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Vol. 42, No. 22

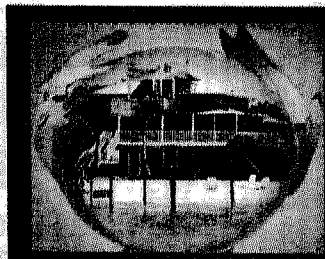
Week of July 18 - 24, 2003

28 Pages



Photo by Amy Fleming

Jeanale Hulst from the Sanibel Summer Recreation Program shows Max Rehder just how to plant sea oats while Tyler Lecky watches and learns.

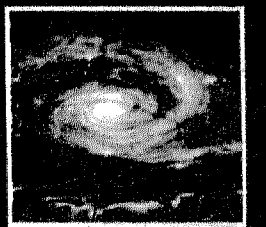


**The Home Pages this week
take a look at contemporary
furniture at the Lion's Paw.**

See page 14.

**The Chamber of Commerce
AfterHours visited the Sanibel
Harbor Resort & Spa this month.**

See page 12.



Sowing wild oats, saving a dune

By Amy Fleming
Staff Writer

If you can combine a beautiful day at Bowman's Beach with helping to save a dune, then it just doesn't get any better.

Tuesday morning, a group of young islanders, mostly fifth graders from the Sanibel summer recreation program, gathered at the end of the path to Bowman's Beach to re-seed an area that badly needed it. This is the third year that budding conservationists have planted sea oats on

Sanibel's beaches to help preserve the dunes.

It all began when Dick Young noticed some bare patches along the beach, that left dunes exposed to the erosive forces of wind, rain, and trampling by beachgoers. He then saw the opportunity to get the summer campers involved in replanting.

"It's basically just trying to do a little education, as well as have some fun," he said.

Young taught the kids how to plant the seedlings — dig a small hole in the sand,

put the plant in just past the root ball, make sure the plants are well spread out and pray for rain.

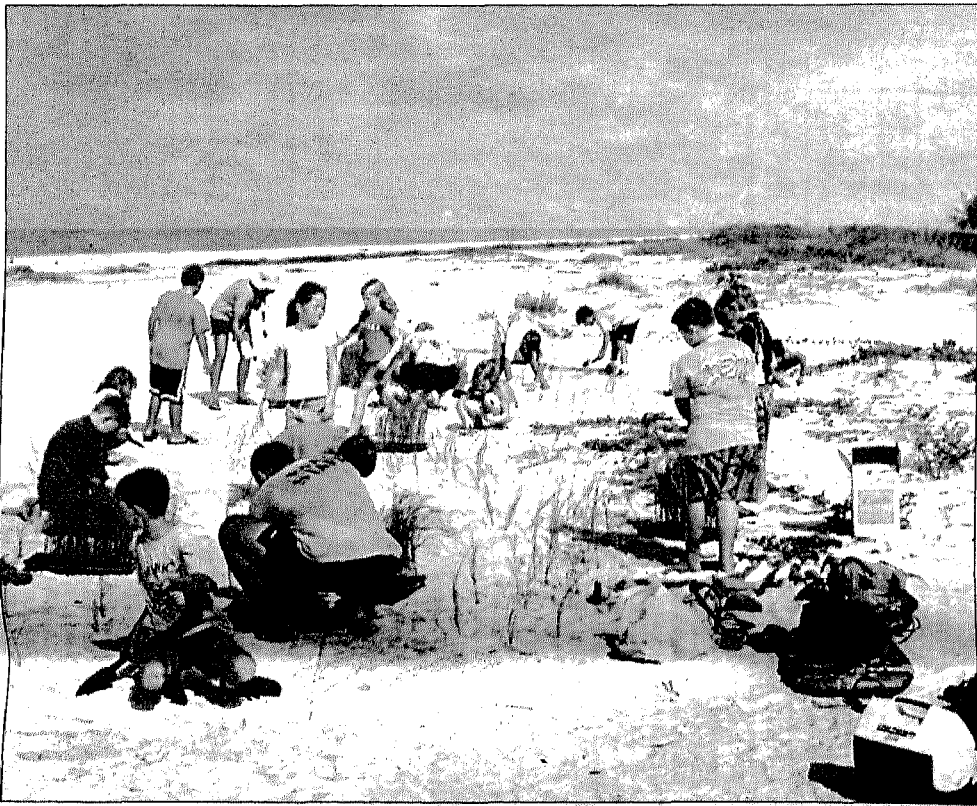
They did a great job too, as one tray after another of sea oats was emptied, transforming a barren patch of dune into a freshly seeded grassland. Together, the dozen or so kids planted 1,000 seedlings.

Rob Loflin, Natural Resources Director, ordered the seedlings and turned them over to the Native Plant Nursery, where they grew to the 12 inch high seedlings that are now taking root.

The sea oats form clumps which collect sand, thus creating a barrier against erosion. This allows other plant life to flourish in the dunes, which in turn leads to a habitat that can support Sanibel's wildlife.

Part of the success of the re-growth will depend on people who use the beach.

"Hopefully, they're thick enough so that people will see them and not walk all over them," Young said.



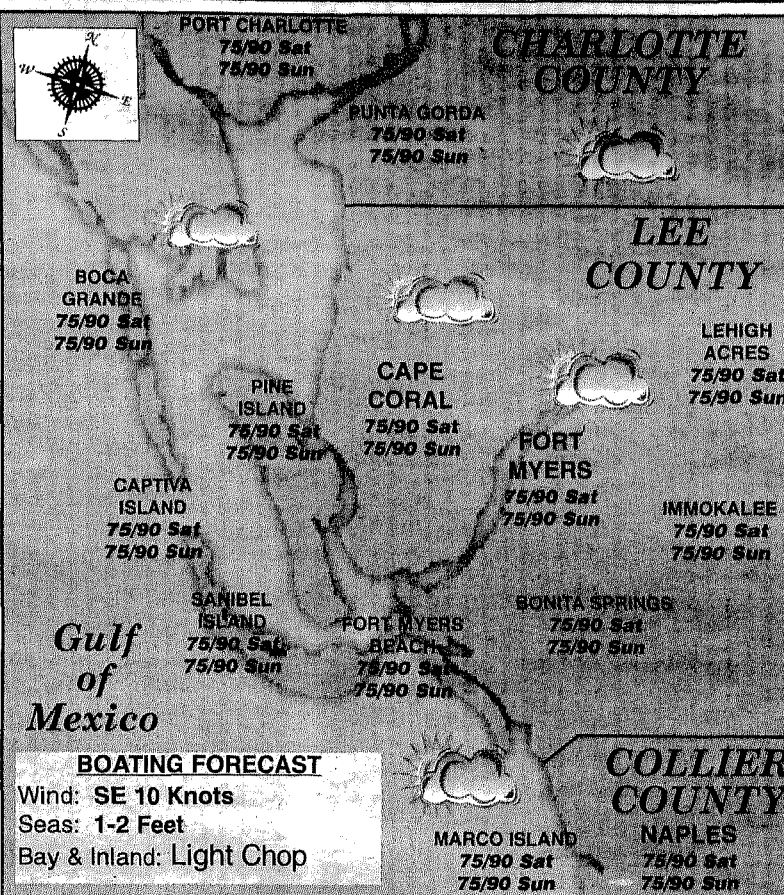
(l-r): Kirsten Harlow, and Geena Grazier get their sea oats planted to just the right depth.

WEEKEND FORECAST FOR JULY 19 & 20

SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.

WEEKEND TIDES

City	Sat. High	Sat. Low	Sun. High	Sun. Low
Cape Coral	8:45 a.m.	2:54 a.m.	9:08 a.m.	3:24 a.m.
Bridge	7:52 p.m.	2:48 p.m.	9:01 p.m.	4:03 p.m.
Captiva at	6:35 a.m.	11:32 a.m.	6:58 a.m.	12:08 a.m.
Redfish Pass	5:42 p.m.	-	6:51 p.m.	12:47 p.m.
Fort Myers	9:38 a.m.	3:36 a.m.	10:01 a.m.	4:06 a.m.
	8:45 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	9:54 p.m.	4:45 p.m.
Matacha Pass	8:13 a.m.	2:20 a.m.	8:36 a.m.	2:50 a.m.
	7:20 p.m.	2:14 p.m.	8:29 p.m.	3:29 p.m.
Pineland	7:11 a.m.	1:18 a.m.	7:34 a.m.	1:48 a.m.
	6:18 p.m.	1:12 p.m.	7:27 p.m.	2:27 p.m.
Point Ybel	5:40 a.m.	11:34 a.m.	6:03 a.m.	12:10 a.m.
	4:47 p.m.	-	5:56 p.m.	12:49 p.m.
Punta Rassa	6:29 a.m.	11:27 a.m.	6:52 a.m.	12:03 a.m.
	5:36 p.m.	-	6:45 p.m.	12:42 p.m.
St. James City	7:00 a.m.	12:08 a.m.	7:23 a.m.	12:38 a.m.
	6:07 p.m.	12:02 p.m.	7:16 p.m.	1:17 p.m.



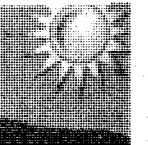
FOX 4 CAST



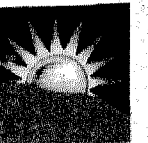
GET YOUR FORECAST FIRST ON FOX.
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STATE FORECAST-SATURDAY

CITY	LOW/HIGH
CAPE CORAL	75/90
DAYTONA BEACH	75/88
FT. LAUDERDALE	73/92
FT. MYERS BEACH	75/90
GAINESVILLE	72/92
JACKSONVILLE	72/92
KEY WEST	80/90
KISSIMMEE	75/92
MIAMI	80/90
ORLANDO	75/92
PANAMA CITY	73/93
PENSACOLA	75/92
SARASOTA	75/92
ST. PETERSBURG	75/92
TALLAHASSEE	73/93
TAMPA	75/92
VERO BEACH	75/90
WEST PALM BEACH	73/92

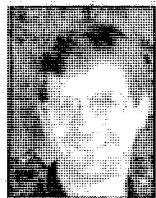


SATURDAY
SUNRISE
6:47 AM



SATURDAY
SUNSET
8:22 PM

TOO MUCH SUN



Dave Horton



Lee Horton



HORTON

UP PERISCOPE

"Location..." everyone knows that's the buzzword if you're in the real estate biz. "It's the economy..." is the prime directive for politicians. Sometimes war seems take precedence, but it's only temporary.

As we start looking ahead to the next presidential race, that prime directive starts to emerge.

One important aspect of our economy that struggles to become an election issue is that old bugaboo, healthcare insurance.

The issue has been something of a tarpit in the past and most successful politicians gingerly skirt around it. But that may prove harder to do in the future, simply because it's getting bigger, more costly, and more important to more people.

The whole notion of insuring against medical expenses dates back to an era when there was genuine uncertainty about incurring them. Those kinds of catastrophic costs were generally associated with major accidents of some sort. In other words, the insurance mechanism was being used in its traditional role of funding the unforeseen.

A couple of things have changed over the years to affect that. One is a basic principle that, as medical technology advances, more and more medical problems can be fixed. It's only natural that we humans want to take advantage of those advances. It may seem painfully obvious to say, "but that costs money," but it does, and all too often this part gets brushed aside.

Getting back to the insurance part of the problem... insurance was designed to protect against the unexpected. Shipwrecks tend to be unexpected and that particular hazard was the original basis of the whole insurance business a couple of hundred years ago. Fires and even lawsuits are usually unexpected.

RENNY SEVERANCE
Executive Editor

Medical costs are not really unexpected, and as technology advances they only become less so. So using a tool aimed at coping with the unexpected to deal with what we can count on doesn't make a lot of sense.

All this is only exacerbated by how that tool is delivered. It's pretty easy to get it if you are employed, and the bigger the employer, the easier it is. If you work alone, or are retired and not somehow affiliated with a large organization that provides the stuff, it can be hard to get and very expensive.

Why? Maybe because insurance companies are generally private businesses, organized to make profits for their shareholders, be they mutual or stock companies. They do this by helping manage the unknown, but the only thing unknown about medical expenses today is not "if" but "how much?" That's not the kind of uncertainty that insurance is suited for, but it is stuck with it anyway and perhaps unfairly criticized when

they don't do it the way we want.

In this country we try to take care of everyone. We tend to be upset when the cure is out there waiting and there are people who can't get to it because they don't have insurance and can't afford it.

This is often where charitable organizations come from. As wonderful as they are, and as admirable are the people behind them, it's a cumbersome, hit-or-miss way to deal with the overall problem. Hey, let's keep 'em going, but let's also keep working on better ways to deal with the issues and turn those good works to other pressing problems.

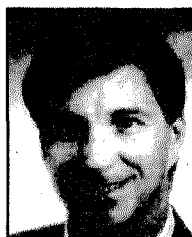
So what's the answer? We are just naturally skittish of another government bureaucracy, but maybe there is some similar alternative. We use a mix of private industry and government regulation to provide things like water and electricity — could something like that be developed to make a certain base level of healthcare universally available? It's worth looking into because we are only going to want more as it grows.

Maybe, if we treat it like a utility, at least everyone will get to pay more or less the same rates and it will be equally available.

COLUMNISTS

The Metastatic Life
Lisa Pierot
— page 5Business Profile
Nancy Santeusario
— page 14Center Stage
Marsha Wagner
— page 19TURTLE TOTALS
JULY 14

	2003			2002	
	Hatches	Nests	False Crawls	Nests	False
Crawls					
East End	1	27	70	10	38
West End	11	144	192	163	164
Captiva	14	114	84	84	87
TOTALS	26	285	346	254	289

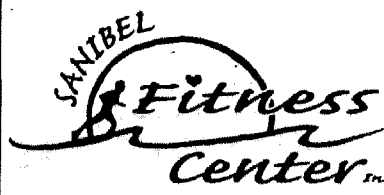
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HAPPENINGS

Arts for ACT tickets now on sale

The Abuse Counseling and Treatment, Inc. will conduct its annual fine art auction at Harborside Convention Center on Saturday, August 23, from 5:30 to 11 p.m.

Actress Meryl Streep is this year's celebrity guest auctioneer. An array of hors d'oeuvres to entice the palette will be served and a cash bar will be available.

More than 150 artists have kindly donated pieces of artwork to be bid on in either the voice or silent auctions. Included is an original from world-renowned artist, Robert Rauschenberg. There will also be works by international artists Darryl Pottorf, Leo Johnson, and Malcolm Morely, as well as a sculpture by Don Gummer (husband of Meryl Streep).

Tickets for this exciting event are \$75 and may be purchased in advance by calling 939-2553.

Pre-bidding on all artwork has started and will continue until the night of the auction on August 23.

You can view the artwork, read each artist's biography and bid on-line by going to www.actabuse.com and clicking on the Arts for ACT logo. Bids are updated daily.

Pre-bid forms are also available at Edison College Gallery of Fine Art, where the artwork may be viewed and bid on from Monday to Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. until July 28.

The featured poster for this year's auction "Looking Ahead" will go on sale for

\$53 and is signed by the artist Leo Johnson.

Proceeds help benefit Abuse Counseling and Treatment, Inc. a non-profit agency established to provide shelter, 24 hour hotline, counseling and education to victims of domestic violence and their families and survivors of sexual assault, serving Lee, Hendry and Glades Counties.

For additional information contact Claudia at Abuse Counseling and Treatment, Inc. at 939-2553.

Volunteer Opportunities

Big Brothers Big Sisters needs mentors for children. These one-on-one relationships can improve a child's life in many ways. Mentor a child in the community or at an elementary school.

If you have patience and a big heart, call the Friendship Volunteer Resource Center at 275-4427.

The Lee Memorial Health System has an ongoing need for volunteers.

A variety of opportunities are available such as information specialists, wheelchair and stretcher transporters, clerical assistants, and gift/thrift shop clerk positions just to name a few. Various times and days are available. Please contact the Friendship Volunteer Resource Center at 275-4427 if you can help out.

'Doggie Do' at The Village

Win a framed print by Ikki Matsumoto The Village Shops at 2340 Periwinkle



Way, Sanibel are celebrating the dog days of summer with a sale and "Doggie Do" Friday, July 25 from noon to 6 p.m.

Four framed prints from Ikki Matsumoto's new dog and cat collection will be raffled and discounts on pet-themed items will be offered. Along with great sales in every shop, the "Doggie Do" will include pet massages, tips on dog care, pet caricatures, the pet psychic, treats from Dudley's Dog Bakery, a dog show, and hot dogs and other refreshments.

Stop by the village to fetch the bargains and the fun.

Bluegrass concert at Lee Civic Center

Some fine fiddlin' and pickin' is in store for folks who attend the next Basically Bluegrass Concert & Pick In on Sunday, August 3, 2003 at the Lee Civic Center, 11831 Bayshore Road in North Fort Myers. The concert begins at 2 p.m. and continues until 5 p.m. in the air-conditioned Expo Center. Admission is \$5 per

person. Admission is free for members of the Acoustic Music Society of Southwest Florida and for students under 16.

Scheduled to play at the Basically Bluegrass Concert are: Up The Creek, The Peace River Band, Opporknockamee, and Ha' Penney. Acoustic musicians are invited to bring their instruments and join in various jam sessions.

Basically Bluegrass Concerts & Pick-Ins take place the first Sunday of each month (except holidays) year 'round. These monthly concerts and jam sessions are sponsored by the Acoustic Music Society of Southwest Florida. The annual membership fee for the Acoustic Music Society is \$20 per family.

Directions to the Lee Civic Center are as follows: Take I-75 to exit 143 (Bayshore Road). Go east approximately three miles to Old Bayshore Road. Turn north to Bluegrass Concert entrance.

For More Information call 693-5743

Event: Bowl for Kids' Sake

Big Brothers Big Sisters of SW Florida, Inc.

Description: Looking for something to do to beat the summer heat? We've got something right up your alley. On August 16th Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Florida invite you to BOWL FOR KIDS' SAKE. Get out your bowling shoes, and get ready for a day filled with fun & excitement. It's easy to participate in Bowl For Kids' Sake, all you have to do is form a bowling team with your friends, family or neighbors. As a bowler, you'll sign-up sponsors on a pledge sheet then come on out to bowl at Coral Lanes on August 16th. You don't want to miss this party! FREE food, FREE drinks, lots of giveaway prizes and of course FREE bowling! All the money you help raise goes directly toward matching children with Big Brothers and Big Sisters. Don't worry, it's not your skill or score that counts - it's you. Bowl For Kids' Sake is an easy and FUN way to make a difference in your community.

Call the Big Brothers Big Sisters office today to sign up to bowl! (239) 278-0003

CORRECTION

In last week's Islander, a story about Mark and Syril Rubin as Blood Cancer Advocates in Washington referred to myeloma. It should have read myeloma, a more serious disease. We apologize for the error.



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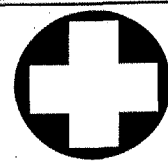
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THE METASTATIC LIFE

"Work like the money doesn't matter; love like you've never been hurt, dance like no one is watching."

— from a garden plaque in a Chautauqua garden

We came to upstate New York to the Chautauqua Institute four days ago, Emily, my mother and me. It was like instantly stepping into another time, a time with no TVs, where no one is in a hurry and total strangers stop to talk to each other about the latest lecture or concert. Last night we saw a ballet in the outdoor amphitheater, and the night before, the symphony. Emily goes every day to camp with all the other sun-drenched kids. Each day her skin is a more golden bronze.

This is a place like no other in the world. People come here to reflect, to listen to lectures, and attend plays and concerts. The grounds are covered with flowers carefully chosen to blend their colors

with the ivy and the beautiful ancient trees that tower above even the old Athenaeum Hotel where we are staying.

The hotel is a national landmark build in the 1800s. It is huge and Victorian and sits at the top of a hill overlooking the lake. There are rocking chairs on the wrap-around porches. Hours of every day are spent reading, rocking and looking up occasionally to see the children riding their bikes down by the lake, back packs slung over shoulders, faces brown and content.

The last time I was here was 13 years ago when Emily was only 3 months old. I was a young mother totally devoted to my two children. I dressed them in matching outfits for dinner and wore flowing dresses that matched my mood of a young newlywed with nothing but a bright and certain future ahead. I walked the hills with ease and laid blankets in the town square so I could watch the girls run in the grass.



Lisa Pierot

Being here again, under such different circumstances is an emotional and heart-centered experience. Nothing has changed in the years since I was here, nothing that is except for me.

You can't be here and not reflect on life and loss and the bigger questions that the outside world keeps you from in all its fast paced routines. I walk now with a cane and my steps are labored from the pain in my back. I spend hours reading or sitting in the gardens with the lake breeze lulling me to the most relaxed state I have experienced in years.

I look with joy and longing at the new babies and the ancient couples holding hands at the concerts. I nudge my mother or she touches my hand and we both look and smile. No words are necessary.

Life is such an interesting journey. Who's to say who will live to be 98 and who will die at 30? And somehow here, the length of life seems almost inconsequential compared to the beauty of nature and the knowledge of the hundreds of people who stayed here long ago and left their names on park benches donated in their memory.

You can feel such serenity amidst all of the beauty. God is most certainly smiling down on this unique and glorious place.

I told Mom this morning that were it not for Dad and Anna, I would never want to return to Florida. I am happy here. The air is cool. There are no mosquitoes. I am

reading books at an astounding pace and dreaming of ballerinas spinning on their toes with the most perfect grace to their movements.

I realize that being here again after so many years is a gift I have given myself. To be here and know myself as I am now, with all my physical limitations and my scars, it is as though my life went by in an instant.

You can feel such serenity amidst all of the beauty. God is most certainly smiling down on this unique and glorious place.

But here it can be broken down into the most special moments, the sweetest memories. Life feels open again. Things are possible. It's all a matter of readjusting to circumstances while at the same time knowing that the flowers still come up every spring, just as they did all those many years ago. It is comforting to know that life goes on, that so much of it stays the same.

This is the better time of my life. I wouldn't trade it for what came before. Just as certainly I wouldn't trade what came before for now. It's an accumulation of experiences, of flowers and breezes and children at this age and then another age altogether. It is an instant. It is an eternity.

Until next week

National Society of Collegiate Scholars inducts Robert J. Fawcett

Indiana University — Robert J. Fawcett of Sanibel accepted membership in The National Society of Collegiate Scholars and will be honored during a campus ceremony this fall at Indiana University.

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS) is a highly selective, national, non-profit honors organization. Founded in 1994, NSCS recognizes first and second year undergraduate students who excel academically.

The Society was established on the principle that with scholarship comes a responsibility to develop leadership and a duty to perform service.

"NSCS provides the opportunity for students, like Robert, to be recognized for their outstanding academic accomplishments early in their college experience", said Steve Loflin, NSCS Executive Director. "Robert will also have the opportunity to join other high achieving college students in developing leadership skills and a sense of civic responsibility."



Robert J. Fawcett

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OBITUARIES

Hugo A. Lindgren

Hugo A. Lindgren died July 8, 2003 in Fort Myers at the age of 100. He was a longtime resident of Jamestown, New York, but lived full-time in Florida since 1991.

Mr. Lindgren was born in 1902 in the Swedish farming village of Nashult. His father was a blacksmith and Mr. Lindgren was working in his shop by age 9. At 19, he decided to leave Sweden for the United States, and made his way to Jamestown where he had an aunt and uncle.

He worked first in a furniture factory, but soon found employment in a metal plant, where he felt more comfortable. Just six years after he arrived in the country, he founded Exel Metal Company, with a group of partners. It started with four employees, but quickly grew to more than 100.

In 1943, he started his own company, Jamestown Metal Products, which specialized in making cabinets for hospitals and kitchens. During the post-war rebuilding of many American hospitals, official architectural specifications required a

level of quality at least equal to that of Jamestown Metal Products.

When the White House was refurbished in 1948 under the Truman administration, Jamestown Metal Products won the contract to install cabinets in the kitchen. More than anything, though, Mr. Lindgren took pride in the number of people he was able to employ, which at its peak was about 200.

Mr. Lindgren sold his company in 1962, but returned a few years later to help finance the purchase of the company by its employees, one of the first deals of its kind.

Meanwhile, he was turning his attention to real estate in Florida where he bought property on Sanibel. He paid for the feasibility and engineering studies that persuaded Lee County officials to build the causeway that connects the island to the mainland. Today, the first road off the causeway is Lindgren Boulevard.

For the next 20 years, Mr. Lindgren split his time between Florida and Jamestown. He was a major benefactor of Lutheran Social Services, and underwrote

the construction of an apartment complex that enables senior citizens to receive care but still live independently. He and his wife of 60 years, Louise, spent their last years in Jamestown in the complex that bears their name.

Mr. Lindgren is survived by his twin sons, Richard and Robert, both of New York City, three grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. His wife Louise died two years ago.

In an article published in 1963 in the Vasa Magazine, Mr. Lindgren reflected on a life that still had a good long way to go and said, 'I am no big example of success, but for an ordinary person, I have done well.'

Funeral services were held on Friday, July 11, at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Fort Myers.

Frank Ruggeri

Frank Ruggeri, after 83 years of life, Frank Ruggeri of Fort Myers, Florida passed away on July 8, 2003. Frank was born in Pozzollo, Italy on October 26, 1919. He moved to Brooklyn, NY in 1938 then moved to Fort Myers, FL in 1985. His loving wife of 62 years, Mary; his son and daughter-in-law, John and Kathleen Ruggeri of Orlando, FL; his daughter and son-in-law Lucy and John Armenia of Captiva Island, FL; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren survive him. Visitation will be 6-8 PM on Thursday, 2-4 and 6-8 on Friday at Kiser Funeral Home 9231 Cypress Lake

Dr. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated Saturday, 10:00 AM at Church of The Resurrection 8121 Cypress Lake Dr., followed by interment at Memorial Gardens Cemetery 1589 Colonial Blvd. Contributions may be to Hope Hospice 9470 Healthpark Circle, Fort Myers, FL 33908-3600.

Don Dove

Don Dove (1924-2003) a WWII member of the Screaming Eagles 101st airborne and a D-Day Purple Heart hero has passed away.

Don Dove, 79, a native of California and Fort Myers resident of Seven Lakes was a fun-loving family man and an avid golfer who had many holes-in-one (a difficult feat) during his life.

Don owned the first Mercedes Benz dealership in Las Vegas and for many years managed various retail auto business operations. In recent years, Don had worked at Fort Myers Country Club until illness and injuries brought on from WWII prevented him from working further.

Don is survived by his wife Margaret Dove; daughters, Illona Wolanin and Denise Herman; sons-in law, Vincent Wolanin and Howard Herman; and grandchildren, Victoria Wolanin, Whitney Wolanin, Shane Leon, and Shay Jarjoura.

Don Dove a true authentic American Hero will be missed by all that knew and loved him very much.

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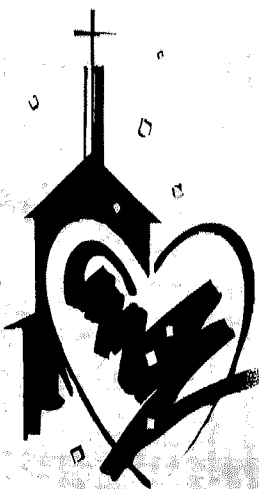
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SunTrust holds an island luau

Photos by Terri Blackmore

The Annual SunTrust Luau took place on Tuesday, July 15th at the Sanibel branch located at 2408 Periwinkle Way. Bruce Schultz, Lee County Bank President, was on hand meeting party guests with a warm welcoming greeting. Susan Nasworthy, area manager and Sanibel branch manager Dianne Simmons expressed their hellos and kindness with a beautiful, colorful lei.

Bank employees did their best on making the authenticity of the event compare to the Old Lahaina Luau in Maui (minus the hula dancers of course). Palm trees, nets with fish and lobsters set the scene along with a groaning buffet table of Island fare.

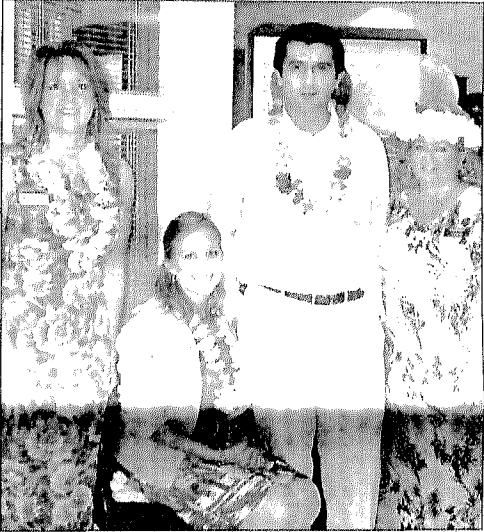
The event is SunTrust's way of thanking their current patrons and getting to know those in the community that may want to put their faith in the SunTrust family.



Susan Nasworthy, SunTrust area manager; Bruce Schultz, president SunTrust (Lee County); Dianne Simmons, Sanibel branch manager.



Customers Herman & Elaine Jass with Carl Diz, director of marketing from SunTrust in Sarasota.



Above: Branch manager Dianne Simmons with tellers Brooke King and Ibrahim Greic next to Patricia Gatch, financial services representative.

Right: The cake said it all: "We appreciate your business," to the Hannah family and others.



Customers and bankers sample the delectable goodies at the luau table.

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SERVICE CLUBS

At Kiwanis: "Ol' Sam"

By Bob Wimbush

Sam Bailey is a writer's nightmare. First he announces that he isn't a speaker, and then proves it. "I just get up and talk." Welcome to Sam-speak, an Island art form: "I'm the only man alive ever born on Sanibel, but now that I will be 80 I'm getting some respect."

On his father — "not the greatest man that ever lived, but he was the finest." Sam's father came here in 1894, essentially homesteaded, and three years later bought the land he was farming for \$5 per acre.

Sam's proud of and pushes hard for the Historical Village. "It was tough going at first, but on Sanibel, once they find out you're sincere and honest, they get behind you." He really wants to move the Island's old schoolhouse to the Historical Village (Yes, THAT Old Schoolhouse).

Sam waxed eloquent about tricks he played at that school — "I majored in recess." He once substituted a dead coach whip snake for the rubber hose the teacher used to keep order and then, of course, misbehaved. Revenge is sweet. Let him tell you the rest. "It's OK to play football with a coconut, but don't try to kick it".

He supports the Island's conservation efforts and is happy about several parcels the Baileys donated that "could have sold for a small fortune".

He has mixed emotions about the bridge, but mostly would like to "blow it up."

On hurricanes: It seems that the '21, '26,



Sam Bailey

'35, and '61 storms included plenty of rain, but 1944 was the worst. Although water was up to his neck in '35, and water connected both the bay and the gulf, his dad kept tasting the water for salt as they waded toward their store. There had been so much rain with most storms that the water over the Island remained fresh. The '44 storm, however, was mostly wind and little rain. Salt water washed over the Island. "After '44, the flora changed."

And Sam played pro football. "I wasn't

good, I was tough." He tells of playing for New York on Saturday, Boston on Sunday, and New Haven on Monday. He must have been tough.

I also chatted with Rob Jess, head of the 'Ding' Darling Refuge and several of his professional staff this week. Yes, it's true that Washington's feds don't want Mosquito Control spraying the Refuge. That's not a local option. The Refuge staff, however, regularly takes natural, less chemically-oriented measures to reduce and control mosquitoes. It sounded interesting so I suggested he to come talk to Kiwanis and bring his staff. Most are new to the Islands, and these are people our club needs to meet.

Also, at the risk of infuriating Kiwanis' membership chairman (Jess is a former Rotarian, but I doubt any will read this), might I suggest that every one of our Island organizations (even Zonta) should extend the same offer. Ron has hand-picked sharp, solid professionals for our Islands. Now it's our job to lure these newcomers out of the Refuge, tap their skills, and involve them.

I, for one, plan to involve Toni Westland, the ranger and educational specialist who talked to Kiwanis a couple of weeks ago, in Kiwanis Project: Schools. This project is transforming student perceptions of learning from drudgery into relevance and fun at one school (so far). Scores are going up, discipline problems, down. The ability to do this — and Toni does it intuitively — is a signature mark of a superior teacher.

On the downside, no Kiwanian has, in fact, passed the FCAT since Toni spoke to our Club (none has been administered), but we now have high hopes for at least two members.

Seriously, Toni is obviously a gifted pro-

fessional and her manner and knowledge epitomize the goal of this on-going project — which will also involve Kiwanis-instigated pairings between schools and Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

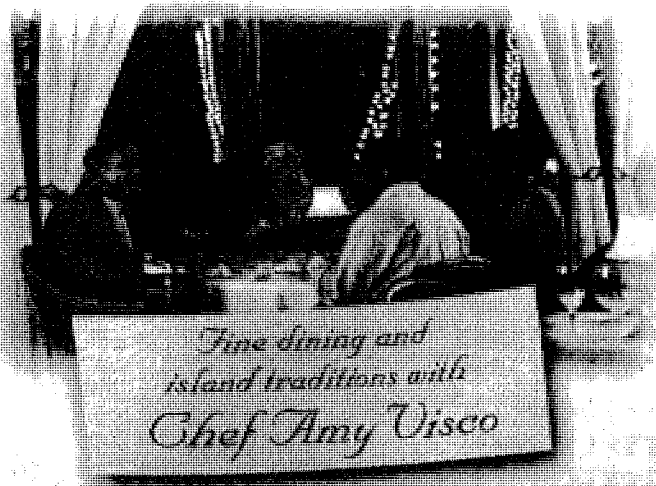
Kiwanis enjoys speakers — even former Rotarians and those who just talk — over breakfast at the Island House at 7:30 on Wednesday.

Junior League of Fort Myers is looking for a few good women

Are you interested in volunteerism, leadership training, making new friends and having fun? If so, please help strengthen our League and come to an upcoming New Member Social on Thursday, July 17 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. or on Saturday, August 9 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Both socials will be held at the home of one of our members in Fort Myers. For more information, contact Junior League of Fort Myers at 277-1197.

Membership offers many exciting opportunities to improve your community significantly through effective action, develop yourself and your leadership potential as a woman, build relationships with a diverse group of current and emerging women leaders, create leadership opportunities for training women volunteers in the future, and promote the Importance of volunteer service.



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Pet of the Week

Newly weds Kathy and Steve Mologousis couldn't have been happier these days 'til the boom was lowered. The ready-made loving family of cats, along with Kathy and Steve has to make some heartbreaking changes. Four felines have to go. The couple is devastated. The cats are their children and well taken care of at that.....all but one are spayed or neutered, kept in doors and have no claws on their front feeties. Will someone come to their rescue?

Meet Bailey (on left in photo). This pretty putty is ten years young and a pure bred Himalayan. He is neutered, mild in manner and is without his front claws.

He is great friends with Shadow, a 9-year old female (not shown) who happens to be on the chubby side....her short black hair and part-Siamese ancestry makes her distinguished in appearance. (She has put in a request that possibly she and Bailey could be adopted together).

Meet Pepper, (on right). This two-year-old with a beautiful black, shiny coat is very prominent as he boasts a bobbed tail — his mom and dad think he is part Manx. Also not shown is Mikey, a nine-year old female, also declawed who has allergies which has caused her to



lose most of her coat. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder....it's what's inside this loving cat that counts. The Mologousis's family fears the worst that she will have to be put to sleep.

If you don't have a cat and would like an adorable pet, any of these adoptees would welcome a wonderfully kind home. If you are a cat lover, you know there is always room for one more cat! If you can help, please call their kitty hotline at 415-7785.

Optimist Club honors Road Rally winners

For the third time and the second year in a row, "Current Champs" won the Sanibel Captiva Optimist Club Road Rally. It was also one of the larger teams in the event.

On Tuesday, July 13 the club and many of the competing teams met at the Seafood Factory to enjoy some appetizers and drink and to announce the winning teams.

Optimists Randy Carson and Richard McCurry named the winners as follows:

1st Place • Current Champs

Randy Faber, Jenn Faber, Kip Buntrock, Ed Fox, Audrey Fischer, Mary Schehr and Kristin Blount.

2nd Place • Team Florissippi

Roy Gibson, Ed Burton, Ginger & Patrick Robey and Amy & Bradley Burns.

3rd Place • Simon's Flock

Barry & Francine Litofsky

4th Place • Sparklin Sousas



Photos by Renny Severance

Above: 3rd Place Simon's Flock

Right: Jim Gould accepts his Weed Eater prize.

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Last Place • Gould Family

Lisa & Jim Gould (and family)

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Charmaine Yeadon, Karen Gudella, Jeany Smusz and Bill Mills

The rally was considered a huge success by all and the club raised approximately \$6,000 for their good works for the coming year.

A number of island businesses were quite generous in offering prizes for the winners. Included were stays at places such as Tween Waters Inn and Holiday Inn Sanibel. Gift certificates were provided by Key Lime Bistro, Dolce Vita, The Thistle lodge, The Seafood Factory and Amy's Over Easy Café and the Lazy Flamingo donated a pitcher of beer per month for a year to two teams.

The Gould Family were awarded a genuine Weed Eater for their distinctive position in the competition.



1st Place "Current Champs" — for the second year running.



2nd Place "Team Florissippi"

4th Place team "Sparklin Sousas"

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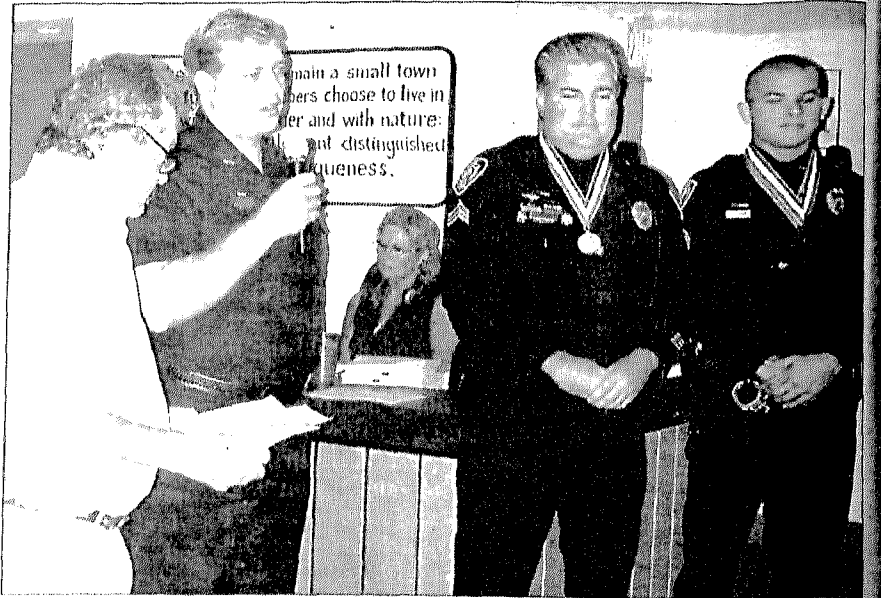
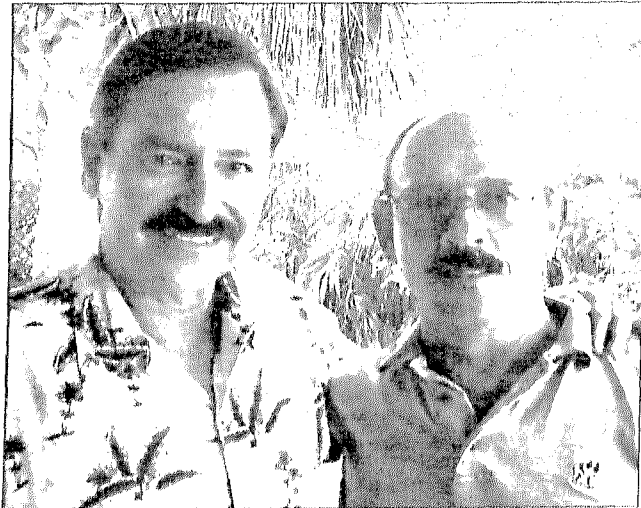
*on Royal Shell bookings

City honors staff and volunteers

Photos by Donna Schuman

At the city council meeting on Tuesday, July 15, the City of Sanibel recognized several employees and volunteers from different departments.

Retired Deputy Police Chief Jack Primm and Police Auxiliary Lt. Steve Walters won gold medals as part of the golf team in the recent Police Olympics. Walters, who serves as chairman of the police pension board, also won a gold medal for his individual performance and Primm won the silver.



Mayor Steve Brown and Sanibel Police Chief Bill Tomlinson recognize Cliff Short and Jeremy Hawkins (far right) for their success at the Police Olympics. Short won a gold medal for motorcycle riding and Hawkins won gold for the shot put and silver for discus.



Mayor Steve Brown with Karen Gudella and Sharon Gibson, the city's "Employees of the Third Quarter." Together, the two women have 38 years of city experience. They work in the Finance Department.



Major Michael Murray recognizes Coby Amadio, Tony Balog, Terri Cummins, Stephanie Dowd, Matt Fannon and Mark Keohane for taking the amateur radio class and passing the FCC test for emergency preparedness. City Manager Judie Zimomra said this is part of the city's efforts in cross-training.

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Live Shelling Restriction

Florida law prohibits the taking of live shells on Sanibel Island to conserve this precious marine resource.



Right: Elizabeth DaSilva was introduced by the mayor as the new Finance Department intern.

WHO'S WHO ON THE ISLANDS

Chefs Jay Bird and Jeff Treuheit are part of the Andy Rosse icon at Captiva's Mucky Duck

by Nancy Santeusano
Special to The Islander

Little did Charles Hugh Elers, Jr. nicknamed "Jay Bird" ever think he would become a chef when he was hired as a dishwasher at the Mucky Duck in 1978.

He had spent his boyhood in Massachusetts, played football, basketball, baseball and hockey and to this day calls himself a sports fanatic. However, something about the food industry got to him, and during his last year in high school and in his summer breaks from college, he had a job working for a man who owned some catering trucks. "I got to know the value of the dollar in connection with the cost of the food and decided I liked the food industry."

For a short time he and his friend Robert worked for a gentleman who owned a dairy farm that he wanted to convert into a beef farm. When the conversion was complete, this same gentleman invited Jay Bird and his friend to Sanibel. Jay Bird stayed, but his friend returned home.

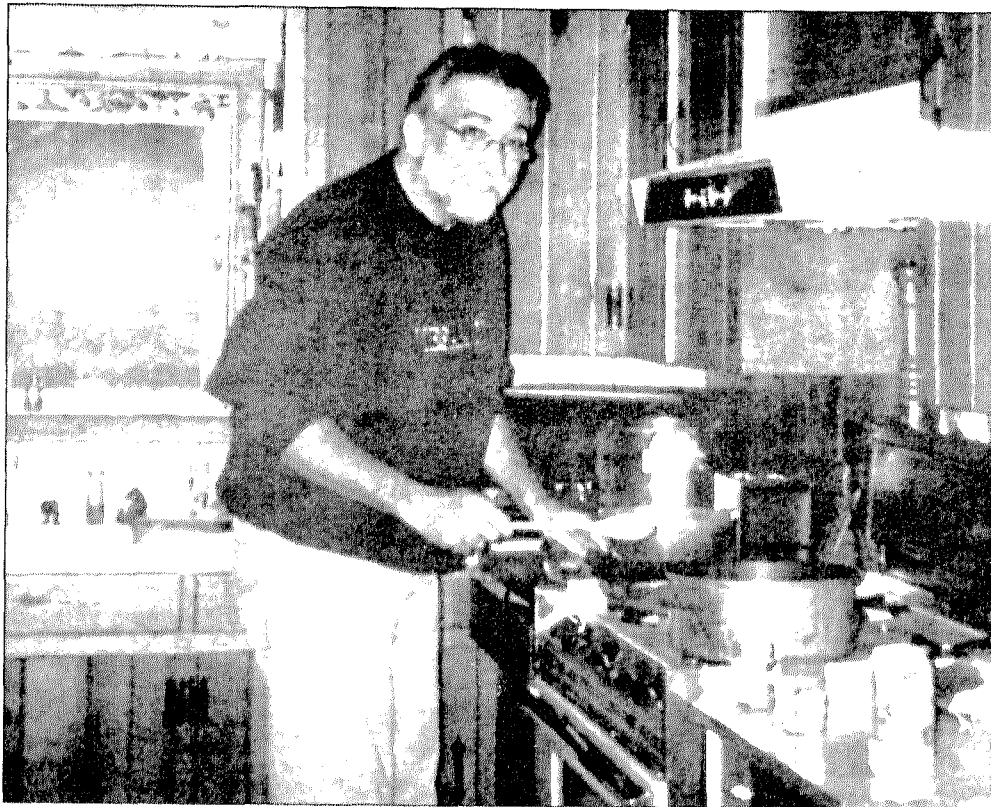
Ever since Jay Bird arrived at the Mucky Duck in 1978, two years after its opening in 1976, he's been a natural fit. When a lunch cook position opened up, he took that job and learned how to cook with a little on the job training. "That's where they needed the most help," explains Jay Bird.

At that time Jay Bird was in his early 20s and thought nothing of working day and night. At one point, he went to the Mucky Duck in the morning, cleaned the bathrooms, worked the lunch shift and left for his afternoon job at Castaways. There he waited tables in the evening and returned to the Mucky Duck to work the bar until 2 a.m.

In 1980 Jay Bird had to stop at Bailey's each morning to pick up the ground beef and happened to meet Jeff Treuheit who had the meat ready for him at the deli counter.

Little did Jay Bird suspect that Jeff would be taking his position as lunch cook at the Mucky Duck when he broke his leg. Jeff had come down to the islands with his parents in 1976 after his high school graduation in Ohio.

At 16 he had started in the restaurant business as a dishwasher and worked his



Chef Jay Bird in his element, cooking meat loaf at the annual Labor Day golf tournament in Minnesota.

way up to become a line cook and filling catering orders.

On the islands Jeff immediately went to work at Chadwick's on Captiva in 1976, the Sundial in 1978 and in 1979 landed a chef's job at the old Scotty's Pub, now the Jacaranda. During that time he continued to work part-time at Bailey's until he arrived at the Mucky Duck. He has stayed there for 22 years and isn't planning to leave.

Jay Bird preceded Jeff by two years when he started in January 1978, two years after the Mucky Duck was established.

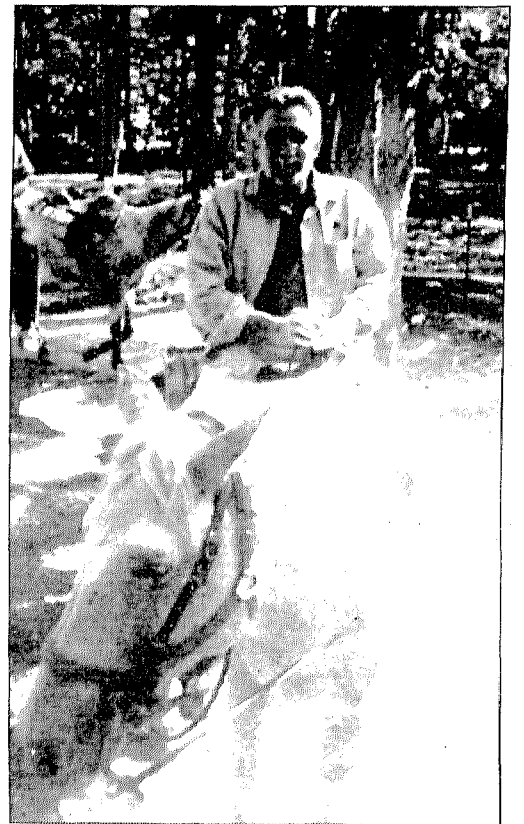
What's made these two chefs stay in one place for so long? They both agree that it's Victor Mayeron. "Victor treats us all well. He's our best friend, boss and owner, but best friend comes first."

"I enjoy the home cooking method and comfort food. The recipe on the menu is my grandmother's recipe for meat loaf

which my mother used to make," Jay Bird glanced at the menu and added, "I think we started the barbecued shrimp wrapped with bacon. The English Fish n' Chips, our homemade New England Clam Chowder and our homemade Mucky Duck Key Lime Pie are some of our other big hits."

They both agree that half the menu hasn't changed, the building hasn't changed, the staff hasn't changed and the same customers return year after year. People keep coming back for the consistency of the food and the fun they can have.

Jeff and Jay Bird have a great sense of humor and love to play practical jokes. Jeff who is usually the guilty prankster blames Jay Bird, but there's always a question about who started it. April Fool's Day is one of their favorites and the word is, "Watch out!" One year, Jeff told the staff all the wrong specials to write on the menu board. Mayeron did his



Jay Bird on his horse "Malibu" in Berkeley Springs, W. Va.

"nightly specials spiel" as he seated the customers at the tables. Then he walked back into the kitchen only to hear Jeff announce, "April Fool."

Birthdays offer another Mucky Duck tradition called "whipped cream pie" which most of the help has tried to avoid unsuccessfully. The originators of the tradition haven't been pinpointed but all clues lead to the kitchen and the Jay Bird/Jeff Treuheit team. On each staff member's birthday the person gets "a whipped cream pie served on a plate" thrown directly at them. Jay Bird decided to outsmart them and wore his hockey helmet for protection. However, they "pied" another part of his anatomy as an alternate solution!

As Jody, the bartender, acknowledged, "Jay Bird and Jeff are a big part of the history of this place. There's never any yelling from the kitchen. They make it so that everything goes smoothly and it's fun to come to work. Even on days off, we get together." Chef Jay Bird and Jeff Treuheit have become as much a part of the spirit of the Mucky Duck as the name itself and definitely part of who's who on Andy Rosse Lane.

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Chamber AfterHours held at Sanibel Harbor Resort & Spa

Photos by Renny Severance

The Sanibel Harbor Resort & Spa hosted the Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce monthly AfterHours on Monday, July 14. There was a substantial turnout for the event, despite the time of year, and the hosts put on quite an affair with delectable hors d'oeuvres and an elegant atmosphere.

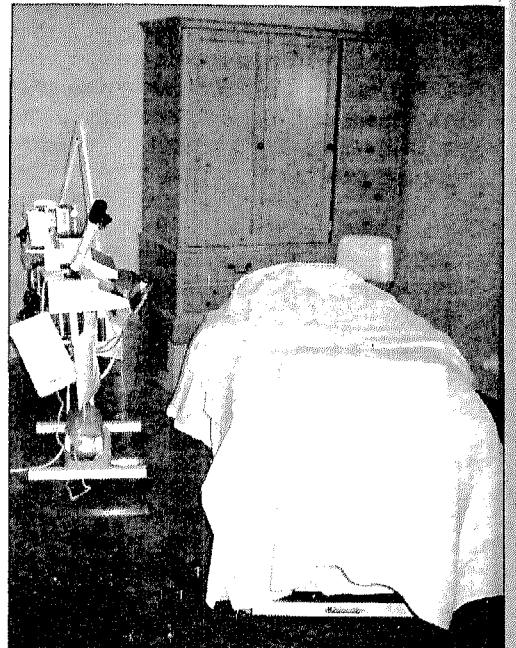
Dina Craig, director of public relations and advertising for the resort, described some of the facilities available and introduced Thor Holm, the director of the spa. Holm went on to describe some of the treatments offered including such local specialties as the Seashell Wrap, Seashell Scrub, and Calusa Scrub. Massages and treatments are available in separate facilities for men, women and couples.

One of the more intriguing and unusual items offered is the Betar Room. Here, a bed is suspended in what appears to be a geodesic dome framework. The walls and ceiling are adorned with paintings which appear warm and relaxing in traditional lighting.

Once the person is on the bed, the lighting can be changed to black light which gives dramatic highlights to the paintings on the ceiling, bringing them aglow. The bed vibrates and appropriate music is played, making for 50 minutes of remarkable relaxation in another world.

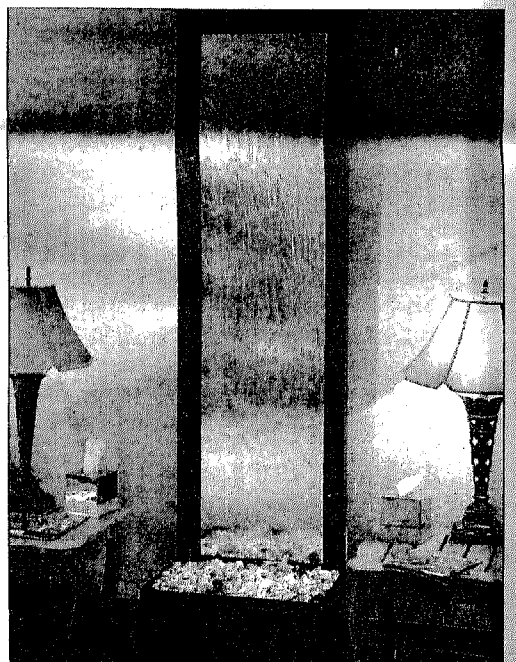


Thor Holm and Dina Craig tell their chamber guests about the Sanibel Harbor Resort & Spa.



Above: one of several typical treatment rooms at the spa.

Below: a waterfall on a mirror and shells below reflect the motifs that create the relaxing atmosphere at the spa.



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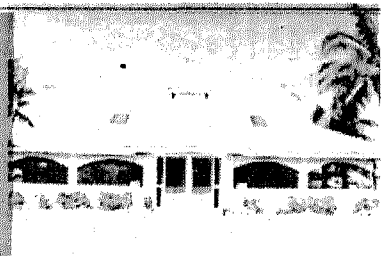
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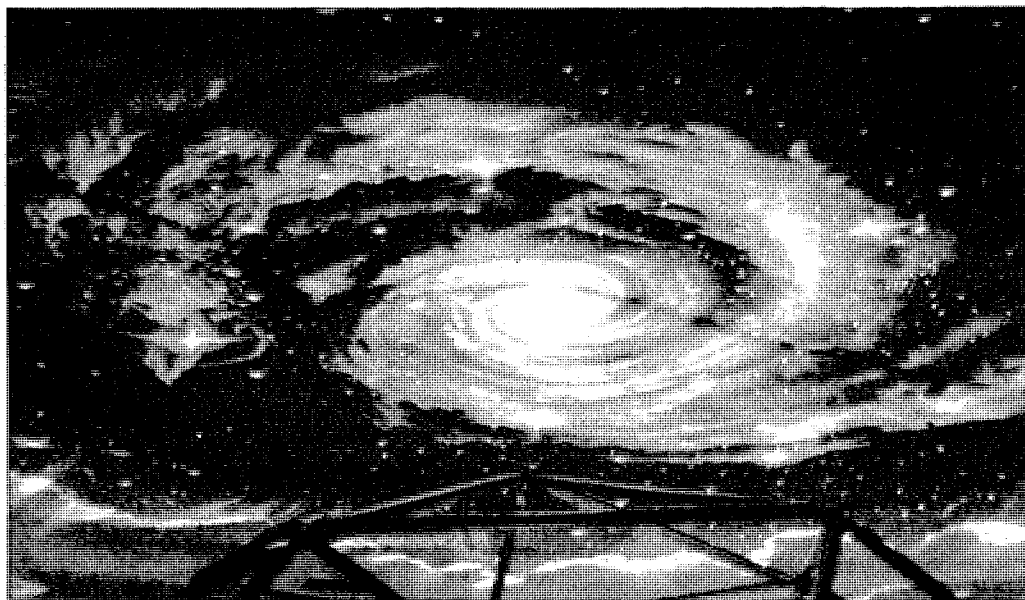
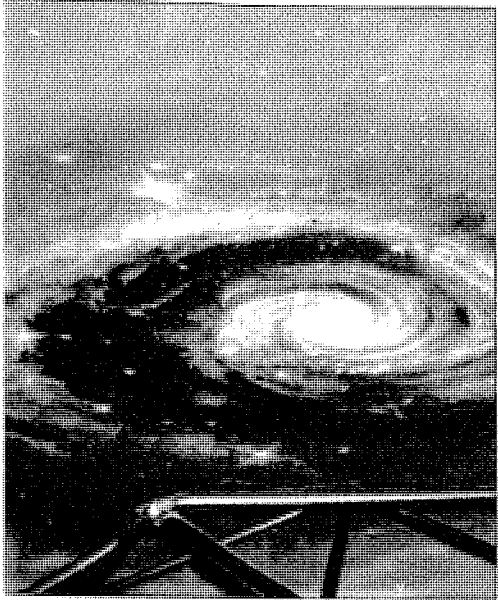
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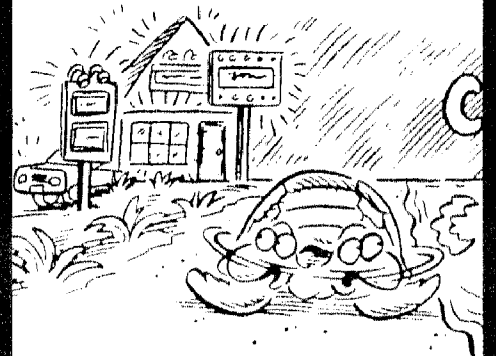


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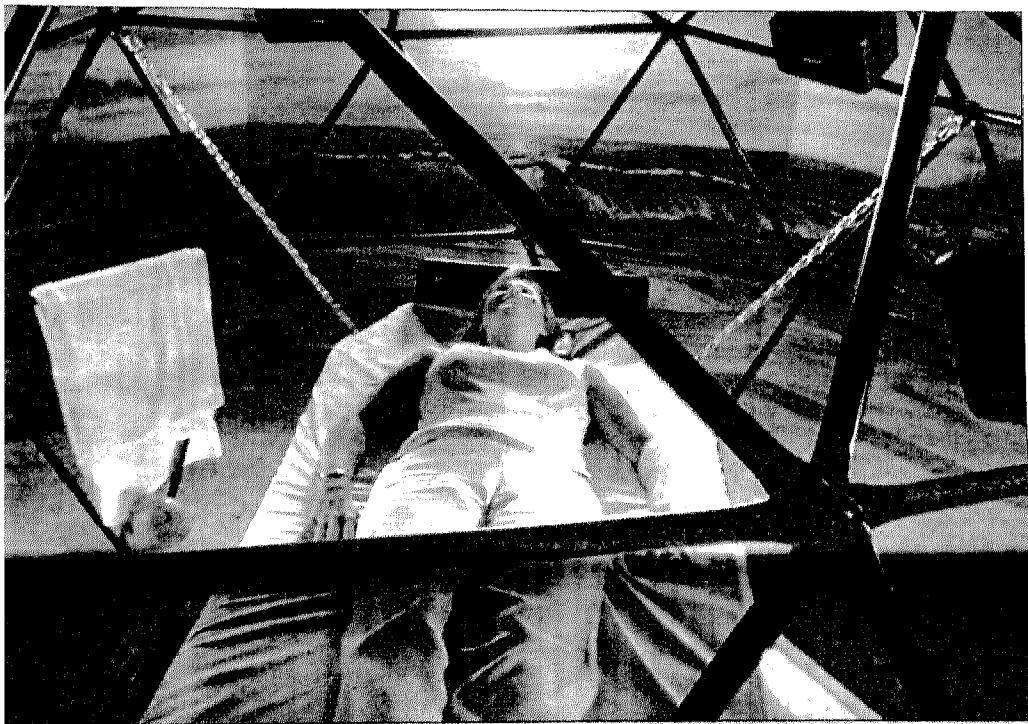




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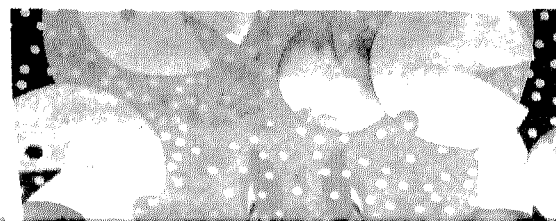


LIGHTS OUT FOR TURTLES



Pamela Kirby Rambo, of Kirby Rambo Collections, takes a short test drive in the Betar Room and appreciates the changes that take place in mood and lighting.

A Beauty And A Beast



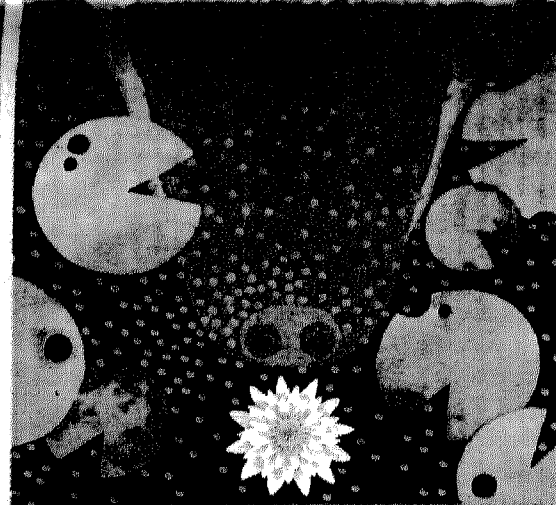
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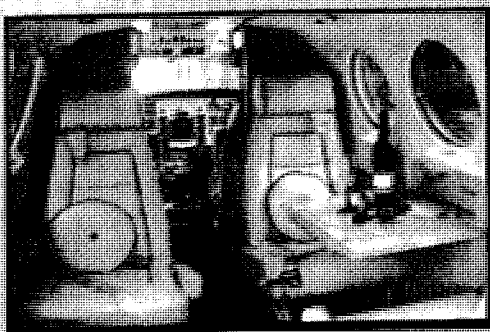
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What's new at The Lion's Paw?

by Nancy Santeusano
Special to The Islander

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The Lion's Paw features furniture pieces made from over 100-year-old reclaimed timber from Europe, and the actual pieces are created here in the United States by trained European craftsmen. The shop artfully displays these furniture pieces which include coffee tables, end tables, sofa/wall tables, entertainment units, computer workstations, armoires, desks and bookcases, dining tables, dressers and buffets, wine cabinets, kitchen islands, night stands, chests of drawers and hand-carved beds and headboards available in a wide range of styles, finishes, sizes and embellishments.

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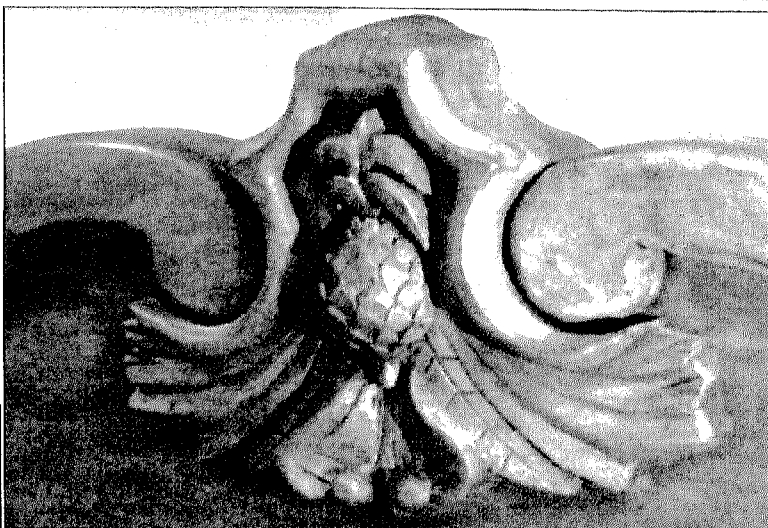
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The Lion's Paw

A Rare Find



tions of European and European colonial antiques. Also found are one-of-a-kind floral arrangements, exquisite silk bed linens and unusual tableware, in addition to lamps and mirrors, candleholders, plate hangers, and wine racks. Other pieces include a chess table with alligators on the four corners and a marvelous



storage area.

You may be happy to learn that The Lion's Paw offers relief for those who have back aches and strains with the innovative line of Tempur-Pedic mattresses, pillows and sleep systems.

Customers who remember the Lion's Paw as a clothing store will continue to remember the store's signature fragrance line, the Niven Morgan Mojave collection. This is a fragrant and delightful assortment of bath and body products and candles with the scent of the flowers of the Mojave desert. The inimitable fragrance is one you will not want to be without once you become acquainted with it.

The Lion's Paw is a rare find of

unique furniture and accessories unduplicated on the island. It is highly sought after by discriminating clients who want just the perfect piece of designed or customized furniture to fit their décor, or to accessorize a room with antiques from Eastern Europe dating from the late 1800s.

As a browser, you can enjoy a leisurely visit and discover furniture and acces-

sories which may heighten your interest in these highly appealing styles, their beauty and commitment to comfort.

The Lion's Paw is located at 1025 Periwinkle Way near the Causeway in Sanibel, Florida. Tel. 472-0909 or fax 472-8833. You can learn more about the shop at www.lionspawsanibel.com



Some quick home improvement fixes

(NAPSI)-As the old saying goes, "Everything old is new again." And that's never been truer for today's home enthusiasts. Homeowners are not only looking for ways to provide functional quick fixes to items in and around their houses, but they also want their repairs to look good.

Here are some quick and easy suggestions for home repairs that will not only do the job, but also make these items look like new:

- To mend a cracked porcelain sink, use an epoxy adhesive (available at a local hardware store). First, follow the package directions for preparing the epoxy mix (do not use fast-drying epoxy). Make sure the sink surface is completely dry, and use a toothpick to fill the crack with the epoxy adhesive mixture.
- Rips, tears or cracks on items such as lawn chairs, suitcases, automobile seats and window screens can easily be fixed with Scotch transparent duct tape from 3M. The "clear" benefit is that this duct tape is transparent when applied, so repairs are less noticeable. Scotch transparent duct tape is water- and UV-resistant for both indoor and outdoor use and lasts six times longer than other heavy-duty duct tapes.
- Not happy with the look of your drapery hardware? Get a pegged coat rack that is the same width as your window and paint it to match the décor. Screw the board into place across the top of the window and hang tab-top curtain panels over the pegs for a fun new look.
- To take out carpet indentations from heavy furniture, grab a screwdriver and a steam iron. Use the screwdriver (a spoon or butter knife will do the trick, too) to loosen the matted carpet. Then, hold a steam iron one-quarter of an inch above the indented area so that the steam saturates the carpet. This will "fluff-up" the matted area and even out the carpet.
- Bumper stickers on your car seem like a good idea-until the novelty wears off. Have no fear-bumper stickers can be easily removed by applying nail polish remover with a soft cloth. Peel down a corner of the bumper sticker and run the cloth up and down the underside of the sticker while the adhesive loosens. Continue to peel back the bumper sticker and apply the remover.
- Patio furniture can take a beating from the elements. To make your outdoor furniture look like new, apply some automotive paste wax. Clean up a Plexiglass tabletop with full-strength vinegar. Simply spray it on and let it sit for a few minutes before wiping it off.

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Tips from the pros: storm clean-up safety

by Joe Sherinski,
Master Gardener

(NAPSI)—It seems safe to say, knowing what to do before, during and after a storm can help protect your family and your home.

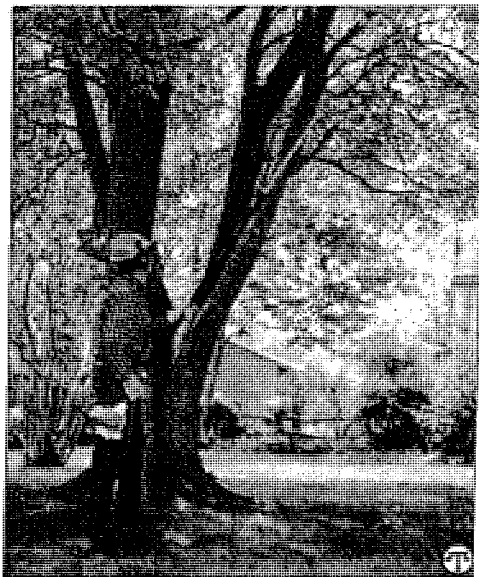
Be Prepared

Create a three-day disaster supply kit stocked with enough food, water, clothing, medicine and first aid supplies for everyone in your family. Have an evacuation plan ready in case local authorities order one.

Check for dead tree limbs and remove them. Pruning your trees will let wind pass through more easily, decreasing the chance of breakage. If the job is complicated or requires aboveground work, contact a certified arborist.

When a Storm Strikes

Stay inside and away from windows during a storm. Use flashlights equipped with fresh batteries rather than candles during outages. Remain alert



for the duration of the storm since the greatest damage can occur as winds attack already weakened structures and trees.

When a Storm Clears

Safety is vital in storm clean-up whether you're working to clear streets, yards or driveways. Watch out for downed power lines, and contact the power company immediately if you see them.

Always use proper starting techniques on power equipment. Never drop start a chain saw, overreach or work overhead. Routinely review the owner's manual. If purchasing new power equipment, visit a servicing dealer who can

assemble your equipment and give you specific operating instructions.

Always wear personal protective equipment. With chain saws and other cutting tools, use eye and ear protection, wear long sleeves, pants, gloves, a helmet, protective chaps and boots rated for use with power equipment.

For more information on outdoor power equipment safety, visit Stihl Incorporated's Web site at www.stihl-usa.com.

Joe Sherinski, a highly respected horticulturist and spokesperson for Stihl Incorporated, is host of GardenPower, a gardening vignette series broadcast in 30 markets throughout the country.

Everything from the floor to phone jacks

(NAPSA)—According to a recent Builder Magazine study, 54 percent of households have home offices and most architects now include them in new home plans. If your current home doesn't include an office, why not create one using an extra bedroom, underused closet or the kitchen pantry?

As in any remodeling job, start with the floors and walls. Stay away from carpet, which causes static electricity that can affect your electronics. Hardwood, while beautiful, is easily scratched by wheeled desk chairs. And although ceramic is durable, it will break most anything that you drop on it.

In the end, perhaps the best floor for a home office is luxury resilient flooring. Products like Nafco flooring come in tiles and planks that have the look and feel of ceramic and hardwood, with none of the disadvantages.

"Home offices are some of the busiest rooms in the house, so choose a floor that's beautiful, durable and low maintenance, like luxury vinyl tiles and planks," advises Diane Martel, vice president of marketing for Nafco.

For the walls, choose a color that invigorates you or hang art that inspires you. Also, make sure you have adequate electrical outlets, telephone jacks and data lines. Next, install the right lighting. You'll want a desk lamp for task lighting and built-in lighting fixtures for general lighting.

Purchase office furniture based on your work habits. If you like to spread out, get a big desk and perhaps a credenza. If you're neat and tidy, a petite desk or desk armoire might be adequate. Give yourself plenty of



Luxury resilient flooring makes an ideal floor for a home office.

storage space using file cabinets, shelving or baskets. And don't forget to purchase a comfortable chair.

Finally, and most importantly, identify the office equipment you will need, including a personal computer, printer, fax machine, copier and telephone. You might even consider hiring an expert to make sure it all functions properly. Once installed, get some conduit material to neatly hide computer wiring.

Whether you work at home or just like spending time on the Internet, treat yourself to a stylish, functional home office.

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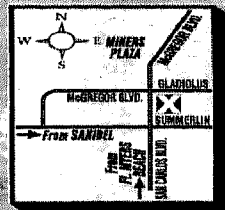
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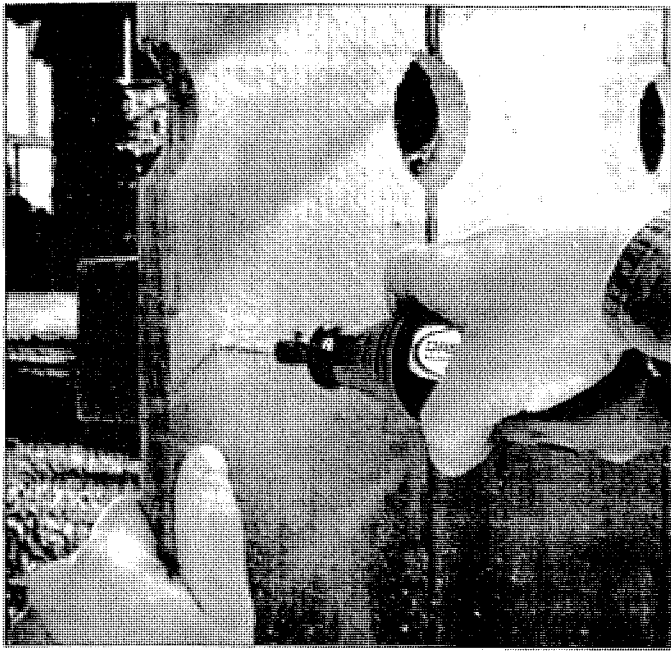
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Contest offers expert help to guide your garage makeover



Whether home owners are beginners or experts in the practice of garage organization, it's often a job that is dreaded by all. Keeping a garage in tip-top shape can be an overwhelming task, especially when trying to see past the clutter.

But, with a little help from expert carpenter Ty Pennington, as seen on the hit show *Trading Spaces*, Dremel can help transform your messy garage or a relative's garage into the envy of the neighborhood. Put simply, Dremel's Trade in Your Garbage Garage Contest gives one lucky garage the reorganization/revamp it needs.

Whether it's installing shelving, adding an outlet or creating workspaces, the versatility of Dremel tools can be easily demonstrated through a garage makeover. Even items stored in the garage can benefit from the rotary tool since it tackles everything from lawnmower sharpening to automotive detailing.

Dremel's Trade in Your Garbage Garage Contest, which runs through September 2, 2003 offers a great opportunity to take stock of your garage's condition and get it in shape.

The grand-prize winner will receive a garage revamp worth \$5,000 and a tool pack. The revamp will be lead by Pennington and will take place at the end of September.

Second and third place winners will receive \$250 and \$100, respectively, in addition to the tool pack, consisting of the MultiPro Rotary Tool and the Dremel Advantage Rotary Saw. The MultiPro tool features speeds ranging from 5,000 to 35,000 rpm for grinding, routing, cutting and more.

The Advantage is described as the fastest, most versatile rotary saw on the market. The adjustable depth guide is said to allow for accurate, measured cuts into materials up to one inch thick.

To enter:

- Submit a creative essay (500 words or less) explaining 1.) how the garage evolved into its current messy condition (focus on interior of garage); 2.) why the garage is in need of a revamp (again focusing on interior); and 3.) what problems a Dremel tool can solve in the garage.
- No more than three photos (3x5" or 4x6") of the messy garage.
- An entry form or a 3x5 index card with name and daytime phone number of the person making the nomination, the garage owner's name, address, garage size, daytime phone number and e-mail (optional) and mail it to Dremel Trade in Your Garbage Garage Contest, P.O. Box 1809, Elgin, IL 60121-1809. Entries may also be completed online at www.dremel.com.

Entries will be judged on the degree of interior garage chaos or clutter, the improvement potential for the garage and the essay creativity.

For the complete rules, consumers can visit www.dremel.com or call 1-800-437-3635.

Tips from the experts at Dremel and Ty Pennington

Getting started

Before you start, make sure you can finish. Consider the magnitude of the project, the cost, timing and your ability to complete the project before you start. An inaccurate estimate can lead to a bigger project. Avoid ending up with a hole in your wall or a table without chairs.



Ty Pennington

bill to get a rough estimate because it's six inches long.

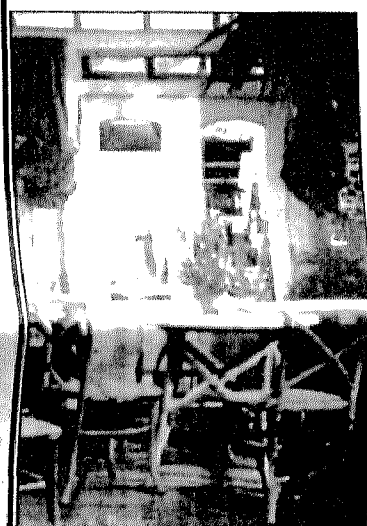
"Cut it long and you can't go wrong." It never hurts to cut materials longer than you anticipate because you can always make them shorter, if needed.

Measuring tricks

"Use a buck in a pinch, it's exactly six inches." If you're stuck without a tape measure to determine the length of your material, use a dollar

"Good advice to measure thrice." The old carpenter's saying is to measure twice and cut once but it's always a good idea to check, check and recheck your work to ensure the accurate length.

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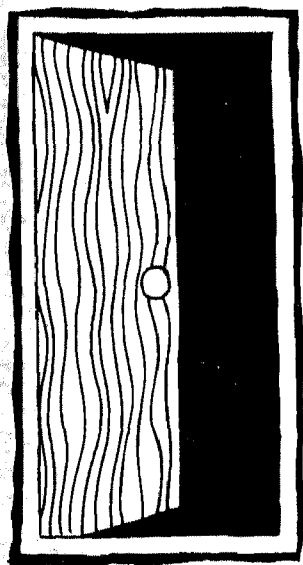
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Arts & Leisure

Veronica's Room: a room with a twisted view

By Erik Burriss
Staff Writer

"Who are these people?" is the question that fairly leaps to mind during intermission at *Veronica's Room*.

By the time the lights come back up at the Florida Repertory Theatre's production, that question is still percolating in the back of your mind.

The play begins with an elderly couple, servants of a patrician New England household, asking college student Susan to dress up like the family's late daughter, Veronica, dead since 1935 of consumption. The idea being the surviving, crazy daughter — it's now 1973 — needs reassuring that Veronica isn't angry, she's staying away from her for fear of contagion.

The first act seems innocuous enough, if kind of creepy, since it takes place in Veronica's bedroom, still decked out in Depression-era furnishings like a Victrola with "Shuffle off to Buffalo" on the turntable.

Zolan Henderson, with the aid of a magnificent fake moustache, is the highlight of the first act. As Larry, Susan's lawyer date, he tries to convince her things may not be what they seem, maybe this addle-patted old Irish couple have something sinister, like trying to find where the family jewels have been hid, up their sleeves.

Unconvinced by Larry, and having

been in her high school play, Susan agrees to play the role, donning one of Veronica's dresses and putting her hair in a complicated '30s style. As the first act ends, Susan is working on a jigsaw puzzle left behind by Veronica.

Creepy devolves into full-fledged madness as soon as the second act starts and the characters show their true selves. Or do they? In what must be a challenge for the actor, each character takes on from two to four separate roles during the second act each with a different accent, different mannerisms, different way of walking. Florida Rep veteran Stephanie Davis handles the most, and handles them with skill and aplomb while Bari Newport as Susan seems much more comfortable in the high-pressure, high-drama second act than in the more carefree and semi-whimsical first act.

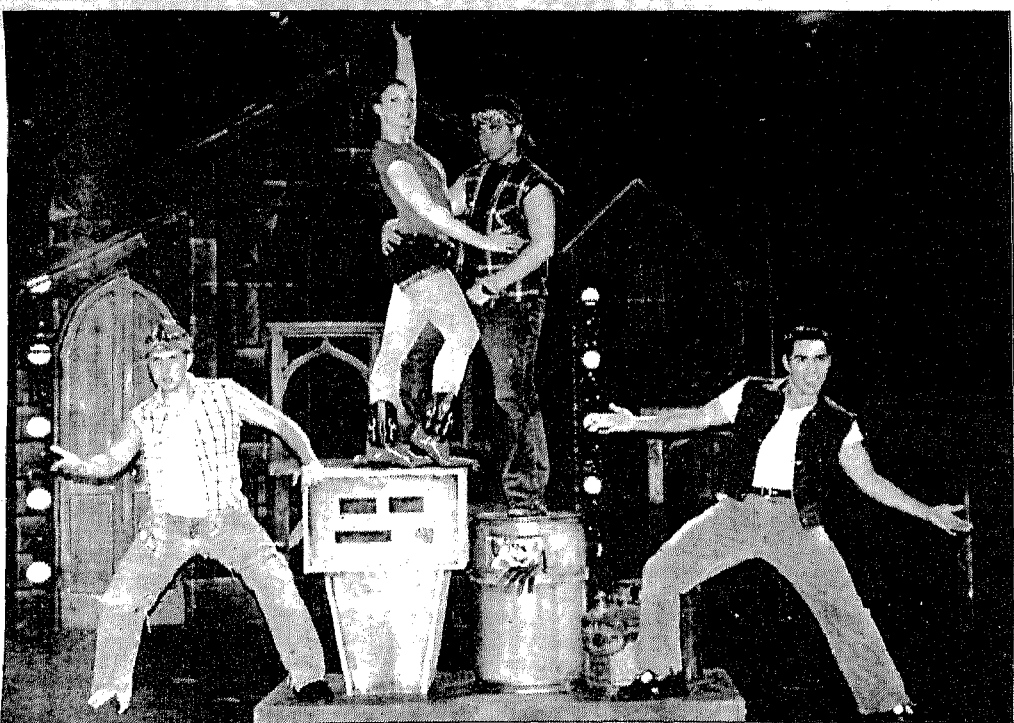
Of course madness should be expected since author Ira Levin also penned "Rosemary's Baby," "The Boys from Brazil," and "The Stepford Wives."

Levin's script explores the meaning of identity and the thin walls that separate sanity from madness. There is a bit too much humor sprinkled throughout the second act for a truly effective thriller, but on the whole the production is a thought-provoking experience.

"Veronica's Room" runs Wednesdays-Sundays through Aug. 3 at the Arcade Theatre in downtown Fort Myers.



Susan inspects the late Veronica's hairpin as her date Larry (Zolan Henderson) looks on.



The performers in the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre's *Footloose*, cut loose with a musical number. The show is playing through Aug. 30.

Footloose serves up rollicking good time

So what if there's no
Kevin Bacon or
John Lithgow?

By Kate Thompson
Staff writer

Footloose has opened at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre in Fort Myers. For anyone who loves rock and roll, it's a difficult show to sit through — you want to get up and dance along with the cast.

Don't miss this one — the play's terrific and the cast does a great job and makes it look like they're having a wonderful time. They may be — but I think the audience gets to have even more fun watching.

If you've never seen the movie —

where WERE you in the 1980s? — the tale centers on a high school senior forced to move with his mother to Bomont, a small town somewhere in the Midwest. The town of Bomont is still under the cloud of a fatal car accident years earlier following a dance. As a result, dancing has been outlawed and the teen-agers in the town are all looking for outlets for their energy.

The songs from "Holding out for a hero," to "Let's hear it for the boy," to "Almost Paradise" and, of course, "Footloose," are familiar toe-tapping fun.

The high school senior, Ren McCormack, takes on the local minister, Rev. Shaw Moore, whose son was one of

Footloose, see page 27

CENTER STAGE

On the road with Marsha

The next three concerts at Colorado College Summer Music festival Series feature diverse artists from various prestigious music colleges, who not only teach but also perform as artists either alone or in Chamber ensembles, Symphony or Ballet Orchestras throughout the rest of the year. The audiences attending the Summer Music Festival are treated to all these incredible solo artists playing together in a group. Resulting in hearing some incredibly beautiful performing some extraordinarily difficult seldom performed music by well-known and lesser well known composers.

Because I was late for the second of the Festival Of Artists Concert, I didn't get my usual seat (first row audience left) but instead sat in the balcony in the middle of the music students attending the 2003 Summer Music Program. The enthusiasm was so potent the whole balcony rose up another notch every time they applauded. How wonderful to be young and absolutely loving what you are doing, music in this instance.

This series featured three composers, born in the early or mid 20th century. All were strongly influence by the French composers Poulenc, Ravel and Debussy. The opening work was the Trio for Flute, Oboe and Piano by Madeleine Dring (English born 1923). Dring's music shows a great affinity with Francis Poulenc. The first movement is totally French charm par excellence, the second movement is slow and simple, a clever dialogue between the flute and oboe. The closing is fast and jocular, a jolly romp.

The playing by the fine musical trio was fresh, effervescent, matching note for note the sprightly wit of Dring's delightful trio. Sarabande et Cortage by Henri Dutilleul (French born 1916). This work was commissioned by the Conservatoire where the composer taught. These were to be utilized as test pieces "for various instruments, that were required for competitions and were to challenge the students on the idiomatic techniques of their particular instruments." Even though the two musicians Michael Kroth-bassoon and Susan Grace- piano, played extremely well, this musical composition left me cold. Listening for enjoyment in this work is an acquired taste. The final work in the first half was Prelude, recitatif et variations, Op.3 by Maurice Durlle (French 1902-1986). This particular piece reminded the listener of Debussy at nearly every turn, but its expressive melodies and unusual rhythms had a character all its own, this work is very picturesque. It's another one of those deceptively simple seeming pieces which in actuality is technically difficult, calling for precise ensemble playing which the musicians handled effortlessly and exactly. The finale was the Octet for Strings in E flat Major, Op.20 by Mendelssohn. This is prelude study for the eventual fairy music Mendelssohn used for Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The work was written when Mendelssohn was a precocious 16 year old and written for his family's Sunday evenings of music making in their house. As it turned out this work was the highlight of the evening, utilizing the talented guest faculty playing brilliantly in

ensemble. Also playing was our young maestro conductor Scott Yoo playing the violin using as much gusto playing as he does conducting.

The final Festival Chamber Student Orchestra Concert brought Maestro Yoo back to the podium leading his students in an evening of truly remarkable concertizing. Once again seated in my favorite perch front row aisle left, with the bird's eye view of maestro Scott Yoo conducting. The Overture to *The Barber of Seville* got us off to a flying start. Yoo is the kind of conductor that isn't afraid to use and all body language to get the results he wants. His energy and exuberance reminds me of an oriental Keith Lockhart while he was still assistant conductor to Eric Kunzel at the Cincinnati Pops before he took over the Boston Pops. Yoo has the same driving energy, sharp cues and equally sharp cutoffs. As for the student orchestra their body language, facial expressions and enthusiastic playing made it clear that they enjoyed performing under this conductor's direction.



MARSHA WAGNER

It's another one of those deceptively simple seeming pieces, which in actuality is technically difficult, calling for precise ensemble playing which the musicians handled effortlessly and exactly.

Bartok's Music for Strings, Percussion and Celesta, Sz. 106 tested everyone's mettle. The first movement has rather complex tonal procedures. The opening movement begins rather quietly, builds to a loud, thrilling middle where Bartok adds tympani, cymbals and bass drum, which wanes after a bit only to have the whole section inverted (played upside down musically), then come back right side up again as well as upside down at the same time ending in a WOW! The effect is nothing short of stupendous, proclaiming that this is truly a masterpiece of orchestral music from the first half of the 20th century. The students out did themselves as did Maestro Yoo at one point after some fast and furious cues the baton literally flew out into the orchestra, but he kept right on conducting. It was an amazing rendition of this seldom performed masterpiece, which had the audience enraptured, and demanded six curtain calls.

After intermission a sweeping performance of the Violin Concerto in E Minor Op.64 by Mendelssohn brought guest artist / faculty member Sefan Hersh on the violin. Conductor Yoo created a beautiful musical frame with the students in the orchestra, allowing Hersh to be the sparkling musical centerpiece in this perfectly, lovely, most famous and popular of all concertos, with its many memorable melodies and the infamous cadenza for solo violin.

Beethoven's overture to Egmont, Op.84 blasted off with the heroic opening chords and kept the pace till the triumphal ending

chords. Yet another gem, in this gem of a Summer Music Festival at Colorado College. Bravo!

The last concert that I was able to attend was another Festival Artists Concert utilizing the faculty and guest artists. There actually are two more concerts the final Student Concert and a blow off concert featuring faculty, guest artists and students, but I'm off to my next stop Marietta, Ohio.

The evening opened with Promenades for Violin, Flute and Harpsichord by Bohuslav Martinu. The Promenades would put anyone in a Spring frame of mind in a hop, skip and a jump. The work was pure whimsy, sort of a hummingbird harmonics with its trills, tweets, and whistles. It was charmingly played by the trio of Michael Parloff, flute; Mark Fewer, violin; Susan Grace, harpsichord. Strauss' *Til Eulenspiegel-Einmal Anders!* "Til" was given a whole new slant. Arranger Franz Havenohrl, who transposed this orchestral work, and pared it down for a Chamber Quintet, consisting of violin, clarinet, bassoon, horn and bass. The effect was most pleasing the musical themes rang through loud and clear, the tempos echoed the clarity with crisp tempos without pause, so that the work zoomed along like many of Til's merry pranks. Next on the bill was Turina's Piano Quartet in A minor, Op.67. The Quartet is sensual, picturesque music that evokes the passion, warmth, bright sun of Andalusian Spain. And the only rain that fell in Spain was the rain of applause at the end of the lovely, well played work. After

Intermission we were treated to a brand new work *The Piano Trio* (2002) by Patrick Zimmerli (b. 1968). This piece was commissioned by Scott Yoo, co-founder, director and violinist with the Metamorphosed Chamber orchestra.

This final work was the highlight of the evening. Not only was it brilliantly performed by Yoo, violin; Bion Tsang, cello; and John Novacek, piano. The Piano Trio is a wonderful jazzy work, full of color, a patch work of different sounds, melodies, rhythms and moods, driving along at a 21st century pace. The edgy music also has surprisingly peaceful, expansive moments, where you almost hold your breath, and just go with the flow. The audience response was an instant, standing ovation,



Marsha Wagner with a horse during her recent trip to Colorado. She's decided she's hooked on riding and wants to learn dressage.

wild calls of bravos and six curtain calls for not only the musicians but also for the composer who happened to be in the house.

As you've probably guessed I was most impressed with this incredible music festival. The caliber of the guest faculty, students, and programming is varied and has something for everyone. If you find yourself going to the Colorado Springs area next June write to: Summer Music Festival Colorado College, 14 E. Cache La Poudre St., Colorado Springs, Co. 80903

Ask them to place your name on their mailing list to receive concert schedules and news of the Colorado College Summer Music Festival. When you write don't forget to tell Oem Marsha sent you. Next I'm off to Marietta Ohio and the big Calliope Festival in beautiful downtown Marietta.

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Kids Conspiracy

The next Kids Conspiracy show is in August when we return to our roots at the Cultural Park Theatre. Some of you might not realize this but Kids Conspiracy's founders, Gary Obeldobel and myself, did our first children's theater production at CPT in 1998 and we quickly built a following. CPT became unavailable to us so we moved to the Foulds. While Gary left in 2000, he is still doing children's theater, most recently at the Bonita Springs Art League.

Thanks to the vision of CPT director Leo Wolfe, we are going back to Cape Coral.

Sleeping Beauty

A production that's over 100 years in the making wakes up audiences with dancing, comedy and music. Rest assured, Kid's Conspiracy's Sleeping Beauty by Blanche Marvin will be presented August 2, in Cape Coral; and August 8, 9, and 16 in Fort Myers.

With a "doze" of pageantry and elaborate costumes, this timeless classic is a restoration comedy based on music from Tchaikovsky's Sleeping Beauty Ballet Suite. Court life is spoofed through fop-pish gents and bickering ladies who continually angle for the graces of royalty before their ultimate slumber party. Baffled by all this is Prince Charming who guides the audience through an amazing story that will be the Sleeper Hit of Summer.

Sleeping Beauty by Blanche Marvin

will be presented at the Cultural Park Theatre in Cape Coral on Saturday, August 2 at 11:30 am and 1 pm. The show will then be presented at the Foulds Theatre in Fort Myers on Friday, August 8 at 7 p.m.; Saturday August 9 at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. and Saturday August 16 at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tickets are \$5 with group rates available. For information, call 936-3239. The Cultural Park Theatre is located at 528 Cultural Park Blvd. in Cape Coral. The Foulds Theatre is located at the Lee County Alliance of the Arts, 10091 McGregor Blvd., in Fort Myers.

Kids Conspiracy, founded in 1999, presents quality theater year round for families using local actors. Kids Conspiracy is the children's theater division of Theatre Conspiracy Inc., a 501 (c)3 non-profit theater company and the resident theater company of the Foulds Theatre.

Beaux Arts Masque Ball

The Art League of Bonita Springs has announced its annual 'Beaux Arts Masque Ball' dinner and auctions.

The evening features cocktails, silent and live auctions, dinner and dancing. Tickets are \$200 per person; patron tickets are available for \$250 per person.

Proceeds support the Art League's community programs for all ages in the diverse Bonita Springs community.

The event is slated for 7 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 31, 2004, and will be held at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point in Bonita Springs. For more information or tickets, call 239-495-8989.

PERFORMING ARTS

ON THE ISLANDS

Island Cinema

Bailey's Shopping Center ~ 472-1701

- *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen* (PG13) starring Sean Connery and Jason Fleming.
- *Charlie's Angels—Full Throttle* (PG13)
- *Sinbad—Legend of the Seven Seas* (PG13)

Call for times & prices and ask about the Frequent Movie-goer Program.

Old Schoolhouse Theater

1908 Periwinkle ~ 472-6862

- *The Big Bang*
Through August 16th

SCA Periwinkle Playhouse

2200 Periwinkle ~ Call 278-0003 or OOTBP at 275-3046.

- *Disaster Piece Theatre*
Two special performances by Out of the Box Production on July 18 & 19 benefitting Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Florida's mentoring program for teenage girls in foster care.
July 18, 6:30—Reception & show \$65
July 19, 5:30—Dinner & show \$100

BIG ARTS

900 Dunlop Road ~ 395-0900

Schein Hall

Summer Movies for Families

- July 23rd — *The Rookie*
- July 30th — *Grease*

Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Tickets at door: \$5/Adults; \$3/Age 14 & younger. Children must be accompanied by adult. The Junior Optimists Club will run a concession stand.

IN NAPLES

Naples Dinner Theatre

1025 Piper Boulevard ~ (239) 514-7827

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June 28th-August 16th, \$25
- *Annie*
Through August 17th

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- *Footloose: The Musical*
July 10th-August 30

Off Broadway Palm Theatre

1380 Colonial Boulevard ~ 278-4422

- *A Star Spangled Revue*
Through August 16

Children's Theatre

- *Jungle Book*
Selected matinees July 25 - Aug. 23, \$13

Florida Repertory Theatre

Bay Street between Jackson & Hendry
332-4488

- *Veronica's Room*
July 11 - Aug. 3, \$15-\$32

Summer arts exhibits on display

The Annual Summer Art Exhibits by Sanibel-Captiva Art League members are on view at BIG ARTS and Sanibel Public Library. Both buildings are on Dunlop Rd. next to City Hall. BIG ARTS' Phillips Art Gallery has more than 60 paintings along with 100 FISHWORKS by the artists of Sanibel Elementary School.

The large mosaic fish that will be permanently installed in the new school is included. Founders Gallery next to the office features many large impressive tropical scenes by advanced watercolorists. Call 395-0900 for more information.

The library also has a display of local scenes, wildlife, still life and abstract paintings in a variety of media.

For library hours call 472-8423. For more information about the art league's portrait workshops, paintouts or meetings call 472-8834, 472-2726 or write to Sanibel-Captiva Art League, P.O. Box 1192, Sanibel FL 33957.



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MOVIE REVIEW

The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen is extraordinarily bad

By Kate Thompson
Staff writer

There are some actors that I would pay to watch if they were reading the phone book. Sean Connery is one of them.

Unfortunately, he'd have been better off reading the phone book than doing his latest movie, *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*. At least the phone book has some logic you can follow.

The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen may be the worst movie I've watched in years, with the possible exception of *Moonlight in da Escanaba* (if you haven't seen that one either, count yourself fortunate).

I'm not a big fan of comic books having not spent most of my childhood immersed in them. My parents kept buying me books and Superman just never

appealed to me. Still, a number of comic books have successfully been made into movies including Superman, the first Batman and X-men, to name three.

I wanted to like the movie. Disappointed is too mild a word for my reaction.

The time is 1899 and the world is in peril from an evil mastermind. Connery plays Alan Quartermain, who is recruited by the British government to put together a group to combat the forces of darkness. There are: Captain Nemo – played as written by Jules Verne by Naseeruddin Shah; a vampiress Mina Harker played by Peta Wilson; Rodney Skinner, an invisible man, played by Tony Curran; American Secret Service agent Thomas Sawyer, played by Shane West; Dorian Gray, played by Stuart Townsend; Dr. Jekyll, played by Jason Flemyng.

The first half of the movie focuses on getting the league together. It worked

although they spend as much time fighting each other as they do talking at the start. It also sets up more subplots than would seem possible – nearly one for every character.

The movie moves faster than you can say "to Venice" which is where the action heads aboard Nemo's *The Nautilus*. There, the evil mastermind, the Phantom (their spelling), is going to blow up world leaders during an international conference.

Well, somebody's always going to try to blow up world leaders so you can't fault that. But to explain what's wrong with the movie would ruin it – such as it is. I'm tempted to do it anyway, since if you take my recommendation, you won't waste your time or money on it. But I'm not going to.

The action and violence are nonstop and it switches from one fight scene and plot to the next and was hard to follow.

Suffice it to say, that this film can't make up its mind what plot to follow for longer than five minutes; the action is hokey and the special effects have all been done better in other films. None of the actors does a bad job but they all have a rotten script and worse lines.

The only fun in the film is trying to figure out if you've caught every reference to other literature written by, among others, Mark Twain, Jules Verne (besides those starring Nemo), Edgar Allan Poe, Sax Rohmer, Charles Dickens, and Dante.

The movie is rated PG-13 for fantasy violence, language and innuendo. There's little that would embarrass parents but the fantasy violence is pretty bloody at times – with one of the characters a vampire, what can you expect? The good news, however, is that while she may be a bit bloody, the audience doesn't have to look at the victims.

Naples Dinner Theater: presents The Beat Goes On

Artistic Director Michael Wainstein is pleased to announce a revue of seventies music and entertainment, *The Beat Goes On*, a salute to the music and entertainment of the years between 1968 and 1979. The show is being created by the Naples Dinner Theatre's Artistic Director, Musical Director Jeremy Randall and choreographer Christopher Noffke.

Conceived as a musical celebration, *The Beat Goes On* features eight outstanding singers in a two-hour show packed full of music from the seventies that includes Disco, Beatles, Abba, The Carpenters, Loggins and Messina, David Bowie, Elton John, Helen Reddy, Stevie Wonder, The Jacksons, Donny and Marie, The Rolling Stones, Sonny and Cher, Simon and Garfunkel, Motown, James Taylor, Carly Simon, The Supremes, and many more. Incorporating both music and salutes to Television, Film, Broadway's Rock Operas, and TV commercials. The fast paced show will also pay homage to the political events that made the seventies significant. Sketches include tributes to the Dating Game, Memorable moments from TV, commercials and films, Motown (*You are the Sunshine of My Life*, *Ain't No Mountain High Enough*, *I'll be There*, *Three Times a Lady*, and more), Disco (*I Will Survive*, selections by Abba, hits from Saturday Night Fever, *YMCA*, *Last Dance* and others), country songs (John Denver, Glenn Campbell, Loretta Lynn, Johnny Cash, etc.), Silly Love Songs, and The Gong Show.

The cast includes Shawna Hamic, from California, whose powerhouse vocals are reminiscent of Aretha Franklin, Christopher Noffke, resident choreographer and per-

former at NDT for the past year, Akil, an accomplished singer and artist from North Carolina, and from New York City, Rubin Singleton, Nicole Noelle Winter, Molly Curry, Nicole Alessi and Justin Wilcox.

The Beat Goes On begins regular performances as the first main stage show of the fall NDT season with two low-priced previews (\$35 for dinner and show) on August 20th and 21st. Opening night is officially slated for August 22nd. See the website for more information at www.naplesdinnertheatre.com.

Performances are Tuesday through Saturday nights (dinner 6 p.m., show 8 p.m.), Wednesday and Sunday matinees (lunch/brunch 11:30 a.m., show 1:15 p.m.), and one Sunday evening twilight on August 24th (dinner 5 p.m., show 6:45 p.m.). (Always, Patsy Cline will play on Saturday Matinees and Sunday Twilights thereafter.)

The Naples Dinner Theatre serves a full buffet prior to each show, consisting of an array of temptingly fresh salads, hot entrees including a vegetarian entrée, 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.

Tickets cost \$37.50 for Wednesday and Sunday matinees, and \$42.50 at all evening performances. Full price tickets includes meal, tax and show but not 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). The box office is open daily from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. All sales are final, no refunds or exchanges. *Nunsense* is the second Naples Dinner Theatre fall show, beginning performances on September 21st.

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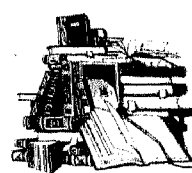
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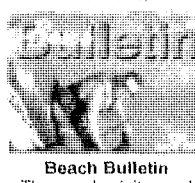
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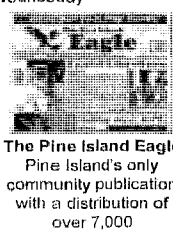
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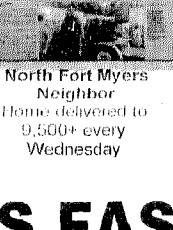
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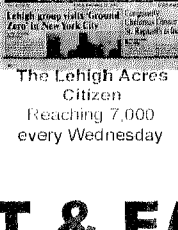
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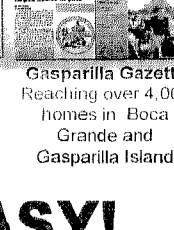
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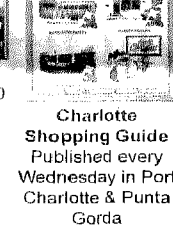
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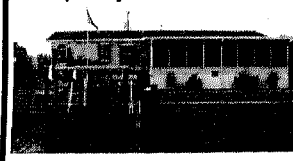
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Deep Water Sailboat Canal
115 ft. Seawall
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1480 sq. ft.
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27,000 sq. ft. lot mini estate

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High end designer

furnishings.
Cathedral ceilings,
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\$46,900.
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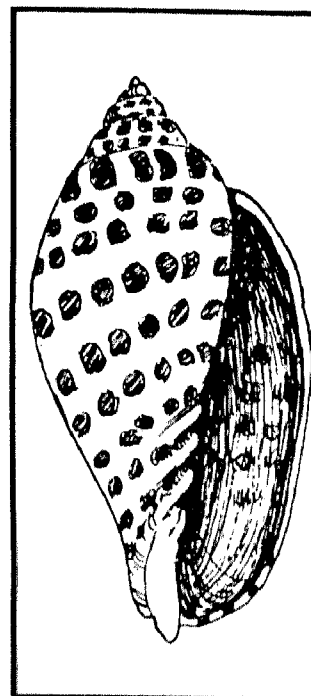
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ENTRIES

ACROSS

1 Premiere
6 Conclude a
deal
11 Mr. Oleson
of "Little
House . . ."
15 Machine part
18 Winter wear
20 "All — Am I"
(62 song)
21 Draft
animals
22 Tackled a
faco
23 Start of a
remark by
Drake
Salther
26 Poet
McKuen
27 Crony
28 Sense
29 Active
volcano
30 Bleaching
agent
32 Composer
Bartok
33 Pale tan
35 Showy
shrub
36 Photo
session
39 Lingerie
item
40 Where
blades meet
41 Part 2 of
remark
44 Drescher
of "The
Nanny"
46 Catch sight
of

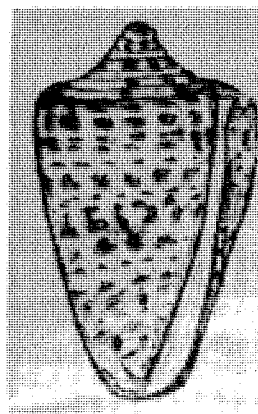
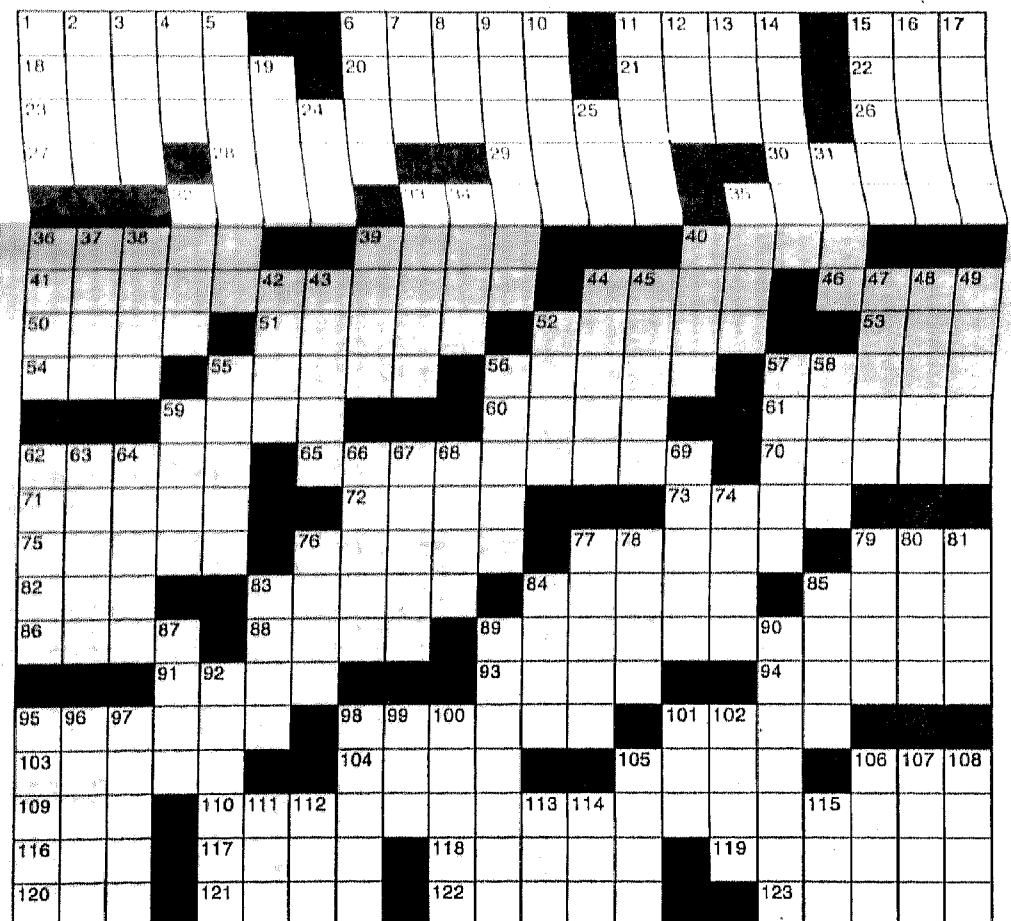
50 "— Lang
Syne"
51 Biscayne
Bay city
52 Coquette
53 Status —
54 Paid player
55 Chorus
member
56 Skirt feature
57 Autumn
decoration
59 German
auto
engineer
60 Steinbeck's
"— of
Eden"
61 Clear the
slate
62 Lipstick
shade
65 Part 3 of
remark
70 Tag
71 Bikini,
e.g.
72 Out of
control
73 Football's
Mel
75 Po land
76 Abrasive
substance
77 Took a
shot at
79 Cotton
clump
82 Musical
syllables
83 Ford or
Miller
84 Gaiety
85 Spanish
surrealist

86 "— take
arms against
a sea . . ."
88 Cooking fat
89 Part 4 of
remark
91 Revere or
Robeson
93 Cardinal's
residence
94 VCR button
95 Feel
contrite
98 Grow up
101 Machu
Picchu
native
103 Jeremy of
"The Time
Machine"
104 First name
in fashion
105 Genealogy
diagram
106 Vigor
109 Cartoonist
Browne
110 End of
remark
116 Scrape by,
with "out"
117 Bronte
heroine
118 "Dallas"
matriarch
119 Contradiction
120 Actor Liotta
121 TV's "The —
McCoys"
122 Mr. Savalas
123 Beatrice's
beau
DOWN
1 Moist
36 Cinch

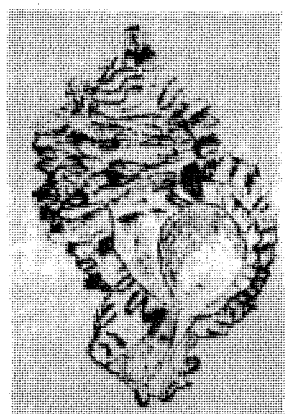
2 "Only Time"
singer
3 — over
(astonish)
4 Psychic
Geller
5 Lustrous
fabric
6 Comic Mort
7 Lilly of
pharma-
ceuticals
8 Finished first
9 Slowly
10 Trattoria
treat
11 Wanderer
12 Switchboard
abbr.
13 Tolstoy or
Gorcey
14 Nap
15 Heiss on
the ice
16 Right a
wrong
17 Mythical
sorceress
19 Boat bottom
24 Japanese
export
25 Lodging
31 Middle-
weight
Tony
32 William of
"Hopalong
Cassidy"
33 Texas
landmark
34 Actress
Verna
35 Cousin's
mom
Eastern
airline

37 "In the
Midnight —"
(65 tune)
38 Christiania,
today
39 Vast
quantities
40 Pub missile
42 Untouchable
figure
43 "Hungarian
Rhapsodies"
composer
44 Soft tissue
45 Lasso
47 Young
pigeon
48 Cash stash
49 Mountain-
eer's
melody
52 Imperfection
55 Beer
storage?
56 Bothersome
57 Very cold
58 Algerian port
59 Cinderella's
solree
62 African
capital
63 Aquatic
mammal
64 Prepare
chestnuts
66 Actor Rusty
67 Improve
68 Ripped
69 Fagin, for
one
74 Architect
Saarinen
76 Middle
Eastern
airline

77 "— Eyes"
(69 hit)
78 Be still
79 Breaker
80 Pianist
Templon
81 Soil
83 Oversupply
84 "Believe"
singer
85 — vu
87 Ready for
business
89 Nestle
90 Pulled
back
92 Response
95 TV's "Knight
—"
96 Slezak or
Eleniak
97 Hokey —
98 "Psycho"
setting
99 Ryan's
"Love Story"
co-star
100 Belief
101 Wrath
102 Social misfit
105 He and
she
106 Ache
107 Part of
Q.E.D.
108 Goofy
Gomer
111 Deli loaf
112 Levin or
Gershwin
113 Under the
weather
114 Zip
115 All — day's
work

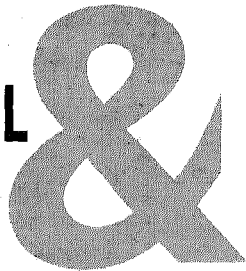


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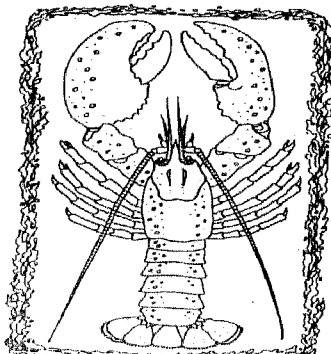
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Footloose, from page 18



The cast of Footloose, now playing at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre in Fort Myers.

those killed in the crash. He just wants to dance – and date Moore's daughter Ariel.

Alan Swadener plays Ren McCormack. He may not be Kevin Bacon but he's still cute, energetic and fun to watch. Noel Molinelli does Ariel, investing this good "bad girl" with just the right nuances.

In the movie, John Lithgow stole the show from Bacon and this Rev. Shaw Moore also nearly steals the show. Don Meehan, a veteran performer of both film and stage, plays him brilliantly.

In staging this play, the Broadway Palm also cast Emily Mulligan-Ferry in three roles – Lulu Warnicker, Betty Blast and Irene. Every time she's on stage, the audience knows it.

I'm glad they managed to lure her away from Phoenix for these parts. I don't even remember the actress who played the part in the film so Mulligan-Ferry seemed to me to own these roles.

McCormack's mother is played by Jennie Hollander, who does a good job as does Kelly Jo Eldredge as Vi Moore, the reverend's wife.

The sets were great, the lighting was terrific and the directing, by Paul Gregory Nelson, was on target.

The orchestra includes Gary Stroh as conductor and

on keyboards – and I never heard a note off-key.

In any musical production – especially one that focuses on dancing as a key theme – the choreography is critical. In the Broadway Palm's production of Footloose, the dance numbers were choreographed by Ron Hutchins – who did a terrific job.

Footloose is playing through Aug. 10. Tickets range from \$15 to \$42 and can be purchased by calling the box office at 239-278-4422 or by stopping by the theatre at 1380 Colonial Blvd. in Fort Myers.

The theatre's website is at www.BroadwayPalm.com.



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Presented by
Margie Davison

SUMMER IS HERE: TIME TO SELL?

November is the beginning of season and typically when sellers in Southwest Florida put their home on the market. However, with many more interested buyers in the marketplace as a result of record low interest rates, sellers might want to consider putting their home on the market now. The past few weeks have been the best for sales that we have had all year. Loans are more affordable, creating more investment possibilities for home buyers of all levels.

Generally, the advantage goes to the seller when there are fewer homes available for sale. In season when more homes become available, the competition between sellers increases and gives buyers more to compare and choose from. Buyers may be less interested in compromising their specific needs for a house and may take longer to look around at other properties that are for sale before committing to a purchase.

Ask your real estate agent to inform you about homes similar to yours that have come on the market and sold recently. This will give you a good idea of how long it will take to sell your home and what your asking price should be.

Margie specialized in Sanibel, Captiva and Ft. Myers real estate. She was named Realtor of The Year by Sanibel and Captiva Assn. of Realtors in 2000 and 2002, and she is co-author of the book, "HOW TO MAKE YOUR REALTOR GET YOU THE BEST DEAL-SOUTH FLORIDA EDITION." Call Margie at PMR 472-1511, or e-mail her at Margie@MargieDavison.com



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