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Week of December 26, 2003 - January 1, 2004

Two Sections • 40 Pages



Holiday wonderland at Sanibel Community Church.

Photo by Karen Nelson

*Best wishes for the holidays and a
healthy, happy and joyful new year!*

SERVICE CLUBS

Kiwanis

Light the candles all around the world

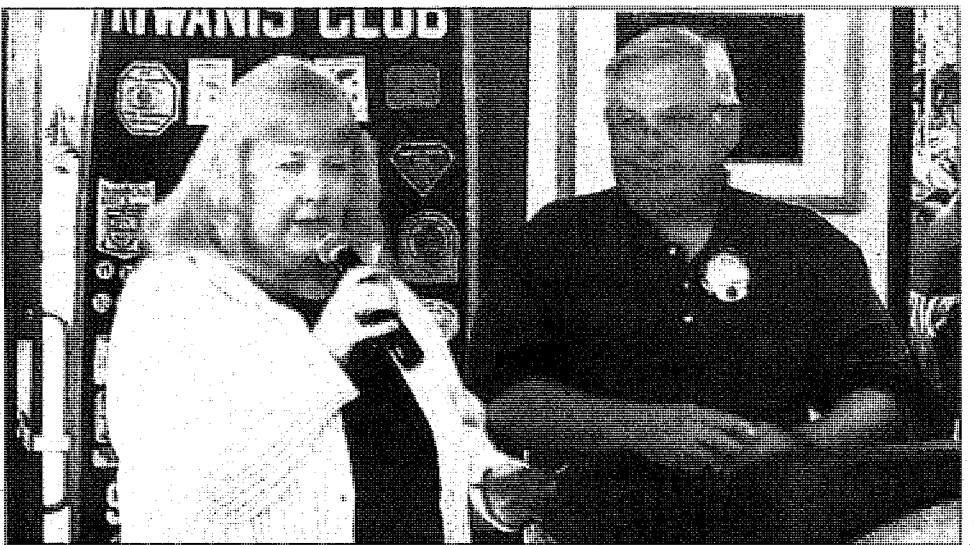
Submitted by Bob Wimbush



What's Christmas (or for that matter, Kiwanis) without kids. Here, Kiwanis gets a musical card from music teacher Susan Skinner, Sanibel School kids and their moms. To quote the kids and their favorite song, "Wouldn't it be nice if we could have one celebration all around the world."



Left: Don Czech welcomes New member, Karl Reich; Below: Don Czech presents a holiday check to Cynthia Hoggatt of the City of Sanibel's Housing Foundation.



Attention Boaters!

Sanibel Captiva Power Squadron's Boating Course

Starts Saturday, Jan. 3, 2004
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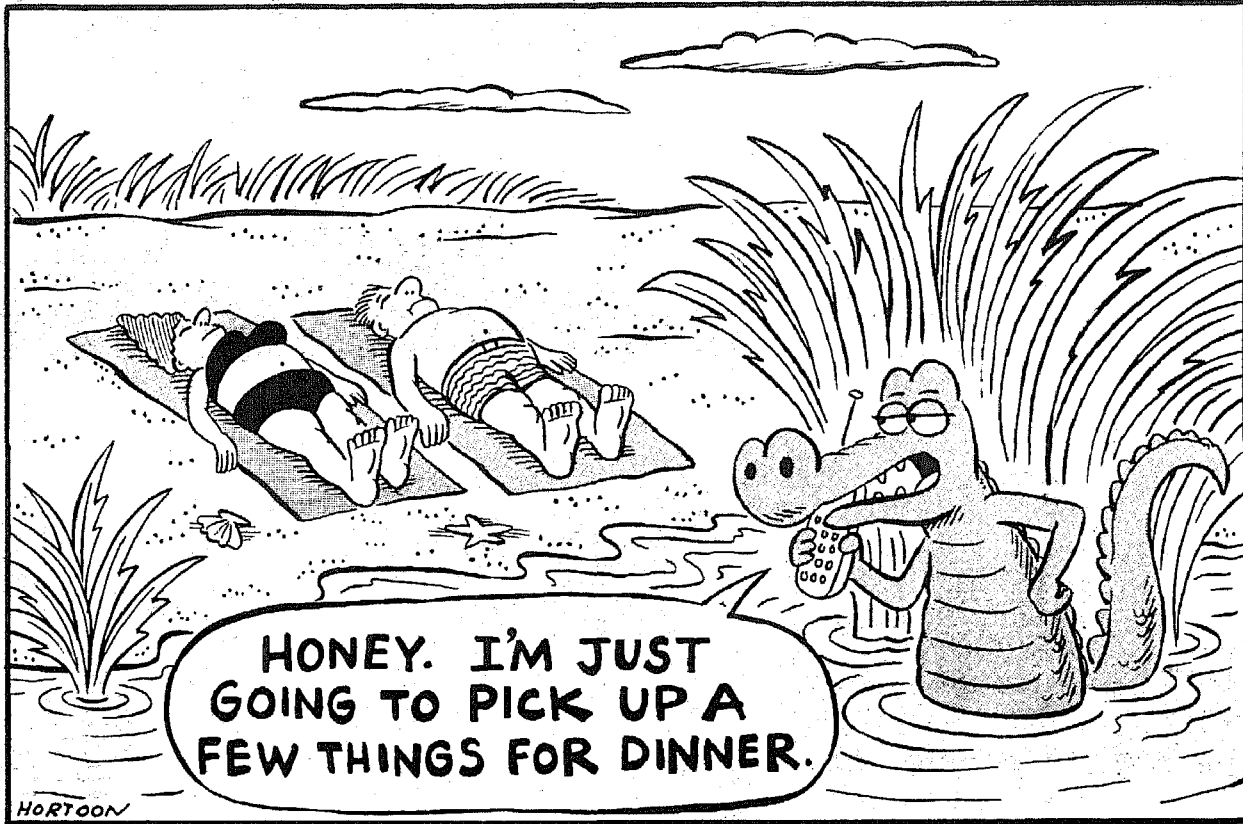
TOO MUCH SUN



Dave Horton



Lee Horton



COLUMNISTS

Fishing & Shelling
Capt. Mike Fuery
— page 7A



Who's Who
Nancy Santeusanio
— page 12A

Center Stage
Marsha Wagner
— page 2B



Music Scene
Harold Leiberman
— page 3B

Dateline Hollywood
Little Joe Micale
— page 4B



Up PERISCOPE

Happy Boxing Day... If you have heard of Boxing Day then you probably know that it is the day after Christmas and is celebrated as a real holiday in the U.K. and other English-speaking countries of the Empire. No doubt you are also aware that it is one of those quaint and quirky British holidays, like Guy Fawkes Day or St. Swithin's Day.

I first heard of Boxing Day when I was a small child (I had an English uncle) and I couldn't quite understand why the day after Christmas would be devoted to a pugilistic sport. Well, it isn't.

I was told that it actually got its name from that fact that it was the day that all the boxes from the opened Christmas presents were tossed out in the trash. Well, it isn't that either.

There are almost as many explanations of the origin of the holiday as there are letters in the name. There is general agreement, however, that the roots go back to at least 800 A.D., if not earlier.

There are some other elements in common shared by these various explanations and they generally involve the well-to-do giving money, food, clothes, etc., to the less well-heeled.

Some say that it was an obligation that the lord of the manor owed to his servants who had to work on Christmas Day. Others take it further back to wealthy landowners using that day to give their serfs the basic necessities to tend the land. You know, stuff like leather, rolls of cloth, tools — the kinds of things that any well-prepared Floridian carries around in the back of the SUV. In any case, it was an obligation, not just charity or generosity.



RENNY SEVERANCE
Editor

Still other historians attribute the origin of Boxing Day to a church tradition dating back to the Middle Ages (800 A.D. again). December 26 was the day the monies collected in the poor boxes was distributed to the needy. In some versions, the box was earthenware and was broken open on Christmas for distribution the next day.

The point is that all the explanations involve one class of people giving to another in one fashion or another. In more recent centuries, the custom was to tip the tradespeople who served those of a more relaxed station in life.

Like everything else on this planet, the holiday has evolved or gone extinct. Here in the US of A it's extinct, probably because anyone wealthy enough to be on the giving end of the deal had more sense than to come to this remote end of the earth to try to eke out a living from a forbidding wilderness.

Elsewhere Boxing Day has evolved into another holiday and a great excuse for tremendous retail sales extravaganzas and large sporting events. (Maybe the fisticuffs aren't so far off after all.) Everyone takes the day off, even if they aren't too sure why — sort of like some of us and Labor Day.

Well, it ain't a holiday here so I guess I'll just come in to the office and not get my hopes up for a big tip or a stack of leather hides.

Hope you enjoy your Boxing Day.



Lee County tops 2M visitors in 2003

As of press time, representatives from the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau planned to welcome the two millionth visitor to Lee County in 2003 as they arrived at Southwest Florida International Airport on Dec. 23. This is the first time that Lee County has reached the 2 million milestone.

According to Walter Klages of Research Data Services, tourism consultant to Lee County, resort tax collections this fiscal year have reached \$11,188,603, marking a 2.7 percent increase from fiscal year 2001 — 2002. The two million short-term visitors to Lee County this year had direct expenditures of \$1,113,677,537. When multiplier effects are added, these visitors contributed \$1,870,644,537 to Lee County's economy.

The two millionth visitor will receive a welcome basket brimming with gifts from area shops, resorts and chambers of commerce... along with some media hooplah.

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Bank of The Islands
Your Island Bank

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(239)-472-7211 fax: (239)-472-7212

HAPPENINGS

Sewer construction to continue through holidays

Notice has been received by the City of Sanibel Sewer Contractor, ET MacKenzie, that the Phase 3A sewer construction project (Rabbit Road to Bowman's Beach Road) will continue through the holidays. The contractor has informed the city that 95% of Belle Meade subdivision (Belding Drive to Kincaid Court) is complete. Restoration is scheduled to begin in early January.

Work continues in Leisure Acres (Bowman's Beach area).

The contractor will stop work for the holidays on Dec. 24. The dewatering pumps will be restarted on Dec. 27.

Property owners with any questions or concerns are asked to please call the City of Sanibel Utility Department at 472-1008.

Sewer Contractor to Restore West Gulf and Area Streets Work to Resume January 5, 2004

Due To Causeway restrictions roads will be paved from 2 a.m. to noon.

Notice has been received by the City of Sanibel's Sewer Contractor, United Engineering Corporation, that the work to restore the paved and shell streets disturbed as part of the sewer construction in the West Gulf Drive area began December 15. The contractor has advised the City that paving operations will resume no earlier than January 5, 2004.

The work began at the western end of West Gulf Drive and is proceeding east. Each paved subdivision will be addressed as the work progresses.

The restoration will require laying

approximately 600 tons of asphalt per day. Due to Lee County's current weight restrictions on the Sanibel Causeway, the asphalt paving will occur between 2 a.m. and noon.

The work on the shell roads will occur during normal construction hours, between 8 am and 3:30 p.m. Traffic will be restricted during restoration to one lane, with a flagging operation at night.

For further information, or if you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the City of Sanibel Utilities Department at (239) 472-1008.

Atocha treasure subject of AARP Jan.9 program

Adventure! Mystery! Treasure! One of the great successful adventure stories of the last twenty years would be the finding of the Atocha, long-lost Spanish treasure ship. Undoubtedly, many of you are familiar with Mel Fisher's lengthy search for this treasure. A member of the Island Seniors was fortunate enough to not only actually go out on one of the ships hunting for the treasure, but has graciously con-

mented to share a video with us on the "Quest for Treasure." We will have the opportunity to share in this adventure when the Sanibel-Captiva AARP group meets on Friday, Jan. 9, at 1:30. This will be an exciting way to start off the new year.

The Sanibel-Captiva AARP meets at the Island Senior Center on Library Way off Palm Ridge Road and everyone is welcome to attend. These AARP meetings are a pleasant way to meet fellow islanders as well as enjoy an informative program and participate in refreshments and fellowship. If you have any questions, call 395-3372.

Southwest Florida Hamfest and Computer Show - 2004

Saturday, January 10, 2004, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm,
Araba Shrine Auditorium
2010 Hanson Street, Fort Myers, FL, 33901

Talk-in Repeater: 146.880 (No tone)

Vendor tables: \$15.00 (All vendors must purchase ticket); Tailgate spaces: \$10.00 (Includes 1 admission ticket); Additional tailgate spaces: \$5.00 each

Free parking - handicap parking available

Food: quality food, reasonable prices inside on site

General admission: \$5.00 Children 16 and under are free (supervised)

Security: On site security will be provided

Hourly prizes and grand prizes plus two runner-up prizes

Vendor/table contact: Don Kilpatrick, W9LBY (239) 541-9877, E-mail: w91by@juno.com

Mail ticket requests to: FMARC, P. O. Box 061183, Fort Myers, Florida, 33906. Please include an SASA, otherwise tickets will be held at the door.

Notice: Supporting FCC regulations, FMARC will not permit selling uncertified or modified equipment.

Hamfest Chairperson: Paul N. Horton, K40vc, E-mail: phorton!@peganet.com

Information: Earl Spencer, K4FQU, (239) 332-1503; Fax: (239) 334-9362; E-mail: k4fqu@juno.com

All children must be supervised. Motels available nearby.



Holiday Miniature Golf


The 9th Annual Holiday Miniature Golf of the Islands Tournament will be held from Dec. 26 - 29 at the Sanibel Community House.

Become a sponsor and you will receive 50 FREE passes to give to customers.

You can advertise your business by decorating a hole or by displaying a banner; your business will be posted on the SCA Appreciation Board (seen by over one thousand people) and you will be supporting the Sanibel Community Association.

Call SCA for more information: 472-2155.





The Islands' Community Newspaper since 1961

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P.O. Box 56 • Sanibel, FL 33957
Phone: (239) 472-5185 • Fax 472-1372

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695 Tarpon Bay Rd. Unit #13

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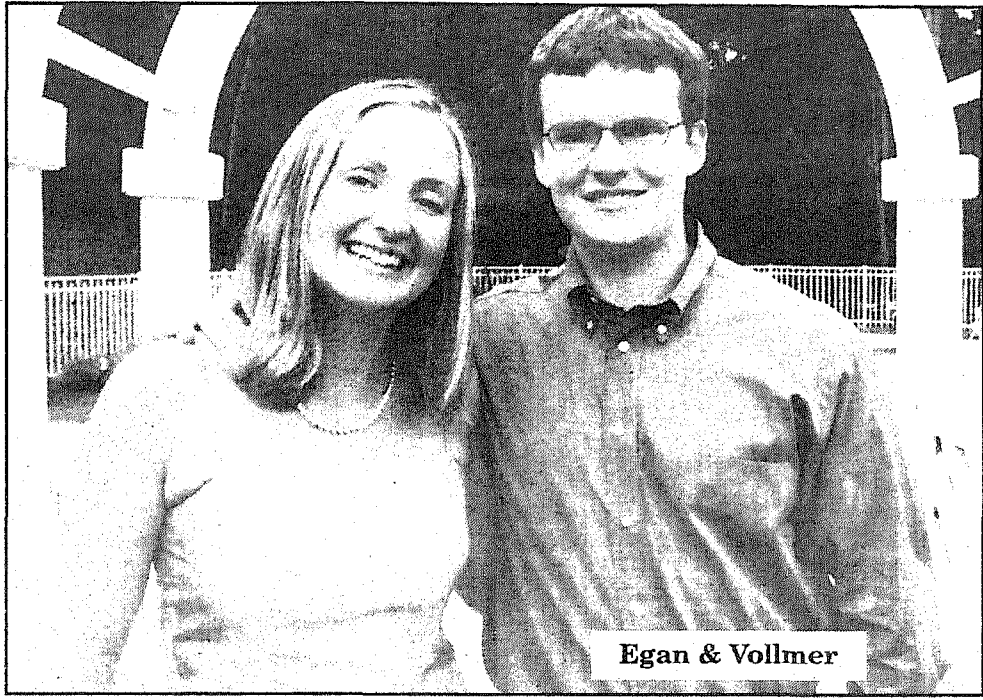
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ENGAGEMENTS & WEDDINGS



Egan & Vollmer

Vollmer-Egan

Mr. and Mrs. William Vollmer of Sanibel have announced the engagement of their son, William Jeffrey Vollmer, to Shannon Patricia Egan of Katonah.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Egan Jr. of Katonah, N.Y., the future bride is a graduate of John Jay High School in her hometown. She received a bachelor's degree in English and French from Middlebury College and a master's in

education from Columbia. She is an English teacher at Fox Lane High School in Bedford, N.Y.

The groom went all the way through Sanibel Elementary, attended Canterbury and is a graduate of the Lawrenceville School in Lawrenceville, N.J. He, too, graduated from Middlebury, with a bachelor's in English, and is a third year law student at Washington & Lee in Lexington, Va. An August 2004 wedding is planned.

Loucks / Brown

Christy Loucks and Griffith Brown were married on Dec. 13 in Fort Myers Beach in a sunset ceremony at Bowditch Point. The bride is the daughter of Charlie Loucks of Fort Myers and Michelle Shave of Newport News, Virginia.

The groom is the son of Frank and Jodie Brown of Sanibel.

Fort Myers Beach Mayor Dan Hughes officiated.

The bride is a graduate of Ferguson High School in Newport News, Virginia and the University of Florida. She is attending graduate school at the University of North Florida Masters of Arts in Counseling Psychology program. The groom is a graduate of Cypress Lake High School and the University of Florida College of Engineering. He is currently employed at Waitz and Moye, Inc., an engineering and planning firm in Jacksonville, Florida.

The couple met and began dating while working at Bullfeathers Restaurant on Sanibel. They will reside in Jacksonville, Florida.



ABWA Lottery Calendars

The Sanibel-Captiva Chapter of American Business Women's Association again selling the popular Lottery Calendars.

This year's calendar gives you a chance to win every day for a year beginning March 2004. Each lottery calendar has a three-digit lucky number and a dollar amount for each day. If your number matches the Florida Cash Lottery Drawing, you will receive the amount posted on your calendar for that day... automatically!

This is a great gift and when you give someone a Lottery Calendar you will be helping contribute to a deserving Sanibel or Captiva young person to further their education. ABWA uses their profits for these scholarships.

The calendars can be purchased for \$25 at the Bank of the Islands, Island Graphics and Sandpiper of Sanibel.

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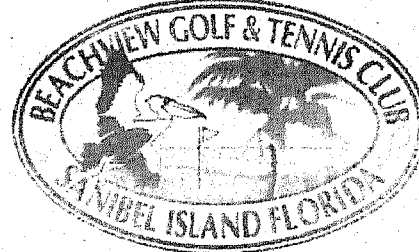
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Champagne
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Dec. 31st 9:00am



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1100 Parview Drive, Sanibel

OBITUARY

George John Patterson

Well-known and loved islander George Patterson died suddenly late in the afternoon on Dec. 22, 2003. He had just turned 64.

Born in Pittsburgh, he was a graduate of the University of Toledo where he was inducted into the Hall of Fame and played center for the Detroit Pistons in 1967-68. He retired to Sanibel in 1994 after teaching for many years.

On the island he was assistant coach for the Sanibel School basketball team, a board member of the Optimist Club and a Lion. When he came to Southwest Florida, he spent the first six years working with his good friend Joe Suarez at the Grog Shop, then for Billy's Bike Rentals and, most recently, was a member of the staff at Flower Shop of the Islands.

He is survived by his dear friend Marsha Walsh of Sanibel, four children, Sean Patterson, Chris Patterson, Joanne Tupper and John Martin, 11 grandchildren and many, many friends.

Services will take place in Toledo and in Pittsburgh, where he will be interred. A celebration of George's life will be held on Sanibel after the first of the year.



Joan Mellor

Sanibel resident Joan Mellor, 71, died Dec. 21, 2003.

A teacher for 20-plus years, she is survived by her husband, James D. Mellor, and a daughter, Misty.

A funeral mass will be held in Golden, Co. with burial to follow at Evergreen Memorial Park in Evergreen.

Fundraiser planned for Bonita Hope Hospice

More than 100 recently attended a Hope Hospice Hearts of Hope Gala Committee tea at the home of Mrs. John Foley in Bonita Springs. The Committee is preparing for the 2004 Hope Hospice Capital Campaign, which will help to build Joanne's House, a new Hope Hospice house in Bonita Springs. Last year the Gala Committee raised a total of \$100,000 for Hope Hospice.

The 2004 Gala will be held on Feb. 14. The event will include a charity auction, with items such as a two-week trip to Vail, Colorado, a dinner party for 12 and an electric car from Chrysler.

Corporate tables at the Hearts of Hope Gala are \$2,500. Benefactor tickets are \$300 each; patron tickets \$200 and Heart of Gold sponsorships are \$5,000. For more information, call 489-9147.

HAPPENINGS

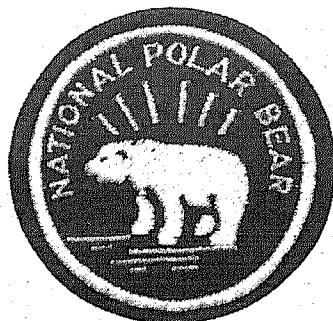
Polar Bears dive in on Jan. 1 Florida Celebrates Quilts at Harborside

The Sanibel-Captiva Islands Chapter of the National Polar Bear Club holds its fourth annual meeting at the crack of noon, New Year's Day at Tarpon Bay Beach on Sanibel. Arrive 15 minutes early to sign in and receive instructions and handout.

This is a traditional way to bring in the New Year — a dip in the "briny deep." Survive the test of King Neptune, learn the Polar Bear Roll, get all four paws wet, do the Polar Bear huddle and take the membership oath! Come join your friends, family, neighbors, tourists, politicians and island characters to celebrate the New Year.

A certificate, membership card and patch are available (small fee for patch), according to PaPa Bear, a/k/a Commodore John Carney at 395-1767.

Parking is available for 89 cars at the City lot on Tarpon Bay Road. (Don't forget to display your current sticker, or pay \$2 parking fee).



A timeless tradition continues when "Quilting Under the Palms" comes to Harborside Convention Center in Fort Myers, Jan. 16 and 17. The largest quilt show in Southwest Florida will feature hundreds of quilts including special exhibits, appraisals and a silent movie.

"People have been creating quilts for centuries as a method to keep warm, as a way to work through grief, to celebrate, to share a history, or as a great work of creative art," says Lou Ann Kapcin, chairman of the event, which is sponsored by the Southwest Florida Quilter's Guild. "We are in an area where there are extremely talented quilters and this is our chance to shine, share our work and inspire others."

The public is invited to join the thousands of quilters expected to attend this show from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Jan. 16, and 17. The cost is \$5 per person. The show quilts will be judged by Lorraine Covington and Kaye England. There will be special exhibits like the FruitLoops Challenge, the American Quilters Society, Ultimate Guild Challenge, an exhibit from Hoffman fabrics, an exhibit from Keepsake Quilting shop, and an exhibit of antique quilts. There will also be a silent miniature quilt auction, quilters boutique of guild-made items, merchants mall with over 25 vendors, demonstrations where anyone is welcome, quilt classes, door prizes and much more.

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FISHING & SHELLING

Wear your hard hat while fishing with kids

The holidays are a great time to take visiting kids fishing. There are only two things to remember. One, never respond to a little person who says, "This is boring;" and, two, wear a goalie outfit or at least a hard hat.

My daughter, Tess is seven and meets the school bus at the entrance to Fort Myers Beach at a community called Siesta Isles. We wait for the bus at about 20 before dawn at a road bordered on both sides by saltwater. This is deep water with jumping mullet, jacks, maybe tarpon in the summer and those lovely creatures, the snook. I pack two rods for Tess and me. We like to get in a few casts before the bus comes. Can you tell I am a guide?

For a few years I tied on a floating plug for Tess, but took off all the hooks. (Rule number three for parents of the smaller set.) While Tess sometimes complained that she never caught anything, we never had to pull a hook out of either one of us and it was preparing her for another aspect of fishing — how to cast.

Most lures are rigged with sets of one to three sets of triple hooks. If they go in the wrong direction and strike someone, you'll have a lot of problems with a possible hook stuck in skin. If you have a little person who wants to cast more than catch, get a cheap floating lure and let them practice tossing the lure. That is far

better, as a teaching tool, than waiting for minutes which turn into hours and not getting a bite. Just cut off the treble hooks first.

We have worked on up to full hooks now; however, I always stay to the left side of a right-handed caster, something I learned quickly as a fly fishing guide.



Capt. Mike Fuery

With kids, action is far more important than high production. My kids won't eat fish, unless it is coated in crumbs, is rectangular and answers to the name of "fish stick."

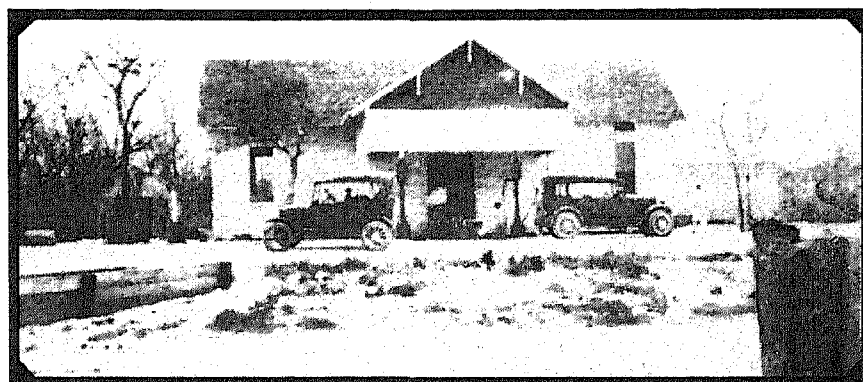
One other point is don't get them hyped up to catch that one big fish when chances are that, given the weather, the time of the year and so on, sheephead, mangrove snapper, small redfish and perhaps a pompano are about the best bets to bite the other end of their line.

Another thing about kids is not to turn up the pressure on them to the point where you are saying something like, "Come on... we have to feed the whole family tonight. Catch something." Better go to a market and get the fish. If you think your little people are going to learn to fish so fast that they feed the entire floor of the condo, you will be horribly disappointed.

I think the key to fishing with kids is to

Fuery, see page 17A

Sanibel Captiva Pictorial B.C. History Book Revised Edition



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Sanibel Captiva islander

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Annual Subscription Lee County \$22.00
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ENVIRONMENT

At the Conservation Foundation

Trail guide volunteer training classes

The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation welcomes back their experienced trail guide volunteers and seeks new individuals to lead walks along the Center Tract trails. Training consists of outdoor, hands-on learning experiences focusing on plant identification, the ethnobotany garden, water and habitat management, tools of interpretation, and a prototype guided trail walk. The training class will be held on Jan. 5 - Jan. 8 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the SCCF Auditorium, Center Tract trails, Tarpon Bay Weir and other sites to be determined.

Weeds n' Seeds

Join this informal group of botany enthusiasts to observe flora and habitat, meeting every Monday at 8 a.m. For destinations, call Tom Rothman (395-3248); Bill Wollschlager (472-9122) or Art Weissbach (472-0915). Meet in the Foundation parking lot; free and open to all.

Working the Land: Tools of Habitat Management

A first-hand look at the tools and sampling equipment used in restoring the land and monitoring the success for wildlife. The class will be offered on four separate dates (it is one class offered four times, not a four-class series): Jan. 21, Feb. 18, March 17 and April 21. Classes will be held at 11 a.m. in the SCCF auditorium; free to members and children; \$3 for nonmembers.

Native Plant Nursery educational opportunities

Tantalizing Taxonomy will be offered at the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation's Conference Room at 10 a.m. every day from Jan. 12 to 16. This taxonomy class is geared for the botany enthusiast who would like to learn more about the art of plant identification. The class covers the basic language used in keying a plant specimen, dissection of flowers and fruit, exposure to our computer herbarium and preservation of specimens in a traditional herbarium. The class requires the text *The Vascular Plants of Florida* by Richard Wunderlin and a \$20 class fee for supplies. Call Beth at 472-1932 for a reservation and details.

Organic Pest Control in Your Home and Garden

Offered on Jan. 20 from 2 to 4 p.m. The class is designed to provide knowledge about the natural options to pest management in the home and garden. Identification of various "good" and "bad" pests will be studied, and natural remedies found in your kitchen to combat the bad guys, as well as products carried in the nursery, will be discussed. The fee for the class is a donation to the Native Plant Nursery. Please call Beth at 472-1932 for details.

Sanibel Vegetation Standards that Protect Our Sanctuary Island

James Evans, Environmental Planner for the City of Sanibel, will be talking about Sanibel's vegetation standards on Jan. 28 in the SCCF Auditorium from 10 a.m. to noon. This talk will acquaint homeowners with the various vegetation standards that shape this sanctuary island, give a bit of history behind the codes, and explain why Sanibel's early leaders sculpted them.

Audubon outing on Dec. 27

The next Sanibel-Captiva Audubon birding outing will take place on Saturday, Dec. 27 (tomorrow) at Blind Pass. Meet in the parking lot just before Captiva bridge at 8 a.m.

The next outing will be on Saturday, Jan. 3 at the Bailey Tract, also at 8 a.m.

These outings are open to the public and all birders are welcome; the suggested donation is \$2. Call Malcolm Harpham at 395-3804 for other details.

Explore Estero Bay

Put on your wading shoes for the Low Tide Loafing Sunset Walk and visit the creatures of the intertidal zone at Bowditch Point Regional Preserve on Tuesday, Jan. 6 at 4:15 p.m. and Thursday, Feb. 5 at 4:30 p.m. After leisurely walking from the bay to the beach, arrive at Sunset Point in time to catch the show — a good photo opportunity. Adults and children aged six and older: \$3; children aged 5 and under are free; all children under 16 must be with an adult. Bowditch Point Preserve is at the end of Estero Boulevard at the northern tip of Fort Myers Beach, meet at the picnic tables behind Flip Flops Cafe. Parking free with program registration.

Take a closer look at life on a barrier island on Not Just Another Walk in the Park at Bowditch Point Regional Preserve. Explore the dynamics of barrier islands, the beach and dune communities and the secret lives of shells. Jan. 3 and 17, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Adults and children age 12 to 16 with an adult, \$3.

At Matanzas Pass Preserve, you will visit a tropical maritime hammock and then follow the trail to Estero Bay as you learn about one of the most productive ecosystems in the world. Jan 10 and 24. From 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Adults and age 12 to 16 with an adult, \$3. The Matanzas Pass Preserve entrance is at the end of Bay Road, next to the Historic Cottages near the Beach School, meet at the entrance in the parking lot. No parking fee.

For more information on all programs or to register, please call (239) 461-7440. Bowditch Point Regional Preserve and Matanzas Pass Preserve are Lee County Parks and Recreation facilities.

Charlotte Harbor Nature Festival coming up

The fourth annual Charlotte Harbor Nature Festival will be held on Saturday, Jan. 31 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Tippecanoe Environmental Park near the Charlotte County Sports Complex located at 2300 El Jobean Road (S.R. 776) in Port Charlotte. The festival is an affordable (\$2/car), family-friendly celebration of the natural environment of Southwest Florida.

Festival-goers will be able to explore and enjoy the wildlife and natural environment of the region around Charlotte Harbor through presentations, guided walks (even special walks for small children), a special Children's Discovery Zone, exhibitors, music and much more.

Approximately 1,600 people from 16 counties attended the 2003 festival and the 2004 festival promises to be even bigger and better.

The Festival is organized by a committee of volunteers who represent a diverse group of organizations and the committee is seeking sponsors, exhibitors, volunteers and help promoting the festival. For details, visit the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program web site at www.CharlotteHarborNEP.org or call (239) 995-1777, ext. 240.

Charlotte Harbor NEP is the event's main sponsor. Sponsors and exhibitors will be accepted until Jan. 19 (though only those who responded in November will be listed in all the promotional material).

The Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program is a partnership that protects the estuaries from north of Venice to Estero Bay.

Wetlands Protection

Memphis, TN, December 18, 2003 — Ducks Unlimited, the world's largest wetland and waterfowl conservation organization, lauded the declaration of the Bush Administration that there would be no new rules to affect the historical protection of wetlands under the federal Clean Water Act. In the Bush Administration's statement, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Mike Leavitt announced that the decision reaffirms and bolsters protections for wetlands and wildlife habitat in the United States.

Wetlands protection under the Clean Water Act has been a concern for many sportsmen-conservationists since the Supreme Court Jan. 2001 decision, known as SWANCC, which could accelerate losses of isolated wetlands and small bodies of water, depending upon agency interpretation.

DU President, John Tomke noted that, "DU is very pleased with the Bush Administration's decision to

Wetlands, see page 17A

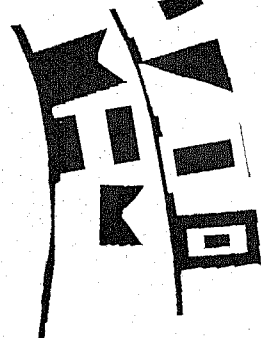
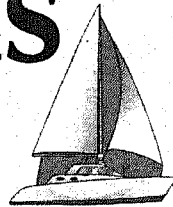
Happy Holidays
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Loyal Patrons

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Dinner 5:00 PM
Closed Christmas
Open New Years Day
Take Out Available

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Second Annual Ya Gotta Regatta on Jan. 4 - Fla. Rep fundraiser

The Second Annual Ya Gotta Regatta, which benefits Florida Repertory Theatre, will be run off South Seas Resort on Jan. 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Offshore Sailing School owners Steve and Doris Colgate are co-chairs of the regatta along with Florida Rep's Carrie Lund. Last year's Regatta raised close to \$16,000 for the theatre.

Each year, Offshore Sailing School donates its fleet of Colgate 26 sailboats, coaches and a support team for the Regatta. There are six sponsored teams in this year's event: The South Seas Mariners of South Seas Resort; Moosy-

Payson Team of Merrill Lynch; H2O Outfitters and Galeana Pontiac Team Nautical Mile; Gulf to Bay Construction, Inc.; Florida Rep Navigators and Naumann Properties, Inc.

The public is invited to see the race from Captiva Cruises' flagship, the Lady Chadwick, which will serve as the spectator boat. Onboard, Olympic and America's Cup sailor Steve Colgate will provide the narrative. The cost for a spot on the Lady Chadwick is \$35, which includes a box lunch provided by South Seas Resort. Cash bar and raffle tickets will be available during the races. Please call 239/332-4488 for Lady

Chadwick tickets.

Trophy presentations will be held directly after the race and there will

also be two raffle drawings: the first on Jan. 4 directly after the races (win-

Regatta, see page 14



LINDA'S BEST BUYS

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VIP REALTORS

WEATHER FORECAST FOR DECEMBER 24 & 25

WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY	
A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Showers in the morning becoming scattered toward evening.		Look for a pleasant day with lots of sunshine in the early part of the day and some clouds later.	

WEEKEND TIDES

City	Wed. High	Wed. Low	Thur. High	Thur. Low
Cape Coral	12:02 a.m.	6:41 a.m.		7:34 a.m.
Bridge	11:54 p.m.	6:16 p.m.	1:20 p.m.	6:48 p.m.
Captiva at Redfish Pass	9:52 a.m.	3:25 a.m.	11:10 a.m.	4:18 a.m.
	9:44 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	10:02 p.m.	3:32 p.m.
Fort Myers	12:27 a.m.	7:23 a.m.	12:47 a.m.	8:16 a.m.
	12:55 p.m.	6:58 p.m.	2:13 p.m.	7:30 p.m.
Mt. Airy Pass	11:30 a.m.	6:07 a.m.	12:48 a.m.	7:00 a.m.
	11:22 p.m.	5:42 p.m.	11:40 p.m.	6:14 p.m.
Pineland	10:28 p.m.	5:05 a.m.	11:46 a.m.	5:58 a.m.
	10:20 p.m.	4:40 p.m.	10:38 p.m.	5:12 p.m.
Point Ybel	8:57 a.m.	3:27 a.m.	10:15 a.m.	4:20 a.m.
	8:49 p.m.	3:02 p.m.	9:07 p.m.	3:34 p.m.
Punta Rassa	9:46 a.m.	3:20 a.m.	11:04 a.m.	4:13 a.m.
	9:38 p.m.	2:55 p.m.	9:56 p.m.	3:27 p.m.
St. James City	10:17 a.m.	3:55 a.m.	11:35 a.m.	4:48 a.m.
	10:09 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	10:27 p.m.	4:02 p.m.

PORT CHARLOTTE
74/57 Wed
74/53 Thur

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

PUNTA GORDA
75/57 Wed
74/54 Thur

LEE COUNTY

BOCA GRANDE
70/64 Wed
70/62 Thur

LEHIGH ACRES
76/57 Wed
74/53 Thur

PINE ISLAND
73/61 Wed
72/56 Thur

CAPE CORAL
75/59 Wed
74/53 Thur

FORT MYERS
76/59 Wed
75/54 Thur

IMMOKALEE
78/54 Wed
77/52 Thur

SARASOTA
71/62 Wed
71/57 Thur

BONITA SPRINGS
77/60 Wed
76/55 Thur

FORT MYERS BEACH
70/63 Wed
70/60 Thur

ESTERO/SAN CARLOS
77/61 Wed
76/57 Thur

COLLIER COUNTY

MARCO ISLAND
72/66 Wed
70/61 Thur

NAPLES
73/62 Wed
71/56 Thur

Gulf of Mexico

BOATING FORECAST
Wind: Variable 10 Knots
Seas: 2-4 Feet
Bay & Inland: Moderate Chop

FOX 4 CAST

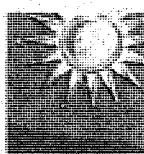
WFTX - CAPE CORAL - FT. MYERS - NAPLES



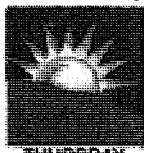
GET YOUR FORECAST FIRST ON FOX.
WATCH FOX 4 NEWS at 10:00

STATE FORECAST-THURSDAY

CITY	LOW/HIGH
CAPE CORAL	53/74
DAYTONA BEACH	48/68
FT. LAUDERDALE	53/75
FT. MYERS BEACH	60/70
GAINESVILLE	35/62
JACKSONVILLE	40/60
KEY WEST	66/75
KISSIMMEE	50/70
MIAMI	58/75
ORLANDO	48/62
PANAMA CITY	35/61
PENSACOLA	32/58
SARASOTA	52/70
ST. PETERSBURG	49/64
TALLAHASSEE	30/60
TAMPA	48/65
VERO BEACH	53/73
WEST PALM BEACH	53/72



THURSDAY
SUNRISE
7:01 AM



THURSDAY
SUNSET
5:36 PM

KID STUFF

The Rainbow Road Show at Nature Center

International children's entertainer Rock'n' Rosie Emery puts on a fun and dynamic multimedia music show for kids that will have you dancing, singing and learning about your local wildlife! Emery and multi-talented musician Rocky Gallo, have created a one-of-a-kind show that will play at the Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium Jan. 10th, 17th, 25th and 31st and Feb. 8th, 15th, 21st, and 28th.

For the last seven years, thousands of kids have danced to the beat of the Rainbow Road Show as it traveled across Canada and the northern United States. Now it's spending some time in Southwest Florida!

The upbeat original songs, which are all about animals and nature, are accompanied by a stunning visual show. Emery's energetic performance of will keep your kids mesmerized as they learn how all of life

is interconnected! This show is also great for birthday parties.

All shows start at 11 a.m. in the Planetarium. Admission is \$6 for Nature Center members and \$8 for non-members. To see both the show and enter the Nature Center facilities admission is \$10 per person (children and adults). Reservations are not necessary; pay at the door. To book a birthday party and save on admission, call Melissa at 275-3435.

For more information, please call Carole Helper at 275-3435. The Nature Center is on Ortiz Avenue (Six Mile Cypress/Ben Pratt Expressway extended), just past the intersection with Colonial.

Ed note: Rosie Emery will also be appearing on Sanibel at the SCA Periwinkle Playhouse on Jan. 24, Feb. 7 and Feb. 14 at noon; call the theatre box office at 472-0324 for more information.

Take Me to the River: A Program for Kids

The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation will be offering an Environmental Education program for kids entitled "Take Me to the River." Kids will have the opportunity to learn about the fascinating aspects of wetlands by exploring and investigating Sanibel's interior wetlands. This interpretive program will be geared for ages 5 - 12 and will take place on Wednesday,

Dec. 31 at 10 am. An adult must accompany kids so kids, parents and grandparents please come to the Conservation Foundation's Nature Center and "Take Me to the River." Space will be limited so reservations are required. The program will be free for kids and \$3/adult. Additional information and reservations can be obtained by calling the Conservation Foundation at 472-2329.

New Kid's Book Helps Spread the Magic of Duck Hunting

This holiday season, Ducks Unlimited is offering youngsters a children's book that touts the joys of duck hunting and the importance of habitat conservation. In the same holiday spirit, with every purchase DU will donate an additional copy of the book to the elementary school or local library of your choice. All you have to do is provide the name and address of your favorite library, plus \$5.00 to cover the shipping and handling charges, and DU will do the rest.

With your help, hundreds, even thousands of kids who might not have anyone to take them duck hunting will be able to develop an appreciation of the outdoor experience through this rare children's book that promotes hunting and conservation. A small gesture on your part can pay huge dividends for the future of ducks and duck hunting.

A Good Day for Ducks is a charmingly written, beautifully illustrated picture book (for children ages five and up) that tells the

story of a young boy's first trip to his grandpa's duck hunting camp. It is there that Justin, a youngster from the big city suburbs, discovers the joys of becoming a participant in the natural world of working Grandpa's retriever, putting out decoys and watching the ducks fly.

To further entice kids to embrace the outdoor life, DU has included a real working duck call with the book. The book and duck call can be ordered for \$21.90 by calling 1-800-45-DUCKS or by visiting www.ducks.org/bookstore/. Again, for an additional \$5, DU will send a copy of the book to your favorite library.

With more than a million supporters, Ducks Unlimited is the world's largest wetland and waterfowl conservation group. Wetlands are nature's most productive ecosystems, but the United States has lost more than half of its original wetlands, and continues to lose more than 170,000 wetland acres every year.

RING IN THE New Year!
at
The OLD SCHOOLHOUSE THEATER
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John
Jen
Katie
Dan
Billy

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Champagne Toast & Party Favours \$60.00

Call for reservations - **472-6862**

SANIBEL-CAPTIVA SHOPPER'S GUIDE

Serving the Islands for 30 years and still going Strong!
WE'RE GETTING A FACELIFT-
Watch for our new look January, 2004

ECOSanibel to lead Twelve Baskets program

Twelve Baskets from Sanibel-Captiva, the program that rescues prepared and perishable food from restaurants and markets on the islands and delivers it to the Community Cooperative Ministries Soup Kitchen in Fort Myers, is "under new management." Founder Jean Wood, who launched the program in 1994, is passing leadership to ECOSanibel (Earth Charter of Sanibel), an island-based organization, giving her the freedom to pursue other interests. ECOSanibel Board member Sue Carter will serve as coordinator.

Jean Wood said: "I am so pleased that ECOSanibel will be helping our volunteers who do such a wonderful job for the program." Members of this dedicated group travel a route each Monday, she said, one on Sanibel and one on Captiva, picking up food items and recording the poundage rescued.

Jean estimates that around 1,500 pounds of food is collected each month, food that would otherwise be deposited in dumpsters. "Chefs do not like to throw away food," she said, "but they have no choice if there is no one to take it to feed the hungry." In addition to the restaurants and markets, unopened food from rental condos is also collected from Sanibel Holiday and distributed through the Harry Chapin Food Bank in Fort Myers.

ECOSanibel volunteers have been coordinating the program during the summer, when Jean Wood was away. Donna Roberts, ECOSanibel president, said that Twelve Baskets is a perfect fit with the ideals of the Earth Charter. "We empha-

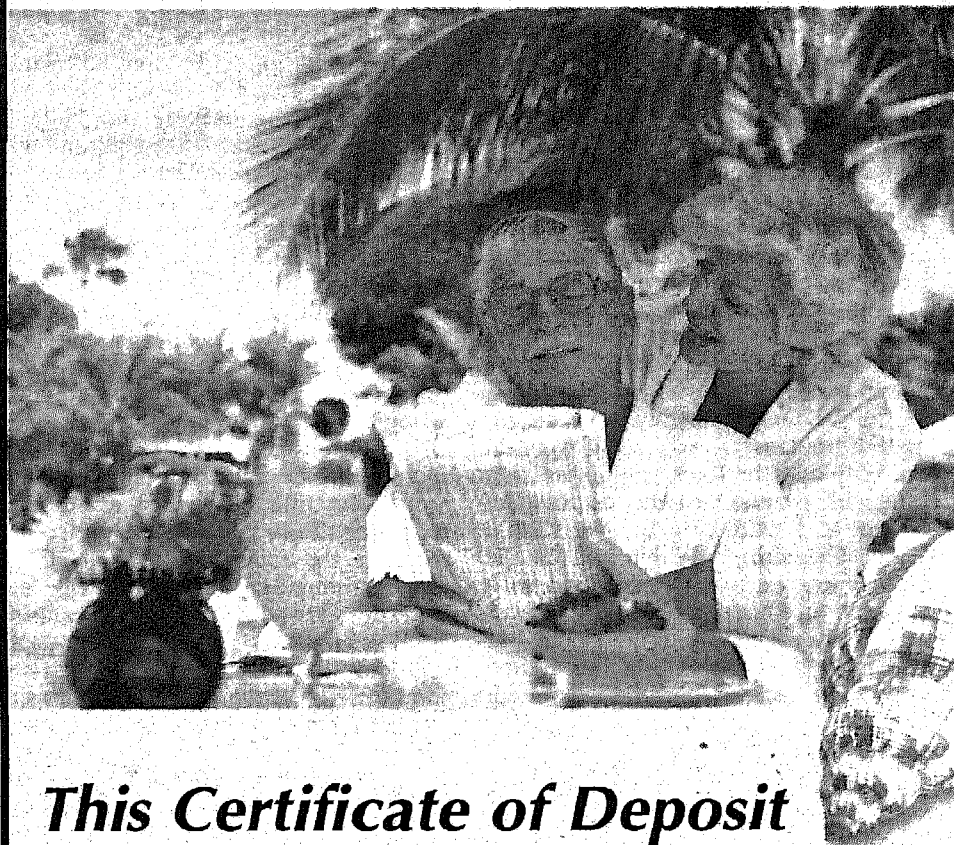
size cooperation and shared responsibility," she said. "What better way to promote these ideas than to collect surplus food and take it to those who need it most?"

Twelve Baskets from Sanibel-Captiva is one of hundreds of such programs across the country. The national Good Samaritan law protects people who, in good faith, donate to those in need, should there be any concerns about liability.

With the program's tenth anniversary approaching, there are plans to mark the occasion with a party for long-time volunteers. New volunteers are also welcome: they should have available a full-size car or van and two coolers. Volunteers typically select one Monday per month and the run should take less than three hours. The Rotary Club of Sanibel-Captiva has supplied volunteers for the Sanibel run, the last Monday each month, year-round. For more information please call Sue Carter at 472-1461.

ECOSanibel is a non-profit, non-partisan, educational organization dedicated to studying and promoting the spirit and aims of the Earth Charter through debate, publications, programs, advocacy and public events. ECOSanibel also seeks to forge links with the wider community to enhance understanding of global interdependence, sustainability and the importance of shared responsibility. Membership, open to all interested, is \$20 annually for individuals and \$35 for families. For ECOSanibel membership information call 472-8998.

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WHO'S WHO ON THE ISLANDS

Janet McBee: "You gotta be cool, have a blast when you can and don't sweat the small stuff!"

by Nancy Santeusano
Special to The Islander

One of the best things that ever happened to Texas born Janet McBee was when she failed high school French and met David, her future husband, in a make-up French class. "I was fifteen and he was sixteen." After college they were married, living in Houston and working hard in their jobs. Janet became a real estate developer in Houston and David was succeeding in sales in a thriving oil business. That life style might have been idyllic for some but for Janet, in particular, it meant keeping up with the Jones' and impressing people with as much opulence as possible.

"I got this wild idea that we should move to Colorado." Within six months and with lots of convincing David consented and "we haven't been normal ever since". They became restaurateurs but didn't really understand how much time and tenacity such an operation required. "We were having too much fun, lost the restaurant and went broke." Janet had always been a swimmer and diver, but in

Colorado, skiing and riding her Harley Heritage motorcycle became her new favorites. However, the blast in Colorado came to a "flat" end, and with their three dogs Janet and David traveled back to Texas in their pickup truck camper. Luckily they were able to borrow \$3,600 from Janet's uncle and planned to explore the state of Florida but once they drove across the Causeway, that was it.

Starting life over again wasn't easy but Janet stresses, "Don't sweat it; just do it." In 1983 she decided that the best thing to do temporarily was to go back into the restaurant business but as a waitress, not an owner. One year later and still dead broke, the title business seemed more appealing. With her earlier experience in Houston she found a job as a closing agent, earning \$13,000 per year. She later working in the secondary loan department of one of the island banks until that bank was sold in 1986. "Since I'm not a corporate person, I worked for another title company for three years until they sold out."

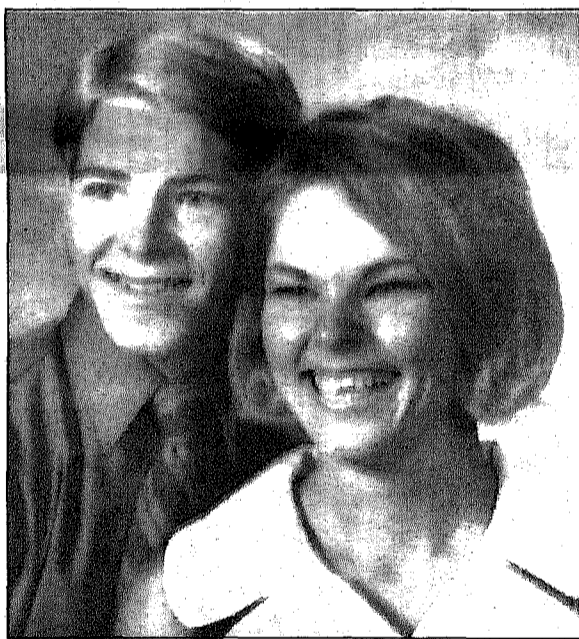
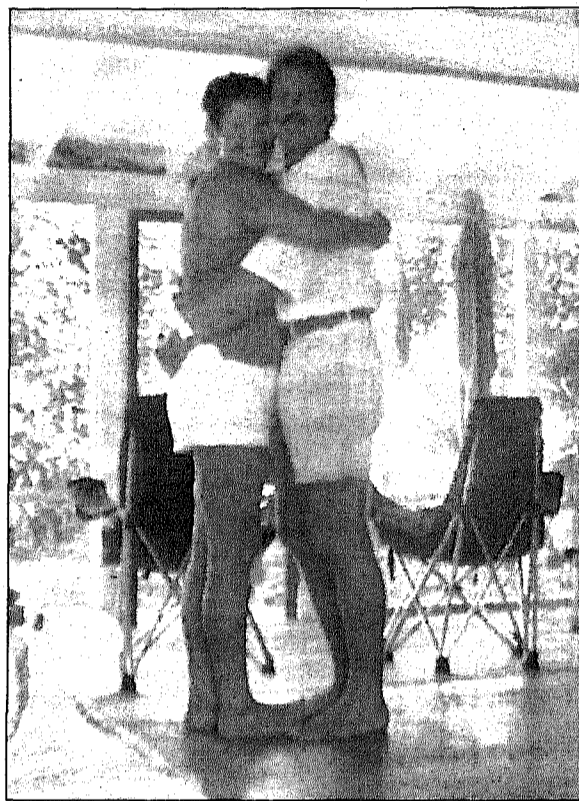
The timing was right for Janet to open

up her own business and with guidance from wonderful mentors like Don Bissell and Jack Slagle, she made the quantum leap and became the owner of Barrier Island Title Services in the early nineties. "It's been wild and we've been very lucky to have had phenomenal growth, increasing our staff from one to eight employees." Her best kept secret is how not to treat an employee: two of her current employees have been with the company for thirteen years and another for eight. "Dealing with the idiosyncrasies of people can be both maddening and fun. Again you've gotta keep cool and not sweat the small stuff."

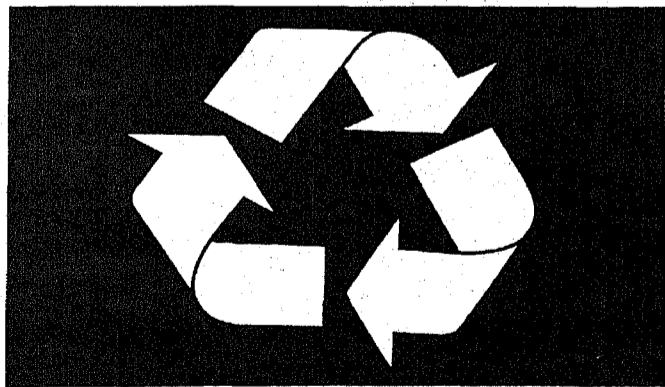
Janet tells about the many changes she's seen in Sanibel during the past twenty years. "When we first came, it was a small town. The people were here because of the beauty of the island and not because it was impressive to tell people that they owned property in Sanibel." In the early nineties she volunteered to head the Fourth of July Parade, later served as a member of the Board of Directors of C.R.O.W., chaired the annual Taste of the Islands and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Sanibel Captiva Community Bank. The McBees sponsored softball teams for kids and adults and she adds, "We were at the top of the 'sucker list' but that's where we wanted to be and that hasn't changed."

When you meet Janet for the first time, what you find out immediately is that she is a true lover of animals. The initial greeting at her office door is from two golden retrievers, Franni and Josh, and McBee will tell you about Zebbie, her eighteen year

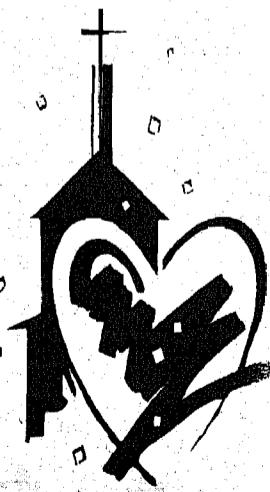
McBee, next page



RECYCLE SANIBEL



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



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Super Thrift Store**

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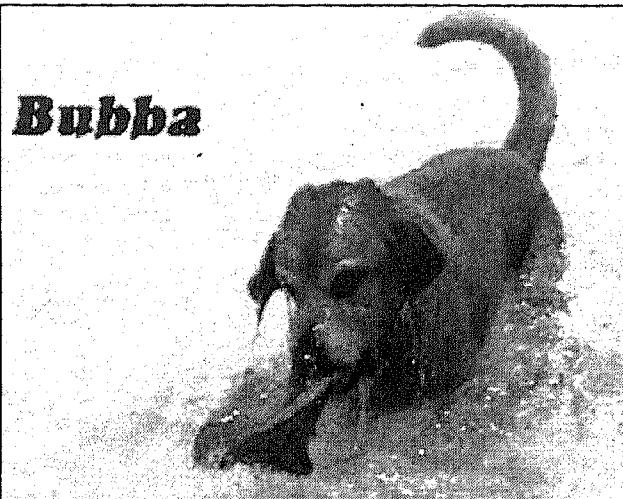
Help Us... Help Others!

McBee, from page 12

old cat who is sleeping at home while the dogs report for work. With a bit of nostalgia Janet continues to tell about Bubba, her yellow Lab, whom she had to put down two years ago but she'll never forget him. "He was one cool dog."

As a vacation getaway the McBees bought a little ramshackle house in the Bahamas which they had planned to tear down, but when Hurricane Floyd came along in 1999, the house didn't move an inch. Without water or electricity, they rebuilt the entire place by themselves. "That first summer, it was the three dogs and us. We were living out of a cooler, had a generator to make coffee, bathed on the beach and did what we could to keep ourselves together. We communicated through VHF and our call sign became "Flying Dogs" which was a natural since the dogs have had to fly back and forth so many times. We even named our boat 'Flying Dogs.'" In the summer the McBees spend as much time in the Bahamas as they can but admit that since 9-11 and the refinancing bubble, they have needed to be on Sanibel during most of the summer.

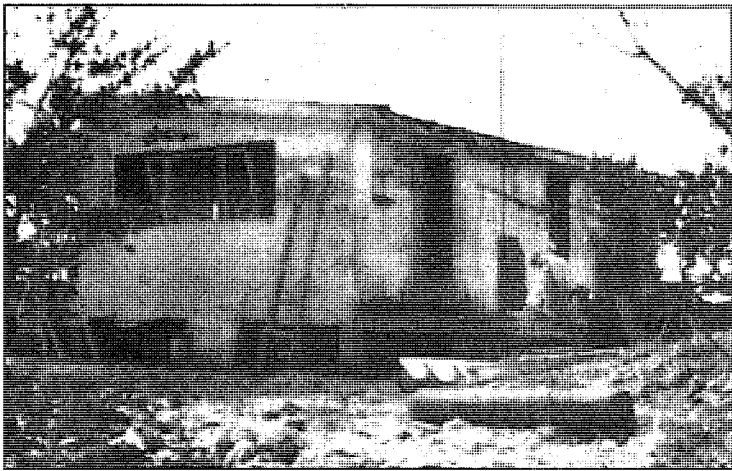
What Janet likes most is to spend time with her husband. "We have a blast together whether we're playing dominoes, jumping in our boat with Franni and



Bubba

This page, clockwise from above: Bubba shelling; Janet at two; the Bahamas cottage immediately after Hurricane Floyd and in 2003. Opposite page, clockwise from top right: Janet and David at their Bahamas cottage in 2003; David and Janet in the '70s, taken the summer before college and Janet cruisin' with Franni and Josh.

and Josh to cruise the canals or just eating Texmex, a Mexican food the way they make it in Texas. The only problem is that I've had to change my eating habits and my latest addiction is rice cakes with peanut butter. I keep telling myself, 'Don't sweat the small stuff, it's all small stuff.'



Two Island Charities get Grants from Southwest Florida Community Foundation

BIG ARTS and the Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum have received Founders Society grants from the Southwest Florida Community Foundation.

BIG ARTS received a grant of \$1,350 to help purchase sound equipment for the agency's theater.

The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum received a grant of \$1,900 to help fund student educational tours of the facility.

The Founder's Society is the membership arm of the 27 year old Southwest Florida Community Foundation. Members donate \$200 or more each year. Ninety percent of the membership donations go directly to non-profit organizations in Lee, Charlotte, Collier, Glades and Hendry Counties. The Southwest Florida Community Foundation has assets of more than \$30 million.

The Founder's Society grants are in addition to grants available from the Community Foundation of Sanibel-Captiva, which award grants specifically to non-profits that serve island residents or workers on the islands. Deadline for the Community Foundation of Sanibel-Captiva grants is January 5.

Further information about both foundations is available by calling 274-5900.



Danny Morgan Band playing at Chadwick's New Year's Eve

The Danny Morgan Band will be playing at Chadwick's at South Seas Resort on New Year's Eve from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Featured is Bob "Sugar Lips" Lots, playing 70 harmonicas from all over the world, Ted Edmodson on vibraphone, alto, soprano and tenor saxophones, flute and keyboard; Jenny Cox on drums, vocals by Kelly Poher and Danny Morgan on vocals and guitar.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

MUNICIPAL CLOSING AND GARBAGE PICK-UP

Sanibel City Hall will be closed in observance of New Years on Thursday & Friday, January 1 & 2, 2004 and will resume regular office hours on Monday, January 5.

Garbage, recycling and vegetation waste collection by Florida Recycling Services (FRS) scheduled for Christmas and New Years Day will be one day later. Therefore, if your normal pick-up day is Thursday, January 1, your waste will be picked up on Friday, January 2, and the regularly scheduled Friday, January 2 pick-ups will be done on Saturday, January 3. The normal waste collection schedule will resume on Monday, January 5.

The City of Sanibel's Recreation facilities (Civic Center and Recreation Center) will be closed in observance of New Years on Thursday & Friday, January 1 & 2. The Civic Center offices will resume normal office hours on Monday, January 5. The Recreation Center will re-open Saturday & Sunday, January 3 & 4, 2004 from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. and will resume regular office hours on Monday, January 5, 2004.

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Sanibel wrecks send five to hospitals

Six traffic incidents within the city limits of Sanibel between Dec. 4 and Dec. 17 have resulted in five individuals being injured. On Friday, Sanibel Chief of Police Bill Tomlinson advised drivers, cyclists and pedestrians to "Slow down and be alert." The Chief said, "We anticipate significant increases in vehicular traffic as well as in the number of persons utilizing the shared-use paths as we enter the holiday season, thus making driver attentiveness even more important."

"The Sanibel Police Department works hard to keep our roads safe and prevent accidents through public education and enforcement. Our goal is to prevent all accidents — but it is especially disturbing to see five individuals transported to hospitals within a 13-day time span," he added.

12/04/03 Bicyclist hit by automobile at 2340 Periwinkle Way (The Village Shops). One person transported to hospital.

12/05/03 Pedestrian hit by automobile at 1740 Periwinkle Way (Sanibel Community Church). One person transported to emergency room.

12/05/03 Two-car collision on Periwinkle — no injuries.

12/10/03 Single car accident on Causeway Road — no injuries.

12/11/03 Two-car collision on San-Cap. Two people transported to emergency room.

12/16/03 Cyclist and automobile collision at Donax/Periwinkle. One person transported to emergency room.

"The eye-mind connection 'registers' bikers, motorcycle riders, skateboarders, skaters and pedestrians differently from the way it does cars — we seem to not 'see' them, even though they are in plain sight," Tomlinson said.

DRIVE SAFELY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Regatta, from page 9

ners must be present) and the second at the Florida Rep on Jan. 9 (winners do not have to be present to win). Raffle prizes have been provided by South Seas Resort, Offshore Sailing School, Congress Jewelers, Luc Century, Asylum Gym, Tetley's Restaurant, Barbara B. Mann, Mystery Train Dinner Theatre, Naples Dinner Theatre, Fishing Trip, West Bay Golf Club, Varian's Restaurant, Shaz Boutique, Bountiful Baskets, Blossom Shoppe and Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre.

Steve and Doris Colgate hosted a kick-off party for the regatta on Dec. 14, attended by sponsors, crews and supporters. The evening's highlight was a series of toy sailboat races emceed by San-Cap Chamber Executive Director Steve Greenstein: the sailboats were propelled across the Colgate pool by giant fans. The six sailboats each bore the logo of one of the sponsor teams and the South Seas Mariners won both toy boat races — they came in second in last year's Regatta; Merrill Lynch came in first. No doubt South Seas General Manager Chris van der Baars is bent on carrying the toy boat success to the big boat regatta on January 4.

Sponsor representatives, crew and coaches in attendance at the party included Frank Galeana from Galeana Pontiac and Brian Baugher from H2O Outfitters (Team Nautical Mile); Robert Moossy, Steve Romaine and Fran Payson from the Moossy Payson Team of Merrill Lynch; Sandy Stillwell and Gerald Laboda from the Florida Rep Navigators; Al Mann and Pam Naumann from Naumann Properties Inc.; Earl Kegler, Kevin Wensley, Beite Cook, Heather McIntosh, Mike Huffer and Joe Hanko of Offshore Sailing School.

Jack Robert's Courtyard Cafe provided the catering for the party, with desserts and treats from CLO Productions, Richelle Harrington and Eno Mann.

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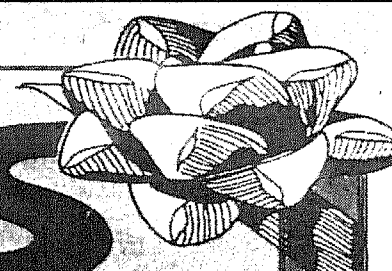


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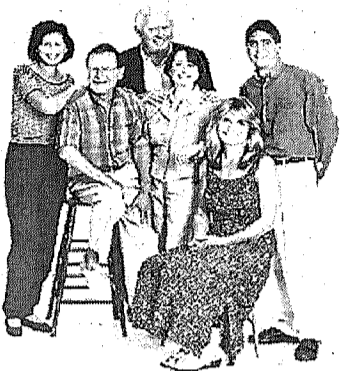
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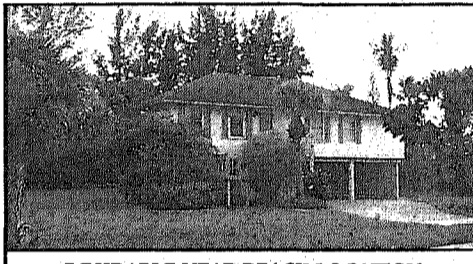
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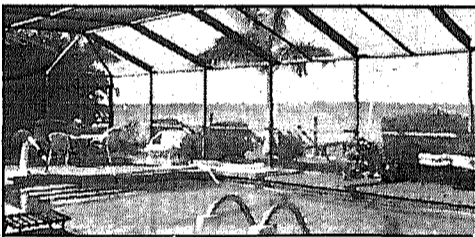
Walk or bike to the beach from this charming 2 bedroom, 2 bath near beach home. New AC & hot water heater. This home is being sold furnished. Storage room on ground level with lots of room under the house for vehicles or boat storage. \$409,994. Call Glenn Simmons at 472-1511.



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2BR/2BA + Den. Great sunset views from this 2nd floor condo unit. Semi private stairwell down to the beach. Amenities include heated pool, tennis, covered parking, elevator, extra storage and much more. \$1,699,999. Call Andy Gelberg at 472-1511.



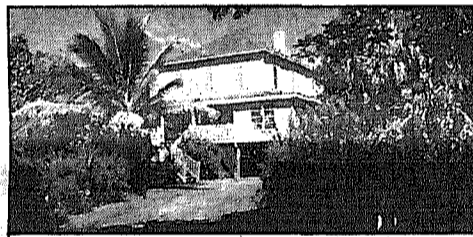
RIVER FRONT POOL HOME

4 Bedroom, 4 bath river-front home on direct access channel. Home offers both boat dock and separate boat lift on 108x166' sea walled lot. Living room with cathedral ceiling opens to large pool enclosed lanai. Located near the mouth of the river, and very near the Sanibel causeway. Offered for \$1,900,000. Call Ken Frey at 472-4121.



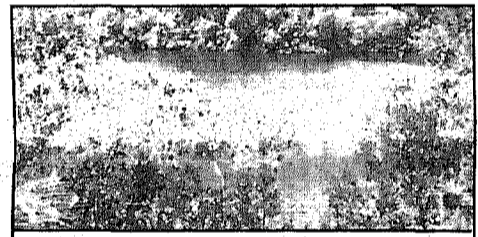
MARINER POINTE UNIT 1031

Bay front unit w/renovated kitchen & baths. First floor walk out offering great convenience. Complex has two pools, tennis courts, fishing pier, boat docks & beach access. You won't want to miss this 2 BD/2BA direct bay view unit priced at \$450,000. Call Ken Frey 472-4121.



HISTORICAL SANIBEL

Built in 1912, this two-story cottage operated as an inn decades ago. In 1983, it was moved from the beach to its present location. It has wood floors, a fireplace, 5BD/3.5BA & updated kitchen. It is on the Sanibel Historical Register. It sits on an acre lot. It has deeded beach access and is being sold "as is." \$839,000. Call Janie Frese at 472-1511.



LOVABLE AND LIVABLE ON THE LAKE

A warm welcome awaits you in this superbly-maintained 2 BD/2.5BA townhome condo. Designer décor touches, tile flooring in living areas, baths, and kitchen. Screened lanai, lovely lakefront setting, fully landscaped. A beautiful buy at only \$289,000. Call Margie Davison for details (800)527-8314 code 2222.



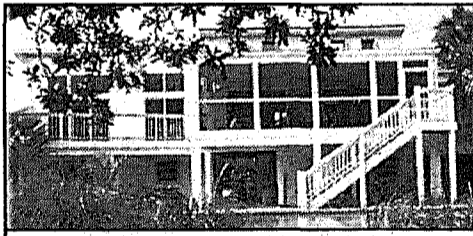
FABULOUS GOLF & LAKE VIEWS

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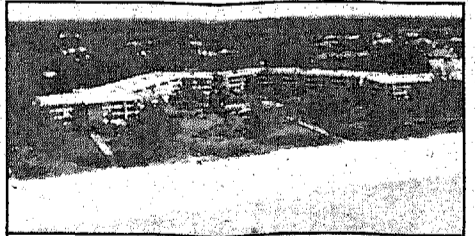
PARK YOUR BOAT IN THE BACKYARD!

Canal Front! Lighthouse end of Sanibel, 2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, home office, large heated pool, soaring ceilings, lots of storage, romantic porches and gardens, room to expand on lot, deeded beach access...quite simply a perfect home and priced to sell. \$639,000. Call Mary Lou Bailey at 472-4121



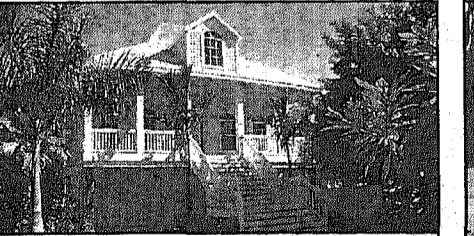
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SPECTACULAR GULF VIEWS

In this upscale two bedroom, two bath, plus den condominium apartment, first floor unit with stairs to beach and 30 x 50 heated swimming pool. The unit has been beautifully renovated and sparkles in the sunlight! 17 acres of beautiful Sanibel land! \$1,195,000. Call Mary Lou Bailey at 472-1511.



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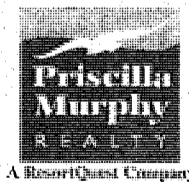
New 4 bed/4 bath home in Captiva's desirable "Village" area. Open and airy floor plan, gourmet kitchen, separate laundry room. Enclosed lower level for garage and lots of storage. Pool & spa with spacious lanai. Roof top sun deck. Close to beach, shops and restaurants. \$2,295,000. Call Jack Branyon at 472-5154.



VACANT LOT

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Sanibel School Science Fair

By Michael Hannan
Staff Writer

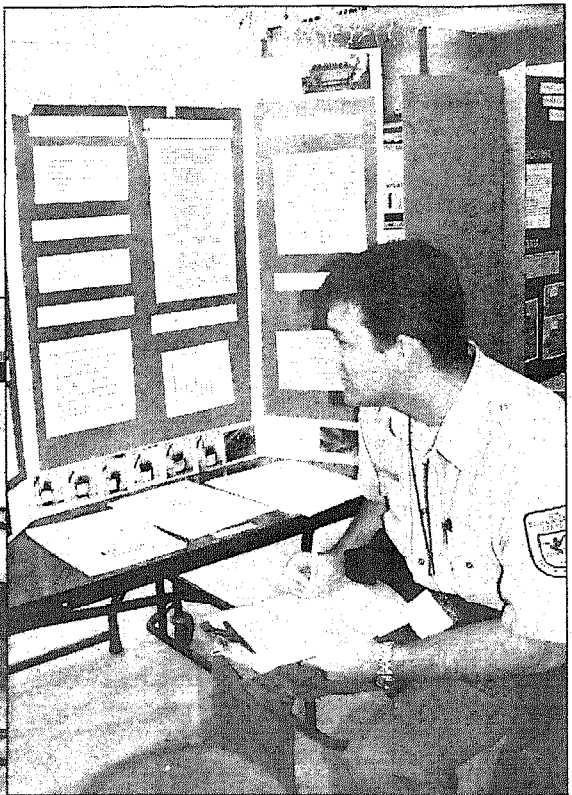
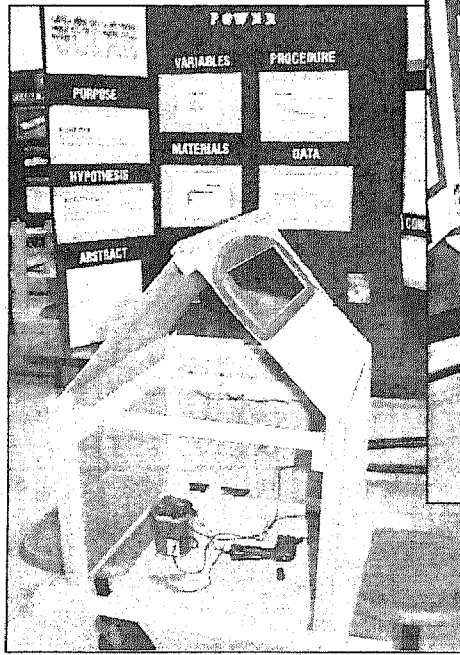
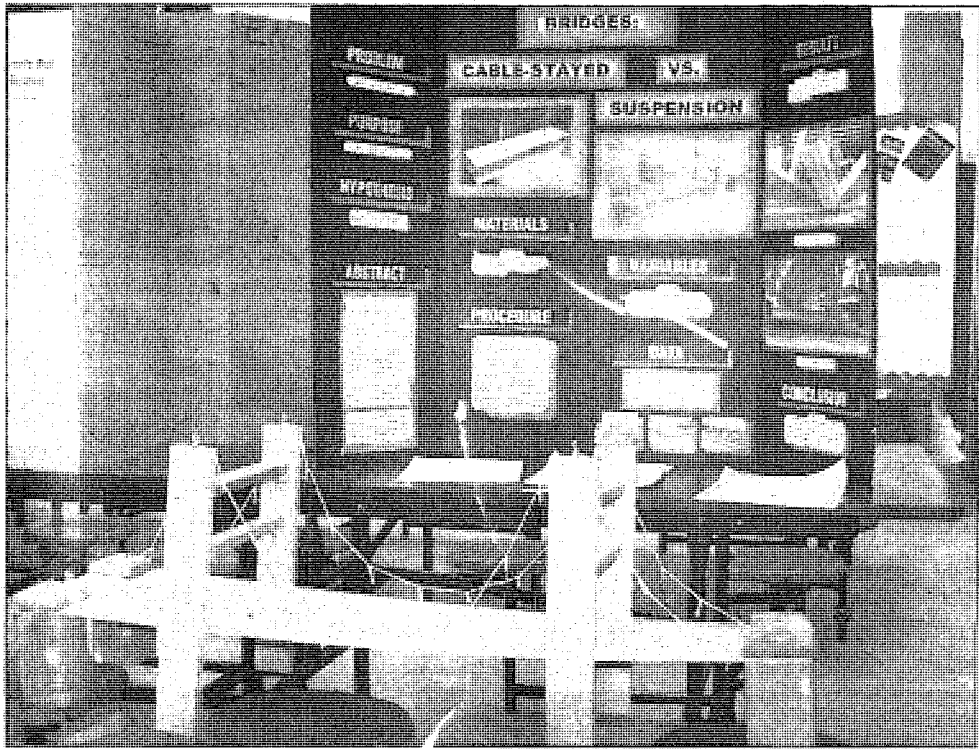
On Monday, December 15, 2003, the Middle School students of the Sanibel School held their science fair under the direction of Mrs. Judith Trivett, their science teacher. The fair was judged by City Council members, representatives from "Ding" Darling, the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, and

local business leaders.

Entries dealt with plant growth, battery life, sleep deprivation, bridge designs (not the causeway), water quality, sun block effectiveness, and a host of other investigations.

Students presented their work on cardboard triptychs that outlined the "scientific method" of their empirical process of investigation, including the

observation of phenomena, the formulation of a hypothesis concerning the phenomena, experimentation to demonstrate the truth or falseness of the hypothesis, and a conclusion that either validated



Above, Lead Park Ranger Kevin Godsea was also one of the judges. Below: City Council members Jim Jennings and Dick Walsh, evaluating Science Fair exhibits.



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Fuery, from page 7A

keep it short at first. Once, with my guide boat, I took our family — wife, Cheryl, Tess, six at the time, and my son, three. It took me a long time to catch bait. Once I got it, they fished for less than five minutes and wanted to go home. Figure a few short sessions, either at the Sanibel fishing pier, at Blind Pass rocks or at the causeway islands. Those are the three best spots to let learners have a chance to fish.

And, don't ever exhibit greediness to kids. If you get really lucky and catch your limits of fish, it's best to put back all that are not needed for dinner that night. That "fill-the-cooler" attitude which adults can pass on to kids gets to be a major problem later, as stocks go down and fishing pressure goes up. Frankly, if you can teach your kids catch-and-release, as I have done, it takes the pressure off and puts the fun back in.

Two last tips on fishing with kids who are learning to fish: Don't stand behind them and don't stand to the right. And don't forget your hard hat.

Shelling Tips

The Florida fighting conch goes into a rather particular ritual in some of these winter months which we are still trying to figure out. Basically, there can be dozens to hundreds which dig themselves out of the shallows along the beach and suddenly start crawling over the sand at low tide.

It's quite a site and interesting in when and why it occurs. I have watched it happen several times a year and I think it's tied into an alga bloom around a full moon. These are true conches which don't eat other shells.

At times, they can dig out and be all over the sand bars at the lowest of tides. Of course, you know there is a full ban on the taking of any living shells, so you can look, but don't take.

As I always theorize, they all have to die of natural causes sometime, so it pays to check them to see if they are dead, empty fighting conchs you are finding. You have to look over many to possibly find a dead one, but most are great in color and, since it is a stout shell, the overall condition is usually very good.

Good shelling this week.

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

Wetlands, from page 8A

maintain this important component of federal wetland protection. Protection of key habitat areas for waterfowl is central to the mission of DU and critically important to North America's migratory bird populations. This is a victory for efforts to conserve, restore, and manage critical breeding areas for waterfowl."

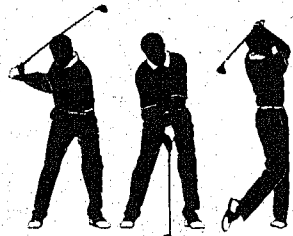
This much anticipated announcement comes just four days after President Bush met with Tomke and other conservation leaders to discuss major issues facing the wildlife conservation community. During that meeting, DU's president raised the importance of protecting isolated wetlands through the Clean Water Act to ensure healthy waterfowl and other wildlife populations, and emphasized it as a critical issue to hunter-conservationists and other outdoor enthusiasts across the United States.

"We applaud the Administration's wetland protection decision," says Young. "There are still some outstanding issues, including pending cases before the Supreme Court with regards to the Clean Water Act. Therefore, we will continue to devote time and attention to this topic in an effort to conserve and protect this country's critical wetland resources."

Beachview Men's Golf

The results for the Beachview Men's Association modified stableford tournament held on December 13th were as follows: First place, with a 104, Ken Gillett, Daved Rubien, Stan Sheft and John Moores. Second place, with a 97, Bill Fellows, Tom Maggio and Bill Blankenship. Third place, with an 82, Bill Pritchard, Joe Hoffmann, Bob Myers and Dick Grant.

The December 16th, 2 best balls winners were Bruce Avery, John Moores and Ralph Suechting with a 59.



Nifty Niners

Results: December 18

Event: Odd Holes, Even Holes

A Flight Score

Odds

1st Place Julie O'Neill 20

2nd Place Lois Smith 23

Evens

1st Place Nancy Hopkins 11

2nd Place Marilyn Bigelow 12

B Flight Score

Odds

1st Place Ginny Burgoyne 17

2nd Place Marge Nordstrom 19

Evens

1st Place Mary Lou Tecklenburg 11

2nd Place Gwen Trautwein 13

Chip-Ins #1

Marge Nordstrom

Congratulations to the winners!

Dunes 18-Hole

Women's

Golf

Results: December 19

'Twas a cold and blustery morning when the few DWGA members teed-off for their tournament.

Event: Odd Holes Front-Even Holes Back

A Flight Score

1st Place - tie

Debbie Fairbanks 47

Nancy Greenberg

B Flight

1st Place Joan Smith 51

C Flight

1st Place Mardi Glenn 52

D Flight

1st Place Adrienne Cross 48

Chip-Ins 2

Mary Vernon

Pam Brodersen

Betsy Cox



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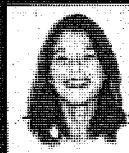
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TO YOUR HEALTH

More intensive searches may prevent deaths

Most Alzheimer's and dementia patients who are found dead after becoming lost in the community stray no farther than a mile from their home or living facility, yet it may take days or weeks to locate them, according to a new University of Florida study.

OF nursing researchers have identified distinct patterns in these cases, yielding new insights likely to provide more efficient strategies for rescuers searching for those who wander.

Findings from the OF study, reported in the current issue of the American Journal of Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias, emphasize the need for community members and law enforcement officials to use search methods specific to dementia patients so they are more likely to be found alive. These methods are especially vital when extreme cold or hot weather limits survival times for people stranded outside, and as a result, deaths are most frequent, researchers said.

"These (dementia-related) searches can vary greatly from a search for a healthy missing adult or even a child because of the dementia patient's tendency to stick close to home in an isolated spot," said Meredith Rowe, Ph.D., R.N., the study's principal investigator and an associate professor at UF's College of Nursing. "Thus, law enforcement officers must conduct repeated searches that comb nearby areas thoroughly."

Those who roamed not only stuck surprisingly close to home but also secluded themselves, and unlike most missing adults or children, they weren't likely to respond when searchers called for them, Rowe said.

"There were no reports of these individuals responding to calls of searchers looking for them, even though searchers often were very close to where the individual was eventually found," Rowe said. "The problem-solving skills of these individuals are impaired, so when they become scared, they may try to find protection from the outside world instead of responding to aid."

Scientists estimate that approximately 4.5 million people in the United States suffer from Alzheimer's disease, and this number could grow to 16 million by the year 2050.

For the study, funded by the OF College of Nursing, Rowe studied U.S. newspaper reports from

1998 to 2002 that described 93 incidents in which people with dementia died as a result of becoming lost. The news accounts described whether the person had a dementing illness, had become lost alone and had subsequently been found dead. Reports also included at least half the variables assessed in the study, including age, gender and residence, and details of how and where the person disappeared and was found.

Rowe's previous research focused on tracking the patterns of missing dementia patients who were found dead or alive. Although only a small percentage of those found were dead, the deceased patients shared similar characteristics, spurring Rowe to launch the current study to pinpoint patterns and identify ways to prevent a tragic outcome.

"In our previous study, it was interesting that the few individuals found dead all were found in natural unpopulated areas, where it would be difficult for law enforcement to rescue and assist them," Rowe said. "We discovered that many of the rescue searches that occurred may have come extremely close to the body without knowing it. Clearly, law enforcement officials must be attuned to the specific needs of a search for someone with Alzheimer's or dementia."

Eighty-seven percent of the individuals in the current study were found in unpopulated natural areas around their homes, such as woods, bodies of water, fields, ditches, brush, wetlands, ravines or canals. Most left areas where they could be easily seen and secluded themselves in natural and abandoned areas, where they remained until they succumbed to the natural elements. In 68 percent of the cases, the cause of death was exposure to the outdoors, followed by drowning in 23 percent of the cases.

Sixty-five of the 93 deaths - about 70 percent - occurred in the warmest or coldest months of the year. It took more than a week to find the victims in a third of the cases.

"Since most patients are found alive, the first 12 hours of a search should focus on populated areas, such as residential yards, businesses, highways and sidewalks," Rowe said. "However, after the first six to 12 hours, it is critical for law enforcement to intensively search natural and secluded areas in the one-mile radius of where the person disappeared."

Caregivers should not try to logically deduce where dementia patients may have been wandering to when they became lost, such as a former home or business, Rowe said. A patient's intended path is usually completely unpredictable, she said.

A recent search for a missing dementia patient in Jacksonville was aided by recommendations based on Rowe's research, said Sgt. Michael Eason, supervisor

Next CHADD meeting

On Thursday, January 8, CHADD (Children and Adults With Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder) is hosting a workshop — MEDICATIONS — from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Lee Memorial Hospital Auditorium at 2776 Cleveland Avenue.

This presentation by Omar Rieche, a board certified physician in child, adolescent and adult psychiatry, is intended for parents, adults with AD/HD, school and mental health professionals. The information presented will include DSM-IV diagnostic criteria, what medications are appropriate, can medications be avoided, new discoveries and side effects. A question and answer session will follow.

The meeting is free and open to the public and is approved for teacher in-service credit by Lee County Staff Development. Genesis III Counseling Center is approved by the Florida Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy & Mental Health Counseling as a provider of continuing education credit (BAP #206/Exp. 3/31/05). The center can offer two CEC's for this program.

For more information, please contact Lynne Lampila, chapter president, 466-1167, or M. Jean Gavin, publicity coordinator, 472-9758.

of the Jacksonville Sheriffs Office Missing Persons Unit.

"We patterned our grid search based on Dr. Rowe's advice," Eason said. "What we have found in the past - which is supported by this research - is that these searches are like finding a needle in a haystack. At times, the most sophisticated searches using technology and dogs do not succeed. We are now working on a training segment for our officers using Dr. Rowe's research and expertise. I would recommend that police departments around the country have a specific procedure in place for these types of missing persons."

Both Eason and Rowe stress that all caregivers, including trained personnel in assisted living facilities, waste no time in calling the police when a dementia patient becomes lost in the community and a brief cursory search is not successful. Because a search is greatly limited by the amount of daylight, a delay of even a couple of hours can make the difference between life and death, Eason said.

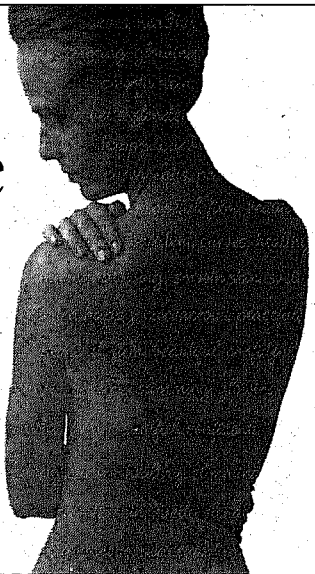
"The most important thing for caregivers to realize is that dementia patients all have the capacity to become lost, even in the best type of caregiving situations," Rowe said. "Registering your loved one with a national database, such as the Alzheimer's Association's Safe Return program, provides a means of possible identification and return in the case that someone does become lost."

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Volunteers needed for Drive Fore Hope Golf Classic

Drive Fore Hope is looking for volunteers to assist in the planning and organizing of the First Annual Drive Fore Hope Golf Classic and VIP Party, scheduled to take place on Saturday, March 27, with proceeds to benefit the Hunter's Hope Foundation.

Hunter's Hope is a non-profit organization established in 1997 by Hall of Fame quarterback Jim Kelly and his wife Jill after their son Hunter was diagnosed with

Krabbe Leukodystrophy, a genetic disorder affecting the nervous system. Symptoms begin two to six months of age and include colic, stiffness, feeding difficulty, reflux, fevers, loss of milestones and cortical thumbs. The average life expectancy is 13 months.

The purpose of the Foundation is to increase public awareness of Krabbe and other leukodystrophies, so that other chil-

dren may have early detection and treatment. The Foundation's ultimate goal is to help raise funds to support research efforts to find a cure.

In an effort to increase awareness and to raise money, a committee has been established to host the Drive Fore Hope Golf Classic. The event takes place at Heritage Palms Golf & Country Club and is sponsored by US Home, a Lennar Company. The committee is seeking additional volunteers to help in planning and organizing the

evening and to help secure more sponsorship dollars from local businesses, assist with the marketing and promotion of the event, solicit area retailers and vendors for silent and live auction items, which will be available for bidding at the dinner following the tournament and aid in planning the VIP reception scheduled to take place the night before.

For more information, please contact Suzanne Ostertag, committee chairperson, at 239-540-1355 or Nickole Hendra at 239-481-7856.

Hunter's Hope Foundation Fact Sheet

Krabbe Disease

One in 100,000 live births in the United States are afflicted with Krabbe Disease. Approximately 2 million people (or one out of 125) in the United States are carriers of the genetic deficiency that causes Krabbe Disease (Pronounced: CRAB-A). Yet, awareness about this disease is very limited. Until recently the only treatment options were limited to symptom management and palliative care.

Now, a new and revolutionary treatment, Cord Blood Transplant, is saving the lives of many sick, young children and babies. This new method of treatment is bringing new hope to those afflicted with a variety of diseases including Krabbe, other Leukodystrophies and Lysosomal Storage Disorders.

Cord Blood Transplant Saves Lives

Transplantation therapy was tested in patients with infantile Krabbe Disease to determine whether early administration of these cells would provide sufficient enzyme to the peripheral and central nervous systems to facilitate normal myelination.

It has been shown that stem cells from bone marrow and umbilical cord blood can differentiate into non-hematopoietic tissues including brain, bone, liver, pancreas and cartilage. Transplantation of healthy donor cells into children with certain inborn errors of metabolism can halt disease progression and, in some cases, repair damage caused by the disease.

Cord blood is less particular than bone marrow because the stem cells are undeveloped and don't require a perfect match to the patient. The risk of cord blood cells mounting a serious immune attack against host tissues is only about 10%, the same as with a perfectly matched related bone marrow. Treatment with bone marrow or cord

blood transplantation requires exposure to 1 - 2 weeks of high dose chemotherapy.

A Brief History of Cord Blood Transplants

The first unrelated cord blood transplant in the United States was performed at Duke University Medical Center in 1993. Since then, cord blood transplants have become increasingly common. Nationwide over 500 cord blood transplants are performed each year, compared to about 6,600 bone marrow transplants. This procedure has saved the lives of more than 1,000 patients worldwide.

Dr. Joanne Kurtzberg is the Director of the Pediatric Bone Marrow and Stem Cell Transplant program at Duke. She is a pioneer in cord blood transplants and helped revolutionize the procedure, which she has been working on for more than 20 years.

"Now that an effective therapy is available for infants with Krabbe Disease, newborn screening is essential to identify affected babies at a time when they can maximally benefit from treatment." - Dr. Joanne Kurtzberg

Research

Globoid-cell Leukodystrophy, or Krabbe Disease, is a genetic disorder that leads to the deterioration of myelin and the central nervous system. Currently, there is neither a cure for Krabbe Disease or other Leukodystrophies nor successful treatments to reverse the damage caused to brain and nerve tissue. Some therapeutic approaches, such as cord blood transplantation, show promise if performed very early, however, early diagnosis remains elusive. Research is desperately needed in such key areas as newborn screening, the development of new gene therapy approaches and a better understanding of effective gene delivery systems, bone marrow and cord blood transplantation, including in utero transplants, and the development of therapies that would restore myelin.

About the Hunter's Hope Foundation — The Kelly Family

The Hunter's Hope Foundation was established in 1997 by Pro Football Hall of Fame member and former Buffalo Bills Quarterback, Jim Kelly and his wife, Jill, after their infant son Hunter, was diagnosed with Krabbe Disease (Globoid-Cell Leukodystrophy). The Foundation is the Kelly's life long commitment to increase public awareness of Krabbe Disease and other Leukodystrophies as well as to increase the likelihood of early detection and treatment. Their ultimate goal is to raise money to fund research efforts to identify new treatments, therapies, and a cure for Krabbe Disease. To date, the Foundation has awarded over \$3.5 million to Leukodystrophy and other neurological disease related research.

Hunter's Hope Foundation Mission

Hunter's Hope Foundation was established to address the acute need for information and research with respect to Krabbe Disease and related Leukodystrophies. In addition, we strive to support and encourage those afflicted and their families as

they struggle to endure, adjust and cope with the demands of these fatal illnesses. Accordingly, our mission is four-fold:

- * To broaden public awareness of Krabbe Disease and other Leukodystrophies thus increasing the probability of early detection and treatment.
- * To gather and provide current, functional information and service linkages to families of children with Leukodystrophies.
- * To fund research efforts that will identify new treatments, therapies and ultimately, a cure for Krabbe Disease and other Leukodystrophies.
- * To establish an alliance of hope that will nourish, affirm and confront the urgent need for medical, financial and emotional support of family members and those afflicted with Leukodystrophies.

Among the essential goals, founders Jim and Jill Kelly, seek to inspire an appreciation of all children and express a thankful heart towards God for these precious gifts of life. These bedrock values are categorically and vigilantly expressed throughout all of the Foundation's programs and activities.

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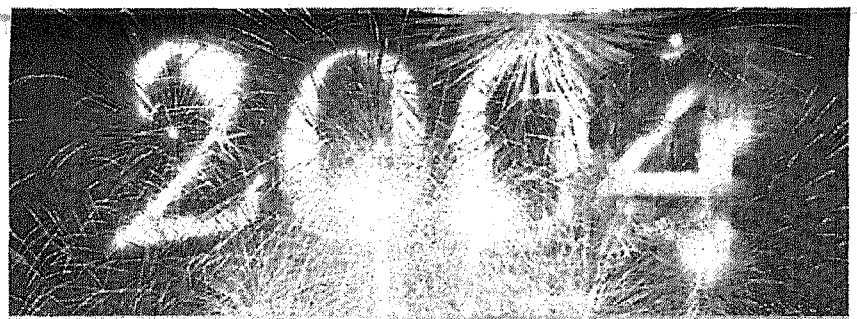
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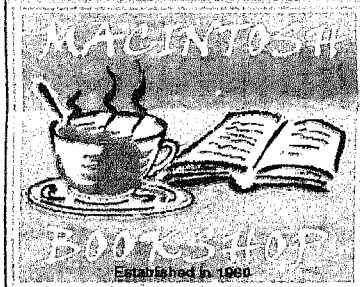
Marybel Benzrihem and Robyne Kuehner of CopiKats

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by Nancy Santeusania
 Special to The Islander

Imagine a specialty shop where you can find exclusive merchandise at an incredible value. That's what owners Marybel Benzrihem and Linda Cleary created when they pooled their expertise and opened CopiKats in Tahitian Gardens almost two years ago. They originally licensed the name "Why Not Accessorize" but they unexpectedly received a call from a similarly named shop, asking how they could be such "copycats." After recovering from the perceived insult, they realized that "copycats" was a provocative, catchy and funky name... and changed their sign. CopiKats has just recently undergone a second transition: Benzrihem is leaving the business and islander Robyne Kuehner has joined Cleary as the second half of the team.

May islanders and visitors will recognize the merchandise found here — as well as the fact that it's usually at least 30% below the identical merchandise in New York, Las Vegas, Palm Beach and Naples. The price point ranges from two dollars to four hundred dollars, with a terrific selection at the low to mid price range. For example, you'll find two dollar earrings, a sunglass necklace for five dollars and a lot of very moderately priced jewelry with Swarovski crystals. As one discriminating shopper said, "There are expensive stores and junk stores on the island and then there's Copikats with outstanding merchandise at fair prices."

Over 80% of the watches are under \$29 and Copikats is well known for its hair accessories: a butterfly clip with wings that actually move and all kinds of unique combs, headbands and scrunchies — the kind of accessories you've always wanted to own or to give. Terry Stack's interchangeable belts and buckles are wonderfully versatile, allowing you to choose the buckle you want to customize your look.

The limited edition Debbie Brooks handbags are popular with the stars. One lady exclaimed, "I must have this Debbie Brooks bag but I need the matching wallet also. I'm buying it as the perfect gift for my daughter-in-law, who says Britney Spears has this same bag." There is even a custom CopiKats all-leather design, with the CopiKats logo and the words Sanibel and Captiva featured on the front of the bag.

Handbag connoisseurs can find lightweight, fine leather handbags designed by J.P. Ourse. Benzrihem purchased her first Ourse handbag over twenty years ago and despite it's hard use the bag is still in perfect condition: "the more I use it the softer the leather gets." Timmy Woods of Beverly Hills bags, made from acacia wood, are featured on the TV show "Sex in the City." CopiKats' incredible collection of handbags also includes the Redtango line with the "cat" motif used by stars like Jennifer Aniston in the TV show "Friends." Fluorescent orange or blue "jelly bags" were the hottest item at this season's accessory shows.

Benzrihem is leaving CopiKats to work with her husband at Congress Jewelers and new owner Kuehner is not a stranger to the island. She and her husband, Dr. Dennis Kuehner, own the San-Cap Medical Center.

CopiKats offers a great selection of Wow gifts at "purrfect" prices... and remember that a gift is also something that you can give yourself.

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Right: Joan Bitzer's watercolor, "Fishing on the Causeway"
Left: Betty Wiese's look at the other side of the Causeway, also a watercolor

Below: An oil by Pat Baker - "Geraniums"

Portraits, Landscapes & Still Lifes is the San-Cap Art League exhibit on display at the Sanibel Library through Tuesday, Jan. 6.

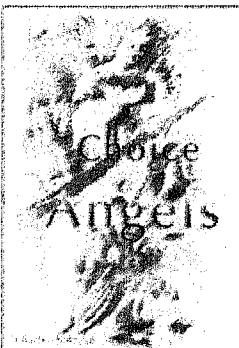


Sobczak will also be signing copies of his other books



Local author to sign

On New Year's Eve day, Wednesday, Dec. 31, Sanibel author Charles Sobczak will be signing copies of his latest novel, *A Choice of Angels*, from noon until two p.m. at CW's Market & Deli in Chadwicks Square on Captiva.



A Choice of Angels is a critically acclaimed novel set in Atlanta that tells the story of the forbidden marriage between a Muslim girl and the son of a Southern Baptist minister.

In June, the book received a starred review by Booklist, the official review publication of The American Library Association. Signed, numbered, limited first-edition hardbound copies of the novel will be available at the signing.

including *Six Mornings on Sanibel*, *Way Under Contract* and *Rhythm of the Tides*. The public is invited to attend.

For additional information, contact Kathy at CW's (472-5111).

Dance for teenagers

Teen Swing'n'Salsa Dance Workshops will be offered Jan. 16-March 19 at the Alliance for the Arts. In this 10-week course teens will have fun while learning the hot and hip dance moves of the Swing and Salsa, plus dance fundamentals. The classes are progressive, building off the previous week. No partner is required; everyone changes partners as they learn the dance. The class, for ages 13-18, will be taught on Fridays from 4 to 6 p.m. by National Dance Champion, Honey Larsen.

The full session (10 Fridays from Jan. 16-March 19) is \$150 per person, with Alliance members receiving a \$15 dis-

count. A half session (five Fridays from Jan. 16 - Feb 13) (Swing) OR Feb. 20-March 19 (Salsa) is \$100 per person with Alliance

members receiving a \$10 discount. Classes will take place at the Alliance for the Arts, 10091 McGregor Boulevard. Pre-registration is required two weeks prior to first class; call the Alliance at 939-2787.

Art fair in Naples

8th Annual Downtown Naples Art Fair takes place this weekend on Saturday and

Sunday, Dec. 27th and 28th, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. outdoors on 5th Avenue South, between 3rd Street and Tamiami Trail. More than 300 national and international award-winning artists will be displaying a wide variety of media valued at over \$15 million. Exhibits include oil and watercolor paintings, life-size sculptures, fine ceramics, photography, stained glass, mosaics, jewelry and lots of other artwork.

Admission to the show is free. Prices of the artwork range from a \$20 for a pair of earrings to a \$30,000 metal sculpture.

Live musical performances will be provided by Stephen Mikes, sitarist; Doug Walker, steel drummer; and Kayte Wolfe, keyboardist/vocalist. The many varieties of foodstuffs will include ice cream, arepas, Greek delicacies, kettle corn — a great assortment.

For more information, call Fifth Avenue South (239) 435-3742, or preview the festival by visiting www.ART_FESTIVAL.com.



Long running tradition at Chadwick's

The Danny Morgan Band returns to Chadwick's for the popular restaurant's popular New Year's Eve party. Big fun, that's how this party goes... lots of laughing, dancing, singing along and impromptu acts of wildness.

Danny always brings in special out of town musicians for the event and this year is no different. Bob "Sugar Lips" Lotz, the Cincinnati harmonica wizard, will be here with his collection of over 70 harmonicas from all over the world. Tod Edmondson from Miami will be playing vibraphone, alto, soprano and tenor saxophones, flute and keyboard. Filling out the group is smooth-voiced Kelly Pohler, the best in beat drummers, Kenny Cox, and, of course, Danny himself on guitars and vocals.

The band plays a very wide variety of music — something for everyone.



CENTER STAGE

Ho!Ho!Ho! One heck of a show!!!



The holiday season has officially been ushered in on Sanibel with JT Smith's original seasonal revue *Ho!Ho!Ho!* The Christmas Show, currently playing at The Old Schoolhouse Theater. This little gem of a big enjoyment show will play up to and including New Year's Eve, Dec. 31st. Because of the show's past successes, extra shows have been added: two on Saturdays, Dec. 20th and Dec. 27th, plus two Sunday shows, Dec. 21st and 28th — only one dark night, on Christmas. This edition of *Ho!Ho!Ho!* is one of the best ever. As usual, the maestro JT has tweaked and tightened this holiday hilarity, 'til it fairly crackles with fun and merry madness. The

only thing missing is JT himself at his usual place at the piano, but this plus-perfect cast give it their all, and believe me that's saying a lot.

The grand theatrical dame of the island, The Old Schoolhouse Theater, has been dressed-to-the-nines in her Christmas finery outside and in. Only inside, there are the added holiday delights of a funny, festive entertainment treat, presented by a cast that I've renamed "The Fab Five." The members of The Fab Five are Jennifer Jurek — a young woman with a big Broadway sound when she belts, a smokey sound when she's soulful, and a wry sense of humor and timing that is captivating; Jeffery Searles — movie-star handsome with vocal abilities and lyric interpretations that have never been stronger, sweeter or better (It's good to see him back on the Old Schoolhouse stage performing this season); Kathryn Stefanie — dimpled smile and a pleasing

voice that can go from tender sweet to dynamite in a heart-beat; John Vessels — giving his all, as usual, hurling high tenor notes to the rafters one minute, wringing laughs out of burlesque bits like the crazy clown he is the next.

Last but not least is newcomer Music Director Dan Costello who is not only a terrific accompanist but also has a winning personality, plus a charming flair for comedy. I must also mention an add-on cast member, Production Stage Manager Billy Breed who doubles in brass in *Ho!Ho!Ho!* — Breed is a hoot playing a zany, running gag of comic crossovers featuring a Demented Elf apparently under the influ-

ence of the Grinch Who Stole Christmas. Breed made every crossover pay off with gales of giggles.

After the opening musical medley of Holiday Cheer, and the introductions of the cast, the show breaks wide open with that perennial favorite in which the audience bellows out "The Twelve Days of Christmas." This particular bit of audience madness brings out the holiday ham in all of us. The old saw of "We never see ourselves as others see us" could be a bit of a blessing in this instance. I'm quite certain we'd be flabbergasted at what we'd witnessed. I can assure you, some of spectators gave some rather astounding, physical, as well as vocal interpretations. Every year the Days or daze get wilder, but no matter, it does get everyone in a jolly, holly, Christmasy mood. The aftermath of those 12 days was played to the inebriated hilt by funny-man John Vessels.

Kathryn Stefanie poured much sweetness and light into her presentation of "Christmas Time is Here" and "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." "The Magical Kingdom of Claus," JT's take-off on *The Wizard of Oz*, remains one of the highlights of *Ho!Ho!Ho!* Katy, as Glinda the Good Witch looked adorable and sang in wonderful quavery tones proving that glamour and talent will shine even wearing a lampshade crown. John did a fine impersonation of the wacky wizard, Jeffery was a charming chi-chi-Chinaman, Dan wagged and woofed wonderfully as Toto the dog. And Jennifer's southern belle accent gave a whole new meaning to Dorothy, alive and well and hailing from Kansas. Quick-change artist Jennifer traded accent as well as character in a right-on hip version of her simple Christmas wish to be "Rich Famous and Powerful." Jeffery and John's lilting tones blended beautifully in their well-sung duos of "I'll Be Home For Christmas/Home For the Holidays" and "The Christmas

ferent countries, brought the first half of this enchanting concoction of "Holiday Hash" to intermission.

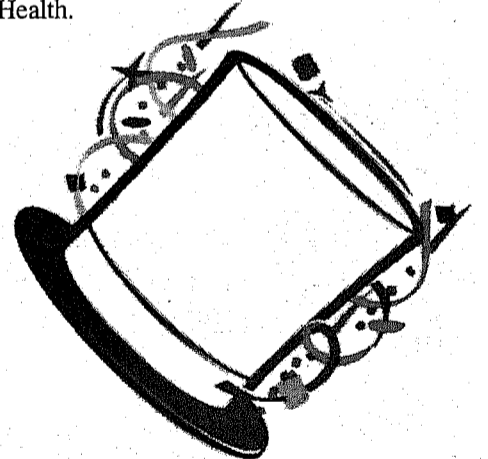
The second act utilized this cast's fine vocal blend and high energy for a gospel version of "Go Tell It On the Mountain." The rousing single piano accompaniment by Dan Costello proved him to be a fine musician as well as a good musical director. His comic acting skills got a workout in his boyish, goyish interpretation of "The Hanukkah Song."

The cheery cast had a *Ho!Ho!Ho!* hilariously swell time with the "Rudolph Sing Along," doing a reindeer version of "Leader of the Pack/Prancin' in the Street" while "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree/Doin' The Jingle Bell Rock." Jeffrey sang simply and superbly "Another Year," while John wrapped us up in his tender and sweet performance of "Just in Time." These two numbers merged into the finale "Three Kings," Silent Night," "Oh Holy Night," and "Let There be Peace on Earth." This sincerely sung message of light, peace and inner joy was the perfect ending to the best little Christmas show ever. *Ho!Ho!Ho!* RULES! This production is once again the perfect holiday present for those of us, that might need a little Christmas right this very minute, right here on Sanibel, right now. Call the box office at 472-6862 for your helping of holiday cheer. Then tell 'em Marsha sent you.



MARSHA WAGNER

I want to take this moment to wish all of you — my dear friends, neighbors, and visitors — the merriest of Christmases and the happiest of New Years. May your days be filled with Peace Love and Good Health.



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THE MUSIC SCENE

An evening of Cabaret at Schein Hall



On Dec. 18, to the strains of carefree, Chicago-style Dixieland jazz, BIG Arts patrons entered Schein Hall which had been magically transformed into an intimate cabaret setting — complete with subdued lighting, candles flickering on tables and even a dance floor... perfect for an evening of cabaret entertainment. Kimberly Kaye fit the bill perfectly. She has been singing in supper clubs, restaurants and cabarets in the Tampa Bay area for the past 15 years — most notably, five nights a week with tonight's musical leader and pianist, Don Scaletta at Maggiano's Little Italy Restaurant at Westshire Plaza. She was accompanied by Scaletta on piano, Billy Pillucere on bass, and Chuck Parr on drums.

The trio opened the program with a blues number that allowed the instrumentalists to display their adept improvisational skills. Kaye was then introduced by Scaletta and plunged into a medium tempo version of Gershwin's "I Got Rhythm," sung with just the right touch of Washington's shades and timbre. She is lovely to look at and possesses a vibrancy and zestful stage presence which is easily and joyfully communicated to the listener. Her singing reflects many influences, including Nat "King" Cole and Doris Day. She doesn't swing like Ella nor have the depth of feeling that Billie exhibited, but she does have a most pleasant voice with fine intonation and clear diction.

Her relaxed attitude, informality and joy of singing was felt by all and set the tone for the evening's performance. She encouraged everyone to dance if they were moved to do so and when she sang the very slow-tempoed "The

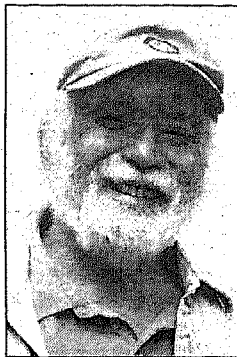
Nearness Of You," the dance floor was filled to capacity and looked like a 50-year high school reunion!

The result of years of performing together, the arrangements and the trio's compactness were most professional, with clever intros and "out" choruses. Also, Scaletta sensitively underscored Kaye's verbal introduction of each song with just the right touch. There was ample space for the piano, bass and drums to "stretch-out," and display their improvisational skills.

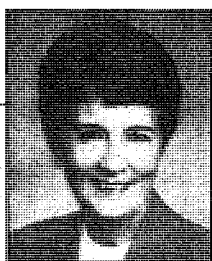
Among the standards we heard were "Anything Goes," "Night And Day," "Fly Me To The Moon," "The Christmas Song," "Winter Wonderland," "I'll Be Home For Christmas," "I Love Being Here With You," "Jingle Bells," and a bossa nova version of "Besame Mucho." Kaye gave a nod to Frank Sinatra with "The Summer Wind," complete with a clever piano chorus that superimposed other well-known melodies over the existing harmonic chord changes, and another to Nat "King" Cole with "Route 66."

The audience enjoyed the informal and festive atmosphere, and the performers did not disappoint. This was danceable music and Kaye has the ability to sparkle and please the crowd with her warm and infectious personality and pleasant voice. Parr displayed tasteful drumming, especially with his sensitive use of brushes; bassist Pillucere projected a full acoustic bass sound with interesting and flowing bass solos; while Scaletta's arrangements, accompaniments and jazz solos were professionally executed with a delicate pianistic touch.

An entertaining evening was had by all who danced and/or listened as this informal and timely program certainly set the mood for the upcoming holidays.



HAROLD LIEBERMAN



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Presented by
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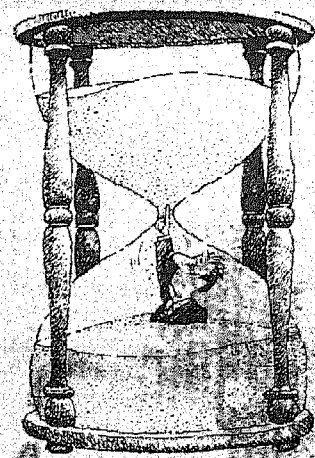
PLAYING IT SAFE

Conduct a thorough check for any safety hazards when you are getting your house ready to put on the market. You may be accustomed to the worn tread on the stairs, toys in the hallway, or closets that deposit their contents at your feet when the door is opened, but strangers won't be as intuitive as you are. They will be vulnerable to those little "hazards" as they walk through your home, turning on the faucets, opening closet doors, and going up and down the stairs.

The stairs are a good place to begin your safety check—could someone tall accidentally bang their head on a beam, pipe or the ceiling as they go up or down? Is the carpeting on the stairs securely fastened? An area rug should have a non-slip mat underneath.

Safety is important because someone who is injured in your home could sue you for damages. This doesn't happen often, but if it does, it can be extremely unpleasant. "Better safe than sorry" applies to house as well—especially when they are for sale.

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 visit her web site at <http://www.MargieDavison.com>.



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DATELINE HOLLYWOOD

The Wakeup Christmas

Christmastime often brings out the best in people. (Yes, it can even bring out the worst but, per usual, someone else can cover the negative angle.) The Christmas Season has evolved into a time of millions of added bright lights, noticeably extra comings and goings of people and a dramatic change in the type and beat of music filling the airwaves. While it is accurate to say that today there is more of everything, the general description of things and activities has not changed all that much over the past 50 years or so.

We can sort the previous yuletide seasons by the people we shared time with, the places where we celebrated and the events that occurred.

There was a particular story this year, a news item. I saw it just about a week before Santa's Big Ride. A cache of donated Christmas gifts meant for underprivileged children was stolen. In just a few days, people not only replaced the gifts that took weeks to accumulate, they increased the original quantity several times over. The story gave me a profoundly good feeling, a sentiment I'm sure you share. The incident also led to an arousal of some profound memories of a Christmastime from my grade school days.

I grew up on the east side of Cleveland in Collinwood, a beautiful, well-kept neighborhood. The Northeast YMCA was a major asset, providing a trustworthy place with programs to enhance the lives of the people of our community. I fondly recall Mr. Elmer Fairchild, the executive director. He was one of the kindest, most caring human beings I have ever been privileged to know. His positive attitude, upbeat disposition and friendly demeanor personified Christmas all year 'round.

I remember walking into the Y one day after school, shortly before Christmas. I saw several kids wrapping new items in holiday paper, then placing the packages under the big, beautifully decorated tree. Mr. Fairchild invited me to pitch in, telling me these gifts, along with unseen food items, were to be delivered to needy families around the neighborhood. That was a surprise, somewhat. I wasn't sure what a "needy family" was, or where they might live, or if any of my friends might be on the list.

I learned the food and gifts were to be delivered in the evening a few days before Christmas. I had to

bring Mr. Fairchild a note from home saying that I could be part of the delivery team for the big evening, which would end later than usual.

In preparation for the delivery effort, several close friends and I met at the Y to put specific items into boxes and bags for each family we were to visit. I remember seeing large ham hocks, loaves of bread, bags of potatoes, jars of olives and pickles, cans of corn, green beans, peas, fresh celery and lettuce, bags of apples and other fruit, and tons of a variety of canned foodstuffs. The sheer quantity bogged my expectation.

The Y had a former school bus, an old rattletrap that was painted dark blue. It often backfired, so we nicknamed it 'Ole... oh, never mind. We loaded the bus with the carefully prepared boxes and bags of goodies, placing each group of food and gifts in reverse-delivery order as our group counselor, Mait Purdy, had a charted route to follow.

We visited several homes that evening, one in particular standing out quite vividly in my memory. It was my turn to give the speech at the door. "Good evening! We are from the Northeast YMCA. On behalf of all our members, we wish you a Very Merry Christmas!" Right behind me were best buddies Chuck Coletta, Eddie Maroli, Buddy Sivillo, Paul DeSantis and the inseparable DeLissio brothers, Brian and Henry. They carried boxes and bags filled with goodies into the house.

The house didn't look like any of those on my street. It more resembled a converted wooden garage. A hunched-over lady had answered my knock. She seemed too old to have young children, but I was told later that she was indeed the mother. Her clothes were strange to me, not something like my mother, my aunts or my grandmother would wear; they were too ragged. Her hair was graying and askew. When she saw the food and wrapped presents, her eyes opened as wide as her mouth dropped. I remember so clearly that she put her rather bony fingers to her cheeks and started to say "Thank you," and cry, revealing spaces where teeth were missing. I could swear she was laughing and crying all at once but, at the time, everything had become surreal.

The kids — there were

four, maybe five of them — seemed to range between three and 10 years old. They started to cheer, kinda like at a ballgame. One little girl began screaming and jumping up and down. They couldn't have been happier, memory tells me. They kept saying — no, make that exclaiming — "Thank you!" They said it over and over. And that little girl...

I haven't told this story very much over the years, maybe because to be completely honest, I'd have to admit that I couldn't get out of that house fast enough. Sounds terrible on my part, I know, but for all the joy that they blurted out, I couldn't take the heat of the reality; I couldn't take the pain of witnessing true poverty, especially at Christmas, the most joyous time of year.

See, up until that night I thought I came from a rather poor home. My parents grew up in the Depression. I considered them to be frugal, if I might use one of today's words. But that night a new reality, a new understanding, started to plow its way into my noggin.

By the time I lay down to go to sleep after saying my prayers that night, I recognized that our refrigerator and our pantry were never bare. We went to the grocery store regularly, a store owned by my paternal grandfather, and I knew Grampa'd give me anything! My whole family dressed nicely. My dad drove a decent, rust-free car. I would not dare go to school in dirty clothes, much less in those that were torn or tattered. And I never got up from the table hungry. I had a bike, a sled, roller skates and a basement full of comic books. That was the Christmas that I found out I was closer to being rich than I'd ever be to being poor. Made me want to jump up and down and shout "Thank you!" Again. And again. Still does.

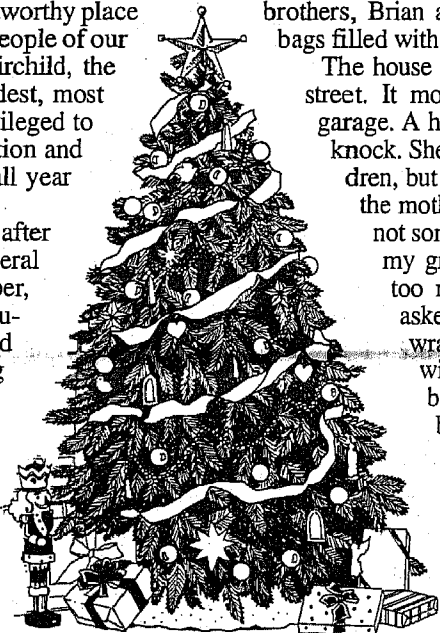
So now really, how was Christmas? What are your prospects for the coming year? Tote it up again, but this time push the envelope a bit more. Think of and list all of the advantages on your side of the line. Then go have the best year of your entire life!

Buon Anno, ed auguri per Cento Anni ancora!

littlejoe@earthlink.net



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THEATRE NOTES

Playhouse off to running start

This year the SCA Periwinkle Playhouse, an intimate, 166-seat theatre with not a bad seat in the house, will showcase a variety of exciting and crowd-pleasing entertainment. Starting Friday, Dec. 26th, through Jan. 4th, Wednesday through Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 4, Janina Birtolo starts in a one-woman show (which she also authored) — *Most Affectionate Daughter*. Told by his first daughter, a cloistered nun, Suor Maria Celeste, this is the story of Galileo's appearance before and tribulations from the Holy Inquisition. As his confidante, caretaker and intellectual equal, she offers her perspective on Galileo's struggle to remain a devout Catholic while stretching the frontiers of science. Tickets are \$17.



From Jan. 9th through the 11th, David Kaplan, juggler/comedian extraordinaire, demonstrates his ability to juggle bean bag chairs, play tunes on a concert balloon and levitate a bowling ball, among other, equally off-the-wall possibilities from his bag of tricks. His hilarious one-man variety show is certain to keep young and old alike amused. The show starts at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights, at 3 p.m. on Sunday and tickets are \$20 for adults, \$12 for kinds under 12.

The schedule also includes the 2001 Grammy award-winning Allison Brown bringing her bluegrass/jazz quartet to the islands for the first time on Jan. 16th... and lots of other good things!

Call the box office for tickets at 472-0324.

Old Schoolhouse, Arcade host parties

Made plans for New Year's Eve, yet? The Old Schoolhouse Theater is hosting a gala evening of champagne, noisemakers and top-notch entertainment by the very best in the musical theatre worlds. The fun starts at 9 p.m. with a presentation of JT Smith's classic *Ho!Ho!Ho! The Christmas Show* and is followed by a taste of the bubbly then a cabaret performance by JT's mega-talented cast — a night of non-stop music and good times. What a way to start 2004!

Tickets are only \$60 and, of course, seating is limited, so call 472-6862 or drop by the theater at 1905

Periwinkle to reserve tickets today!

The Fat lady Sings... again!

Need something to do with the family as the holiday ham is settling? Florida Repertory Theatre has just the thing... The incomparable Carol Provonsha in *Too Big to Be a Waitress!*

Provonsha, the dame of all divas, the goddess of all things joyous and fun, is back at Florida Rep with a super-sized new show. *Too Big to Be a Waitress*, a hit for many years at The Burt Reynolds Jupiter Theatre on the east coast, comes to Florida Rep with a smorgasbord of new songs and a bevy of new comedic characters. Provonsha, most recently seen as the nosy neighbor, Gertrude in Florida Rep's summer smash, *The Underpants*, is returning to Fort Myers just in time to sing in *The New Year... Waitress* plays from Dec. 26th-Dec. 31st by virtue of a generous sponsorship by First Community Bank of Southwest Florida.

Although Provonsha's musical revue is a one-woman show, before it's over you may think that's a typo. For most of the evening, she shuttles on and off stage, returning each time as a wholly distinct, outrageous character. What this parade of alternately funny and poignantly touching eccentrics has in common is Provonsha-sized talent, which is to say enormous. While many try, few performers can hold a stage and an audience's attention alone for two hours. Provonsha can and does — first with a display of her considerable singing skills, then with a personal peek at more "inner voices" than Joan of Arc ever imagined.

Producing Artistic Director Robert Cacioppo says, "Be ready to roll down the aisles as you howl with laughter! *Too Big to Be a Waitress* is another winner for Carol! She is, pure and simple, a life force who thrives in front of an audience, and one whom audiences just can't get enough of."

Provonsha is a Florida celebrity receiving critical acclaim and critics' choice awards for best of the year in her other works — *Blown Sideways Through Life* in Tampa and both *Too Big to Be a Waitress* and *Search for Signs of Intelligent Life* in Palm Beach.

Last year's show, *The Fat Lady Sings*, sold out quickly, so grab your tickets early to see the deliciously



delightful *Too Big to Be a Waitress*. Don't miss the chance to be thoroughly entertained by this "Big Girl, Big Voice, Big Talent." This all new, all fun musical buffet promises to delight audiences of all ages. It plays Dec. 26th, 27th, 30th and 31st at 8 p.m. and Dec. 28th and 29th at 2 in the historic Arcade Theatre in downtown Fort Myers. Tickets are \$20 and \$25 and are available through the box office at 332-4488 or (877) 787-8053.

Down memory lane with Ol' Blue Eyes

The Naples Dinner Theatre's next cabaret evening is *Ol' Blue Eyes*, a production that celebrates the musical memories of Frank Sinatra. This is not an impersonation show, but a walk down memory lane that features all the hits Sinatra made famous.

Conceived by Artistic Director Michael Wainstein and Musical Director Loren J. Strickland, the musical revue features Sinatra's biggest hit songs, including "New York, New York," "Love and Marriage," "My Way," "It Was a Very Good Year," "The Lady is a Tramp," "One For My Baby," and many more. With just enough biographical information to put the songs in context, Wainstein and Strickland have chosen to let the music tell the story.

The talented cast of six is drawn from NDT's professional resident company and includes Shawna Hamill, who thrilled audiences this past fall with performances in *The Beat Goes On* and *Nonsense*; Heather Stricker, a NDT newcomer, joins her as the "other woman." The men in the cast include Joseph Spieldenner, who plays Freddy in *My Fair Lady* and will play The Pirate King in *Pirates...* and Gaston in *Gigi*. Michael Marcotte, who is playing Frederick in *Pirates...* joins Michael Scibilia and Todd Lyon. The show will be accompanied by a live band led by Strickland.

Ol' Blue Eyes opens on Saturday, Jan. 10th with a luncheon matinee and continues on Monday nights and Saturday matinees *ONLY* (two performances weekly) through April 19th. In addition to a sumptuous buffet lunch or dinner, full bar service, including wine, cocktails, specialty coffees and frozen drinks are always available. The Monday night dinner show begins with seating at 5:30 and the show at 8 p.m. The Saturday matinee lunch starts at 11:30 a.m. with the show at 1:15 p.m. Tickets are \$40 for the matinees, \$45 on Monday nights. Full price tickets includes meal, tax and show but no gratuity. There are special rates for children 12 and under and groups of 20 or more.

Tickets can be ordered from box office at (239) 518-STAR (7827) from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. All sales are final.

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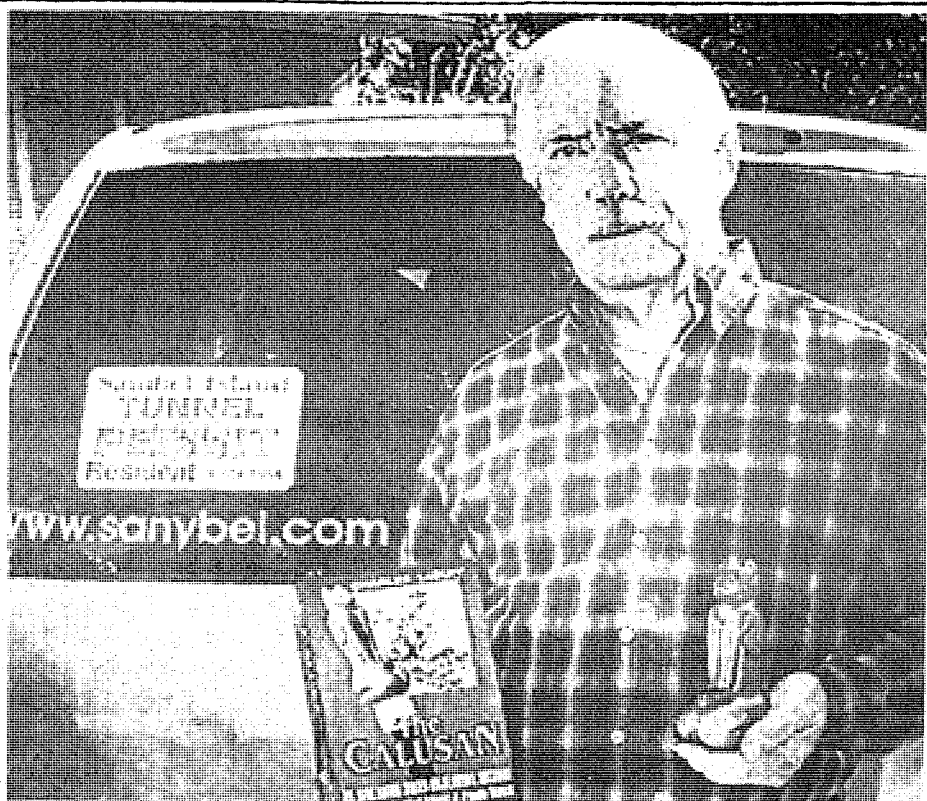
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TOAST A BRAND NEW YEAR

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Charles LeBuff with his historical novel, *The Calusan*, and his hand-carved "Key Marco Cat" reproduction. The original of this famous Calusa Indian effigy was uncovered on Marco Island in 1896. The carving represents a major theme in the book.

LeBuff releases first novel

Long-time islander and sea turtle conservation pioneer Charles LeBuff has announced the publication of his latest book, *The Calusan*. His earlier autobiographical, history-oriented book, *Sanybel Light*, has been a regional best-seller since its publication in 1998.

The Calusan is LeBuff's first novel and is based on real events in Florida's past. It is the outgrowth of an idea he first brought to light in 1953 when he wrote a composition for his English class at Fort Myers High School. The major characters he wrote about then and the basic storyline have changed little over the last half-century. He brings his heroes and their times to life, but this second time around he does so from an adult perspective, bolstered by a lifetime of personal experiences and learning.

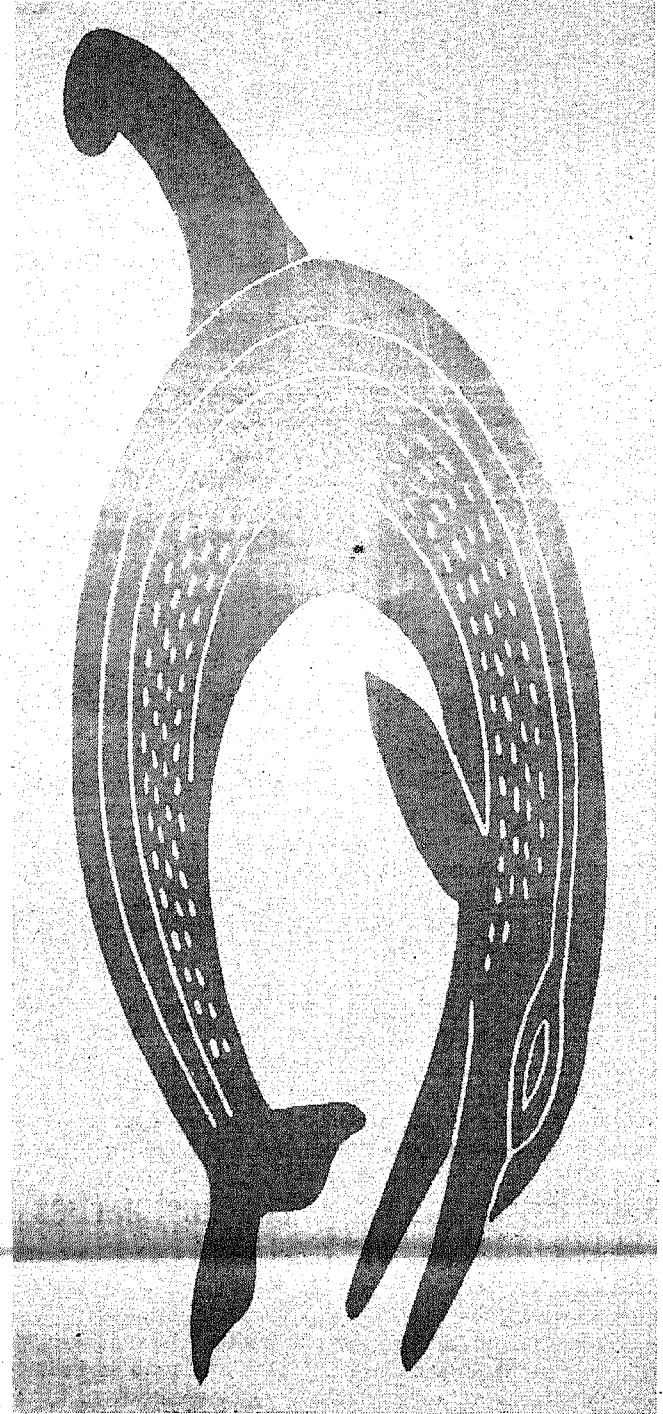
The book is an adventure-packed epic novel. It links the 16th and 19th centuries when, in 1883, a young Florida cowboy from the coastal cattle town of Punta Rassa accidentally discovers an intriguing gold medalion among a buried trove of Calusa Indian artifacts on Sanibel. This strange gold piece brings two different cultures and historical periods together as the tale unfolds through time. For historical context LeBuff

has incorporated five real places and historical events are genuine. The descriptions of the conflicts, hardships, primitive ecosystems and the environment of an earlier Southwest Florida are brought to life by the author's expertise and background.

Dr. William H. Marquardt, Curator in Archaeology at the Florida Museum of Natural History writes, "Charles LeBuff writes with great empathy and humanity about both the prehistoric and historic past. Through his perceptive eyes, we envision a bygone era and rediscover an environment that still sustains us today."

LeBuff is planning a series of book signings throughout Southwest Florida, the first at MacIntosh Book Shop (at a date yet to be scheduled) where he works part-time. Later this winter season, he will speak on his book at the Sanibel Public Library after remodeling is completed. During these personal appearances he will also display his collection of Calusa weapon and artifact reproductions that he made to personally challenge himself during the five years it took him to finally bring his hero to life.

The Calusan will be available in most bookstores in cities throughout the former domain of the Calusa or can be ordered direct from the publisher online at www.sanybel.com.



Along with the Key Marco Cat, this dolphin design is perhaps the most recognizable and commonly seen examples of Calusa artwork.

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THE ONE AND ONLY MAGIC SHOW

Holiday Magic at Periwinkle Playhouse

A review by Karen Nelson



Alex Geiser (above) and Danny Tong (those are his hands, right) entertained the pre-show audience with card tricks.

The *Holiday Magic Show* by Just Magic at the SCA Periwinkle Playhouse began with bedazzled kids in the lobby and ended with a swirling snowstorm and a happy audience.

In six acts plus a finale, magicians mastered a host of illusions, from card tricks, rope tricks and ring tricks to disappearing bottles (and money), to the evening's big illusion — an audience volunteer was sawn in half. Fear not, she lived to see the second big illusion as Doc Hollywood created a swirling snowstorm out of one torn-paper snowflake (with a special visit from you-know-who, that ubiquitous man in red).

Danny Tong and Alex Geiser performed pre-show card tricks, amusing (and amazing) with their ability to remember several different cards at the same time.

Seasoned performers Keith Raygor and Tong played freely with the audience, as did Geiser. Geiser's ability is unquestioned and he's very, very good one-on-one. He has already won some prestigious awards and once he fully masters his stage persona (there is still a slight tentativeness in his manner), he will truly be a force to be reckoned with.

Don Hillerbrands, voted the "world's 1,598th best magician," skillfully sawed the hapless lady in half and practiced some off-the-cuff gardening. Raygor, voted

Best Entertainer 2004 by Gulfshore Life, took a quasi-mystical look "through the looking glass" while Tong played with a \$100 bill from the audience at the 4 p.m. show and magically cut and restored a length of rope in the evening (Geiser also worked with a "magic" rope).

Terry Harris brought his imbibing character through increasingly ridiculous stages as he "fumbled" with uncooperative props. John Cestaro, like several of the performers, adopted a rather likably bumbling character as his performing alter-ego, billing himself as "Cestaro the Average." Magician Tony Dunn ably and humorously emceed what turned out to be a delightful show from producer Richard Payne and his magicians.



All the performers are members of the International Brotherhood of Magicians or the Society of American Magicians, and Sanibel resident Cestaro is the current IBM president.

Magic is about the unexpected. Audience members have the rare chance to rediscover that childlike ability to take the world at face value (since they can't readily explain

what they are seeing). While there is an element of trickstering in magic, we in the audience willingly join in, carefully watching every move as we try to "catch out" the magician and "see" the magic.

The Just Magic show at the Periwinkle Playhouse preserved this magical complicity between audience and performers, creating a special journey through the world of wonder.

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It's a Brand New Year

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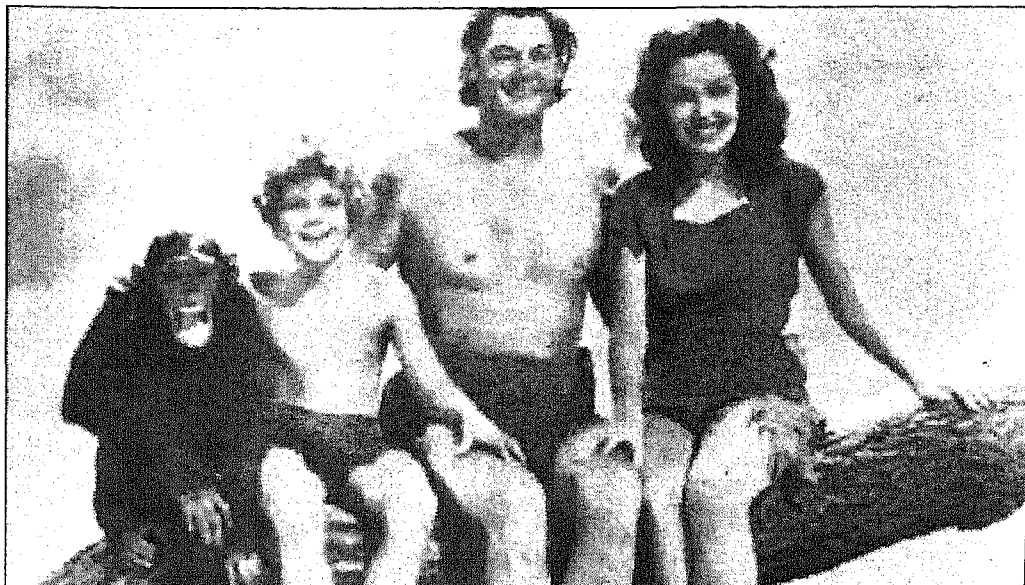
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Cheetah is 71

A Kyrielle

by Joseph Pacheco



Many Hollywood stars retire to the oasis of Palm Springs, California where they wile away their golden years splashing paint on canvases, taking leisurely strolls, playing the piano, and flipping through the pages of magazines. Such is the life of 71-year-old Cheeta, the chimpanzee of *Tarzan* fame, who celebrated his birthday a month ago.

"He's the world's oldest chimp" said Dan Westfall ...

Rose is the love I first remember,
Lilly the bloom that came undone;
Florence flared for one September
And Cheeta this year is 71.

Shirley danced in my temple of fame,
Deanna sang to a hundred men;
Gloria Jean had no last name
Like Cheeta who is 71.

Rin Tin Tin --- a pin-swallowing disaster,
Trigger and Champion into glue long gone
None of them outlived their master
'Cept Cheeta who is 71.

Weissmuller fell in his jungle gym,
O'Sullivan abandoned mate and son;
Sheffield's Boy Bomba failed to swim,
He's older than Cheeta at 71.

King Kong, Godzilla --- false creations,
Mickey's 75th just bogus fun;
Disney animals all animations ---
Cheeta's real real at 71.

Higgins played Benji; Skippy starred as Asta;
Peggy was Bonzo in the movie with Ron;
Molly was Francis, O'Connor her master;
Cheeta's still Cheeta at 71.

Ask not "Where are the snows of yesteryear?"
Nor "Where have all the flowers gone?"
Great stars and animals no longer here ---
But Cheeta lives on at 71.

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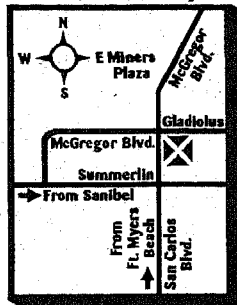
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Sanibel-Captiva Pictorial History Before the Causeway revised edition

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The books are now available at the Island Reporter office at 2340 Periwinkle Way in the Village.

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- Kelly's Cocoons
230 Chadwick Sq., Captiva
- MacIntosh Books
2365 Periwinkle Way
- Bailey's at
Tarpon Bay Rd. & Periwinkle Way
- Sanibel Island Book Shop
1711 Periwinkle Way

Village Shops host "gallery crawl"

By Karen Nelson
Associate Editor

On Saturday evening The Village shops highlighted three of its art galleries at a reception. Featured in the Matsumoto Gallery was Fort Lauderdale-based sculptor Keith Bradley in a "return engagement." After spending time as an airbrush illustrator, he began sculpting 12 years ago. At first, he was "making big pieces.. Through the years [the work] got smaller" and more humorous as he became "less serious, able to laugh."

The comment-catching pieces were the three sculptures named Pisser (a dog), Squirt (a cat) and Leaker (a dachshund), all of which came equipped with buckets and running water (use your imagination!).

Working with steel, his layered pieces are more sedate — large-scale horses plus cats and dogs like the poodle, Maltese and afghan. Rusty, a sitting dog, captures all the alertness of a dog waiting for someone to toss a toy, while the Horny Dog looks like the dog-incarnated character in the movie Mask. Alligator Shoes features a gator in human shoes.

Birds, like the Carpenter Bird (complete with a circular saw blade body and hand-drill tail), have pendulum bases that slowly and gently rock back and forth.

Bradley's works are part of the regular collection in the gallery but this larger showing will be on display through Jan. 4.

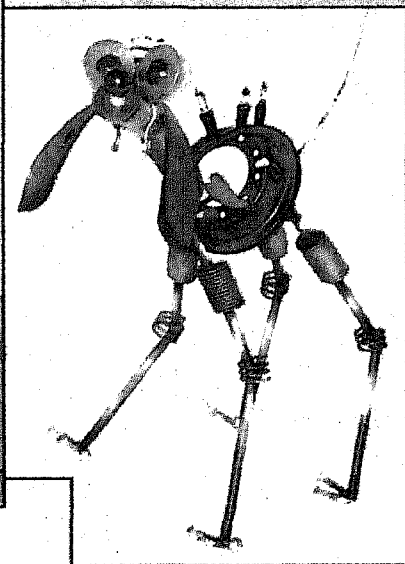
Kirby Rambo Collections was featuring the ceramics of Fort Myers-based Celeste Theodore in Fort Myers. Full of soft color, her pieces have a delicate but utterly unfussy look. "Needlework" pieces have textured "stitched-look" designs plus color for a tactile appeal. She does her decorative painting on greenware and then fires the piece. Once it's fired, she applies a clear glaze and then refires. All of the pigment is

under the glaze, so the dishes are durable and usable.

Seaweed Gallery was featuring Sissi Janku, whose beach paintings and painted furniture have been part of the Seaweed collection since the first gallery opened on Sanibel. Janku's brightly colored seascapes are framed in bouyant colors or by her trademark painted working shutters.

Her painted furniture first appeared in the Seaweed Gallery about a year ago. The furniture she chooses to paint always has something about it that catches her eye... "That would be a good one." She often uses mermaids as a theme on her painted furniture. "I don't get tired of them at all," she noted.

While Bradley's work is always available at Matsumoto, this expanded collection will be on display until Jan. 4. Theodore and Janku's works are on display on a regular basis at the other two galleries.



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Sites for sore eyes...

So, you've got the whole family here for a couple of weeks... Here is just a taste of why we call Florida home.

Day trips/long weekends

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

- **May-Stringer Heritage Museum**, Brooksville, a 12-room, four-story Victorian mansion housing more than 10,000 artifacts. (352) 799-0129 or www.hernandoheritage-museum.com
- **Weedon Island Preserve** in St. Pete was continuously occupied from 10,000 BC to 1200 AD. (727) 217-7208 or www.pinellascounty.org/enviro
- **Historic Spanish Point** in Osprey near Sarasota features A Window to the Past inside one of the middens, historic buildings, nature trails and ceremonial mounds. (941) 966-5214 or www.historic-spanish-point.org.
- **Randell Research Center** in Pineland (283-9600) and **Museum of the Islands** (283-1525), just off Stringfellow Road, on Sesame Drive — both on Pine Island — examine the history of the Calusa's power.
- **Useppa Island Museum** with forensic restorations of the Useppa Man and Woman of 1,400 years ago. 283-9600 or www.useppaisland.com

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



- **The 1872 Thursby home**, built at the height of the steamboat period — Blue Spring State Park in Volusia County. (386) 775-3663 or www.floridastateparks.org
- **Spring Garden Plantation**, built in the early 1800s, with an 1831 sugar mill. DeLeon Springs State Park, also Volusia County. (386) 985-4212 or www.floridastateparks.org
- Well over two centuries old, **Kingsley Plantation** on Fort George Island near Jacksonville is a National Park Service historical site. (904) 251-3537 or www.nps.gov/timu
- **Palm Cottage**, built in 1895, is a pristine example of the use of tabby, a mortar made with seashells, Naples. (941) 261-8164.
- **Bulow Plantation Ruins**, 9 miles south of Bunnell, Fla. and **Castillo de San Marcos** in St. Augustine are two of the state's finest examples of coquina construction. Others are the **Tarragona Arch** in Daytona Beach and the **Daytona Beach Bandshell & Clock Tower**. The **Spanish Coquina Quarries**, Florida's oldest, were established circa 1565 along the Matanzas River on Anastasia Island and are now part of the Anastasia State Recreation Area.



More day or overnight trips

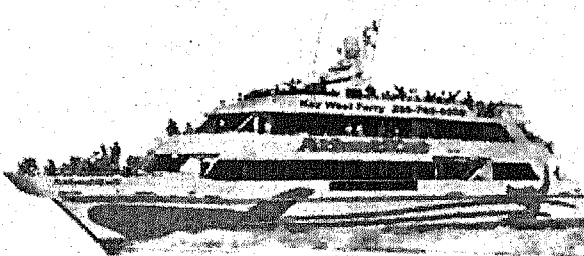
- **Dade Battlefield Re-enactment**, Bushnell, Fla. Jan. 3 & 4. A re-creation of the battle that left only three men standing and marked the beginning of the Second Seminole War in 1835. (352) 793-4781.
- **24th Annual Brooksville Raid Festival**. Sandhill Scout Reservation, 25 miles west of I-75 on SR 50. Jan. 17 & 18. Presented by the Hernando Historical Museum Association & and the North Pinellas Scout Sertoma Club. (352) 799-0129.

- **Miami Art Deco Festival**. Miami's Art Deco heydays of the '20s and '30s celebrated with big bands, jazz, antique cars and, above all, the incredible Art Deco and Moderne architecture of the city. (305) 672-2014.
- **Visions of Paradise — Florida in the Popular Imagination**. Museum of Florida History—R.A. Gray Building, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee. (850) 245-6400.
- **Making Spirits Bright — Christmas at Pinewood**. Holiday Home Tour at Historic Bok Sanctuary, Lake Wales. Through Jan. 11. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, Sundays 1-5. (863) 676-1408.
- **Ancestors of the Incas: The Majesty of Ancient Peru**. Through June 2005. **Something All Our Own: The Grant Hill Collection of African American Art**. Through Feb. 15. Orlando Museum of Art. (407) 896-4231.
- **A Russian Odyssey: Riches from the State Russian Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia**. Through April 4. **Baseball as America**. Through March 6. Florida International Museum, St. Petersburg, Florida. (727) 822-3693.
- **Oatlands Plantation**, Leesburg, Va. 1804 mansion, restored gardens, historic greenhouse. (703) 777-3174.
- **Shadows-on-the-Teche**, New Iberia, La. Antebellum plantation house. (337) 369-6446
- **Drayton Hall**, Charleston, SC. Outstanding example of Georgian Palladian architecture. (843) 768-2600
- **Belle Grove**, Middletown, Va. c.1794 plantation house on Civil War battle site. (540) 869-2028.
- **Montpelier**, Montpelier Station, Va. Lifelong home of the fourth President, James Madison. (560) 672-2728
- **Woodlawn**, Alexandria, Va. c.1800 Federal-style home of George Washington's adopted granddaughter. (703) 780-4000
- **Pope-Leighey House**. Alexandria, Va. A Frank Lloyd Wright Usonian home. (703) 780-4000
- **The Hermitage**, 1836 home of President Andrew Jackson exhibits the most complete collection of original furnishings and personal belongings of any early presidential home. 4580 Rachel's Lane, Hermitage, Tenn. (615) 889-2941.
- **Brookgreen Gardens**, Murrells Inlet, S.C. U.S. 17 south of Myrtle Beach. The most fascinating and moving collection of sculpture anywhere — over 385 pieces in outdoor, garden settings and in covered pavilions. Created by the sculptor Anna Hyatt Huntington and her husband, the oil tycoon, Archer Huntington.



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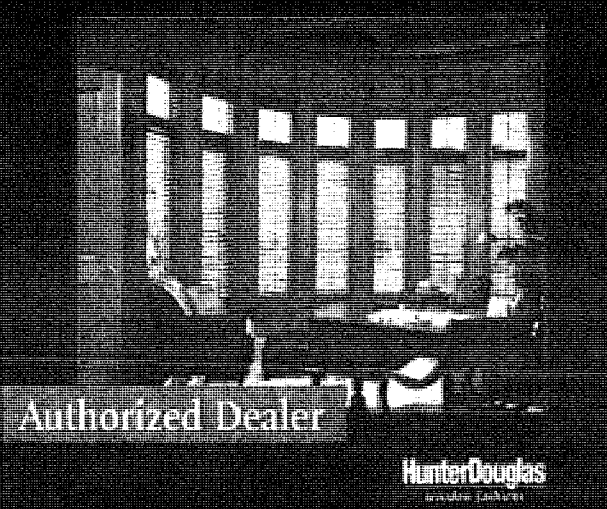


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AT BIG ARTS

David Gergen to speak



The FORUM at BIG ARTS on Sanibel is honored to present well-known political analyst and author, Professor David Gergen, as the first speaker in its 2004 Distinguished Scholars Lecture Series, which begins Sunday, Jan. 11 at 4 p.m. in Schein Hall.

An advisor to four Presidents — Nixon, Ford, Reagan and Clinton — an editor, commentator and teacher, Gergen currently serves as editor-at-large for U.S. News and World Report. He is also a professor of Public Service and director of the Center for Public Leadership at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard and a frequent guest on TV political talk shows. In the fall of 2000, he published his most recent book, the best-selling *Eyewitness to Power: The Essence of Leadership, Nixon to Clinton*. A graduate of Yale and Harvard, Professor Gergen has been an active participant in American national life and politics for 30 years.

For ticket availability and information, please call BIG ARTS, 395-0900.

Artists workshops to begin

The New Year is almost here and with it comes new opportunities for artistic fun

and excitement at the islands' home for the Arts, BIG ARTS.

New sessions of your favorites will be returning in January as well as many exciting new classes. Many special workshops, from one day to one week in length, will be offered by visiting artists. Some of these include Acrylics taught by Margo Vigorito and Greg Biolchini, Gouache by Margaret Huddy and two three-day weekend seminars in Collage and Watermedia will be led by always popular, island favorite, Cathy Taylor. Be sure to call BIG ARTS soon, 395-0900, to secure your spot. These classes fill up quickly.

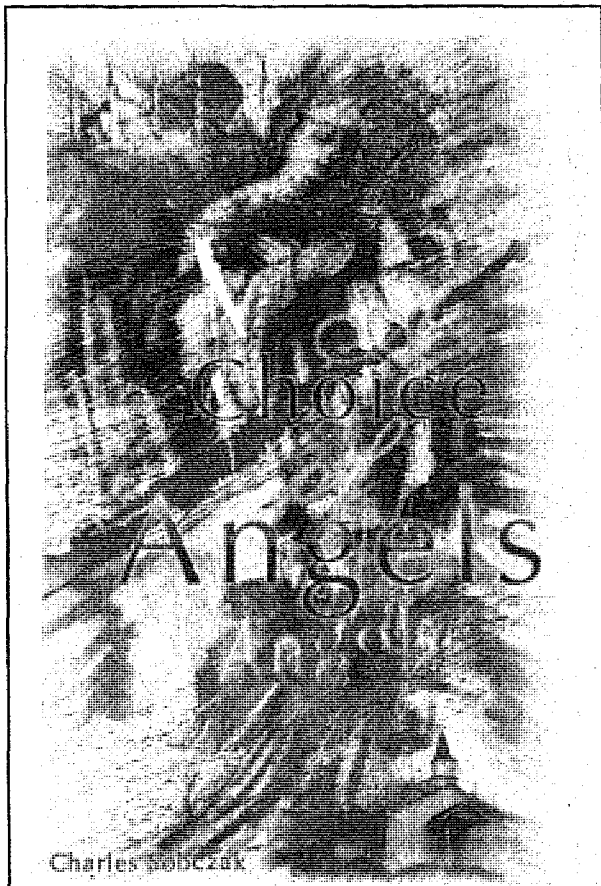
BIG ARTS also has many fun, challenging six-week workshops available. Terry Flannery will offer *3-D Portraits in Clay* beginning in January, a course in which students will be taught to capture realistic facial expressions and complete a three-dimensional relief in clay. Classes in Basketry and Painting (in the studio and on-site) will be offered, as well as *Life Drawing*, and *Layout and Design*. Photographer George Graham will teach both beginners and advanced students *Photography as Art*, while Petra Kaiser introduces her students to the techniques of creating incredible glass jewelry, plates and bowls. Stop by BIG ARTS to pick up the new Spring Workshop Guide and find the course that touches the artist in you.

Whether you like to exercise your mind or your body, BIG ARTS has a spot for you. If dance is your desire, come try Tap, Ballet or, new this year, Belly Dancing! Stretch and tone with Yoga or Self-Defense, or Tae Kwon Do taught by Paco Dolz. To stretch your mind, join BIG ARTS members for lively discussion groups on current events or books, learning a new language, or how to write both poetry and prose. Music lessons on a number of different instruments are available or join BIG ARTS very own Community Chorus or Band. There is something to interest everyone of any age or ability. Stop by and experience the friendly, fun, educational atmosphere at BIG ARTS — Home for all the Arts!

In these time of war and trouble, this then is my prayer.

Charles Sobczak

"Sobczak's *A Choice of Angels* is the relentless story of the love between Daniel Harris, son of an upper-middle-class southern Baptist minister and Ayse Yalcin, daughter of a Turkish businessman... Each of Sobczak's characters rings true, and his every setting, whether in a Turkish mosque or an Atlanta advertising agency, is compellingly detailed. He's funny, tolerant, and unpreachy. And obviously, he's timely."



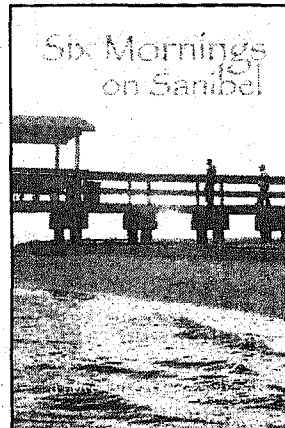
Starred review!!! *Booklist*, The American Library Association

New Year's Eve Day Booksigning!

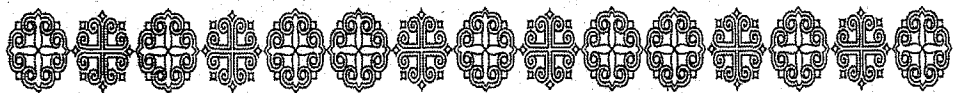
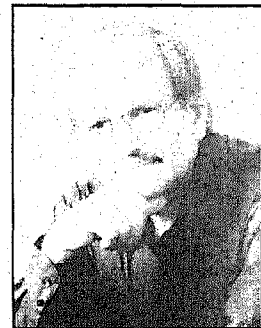
Sanibel Island Author Charles Sobczak will be autographing copies of his critically acclaimed novel, *A Choice of Angels*, at CW's Market & Deli in Chadwick's Square, South Seas Plantation on Wednesday, Dec. 31st, New Year's Eve day from noon until two p.m.


Set in contemporary Atlanta and Istanbul, this novel explores the long standing conflict between Islam and Christianity through the eyes of two young lovers. A story whose relevance to today's troubled times is uncanny.

Signed and numbered, limited edition hardcover copies of *A Choice of Angels* will also be available. Charles will also be signing copies of the Best-selling *Six Mornings on Sanibel*, along with copies of *Way Under Contract* and *Rhythm of the Tides*.




Sanibel author Charles Sobczak.





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Dec. 26th thru Jan 4th
"Most Affectionate Daughter"
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Showtime 8:00pm

Located at 2200 Periwinkle Way
Across from the Community House
For Box Office Reservations & Info-
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AUDITIONS: December 27th and Jan. 3rd
February 14 & 15 at 2PM

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Bailey's Shopping Center ~ 472-1701

- *Lord of the Rings* (PG13)
 - *Something's Gotta Give* (PG13)
- Call for times & prices.

Old Schoolhouse Theater

1908 Periwinkle ~ 472-6862

- *Ho! Ho! Ho! The Christmas Show*
Through Dec. 27th, \$25
New Year's Eve, 9 p.m., \$60
Includes champagne+ and cabaret show

SCA Periwinkle Playhouse

2200 Periwinkle ~ 472-0324

- *Most Affectionate Daughter*
Dec. 25th-Jan 4th, 8 p.m.
- *David Kaplan, Juggler & Comedian*
Jan. 9th-11th, 8 p.m., \$20/\$12
- *Thinner Thighs in 20 Years*
A one-woman play
Starring Bonnie Grossman
Jan 17th-24th, 8 p.m.;
Jan. 20th & 21st, 3 p.m., \$17
- *Rosie's Rainbow Road*
Jan. 24th, Feb. 7th & 14th
12 Noon, \$10

BIG ARTS

Schein Hall

900 Dunlop ~ 395-0900

- Jim Roberts Trio & Comedy Express
Dec. 27th, 8 p.m., \$25

The FORUM at BIG ARTS

- David Gergen
Jan. 11th, 4 p.m., \$20 (SOLD OUT)
Sponsored by Chico's FAS Inc.
- Abner Mikva
Jan. 18th, 7:30 p.m., \$20

BIG ARTS Film Society

2003-2004 Outstanding Films

- *The Quiet American*
Set in 1952 Saigon
Starring Michael Caine
Jan. 5th, 7 p.m.—followed by wine,
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Wednesdays & Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.
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Naples Dinner Theatre

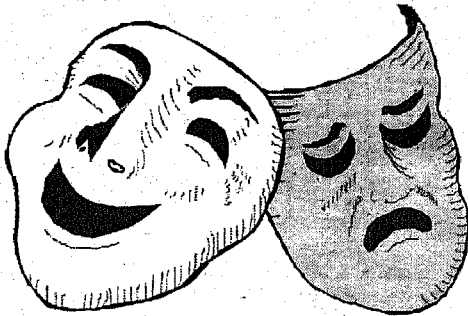
1025 Piper Boulevard, Naples

(877) 519-7827 or (941) 514-7827

- *Mame*
Through Jan. 25th (incl. Christmas
Eve, two on Christmas Day & New
Yea'r Eve Gala.
\$37.50-\$47

Ice Cream Theatre

- Heidi
Dec. 26th, 27th, 29th, 30th, Jan. 1st, 2nd & 3rd
\$16/\$13 includes lunch & show



IN FORT MYERS

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre

1380 Colonial Boulevard ~ 278-4422

- *White Christmas Revue*
Through Dec. 27th, \$19-\$44
- *The Pajama Game*
Dec. 31st-Feb. 14th

Off Broadway Palm

- *Nunsense*
Jan. 15th-Feb. 28th

Florida Repertory Theatre

The Arcade Theatre
Bay Street between Hendry & Jackson
332-4488

- *Two Big to be a Waitress*
Starring the one & only Carol Provonsha
Dec. 26th, 27th, 30th & 31st, 8 p.m.
Dec. 28th, 2 p.m., \$20-\$25

Theatre Conspiracy

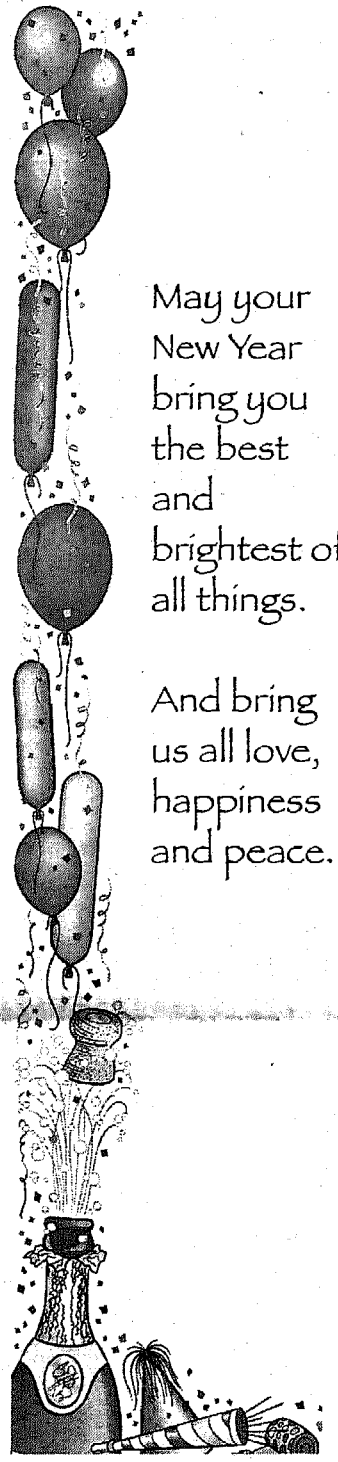
The Foulds Theatre
10091 McGregor @ Royal Palm Square
936-3239

- *Walking on Turtle Island*
Jan 8th-24th, 8 p.m., \$16/\$7

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- Bryan Adams
Dec. 30th, 8 p.m.,
- *Jesus Christ Superstar*
Jan. 6th-11th, varying times
\$34.25-\$58
- *The Capitol Steps*
Jan. 13th, 7:30 p.m., \$16.25-\$32
- *The Glen Miller Orchestra*
Jan. 15th, 7:30 p.m., \$14.50-\$28
- *The Royalty of DooWop*
Jan. 18th, 7:30 p.m., \$19.75-\$42
- *Ann-Margret in Concert*
Jan. 25th, 7:30 p.m., \$32.50-\$56



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and
brightest of
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And bring
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and peace.



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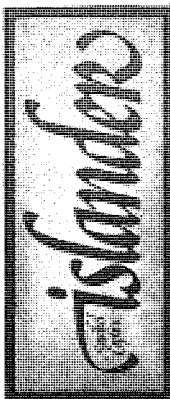
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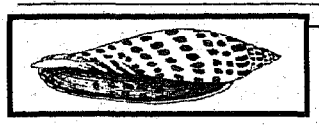
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Acreage



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All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make such preference, limitation or discrimination. This publication will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. If you feel you have been discriminated against you may file a complaint by calling The Florida Commission on Human Rights at 1-800-342-8170 or HUD at 1-800-669-9777. For more info please call the Lee County office of Equal Opportunity (239) 335-2267

WATERFRONT LOTS

All in one-wide canal, residential/duplex/commercial zoned 70x125' cleared lot in Prime St James, Pine Island. New dock with rental income. 3552 St Jude Blvd. \$210,000 (906) 360-0596

WATERFRONT HOMES

Waterfront home, Bokeelia (Pine Island), 3br/3 full baths in Captain's Cove, a restricted community. Two separate garages, office, laundry room and work shop downstairs. 2,150 square feet completely furnished. Interior very bright with Caribbean colors. Living room all glass looking down the canal. Boat dock with lift. Bank appraisal was \$505,000.00. Will sell for \$515,000.00 Completely furnished. Call owner for appointment. (239) 283-5322.

FOR SALE BY OWNER

Beautiful house on Ft. Myers Beach waterfront, 2br/2ba, garage, huge living room, 6-car driveway, nice landscaping, fruit trees, boat lift, all equipped, must see. \$495,000. (239) 463-2066

OPEN HOUSE

Daily 11-4pm Direct Sailboat Locations! Each Have: 1/2 mile out, 3/2 dock, Recently Completed. Model-Condition! Must see! 3006 SE 18th Ave/off Cornwallis 1225 SW 54th Lane/off Skyline (239) 887-5555

GENERAL REAL ESTATE

Canal lot on East End.
Minutes from Sanibel. 3/2 pool and stables.
3/2 pool home. Walk to Bay or Gulf.
Wil Compton (239) 209-6171 REMAX of the Islands
Gov't & Bank Foreclosures! \$0 DOWN! HUD, VA, FHA, No Credit OK! For Listings, 800-501-1777 x1601
GOV'T HOMES! \$0 Down! Tax Repose & Foreclosures! No Credit OK! \$0/ Low Down! Call for Listings! 1-800-987-6647 Ext. 8684
MORTGAGE LATE??? Have an Unwanted Home? You get cash for a fresh start! We take over all your problems. Guaranteed offer! Pickup the phone and call now! (7-days/ 24 hrs) (888) 590-1935 (Joe)
MORTGAGES QUICK CASH\$ Fast closings, 1st and 2nd\$. Good/ Bad Credit. Self-employed? No Income Verification. Foreclosure, Bankruptcy all OK. Mortgage Corp. Network. Licensed Correspondent Lender. Call 888-999-8744

CONDOS FOR SALE

Sanibel area, 2 Br/2 Ba townhouse. Screened lanai, new washer/dryer, pool, tennis. Walk to river. Ten minutes to causeway. \$120k. (239) 489-3490
Sanibel Island, Florida condo on Gulf. 2 Br/2 Ba. \$550,000. Phone (239) 472-8350.

MANUFACTURED HOMES

DIXIE COUNTY Land/ Home Sale. Several to choose from Manufactured Homes Each on 2+ acres from \$37,500 Carri-Anne Powell, Sales Associate Thompson Group, Inc. C. Frederick Thompson, II Broker/ Owner 352-378-4814, 352-222-9590 tlgcarri@aol.com www.NFLAND.com

BUSINESS FOR SALE

A beach business for you?? Quality, unique beach clothing store. Established in great location. \$79,000. For this and others call Jerry Tatarian RE/MAX Realty Group (239) 765-LIST

OFFICE SPACE

For sale or lease. Office condo. Sanibel. 740 S.F. 140k. (239) 454-1522.

REAL ESTATE WANTED

WE BUY HOUSES \$\$\$\$ Any condition, Anywhere Call toll free 1-888-306-SELL (7355) Purchases made through Real Buyers \$\$\$\$

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BEAUTIFUL NORTH CAROLINA MUST SEE BEAUTIFUL & COLORFUL FALL FOLIAGE WESTERN NC MOUNTAINS. Homes, Cabins, Acreage, Cherokee Mountain Realty, Inc. Murphy, NC Call for Free Brochure (800) 841-5868

COME TO THE MOUNTAINS! RE/MAX Mountain Properties offers the best properties available in Western NC. Mountain views, creeks, cabins & acreage. Call Toll Free, 1-877-837-3002 to receive more information

FIVE ACRES near Georgia \$295 down \$189 month Riverfront from \$495 down to \$289 month Jim Jean, Broker 1-800-722-5326 www.jimjean.com

GEORGIA MOUNTAIN Land- 3 Acres and Larger. Gated, private community. Spectacular natural beauty. Majestic 70 mile views. Convenient to Atlanta. From \$59,900. (800) 230-7075

LAKE LURE, NC MOUNTAIN TOP homesites (1-9 acres); panoramic mountain and lake views starting at \$60,000. Resort amenities: golf, hiking, pools, beach, marina. CALL TOMMY NOW! Dec-Jan. Best time to visit (800) 992-2502

MURPHY, NC Investors Realty, Inc. 1-800-497-3334 Lake Lots \$79,000 New Cabins \$69,000 Lots on Trout Stream \$49,000 Vacation Rentals www.Investorsrft@webworkz.com

Waterfront Home in Lake County, Newly Remodeled. Riverfront Home in Lake County. Remodeled 2/2 or 3/2 block home, Florida and screened porch overlooks water. Workshop, bathhouse and lifter. A great buy - asking \$175,000. Call (352) 343-4344

WESTERN NC MOUNTAINS. Enjoy cool mountain air, views & streams. Homes, Cabins, Acreage. Free Brochure. Realty of Murphy, 317 Peachtree St., Murphy, N.C. 28906. (800) 642-5333 www.realtyofmurphy.com

WESTERN NC MOUNTAINS North Carolina Where there is Cool Mountain Air, Views & Stream, Homes, Cabins & Acreage. Call for Free Brochure of Mountain Property Sales. 1-800-642-5333 Realty of Murphy, 317 Peachtree Street, Murphy, N.C. 28906 www.realtyofmurphy.com

REAL ESTATE DISTANT

WINTER SEASON IS HERE. Call for a Free Brochure on Homes, Acreage and Investment Properties. Cherokee Mountain Realty, Inc. 1285 West US Hwy 64, Murphy, NC 28906 1-800-841-5868

TIME SHARE FOR RENT

Casa Ybel Resort, 3 consecutive weeks in December. Time share for sale or rent. Buy all 3 at reduced price, by owner. Call office: (410) 472-2844 or Florida: (239) 415-0425.

TIME SHARE FOR SALE

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Timeshare Resales! Sell today for Cash! No commissions or broker fees. Don't delay. Got to www.freetimeshare.com or Call 1-800-640-6886

VACATION RENTALS

ALL 3 DIRECT OCEANFRONT 2 Br/2 Ba Condominiums Sundial Beach Resort Villa Sanibel Coquina Beach Discounted rates directly from owner. 1-800-505-5200 www.sanibeloceanfront.com

Atrium. Lovely 2 Br/2 Ba condo on the Gulf. All amenities. Two week minimum. Owner, (313) 886-4757.

CASA YBEL RESORT 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath OCEAN FRONT FOR RENT OR SALE BY OWNERS. (239) 561-6972 www.casaybel.com

Island Retreat. 3/2 home in beautiful Chateau Sur Mer. Few steps to beach. Very private. Available November through May, 2004. (305) 235-0762, (239) 472-2490.
Sanibel 3 Br/2 Ba home on golf course with pool, furnished, near beach and causeway. Owner, (239) 822-3704.

SOUTH SEAS RESORT

GULF-FRONT PRIVATE LUXURY HOME
POOL-SPA SCENIC ACREAGE
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FOR-SPECIAL-RATES CONTACT OWNER DIRECTLY
Call: (574) 272-0889 Fax: (574) 273-5973 E-mail: crosscult@aol.com

SEASONAL RENTALS

West Rocks subdivision. 3 Br/ 2 Ba, large screened porch, lakefront property, completely furnished, near beach. Monthly rentals only. (513) 232-4634.

WANTED TO RENT

Two bedroom rental needed by Feb. 1. (239) 472-8652.

TWO RESPONSIBLE ADULTS IN HEALTH CARE FIELD WISH TO RENT ANNUALLY HOUSE OR CONDO ON SANIBEL OR CAPTIVA. EXCELLENT REFERENCES. (414) 881-0093

APARTMENTS & DUPLEXES FOR RENT

Apt. & Dup. for rent.



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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ONE & TWO BEDROOM APARTMENTS, CLOSE TO SCHOOLS, BUS STOPS & SHOPPING. WATER, SEWER AND TRASH PAID. CENTRAL AIR AND HEAT. POOL AND LAUNDRY ON SITE. 941-275-4587.

ANNUAL RENTALS

Sanibel View Brand New! 2 Br, 2Ba condos. Enclosed garage, pool, fitness center, Clubhouse. Gated Community. 2 miles to causeway! \$1450/month Hussey Realty (239) 463-3178

CONDOS FOR RENT

Huge 3/2 town home in Marina community, ready for move-in, close to beaches. \$1,000. Call (239) 340-1127.

HOMES FOR RENT

ANNUAL RENTALS FT. MYERS, FT. MYERS BEACH, SANIBEL & ESTERO. PRISCILLA MURPHY REALTY (239) 482-8040

Estero, manufactured home with 2-bedrooms, frame addition with family room, utility room with washer & dryer. 600+ square ft. garage, treed lot, totally renovated. \$875. Call (239) 334-4739.

GOV'T HOMES! \$0 Down! Tax Repose & Foreclosures! No Credit OK! \$0/ Low Down! Call for Listings! 1-800-987-6647 Ext. 8682

House at Dunes on the golf course, 2 Br/2 Ba, screened-in porch, full-size pool, enclosed garage, beautiful views. 4 week minimum. (239) 472-1650

NO RENT! \$0 Down! No Credit OK! Government Foreclosed Homes! \$0/ Low Down! Call for Listings! 1-800-987-6647 Ext. 8681

MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT

Mobile Homes for Rent Weekly rent. Children welcome. Includes water, garbage, pest control, lawn care. Quiet, safe. 7760 Bogart, N. Ft. Myers (239) 543-5828.

CAPE CORAL HOMES

Brand new home, pool, 3br/2ba/2car garage. Tile throughout, carpet bedrooms, upgrades. 415 SW 39th Terrace, off Pelican \$219,000. (239) 940-0414 or (239) 540-2183.

Sailboat Access. 10-12 minutes to the River! 3/2 recently remodeled pool home. Over 950 sq.ft. screened enclosure, 40ft. plus dock equipped with water and electric and a boatlift. Only \$295,000.00! Call Jo Laumeier, Realtor (239)633-0448 today. Real Estate Network Services, LLC.

WINDOW CLEANING

ALL DAY WINDOW CLEANING \$3.00 a window. Residential & commercial up to 3-Story 10 yrs. exp. Pressure washing available Free estimates. Reputable, prompt & courteous service. Satisfaction guaranteed. Family owned & operated. Lic/Ins. (239) 567-3419

Keep America Beautiful Recycle

Pine Cove 201
Introducing a New Remodeled Unit:

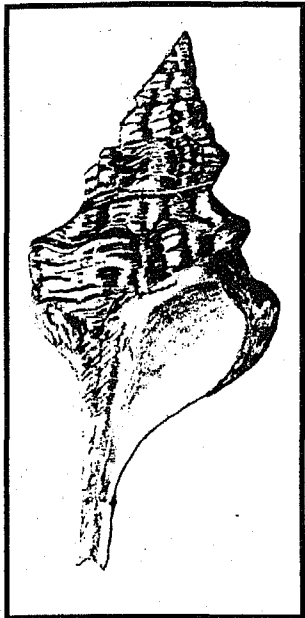
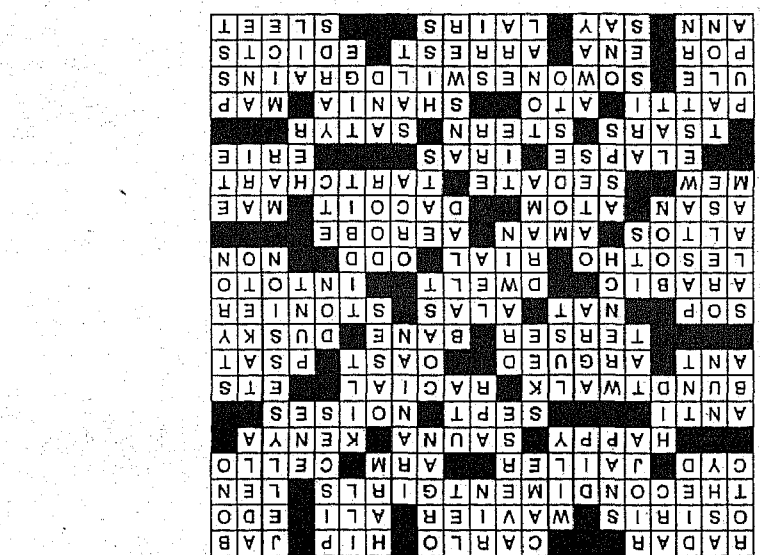
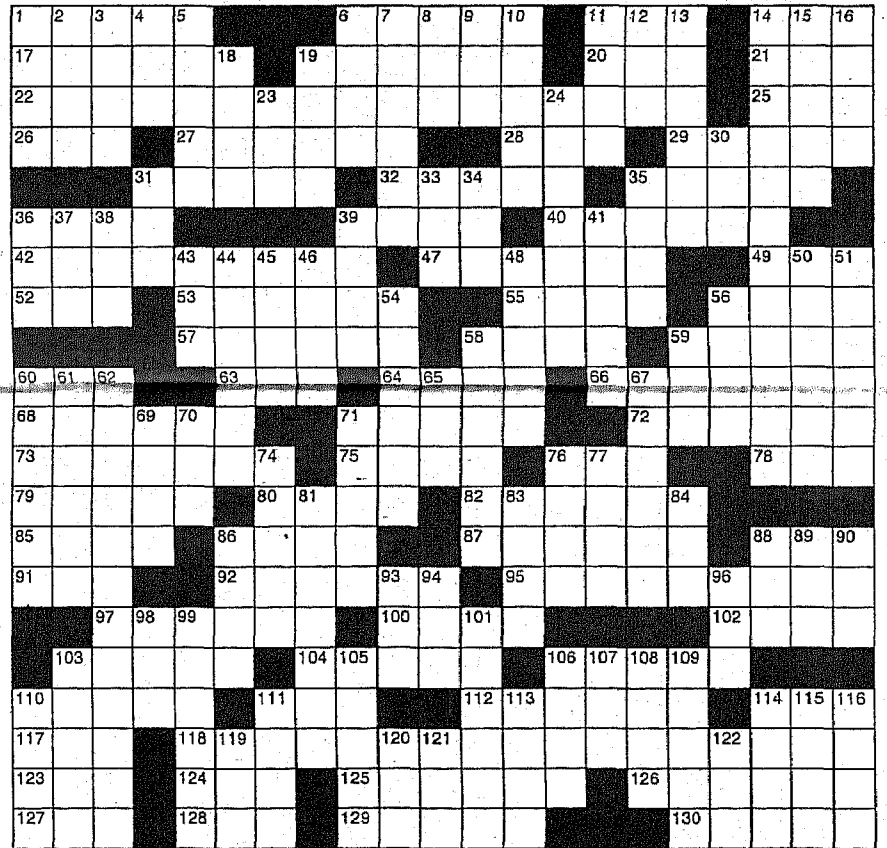
- 3 bedroom / 2 bathroom
- Direct Gulf-front views
- All new furnishings
- Many upgrades!

For more information, call: (239) 472-6050 TOLL-FREE: (877) 386-6050

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- 1 Tracking tool
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 - 11 With-it
 - 14 Sharp punch
 - 17 Ancient deity
 - 19 More undulating
 - 20 Actress MacGraw
 - 21 Maestro de Waart
 - 22 English rockers?
 - 25 Singer Barry
 - 26 Dancer Charisse
 - 27 Turnkey
 - 28 Parka part
 - 29 Ma's instrument
 - 31 Glad
 - 32 Hot spot?
 - 35 Mombasa's land
 - 36 Pro foe
 - 39 Cal. page
 - 40 Click and clang
 - 42 Strutting dance?
 - 47 Ethnic
 - 49 French connections?
 - 52 Tiny colonist
 - 53 Debated
 - 55 Kind of kiln
 - 56 HS exam
 - 57 Less long-winded
 - 58 Beta noire
 - 59 Like twilight
 - 60 Absorb, with "up"
 - 63 Boxing expert
 - 64 Rueful cry
 - 66 More unfeeling
 - 68 Mideastern tongue
 - 71 Resided
 - 72 Entirely
 - 73 Basutoland, today
 - 75 100 dinars
 - 76 Eccentric
 - 78 Negative prefix
 - 79 Los —, CA
 - 80 "I'm —" ('67 hit)
 - 82 Bacterium, e.g.
 - 85 Wise — owl
 - 86 Particle
 - 87 Calcutta criminal
 - 88 West of Hollywood
 - 91 Kitten's comment
 - 92 Reserved
 - 95 Economist's diagram?
 - 97 Slip by
 - 100 Nest eggs
 - 102 Buffalo waterfront
 - 103 Despoils
 - 104 Forbidding
 - 106 Goatish gamboler
 - 110 LuPone or LaBelle
 - 111 From — Z
 - 112 Tuneful Twain
 - 114 AAA handout
 - 117 Suffix with "glob"
 - 118 Have a youthful fling?
 - 123 "— favor"
 - 124 Doe in "Bambi"
 - 125 Take into custody
 - 126 Proclamations
 - 127 Lee or Landers
 - 128 For instance
 - 129 Retreats
 - 130 February forecast
 - 12 TV's "— Fly Away"
 - 13 March baby, maybe
 - 14 Jazz musicians' gathering?
 - 15 Writer Rogers St. Johns
 - 16 Pro — (free)
 - 18 Break suddenly
 - 19 Like a coyote
 - 23 Short swim
 - 24 Mashad man
 - 30 Compass pt.
 - 31 Wasn't it?
 - 33 Spring mo.
 - 34 Hagen of "Reversal of Fortune"
 - 35 "Braveheart" costume
 - 36 Atty.'s org.
 - 37 "Sister Act" extra
 - 38 Explosive initials
 - 39 —-Ball (arcade game)
 - 41 Desert refuges
 - 43 Make a dolly
 - 44 Plumber's tool
 - 45 Taj town
 - 46 A deadly sin
 - 48 Use a toboggan
 - 50 Start liking
 - 51 "Sophie's Choice" author
 - 54 Entice
 - 58 Propel with a pole
 - 58 Sentimental song
 - 59 Giovanni or Knotts
 - 60 Islamic greeting
 - 61 Threat words
 - 62 Sergio Leone genre?
 - 65 Where rams romp
 - 67 Morse!
 - 69 Blessing
 - 70 "— been ages!"
 - 71 Stage stuff
 - 74 Joyce Carol —
 - 76 Marineland performer
 - 77 "The Green —" ('56 song)
 - 81 California city
 - 83 Digs in
 - 84 Catchall abbr.
 - 86 Snake charmer's crew
 - 88 Ding
 - 89 Meyers of "Kate & Allie"
 - 90 Nice time of year
 - 93 Bind
 - 94 Be human
 - 96 "And I Love —" ('64 hit)
 - 98 Geog. abbr.
 - 99 Greetings
 - Eos
 - 101 Response
 - 103 Hook on a hawk
 - 105 Like some music
 - 106 It's good in a pinch
 - 107 Clause connector
 - 108 Buster Brown's dog
 - 109 Football gains
 - 110 Insect stage
 - 111 Out of town
 - 113 Greet the villain
 - 114 Pixie and Dixie, for two
 - 115 Poker stake
 - 116 "Yo!" at the library
 - 119 "Sat — tuffet . . ."
 - 120 Precambrian —
 - 121 Lanka lead-in
 - 122 Sneeze and wheeze



RECYCLE SANIBEL



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



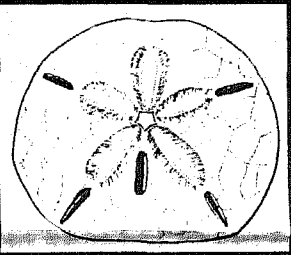
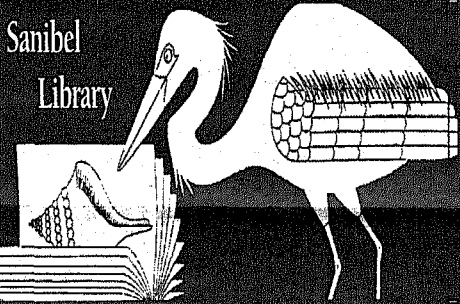
Please Do Not Feed the Birds on Sanibel

GET HOOKED ON RESOURCE PROTECTION

Boaters should use the following guidelines to help protect various habitat:

- Follow speed limits in protected areas. Waves cause shorelines to erode and stir up sediments, making water too cloudy for vital sea grasses to grow.
- Stay in the center of marked channels.
- Help preserve sea grasses by poling or rowing through shallow grass flats instead of using your motor, which can irreparably harm sea grass and damage your prop.
- Once you have caught your limit of a particular fish, try for another species.
- Recycle monofilament fishing line and other fishing gear.
- Never discard fishing line or gear in the water or on the shoreline. It is a deathtrap for wildlife.

"You Are Always Welcome" To our Island Within an Island



How can you help 70 million Americans with arthritis?

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ARTHRITIS AFFECTS ONE IN THREE AMERICANS, including nearly 300,000 children. Join us on the road to cure the nation's number one cause of disability by donation your unwanted car, truck, RV or boat. Any vehicle with valid title is eligible and you may receive a hefty tax deduction, too!

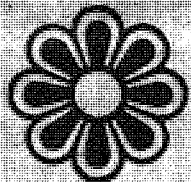
Drive the Fight Against Arthritis!



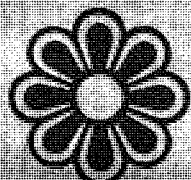
Call Toll-Free Today **1-800-905-4931** or visit www.arthritis.org

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