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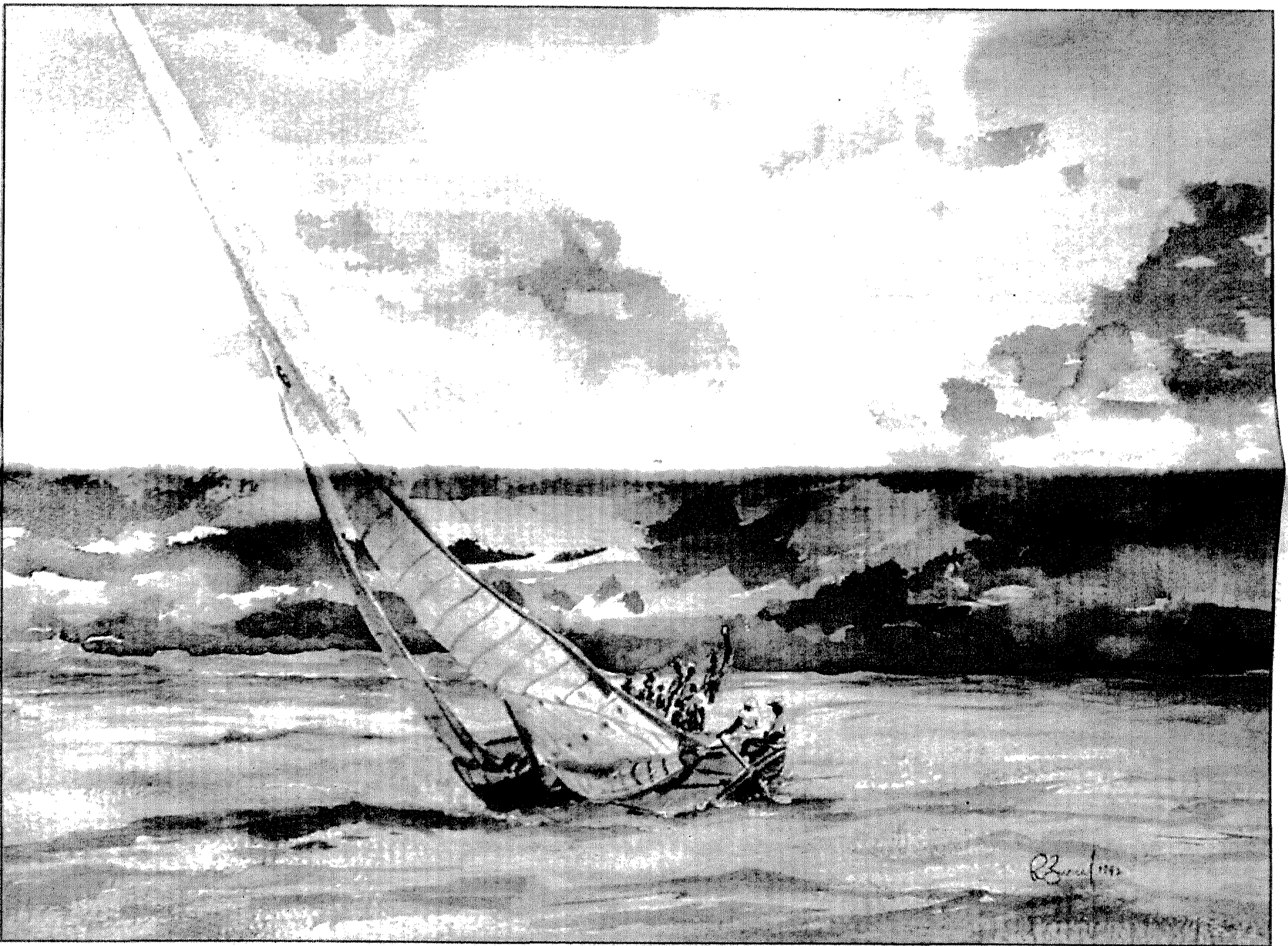
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Vol. 42, No. 28

Week of Aug. 29 - Sept. 4, 2003

28 Pages



This signed, limited edition print by Robert Zwickel hangs in the Seaweed Gallery. Seaweed is opening another gallery on Captiva. See story on page 10.

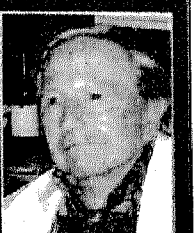


Ken Kasten and Team Vixen take first place in his class in the Sarasota Offshore Showdown.

See story on page 6.

Arts for ACT raises \$400,000 in one evening's auctions. Meryl Streep was hostess for the annual fundraiser at Robert Rauschenberg's invitation.

See page 15.

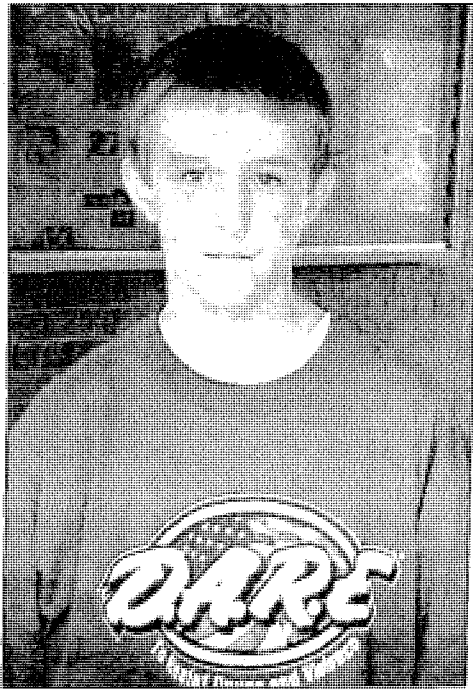


The winning D.A.R.E. essay

By Carl Von Harten

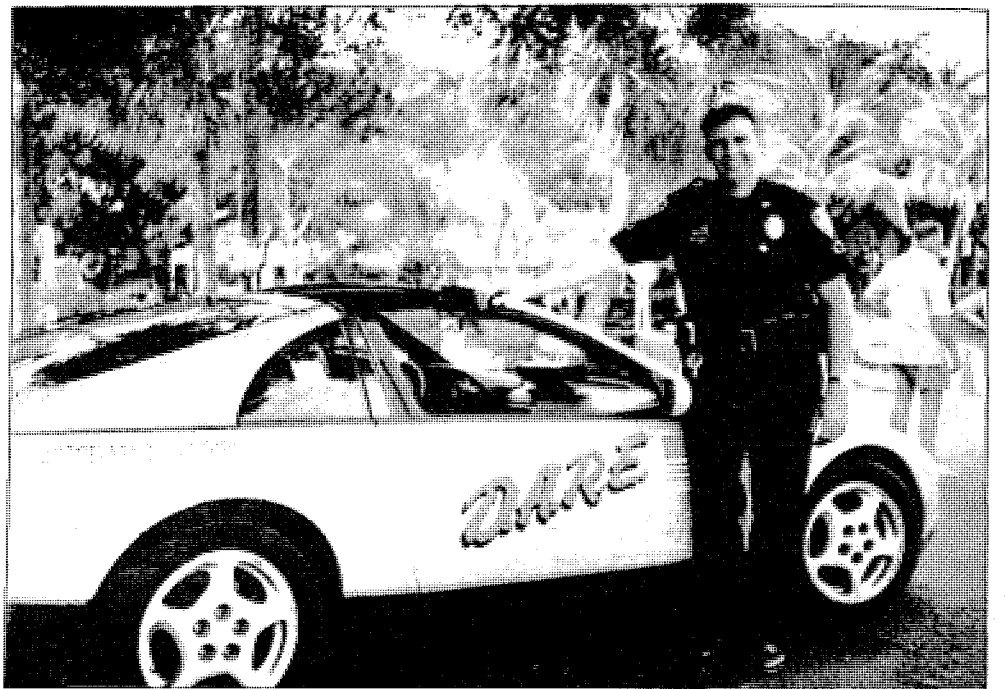
D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) is one of the most outstanding programs for many reasons. First of all, it tells you all the horrible things that can affect your life when you take any types of drugs. I can't believe that people even take that gross stuff and I'm sure I never will. Taking drugs will not only be wasting money, but also the drugs may cause sicknesses or even death. After going through the D.A.R.E. program I am 101% sure I will never use drugs. I hope that is everybody else's choice too. D.A.R.E. is not just about drugs, but also about violence and crime. I cannot believe that some people would do such horrible things.

I was really excited about the D.A.R.E. because I was not very familiar with drugs and if I was not in D.A.R.E. It I would have been 70% sure if I would take drugs or not instead of 101%. I feel the most important was when for about 30 minutes we went around the room telling each other some of our dreams when we grow up. Some of my dreams were living in California, becoming a millionaire and meeting Bill Gates. I had many more wonderful dreams. At that time I was thinking of how nice it would be for my wishes to come true. Once everybody had told lots of their dreams Officer Schulte said, "imagine if all of your dreams came true". Then he said, "if you take drugs probably none of your wishes will come true because drugs is what you will



Carl Von Harten

always think about. That meant so much to me because I knew some of my dreams might come true, but it would be a total disaster if none of my wishes came true. That was a very important thing that I will probably remember for the rest of my life and never forget it. If someone said I would give you \$1,000 if you try cigarettes my answer would be NO!!



Sanibel School Resource Officer Kurt Schulte stands with the D.A.R.E. car used to help caution kids about the dangers of drugs.

I have learned so many things in D.A.R.E. that it would take forever to share what I have learned to help me say no and to keep away from violence. I learned many bad things about violence, and what the consequences are. That helped me to say no to violent things because I do not want to be put in jail or even killed. I want to live a long, drug free life.

There are many things in D.A.R.E. that I will remember for the rest of my life. When someone asks me to do drugs

or something violent I would look back at all the horrible things that could happen and say no. I would also convince the other person to stop drugs and doing something violent and hope they stop. To conclude, I know I will never take drugs and I hope you never do either!

Carl Von Harten was in the fifth grade at the Sanibel School when he wrote this winning essay last spring. He is now 11 years old and in the sixth grade.

THANK-YOU!!!

Sanibel-Captiva Residents and Friends For Voting Us In The Ft. Myers News Press

THE BEST OF SOUTH WEST FLORIDA

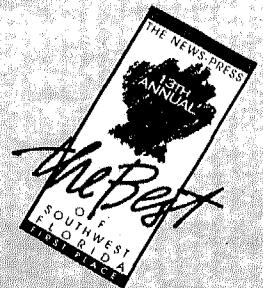
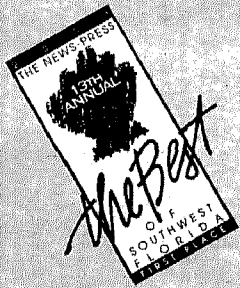
Readers Poll

Again you have made us the **WINNER!**

"THE BEST" SHELL SHOP

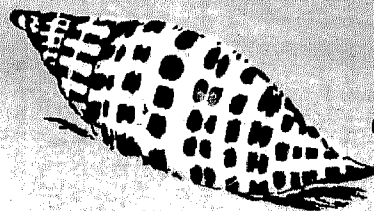
Your support the past 26 years is appreciated and we hope you will continue to send us your friends and families

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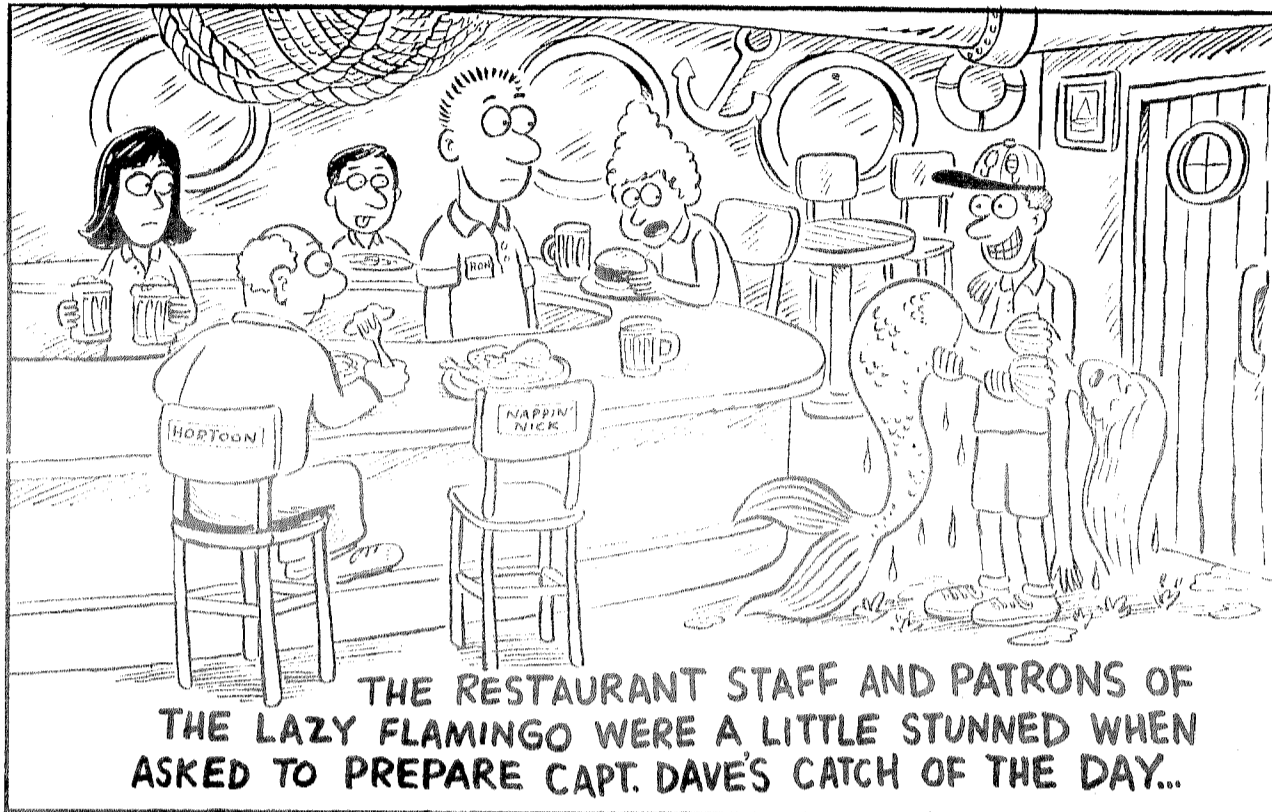
TOO MUCH SUN



Dave Horton



Lee Horton



COLUMNISTS



The Metastatic Life
Lisa Pierot
— page 5

Business Profile
Nancy Santeusanio
— page 10



Center Stage
Marsha Wagner
— page 17

Dateline Hollywood
Little Joe Micale
— page 19



UP PERISCOPE

No matter what time of year it is, it's that time of year again. Well, it's true once again and this time the subject is Celebrity Bartenders.

September has become that time when we (this newspaper — not the "editorial we") lean on various people around the islands to try other side of different island bars for a chance in order to drum up some support for various and sundry good causes.

Judging from the great fun we had with this last year, it should be so again. It's important to keep in mind, however, that we're all there for the camaraderie and snappy reparté, not the brilliant mixology or speedy bar service.

I say this because the definition of "celebrity" has been slightly altered this year. It has been devalued, much like a third world currency, so that it can now be stretched to include me.

While the editor in me might cringe at the thought, the more human side is delighted and flattered. It also is appealing for the opportunity to raise some much needed funding for the Animal Refuge Center in North Fort Myers.



RENNY SEVERANCE
Executive Editor

ARC is a not especially glamorous organization that takes in homeless dogs and cats, neuters them and works hard to find them new homes. The critical part here is that ARC is opposed to euthanasia and will not put any animal to sleep to make room for another. They

keep 'em until they are adopted or for life.

This is not an easy commitment to make, much less to keep, but they have managed to do so quite effectively for the past 15 years. In 2000 they estimated that they were finding new homes for some 100 dogs and 200 cats each year. Those numbers are probably creeping higher as the population of Southwest Florida continues its record growth.

These guys are also thinking ahead and, with a slightly older population as the norm in these parts, their website offers advice and planning we can use in case our pets outlive us.

In short, ARC is doing what Lee County cannot — keeping stray animals from roaming all over the countryside, but without killing them.

ARC depends on a lot of help from volunteers and donors and frankly, the chance to help and maybe get some others to help as well is most appealing. The fact that I get to stand behind a bar pretending that I can mix a Long Island Iced Tea or a Singapore Sling and chat with friends and make some new ones along the way is too good to pass up.

But don't be alarmed — I'm pretty good at opening a beer and I can pour scotch on the rocks with the best of 'em.

So come to Matzaluna on Thursday, Sept. 4 at 5:30 and see how it's done. My partner in crime for this caper will be Marguerite Burns, a colleague here at the paper and more importantly, someone who actually knows what she's doing behind the bar. She also has a world-class sense of humor, a vital ingredient for this event.

But if you don't trust either of us with your drinks, look on page 27 for other, safer opportunities.

TURTLE TOTALS

AUGUST 25, 2003

	Nests	Hatched Nests	Hatchlings
East End	31	8	581
West End	162	74	4,447
Captiva	129	92	7,969
TOTALS	322	174	12,997

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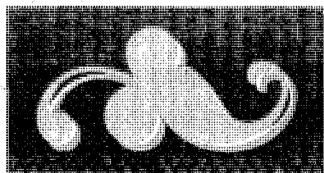
454-6868

PHILIP G. DAVIS, M.D.
Internal Medicine

JOHN D. STRAUBAUGH, D.O.
Family Practitioner

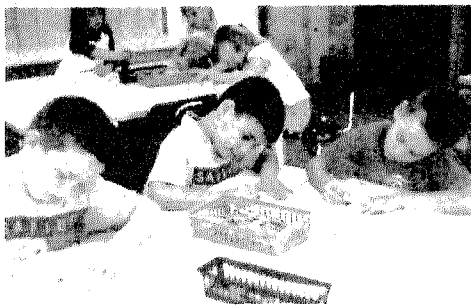
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HAPPENINGS

BaileyFest Logo Contest



All the students at the Sanibel School have been invited to design the logo for this year's BaileyFest. The theme will be "Hanging Out at BaileyFest" and there must be a raccoon in the design. All entries will be displayed at the shopping center before the big event. All Sanibel School students are invited to participate.

CALL FOR TALENT

If you've always felt that you belonged on stage but haven't had the breaks, here's your chance — BaileyFest 2003 is looking for local talent!

Singers, comedians, dancers, clowns, karaoke stars, jugglers, clog dancers, magicians... there is definitely a place for you. Children are welcome. Whatever your specialty, take a shot at stardom at this year's BaileyFest.

Entry forms are available at the service desk in Bailey's General Store and must be dropped off at The Shell Net (in Bailey's Center) by Friday, Oct. 3. Acts

will be auditioned and those who make the final cut will debut on Oct. 19 at BaileyFest.

BaileyFest is an all-Island party which usually draws at least 2,500 attendees. It's sponsored by Bailey's Center and all monies raised go to local charities. There's a tented stage for entertainment. Activities in years past have included games, a Bounce House and pony rides... PLUS kids get to climb inside the shiny red Sanibel and Captiva fire trucks.

Another 1st for Islands Guide

The Sanibel Police Department now uses the Coconut Press guidebook Sanibel & Captiva: A Guide to the Islands as its standard island reference book. Each member of the department was issued a copy in June so both officers and dispatchers can answer the many questions they receive from visitors.

"We get hundreds of questions about the islands," said Stephanie Dowd, the department's administrative secretary, "especially about our wildlife." She chuckled as she added that someone even called to ask why all the island birds have only one leg... (They actually all have two, but often tuck one up to rest.)

The books were ordered on the recommendation of City Manager Judie Zimomra and Lt. Jamie Phillips.

Chamber Box lunch coming up

The Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce Box Lunch is Tuesday, Sept. 9, and will feature both Walter J. Klages, Ph.D. on "Tourism Trends for 2004" and the presentation of the Ken Meeker Travel Writers Award. Klages is the founder and president of Research Data Services, Inc. and provides tourism statistics and related information to much of Southwest Florida's tourism industry. Meeker was the first executive director of the Chamber.

The meeting will take place in the Wakefield Room at Tween Waters Inn on Captiva from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Catered by Tween Waters, the menu offers: Stuffed strawberry papaya with macadamia nut chicken Waldorf salad, New York sharp cheddar cheese & water biscuits, terra chips and a cranberry shortbread cookie;

or

Charred tenderloin & avocado wrap with sweet onion relish & Boursin cheese, Camembert with strawberries and Lahvosh, Yukon gold chips and a Linzer cookie.

ADVANCE RESERVATIONS ONLY

The cost for the lunch is \$10 and reservations must be in by 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5. After that date, and at the door, the cost is \$14. Call 472-1966 to register or e-mail office@sanibel-captiva.org. Reservation deadline is 5 p.m. Sept. 5; cancellations must be 24 hours prior to the event for refund.

The September AfterHours will be Sept. 15 at the Chamber Visitor Center on Causeway Road.

CRFE meeting Sept. 2

The Caloosa Rare Fruit Exchange Club will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 2, at 7:30 p.m. in the rear "porches" at the back of Terry Park. This month's program will feature a speaker and discussion on persimmons.

Meetings are open to the public. For more information call Bill Thompson at 731-1430 or the park at 461-7500.

• FLORIDA LAW •
VEHICLES MUST YIELD TO
PEDESTRIANS IN CROSSWALKS
AND INTERSECTIONS

Bailey's helping troops in Iraq



Photo by Erik Burriss

Jesse Burke, store manager of Bailey's collects items donated for U.S. troops stationed in Iraq.

By Erik Burriss

A Fort Myers soldier and his buddies in Iraq will soon have their lives made a little easier thanks to the generosity of Bailey's shoppers.

A drop off for various and sundry sundries is sitting by the Bailey's front door. Store Manager Jessie Burke organized the drive to provide items to her nephew, 19-year-old Pfc. Joshua Swan. A photo of Swan in uniform and a list of items needed adorn the display.

Swan and his comrades in the 173rd Airborne Brigade have been in the Middle East since March.

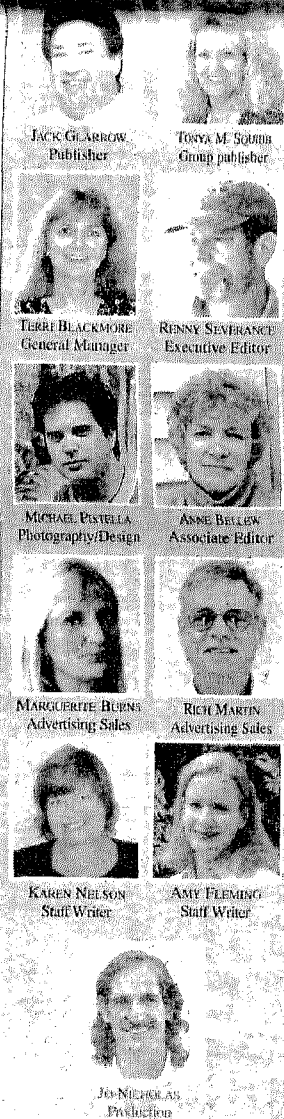
"They need lots of this stuff," Burke said, holding up a tube of lip balm. "And sunscreen."

While the items collected will be sent to Swan, many will end up in the hands of his fellow soldiers, she said. "Every time I send him a box, he shares it, so he's always saying, 'Send more stuff,'" Burke said.

The drive began last week and "is going pretty good," she said. She expects to have enough stuff to send by next week. Bailey's is picking up the \$7 or \$8 it costs to have the U.S. Postal Service ship two grocery bags worth of goodies overseas.

Burke plans on keeping the drive going once the collection for her nephew is shipped out (which may be today), but

Troops, see next page



Sanibel Captiva
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Newspaper since 1961

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An Island Causeway Timeline

- Aug. 31** — Post, Buckley, Schuh and Jernigan (PBS&J) to have draft of preliminary findings to Lee County
- Sept. 9** — (or sooner) Newspaper ad runs for Community Meeting
- Sept. 9** — Send Combine Public Workshop/Hearing notice to Florida Administrative Weekly
- Sept. 16** — City Council presentation on aesthetics
- Sept. 19** — Notice for combined Public Workshop/Hearing runs in Florida Administrative Weekly
- Sept. 23** — Community Meeting on Island (no formal comment period)
- Oct. 1** — One-hour public workshop followed by public hearing (location to be announced)
- Oct. 4-11** — Second newspaper ad runs for combined workshop/hearing
- Oct. 13** — 10-day Public hearing comment period ends, PBS&J to have recommendation to county by 10/15/03
- Oct. 17** — Staff recommendation and blue sheet completed, begin circulation
- Week of Oct. 27** — Joint meeting — Sanibel City Council & Lee County Commissioners
- Nov. 4** — Board decision

Troops, from page 4

"We'll collect supplies and send them to the troops," as long as they come in, she said. Members of the community should contact her at 472-1516 if they know a soldier(s) they would like to have things collected for.

Erik Burriss is the managing editor of the Island Reporter

Items needed by the troops include:

- Sunscreen
- Lip balm
- Razors
- Shaving cream
- Crossword puzzles and magazines
- Deodorant
- Deodorant wipes
- Snacks that don't melt, like cookies and beef jerky
- Bug spray and Skin So Soft
- Body powder, foot powder
- Dark T-shirts and socks
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Books
- Letters
- All personal hygiene items
- Stationary
- Pencils and pens

THE METASTATIC LIFE

"Give me Prozac or give me death"
— *Battle cry of the deranged*

Oh, what a week I've had. I finally was figuring out for probably the fifth or sixth time in 25 years that I and Prozac were never meant to part. You would think I would learn from previous lessons, but the mind forgets. And I was trying to see if the Prozac was affecting my pain medications so I switched to something new and, just like always, almost four weeks later to the day, I crashed. It happens every time so that I am irritated with myself and just as much so with my doctor, but then he's a psychiatrist and isn't that synonymous with trying the latest new serotonin uptake inhibitor? If you've been down this road you already know the answer to be in the affirmative.

And it's not as though I didn't have real issues coming down on me like hail at any given moment on any given day... pain being the only truly consistent thing in my life, or so it sometimes seems. There was my beloved and trusted oncologist being on vacation for three weeks with me just beginning oral chemo. Try as I might, I could not bring myself to take the pills. It was like when I used to be on regular chemo and I could no more swallow a vitamin than a car. So I just stopped. After one full round and five days of the next with nine days to go, I just quit.

You would have thought I was crazy had you known me, and I don't mean the usual crazy that I already am but the certifiable kind. Crying at the drop of a crumb on the floor, convinced I couldn't be bothered to clean it up because life was coming to an end and I was in pain and why couldn't someone come to my rescue? The question was who. It's not that I'm not given total love and understanding from my parents and my siblings and sometimes even my own children, but it just wasn't enough. I was drowning. I lost 12 pounds in as many days.

Not to worry here, I could afford the weight loss and then some. But the point is I lost all interest in food and still consider it an obligation rather than

a thing to look forward to.

Now, I knew what was going on. You can't go through this more than four times and not remember when you get there where you are. It's just that it takes time once you go back on that precious little green and white capsule for it to build up in your system enough to return you back to some semblance of normal — in my case, about three to four weeks. And there's nothing for it during that time but to wait it out and go where it takes you. So I had to find my own way of coping, which wasn't great but at least I found it. I stopped the chemo, I cried, I slept, I raged at God and then poured my heart out to my dog, both usually around 3 a.m. in the solitude of my room. I usually managed to laugh at some point about the very funny sight I must seem and the hilarity of the whole God and dog thing. The rest of the time, my only solace was found in books. I devoured them like the food I used

to eat at will, each one more delicious than the one before it. I was never full, always irritated at having to stop for anything including the really important things like making dinner, doing the laundry or answering the phone. I didn't want company. I just wanted to be left alone. It was me, my dog and books. Sometimes even the dog had to go.

Fortunately for me, and for my 13-

year-old and, for that matter, anyone who bothers to keep tabs on me on a regular basis, my sanity started to return... just in time to meet with my well vacationed doctor who spent a reassuring 45 minutes with me yesterday, after which I agreed to continue with the oral chemo and call him or e-mail him with any problems. And I really believed he meant "any" problems, such was my recounting of the past 3 weeks during his absence and my ability still to cry at the drop of his stethoscope.

Sometimes you just have to laugh and then there are other times. I'm not sure what people like me did before Prozac. It couldn't have been any fun. I'm just glad it's back in my system doing whatever it does to make life seem bearable, even when many people out there would think I'm past the point where it is. I'm not. I have been told, yet again, that death is not imminent and, though food is still of no interest, I am having a new love affair with carrots and peanut butter which I'm sure is a start. And, of course, something good must always come from a bad time; for me it has been the reading. I would not even consider having my nose anywhere else but buried in a book at every opportunity. I don't know, perhaps I'm still a bit delusional, but I think most days that I could recommend better books than Oprah... which reminds me, it's time to take my Prozac.



Lisa Pierot



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SPORTS

Ken Kasten brings home the gold

by Karen Nelson
Staff writer

Sanibel Shell Station Owner Ken Kasten took first place in the P5 class at the Sarasota Offshore Showdown last weekend, Aug. 23-24. Kasten is the driver for Mel Voss's *Vixen*, a 27-foot Magnum with an 800 hp Voss racing engine. Dave Howard is the throttle man and Mel Voss is the owner and crew chief.

An American Power Boat Association-sanctioned race, the Showdown drew 85 boats. When Kasten raced on Sunday, Aug. 24, six classes totaling 28 boats competed in the 1 p.m. race, with seven P5 boats plus the faster boats of F1, F2, P4 and PX and one slower class, the One Design.

The racers departed from New Pass and followed the pace boat 13 miles to the race course in a "race to the race," with the boats traveling at 70 mph. When they arrived at the course, the spotter aircraft had found a sea turtle in the area, so they waited 45 minutes for the turtle to move away.

In the Parade Lap to familiarize the racers with the course, Kasten's *Vixen* was right behind the pace boat, with P5 boat *Joker* right behind them. When the race started, "Joker was just outside the wake of the pace boat, trapping *Vixen* inside the wake," said Kasten. Throttle man Howard agreed with Kasten that they needed to force their way out, which they successfully did.

Joker was even with *Vixen* for the first straight run of the race but *Vixen* took the lead on the first turn. With each of the first six laps, *Vixen* increased their lead on *Joker* (there were eight laps total). *Joker* was faster on the straightaways, but "I'd beat him on the turns. I out-turned him, out-drove him on the turns." The turns around markers 1 and 2 were very tight and the challenge was to turn tight without rolling. "That's where we gained a lot on the other boats."

You have to contend with getting passed. When there are classes with faster boats in the race, they're supposed to overtake you on the outside on the turns but sometimes, going into the turn, they come up on the inside and you have to move."

A yellow flag came out on the seventh lap and the pace boat took the lead. "Everybody was jockeying for position, waiting for the green and it was very choppy." *Vixen* was rocking heavily. "If the green had been dropped right before the finish, it would have been unfair because we would have lost the lead we had gained before the yellow went down. But the race finished under the yellow."

When the yellow came out, Kasten didn't know what had happened but right before the end of the race, he saw someone being taken to the beach. He found out later that *Screaming Eagle* had rolled on turn 6,



Karen Nelson photo
Ken Kasten

injuring the driver.

In total points, *Team Vixen* has already won the Offshore Power Boat Racing Association's Gold Cup, awarded to the boat with the best performance in all four Florida races.

This is Kasten's third year racing. In 2001, he was racing a bat boat in the P4 class with throttle man Jeff Louwers. Louwers was also in Sarasota, driving P4 class Zero Cavity, and he was third in the class.

Kasten next races in Fort Lauderdale on October 19 and in Key West in November, where the Gold Cup will be awarded.

SWAT News

Tuesday, Aug. 6 was the final swim meet for SWAT's summer season. The teams talented children placed as follows:

Girls 6 & Under

Katherine Strange
1st • Freestyle
1st • Breaststroke
1st • Butterfly

Girls 9 & 10

Taylor Nave
2nd • Freestyle
5th • Breaststroke
3rd • Butterfly

Boys 6 & Under

Nick Lewis
2nd • Freestyle
3rd • Breaststroke
4th • Butterfly

Boys 9 & 10

Jamie Beth
6th • Freestyle
6th • Breaststroke
4th • Butterfly

Girls 8 & Under

Megan Lucker
4th • Freestyle
6th • Breaststroke
5th • Butterfly

Lance Lewis
2nd • Freestyle

Boys 11 & 12

Jimmy Shannon
1st • Freestyle
1st • Breaststroke
1st • Butterfly

Taylor Strange
1st • Freestyle
1st • Breaststroke
1st • Butterfly

SWAT offers kudos to all the talented swimmers and a big Thank You to coaches Holly Vetter and April Argentino for a super job this summer.

— Coby Amadio, Aquatics Supervisor

OBITUARY

Frederick Lewis Deming

Frederick L. Deming passed away on August 21, 2003 at Shell Point. He was 90 at the time of his death.

Before moving to Southwest Florida, he had lived in Webster Groves, Mo. and Minneapolis, Minn. He attended Washington University in St. Louis where he received an AB, AM and Ph.D. He had a long career at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (1941-1957), was president of the Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank from 1957 to 1965 and Undersecretary of the Treasury for Monetary Affairs from 1965 to 1969. He moved to Lazard Freres & Co. in New York (1969-1971) and then served, for 10 years, as president of National City Bancorporation of Minneapolis, where he was also a member of the board of directors.

He served on the boards of Boise Cascade, Northwestern National Life, the St. Paul Securities Company, Pitcairn Company and was a trustee of Washington University, Macalester College, the Minneapolis Society of Fine Arts, Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis, the Endowment Fund for the American Red Cross and the United Fund of Minneapolis.

Deming is survived by his wife of 68 years, Inez Wilson Deming, of Sanibel; two sons — Frederick W. Deming of Summit, N.J. and Richard L. Deming of Sanibel; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club 18 Hole - Two Man One Better Match 90% HCP - 8 Players • Aug. 20

Place	Score	Players
1st	63	Bob Davison Bob Louwers
2nd (tie)	65	Dick Smith Dan Alton Guy Woodford Bill Craig

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SERVICE CLUBS

Class Acts at Kiwanis?

Story & photo
by Bob Wimbush

It's tough to write about this week's talk because similar content from speaker, Sanibellian and County Commissioner Bob Janes, appeared in an Island paper the day after he spoke to Kiwanis. Good talk, but old news. Besides, if you didn't read that, you probably aren't reading this either. So, as strange as it may seem, let's talk about class acts.

For starters, there's Bob Janes. Mayor Steve "He's Everywhere" Brown (a classy guy, himself) respectfully (maybe even reverently) introduced ex-mayor Janes as a "true politician." Bob has been involved in politics or political office for much of his adult life but still remains a class act.

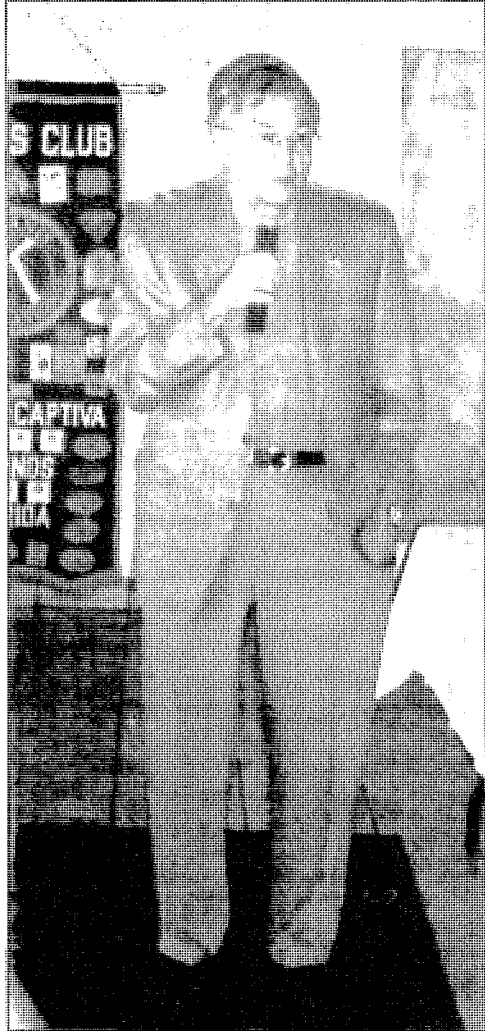
First Janes is smart. He is unerringly committed to the public good as he sees it. Even Brown admits the always calm Janes possesses an uncanny ability to see the practicalities of a situation (as in opining it will be "tough to tell the difference among [high, medium and low span] bridges from six miles away" or "Couldn't wait to get the [proposed] tolls before the board to knock it down"). [Did you ever wonder how many properties have the bridge in their view and how many owners are here for more than a week at a time? What's the big deal — other than to make noise, of course?]

And, agree with him or not, Bob values your opinion. Kiwanians besieged Bob the minute he walked in. He shook a lot of hands, listened to all matter of opinions without laughing and unevadingly answered questions. But I didn't see him eat any breakfast. (No, not because Harrity might try to poison him; listening to people was more important.) Bob Janes is reachable, in touch. He's a classy guy. His number is in the book.

And then there's classy Roger Gunnerfeldt, retired minister, Kiwanis unofficial chaplain and prayer-meister. As if to affirm that even Kiwanians have good thoughts, Roger's prayer opens most Kiwanis meetings. Some are so good I've asked for transcripts. They don't exist. "Prayers are better when they come straight from the heart", says Roger. Here's Wednesday's start:

"Thank you for this, another beautiful day. Thank you for the blessings you have showered upon us in this past week and for the health and strength and freedom you have given us. We thank you for the great and blessed land in which you allow us to live and for this beautiful state and this beautiful city.

"Lord, help us to remember in the midst of this beauty and tranquility that there are so many places that are just the opposite. We think of the problems in the middle East and the constant struggle there and ask that you grant wisdom and empowerment to those who are carrying the battle there and to all those who are leaders: To our president and to the military authorities. To those in the foreign lands, that there might be an end



Bob Janes

to the carnage, an end to the hatred that fills the hearts of so many people.

"We are watchful, Lord of the suffering of individuals and families with little children. Help us, Lord, in this little community, in our way here, to do what we can to help. Lord, we ask that this will be a good day, minister to the needs of the local people, and in our families bless the ones who hurt. We ask in thy name. Amen."

Although Sanibel's Librarian Pat Allen can certainly find better prose, she read here about Lee County's Books-at-Home program and called me to note Sanibel has, in fact no formal program, but that she and her staff often deliver books to shut-ins on the island. When asked if she wanted this announced, if it might be overwhelming or abused or set a precedent, she replied, "Have them call. They can ask for me" [472-2483]. Class.

Obviously we must also include (but don't think this list is complete and call me or you'll go on a special list of your own) this year's Kiwanis Scholarship recipient, Cristina Barone. I had understood — and was amazed — and reported that she hadn't attended the Sanibel School. Wrong! She attended Kindergarten through 5th grade. Talk about class acts; let's hear it again for Cristina and for the Sanibel School.

When you've tired of class (except for most speakers, a few guests and scholarship recipients), visit Kiwanis. Actually, it's a pleasant contrast, and from contrast comes knowledge. The Club breakfasts at 7:30 on Wednesdays at the Island House.

Historical Village & Museum gets new publicity chair

By Donna T. Schuman
Staff writer

The love that Sanibel resident Jeri Magg has for history, the island and writing makes her more than qualified for her new position as publicity chair for the the Sanibel Historical Village & Museum.

Although Magg has volunteered at the village since 1999, she only recently acquired her new position, following the retirement of Jean Downes earlier this year. Magg, who organizes the museum's newsletters, press releases and newspaper articles, says she really enjoys promoting the museum.

However, what Magg likes most about working with the Historical Society is definitely the people. "The people I work with are a very nice group," she said. "Everybody enjoys it; it's a happy group."

Through her work at the village, Magg has formed a great appreciation for the Sanibel residents of the 19th and early 20th centuries. She observed that, although life was difficult for these people, they persevered. "They formed a helping community. They had it tough but they made it work."

Perhaps one of Magg's favorite exhibits at the village is Bailey's General Store. The building, though the second incarnation of the neighborhood market, has been fully restored to its original 1926 likeness.

"The Bailey store has so much history," Magg said. "Not only the exhibits, but the fact that Bailey's (a/k/a/ Sanibel Packing Company) was the center of the island itself is historical. People would meet there, go there to pick up their mail and get the latest gossip."

Morning Glories is another favorite. The pre-fab Sears and Roebuck house was brought to the island in 1925. The house, which has been restored to its original condition, Magg said, is unique. "It was something in 1925 that you could buy a house like that," Magg said. "People still think they could live in it. It's really something else."

However, her work at the Historical Society is not the only volunteer work Magg has done. Shortly after moving here, she became involved with BIG Arts where she would assist with the children's theatre programs. Magg is an active member of the Gulf Coast Writers Association — of which she is now president.

Originally from New York, Magg moved to the island 23 years ago with her husband Karl and daughters Carolin and Kathy. She and her family had fallen in love with Sanibel three years earlier on a family vacation.

"We ended up buying a couple of condos and moved here in 1980," Magg said. In her spare time, Magg enjoys her work as a freelance writer, which she has been doing for the past 13 years. She and her husband also enjoy frequent trips to Denver, where her daughters are now living.



Jeri Magg of the
Sanibel Historical
Village & Museum

2nd Annual

Celebrity Guest Bartenders Promo For Charity



Bring your friends and support San-Cap's Fine establishments as they sponsor guest bartenders on-going the entire month of September. Watch this paper weekly for your favorite restaurant/bar and their visiting bar-keeps.

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bar-keeps tips go to charity!!**

BIRDING DIARY

The 2003 Snowy Plover Project

The sighting of snowy plovers is enjoyed throughout the year by birders and observant beach visitors, even though finding them is not easy. The snowy plover is a small shorebird, six inches from tip of tiny black bill to end of tail.

While it has a white breast and belly, the upperparts of the bird are sand-colored. They often rest in small depressions in the sand and people may walk near them without knowing it. Only when plovers run to catch insects are they readily visible.

The Florida species, called the South-eastern snowy plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus tenuirostris*), is listed as threatened by the state of Florida.

A second population of snowy plovers, the Western snowy plover (*C. alexandrinus nivosus*), is found along the California coast and is federally listed as threatened. The California snowy plover has been studied for some time but there was little study of our Florida plover until 2002 when the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, the City of Sanibel, and a number of volunteers joined forces to begin the Snowy Plover Project.

As there was no set protocol to follow, the project began slowly. Under the direction of biologists from the Foundation and Refuge, volunteers patrolled the beaches to look for plovers and watch for nests.

They soon learned that walking beaches in spring and summer is a hot job, and plover nests are hard to find. In spite of that, we did find nests with eggs and, later, found chicks. The biologists were able to band some of the chicks. Until colored bands became available, they used only the official numbered USGS bands (silver). When birds have only these bands, they must be recaptured to read the band



BEV POSTMUS

number to identify them.

Individual color combinations allow the identification by sight and this means less stress on the bird.

Bird banding is important so individual birds can be tracked. This helps scientists learn much about the species: how much and what kind of territory is needed to successfully raise young; how long does it take young to fledge; how many chicks survive to fledgling; how many birds survive year-to-year, where do the birds disperse on the beaches; and where do they move as the seasons change.

In 2003, the Snowy Plover Project was much better organized and had a better sense of what had to be done. A technician was employed to oversee the project and coordinate not only data collected but also the increased number of volunteers.

In mid-February, biologists and volunteers did an early morning sweep of the entire island to get an idea of how many plovers were present and to look for those that had been banded the previous season. This season (2003) the biologists had everything set for banding chicks as they were born. Enthusiasm was high.

Volunteers found the first nest on February 26 on the east end of the island. It was lost to predation on March 17, just 11 days short of when the eggs should have hatched. This sighting was followed by a long "dry spell."

The second nest wasn't found until April 9, also on the east end. The female laid three eggs, but the nest was abandoned almost immediately.

Imagine our excitement when, on May



Photo by Clair Postmus

12, the first chicks hatched in a nest near Bowman's Beach. The day after hatching the chicks were banded. Two of the chicks disappeared right away. The third was tracked for 13 days and then disappeared. We can only assume that a predator got them.

These first three nests seemed to set the pattern for the nesting season. By the end of June we had found 30 plover nests. Of these, 18 were lost to predation, wash out, or abandonment. For all involved in the project, it made the hatching of live chicks even sweeter. From the 12 surviving nests, 25 chicks were color-banded.

Each chick was banded with different color combinations, so that individual chicks could be readily recognized. Each chick banded this season has the numbered, silver USGS band above a green band on the right leg. The left leg has two colored bands - a specific combination of white, black, orange, red, green, or blue for each chick.

When biologists catch the chicks to band them, they also weigh them and measure their tiny wings from wrist to tip. The chicks averaged seven grams (that's about the weight of a nickel) and the wrist-tip distance measured about 12 mm (about half an inch). How can something so small have the energy to run on the beach and find its own food?

At the end of July, only four of the 25 banded chicks were still alive. One fledgling from a nest near Bowman's Beach moved to the east end and continues to be observed there with a group of 10 to 16 post-nesting adults.

This fledgling is called k/w since its identifying color bands are black (k) over white (w). It was also seen one morning with a group of plovers on Fort Myers Beach. A second fledgling (w/r or white over red), is often part of the post-nesting group too. W/R has also been found feeding on the mudflats at Bunche Beach. The other two chicks, younger and just recently fledged, remain near Bowman's Beach where they were born.

Those involved with the project have learned some interesting facts. Two of last season's young nested this year and had two chicks that hatched on May 29. Each parent had identifying color bands.

A check of the 2002 records told us they had been born in July, 2002. Thus we learned that plovers can successfully nest when they are only 11 months old.

On two occasions, parents of chicks that hatched in nests near Gulfside Park led their two-day-old chicks all the way to Beach Milepost #1, a distance of about 2.5 miles - a long way for such tiny chicks to travel.

Nest #029 was the "miracle" nest. It survived the very high tide/stormy night of June 27. Two nests on the east end were washed away in that storm. The Gulf washed over nest #029 as well but two of the eggs became tangled in seaweed. When the water receded the female continued incubating the eggs in the seaweed nest. Both eggs hatched.

From many observations we have learned that the female usually incubates the eggs during the day. However, if danger is perceived, the male shows up quickly. If something happens to the female - she abandons the nest or is killed - the male takes over her duties.

Biologists and volunteers have a lot of unanswered questions as well. Most important is whether the Sanibel population of snowy plovers is increasing or decreasing. What predators are destroying nests and eating chicks? How can we better protect the nests and chicks? Does the male incubate the eggs during the night? How long does the female stay with the family after the chicks hatch? (The literature out of California indicates that the female remains for only two or three days).

These and other questions will be explored when the project continues next year.

Just when it looked like the nesting season was finished, on July 20 volunteers found a new nest with three eggs. With no idea of how long the nest had already been incubating, it was impossible to determine a probable hatching date. For this reason volunteers checked the nest every day. The eggs hatched on August 5 and were banded on the 6th. One chick lived only 3 days. The second survived for 5 days. The third chick, k/o (black (k) over orange (o)), is growing well as of August 20.

Is volunteering for this project at lot of work? Yes! Is it fun? Yes! Is it rewarding? Considering the little that is known about Southeastern snowy plovers, every observation is significant.

What has added to the success of the project thus far?

- The biologists from both the San-Cap Conservation Foundation and the "Ding" Darling NWR have given generously of their own personal time, their abundant expertise, and most of all their unflagging enthusiasm. Without this, the project would not have happened.

- A wonderful, dedicated, eager-to-learn group of volunteers braved the heat, the red-tide odors, and the hard-to-walk-in sand spending hours and hours in the field gathering data.

This winning combination has made a small but significant beginning in understanding both the lives and needs of snowy plovers and how to best study them. We all look forward to continuing the project next year.

Interested readers should mark their calendars for next February when we will begin year three of the study. Plenty of time and a willingness to learn are what it takes to make a good volunteer.

Call the Conservation Foundation (472-2329) for information.



HOLIDAY DEADLINES Labor Day Monday, September 1, 2003

SANIBEL SHOPPER'S GUIDE

PROOF Ad Deadline
Final Ad Deadline
Classified Ad Deadline

THURSDAY, SEPT. 4th ISSUE

Thursday, Aug. 28, NOON
Friday, Aug. 29, 5p.m.
Friday, Aug. 29, 5p.m.

ISLAND REPORTER

PROOF Ad Deadline
Final Ad Deadline
Classified Ad Deadline

THURSDAY, SEPT. 4th ISSUE

Thursday, Aug. 28, NOON
Tuesday, Sept. 2, 10 a.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 2, 10 a.m.

ISLANDER

PROOF Ad Deadline
Final Ad Deadline
Classified Ad Deadline

FRIDAY, SEPT. 5th ISSUE

Friday, Aug. 29, 5p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 2, noon
Tuesday, Sept. 2, 10 a.m.

CAPTIVA CURRENT (SAME AS ISLAND REPORTER PER USUAL)

REAL ESTATE

Island Realtors at FAR convention

Susan Andrews and Elise Carnes of VIP's The SanibelSusan Team attended the Florida Association of Realtors 87th Annual Convention recently in Hollywood, Fla.

The Convention and Trade Expo brings thousands of Realtors from around the state together to discuss and vote on key issues that affect their professional lives and state associations. Andrews is a member of the Realtor-Attorney Joint Committee which reviews and updates contractual documents used by Realtors; the Professional Development Committee/Faculty Development Subcommittee which auditions and recommends instructors for both the Realtors Institute and continuing education classes; and the Professional Standards Forum.

Andrews, a Florida-licensed real estate broker, became affiliated with VIP in 1994 and is now a lifetime member of VIP President's Club. She was the 2001 "Top Gun" for the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Association of Realtors Inc., their 1999 President, and Realtor of the Year in 1996. She has been a consistent Honor Society recipient since joining the association in 1992. At the state level, she is a five-year Honor Society and Multi-year Sterling "R" member.



Susan Andrews

RE/MAX's Top Guns

Marsha Clifford and Barbara Chapin were the top guns for the month of July at RE/MAX of the Islands, Broker/ Owner Art Corace announced this past week.

Clifford, the top marketing agent, began her real estate career in 1978 and joined RE/MAX in October 1999, "a 25-year milestone that not many achieve in this demanding profession," Corace said. She is consistently a top agent for RE/MAX International, and with her husband, Bryce McNamara, she also owns the unique Tin Can Alley Gallery on Library Way.



Marsha Clifford



Barbara Chapin

Chapin, the top sales agent, has been president of the local Association of Realtors on two separate occasions and recipient of the Realtor of the Year Award in two different years. A Realtor since 1979, she was the local District Vice President for the Florida Association of Realtors in 2001 and is currently a Realtor PAC trustee for the national Association of Realtors.

IMPORTANT SANIBEL CAUSEWAY INFORMATION

The purpose of this notice is to provide you with important information on the Sanibel Causeway. This week the Lee County Department of Transportation will be mailing surveys asking citizens their opinion regarding the options for replacing "A" Span of the Sanibel Causeway. It is the Sanibel City Council's position that the design of the Sanibel Causeway be similar to the present Causeway, by incorporating a drawbridge. City Council's consensus position is based upon the following:

- * 91.2% of Sanibel voters when asked in a 1999 referendum responded "Yes" to the question "if the drawbridge on Sanibel Causeway is replaced, should it be replaced with a drawbridge similar in height to the current drawbridge."
- * A drawbridge is an element to deterring crime on Sanibel.
- * Neither construction nor maintenance costs of any of the options will impact property taxes. All costs will be paid through user's fees in the form of tolls.

The survey questionnaire will arrive soon in your mail. We hope this information helps you in completing the survey and encourage you to fill out and return the survey.

Sanibel City Council

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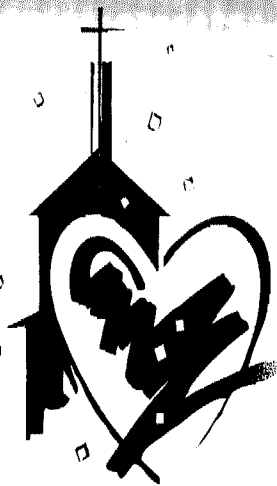
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Another Seaweed Gallery opens

by Nancy Santeusano
Special to The Islander

How many gallery owners can open not three, but four, different galleries in less than four years? That's Linda Boltrek's forte, but in her casual way she claims, "It just happens." This time the new location will be on her favorite Andy Rosse Lane adjacent to the unique Seaweed Closet Gallery. The Closet has gained such popularity that, in less than two years, it's become an introduction to the historic Andy Rosse Lane walking tour.

To blend the new with the old and continue to capture the local Captiva color, the latest Seaweed Gallery will maintain the gingerbread look adding to the authenticity of an earlier time on Captiva. The new gallery will be even larger than the original on Periwinkle Way in Sanibel (which, incidentally, will be relocating from the Forever Green Center to The Village later in the year).

Again, Boltrek is creating a whimsical and colorful look — her trademark Seaweed motif which has become a distinctive feature of her galleries on Sanibel and Anna Maria Island. A large, round moon face continues to be her signature sign at each gallery but, while the floor of the Sanibel Seaweed was the most eye-catching, Boltrek may feature the ceiling as the high point of interest in the new gallery.

The other focal point is the counter, which Boltrek takes much pride in designing herself. To add to the

atmosphere of hospitality, her staff welcomes each visitor personally.

Actually each island — Sanibel, Anna Maria and Captiva — has its own personality. Boltrek's original concept was to create a setting for local and often unknown artists to display their work. Her distinctive and comprehensive collection includes media that range from pottery, art, jewelry, ceramics, stained glass, painted furniture, water color, acrylics, oils, pen and ink, murals and collage to sculpted clay, art dolls, fairies and mermaids. The artists have the assurance of knowing that their work is on display at each of the galleries, and visitors like to go from one to another.

Some prefer the intimacy and casual feeling of the village in Captiva where they relax and have fun wandering down the Lane and "bump around" into the gallery. When they get in the door of either the Gallery or Closet (which measures approximately 8 by 8 feet) visitors comment, "This is so small!" One day there were eleven people in there at the same time and Winston, the pug, never moved. His owner Sandre Reed who works primarily in Sanibel, says, "Winston is a resident in both Sanibel and Captiva and receives an abundance of fan mail from gallery visitors. He's even been featured in *The Twisted Tail*, a favorite newspaper of pug owners."

The "Seaweed" in Captiva is less structured than the other galleries, with music playing and people dancing in the street. "We want to keep that same feeling in the



Detail of a Frida mermaid

new gallery," Boltrek said. "The only difference is that it will be lots bigger. When we took a poll, the vote indicated that the Closet must stay right here." The expectation for this much larger, new Seaweed is to enhance but never replace that favorite, novel tiny gallery which is already becoming another Captiva landmark. The Captiva Seaweed is managed by Lisa DeRitter, Boltrek's daughter, and will continue under the same arrangement.

Last year Anna Maria Island's historic Bridge Street on Bradenton Beach with its own local color and colony of artists inspired Boltrek to open her third Seaweed Gallery where her younger daughter, Amy DeRitter, works and helps out; Sandre Reed and Kristen Gillespie have major responsibility for operations at the Sanibel outlet. Boltrek, the innovator and true visionary of these

Seaweed, see page 13

Paid Advertisement



LET'S TALK REAL ESTATE

Presented by
Margie Davison

IF IT'S BROKEN

Most houses have a few "little" problems, like leaking faucets, a stove burner that won't light, or electrical outlets with too much "spark". These defects may not seem very important—unless your house is about to go on the market.

We rarely have difficulty getting sellers to agree to paint, replace worn carpets or plant a few flowers in the front yard. These kinds of repairs obviously increase the overall appeal of the property. However, if any of the major systems in your home need maintenance, be sure to have the necessary repairs made. It is also a good idea to have your furnace, central air-conditioning system, plumbing and wiring checked as part of your pre-marketing efforts. The best rule is —if it's broken, fix it!

The purchase agreement gives the buyers an option to have the property inspected, and most buyers will have their home inspected to identify any major problems. During the period of time between the "meeting of the minds" and the removal of the inspection contingencies, it is to the sellers advantage to have their property market-ready, with any known defects either disclosed or repaired.

Margie specializes 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. Her new book, "How To Make Your Realtor Get You The Best Deal—South Florida Edition" is must reading if you are thinking of buying or selling. Call Margie at PMR 472-1511, or e-mail her at Margie@MargieDavison.com.

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THE STRAIGHT FLUSH

A straight flush beats a full house anytime!

This article takes me back to a silly knock-knock joke I heard years ago and, yes, I'm going to repeat it for you:

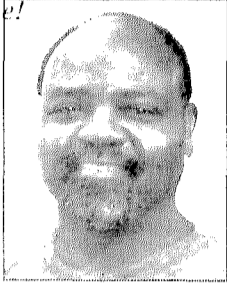
Knock, knock. Who's there?
Consumption. Consumption who?
Consumption be done with these silly knock-knock jokes?

As funny as that may sound, this is a serious issue when it comes to the consumption of one of our most precious natural resources, our water supply. We take this supply for granted all too often. All I have to do, as a plumber, is mention to a customer that I need to shut the water off for a brief period and you would think I had asked for their first-born child. One customer asked me if I really had to shut the water off to repipe his entire house. When I replied, yes, the customer looked at me in shock and asked "What am I going to do without water for the day?" I thought to myself, let's see... I'm on a beautiful tropical island, I could spend some time on the beach, go shopping, have lunch with a friend. You get the drift. There's more to do than sit around watching paint dry. My point is people take their water supply very seriously, as well they should.

Water is a very precious commodity and we need to police our consumption of it. Consider this: conservation, as opposed to consumption, could save you, the consumer, some cash. All puns aside, this is a very serious issue which all of us will be affected by one way or another. We cannot live without water. It's invaluable in our everyday life — more than we know.

So can something be done about all the water we waste every day? The answer is absolutely. We can start with some of the simplest common-sense ways to do our part to conserve...

The next time you are brushing your teeth, shut the water off while you are brushing. Only turn it on when you actually are



RON GAVIN

using it. I know we are creatures of habit and old habits die hard. But if you put the right spin on these messages it will help you to conserve. Remember water is not an infinite resource, especially with all the waste and pollution going on. This resource is

being taxed to the limit — which is what will happen to you if you don't do your part to protect and conserve it.

Here's another no-brainer conservation tip. Next time you are taking a shower and you step away from the shower stream to soap up and shampoo your hair for twenty minutes, turn the water off while you're not under the stream. I know old habits die hard, which is exactly what will happen to us without our water. So keep this in mind, and it may help you to conserve.

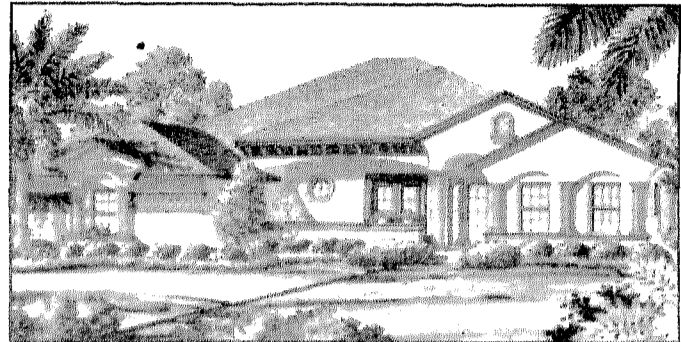
These next conversation tips may require that you actually alter your attitude a little. First tip involves laundry. Do you really, really need that one shirt and sock that you fill an entire washing machine up for? Second, how about that dishwasher with only one rack of dishes going through a complete cycle? Third and last, how many times are you going to wash your car this week. Remember it's the rainy season. It rains everyday and, trust me, it won't make a difference in the big picture.

These are all lifestyle attitude changes — ones you can make now or have made for you later. Water rationing and restrictions are very inconvenient. Water is probably the earliest understood natural resource known to man. You can drink it, shower in it, swim in it, wash your truck with it, even stop a raging wild fire with it. But we still need a plumber at times to control it.

Remember, don't get beat by a full house.

Tropical Cove offers escape to a private paradise

Mercedes Homes, the nation's 24th largest home builder and already successful in Cape Coral, has announced the opening of its first subdivision in the Fort Myers market, Tropical Cove.



Tropical Cove is a small, peaceful, gated community consisting of 35 home sites. Located on Winkler Road with easy access to Summerlin it is in close proximity to everything that Fort Myers has to offer. The community has a variety of oversized home sites with beautiful lake, golf, or conservation views along with privacy buffers.

Tropical Cove offers a wide selection of three and four bedroom homes, many with bonus and game room options, ranging from 2,093 to 3,500 square feet of living space.

Misty Reynolds, new home sales consultant at Tropical Cove, said that "Customers should be pleased with every-

thing the development has to offer — the exciting home designs, the home sites, and the quality and value that Mercedes offers. Each home includes many luxurious features — a pool and unique architectural details that will help redefine subdivisions in Fort Myers."

Mercedes Homes is now pre-selling Tropical Cove with numerous home site selections and pre-construction prices. The community is located at 8951 Tropical Court, off Winkler Road Extension, in Fort Myers. For additional information, please call 481-0027.

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Painting murals for kids is as easy as 1-2-3

(NAPSI)—Looking for a colorful and unique way to decorate your child's room? Even if you're not the next Picasso, you can paint a wall mural that will liven up a room like a masterpiece.

Home Design Alternatives, Inc. (HDA) has introduced Paint-by-Number Wall Murals by Wall Art, wall murals that can be traced and painted on a wall using any one of more than 90 imaginative designs that were created by professional artists. Breezy and cheerful, they're certain to add a festive touch to a child's room with jungle scenes, pirates, nursery rhymes or other fantastic themes that can spark a child's imagination.

"We conducted a great deal of consumer research throughout the development of Wall Art," said Bob Ketterer, president and co-founder of HDA. "The feedback was extremely informative. Consequently, we've created Paint-by-Number Wall Murals that allow anyone to colorfully and cleverly decorate a wall with delightful designs that animate an entire room. It's great fun to get involved in a home improvement project such as this, and to see the exciting and rewarding

results."

Wall Art can be accomplished in three simple steps: Tape, trace and paint. To that end, HDA developed Mural-Maker Tracing Paper® to easily transfer mural designs onto a wall. A special slant-edged paintbrush, alignment tape and a final touch outliner as well as 2-ounce bottles of acrylic paints are included to make the process quick, easy and fun so that even beginners can complete murals in a week-end.

First, position and tape the Mural-Maker Tracing Paper® on a wall. Next, trace over the preprinted image. After the design has been completely traced, remove paper and tape and then begin painting by following the paint-by-number guide.

Does your son or daughter have a favorite fantasy? There are "Dancin' Dinos" and "Rockin' Reptiles," or a colorful "Flamingo Island." The sports fan can deck out the room with baseball, football, hockey or basketball flair, or a motor speedway. Kids can visit the solar system or the deep blue sea, and can travel via classic cars, hot air balloons or jump aboard a carousel. Paint-by-Number Wall Murals are



Paint-by-Number Wall Murals can be applied in 10 hours or less.

long on satisfaction and accomplishment, and guaranteed to put a smile on any decorator's face, no matter how experienced the artist. Paint-by-Number Wall Mural designs come in three sizes of 5'x3', 9'x5' and 11 1/2'x 6 1/2', ranging in price from \$49.97 to \$99.97. Paint colors easily can be substituted to accommodate individual taste and décor. Wall Art can also be used on fabrics and furniture.

To view the wide array of mural designs that are available, visit www.wallartdesigns.com or call toll-free 1-877-925-5687 for more information. Wall Art kits can be purchased through the Web site or by calling the toll-free number.

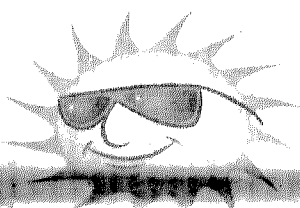
Preventing mildew inside the home

(NAPSI)—Mildew. It could be those dark stains you find on your bathroom ceiling, the walls of your basement, in your laundry room or in other high humidity areas of your home. Mildew often looks like dirt but can be easily identified by applying one drop of household bleach to the discolored area—if the stain disappears, you have mildew. Cleaning may remove it, but the trick to controlling mildew is to prevent it before it starts. By using some ideas from the mildew expert Zinsser you can minimize—and even prevent—mildew problems:

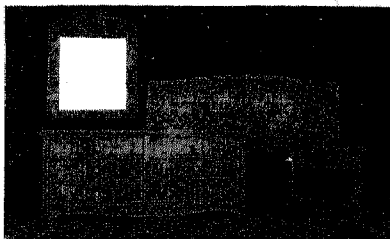
- **Keep airflow constant.** Consider installing an exhaust fan and replacing solid doors with louvered doors to improve ventilation in mildew-prone areas. This also can increase airflow and significantly impede the growth of interior mildew.
- **Eliminate moisture.** Stagnant water produces moisture in the air and creates the perfect environment for mildew growth. Limit moisture by using a dehumidifier in high humidity areas. Also, take steps to remove excessive moisture by wiping down shower walls after each use and cleaning up spills that can be created by leaks, wet laundry or raincoats in basements, laundry rooms and closets. This will reduce the amount of moisture in the air and decrease mildew growth.
- **Clean infected areas.** Clean mildew covered surfaces with a solution of one-cup household bleach to one gallon of water. Follow this solution by rinsing thoroughly with clean water.
- **Prevent mildew growth.** Prevent the growth of mildew on painted surfaces by applying two coats of a mildew-proof paint like Zinsser's Perma-White Mold and Mildew-Proof Bathroom Paint. Perma-White is available in a bright white formula that can be tinted to off-white and a variety of pastel colors to match your home's décor. It protects itself against unsightly mildew as it brightens and beautifies your home. The low odor formula is so durable and dependable at preventing mold and mildew on the paint film. Zinsser backs it with a 5-year guarantee.

For more information about preventing mold and mildew, call the mildew experts at Zinsser at 732-8100. Or, visit www.zinsser.com for more helpful home improvement tips.

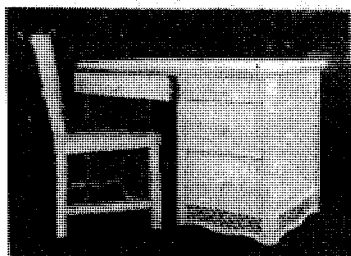
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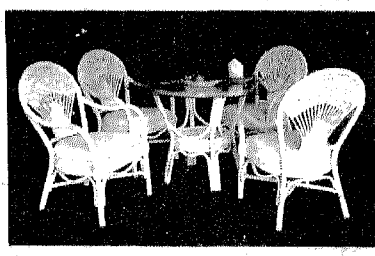
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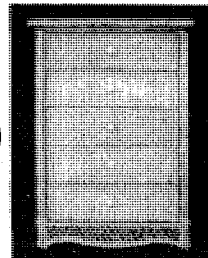
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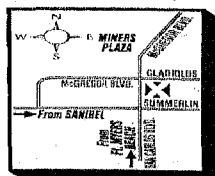
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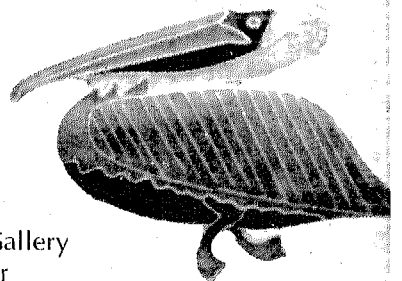
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Seaweed, from page 10

four galleries, calls herself the "floater" — she spends time in each of the galleries and points out, "I'm an on-location owner. I stay in the background, but I'm here and I never want to overpower people or make them feel uncomfortable."

In 2000 the original Seaweed opened with approximately 30 artists and in less than three years has expanded to well over 60, including newcomer Scott Causey, a clay sculptor, who was recently honored by the Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota. Three of his dramatic pieces, including two barracuda named "Kuda" and "First Big Fish", "Bubbles" the monkey and "Big Al" the 'gator are easily spotted — not so much because of their size but for Causey's use of glazes and his technique. Judy Jones is a new watercolor artist who kept her paintings under her bed but is now sharing her work and technique of layering colors. Her work is creative, lively and makes you smile as in her painting "A Day at the Beach" (subtitled "For those who can't be there!") Fiber artist and well known Sanibel resident, Katie Gardenia, is showcasing her new, larger and more detailed felt dollies and pillows — creating each piece to be one-of-a-kind and never predicting the exact outcome until it's completed.



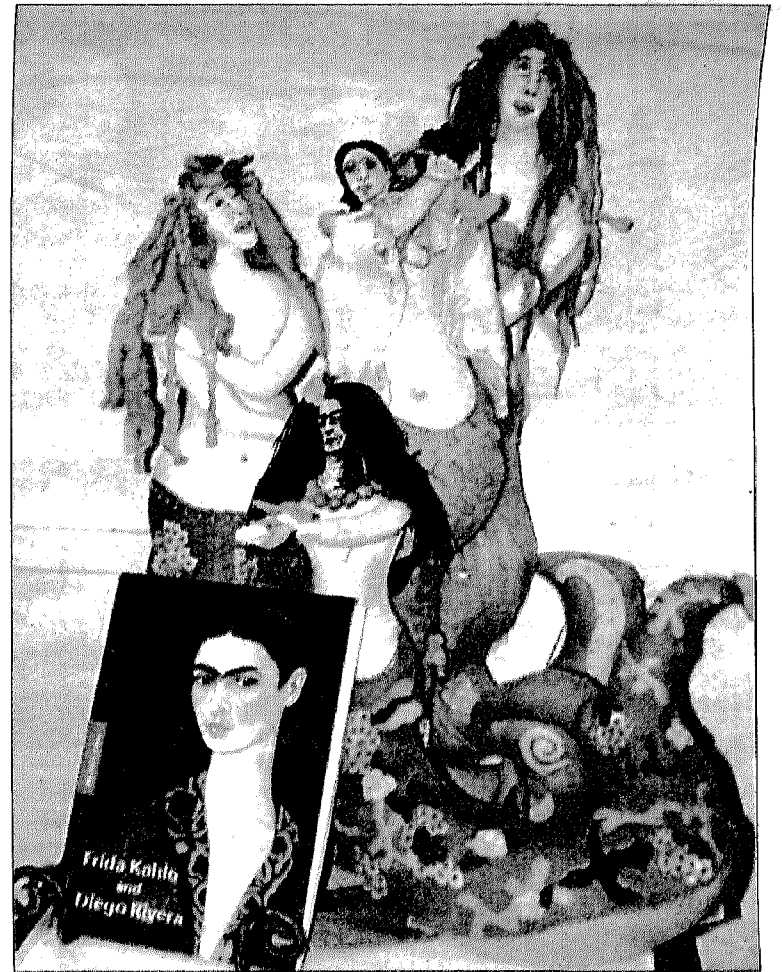
To own one of Katie's dollies is to possess a rare heirloom.

Promoting art is what Boltrek does best. Her goal is "Sharing it all" and, indeed, she's ranked as a true visionary. "I've always had a list of things I wanted to do... but right near the top still is to go up in a hot air balloon."

Top: a yellow-crested night heron by Christina Wyatt.

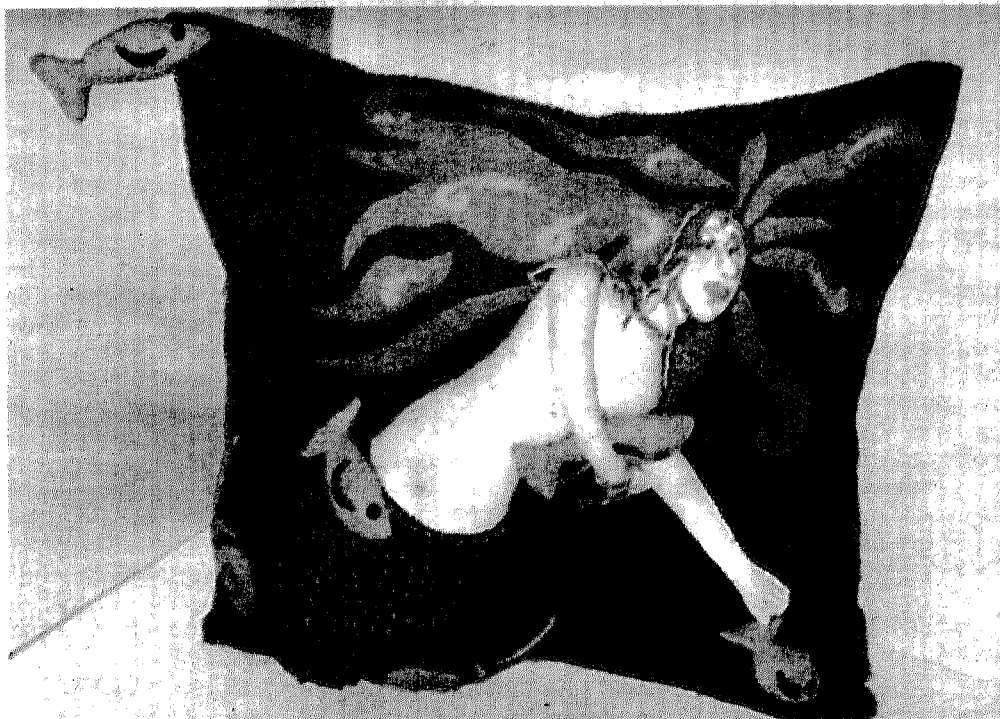
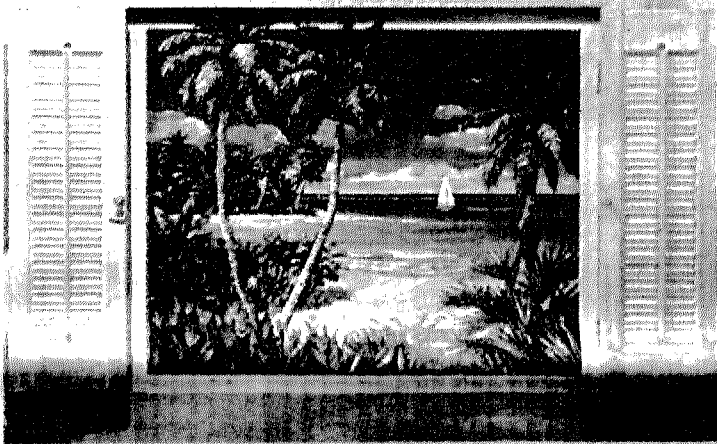
Left: A shuttered seascape by Sissi Janku.

Below: One of Katie Gardenia's trademark mermaid pillows.



Photos by Karen Nelson

The collection above includes Katie Gardenia mermaid dolls along with two Frida mermaids and a close-up of one of the faces.



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Arts & Leisure

POTPOURRI

Performing Arts classes at BIG Arts



Florida Repertory Theatre has announced its performing arts classes for fall, winter and spring! In conjunction with BIG Arts, a variety of classes will offer all kinds of opportunities for children ages K-15 years of age.

The classes will be taught by Meredith Hoppe, the new education director at Florida Rep and a recent graduate of Shenandoah University.

Hoppe has an extensive background in all aspects of theatre, including performing, choreographing, directing, and the technical aspects of production. She strives to incorporate all of them into her teaching, utilizing music, movement, and drama to stimulate creativity and expression in her students.

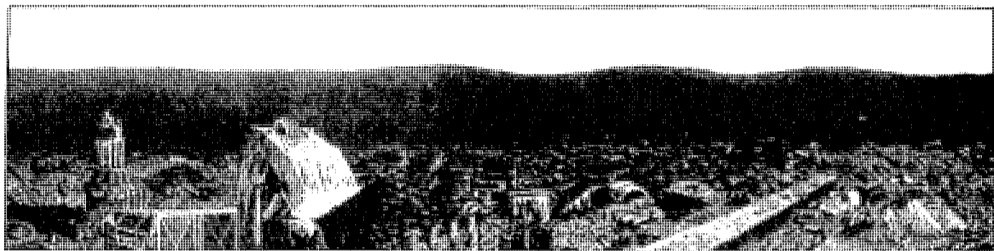


"Anticipation" by Marcia Simmons is one of the many pieces of art-work on display through Oct. 3 in the Annual San-Cap Art League summer show at BIG ARTS

and the Sanibel Public Library. Phillips Gallery has more than 60 paintings along with 100 FISHWORKS by the artists of Sanibel Elementary School, while the Founders Gallery features many large tropical watercolors. In the library works depicting local scenes, wildlife, still life and abstracts in a variety of media are on exhibit. Call 395-0900 for BIG ARTS or 472-8423 for library information.

Giving the students freedom to design their own curriculum has been her strength, as was shown at this summer's Camp Florida Rep, where campers created their own music, scripts and dances for performance. Breaking the boundaries of tradi-

Local artist featured



Captiva Current Editor and Islander art critic Amy Fleming is one of several artists whose work has been accepted for Recent Work 2003 at the Limner Gallery in New York City. The show opens Sept. 10 and will be on view through Sept. 27. A reception honoring the artists will take place on Thursday, Sept. 11, from 6 to 8 p.m. This scratchboard work is entitled "A Piece of the Rubble."

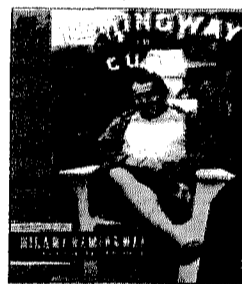
tional teaching and delving into unknown territory opens up endless possibilities for creativity and expression.

Classes will be held at BIG Arts. For a free brochure and more information, please call 332-4665 x20.

hour hotline, counseling and education to victims of domestic violence and their families and survivors of sexual assault.

Book signing on island

Ernest Hemingway's parents, his sister Carol, his grandparents, and their grown daughter, Grace, vacationed on Sanibel Island in 1922 at the Island Inn. And many of Ernest Hemingway's descendants wound up either living on Sanibel or in the area or vacationing on the island that captured the interest



of his forebears over 80 years ago.

Carlene Brennen, founder of the *Shopper's Guide*, called Sanibel home for almost 20 years, and Hilary Hemingway, who held the International Hemingway Festival on the island for three years will be signing their book, *Hemingway In Cuba*, this Sunday, August 31, from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Jacaranda. The bar will not only be highlighting Hemingway's favorite foods and daiquiris but also other Hemingway favorites — the Majito, Cuba libre and more. Plus, the restaurant's full menu will be available.

Sanibel Island Bookshop will have the books for purchase.

September featured artist

Join Arts for ACT Gallery at 2265 First Street in Historic Downtown Fort Myers for the opening reception for Kitty Tyler's Playgrounds of Colors & Shapes, next Friday, Sept. 5, from 7 to 11 p.m.

Kitty Tyler grew up in South Dakota where she received her undergraduate degree in psychology from Dakota Wesleyan. She received a Master's in Studio Arts with a concentration in print-making and drawing from Southern Connecticut State University.

Experimenting with etching, monotypes and drawing techniques has allowed for spontaneity and a loose linear surface with several planes of color in Tyler's artwork. Spontaneity continues to be important in her work as well as color, line and abstract shape. She rarely preplans the colors and the compositions, although she may have an idea before she starts. Approaching each piece as a new experience, her images tend to determine their own direction.

Proceeds benefit Abuse Counseling & Treatment, Inc., a non-profit agency established that provides shelter, a 24-

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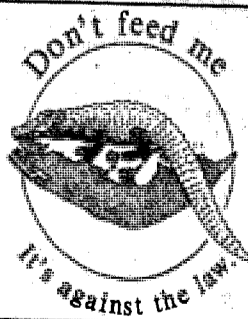
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~ Arts for ACT auction exceeds goal ~

By Amy Fleming ~ Arts editor



The Harborside Convention Center was the place to be Saturday night, as the glitterati from Southwest Florida — plus Miami and points as far north as Washington, D.C. and New York (including one of the directors of *Saturday Night Live*) — gathered for the annual Arts for ACT sale and auction.

With actress Meryl Streep as guest auctioneer, the event well exceeded the goal of \$400,000, to the delight of the evening's organizers. "It's going to be \$500,000 easily — it could even top 500," Claudia Goode of Arts for ACT said afterward.

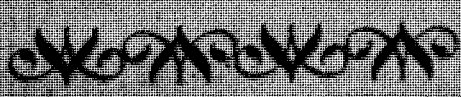
Streep seemed to enjoy her role, coming down from the podium to show off a car that was up for auction, and even crowing to raise bids for a painting of four roosters, which went for \$3,700. She went home with some goodies as well — Rauschenberg bought Lexi Beerman's "On the Rocks" neckless, a crystal and glass necklace, for \$7,000 and then presented it to her. Another bidder gave her an artist-made handbag that she had just won.

Streep also got to auction off husband Don Gummer's sculpture for \$37,500. The sale and auction, which benefits Abuse Counseling & Treatment, has grown exponentially over the years since its beginnings as a small, local art auction of a few pieces made by area artists. Soon, artists of international standing were chipping in as well, with Rauschenberg and Darryl Pottorf leading the way. This year, noted British artist Malcolm Morley donated three screenprints. Southwest

in fact, there was so much art that they were turning artists away. "We have a list for next year started already," Goode said. Even with this deluge of art, Goode plans to keep the donations open rather than jurying in work.

"It's going so well, I hate to upset the boat like that. This way, everyone can participate, from emerging to international artists — everyone gets a chance to get involved."

The auction is divided into silent and voice, with most of the money coming from the voice auction. Work that is auctioned later in the evening tends to bring in more money, as the cocktails flow and spirits rise. Artists who have a longer track record of participation have their work placed later in the evening, with the *piece de resistance*, Rauschenberg's work, saved for the last. His dye transfer print, "Slipper," went for \$95,000. Pottorf's "Rouse" raised \$45,000, while Leo Johnson's "Looking Ahead," the auction's signature piece, went for \$13,500.



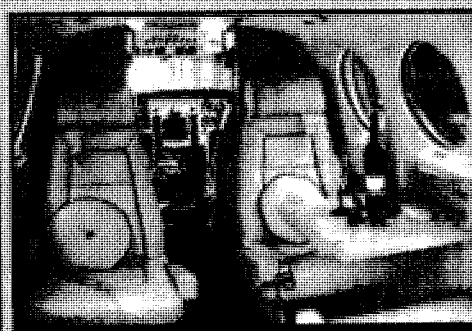
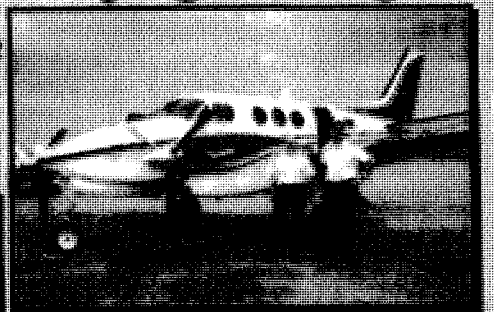
Kat Epple & Rauschenberg



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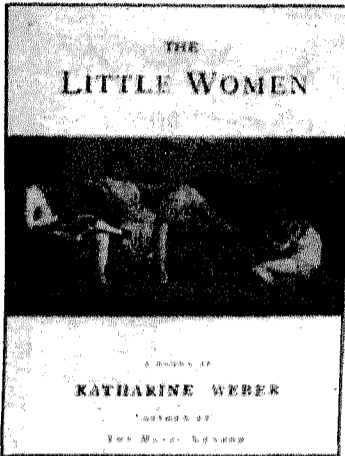
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THE NEXT CHAPTER

There are some books which could not have been written if an earlier book did not exist. The first two books reviewed this month are like that, but they are original, both in their format and their stories. All three books this month question the reality of what we think we know.



The Little Women, written by Katharine Weber and published by Farrar, Straus & Giroux, uses the Louisa Mae Alcott book as an inspiration in that the main characters are three young women approximately named after the characters in the original — Meg, Joanna and Amy. (Their mother chose not to name or to even have a child named Beth as that character dies young.) They live a charmed life with their professor mother

and inventor father until their mother has an affair and their father forgives her. The daughters are outraged by the dissolution of their dream childhood and can't decide whose behavior makes them most angry — their mother's or their father's. The two younger daughters move in with Meg, who is a student at Yale, and piece together a life, trading in their elite private school for a rough city public school and after-school jobs at Starbucks. Meg talks a friend into moving in and sharing the expenses as she suddenly has parental responsibility for her sisters. The friend, Teddy, is alternately bemused and confused by the sisters' relationships.

What makes the book interesting beyond the story itself and the well-developed characters is the way it is written.

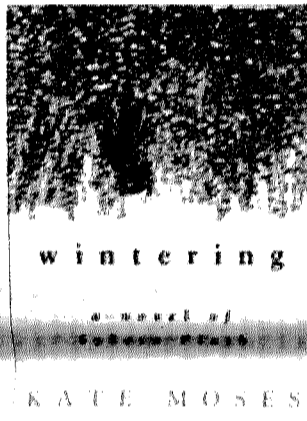
Although the book is a novel, its premise is that Joanna is writing it loosely based on the sisters' actual lives. Meg and Amy insist on the right to have their "reader's notes" printed in each chapter if they disagree with the content or have comments to make. The author sister, Joanna, also writes notes in answer to their notes. Given the fact that the reader knows that this is a book not written by any of the characters but a fictional story of a fictionalized account of an autobiographical story we are meant to believe is true,

the difference between perception and reality becomes very blurred.

On at least four levels, this book is interesting. One is its parallels to the original *Little Women*; the second is the development of the characters through this life-changing time of their lives; the third is the original way it is written; and the fourth is the easy and charming style of the writing.

In contrast to the simple writing style of *The Little Women*, Kate Moses' novel *Wintering*, published by St. Martin's Press and soon to be an Anchor Books paperback, has a far more complex style. This novel is based on the last few months of the famous American poet Sylvia Plath's life. As any English major knows, Plath is the author of *The Bell Jar* and collections of poetry. She was the wife of Ted Hughes, one of Britain's most well known poets. When she was 30 and estranged from her husband, she killed herself in her kitchen while her two young children were asleep in the next room. Ten years before, she had attempted suicide as well. In the years between her suicide attempts, Plath had won a Fulbright scholarship, had taught at Smith College and married Hughes. They seemed the perfect, if tempestuous, couple and were highly productive both in their writing and in producing two children.

Moses has researched and studied Plath's work and life and written a wonderfully dense and lyrical story, capturing her state of mind during the month of December, 1962, two months before her suicide. Through flashback chapters, the novel concentrates on the two-year time period when they live in a country home named Court Green where Sylvia could be an earth mother and a poet and Hughes could write. After their dream life dissolved when Hughes had an affair with an exotic woman friend, Sylvia moved to London. She set up housekeeping in W.B. Yeats' childhood home but was beset by illness,



NOLA THEISS

depression and isolation. In spite of this, she wrote some of her best poetry there, which was published after her death. Moses does a marvelous job of capturing her state of mind and even her poetic style. Like Weber, Moses blurs the line between what is truth and what is fiction.

Since both of these books might be considered women's books, I'm also including a collection of short stories which will appeal to most readers. *Ten Little Indians* by Sherman Alexie, published by Grove Press, takes stereotypes about Native Americans and sets them on their head by first showing how they are true and then showing how they are false. The fact that there are only nine stories in this collection called *Ten Little Indians* is the first indication that nothing should be taken at face value. Although Alexie understands and relates to the culture he is writing about, there is nothing sentimental or self-serving in these stories. His characters are real and flawed and his writing is genuine and funny.

Although he obviously has great respect for his characters, he reveals all, mocking their inadequacies and showing their quality.

In the first story, a young college girl stumbles onto the only copy of a book of poetry written by a Spokane Indian 30 years earlier. She sets out to find the author and learns his life story, but never really learns who he is. She does come closer to learning who she is.

The main characters in these stories range from homeless people to businessmen and college students, but the setting is always more or less Seattle. Some of the stories are very short — the one about the young couple whose baby almost died, for example — and others quite long, but most are about searching for identity or meaning and the Indian culture is part of the stories, no matter how mainstream American the characters or situation may be. While the language and the situations can be a little raunchy in parts, the stories have a cutting truth to them. In Alexie's book, the challenge is seeing the difference between the stereotype and the reality, and he is excellent at pointing it out to the reader.

All three authors begin with the premise that there is more to a story than what the reader thinks he knows before he begins reading, even if the story or the stereotype is well-known. Remarkably, they all work that premise in an original way.

NAPLES DINNER THEATRE

Always... Patsy Cline to open

Naples Dinner Theatre Artistic Director Michael Weinstein has announced the opening of *Always... Patsy Cline* this Saturday. Starring Tia Wetherington Charles as the legendary country singer, and Debi Guthery as her close friend, Louise, this rousing, non-stop singing tribute will have the audience dancing in the aisles. Performances are twice weekly — Saturday matinees and Sunday evenings.

A full buffet is served prior to each show — an array of temptingly fresh salads, hot entrées (including a vegetarian entrée), vegetables and desserts, plus a choice of coffee, tea or ice tea. Full bar service includes wine and cocktails, and specialty coffees and frozen drinks are always available.

Tickets are \$30 for Saturday matinees and \$37.50 for Sunday Twilight shows. Dinner starts at 5 p.m. on Sunday evenings with the show at 6:45, and 11:30 a.m. for Saturday matinees with the show starting at 1:15 p.m. Full price tickets includes meal, tax and show but do not include gratuity. There are special rates for groups of 20 or more.

Tickets can be ordered by calling the box office at 239-514-STAR (7827) from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. All sales are final, no refunds or exchanges.

Always...Patsy Cline is a musical comedy based on the

life of one of country and pop music's most treasured and tempestuous artists. Created by Ted Swindley, it features 27 Patsy Cline hits.

The show was inspired by the real-life friendship between Patsy Cline and Louise Seger that had its seeds on a balmy night in Texas in 1961 when Louise, a Cline fanatic since hearing her sing "Walkin' After Midnight" on Arthur Godfrey's TV program in 1957, cajoled some friends into attending a Cline performance at a Houston night spot. At the time, despite the success of "Walkin' After Midnight," Patsy was having a tough time.

Louise insisted on showing up early, met Patsy doing a check of the room, and the two hit it off at once. Patsy, alone on the road, singing with pick-up groups, warmed to Louise's dry, down-home humor and, after the show, ended up back at Louise's home. Patsy put on an apron and fried up some bacon and eggs and the two women talked long into the night about their common concerns.

The devoted fan stuck with the singer through both the hard and the high times until Patsy's tragic end. On her way to Nashville, in a plane piloted by her lover, Randy Hughes, the couple ran into bad weather and the plane went down nose first. It was March 3, 1963. Cline just 30.

Rarely lacking in confidence, the teenage Patsy Cline had vowed while working at a Southern drugstore soda fountain, "One day, you see, I'm gonna sell a million records."

She did that and a whole lot more, but not even the

optimistic Patsy would have predicted that almost 40 years after her death she would still be adding to her legacy with a stage show inspired by a happy chapter in her often unhappy life.

"Patsy Cline," Swindley says, "has now taken on the mantle of a legend. Patsy endures — in fact she gets bigger — decade after decade as she is discovered by new fans and revered by the faithful who grew up with her. Today those original fans are 50 something and they're still belting them out with Patsy... aching along with her on those lonesome ballads.

"And they're not the only ones," he continued. "There are echoes of Patsy Cline in scores of pop and country singers who followed Patsy, right up to today's stars — people like Emmylou Harris, Reba McEntire, Shelby Lynne, Patty Loveless, k.d.lang and Linda Ronstadt. They all owe something to Patsy and all of them are happy to acknowledge it."

The 1995 movie, *Sweet Dreams* told the story of the singer's tangled love life and blazing career (which effectively lasted only three years) and rekindled interest in Cline, he says. Today she has more fans than ever.

"When the band strikes the first chord of this show the audience bursts into applause," the author says. "And when it's over they're on their feet, stompin.' It's been like that ever since we opened in New York in June, 1997. Whatever Patsy had, it's still potent!"

CENTER STAGE

The Bobbsey Twins do Shakespeare



**MARSHA
WAGNER**

Last week, my vacation in the Berkshires took me on many varied paths. One was yet another first — my first hike ever on a marked nature trail around Benedict Pond. The pond loop, as it is called, followed 1.5 miles of blue triangle lazies around a wooded pond that took my friend, Janet, and me (*aka* "The Bobbsey Wins") all of two hours (with long pauses between scrambles) to cover. It was described by our guidebook as easy and, in actuality, considering we are two senior-citizen city girls, it really was easy.

We scrambled over rocks, log bridges, rassy knolls, bypassed the muck and mire left by the rain and had a great time. We spotted lots of weird mushrooms, some of which looked inviting enough to nibble on, but whose bright colors spelled out don't eat me! We looked for and found the beaver lodge the guide pointed out, as well as hemlock groves, beech trees and gray herons. But we never did see or hear the spring peepers (frogs), or the salamanders (geckoes) and turtles. We felt just like explorers trekking out in the wilderness. It takes very little to make two city slickers feel like happy country bumpkins. Next week we're going trekking big time with a 6-mile hike along the Appalachian Trail in the Sheffield Plain.

That was my trail blazing part of last week... the theater part of my trip was another first-time viewing experience in a wonderful theater complex devoted to Shakespeare and called Shakespeare & Company. Located in the town of Lenox, Mass., it has been in operation for 28 years.

Shakespeare & Company is a performance company, one that has even bigger plans for the future... The Rose Playhouse Project is a three-year plan to reconstruct the famed Rose Playhouse from 17th Century England, plus design a period center for learning, studying and performing Shakespeare.

With a core of over 120 artists, the Company regularly performs the works of its namesake, generating opportunities for collaboration between actors, directors, and designers of all races, nationalities and backgrounds. It also develops and produces new plays of social and political significance.

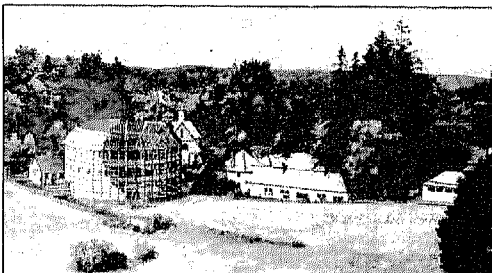
In addition, Shakespeare & Company provides original, in-depth, classical training and performance methods. By "classical," they mean "the highest truths told in a universally accessible form which have an impact that is healing for the individual and society." The Company's vision statement is "to establish a theater company which, by its commitment to the creative impulse, is a revolutionary force in society, which connects the truths of the past to the challenges and possibilities of today, which finds its source in the performance of Shakespeare's plays and reaches the widest possible audience through training and education as well as performance."

The company's educational programs inspire a new generation of students and scholars to discover the resonance of Shakespeare's truths in the everyday world, demonstrating the influence that classical theater can have within a community. These principles sound like the same American ideals that made Massachusetts the cradle of the Revolution. Right On, Shakespeare & Company!

This is an Equity company that performs on its property at 70 Kemble Street from May through November on both indoor and outdoor stages. It also performs in Boston and tours throughout New England. Last year more than 45,000 theater-goers saw 322 performances of their 13 productions. The company's innovative educational programs have received national attention for their profound impact on the lives of over 40,000 young people throughout the northeast every year. In 2004, their 90-minute production of *Romeo and Juliet* will tour throughout Massachusetts during February and March perhaps longer, perhaps farther afield.

As you can see, this is quite a special

performance company, one that has even bigger plans for the future... The Rose Playhouse Project is a three-year plan to reconstruct the famed Rose Playhouse from 17th Century England, plus design a period center for learning, studying and performing Shakespeare.



Theatre designer Bill Dudley's impression of the future Rose

My first brush with this fabulous Company was the hysterically funny *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)*.

To begin with, the program you get when you walk in is hilarious... "Director/Actor Wrangler..." "Set designers/Monkey Fluffers" "Lighting Jokes and Design..." "Production Stage Manager and Voice of God..." "Asst. Stage Manager and Swat Team Leader..." "Wardrobe/Wedgie Protector..." and there are more. On the next page is "CAST (in order of reluctance)... Time — Check your watch... Setting — If you lived here, you'd be home now..." followed by "This is our own pretty good guess at the complete works of William Shakespeare," 44 in all, the last six of which — *A Lover's Complaint*, *Sonnets* (154 of them), *The Passionate Pilgrim* and three others — had the notation "We skipped these."

Three wild and crazy guys — Jonathan Croy, Josef Hansen and Dan McCleary — perform all 37 of Shakespeare's plays in only two hours. This is Shakespeare-without-borders (or any sense of dignity), so purists beware. Imagine Titus Andronicus doing a TV cooking show, *Henry V* and all the tragedies done as NFL *Friday Night Football*, *Romeo and Juliet* — an almost camp version of *West Side Story* meets "American Pie," *Othello the More or Less of Venice* done as a rap number, all the

comedies rolled into one Looney Toons version of *Macbeth* with the witches a kind of Harry Potter mythical adventure.

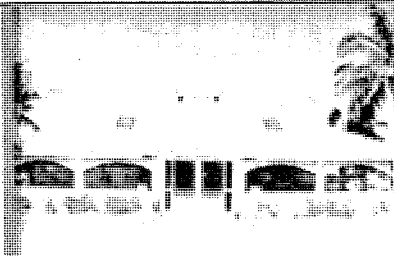
The tragedies as the football-styled finale of Act I were repeated to gales of helpless laughter following an audience suggestion of playing it again — once in double time, then slow, and then backwards, like a rewind tape. After intermission and a pause that refreshes, we reentered to the zaniness of Act II and the crazy threesome's take on *Hamlet*. This was a shameless romp of silliness, low humor, sight gags and clown comedy that had more political laughs than the ones we get nightly from this nation's capital. There were no sacred cows in this Act — everyone and everything was fair game. These talented three had us laughing almost on cue, a skill that is really in short supply these days unless you use foul language or grab certain body parts for cheap physical laughs. All three actors were equal in their acting as well as their comedic skills. They had the audience in the palms of their hands from the first to the final bow. Within all this craziness, there was one surprising, quiet moment when Josef Hansen evoked a misty-eyed tenderness in a monologue by Yorik in the gravedigger scene, proving that these are truly fine, well-directed and skilled actors, capable of an instant's change of moods.

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) proved to be one of those wonderfully daffy, anything-goes productions, where we laughed 'til it hurt, and everyone had a grand time whether they were familiar with the works of Shakespeare or not. After seeing these three fine actors in this goofy but well done, well-drawn production by Tony Simotes, I'm more than ready to view the company in the serious stuff... like their production of *King Lear* or some of their other productions — *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Two Gentlemen of Verona* or the Chekhov one-acts.

**More on the Rose Project
✦ on next page ✦**



First, a little background on this remarkable theater and school... Their mission statement states, "Shakespeare & Company, founded in 1978, aspires to create a theatre of unprecedented excel-



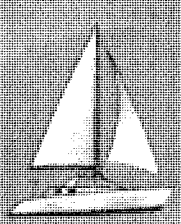
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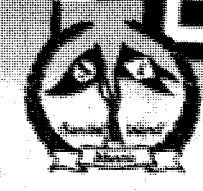
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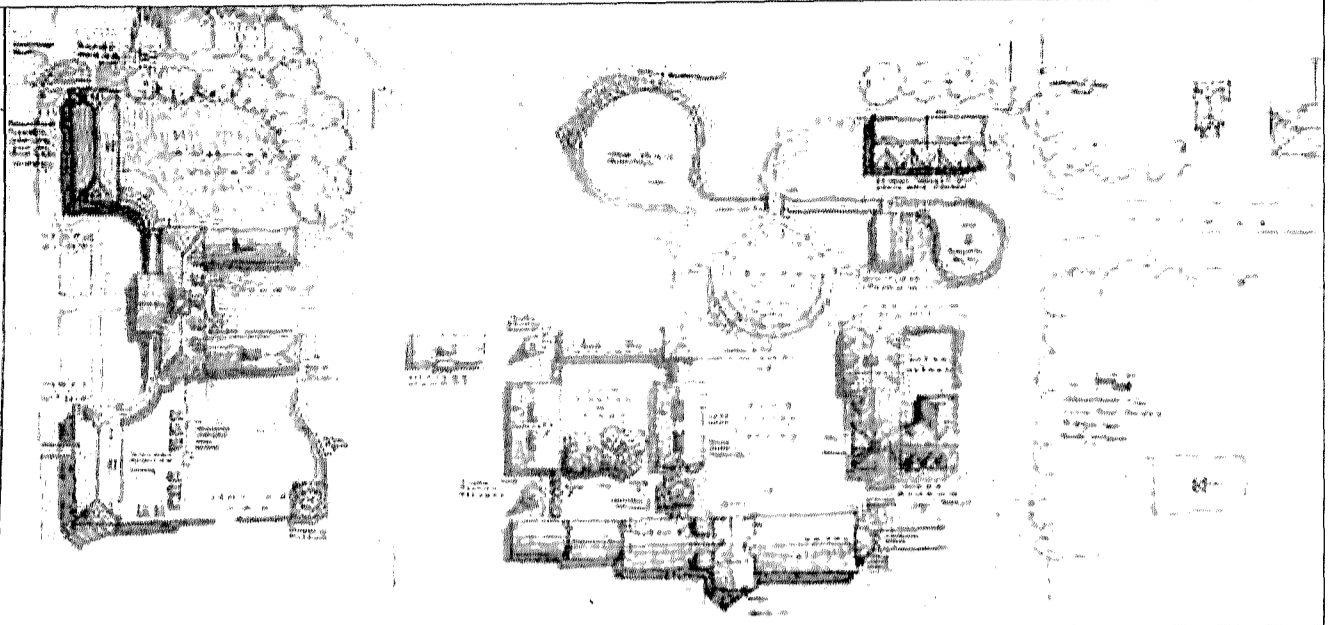


The Rose Playhouse USA

A new/old playhouse in Massachusetts

Shakespeare & Company Artistic Director Tina Packer received a fabulous holiday gift last December when she got word that the United States Congress was awarding her theatre company one million dollars to support the development of an International Center for Shakespeare Performance & Studies with the authentic reconstruction of the Rose Playhouse as its centerpiece.

Senator Edward M. Kennedy garnered support from fellow Massachusetts senator John Kerry, and the Honorable John Oliver, congressman from Western Massachusetts. Senator Kennedy's personal attention to the Company's request for support was a key factor in the company's receipt of this leadership grant.



Architect's drawing of the proposed Rose Village

The Rose Playhouse U.S.A., scheduled to open roughly around 2007, will be surrounded by a collection of buildings inspired by the Elizabethan spirit of Banksyde around 1590. The project is the world's only historic reconstruction of the 1587 Banksyde playhouse where the works of William Shakespeare were first presented. Packer leads an international team of artists, architects, scholars, archaeologists, artisans and English timber framers in this historic undertaking — an enterprise which extends across the water from London to Lenox.

The buildings, called the Rose Village, will house a year-round museum and exhibition center, gallery, classroom and rehearsal space, and working artisan shops where leather and armor work, costumes, stonework, herbs and flowers, and printing will be produced and sold.

The complex will rest among gardens, lanes, meadows, and streams evoking the South Bank of London, just as a young William Shakespeare might first have experienced it.

Nestled in the heart of Shakespeare & Company's

newly acquired 64 acres of woods, meadows, streams and eclectic collection of buildings, the reconstructed Rose will embody the historic source of the the company's performance and training aesthetic: "to perform Shakespeare as the Elizabethans did, in love with poetry, passion, physical prowess, and the mysteries of the Universe."

Completion of the project — combined as it will be with the several other performance spaces on the site — will fulfill Packer's longtime dream of such a center... where the Company's performance, training, and education programs can work together in synergistic creativity. In addition, the playhouse, the exhibition center and shops will provide a year round cultural attraction in the Berkshires and promise to have a dramatic economic impact on Western Massachusetts. At the same time, the programs promulgated in the Rose Village and on the stage of the playhouse will create new and exciting educational opportunities for artists, school children, theatre scholars and the general public.

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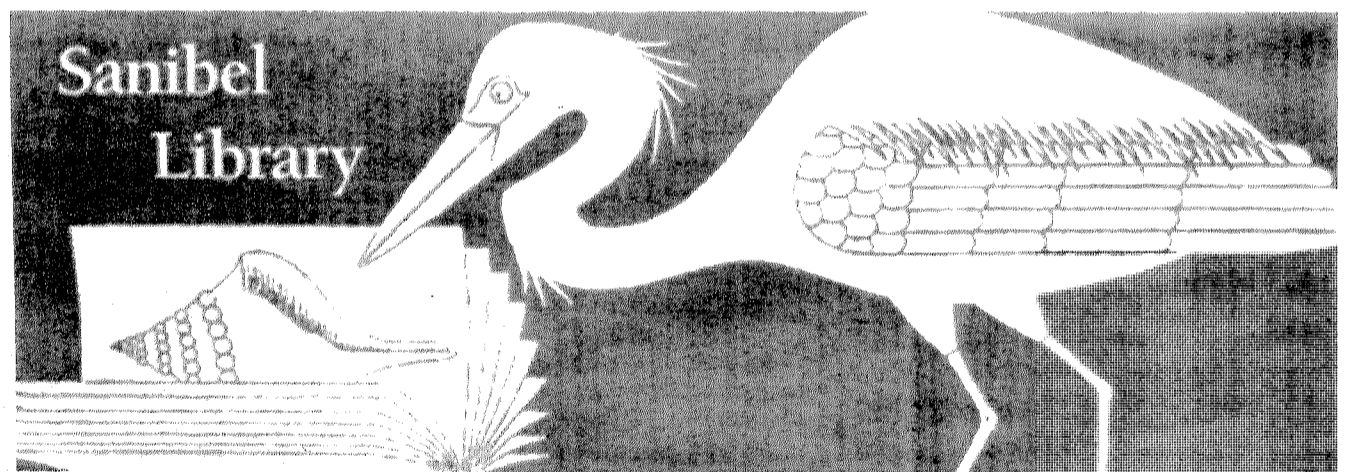
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DATELINE: HOLLYWOOD

Spotlight on Labor Day, Past and Present

Labor Day is a most patriotic holiday, holding hands with Memorial Day and joined by the fireworks that crown July 4th, America's Independence Day. For many Americans and Canadians alike, Labor Day is another day of personal and collective recognition, as the day was set aside to salute the working people of our two great nations. By design, Labor Day falls on the first Monday in September and is officially celebrated by both the United States and Canada.

When I was in school, Labor Day also signaled the end of summer vacation and the beginning of the school year. It was usually a time for socializing with family and friends around backyard cookouts, picnics at a favorite park/lake/river/mountain or other recreational location of choice. People still tend to look forward to Labor Day with positive expectations.

Labor Day was the target time for my family's move from Cleveland to Hollywood. My father, Paul, was originally scheduled to move to Hollywood the day after his 18th birthday, but Granma changed her mind, a story detailed in a previous column. So, 25 years later, this time with a family of his own and on Labor Day weekend, Dad put his clothes and personal items into his new white '59 Chevy Impala four-door hardtop and headed west. My Mom, sis and I stayed behind to wrap up things while Dad went ahead to establish a foothold 3,000 miles away at the end of Route 66. Talk about an exciting holiday!

The thought of Labor Day also brings to mind my mother's father, Domenico, who preferred to be known by his "American name," Dominic. Grampa was born in Pace del Mele, Provincia di Messina, Sicilia, on Feb. 15, 1885.

Grampa came to this country and settled somewhere in Pennsylvania, sometime before World War One. I'm not being vague on purpose; I wish I knew exactly. My grandmother, Martha, was also born in Pace del Mele and came to America some years later where she became reacquainted with my grandfather. They were married in America and I'm certain my mother was born in Denora, PA, on July 21st, 1915.

During the latter part of World War II, my mother, sister and I went to live with Dominic and Martha while my father served in the army. They at this time lived in a two-story home at 837 Whitcomb Avenue in the neighborhood called

Collinwood on the east side of Cleveland. Grandpa Dominic was a very patriotic American and was therefore very sad that Italy was "on the other side" for part of World War II.

There are two versions of how my grandfather emigrated to America from Sicily. One was that he came through Ellis Island, where the family name, Ficarra, was "Americanized" to Figer — a familiar scenario, unfortunately, to many thousands of other immigrants.

In the other story, he was supposed to emigrate to South America — to Caracas, Venezuela, I was told — and was somehow "diverted" to America, ostensibly by his older brother who was already here and "connected." How interesting.

I asked my grandfather, way back then, which story was true. "The truth will die with me," were the first words out of his mouth, shocking me to the point of freezing the moment forever in present time. "You need to know why we came to America, not how."

I really wanted to know the how of it, but the why part was an unanticipated, curious wrinkle, so I said, "Okay, tell me why."

His eyes grew wide as he focused on me. "Why?" he repeated with a flavor of wonderment. "We came here for you" he said, with an inflection in his voice and a physical demeanor indicating that he expected that I should already know the answer.

"Came here for me?" I shot back at him, my shock factor three levels higher.

"Sure, you, your cousins, aunts and uncles, everybody!" he said emphatically, his arms making sweeping gestures to emphasize words or phrases. He said that life in the old country was not as pleasant as he might otherwise have made it sound on other occasions. There were many times when "not enough food could be put on the table," or they "couldn't always keep the roof comfortably overhead." He said that, "no matter how hard a man was willing to work, there was too often too little work to do." A big part of the problem was that, "In the old country, you had to do what your father did. If he was a stonecutter, you were a stonecutter; if he was a cobbler, you were a cobbler."

I had a hard time conceiving the picture my grandfather was depicting — not to be confused with his personal integrity, for he was above reproach.

"If your father had a brother, and if you had a brother or two, and your father would consent to loaning you to his brother, then you could be what your uncle was, do what he did. That was pretty much it," he explained patiently, wanting me to clearly grasp the message.

"South America, all of it, is just like the old country. You have to be whatever your father is.

"Ah, but here in America things are different and much better." As he started to talk about America, his demeanor made an abrupt change. His

entire countenance lit up. He even sat more erect. And with the increasing brightness in his face, his eyes glistened.

"Here in America, you can go to school, the best schools in the world!" A tear wet the corner of his eye. "And the schools are free until college, and they will teach you to be anything you want to be. You don't have to follow your father or your uncles, you can be anything!" By this time, the tears of happiness were tracing paths down his cheeks.



LITTLE JOE MICALE

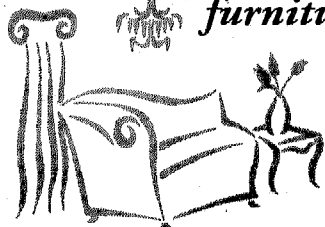
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~ Home is the Nicest Tent ~

It rained all night. The rain would collect in pools on the oversized tarp strung precariously above our two tents. Periodically throughout the evening, without warning, the heavy pools of rainwater would cause one of the lines lashed to the nearby spruce trees to stretch and the water would spill over the edge of the tarp, as if someone on high were dumping buckets of ice water. Things inside both tents were getting wet — a camper's worst nightmare.

Sleep came in broken chunks of time, interrupted frequently by the sound of raindrops pelting the plastic tarp in wave after wave of relentless downpours. When dawn arrived, no one wanted to get out of their soggy sleeping bags. And the forthcoming day suffered from lack of either plans or enthusiasm.

We hurriedly ate cold cereal and elected to go to the interpretive center at Gros Morne. "Maybe the weather will break..." all of us prayed as we pulled out of the campsite, heading south toward Rocky Harbor. Once at the center we sat around and watched free videos of hikers and wildlife filmed on a perfect summer day. Outside, the fog set in and the rain kept falling.

Around noon we decided to get something to eat at a local restaurant, no one having the heart to discuss returning to our campsite in this dismal weather. Halfway through our lunch the sun came out. It was suddenly bright and blue, and our moods improved dramatically. The afternoon went flawlessly, with Molly and the boys taking a 10-kilometer hike and me fly fishing at the mouth of the Western Pond River for sea-running brook trout.

But the break in the weather was short-lived. By dusk, the rain had returned, turned colder and was driven by gusts of wind chasing up the Straits of Belle Isle. We met back at the campsite and cooked fresh cod and brook trout for dinner. Conversations were sparse, with the wind and the rain freshening in the darkness. We knew we were in store for another long night.

At two in the morning the sheltering tarp blew down. The large spruce pole acting as a center post became dislodged by the wind and fell on Logan and Blake's tent. No one was hurt, but the tarp now laid flat against both tents and afforded little protection. The gusty winds would announce themselves miles down the hill, rushing up from the Strait like locomotives climbing a hill at 40 miles an hour. As it blew through the tops of the spruces and stunted birch trees surrounding us, it would lift and shake our tarp in a din of rustling, flapping plastic. Sleep was impossible.

I laid awake thinking about how much harder it must be for the back country hikers working their way up and along the Long Range Mountains. If the weather became too hostile, the four of us could retreat into the safety of the Toyota and then simply drive to a nearby hotel. Those brave back-packing hikers, nearly a mile above us, had only the stunted tuckamore or slab of granite to afford them a windbreak. They

were far more vulnerable.

By dawn the winds abated, leaving us in a cold, penetrating drizzle. It was 45 degrees out and everyone knew — it was time to go home. Home was 3,400 miles south/southwest from the western shore of Newfoundland. Home was a week of driving away, but we were already impatient to catch that afternoon's ferry at Port Aux Basques.

We were anxious to return to our favorite tent — the tent we call home. The tent where the baby-grand piano sits in the front room and the bathrooms are all indoors. Where the kitchen has hot and cold running water, a dishwasher, and a real refrigerator instead of a Coleman cooler. A dry tent with comfortable beds and air-conditioning.

But, as I stood there, surveying the soaked, disheveled landscape of our battered campsite, I was reminded of why I love doing this, even in the rain. Still bleary-eyed from two nights without sleep, I was nonetheless appreciative of the intimacy camping has with nature. I recalled how I was thankful for the night we spent in Missouri surrounded by the song of a thousand cicada, or the campsite in northern Yukon where a pack of howling wolves kept Molly and me awake and fretful half the night.

Because there's something primal about having nothing more than a single sheet of rip-stop nylon between you and the envi-

ronment. Something that brings you back a score of centuries to a time when shelter was the skin of an animal you had killed stretched between a frame of trees you had felled. A time when every day was spent outdoors in a climate we had to contend with by using little more than the tools of our culture and our instinct to survive.

My house is still a tent, and we are still never far removed from the elements. Last week's massive blackout reminded me of how precarious, how vulnerable, civilization is. How a failing power plant in Ohio can leave 10,000 commuters stranded in subways in New York as dark as the bleakest night in Labrador. How a Cape Verde hurricane can blow the roof off this three-bedroom tent of ours as assuredly as those gusts running up the foothills of the Long Range Mountains blew our tarp down. So, I sit here on my leather chair — the Hunter fan above me rotating silently, keeping me cool and comfortable — Hewlett Packard computer converting my thoughts to a Word Perfect file, I'm reminded that home is the nicest tent, but a tent nonetheless. Just like the tent you're sitting in.

Charles Sobczak is the author of Six Mornings on Sanibel, Way Under Contract and Rhythm of the Tides. His latest novel, A Choice of Angels, recently received a star review from the American Library Association.

He, Molly and their two sons, Logan and Blake, drove to Newfoundland this year for their annual summer vacation. This is one of several articles about their month-long voyage.



CHARLES SOBCHAK

An All-American Hog Roast



Chefs Tommy Boint, Cougie Conway and Don Stacy

On Saturday, August 23, the Sanibel-Captiva Islands American Legion Post 123 held a membership drive and traditional Legion Hog Roast. Even Mother Nature cooperated

by withholding her usual summer shower for the entire day.

Early in the day, Chris Workman and his keyboard took to the outside stage, entertaining members and potential members with fine renditions of popular tunes and a few originals. Mid-afternoon found Reg'lar Joe setting up on the new inside stage, to the delight of the beat-the-heat patrons.

The locally infamous Troublestarters rounded out the event's musical entertainment playing on into the late evening. (Jimmy Jensen and friends are no strangers to Post 123, for back in the old days, the Legion hall served as the "garage" for these now-popular, seasoned performers.) Doug and Tommy "Fresh" and Don and Elaine Stacy



Chris Workman

provided the vittles, including homemade baked beans (well, sort-of), homemade pasta salad and the slow-roasted wild hog. There were hot-dog plates for the kids.

Dozens partook of the every-once-in-awhile Legion feast, and over two dozen locals opted to join one of the three groups attached to Post 123 — The American Legion, Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 123, and the post's Ladies Auxiliary.

The day also served as the coming-out party for new barstools which were bought via a donation drive spearheaded by new Auxiliary President Heather Silber-Rice. Each fabulously comfortable barstool will soon carry a plaque indicating which member provided the funds for its purchase. The Auxiliary continues fund-raising for new tables and renovations planned for the bar area. The renovations will, hopefully, be completed by this coming season.

Throughout the day, membership representatives met with guests and provided information on member requirements. Those who signed up were treated to a complimentary beverage and the ringing of the welcome new member bell. Chances are you qualify to join the Post, Sons or Auxiliary, either through your own military service or that of a close family-member.

And, get this — come have your car washed this coming Saturday, beginning at 11 am. Monies are needed to help fund various activities including the annual Disabled Vets Fishing Outing scheduled for Sept. 11. Also coming up is the annual Oktoberfest and Halloween Party (scheduled for — guess when — October.)

The Legion hall is located at Mile Marker 3 on San-Cap Road. Call 472-9979 for more information on membership or coming events.



Auxiliary president Heather Silber-Rice

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The 8th Annual
Jazz on the Green
October 25, 2003

Presented by
FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY

Featuring
Jonathan Butler
Mindi Abair
Jeff Golub

Presented by Florida Gulf Coast University Student Government, *Jazz on the Green 2003* will take place on the FGCU campus on Saturday, Oct. 25, from 4 to 11 p.m. It is a project of the Lee County POLO Club.

Jeff Golub, one of today's "most inventive and graceful guitarists," will lead off the evening of cool jazz. His first solo album, *Out of the Blue*, is an all-new collection of progressive blues-inflected instrumentals. Saxophonist Mindi Abair, a St. Petersburg native and one of pop music's most exciting new discoveries, offers a fresh mix of pop melodies infused with jazz and R&B. And veteran vocalist and guitarist Jonathan Butler blends Africano, world music and gospel colorings in what is

best described as a "soul jazz" style.

Jazz on the Green, Inc. is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization which, in the 7½ years of its new incarnation, has contributed more than \$170,000 to the Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. The event features a kids' play area, upscale food vendors, beverage sales, merchandise sales and autograph sessions with the performers. Giant video screens will enable the crowd to view the action from any vantage point.

Gates open at 3 p.m.; the event begins at 4. Tickets are available at the official Jazz on the Green website, www.jazzonthegreen.com, for \$30 in advance and \$40 at the gate; children under 10 are free. The Jazz Hotline phone number is (239) 477-4683.

PERFORMING ARTS

ON THE ISLANDS

Island Cinema

Bailey's Shopping Center ~ 472-1701

- *The Italian Job* (PG13)
- *S.W.A.T.* (PG13)

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

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1908 Periwinkle ~ 472-6862

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Dolce Vita

Periwinkle Way ~

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Sundays, 5:30 p.m.
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1380 Colonial Boulevard ~ 278-4422

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- *Honky Tonk Angels*
Sept. 4th-Oct. 11th

Florida Repertory Theatre

Bay Street between Jackson & Hendry
332-4488

- *The Underpants*
Through Sept. 14th, \$15-\$32

Theatre Conspiracy

Foulds Theatre ~ 10091 McGregor ~ 334-3239

- A.R. Gurney's *Sylvia*
Through August 30th, Thursday-Saturday, 8 p.m.
Sundays, 2 p.m., \$16/\$7
- *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom*
Sept. 5th-20th, Fridays & Saturdays
9 & 11 p.m., \$8/\$5

IN NAPLES

Naples Dinner Theatre

1025 Piper Boulevard ~ (239) 514-7827

- *Always, Patsy Cline*
August 30th-Oct. 19th
Saturday matinees (\$30)
Sunday twilights (\$35)
- *The Beat Goes On*
Through Sept. 21st
\$37.50-\$42.50

Look who got married!!!
or ... A marriage made in heaven
or even Love at first sight



On June 28, 2003, long-time Sanibel resident Mark Steger married Frances Brailey from England — one year to the day from the date they first met here on Sanibel.

Mark, originally from Michigan and owner of Sanibel Screens, and Frances, a travel sales consultant from Hampshire, England, were married at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ. There ceremony was followed by a barbecue on the causeway. The day was not only enjoyed by Frances and Mark, but by friends and family from both sides of the Atlantic.

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 Sanibel Captiva Shopper's Guide Reaching over 7,500 every Thursday	 Beach Bulletin The area's visitor and entertainment newspaper delivered every Friday	 Fort Myers Beach Observer A circulation of over 14,000 in the San Carlos Island and Estero Island area every Wednesday
 Cape Coral Daily Breeze Reaching homes in the Cape Coral Community daily	 The Saturday Breeze is delivered to 38,000 homes in Cape Coral every Saturday morning.	 The Lee County Shopper Home delivered every Wednesday with a circulation of 105,000
 North Fort Myers Neighbor Home delivered to 9,500+ every Wednesday	 The Lehigh Acres Citizen Reaching 7,000 every Wednesday	 Gasparilla Gazette Reaching over 4,000 homes in Boca Grande and Gasparilla Island
 Charlotte Shopping Guide Published every Wednesday in Port Charlotte & Punta Gorda		

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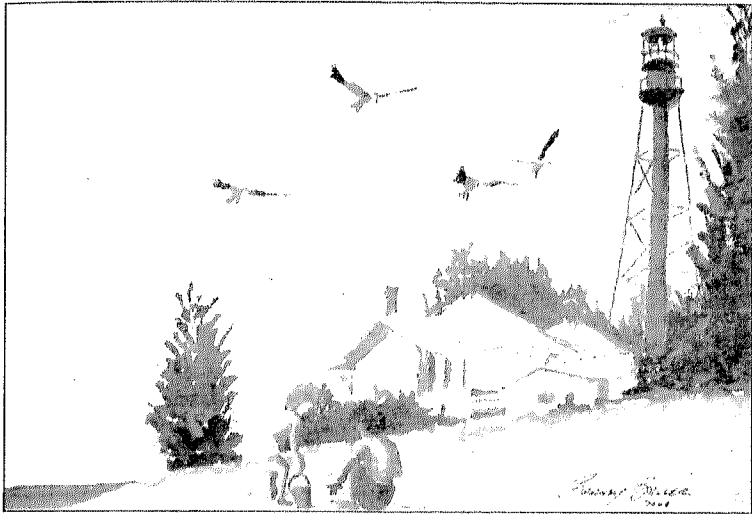
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Island artists offer seascapes at Sanybel's Finest

Among the many fine seascape artists represented at Sanybel's Finest are Islander Barney Baller and Lucy Raad. Watercolorist Baller paints local landmarks and beach scenes,



like the one pictured of the Sanibel Lighthouse. This side view presents the much-painted lighthouse from a fresh point of view.

Artist Lucy Raad has gained a national reputation with her sweetly rendered paintings of children, especially those capturing that magical moment when children discover the sea.

The original study for this painting of mother and daughters was done at Blind Pass, with the grandchildren of Sanybel's Finest owner Jack Elias serving as models.

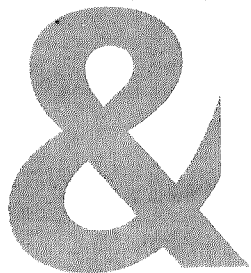


The actual painting was painted in Jack's kitchen (the "light is perfect!" explained Lucy when Jack found her and her easel standing on a tarp spread over the kitchen floor).



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Restaurant Review



Watch this space the last week of every month for a focus on your favorite area restaurants!
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Cozy, inviting and unpretentious, Chadwick's offers classic All-American favorites. You can order from the menu or you can take advantage of the fabulous buffets: a Sunday brunch buffet, lunch buffets Monday through Saturday and themed dinner buffets every night of the week.

Enjoy the champagne mimosas served at the Sunday Champagne Brunch while you help yourself to Eggs Benedict or a made-to-order omelet, carved baked ham or poached salmon,

fruits, vegetables, cheese, fresh bread...and dessert! Chadwick's - Captiva's Incredible Every Day Buffet On Wednesdays, Chadwick's features Bourbon Street Bash: Food from the French Quarter. Enjoy an assortment of seafood and meat with a Creole flair.

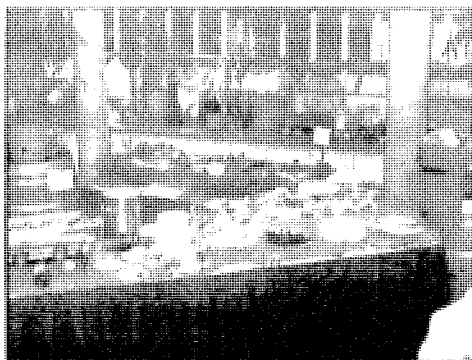
Dive into the Seafood Extravaganza on Monday and Friday evenings, featuring a bonanza of fresh regional seafood, peel 'n eat shrimp, beer batter shrimp, great desserts and much more. Enjoy all you can eat prime rib and Mongolian stir-fry at the Prime Rib Buffet on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, and sample the Taste of Captiva on Sunday evenings, a delectable island medley.

If you're looking for a light lunch, there's a great selection of Caesar salad fixings and there are lots of cold cuts, salads, imported cheeses and luscious-looking fresh fruits. Cheese fondue and chocolate fondue are also richly satisfying. Hot selections include fresh catch of the day and other tempting dishes, as well as an entrée grilled while you wait.

The desserts are fabulous and Chadwick's makes their great Key Lime Pie on the premises. They're in the Guinness Book of World Records for the largest Key Lime Pie ever made, back in the '70s.

Chadwick's lounge features a nightly 3-to-7 pm Happy Hour with complimentary munchies. Tuesday through Saturday, live entertainment starts at 9 pm and Chadwick's also features Sunday Ticket NFL coverage for sports fans. The "Lite Fare" menu, with offerings ranging from Grouper to Burgers to Chicken Quesadillas, is available at the bar from 11 am until 12 midnight.

You'll find Chadwick's almost at the end of Captiva Drive, just inside South Seas Resort. Casual attire is welcome. Reservations are not required but they are accepted; for information and reservations, please call 472-7575.



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ISLAND CELEBRITY BARTENDER OF THE WEEK

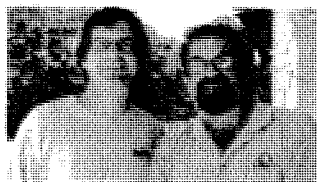
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Post 123



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"Drafting Table", but behind the bar
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They're Smokin'!
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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH



Welcomes the dynamic duo-
Brian Murty &
Jean Baer

They won't be beating the pavement
for commissions from real estate
sales, but working their beat behind
the bar for tips!



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CANCER
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**Watch this space next week & every week in
September for the line-up of Sanibel-**

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VISITING CELEBRITY BARTENDERS**

Next week Don't miss

Tues., Sept. 9th The comeback Team of Pat & Tim
Murty hosted by PIPPINS RESTAURANT

Wed. Sept. 10th - Steve Greenstein's return visit to
TIMBERS/SANIBEL GRILL

**TENDERS TIPS DONATED TO CHARITY!
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