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Week of October 17 - 23, 2003

24 Pages



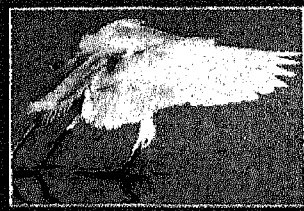
Photo by Renny Severance

Hans Bredaho and Chloe Daubenspeck are this year's king and queen for BaileyFest, the thirteenth monarchs in an unbroken line since 1985. They are fifth graders at the Sanibel School. See page 3 for more details about BaileyFest.



Nancy Santeusanio takes a look at the new construction at the Sanibel School and the funding for it.
See page 7.

Photography highlights Ding Darling Days at refuge and BIG ARTS.
See pages 17 & 21



CROW offers new line of holiday cards



CROW has a whole raft of brand new (and cute!) holiday cards in stock for the season.

Created by local artists, Carol Rothman and Randon

Eddy, and selling 10 to a box for \$20, the cards are fully tax deductible and their purchase benefits the island's well-known wild-life rehabilitation hospital.

LEAVE ONLY TAKE ONLY
YOUR FOOTPRINTS MEMORIES

Celebrity Bartenders at it again

The Island Celebrity Bartender charity promotion for needy causes was such a success in September that two engagements are now scheduled for the last two weeks of October.

On Friday, Oct. 24, Traders, which now has a full liquor bar and remodeled lounge area, will welcome Chamber of Commerce board president, Anne Joffe, as she teams up with former Chamber president and

*Lighthouse
Cafe*



THE WORLD
BEST BREAKFAST



Above: Michael Billheimer
Left: Anne Joffe



board member, Michael Billheimer, behind the bar. The popular restaurant will be offering their Happy Hour Menu from 3 to 6 p.m. (bar seating only) as well as two-for-one premium/well drinks, draft beer and house wines.

To date, over \$13,000 has been raised for local charities. Leading the race for the most-monies-raised traveling trophy are Matt Asen and Mary Jo Bogdon who did the backstroke behind the bar at the brand new Ellington's. Their gratuities? \$2,734.

Watch for a celebrity bar event to happen at Beachview Golf & Tennis Club the last week of October... check the Islander and The Shopper's Guide next week for the date and celebrities!

GRAB YOUR APPETITE BY THE HORNS!!!

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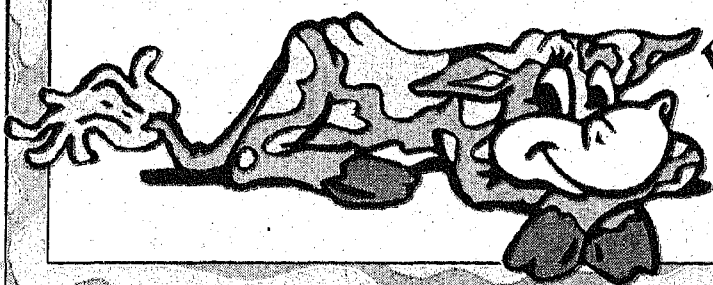


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Alaina Olson



2nd Place "BEST BREAKFAST"



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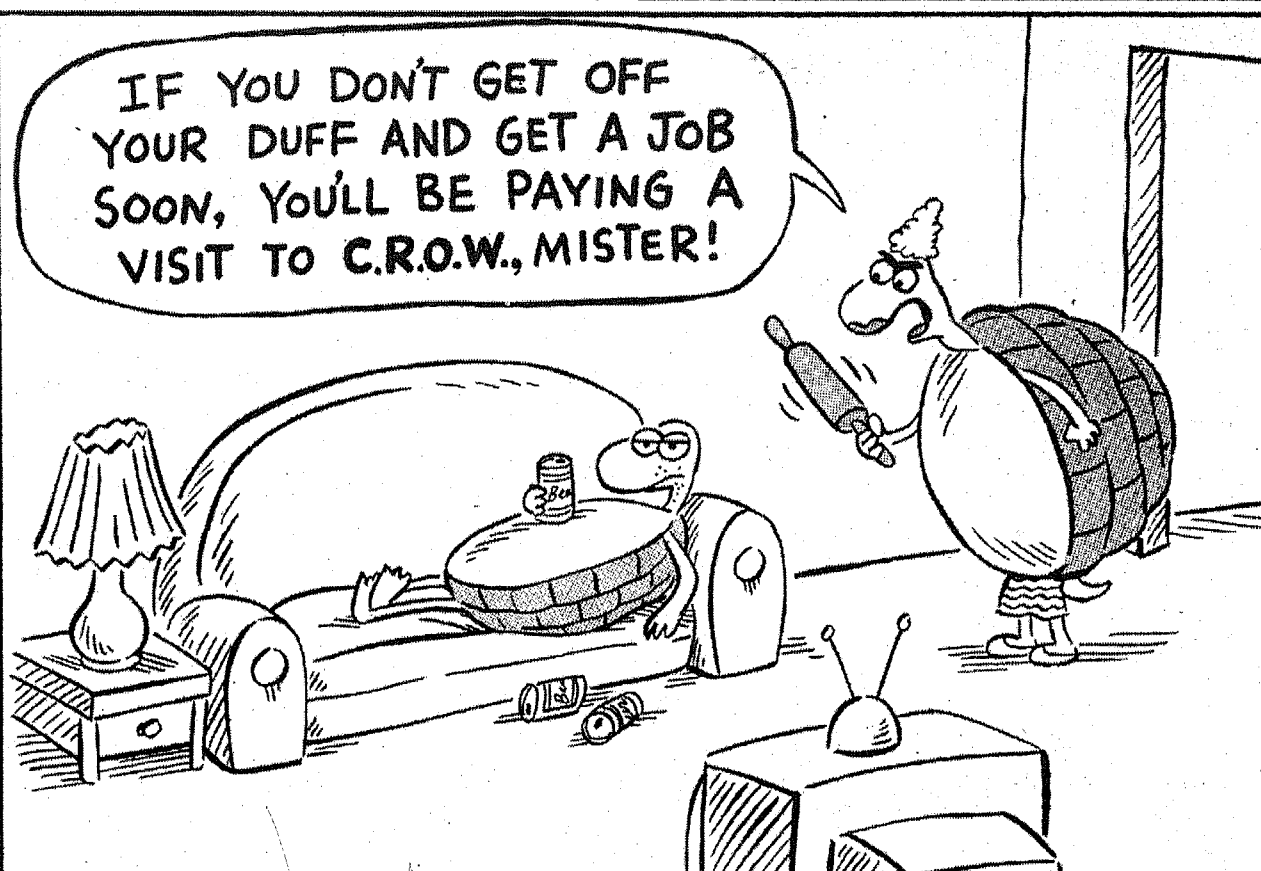
Call-Ahead Seating Available OPEN 7:00 AM - 10 PM



Dave
Horton



Lee
Horton



BaileyFest promises to be another hoot

By Karen Nelson
Staff Writer

Don't miss the fun and games at the 19th Annual BaileyFest on Sunday, Oct. 19 from 1 to 5 p.m. This old-fashioned community get-together is put on each year as a "thank you" from all of the Bailey's Shopping Center merchants and over 2,500 people take part in the four-hour affair.

The entire parking lot is given over to the event, from a tented stage for the entertainment to the games, pony rides and the shiny red Sanibel and Captiva fire trucks.

The idea of BaileyFest is to make it strictly a fun family day. Sam Bailey, who plans BaileyFest each year, describes it as a chance for people to get together, to mingle, to talk with each other and to enjoy some entertainment. It's not a promotional but rather an old-fashioned day of appreciation celebrated in the spirit of the Islands.

There will be raffle drawings every 30 minutes — be sure to get your raffle tickets BEFORE BaileyFest begins. (All raffle tickets must be completed BY NOON on Oct. 19 and tickets are available from any merchant in the center.)

Sanibel School 5th Graders entered an essay contest and the winners will be crowned King and Queen at BaileyFest. In addition, Sanibel School kids entered a "Draw the BaileyFest Raccoon" contest and while the winners posed for a pre-press publicity photo (see page 15), the official prizes will be given out at BaileyFest.

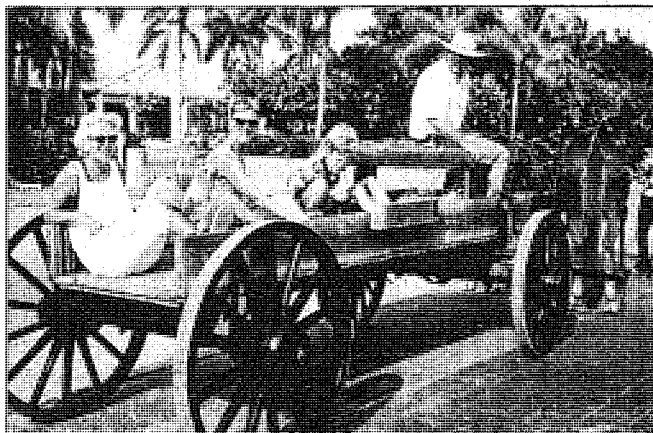
The entertainment line-up includes Christie Melvin, the Golden Girl Cloggers, Times 3, Harry Boyle and the unforgettable Bailey Blues Brothers.

Kids will enjoy rides in the Sanibel Packing Company Model T and the Bailey mule-drawn wagon, a Bounce House, fortune tellers, games and the chance to sit in the driver's seat of the Sanibel and Captiva Fire & Rescue Districts fire trucks. Plus there are contests throughout the afternoon.

Food and drinks will

also be available. While BaileyFest is not a fundraiser, there will be a nominal charge for some activities and whatever is collected will be given to benefit island charities and local schools.

Be sure to stop by Bailey's Shopping Center on Sunday, Oct. 19 between 1 and 5 p.m. Thanks to Sam Bailey's ingenuity and enthusiasm and the support of the Bailey's Shopping Center merchants, BaileyFest 2003 promises to be a very special community celebration by a community of very special people. Come and catch the spirit!



COLUMNISTS



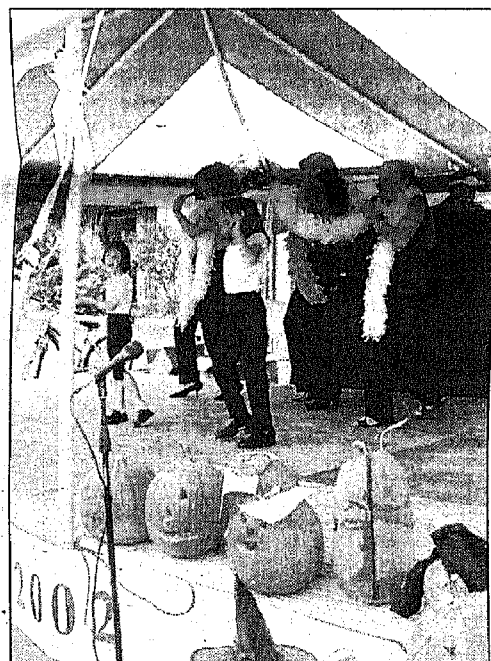
School Construction
Nancy Santeusano
— page 7



Travel
Barbara Ganz
— page 9



Center Stage
Marsha Wagner
— page 14



File photos from last year's
BaileyFest

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HAPPENINGS

Guild holds meeting

The St. Isabel Women's Guild will hold its first meeting of the fall on Tuesday, Oct. 28, at 9:30 a.m. in the Church Hall. After the business meeting, Sylvia Fox will share "Personal Collages — a Time for Reflection" with the group.

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

Computer classes scheduled

The Sanibel & Captiva Islands Association of Realtors now offers computer classes to the public. Open October classes include:

- Beginning Microsoft Word, Monday, Oct. 20, 1-3 p.m.
- Introduction to Windows XP, Monday, Nov. 3, 1-3 p.m. Computer literacy required.

Classes are taught at the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Association of Realtors and are \$10 each. Space is limited; attendees are urged to register early. For additional information, please call the Association office at 472-9353 or visit www.SanibelRealtors.com/Computer.

Book Fair for Charity

Bank of the Islands is hosting a book fair to benefit the American Heart Association tomorrow, Saturday, Oct. 18, inside Edison Mall during normal mall hours. The fair will offer several thousand

books of all kinds priced from 25 cents to \$3, with the majority costing between 50 cents and \$1.

The bank will continue to accept donated books through 12 noon today, Oct. 17. Those who are running late but still wish to donate books, should bring them to Blue Water Coffee Company, located at the main entrance to Edison Mall. All books and audio books with the exception of Reader's Digest and textbooks will be accepted. All proceeds will be presented at the American Heart Association's annual Heart Walk event in November.

For more information, please contact Cindy at Edison National Bank, 466-1800.

New NA chapter

Nicotine Anonymous is a non-profit 12-Step Fellowship of men and women helping each other live nicotine-free lives. The primary purpose of the organization is to help all those who would like to cease the use of tobacco and nicotine products in any form using the 12 steps program as adapted from AA to achieve abstinence from nicotine.

The first meeting will be Monday, Oct. 21, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Island Nutrition Center, 1633-C Periwinkle in Anchor Point. Call 472-4499 to confirm.

Outdoor fun with SCCF

Put on your exploring duds and take yourself out to SCCF on either Wednesday,

Oct. 22, at 10 a.m. for one of their inimitable Swale Sloshes — up close and personal looks at the interior freshwater wetlands that surround the Foundation's Nature Center. In order to see the diversity of macro-invertebrates and other water-dwelling critters, dip nets and other sampling equipment will be provided. Take old sneakers or water shoes (boots are available with advance notice) — you'll get wet, for sure. The Swale Sloshes last about 1 1/2 hours and are appropriate for the whole family. Admission to the Center is \$3 with members and kids free. Space is limited; reservations are required.

The Foundation and Captiva Kayak will host a naturalist-led kayak outing in and around Buck Key next week on Friday, Oct. 24. The tour helps fund SSCF's environmental education programs while educating participants about the natural and cultural history of Pine Island Sound. No experience necessary, just curiosity and \$35. Reservations are also required for this adventure.

For additional information and reservations, call 472-2329.

Improve your boating skills

An introductory course in boating is being offered to the public by the Sanibel Captiva Sail & Power Squadron. The Boat Smart class will be held on Saturdays, Oct. 25 and Nov. 1, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Ding Darling Wildlife Refuge.

Subjects covered in the class include:

- Boat handling under normal conditions
- Adverse conditions and emergencies
- Types of boats and boat terminology
- Required and recommended equipment
- Boating regulations and navigation rules
- Lines and knots

Successful completion of this class fulfills membership criteria for anyone interested in joining the Power Squadron, qualifies one for discounts on boat insurance, and satisfies the State of Florida's requirements for operating a powered vessel.

For more information about the Boat Smart class or to register for the course, contact David Raven at 466-8567 or Mary-Paige Abbott at 395-9409.

At the next monthly Squadron meeting at the Community Center on Tuesday, Oct. 21, Roger Clark, land stewardship manager for Lee County Parks & Rec, will present a Conservation 20/20 program. Clark and seven other land steward-

ship staff are responsible for protecting the county's preserves, including those acquired through Conservation 20/20 — approximately 15,000 acres throughout the county.

Prior to joining county staff, Clark was the first permanent director of the Calusa Nature Center, the first biologist on Cayo Costa State Reserve (now the state park) and Lee County biologist for the Aquatic Preserves — Pine Island Sound, Matlacha Pass and Estero Bay.

Jamboree at South Seas

South Seas Resort is hosting a honky-tonk Country Jamboree Saturday, Oct. 18, in Chadwick's Plaza from 6 pm - 9 pm. There will be a live DJ playing rockin' country tunes, line dancing, facepainting, pony rides for the kids, a lasso competition, seed-spitting, cash bar and prizes galore! So get on your western gear and we'll see y'all there!

For more information, call 472-7632.

Country Festival at Dunes

The Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce and The Dunes are hosting a Hunter's Moon Country Festival at The Dunes on Friday, Nov. 7, from 6 to 10 p.m. For \$35, eat all the fried chicken and ribs you want, enjoy beer, wine and your favorite drink special at a cash bar, participate in lots of line and two-step dancing, snuggle up with your sweetie on a hayride... just like when you were a kid up north!


Call 472-1966 for reservations and have fun!

Seniors bazaar

The first Island Seniors Bazaar of the season will be Nov. 15 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and take place at the Civic Center on Library Way. All kinds of items will be available, from plants and decorative gourds to jewelry, handcrafted goodies and calamondin marmalade. Vendor tales are \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members on a first-come, first-serve basis. Call Yolande Welch at 395-3372 for more information or to rent a table.

'The Science of Viruses'

Seminars on Science is a lecture/discussion series for those interested in exploring and furthering their understandings of current topics in science. Teachers,



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parents, high school and university students — all who feel they may benefit from the seminars are welcome to attend.

West Nile Virus... HIV/AIDS... Smallpox... Ebola... Viruses continue to impact human health and challenge scientific understanding. This program on Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2003 at 7 p.m., will focus on current understandings of viruses and their impact on humans.

The cost is \$10 per person. Science Center members get in for free.

Navy Seabees to meet

The Navy Seabee Veterans of America (NSVA), Island X-8 in Lee County, will have a luncheon meeting on Monday, Oct. 27 at noon at the Quality Hotel, 2431 Cleveland Avenue in Fort Myers. Wives and visiting Seabees are welcome to attend the non-smoking meeting.

Island X-8 has launched a Membership Campaign to reach all Seabee veterans in Lee and Collier Counties. Regular monthly meetings are held on the fourth Monday of the month. The next meeting will be on Nov. 24 at noon at the Quality Hotel.

Reservations are required. For reservations and additional information, call Raymond Reed at 731-1901.

P.E.O. luncheon

The Lee County Reciprocity Fall Luncheon for members of 10 Southwest Florida P.E.O. Chapters, the P.E.O. Group, as well as Canadian, European and Winter P.E.O.s and their guests will be held on Saturday, Nov. 8, at 11:30 a.m., at the

Palmetto-Pine Country Club, Inc., 1940 SW 9th Court in Cape Coral. A board meeting at 10:30 a.m. will precede the luncheon. For reservations call Leiana Verwest, 936-6920.

Chamber AfterHours at Tween Waters

The next Chamber "After Hours" will be hosted on Monday, October 20 from 5:30 - 7 p.m. at Tween Waters Inn.

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be provided Tween Waters Inn's Old Captiva House and Jensen's Twin Palm Resort & Marina. Chamber members, prospective members, and guests are invited. There is a \$5.00 guest fee for non-members.

PLEASE RSVP for "After Hours" by calling the Chamber at 472-1966 with the exact number and name of people attending. A fee of \$5.00 will be charged to anyone without prior reservations.

Family Fun Festival

Sanibel Community Association is hosting a Family Fun Festival on Halloween from 6 to 9 p.m. Admission is a bag of candy or a can of food for donation.

There'll be lots of fun and games; hot dogs, chips and soft drinks will be available for sale. And a haunted walk that's billed as "Enter if you dare! Who knows what surprises lie within the walk this year." Admission is a can of food to be donated to local charities.

Seating will be available for those of us too young to play with the big kids.

Visit Florida visits Chamber lunch

By Erik Burriss
Staff writer

With an annual budget of about \$65 million, Visit Florida believes in spending money to make money.

The public/private venture spends that money in an effort to attract tourists to the state's theme parks, hotels and roadside attractions, said regional representative Beth Rice. Created in 1996, Visit Florida took over the responsibilities of the state's Tourism Division, becoming one of the most powerful organization of its kind in the country.

"Other states have tried to copy us, but no one has made the transition from public to private," Rice said.

About one-third of their money comes from the state's car rental surcharge, although that amount has slipped by about \$3 million over the last year, she said, mainly due more people buying instead of leasing cars with the recent cheap interest rates. The rest comes from the 3,300 private entities that have signed up with the company.

For their contributions, those groups get a variety of services.

"Our marketing department spends \$22.5 million a year on advertising," Rice said.

Members also have access to information about tourism trends, visitors and competitors gathered by the research department.

Visit Florida also operates the flausa.com website, which features information about members as well as Sunny,



Terri Blackmore photo

Beth Rice

the on-line trip planner which lists hotels, restaurants and attractions within 50 miles of a given destination, Rice said.

The site receives 19,000 visitors a day.

The company puts out multiple visitors guides and newsletters aimed at tourists, business and residents.

"We probably err on the side of too much information," Rice said.

Members even get access to the overseas market, since Visit Florida maintains offices in Canada, the United Kingdom and France.

"We are truly a global organization," Rice said.

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BUSINESS

Boren tops at John Gee

Carlton Boren was both the top lister and the top selling agent for John Gee & Company for September. Boren offers his clients many years of experience dealing with commercial properties in several states and has owned property on Sanibel since 1977, a condo here since 1980, and a home for the past five years.



4th Annual Business & Retail Expo

Looking for a great way to feature your business to local residents? If you are, then you will want to reserve your space for the 4th Annual Business & Retail Expo, to be held this year on Sunday, Nov. 23, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Sanibel Community House, 2173 Periwinkle Way.

Presented in conjunction with the Community Association, the Expo provides the opportunity for Chamber members to meet each other and their potential customers in an environment of community and camaraderie.

This event is the brainchild of Sam Bailey, who thought it would be a great way for our retail members to benefit

from Chamber membership. "I was looking for something where all the retailers and small businesses could get together, something like BaileyFest or Islands Night," Bailey said. "Some event where they could show their wares and talk to people about their businesses."

Last year there were 85 tables with displays and over 1,200 people came through the doors to see all that was available from our merchants. This year, there should be even more exhibitors and a bigger crowd to enjoy the raffles and prize drawings, hot dogs, and chance to purchase goods and services from local businesses.

Special features which should bring additional people to the event include the ever-popular(?) flu shots administered by Dr. Philip Davis, as well as promotional cable television advertising being generously provided by Becky Pruitt through the Comcast/Visitor's Network.

The Expo Committee has been hard at work planning to make this day a special one for area retailers and business owners.

Each participating business will receive a 2'x8' table, two chairs, a linen table cloth for and a sign displaying the name of the business. Pre-registration is open now for last year's participants, with full payment due by Nov. 1. Additional tables will be available to members on a first-come basis after Nov. 8.

OBITUARIES

Carol Dannenhauer Fowler

Carol Fowler, a Sanibel resident since 1986 and formerly of Malvern, Penn., died at home Oct. 15, 2003. Born in Ardmore, Penn. in 1935, she was 67 years old.

The wife of Richard P. Fowler, Carol was known for her enthusiasm for decorating, love of flowers and gardening. She volunteered her time and talents to support numerous charities locally and in Philadelphia. Most recently, she was a docent for the Sanibel Historical Museum & Village.

She is survived by her husband Richard; two sons — Richard (Chip), and David, and his wife, Liz; and granddaughters Kari and Samantha, all of Sanibel. She is also survived by her sister Phyllis Sherwood of Palos Verdes, Calif. and her brothers-in-law Edward of Sanibel and Robert of Alva.

A memorial service will be held at Sanibel Community Church on Saturday, Oct. 18 at 11 a.m. The family requests that flowers be sent to Sanibel Community Church.

David H. McLaughlin

Sanibel resident David McLaughlin died Oct. 9, 2003 at a local hospital. He was 65.

McLaughlin moved to Sanibel from Chicago 13 years ago. David had a 20+ year career in broadcast sales with ABC Television, primarily in Chicago, where he was one of their most well-respected sales people. Following the couple's move to the islands, David began a second career in real estate. After taking early retirement, he volunteered for Friends In Service Here (FISH), the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, and at HealthPark in the Cardiac Surgery unit.

"He was a joy to have around here the days he volunteered," said Erick Lindblad, director of SCCF. "He was cheerful without fail and took the time, each time he came in to make the rounds of the staff, see how each person was, and what he or she was up to. A very caring person, but also an excellent office volunteer. We will all miss him greatly."

He loved the island and particularly enjoyed taking walks on the beach, reading, swimming and watching sporting events. He was a devoted and loving husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend.

He is survived by his wife of 21 years, Linda; two sons — Darren McLaughlin and his wife, Joy, and Michael McLaughlin and his wife, Christine Carter; a brother, Ron McLaughlin, and his wife, Kathy; his

grandchildren Sean, Timothy, Fiona and Amalia; and his beloved cat Gracie.

A memorial service was held on the beach this past Monday. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Harry Chapin Food Bank, 2126 Alicia Street, Fort Myers 33901 or to the Kancha Center, 4027 Bowen Falls Place, Sarasota 34243.

William J. Torpey

Capt. William Torpey, 60, of Sanibel and Nantucket Island passed away October 9 on a rising tide and a coming moon. He was pre-deceased by his parents, Mary Connolly Torpey and William J. Torpey and is survived by his wife, Amanda Cross; a daughter, Lindsay Torpey Cross; and a sister, Ellen P. Torpey.

A gathering of friends and family took place Saturday afternoon, Oct. 11, at his and Amanda's home in Sanibel. A memorial celebration will take place next summer on Nantucket. In lieu of flowers please make donations in Torpey's name to the Coastal Conservation Association, 3333 South Orange Avenue-Suite 103, Orlando 32806.

Robert L. Givan

Robert Givan of Fort Myers and Oakland, Md. died on Oct. 3, 2003 at Shell Point after a lengthy illness. He was 70 years old.

Born in Indianapolis, Ind., he attended Indiana University and graduated from Purdue with both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Electrical Engineering. He later served in the U.S. Navy. He was a member of Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ and, as an active sailor, of the Deep Creek Yacht Club at Turkey Neck near his home in Maryland.

He is survived by his wife, Gail (Hodge) Givan; one son, Robert L. Givan, Jr. of West Lafayette, Ind.; two daughters — Deborah Wilson of Germantown, Md. and Karen Conway, of Newark, Del.; two step-daughters — Jennifer Raymond of Alexandria, Va., and Laurie Schuyler of Bristow, Va.; and nine grandchildren. In addition, three brothers — Donald Givan, of Anderson, Ind., Richard Givan of Madison, Miss., and Thomas Givan of Indianapolis — survive him. A sister, Sharon Crain, preceded him in death.

A memorial service is scheduled for this morning, Oct. 17, at 10:30 a.m., at the Sanibel Congregational Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial donations to Hope Lodge (of the American Cancer Society), 636 West Lexington, Baltimore, MD 21201.

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4. Cosmetics and hair coloring products
5. Bath towels, hand towels, face cloths
6. Twin sheet sets
7. Feminine hygiene cleansing products
8. All sizes ladies underwear, especially larger sizes
9. All sizes children's underwear
10. All sizes children's socks
11. Q-Tips
12. Deodorant large size
13. Toilet paper

14. Paper towels
 15. Baby crib sheets
 16. Disposable diapers (especially sizes 4 ex 5)
 17. Neosporin or other anti-bacterial cream
 18. Extra-strength non-aspirin products
 19. Large bars of soap
 20. Laundry soap
 21. Baby wipes
 22. Twin size blankets — new or slightly used
 23. Standard size pillows — new or slightly used
 24. Canned fruits, vegetables, meats
 25. Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Call 929-2553 for drop-off location or for more information.

FOR KIDS' SAKE - Get on Board the Sanibel School Campaign

by Nancy Santeusanio
Special to The Islander



NANCY
SANTEUSANIO

When you ride by the Sanibel School, a nationally recognized Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, and one of the best in the state with 2003 test scores on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) ranking among the top two percent in the state, you may think you can sit back and boast of your school's outstanding achievements. But all you need to do is attend a Breakfast with the Principal and take a tour of the school, only to find that children are housed in 13 portable classrooms. Four years ago, one teacher was very excited to get a 2 by 2 foot window in her portable, and a third grader went home and exclaimed, "Guess what! I get to go to school in a trailer."

The Sanibel School is unquestionably "A Community Investment in our Islands' Future" ranking on par with the community's investment in land conservation, wildlife habitat preservation, and stringent zoning and code enforcement resulting in one of the highest standards of living in the state. That's why people drive over the Causeway, amazed to find no traffic lights at the first fourway stop, and continue on to discover more.

When Sanibel Elementary opened 40 years ago as the first integrated school in Lee County, little could the community have imagined that, by 1997, the parents and community members would be successful in lobbying and adding a middle school component in 1998, renaming it the Sanibel School in 1999 and celebrating its first eighth grade graduation in 2002. Moreover, its graduates finish in the top 1 percent of Florida's 844 public middle schools.

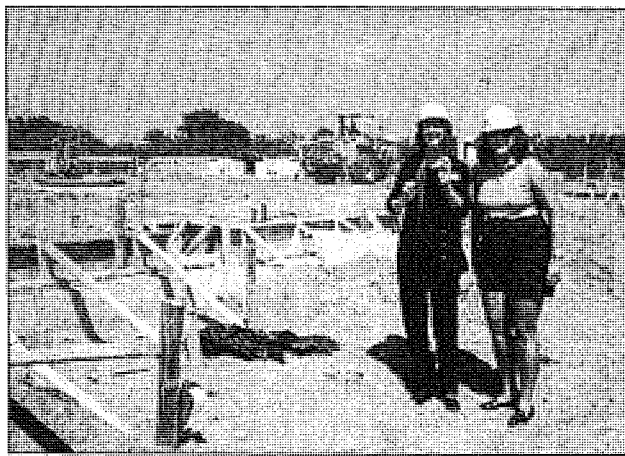
Principal Barbara Von Harten explains that with such high interest and commitment on the part of the parents and the school scheduled as the next in Lee County for renovation, the idea of a middle school sounded very simple but actually was very complex. It took a full year of meetings with the School Board to convince them that it was the "right thing" to do.

The idea that this plan would eliminate the need to provide bus transportation for all of the children in the South Zone, and that all children in kindergarten through grade eight could ride the same buses together as a total school unit, became significant factors in successful funding. Hence an \$8.1 million construction and renovation project, adding 25,000 square feet of new space and renovating existing buildings, was approved last spring calling for the pouring of concrete pads for new buildings in October 2003. Completion of new construction is set for March 2004, followed by renovation of existing buildings and project completion in August 2004. That's the day they'll cut the Sanibel School yellow ribbon "For Kids' Sake" as another "Community Investment in our Islands' Future."

Why get on board the Sanibel School Campaign? Doesn't state funding do it all? While state funding furnishes the bricks and mortar and the bare basics to construct the building, it doesn't offer the additional funding to provide the interior enhancements. That's where the Sanibel School Fund kicks in with President Sandy Zahorchak and Campaign Co-chairs Terry Igo and Betsy Ventura, Honorary Co-chairs Francis and Sam Bailey and an impressive group of over 50 highly energetic volunteers who are deeply concerned about the quality of education.

To remain at the top, Sanibel School must fulfill its "beyond the bare basics" needs.

The goal of the Campaign is to provide equipment for the science and home economics labs, expand the fine arts programs, enhance the band and music programs, build a new playground for school and community use and provide students with the latest in com-



Sanibel School Principal Barbara van Harten and School Fund President, Sandy Zahorchak don hard hats to review the new construction at the school.

puter and audio enhancement technology.

Co-Chair Terry Igo, Vice President of the Sanibel Captiva Trust Company, is excited about the Sanibel School Campaign and emphasizes that this is a unique opportunity for potential donors to make a long-term impact on the islands "We have never had a major capital campaign like this at the Sanibel School and the goal here is to finish off the interior enhancements for the new construction and renovations."

The current campaign was initially started by the Sanibel School and the P.T.A. to educate the whole community about school needs. The first phase was a year-long series of weekly tours and slide show presentations given by the principal to explain why the renovations and additional school space were needed. Igo is pleased to announce, "As of September 2003 we had received some very supportive initial gifts from the community totalling \$310,000 and now we must continue to climb toward the million dollar goal. Some of the initial gifts were from the teachers with their 100% participation in the campaign and now the parents are beginning to invest and make their commitment."

The second and more visible phase of The Sanibel School Fund Campaign kicks off on Sunday, Nov. 2 at The Dunes with a golf tournament and dinner generously sponsored by The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company and Steve and Lena Brown. All tournament fees and dinner reservations become a tax deductible contribution to the Sanibel School Fund Campaign.

Children need and deserve to succeed. The Sanibel School provides that kind of environment. When you get on board the Sanibel School Fund Campaign, you're doing it FOR KIDS' SAKE and making your investment in our islands' future.

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Pet Therapy volunteers needed

The Humane Society of Lee County is looking for adult "Pet Therapy" volunteers to bring a bit of happiness to the lives of seniors by taking their own pet or an animal (dogs, cats and rabbits) from the Humane Society to visit at nursing homes and assisted living communities. Must be dependable, have own transportation and be willing to commit to at least two hours a week for the winter sea-

son (Nov.- April). Hours of availability needed are 9 a.m. to noon and 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays. Dog certification is strongly recommended and available at clinic. An orientation is planned November 1st from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Please call Honey Larsen at 415-1951 or Gina Bash at 656-0509 for more information and an application.

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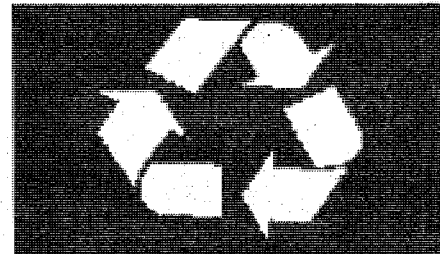
When you buy a house or refinance your present home, your lender will ask you to pay for an appraisal to help ensure that the sales price and mortgage amount are consistent with the property's market value. The appraiser will look for "three caballeros" or three "Comparables"--homes that are very similar to the one you are buying ---and make adjustments to reflect the differences between the properties.

Housing patterns tend to be homogenous, meaning that homes worth \$500,000 to \$600,000 are located in neighborhoods where the average price of a house is in that range. It is important for properties to be within the general pricing patterns of the neighborhoods because over-valued homes, even exceptional ones, are sometimes difficult to sell at full market price.

This is not the only factor in determining the value of a property, but it is an important one. The buyer or seller may view the property as their home or an investment, but lenders view a property as security in the event a borrower fails to repay a mortgage. Therefore, lenders must know real estate values in order to limit their risks.

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.

RECYCLE SANIBEL



Bring recyclables to the Sanibel Recycling Center on Dunlop Road across from the Sanibel Public Library.

SPORTS

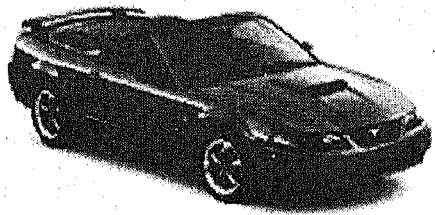
SCCF Golf Tournament

We're counting down to next week-end's Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation two-person, five-flight handicap golf tournament at The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club. With over 30 prizes to the winners, there surely will be some sudden death play-offs adding to the overall excitement and spectator enjoyment.

Additionally, another competition has been added. If you golf at the Dunes in the next few days to fine-tune your game, you



will undoubtedly see a slow down at the 17th hole. The reason is golfers are hitting a couple of extra balls to practice for the hole-in-one contest, which will be part of the tournament on Saturday, Oct. 25. The prize for that eagle is a two-year prepaid lease on a Mustang GT convertible, compliments of Sam Galloway Ford. Jeff Logan, master certified sales and leasing consultant at Galloway, has chosen the perfect island car and will have it parked



Drive this Mustang GT convertible for two years with a hole-in-one.

Sanibel Volleyball League

The City of Sanibel's Recreation Department has announced a new adult co-ed indoor volleyball league that is currently being started. The Rec Department is looking for individuals who want to coach and bring in teams for the league. Games are scheduled for Wednesday

nights and will continue throughout the winter season. A coach's meeting is planned for Wednesday, Oct. 29, where the program parameters will be discussed and decided.

Anyone interested in participating should contact Nick Brown at the Sanibel Rec Center — 472-0345 or by fax at 472-0804.

at the Dunes this week.

There are a few player spots open to round out the flights, so register today at \$75 per player. Sponsors are always joyfully accepted (\$100 - \$1,000). All players and sponsors are invited to the Friday night cocktail party, sponsored by the Sanibel-Captiva Community Bank at the Sanibel Community Association (Note location change: the Island House remodeling won't be finished in time!) Each player will receive a goodie bag with golf items worth over \$50 and will be given one chance at the challenging putting contest. More putts can be purchased at the event, plus sponsors are encouraged to join in the fun on Saturday.

Event sponsors are Karen Bell Realty and Merrill Lynch Private Client Group. They are joined in supporting SCCF's operations by The Wolter Group, Steve Herman at Chase, The Dunes, the Sanibel-Captiva Community Bank, Island Realty, Sam Galloway Ford and South Seas Resort. Come on out and join in the fun.

Call Marge Meek at 472-2466 or Bruce Avery at 472-5896, or any of the committee members: Craig Albert, Brian Cunningham, Ellis Etter or Kevin McKune to sign up.

Kasten in St. Pete offshore race Oct. 18

by Karen Nelson
Staff writer

Sanibel Shell Station Owner Ken Kasten will be racing in the GMC Pro Series National Championship in St. Petersburg on Saturday, Oct. 18.

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.

In August, Kasten and *Vixen* won first place in the P5 class in the Sarasota Offshore Showdown. Pointwise, 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.

The St. Petersburg races will be held at the pier and Kasten is scheduled to race at noon.

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SERVICE CLUBS

Kiwanis

Photos by Bob Wimbush

Sometimes a picture is worth a thousand words. Certainly a thousand of mine when the speaker is a talented writer like Byron Stout.

Oh yes, Kiwanis now breakfasts at the Dunes on Wednesday and will switch to Tuesday beginning in November.



Above left: That's Feiner again — presenting a check for the Old Schoolhouse Foundation to Steve Brown.

Above right: Brown, looking for equal photo time, presents the same check to Al Hanser.

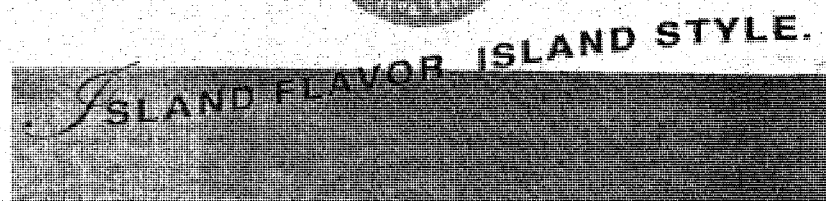
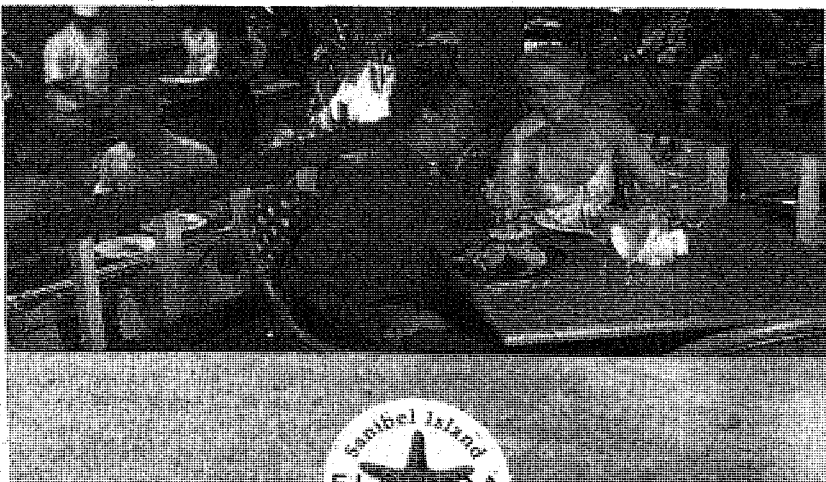


Left: Don Feiner listens as his Little Brother, Josh Olson, accepts a check for Big Brothers /Big Sisters.



Byron Stout, the speaker, delivered a lesson on freshwater flow in Southwest Florida. The trick is to keep water in Lake Okeechobee during the dry season but draw it down prior to the rainy season. He feels the South Florida Water Management District keeps it too high most years to provide backup for "big sugar" and risks getting caught if there is either drought like last year or lots of rain like this year.

The dikes around Lake O were breached by hurricane rains in 1926, killing about 400 people, and again in 1928 when "thousands" died in the flooding. Yet, water releases have put the Caloosahatchee "really under duress" and "affect the ecology of the estuary all the way to Sanibel." Stout's "Quick Solution: Lower the lake in the spring." For Stout, the "Magic Number" is 10 feet.



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TRAVEL

A visit to London's Bramah Museum of Tea and Coffee

By Barbara Ganz
Special to the Islander

On a recent trip to visit our daughter, who lives in London, England, I made sure to go to the world-renowned Bramah Museum of Tea and Coffee. The museum is located near London Bridge in the busy area of Bankside. Walking across London Bridge is certainly detrimental to your feet. So, if you try it, bring lots of Band-Aids and comfortable walking shoes.

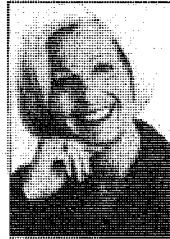
The Bramah Museum, named after its owner, Edward Bramah, is also a wonderful teahouse and I certainly took advantage of that. In addition, I got a two-for-one deal, learning more about the history of coffee as well as tea. Since it was 3 p.m., almost tea-time, I was thinking about enjoying the treats as well. (Jenny Craig could wait until I returned home.) Beautiful tablecloths were placed on tables throughout the dining area and after indulging in a variety of high calorie scones, I entered the museum.

As I was taking pictures next to the "no photographs" sign, I was approached by the owner, Edward Bramah. Instead of a reprimand, I was greeted cordially. As we discovered mutual interests, we became fast friends and he agreed to an interview, beginning with his background. He told me about the books he has written, *Tea and Coffee*, *Novelty Teapots and Coffee Makers*.

Edward worked on a tea plantation in Africa during the 1950s. He furthered his education by training as a tea taster in London. Tea tasting is similar to wine tasting, as you never actually swallow the stuff. I leave it to your imagination to guess what is done with it.

I learned that England was the country that popularized coffee, and that tea came later. Today, 90 percent of the tea consumed comes from teabags, not tea leaves.

I also found out how tea is produced and marketed. In the 1950s, tea began to compete with instant coffee by way of the



BARBARA GANZ

teabag. For over 300 years prior to that, the consumer's prime source for tea was directly from the leaves of the various plants.

The museum featured many displays, including a colorful Russian exhibit of teacups and accessories. Edward explained that

the Dutch and Portuguese brought tea to England over 400 years ago. There was ceramics, graphics and even a sign over a display, reading "Hi Tea." One interesting teacup was a "mustache cup."

This large cup featured a ceramic bar across its diameter, to prevent a mustache from getting wet.

A tour of the Bramah Museum would not be complete without a stop in the retail store. Here, boxes of teas from around the world were offered for sale. There were also delicate teacups, tea infusers, accessories and more.

My visit to London's Bramah Tea and Coffee Museum was certainly enlightening. And, owner Edward Bramah's hospitality was truly exceptional. So, if you have a chance to visit London, stop in to see Edward Bramah's museum. And, don't forget to tell him that Barbara sent you.



Edward Bramah



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Moo'in' & Brewin' at Island Cow

by Karen Nelson
Staff Writer

Starbucks Coffee is now being brewed on Sanibel at the Island Cow. Starbucks has "gone heavy" on the Florida East Coast, explained Island Cow Owner Rob DeGennaro, even experimenting with "drive through" outlets in Miami's South Beach and Deerfield Beach. However, in less-populated Southwest Florida, Starbucks has been working with local restaurants rather than establishing stand-alone units. It was Starbucks that approached DeGennaro.

They were "looking for a well-rounded restaurant — one with high volume — serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, to experiment with," explained DeGennaro. "They are also doing the same thing in Key West, Sarasota, Naples and Bonita."

Island Cow began serving Starbucks about three weeks ago and they are getting a nice response. DeGennaro noted that people walk in, their eyes light up and they exclaim, "Oh, my God, I can't believe it, it's here... Sanibel is coming into the modern age." Some folks who relocated from the Pacific Northwest stop by every morning for their Starbucks Coffee as a reminder of "back home."

Aside from choosing the right kind of restaurant, Starbucks is "very, very specific on water quality," said DeGennaro. When Island Cow closed for two weeks this past June, they replaced everything in the kitchen and put in a water filtration system to take the chlorine residual out of the water. But when Starbucks came to test the water, they brought in their own water for a taste comparison and the difference was clearly noticeable. DeGennaro added a second filter plus a water softener to achieve the required water quality at Island Cow. (Which means that you also get a great glass of water because it's all coming through the same filtration systems.)

Starbucks' concern about chlorine stems from the fact that chlorine in brewed coffee begins to break down the coffee (especially decaf), giving it a bitter taste. Chlorine also attacks the



Karen Nelson photo
Island Cow Owner Rob DeGennaro (right) and his father, Frank, with their Starbucks Coffee mugs.

sweeteners in diet drinks. While regular water is 4 - 6 ppm (parts chlorine per million parts water), Island Cow's treated water is .1 ppm.

The Island Cow staff went through extensive quality control training and in the first two weeks, Starbucks sent six different testers to the restaurant, trying all the different products "to make sure we're doing it right."

The brewed coffee is sealed in an insulated vacuum container so it pours out steaming hot (and there's no water evaporation). After half an hour, if there is still coffee left (which rarely happens at Island Cow!), a new pot must be brewed.

Tazo teas (hot and iced) and Chai are also now available, and to complement the Starbucks coffee, Island Cow has added a special Coffee menu with new homebaked pies and cakes.

"People can come in and just have coffee and dessert. We also have fresh-baked

muffins — hot out of the oven — all day. We bake over 2,500 muffins a day, so they're always fresh.

"People are welcome to sit and read the newspaper and have a nice cup of coffee. We provide newspapers, too."

DeGennaro has been very pleased with the response. And many on Sanibel are delighted to now have Starbucks here on the islands... at the Island Cow on Periwinkle.



ENVIRONMENT

Water level lowered during migration

Thousands of shorebirds such as red knots, dunlins, and western sandpipers have begun their annual migration south. Many of these birds travel from above the Arctic Circle to the southern tip of South America. Along their journey, they use wildlife refuges as rest stops to feed and replenish fat reserves which give them energy for the long flight. The J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge is one of the last rest stops before birds fly over the Caribbean and, therefore, is an important resting and feeding site.

Wildlife Drive, originally constructed in the early 1960s as a mosquito control dike, surrounds the two impoundments in the refuge. Managers kept the water levels high during the summer in order to cover the mud flats so the salt marsh mosquito couldn't lay its eggs in the mud. However, keeping the water levels high compromised the health of the refuge in that water quality was diminished and birds were unable to feed in the higher waters. Today, staff keep the impoundments open to tidal influence to mimic the natural tidal estuary for much of the year. This benefits many native plants and animals which are dependant upon the tidal cycle and allows fish and other aquatic species to use the mangrove rimmed impoundments as a breeding ground and nursery.

In late September, the refuge lowered water levels in the two impoundments to periodically expose the mud flats, thereby providing a place for short-legged shorebirds to feed. The impoundments, covering 800 acres, are controlled by seven water control structures. These structures are left open to tidal influence for the majority of the year but, during peak migration, will be closed (with the exception of one structure in each impoundment) to simulate a low tide and still allow for minimal tidal flow. During this closure, refuge biologists will monitor the salinity and dissolved oxygen levels in the impoundments to assure the drawdown does not adversely impact fish and other marine life.

This common wildlife management practice will not compromise the health of the fisheries or mosquito control objectives because peak mosquito breeding and fish spawning take place at different times of the

year. The refuge experimented with the new water control structures during last spring's shorebird migration. Drawdown of water levels allowed birds to feed and rest on the mudflats. The experiment was deemed a success based on the tremendous increase in shorebird use, and this practice will likely become a permanent part of the refuge's water management plan.

Providing habitat for migratory birds is one of the main responsibilities of the National Wildlife Refuge System and the primary reason the "Ding" Darling NWR was established. It is accomplished by ecosystem management — the provision and enhancement of the wildlife habitat for the greatest good of the greatest number of wildlife species. The refuge's water management plan reflects this ecosystem approach by providing shorebird habitat during peak migration, allowing fish access to the impoundments to use as nursery and breeding grounds, and maintaining water quality for all species.

Get Down & Dirty Dirt Day

Come spend the day at the Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium on Saturday, Oct. 18, and learn about dirt. You and yours will have the opportunity to walk through our swamp, finger paint with mud and make dirt cakes.

The day's activities will include:

An all-day display and interactive table "Geologists Dig Dirt," presented by Karen Cheney of the Everglades Geological Society, will allow everyone to learn about soil sampling, classification, characteristics and the role that soil plays in our daily lives.

10 a.m. Swamp Walk (Please call 275-3435 by Oct. 17th to register)

10:30 a.m. Finger Paint with mud

11 a.m. Live Animal Presentation

12:30 p.m. Butterfly Video

1 p.m. Live Animal Presentation

1:30 p.m. Butterfly Talk

2 p.m. Planetarium Show - Firefall

3 p.m. Aviary Feeding

All activities are included with admission.

The Center is located at 3450 Ortiz Avenue just beyond the intersection of Colonial and Six Mile Cypress in Fort Myers. Additional information is available at www.CalusaNature.com or by calling 275-3435. Admission to the Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children (ages 3-12).

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Sanibel F&R sends kids to fire school

The Sanibel Fire & Rescue District spent some valuable time last week showing the children at the Sanibel School the hazards of different kinds of fires and how to deal with them.

There is a fire school in Ocala for training firefighters which loaned a three-room trailer for the occasion. The trailer is especially equipped to demonstrate a wide variety of fires that might be found in a bedroom, a kitchen, or a living room.

The trailer includes such inven-

tive demonstrations as a door that heats up, simulating a fire in the next room behind a closed door.

Escape routes are planned and practiced while the trailer produces simulated smoke and very real heat. Actual condi-

tions are realistically reproduced and trained firefighters are on hand to show the kids just how to deal with them.

Every student in the school was given a tour through the experience over the days that it was parked in front.



Sanibel School first graders get hands-on experience with fire-fighting equipment courtesy of the Sanibel Fire & Rescue District.

Karen Nelson photo



Sanibel Firefighter/EMT Ron Ritchie shows Sanibel School kids what to do when faced with a fire.

Karen Nelson photo

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WEEKEND FORECAST FOR OCTOBER 18 & 19

SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Some cooler temps during the day to be followed by possible evening showers.		Rain is a possibility for both afternoon and evening.	

WEEKEND TIDES

City	Sat. High	Sat. Low	Sun. High	Sun. Low
Cape Coral Bridge	10:04 a.m.	7:51 p.m.	11:50 p.m.	8:44 p.m.
Captiva at Redfish Pass	7:54 a.m.	4:35 p.m.	9:40 p.m.	5:28 p.m.
Fort Myers	10:57 a.m.	8:33 p.m.	12:43 p.m.	9:26 p.m.
Mattacha Pass	9:32 a.m.	7:17 p.m.	11:18 p.m.	8:10 p.m.
Pineland	8:30 a.m.	6:15 p.m.	10:16 p.m.	7:08 p.m.
Point Ybel	6:59 a.m.	4:37 p.m.	11:59 p.m.	5:30 p.m.
Punta Rassa	7:48 a.m.	4:30 p.m.	9:34 p.m.	5:23 p.m.
St. James City	8:19 a.m.	5:05 p.m.	10:05 p.m.	6:58 p.m.

PORT CHARLOTTE
85/72 Sat
85/72 Sun

PUNTA GORDA
86/71 Sat
86/72 Sun

BOCA GRANDE
84/78 Sat
85/77 Sun

PINE ISLAND
86/72 Sat
86/72 Sun

CAPE CORAL
86/72 Sat
87/73 Sun

FORT MYERS
86/72 Sat
87/73 Sun

CAPTIVA ISLAND
85/75 Sat
85/77 Sun

SANIBEL ISLAND
85/77 Sat
85/77 Sun

BONITA SPRINGS
85/73 Sat
86/74 Sun

IMMOKALEE
88/71 Sat
88/70 Sun

MARGO ISLAND
85/77 Sat
85/78 Sun

NAPLES
86/75 Sat
86/77 Sun

BOATING FORECAST
Wind: SE-SW 10 Knots
Seas: 2-3 Feet
Bay & Inland: Light Chop

FOX 4 CAST



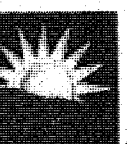
GET YOUR FORECAST FIRST ON FOX. WATCH FOX 4 NEWS at 10:00

STATE FORECAST-SATURDAY

CITY	LOW/HIGH
CAPE CORAL	86/72
DAYTONA BEACH	85/72
FT. LAUDERDALE	90/75
FT. MYERS BEACH	85/77
GAINESVILLE	85/68
JACKSONVILLE	82/68
KEY WEST	88/80
KISSIMEE	85/72
MIAMI	88/75
ORLANDO	85/72
PANAMA CITY	85/70
PENSACOLA	85/68
SARASOTA	85/75
ST. PETERSBURG	85/75
TALLAHASSEE	85/70
TAMPA	85/75
VERO BEACH	85/72
WEST PALM BEACH	90/75



SATURDAY
SUNRISE
7:07 AM

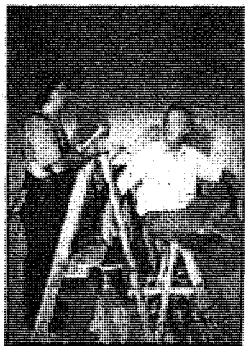


SATURDAY
SUNSET
7:22 PM

THEATRE NOTES

Orpheus Players presents...

The next presentation by the Beach's Orpheus Players is **Dreaming Out Loud**, two one-act plays by Canadian playwrights, John Lazarus and Michael Tremblay, on Friday and Saturday nights, Oct 17 and 18, 24 and 25.



Lazarus' piece is *Babel Rap* and stars Jeff Burdge as the worker and Mark List as the smoker. It's a comedic piece about two workers building the Tower of Babel, way up above the clouds, discussing their predicament.

The second, Tremblay's, is *Berthe* featuring Donna Prima in the title role as a woman contemplating the state of her life — what

was, what could have been, and what is — in a colorful ticket booth in Montreal.

The production will take place at the Holmes Playhouse in the Holmes Restaurant at 2500 Estero Blvd on Fort Myers Beach, beginning at 8 p.m.

Tickets for dinner and the theater are \$35; for the play only, \$15, and reservations are available by calling 463-5519. After the play coffee and dessert are served along with live music.

Coming Nov. 1st and sponsored by the Island Arts Foundation, the Town of Fort Myers Beach and Lee County Parks & Rec, The Orpheus Players production of *Crimes of the Heart* by Beth Henley will be present at Bowditch Point Park on the north end of the Beach at 6 p.m.



At the Broadway Palm

Chorus Line open

A Chorus Line, one of the most honored musicals in history, plays through Nov. 22 at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre. Director and choreographer Patricia Wilcoxson can call on over 12 years experience with this legendary musical for this production. She toured with *A Chorus Line* in some of the world's most beautiful cities — Paris, Milan, and Zurich — during three international tours and worked with Tony Award-winning directors Thommie Walsh, Mitzi Hamilton and Baayork Lee.

Wilcoxson has done various productions of *A Chorus Line* since 1992. She believes that the play is primarily about basic human relationships. Recently she said, "*A Chorus Line* is steeped in rich New York tradition and showcases the brilliant choreography of the late Michael Bennett. The show speaks for anyone who has dared to dream and put themselves on the line." The musical salutes the unsung heroes of a Broadway show, the members of "the line" (of which Wilcoxson was one). It took the Pulitzer Prize for drama and the Tony Award for best musical by the New York Drama Critics Circle.

Experience the glitter, excitement and the competition behind the Broadway lights. *A Chorus Line* performances are Tuesday through Sunday with selected matinees. Tickets range from \$21 to \$44 and are available by calling the box office at 278-4422, on-line at www.BroadwayPalm.com, or by visiting the box office at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.



At Florida Rep

Help discover a winner!

As the only professional repertory theatre south of Sarasota and as part of its continuing mission to better serve its community and the arts-at-large, Florida Repertory Theatre is sponsoring its 2nd Annual New Play Reading Series.

Five plays, chosen from a submitted pool of over two hundred, will be presented on five Monday evenings during the Rep's sixth season. The plays were chosen on the basis of content, use of language and originality, and are written by America's hottest modern playwrights.

Producing Artistic Director Bob Cacioppo says, "The goal of the play reading series is to find, develop and eventually workshop the best new American plays. A large part of the series' success relies heavily on the audience; that is what makes this project incredibly exciting and unique." Audience talk-backs immediately follow each performance — audience members are given the opportunity to voice their opinions, ask questions and give suggestions about the play they have just heard. They also fill out index card surveys which rate various aspects of the play.

The New Play Reading Series was so popular in its inaugural year, the Rep had no choice but to continue offering it. Associate Director Bari Newport, who spearheads the project, adds, "This season of New Plays is different in that the new plays are plays that Florida Rep really might produce. They have had limited exposure, but are plays that I believe Florida Rep's audience will enjoy. Where last year, my staff and I looked for cutting-edge plays, this year I turned my attention to what our

SEE THEATRE, NEXT PAGE

ISLAND CELEBRITY BARTENDER OF THE WEEK



GUEST BARTENDER MONTH IS CONTINUING INTO OCTOBER

Join TRADERS

from 5-7:30 PM in welcoming their "Guest Bar Keepers" for "MIXING AND MINGLING" while they support the charity of their choice.

Friday, October 24th

The keeper of the Lighthouse and She who Sells Sea Shells down by the Seashore will be guest bartenders at

TRADERS

Happy Hour Menu

3:00 - 6:00 pm
BAR SEATING ONLY

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HOUSE WINES

2-for-1



"Anne Joffe"



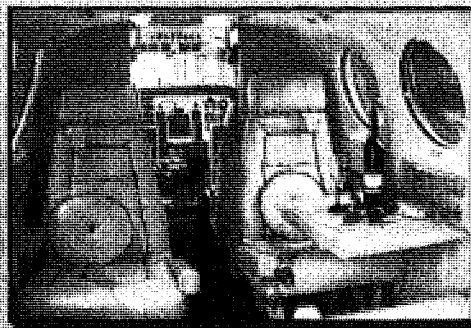
"Mike Billheimer"

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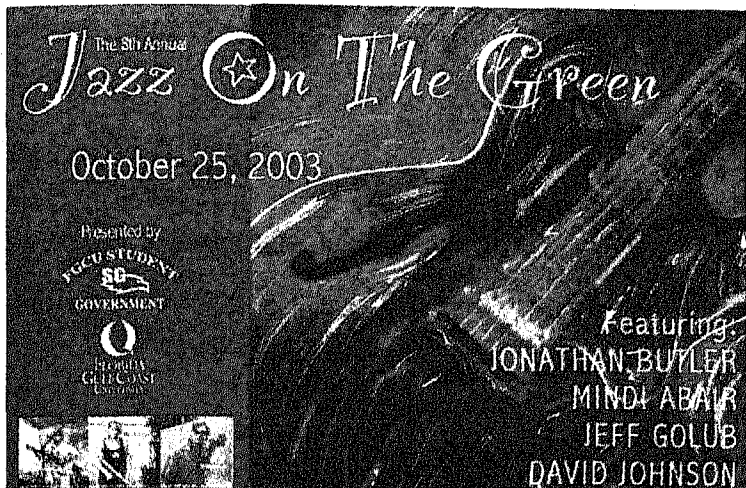
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Jazz... to benefit Children's Hospital



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 a collection of progressive blues-inflected instrumentals; his most recent album is entitled *Soul Sessions*. Golub, who spent seven years as Rod Stewart's lead guitarist, has also performed and recorded



ed with Peter Wolf, John Waite, Vanessa Williams, and Ashford & Simpson,

among others. In 1994, Golub formed the group, Avenue Blue, whose *Naked City* and *Nightlife* earned #1 hits and a large fan base in the contemporary jazz world.

While saxophonist Mindi Abair has performed with artists ranging from Duran Duran to Mandy Moore to Adam Sandler, she's probably best known for

Records release of *It Just Happens That Way* earlier this year. The album debuted at #3 on the contemporary jazz chart. The disc's first single, "Lucy's," was the number one song in the country on jazz radio for eight weeks.

And veteran vocalist and guitarist Jonathan Butler blends African, world music and gospel colorings in what is best described as a "soul jazz" style.

Betty Grace Miner has once again donated her spectacular artwork for the poster and T-shirt.

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.

her featured roles on sax and percussion on tour with the Backstreet Boys. "Dave Koz can't come on stage with pink hair, but I can," said the magna cum laude graduate of the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston. Abair made her major label recording debut with the GRP

THEATRE

audience at-large will find fulfilling and fun."

This year's offerings include a delightful children's fairytale, a new adaptation of a classic farce, and a play by one of America's finest modern playwrights, Velina Hasu Houston, play *The Ideal and the Life* featured Olympia Dukakis in its first reading.

The first play, a new adaptation of the popular French farce, *The Flea in Her Ear*, is set in gold rush San Francisco and boasts a huge cast filled with Florida Rep's top actors. *The Flea in Her Ear* is a madcap comedy involving mistaken identity and absurd misunderstandings, written by Iowa-based professional actor and director Eric Forsythe. It will be read on Monday, Oct. 27, at 7 p.m.

This New Play Reading Series is made possible through the generous sponsorship of Joe and Dorit Fisher/Interdata Inc.

All readings are on Monday evenings and start at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 each or free with a donation of \$100 or more to support the program. For more information and/or reservations, call the box office at 332-4488.

The Plays:

- *The Flea in Her Ear* adapted by Eric Forsythe Oct. 27
- *The Contrite Spirit* — Dec. 8
Denis J. Harrington — A man who moves into a haunted house agrees to help the ghost trapped inside make his earthly wrongs right.
- *Pecos Bill and the Ghost Stampede* — Jan. 19
Eric Coble — A tall tale which playfully explores one girl's dream to live a life as big as her home state of Texas.
- *The Antiquarian and The Barbarian* — Feb. 19
Scott Working — Two con artists plan the biggest heist

of their lives with letters from Thomas Jefferson.

- *The Ideal and The Life* — March 29
Velina Hasu Houston — A widow finds new life and hope when she meets a young and needy girl.

Lunch Box Theatre

Florida Rep is also pleased to announce its Saturday morning Lunch Box Theatre for this season, starting with four public performances of *I Didn't Know That!* It is their first production in the 2003-2004 Amazing Inventions & Firsts Children's Theatre Series. The show will begin booking tours Nov. 4 and continue through May of 2004.

"We had tremendous success with our productions of *The Stories of Dr. Suess* and *Amelia Earheart*, and performed for audiences at Edison Park Elementary, The Sanibel School, and The Imaginarium," Cacioppo explained. "Now we're presenting *I Didn't Know That!* A Lighthearted Revue of First Facts, Selected Oddities & World Records that will excite young audiences so much they will want to try and set their own own!"

Jump start your brain with fun, crazy, and sometimes zany knowledge as *I Didn't Know That!* bursts into life onstage. The collaborative efforts of playwrights Louis Moloney, Johnny Saldana, Joyce Chambers Selber, and Rachel Winfree have created an interactive experience with acrobatics, music, and song.

Discover the origin of the toothbrush and eye glasses, while learning who the first woman police officer was, that ants have five noses, and that the world's largest banana split encompasses 11,333 bananas, 34,000 scoops of ice cream and was 4½ miles long! Food for

thought! I didn't know that!

Rep Education Director Meredith Hoppe directs the production and says, "This show is wonderful because of the intense energy levels and elements of fun that are combined as it teaches. It incorporates singing, dancing and improvisation, taking the show to many different levels as well as incorporating the audience — which adds even more excitement! Audiences of all ages will be enthused at this colorful and electrifying piece of interactive theatre."

The production will star five of Florida Rep's most talented young ensemble members who also act as performing interns during the theatre's 2003-2004 Main Stage season.

Four 45-minute Family Days performances of *I Didn't Know That!* will take place on Nov. 1, 8, 15, and 22 at 11 a.m. Tickets are \$10 and include pizza, soda, and ice cream lunch provided by the theatre. Call the box office for tickets at 332-4488. To book the show, call 332-4665 X32.

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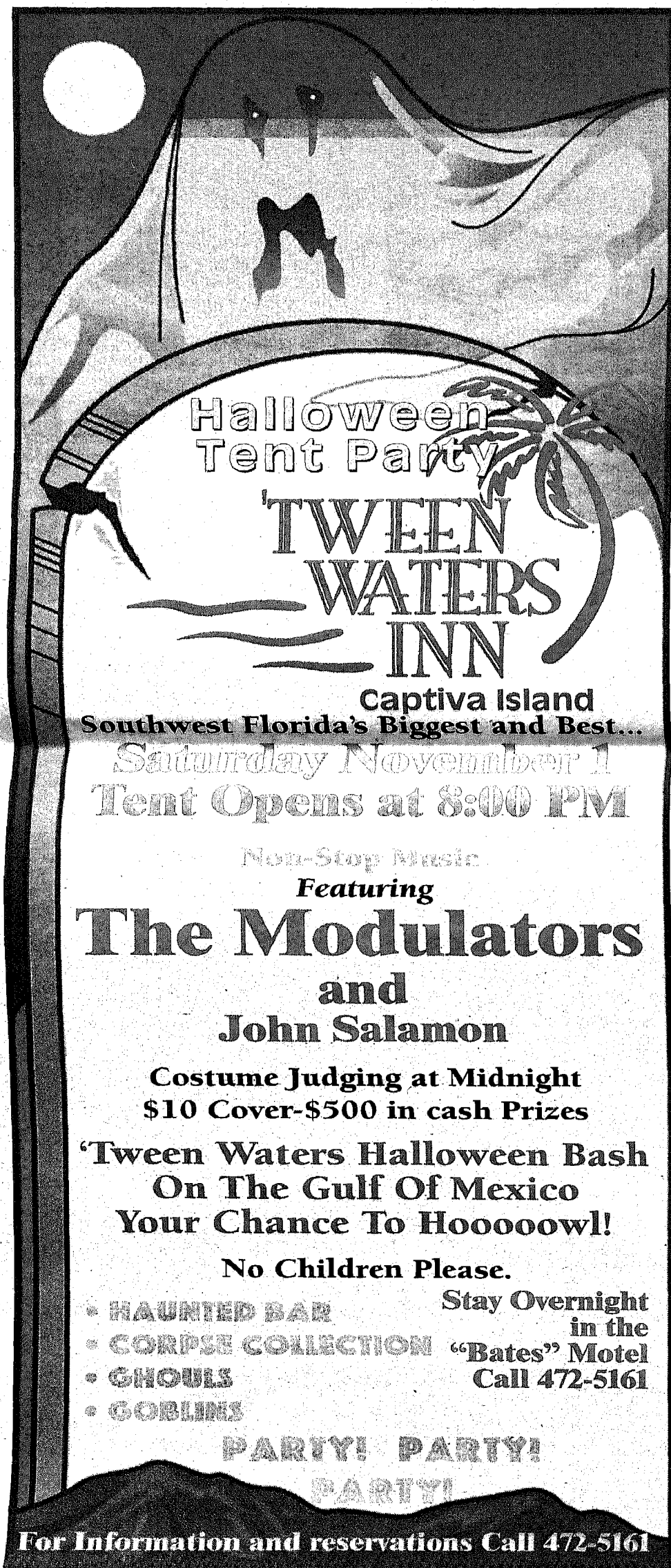
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Gordon Schopfer of the Community Association working on the SCA Periwinkle Playhouse sign.

An open letter to the community

From Todd Sherman
General Manager, SCA Periwinkle Playhouse

Dear Friends:

As you welcome back your many friends returning to the islands from up north, I hope you will also welcome me, Todd Sherman, as the general manager of the Sanibel Community Association's Periwinkle Playhouse. I start this position knowing it will be a unique and challenging one.

As the former technical director of the Wood Theatre, some of you may already know me. For the last year I have been working for the Naples Players at the Sudgen Theatre, a community-based theatre company. I was also the technical director, lighting and sound designer for the SCA fundraiser, *Final Arrangements*, and Making It On Purpose's fundraiser, *Disaster Piece Theatre* produced by Out of the Box Productions at the Playhouse.

During the last four-and-a-half years, in addition to my stint in Naples, I have worked in Southwest Florida for Florida Rep as well as the J. Howard Wood. A native of Vermont and a veteran of well over 20 years in the theatre, I have a B.A. in Theatre Arts from Castleton State College in my home state and an MFA in Directing from Virginia Commonwealth University. I have toured the United States, Canada and Taiwan with all kinds of theatrical events and in all sorts of capacities.

The Sanibel Community Association board's decision of how best to utilize this wonderful theatre building has been very difficult. The original hope to find an established theatre group to lease the facility did not come to fruition. There were many reasons why — mostly the financial investment necessary.

After the realization that an appropriate theatre group could not be found, SCA decided that the best use of the property would be to make it a leasing theatre. As general manager, I will be responsible for seeking out a variety of theatre and entertainment

events, fundraisers and benefits, and private or commercial business uses for the Playhouse.

The theatre and property remain essentially the same — the same beautifully designed facade, the same welcoming lobby and the same wonderfully designed intimate theatre setting. We did replace the center seat section with newer more comfortable seats (thanks to the Cape Coral Police Department and volunteers headed up by SCA Board member, Gordon Schopfer). Local artists, represented by Marcia York of Tower Gallery, will be on view in the lobby. Sounds great, doesn't it!

I am very excited about my new position here. It is my belief that this little jewel of a theatre should be presenting the kind of entertainment that islanders and island guests want, and it is my job is to make that happen!

On Nov. 1, Center Stage, a theatre group from Naples, will be performing *Give My Regards to Florida*, their original hilarious musical spoof of Florida living.

And, on Nov. 20, a big stake island-style poker game fundraiser will take place at the Community Center to benefit the Playhouse.

On Dec. 20, the theatre will host what has become an annual island magic show and, later that month (date still being finalized), the play *Galeo Galilee's Daughter*, an original one-woman show written and performed by Janina Birtolo.

Please stop by on Nov. 6th at 10 a.m. for the SCA Periwinkle Playhouse Volunteer Coffee. We need help with painting, marketing, public relations, the box office, mailings, gardening, hospitality, ushers, stagehands and so much more. Call if you can come, 472-2155.

Come by and meet me... share your ideas — I need them, and I want to hear from you!

Glad to be here. And thanks for reading!

Todd



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Bailey's Shopping Center ~ 472-1701

- Under the *Tuscan Sky* (PG13)
- *Runaway Jury* (PG13)

Call for times & prices.

Old Schoolhouse Theater
1908 Periwinkle ~ 472-6862

Dark 'til Oct. 30th when
The Jerome Kern Songbook —
Can't Help Singing opens
starring John Vessels, Jeffrey Searles
& Katie Stefanic

Schein Hall
BIG ARTS
900 Dunlop ~ 395-0900

National Wildlife Refuge Week



Photo / Michael Pistella

JP Taylor's Singing for the Earth
kids' concert took place on Oct. 13

IN NAPLES

Naples Dinner Theatre
1025 Piper Boulevard ~ (877) 519-7827

- *Always, Patsy Cline*
Through Oct. 19th
Saturday matinees (\$30)
Sunday twilights (\$35)
- *Nunsense*
Through Oct. 25th, \$37.50-\$45
- *My Fair Lady*
Oct. 29th-Dec. 7th

Philharmonic Center for the Arts 5833
Pelican Bay Boulevard ~ (800) 597-1900

- *Beethoven's Ninth*
Naples Philharmonic Orchestra
Oct. 24th, 8 p.m., \$36/\$15
- *Randy Travis in Concert*
Oct. 29th, 8 p.m.

IN FORT MYERS

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre
1380 Colonial Boulevard ~ 278-4422

- *A Chorus Line*
Oct. 16th-Nov. 22nd, \$21 to \$44

Off Broadway Palm

- *Las Vegas Legends*
Oct. 30th-Dec. 21st

Florida Repertory Theatre
@ The Arcade
Bay Street between Hendry & Jackson
332-4665

- Larry Gelbert's *Sly Fox*
Through Nov. 9th, \$15-\$32

Theatre Conspiracy
Foulds Theatre ~ 10091 McGregor ~ 334-3239

- *A Tuna Christmas*
Nov. 20th, \$16/\$7

Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall
Edison College Campus ~ 481-4849

- *Sing Along Wizard of Oz*
Oct. 18th, 7 p.m., \$9-\$19
- *Sonya Fitzpatrick* in person
Oct. 22nd, 7:30 p.m., \$18-\$50
- *The Moody Blues*
Oct. 29th, 8 p.m., \$55 & \$65
- The one & only *Gallagher!*
Nov. 14th, 8 p.m.
- *Peter Cetera*
Nov. 15th, 8 p.m.
- *Manhattan Transfer*
Nov. 20th, 8 p.m.



'ROUND ABOUT

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Colonial & Metro, Fort Myers ~ 275-8487

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11831 Bayshore Road, North Fort Myers
693-5743

- *Basically Bluegrass Concert & Jam*
Peace River Band, the Moonshiners,
The Sawgrass Drifters, Up the Creek
Nov. 2nd, 2-5 p.m., \$5
(Acoustic Music Society members FREE)
Indoors; chairs provided
Bring your instruments for jammin'

TECO Arena
11000 Everblades Parkway, Estero ~ 948-7825

- *Sesame Street Live 1-2-3 Imagine*
Oct. 18th & 19th, 5 matinees, \$11 & \$14
- *Lynyrd Skynyrd*
Friday, Nov. 7th

Florida Gulf Coast University
On campus in Estero ~ 590-1000

- *Jazz on the Green*
w/Jeff Golub, Mindi Abair & Jonathan Butler
Saturday, Oct. 25th, \$30
(800) 965-4827

KOA Campgrounds
5120 Stringfellow, Pine Island
283-2145

- Southwest Florida Folk & Blues Fest
Liz Mandville Greeson,
John Mooney, Steve Arvey,
The Thirstquenchers
Nov. 15th
Gates open 9:30 a.m., music at 10
\$5, free under 12 w/adult

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- *Music on Pine Island*
Various local & nationally known
musicians play under the stars
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Catullus At the Causeway

by Joseph Pacheco



*Sic tibi bonus ex tua pons
libidine fiat ...*

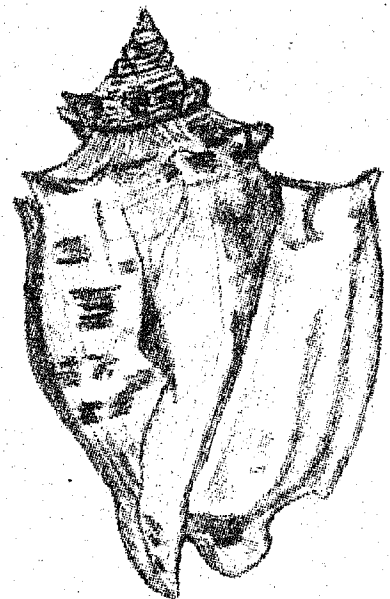
(I hope you acquire the bridge you long for)
Catullus, Poem 17

Sanibel, the bridge you long for won't be built.
Lee County Commissioners have decided
Connecting and protecting can't co-exist.
You can't have your access and deny it too.
Anyone can enter paradise anytime.
The "fixed" is in, your drawbridge down forever.

Sanibel, "throw the old man off the bridge
to soothe the wrath of the raging river gods"
was once our Roman version of Nursing Home
for useless old men sixty and over.

Some might argue you have more than your fair share
of them, but perhaps a celebration
honoring the last raising of dear drawbridge,
with fireworks following sunset and prayer,
in which one of your most useless who's still fit
climbs to the top of one grate and another
more helpless but brave lets himself be winched up
to the top of the other, and then fitted
with kites or wind-sails as prosthetic wings,
they wait for the warning bell to toll its last time
then hurl themselves from the uplifted grates and
glide, like silver pelicans in formation,
floating for a few majestic senior moments
over the tall ship's farewell ostentation,
till, releasing their wings, they dive bomb fiercely
into the blue martyrdom of manatee zone.

Perhaps then, Sanibel, the Gods might let you
build the bridge you long for — but it won't be to
a paradise just anyone can enter.



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CENTER STAGE

Premiere at Theatre Conspiracy

How good it is to be back in my island paradise and catching up on what's happening theaterwise, both here and in Fort Myers. The new BIG Arts brochures proclaim a fabulous season with an exciting new drama wing named "On Stage." At The Old Schoolhouse, JT's feeling better and getting it together for that sounds like another giddy, gaudy, glamorous, glowing season. Meanwhile Theater Conspiracy kicked off its season last week with a brand new play, *Exiting Happy*, which I caught this week (read on down for the review). Broadway Palm announced its celebration of 10 years of fabulous shows, and their 11th season looks to keep their promise of "the

best is yet to come." Florida Rep's sixth season kicks off tonight with another coup — the theatre obtained the rights to *Sly Fox* before it's even hit the Broadway stage. As Producing Artistic Director Robert Cacioppo says... "Why go to Broadway, when you can see Broadway actors on a Broadway set in a Broadway play before it even gets to Broadway?!" The rest of his season reads like who's who in what's new, or best of the past in drama. The Barbara Mann has a line-up that sure to please every taste. It really sounds like we are in for one helluva, swelluva 2003/2004 Theater Season, so start marking your calendars today. Remember, y'snooze y'lose!

P'nenah Goldstein's comedy *Exiting Happy* is at the Foulds Theatre, and features actors from The Theatre Conspiracy. The production centers on a Southern woman and former Radio City Rockette, Happy Tredmont (artfully played by Diandre McGee). Happy is living in NYC and trying to cope with the changes in her life post 9/11; she must also deal with the death of her beloved maid and the arrival of a young man who is currently subletting her World War II eight-room apartment.

The actors in this play are well cast, especially Diandre McGee. Her portrayal of a Southern belle transplanted to the Big Apple was totally convincing. Josh Chapman as Randy gave it his best shot with his rather vaguely written, inconsistent character. In fact, all of the actors — and the director, Karen Goldberg, and the set designer, David

Utz — did their best with what they were given by playwright.

Exiting Happy is, in my estimation, a work-in-progress and not yet ready for a full production. The playwright has drafted a disjointed, fragmented plot line, with underdeveloped characters, unclear motivations, set for an unrevealed purpose in the aftermath of 9/11 in a World War II NYC apartment. Having written all those negatives, let me focus on the positives... there are some clever bits of dialogue that the actors play to the hilt, rightfully getting laughs from the audience. Nevertheless, for this play to fly, it desperately needs pruning, tightening, clearer motivations and, above all, character development.

Hats off and hip, hip hurray! to actors McGee, Chapman and Madison Mitchell for learning reams of dialogue, to Goldberg for keeping the action (what there is) from bogging down, to Utz for a classy workable set and, especially, to Theatre Conspiracy founder, Bill Taylor, for his vision and endeavors to develop and premiere new plays.

Next up for Theatre Conspiracy, the don't-miss comedy, *A Tuna Christmas*, starring Taylor and Pete Alexsy. Call 936-3239 for Nov. 20th Opening Night tickets.



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Incredible season planned

Last week, following the successful run of *Honky Tonk Angels*, the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre kicked off its 11th Season and celebrated its 10th Anniversary. And, by golly, from the sound of things announced this year can truly be subtitled *The Best Is Yet To Come*.

The media party started off with a delectably delicious luncheon spread inspired by executive chef Gregory Van Horn. Will Prather hosted, thanking the media and the Group Sales Planners for their support. He informed us that the 2003/2004 11th Season is bigger and better than ever. He also announced that, while this month marks the Broadway Palm's 10-year anniversary, the Prathers' first dinner theater — The Dutch Apple in Pennsylvania — just celebrated its 18th year, and the family's newest — The

Broadway Palm West in Mesa, Arizona — just celebrated its third.

After awarding five fantastic gift baskets to five lucky ticket-holders — plus a trip for two, all expenses paid, to Mesa as guests of the Prathers — Prather gave us a "sneak peek" of what he titled with this season's publicity catch phrase, *The Best Is Yet To Come*, from the song of the same name. The five person cast — Motique Corman, Allison Coutoure, Ken Johnson, Victor Legarreta and Jeff March — launched the sneak peak with Cy Coleman's tune "The Best Is Yet To Come," which was followed by Ken Johnson's "I Can Do That," a song and dance number from one of the longest running shows on Broadway, *A Chorus Line*, which opened the season last night and plays 'til Nov. 22nd.

Jeff March sang "If I Loved You" from *Carousel* (the second offering starting Feb. 19 and playing through April 11). March has come a long way vocally, and stylistically. His rendition of this song was delivered with such tenderness that he just about melted this viewer away as he did the rest of the audience. March has developed into quite the leading man... Good for you Jeff! *Music Man* had that wild and talented guy, Victor Legarreta, shrinking down to kid size singing "Gary, Indiana" with a mighty lisp. *Music Man* opens April 15th closes June 5th.

After this bit of giddy foolishness, Ken Johnson and

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AUCTION

In the Island Reporter
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Coming Soon!

POTPOURRI

Open Mic is back!

On Friday, Oct. 24, between 4 and 6 p.m., the 2004-05 literary season will kick off with a Welcome Back Open Mic reading at The Bean. Writers, residents and visitors to the islands are invited to read and/or listen to original and favorite selections of poetry and prose.

Open Mic readings are informal. The only requirements are that readers sign the Reader's List and limit their reading time to five minutes. Those who choose not to read are welcome to listen.

Since its inception two years ago, Open Mic has become very popular throughout the area with writers of poetry and prose from Fort Myers, Pine Island, Florida Gulf Coast University and Collier County frequent participants.

For further information, please call Joseph Pacheco, 472-1280, or the Bean, 395-1919.

Mexican exhibit and fiesta

From tomorrow, Oct. 18, through Nov. 1, the Matsumoto Gallery in The Village will have an exhibit of Mexican handicrafts — masks, toys, embroidered blouses, wood carvings, pottery and more.

The exhibit opening coincides with The Village's 3rd annual Mexican Fiesta which runs from noon to 6 p.m. throughout the plaza. Events like a cooking demonstration (*paella*) by Personal Chef Nancy Tracy at 1 p.m., a Cutest Chihuahua Contest at 2, all-day raffles with over \$500 in prizes — including a \$100 shopping spree in the Village — and mariachi music by Trio Inolvidable will make the day and the exhibit opening unforgettable. Proceeds from the raffles will benefit Brightest Horizons Child Development Center.

BIG ARTS 25th season opens

Art and Ornaments: Artists Do Jewelry will be on exhibit in Phillips Gallery through Oct. 30, and *An Invitational Nature Photography* exhibit will be hanging in Schein Hall. Arts and Ornaments is a show and sale of works exclusively by Southwest Florida artists — with one exception, Christopher Poehlmann, from New River, Ariz. The painting, sculpture, metal work, and jewelry are created by Mary Sullivan Voytek, Lawrence Voytek, Leo and Krista Johnson, Sherry Rohl, Ikki and Polly Matsumoto, Amy Bergerson, and Kit Carson, in addition to Poehlmann. The show moves to the Alliance for the Arts from Nov. 7-12.

The photography exhibit, which features works by Sanibel and Captiva artists, commemorates National Wildlife Refuge Week and the refuge system's centennial. Some of the photographers invited to display their works are Charles McCullough, David Meardon, Francine Litofsky and Carol Rothman.

Gallery Hours are 1-4 p.m. daily.

New York dancers to return

Gulfshore Ballet's popular *Nutcracker* returns to Schein Hall for two performances on Saturday, Dec. 20. Gulfshore Director Melinda Roy has announced that New York city Ballet Principal Dancers Janie Taylor and Sebastien Marcovici will again be dancing the roles of the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier. The guest artists will be supported by a corps de ballet comprised of Gulfshore Ballet students.

There will be a matinee at 4 p.m. and an evening performance at 7. The NYC Ballet stars will dance only in the evening, and that performance sold out early last year — be

duly warned! The event is co-sponsored by BIG Arts.

Tickets for the matinee are \$10 for adults (free admission for all children accompanied by an adult), \$15 for adults for the 7 p.m. performance and \$10 for students. They are available by calling the the BIG Arts box office at 395-0900.

Experience the Unexpected at Art Royale!

From 7 to 10 p.m. on Thursday evening, Oct. 25, the Alliance for the Arts building and campus on the southeast corner of McGregor and Colonial in Fort Myers will be transformed into a truly unique indoor/outdoor venue for the Women's Signature Board's 2003 fundraising event, Art Royale!

Never seen before in Lee County and in development for the past 10 months, Art Royale! will enable all attending guests and 30 visual and performance artists to interact and work together, jointly creating new works of art... a large statue, for example, created by multiple sculptors, both skilled professionals and non-trained amateurs.

Other acts and works-in-progress are fire dances and stilt walks; mixing and applying paints to a mural; musical and theatrical performance; a peep show, a game of multi-layered "artistic darts;" a stick-your-head-through-the-painting photography booth; an Artists' Signature Tie raffle, and on and on.

Lighted walkways around the Alliance grounds will guide strollers along pathways between booths and stations where activities and performances are held. Concurrently, local award-winning restaurants will be providing foods and beverages, including one special drink that will

be served in a special Art Royale! glass.

Chairpersons Aida Bukovica and Nicole Goldberg are committed making sure the event slogan, "Expect the Unexpected! — Experience the Unexpected!" comes true for everyone participating. "It's definitely going to be unlike any event held ever before in the county," promised Bukovica. "People will be talking about it for years to come. I don't know if we'll ever be able to put something like it together again; it's taken so much time and effort and coordination, not just by the Women's Signature Group, but all the artists and technical staff, too. Everyone who attends will go away knowing they've been part of something really, really special!" To confirm your Art Royale! reservations at \$75 per person, call 939-2787

Perritti to sign

Pine Island author Martha Lou Perritti will have the initial book signing for her latest novel, *Standing Against the Wind*, on Sunday, Oct. 19, starting at 2 p.m. at Crossed Palms Gallery on Main Street in Bokeelia.

Perritti has researched her Indian heritage and written the continuing story of five generations of women through their suffering in the early 1800s to the present. She previously wrote about her father in *Crossing in the Rain* and is currently working on her third novel, *This Fertile Valley*. She lives in Bokeelia with her husband, Frank, a retired US Naval officer.

Dr. Phillip G. Buchanan, a noted lecturer on traditional Native American culture, will also be on hand at 2 for a special presentation. Refreshments and a beautiful view of Charlotte Harbor will be served.

For more information or directions, call the gallery between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily at 283-2283.

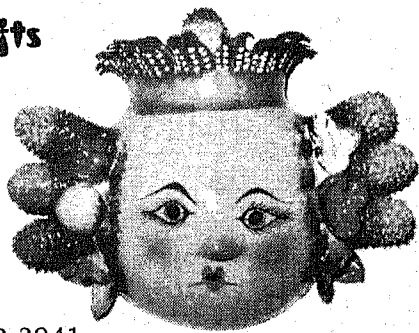
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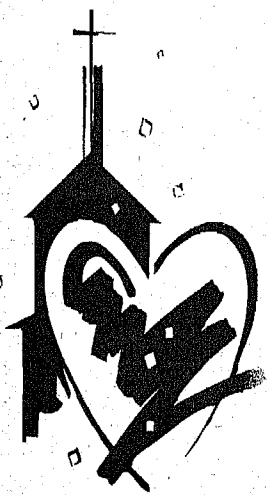
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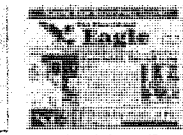
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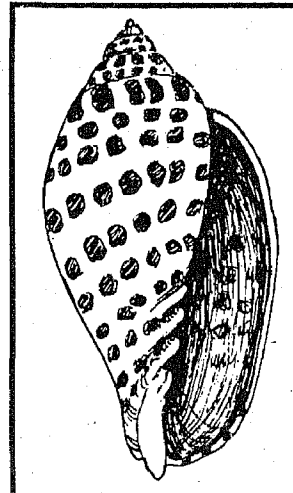
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Photo+graph: Writing wildlife with light

... A morning at the Refuge with John Carney

by Karen Nelson

Over 20 students — some from as far as Naples — gathered at "Ding" Darling on Tuesday, Oct. 14, for a 4½-hour *Basics of Wildlife Photography* class with John Carney.

Covering photography basics as well as tips particular to photographing wildlife, the following is some of the wit and wisdom dispensed by Carney.

On judging the 2003 "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society Photo Contest, he noted that on the first pass, "the first 80 got out easy but the remaining 51 were tough choices."

What Not To Do

- The biggest problem is the background not being controlled by selective use of depth of field.
- Focus is paramount and if the subject's eyes are not in focus, it almost always kills the picture.
- The exposure must be set for full definition; there shouldn't be over-exposed, bleached-out shoulder feathers on a white egret or underexposed underwing or underbody areas on a darker-colored bird.

General Tips

1. **Know your equipment** inside and out. You've gotta know what you're capable of, what you can do and not do. Always have your camera manual with you and read it over and over again.
2. **Know your location and your subject**, become very familiar with them. The first time he took a tram ride through Ding,

he learned more on one tram ride than in two years on his own.

For shooting in the Refuge:

- **Know the tides** (you can call the Refuge). Go at low tide: "It's like a bathtub full of water and a million fish. At low tide, you have 2" of water and a million fish." (Carney's bathtub theory)
- **Know when there is good sun and where.** The best times are sunrise (from a half hour before to one hour after) and sunset (the last hour before to a half-hour after). Even on a bad day, you can still learn: get to know the area, learn how high and low tides affect different areas and where the birds congregate.

3. **Practice.** Keep notes with location, subject, lighting, equipment and settings. "It's a drag doing it but it pays off later." If it's easier, use a hand-held recorder (but make sure you write it down later).

... "Animals are creatures of habit. Know what those habits are, eating habits, nesting habits. The more you know, the easier it is to take pictures."

... "**Light** is the key to everything. There are two things required for a great picture: great light and a great subject, and if I had to choose, I'd choose great light. Color, tone, texture, mood — they're all affected by light."

... The **Viewpoint** should be fresh and unusual and a "zoom lens is the worst enemy for viewpoint: 'I'm here and I didn't change my viewpoint at all.' Instead, move around, try taking a 50mm lens and

pretend it's a zoom. Never base your viewpoint on your first impression.

As an illustration of viewpoint, he told of Clyde Butcher leading a group of students through the Refuge and pointing out a two-foot-tall red mangrove, saying it would make an interesting picture. A battery of students took pictures of the tree. Then Butcher took his picture. He got down on the ground and took the picture while lying on his side, with the camera at ground level. The finished photo shows a red mangrove towering in the foreground while the distracting mangrove islands in the background have receded to just above the horizon level. By shooting so low, he removed all the distractions from the background.

Control the exposure to get the effect you want. Use a light meter but remember that meters believe that everything in the world is middle grade. If your subject is at either extreme, you need to compensate for that. There are basically five tones:

- absolute white, no shadows, no detail — light meter doesn't catch it
- light grey
- middle grey
- dark grey
- black, no shadows, no detail — light meter doesn't read it

If you don't have a grey card for meter reading, the palm of your hand is a workable substitute but test it first; the palm is generally one stop lighter than a grey card.

Bracket your exposures. "If you've

spent all that time and all that money and you're not going to see it again, now's the time to waste film."

Don't use the automatic settings on your camera, "Leave them for the average person. If you want average pictures, use them."

When considering **depth of field**, use the one-third/two-thirds theory: in most pictures, within the depth of field, one-third of the picture is in front of the subject (the thing you're focusing on) and two-thirds is behind it. Never focus on infinity because the picture will be flat, and you lose that back two-thirds. For example, if your depth of field is six feet, two feet will be in front of the subject and four feet will be behind.

If you are hand-holding the camera, never use a shutter speed slower than the focal length of your lens. If you're using a 50mm lens, the shutter speed can't be less than 1/60; for a 210mm lens, no less than 1/250.

When considering **composition**, the difference between a snapshot and a photograph is "what goes on in here" (tapping his head) "before you push the button; what goes in and not, the lighting."

Simplicity is a virtue. "Don't have distractions, don't have too much information. Fill the frame, change the viewpoint,

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CENTER STAGE, FROM PAGE 16

crew plugged the Off Broadway Palm's black box Theater with shows like *Las Vegas Legends* which brought out Jeff in another incarnation — Elvis, singing "Viva Las Vegas" complete with side burns, the shake, rattle and roll hip action, and dressed from head to toe in white satin, including cape. Funny! Also playing at the Off Broadway Palm later this season will be, *Nunsense* and *Let's Go To the Movies*.

This was followed a little preview of the Christmas show, *White Christmas Revue*, written, directed and starring Ken Johnson (Wow! a triple threat, no less). *White Christmas* opens Nov. 27 and plays 'til Dec. 27.

"Steam Heat" from *The Pajama Game* brought out the two ladies, Allison and Motique, plus Victor in a sizzling dance number complete with derby hats. *Pajama Game* opens New Year's Eve, and will knock your socks off until Valentine's Day.

This sneak peek and the season end with *Grease* — a fittin' finale for a swell afternoon of "peeks" at the hot new 11th Season planned for the Broadway Palm. Make your plans early; these shows will sell out fast. Call 278-4422 for reservations. Don't forget to tell 'em Marsha sent you.

PHOTO CLASS, FROM PAGE 21

look at depth of field. The subject should be the first place the eye looks. Pick your subject and make it as simple as possible."

Avoid "the target shooting school of photography," Carney advised, whereupon he raised his hand, trigger finger ready and fired: "Bull's eye!" Instead, follow the rule of thirds for subject placement, also taking into account implied motion (where the subject is looking). Do follow the target shooting school in extreme closeups and reflections.

Be careful of lines, shapes and patterns. Lines can draw attention to the subject or lead it away. Diagonal lines are very powerful and converging diagonals give the illusion of motion. There are "s" curves and "c" curves in nature and if you have a triangle composition, make sure the base of the triangle is on the bottom.

Be aware of the balance between light and dark, full and empty. The visual weight is the perceived heaviness or lightness. Darkness, muted colors and solid masses are perceived as heavy; open space and sky are perceived as light. To achieve balance, place equal weights at an equal distance from the center; with unequal weights, balance the heavy with the light but use distance to add weight to the light.

Be careful of the unintended merging of the subject with other things in the photo or with the borders of the photo. We are often so focused on the subject that we don't see the tree in the background that — in the finished photo — appears to be growing out of the subject's head. **Carney's Mergers checklist:** Check 1. the subject; 2. in front of the subject; 3. behind the subject; 4. the four edges of the picture frame; and 5. the four corners of the picture frame.

...Think about what your style is.
...You can judge a good picture by the response it evokes.
...The viewer's eyes are drawn to light and color, and to sharp focus.
...Approach wildlife subjects slowly and don't infringe on their comfort zone.

Final Four Keys to Taking Great Pictures You need:

Lighting that is appropriate to the subject;
A definable subject;
Control the foreground and the background; and
The photo must do what you want it to do.

The photos on the facing page are the first and second place winners for this year's contest.

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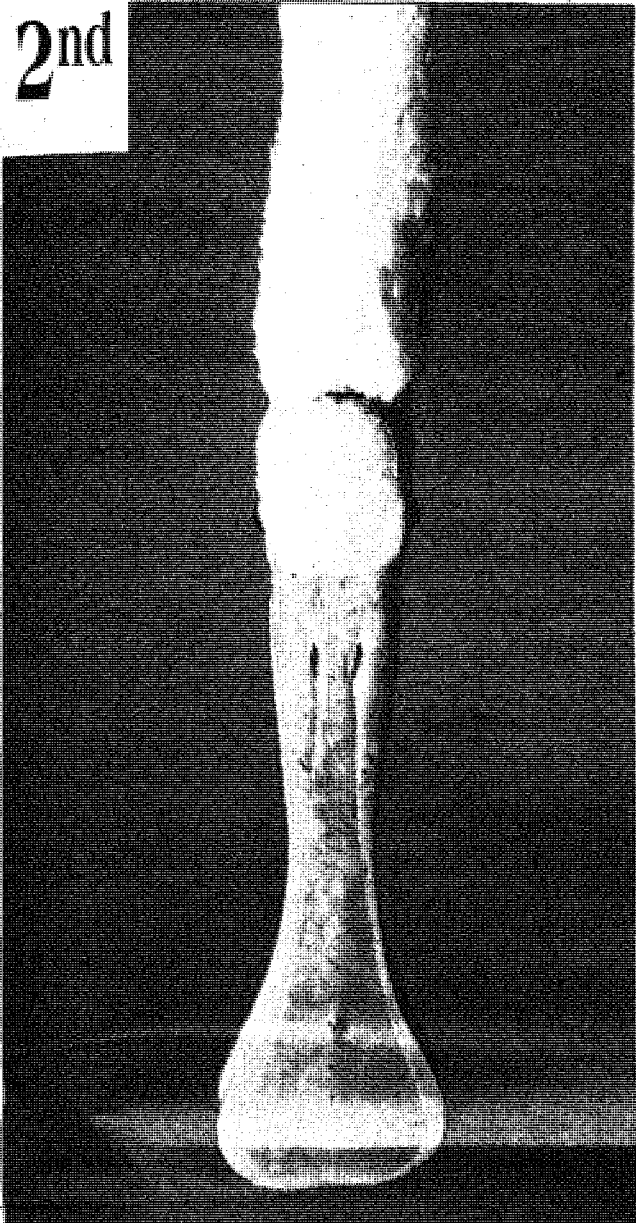


Photo Contest complete

Judges for the 2003 "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society Photo Contest had to choose from 131 entries — a fairly large number when one considers that a rule change this year removed the possibility of an artist getting his/her photographs back. The judges were biologist Kendra Pednault and island photographers, Charles McCullough, David Meardon and John Carney.

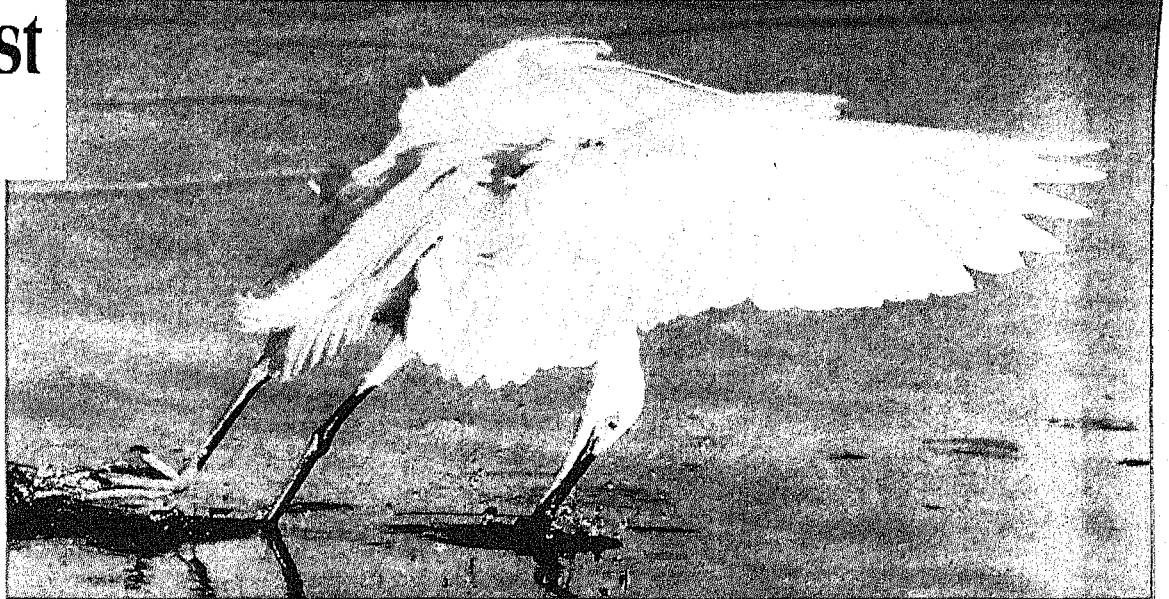
The winning artwork and as many additional shots as space allows will be on display in the Refuge Center for Education from Oct. 18 through the end of next May, and the winning photos can also be viewed on the society's website — www.ding-darling-society.org. Prizes were donated by local businesses.

First place winner is Ligia Dovalé-Kiamco of Warwick, R.I. In second place was Rick Kinney of Cape Coral. Their prizes will be announced at a later date.



John Carney taught photography professionally in Michigan. "They paid me for 25 years to come in every day and have fun with kids." One media class expanded into 12 classes on photography. Eight years ago, he retired and relocated. An environmentalist at heart, he volunteered at CROW, "Ding" Darling and SCCF. One Tuesday night, after hearing former Refuge Manager Lou Hinds speak, he and Hinds spoke about Carney taking pictures for the Refuge. The next morning, Carney got a call at 6:30 a.m., asking if he could come out because Willard Scott was doing a live broadcast from the Refuge.

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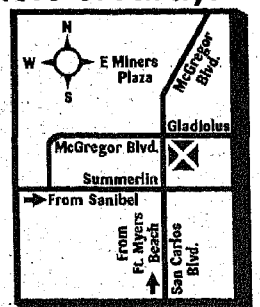
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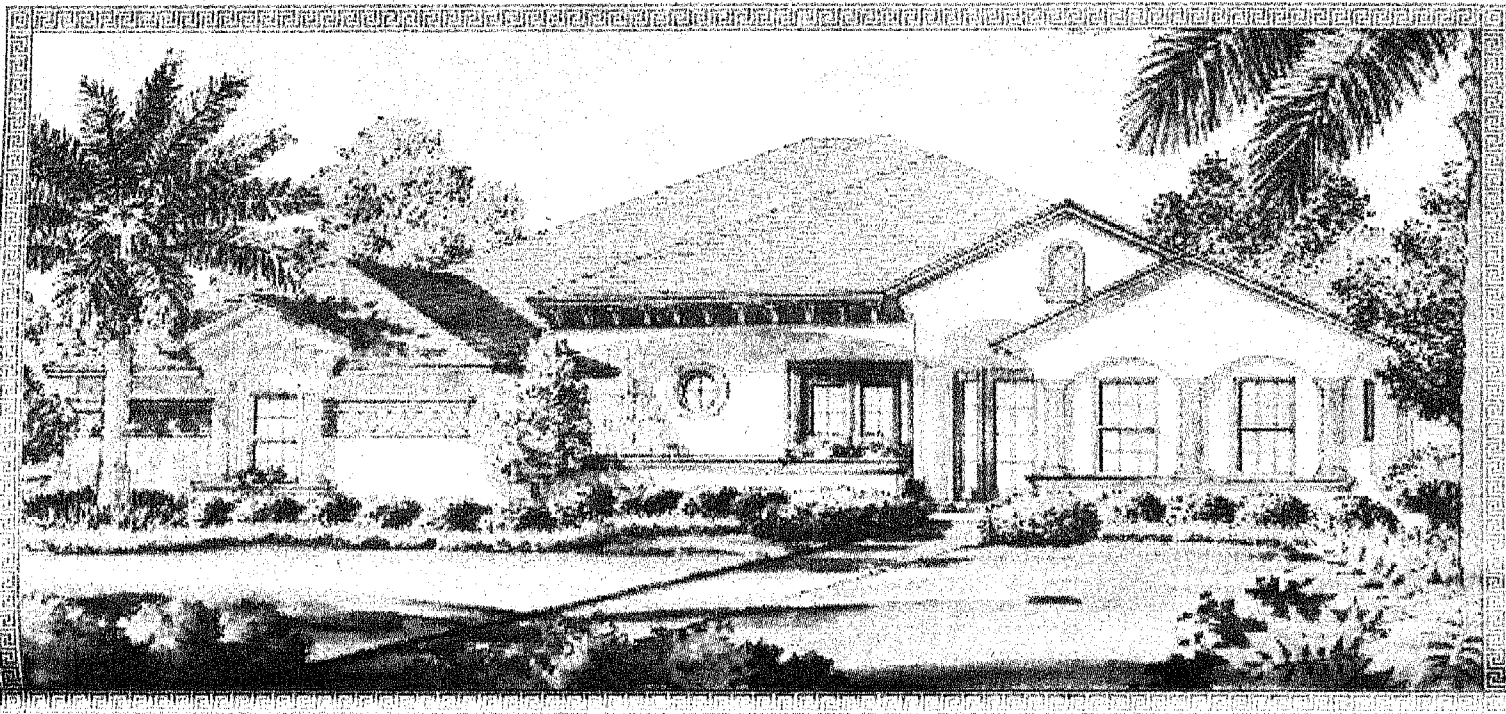
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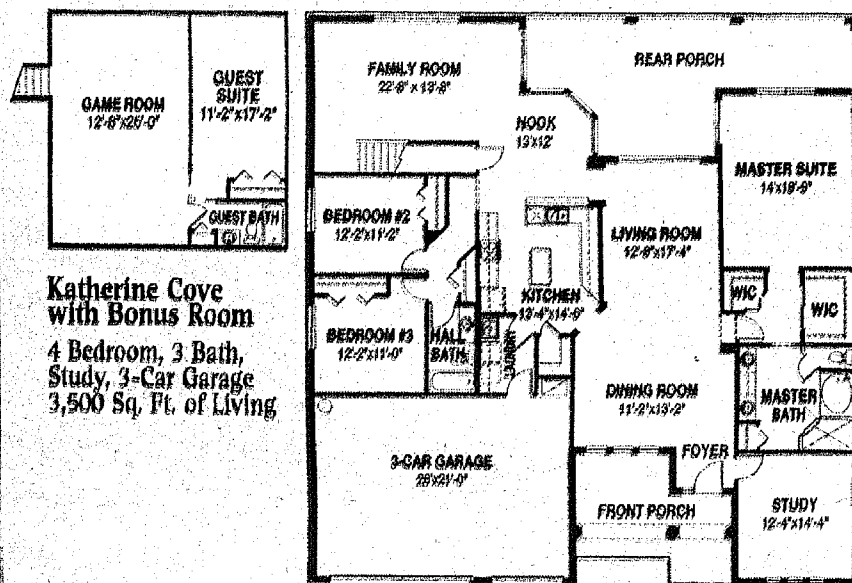
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