
20. Neosporin or other anti-bacterial cream
21. Extra-strength non-aspirin products
22. Large bars of soap
23. Laundry soap
23. Baby wipes
24. Pots and pans
25. Kool-Aid
26. Canned fruits, vegetables, meats

Military families support group

Although President Bush has declared that the war is over, the rebuilding of Iraq will take time. This means that many local military families will remain separated from their loved ones for months to come.

As Lee County faced the challenges of seeing loved ones and friends sent away for military duty both overseas and in the U.S., families started experiencing stress, financial difficulties, and other difficulties as a result of the deployments. Many felt there were questions and problems for which the answers and solutions were not readily available, and they felt quite alone and adrift.

The American Red Cross of Lee County sponsored a community forum. On the Homefront, in early April. This forum has developed into weekly family support group meetings that are conducted by military family members and friends as a way to maintain contact with each other and share experiences. The Red Cross offers the use of its facilities and counselors, and networks with other agencies, groups, and businesses to pro-

vide a system of close support for families and friends of military members.

Military families are encouraged to join the group. There is no charge for participation and child care is provided. The group meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Lee County Chapter office located on the second floor of the AAA Building at 2516 Colonial Boulevard.

Future activities planned for the On the Homefront program include opportunities for families to attend local attractions, museums, baseball games, etc. as local businesses donate their time and services.

For information on the family support group, call Keith Denning at 278-3401 or visit the American Red Cross of Lee County Web site at www.arclee.org.

Vets donate flag to city

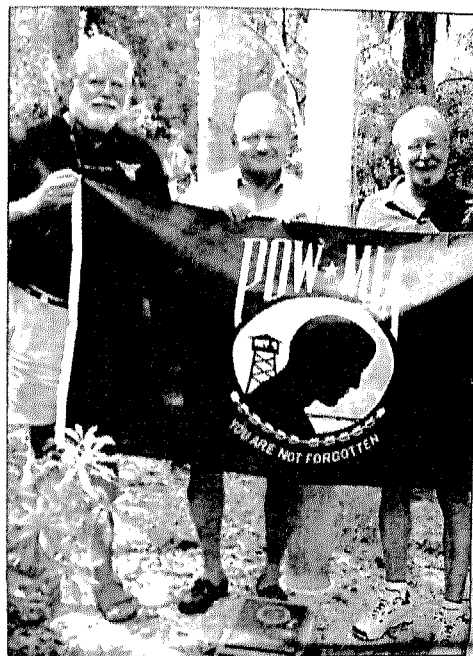


Photo by Renny Severance

L-R: Bob Laswell, Steve Brown, and Ted Tyson.

Bob Laswell, president of the local chapter of the Military Officers Association of America is joined by fellow member Ted Tyson in presenting a POW/MIA flag to Sanibel Mayor Steve Brown. May has been declared Military Appreciation Month by the Sanibel City Council but when Laswell and Tyson learned that the city did not have a POW/MIA flag they called upon their military association to donate one. They will be giving one to Lee County as well in the near future.

Sanibel Captiva
islander

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On Spiritual Optimism

"I'm glad to see that you are back in the contest!" I remarked to my neighbor who was passing me on our morning walk. She gave me a quizzical look.



Murray Salzman

I had not seen her for several days and assumed she had been ill or something like that. She too was a regular morning walker.

"Oh, you know, I haven't seen you walking recently," I said. "I'm pleased you are back in life's contest."

She may have thought I was referring to a physical struggle with weight and health. Her face continued to reflect perplexity.

But my allusion was to life's spiritual contest. On one side are despair, cynicism and fear. In combat with them are joy, meaning and confidence.

"Contest?" my neighbor queried.

"Yes," I said, pausing to share my philosophy. "Every day we renew the contest between despair and joy. That's why we walk everyday, isn't it? We want to live healthily so that spiritually we may rejoice with the gift of our days. So we do things that make us feel alive and joyful. We walk, we seek friendship, we try to make life better for the less fortunate, we insist that life has meaning even when tragic events tear away at us."

In a way I was pontificating with tongue in cheek. But I meant it, anyway.

"That's a good way of looking at things," she said. "I try to focus on living life with spiritual optimism, too. So many who are our age focus on fear of tomorrow. Our mortality is too close to them. I do my part to make life worthwhile here and now and leave the rest to the Almighty. God will take care of what comes afterwards."

"Hey, that's great," I said as we both walked on.

It's a Federal Offense!
Don't disturb a turtle nest if you find one on the beach.

THE METASTATIC LIFE

Biology is the least of what makes someone a mother.

—Oprah Winfrey

This journey is definitely getting harder. I made such a big mistake thinking somehow, that with the passing of those five years since treatment, my body would forget what it had been through, just as I thought I had forgotten it. It was a reasonable theory. Time heals all wounds, right?

It's just that it didn't. After 16 radiation treatments I am ready to say, "Stop!" I am bargaining with my doctor in my head, asking questions like, "How do you come up with that magic number of 20? What if 16 is all it takes?" I wasn't prepared for this kind of trade-off — the back pain slowly subsiding and being replaced with this agony in my gut. It is unrelenting nausea with another four treatments left to go. I should have been finished last week but I could only make it three days. And the same thing happened the week before.

And then, over the weekend, the back pain again. It's a slow-building pain that begs for ice packs and pain pills. It cries out when I try to ignore it. I pull the little weeds from the butterfly gardens and it tells me to stop.

I bring the cake and the sandwiches for Emily's after-play party at school and it tells me it's too much. I rage against it and anyone who tells me I need to pass on doing these things.

Who's to tell me which things to forego even if their intentions are good? So I attend the play both nights, thrilled with the performance of my child and almost as thrilled that the entire production takes only 45 minutes.

The second night I offer to save seats for her father and his wife and Emily's two step-brothers. Oh it's like a sea change, this. After years of hiding away, now it seems there isn't enough time in the world... to tell this mother how it feels, how much we have in common. The way we both loved them when they came into the world and were certain we had to be here to see them safely through it all.

If I could only help her to understand Emily's moods, how her difficult person-

ality is just a cover for all the fears and all the years of uncertainty. If I can just believe that she will find a way to love her if I'm not here, help her to see through Emily's facades and know when she is in trouble, because I always know and who will look out for her if I'm gone?

She sits beside me at the play. We talk and laugh. She is warm and comfortable to be with. I realize that I like her and understand why Emily likes her, too. I am so relieved. I am thankful. I find myself



Lisa Pierot

hoping that she can make her marriage last. I sense she understands that it is really about us mothers, making a place for these misplaced children with all of their heartaches and their worries and grief.

I pray I am reading her right and not just projecting my desperate hopes into her words and expressions. I want to tell her that I have never held a grudge, never blamed her for anything. I was hiding because I craved the solitude, the time with my family and friends. I hid because I didn't have the courage to look too far into the future.

Yesterday she took Emily shopping for clothes and they bought matching tops. I was very happy that Emily had so much fun. But I escaped to my bathroom and cried because I want so much to be able to do these things with Emily. I just can't. At least not now. My tears held no resentment, only frustration and sadness.

Life has its own agenda for each of us. I am starting to accept what might come

to pass. All that matters in that space is that my girls are okay, that they are loved and looked after. This is not something I could have even conceived of a year ago — that someone I didn't even know when Emily was born, when she took her first steps or went off to kindergarten, might now play such an important role in my daughter's life if I'm not here. The words to Sinéad O'Connor's song "My Darling Child" float around in my brain. The CD was called *Universal Mother*.

If there is a letting go in my future, surely this is the only thing that will keep me from it. All I care about is that there is someone there for my children.

I am starting to accept what might come to pass. All that matters in that space is that my girls are okay, that they are loved and looked after.

Everything comes down to that; nothing else even enters the equation. I will have to trust and have faith, a lot of faith. At night I have this dialogue with God, "Please, don't let Emily fall through the cracks. Let her be loved and taken care of. Give her this other mother, this universal mother, to help her on the rest of her journey. Because then, and only then, can I continue on mine."

Until next week...

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OBITUARY

Marie-Claude Lalique Dedouvre

The granddaughter of René Lalique and a well-known designer in her own right, Marie-Claude Lalique Dedouvre died April 14 at her vacation home on Captiva. She was 67.

The last to bear the family name made famous by her grandfather in the early days of the 20th Century, Lalique was an only child with no children of her own. She sold the company in 1994.

The Lalique name has been synonymous with elegance ever since René Lalique created his first piece of Art Nouveau jewelry in 1886. He gradually increased his output and his staff until 1893 when he began to experiment with glass (including a perfume vial via the lost wax method) and, in 1907, was commissioned by François Coty to design the flourishing firm's labels and perfume bottles. After closing down during World War I, Lalique re-opened in 1918 to a huge demand for his work.

It wasn't until the '20s that Lalique began to manufacture the range of objets d'art with which we are so familiar today — vases, clocks, statues, lighting and tableware. He also designed some 29 car hood ornaments for top-of-the-line cars such as Bentleys and Bugattis.

René Lalique died in 1945 and the company continued under his son, Marc. When he died in 1977, Dedouvre took over and expanded the company to other merchandise including non-glass items such as scarves and porcelain pieces. She created her own perfume as well as a series of figurines for fundraisers in conjunction with Elton John's AIDS foundation.

One prominent Lalique collector and dealer pointed out, however, that, despite Dedouvre's modernization of the company, she was always committed to retaining the family heritage and promoting museum exhibits of her grandfather's work.

She is survived by her husband, Jean Dedouvre, who has returned to France.

BUSINESS

AfterHours this Monday

Chadwick's and the Porter House Restaurants at South Seas Resorts will host the Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce monthly AfterHours on Monday, May 19, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Reservations must be made by 5 p.m. today, Friday, May 16. Chamber members, prospective members and guests are invited. There will be a \$5 charge for guests. Call 472-1966 or e-mail reservations to office @sanibel-captiva.org.

New director of sales at Casa Ybel

Jessica Pasek has been appointed director of sales for Casa Ybel Resort, according to the resort's owner, Jerry Shellabarger. She will oversee all sales efforts, including small executive group meetings and weddings for the 114-suite resort.

Pasek most recently served as national sales manager at The Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club. Previously, she was national sales manager of the Hilton Hotel on Marco Island.

Pasek is a member of the Florida Society of Association Executives (FSAE); the Leadership Council of FSAE; the Tallahassee Society of Association Executives (TSAE) and on the National Council for the National Association of Wedding Professionals (NAWP). She holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Western Michigan University and is currently living in Naples.

Travel & Leisure magazine listed Casa Ybel among the Top 20 Family Resorts in 2002 and the 500 Greatest Hotels in the World in 2003, respectively. Condé Nast Traveler ranks it among The Best Places to Stay in the World.

San-Cap motor speedway open again!



Photo by Renny Severance

The speed limit on the Sanibel Causeway was raised from 20 MPH to 30 MPH last Sunday, May 10. New lane striping has been added, making for one lane of travel in each direction for the length of the causeway. As the sign indicates, the new speed limit will be strictly enforced.

Youth Soccer names new registration director

New registration director announced
Sanibel Youth Soccer has appointed Renée Tarbert director of registration for the 2003 season. "Renée is a wonderful addition to an already great team," said Keith Cruickshank, 2003 SYS League President.

Tarbert was involved with the program last year, but Cruickshank said that she showed so much enthusiasm and energy, he recruited her for the critical task of handling registration for the League.

Prior to moving to Sanibel in 2002, she had been involved with youth soccer in Evergreen, Colorado. She held board positions with the city's league for six years.

"Sanibel Youth Soccer is a very well-run league," Tarbert said. "I've been impressed by the high caliber of people who are providing service as board members. Kids come first."

The league has opened registration for the 2003 Fall playing season and encourages all parents to register their children now. Spring Registration Drive fees are \$50 for the first child and \$40 for siblings. Fees include full uniforms. Registration will be open on Tuesday, May 20, and Wednesday, May 21, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Sanibel Recreation Center (After School Program). The League notes that fees will increase after the May drive.

Bring cash or checks to registration.



Renée Tarbert

The special price will only be available during this sign-up period. To avoid late fees, parents must sign-up during these registration days.

Sanibel Youth Soccer is a non-profit organization that administers recreational soccer for Sanibel and Captiva youth. For more information about Sanibel Youth Soccer's recreational soccer programs, call Sanibel Youth Soccer at 395-2040 or visit the league's website at www.sanibelsoccer.org.

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A history of the City of Sanibel Vegetation Committee

*And the seed was planted
And the seed grew
And the seed created an island
And the island flourished*

By **Berdenna Thompson**
Special to the *Islander*

Thousands of years ago a mangrove seed washed up on a sandbar. Over time, these first seeds multiplied and grew into an impenetrable forest, a living seawall of many tangled roots and branches catching and holding sediment that washed in with the waves. The mighty mangrove sculptured Sanibel from a sandbar into a barrier island.

Sanibel has weathered many challenges: forces of nature, Native Americans, pirates (maybe, maybe not), lumbering, and farming. Now, as in the recent past, the island has struggled to maintain a balance between exploitation and preservation.

After the hurricane of 1926, Sanibel was covered with sand and shell. Today, it is a charming island whose ambiance and beauty are created by nature. The stewardship of man has striven for harmony with the island's natural systems by preserving wildlife and its habitats. Sanibel enjoys a great diversity of native plants, some found in only a few other places on earth. And native vegetation is critical to the survival of many species of wildlife.

This environmental heritage is the result of strenuous, energetic work by those who envisioned the future. In the 1930s, a small group became interested in saving the island's native wildlife. They had no particular leadership, direction or influence until a gentleman from Des Moines, Iowa, appeared. J.N. "Ding" Darling, an influential political cartoonist, was a fiery spokesman on conservation matters.



Julie Schwartz, Vegetation Committee member, prepares land contractors for field identification tests for certification in October 2002.

Many of his cartoons addressed the threat of wildlife extinction, air and water pollution, and the destruction of the environment. President Franklin Roosevelt appointed him head of the U.S. Biological Survey (later the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior) where he served from March of 1934 to November of 1935.

During 1936, Darling objected vigorously to the bulldozing of the northern shore of Sanibel. Land which had been sold by the State of Florida for mere pennies per acre — land rich in mangroves and upland hammocks — was being cleared and marketed by developers. In spite of



Renny Severance photo
Berdena Thompson

A press-aide to Florida's Governor Farris Bryant (1961-1965) then suggested Sanibel form a committee that would appropriately memorialize Darling. Led by Emmy Lu Lewis, a part-time resident and ardent conservationist, a group of islanders, with the help of the Audubon Society, solicited statewide support for their cause.

In 1967, a large parcel of lands, variously owned by the State of Florida, the school district and private owners, was acquired by the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service and, combined with the Sanibel National Wildlife Refuge, became known as the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge — a formal recognition of Darling's many accomplishments and contributions.

The Memorial Committee, instead of disbanding, was renamed the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation and went to work to help combat the increasing pressures of impending development after the construction of the causeway in 1963. Masses of people were visiting; some even wanted to make their homes on Sanibel.

Numerous islanders understood the future consequences of this influx... There is story after story of how people worked hard to save the island's natural systems. But, at that time, Sanibel was under the rule of Lee County, and the County Commission's philosophy was to serve people not birds. Many land owners completely stripped their properties, clearing away all vegetation so their land could be sold for development.

It was a time of critical concern.

When Ann Winterbotham and her husband moved to Sanibel in 1964, they had no knowledge of the native vegetation. In fact, their landscaper's design called for Australian pines, melaleuca and Brazilian pepper — non-native invasive trees which today, in the State of Florida, it is illegal to plant. The proliferation of these weed trees stimulated efforts to educate people on the islands about the benefits of native plants.

Something was needed to popularize the use of Sanibel's native plants for landscaping. Ann was chairperson of the Conservation Foundation, and she and Mada Harrison, another member of SCCF, found that, at that

Darling's concerns and ongoing protests, the land was not preserved but, with because of his persistent efforts, in 1939, Sanibel and Captiva were designated as a wildlife refuge by a special act of the Florida Legislature. In 1945, with Darling's help, portions of the two islands became the Sanibel National Wildlife Refuge, administered by the Fish & Wildlife Service. Darling continued offering his support for preservation until he left Florida in 1960. He passed away in 1962.

A press-aide to Florida's Governor Farris Bryant

time, the most information about Sanibel's native plants was in George Cooley's scientific papers which had been published 10 years earlier in Rhodora, the Journal of the New England Botanical Club.

Ann and Mada made themselves very knowledgeable about native vegetation and collected plants from all over the island to exhibit at Sanibel's Shell Fairs. In 1973, they put together an identification book, Native Trees and Shrubs for Captiva-Sanibel Landscaping. Mada was the author and Ann, an accomplished wildlife artist, drew the illustrations.

Dick Workman came to Sanibel in 1973 as administrative director of SCCF. He began a newspaper column, "Growing Native" in the Island Reporter in order to continue the native plant education that Ann and Mada had started. (Selections from these columns became his book, Growing Native, published in 1980 by SCCF.)

Before the city's incorporation, Workman took island resident Porter Goss for a canoe ride along with George Campbell, a wildlife enthusiast, to show them what had happened to the mid-island Johnston tract. On the way, George jumped into the water to capture a banded water snake. When the tract of land they were headed for came into view they were devastated — the lush vegetation was gone.

One Sunday, Winterbotham, by then the chair of the Planning Commission, went with a land engineer to look at a piece of property proposed for development. The engineer insisted it was not a wetland; she knew it was. When they arrived, Ann stepped off the road... up to her waist in water and fish.

After several years of heated discussion, extensive legal work, and a referendum, Sanibel incorporated as a city in 1974. Goss was its first Mayor. One of the new city's priorities was to develop an ordinance that would prohibit the wholesale clearing of land.

Branches of government were established, and ordinances needed to be defined and written. Councilman Charles LeBuff drafted the one that created the Vegetation Committee, and Workman became its first chairman in 1975. City Manager David Bretsky and the Vegetation Committee together wrote the first ordinance. But the city attorney, Neal Bowen, felt it was not workable and needed considerable revision before it could be implemented.

The city was trying to protect what it had, but it was difficult to convince the population that what the city was

Vegetation, see page 15



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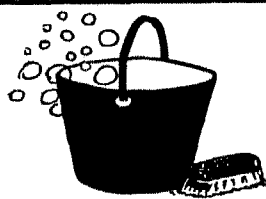
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SERVICE CLUBS

Kiwanis

Keeping Kiwanis secure at home

By Bob Wimbush

Even though this is an island, it's probably a good idea to practice home security, according to Louis Picke of Metro Crime Prevention of Florida — even if only go out to join the crowds downwind of a controlled burn at "Ding" Darling. And, although the organization's speakers — most of whom are ex-police or public safety officers — derive their income from selling personal and home safety devices, you should probably invite them to speak at your organization. You can reach them at 292-2150.

According to Louis there are 1.22 police officers per thousand residents in Florida, so the chances are, if one is watching your house all day and all night, it isn't because he's got your best interests at heart. Certainly one could engage in nefarious activities in order to attract such attention and thereby ensure the safety of his or her home until they've got enough to lock you up, but Louis suggest its easier to secure your home and make it look like one any intelligent burglar or opportunistic Rotarian would likely avoid.

Over a third of the time the Rota...er...burglar will come through a door or window that's already open and be in and out in three to eight minutes. As you might expect, Louis recommends locks, but hastens to add a good burglar won't spend more than 30 seconds getting past many



of them. If it takes longer... or an alarm goes off... or he hears a dog... the sliding bolt on a shotgun, he's likely to move on.

Some of the most effective locks cost little money. A couple of self-tapping screws in the jam above a sliding door screwed out so the door just barely clears them when it slides will keep a thief from pushing your patio door up and out of the bottom track. And a simple track lock available at most hardware stores will keep a thief from opening a double hung window wide enough to get in.

And, as everyone on Sanibel already knows, appearances are important. Louis recommends you improve the looks of your place with a 79-cent "Beware of the Dog" sign and another proclaiming you have an alarm. If you're really into deception, leave a big, big dish that says FIDO and a leash about the thickness of your thumb outside on your porch. Or a note that says, "Bill, Ed. Home in fifteen minutes. Please wait" taped to your door. Don't forget to replace it when the edges turn yellow and curl, however.

How does he feel about alarms? Don't count on the police for help. It takes 17 to 28 minutes for police to get there, and a slow burglar is in and out in eight. He suggests dispensing with third party monitoring in favor of super-loud sirens mounted high on the house facing your neighbors. That system is self-monitoring especially in the middle of the night. When your neighbor calls the cops — and she will when her ear drums begin to peel back or her bed-mate thinks it's a raid (depending on the neighborhood) — coach her to announce "It looks like there is a burglary in progress." Cops come quicker when there's more fun in the game.

He counsels you to never give up your alarm system password, even when the bad guy who has seen your sign calls to ask if you're OK "because your alarm is going off" and the cops will charge you \$50 for a false alarm." Unless the siren's going off, it's probably a hoax to get your password prior to a future visit.

Anyway, Louis provides a good presentation. And be sure to purchase some police strength pepper spray. You'll wish you had some in case the vegetation police or one of the service clubs invades your domain.

Here's a heads-up: mark your calendar — the Kiwanis/BIG ARTS band has agreed to appear in the July 4th parade. And Muench will be there of course — armed and dangerous. Two more good uses for pepper spray. If this stuff weren't so useful, the city would say you had to have it. Keeps manatees away from the docks that attack them. Good stuff.

Kiwanis breakfasts every Wednesday at the Island House. You can make your own oatmeal.

Zonta

Zonta inducts new members

On May 7, the Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva inducted four new members — Jeanne Bernard, Wendy Humphrey, Annie Nachtsheim, and Ruth Wallack. The induction ceremony was officiated by Esther Saltzman, past president, and Doris Trowbridge, current president. Each new member was presented with a yellow rose, symbolizing friendship.

The new members are active in the Sanibel community. Bernard is a financial specialist with Wachovia, having



L-R: Doris Trowbridge (president), Annie Nachtsheim, Ruth Wallack, Jeanne Bernard, Wendy Humphrey, and Esther Saltzman (past president).

moved here from Rhode Island. Humphrey is a long-time Sanibel resident who hails from England. She is a realtor with South Seas Sanibel & Captiva Properties, an adjunct professor of English and Communications at FGCU, and an occasional reporter for WFCU Radio (NPR).

Nachtsheim, also a long-time Sanibel resident, is a professional chef who also manages a branch of the family-owned business, Soon Come Contract Hauling.

Wallack recently moved to Sanibel after a teaching career in the South Bronx, where she also developed and managed the Teacher Intern Mentor Program.

Zonta International is a world-wide service organization of executives in business and the professions, working to advance and enhance the status of women and focusing on strategies to eradicate inequities and violence against women through education and advocacy. Locally, Zonta provides funds and hands-on service to assist women. More information is available at: www.zontasancap.com.

Lions

Between the Lions

By Jim Graham

Who We Are. Thirty-six years ago, the Sanibel-Captiva Lions Club was started by 26 men who wanted to be of service to fellow islanders. The club, chartered Dec. 26, 1967, has grown to over 100 members, but the original premise of service to the islands has not changed.

Over the years, Lions Club membership has tended to reflect the character of the islanders they serve. Many members are retired after years of challenging and fulfilling employment. Retired Lions can also be found on the boards of other island not-for-profit organizations, or otherwise actively engaged in organizational activities. Some members have retired from one occupation to take up a second or even third career after moving to the islands. And other Lions, who simply couldn't wait until retirement to live in paradise, are actively engaged in the commercial and artistic activities of Sanibel and Captiva.

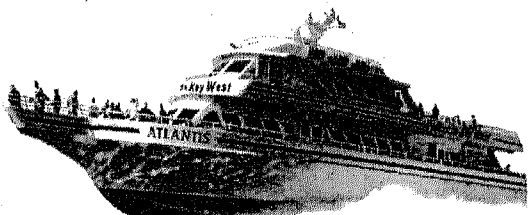
From time-to-time in these columns, we intend to profile various Lions from each of these categories. We do this for several reasons. First, Lions are not permitted to promote themselves or their businesses to other club members. So, quite often, a Lion may not know the interesting past or present of his fellows. Second, because each of these personal histories is unique and remarkable, it's possible that the community-at-large would be interested in hearing about them. Here is such a history.

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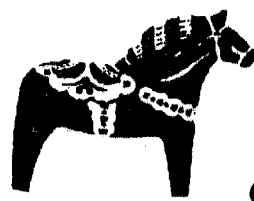
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It happened without warning. Eben Joy and Eileen, his wife of over twenty years, were driving home to Florida from an extended vacation in the far Northwest. Eben was driving and Eileen was sitting beside him. "Suddenly", according to Eben, "There was a flash of blinding light that came out of nowhere". Not being able to see to drive, Eben pulled off the road to let his eyes adjust back to normal. They didn't. "Did you see that?" he asked Eileen. She replied in the negative. "I can't see you. You look so fuzzy"! With those words Eben and Eileen's world changed forever.

Eben had been struck by macular degeneration and complications from ocular hemorrhaging. According to the American Macular Degeneration Foundation, this affliction, resulting in the deterioration of the central portion of the retina, is the leading cause of blindness in the U.S.

Nothing in Eben's experience had prepared him for facing up to the challenge of blindness. But, in another sense, his entire life to that time, had been one of meeting challenges and overcoming adversities.

Eben Joy came from a poor family. After his father died, his mother wasn't able to support her large family, so the children were farmed out to various supporting agencies. At the age of five, Eben went to an orphanage in Spring Valley, N.Y., and remained there for the next eight years. Of the orphanage, he says, "They taught me the value of hard work and how to get along with people."

Later, after moving to the Bronx and graduating from high school, Eben went to work for the Continental Baking Co.

Here he honed his people skills and put in 14-hour days selling Wonderbread at 25 cents a loaf.

After saving enough money, Eben moved to Connecticut and bought a filling station, although this was a totally new endeavor for him. At last, he was able to find the extra time to indulge his lifelong passion, skiing. He also started a Scout troop, and the older boys helped at the station so they could all ski together.

When WWII became a reality, Eben sold his filling station and volunteered for the skiing troops of the 10th Mountain Division. But, while waiting to be called up, he took a job with the Grenfell Mission; a career move that would ultimately alter the course of his life. His first wife-to-be, Catherine Vaughn, suggested the opportunity to him, and soon he was introduced to the charismatic Sir Wilfred Thomason Grenfell.

Grenfell was an English-born medical doctor and missionary who served the fisherman of Labrador and their families. He was impressed with the fine needlework and embroidery of Labrador women, developed while fabricating and mending the nets with which their husbands earned their livelihood. Grenfell encouraged them to supplement their meager incomes by making clothing and handcrafted items for sale. Part of Grenfell's mission was to sell these items in the States. He traveled all over the country giving illustrated talks on Labrador and selling the native handcrafted articles which he brought back with him from Labrador.

Eben and Catherine worked as advance persons, traveling to the next lecture loca-

Lions, see page 24



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City appoints new coordinator for Senior Program

By Renny Severance
Executive Editor

Sandi Brim has been appointed by the City of Sanibel as the new senior program coordinator for the city's recreation department to replace the retiring Helene Phillips.

When making the announcement, City Manager Judie Zimomra said, "Through a competitive selection process, Ms. Brim was identified as the applicant with the best experience with seniors as well as excellent administrative skills. We look forward to her joining our team."

Ms. Phillips added, "The appointment of Sandi Brim allows us to maintain program continuity and continue to strive for excellence in the area of senior programming as we have in the past."

Brim is certainly no stranger to the Sanibel Senior Center as she has been teaching fitness at the center since 1996 and respiratory therapy since 1997.

She is a certified fitness teacher specializing in fitness for seniors. A native of North Dakota, she studied at Northwestern

Technical College and also holds a license as a Respiratory Therapy Technician. She has been teaching aerobics for 22 years and regards fitness as a way of life. Her accomplishments also include researching and designing chair aerobics for those unable to stand for aerobic workouts.

"I love older people," she said, "and these people treat me like a daughter."

Brim seems a natural fit for this position since seniors have been an important part of Sandi Brim's life all along. Growing up in rural North Dakota, she knew three pairs of great grandparents and was always close to the older generations in a large and close family.

Helene Phillips is a tough act to follow and Brim was understandably concerned. "It's a big challenge," she said, "she was

dearly loved by everyone here." But her reception has been warm and enthusiastic. "I love older people," she said, "and these people treat me like a daughter." In reflecting on the general reaction to the announcement of her appointment she said, "They hug you 'til you can't breathe."

A cancer survivor herself, Brim will be leaving her present position as Executive Director of Partners for Breast Cancer Care to assume her new duties on Sanibel on May 19.

She is looking forward to continuing the programs as set up by Helene Phillips and possibly expanding some. She would like to bring additional focus to the subjects of nutrition, health and fitness, all in an effort to enhance the lives of island seniors both socially and physically. In this regard, Brim will continue to teach aerobics and would like to add some kayaking trips to the mix as well. There will also be summer activities for the center, some of which will go off-island, such as theater trip to the Florida Rep and the Barbara B. Mann.

Brim is clearly excited about her new job and looks forward to working with seniors here.



Photo by Renny Severance
Sandi Brim



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- 2:00 PM :**
- ☐ Open, bag and distribute garbage boxes; Butt buckets
 - ☐ Prepare raffle ticket packets
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Business Profile: Allegra Print & Imaging

by Nancy Santeusano
Special to The Islander

Met Sheila, Dan and Terry Fortney and you will know why they were a perfect match to become part of the world's second largest printing franchise and recognized in 2002 as members of the prestigious Master's Club, the top 10 percent of the company's franchise owners. "Allegra" means pick up the speed and make it more lively, and that's exactly what the Fortneys have been doing in the printing business since 1996.

The Fortneys, who had been coming to Sanibel for a long time, learned about Allegra through an ad in the Wall Street Journal. At the time, Sheila Fortney was a village administrator or "mayor" in South Bennington, Ill. and Dan was a procurement and human relations manager with an international tool and steel company. Their son Terry was a recent college graduate and involved in marketing.

One evening at the dinner table Terry asked, "Are you really going to buy the business?" His Dad replied in the affirmative and Terry's next question was, "What about marketing and sales?" Dan thought for a moment and answered, "I'll have to figure that out." Immediately Terry responded, "Take that off your list." He's been in charge of that aspect for the past seven years.

Ever since they bought the business, "staying on the leading edge" was a high priority for the Fortneys. Dan points out, "You can't keep the old equipment and make progress with the new technology."

Today the company attributes much of its success to high quality production and speed, combined with expanded digital and full-color printing and driven by a commitment to customer relationships and personal service. "With everything digital and completely computerized, this space gives us a nice environment where customers can meet with us without the clackety-clack of the pressroom.

"Customers can ask for the person they want to see and feel comfortable. There's an open door policy and we have a conference room for meetings," notes Dan.

With its range of services, Allegra is designed to meet the needs of small and medium-size businesses and organizations. "We build relationships with people based upon their needs. Verbal is one form of com-



L-R: Terry, Sheila, and Dan Fortney of Allegra Print & Imaging.

munication, but printing helps them to communicate with their customers in a different way."

Often people call with complicated and technical questions. One called to ask about a bid on a contract with a particular specification. However, the contract contained a word with which the customer was unfamiliar. Through the support services of the Allegra franchise, Sheila Fortney was able to get the exact meaning of the word based on terminology that had been used on blueprints over 17 years ago. That's the kind of technology-friendly service they can offer to customers.

With Sheila as president, Dan as the chief financial officer, Terry as general manager, and a dynamic group of six other employees who work with them, Allegra is able to continually raise its bar for success by allowing each person to become more and more proficient at what they do best. Along the way, they interface with each other, and as a group, build a business known for its operational excellence and customer service. "There's a lot of quality control, and no one wants to put anything on the 'rerun log.' That's a 'dodge the bullet' at all costs," adds Sheila.

The friendly, casual rapport the Fortneys have with customers makes the business fun. One Sunday morning they walked into their favorite Sanibel restaurant, were greeted by the owner and after their order was taken, the

owner put down a brochure and announced, "I need 5,000 of these as soon as possible."

Another family-operated company opened up a European bakery and deli, received a four-star rating from local food critic, Jean LeBoeuf, and had their gorgeous menu printed in four colors with its prestigious rating.

A couple wanted a different kind of wedding invitation and chose a bottle containing sand and seashells with the invitation tucked in the sand before being capped for packaging and mailing.

Another customer chose to have a poster titled "Dropping Soon" in which he was parachuting out of an airmail cargo box. This was his way to advertise his professional athletic skills and prowess.

Dan Fortney summarizes, "This business is always a challenge. No two days are alike. Anything you can imagine, we can print." It is with strong conviction that the Fortneys can boast, "The future of printing is here."

Allegra Print & Imaging is at 3940 Metro Parkway in Fort Myers. The telephone number is 275-5797 and the Web site is: allegranetwork.com/ftmyers.

Taste Of The Islands Sponsors Reap Great Rewards

Would you like to help CROW by being a sponsor for the 2003 Taste Of The Islands to be held Sunday, June 1st? This year's Taste Team is working very hard to offer a sponsorship that will provide great value to your business in return for your support. Your sponsorship will reward you in three ways. First and foremost, the intrinsic benefits provide you with the knowledge your contribution is helping CROW, to care for injured, sick and orphaned wildlife friends. You will be demonstrating to your community how much you believe in the preservation and protection of our Southwest Florida natural resources. Secondly, great perks will fly your way. A \$1,000 "Gold Sponsorship" includes free admission for 6 guests, 3 parking spaces and transportation to the gate, reserved table for 6 in the VIP tent complete with an open bar of beer, wine, margaritas, soda & water, 100 food tickets (\$100), and 6 2003 Taste Of The Islands T-shirts. A \$250 "Silver Sponsorship" includes free admission for 4 guests, one parking pass and transportation to the gate, 20 food tickets (a \$20 value), and 4 2003 Taste of the Islands T-shirts. Thirdly Gold sponsors can't beat the advertising exposure that will help promote your business. Your business name, brief description, address and telephone numbers will appear as an event sponsor in all print advertising and in a special section of the Official Taste Program. You will receive a complimentary quarter-page advertisement in the Official Taste Program. An engraved award plate (same as those given to the restaurants who win food awards) listing your business as a sponsor will be presented to you during the awards ceremony day of the Taste at 4:15 p.m.

For inquiries on sponsorship please call Anita Pinder Event Chairman at 472-3644 Watch the Islander weekly for the latest updates on this exciting event!

Sponsorship Confirmation

☐ YES! We want to be a sponsor for the 23rd Annual Taste Of The Islands.

☐ Our tax deductible contribution of \$1,000 is enclosed (please make your check payable to CROW).

☐ Our Tax deductible contribution of \$250 is enclosed (please make payable to CROW)

Sponsor Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Fax/E-mail: _____

Contact Person: _____

Guest # (max 6): _____

Additional sponsor guest passes may be purchased by calling CROW at 472-3644, Ext. 4.

Please return this form with your check by May 16th to:

Taste of the Islands
C.R.O.W., Inc.
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WEDDINGS & ENGAGEMENTS

Traucht-Crowell

Thom and Maribeth Traucht are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Jennifer to Christopher Crowell of Boulder, Colorado.



**Christopher Crowell
and Jennifer Traucht**

Jennifer spent her childhood on Sanibel Island and is a graduate of Cypress Lake High School in Fort Myers. She attended Florida State University where she earned degrees in both Biology

and Psychology before accepting a position as a research lab analyst in Boulder. Chris graduated from the University of California in Santa Barbara and is currently enrolled in the University of Colorado PhD program for glycobiology. Jennifer is currently a lab manager for AMGEN, a biotechnology firm based out of California, where Chris is also employed. They met a little over two years ago on their co-ed softball team.

Jennifer and Chris will be married in a seaside ceremony at South Seas Plantation on Captiva. After their honeymoon in Greece they plan to reside in Boulder, where they can pursue their hobbies of skiing, snowboarding, river kayaking, hiking and camping in the Rockies.

Corrow-Pia

J.T. Smith and a group of long-time friends gathered beach side at Casa Ybel Resort the morning of March 7th, 2002, to witness multi-talented Old Schoolhouse Theater alumnus, Brian Pia, exchange wedding vows with his high school sweetheart, Cathy Corrow. Mayor Steve Brown, family members, and the Old Schoolhouse staff and board members joined J.T. and nearly a dozen fellow alumni including groomsmen Victor Legaretta and Jeff March in forming a circle of love and support around the bride and groom as they exchanged their heartfelt vows. The beautiful service was officiated by Sanibel's very own weddings-on-the-beach guru, Patricia Slater.

The newlyweds will reside in



Back Row: Erik Hogan, Monica Heuser, John Vessels, and Kelly Parker Legaretta.

Front Row: Cathy and Brian Pia, Victor Legaretta, and Jeff March.

Newington, Conn. where Cathy is a resident pediatrician and Brian is music director at the historic Warner Theater.

The Old Schoolhouse Theater has always been a place where good friends meet, both on-stage and off. Brian and Cathy's wedding was a chance for this group of special friends to gather again in celebration. All of Brian and Cathy's island friends and Old Schoolhouse Theater family wish them every happiness!

Minn. Groomsmen included Andrew Erickson, his brother from Sanibel; Bradley Browers, a friend from Cloquet, Minn.; Taylor Musburger, a friend from Cotton, Minn.; and Scott MacKenzie, Stephanie's brother, from Seoul. Ring bearer Thomas Lynch, the bride's cousin, is from Lake Forest Park, Wash. Ushers were Gary Luce of Big Bend and Norm Schwartz of Newburgh, Ind.

MacKenzie - Erickson

Stephanie Elaine MacKenzie and Neil Dennis Erickson were united in marriage on April 12, 2003 by the Very Reverend Bruce McLeod during a sunset ceremony at Chapel By The Sea on Captiva. Stephanie is the daughter of Alex and Ina MacKenzie of Sanibel; and Neil is the son of Bill and Kathy Erickson, also of Sanibel.

Stephanie's grandmother, Ina Collins, of Evansville, Ind., read from the Scriptures; and her aunt, Mary MacKenzie Pyatt, of LaJolla, Calif., sang the musical selections. "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring," played by flautist Cheryl Carpenter, was the processional.

Stephanie's maid of honor was her childhood friend, Gwen Beville, of Asheville, NC. Her attendants included Jessica Erickson, the groom's sister, from Big Bend, Texas; Suzette MacKenzie, a sister-in-law from Seoul, Korea; Sarah Weems, her cousin from Berkeley, Calif.; and Dorothy MacKenzie, another sister-in-law from Eatontown, N.J. The flower girls were all nieces of the bride and included Shannon and Samantha MacKenzie from Seoul; and Anna Lynn MacKenzie from Eatontown.

The best man was Neil's childhood friend, Mathew Erkkila, of Albert Lea,



Neil and Stephanie Erickson

A dinner-dance reception was held at Portofino's Restaurant at the Sanibel Inn. Music was provided by Danny Morgan's band.

After a honeymoon cruise in the Caribbean, the couple will live in Cape Coral. Stephanie is employed as an environmental specialist with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection; Neil is a reverse osmosis water operator with Island Water. Stephanie and Neil met while employed as marine biologists at Adventures in Paradise.

HOLIDAY DEADLINES

Memorial Day

Monday, May 26th, 2003

SANIBEL SHOPPER'S GUIDE

May 29, 2003

PROOF Ad Deadline
Regular Ad Deadline
Classified Ad Deadline

Thursday May 22, NOON
Friday, May 23, NOON
Thursday May 22, 5 pm

ISLAND REPORTER

May 29, 2003

PROOF Ad Deadline
Regular Ad Deadline
Classified Ad Deadline

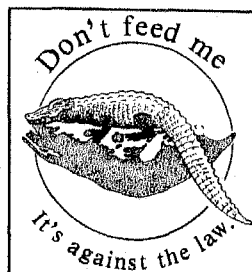
Thursday, May 22, NOON
Friday, May 23, 3 pm
Friday, May 23, 5 pm

ISLANDER

May 30, 2003

PROOF Ad Deadline
Regular Ad Deadline
Classified Ad Deadline

Friday, May 23, 5 pm
Tuesday, May 27, 10 am
Tuesday, May 27, 5 pm



When you feed an alligator you are training it to approach humans and are creating a life threatening situation... especially for our children. Feeding alligators is a criminal act punishable by fines and/or imprisonment.

City of Sanibel Ordinance 75-29 • Florida State Statute 372.667
Code of Federal Regulations 50 CFR 27.51

A dolphin rescue in Pine Island Sound

By Chris Smith
Special to the Islander

I was fishing in Tarpon Bay early one morning last week with my friend BT. A half-sized snook hit my chug bug twice which was just the coolest thing. But otherwise, fishing was slow. There were many dead fish. I saw 10-15 reds from the platform but no hookups.

It was almost Noon when I decided to split and head past the powerlines to see what was shakin' up there. As we were coming out of the little northeast cut from Tarpon Bay to Pine Island Sound, BT and I saw something in the shallows. He thought it was a bird or two but unfortunately I knew what I was looking at — dolphins beaching themselves.

I eased up the boat and sure enough, it was a momma and her little baby. My heart just sank... damned red tide.

The momma wasn't doing well — listing on her side. But the baby looked OK to me. It broke my heart to hear them whistling and clicking to each other while struggling in the shallow water.

I used the trolling motor to quietly beach the boat on the flat and I then waded over to see if I could see any cuts, blood, or anything. But I saw nothing. Also, there was no bad smell which I have heard might be a symptom (gastric) of red tide.

I called Brett (Rustylan) on the cell. He and his wife got the FWC to call me and I told them the situation. They dispatched a couple of biologists from Ding Darling.

Once they finally got there, the one woman biologist and I slowly righted the dolphin (do not try this at home). She was very knowledgeable about how to do this correctly without hurting the animal and we finally got her off the flat and into deeper water.

The baby was always close by, very scared, and momma wasn't happy about us being there near the baby. But never did she attempt to bite; she just made aggressive thrashes and splashes in the water.

Touching this graceful but distressed animal was something I'll never forget. It really did seem that stroking her side did help to calm her and make things go smoother.

That connection I made of one species to another is just unreal — or surreal — or both... words just don't describe it.

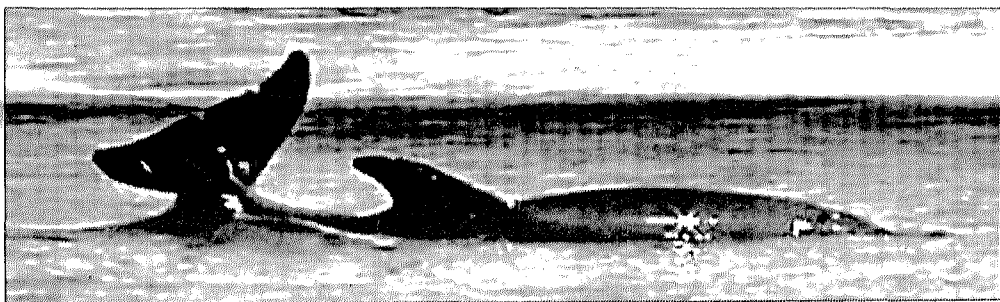
Luckily, once we got her afloat, she and the little one swam back through the little channel cut into Ding Darling and then towards the Causeway for the Gulf.

I hope my they make it. Keep your fingers crossed!

Chris Smith lives and works in Estero.



Photos by Chris Smith



Summer volunteer opportunities

Are you looking for something to do over the long, hot summer? Are you a high school student in need of community service hours? Do you want to help others explore the beauty of Sanibel? "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge is looking for summer volunteers from age 15 on up who can help staff the Education Center.

Volunteers greet visitors as they come into the Center, provide a map and information on Refuge wildlife as well as what to look for and how, present the orientation video, disseminate brochures and other materials, rent binoculars, and answer questions.

Also needed are enthusiastic people to sell items in the bookstore and run the cash register on the weekends. Volunteer shifts are a minimum of three hours once a week. If you are interested in helping out, call Cindy Anderson at 472-1100, Ext. 222.

Turtle Totals				
	2003		2002	
	Nests	Non-nesting emergencies	Nests	Non-nesting emergencies
Captiva	4	2	8	
East End	1	2	0	5
West End	4	4	12	1
Totals	9	8	20	26

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PORTER HOUSE
Prime Steaks • Fine Wines

472-7535 Reservations recommended.
At the entrance to South Seas Resort, Captiva Island.

Chamber of Commerce luncheon always eclectic and interesting

Story and photos
by Renny Severance
Executive Editor

Newest and youngest member starts foundation



Christine Arnold

The Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce has a new member who is distinctive by being the youngest ever. The new member is Christine Arnold and her nascent foundation, Christine's Law Dogs.

Christine is 10 years old and in her first year at the Canterbury School in Fort Myers. "We can't have a dog where we live," she said when asked about her interest in police dogs. She loves dogs and she also loves doing the right thing so she decided to start her own program to provide assistance to local law enforcement K-9 programs to buy dogs, as well as to help train and equip them.

Christine made a remarkable presentation to the May luncheon of the Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce and explained her foundation, why she started it and how she plans to keep it going. In this last, she is receiving considerable help from SCORE Association, the society of retired executives which offers help to small businesses across the country.

Dave Wilcox is a counselor with SCORE in Southwest Florida and has been instrumental in helping Christine's Law Dogs get started. The foundation is not yet qualified as a 501(c) 3, but it's only a matter of time

given the professional help she is getting from SCORE.

She is already an accomplished speaker in front a room full of 75 adults and easily won the hearts and enthusiasm of all at the lunch. As one observer remarked, "She's only 10 but she'll be 20 next year."

Christine is also helped considerably by Alice, her single mom who is dedicated to the cause. Together, they are gathering a board of directors and volunteers and, with the help of Dave Wilcox, they show every appearance of making a terrific success of this good idea.

Sam Bailey previews Islands Night at the Miracle

June 4 is Islands Night at the Miracle Game in Fort Myers. This entertaining event has long since become a wonderful tradition under the capable leadership of Sam Bailey. As he described to the assembled lunch crowd at the Chamber of Commerce, "Islands Night is the biggest social event of the year." Some 4,000 people have been turning out for the last several years and it promises to get even bigger and better.

For \$100 anyone can be a sponsor and be in the parade that circles the field just before the start of the game. It is a chance to celebrate your business and have a good time.

Bailey also exhorted the luncheon guests to become "Hawkers" for the event. Mayor Steve Brown has agreed to be one and city



Sam Bailey



Left: New chamber president, Anne Joffe, gives outgoing president, Gilda Suarez, a shell bouquet.

Below: Executive director Steve Greenstein shows off his disk jockey talents by demonstrating the new telephone music at the chamber.

Bottom: Island Cow provided an extensive buffet for the event as part of a chamber experiment with buffets rather than individually packaged lunches.

council member Marty Harrity is organizing this part of the event.

Hawkers may dress up any way they want according to Bailey. "You can go as Santa Claus if you want — or you can dress to emphasize your business if you want." Bailey went on to explain that the money raised by hawkers selling beer, popcorn and candy in the stands during the game is donated to the charity of the hawker's choice.

The whole event is aimed at raising money for good causes and in the past Hope Hospice and the Children's Hospital have been substantial beneficiaries of Islands Night.

Bailey emphasized the good fun that the evening offers and promises, "If you just come to the game, I guarantee next year you'll be a sponsor."



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Gramma Dot's

Seaside Saloon

In addition To Our Past Ten "Taste of the Islands" awards
We Have Just Won--

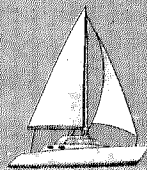
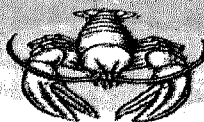
BEST SALAD & THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

Taste of the Islands- 2002

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Lunch
11:30 AM
Dinner
5:00 PM

Take Out Available



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472-8138



Vegetation, from page 7

doing was important. Before an area of land was developed the owner had to consult with the Vegetation Committee to see what native plants should be saved. Some people were dissatisfied with this arrangement because they wanted to choose their own plants and not have someone else tell them what they could use.

This became a major issue. As a result, the Committee's approach was to have a member inspect the property, hopefully meet with the owner to explain the benefits of the city's ordinance, and provide assistance in planning the landscape.

Campbell was the next chairman of the Vegetation Committee. He felt the success of the Committee was its one-on-one interaction with homeowners, pointing out, "People moving here don't know the difference between a hibiscus and a wild coffee."

The Sanibel Report documented what was native to the island and what needed to be protected. Written in 1975 by John Clark, author of many books on coastal management for the Conservation Foundation in Washington D.C., the Report was primarily funded by SCCF. (The Conservation Foundation and the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation are separate entities.)

During the summer of 1975, islanders contributed many hours of their time to assist in the collection of data for the city's land use plan. Highly qualified experts from around the country, under the supervision of the Sanibel Planning Commission, wrote the Sanibel Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP). It was based on the Sanibel Report and adopted on July 19, 1976.

People who owned large pieces of land gradually realized that removing all vegetation was not the way to sell property. Following the new ordinances in the CLUP would be more profitable. And

most realtors began to understand that prospective buyers came here for the island's natural beauty.

As development increased, the new city began to realize it needed more meaningful protection for its sensitive wetlands and unique freshwater interior wetlands, in particular; local zoning was not enough. SCCF's intensive fund-raising



Twelve Arbor Day trees were transplanted because of school expansion.

and pursuant purchases, primarily of wetlands, were helping, but the City of Sanibel also bought many acres for the purpose of conservation.

Since the founding of the Vegetation Committee in 1975, there have been approximately 8,000 vegetation field inspections done by Committee members. Many people and organizations have helped city government preserve the natural systems and the Vegetation Committee has played an important leadership role.

The Committee's success has come about through personal contact with homeowners, supplemented by ongoing educational efforts. When a homeowner is not present during an inspection and there's a problem with the vegetation, a meeting is set up with the contractor. If the problem still cannot be solved, it is handled by the City's Natural Resource Director.

Educating the public about conservation matters is always of prime impor-

information on basic ecological principles as they relate to island vegetation. The committee should, in addition, make available to the best of its ability expert technical assistance for any person on the island who desires advice concerning clearing or landscaping for a development activity. Such assistance shall include, but not be limited to the identification of individual specimens of vegetation that should be preserved, advice on arrangements for transplanting of individual specimens to other parcels on the island, and the location of appropriate native species for landscaping. (Ord. No. 76-28, 3,7-19-76)"

Members of the Vegetation Committee are certified vegetation inspectors.

The Vegetation Committee meets the first Thursday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in City Hall. The public is invited.

An inspector signs up for one or more days of vegetation inspection for the following month.

The inspector picks up an application for a vegetation inspection at the Planning Dept. An on-site inspection follows, during which native plants are identified and inventoried.

Impacted vegetation within building-site is moved and transplanted by the contractor. The inspector may recommend a change in the site plan to preserve native vegetation. The report is then routed to a city planner for further review. Before a certificate of occupancy is issued, a final vegetation inspection is required. All pre-existing native plants have to be verified and replaced if missing.

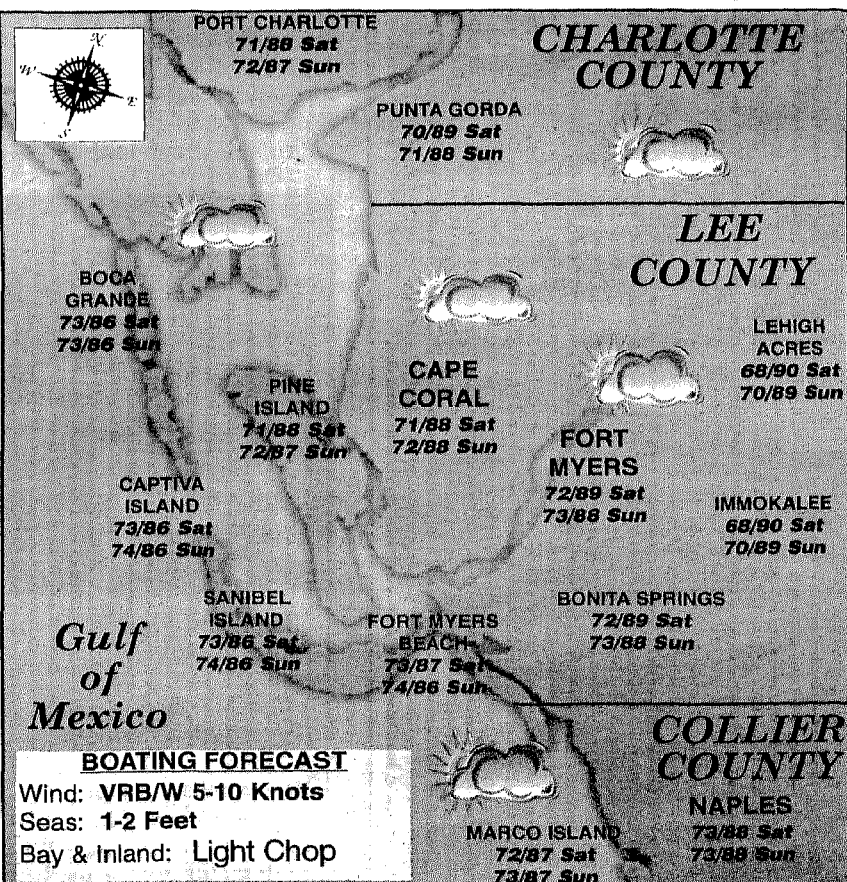
Berdenna Thompson, a long-time Vegetation Committee member, founder of The Sanibel School's celebration of Arbor Day, and author of this article, appreciates the help of all those who contributed to the writing of this article which has been approved by Sanibel Vegetation Committee.

WEEKEND FORECAST FOR MAY 17 & 18

SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Sunshine early in the day, then clouds increase during the afternoon with scattered rain and thunderstorms.		Again, look for sun early in the day, then increasing clouds with rain and thunderstorms during the afternoon.	

WEEKEND TIDES

City	Sat. High	Sat. Low	Sun. High	Sun. Low
Cape Coral Bridge	6:40 a.m.	10:08 a.m.	-	12:50 a.m.
Captiva at Redfish Pass	4:30 a.m.	6:52 a.m.	2:17 p.m.	10:31 p.m.
Fort Myers	1:36 p.m.	9:34 p.m.	-	-
	7:33 a.m.	12:38 a.m.	-	1:32 a.m.
	4:39 p.m.	10:50 p.m.	5:20 p.m.	-
Mattacha Pass	6:08 a.m.	9:34 a.m.	-	12:16 a.m.
	3:14 p.m.	-	3:55 p.m.	-
Pineland	5:06 a.m.	8:32 a.m.	-	-
	2:12 p.m.	11:14 p.m.	2:53 p.m.	-
Point Ybel	3:35 a.m.	6:54 a.m.	-	-
	12:41 p.m.	9:36 p.m.	1:22 p.m.	10:33 p.m.
Punta Rassa	4:24 a.m.	6:47 a.m.	-	-
	1:30 p.m.	9:29 p.m.	2:11 p.m.	10:26 p.m.
St. James City	4:55 a.m.	7:22 a.m.	-	-
	2:01 p.m.	10:04 p.m.	2:42 p.m.	11:01 p.m.



FOX 4 CAST



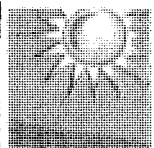
Chip McAfee
Chief Meteorologist

Darren Sweeney
Meteorologist

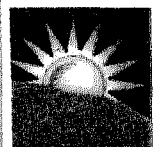
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STATE FORECAST-SATURDAY

CITY	LOW/HIGH
CAPE CORAL	71/88
DAYTONA BEACH	72/88
FT. LAUDERDALE	72/88
FT. MYERS BEACH	73/87
GAINESVILLE	67/88
JACKSONVILLE	68/88
KEY WEST	78/88
KISSIMMEE	72/90
MIAMI	75/88
ORLANDO	72/90
PANAMA CITY	68/87
PENSACOLA	70/85
SARASOTA	72/90
ST. PETERSBURG	72/90
TALLAHASSEE	68/88
TAMPA	72/90
VERO BEACH	72/88
WEST PALM BEACH	70/90



**SATURDAY
SUNRISE**
6:40 AM



**SATURDAY
SUNSET**
8:09 PM

CENTER STAGE

In the good ol' summer time...

Get your pencils, calendars and check-books ready! Here comes the schedule of this summer's theatrical events, both on- and off-island. While you're at it, get ready to peruse my reviews of shows that are playing in London's West End, in case you're thinking about doing the Theater Scene British style. For the next three weeks I'll be in Merrie Olde England on a busman's holiday, seeing what's new and interesting across the pond.

Ready... Set... Heeeeere we go!

Florida Rep is celebrating its fifth anniversary season with some really hot shows at rock-bottom ticket prices. As a matter of fact, you get one show free when you purchase the three-show summer theater package. A Section (A) subscription is \$64; Section (B) — \$52; and a Flex Pass — \$70.

Neil Simon's *Brighton Beach Memoirs* opens the season June 6-29. This is an autobiographical memory play in which Simon mixes comedy and drama without either force-feeding the jokes or milking for tears. *Brighton Beach Memoirs* boasts some big laughs as well as some genuinely tender moments. Simon uses his family's memories to raise such enduring issues as sibling resentments, guilt-ridden parent-child relationships, and the hunger for dig-

nity in the Depression years of 1930s. Critics have showered such words of praise as "Neil Simon's autobiographical tale is his finest play" ... "Deeply appealing play that deftly mixes drama with comedy" ... and "Simultaneously poignant and funny."

Veronica's Room (July 11-August 3). A chilling killer-diller. An absorbing spider's web entwining fantasy and reality. This one is really scary, with a jarring surprise climax. So, if being scared, intrigued, or you can't get your fill of simply unraveling mysteries, put *Veronica's Room* on your must-see list.



MARSHA WAGNER

Underpants (August 22-Sept. 14) by Steve Martin. Former star of TV's *Saturday Night Live*, funnyman Martin has concocted a wildly original idea for a play. A guy named Theobald Maske has an unusual problem: his wife's underpants won't stay on. One Sunday morning they fall to her knees right in the middle of town — a public scandal. Oops! what to do... Theobald's brilliant idea is to keep wifey safely at home 'til she can find

some less unruly undergarments. Gotta see this one so you too can sing "I've seen London; I've seen France; I've seen Steve Martin's Underpants."

Well, there you have what's up or drop-

ping down at the Florida Rep, where anything can happen. Phone 332-332-4488 for a lift, a scare or a giggle that's guaranteed to chase the summer blahs away.

Next up is the **Broadway Palm**.

Baby is on the way to Broadway Palm, opening June 5 and playing till July 5. This delightful story is about three couples on a university campus having to deal with the joys, the pains, the rewards and the funny experiences we go through when a little bundle is delivered by the stork. There are the college students just at the start of their lives, the thirty-somethings who after trying and trying finally conceive, the middle-aged parents, who after celebrating their last child's graduation... Uh-oh! the rabbit bites the dust and they're right back to square one. This is the perfect show for anyone who's ever had a baby... or been one.



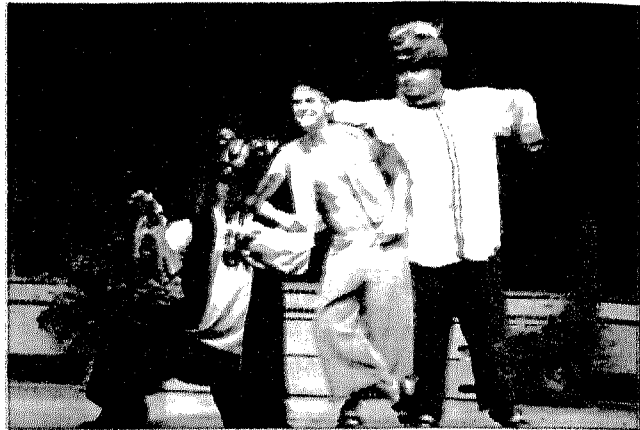
Footloose cuts loose July 10 through August 30. This hit movie from the 1980s comes to life on center stage with its high-energy dancing and great show tunes. When a hip city kid is moved to a conservative Midwestern town, his taste in rock music and his wild hip gyrating dance moves turn the local high school gang upside down while sending the local preacher man into a frenzy. (I caught this fun show last summer in Maine at the Ogunquit Playhouse and loved it.)



There are some great shows for the little people, as well, at the Broadway Palm this summer.

June 13 through July 2 *The Velveteen Rabbit* takes up residence. This sentimental classic is perfect for any child who's ever thought that just possibly his toys really do come to life, and have feelings just like us. As for us bigger folks, this is a sweet tale that still tugs at the heart-strings.

From July 25 through August 23, Broadway Palm's going wild with *The Jungle Book*. Meet Mowgli, the boy raised by wolves in a jungle who, with the help of



his friends — a bear Baloo, a panther Bagheera and a python Kaa — learns all about "the laws of the jungle." Mowgli also has a scary adventure with Khan, a man-eating tiger that has vowed to destroy him. Come on into the jungle for some high adventure with Mowgli and his wild bunch.

For your summer fun under the sun at The Broadway Palm, phone the box office at 278-4422 and get show times and tickets.

Meanwhile, back on our island at the **Old Schoolhouse**, the summer is off with a blast from the past.

JT Smith's Encore Productions is heading off the summer with a bang. *The Big Bang*, to be exact, starts May 30 and plays 'til August 16. The show features island favorite John

Vessels and an island newcomer, Billy Breed. Add to that merry mix long-time Smith collaborator, Peter Michael Marino (perhaps best remembered on-island for his role as Snoopy in Encore Productions' *Charlie Brown*). Marino also is designing the set; Miguel Cintron will act as production stage manager; and JT himself directs..

The Big Bang is world history served up as a camp musical — an utterly silly and a wildly amusing telling of history that is as ridiculous as to today's headlines. It is staged as a backers' audition for an \$83.5 million, 12-hour history of the world from creation to the present — played in an opulent Park Avenue apartment "borrowed" for the occasion. This one's a bang-up laugh riot of the first order. The side-splitting musical numbers begin at the beginning with Adam and Eve, move on to Attila the Hun, the building of the pyramids, Julius Caesar and Columbus... absolutely *nothing* is sacred and everyone is fair game. For a crash course on the hysterical, historical history of man, join the gang at *The Big Bang*.

You'd better reserve your seat front and center at the Old Schoolhouse by phoning the box office at 472-6862.

Do go and grab yourself some great times this summer at live theater playing all around the town. Don't forget to tell 'em Marsha sent you.

And watch this space for the further adventures of Marsha, the roving reporter doing bits on looking at the hits in London on the Thames.

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Local dancer/choreographer nominated for Tony

By Anne Bellew
Associate Editor

Ending a Broadway run at the Broadhurst Theatre that seemed to resemble the buckin' bronc that is the centerpiece in the honky-tonk Texas bar, Mickey Gilley's Tavern, *Urban Cowboy: The Musical* will ring down its final curtain after the matinee on Sunday, May 18. Instead of closing after its first four performances, as the producers originally thought would be necessary, it will have played 60 performances and 26 previews.

The off-again on-again run was spurred by an opening that received very negative reviews (Clive Barnes' near-rave in the New York Post seemed to be "it" for the positives). That led to an initial decision to close after only two days... countermanded mere hours later by an announcement from the stage by writer/director Lonny Price that the producers had decided to keep it alive.

Oesterman, who had moved to Fort Myers some years ago and was very much involved on the local scene with children's acting classes and the National Youth Theatre Awards. He was polishing *Urban Cowboy* when he died suddenly in July of 2002.

Latham, in his program notes for the Coconut Grove premiere, probably summed up the feelings of those people who have been involved from the beginning... He compared Oesterman and himself to Moses and Aaron wandering "in the wilderness for years looking for our own version of the Promised Land: the Milk & Honey Playhouse of our dreams. Phil was my East Texas Moses; I was his West Texas Aaron (literally)." And, like the original brothers, they often didn't see eye to eye.

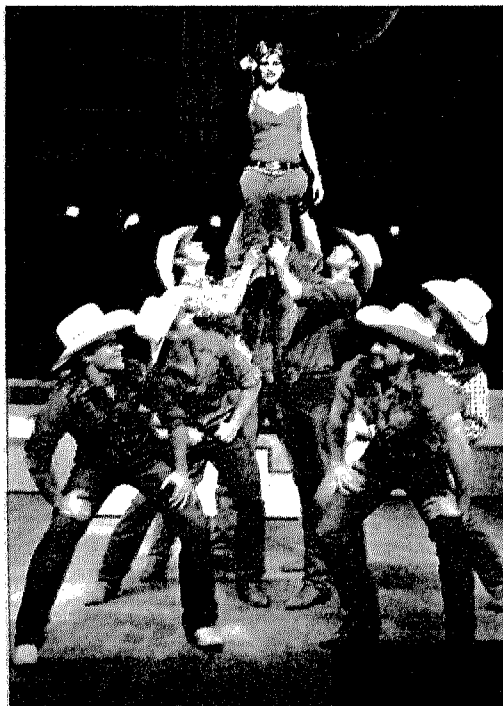
"Phil gave me a new world," he continued. "He gave my life a second act. When he was going in for his bypass surgery last fall [2001], I told him, 'Break a heart.' Well, he has. His death last July broke my heart and many, many others."

"And here is the last and most heart-breaking way that Phil was like Moses. After all those years of wandering in the wilderness, Moses was allowed to see but not to enter the Promised Land. He died at the border. Phil, too, was allowed to glimpse the Promised Land, but he died at the theater door. He wasn't allowed to enter either. That is so unfair it hurts. It's so sad, it should be a country song."

The show is galvanized by Roy's heel-kicking, bright and most effective choreography. Price stepped into Oesterman's shoes last October when rehearsals began and did incredible job. According to Marsha Wagner's review of the premiere, "he made the show move along smoothly and effortlessly... helped along, of course, by a book that has a great deal of gusto and a wealth of comic detail."

"Book writers Latham and Oesterman have taken the white-hat cowboy versus the black-hat outlaw legend of who gets the gal and handled it well, with humor and good-natured fun," Wagner continued. "There are some fine lines — a number of which are unprintable here — that nevertheless convey the sinewy bite of Texas speech."

The Tony Awards will be announced on CBS on June 8. In addition to the Tony



Tony nominee Melinda Roy (left) with Aaron Latham, *Urban Cowboy*'s author, and his wife Leslie Stahl.

Sanibel resident and Gulfshore Ballet Director Melinda Roy received a Tony nomination for the show's exuberant choreography! Because the show is based on the movie, the score was initially deemed ineligible for nomination, but the producers argued that many of the songs were written especially for the Broadway production. The American Theatre Wing Tony Award Administration Committee reversed itself on May 8, thus allowing a nomination for Best Original Score for the music and lyrics as well.

Six years in development, *Urban Cowboy* had its world premiere at the Coconut Grove Playhouse on Nov. 15, 2002. It was written by Aaron Latham (who also co-authored the hit movie) and Broadway Producer/Director Phillip

Price. The show drew two Drama Critics Outer Circle nominations — one for Best Musical and a second to the female lead, Jenn Colella, for Best Lead Actress in a Musical.

A national tour is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2004.

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Artists exhibiting at Library



Gordon Coughlin and Rita McLain are exhibiting their colorful landscape paintings at the Sanibel Library during the month of May.

Coughlin, a former attorney who studied art at Colgate, hails from Binghamton, N.Y. His bold, expressive oils depict his travels with his easel from the coast of Maine, to the coast of Spain, to rural Vermont and the Catskills as well as Sanibel. He is also a writer who presently divides his year between Binghamton and Sanibel.

His award-winning work hangs in many offices and homes, both here and overseas.

McLain, from Rockport, Mass., is a former art gallery director. A painter of color and light, her passion is interpreting the Florida scene in watercolor, and her paintings capture the lush tropical foliage, turquoise waters and bright skies of this area. She studied painting at Rollins College and at famous artist workshops in Rockport and throughout Florida and hang in many private collections in the United States and abroad.

Both artists are active plein air painters with the Sanibel-Captiva Art League

Arts for ACT hosts shows

Tonight, from 6 to 10 p.m., the Arts for ACT Gallery & Studio at 2265 First Street in downtown Fort Myers will present the closing show for Art for Life, a showcase of work by Darryl Pottorf and Robert Rauschenberg to benefit Lee Memorial's Trauman Center. Ninety-five percent of the proceeds from the sale of the artwork will benefit the trauma center; five percent will benefit Abuse Counseling & Treatment, Inc (ACT). Both artists have long been strong supporters of the non-profit agency established to provide shelter, 24-hour hotline, counseling and education to victims of domestic violence and their families and to the survivors of sexual assault in Lee, Hendry and Glades Counties.

The next Friday, May 23, from 7 to 11 p.m., the gallery will host the opening reception for Events, Opinions, Memories — a collection of drawings, paintings and sculptures by the artist Vyd.

Current affairs to childhood nostalgia — local artist Vyd looks at it all via a myriad of perspectives. His artwork utilizes a variety of materials including, among other things, comic books, baseball cards, native plants and famous trash.

Proceeds from the exhibit and reception will benefit ACT.

Sanibel Community Church Presents SPASENIE

The Sanibel Community Church will be hosting the world famous Russian Christian music group SPASENIE from Brest, Belarus on tomorrow evening May 17, at 6:30. Spasenie gave a fantastic concert last year to rave reviews. Don't miss their tremendous blend of music — Christian folk style, modern jazz and Old Russian songs to popular rock. Rose among Thorns and the SCC Praise Team will provide back-up.

Spasenie was one of the first Christian contemporary bands formed in the former Soviet Union country of Belarus back in 1989. Since then they have held concerts in Ukraine, Siberia, Africa, Germany, England and the US as well as on a steamship on the Lena River in Russia, at Yakutsk State University and in many prisons. They have produced six record albums which can be heard on their web site www.spasenie.com. All the money they earn on their many tours goes to support the building of the new Spasenie Church in Brest, Belarus.

There are eight men coming. Among them are Pastor Alex from the Spasenie Church, along with church members Pasha Shelpuk — violinist, bassist, recording studio director; and Igor Mukha — vocalist, guitar player, dentist and songwriter. The congregation in just seven years has grown from a small, new-believers Bible study to a church of over 300 people, mainly from conversion of people from non-believer backgrounds. The church combines music ministry with high intensity personal and small group studies for growth. Recently, the government passed a law banning all small group meetings and the KGB is focusing its efforts on stopping this church.

Bring your family, friends, and neighbors. A love offering will be taken to support the Brest church.

Sanibel Community Church is at 1740 Periwinkle Way, next to Jerry's.

Beach art association events

The galleries of the Fort Myers Beach Art Association are open each Wednesday and Thursday morning, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., throughout the summer season for artists to gather and paint. On exhibit is the All Member Summer Show, where one can browse and buy a favorite original painting.

The gallery is at the corner of Donora & Shell Mound, just behind the fire station on the Beach. For further information, one can call 463-3909 either day or check out the Web Page at www.fortmyersbeachart.com.

Next Wednesday, May 21, the Fort Myers Beach Outdoor Painters will spend the morning sketching and painting at the Edison Home on McGregor from 8:30 a.m. until noon.

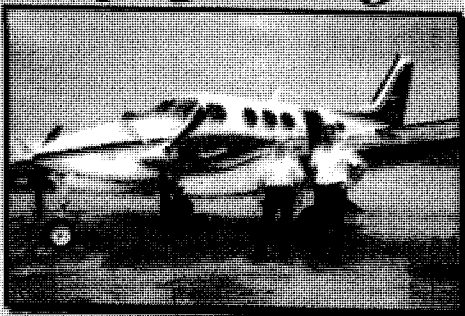
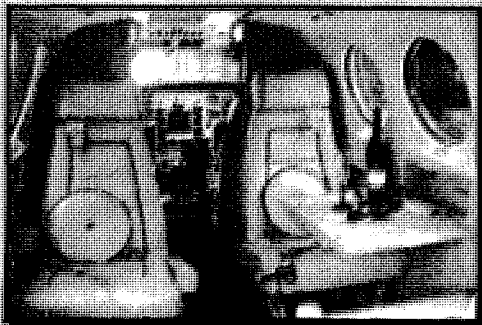
This group of friendly artists meets every Wednesday morning somewhere in Lee County to sketch and paint the beautiful Southwest Florida outdoors. The Edison Home provides historical architecture as well as exotic plants and trees. At noon the group breaks for a critique of the morning's work over brown-bag lunches. Visiting artists are invited to join in these informal sessions.

The next Wednesday session will meet at the residence of Sue & Nelson Pink, 23 Fairview on Fort Myers Beach. For additional information, call Lisa Grinter at 463-2980.

POTPOURRI, SEE PAGE 20

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DATELINE HOLLYWOOD

"Ladies And Gentlemen... Mister Frank Sinatra!" ~ Part 1 of 2 ~

Sundays are very special in our household. We awaken when rested instead of 6 a.m. We have a cup of coffee while casually — rather than hurriedly — reading the Sunday newspaper. We outline the events of the day, which usually means taking care of family objectives. Most always in the mid-afternoon, we listen to a program called *Sounds of Sinatra* on radio.

This past Sunday at 3:30 p.m. we were driving to Lowe's to get a do-dad necessary to a project when Sid Mark opened his Sinatra Show with a recording of one of Frank's concerts commemorating the inimitable entertainer's 60th year in Show Biz. Many of the biggest names in entertainment chimed in with a few bars on one of a variety of Sinatra's most memorable hit songs.

"When are you going to do the column on Sinatra?" Ginny asked at the precise moment I was thinking that maybe I should do my next column on Sinatra. We laughed, as we usually do, at having the same thought at the same moment. Later, I sat down to write.

As my thoughts took their own heading, I drifted back to another time. Sam Russo is a most special friend, a hair-stylist extraordinaire and Godfather to my daughter, Trina. Sam and I go back to the beginning of everything; yep, pretty much including adulthood. He has been married to Theresa for 29 years now, but he wasn't then.

Sam and I have worked together on and off for half of our careers in four different hair salons. The last one we owned together with Theresa. The first one was Sam's, succinctly named Russo — Distinctive Haircutting, located on Santa Monica Boulevard at LaCienega. Ralph Trejo, about 25 years our senior and one of the world's most wonderful human beings, was with us and, for a year or so, Sam's cousin, Bobby Russo, was also there. Phil Fayne joined us when Bobby opened his own salon. This was the place I went to when I first left Cosmo's.

I joined Sam because, philosophically, we were, and still are, twins. We made Russo's the first 100% hairstyling salon in the world; no barber-type cuts, no beautician-type work. (Over the years, similar statements have been made in print, on TV and radio, without challenge.) Geometric-style cuts with blower styling, color and hair straightening were our forte. The salon's clients were primarily male, many of them celebrities. I had a goodly number of female clients comprising maybe 20% of my following at that time.

One of Sam's clients was a noted interior decorator who was awarded the remodeling project for the Sands Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. Sam doesn't remember his name either, so with all due respect, I'll refer to him as Tony. He came in every two weeks,

always thrilling those who were present by telling behind-the-scenes tid-bits on his work.

Then came the big news. Frank Sinatra was to headline the Grand Reopening with Joe E. Lewis (entertainer, comic, former singer, subject of the movie, *The Joker is Wild*) as the lead act. Grand Reopening? The Sands never closed! At the time, it was a knee-slapper. Tickets? Forget money. \$500 bought nothing, nada, squat. The price to get in was JUICE. Who d'ya know, baby?

Sam and I asked Tony if he could get us four tickets. He said, "Only if you kill my mother-in-law." Not sure if he was kidding, I told him that I'd do it but the sight of blood made me puke. I don't ever remember anyone laughing at one of my jokes so much. Maybe he thought I was

serious, but I'll never know for sure.

Amazingly, Tony not only got us tickets, he got us comp'd! With adjoining suites, no less. Each suite had the huge basket of fruit with our favorite booze as the centerpiece. He arranged dinner at The House of Lords in The Sahara, the primo eatery then, with swank that rivals today's best. The prime rib they served us was — I know you think I'm exaggerating — overflowing the platter. And delicious!

Back at the Sands, every one of the 4,000 people who lined up for the show was a VIP. We had been told to go to the front of the line as we were "Friends of Sinatra." I remember seeing several major stars in the VIP line, many giving us snake-eyes. When we gave our names at the desk, the maitre'd escorted us personally, seating us two tables from the stage. In those days, everyone ordered four drinks, all served at once. By today's equivalent, I put the tab at \$50 per drink, sans tip. Sure was nice, not having to pay. Sam, always Mr. Class, slipped the maitre'd a hefty "thank you."

C'mon, take another virtual tour with me as you picture or imagine this set-up. The house lights dimmed. The stage curtain seemed to be aglow. The Sinatra Orchestra, from offstage, blared out the Academy Award-winning theme song, "All The Way," from *The Joker is Wild*. Just then a spotlight lit up stage left, and the one-and-only Joe E. Lewis appeared. A water tumbler filled with booze was in one hand as he was dragging a high barstool in the other. The audience rose and went totally nuts for maybe five minutes while he toasted everyone, over and over.

The guy couldn't lose. He got laughs with every comment. He pulled his signature shuck, raising his glass to the audience as he said, "Post Time!" And the audience, as one, would raise 4,000 glasses and shout back, "Post Time!" Everyone would take a drink and laugh like hell. Why? Beats me now. Then, it was really funny.

Halfway through his act and several

"Post Times" later, I don't know how anybody could be sober, most apparently not Joe E. He got a refill from someone in the audience, almost falling off the stage. Was it all an act? The question never occurred until now, so don't know.

Then as though unplanned, Sinatra walked out from stage left with a drink in one hand and dragging a companion barstool in the other. The house went nuts all over again. Joe E. met Frank half-way and they embraced, bringing the people to their feet. There wasn't a dry eye in the house and, even now, I'm stopping to dab. Go turn on your favorite Sinatra album. I just did.

The two of them, Forever Frank and Sentimental Slob Joe E., sat on their stools

and kibitzed to the utter joy of 4,000 eaves-dropping zealots. It was won'erful!

Suddenly Joe E. stood up, said, "I gotta go. These people wanna hear you sing," and gave Frank another big hug and waved "g'by" to a standing, roaring and very appreciative bunch of diehard devotees. The Sinatra Orchestra lit up the room with its mellow-brassy sound as the curtain rose and the orchestra was floated from backstage to front and center. For the next 2 1/2 hours, would you believe, Sinatra thrilled and mesmerized the gang of us with seemingly every song for which he is noted and loved. I'm sure it's an unnecessary use of ink to say that this was the numero-uno concert of my life.

...Oh, m'gosh, look at the time, it's MONDAY! Didn't mean to make this a two-parter, but gotta go. And I never even got to the best part! Next week, promise!



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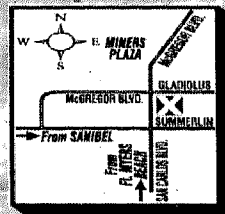
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Art exhibits — Out and about

Up the West Coast

- *Tutankhamun—Wonderful Things from the Pharaoh's Tomb*. Through August 15. Southwest Florida Museum of History, 2300 Peck Street, Fort Myers. 332-5955.
- *Eye Contact*. Through May 23. *Corealism: Modern Art & Architectural Design*; *Song of Life: The Gow Collection of Ancient Chinese Art*; *Gilbert Lesser Theatre Posters*; *Flor Garduño, Inner Light: Still Life & Nudes*; and *Masters of Miniature*. Through July 31. Naples Museum of Art, 5833 Pelican Bay Boulevard (800) 597-1900.
- *Sacred Treasures: Early Italian Paintings from the Southern Collection*. May 31-August 10. Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota (941) 359-5700.
- *Barbara Sorenson: Monumental Ceramics*. Through June 29. Gulf Coast Museum of Art, Largo (727) 518-6833.

St. Petersburg/Tampa

- *The Photographs of D.W. Mellor*. Through June 8. *The Power and Passion of Dance: The Carol Halsted Dance Photography Collection*. Through June 15. Museum of Fine Arts (727) 896-2667.
- *Florida Craftsmen's 50th Anniversary Exhibition*. May 23-August 11. Santa Fe Gallery, Santa Fe Community College (727) 821-7391.
- *Modern Art in Florida*. Through July 6. Tampa Museum of Art (813) 274-8130.
- *Sumptuous Silver*. Through Oct. 31.

Henry B. Plant Museum, Tampa (813) 254-1891.

Central Florida

- *Ancestors of the Incas: The Majesty of Ancient Peru*. Through July 20. *Decade of Growth: Selections from the Permanent Collection*. May 31-August 17. Orlando Museum of Art (407) 896-4231.
- *1776*. June 4-July 11. Mark Two Dinner Theater, Orlando (407) 843-6275.
- *Three Women of Taste & Style: Their Hats from the 1870s through the 1940s*. Through Sept. 28. *The Illuminated Vision—Lamps of Tiffany Studios*. Through Jan. 4, 2004. Morse Museum of American Art, Winter Park (407) 645-5311.

Miami & Up the Gold Coast

- *Shirin Neshat*. Through June 3. Roberto Behar & Rosario Marquardt. Through June 22. *Selections from the Permanent Collection*. Through Nov. 16. Miami Art Museum (305) 375-3000.
- *Florida Remembers World War II*. Through June 1. Historical Museum of Southern Florida, Miami (305) 375-1492.
- *Close Up in Black: African American Film Posters*. Through July 17. The Wolfsonian, Miami Beach (305) 531-1001.
- *Manhattan Stories: Enduring Legacy*. Through May 27. Lowe Art Museum, Coral Gables (305) 284-3503.
- *Tumultuous Fifties: Photography from the New York Times*. Through July 13. Fort Lauderdale Museum of Art (954)

POTPOURRI, SEE NEXT PAGE

Broadway's badiest coming to Naples



Jodi Lynne Sylvester as Miss Mona and Michael McCabe as Sheriff Ed Earl Dodd in Naples Dinner Theatre's production of *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*

Naples Dinner Theatre Artistic Director Michael Wainstein has announced the opening of the theatre's production of *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* the end of this month. Starring Jodi Lynne Sylvester, Michael McCabe and Aaron Fuksa, this raucous, bawdy hoedown of a country musical begins entertaining audiences on May 29th for six weeks.

While the topic might seem a bit risqué, the show is pure Broadway, with a rapturously delicious country score by Carol Hall, and book by Larry L. King and Peter Masterson. In 1978 it was nominated for nine Tony Awards, ran for 1,584 performances and was made into a wildly popular film starring Dolly Parton and Burt Reynolds.

The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas tells the story of a little Texas brothel known as the Chicken Ranch — so named because, during the Depression, customers were allowed to pay with poultry! A local television rabble-rouser catches wind of the Chicken Ranch and decides that the amoral business must be stopped. The show captures the down home country atmosphere of good vs. not-so-good, filling every moment with laughs and sentiment.

The Naples Dinner Theatre cast of 26, directed by Wainstein, includes Jodi Lynne Sylvester as Miss Mona and newcomer Michael McCabe as Sheriff Ed Earl Dodd, Miss Mona's long time lover and protector. Direct from his New York engagement in the off-Broadway musical hit, *Kareoke*, Aaron Fuksa storms through

the role of Melvin P. Thorpe. In the role of Shy, Anna Bergman (NDT's matinee *Evita*) returns playing alongside long-time NDT veteran actress Tracey Petrillo in the role of Angel.

The Naples Dinner Theatre serves a full buffet prior to each show, consisting of an array of temptingly fresh salads, hot entrees (including vegetarian), vegetables and desserts, plus a choice of coffee, tea or ice tea. Full bar service includes wine and cocktails. Specialty coffees and frozen drinks are always available.

Best Little Whorehouse begins performances on May 29th with two low-priced (\$35) preview performances. Opening night is May 31st. Performances are Tuesdays through Sundays with dinner beginning at 6 p.m. and the show at 8; matinees are on Wednesdays and Sundays at 1:30 with lunch beginning at 11:30 (brunch menu served on Sunday). Tickets cost \$37.50 for Wednesday and Sunday matinees, and \$42.50 at all evening performances. Full-price tickets include meal, tax and show but do not include gratuity. There are special rates for groups of 20 or more. Tickets can be ordered by calling the box office at (239) 514-STAR (7827). Box office is open daily from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. All sales are final; no refunds or exchanges.

The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas is for mature audiences — some audience members might find the subject matter or language offensive.

Annie is the next NDT production, opening July 10th.

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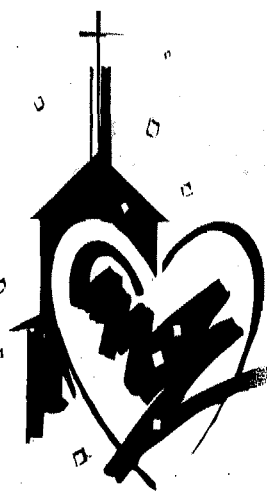
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- **Reality & Figuration: The Contemporary Latin American Presence; and Passages: The Paintings of Arturo Rodriguez.** Through Nov. 3. Boca Raton Museum of Art (561) 392-2500.
- **Inspirations 2003.** Through June 14. *The Art of Hatred: Images of Intolerance in Florida Culture and Fine Focus 2.* June 26-Sept. 13. Cornell Museum of Art & History, Delray Beach (561) 243-7922.
- **Japanese Kites.** June 10-Sept. 21. *The Morikami Portraits: Photography by Akira Suwa.* Ongoing. Morikami Museum & Japanese Gardens (561) 495-0233.
- **My Reality: Contemporary Art & the Culture of Japanese Animation.** Through June 15. *The Human Comedy: Portraits by Red Grooms.* May 24-August 24. Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach (561) 832-5196.

North Florida

- **Jack Nicholson.** Through August 30; **Janet Fish.** Through Sept. 28. *The Land Through a Lens: Highlights from the Smithsonian American Art Museum.* May 20-August 10. Harn Museum of Art, Gainesville (352) 392-9826.
- **Seeing the Unseen.** May 30-August 31. Mary Brogan Museum of Art & Science, Tallahassee (850) 513-0700.
- **The Art of Hatred.** Through June 1. Museum of Florida History, Tallahassee (850) 488-1484.

Out of state

- **All the Queen's Horses: The Role of the Horse in British History.** Assembled from 67 public & private collections including that of the Royal Family. Through August 24. Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington, Kent.
- **Entertaining America: Jews, Movies & Broadcasting.** Through Sept. 14. Jewish Museum, New York City. www.thejewishmuseum.org
- **The Floating World Revealed—Ukiyo-e paintings & prints (1615-1868).** Through May 26. *Whistler in Venice: The Pastels.* Through June 15. *Chinese Buddhist Sculpture in a New Light.* Through July 13. *Religious Art of*

Japan. Through Dec. 12, 2004. Freer Gallery, Washington, DC.

- **Ethiopian Icons: Faith & Science.** Through Oct. 5. *Journeys & Destinations: Contemporary African Artists on the Move.* Through Nov. 30. *The Ancient Nubian City of Kerman, 2500-1500 BC.* Indefinite. National Museum of African Art, Washington, D.C.
- **Fountains of Light: The Nuha Es-Said Collection.** Indefinite. Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Washington, D.C.
- **After Totems: Love, Distress & Moss,** a site-specific installation by Yvonne Pickering Carter. Through Oct. 1. *Captive Passage: The Transatlantic Slave Trade and the making of the Americas.* Through Oct. 31. Anacostia Museum, Washington, D.C.
- **September 11, 2001: Bearing Witness to History.** Through July 6. *An Odyssey in Print: Adventures in the Smithsonian Libraries; and West Point in the Making of America, 1802-1918.* Through Jan. 4, 2004. *Bon Appétit: Julia Child's Kitchen.* Through Feb. 15. *Within These Walls and The American Presidency: A Glorious Burden.* Permanent. *Preserving the Star-Spangled Banner; and Amati and Stradivarius Instruments Collection.* Indefinite. National Museum of American History, Washington, DC. www.americanhistory.si.edu/1942.
- **A Passion for Plants: Botanical Art from the Shirley Sherwood Collection.** Through Nov. 1. National Museum of Natural History, Washington D.C.
- **The 1847 Issue: America's First Stamp.** Through June 9. *Artistic License: The Duck Stamp Story.* Permanent. National Postal Museum, Washington, D.C.
- **Light Screens: The Leaded Glass of Frank Lloyd Wright.** Through July 20. *Grand Salon—George Catlin's Indian Gallery, Catlin in Europe (Part 2).* Through Dec. 31. *30th Anniversary Exhibition.* Permanent. Renwick Gallery, Washington, D.C.

**Sites for sore eyes...**

So, you're out and about this summer — visiting grandkids, children, friends, or just seeing some of this great country. Here are just a few glimpses of our history you might find interesting...

Day trips/long weekends

From the Ancient Ones of many thousands of years ago to today's Miccosukee and Seminoles, Florida's Native Americans are a most important part of the state's culture. Many tribal remains are being preserved and interpreted on the **Trail of the Lost Tribes** (941/953-3108; 941/794-8773), a network of publicly accessible archaeological sites, museums and archaeologists. Here are a few of them...

- **May-Stringer Heritage Museum.** Brooksville, a 12-room, four-story Victorian mansion housing more than 10,000 artifacts. (352) 799-0129 or www.hernandoheritagemuseum.com
- **Weedon Island Preserve** in St. Pete was continuously occupied from 10,000 BC to 1200 AD. (727) 217-7208 or www.pinellascounty.org/envi-ron
- **Historic Spanish Point** in Osprey near Sarasota features A Window to the Past inside one of the middens, historic buildings, nature trails and ceremonial mounds. (941) 966-5214 or www.historicspanishpoint.org.
- **Randell Research Center** in Pineland (283-9600) and **Museum of the**

Islands (283-1525), just off Stringfellow Road, on Sesame Drive — both on Pine Island — examine the history of the Calusa's power.

- **Useppa Island Museum** with forensic restorations of the Useppa Man and Woman of 1,400 years ago. 283-9600 or www.useppaisland.com

- **The Mound House,** Fort Myers Beach. A work in progress, Estero Island's oldest house will eventually have exhibits detailing the history of the site from the Calusas through its early-1900s inhabitants. 765-0865 or MoundHouse@fmbeach.org.



- **The 1872 Thursby home,** built at the height of the steamboat period — Blue Spring State Park in Volusia County. (386) 775-3663 or www.floridastateparks.org
- **Spring Garden Plantation,** built in the early 1800s, with an 1831 sugar mill. DeLeon Springs State Park, also Volusia County. (386) 985-4212 or www.floridastateparks.org
- Well over two centuries old, **Kingsley Plantation** on Fort George Island near Jacksonville is a National Park Service historical site. (904) 251-3537 or www.nps.gov/timu
- **Bulow Plantation Ruins,** 9 miles south of Bunnell, Fla. and **Castillo de San**

POTPOURRI, SEE NEXT PAGE**Changing the Taste of Captiva**

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POTPOURRI, FROM PAGE 21

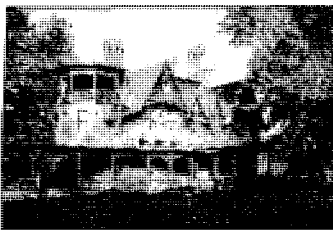
Marcos in St. Augustine are two of the state's finest examples of coquina construction. The **Spanish Coquina Quarries**, were established c. 1565 along the Matanzas River on Anastasia Island, and are now part of the Anastasia State Recreation Area.

- **Palm Cottage**, built in 1895, is a pristine example of the use of tabby, a mortar made with seashells, Naples. (941) 261-8164.



And farther afield...

- **Filoli**, Woodside, Calif. Georgian Revival mansion with 16-acre garden. (650) 364-8300
- **Cooper-Molera Adobe**, Monterey, Calif. Adobe-style, three-acre farm with living history demonstrations. (831) 647-6206.
- **N.C. Wyeth House & Studio** and the *Brandywine River Museum*, Chadds Fort, Pa. (610) 388-2700 or www.brandywinemuseum.org.
- **The Gamble House**, Charles and Henry Greene's masterpiece of the American Arts & Crafts movement. 4 Westmoreland Place, Pasadena, Cal. (626) 793-3334.



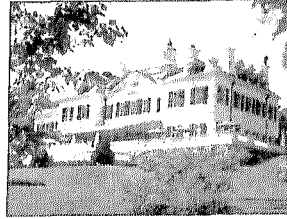
MARK TWAIN HOUSE

• The **Harriet Beecher Stowe House**, 77 Forest Street, Hartford, Conn. (860) 522-9258. While in Hartford, take in the **Mark Twain House**, replete with Louis Comfort Tiffany interiors, and his studio/cottage as well.

- **Historic Roscoe Village** in Coshocton, Ohio. Coshocton Canal Festival: Mid-August. (800) 877-1830.
- **Fairsted**, Frederick Law Olmsted's home, studio and gardens in Brookline, Mass.

- **Kykuit**, Tarrytown, NY. c.1913 home on the Rockefeller estate above the Hudson. Reservations required. (914) 631-9491 or www.hudsonvalley.org.

- **The Mount**, home of Edith Wharton, first woman to win a Pulitzer. Lenox, Mass.



THE MOUNT

- **Lyndhurst**, Tarrytown, NY. Jay Gould's c.1838 and 1864-65 Gothic Revival style castle on 67 acres overlooking the Hudson. (914) 631-4481

- **Brucemore**, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Queen Anne-style mansion and formal gardens. (319) 362-7375

- **Frank Lloyd Wright Home & Studio**, Oak Park, Ill. Also in Oak Park. Ernest Hemingway's boyhood home. (708) 848-1976

- **Cliveden**, Germantown, Penn. 20th annual Battle of Germantown re-enactment, Oct. 6. www.cliveden.org.

- **Chesterwood**, Stockbridge, Mass. Home & studio of sculptor Chester French, creator of the Lincoln statue at the Lincoln Memorial. (413) 298-3579. The **Normal Rockwell Museum** is in Stockbridge also.

- **Woodlawn**, Alexandria, Va. c.1800 Federal-style home of George Washington's adopted granddaughter. (703) 780-4000

- **Pope-Leighey House**, Alexandria, Va. A Frank Lloyd Wright Usonian home. (703) 780-4000

- **Cliveden**, Germantown, Penn. Site of the Battle of Germantown during the Revolution. Thursday-Sunday. (215) 848-1777 or www.cliveden.org.

- **Touro Synagogue**, Newport RI. Oldest synagogue in the country; only one surviving from the colonial era designed by Peter Harricon. Closed Saturdays, Jewish holidays & Christmas. (401)847-4794 Ext. 23 or www.tourosynagogue.org. And don't forget Newport's famous "summer cottages" by the sea, including recently opened **Rough Point**, Doris Duke's home. Tickets (401) 845-9130.

- **The South Rim of the Grand Canyon**. While there do not miss exploring architect Mary Colter's (1869-1958) inspired **Hopi House**, **Desert View Watchtower**, **Bright Angel Lodge**, **Lookout Studio** and **Hermit's Rest**.

- **The Hermitage**. 1836 home of President Andrew Jackson exhibits the most complete collection of original furnishings and personal belongings of any early presidential home. 4580 Rachel's Lane, Hermitage, Tenn. (615) 889-2941.

- **Fallingwater**, Frank Lloyd Wright's masterpiece, in Pittsburgh. Reservations essential (724) 329-8501.

- **Nemours Mansion & Gardens**, the Louis XVI-style former home of Alfred I DuPont, in Wilmington, Del. (302) 651-6912.

- **Oatlands Plantation**, Leesburg, Va. 1804 mansion, restored gardens, historic greenhouse. (703) 777-3174.

- **Shadows-on-the-Teche**, New Iberia, La. Antebellum plantation house. (337) 369-6446

- **Drayton Hall**, Charleston, SC. Outstanding example of Georgian Palladian architecture. (843) 768-2600

- **Belle Grove**, Middletown, Va. c.1794 plantation house on Civil War battle site. (540) 869-2028.

- **Montpelier**, Montpelier Station, Va. Lifelong home of the fourth President, James Madison. (560) 672-2728.



And in the Nation's capital...

- **Woodrow Wilson House**, Washington, DC. Retirement home of President Woodrow Wilson. (202) 387-4062

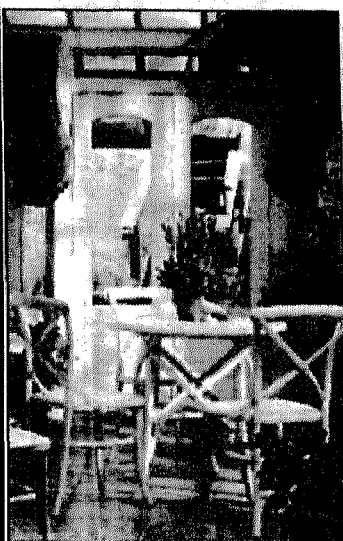
- **Decatur House**, Washington, DC Home of American naval hero Steven Decatur; across from the White House. (202) 842-0920

- And, last but not least, take a peek at the 106 humorous and serious gargoyles that guard the roofline of the **National Cathedral** at Massachusetts & Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC (202) 537-6200. tours@cathedral.org or www.cathedral.org/cathedral.

—AWB

(P.S. Don't forget possibilities for the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation's Snow Bird Auction when you visit these venues!)

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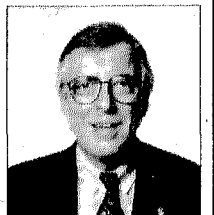
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 - *The Matrix Reloaded* (R)
 - *Bruce Almighty* opens May 23rd
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- *J.T. Smith & Friends — Three Talented Guys*
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- *The Big Bang*
May 30th-August 16th

BIG ARTS
900 Dunlop Road ~ 395-0900

- Kids Conspiracy**
- *Lucky Hightops and the Cosmic Cat Patrol Episode One: Captives of the Dog Star*
May 24th, 11 a.m., \$5



Jenn Furman, as Susannah, takes a phone call in *Bedroom Farce* at the Naples Dinner Theatre

IN FORT MYERS

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre
1380 Colonial Boulevard ~ 278-4422

- *Buddy—The Buddy Holly Story*
Through May 31st, \$21-\$42

Florida Repertory Theatre Bay 332-4488
Street between Jackson & Hendry

- *Ain't Misbehavin'*
Through May 18th, \$15-\$32
 - *Brighton Beach Memoirs*
June 6th-29th
- Subscriptions for the three-play summer season range from \$52-\$64; Flex Pass, \$70

Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall
8099 College Parkway ~ 481-4849

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1025 Piper Boulevard ~ (239) 514-7827

- *Bedroom Farce*
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Philharmonic Center for the Arts
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- Naples Philharmonic Orchestra
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Showtimes
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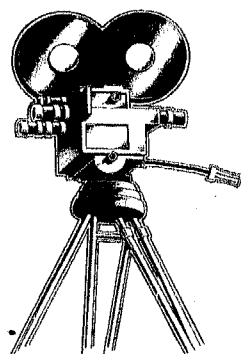
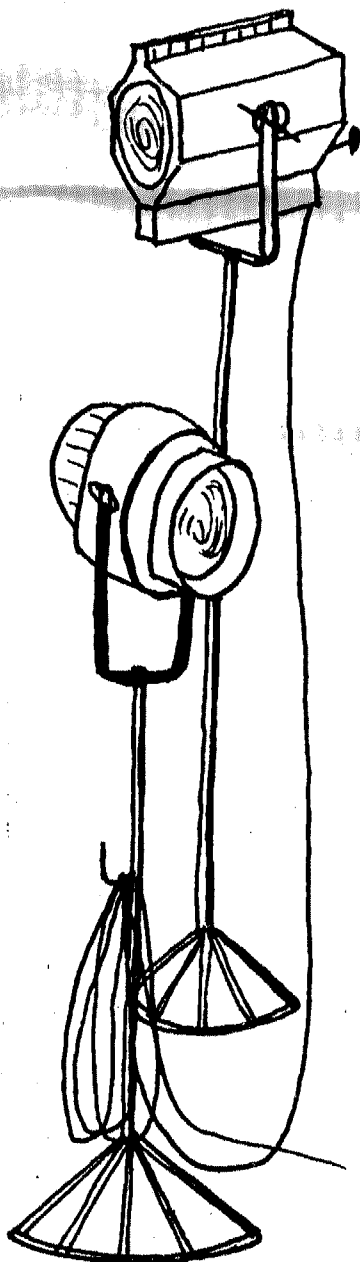
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Lions, from page 9

tion in a panel truck loaded with hand-crafted clothing and other articles for display. Once again, Eben was putting in long days, doing a job for which life had not prepared him. Soon (late 1942), Eben was on his way to serve his country... but not before marrying the lovely Catherine.

After basic training and additional training as a ski trooper, Eben found himself on his way to the Aleutian Islands where he spent seven uncomfortable months in the army of occupation. Later, his outfit would land in Naples, Italy where they would use their mountaineer training and 1,600 mules to take out some troublesome German artillery just north of Florence.

After the war, Eben returned to his first love, skiing. He tried to earn a living as a ski instructor at a lodge near Rutland, Vt. Unfortunately, the weather didn't cooperate. Just five days of skiing that winter were not enough to support him and his new wife. Ironically, the Grenfell Mission would come back into the picture again, placing him, yet again, in a new career for which he was ill-prepared.

The aptly named Dog Team Tavern in Middlebury, Vt., was built and donated to the Grenfell Mission by Louie Hall, the sister of Charles Martin Hall. Hall patented the electrolytic process for refining aluminum, leading to the establishment of the ALCOA and great wealth for the Halls. Hardly more than a tearoom, it served as a venue where handicrafts from Labrador could be displayed and sold. It was for sale and, after considerable thought, Eben and Catherine bought a piece of the future.

They thus entered the restaurant business that would occupy them for the next 34 years. To this new venture, Catherine brought her training as a dietitian. Eben, although he had no specific experience in restaurants, brought his dedication to hard work, his people skills, and his quiet determination when faced with adversity. All of these traits would serve him well in meeting the tragedy that would befall him in later life.

According to Eben, "Everything happened that could happen that first year." The property had been empty for over four years, so it needed a lot of fixing up. Equipment didn't work, the well ran dry, and customers hadn't found them yet.

But the Joys persevered and the business grew, through expansions, from the original 20 college student boarders to an established restaurant serving up to 150 to 200 meals per night, growing to 600-700 on holidays. Summer was the busiest time of the year for the Dog Team Tavern — the winter months spotty and less profitable. So, in 1959, the Joys started to spend part of their winters on Sanibel.

It was a different island in those early days. The Joys' son, Jon, attended the old schoolhouse. And, later, when Jon went to school in Fort Myers, and before the causeway was built, Eben would take his boat over to Punta Rassa and meet Jon's bus. Many times Jon, who had been on skis of some sort since the age of two, water skied back to the island behind his father's boat.

It was an idyllic life, and the Joys found themselves spending more time on Sanibel each year and less in Middlebury.



Eben Joy

Finally, in 1962, they bought a house and became Islanders, but they still worked the Dog Team in the summer. Catherine died in 1976 of acute leukemia.

Two very important things happened to Eben Joy in 1978. He married Eileen and he joined the Lions Club. "Eileen has been my joy," says Eben with a twinkle. And everyone who is acquainted with this exceptional couple knows this to be true.

After the blindness struck, Eileen became her husband's guiding light. Together they took classes at Visually Impaired Persons in Fort Myers...he to learn how to cope with his blindness, she to learn how to care for and nurture a blind partner. Eben started a Sanibel chapter of Visually Impaired Persons. Of the 16-or-so members, the majority were suffering from macular degeneration. They also were instrumental in having a machine placed in the Sanibel Library that allows the visually impaired to read from normal text.

It's ironic that Eben teamed up with the Lions club just three years or so before he lost his sight. The Lion's mission, the concept for which they raise thousands of dollars each year, is to assist the visually and hearing impaired. They collect thousands of pairs of donated eyeglasses and see that they are given to those who need them. Among their many contributions, the San-Cap Lions Club gives thousands of dollars each year to Visually Impaired Persons, the same organization that was so helpful to the Joys. We pay for eye operations for the needy, for enlargement machines for printed text, and for hearing aids.

Armed with the lessons of a lifetime, Eben has refused to give up, even after losing his precious sight. He and Eileen have learned to come to terms with his handicap. In fact, they are looking forward to many more years of happiness together...Eben just turned 91 last month.

Sanibel-Captiva Lions meet for dinner at the Community House on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. Doors open at 6... meeting starts at 7. Guests are more than welcome. For further information, please call Hal Theiss at 395-1737.



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LOOKING AT BOOKS

Sometimes you read a book at just the right time — right after you've visited the city the book is about or just when you've had the same experience or have been thinking about the same thing. Last Christmas, I traveled to Italy with my husband and visited Venice. These two books captured the timelessness, beauty and decay of Venice and the craziness of taking one's marriage on the road. They are completely different and completely enjoyable.

The Marriage of the Sea by Jane Alison, published by Farrar, Straus & Giroux, is one of those novels that the reader knows is literature from the very first page. Like a poem, every line is dense with meaning; yet the language is simple and clear. It is a novel where the two settings, New Orleans and Venice, are extraordinarily important — to the point that the story could not exist without the uniqueness of those two cities. But it is also a story built around characters. There are so many and they are so interconnected that it is important to read the first part of the book very carefully to understand how each person is involved with the other. And then there are the images and symbols that reverberate throughout the story — images of water, of decay and age, of art — that lap against the characters. And there isn't one plot. Each set of characters has a story to tell, but the characters form many interlinked sets so that it is almost impossible to say whose story is the main plot and whose is a subplot. Yet, all the stories come to an end... although the reader gets a sense that the characters will continue to live beyond the end of this story.

So what is the book about? It's about couples who are in a state of movement from the past to the present to the future. There is Max who has left his wife in London and is moving to New Orleans to be with Lucinde who he has just met. She is friends with Vera and Lach, both artists, who have found work in Venice, but who have split up after five years just before they are to leave. Lach is anxious to be with Francesca whom he has met in Venice. Anton, an architect in New Orleans, is also preparing to teach for two months in Venice, leaving his wife Josephine for the first time in three years. While he is in Venice, he meets Oswald, an old rich man who decides he wants a villa built and a portrait painted in an attempt to stop time; he hires Anton and Vera.

Meanwhile, Josephine goes through fertility treatments in New Orleans, watching new life ebb away every month and meeting Max. Trying to sort out the characters and their stories almost makes it sound like a soap opera but, instead, it is as if each of the characters is floating in a river and the currents push them together and apart, deflecting off the banks of the two cities.

Traveling While Married: How to take a trip with your spouse and come back together... by Mary-Lou Weisman, published by Algonquin Books, is one of those little books filled with funny sketches, both written and drawn, that make you realize that you and your spouse are not the only crazy couple in the world. Instead, we are all nuts. Those who have been married a long time will enjoy her descriptions of how we traveled when we were young, when nothing was uncomfortable because we had each other and how we looked disdainfully at all the old couples who needed beds and bathrooms to tolerate each other.

...Differences we learn to avoid or ignore when on home turf are deposited into small rooms in a country where no one else speaks our language and the light switch is never where it's supposed to be and every normal act, like eating dinner, becomes a test of endurance and temporal and spatial ability and a language and etiquette challenge... Yet we are expected to have fun and

to like each other and to pay a lot of money to do it. And, there is no one to blame for your discomfort without causing an international incident, except the only person you know who happens to be your spouse and who is the one who thought it would be a good idea to go on this trip.

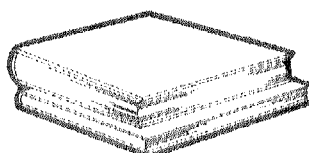
Her chapters on packing, renting a villa, going to an Elderhostel, and the usefulness of traveling with another couple so you have someone else to complain to or about

are especially good. Unless you suffer from permanent post-trip amnesia or have never had a rotten time when you are supposed to be enjoying the trip of a lifetime, you will love this book.

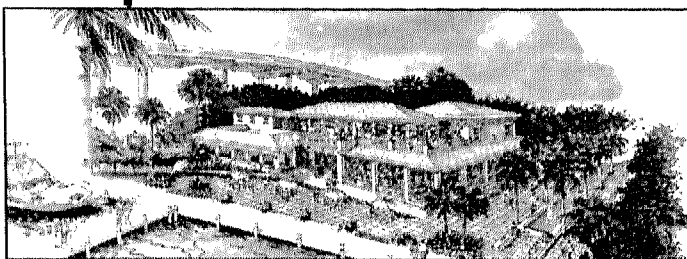
These two books are both memorable and both, in part, about the effect of traveling on relationships, but couldn't be more different. Enjoy!



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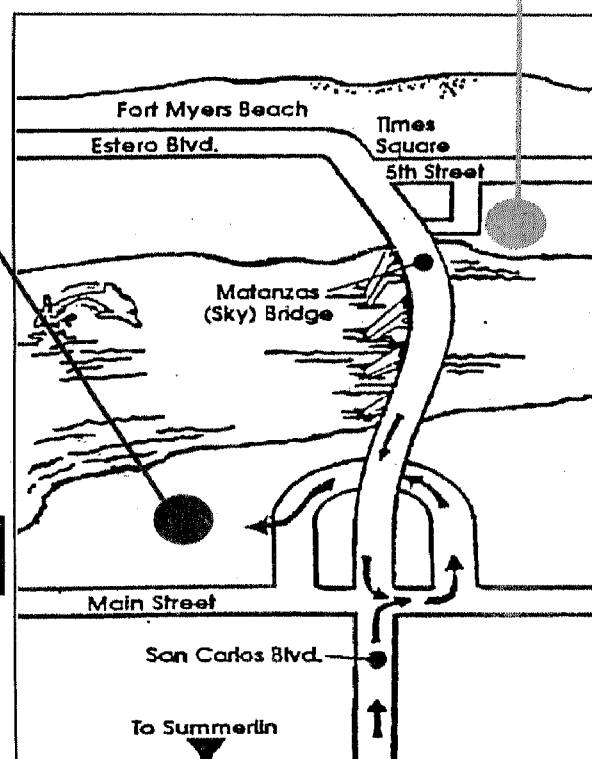
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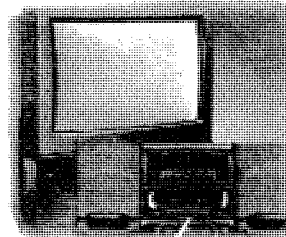
Under the Skybridge (Mainland Side) at Gulf Star Marina, Fort Myers Beach
Ample Free Parking for Cars • Boats Always Welcome at our Docks!

Call **765-0050** for more information
Priority Seatings for parties of 4 or more



Sanibel Captiva **islander**

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GOOD

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Reach readers of The Sanibel Captiva Islander, which is mailed each Friday to every address on Sanibel and Captiva.

\$5⁰⁰
and up
per week

28 WORDS - 1 ITEM \$51-\$100

BETTER

TARGET SELLER PACKAGE

Your 28 word classified ad can run in The Islander, the Lee County Shopper, & your choice of any 8 papers listed in the publication list to the right.

*Business Ads start at \$58.00

\$41⁵⁰*

REACHES
OVER 150,000 HOUSEHOLDS!

BEST

SUPER SELLER PACKAGE

Your ad will appear in ALL of the Breeze Newspapers in Lee & Charlotte Counties, with circulation in Pine Island, Cape Coral, Ft. Myers, N. Ft. Myers, Lehigh, Sanibel, Captiva, Ft. Myers Beach, Boca Grande, Port Charlotte & Punta Gorda.

\$50⁰⁰*

REACHES
OVER 250,000 HOUSEHOLDS!
* Business Ads start at \$80.00

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Get the advantage and reach your target customer fast with the addition of an eye catching photo! Only \$13 additional charge per week!

\$13⁰⁰
PER WEEK

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REACH YOUR TARGET CUSTOMER IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATIONS:



Sanibel Captiva Islander
Delivered on Friday to every home and business on Sanibel & Captiva



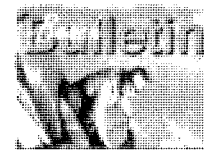
Island Reporter
Sanibel's official city newspaper with a paid distribution of 4,500+



Captiva Current
Delivered to consumers in the Captiva area every Friday



Sanibel Captiva Shopper's Guide
Reaching over 7,500 every Thursday



Beach Bulletin
The area's visitor and entertainment newspaper delivered every Friday



Fort Myers Beach Observer
A circulation of over 14,000 in the San Carlos Island and Estero Island area every Wednesday



Cape Coral Daily Breeze
Reaching homes in the Cape Coral Community daily



The Saturday Breeze
is delivered to 38,000 homes in Cape Coral every Saturday morning



The Lee County Shopper
Home delivered every Wednesday with a circulation of 105,000



The Pine Island Eagle
Pine Island's only community publication with a distribution of over 7,000



North Fort Myers Neighbor
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The Lehigh Acres Citizen
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Gasparilla Gazette
Reaching over 4,000 homes in Boca Grande and Gasparilla Island



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Monday - Friday 8:30am-5:00pm

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*State *Federal *Felony
*Misdemeanors *DUI *License Suspension *Traffic Tickets *Parole *Probation *Search/Seizure *Appeals *Domestic Violence *Drugs. A-A-A Attorney Referral Services (800) 733-5342 24 Hours

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*State *Federal *Felony
*Misdemeanors *DUI *License Suspension *Traffic Tickets *Parole *Probation *Search/Seizure *Appeals *Domestic Violence *Drugs. A-A-A Attorney Referral Services (800) 733-LEGAL (532) 24 Hours

PERSONAL SERVICE

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*Misdemeanors *DUI *License Suspension *Traffic Tickets *Parole *Probation *Search/Seizure *Appeals *Domestic Violence *Drugs. A-A-A Attorney Referral Services (800) 733-5342 24 Hours

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WEDNESDAYS, AND
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INDEPENDENT CARRIER
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**SENIOR
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\$12.11 per hour

Incumbent will instruct and
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conducting recreational
activities and events at the
City pool. HSD or equivalent
and possession of a valid
Red Cross Lifeguard, CPR
and First Aid Certifications
and two (2) year's experience
required.

POSITION REFERENCE: SLG
CLOSING DATE: 05/30/03

MAIL OR FAX COMPLETED
CITY OF SANIBEL
EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION
TO:

CITY OF SANIBEL
Manager of
Administrative Services
ATTN: POSITION REFERENCE
800 DUNLOP ROAD
SANIBEL FL 33957

FAX: (239) 472-3065

An application for employment
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The Breeze Newspapers
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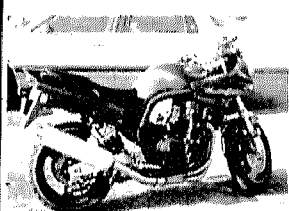
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26 New Hampshire city
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28 Leaf part
30 Married Mle.
31 Tarbell or Lupino
33 Theft
36 Spring mo.
37 "Duelo at Diablo" star?
43 Punjabi prince
46 Ornamental vine
47 It may be bitter

48 Blue hue
50 The very bottom
52 Tijuana title
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57 Fawn's father
59 Pride of lions?
61 Be a pest
63 Actress Helgenberger
65 Alaric, for one
67 Easily read
71 Kedrova of "Torn Curtain"
73 Unwell
74 Gulf ruler
75 Part of EEC
76 "The Tin Stella" star?
79 Wrath
80 Fateful 15th
82 Demolished a Danish
83 Rain hard?
84 Incorporated, as territory
87 Smith or Jones, e.g.
89 Junket
91 Petite pooch
92 Forster's " — With a View"
93 Evaluate
96 Level
98 Account entry

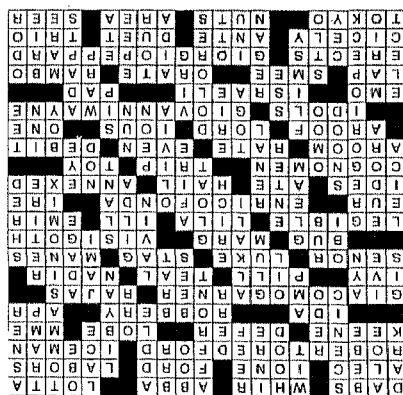
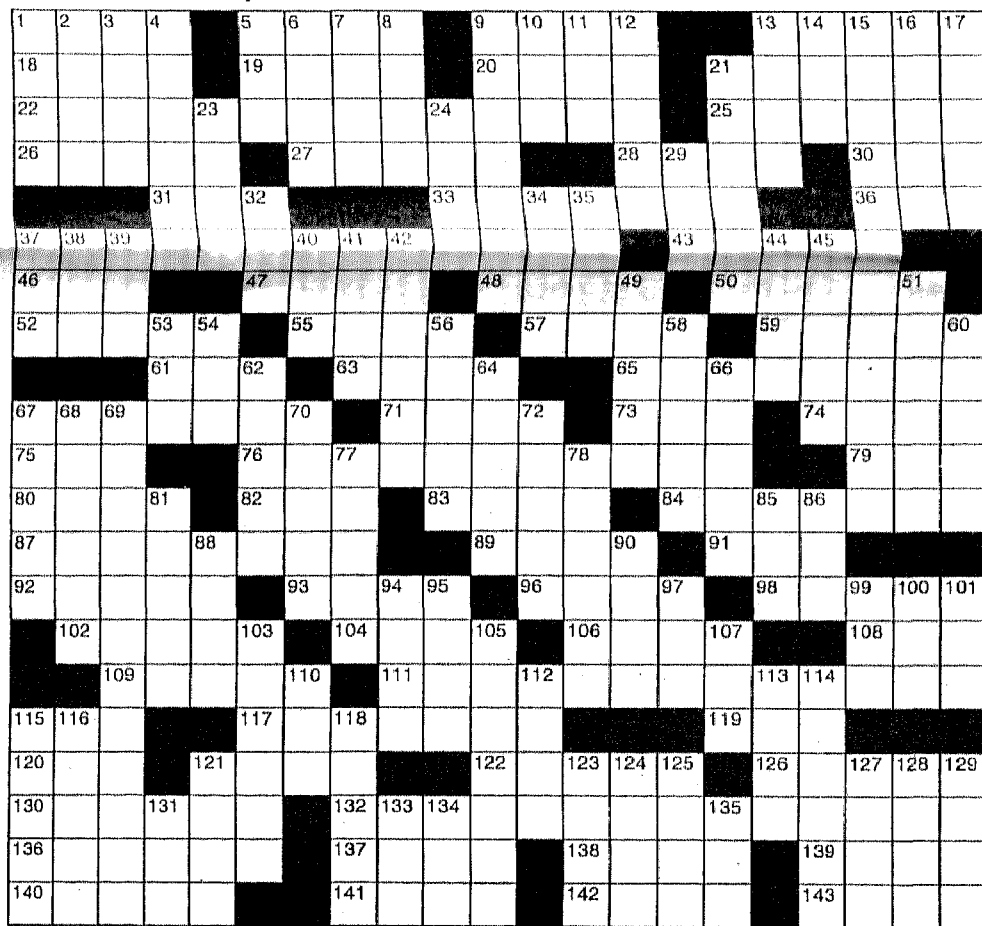
102 Have — over one's head
104 "My Sweet —" ('70 smash)
106 Debtors' letters
108 Indefinite pronoun
109 Baal and Elvis
111 "Rosso River" star?
115 Funnyman Philips
117 Hailing from Haifa
119 Paw part
120 Once around the track
121 "Peter Pan" pirate
122 Pound the podium
126 Stallone role
130 Puts up
132 "How the Ovest Was Won" star?
136 Actress Tyson
137 Poker stake
138 Peter and Gordon song, e.g.
139 Small combo
140 Asian capital
141 Tavern staples
142 District

DOWN

1 TV's " — Shadows"
2 Burn remedy
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5 Humor
6 Car part
7 Memo start
8 Scuba site
9 Insult
10 Derisive cry
11 "It's freezing!"
12 Confuse
13 Tablecloth fabric
14 UK honor
15 "Riders of the Purpleo Sage" star?
16 Vagabond
17 Ed of "Lou Grant"
21 Tripoli native
23 Change the decor
24 Earl — Bigger
29 Hockey's Bobby
32 Current unit
34 Honey bunch?
35 Wild child
37 "M*A*S*H" extras
38 " — been had!"
39 Writer Rand

40 Vinegar's partner
41 Dejected
42 Detergent ingredient
44 Actress Gertz
45 Saying
49 Linda of "Alice"
51 Join the leisure class?
53 Kimono closer
54 Massage
56 Fromm or Segal
58 Comic Radner
60 Start the slaw
62 Shimmer
64 Rub it in
66 Distort
67 Camera company
68 Writer Welty
69 "The Grande Country" star?
70 Go in
72 Blazing
77 Kidney-related
78 De Havilland or Hussey
81 Hair net
85 Start to snooze
86 Spud bud
88 Melville novel

90 Menial laborer
94 Tiberius' threads?
95 A Great Lake
97 Sister
99 Lad
100 Bed and breakfast
101 Pigskin prop
103 Poorly made
105 Costello or Del Rio
107 Use a straw
110 Compass pt.
112 Neighbor of Tenn.
113 Well's opposite
114 Modifies
115 Vote in
116 Lanza or Lemieux
118 "King Lear" role
121 WWII site
123 Verdi opera
124 — de force
125 Fencing weapon
127 Full-grown filly
128 Soft cheese
129 Scent
131 Dodger Ron
133 Shiba — (Japanese dog)
134 Giant legend
135 Greek vowel





Mel Meo featured at Seaweed

The Seaweed Gallery on Sanibel has just received some of local artist Mel Meo's whimsically painted furniture.

Pictured is a mermaid vanity, with hand-painted top and hand-painted fabric skirt. Also in the gallery are a banana-themed table-and-chair set as well as cushion-topped stools. Meo hand-painted the fabric cushions and also has hand-painted napkins; aprons and other linens have already sold out. The Seaweed Gallery is in the Forever Green Shops at 2055 Periwinkle Way; the phone is 472-2585.



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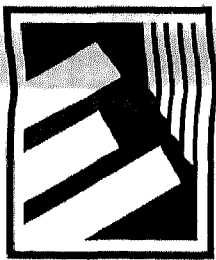
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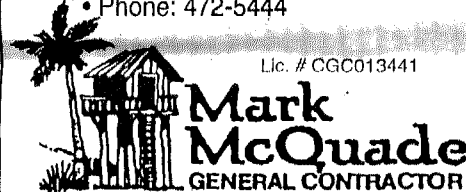


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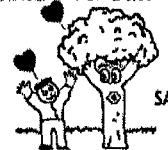
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fish Works! at BIG Arts

By Amy Fleming
Staff writer

You can search the entire Gulf of Mexico and all of Pine Island Sound, but you won't find any schools of fish to compare with those swimming through the Phillips Gallery at BIG Arts.

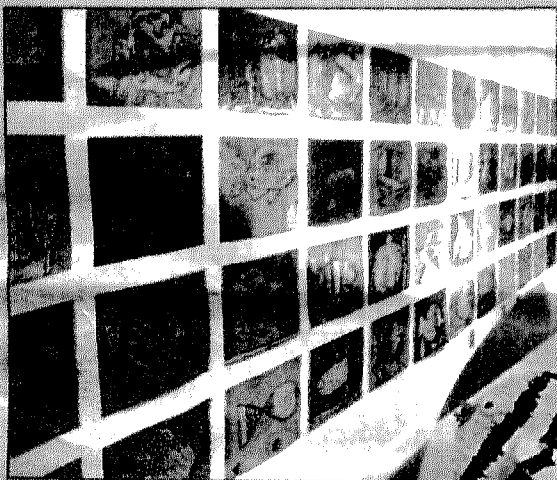
The young artists at the Sanibel School have been hard at it, trying their hands at a variety of challenging media to come up some 350 fish-inspired works of art.

Art teacher Suzanne Skinner tailored each project to the abilities of the children's age groups. The youngest of the students began with crayon resist, wet-on-wet watercolors, while the older children experimented with textural effects, paper mosaics, a paper version of batik, and small clay sculptures. Along the way, students learned some lessons about what it means to be a real artist, such as how to make adjustments in your origi-

nal idea to suit the medium you are working in. The batik work proved to be a challenge, but by all accounts the students were able to meet it, and make the medium work for them. Prior to the show, some of the hanging fish had been damaged, and could not be used. Even in the bigger world of art, that sometimes happens. The young artists learned to be flexible, and re-created the damaged fish for the show.

Carol Rosenberg did her usual outstanding job of arranging and hanging the show, grouping the artwork according to the type of medium used and placing the lesson plans alongside them. Her husband joined in the process, bending wire into custom made stands for each of the clay fish.

There were two opening receptions scheduled for *fishWorks*, the second of which is tonight, May 16 at 5:30. The show runs through May 21, at BIG Arts. Hours are 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. daily.



Left: fish drawings using glue and chalk for textural effects.
Below: clay fish.



Amy Fleming photos
Left: fish made from grocery bags



Where:

Gulfside City Park
off Casa Ybel Rd. on Algiers Drive, Sanibel

When:

Sunday JUNE 1
Noon - 6 p.m.

Participating Restaurants:

TO DATE:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| - Dunes | - Gramma Dots |
| - Island House | - Johnny's Pizza |
| - Jacaranda | - Key Lime Bistro |
| - Latte Da | - Matzaluna |
| - RC Otters | - The Seafood Factory |
| - Timbers | - Sanibel Grill |
| - Thistle Lodge | - Sanibel Produce Co. |
| - American Legion Post 123 | - East End Deli |
- (more to be announced)

Live Music By:

- Mambo Brothers - The Trouble Starters
- Tanqueray Bay

Sponsors To Date:

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|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| - Lifeline Designs | - Islander Newspaper |
| - Bank Of The Islands | - Molnar Electric |
| - Barrier Island Title | - On The Marc Entertainment |
| - NBC 2 | - Coral Veterinary Clinic |

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NO Coolers, NO Alcoholic Beverages and NO Pets

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\$2,395,000



LUXURY NEAR BEACH HOME

Newly constructed 5BR/5BA home in Captiva's Village. Home offers two fireplaces, screened enclosed pool, rooftop sun deck, elevator, 9' ceilings, two-car garage and fully enclosed lower level. Offered fully furnished with a few personal and office exceptions. Home is ready to live in or rent!

\$1,995,000



ISLAND BEACH HOUSE

This slightly elevated beach home on Captiva Island is just steps to the beach. This home features 2BR/1.5BA with a large loft, spacious screened porch, wood deck, fireplace, Hurricane shutters, and furnished with a few personal exceptions.

\$1,224,000



CHATEAUX SUR MER

Beautiful Old Florida style ground level home with 3BR/2BA. Situated on the largest near beach lot in Chateaux Sur Mer and just steps to the Gulf of Mexico beaches. Great opportunity to expand home and add a pool. Wonderful private community that offers exceptional kayaking, wildlife and shelling.

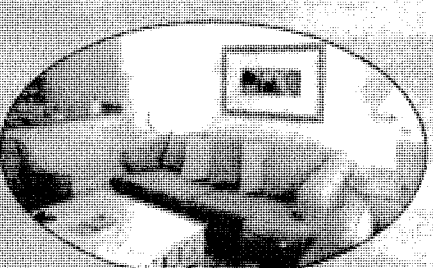
\$699,000



GULF OF MEXICO SUNSETS

Gorgeous 3BR/3BA plus loft on the Gulf, located in South Seas Resort. This beach home offers cathedral ceilings, dining room, breakfast bar, two living areas, large screen enclosed beach front deck, and all the amenities a premier resort offers.

\$2,495,000



TENNIS VILLAS-SOUTH SEAS

1BR/1BA unit, totally furnished, located in South Seas Resort. Close to the beach, short stroll to shops and restaurants. Includes all the amenities that a top resort offers. Great way to become a Captiva Island Property owner.

\$311,500



OSPREY BAY ESTATES

Lovely near beach home to be constructed in Osprey Bay Estates. Shared boat dockage and beach access in Captiva's estate zone. Quality construction with private elevator, fireplace, pool, French doors, metal roof and detailed millwork throughout.

\$2,200,000



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What a GREAT price for a beautiful, spacious and quality condo on Sanibel! 2BR/2BA with 10' ceilings, separate laundry room, open kitchen, screened porch and garage. Decorator furnished. Ground-level corner unit. Golf membership available.

\$369,000



SEA HIBISCUS COURT/CAPTIVA

Wonderful 3BR/3BA home in Sunset Captiva. Home offers cathedral ceilings, screened porch, pool, 2-car garage and furnished. Community amenities include pool, dock, tennis and private beach access.

\$899,000



DINKIN'S BAYOU/GULF ACCESS

Great Dinkin's Bayou home on a private, drive in a wonderful neighborhood 3BR/2BA with cathedral ceilings in main living area, living/dining combo, breakfast bar, laundry room, screened lanai extends the entire length of home, dock w/6,000lb. boat lift and Gulf Access.

\$996,000



NEAR BEACH BUILDING SITE/CAPTIVA

Bay views are possible from this rare building lot on Captiva Island. Wonderful location and just a short stroll to beaches, marine shops and island restaurants. This lot should accommodate a nice sized house with pool.

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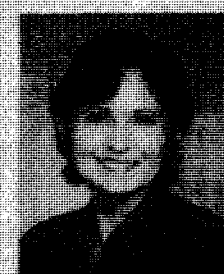
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