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Vol. 42, No. 47

Week of January 9 - 15, 2004

32 Pages

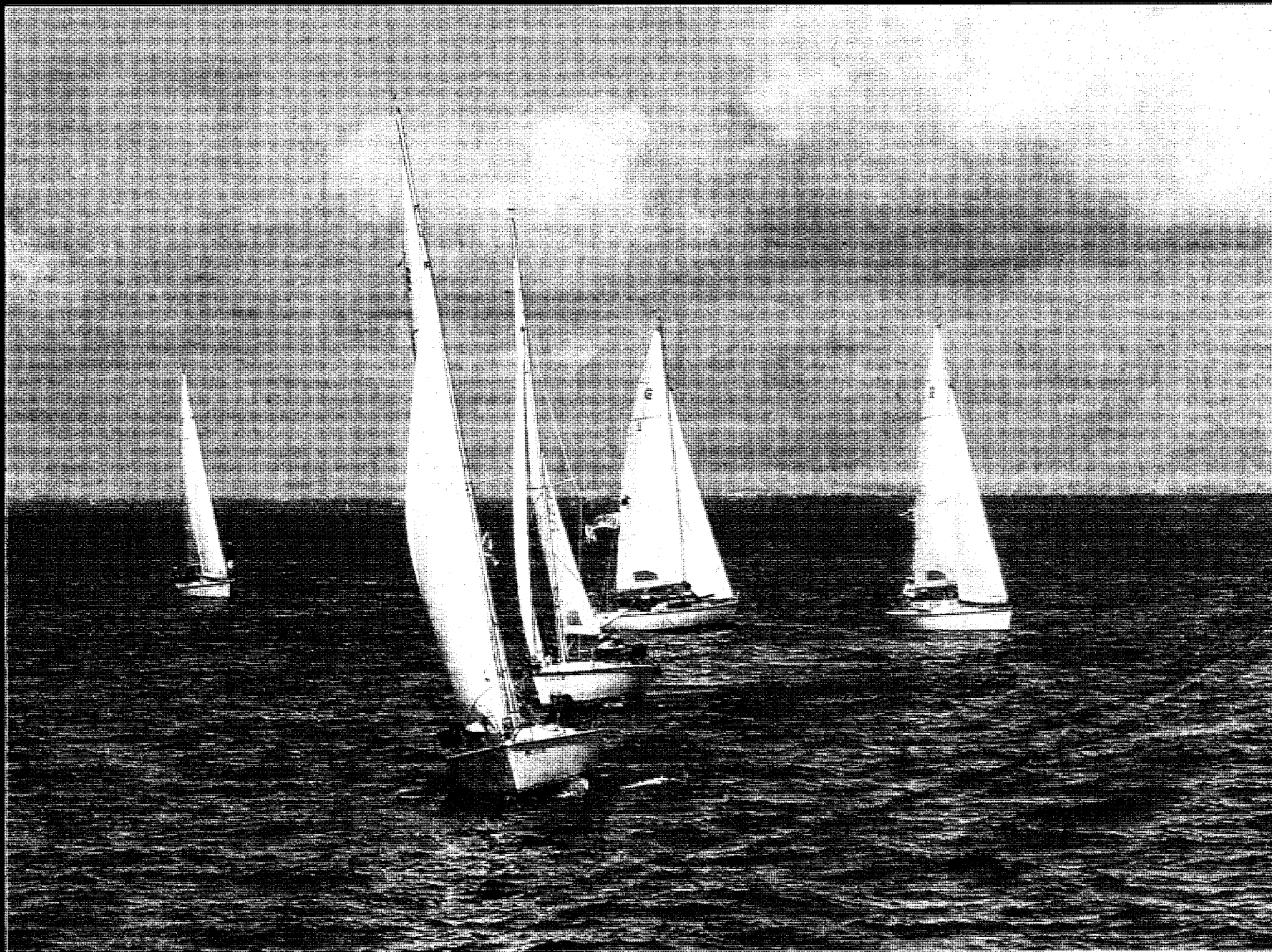
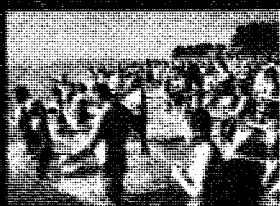


Photo by Karen Nelson

Team Nautical Mile (yellow) won Sunday's Ya Gotta Regatta after winning the first race and coming in second in race two. In the photo above, Team Naumann Properties (black) leads the second race victory parade. In the down-to-the-wire second race, Naumann Properties crossed the finish line about one boat length ahead of Team Nautical Mile. More pictures on Page 2.

**Polar Bears take
the annual plunge
See Page 15**



**Tommy Tune to appear in a
benefit for Gulfshore Ballet
See Page 31**

Ya Gotta Regatta

Story & photos by Karen Nelson

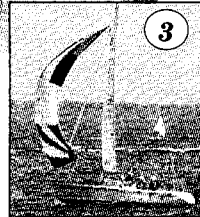
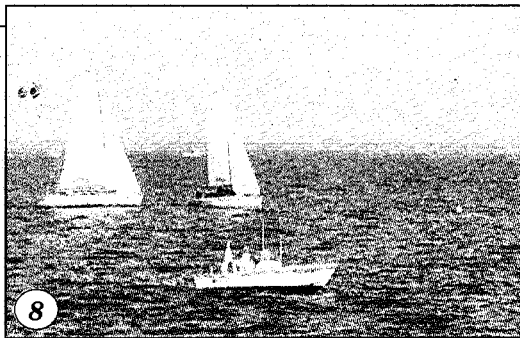
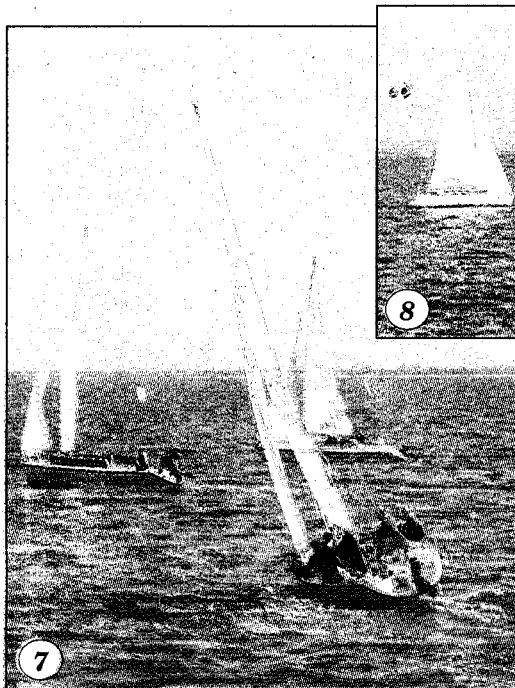
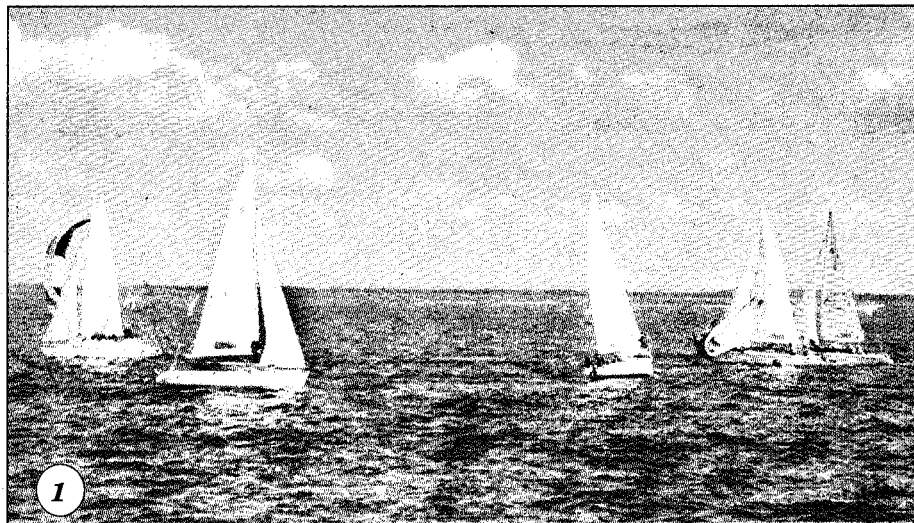
Under skies worthy of a set designer, six Colgate 26 sailboats raced in Pine Island Sound on Sunday, Jan. 4 in the second annual Ya Gotta Regatta. The race benefited the Florida Repertory Theatre.

Offshore Sailing School oversaw the regatta, providing the Colgate 26 racing boats, committee boat and Offshore instructors, who served as team coaches. Offshore owners Steve and Doris Colgate were aboard the Lady Chadwick, the spectator boat, and Steve Colgate provided the race commentary. Captiva Cruises donated the Lady

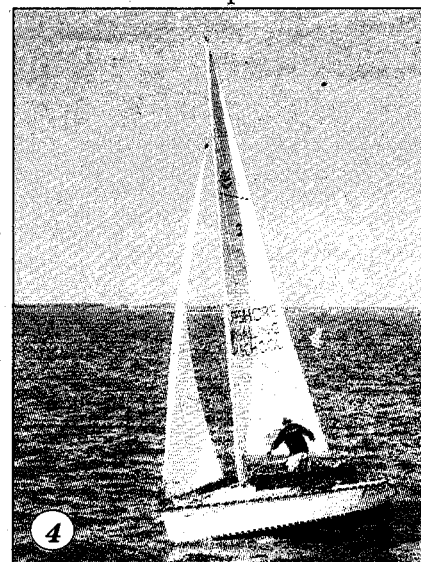
Regatta, see page 11

Winners

- 1st Place - Team Nautical Mile (yellow), sponsored by H2O Outfitters and Galeana Pontiac. Skipper Brian Baugher, Gary Baugher, Frank Galeana and Coach Beite Cooke
- 2nd Place - Naumann Properties (black), sponsored by Naumann Properties, Inc. Skipper Sven Lundin, Mark Naumann, All Mann, Coach Hans Wilson
- 3rd Place (white) - Gulf to Bay Construction sponsored by Gulf to Bay Construction, Inc. Skipper Chris Claypool, Elizabeth Claypool, Ben Payne, Carrie Payne, Coach Mike Huffer
- 4th Place (red) - The Moosy-Payson Team of Merrill Lynch sponsored by Bob Moosy, Fran Payson & Merrill Lynch. Skipper Steve Romaine, Mike Kayusa, John Schedel, Jack Graefe and Coach Joe Hanko
- 5th Place (blue) - South Seas Mariners sponsored by South Seas Resort. Skipper Chris van der Baars, Ellis Etter, Tony Murtagh, Celeste Langer and Coach Kevin Wensley
- 6th Place (purple) - Florida Rep Navigators sponsored by Gerald Laboda, Captiva Island Inn, Interdata. Skipper Sandy Stilwell, Jerry Laboda, Amy Laboda Marz, Carmen Watson and Coach Heather Macintosh



Photos: (1) Florida Rep and Moosy-Payson approach the mark as the South Seas Mariners hoist their spinnaker in race two. (2) Doris & Steve Colgate with their sponsor trophy. (3) The Florida Rep Navigators finally win a battle with their spinnaker (which apparently had a mind of its own) in race two. (4) Second place winner overall, team Naumann Properties. (5) Ya Gotta Regatta winners Team Nautical Mile. (6) The Cacioppos: Matt, Bob, Carrie Lund and Julia. Matt and Julia were among those circulating on deck, shilling raffle tickets, race caps and T-shirts and encouraging bettors to head downstairs to the Lady Chadwick's main salon to place their bets. (7) The Moosy Payson-Team (red) and others in pre-start maneuvers. (8) It was very tight to the finish in race two, with Team Nautical Mile coming toward the finish from the right of the course and Naumann Properties tacking in from the left. Naumann slipped over the finish line with a one-boat-length lead.



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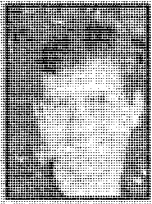
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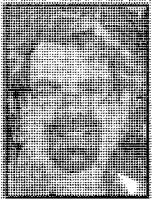
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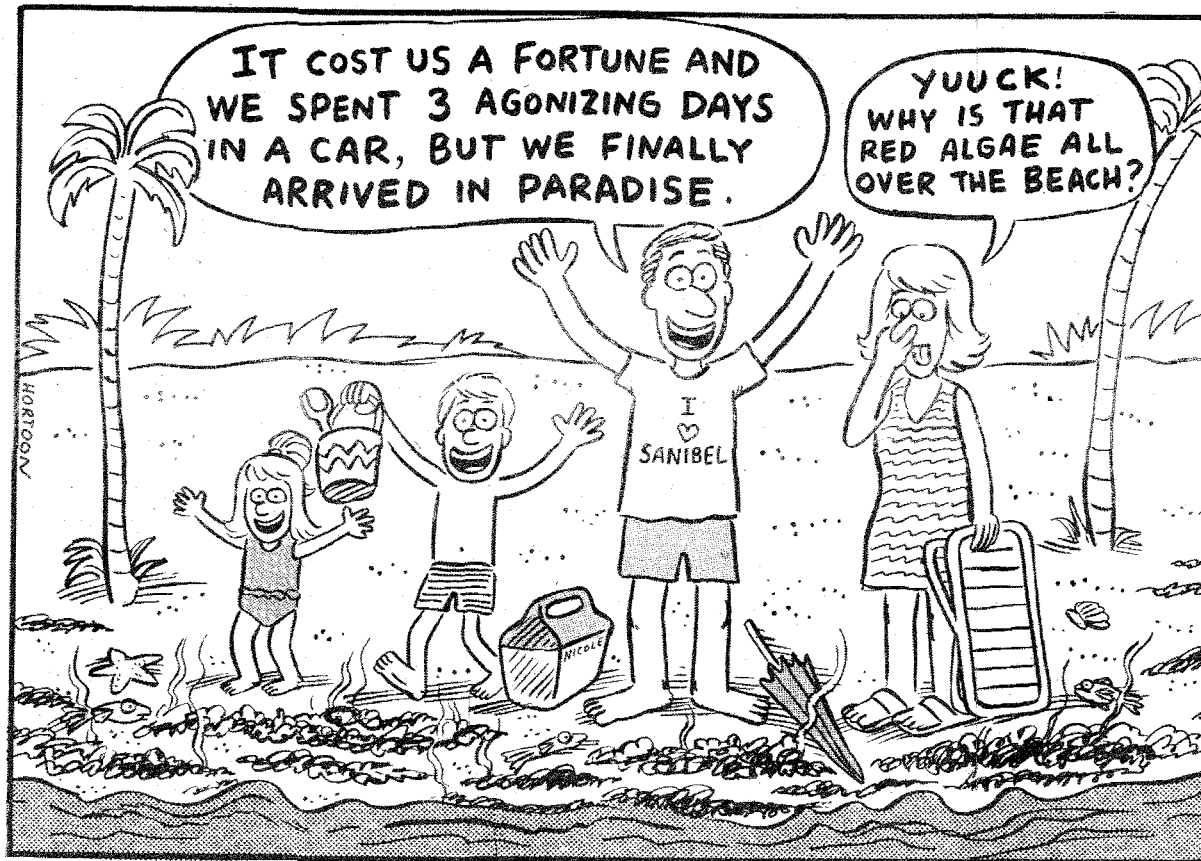
TOO MUCH SUN



Dave Horton



Lee Horton



COLUMNISTS

The Metastatic Life
Lisa Pierot
— page 5



Shell Shocked
Art Stevens
— page 11

Center Stage
Marsha Wagner
— page 16



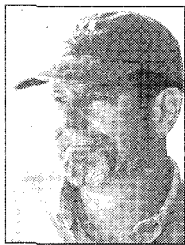
UP PERISCOPE

Emerging nations - what does it all mean?

A number of years ago some clever soul decided it would be a good idea to divide the world into thirds. These were not strict geographic thirds using latitude and longitude — no, it was a rather more complex arrangement based on economics and military might. It meant that places like the United States, Germany or Russia were designated as “First World” while less comfy places, such as Nigeria, Somalia or Vanuatu, became defined as “Third World.”

At first blush this seems to be fairly rudimentary and obvious. First World countries have hot and cold running water for the most part, a pretty reliable food supply, a literacy rate between 97 and 100 percent, and MTV.

The Third World nations mentioned earlier tend to have water you run for, iffy food, and a literacy rate between 25 and 57 percent. But MTV is just around



RENNY SEVERANCE
Editor

the corner, if not already there.

Third World nations know they are such and generally have so many pressing problems that they don't much care how the rest of us rank them. If anything, the designation is useful when it comes to getting aid from other countries.

Similarly, First World countries know where they stand in this hierarchy and are generally indifferent to it since: a) there is no where else to go but down; and b) the ranking only puts them in line to share some of their wealth with the Third World guys.

There is still bit of room between these extremes, and for all of the public discussion of Third World or “emerging” nations, there seems to be a resounding silence on the subject of Second World nations. What are these places and how are they defined? These designations don't show up on the stamps in your passport, so how are we to know?

Somewhere along the line someone has decided that this sort of differentiation is important. Perhaps we need to form a committee to set up strict rules for these definitions. So if the literacy rate is 98 percent but there's no running water, does that mean it's a Two?

What you have everything but MTV? Some might say that deserves its own category.

I can only guess that Second World countries do not think of themselves that way and would be insulted if we called them that. On the other hand, if the proper criteria are developed, say good food, reliable water, but low literacy and no t.v., the designation could become an asset to attract the travel industry.

Chicago made good use of the word “Second,” why not others?

Sanibel Community Association announces our

January Dinner Social Event
Wednesday, January 14, 2004 @ 6 p.m.

featuring
an Italian Feast Dinner
at
Sanibel Community House
2173 Periwinkle Way

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Members \$15, Non-members \$18
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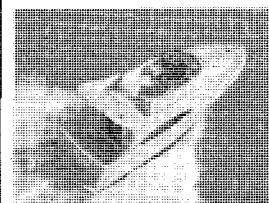
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HAPPENINGS

For items to be included on these pages, they must be submitted by Friday, a week before publication date.

Coming up this week —

Atocha treasure subject of AARP Jan. 9 program

One of the great successful adventure stories of the last twenty years would be the finding of the Atocha, long-lost Spanish treasure ship. A member of the Island Seniors was fortunate enough to go out on one of Mel Fisher's ships during the hunt for the Atocha and he will be sharing a video: "Quest for Treasure." The meeting is on Friday, Jan. 9, at 1:30 at the Island Senior Center on Library Way off Palm Ridge Road. Call 395-3372 for more info on AARP on Sanibel.

Save Our Bay Meeting-Jan 12

If you are concerned about Lee County's plans to replace the drawbridge section of the Sanibel causeway (the A span) with a 70-foot-high fixed span,

please attend a meeting on Monday, Jan. 12, in the auditorium of the Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum, 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road, at 7 p.m.

Members of the recently formed Save Our Bay, Inc. Board of Directors will provide updates on actions they have initiated since the Dec. 4 meeting.

Save Our Bay's initiatives include legal, educational and advertising efforts. For more information, go to www.saveourbay.net.

Rummage Sale - Jan 10

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Myers will hold a rummage sale on Jan. 10 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., with clothing, housewares, furniture, jewelry and more. At the Unitarian Universalist Church on Shire Lane off Daniels Parkway in South Ft. Myers.

SCA Italian Festival - Jan 14

The Sanibel Community Association's January Dinner Social Event will be an Italian buffet dinner on Wednesday, Jan. 14.

The party starts at 6 p.m. and there will be music provided by Tommy Dee & the Statesmen.

Come enjoy an evening of fun, dining and dancing! Cost for members is \$15; for non-members, \$18. Tables of 8 or 10 are available.

Stop by the Community House and pay in advance or call 472-2812 for reservations before 4 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 12.

Butterflies subject of Shell Island Garden Club Meeting

Dee Serage will present "Butterflies and Bugs" at the Shell Islands Garden Club January meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2004 at 12 noon. Members and guests will learn how to attract butterflies to

their garden and control insects. Serage is the landscaping for wildlife educator of the Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation.

Members and guests are asked to bring a sandwich to share. Beverages and desserts will be provided by hostesses Carole Smith, Jean Klein, Betty Matthey, Pat Neitzke, Janet Wight.

There will be a plant table with plants donated by members and proceeds from the sale of these plants will go to a good cause.

This season's meetings will be held at Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church Parish Hall at 2304 Periwinkle Way.

If you have an interest in gardening, floral arranging and horticulture, consider becoming a member of the Shell Islands Garden Club. For more information, call President Glenda Campbell at 472-8994.

Sanibel Little League sign-up starts Jan. 10

The Sanibel Little League has been going strong for 31 years and sign-up for this year's season starts this weekend.

Boys aged 4 - 13 and girls aged 4 - 15 are eligible. Sign-ups will be at the gym on Sanibel and children must be accompanied by an adult for uniform sizing.

Sign-up on the following dates:

- Jan. 10 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon
- Jan. 13 6 to 9 p.m.
- Jan. 15 6 to 9 p.m.
- Jan. 17 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon

Jan. 17 is the last day to sign up!

For more information or to volunteer to coach or umpire, call Dick Muench at 472-2812.

Chamber functions

The January Chamber Box Lunch will be catered by Gully's of Sanibel and held at the Sanibel Community House on Tuesday, Jan. 13, from 11:30 a.m. 'til 1 p.m. Dick Muench and Armand Ball from the Sanibel Recreation Advisory Board will be the speakers. Reservations are due by Friday, Jan. 9. The cost is \$10 with reservations, \$14 at the door.

The monthly AfterHours will be held

Holiday lights down tonight!

On Sanibel, all holiday lights, decorations and displays must be removed by tonight, Jan. 9. Please do not take them down too late unless you enjoy visits from the Code Enforcement Officers. This ordinance applies to both business and residential locations.

Sewer update

San Cap Road: Expect one-lane closures near the "S-curve" and by Bowman's Beach during the day.

West Gulf: Sewer re-paving is continuing, with work on paved roads being done between 2 a.m. and noon, while work on the shell roads will be during normal construction hours, between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

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

Miniature Golf at the SCA

The Sanibel Community Association wants to thank the businesses and individuals who sponsored Miniature Golf over the holiday period. This is the ninth year that Tony Lapi has set the event up as a fundraiser for SCA.


We thank the volunteers who helped with the hot dogs, popcorn and pizza and the businesses who donated prizes. Each night, the low scores were tallied up in the various age groups and a prize was given to the winner.

Thanks to everyone who participated — a great time was had by all. Thank you, one and all and especially Tony.

*The Board of Directors
Sanibel Community Association*

at Gulf Harbour Yacht & Country Club on Monday, Jan. 19, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the clubhouse, 15000 McGregor Boulevard. Reservations must be made by 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 16; there is a \$5 charge for guests.

Call 472-1966 for reservations or e-mail them to office@sanibel-captiva.org.



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THE METASTATIC LIFE

"All aboard..."

By the time this column comes out, the New Year will already be under way and so I am not feeling any pressure to write the usual stuff about resolutions (I have none) or reflections on the previous year (You know what that's been like). Having exhausted these trendy topics, there is really only one thing left to write about... which I'm sure you have already guessed but, just in case, it's The West Wing.

I wasn't tuned in to The West Wing for the first season. I came in late starting with season two. So, when I discovered that the entire first season is now out on DVD, I ordered it pronto. It never occurred to me that anyone would be watching it other than me, and I had somehow managed to see reruns of the first season anyway. But if you are a fan of "Winging It" as we call it in my house, you know that it doesn't matter how many times you watch any particular episode. It will always be thoroughly entertaining.

When my sister Carrie arrived with her three kids a few days before Christmas, I was already in a Zen state of mind having watched the entire DVD set in the solitude of my own living room before school let out for the holidays and company descended. It seemed only natural to try to win over my sister, but I was totally unprepared to find every kid in the house racing to find their spots on the couches whenever I announced we were "boarding Air Force One."

But that is exactly what happened. This show is so brilliant in its first season that 13-year-olds like it as much as 9-year-olds and 16-year-olds. To my delight, we were having conversations about how laws are passed and what the Deputy Chief of Staff does. Nick, my 16-year-old nephew especially loved to repeat the phrase, "There are two things you never want people to see how they're made — laws and sausages." It got to the point in my house where if one person was behind an episode or two, the rest of us would re-watch them because we didn't want anyone to miss what had happened.

Then, yesterday, I had to show the house and my good friend and realtor, Vivienne, came by early and we had some time to talk. She said, "Lisa, you won't

believe what Bob and I have been doing with the little down time that we've had over the holidays." Now, I should mention that when her car pulled into the driveway, I was watching (need I say) The West Wing. I turned it off reluctantly before she got to the door and I made a note of how, perhaps, I was neglecting my social life in favor of President Bartlett, but I'm just being honest. I really didn't want to turn it off.

So Viv tells me Bob called the other day from some store to tell her that he was holding in his hands the entire first season of The West Wing on DVD. She didn't hesitate when she told him to buy it and bring it home. It would be their Christmas present to each other. And so, when all their company left on Christmas night, the two of them curled up with hot cocoa (or maybe it was a drink), put in the DVD and basically did the same thing at their house that we've been doing at mine.

I know it's not my job to tell any of you what to read or watch but you all know that I do it anyway. The West Wing, that first golden season — it's not just good TV, it's mesmerizing TV. It's full of witty banter and humor and information that makes you want to delve into what our government does or, at least, should be doing. It leaves you always with a smile on your face and a hope that, perhaps, someday, somehow, we can have a government run by such people with such virtues and ideals.

I've pretty much given up on Sunday morning politics because I find them utterly depressing and I get mad at so many things. This has been a tough adjustment for me because I love all things political. I like to think that my saving grace has been The West Wing. It hasn't hurt Emily either who is studying civics this year and now actually understands how a bill is passed, how a supreme court justice is nominated and confirmed, and just how incredibly slow the wheels of government turn, even in a make-believe White House.

So, Happy New Year! I have no resolutions but I do have some great advice: Run, don't walk, to your nearest video store and rent a better yet, buy the first season of The West Wing. We all need to "Wing It" a little more.

Until next week...



Lisa Pierot



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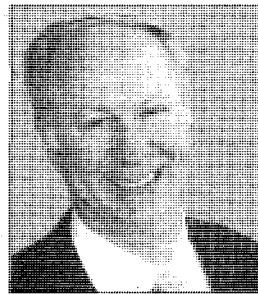
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The Forum at BIG Arts 2004 Distinguished Scholars Lecture Series

David Gergen

Sunday, Jan. 11 at 4 p.m.



Gergen

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.

NOTE: At press time, the Jan. 11 lecture by David Gergen is sold out but there is a waiting list and there are usually sea-

son ticket holder cancellations, so call BIG Arts for availability.

Abner Mikva

Sunday, Jan. 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Ethics in Government, Institutions and Society

Judge Mikva was a five-term congressman and federal judge and Chief Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia in 1991. After his retirement from the bench, he served as counsel to the White House during part of the Clinton administration and he is currently a visiting professor at the University of Chicago.

Judge Mikva has a deep interest in ethics and he will talk about institutional reform and the need to maintain ethics in government and society when there is a basic tendency toward corruption in all organizations.

Frank Carlucci

Monday, Jan. 26 at 12 noon

National Security in an Uncertain World

Frank Carlucci was Secretary of Defense from 1987 to 1989. Prior to that,

Forum, see page 6



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OBITUARIES

F. Allan "Al" Stauch

Born on Nov. 22, 1920, Al Stauch passed away Christmas Eve at Health Park of kidney failure and a congenital heart problem.

Al had been a Christian gentleman since his days at the Lake Avenue Presbyterian Church in Pasadena, Calif. in the mid-50s, and he was a 32° Degree Mason at the Pasadena Scottish Rite Temple. He inherited his father's automotive repair shop, where he became a master craftsman. Retiring to Sanibel in 1983, he became active in CROW as a volunteer and worked for many years at the Island Cinema as a projectionist.

"Al was just a nice, nice man," said Tim Gardner, who also "projects" at the movie theatre, "and very knowledgeable about so many things."

Al made many friends because he was both a straight shooter and a deep thinker. He was committed to his work and to his marriage and loved with his whole heart.

He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Leda; his adopted daughter, Marie Mitchell, of New York City; and his three children — Laurence Landers Stauch and Heidi Mary Lawton, both in California, and Richard Allan Stauch, a resident of Fort Myers. He will be very greatly missed by both family and his many friends.

Legion's 3rd Annual 123 Sale on Jan. 16-18

On Friday, Jan. 2, American Legion Post 123 began accepting donations for its 3rd Annual 123 Sale. The sale will be held over the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday weekend, Jan. 16 - 18, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day.

Private individuals and commercial enterprises are invited to drop off new or gently used clothing, accessories, books, furniture, small appliances, etc. from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. up to the day before the sale, Jan. 15. In addition, a Silent Auction will be held and if your business would like to contribute auction items such as goods, gift certificates or services, please contact the Post at 472-9979.

Proceeds from the sale will be used to fund the various charitable programs of the Legion and to offset general expenses such as maintenance and renovations.

Post Closed for Renovations January 10 & 11

Please note, the Legion will be closed on Jan. 10 and 11 for renovations and general maintenance. Volunteers will concentrate on the bar area, replacing plumbing and redoing the floor, among other things. Come during the 123 Sale and see what's new!

The Sanibel Captiva American Legion Post 123 is located at 4249 Sanibel Captiva Road (mile Marker #3) on Sanibel. Call 472-9979 for information on how you can be a member of the American Legion, Sons of the American Legion or Unit 123, Ladies' Auxiliary.

Forum, from page 5

he served as Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs under President Reagan; Deputy Secretary of Defense from 1980-82, Deputy Director of the CIA from 1978-80 under the Carter administration and other government posts beginning in the 1950s. Carlucci is currently chairman emeritus of The Carlyle Group.

With his great experience as Sec. Of Defense, Deputy Chief of the CIA and Security Adviser to President Reagan, he will be speaking about security.

M. Ishaq Nadiri

Wednesday, Feb. 4 at 7:30 p.m.
The Current Situation in Afghanistan

Professor M. Ishaq Nadiri served in a leadership capacity in the creation of the new post-war government of Afghanistan as well as in international efforts for reconstruction. Professor Nadiri is currently senior economic advisor to President Hamid Karzai and the government of Afghanistan. He is chairperson of the Economics Department at New York University.

Judith Kipper

Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 7:30 p.m.
A Region in Transition... U.S. Interests in the Middle East

An internationally recognized Middle East specialist, Kipper is director of the Middle East Form and Energy Security Group at the Council on Foreign Relations. She also serves

as a consultant of ABC News. In the two weeks prior to speaking at the Forum, she will be traveling in Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries. Several years ago, she interviewed Saddam Hussein.

James Thurber

Sunday, Feb. 22 at 7:30 p.m.

The Politics of the 2004 Presidential Election: Strategies, Tactics and Issues

Professor of Government and founder/director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies at American University in Washington, DC, Dr. Thurber is a nationally recognized authority on campaigns, elections and presidential and congressional politics.

Lawrence J. Korb

Sunday, Feb. 29 at 7:30 p.m.

National Security in an Age of Terrorists, Tyrants and Weapons of Mass Destruction

Recognized as one of our country's foremost experts on issues of national security, Dr. Korb is senior fellow at the Center for American Progress and a senior advisor to the Center for Defense Information. Dr. Korb served as Assistant Secretary of Defense from 1981 through 1985 and as a director of the Brookings Institute from 1988 to 1998.

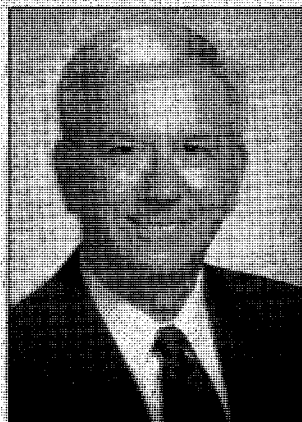
For Forum ticket availability and information, please call BIG Arts at 395-0900.

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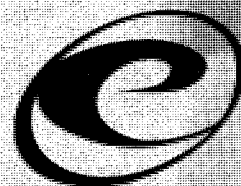
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HAPPENINGS

Sanibel Holistic Health Fair

There will be a Holistic Health Fair on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 16-17 at the Sanibel Community House from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A team of professional specialists will serve as your guides as you explore and participate in the healing powers of movement, meditation, massage, menial work, yoga, chi gong, personal fitness, hypnotherapy, feng-shui, nutrition, native drumming, chiropractic, guided imagery, self-care, touch therapy and body talk.

There will be two keynote speakers, both speaking on both days. If you attend the fair on both days, the speakers will be varying their talks, so the lectures will not be repetitive:

- **Mind-Body Wellness** 11 a.m.
Constance L. Clancy, Ed.D, licensed & nationally certified counselor & hypnotherapist
- **Nutrition and Health** 2 p.m.
Carol Simontacchi, CCN, MS, Author, Heart Health For Women and Owner, Island Nutrition Center

Admission is \$15 per day (senior discount available). For more information, call Connie Horan at 472-1910 or 239/565-1913.

Democratic Club fundraiser cruise

The Democratic Club at Shell Point will hold a bay and river cruise fundraiser aboard the 42-foot yacht, The White Pelican, on Saturday, Jan. 17.

The cruise will depart from the Shell Point Marina at 3 p.m. and will be followed by a dockside party at disembarkation. The cost is \$30 per person or \$50 per couple. Call 466-7587 for more information.

Church Golf Tournament to benefit Habitat

The Sanibel Community Church will be holding a Men's and Women's Golf Tournament at The Dunes on Sunday, Jan. 25 to benefit Habitat for Humanity.

There are spots for 60 players; a buffet lunch at The Dunes will follow the play

Captiva Community Planning Panel

The Captiva Island Community Planning Panel will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 13 beginning at 9 a.m.

Issues may include fine-tuning the current text, amendment language and implementing the Captiva Plan. The public is encouraged to attend and participate.

The meeting will be held at the Captiva Civic Association at 1150 Chapin Lane on Captiva.

Island Seniors Bazaar

The Island Seniors, Inc. will host the ever-popular Island Seniors Bazaar on Saturday, Feb. 7 from 9 am to 2 pm at the Civic Center (old library) at the corner of Palm Ridge Road and Library Way.

There will be a huge Trash 'n Treasures Sale of items donated by members, a wide variety of crafts, shell items, bromeliads, jewelry, dolls, European soaps, calamondin marmalade, and much more. Delicious homemade baked goodies will be for sale as well as hot dogs, sodas and coffee.

Tables are available for \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. For more information call Yolande at 395-3372.

SCA duplicate bridge

Duplicate Bridge resumed at the Sanibel Community Association on Monday, January 5 at 7:30 p.m.

The game is open to all regardless of ability. Partners will be provided if necessary. Fees are \$4 for SCA members, \$5 for non-members.

Winners' names will be published in this newspaper. We look forward to seeing you Monday!

Zimomra to address CASI

Sanibel City Manager Judie Zimomra will speak at the January breakfast of the Condominium Associations of Sanibel.

The breakfast will be on Jan. 23 at the Clubhouse at The Sanctuary. Registration will be at 8 a.m.; there will be an 8:30 breakfast buffet and Zimomra will speak at 9 a.m.

For reservations, please call 334-2138 by Jan. 20.

ABWA Inducts New Members

The Sanibel-Captiva Chapter of the American Business Women's Association welcomed four new members at the December meeting: Sharon Buckingham, Debra Stone, Dawn Fulkerson and Gayle DeHaan-Garland.

Buckingham is an oil and petroleum specialist as well as an award-winning needlepoint artist from Stillwater,

Oklahoma who now lives on Sanibel. Stone is a realtor with Coldwell Banker; a member of the Nette Team, she specializes in residential real estate. Fulkerson has been part of Tarpon Bay Builders — specialists in remodeling



(Above, from left): Lisa Cochran inducts new ABWA members Sharon Buckingham, Debra Stone, Dawn Fulkerson and Gayle DeHaan-Garland at the December ABWA meeting.

as well as building new homes — since 1984. DeHaan-Garland, a financial planner with American Express with an office in Fort Myers, prefers the title "Possibility Thinker."

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SERVICE CLUBS

Kiwanis

The Spirit of Sanibel is Still Alive

Submitted by Bob Wimbush

The year's end presenters were two Kiwanians — Dick Muench and Armand Ball — plus one non-Kiwanian (so far), Scott Conway, of the city's Parks & Recreation Committee. They had come to talk about the master plan for the recreation/Sanibel School complex improvements and three city parks that will be presented to City Council on Jan. 20. It started out like just any other bricks and mortar story, but a more interesting dynamic emerged: If what Kiwanis observed and felt is representative, this project has begun to coalesce normally disparate factions and take on an energy of its own. Potential for the whole is rapidly outgrowing the parts.

The Parks & Rec Committee, like Sanibel's founders a quarter century ago,

is working against substantial odds but, if the City Council (who has already told them to "do it right") perceives this as the community unitizer and builder it has potential to become, the Parks & Rec Master Plan will far supercede the facilities themselves.

The current recreational facilities adjacent to the school are 20 years old and geared to the needs of the island and the school 20 years ago. Unquestionably, they are outgrown, overwhelmed and out of date. Scott Conway laments that Parks & Rec currently expends \$1,000 per month to provide toilets because the original facilities have been overtaken by mold and closed. "We could put \$1,000,000 into fixing them and still be out-dated and undersized." Current facilities have "out-lived their shelf life."

School expansion and sharing facilities

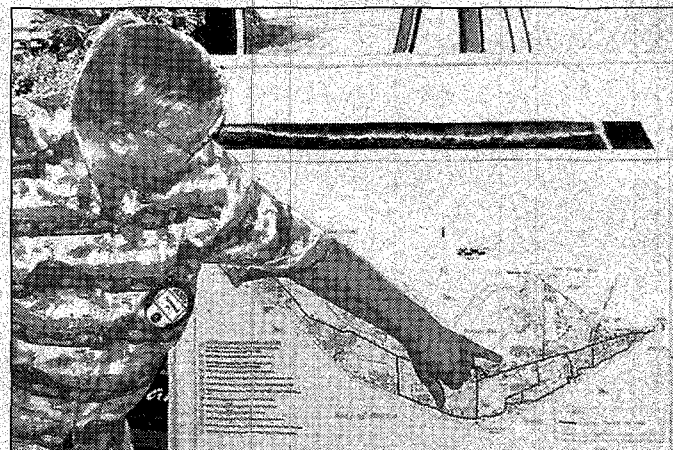
provide both problem and solution. The school district has land but no money and the city has money but no land... consequently, each has become a little less ornery, and a new lexicon couched with words like "shared" and "multipurpose" has begun to emerge.

Sharing? on present-day Sanibel? where virtually every committee flocks much like the seagulls so brilliantly depicted in the movie Saving Nemo with a cry a singular "Mine! Mine! Mine! Mine!?" A Bike Clubber, for instance, bristled visibly at the expression "multi-use paths" but cooled when it was explained that the project could eventually create 30 miles of "multi-use paths" available for biking. Moneyed outside granting agencies that fund these things prefer multi-constituency projects.

It was normal to anticipate 10 hours of sometimes-heated public comment (is there any other kind?) over the small park near Donax and Periwinkle (also part of the master plan) and weigh the real potential for gunfights over Bayside Park (where the new Causeway comes ashore) but, in answer to a question, "Who's against it?" one speaker foresaw little opposition and another opined that everyone, even Complainers Of The Island (a fictitious group), seems to support Parks & Rec's master plan.

Perhaps it's because the committee has done its homework very well that it's produced a reactionary groundswell of unity. SCCF has reportedly joined the master plan and will allow "multi-use" paths into some of the Sanibel Gardens holdings along the river. The Refuge figures prominently (and positively!) in a deal that will allow one ballfield to expand at the school. The Sundial is supporting the displaced tennis program during construction. The City plans to buy and demolish the Dobbs house on Periwinkle, thereby creating a wonderful rest stop for bikers, room for picnics, community-wide gatherings or concerts, and events like this year's 4th of July celebration — a spot on the island where open parkland extends from the Community Association to senior housing.

Except for Nemo's insa-



Armand Ball shows the cooperative potential for bikers to benefit from expanding the multi-use paths.

table seagulls, there seem to be no potential losers. Obviously, the School's approximately 450 students will gain needed physical education and intramural facilities. Waiting lists will diminish for kid and adult athletic teams and the after-school program. Plans include senior-friendly exercise and fitness facilities with separate bathrooms for kids and adults. A city-built pavilion with an entrance into the school's multi-purpose room will provide a potential stage and large gathering spot. And, of course, when it is finished, there will be ballfields, tennis courts, skate boarding, several differently configured pools, a weight room and many other facilities for everyone on the island to use together and enjoy.

Bottom line? All of Sanibel must work together. And, all of Sanibel must foot the bill. It's sort of a Catch 22 from the organizations that want you to share. Because "No one" according to our speakers, "will give a grant to build city buildings on school property."

Nonetheless, Sanibel's history, both past and recent, dealing with and creating Catch 22's (for the other guy's committee) favors success. And there was visible excitement among Kiwanis — which is, after all, a barometer of sorts because this club probably shares members with almost every contentious group except Zonta — and an incredible spirit of can-do. Let's get started!

An excited old-timer best captured the mood, "This takes me back over 25 years. The spirit of Sanibel is still alive." If that's the case, this is a done deal.

Kiwanis breakfasts at the Dunes on Tuesday. If you want to sample can-do spirit, join us.



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SANIBEL & CAPTIVA ISLANDS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

OUR MISSION: TO PROMOTE BUSINESS PROSPERITY AND PRESERVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN OUR COMMUNITY

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Anne Joffe, She Sells Sea Shells

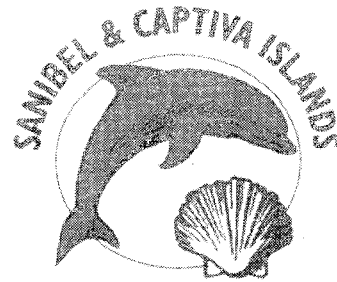
Our Chamber Box Lunch is a great way to keep up with what is going on in the community and in the business world.

Held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Sanibel Community House from 11:30-1 pm, it is open to everyone to attend. Lunch is \$10 in advance and \$14 at the door and you can reserve a space by calling 472-1966.

This month, the Sanibel Recreation Advisory Board will bring us up to date on the new Rec Center project and the Sanibel School will also tell us about the progress of their ongoing renovation.

In February, D.T. Minich, head of the Lee County VCB, will relate his impressions thus far of their new marketing campaign entitled "The Beaches of Ft. Myers and Sanibel."

Hope to see you soon at a Chamber Box Lunch!



Chamber of Commerce
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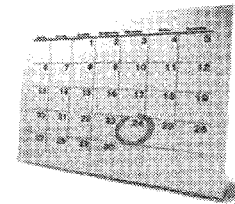
OUR VISION STATEMENT

The Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce will facilitate communication and cooperation between businesses, residents and government to enhance the economic health of our community.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Chamber of Commerce maintains a Community Calendar where you can register your non-profit community related event. It is also a great tool in planning for the future to find out what is already planned for a date you may have in mind for your event.

We invite everyone to log on to our new website at www.sanibel-captiva.biz where you can access the Community Calendar. For ongoing activities and entertainment please refer to our www.sanibel-captiva.org Entertainment Page.



www.sanibel-captiva.biz

2003-A LOOK BACK

This past year, we welcomed 195,000 visitors at the Welcome Center on Causeway Road. This is the 4th consecutive year of decline following the peak of 230,000 in 1999.

We handled 30,000 incoming calls, also the 4th year of decline since the peak of 58,000 in 1999.

Internet use however, continues to grow at an incredible rate. In 2003, for the first time, over one million people logged on to our web site, the 4th consecutive year of increase since 1999 when only 239,000 people logged on to the site.

Web session time also continued to increase, with the average person spending nearly twelve minutes on the site, up from three in 1999.

Our average daily room rate for 2003 was \$153, (same as last year) up from \$139 in 1999.

DID YOU KNOW?

That you don't have to have a business to become a member of the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce.

For \$100, you can become a Community Partner Member and help us promote business prosperity and preserve the quality of life for our community.

As a Community Partner you can attend all Chamber events at member prices, receive discounts from various members, read our monthly newsletter and be listed as a proud supporter of our organization.

Why should you become a Community Partner? Because we need you!

2004-A LOOK AHEAD

The year ahead promises to be filled with many challenges. Tourism and business on the islands will face the issues presented by the Causeway reconstruction, the continued threats to the quality of our water and the health of our beaches, and the need for modernization of our commercial and resort housing infrastructure.

Our new Chamber Magazine is scheduled for publication this month and will be designed to feature our destination as a first-class resort area.

The Lee County tourism marketing campaign has been changed from the "Lee Island Coast" to "The Beaches of Ft. Myers and Sanibel." Our hope is that it will highlight our commitment to the protection of our natural resources and attract quality visitors who share that same commitment.

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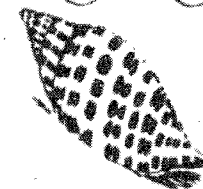
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Fit 'n' Trim: Week One Attitude Is Crucial for Weight Management

By Claudia Burns
Special to the Islander

When it comes to weight management, attitude is not just important - it's crucial. Your attitude toward your total fitness will determine whether you are successful or unsuccessful in managing your weight - a major facet of your overall health and longevity.

I've noticed that most people take better care of their cars than their bodies. They are careful about the type of fuel they put in their cars, and conscientious about scheduling oil changes and lube jobs after a prescribed number of miles or months. They give their cars enough water, and keep plenty of air in the tires. They "exercise" their cars to recharge their batteries so the cars will run (remember what happened when you left your car unpowered for the winter?).

Because cars are expensive, we give them the best of care - including regular mechanical tests and tune-ups. We have the parts that break or wear out repaired or replaced. We make sure that motors, wiring and wheels are maintained for optimum performance.

But when you think about it, humans have a lot in common with cars. Our "machines" need fuel and lubrication, just as cars do. They require water and air, as well as exercise in order to keep "running". In addition, humans need regular medical check-ups and tests. Body parts that break or wear out can often be repaired or replaced. Hearts, nerves and limbs can be maintained for

optimum performance.

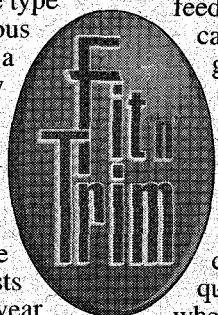
So why do most humans take better care of their cars than their bodies? A car can be replaced when it is no longer repairable. But when a human body "wears out" - there's no replacing it with a newer, fitter model.

Take the time to ponder this question and see if you change your attitude toward your own fitness and health. Could you be more careful about the fuel you put in your gas tank, just as you choose the fuel for your car? Might you give your body regular workouts, just as you do your car, so you start easily and run smoothly?

If you decide to be more choosy about the way you feed your body, take a hint from what you put in your car: quality fuel for optimum performance, oil and grease for lubrication, plus enough water and air. But also, be aware of a substance that you would never put in your car - something that could prevent it from running at all, let alone smoothly.

Have you guessed what it is? Well, the last thing you would put into your car's gas tank is sugar. I'll be writing more about sugar in the coming weeks, but - for now - please consider this question: Why would you put sugar into your body when you wouldn't dream of putting it into your car?

Fit'n'Trim, Weight Management from A to Z, meets for a half hour each Friday at 11:30 a.m. in Heron Hall at the Congregational Church, 2050 Periwinkle Way (across from Periwinkle Place shopping center). Doors open at 11 a.m. for weigh-in. \$5 suggested donation per meeting



Yoga classes at Casa Ybel Resort

Murari Brian Healy is offering two new ongoing yoga classes at Casa Ybel Resort starting in January.

Yoga on the Beach

Brian will be teaching Yoga at the beach every Tuesday morning through season from 9 - 10 a.m. This outdoor class will be held on the lawn overlooking the Gulf in front of the Thistle Lodge restaurant on the grounds of Casa Ybel Resort, 2255 West Gulf Dr.

The class is open to the public, beginner friendly, and the cost is \$12 per class. Sunscreen and insect repellent may be necessary. Please bring a large beach towel or exercise mat. If you've never done yoga outdoors before, you'll love it!

Yoga and Meditation

Starting on Thursday, Jan. 8th, Healy will begin teaching Yoga & Meditation, an ongoing yoga class focusing on stress relief and beginning meditation techniques. This indoor class will meet in the Tennis Meeting Room at Casa Ybel. The class, open to the public, will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. every Thursday evening. Beginners are welcome and the cost is \$12.

Healy also teaches Mindful Yoga at BIG ARTS on Saturday morning from 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. The class is open to public, beginners are welcome, and the cost is \$12.

A resident of Sanibel for 12 years, Brian Healy has provided massage therapy and yoga classes to thousands of island visitors and residents. He is a former staff member of Omega Institute for Holistic Studies in Rhinebeck, NY and the Kripalu Institute. To register for a class or for more information, contact Brian or his staff at 395-1100 or visit www.sanibelmassage.com.

Health & Fitness at SCA

Yoga


Thursdays from 9:15 to 10:30 a.m. Bring mat and comfortable clothes. \$10. Contact Eleanor at 267-8334.

Pilates Mat Class

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:15 to 10:30 a.m. Bring mat and comfortable clothes. \$10. Contact Bonnie at 395-9060.

Fitness with Pam

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Bowditch Point

Are you an unabashed tree-hugging nature lover? We have the perfect job for you at Bowditch Point Regional Preserve. No experience needed, tools and training provided. Year 'round and seasonal volunteers are needed to help staff care for the trails, native plants and to serve as interpretive guides. Call 765-4222 for a volunteer application. Please leave your name, mailing address and phone number.

SHELL-SHOCKED

Wish for it and you just might get it

Isn't there an expression that says if you wish for something hard enough you just might get it? Well, I have some wishes for Sanibel for 2004 that I'm counting on coming true.

I would like to see to it that the island alligator population receives proper respect and stops being treated like second class citizens. After all, if it weren't for our alligators we wouldn't have a booming tourist trade. Thousands of visitors come here every year just to gape at alligators.

"Look, Agnes, isn't that an alligator floating in that swamp?"

"No, George, it's just an old log. Wait a minute, it moved. I think it is an alligator after all. My God, it opened its mouth. He must have a thousand teeth. Oh, no, it's coming toward us. Run, George, run. Why didn't you listen to me when I said we should try that early bird special?"

Alligators should be granted days when they can do anything they want — like swim in our pools and make reservations at restaurants. That's the least we can do to reward them for being the prime tourist attraction they are.

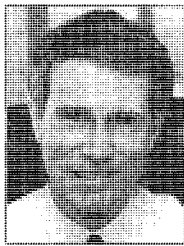
My next wish has to do with the quality of life in Sanibel. When are they going to ban blackened food in restaurants? My throat has been on fire ever since I set foot in Sanibel. The mere mention of blackened food conjures up an image of a flame thrower being forced down my throat. The problem is it's addictive — and tasty, as well as fiery. But blackened pasta, martinis and pecan pie? Give me a break.

Regatta, from page 2

Chadwick as the Ya Gotta Regatta spectator boat and owner Paul McCarthy was onboard. South Seas Resort provided tasty lunch boxes for spectators, who bet on their teams and vociferously cheered them on.

Florida Rep's Producing Artistic Director Bob Cacioppo was pleased with the event and Carrie Lund noted that they were very, very grateful for the support. There were full boats, almost-full sponsorship and a glorious day for the regatta. Cacioppo noted that it was "really wonderful of the Colgates and Paul McCarthy to do this... Many hands make the job easier. We have \$600,000 to raise and this is one piece of the pie."

Another quality of life issue that needs resolution in 2004 is proper bicycle etiquette. It's not correct to yell "fore" when making a left turn on a bicycle. Everyone knows that "fore" is what you yell when you throw a forward pass. Let's not confuse our sports.



Art Stevens

But it's not proper etiquette to ride your bike into an island restaurant and take up valuable table space. Especially with restaurants that don't accept reservations.

And speaking of restaurant reservations, I have one final wish for 2004. Why can't we declare one night a month as "Restaurant Reservation Night"? Every island restaurant would have to accept reservations for that one night. The rule would be that you could start calling for a reservation exactly one week before Restaurant Reservation Night. And first come, first served.

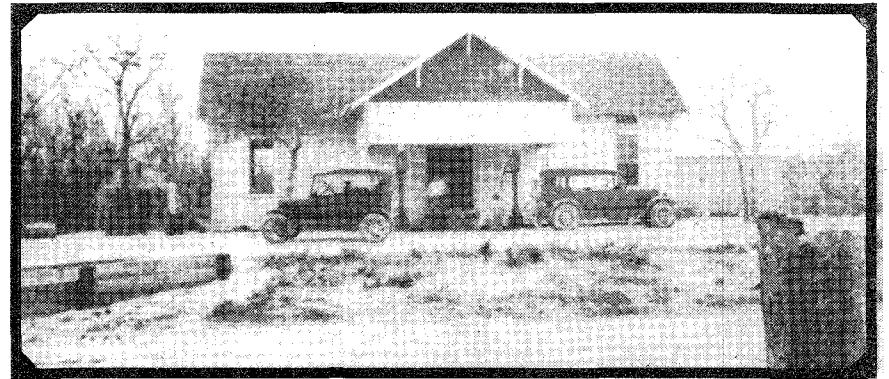
So what if you constantly got busy signals? Or once you're able to get through to the restaurant of your choice they tell you they're all booked up? Would you rather go to the restaurant on non-reservation night and wait an hour and a half to be seated? Or would you rather take a chance, being rejected month after month for a reservation until that one time that you're able to get a reservation?

My wish is that I would like to see Restaurant Reservation Night take place and that I get a reservation the first time I call. As I said, if you wish for something hard enough it might just happen.

Some of the great prizes awarded to bettors and raffle ticket holders included an Offshore sailing course and a stay at South Seas Resort. Both Bob Cacioppo and Steve Colgate had winning tickets (both turned the tickets in and new winners were drawn).

"We got great support from the sponsors," noted Cindy-Lee Overton from Florida Rep. Other prizes were donated by the Asylum Fitness Club, Spada Day Spa, Luc Century, West Bay Golf Club, Florida Rep, Varians, Blue Pepper Gourmet Market, Sunshine Cafe, Naples Players, Austins Wine Cellar, a fishing charter and more.

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ENVIRONMENT

CROW's Walk on the Wild Side

Raise money for CROW (the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife) while testing your knowledge of native flora and fauna on CROW's first Walk on the Wild Side.

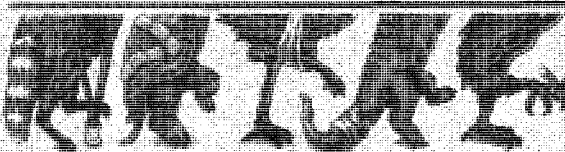
This timed, four-mile walking contest along Wildlife Drive and the Indigo Trail at the J.N. "Ding" Darling Wildlife Refuge will be on Friday, Jan. 30. A four-mile route has been mapped out and there will be over 30 stations along the route, most equipped with spotting scopes or binoculars, where participants will be asked to identify birds, mammals, reptiles and plants. Each participant will receive a list of questions (including some trick questions, so beware!).

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the walking race begins

promptly at 9 a.m. at the entrance to Wildlife Drive. Participants receive entry to Ding Darling on a "closed" day, an event T shirt, water for the race and lunch, along with prizes for the winners. The grand prize will be awarded for the most correct answers completed in the shortest amount of time. Other prizes will be given for the most correct answers overall as well as surprise categories to be announced on race day.

The cost is \$25 per individual; \$35 per couple and \$50 for a family of four. Call 472-3644 for information or to register. The inaugural Walk on the Wild Side is being sponsored by Bank of the Island.

WALK ON THE WILD SIDE



CROW welcomes new director of development

Donna T. Schuman
Staff writer

A new addition to staff could mean many new additions for the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife.

With only three weeks in the clinic's brand new position, Birgit Vertesch, C.R.O.W.'s director of development, already has great plans for the organization and its future growth.

As Lee County continues to grow, Vertesch said, so does the number of injured and orphaned wildlife. That number has increased approximately 15 percent for each of the last five years. Vertesch plans to prepare C.R.O.W. for any future increases.

Although C.R.O.W. has been raising funds to care for injured wildlife for 35 years, the recent increases in those numbers has caused the organization to re-evaluate its fund raising methods. In the past, volunteers and staff members at C.R.O.W. would handle the fund raising duties. With all their other responsibilities, Vertesch said, they could not focus solely on fund raising.

"C.R.O.W. needed to look outside the box, look at other opportunities and see what they needed to do to ensure a bright future," Vertesch said.

One reason the board of directors decided to hire a development director, Vertesch said, was because fund raising in the past mainly depended on membership fees and the generosity of people. Members include individuals, families, corporations, family foundations and corporate foundations.

Vertesch plans to not only increase membership numbers but also donations. Currently, the majority of C.R.O.W.'s contributors come from Sanibel and Captiva. Vertesch also hopes to increase off-island donations to the clinic.

"We have to educate the public through the media, going to service clubs, schools and getting in front of people," Vertesch said. "A lot of people outside of Sanibel don't realize that we take care of all their wildlife too."

In future campaigns, Vertesch will focus on raising gift donations from friends or members of C.R.O.W. and others who want to support wildlife. To increase public awareness, Vertesch said, C.R.O.W. will also plan two large fund raising events this year.

The funds raised through the campaigns will go towards building a new animal hospital, new equipment, new cages and improved housing for the interns and externs at the facility.

"We are purely driven by private support," Vertesch said. "We don't receive aid from government funding, state money or federal money."

A Sanibel resident for three years, Vertesch spent most of that time telecommuting to her former job raising funds for Indiana University's business and medical schools.

When Vertesch learned of the new position, she jumped at the chance.

While tele-commuting to Indiana



Birgit Vertesch

University, Vertesch found herself unable to become involved in the island community. The new job with C.R.O.W. would give her that opportunity, Vertesch said.

"I have always been a part of the community wherever I have lived before," Vertesch said. "I really missed that. I thought to myself, 'this is Sanibel, it's such a fabulous community and its awful not to get involved.'"

Vertesch may be new to C.R.O.W., however, she is no stranger to fund raising. For the past 13 years, Vertesch has assisted numerous organizations in funding projects. In addition to Indiana University, Vertesch has worked with Earlham College and a high school in Indiana as a development and fund raising specialists.

Now, Vertesch said she is still getting to know her new organization.

"Other organizations had been protecting the land, we're protecting the wildlife," Vertesch said. "If we don't take care of them they will become extinct. Man and animal have a relationship that we don't know enough about."

Life on a barrier island

Take a closer look at life on a barrier island. At Bowditch Point Regional Preserve, explore the dynamics of barrier islands, the beach and dune communities. From 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Jan. 17.

At Matanzas Pass Preserve, visit a tropical maritime hammock, follow the trail to Estero Bay and learn about one of the most productive ecosystems in the world. From 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Jan. 10 and 24. Adults and age 12 to 16 with an adult, \$3. For more information and registration please call (239) 461-7440. Bowditch Point 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. 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. Both are Lee County Parks and Recreation facilities.

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Audubon winter programs resume

The Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society began its 2004 season on Jan. 8 with a program on bluebirds by Barbara Chambers. Her presentation, "On the Trail with Bluebirds," featured bluebirds and other common cavity nesters and outlined the Virginia Bluebird Society's monitoring protocol.

Chambers is a founding member and the Vice President for Education of the Virginia Bluebird Society (VBS), an affiliate of the North American Bluebird Society (NABS) and she organizes bluebird trails on public and private lands, gives programs about bluebirds and trains trail monitors.

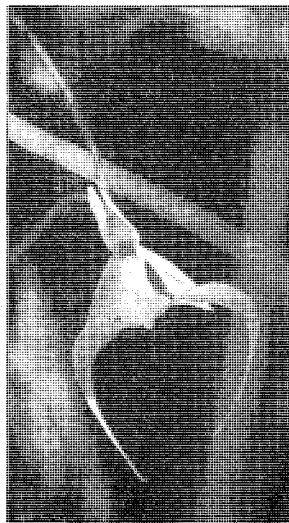


Photo by Vic Ramey
© 2002 Univ. Florida

Ghost orchid

Owen on Fakahatchee Jan. 15

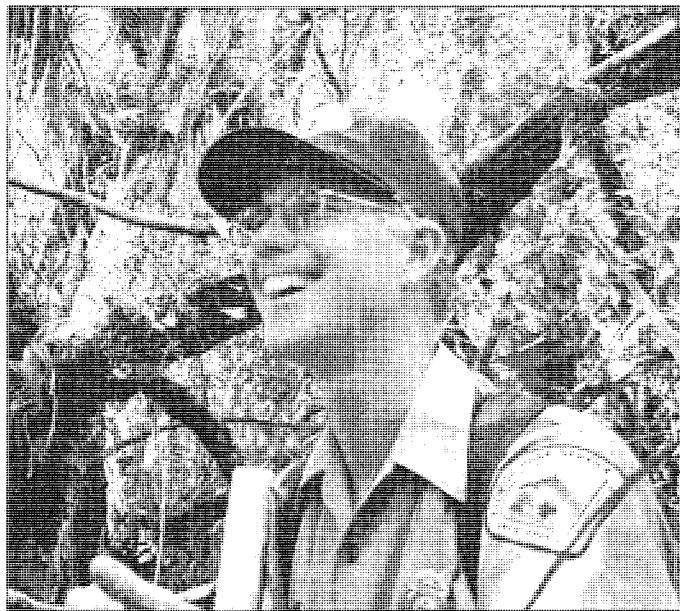
Park Biologist Mike Owen will present Fascinating Facets of the Fakahatchee Strand on Jan. 15 as part of the Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Lecture Series. As the Park Biologist for the Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve, he is one of those happy few people working in precisely the job they want: "I'll probably never leave."

With a degree in Zoology from the University of South Florida in Tampa, he came to the Fakahatchee in 1993 after stints as a technician with the Florida Marine Research Institute and then as a Park Ranger at the Koreshan State Historic Site

in Estero, Florida.

Owen's lectures are much anticipated as he offers a volley of facts and a boyish flood of wows and goshes, explaining the swamp's history, topography, plant and animal life.

Visitors to the park have significantly increased since the 1998 publication of Susan Orlean's best-selling book *The Orchid Thief*, which tells the true story of an obsessive orchid collector named John Laroche and his scheme to poach the Fakahatchee's rare orchids. The book "was also the basis" of the offbeat 2002 movie



Mike Owen

Adaptation.

Owen describes Fakahatchee in five superlatives: the largest strand swamp, the largest unit in the Florida Park Service, the bromeliad and orchid capital of the United States, the fern capital of Florida and the largest population of royal palms in the United States.

The lecture will be at the Sanibel Community House at 2173 Periwinkle Way at 8:00 p.m. and the suggested donation is \$4.00. Plenty of parking is available at both at the Community House and parking lot across the street in front of the former J. Howard Wood Theater now called the Periwinkle Playhouse. For additional information contact Elaine Jacobson, 395-1878.

Guided kayak nature tours

Lover's Key State Park — Tuesdays and Saturdays - 9 a.m. - 2-hour guided kayak nature tour of the water surrounding this award-winning state park. We see many of the 300 species of birds that frequent the area, dolphins and manatees. Learn about the history of the Calusa Indians that lived here for thousands of years, and about the trees, birds, and mammals that live here. \$35 per person.

Sunset tour in Estero Bay - Fridays - 4 p.m. This time of day is wonderful for bird sightings as over 300 species of birds feed and then head home to roost for the night - 2 hours - \$35 per person

Kayak Clinic at Manatee Park - Saturday, Jan. 10 - 9 a.m. - A Lee County Parks and Rec Program - learn the basics of kayaking and enjoy a tour

on the Orange River - 2 hours \$27.50 per person - call Parks and Rec at 461-7440 to register.

Bird Rookery/River Tour - Wednesday, Jan. 14 - 4 p.m. - Visit a very special island where thousands of birds (up to 12 species) roost. Paddle in a wonderful, natural area of the Caloosahatchee River - 2 hours - \$35 per person.

Archeological Tour - Thursday, Jan. 15 - 10 a.m. - Learn about our native Calusa Civilization by visiting Josslyn Island, an ancient Calusa site. - 4 hours - \$40 per person - sponsored by the Randall Research Center at Pineland on Pine Island. Visit their website at: <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/anthro/sflarch/pineland.htm>

For more information and a reservation, call Connie at GAEA Guides at 239-694-5513, www.gaeaguides.com

Audubon outing on Jan. 10

The next Sanibel-Captiva Audubon birding outing will take place on Saturday, Jan. 10 (tomorrow) at Bunche Beach. Meet at 8 a.m. at the end of John Morris Road (the third light from the Causeway). All birders are welcome and be sure to wear shoes that can get wet.

The next outing will be on Saturday, Jan. 17 at Boeditch Point, 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.

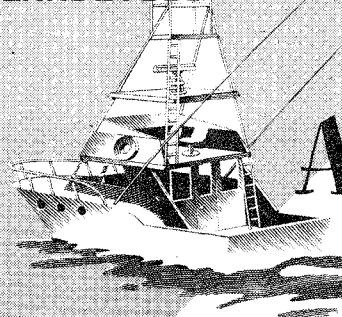
Resident Environmental Orientation at SCCF

Space is available for the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation's environmental orientation series on Jan. 12, 19 and 26. Available only to residents and property owners on the islands, the program gives a general overview of the rich conservation heritage of the area.

Learn about the man, "Ding" Darling, the Refuge, Conservation Foundation, incorporation of the City, other conservation organizations, current restoration and conservation projects and the natural history of the islands via walking tour, trolley trek and short boat trip if weather permits.

The orientation program runs from 2 - 6 p.m. Space is limited and reservations are required. The program is free to residents of Sanibel and Captiva and will also be offered in February and March but space is filling up fast. Call 472-2329 for reservations.

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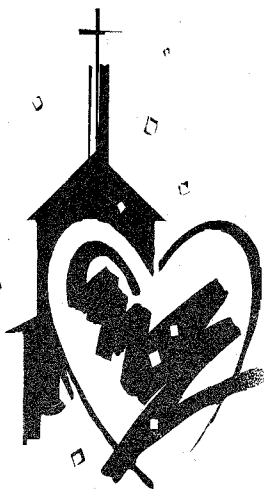
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BIRTHS

Charles and Janet Manzella of Sanibel are proud to announce the births of two grandchildren. On Aug.



Magdalen ("Maggie") Marie Manzella

28 Magdalen ("Maggie") Marie Manzella was born to Charles Manzella, Jr. and his wife Lorie in Pittsford, NY.

The second grandchild, Emmett David Manzella was born on Dec. 5 in Vail, CO to David and Brynn Manzella.



Emmett David Manzella

The grandparents have lived on Sanibel for the past eight years. Charles has an accounting practice in the Promenade on Tarpon Bay Rd. and his wife Janet is a first grade teacher at the Sanibel School.

Bats subject of Power Squadron's Jan. 20 meeting

A slide presentation, "Bats of the World," will be presented at the Tuesday, Jan. 20 meeting of the Sanibel Captiva Sail & Power Squadron, which begins at 6 pm with dinner at the Sanibel Community Center.

Presenters Cyndi and George Marks of the Florida Bat Center will also be bringing live bats so everyone can see some of our native Florida species up close and personal.

The Marks have been working with Florida bats for over a decade and are leaders in bat conservation in Florida. In 1994 they founded the Florida Bat Center, a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of Florida's native bat species and to educating the public about these unique flying mammals.

Bats became entangled in the Dracula legend centuries ago, playing frightening roles in tales of horror ever since. Yet bats are shy, gentle animals and play a vital role in maintaining balanced ecosystems throughout the world. In Florida, bats are the most important natural controller of night flying insects. In other parts of the world, bats disperse seeds, pollinate plants, provide guano for fertilizer and even vampire bats have made important contributions to science and medicine.

For membership information in the Sanibel Captiva Sail & Power Squadron, contact Bob Morain at 481-4798.

How not to win friends, etc.

An east end resident called police on New Year's Day to report a suspicious package left on his porch. Officer Ken Sutton responded and confirmed that the package was a little odd because it had no postmarks, was heavily taped all around, covered with handwritten messages like FRAGILE and THIS END UP, and had no TO/FROM information. The homeowner said he had been in and out numerous times, including around 4 p.m., and there had been no package; at about 5:30, the package was present. He said no one had knocked, rung or announced they were leaving a package.

At approximately 6:30 Sgt. Bill Dalton contacted Lee County Sheriff's Department and requested assistance from their bomb squad, then responded to the scene. While en route Dalton was contacted by Sheriff's Det. Obor who, after having the situation described, agreed that the package was worth investigation. He told Dalton to evacuate the neighborhood within a 300-foot radius and secure the scene. Sutton started this procedure and he and Dalton completed it. Sgt. Anthony Thompson and Officer Rachel Bauer-Fithian evacuated the appropriate houses one street over.

The bomb squad arrived at 7:15; Lt. Scott Ashby notified Sanibel Fire & Rescue and Lee County EMS who arrived while the bomb squad was staging. By about 8:30 the bomb squad had determined that the

Dunes 18-Hole Women's Golf

Results: January 2

BOBS (number of strokes to the green) was the game of the day.

Event: BOBS.

A Flight	Score
1st Place Bonnie Byrne	32
2nd Place - tie Debbie Fairbanks Sue Richard	34
B Flight	
1st Place Mary Ann Parmalee	31
2nd Place Joan Kent	35
C Flight	
1st Place Pat Wentling	31
2nd Place Sandie Sultar	32
3rd Place - tie Toni Warren Millie Ford	33
D Flight	
1st Place Lee Barnes-Bogan	35
2nd Place Jinny Kelby	44
Chip-Ins Millie Hasselman Judy Wellons Joan Kent Nancy Greenberg	

package was not dangerous and turned it over to SPD.

The package contained a large grapefruit and two lemons, all with holiday messages written on them. The bomb squad left at about 9, all the homeowners were allowed back and SPD left a few minutes later.

The homeowner called the next afternoon and suggested that a friend who lived at the other end of the island might have left the package on the porch. Dalton called the friend who asked that he be interviewed in person. Dalton responded and the gentleman explained to the officer that he had, indeed, left the package at his friend's house, but as a joke. He said he had known the homeowner for several years and certainly had no malicious intent; he had placed other similar packages at other friends' homes without any repercussions.

Dalton explained the complications his friendly joke had incurred and the gentleman apologized and agreed not to do anything similar in the future.

Beach construction, island style

Story & photos by Karen Nelson

Ten-year-old Doug Bierer from Cincinnatti built a nifty tiki hut on Monday, Dec. 29 on the beach behind his grandmother's house on West Gulf Drive.

Doug's aunt, Cynthia Barnett, started him off by tying together two support poles for the main part and then Doug and his eight-year-old sister, Megan, collected palm fronds and began thatching.

The project evolved as they worked on it; after completing the inner room, they added an outer entrance archway. Pen shells and driftwood completed the decor.

Doug put out a sign-in board, complete with pen, and people from all over the U.S. as well as Canada have signed in.

There is a tiki "god" and a poem, also contributed by Barnett. Grandma Charlotte Johnson was very pleased with



Continued right...

Loretta Paganini classes starting Jan. 23

The Loretta Paganini School of Cooking returns to Sanibel for the seventh year beginning on Jan. 23. The Tropical Cooking Extravaganza schedule is as follows:

- Jan. 23 Grilling from a Tuscan Farmhouse
- Jan. 26 La Cucina Italiana
- Jan. 27 Fabulous, Fast Entertaining
- Jan. 28 Cooking from an Herb Garden
- Jan. 29 A Fish Story
- Jan. 30 Quick & Easy Gourmet

Classes will be held at The Timbers Restaurant, 703 Tarpon Bay Road from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration is available for individual classes at \$75 each, or for the series of six classes for \$395.

For reservations, call The Loretta Paganini School of Cooking at 1-888/434-5987; e-mail LPSCInc@MSN.com; Fax: 440/729-6459.

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the project and Doug, Megan and the whole family were all touched by the number of people who took the time to sign in; many also contributed small sea treasures to the collection.

Left: The welcome sign, with signatures from as far away as Canada and California. Above: Megan and Doug Bierer sitting inside the hut, with the driftwood tiki god. Below: The hut consists of a central chamber and a front archway; the orange sign is a poem to the beach-dwelling tiki god, contributed by Doug's aunt.



Polar Bears take the plunge

*Story & photos by Renny Severance
Executive Editor*

On January 1 at the crack of noon, 129 hardy souls from around the globe gathered at the Tarpon Bay Beach on the Gulf of Mexico to inaugurate the new year with a plunge into the bone-chilling 63 degree water.

Organized by Sanibel resident, John "Papa Bear" Carney, the Sanibel-Captiva Polar Bear Club has been taking the plunge each New Year's Day for the past four years. And each year, more of them show up. Starting with the original 25 bears in 2001, the number has grown each year to this year's record-setting turnout, despite the heightened "Condition Orange" declared by the Homeland Security folks. Of course, with that condition in mind, Papa Bear Carney was especially careful and took the trouble to notify Sanibel City Manager Judie Zimomra along with Sanibel Fire & Rescue who thoughtfully dispatched an emergency vehicle and team of experts to the event.

As a result, it all went off without a hitch. One hundred and twenty-nine "bears" and one dog went in, watched carefully by two visiting dolphins, and the entire company came back out a few minutes later.

Before launching themselves into the gulf en masse, the Polar Bears screwed up their courage, enthusiasm and team spirit by singing the "Polar Bear Anthem," sung (if you can call it that) to the tune of "God Bless America." After chiding the "mice" who stayed on the shore, the "bears" tossed ice cubes supplied by Polar Bears management into the water to ensure the proper temperature, then charged into the drink to some 20 yards out to get in a least hip-deep.

The group then gathered for the traditional "Polar Bear" group hug — a technique designed to ward off hypother-



mia — to the consternation of those in the middle of the hug who complained of the heat.

Quickly they returned to beach headquarters for celebratory champagne and the obligatory paperwork. Thanks to Gary and Suzy Sowers, official certificates and membership cards were available along with an impressive shoulder patches which were scooped up quickly by qualified adventurers.

The "bears" came from 23 states as well as Canada and even New Zealand. There were even a number from Sanibel.

Papa Bear Carney looks forward to an even bigger crowd next year and possibly a new patch just for Sanibel-Captiva club, now that they have given away all their generic club patches.

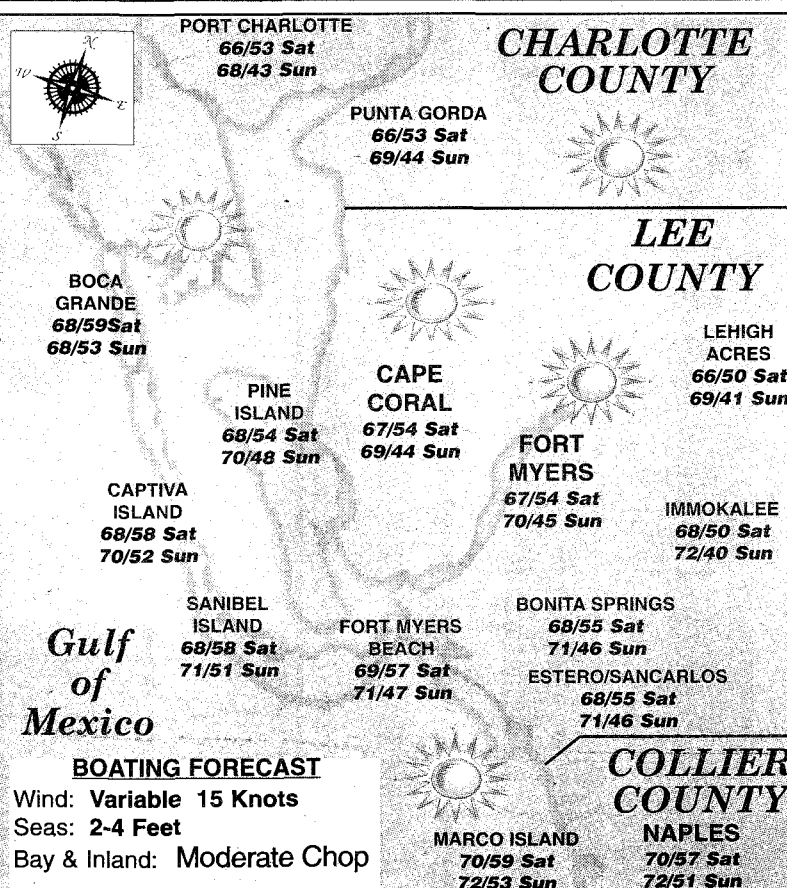


WEEKEND FORECAST FOR JANUARY 10 & 11

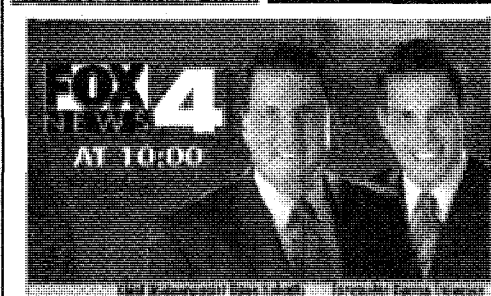
SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Possible showers early in the day. Partly sunny later on.		Looking forward to a bright sunny day today.	

WEEKEND TIDES

City	Sat. High	Sat. Low	Sun. High	Sun. Low
Cape Coral Bridge	5:18 a.m.	-	6:28 a.m.	3:54 a.m.
Captiva at Redfish Pass	3:08 a.m.	-	4:18 a.m.	12:38 a.m.
Fort Myers	6:11 a.m.	-	7:21 a.m.	4:36 a.m.
Matlacha Pass	4:46 a.m.	-	5:56 a.m.	3:20 a.m.
Pineland	3:44 a.m.	-	4:54 a.m.	2:18 a.m.
Point Ybel	2:13 a.m.	-	3:23 a.m.	12:40 a.m.
Punta Rassa	3:02 a.m.	-	4:12 a.m.	12:33 a.m.
St. James City	3:33 a.m.	-	4:43 a.m.	-
	-	12:07 p.m.	9:09 p.m.	1:08 p.m.



FOX 4 CAST



STATE FORECAST-SATURDAY

CITY	HIGH/LOW
CAPE CORAL	67/54
DAYTONA BEACH	68/38
FT. LAUDERDALE	68/50
FT. MYERS BEACH	43/65
GAINESVILLE	55/32
JACKSONVILLE	55/35
KEY WEST	65/60
KISSIMMEE	62/42
MIAMI	68/55
ORLANDO	62/40
PANAMA CITY	57/39
PENSACOLA	55/35
SARASOTA	62/48
ST. PETERSBURG	62/47
TALLAHASSEE	58/36
TAMPA	62/47
VERO BEACH	65/45
WEST PALM BEACH	68/53



SATURDAY
SUNRISE
6:53 AM



SATURDAY
SUNSET
5:43 PM

Arts & Leisure

CENTER STAGE

Marsha does Manhattan with the "grands"

Since I've been spending the Christmas holidays in the big city with my grandkids, I thought I'd pass on some cool to-dos for you guys to consider for your next visit with the "grands" in Manhattan.

First off, let's examine the how, why, where and what of getting about and exploring the city. Get yourself a Metro Pass for public transportation on buses and subways, and purchase a subway and bus map. A trip to the Tourist Information Bureau on 7th Avenue between 46th and 47th (next to the Palace Theater and across from the TKTS booth on Duffy Square) would be advisable (plus they have facilities there). If you're staying in a sizeable hotel, the concierge will do, but the Tourist Bureau is still the most knowledgeable. Consider purchasing a City Pass for \$45 (707/256-0498 [that's what the brochure said] or www.citypass.com) — you get six of the most famous attractions, no waiting in line, and a great way to see the city — admission to the Empire State

Building Observatory plus the NY Skyride located on the second floor. This turned out to be an awesome aerial tour of NYC that takes you on a ride around, above, and even below all that the city has to offer...and you feel the sights from the comfort of a specially equipped motion-simulated big-screen theater seat. CityPass includes the Guggenheim Museum, American Museum of Natural History, Museum of Modern Art (temporarily located in Queens), Intrepid Sea/Air Space Museum plus a two-hour Circle Line Harbor Cruise. That's a big bang for your buck.

If you have ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes in the world of concert or stagecraft, you can satisfy that curiosity with a visit to legendary Carnegie Hall by calling (212) 247-7800 for details. Or plan on taking a Metropolitan Opera Guild Backstage Tour (212/769-7020). Reservations are recommended for the daily Lincoln Center Guided Tours (212/870-5350). And don't miss a visit to the largest performing arts collection and

archives in the world at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts (212/870-1630). You can also enjoy the Radio City Stage Door Tour (212/247-4777) and then go across the street for the NBC Studio Tour (212/664-3700) — no children under 6 — and then hang out for some program tapings where you might be a member of the studio audience.

For the little guys there is Madame Tussaud's 234 West 42nd (212/512-9600) where you mingle and rub elbows with the world's best-known personalities from entertainment, sports, politics and world history. The Manhattan version has interactive options where you can make Jennifer Lopez blush and experience life with the Osbourne family.

(Katie and Meghan weren't too keen on this one, but they have lived with the original Madame's in London for the past six years.)

Then there is American Girl Place, the amazing new home for the realistic character dolls beloved by so many young girls. This elaborate palace of playthings includes, in addition to beautiful contemporary and historical dolls, high-fashion doll clothing, detailed furniture and doll accessories, boutiques featuring children's clothing to match the doll ensembles, a doll hospital, a doll hair salon, a bookstore, a theater, and a cafe. The address is 609 Fifth Ave. at



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Toys 'R Us is a must-shop spot if you have the gang with you. It's the world's largest toy store, in the heart of Times Square. Interactive fun includes a dramatic six-foot-tall Ferris wheel, a huge animatronic

T-Rex and the NYC skyline constructed entirely of LEGOs. Toys include everything from the hottest new video games to grandma's favorite board games. The store is on Broadway between 44th and 45th.

49th St. across from Saks Fifth Ave. It's four floors of sheer doll heaven.

The Scholastic Store (557 Broadway between Prince and Spring) is a must-see destination for kids offering a full selection of



SEE NEXT PAGE

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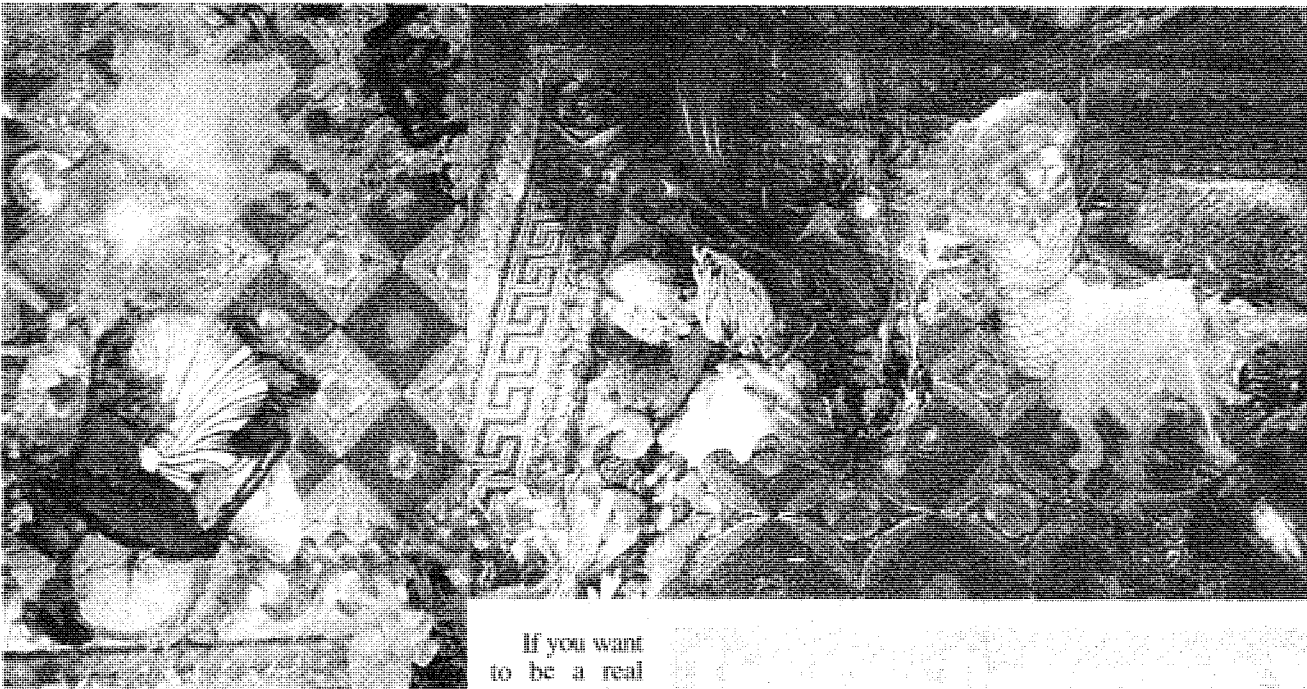
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or pa, surprise the gang with a Hip-Hop Cultural Sightseeing tour any Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. — \$75 for adults and \$50 for students/kids. You'll see the famous Graffiti Wall of Fame, a performing group, take in the hip-hop hot spots and learn where it all began. Tours are narrated by local celebs, so dress up in "bling-bling," eat all the soul food you can, sing, dance and have fun. I've already signed up for my next visit with the girls.

Theater for kids mostly consists of *Ah, My Dear Anderson*, an adaptation with music of four stories by Hans Christian Anderson staged by Urban Stages at 259 West 30th in Manhattan. Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$25 for kids (212/868-4444). *A Princess, an Emperor and a Duck*, a new puppet production also based on stories by Anderson, is at the Swedish Cottage Marionette Theater in Central Park, Fifth Ave. & 79th. Suggested donation: \$6 adults, \$5 kids (212/ 988-9093). *The History Mystery*, a musical by TADA, Inc. during which students are visited by leaders of the past like Martin Luther King and Eleanor Roosevelt, is at 15 West 28th on the second floor, in Chelsea (212/252-1619). Tickets are \$18, \$15 and \$8.

And, of course, there is always Broadway, with such shows as *Lion King*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Aida*, *Mama Mia*

and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Something new is available for students in middle or high school called High5. You can get \$5 tickets for museums, film screenings, dance and various other kinds of performances. Either visit the website, www.high5tix.org, or call (212) 445-8587. Go to a Ticketmaster outlet with cash, ID proving you are between the ages of 13 and 18 and enrolled in a middle or high school, and ask the ticket seller for High5 tickets specifying the performance and the venue. If there is a problem, ask the ticketseller to check System 19 and System 40. Be sure to confirm the date — you must get tickets at least one day before the show you want to attend. Tickets for an exhibition or museum can be purchased the same day as your visit, but are valid for only one visit during the month after the date of sale. This is a mighty bargain if you're watching your pennies.

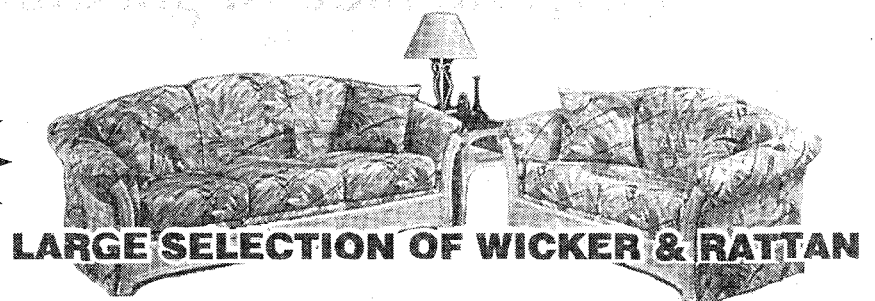
Food is the other biggie on the list of to-dos. McDonald's of Times Square is open 24 hours and is one of the busiest in the world. This Big Mac features a unique

See CENTER STAGE, page 22



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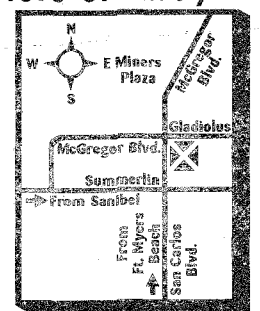
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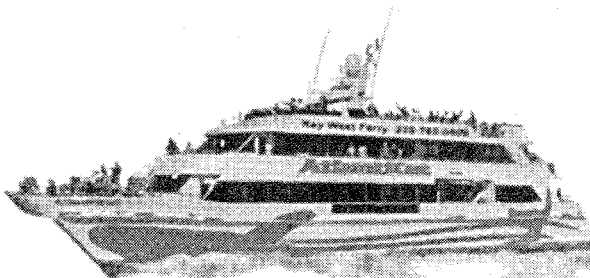
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POTPOURRI

Gabrielli Trio to appear

BIG ARTS welcomes back the Gabrielli Trio to the Great Performers series on Saturday, Jan. 10, at 8 p.m. in Schein Hall. The three musicians — Michael Haber, cellist, James Bushwell, violinist, and Seth Carlin, pianist — are all masters of their art.

Haber, the founder of the trio, is currently on the faculty of the New England Conservatory and chairs the string program at the University of Akron. Bushwell currently teaches at the New England Conservatory and was featured in a full-length movie on the life and music of Johann Sebastian Bach. Carlin is Professor of Music and head of the piano department at Washington University in St. Louis.

The concert is sponsored by Northern Trust. Tickets are \$30 and available by calling BIG ARTS at 395-0900.

Oliveira performs at BIG ARTS

Violinist Elnar Oliveira will perform at Schein Hall Saturday, Jan. 17, at 8 p.m. Oliveira has taken his place as one of the most commanding violinists of our time and remains the first and only American violinist to win the Gold Medal at Moscow's Tchaikovsky International Competition. He is also the first violinist to receive the coveted Avery Fisher Prize, in addition to capturing First Prizes at the Naumburg International Competition and the G.B. Dealy Competition. Pianist Robert Koenig will accompany Oliveira.

The son of Portuguese immigrants, Oliveira was nine when he began studying the violin. He later continued his

studies at the Hartt College of Music and the Manhattan School of Music where he also received an honorary doctorate. He also has an honorary doctorate from the University of Binghamton and has served on the juries of some of the most prestigious violin competitions. He has appeared frequently on television in the U.S. and Europe. The Prime Minister of Portugal recently awarded him the country's highest civilian honor, The Order of Santiago.

Oliveira's rigorous international itinerary includes appearances in recitals and with many of the world's greatest orchestras, both in Europe and the United States. He is constantly expanding traditional repertoire boundaries as a champion of contemporary music and rarely-heard works of the past, devoting energy to the development of the young artists of tomorrow, and enthusiastically supporting the art of modern violin and bow makers.

Oliveira has released many CDs and is a two-time Grammy nominee for his CD of the Barber Concerto with Leonard Slatkin and the Saint Louis Symphony. He performs on an instrument known as the "Stretton" made in 1729-30 by Giuseppe Guarneri del Gesù.

The concert is generously sponsored by the Ferguson Foundation. Tickets are \$30 from BIG ARTS, (395-0900, 900 Dunlop Road).



conceptualizing existence. Although in her early career she was influenced by the New York abstract artists of the '60s and '70s, her personal style has evolved toward more recognizable forms. Her bold contrasts are evident in her creation of animals such as tigers, cheetahs, zebras, and llamas; and her subtle mastery of shadow in all her works makes her paintings captivating and enthralling.

Mary Keogh finds delight in a variety of subjects. Her portraits include those of her husband, of herself, of Peter the Great, and of a Moravian pastor. She confesses that she finds inspiration "largely from looking at the world around me." Those who encounter the world of Mary Keogh will find her paintings at once calming yet haunting.

See her work Monday thru Saturday through Jan. 30th from 1 to 4 p.m. in Phillips Gallery at 900 Dunlop Road. For further information, please call BIG ARTS at 395-0900.

Stories from world religions

Storytelling, as an important element in preserving religion in all parts of the world, will be the focus of the monthly meeting of the Tamiami Tale Tellers (TTT) on Thursday night, Jan. 15, at the Grand Court, 8351 College Parkway in Fort Myers.

"Inspirational and spiritual stories have always served as means of interpreting the basic philosophy of all religions in all parts of our global community," according to TTT spokesperson Bert MacCarry of Sanibel. "Members of TTT may choose to tell stories from their own religions or from another religion, stories as found in authentic storytelling collections, or in other publications. They usually have a universal message which tends to link people of all religions rather than divide them."

TTT meetings are held the third Thursday of each month and are free and open to the public, ages 5 to 95. Both tellers and listeners are welcome. For information, call 472-1781.

Hirdie Girdie opening and reception

The artist of the month for January at Hirdie Girdie Gallery is Jerry Churchill. This local sculptor spend his formative years in Lima, Ohio and, after, graduating from Ohio Northern in 1958 with a degree in Civil Engineering, he worked in an asphalt paving business until the fall of 1992. A wire sculpture workshop he attended at Haystack Mountain School of Crafts in Deer Isle, Maine in 1996 changed his life, and he now creates hand-built clay vessels and sculptures out of various materials.

A reception for Churchill will be held at the gallery this Monday, Jan. 12, from 5 to 8 p.m. with 10 percent of the evening's sales going to his favorite charity, Quality Life Academy.

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It helps to know why people are relocating. If a home is part of an estate, for example, it may evoke childhood memories and intense emotions for the person who is overseeing the sale. If the sellers are in the middle of a divorce, their mood will be different than someone who has just won the lottery and is moving to their dream home. Buyers who have to leave their dream home behind for some reason will feel differently from someone who feels that your home is their "ideal". One of a Realtor's most important jobs is managing all of the relationships in the transaction. These situations don't often get really difficult, but when they do, we don't take it personally.

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 #72-1511, or visit her web site at <http://www.margiedavison.com>.

Keogh retrospective open

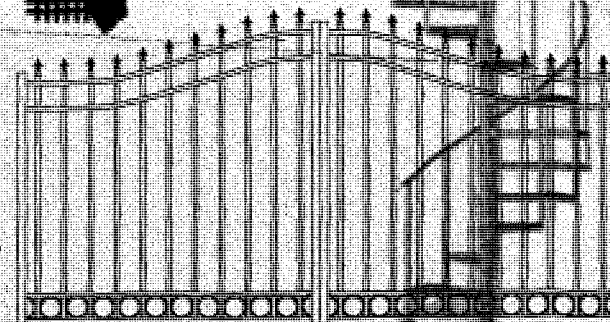
Currently featured in BIG ARTS Phillips Gallery is *Mary Keogh: A Retrospective*. Keogh's vibrant paintings of people, animals, and landscape reveal much of her development as an artist. The earliest painting in the show is one of her husband, painted in 1987, and the latest is a painting entitled "Michael" that she completed this year. She confesses that she continually feels challenged when she encounters a blank canvas, but her many admirers attest to her capacity for capturing the mystery inherent in her subjects and her capacity for evoking an intimate response from the viewer to her work.

When her painting "Serenade" was deemed Best in Show in an exhibit in Englewood, Walter Yovaish praised her mastery of the media and Pat Kelly exclaimed, "Bravo! I liked the energy of this painting..." That mastery and energy are evident in this show.

Keogh, who was born in Wisconsin and lived for a time in Nebraska and New York, has spent the last 20 years of her life on Sanibel. Her father was, at one time, ambassador to Ireland, and her work reflects varied ways of con-

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POTPOURRI, CONTINUED**Book signing**

A Southwest Florida woman's romance with a flamboyant attorney fizzles on the eve of the whirlwind wedding. To her horror, Angie Reynolds discovers that she hasn't just been jilted. She's been swindled out of the cash she needs to run a faltering interior design business instead. That's for openers in the suspense novel, *The Don Juan Con* by Sara Williams. Williams reads from her novel and signs copies for readers tomorrow, Jan. 10, at 3 p.m. at the Sanibel Island Book Shop, 1711 Periwinkle Way.

Williams' hardback novel was chosen as the lead mystery title for the opening of Archebooks, an Atlanta, Georgia, publisher. For an advance look at the book, readers can log onto Archebooks.com and download free samples of the first few chapters of this complex thriller. Things might look dark at the start for Angie Reynolds but, not to worry... they quickly get worse.

The recently widowed heroine finds herself bankrupt and clinically depressed. She turns to the police, only to discover she's just one of several victims in the same area, one of whom is now dead. The fact that sweetheart swindlers are devilishly hard to prosecute doesn't deter Angie from teaming up with a police detective. She proceeds to go after Anthony Abruzzi, who poses as a criminal defense attorney, but proves to be a desperate criminal in a mid-life crisis. The chase starts in the fictional DeLeon, Florida. Angie follows Anthony's trail of ruined victims across the country, winding up in the pristine San Juan Islands north of Seattle, where an even nastier surprise awaits: Angie's own mother is slated to be Anthony's final romance.

Sara Williams is a former News-Press staff writer and columnist. "I learned about sweetheart swindlers while working for the paper," Williams said. "I once teamed up with reporters around the South who helped put one of these charmers in jail. As the years went by, I noticed that similar stories turned up now and then on television crime shows. These stories usually focus on the police work. What I've done in my novel is hone in on the psychological devastation suffered by the victim and the cynicism of the criminal in an attempt to warn women not to mix up their emotions with their bank accounts."

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 discount. 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.

The sessions 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.

BIG ARTS Oscar nominees

Showing on Wednesday, Jan. 14th, at Island Cinema in the first of the season's BIG ARTS Wednesday Matinees/Academy Award Nominations is the highly acclaimed *Mona Lisa Smile* with Julia Roberts.

Roberts' character, Katherine Watson, is a free-spirited, novice art history professor at the prestigious Wellesley College in 1953. Despite its academic reputation, students' success was still being measured by "how well" they might marry. Watson challenges the administration and inspires her students to look beyond the image of "what is" and consider the possibilities of "what could be!"

Tickets are available at BIG ARTS until the evening of Jan. 13th for \$5. Thereafter, they are available at the Island Cinema box office. Showtime is 3 p.m. with discussion of the movie following at The Island Cow where one can order refreshments or a meal.

The Jan. 21st movie will be *Big Fish* which has been nominated for four Golden Globe awards (including Best Picture). The story revolves around a man who is dying (Albert Finney) and his son (Billy Crudun) who is trying to sift the facts of his father's life from the fiction. Ewan MacGregor, Jessica Lange and Helen Bonham Carter are also featured. "Lots of fantasy," according to Shelly Kaplan, Island Cinema owner, "and special effects."

Antiques Show this weekend

Antiques returns to Sanibel this weekend, on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 10th and 11th. There will be many national dealers and everything will be priced to sell. Crystal repair will also be available during the show.

The show will be at the Sanibel Community House on Periwinkle Way; show hours are Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. The \$4 admission is good for both days.

Plenty of parking is available both on the premises and across the street in the Periwinkle Playhouse lot.

Call for Artists

I. The Southwest Florida Craft Guild is now preparing for its annual Fine Craft Market Day on Sanibel at the Sanibel Community Association on Saturday, April 10, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Guild sponsors this sale to promote member sales and invites area fine craft artists to join us for this juried show. The event is the major scholarship fund raiser for area students of fine craft at Edison Community College and Cypress Center for the Arts. The art program at the Sanibel School also benefits.

Contact Barbara Luck 283-3984 for additional information and applications.

II. Artists: Mark Jan. 28. Sanibel Cares invites artists of all media and genres to submit original artwork to benefit HealthPark's Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida at its Island Celebration of the Arts 2004 auction. Juried selection will take place on Wednesday, Jan. 28, at Sanibel Community House on Periwinkle Way.

Artists can drop off their works at the Community House between 9 and 10 a.m. and pick them up between 3 and 4 p.m. For information on the artists' jury selection, please call Julie Smith, head of Sanibel Cares' art committee, at 395-1721.

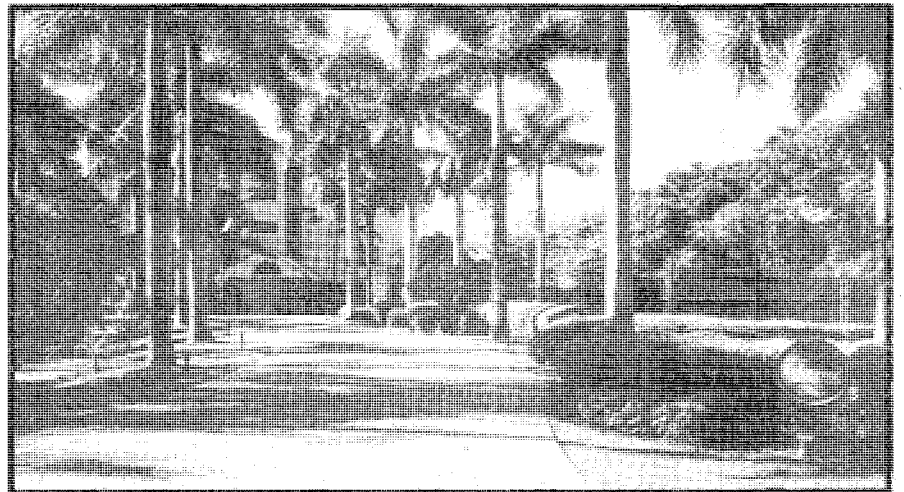
"The Celebration of the Arts is a gala event that attracts a sellout crowd of charity-minded art collectors," said Smith. "Contributing artists benefit greatly from highly publicized exposure to the local art-loving community."

Sanibel Cares has set its sights on new incubators for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and a five-bed Children's Observation Unit for the Children's Hospital. This fourth annual auction and gala will be held on Saturday, April 3, to raise funds toward those goals.

Sanibel Cares came into being in 2000 when a group of more than 30 concerned mothers organized themselves specifically to support The Children's Hospital, which receives no tax support and depends upon the community for financial assistance to provide all children with health care, regardless of their families' ability to pay.

Tuesdays mean Trouble

Every Tuesday evening during season, the locally infamous Troublestarters will appear at the American Legion Post 123 on San-Cap Road. The Troublestarters got their start at the Legion, so this is a most appropriate venue for this eclectic bluesy band. They will begin entertaining Legion members and their guests at or around 8 p.m. every Tuesday evening. For more information, call 472-9979.

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AT THE THEATRE

Schedule on website

If you're looking for information on what's on stage at the Periwinkle Playhouse this season, the theatre has just put up its website — www.periwinkleplayhouse.com.

Albeit "a work in progress," the season's schedule is posted; there's info regarding subscription series, spotlighted descriptions of upcoming events, a sponsor and friends page and links to their websites. If you like the season's schedule, why not sign up and see a show. Call the box office at 472-0324.

The theatre would also like to add a few more names to the sponsor and business friends page; if you're interested, give Todd Sherman a call at the same number.

From tonight through Sunday, the 11th, **David Kaplan**, juggler/comedian extraordinaire, will juggle bean bag chairs, play tunes on a concert balloon and levitate a bowling ball, among other, equally off-the-wall



antics from his bag of tricks. His hilarious one-man variety show is certain to keep young and old alike amused.

"I've always been a performer," Kaplan said in a recent interview. "Ever since I was a kid, I've been a musician, conjured

up skits and gag-type things à la Letterman, the Marx Brothers, Jerry Lewis and so on. Someone showed me how to juggle at a party one time. I'm somewhat of an anachronism, I guess."

"Some of my most fun times are in my basement when I'm building 'props...'" he continued. "Some are really quite high-tech — lots of mousetraps and paper clips and

springs. I love making things, conceiving bits and pieces of the acts.

"My act is filled with surprises, and audiences love surprises. And lots of things can and do go wrong in my act — they just love to see me scramble. Everybody, including me, is just amazed when stuff works!"

The show starts at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights, 3 p.m. on Sunday, and tickets are \$20 for adults, \$12 for kids under 12.

An evening of family-friendly music and comedy — pickin' and grinnin' the way it used to be — with the **River Rats** is set for this Tuesday, Jan. 13th, at 8 p.m. Comer (Moon) Mullins, Don Mellon and Don (Brickshy) Jones make up these denizens of the Ozarks and pride themselves on not doing the Top 40 but the Back 40! They've been together

for five years and have played hundreds of performances comprised of a variety of old songs (1800s to the 1950s) ranging from western to blues to rag-time and ballads and old pop tunes. They top off their shows with rib-splitting, clean humor.

All three have been playing for many years — Mullins for 53, on multiple instruments, on radio, screen, stage and TV; Mellon, for some seven years with Grandpa Jones... plus USO tours, The Showboat



Theater in Mountain View Arkansas and, currently, twice weekly at the Ozark Folk Center State Park and Backstreet Theater in Mountain View. Jones has been playin' and pickin' for 42 years on four instruments along with performing 15 years as a comedian; he has played with Norvel Felts and the late Charlie Rich, at the White River Hoedown, Brickshys Showboat Theater (as owner and operator) and, currently twice weekly with Mellon in Mountain View.

Tickets for the River Rats' one-night performance are \$15.

Next week, on Friday, Jan. 16th, the 2001 Grammy award -winning **Allison Brown** brings her bluegrass/jazz quartet to the islands for the first time. Who would think a BA from Harvard and an MBA from UCLA would lead an investment banker down the path to international musical acclaim... with stops at Carnegie Hall and the Grammy

Award podium along the way? Never one to follow the herd (how many Grammy winning banjo-playing investment bankers do you know?), Brown's style is Jazz-classical-pop-folk-Latin mix. "[She



THEATRE, SEE NEXT PAGE

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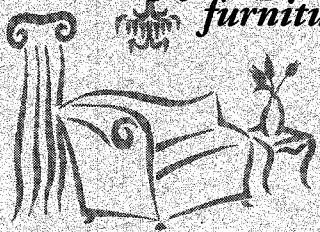
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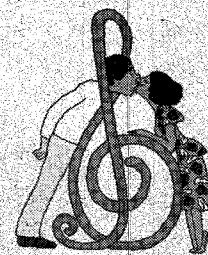
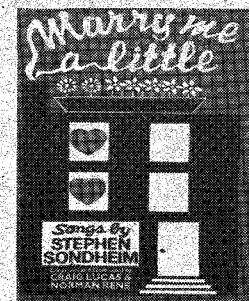
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THEATRE, CONTINUED

is] a true ground breaker, opening up whole new vistas for an instrument once associated solely with bluegrass." (USA Today) named Banjo Player of the Year by the International Bluegrass Music Association, Brown and the rest of her quartet (John R. Burr, piano, Garry West, bass, and Kendrick Freeman, drums) take the banjo quantum leaps beyond traditional bluegrass with a sound that the Hollywood Reporter describes as "an ear-opening pleasure."

A top innovator on the five-string banjo, Brown has seven solo albums and been featured on CBS *Sunday Morning*, *All Things Considered*, *Weekend Edition* and *Jazz Central*. She and West are founders of Compass Records, one of the nation's leading independent labels, and have been guest lecturers at a variety of universities including Harvard Business School, Dartmouth and the University of Colorado. In her latest album, *Replay*, she takes her fans on a musical tour of her career, from bluegrass to jazz and back again.

The Alison Brown Quartet's one-night stand at the Playhouse starts at 8 p.m.; tickets are \$20.

The world premiere of *Thinner Thighs in 20 Years*, a one-woman show about a woman's funny mid-life journey from dependence to freedom, by Consuelo Saah Baehr, plays from Jan. 17th to 24th. Bob Kalfin returns to the island to direct and well-known stage, film and television actress Bonnie Grossmann stars. Kalfin, a Tony Award winning director, had encouraged Grossmann to return to theater by casting her in his critically acclaimed Sanibel production of *Eccentricities of a Nightingale*. "The minute I read *Thinner Thighs*...", Kalfin said, "I thought it would be wonderful role for Bonnie and would be great for Sanibel."

"A friend of mine insisted I send the script to Bob," Baehr said. "It took me months to get up the courage." After a first reading, Kalfin gave it to Grossmann and, within 24 hours of reading, she had an agreement with The Periwinkle Playhouse for production. "It all happened so fast," Grossmann said. "I read it at 6 o'clock in the morning. I laughed out loud, and I thought, you know, women will discover something about themselves in this work. And, men will discover something about the women in their lives."

Grossmann traveled to New York in late November to work with both the author and director. "It was the most creative experience I've ever had," says Grossmann. "We worked as a team, reworking some of the

script and learning more about this character directly from the person who wrote it." "I'm thrilled with both Bob and Bonnie's work on my play," Baehr said, "and I'm looking forward to being in Sanibel for the opening."

The play is lovingly and poignantly inspired by the playwright's own personal journey from suburban housewife and mother to a brand new life. "So you wake up one morning and you have to start all over. But, wait! You need to go back first and revise the past... OR, reinvent yourself. OR, just put one foot in front of the other until you know it's time to rest. ...OR, Just laugh hysterically."

Thinner Thighs in Twenty Years plays from Jan. 17th through the 24th at 8 p.m. with a Sunday matinee at 3 at The Periwinkle Playhouse. A talkback with the author and director will take place at the Sunday matinee and Tuesday evening performances. There is no performance on Wednesday. Tickets for all performances are \$17. Call or visit the box office, 2200 Periwinkle Way, (472-0324) between 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Saturday.



Get ready for a BIC bang!

Exploding onto the stage at the Old Schoolhouse Theater is pure comedy magic with *The Big Bang!* John Vessels and Billy Breed have returned to the little pink playhouse on Periwinkle to thwack funny bones, split sides, and wreak havoc in the name of a show business dream. Playing the roles of would-be producers, Vessels and Breed stage a backer's audition to raise \$83.5 million for the most lavish musical ever written. Watch in disbelief as two men play every role from Adam and Eve to Jimi Hendrix and Janis Joplin... all the while ransacking a borrowed, New York penthouse apartment! The fun never stops as this comedy hit of last summer races at breakneck speed from start to insane finish! The fun runs Monday through Saturday at 8 p.m. from

now until Feb. 7th with selected matinee dates. For more information or to reserve tickets, call the box office at 472-6862 or stop by 1905 Periwinkle Way to see firsthand what all the fuss is about!

Start your New Year off with a great *Big Bang!*

It's Miller Time!

Arthur Miller's intensely dazzling and highly acclaimed drama, *All My Sons*, opens tonight, Jan. 9, and runs through Sunday, Feb. 1, at Florida Repertory Theatre. Directed by New York director, Maureen Heffernan (*ART, Master Class*), *All My Sons* is generously sponsored by Mrs. J. Howard Wood.

Though perhaps best known for his 1949 play, *Death of a Salesman*, and for his marriage to Marilyn Monroe, *All My Sons*, which received the Drama Critic's Award for Best Play, was Miller's first major playwriting success in 1947. A powerful story about one American family caught up in the moral struggle between personal responsibility and public duty, *All My Sons* is set in the period directly following World War II, a time when America's role in the world was rapidly changing.

With his unique ability to capture modern realism and his strong ear for the American dialect, Miller created characters whose voices are important components of American history. The play highlights Miller's unique insight into the psychology of modern Americans. His ability to create stories that express their deepest struggles have made him one of the most highly regarded American playwrights.

Florida Rep's Producing Artistic Director, Robert Cacioppo says, "I cannot imagine a

more poignant time to produce this award-winning, great American classic. The climate in the world today makes this play just as relevant as it was fifty years ago. Proof of this can be found by looking play selection of almost every other major regional theatre in the country this season: many, many of them are producing *All My Sons* this year. That isn't so astounding," he added, "when one



realizes that, like Florida Rep, these theatres recognize that *All My Sons'* delicate dose of modern poignancy simply cannot be overlooked in this day and time."

The play is filled with roles that, Cacioppo says, "actors can really sink their teeth into," and he has assembled a cast that is well up for the challenge. Long-time company members Carrie Lund (*Absurd Person Singular*, *Rumors*, *Moon Over the Brewery*), Maurice Schlafer (*Absurd Person Singular*, *Sly Fox*, *Sideman*) Greg Longenhagen (*Sideman*, *ART*, *You Can't Take it With You*) and Zolan Henderson (*Veronica's Room*, *The Foreigner*, *The Mousetrap*), return once

THEATRE, SEE PAGE 23

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CENTER STAGE, FROM PAGE 17

décor, outstanding service and a perfect view of Times Square.

Mickey Mantle's Restaurant at 42 Central Park S. (that's 59th St.) is a family sports restaurant named for the great baseball hero. It has TVs tuned to a variety of sporting events, great hickory-smoked ribs, and a protected play area for the wee ones. Reservations suggested (212/751-5797).

The Hard Rock Café on West 57th and Broadway is the very first one. The hamburgers are great, as are the salads, and, best of all is the Rock memorabilia.

Mars 2112 got the 2003 Visitors' Choice award for the Best Family Friendly dining. A theme restaurant with 35,000 square feet of bi-level space that features a Martian spaceship resting on the promenade level and other ones that launch diners into the restaurant proper (via a flight simulator — be forewarned: could be scary to small folks).

But my standard answer to any food need in any of the boroughs is the New York City pushcart with the very best hot dogs, pretzels, knishes and even chestnuts in winter. Oh, be still my beating heart!

There you have it — a super time for you and your little people that's easy on the feet as well as the pocket book. So, be a cool dude, have a blast and, don't forget, while you're hitting the high spots, tell 'em Grandma Marsha sent you!

As for the sights and sounds of Manhattan dressed to the nines in holiday finery, here's how the "grands" and I rated our choices of the windows, 5 through 1.



Rock Center's *tannenbaum* was the best again this year. We had hot cocoa at the Rock Center Café as we watched the skaters spin out and fall down in the famous ice rink. Park Avenue still shines with 2 1/2 miles of twinkling panes. We pressed our noses against the windows of New York's department stores, and here's what we found...

Macy's windows harked back to the 1950s with scenes from the vintage holiday film, *A Christmas Story* (4).

Lord & Taylor's windows used animation inspired by the famed "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Clause" letter. (3)

Saks Fifth also had animated scenes depicting the power of music. These windows' characters were rather klutzy, unattractive and rated low on our window display meter.

Bloomie's were inspired by the music of the season. OK, but not great. (2)

The Window Winner that rated the unanimous high five (#1) was Bergdorf Goodman — absolutely awesome! Their "Dream" Windows were amazing and must have taken months to do. One was entirely made up of small seashells in mosaic.

Another biggy was the holiday laser show on Grand Central's main concourse ceiling. This high-tech extravaganza played laser images of trains, station stops and astrological signs across the ceiling to the music of the Nutcracker. It was just as grand as Grand Central.



This city really goes all out for the holidays... even the traffic lights lend themselves to the extravaganza that is a New York City Holiday.

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THEATRE, FROM PAGE 17

again to the Florida Rep boards. Starring alongside them is seasoned actress, though Florida Rep newcomer, Mindy Woodhead.

All My Sons plays Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Wednesdays, Sundays and selected Saturdays at 2. Tickets range from \$15 to \$32 and may be purchased by calling the Florida Rep Box Office at 332-4488 or online at www.floridarep.org. Four-show subscriptions are also available through the box office. Florida Repertory Theatre is located in the historic Arcade Theatre in Downtown Fort Myers on Bay between Jackson and Hendry Streets.

Opening at the Conspiracy

Don't miss out one of the most unique theatre experiences ever to come to our area. Native American playwright and actor Robert Greygrass is playing in his acclaimed one man show, *Walking on Turtle Island*, for Theatre Conspiracy at the Foulds Theatre through Jan. 24th.

Turtle Island is a poignant and humorous accounting of the Native American experience. This original two-act play has toured all over the US including Hawaii. Many special presentations have been given at reservations, grade schools and universities as well as events such as the World Peace and Prayer Day in Seattle and the United Nations Indigenous Anti-racism conference in Sydney, Australia.

The play is broken into four separate stories, two contemporary and two of a more historical nature. As a whole, *Walking on Turtle Island* features 21 characters and a spirit narrator character, Iyeska, The Bridge. Iyeska guides the audience through this lyrical and touching journey of Native America. It depicts the relocations, the warfare of drugs and alcohol, and the honesty of the lives of the native American people.

Greygrass, a Native American of Lakota and Cherokee descent, has been recognized nationally by tribal elders for his unique storytelling in the Lakota tradition. A professional actor since 1993 he worked for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, Ore., two seasons on stage and two seasons touring in a national school visit program. He has also toured extensively reading poetry and storytelling. Robert has self-published a book entitled *Wordmaker* and his poems "Wildman" and "Stunning Motherwoman" appeared in the '99 summer issue of *Ravens Chronicles*. "Eddie's Dream," another piece penned by Greygrass, appears in *The Vision*, a Native anthology, and a story of his entitled "Dad Counts Coup" has also been published. He is the creator of D'White Dog Productions.

Walking on Turtle Island is presented in the round on a platform stage designed and created by Artistic Director Bill Taylor.

Be part of a truly unique experience that no other area theatre has offered to Southwest Florida. Be entertained and informed by this fantastic journey into the Native American experience... Performances are at the Foulds Theatre in the Alliance of the Arts, 10091 McGregor Boulevard. *Walking on Turtle Island* runs through Jan. 24th with performances at 8 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays and a 2 p.m. matinee on Sundays. Tickets are \$16, \$7 for students. For more information or to reserve tickets, call 936-3239.

This is the last chance to become a season subscriber! Four-show packages which include *Walking on Turtle Island*, *Parallel Lives*, *The Kathy and Mo Show*, *Murderer*

and *The Turn of the Screw* are still available for \$56. Don't miss out on this exciting 10th anniversary season of the most cutting edge theatre in the area.

Auditions scheduled

The Off Beach Players will be holding auditions for the comedy *We Blew Up the Bridge, Didn't We?* on Feb. 14th and 15th at 2 p.m. at the Periwinkle Playhouse. This play was written and is being produced with the permission of Captain Mike Fuery, the playwright and a columnist for the *Islander*.

Needed are two lawyers, a female Florida landowner, a mayor and an assistant mayor, townies, protestors, and a wild character named Firecracker. So, "Come on down!"

There are many parts for old and young. The Off Beach Players welcome everyone at any level of expertise on the premise that community theater should be of, by, and for the people. This play is definitely locally-flavored entertainment that is accessible to aspiring theater lovers. Please stop by and sign up for backstage, props, costumes, makeup, set building.

Off Beach has been producing theater on Sanibel since 1984. They are hoping to cast for additional shows from these auditions. For any additional information, call Producer June Koc at 472-5400.

BJ's Big Band returns

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre is presenting BJ's Big Band, in concert for one night only, Monday, Jan. 26. Join the band for a nostalgic journey of memories with songs from the golden era in music history. The evening covers many Frank Sinatra signature songs along with everyone's favorite Broadway show tunes — "All or Nothing at All," "I've Got You Under



My Skin," "My Kind of Town," "South of the Border," "Summer Wind," "The Tender Trap," "The Best Is Yet to Come" and many more.

Tickets for are \$37 for dinner and the show. Dinner begins at 6 p.m. and the show starts at 8. Call 278-4422 today for reservations, stop by the box office at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers, or order tickets online at www.BroadwayPalm.com.

Agnes of God opens at Beach

The Orpheus Players are presenting, for the first time in the Fort Myers area, *Agnes of God*, a play written by John Pielmeir. This riveting psychological drama is a powerful classic in which a court-appointed psychiatrist, along with the Mother Superior of a convent, tries to help a young nun, Sister Agnes, regain her memory of a mysterious night of pain and horror which resulted in the murder of a newborn baby.

This Tony Award-winning Broadway play is a detective story that delves into the mind in order to expose madness or mira-

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THEATRE, FROM PAGE 23

cles, saints or sinners, as faith versus reason collide. Donna Prima plays the chain-smoking psychiatrist given the task of determining whether the young nun is sane, but she clashes with Mother Superior, portrayed by Brenda Goodwin, a worldly wise religious woman, who fiercely wants to protect the fragile Sister Agnes, portrayed by Lucy Harris. Directed by Dr. Joe Porter, *Agnes of God* opens tomorrow night, Jan. 10, and plays the 16th, 17th, 23rd, 24th, 30th and 31st at 8 p.m. at the Holmes House Restaurant, 2500 Estero Boulevard in Fort Myers Beach. Tickets for the show only are \$15; tickets for dinner (starting at 6) and the show are \$35. Reservations are highly recommended. Please call 463-5519.

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I'm GrandPopper Rap
And I'm here to say —
Rappin' like Swing
Is here to stay!

Now the music ain't much
But the rhythm's divine
And the words start to dance
As we rhyme every line;

Though the language we use
Ain't so pretty and nice,
Our play with the words
Makes you really think twice.

There are those who say
Swing and Blues were better,
You could sing right along
And no words were four letter,

And they made good sense
If you were sixteen
And learnin' how to ball
With the campus queen.

It was hey bob-ba-re-bop
Oo-bop-she-bam
I'm a killer-diller
Yes I am!

Glenn Miller long gone
But I'm still in the mood
For a fox who can trot
With a do-or-dyin' dude,

For a gal who can talk
The Lambeth Walk,
Arch back to her hip
While doin' a dip,

Hey bob-ba-re-bop
Floop-i-ya mop-mop,
I'm lookin' for a granny
Who can lindy-hop!

I'm GrandPopper Rap
And the sex ain't over,
For women past their prime
I'm still Casanova.

Yes, GrandPopper Rap
Back from the time
Gangstas shot bullets
And their hits were a crime.

When M & M was candy
And hip didn't hop,
When poppa loved mambo
And momma be-bop,

When rock and roll was rhythm
And punk x-rated,
And people hid in closets
When they masturbated,

Before they declared
Woman's Gay Liberation,
And left all you squares
One mixed-up nation!

I'm GrandPopper Rap,
A slow motion rapper,
Ain't got none of the time
Of a teeny bopper;

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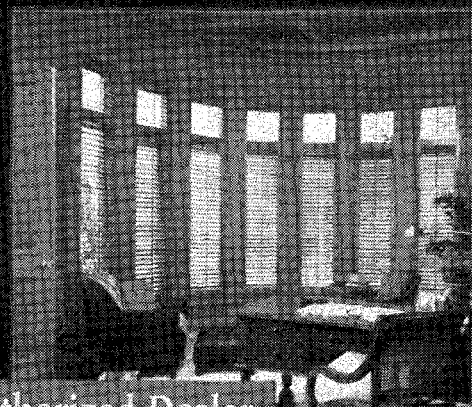


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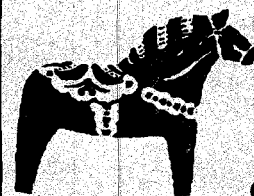
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SEE POETRY, PAGE 29

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Jan. 9th-11th, 8 p.m., \$20/\$12
- *River Rats*
Jan. 13th, 8 p.m., \$15
- *Bluegrass & Jazz with the Alison Brown Quartet*
Jan. 16th, 8 p.m., \$20
- *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
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Off Broadway Palm

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

Florida Repertory Theatre

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

- *All My Sons*
Jan. 9th-Feb. 1st, 8 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

Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall

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- *Jesus Christ Superstar*
Through Jan. 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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Birds
on
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Captiva Current
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North Fort Myers Neighbor
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Beach Bulletin
The area's visitor and entertainment newspaper delivered every Friday



Fort Myers Beach Observer
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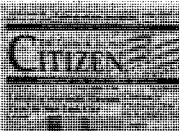
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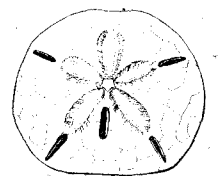
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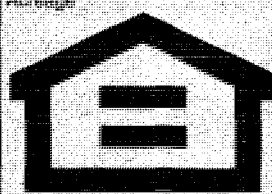
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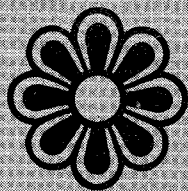
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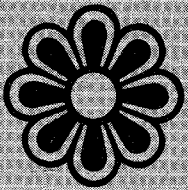
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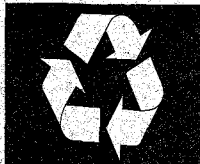
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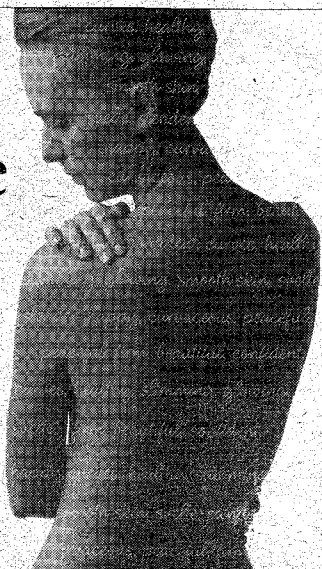
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POETRY, FROM PAGE 22

Your momma's my daughter
So her I can't dis
But your poppa's a bum
Who stole my little miss,

And spoiled all you grandkids
By letting you wear
Pants fallin' down
Below pubic hair,

Bras bustin' cleavage
From Gaps-R-Us,
Flip-flops with labels
Like Prada and Lacoste

Tattoos on your tummies
Rings on your noses,
You rap to the Rappers
Until the mall closes

Then go out dancin'
In your flip-flops
With boyz from the hood
And some fly hip-hops!

I'm GrandPopper Rap
Back from the time
The boys wore knickers
And sneakers were a dime

And the girls wore lipstick
Which you wiped off your face
As you spent the night swingin'
Just to get to first base.

I'm GrandPopper Rap
And I'm here to say
There ain't nothing clearer
Than the rap of today:

No hey ba-ba-re-bop
Scooby dooby doo
No hut-sut ralston
Bah Ba-ba-lu,

No tipi-tipi-tin
And mairzy doats
No kiddle-dee-divey too
Until it floats,

No wop-bop-a-loo
Lop-a-lop bam boo
Foo-ra-de-ack-a-sa-ki
And ool-ya-coo!

We got Rappers Delights
Like B.I.G.,
TuPac droppin' Ice Cube
In Cool's Ice T;

Dr. Dre advisin'
Queen Latifah
Don't let that Q Tip
Stick in too far;

Eminem White
AKA Slim Shady
Meltin' in your mouth
When you rap your lady;

Signin' up black rappers
When their heat gets intense,
Makin' five million dollars
From just 50 Cents!

So GrandPopper Rap
Is here to say:
Wherever I'm rappin'
It's Oldtimer's Day.

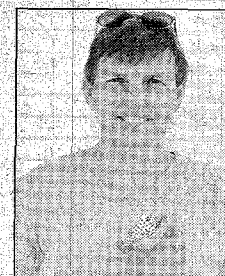
But if you think my rap
Ain't age appropriate,
Pick up your remote
and turn on your opiate.

I'll tell you right now
In my Grandpopper way
Swingin' rappin' grandpops
Is here to stay!

I'm GrandPopper Rap
And the party ain't over
For women past prime-time
I'm still Casanova.

And I see from your faces
A look of surprise ---
For this superfly grandpop,
Viagra's no prize!

It's hey-ba-ba-re-bop
Oo-bop-she-bam,
Hippety-hip hip-hop
Boogaloo bang bang!



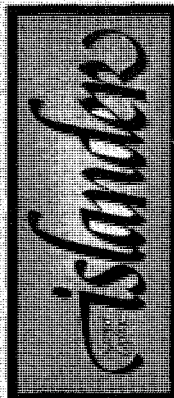
Andrea McNearney from Allison Park, Pa., found a junonia on Monday, Jan. 5 (she's pictured with Mark, Amber, Alysa and Grace). She was at Blind Pass around 7:30 in the morning; the tide was coming in and the water was very murky. She was standing in about eight inches of water when she saw "a long, pretty shell" roll by her in the surf. It rolled by her three times before she was able to catch it. She didn't know that she'd found something special "until I picked it out of the water and Mark identified it," and other shellers on the beach exclaimed over her find, as well.

Becky Sides from Travelers Rest, S.C., (pictured and wrongly identified in an earlier issue) found a junonia in early December. She and husband, Everett, were staying at their timeshare at Surfrider and Becky found the shell on the beach, just below the condo. Our apologies to Becky for the error and congratulations on the junonia... she's been looking for one for 17 years!

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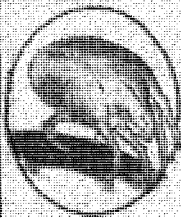


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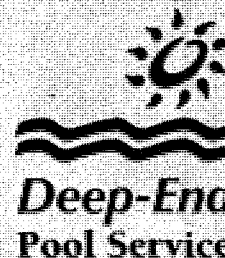
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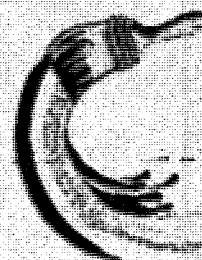
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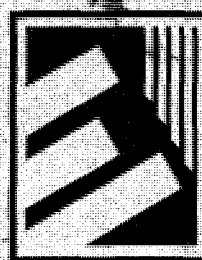
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Tommy Tune to star in ballet benefit



'20s, '30s and '40s! This show has been dazzling audiences worldwide from Carnegie Hall to Moscow's famed Hall of Columns.

In addition to his nine Tony Awards, Tune is also the recipient of eight Drama Desk Awards, two Obies, Dance Magazine's Award for Lifetime Achievement, the George Abbott Award and the Astaire Award, among others. He has performed for three U.S. Presidents, the Queen of England and the Royal Family of Monaco. On Nov. 12, 2003, Tune was invited to the White House to receive the 2003 Medal of Arts from President George Bush. This award, sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, is the nation's highest honor for artistic excellence.

Broadway legend and nine-time Tony Winner Tommy Tune will give a benefit concert for Gulfshore Ballet in Fort Myers on Feb. 17. Tune is known to audiences worldwide for his acting, directing and choreography in Broadway hits including *Seesaw*, *The Club*, *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, *Nine*, *Grand Hotel*, *The Will Rogers Follies* and *My One and Only*.

The concert, sponsored by Edison National Bank and Bank of the Islands, will feature Tune and the Manhattan Rhythm Kings in what the Chicago Tribune referred to as "A splashy, stylish song and dance revue, pure Broadway, completely irresistible!" and John Simon of New York Magazine called "Ninety minutes you fervently wish would never end... as big as anything on Broadway."

A 15-piece orchestra will take the stage with Tune and the Kings to entertain you with 90 minutes of the best of song and dance from the

Tommy Tune and the Manhattan Rhythm Kings will appear at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 17th, in the Anderson Theatre, part of the Santini Center for the Performing Arts on the Bishop Verot Campus, 5598 Sunrise Drive in Fort Myers. For tickets call 454-5200.



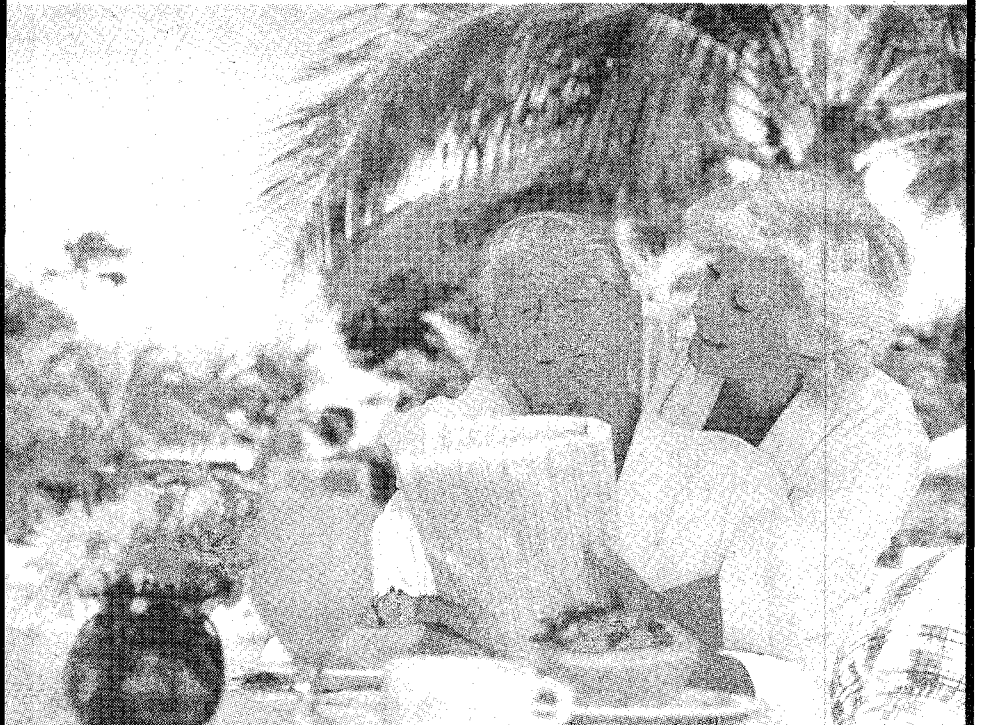
Gulfshore Ballet's December 2003 production of *The Nutcracker* featured Naples student Elizabeth Case as the Sugar Plum Fairy and her sister, Emily, as Dew Drop.



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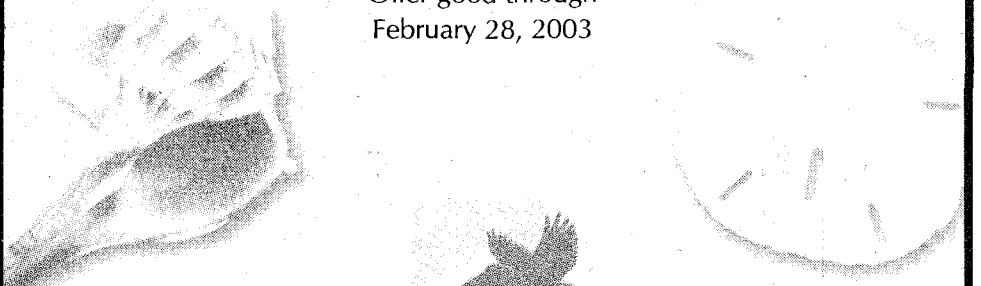
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