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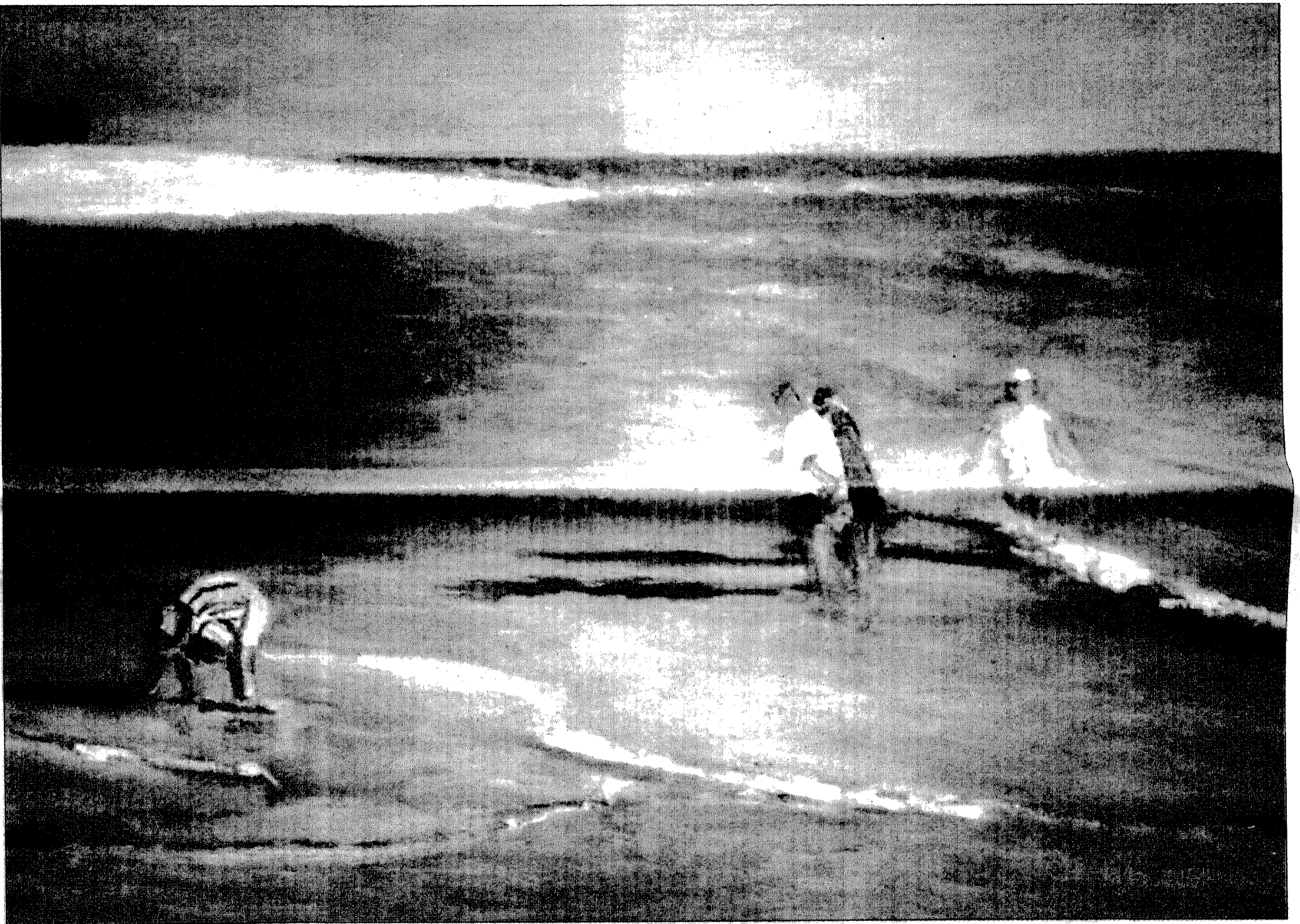
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Vol. 42, No. 24

Week of August 1 - 7, 2003

28 Pages



'The Shellers,' an acrylic by Josephine Schneider, is one of the paintings on display in the San-Cap Art League Summer Members Exhibit hanging at BIG ARTS and at the Sanibel Library.



The Home Improvement Pages
take a look at Bob Gwiz's re-
upholstery magic.

See page 15.

Val — we'll all miss you.

See obituary on page 6



North to Alaska...

by Nola Theiss
Occasional travel writer

What do you do if you love to travel and get great pleasure out of a bargain? You become expert at using frequent flyer miles and finding internet bargains, that's what. This summer, I used my newly found skill to get to Alaska, one of those places on my list of places I've always wanted to see.

True to its name, I found what appeared to be a perfect last-minute cruise to Alaska scheduled to leave in two weeks. Let me define a perfect cruise: not a huge ship, not an old ship, not a "young, hip" ship, but one that emphasized good food and service. We wanted a good itinerary and the price had to be at least 50 percent less than the brochure price.

This was a bit of a challenge as it required coordinating frequent flyer tickets with the dates and locations of the cruise. The only flight date which had three available tickets to Anchorage to make a cruise with a ridiculously low price on a Holland America ship was July 4. This meant missing the parade and festivities but, since I am celebrating my own independence this year, leaving town on Independence Day seemed appropriate.

Although the cruise ended in Vancouver, the return flight originated in Seattle. Since I had cousins to visit in Vancouver and friends to see in Seattle, that difficulty became a bonus.

After arriving in Anchorage at nine p.m. on the 4th, with a four-hour time difference, we were not willing to stay up until midnight when it's barely is dark enough to see the fireworks. We hadn't planned enough time for a land tour,

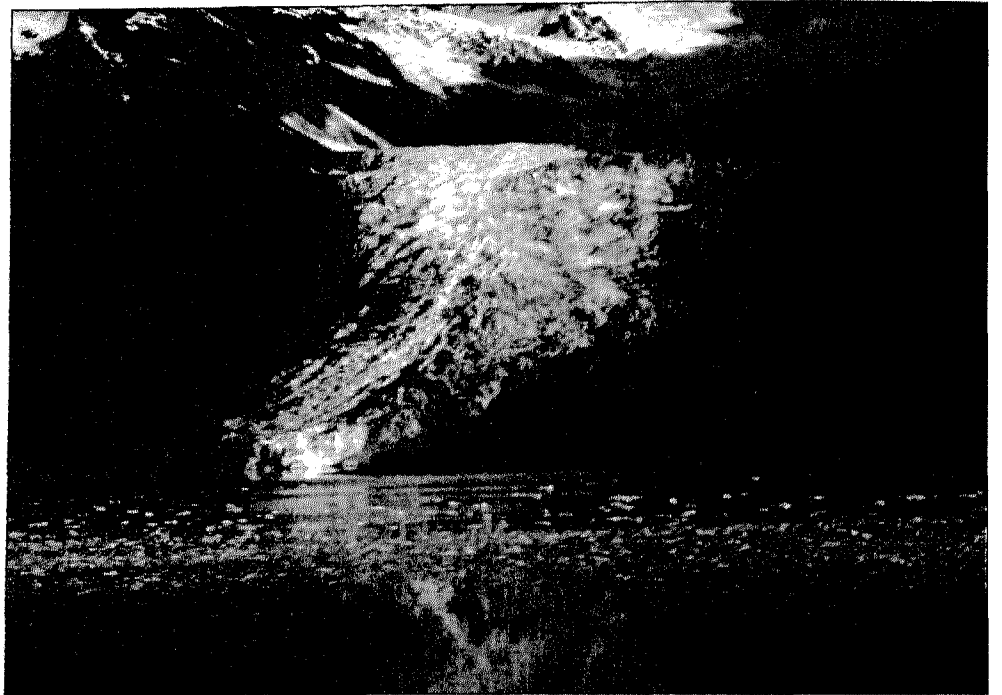
although whenever one talks to someone who has already been on a cruise in Alaska, they usually recommend tacking on a trip to Denali National Park.

We didn't because of our schedule and because, if booked through the cruise line, a few extra days can double the cost. Later, we talked to many fellow passengers who went to Denali and most enjoyed the experience, although they complained about the rain and the unreliability of bears and wildlife to make appearances on demand. After years of experience as nature guides ourselves on Captiva Cruises, we didn't regret hearing the grumbling.

In our day and a half in Anchorage, we walked around the city and took the hour-long city trolley tour. The driver was a native Alaskan who showed us the sights, including the streets of downtown Anchorage, some of which dropped ten feet during the 1964 earthquake.

He tried to impress us with the average price of a home of \$200,000 which he found astonishing, and the new Barnes & Noble, Wal-Mart and Costco which are changing the city into one that looks a lot like other small Western cities, except for the fact that Mt. McKinley can be seen in the background.

Also, the airport is filled with small airplanes which use canals as runways. One in 60 Alaskans owns an airplane because there are so few roads and so much land. It appeared that most of them were at the Anchorage airport — it was the only crowded place we saw! Only Wyoming is less populated per square mile, in spite of the fact that each man, woman and child who lives in Alaska receives between \$1,200 to \$2,000 per year from the state as his or her share of the interest of the permanent state fund based on oil revenues.



There's no state income tax and one can still homestead on free land.

As a native Chicagoan, I was surprised to find that the average temperature and snowfall is about the same in Anchorage as Chicago. Our taxi driver (who brought his six-year old son along for the ride) was a native of Clearwater who loved the laid-back attitude of the Alaskans who take time to talk and don't worry too much about schedules.

We also visited the great Anchorage Museum of History & Art and learned the differences among the four major native cultures. We were lucky enough to be in Anchorage for the Saturday Market which was filled with booths of organic vegetables, smoked salmon, handmade soap and jewelry. If we had had another day, we could have easily grabbed a train and gone out to the bush to get a feel for broad expanse of the wilderness. We settled

instead for sampling salmon and halibut chowder and rediscovering the difference in taste between wild salmon and farm-raised salmon.

The next day, we reported to downtown Anchorage for a four-hour bus ride to Seward on the coast where we would pick up our ship. The bus driver described the sights along the way and made an unscheduled stop for us to see our first glacier and iceberg close-up. In four hours, we passed through two small towns in this, the most populated part of the state.

Seward wasn't much to look at either, although they had just had their biggest event of the year — a two-mile race straight up a mountain and slide down which was initiated by a drunken bet that it couldn't be done in two hours. Today, hundreds of people compete to even enter the race.

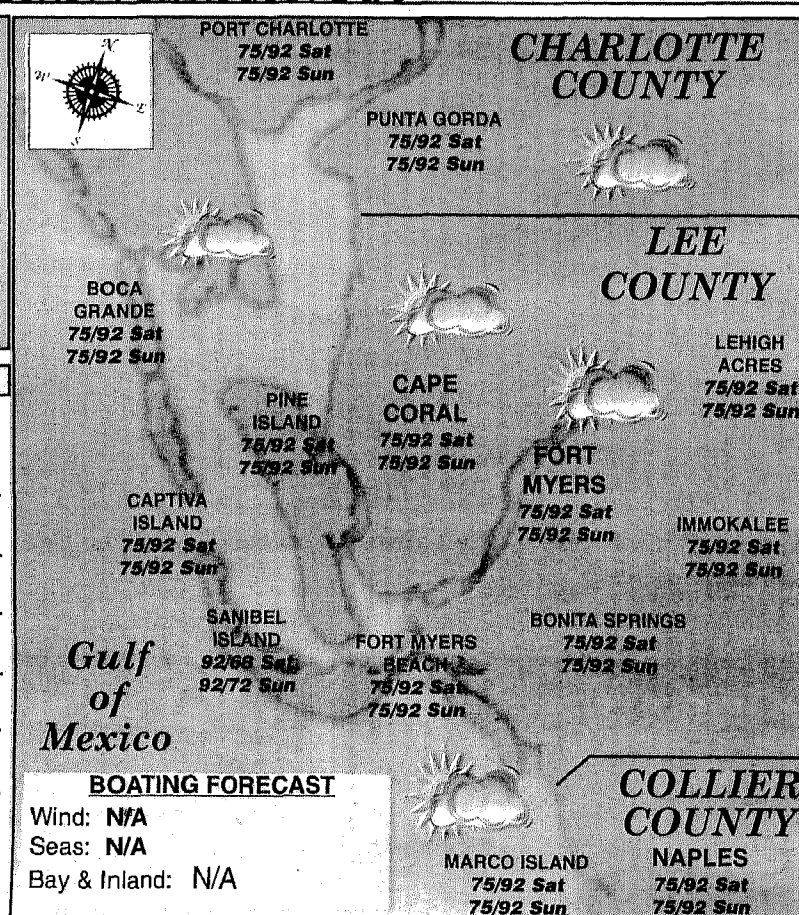
Alaska, see page 5

WEEKEND FORECAST FOR AUGUST 2 & 3

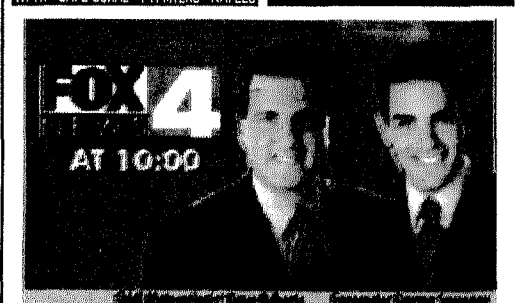
SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Partly sunny with afternoon showers		Partly cloudy with afternoon showers	

WEEKEND TIDES

City	Sat. High	Sat. Low	Sun. High	Sun. Low
Cape Coral Bridge	7:24 a.m.	1:51 a.m.	7:51 a.m.	2:22 a.m.
Captiva at Redfish Pass	6:54 p.m.	1:37 p.m.	8:01 p.m.	2:46 p.m.
Fort Myers	5:14 a.m.	10:21 a.m.	5:41 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
	4:44 p.m.	11:06 p.m.	5:51 p.m.	11:36 p.m.
Mattacha Pass	8:17 a.m.	2:33 a.m.	8:44 a.m.	3:04 a.m.
	7:47 p.m.	2:19 p.m.	8:54 p.m.	3:28 p.m.
Pineland	6:52 a.m.	1:17 a.m.	7:19 a.m.	1:48 a.m.
	6:22 p.m.	1:03 p.m.	7:29 p.m.	2:12 p.m.
Point Ybel	5:50 a.m.	12:15 a.m.	6:17 a.m.	12:46 a.m.
	5:20 p.m.	12:01 p.m.	6:27 p.m.	1:10 p.m.
Punta Rassa	4:19 a.m.	10:23 a.m.	4:46 a.m.	11:32 a.m.
	3:49 p.m.	11:08 p.m.	4:56 p.m.	11:38 p.m.
St. James City	5:08 a.m.	10:16 a.m.	5:35 a.m.	11:25 a.m.
	4:38 p.m.	11:01 p.m.	5:45 p.m.	11:31 p.m.
	5:39 a.m.	10:51 a.m.	6:06 a.m.	
	5:09 p.m.	11:36 p.m.	6:16 p.m.	12:00 p.m.



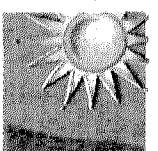
FOX 4 CAST



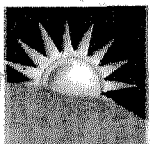
GET YOUR FORECAST FIRST ON FOX.
WATCH FOX 4 NEWS at 10:00

STATE FORECAST-SATURDAY

CITY	LOW/HIGH
CAPE CORAL	75/92
DAYTONA BEACH	75/90
FT. LAUDERDALE	77/90
FT. MYERS BEACH	75/92
GAINESVILLE	72/92
JACKSONVILLE	72/92
KEY WEST	82/90
KISSIMMEE	75/90
MIAMI	80/90
ORLANDO	75/90
PANAMA CITY	72/90
PENSACOLA	75/90
SARASOTA	75/90
ST. PETERSBURG	75/90
TALLAHASSEE	72/90
TAMPA	75/90
VERO BEACH	75/92
WEST PALM BEACH	75/93



SATURDAY
SUNRISE
6:54 AM



SATURDAY
SUNSET
8:15 PM

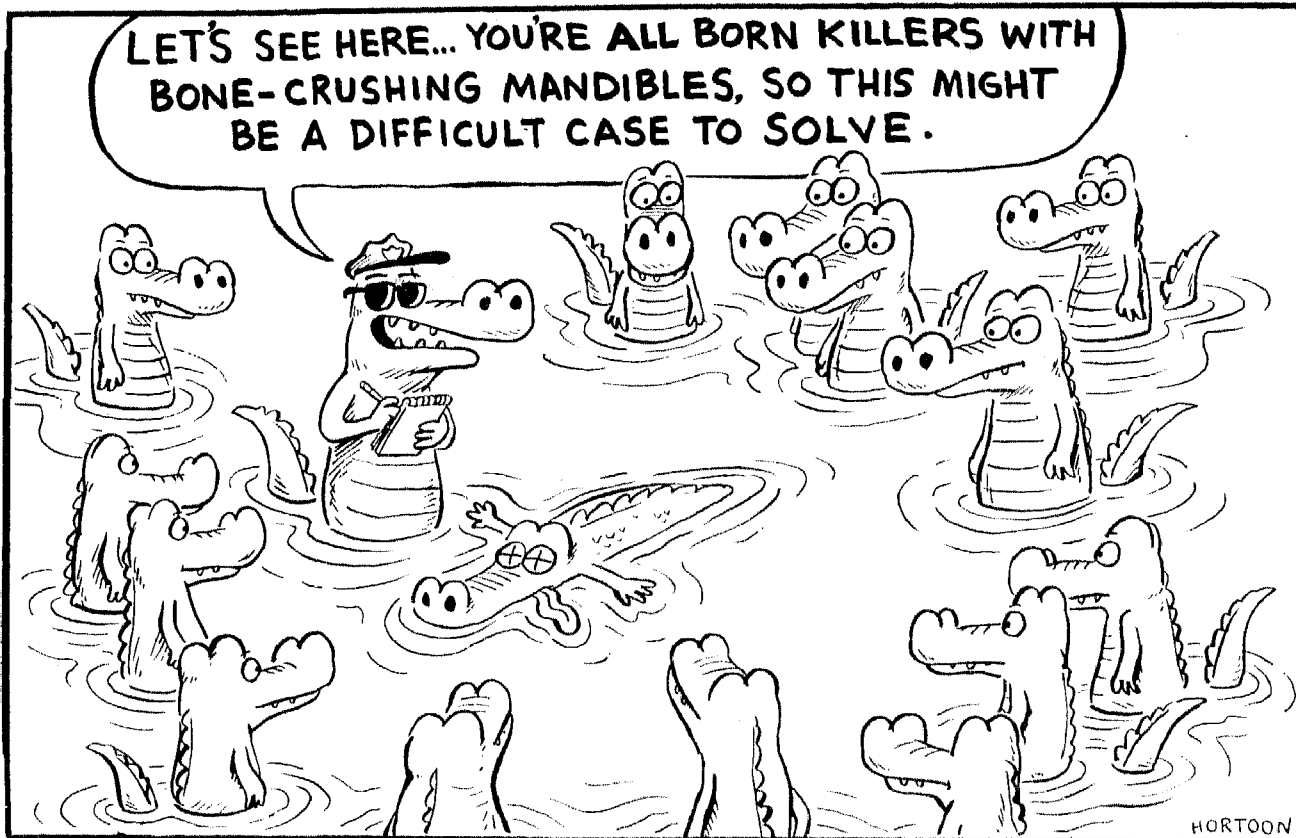
TOO MUCH SUN



Dave Horton



Lee Horton



COLUMNISTS



The Metastatic Life
Lisa Pierot
— page 5

Business Profile
Nancy Santeusano
— page 15



Hollywood dateline
Little Joe Micale
— page 14

Center Stage
Marsha Wagner
— page 14



UP PERISCOPE

Many newspapers of late have had articles highlighting America's historical illiteracy.

David McCullough, the Pulitzer Prize-winning historian, recently expressed his concerns about the subject and what he calls the resulting "national amnesia." He was in Washington, D.C. to deliver the prestigious Jefferson Lecture, the highest humanities honor our government can bestow and, during the course of his remarks, McCullough quoted Daniel Boorstin, the former Librarian of Congress, who said that "trying to plan for the future without a sense of the past is like trying to plant cut flowers."

Historic places give millions of Americans the opportunity to see history, touch it, walk through it and learn from it. A visit to an historic site often leads to one's first realization that old buildings and neighborhoods are part of our collective heritage and memory.

In Massachusetts, April 19th is a holiday — Patriot's Day. Growing up there I, along with every kid I knew, could recite from memory at least portions of Longfellow's *Paul Revere's Ride*...

Listen, my children, and you shall hear
Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere.

On the eighteenth of April
in '75.

Hardly a man is now alive
Who remembers that famous day and year...

The next day, April 19th, 1775, a series of bloody skirmishes waged by the Minutemen against British troops along the road from Boston to Concord marked the beginning of the Am-



ANNE BELLEW
Associate Editor

erican Revolution. In 1949 Congress establishing the Minute Man National Historical Park to protect the site(s) along Battle Road.

In 2003, the National Trust for Historic Preservation named Minute Man National Historical Park to its list of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places — "The noise and expansion of a nearby airport are detracting from [these] historic sites and landscapes..."

According to Richard Moe, president of the Trust, Massport's studies project that between now and 2015, Hanscom Field-related daily peak-volume traffic on the Battle Road, the airport's only public access, will increase from 4 percent to 15 percent. The airport authority has suggested widening the historic two-lane road to four lanes and installing rotaries.

Additional Massport studies indicate that commercial aircraft operations will increase by 600 percent; annual business jet operations will double; and annual cargo operations will rise from zero to 1,560. That's a lot of growth to be absorbed in a special few square miles that have defined us as a people and a nation for more than 225 years.

To quote McCullough again, this time from an interview published in the magazine, *Preservation*, "I think having no sense of the story of your country is not greatly removed from having no sense of the story of your life. It's a form of amnesia and can be as detrimental to a society as to an individual. If you have no story, I don't think you have a soul. And, if we lose our collective memory — our story as a society and as an ongoing experiment — we're going to be in big trouble."

For generations, one of our great strengths as Americans has been our shared identity, despite our diverse backgrounds. Knowing who we are makes us strong. Knowing where we came from makes us confident. Knowing the legacy we have inherited makes us part of a powerful partnership between past, present

TURTLE TOTALS JULY 28

	2003			2002	
	Hatches	Nests	False Crawl	Nests	False
Crawls					
East End	2	31	83	11	40
West End	23	156	207	175	181
Captiva	24	121	93	90	93
TOTALS	49	308	383	276	314

and future. As historical illiteracy grows, that knowledge is being lost.

— Adapted from Richard Moe's letter to the membership: 7/14/03

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HAPPENINGS

Tebo returns to Sanibel Library

Buffalo, N.Y. professional comedian magician Ron Tebo will be returning (by popular demand) to the Sanibel Public Library for another magical performance. The show date is Tuesday, August 5, at 3 p.m. As in the past, his performance is for all ages and, best of all, is free.

Tebo has been entertaining thousands of children and adults at various leading child care centers, libraries, four-star resorts and elementary schools nationwide for over 20 years. His slap-stick performance has been reviewed and approved by many educators, parents and children of all ages.

To find out more information about Ron Tebo, visit his web site at <http://www.hahamagic.com> Or, you can call Ron toll free at (877) 823-5061.

Hog Roast scheduled

San-Cap American Legion Post 123 is hosting a Hog Roast & Membership Drive at the Legion on Saturday, August 23, from 1 p.m. 'til ??? featuring live music and entertainment by the Troublestarters. The public is welcome.

Because American Legion facilities are designated as "private club/veterans organization" and hold a special license, they qualify as one of the few places in which it is legal for smokers to indulge since the smoking ban went into effect in Florida July 1.

In order to become a member of the

Legion, a man must be a veteran or the son of a veteran who is already a member. A woman can join the Auxiliary if her husband is a member or her late husband was a veteran. Dues for the Legion and for Sons of the Legion are \$25, for the Ladies Auxiliary, \$20.

And, once you're a member, you can participate in Karaoke sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary every Tuesday night from 7 to 10 p.m.

Call 472-9979 for more information on eligibility, or show up at the Hog Roast!

Chamber Box Lunch at sea

The Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce Box Lunch is Tuesday, August 12, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Sanibel Harbour Princess II.

Presented by Sanibel Harbour Resort & Spa, the Chamber Lunchtime Cruise will leave the dock no later than 11:45 AM. Boarding should be complete by 11:30. Please park in the hotel parking area (second building)

Menu Selections:

- 1) Cumin rubbed slow-roasted organic turkey breast, hot house tomatoes, and radish sprouts served on whole wheat tortilla with avocado aioli
- or
- 2) Pepper crusted shaved tenderloin of beef with watercress and brie, served on sliced ciabatta with roasted red pepper mayo
- or

- 3) Whole wheat pita filled with grilled portobello, grilled eggplant, hummus and tomatoes

There will be a cash bar on the premises
ADVANCE PRE-PAID RESERVATIONS ONLY

\$10 for Chamber members & guests. Please FAX registration to 472-1070, or e-mail it in to office@sanibel-captiva.org

Deadline: 5 p.m. next Friday, August 8.

PLEASE NOTE: For this event you must pre-pay in advance to confirm your reservation. The cruise is restricted to the first 95 paid guests. **NO WALK-UPS!**

Cancellations must be made 24 hours prior to the event for refund.

Make-A-Wish of So. Florida

If you know of a child with a life-threatening medical condition, Make-A-Wish of Southern Florida wants to hear from you. The nonprofit organization, which serves children and families in South and Southwest Florida, grants the wishes of kids between 2½ and 18 to enrich the human experience with hope, strength, and joy. The child might ultimately visit Disney World, receive a new computer, or meet a celebrity, but every wish begins with a referral from the community. For more information or to refer someone with a life-threatening medical condition, contact Make-A-Wish at (954) 967-WISH (9474) or www.sfla.wish.org.

Stamp dedication Aug. 6

The sacrifices of the men and women in the military will be the focus of attention on Wednesday, August 6, when Fort Myers/Cape Coral Postmaster Patty Vaiden will dedicate the Purple Heart definitive postage stamp during a ceremony at the Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic, 3033 Vaiden Extension. The 10 a.m. ceremony will recognize local recipients of the Purple Heart. The Lee County Chapter of The American Red Cross will be assisting with the event.

The Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the president of the United States to members of the U.S. military who have been wounded or killed in action. The Purple Heart postage stamp pays tribute to the men and women whose sacrifices have allowed Americans to live in freedom.

The dedication is open to the public and free of charge. Attendees will receive a collectible first-day cover of the Purple Heart postage stamp. Those who have received the Purple Heart are asked to call Debra Mitchell at 277-3313 for reserved seating; they will receive a Purple Heart stamp lapel pin. Vaiden will also unveil an enlarged copy of the Purple Heart stamp and present it to the VA Clinic.

The next day, Thursday, August 7, is National Purple Heart Day. On this date, each customer purchasing a sheet of the Purple Heart stamps at any Fort Myers, North Fort Myers, or Cape Coral Post Office will receive a stamp image lapel pin of the Purple Heart. This offer is also valid for stamps-by-mail purchases the week of August 7-14.

This new stamp, issued May 30, 2003, is part of the Postal Service's 2003 stamp program, a program that celebrates the people, events and history of our nation.

For more information about the Purple Heart stamp or the event, contact Mitchell, the customer relations coordinator for the Post Office.

School-based mentors needed

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Southwest Florida, Inc. and the children in area schools need volunteers to become mentors as a Big Brother or Big Sister in the Bigs In School Program. Bigs will help their Little Brother or Little Sister become better students by working with them in areas such as academics, attendance and behavior. Volunteer BIGS meet with the students approximately one hour per week during school hours at the school to work one-on-one with the children. Big Brothers/Big Sisters will find a time, date, and school location that meets the needs of the volunteer.

Volunteers who want to help but don't want to work with academics and other issues can become a Big Lunch Buddy by going to the child's school to have lunch with their Little Brother or Little Sister. A Big Lunch Buddy and a Little Lunch Buddy are matched and spend time together, eating lunch and building lasting relationships.

The Bigs In School and Lunch Buddy matches are managed and supervised by professional case managers and school personnel. To make this program a success, mentors are needed for 13 elementary schools in Lee County — which includes Cape Coral, Fort Myers, Leigh Acres, Estero, and Bonita Springs. Statistics have proven that by having a volunteer mentor, a child's grades may improve by one letter grade or more, and school attendance and behavior improves.

Southwest Florida has a graduation rate of 60.48 percent, a drop-out rate of 7.05 percent, and a poverty level of 25.35 percent. A child with a mentor is 46 percent less likely to use drugs, 27 percent less likely to start drinking, and 52 percent less likely to skip school. The children benefiting from a Big Brother or Big Sister are more trusting and have increased positive social interaction with their peer group and adults.

To become a Big Brother, Big Sister, Big In School, or Big Lunch Buddy call 278-0003. Start today by making a BIG difference in a child's life in your community.

Breakfast with champions

You've seen the cereal boxes touting the breakfast of champions. Now you can actually have breakfast WITH champions.

At least eight Olympic champions will share breakfast and stories with fans on Saturday, August 16, in Lee County. The Olympic greats include four-time gold medal winner in discus, Al Oerter, of Fort Myers Beach. Others scheduled to be at the 9 a.m. breakfast at the Sanibel Harbor Resort are four-time gold medal winner, diver Pat McCormick; two-time Decathlon Gold medalist Bob Mathias; and Sammy Lee, another four-time gold medal winning diver. In addition, Olympic gold medal winners Bob Seagren, Parry O'Brien, Bob Beamon and Dick Fosbury will attend. Other Olympic medal winners will be in town for a weekend convention and may drop in.

The breakfast is open to the public. Tickets are \$15 per person and advanced reservations are required by August 14. Call the Sanibel Harbor Resort at 466-2164 for reservations.

Proceeds from the breakfast will benefit the Lee County Deputy Sheriff's Association, Inc., a non-profit organization supporting youth programs at the Lee County Sheriff's Office. These include the Lee County Youth Ranch, D.A.R.E., Do The Right Thing, and Explorers Post #18.

Islander

The Islands' Community Newspaper since 1961

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Alaska, from page 2



Our cruise spent the first two days passing through the College Fjord and Glacier Bay. An on-board naturalist gave a narration about the sights and wildlife which was piped onto the decks and the 12th deck panorama lounge called the Crow's Nest, or one could listen on the cabin radios.

Lots of passengers got up at 6 a.m. the first day to see the glaciers named after famous colleges. (We, of course, thought the Wellesley Glacier the most magnificent, since we had our Wellesley daughter with us.) In the afternoon, we stopped in front of the Hubbard Glacier, the largest glacier in the area, and watched as huge hunks of ice fell into the water. This is called 'calving' and is responsible for icebergs. Lots of icebergs filled the water with the visible parts above water accounting for only 10 percent of the total mass.

On the beach hundreds of sea lions were taking in the sun. Each section of beach was guarded by a large male, called a Beach Master. These large, lumbering

characters have a two-year reign until they are deposed by the next officious male who acts like he will be in power forever. From the ship, they looked a little ridiculous, strutting around while the rest of the sea lions ignored them.

We also saw humpback and pilot whales and dall porpoises. Some people prefer sailing the fjords in smaller whale watching boats, but we got a good view from our large ship.

Scientists have noted a considerable retreat of all the glaciers, probably a result of global warming.

And speaking of warming, we had remarkable weather. During the day, the temperature was between 65 and 70 degrees and we had drizzle for part of only one day. The gloves, hats and fleece-lined jackets we brought went unused, and the captain and crew kept patting themselves on the back for the most unusual weather, especially because the previous week had been cold and rainy.

Next: On to Sitka

THE METASTATIC LIFE

"Home again, home again, jiggity jig."

We got home from Chautauqua and reentered the "heat zone" on Sunday night. There was no denying it, we were miserable to leave that beautiful northern lake air behind. But that's why they call them vacations. Emily was broken-hearted to leave her camp counselor and so many days were spent drying her tears and trying to get her mind on something else.

The day after we got back I had an appointment with Dr. Harwin and he had pretty much already decided what to do. He'd talked to my radiologist and Dr. McDonald, who reads all my scans. With all that input plus my pain level going up, he came to the conclusion that regardless of hard data showing any real increase in my cancer, it was time to go back on chemo. He reasoned that the pain alone was justification enough to try chemo and I wasn't going to argue with him.

This time the weapon of choice is an oral agent called Xeloda. I take four pills twice a day. The only side effects are a tendency towards hand and feet syndrome which translates to very red and tender palms and bottoms of the feet. So far I am symptom-free, but the symptoms don't usually kick in for three weeks.

It's a very strange feeling to be back on chemo. I can't fully accept that my cancer is active and yet, on some level, I know it must be or I wouldn't be taking this drug.



Lisa Pierot

I'm not terrified or anything, quite the contrary. I feel like a positive action is taking place. It just feels weird to give up this miracle of survivorship that I have clung to so tightly for so long.

That miracle involved a feeling that I was cured, and so it's not that I think I am going to die, it's just that I know I'm not cured. And, of course, no one ever said I was. It was just an easy thing to cling to for so many years when nothing was happening.

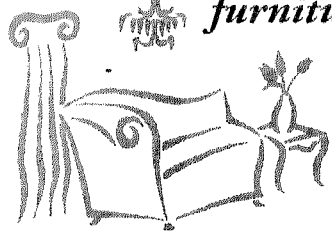
So I find myself a bit more tired than usual, a little on the nauseous side, but nothing unbearable. I want to stay home more than anything. The heat is oppressive and my pain makes it hard to get enthused about traveling or even shopping. That's okay, too.

I am reading a great deal and answering your letters as quickly as I can. School is right around the corner and this year Emily has to wear a uniform. She is mortified. I am delighted. But there will be shopping to do, preferably over the internet.

Life goes on. Dr. Harwin says I'm not going anywhere and I believe him. I will adjust to this latest setback like I adjust to all the setbacks that preceded it: one day at a time. It's really not such a bad way to live. I actually recommend it. Enjoy each of the next seven days. Until next week —

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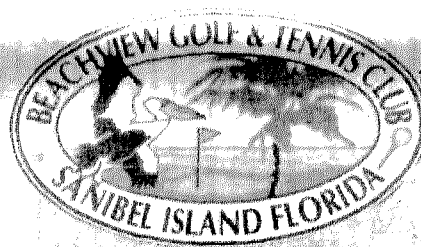
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OBITUARIES

Valerie Pool

Long-time Sanibel and Greenwich, Conn. resident Val Pool died unexpectedly at her home on Saturday, July 26, 2003. She was 67.



Val gave enormous amounts of effort and time over many years to three passions — Protection of Animal Welfare Society (PAWS), Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW), and Friends in Service Here (FISH).

"The most enduring memorial for me," said her dear friend Jan Egeland, "is the hundreds and hundreds of animals she's saved through CROW and PAWS. She spent endless hours with Ellen Smith on PAWS, handled all the placements and foster homes, and kept up with the animals she placed for years afterward. The islands are really going to miss her... There's no one really left to fill her shoes. I have no idea what will happen with PAWS with both Ellen and Valerie gone.

"Val's was an incredible personality. She was always a complete realist, told it like it was, the perfect kind of sounding board. She invariably had a way of making you see the problem from another perspective.

"She was a strong anchor, a real force in everyone's life who knew her. She lived life

the way she wanted, on her terms, and had a great way of looking at things... She reached out to help people without thinking about it... I hope I can become more like her."

"Val Pool was a strong and active supporter of CROW for many, many years — long before my time," said CROW's vet, PJ Dietschel. "I would venture to say that no one has been a better supporter of wild creatures on this island. She was so active — as a volunteer and on the board — so knowledgeable, such a good organizer. A really great person and a huge loss to this island. We'll really miss her."

"Val was so involved in the community," her good friend and fellow FISH board member Charlene Timothy said. "She gave so much to Sanibel. People might have known her name, but those she touched will always have a fond memory of her, because Val Pool made a difference in each and every one of their lives. The Board of Realtors recognized her for her community involvement... which says a lot, because many of us try to 'give back' to our community; but Val was recognized by her peers as an outstanding individual. She was a very special person... always there when you needed her. I can't begin to tell you how much I'll miss her... But therein lies the sadness of what our community has really lost — Val Pool."

Val is survived by a daughter, Valerie Hassell of Whitefish, Mont.; a step-daughter, Jennifer Kerby of Del Ray Beach, Fla.; two brothers — John Lloyd of Atlanta, and David Lloyd of West Lynn, Ore.; and one grand-daughter, Madison Aracri.

Contributions may be made in her memory to PAWS, 446 Lagoon Drive, Sanibel; CROW, Post Office Box 150, Sanibel; and/or FISH, Post Office Box 854, Sanibel 33957.

Charles Joslyn Wilson

Charles Wilson, 85, died Saturday, July 26, 2003 at Hospice House in Tallahassee. He grew up in Pelham Manor, N.Y., graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy and Yale and received his Ph.D. in Anthropology from Columbia where he taught in the graduate school of the School of Business.

A resident of Rowayton, Conn. and Sanibel for many years, Wilson was chairman of the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation and was instrumental, as well, in getting the University of Florida to explore and excavate the Indian mounds found on both islands. More recently he has been an active member of the Tallahassee Duplicate Bridge Club.

Wilson is survived by his wife, Joan Schroeder Wilson; a son, Charles Anthony Wilson, and his wife, Patricia of Charlottesville, Va.; a daughter, Joslyn Wilson, of Tallahassee; and three grandchildren — Emily Wilson of Tallahassee, and Riley and Madeline Wilson of Charlottesville.

There will be no service. Memorial contributions may be made to the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, Post Office Box 839, Sanibel 33957.

Marilyn S. Rahn

Marilyn Rahn, a resident of Sanibel since 1985, died July 23, 2003. Formerly of Lake Bluff, Ill., she was 78 at the time

of her death.

She is survived by her husband, Walter H. Rahn; four sons — Michael, and his wife, Anita, Eric, and his wife, Ann, Robin, and his wife, Elaine, and Jamie, and his wife, Sherry; eight grandchildren — Alyssa, Eric J., Kathryn, Christopher W., Elizabeth, Christopher J., Shannon and Samantha; two brothers — John Schumann, and his wife, Jean, and P. Richard Schumann, and his wife, Olivia; and one sister — Joy, and her husband, Tom Erdman.

Services were held last Saturday in lake Forest. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center of Loyola University Medical Center, 2160 South First Avenue, Maywood, IL 60153 or to Palliative Care Center & Hospice of the North Shore, 2821 Central Street, Evanston, IL 60201.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Donald E. Cooperrider, DVM

"Doc" Cooperrider of Fort Myers and Sanibel died July 21, 2003 in Fort Myers. Born in 1914, he was 88 at the time of his death.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 67 years, Sara Jean Cooperrider, and a brother, Harold M. Cooperrider. He is survived by one sister, Mildred Stiver, of Albuquerque, N.M., four nephews and three nieces.

A memorial service will be held at Zion Lutheran Church on Winkler Avenue just north of Gladiolus on Sunday, August 3, at 1 p.m. In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to Zion Lutheran or the Florida Lions.

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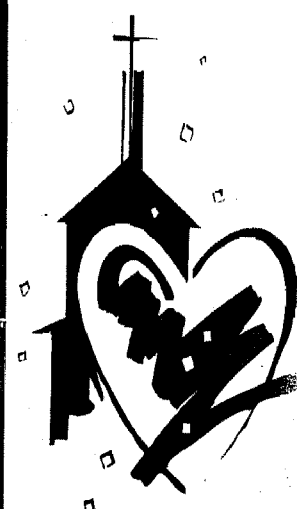
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Last Swale Slosh at SCCF

SCCF has been offering Swale Sloshes in July and has one final one scheduled for August. This educational program is an opportunity to learn about Sanibel's interior fresh wetlands, its environment, and its fascinating inhabitants.

The "wet walk" lasts approximately an hour and a half and is appropriate for the whole family. Bring old sneakers or water shoes (boots can be provided with advance notice) for this unique exploration of the Sanibel's interior freshwater system.

The last Swale Slosh will be Wednesday, August 6, at 10 a.m. starting at the SCCF Nature Center. There is a \$3 fee for adults (children and members free). Space is limited; reservations are required. Call 472-2329.

A living tribute to Val Pool



Photo by Erik Burriss
Foccia Bella

Foccia Bella, this beautiful cocker spaniel with flowing locks and shining eyes, is a living tribute to Val Pool, the late Ellen Smith and their work with P.A.W.S.

Balding, with heartworm and mange, she was found, full of milk, but with no puppies, abandoned on Beachview Golf Course two years ago this month. P.A.W.S. paid for her care at Sanibel's Coral Veterinary Clinic, whose doctors pronounced her the worse case of neglect they'd ever seen.

After a month's stay at Father Madden's Kitty Condo near the Sanibel Recycling Center on Dunlop Road, and care provided by P.A.W.S. volunteers, P.A.W.S. contacted an island resident experienced in heartworm treatment nursing care, who agreed to take her in for "just a month."

Two weeks later, the little bald dog, nicknamed "Baboon Butt" by the neighbors, won her nurse's heart. She slept on a towel next to her foster mother's pillow. Custom "Kitchen Sink Mix," shampoos, love, care and P.A.W.S. funding led to the emergence of this beautiful dog.

That "just a month" stay turned into a permanent pardon from an iffy life. She lives with three other dogs, two of them also rescued.

Foccia Bella, also known as "Gina Lollibrigdog," is the big wooden spoon in the pot of spaghetti that is her owner's happy household, all thanks to Val Pool.



SWAT NEWS

Swim meet results for July 22, 2003

Girls 6 years & under:

Lauren Lewis
7th place Freestyle
5th place Backstroke

Katherine Strange
1st place Breaststroke
1st place Freestyle
1st place Backstroke

Boys 6 years & under:

Nick Lewis
2nd place Backstroke
5th place Freestyle
3rd place Breaststroke

Girls 8 years & under:

Taylor Strange
1st place Freestyle
2nd place Breaststroke
4th place Backstroke

Meghan Lucker
All personal bests!

Girls 9 & 10 years:

Micheala Neal
7th place Backstroke
4th place Breaststroke

Boys 9 & 10 years:

Sam Kortagast
5th place Breaststroke
8th place Backstroke

Jamie Beth

7th place Backstroke
8th place Breaststroke

Lance Lewis

5th place Backstroke

Girls 11 & 12 years:

Bethany Corke
1st place Breaststroke
6th place Backstroke

Boys 13 years & up:

Andrew Corke
6th place Backstroke
7th place Breaststroke

Congratulations to Katherine Strange for bringing home the GOLD in all of her events!

Kudos also, to Taylor Strange for her tremendous swimming in the June 14th meet in Marco. She came in 1st place in Freestyle, 1st place in Breaststroke, 2nd place in Butterfly and 2nd place in her 1M!

And a special congratulations to Lance Lewis who made his first ever JO cuts with the 10 & Under boys Breaststroke and Butterfly on July 5th.

Way to go SWAT !!

— By Coby Amadio
Aquatics Supervisor

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Islander graduates from Northwestern

Jacqueline Fawcett, daughter of Robert and Karen Fawcett of Sanibel, has received a Bachelor of Science degree from the Northwestern University Judd A. and Marjorie Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences. Fawcett, a graduate of Canterbury School, was an environmental science major.

She was active in Medical Supplies Mission, a tutor at Foster Reading Center, and a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

Founded in 1851, Northwestern is one of the country's leading private research and teaching universities with an enrollment of approximately 7,500 full-time undergraduate students and approximately 7,000 full-time graduate and professional students on campuses in Evanston and Chicago.

Godley needs our help now

10 years ago, at age 36, Leslie Anne Godley won a big battle with breast cancer, but as it turns out, not the war.

Eight years ago, Leslie moved to Sanibel to enjoy more of what she loves most: kids & nature. She worked with Lee County Schools as a special-ed teacher helping the less fortunate children in our county. After school, Leslie spent much of her free time helping several children here on Sanibel with their schoolwork. Retired police chief Lew Phillips and his family really captured the spirit of Leslie's teaching vocation in a letter to the Islander a couple of years ago.

Today, the cancer is back; it has metastasized to her bones and other organs. Leslie

County Schools since April to do whatever it takes to put this disease into a remission. The paychecks have stopped, perhaps for many more months, but the living expenses

have not.

Leslie has a very hard time asking anyone for anything, so her friends are asking for her. The Bailey Society Good Neighbor Fund is accepting donations on Leslie's behalf.

Donations may be mailed or dropped off at Bank of the Islands, 1699 Periwinkle Way. Please make the notation on your check Leslie Anne Godley.

Sanibel resident to compete

Jean Meyer, a Sanibel resident, has announced her participation in the upcoming Chicago marathon and her goal of raising \$2,500 for the Arthritis Foundation.

The race will be held on Oct. 12 and Jean began training several weeks ago. You might see her pounding the pavement early in the morning or late at night, in an attempt to beat Sanibel's summer heat.

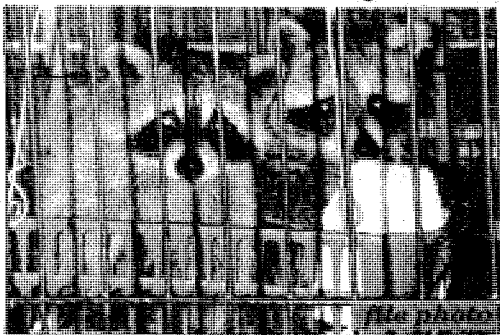
Meyer was diagnosed over two years ago with rheumatoid arthritis (RA), an autoimmune disease that causes the body's immune system to attack otherwise healthy joint tissue. RA causes severe pain and stiffness and can eventually lead to complete joint damage.

To better understand and help control the disease, Jean enlisted the help of the Arthritis Foundation (www.arthritis.org). There, she learned about the work that the AF is doing to help the 60+ million people in the U.S. who have arthritis.

Jean decided to set a goal for herself and help the AF at the same time. She has set a personal goal to finish the marathon and to raise at least \$2,500 for the AF.

To help Jean reach her goal, please visit her fund-raising webpage at <http://jeanfmeys.com>. Or, you can send a check made out to the Arthritis Foundation to Jean Meyer, Post Office Box 1553, Sanibel 33957.

Patients coming to CROW at alarming rate



Destruction of habitat in Lee County is overwhelming. From gopher tortoises to burrowing owls to river otters to marsh rabbits and more, the homes of numerous wildlife species are being destroyed at an all-time record pace.

The care of these patients is being accomplished with a minimum staff supporting one staff veterinarian, caring for up to 250 recuperating patients every day. They all come to CROW, the only rehabilitation facility in Lee County, with medical, surgical and rehabilitation needs...and no health insurance.

2002 was another record year with 3,400 patients, surpassing last year by nearly 500 patients. With this increase costs are now exceeding CROW's revenues. Some of the costs associated with this alarming increase are held down with

the help of volunteers who carry a big part of the workload. The increase in case load has driven costs for food, medicine, staff and patient space beyond the facility's present support. It needs help now to deal with the needs of wildlife patients from all over Lee County. CROW has never had to turn away any patients, but could be forced to in the future.

The contributions made by members of the community, visitors and people from all over have helped CROW release more than 35,000 patients over the years! All our readers are urged to renew their memberships or join anew today... and ask a friend to join. Think how much it would help if every member introduced someone new to CROW!

Individual memberships are \$25, Family memberships \$50, with various levels above those. A gift certificate for one of the island restaurants will be included with membership renewal materials if one increases the level of one's membership donation — \$25 to \$50, for example, or \$50 to \$100 or more. Restaurants who are Business Friends of CROW have donated the certificates.

This article is from a letter to CROW members by Ann Arnoff, Membership Chairman

REAL ESTATE

Top producers for Sanibel

VIP Realty Group

VIP Realty Group, Inc. has announced the June Associates of the Month from the Sanibel office. Rose Dakos was named Top Sales Associate, Lynda Traverso was named Top Lister and Mike McMurray was named Top Producer.

Dakos has been a consistent top producer in real estate on the islands for the past 19 years and is a member of the prestigious VIP President's Club. She is always available to help her customers and clients with all of their real estate needs and takes care of every aspect of selling or buying property on the Islands.

Traverso has been selling real estate on Sanibel, Captiva and South Fort Myers for over 15 years and is also one of the islands' top producers,

closing over \$150,000,000 in sales during her career. She has earned her G.R.I. (Graduate Realtor Institute) designation and is a constant member of the Sanibel-Captiva Association of Realtors Honor Society. She, too, is a member of VIP's prestigious President's Club.

McMurray is also a regular top producer who has been selling real estate on Sanibel and Captiva Islands since 1993. He has received many times over VIP's Associate of the Year Award and has repeatedly been a member of the President's Club. He is a member of the Sanibel-Captiva Association of Realtors, the Florida and National Association of Realtors, and a member of the Sanibel-Captiva Association of Realtors Honor Society. McMurray has obtained both the CRS and GRI designations, which are held by the top Realtors in the country, and was recently recognized as a Top Gun in Southwest Florida real estate.



Mike McMurray



Lynda Traverso



Rose Dakos

RE/MAX of the Islands

RE/MAX of the Islands is proud to announce John Van Voorhis as the top selling agent for the month of June. Mr. Van Voorhis has been a licensed real estate agent in Florida since 1979. He joined RE/MAX in December of 2002. John and his wife, Peggy, moved to Southwest Florida in 1968 from Osage, Iowa.

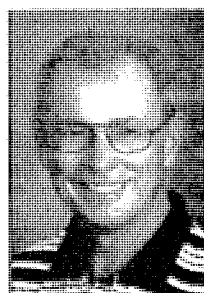
Art Corace, Broker/Owner of RE/MAX of the Islands, said, "We are very happy for John. He has a wealth of knowledge about the islands and very solid work ethic. John is extremely innovative and his clients appreciate his willingness to provide services others don't." Corace continued, "I believe John is building a clientele that will make him a consistent top producer. Look to see his name a lot more in the future."

Van Voorhis graduated from the University of Northern Iowa and has over 21 years of marketing experience. He and his family have owned property on Captiva Island since 1979.

Wil Compton was the most productive marketing agent in June for RE/MAX of the Islands. Compton has been a Sanibel resident for the past 48 years. He began his real estate career in 1988 and joined RE/MAX in 2002.

Broker/Owner of RE/MAX of the Islands, Art Corace, said, "Wil is having a super year. His attention to detail, patience, follow-up and communication skills are elements of the superior service he provides his clients. This is evidenced by the fact that Wil is a top island Realtor every year. We are all very proud of his accomplishments."

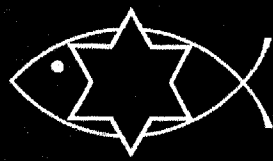
Compton and his wife, Tylor, have two daughters, Jami and Emily. Tylor teaches the gifted program at the Sanibel School and they are very involved with school activities. Wil Compton is also a licensed developer and also holds a United States Coast Guard Masters license.



John Van Voorhis



Wil Compton



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Who's 40?

SHOPPERS GUIDE



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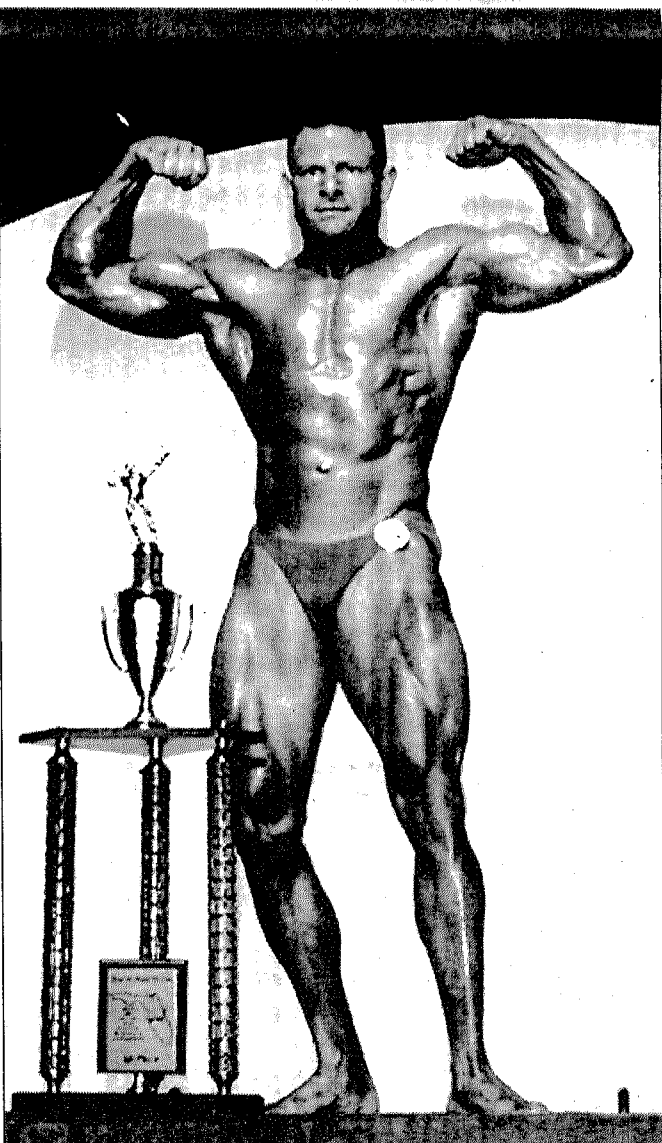
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OUT ISLANDS.



He was pictured on the cover of the Shopper's Guide 24 years ago at the ripe old age of 16. Now out of the ice cream business, he was recently named 'Mr. Florida' in the state body-building competition. It is said he can press 300 pounds of sea shells down by the seashore!

Happy Birthday,
Michael Joffe!!

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SERVICE CLUBS

Join the Chamber for a C-note

By Bob Wimbush

Pillorying this speaker was going to be fun. Even Kiwanians said don't hold back, so I selected my very sharpest pencil and moved in for an easy kill. Up stepped Kiwanian Steve Greenstein, the Island's Chamber of Commerce director and second funniest comedian — ripe for lampooning. I salivated as he stumbled. Two one-liners bombed. Usually he gets laughs. These didn't rate groans. This would be too easy.

Wrong again. He shifted smoothly from frivolous humor to serious Chamber accomplishments and surged easily into the lead. The outcome quickly became obvious: He would be good; the column would be bad. Cheap shots, distortion and innuendo could fail. Greenstein's ability and insight would triumph. He had too much valid content. President Bush should call Steve and learn how to deal with the opposition party and the national press. Those people are even lower than I am.

To Steve, the most important question is: "Why do we have a Chamber?" His concise two-word answer: "Property Values." He cautions that it is our accommodations, merchants, restaurants and services that initially attract potential buyers here, so, if businesses fall off and the business districts look like ghost towns, property values will follow. He equates commercial viability equates with Island desirability.

Today, Sanibel's accommodations rates are approximately 70 percent higher than Lee County's and support the notion that Sanibel-Captiva is a superior place to visit, buy a house, and live. (An obscure city sponsored study, however, indicates potential buyers are overwhelmingly attracted by the idea of dealing with Island commissions.)

Because Island business is 75 percent tourist-dependent, the Chamber considers business networking, a destination promotion. The Chamber prints and distributes 150,000 *Visitors Guides* in and out of state each year. Offered free, more than 30,000 are requested by the 1 million potential visitors who consult the Chamber's



Photo by Bob Wimbush

Greenstein clinging tightly to the mic even after the meeting has ended, talks with Chuck Kettman and Dave Bunche.

website. Under Greenstein, shipping expense has been reduced from five bucks to one buck each, so please, understand my problem: How do you poke fun at that?

The Chamber's Visitor Center served 205,000 visitors last year. The biggest draw? Bathrooms. The most frequently asked question?: "Where's the best shelling?" The favorite answer came from Kiwanian and volunteer (now retired) Barney Baller, "Beirut."

Also, under Steve, the Chamber (not the city) has emerged as an emergency communications center. Responding to the need — and the Chamber's ability to fill it as demonstrated during the two-day causeway closing a few months ago — the Chamber has created a "portal" website, www.Sanibel-Captiva.biz, the one site you need because it provides immediate links to other sources of Emergency Information, Local News, Government,

And, get this... Steve urges residents who do not own businesses to join the Chamber. For a C-note you get a newsletter, a standing invitation to the Islands' oldest established permanent floating monthly after-hours party — where if you can't eat and drink \$100, you aren't trying — monthly box lunch presentations, cruises, passport to paradise and a lot of other stuff for which a business pays from \$225 to \$4,000.

I'm out of space and haven't even touched on the Chamber Website (75 percent of Island visitors had some interaction on it), the Chamber Gift Certificate Program — give your friends (or houseguests — to get them out of your house) certificates in \$25 denominations, redeemable at any Chamber member business, his update on Causeway negotiations (He feels Steve Brown is leading us well but faces tough challenges. "The next couple of months will be brutal... it's a game and we have no cards..."), or the fact that beach weddings are becoming a major magnet that is eclipsing nature and the environment (and shelling) in attracting overnight visitors.

And I came to bury Greenstein, not to praise him. Bummer.

Kiwanis often has GOOD speakers. The club breakfasts at the Island House on Wednesday.

Do's and don'ts of hurricane shelters

We were lucky recently when Hurricane Claudette veered off to the Texas coast rather than heading to Florida. However, there is much time left in this year's hurricane season — and we all need to be prepared should one choose to come our way.

The Lee County Chapter of the American Red Cross encourages everyone to make plans should they need to evacuate their home — whether for a hurricane or other emergency. Everyone needs to be aware of whether their house is safe from flooding and able to withstand high winds.

If you need to relocate to a shelter, here are some tips. Shelters are not hotels. They are opened and operated for your safety and must adhere to rules and regulations to ensure the comfort and safety of all. You will be expected to provide some of your own amenities.

Make a plan

- Shelters should be used as a last resort.
- If anyone has special medical needs, register them with Emergency Management.
- If you need to go to a Red Cross shelter, listen to local broadcasts to determine what shelters are open. Listen carefully and follow instructions.
- Let out-of-town relatives and those who will be concerned for your safety know ahead of time what plan you will be following.
- Once in a shelter, there will be no telephones available for your personal use.

What to take with you

Assemble the following items, keep them together in an easily accessible place.

- Snack foods and water for at least 72 hours (things that do not require cooking or refrigeration)
- Medicines, including all prescription and non-prescription medications. If they need refrigeration, take them in a small thermos or cooler well marked with your name
- Cot or lounge chair, blankets, or sleeping bags
- Changes of clothing, shoes, and socks
- Infant and baby needs (formulas, baby food, diapers)
- Personal hygiene items — towels, wash cloths, toothbrush and tooth paste, soap, etc.
- Flashlight, transistor radio, and extra batteries
- Non-destructive toys for children including games, books, and cards
- Plastic trash bags
- Paper plates, plastic eating utensils, manual can opener, and bottle openers

Shelters, see page 11

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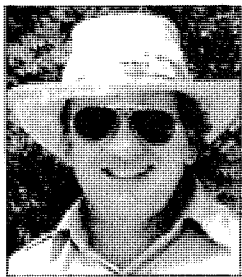
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CORRECTION
In our July 25 issue the cover photograph outline mentioned that the new flagpole coming to the Four-Way Stop at Periwinkle was donated by the Lions Club. It is a gift from the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club. We apologize for the error.

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SHELLING & FISHING

Anglers often fall into two categories: using live bait or artificial baits. The universal saltwater bait is large, live shrimp. The second is any of the shrimp imitator lures like plastic body lures or even flies. So it is not so unusual to find that people look down on using cut baits because after all, it is dead bait. And everyone thinks that live baits out fish dead.



**CAPT. MIKE
FUERY**

This time of the year, however, cut bait is about equal with bringing in strikes to the small live fish. Let's look at some of the best cut up baits and often you can get it free. The vaulting, strong fighting ladyfish is of no eating value to we who fish, but it is one of the best and there is no law governing this species, you don't have to worry about a length or number limit. You can even save and freeze extras for another fishing trip.

The silver sides and white belly of this arrow-shaped speedster are used on the hooks of jigs when cut in strips. If a larger fish is caught, then the lady fish can be staked into one-inch segments for off-shore fish like snapper or even grouper and Spanish mackerel.

Catch several of the popular ladyfish and

they can be cut into smaller chunks and used for sharks. Cut a lady in half and it makes a great bait for tarpon.

This time of the year, with the usual strong run-off of freshwater into the estuary system, it's not unusual for guides to catch perfect live fish like pinfish, only to have them die when the freshwater is too abundant. When that occurs, dead bait or cut bait is the only way to get a bite.

Fish like redfish, and even sea trout, will use their noses to home in on chunks of ladyfish or mullet. There aren't too many fish who won't work well as cut bait.

Mullet used to be the stand-by for anglers going out for a long day of fishing. They usually packed a frozen mullet as back-up in case live bait couldn't be caught. Around piers and the causeway, pesky pinfish will steal shrimp in a moment, but if you do catch one of about five inches, filet it and use the strips of cut bait on the bottom for all sorts of fish and maybe even a cobia.

There is a fish caught off-shore we call the squirrel fish which is a prime spring tarpon bait. Small, live squirrel fish will also bring in snook, jacks and others. However, if you section or filet the squirrel, it will catch

many more bottom fish like grouper and snapper.

Make sure that fish you cut up are of legal size before you use them for bait. Some protected species have to be landed at the docks in whole condition. This is to allow law enforcement to measure and make sure the fish was of legal size.

Don't bother with protected game fish as bait. Cuts of snook, redfish and sea trout will work as bait, but the laws are so tough even if you came to shore, filet the legal fish in season, then go back out with the cut bait, you would have a hard time convincing anyone you didn't kill a "short" and dispose of the remains.

Squid is a favorite cut bait off-shore. I like to use it when hand-lining pinfish for bait. It is tough and not as easily stolen as shrimp. I hooked my very first tarpon on a piece of cut saltwater catfish.

Even now, the back half of this fish can produce some of the biggest tarpon when no other bait will draw a strike. The smelly, slimy cat is a task to cut into two sections, but it works and other fish don't pick on it as they will mullet or ladyfish.

Some of the bait shops will carry more exotic cut baits like ballyhoo and cigar minnows. One year, we guides discovered that redfish working at the highest tides around the mangrove shorelines would come to a cut cigar minnow over shrimp or pinfish. Even the grocery stores carry a frozen section with these baits. Perfect live baits are a wonder when they work, but don't overlook the cut bait when nothing else seems to produce strikes.

See you on the water.

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

Shelters, from previous page

While in the Shelter

- The Red Cross will not have all the comforts of home.
- Upon entering the shelter you will be expected to register.
- Please help keep the building clean and sanitary.
- Please be cooperative and willing to assist the shelter workers in making your stay there as comfortable as possible.
- Please be aware that you will be expected to remain in the shelter until local

officials have determined when it is safe for you to return to your home.

- Storm damage may leave roads inaccessible and conditions where you live hazardous. County officials will be best able to make that assessment.

For additional information about the Red Cross and the assistance it provides, preparing for evacuation to shelters, making donations, or volunteering, call Keith Denning, Emergency Services Director, 278-3401, or log on to arclcc.org.

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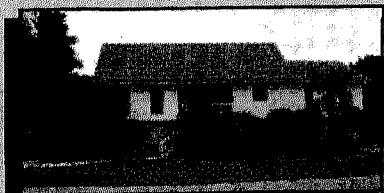
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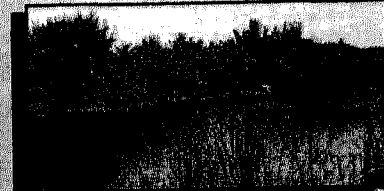
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HOLLYWOOD DATELINE

Spotlight on Coach Ed Ferris

~ Part 1 of 2 ~

Some people know what they want to do in life from the time they are a child. Mozart knew almost from the cradle, as history tells us he was composing by the age of four. A goodly number of people, it seems, haven't a clue, often extending their indecision into college, and beyond. For some uncertain people who do not partake of higher education, lack of decision can continue through varied portions of adulthood.

Nat "King" Cole was vehemently positive about what he wanted to do in life, right from the time he was a kid. He became, of course, one of the 20th century's most famous entertainers, a true balladeer, even recognizable to a surprising number of the 'under 30 crowd,' though he died more than 30 years ago. Two facts of Cole's life cause eyebrows to arch. He was the first Black entertainer to have his own prime-time TV shows; *Specials*, too. And the fact less well known, Cole wanted desperately, more than anything else, to play center field for the Dodgers! He applauded with tears of a different-though-positive kind when

Jackie Robinson made the team... and the league... causing the country; yea the world, to be a better place in which to live.



LITTLE JOE
MICALE

The concept of determining Life's vocational direction at an early age comes to the fore as the result of feedback since I started writing this column. (Including my new friend named Jeni, but more on her later.) Did I want to write and cut hair, some have asked, or was it cut hair and then write? The honest truth is that as a teenager I knew for certain that upon hitting the age of 18, I was definitely going to drive a cement truck. Yep, and furthermore, I was going to add a room

above my parents' garage and fix it up real nice so I could have a place where I could roll around in all that dough I'd be raking in at the rate of \$5 per hour. Man, I was going to have a ball and be rich, too! The company I anticipated working for had these big, red mixers, no small factor; then.

The dream of driving that truck was born when I was 13 years old and working summers and weekends in my Uncle Sam Negrelli's construction company as a carpenter's helper. My life's new direction all started, without my knowledge, consent or even wish, when I was a Sophomore at Mayfield High School in one of the eastern-most suburbs of Cleveland. That was about the time that Life used a new, young teacher and wrestling coach, Mr. Ed Ferris, as a prod to get me going down another path, for that's when he joined the

before the official start of school and classes that year, when he joined the football coaching staff. Ever so appropriately, final analysis reveals, I started calling him Coach from the git-go. (Football was my prime motivating factor for remaining in high school at that point in my life, a truth that caused me to blush for a time after high school and prior to maturity.)

At first sight I thought he was Italian. Picture Coach Ferris as a big man, though only average height, with dark, wavy hair and a totally disarming smile. I said big but don't think fat; he didn't have any. He was hard as a rock, so it was wise not to bump into him, let alone try to block or tackle him. I've hit some stone walls that were softer. We learned that the year before he started teaching at

Mayfield, he was the NCAA Heavyweight Wrestling Champion out of Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, not to be confused with Ohio State, the Big Ten football powerhouse in Columbus. So his size had abundant credential, if you're picking up the drift.

Easily, Coach Ferris' most outstanding trait was his charismatic personality, once anyone focused beyond his commanding physical presence. My earliest studied impression was, and continues to be, that his heart and psyche decreed to him that people, their lives, ambitions and dreams constitute the most compelling subjects commanding his attention.

The theme of this column became a must-do now for me since my recent trip to Cleveland. I spent a wonderful afternoon with Coach Ferris, meeting for the first time his lovely wife Pat, son Bill and daughter-in-law Jeni. Sometime during the three or four hours of non-stop warm and somewhat-have-you-been-doing-lately conversation, Jeni pointedly asked why Coach Ferris is so special to me. I gave her a totally inadequate answer, but by the time I get to *Fini*, she'll understand with greater clarity, as will most everyone else, I trust.

Coach Ferris stayed after school and worked - unofficially and without pay - with a mere handful of guys during his first year, teaching them some of the basics of the age-old art of wrestling. I wasn't one of those first few, unfortunately for me, too caught up that Sophomore year with other teenage activities that snared my attention, the most noteworthy recalled being my association with a group of guys with whom I formed a club called the Paisans. (We wore blue corduroy jackets with a map of Italy and Sicily embroidered on the back with our club name scrolled and superimposed



Coach Ferris

See Hollywood, page 21

FOOTLOOSE
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Arts & Leisure

CENTER STAGE

Showboat she's a-comin', there's dancin' tonight...

The Showboat *Becky Thatcher*, permanently anchored on the Muskingum River in Marietta, Ohio, is presenting four shows in repertoire this summer season. The cast is mostly made up of college students on the theater track, plus community actors, production staff and volunteers who perform on the Becky all year long. The student actors are chosen from regional auditions held in Ohio much like the F.I.P.T.A. auditions held in Florida every year.

This year's crop of actors performing on the Becky's stage were especially talented, several showing very strong professional possibilities. Programs like this are all important in any performer's formative years. There was a time when these summer stock programs existed in almost every small town and city across the country. The necessities of big name draws with even bigger salaries demanding bigger ticket prices have diminished the opportunities for new talents to try their wings. When Frank and I played our first summer stock seasons in the mid-fifties, one summer we a whole raft of new talent — Carol Burnett, Arte Johnson, Woody Allen (both as writer and comic), composers Sheldon Harnick (*Fiddler On The Roof*), Deane Fuller, Marshall Barer (*Once Upon A Mattress*), to name but a few — along with a sprinkling of script writers, producers, directors, choreographers, all of whom hatched from that summer at Camp Tamiment in the Poconos. It is great to see that this form of summer stock still thrives on the Becky Thatcher, producing melodramas, American classics and musicals.

This summer season featured *Lilly, the Virtuous Seamstress*, or ... *She Was So Good She Never Dropped a Stitch*, a musical melodrama by Alice Mc Donald, music by Carol Sodnik; *Showtime On the Showboat* by Sheila Smollensky, adapted from a play *Will the Showboat Show Tonight?* by Shubert Fendrich; *Tom Sawyer — An American Legend with Music* by Mark Twain; and *Showdown At the Rainbow Ranch* by Randall Bushnell with music by Scott Hobson.

Fortunately, this year I was able to see two of the productions — *Lilly* and *Tom Sawyer*. *Lilly* is the typical melodrama with one slight hitch: it takes place in New York City in a theatrical boarding house, but the old melodrama axiom of good over evil is still intact. The heroine Lilly White, a seamstress, brave, pure (Chrissy Monnin, Heidelberg College), is rescued from Merlin Skirmanhorn, a villainous broken-down Shakespearean actor (played over-the-top

by -villain extraordinaire Dek Ingraham, Marietta College). Lilly's inheritance is saved from the unscrupulous clutches of J. Sedgewick Sludge, a sleazy theatrical producer (funnymen, super sneak Kyle Payne, University North Carolina). Two boarding-house floozies — Fluffy, played by the fetching Jennifer Loraie, (University of Michigan) and Trixie (played to the hilt by Lakisha Bowen, Western Michigan University), as a slinky siren — both of whom try and introduce Lilly to life upon the wicked stage. Lilly is rescued by Frank Merriwellborn, handsome protector of maidens (stalwart Mark Fast, Heidelberg College). Objections to the true-love romance between Lilly and Frank come from Frank's wid-

owed, wealthy mother — Mrs. Merriwellborn (performed to the uppity nth degree by actress Jennifer Mahan from Richmond Va.'s Children's Theater IV). Karen Putman (Marietta College) makes the most of her small role of the Neighborhood Drunk, as does Jeff Baltes (Sinclair Community College) with his characterization of Goodman Shubert, an honest theatrical producer. Jeff Walker's direction kept the action moving along at steady pace, giving the audience every opportunity to boo, hiss and throw popcorn at the villains and still have moments left over to ooh, aah, and cheer for the hero and heroine without stopping the action in this old-time comic melodrama. Truly nothing could be finer than to be in Marietta in the... eee...e...ev'ning, enjoying an American tradition like *Lilly, the Virtuous Seamstress*.

Tom Sawyer, directed by Suzanne Walker, proved an even better show. This classic American legend featured the same company in totally different types of roles and characterizations. Musical Director/ Accompanist Nick Gaswirth (University of Michigan School of Music) put on his acting hat for this one, and gave a first rate performance as the lead, Tom Sawyer. Kyle Payne traded his role from the dastardly, sleazy theatrical producer in *Lilly*, for a totally delightful, utterly appealing characterization of Huck Finn. Karen Putman's Aunt Polly got as many laughs out of her scoldings and carryings-on as she got in her hilarious portrayal of the Drunken Neighbor from the last show. Dek Ingraham created another entirely different first-rate villain out of his super scary character Injun Joe.

The written words of Mark Twain sprang to life once again as they were played with honesty as well as humor by this nifty troop of young and talented actors... making Tom Sawyer one helluva, swelluva show —

another terrific all-American adventure in my favorite all-American small town of Marietta, Ohio.

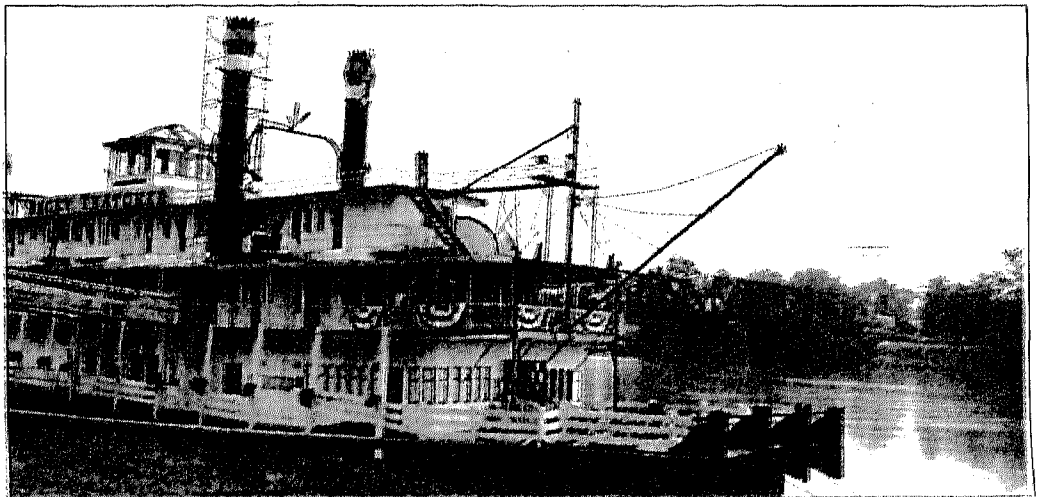
Stay tuned for next week, when the Grammy Award -winning country western singer Lee Greenwood opens the new \$10

million Dysan Baudo Recreation Center on the Marietta campus with a Red Cross benefit concert. It's gonna be a rootin' tootin' mega-patriotic affair, I'll bet.

Photo/ Handsome John E. Triplett, Sr.

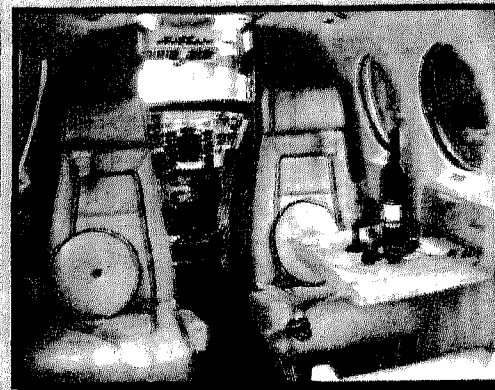


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POTPOURRI

BIG ARTS Happenings



Lessons Learned On Stage

BIG ARTS "Acting for Youth" workshop will present an abbreviated performance of *Alice in Wonderland*, Wednesday August 6, at 5 p.m. at BIG ARTS. The hour-long show will include the Tea Party scene and display the talent and hard work of young actors who have studied in the class with Shawn Holiday. Students are learning about poise, diction, improvisation, lights, costuming, sound, juggling — even moon-walking.

While enhancing the student's theatre skills Holiday instills the importance of responsibility through learning lines, paying attention, attendance, and being on time. The workshop is designed to give students lessons in a real-world acting environment.

Don't miss out on this show! The public is invited, and there is no admission fee.

Kiwanis Community Band

Come and find out how you can be part of this fun group. The BIG ARTS Kiwanis Community Band will start rehearsals on Monday, August 4, at 7 p.m. The fee is \$15 per month. Get back to playing your

instrument of the past or present — or even the future. Rehearsals are in the Phillips Gallery, 900 Dunlop Road (next to City Hall).

Call 395-0900 for more information on either event.

Locals' book takes flight

On July 17, at the Carolina Mall in



Concord, N.C., local authors Annette Rigsby of Sanibel and Edwina Raffa of Fort Myers Beach introduced *Race to Kitty Hawk*, their new historical novel for children ages 8-12. A reading and book signing took place under the 35-by-14 foot replica of the Wright brothers' 1902 glider in the mall's center court. The July publication date coincides with this year's centennial celebration of the Wright brothers' first flight. Fort Myers artist Wellington Ward, whose grandfather was the station keeper at the Kill Devil Hills Lifesaving Station in 1903, illustrated the book.

In *Race to Kitty Hawk*, 12-year-old orphan Tess Raney discovers a plot to destroy the Wright brothers' flying machine and she races to Kitty Hawk to save it. *Race to Kitty Hawk* is published by Silver Moon Press of New York City.

Race to Kitty Hawk has received the endorsement of the First Flight Centennial Foundation. Proceeds from the sale of the book will help the First Flight Centennial Foundation make improvements to the Wright Brothers National Memorial on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. *Race to Kitty Hawk*, a commemorative keepsake of the First Flight Centennial, is now available locally.

New Courses Starting



Brand new four-week courses taught by National Dance Champion Honey Larsen begin in both Fort Myers and Sanibel the week of August 4th.

Mondays: Fame Dance Studios
7 p.m., Basic Level East Coast Swing;
8 p.m., Swing Performance Class (by instructor permission only)
Wednesdays: Asylum Fitness Club
7 p.m., Introduction to Latin Dance;
8 p.m. Intermediate Salsa.

Each weekly class is one hour. One course is \$60 per person; two courses, \$100. A partner is not required, but is suggested. Pre-registration requested.

Larsen will also teach *Introduction to Ballroom*, which covers the basics in fox-trot, waltz and tango at the **Sanibel Fitness Center**, 975 Rabbit Road. This all-new four-week course starts Tuesday, August 5 and continues every Tuesday from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

\$60 per person; special discount for Sanibel Fitness members. Pre-registration is strongly suggested as this class fills up fast. Partners are not required but are suggested.

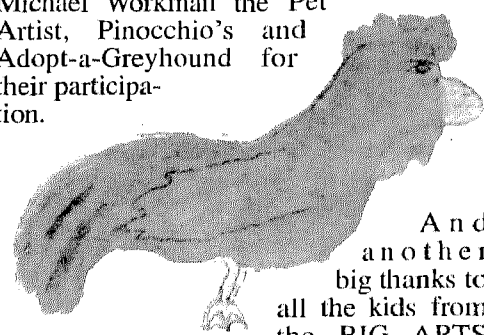
Call 415-1951 for registration and more information.

Another Village success

The Village Shops' "Doggie Do" on Friday, July 25 was a huge success, thanks to all the participants. More than 100 dogs brought their owners to the Village for food, fun and freebies, and \$500 was raised for the Animal Refuge Center, a no-kill animal shelter in Fort Myers. In addition, homes were found for several animals.

A special thanks to Ikki Matsumoto for donating four framed prints from his new dog and cat series for the raffle and to Dr. Carpenter from the Pet Wellness Center, Coral Veterinary Clinic, Dudley's Dog

Bakers, Golden Paws Grooming, Dorothea the Pet Psychic, Missy the Pet Masseuse, Michael Workman the Pet Artist, Pinocchio's and Adopt-a-Greyhound for their participation.



And another big thanks to all the kids from the BIG ARTS

summer camp program who entered the Pet Portrait contest. The Grand Prize went to Tania Altamirano-Santana for "Blacky, First was awarded to "God House" by Christian Cooper, Second to "Cat/Panther" by Thomas A. Rizzo, and Third to Emma Wheeler's "Chicken."

Way to go, Randy!

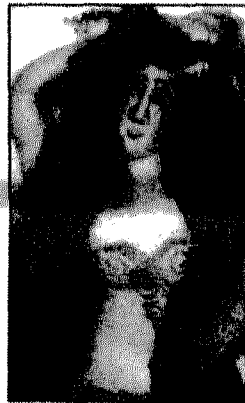
Local author Randy Wayne White made the pages of the August *Reader's Digest* with his short story, "The Jumper's Club" taken from the pages of his 2002 book, *Last Flight Out*, published by The Lyons Press.

Katie's new dolls at Seaweed

Seaweed Gallery features the work of local artists, including Beth Collette's fused glass bracelets, earrings, pendants and small dishes.

New are Katie Gardenia's new collection of dolls, stained glass designs of mermaids, flowers and shells by Carol Nahoon, hand-painted floor mats, stools, pillows and tables by Kassia Straus, and Honey Costa's latest renditions of hammocks and beach chairs.

The Sanibel store is in the Forever Green Shops and is open from 10 a.m. to 6 or 7 p.m. weekdays and Saturdays and closed Sundays; the Captiva Gallery on Andy Rosse is open from 11 a.m. to 8, 7 on Sundays. For more information call 472-2585.



Auditions at Conspiracy

Theatre Conspiracy will be holding auditions tomorrow, August 2, from 2 to 4 p.m. for its September production of *Vampire Lesbians Of Sodom* by Charles Busch. Appointments are required. Directed by Artistic Director Bill Taylor, this farce of the *Rocky Horror* genre is about vamps, has nothing to do with lesbians and takes the audience on a hilarious journey from ancient Sodom to the Hollywood of the '20s, ending up in present day Las Vegas. Anyone interested should call Theatre Conspiracy at 936-3239 to set up a time to audition. Those unable to attend on August 2nd should make another appointment with the director. Actors are encouraged to bring a headshot and resume.

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They are the only interior decorators with their own production plant located right on Mildred Drive in Fort Myers. They base their growth on hard work, integrity, and superb customer service by competent employees who have been part of the company for many years. "We still have the same faces and the same crew. Leather has gotten bigger, specialty fabrics are even more exciting and we work at passing deeper and deeper discounts along to our customers in this changing economy," explains Gwiz.

Their extensive inventory of high grade specialty fabrics includes a variety of animal prints, the Indy 500, tapestry fabrics, sport motifs, the nautical with sand, surf, and shells and the latest in checks and stripes. If you can't find the fabric or a close facsimile at Bob Gwiz, it's probably not being manufactured.

Gwiz prefers to buy his over 1,000 leather hides



directly from the tanneries in Germany. The lack of fencing for the animals results in fewer blemishes and a more highly rated quality of leather. Also, indoor/outdoor fabrics, vinyls and Naugahyde are on display here and with

this massive inventory the "Big Dog" attracts individual customers, business and commercial accounts.

Service is a specialty at Bob Gwiz and there's never a lot of promises without follow-through. They do what they say and the work is in and out in a week to ten days. Good customer relationships require that each person must be happy with the workmanship and their choice of fabric or leather.

Sometimes customers come into the shop not knowing what exactly they want. For purposes of display, all of the hundreds of bolts of fabric are piled high on the shelves with 9x12 samples from which customers can make their selection.

After a preview of samples the customers can see this same fabric on the large bolt. But the service doesn't end there, "We do nothing until we see the house and the piece of furniture they want to cover." That's where the decorator comes in.

Much of their business is in-home service. Each Bob Gwiz truck is equipped with over 50% of the inventory samples and comes on wheels with a decorator and installer for consultation purposes.

The goal is to avoid mistakes and disappointments before they happen. "We never re-upholster a large piece

Gwiz, see page 16

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Home Improvement

Gwiz, from page 15

of furniture without seeing where it's going and whether or not the choice of fabric fits the room décor. We advise them 'up front' if the newly re-upholstered piece is going to look well in their setting." That's building the integrity with customers which they deserve to expect.

One of the most important and unseen parts of fine re-upholstering is the work that's done to the furniture before the piece is covered with new fabric or leather. That means "rebuilding" the furniture, retying springs, possibly adding foam and preparing the piece for the new covering. "We use better quality products, better grades of foam and our experienced craftsmen work on each piece. We encourage people to buy the right covering. We don't carry the cheap fabrics and inferior leathers. Then we'd rather pass on the job. We always try to advise people honestly," clarifies Gwiz.

Much of the new furniture is built so cheaply that it's first worth considering whether it's advisable to rebuild the old frame and update the fabric for a new look. Also there are many people who want to preserve their furniture and bring it up to par so that it looks fresh and clean but never loses its identity. In today's market a fine high grade couch ranges from \$3,000 to \$4,000 and for 1/3 of that price a couch can be re-upholstered. Of course, that's a personal choice people must make for themselves. Another consideration is that most of today's leather furniture is built with split hides while Gwiz selects only the most perfect imported leathers.

With his ever increasing inventory leading to a wider and wider selection of fabrics and leathers Gwiz announces, "We're growing even larger and expanding into a new fabric shop in 2003." The goal is to display the inventory so that customers can browse more easily with less hunting through the "stacks" and have the option to buy their own fabric and do the work themselves. As an added convenience Gwiz is hooked up with an adjunct interior decorator who features window treatments. This is a no-run operation whether customers want to do the work themselves or prefer to use the services of Bob Gwiz Re-Upholstery.

In the spurts of economic downfall and recovery Gwiz still maintains his massive advertising program orches-



Bob and Nancy Gwiz display some of their fine leathers

trated by Mrs. Gwiz who is the shopper in the television commercials with the BIG DOG trademark. They advertise in all the local newspapers, have recently added New Stock to their radio stations and average 500 TV spots per month. Recently they added a new website www.bobgwiz.com but they both admit that the best advertising is a recommendation from a satisfied customer.

The BIG DOG is the clue for locating Bob Gwiz Re-Upholstery at 38 Mildred Drive, Fort Myers with its awesome inventory, excellent customer service and superior workmanship. The secret is the Bob Gwiz vision and willingness to invest half of the yearly profits right back into the business.

50 years, 50 states, 50 favorite uses for WD-40

It's official: people in Florida love their WD-40. "Cleans and removes love bugs from car grills and bumpers" is their favorite use for the product, according to the results of an online poll conducted by WD-40 Company.

The playful poll, known as the Great State Debate, was developed to find the 50 favorite WD-40 uses across all 50 states as part of the company's 50th anniversary celebration this year. The poll ran from January to March.

"We constantly receive correspondence from people all over the country about how they love and use WD-40," said Helen Way, brand manager for company. "We found it interesting that some of the applications were regional — specific to cold weather, warm weather, humidity, love bugs, local monuments and folklore, you name it. And, we thought it would be fun to search for each state's favorite WD-40 use as we gear up for our 50th anniversary."

Great State Debate voters in Florida could choose from 10 uses:

- Cleans and removes love bugs from car grills and bumpers
- Cleans, polishes and protects golf clubs from rust
- Keeps revolving doors moving freely at early-bird-dinner restaurants
- Drives moisture from boat ignition systems
- Cleans surfboard wax from car roof
- Penetrates stuck bolts, lug nuts and hose ends
- Keeps sliding doors and windows working smoothly
- Drives moisture and condensation from exterior of space shuttles launched from Cape Canaveral (N.B. the reason WD-40 was invented!)
- Protects tools, garden implements and lawnmower blades from rust

Results and winning uses for all 50 states are displayed on WD-40 Company's Web site, www.WD-40.com.

Each vote cast in the Great State Debate contributed 50 cents to Rebuilding Together, a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and rehabilitating houses and communities for low-income families. The poll raised thousands of dollars for the charity. When combined with WD-40 Company's sponsorship of Kickoff to Rebuild, an event held in conjunction with the Super Bowl, the company's donation totals \$25,000. More information about Rebuilding Together can be found on that organization's Web site, www.rebuildingtogether.org.

In its 50th anniversary year, WD-40 Company is also launching a limited-edition commemorative can and holding an instant-win sweepstakes for the chance to win a Dodge Ram 1500 loaded with 50 Stanley tools. Commemorative cans featuring instant-win game pieces are available from May to October in most places WD-40 is sold. The company also developed the WD-40 Job Site, an online resource for homeowners and do-it-yourselfers, featuring tips and tricks from trade professionals.



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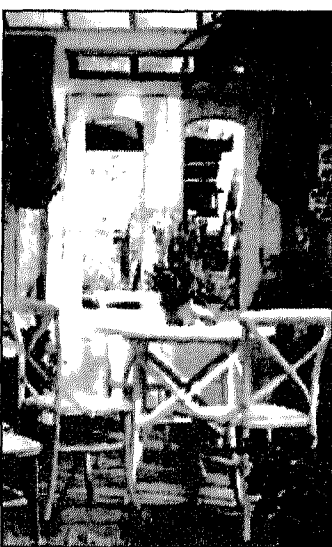
NEW DISCLOSURE LAW THREATENS REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

As of July 1, it will be crucial to work with a Realtor who can navigate the dangerous waters of Florida's new disclosure law. If you plan on buying or selling a home, you'll now be required to confront a new written "disclosure summary" that tells the buyer if there are any restrictions on the use of the property. Buyers must be informed of any neighborhood restrictions, such as the commonplace obligation to join the homeowner's association, but also, they must be informed of innocuous items like a restriction on parking a truck overnight in your driveway! The new law gives buyers three days to cancel the contract if they find any information in the disclosure unacceptable.

Unfortunately, the new form has a defect that may snag real estate transactions: the restrictions are summarized, but not explained in detail. The seller answers eight questions that reveal if association membership is mandatory, if there are any special tax assessments or land use fees, and if the property owner can amend restrictive covenants. But the new law does not require the seller to provide the buyer with copies of the association's declarations, bylaws, rules and financial statements, so the buyer can make an informed decision about the purchase. Restrictions can include prohibitions against guesthouses or multi-family residences. Investigate the property carefully, and get help from a Realtor to complete the disclosure, or you may invalidate your contract.

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 472-1311, or e-mail her at Margie@MargieDavison.com

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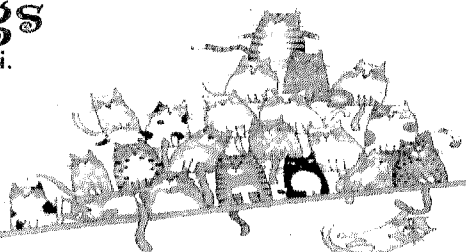
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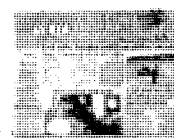
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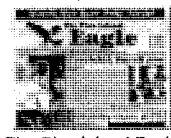
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New butterfly aviary in Fort Myers

On Saturday, July 26, the Calusa Nature Center dedicated and hosted a Grand Opening celebration for its one-of-a-kind Butterfly Aviary & Native Plant Nursery.

The 1,000-square-foot screened aviary is home to 30 different species of Florida butterflies and has been designed with a brick walkway that ushers visitors from the Museum through the butterflies to the Audubon bird aviary. It is the largest butterfly display between Tampa and Fort Lauderdale. Caterpillars and pupae are also on display in the Natural History Living Museum.

"The walk-through has tiers of native plants on both sides that nourish hundreds of butterflies with nectar and food for their caterpillars," said Michael Simonik, executive director of the center. "We're calling it the Butterfly Aviary & Native Plant Nursery because all the plants are for sale to help people create butterfly habitats in their own backyards." Both butterfly larvae and butterfly nectar plants are available. Prices range from less than \$5 for blooming nectar plants to \$23 for trees.

A visit to the Butterfly Aviary is included in regular Nature Center admission. Everyone is invited to "adopt" the butterflies by purchasing a brick that will be engraved and set in the walkway. Bricks are available in two sizes, one for \$50 with three lines of text and the other for \$100 with six lines of text. They can be purchased by downloading the form from the Nature Center's website, CalusaNature.com or at the Museum's front desk.

Volunteers are needed in the Aviary to help care for the butterflies and caterpillars and help with and sell the plants. Call 275-

3435 to enroll as a volunteer.

A major gift by Charles Edgar Foster in tribute to his late wife, Margaret, known as the "First Plant Lady of the Nature Center," helped fund the project. Foster, a third generation area native, is known locally as the "Caloosahatchee River Rat" because of his eco-teaching and knowledge of the river.

Employees of The Bonita Bay Group, O'Donnell Landscapes, Gravina, Smith & Matte, and Barraco & Associates helped build the screen enclosure. The team spent two days in July creating the garden tiers with plants and shrubs, laying the brick walkway and installing the irrigation system. "The Bonita Bay Group has helped many organizations with environmental and native landscape projects, and we were very pleased when they offered to partner in a project with us," Simonik said. "We both see the butterfly aviary as a great tool for area residents to learn how to care for the environment."

The South Florida Water Management District contributed \$4,300 to install a well and an ultra-low volume irrigation system to provide water to both the plants in the aviary and to fill the center's alligator pond. Plants will be irrigated via a micro-drip system that provides minimal amounts of water. The Center will use the system as a teaching tool to illustrate how people can grow healthy plants with a fraction of the water typically used on landscapes.

There is a 1:30 p.m. presentation on butterflies in the Aviary daily. For group tours and a presentation of the Butterfly Aviary call Melissa Stakun, Senior Naturalist, at 275-3435.

Hollywood, from page 12

across the outlined map. I have a replica of the jacket, but little opportunity to wear it in our tropics-like paradise known as Southwest Florida.)

During the late-summer football season before my Junior year, Coach Ferris told me he was forming Mayfield's first official wrestling team. He asked me to join the team when wrestling season started in November, saying that he felt I was "probably a natural." It has been said that flattery is a wonderful persuader. I'm living proof. I said "yes" even though I had no interest, desire or, quite frankly, intent of following through. And again, my recall piercing the Veil of Time, I can now clearly see that, for a teenager whose primary athletic focus was football, November seemed to be light-years away.

Next thing I knew it was November. Coach told me that a lot of guys were joining the team because I said I would be there, too. I figured he was blowing smoke until several of my peers backed up his story.

Time out. This is big; *tutto*, impor-

Pontifical Postulates, as I categorized his major pieces of old-country wisdom, was to invite wholesale disaster, for that's when the Golden Rule seems to rear back for a mighty WACK!

With all that, the capper was Father Michael, my friend the Good, Old-Fashioned priest mentioned in an earlier column. He talked to me half the time in Sicilian, just like my Grampa, and was enthusiastically supportive regarding my becoming a wrestler. Given the formidable combination of mentors those three created, though all unknown to each other, meet Giuseppe the Wrestler!

Getting into proper physical shape and conditioning for wrestling proved to be far more difficult than for playing football, we were shocked to learn. Those of us who were in great football shape could not perform wrestling maneuvers for as many as 10 consecutive seconds! Among the many early concepts to learn was that the apparent simplicity of maneuvers turned out to be quite complex, indeed. Fortunately, second wind finally arrived, allowing us to experience a considerable degree of fun before we all dropped out due to barfitis, or whatever other ailments might have come into play.

That first season, amazingly, we managed to win more matches than we lost while developing a rabid and large fan base, putting us alongside basketball as the next most popular sports after football. One of our guys, Bob Nolasowski, our Heavyweight and the only senior on the team, won second place in the State of Ohio Wrestling Championships.

At the Annual Combined-Sports Banquet and Awards Night held at the end of that Junior year, Coach Ferris announced that Bob (we called him Bearski) had been awarded a Full Boat Wrestling Scholarship to Ohio University! We were all thrilled, happy for Bob and certainly proud of him, especially me. I've said at least a million times over the years that I felt like I got hit by a Big Red Cement Truck that evening. In fact, that awards banquet I regard as being the setting for my personal epiphany; the night when Step One of my career in Hollywood was implanted in the cosmos with irreversible certainty, pun intended. What the heck does that mean? How? Why?

Save all questions 'til next week, 'cuz guess who's outta space again. Raise your hand if you'll be out of town and we shall have the correlating department forward the next installment to you.



Micale, the wrestler

tant. My maternal Grampa, Domenico, deceased when I was eleven, who I still love and respect more than any combinations of words could ever accurately describe, had drummed into me that keeping my word is an absolute, even when circumstances change; period. "When you give your word, keep it, follow through enthusiastically, and you are aloft with the richest people on earth," my Grampa said with the clarity of this morning's conversation. "Those who go back on their word are without honor, they are bankrupt, for when you can't give your word, you have nothing worthwhile to give." I had already learned the hard way that to defy one of his

Pirates of the Caribbean

~ A Review by Kate Thompson

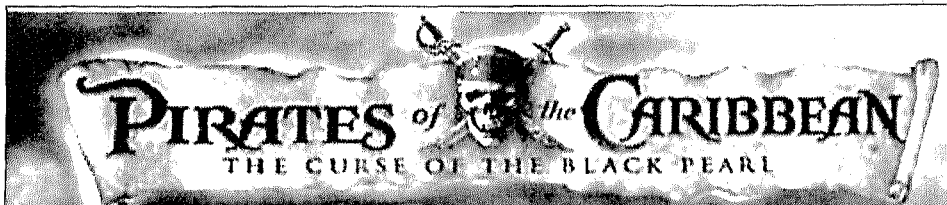
Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl has everything — swashbuckling adventure, humor, a bit of scare and even romance. While the script isn't deep and it's not too scary for most kids, the movie's a lot of fun.

The film stars Orlando Bloom as William Turner, found as a young victim of pirates by the British Navy. A young Elizabeth Swann, played by Keira Knightley, sees a gold necklace around the unconscious boy's neck and takes it. Years later, living in Port

Royal, Turner has become a blacksmith who pines for the governor's daughter, Elizabeth. The commander of the British fleet, however, one Norrington, wants to marry

Elizabeth.

Captain Jack Sparrow, played by Johnny Depp in more eye make-up than most of the women in the film, has arrived in Port Royal. Sparrow was living the idyllic life of a pirate aboard his ship, the *Black Pearl*, when a mutiny stranded him on a deserted island. He tries to steal the fastest ship in port — the *HMS Intrepid*, which belongs, of course, to the Navy. He rescues Elizabeth when she falls into the sea, saving her life but is rewarded



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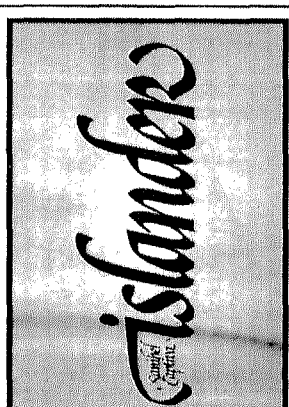
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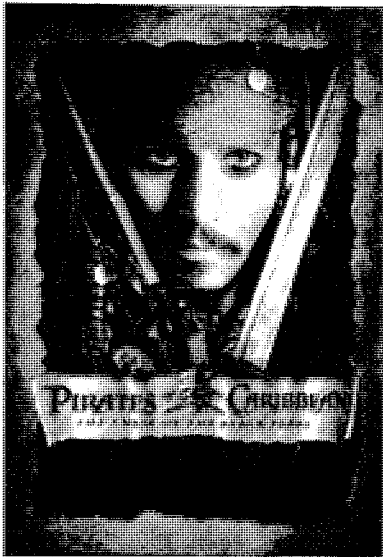
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for this valor by Commander Norrington with an order for his hanging for piracy.

The *Black Pearl* then attacks Port Royal, kidnapping Elizabeth. To save her, Turner breaks Sparrow out of prison and, together, they steal the Intrepid and sail off after the maid. The duo is chased by Commander Norrington and the governor, Elizabeth's father.

Meanwhile Elizabeth is aboard the *Black Pearl* discovering the curse that has doomed the Pearl's Captain Barbossa (played by Geoffrey Rush) and his crew to live forever as the undead.

Depp plays his role brilliantly — it's hard to tell which side he's really on until the very end. He seemed totally absorbed in the role and looked as though he enjoyed every minute of it. When he's on



screen, he completely captures the audience's attention. Bloom and Knightley make delightful innocents in love and Rush plays the doomed Barbossa with flair.

The special effects by Industrial Light & Magic allowed the actors playing pirates/skeletons to seamlessly switch in mid-stride as the moonlight hit them.

This may be the first time Disney has named a movie after a theme park ride. I have to confess that I've never been to Disney World, but my

companion, a 12-year-old, said she saw elements of the ride in the movie that were done perfectly. Otherwise, it doesn't have much to do with the ride but, regardless, it's tremendous fun. Rated PG-13 for adventure-related violence, it's less frightening than Harry Potter.

PERFORMING ARTS

ON THE ISLANDS

Island Cinema

Bailey's Shopping Center ~ 472-1701

- *Seabiscuit* (PG13)
- *Pirates of the Caribbean* (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

BIG ARTS

900 Dunlop Road ~ 395-0900

Schein Hall

- *Alice in Wonderland*
August 6th, 5 p.m., free

IN NAPLES

Naples Dinner Theatre

1025 Piper Boulevard ~ (239) 514-7827

- *Rocky Horror Show*
Saturdays @ midnight
Through August 9th, \$25
August 16th Special, 8 p.m.
\$42.50 includes buffet dinner
- *Annie*
Through August 17th, \$37.50-\$42.50

Doggone great show

Theatre Conspiracy is proud to announce the first show of its 10th anniversary season at the Foulds Theatre. Make no bones about it, *Sylvia* by A.R. Gurney will be one funny show. Gurney's zany, touching and exuberant comedy opens August 14 with performances on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2 through August 30.

Gurney, author of *The Dining Room*, and *Love Letters*, has created memorable characters in Greg and Kate, a husband and wife, and the incomparable, howlingly funny Sylvia. The couple, their children grown, move to Manhattan where Greg's career unravels while Kate's takes off. Greg, experiencing mid-life crisis, finds the abandoned Sylvia whose street smarts and riotous outlook on life, revive him. His preoccupation with Sylvia creates friction with Kate who feels Sylvia is a rival for her husband's affection... while Sylvia thinks that Kate doesn't grasp the bond between man and man's best friend. Even with advice from friends and a therapist (whose gender is not readily apparent), the marriage teeters on the edge until, through some hilarious and heartwarming scenes, the couple reconciles and accept each other and their unpredictable new member of the family, Sylvia.

The opening night performance will be a benefit for The Animal Refuge Center. ARC, a non-profit volunteer organization and shelter, provides a clean, safe, no-kill environment primarily for cats and dogs within the Lee County area, and actively seeks their adoption to qualified individuals. Through public education and an active spay and neuter program, ARC strives to reduce the number of unwanted animals in

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IN FORT MYERS

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre

1380 Colonial Boulevard ~ 278-4422

- *Footloose: The Musical*
Through August 30th, \$21-\$42

Off Broadway Palm

- *A Star Spangled Revue*
Through August 16th

Children's Theatre

- *Jungle Book*
Lunch matinees through August 23rd, \$13

Florida Repertory Theatre

Bay Street between Jackson & Hendry
332-4488

- *Veronica's Room*
Through August 3rd, \$15-\$32

Theatre Conspiracy

Foulds Theatre ~ 10091 McGregor ~ 334-3239

- *A.R. Gurney's Sylvia*
August 14th-30th, Thursday-Saturday, 8 p.m.
Sundays, 2 p.m., \$16/\$7

Kids Conspiracy

- *Sleeping Beauty*
August 2nd, 7th, 9th & 16th
Call for times & locations

the community. ARC also promotes animal welfare advocacy and cruelty investigations, as well as utilizing education as a major resource to reach pet owners on responsible pet ownership and kindness to all creatures. ARC is a tax deductible, 501(c)(3) status organization, funded by individual and corporate donations and memberships, and operated by volunteers.

Sylvia is directed by Tiffany Yates; *Sylvia* is played by Lisa Marie, who wowed audiences several years ago when Theatre Conspiracy first produced the show. Jim Yarnes and Nancy Antonio, well-known local performers, will play Greg and Kate while J. Mitchell Haley, another familiar actor, plays three characters, Kate's female friend, Greg's male friend and the androgynous therapist.

Tickets for *Sylvia* are \$16, \$7 for students. Call Theatre Conspiracy's box-office at 936-3239.

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