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Not  
Tuition  
Presents from  
at BIG ARTS  
See Page 84

# Sanibel Captiva *islander*



www.islandnews.com

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2 SECTIONS - 48 PAGES

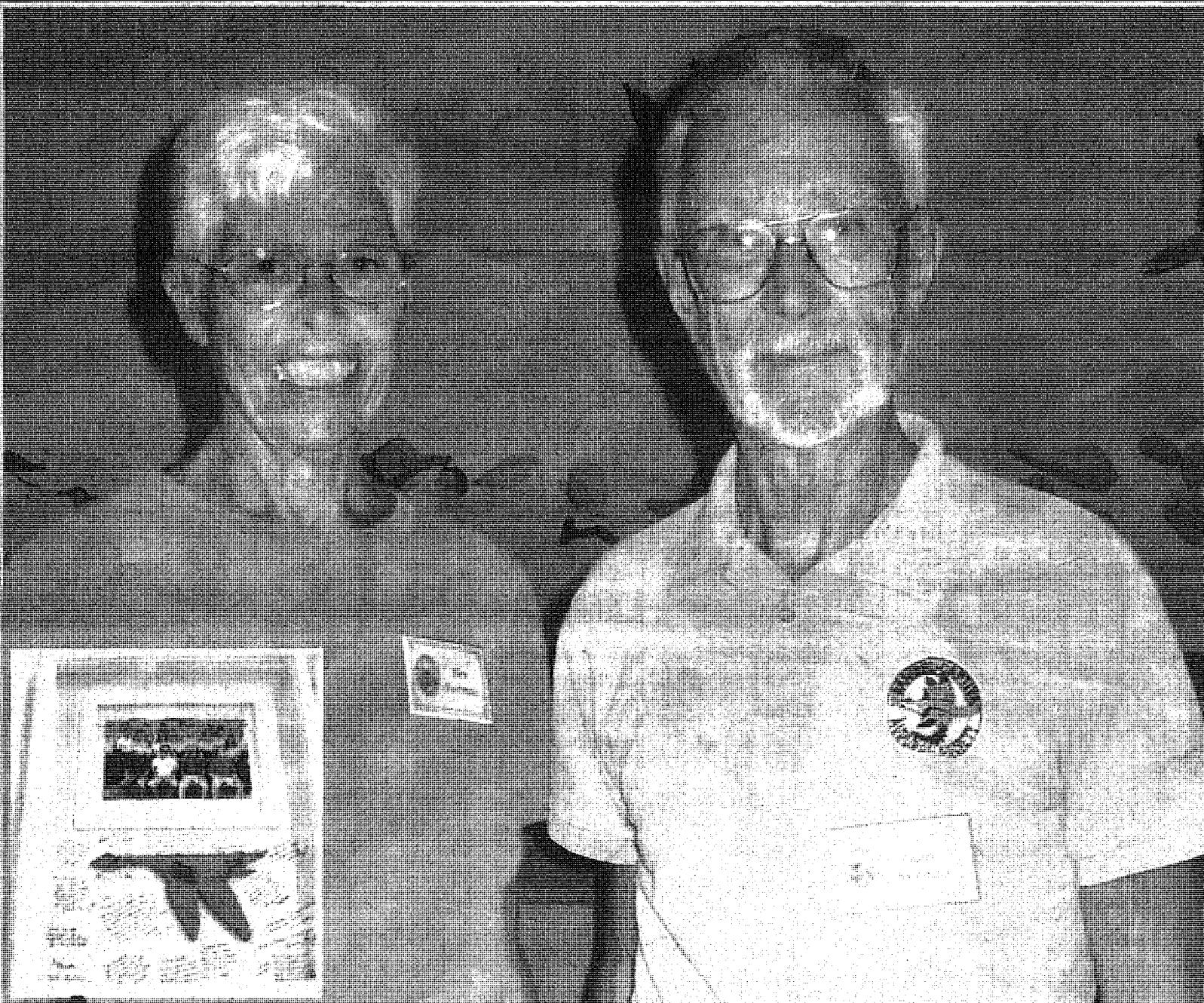


A new shop  
opens in  
Tahitian -  
Glassblowers  
of Sanibel  
Island

See Page 2



Just out & in  
time for the  
holiday -  
the history  
of SCF -  
available  
at island  
bookstores  
and at the  
Foundation



Bev and Clair Postmus were presented with a going-away gift at the Refuge winter volunteer luncheon. They received a signed picture of the staff together with the regional directors and supervisors taken during "Ding" Darling Days. See page 22.

Photo by Anne Belleo

## AFFORDABLE FAMILY DINING!! LUNCH & DINNER

**MONDAY NIGHT IS PRIME TIME!!**  
ALL YOU CAN EAT **PRIME RIB**  
**\$14.95** Served with baked Idaho potato & corn on the cob

**"FRESH".... ALL YOU CAN EAT!!**  
Shrimp **Grouper EVERYDAY!**  
**\$16.95 \$15.95**  
Served with French Fries & corn on the cob



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**FRIDAY NIGHT LOBSTERFEST**  
1 1/4 Pound Maine Lobster served with  
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(while supplies last)

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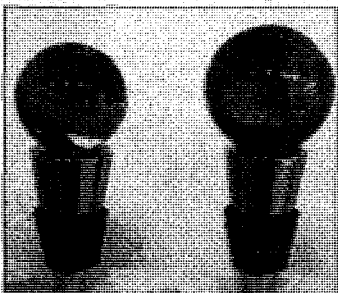
# Glassblowers of Sanibel Island opens

By Laura Nickerson  
Staff Writer

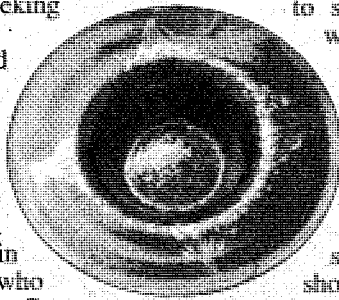
A life on Sanibel will soon be more than just a pipe dream for glassblower Jason Thiemann. He has already opened a new glassblowing studio and shop in Tahitian Village, called Glassblowers of Sanibel Island, and he is currently seeking an on-island home.

Thieman discovered Sanibel the same way many artists do: he came here for a visit and fell in love with the island. He hails from the San Francisco Bay area, where he had already made a name for himself, following in the footsteps of his parents, who are both recognized West Coast glassblowers.

Jason uses primarily the lampwork method of glassblowing, in which glass rods and/or tubing are softened by heating them on the end of a torch. While in that soft state, the glass is formed into objects by blowing it with a hollow pipe, manipulating it by hand, or shaping it with tools.



The glass Jason uses is called hard glass, and it is similar in quality and strength



to Pyrex. It comes in plain or fluted rods, and it is through the twirling of these rods, in various colors, and the addition of pure gold or silver, that the unusual decorative techniques are achieved.

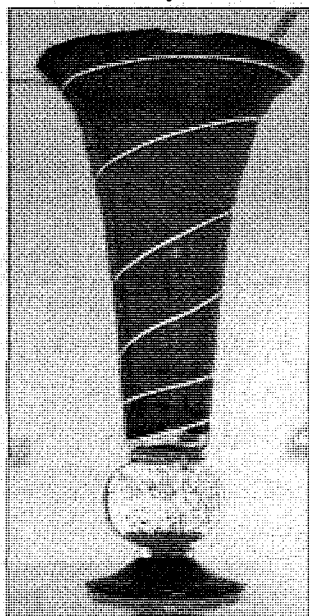
His finished works range from huge, brilliantly colored bowls and vases, to sophisticated yet practical wine bottle stoppers, to whimsical and delicate hummingbirds, dolphins, and flowers. Jason makes jewelry, paperweights, and ornaments as well.

He has several plans already in the works for studio space in the new shop. Included will be an area where visitors can pay a set price to try their own hand at glassblowing, turning out one of several small decorative items.

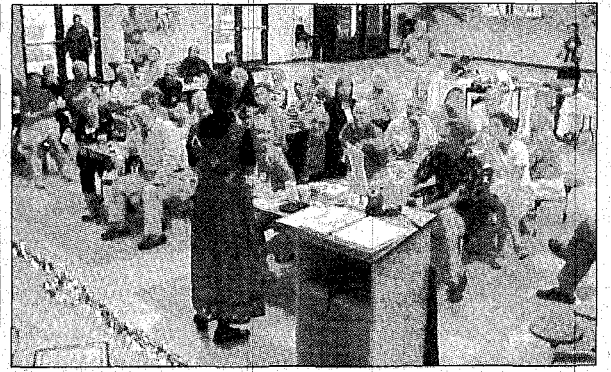
Jason's art is already attracting some local attention. Last week, he gave a demonstration at the Robb and Stucky Furniture showrooms in Fort Myers. He has many additional items still being shipped from California and he described some interesting new concepts that will reflect island style. "I have an idea for encasing seashells in glass that should be very popular here," he confided. "Also, I will be studying the native plants and sea life to see how many I can successfully translate into glass."

The shop also carries a beautiful line of handcrafted leather items called Hungarica. Each satchel, handbag, and accessory was carefully made in Hungary, of buttersoft leather, by the family of a dear friend of Jason's.

Together, they are currently negotiating how to incorporate decorative glass beading or medallions into the leather designs. If the assortment of items already in Glassblowers of Sanibel Island is any indication, the studio promises great things to come.



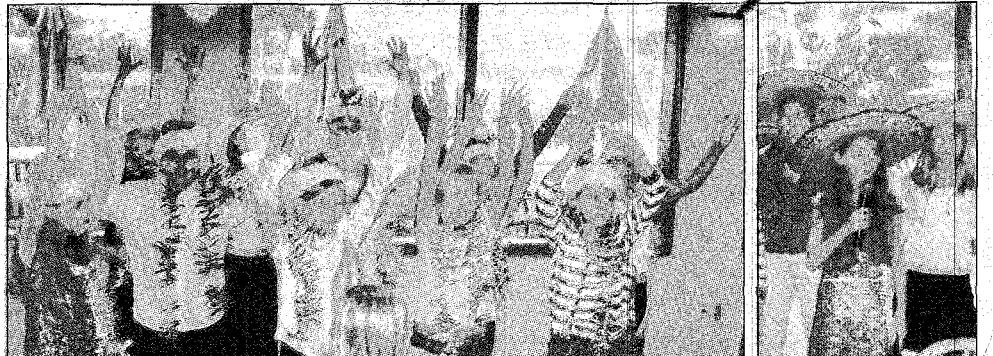
# Of Service Clubs and the Sanibel School



Sanibel Rotarians met in the new Rotary Cafetorium at the Sanibel School on Dec. 10. Clockwise from top left: President Chet Sadler and Principal Barbara Von Harten show plaques of the object of Rotary and Rotary's four-way test of the things we think, say and do; A crowd of 51 local and visiting Rotarians and guests breakfast in the Rotary Cafetorium; The Sanibel School Choir sang two thank you songs for the \$125,000 donation. See story on page 5.



Once again the Sanibel School shares their holiday spirit with Kiwanis



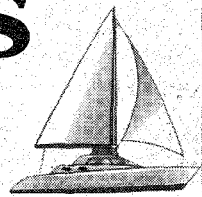
Happy Holidays  
From All Of Us  
To You, Our  
Loyal Patrons

Serving  
Lunch 11:30 AM  
Dinner 5:00 PM  
Take out Available  
Closed Christmas  
472-8138

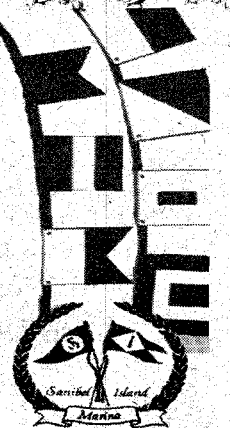
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4 Years in a row  
Come See Why!



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Sanibel Marina  
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# TOO MUCH SUN



HORTON



Lee Horton



Dave Horton

# Volunteer

## Volunteers needed for Senior Friendship gift-wrapping

Senior Friendship Centers is currently running a holiday gift-wrapping project at the Edison Mall. Volunteers are needed to wrap gifts from now up to and including Christmas Eve. People are needed for two-to-three hour shifts, Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Call the Friendship Volunteer Resource Center at 275-4427 to sign up.

**NEW OFFICE**



**Valentine Eye Care**  
Daniel C. Valentine, O.D.

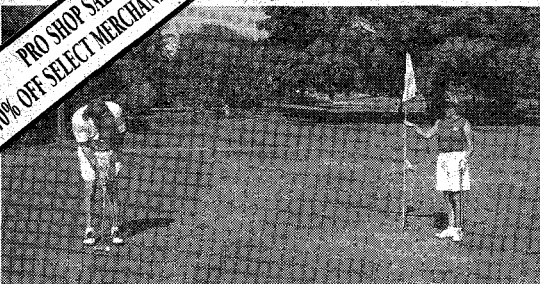
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Corner of Summerlin & San Carlos

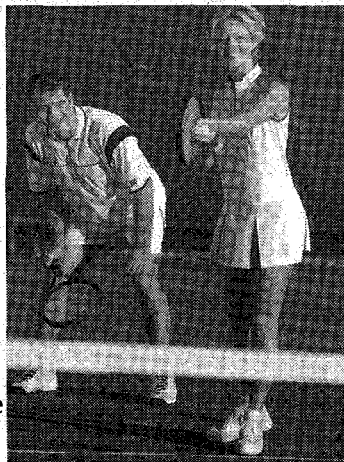
# Beachview Golf & Tennis Club

Sanibel's Best Golf Value



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the all new

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- DAILY HAPPY HOUR • 4-7pm  
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## OBITUARY

### Ann Sellers

Ann Sellers, 69, longtime Milford, Ohio resident passed away December 11, 2004. Ann retired after 25 years as a teacher at Milford Junior High/High School. Ann enjoyed reading, shopping, crossword puzzles, arts and crafts, and going to the beach. She also enjoyed vacationing to their homes in both Cedarville, MI and Sanibel, FL.

Ann is preceded in death by her parents, Albert and Eleanor Buckingham, one step-daughter, Julie McKowen, and one brother James Buckingham. Ann is

survived by her husband of 25 years, Vern Sellers of Milford; a son, Stephen Cox; two daughters, Diana Lay and her husband, Ron, all of Milford and Jennifer McCarthy and her husband, Jim of Mariemont; step-son Greg and his wife, Pat, of Hickory, NC; three grandchildren, three step-grandchildren and one step-grandson.

Services were held on December 15. Donations may be made to the American Heart Association or the American Lung Association.

## City holiday hours and refuse collection

- Sanibel City Hall offices will be closed in observance of Christmas on Friday, December 24 and will re-open Monday, December 27.
  - Sanibel City Hall offices will be closed in observance of New Year's on Friday, December 31, 2004 and will resume regular operating hours on Monday, January 3, 2005.
  - All garbage, recycling and vegetation waste collection by Florida Recycling Services (FRS) will be on the regular waste collection schedule.
  - All City of Sanibel Recreation facilities (Civic Center, Museum and Recreation Center) will be closed December 24 & 25 in observance of Christmas and again on December 31, 2004 & January 1, 2005, in observance of the New Year's Holiday. All recreation facilities will follow regular operating hours on December 26, 2004, and will resume regular operating hours on January 2, 2005.
- For questions regarding the holiday schedule, please contact Sanibel City Hall at 472-3700.

## Bowman's Beach opened Dec. 15

The City of Sanibel is pleased to announce that, after hundreds of labor hours, public access to the City's most popular beach destination point will officially re-open at 7:00 a.m. on December 15, 2004. Bowman's Beach lost thousands of Australian pines as a result of the last hurricane season. In addition, numerous boardwalks, the fitness trail, picnic tables and parking lots were heavily damaged.

"The re-opening of Bowman's Beach is a major milestone in Sanibel's recovery efforts," noted Sanibel City Manager Judie Zimomura. "In four months, City and

contractual employees have made tremendous strides."

Historically, Bowman's Beach has been the most popular public beach in Southwest Florida. The beach parking lot offers 214 parking spaces. With the opening of Bowman's Beach, all public facilities on Sanibel are now open, following the devastating landfall of Hurricane Charley 125 days ago.

For additional information regarding Sanibel beach access, please contact City of Sanibel Public Works Department at 472-6397.

## Free mulch at Bowman's Beach

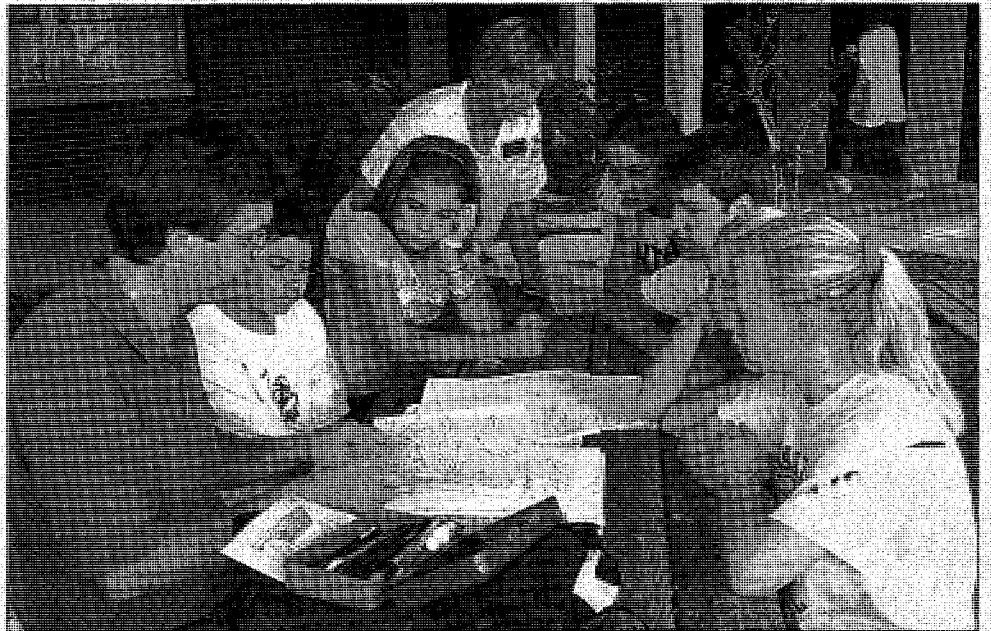
The City of Sanibel is offering a unique opportunity to residents and landscapers alike to make beneficial use out of the hundreds of Australian pines lost to Hurricane Charley. All of the Australian pines that had to be removed from Bowman's Beach following the hurricane have been turned into high-quality, pure pine mulch.

Starting at 7 a.m., Wednesday,

December 15, the City is offering the mulch in unlimited quantities as long as supplies last. During park hours, interested parties may pick up unlimited quantities of mulch at the parking lot entrance.

For more information regarding the free high-quality pine mulch being offered by the City, please contact the City of Sanibel Public Works Department at 472-6397.

## Alligator coloring book receives praise



Dave Horton (left) and Trish Herman (standing) and Sanibel School seventh graders discussing their alligator coloring book CmPS project.

By Laura Nickerson  
Staff Writer

The alligator awareness coloring book being designed and written by students from the Sanibel School seventh grade who are members of CmPS, a community problem solving program, became fully funded for its first printing at a recent City Council meeting.

The students, who had already raised part of the needed money through the Kiwanis Club, and Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge, took that news back to the Council, where councilman Steve Brown had originally challenged them to raise the money themselves. Mike Valliquette, of Sandcastle Construction immediately offered a donation of \$967. One after another, other islanders began offering money, and the City Council joined right in. Teachers cried, and the children were ecstatic, sure that their coloring book was finally a reality.

Last week, at their regular after school

meeting, the students welcomed the Islander cartoonist, Dave Horton. He spent an hour working with the students on designs for their coloring book.

Also present were Claudia Burns, the group's technical advisor, who has done many other coloring books, and Dr. Trish Herman, who heads up the Problem Solvers program.

Though the alligator coloring book is nearing completion, with a scheduled release date of early February, or as soon as the drawings are finished, the students decided to give no previews, preferring instead to unveil it in its entirety at that time.

The book was chosen as a problem solving project to teach islanders and visitors how to live peacefully where alligators also live. Their concept has been reviewed by a panel of alligator experts and found to have merit. The coloring book will be dedicated to Janie Melsek and those who tried so hard to save her.



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Newspaper since 1961

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Sanibel, FL 33957  
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e-mail us at:  
islander@flguide.com

The Islander  
is printed on  
recycled paper.

## The Santa Run - December 23

### A 30 Year-old Island Tradition

If you live on Sanibel or Captiva and would like Santa to show up at your house and deliver packages for children of any age, buy and wrap those presents, label them, put all the presents in a big plastic bag(s) and label it with name, address, phone number and driving directions and any little tidbits of information you would like Santa to relate, and drop it off at the Sanibel - Captiva Community Bank before 3 p.m. on Thursday, December 23. An elegantly clad Kiwanis Santa will deliver it to your house in person the evening of December 23.

### Friends Who Care

You may also want to stop by the Dunes, Post Office, Senior Center or City Planning and Development Office or Sanibel - Captiva Community Bank and take an ornament describing one of the island's needy from a Friends Who Care tree. Attach it to an unwrapped, new gift and return both under the same tree. And you may want to show up with scissors in hand at the Community Association at 9 on Friday, December 17 for the Friends Who Care Wrap Session. A good time is guaranteed.



## ACT needs Christmas items

Abuse Counseling and Treatment, inc. (ACT) is asking for donations of new items for Christmas.

ACT holds a Christmas party every year for over 200 victims and children of domestic violence and sexual assault. In order to do this, they are asking the community for assistance.

Items needed are new toys for all ages,

new clothing of all sizes, new household items, gift certificates of all kinds, new sports equipment, new baby items, new electronic items for children, new school supplies, new books and new board games.

If you are interested in helping, donating or need more information, please call the Domestic Violence Unit at 335-2140.

## American Sewing Guild meeting

Author and fashion designer Stephanie Kimura will show *Bags with Style* at the next meeting of the Southwest Florida Chapter of the American Sewing Guild on Saturday, Jan. 22 from 12:30 - 3 p.m. at the Lee County Extension Service, Terry Park, 3406 Palm Beach Boulevard in Fort Myers.

Kimura's book, *Bags with Style*, fea-

tures 25 contemporary projects to create purses, belts, bags and creative holders.

Membership is open to all who would like to learn more about sewing; dues are \$40 per year and include the chapter newsletter and special discounts from local merchants. Call President Diane Stramel at 458-2858 for more info.

## Sanibel Public Library holiday closings

2004

Dec. 24 ..... Close at 12:00  
 Dec. 25 ..... Closed  
 Dec. 27 ..... Closed  
 Dec. 31 ..... Close at 12

2005

Jan. 1 ..... Closed  
 Jan. 3 ..... Closed

## Sanibel School thanks Rotary

The Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club met at a special location on Friday, Dec. 10. The 7 a.m. meeting was held at the Sanibel School cafetorium. Fifty-one local and visiting Rotarians and their guests attended the breakfast. They were welcomed with a guest register book, name tags, and colorful placemats handmade by students in the art department. They were also entertained with two songs performed by the school chorus.

Principal Barbara Von Harten thanked the group for the largest single donation to the school of \$125,000 over the next five years. She also showed a mock-up of the Rotary name and logo tiles created by Luc Century, which will be displayed at what will now be known as the Rotary Cafetorium."

Von Harten also invited interested parties to take a tour of the facilities and she expressed hope that the club would eventually return to the school for the Rotary Arts & Crafts Fair held each year in February.

The schedule of events was to include a presentation of the Rotary banner showing the organization's famous Four Way Test applied to the things we all think, say and do. An integral part of the Rotary pledge recited at the each weekly meeting, the test asks: First, Is it the truth? Second, Is it fair to all concerned? Third, Will it build good will and better friendships? Fourth, Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Von Harten was so impressed by the test that she thought it would be good if the students could see it every day at lunch.

The banner, however, could not be presented to the school owing to mold damage as a result of Hurricane Charley. A new one is on order and will be presented at a thank you dinner on January 25, 2005.

*Rotary's next two Friday meetings will not be held and the next ones will be held on January 24 and 31.*

## Chamber After Hours

The next Chamber "After Hours" will be hosted from 5:30 - 7 p.m. on Monday, December 20 by Periwinkle Place and Gully's Restaurant & Bar located at 2075 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel.

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be served.

The admission fee is \$5 with prior reservations, or \$8 at the door.

Please RSVP for "After Hours" by calling the Chamber at 472-1966 with the exact number and name of people attending or Register Online at <http://www.sanibel-captiva.biz/events/afterhours.html>.

PLEASE NOTE: RSVP Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, December 17. Reservations after deadline will not be accepted.

*Sakura*  
Okinawa

JAPANESE & CHINESE RESTAURANT

Japanese Steak House • Chinese Cuisine • Sushi Bar • Cocktails

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EAT-IN OR TAKE OUT  
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- go through the toll plaza past Shell Point Rd. on Summerlin
- make next left on McGregor Blvd.
- make another left to continue on McGregor (rt. 867)
- go past Publix
- turn right into the K-Mart Plaza at Iona Rd.

NFL SUNDAY TICKET

SEAFOOD • SPORTS • SPIRITS  
"Sanibel's Sports Bar!"

ESPN GAME PLAN

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**FOOTBALL SPECIAL**

25¢ WINGS

\$1<sup>00</sup> DRAFTS

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Lunch Sat. & Sun. from 11:30 a.m. Call for more details • TAKE OUT AVAILABLE

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## WGCU premieres *Sanibel: After the Ferry*

By Karen Nelson  
Managing Editor

About 200 people turned out at the Sanibel Community House on Sunday afternoon for the premiere of WGCU's *Sanibel: After the Ferry*, part of the *Untold Stories of Southwest Florida* series.

WGCU's Director of Underwriting, Terry Brennen, spoke before the showing. WGCU produces four local series: *Expressions* (about the arts), *Health Sense* (which is carried on 150 stations around the country); *In Focus* and *Untold Stories of Southwest Florida*. "It made sense to look at history as the fourth series in the project. We talked to the schools and they said that there were no texts on Southwest Florida history. We saw an opportunity to go into the communities and develop archival materials."

In fact, "The documentary project has gotten larger," noted Brennen, "and now includes the involvement of the school systems in six counties... These programs will live on in the school systems of Southwest Florida... Teachers in six counties are currently preparing course materials to be incorporated into history classes."

*Sanibel: After the Ferry* is the twelfth in the series; there are a total of 40 episodes outlined and funded to date. Brennen added that all of the programs in the *Untold Stories of Southwest Florida* are archived on [wgcu.org](http://wgcu.org) and all of the visuals and all of the interviews will also be archived there.

Brennen thanked several people in the community — Pat Allen, Sam and Francis Bailey, Jody Brown and the Sanibel Community Association — as well as the organizations that funded the documentary. A three-year grant from the Lee County Government County Commission provides half of the funding for 22 programs about Lee County; funding for *After The Ferry* was also provided by the

City of Sanibel, Bailey's General Store and Sanibel-Captiva Community Bank was one of the underwriters. The Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis provided funding ("I'm a Kiwanis and I twisted their arm," he noted) and the Sanibel-Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce. Brennen also thanked SCA for hosting the premiere.

Producer Sam Koltinsky noted that "through his involvement with the community, my life has truly been enhanced; talking about the history, talking about conservation."

He thanked the Sanibel Library and Pat Allen, Betty Anholt and Candy Heise, "who didn't run when they saw me coming" as well as the Sanibel Historical Village & Museum; J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge; Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation; Charlie McCullough; the Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum; the Sanibel Community Association and the *Island Reporter*.

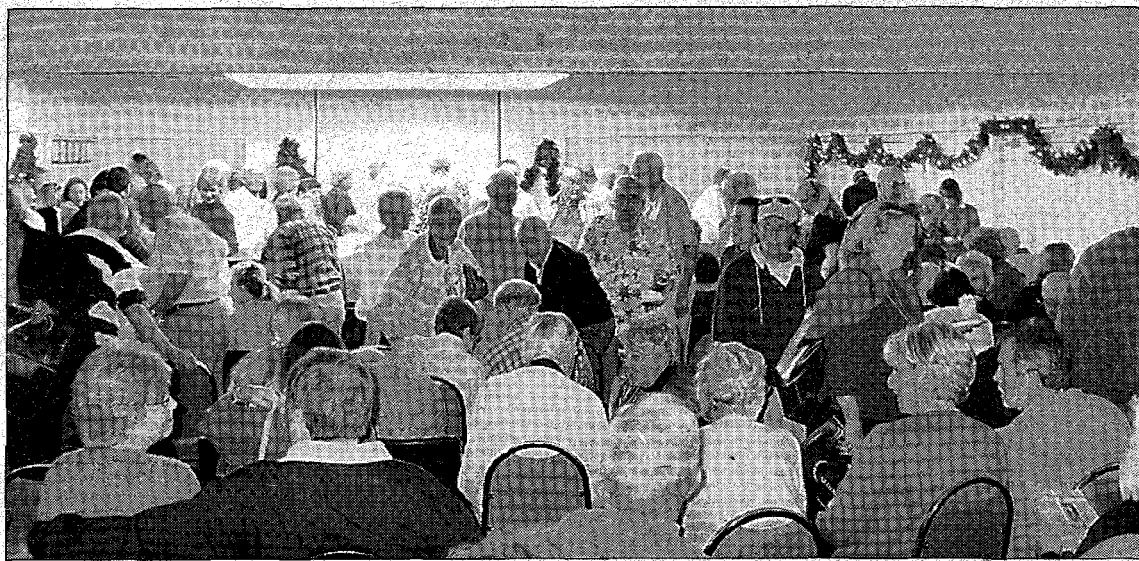
For the past several weeks, Koltinsky has been asking everyone he could find on the island if they had a picture of Curtis Perry, who raised the money to build the Community House back in the '20s. He commented, "As an example of how this community works, this week, somebody asked me if I had a picture of Curtis Perry."

The program was very well-received, renewing one's sense of civic pride as it traced the incorporation of the City of Sanibel. *After the Ferry* is full of first-person reminiscences, some of which brought a hearty response from the audience, like Mary Bell's comment, "They say that all the Indians left here. The Indians did, but the chiefs didn't."

Sam Bailey's "When you get up in your 80's, you're a part of history," also drew a big chuckle.

Sanibel is not without its challenges but it remains a special place. As Mary Bell notes in *Sanibel: After the Ferry*, "I don't know where the magic comes from but you feel it if you live here."

*Ed note: Sanibel School student Tyler Cruickshank's award-winning history of the founding of the City of Sanibel was*



Photos by Karen Nelson

### At Sundays premiere of *Sanibel: After the Ferry* at the Community House

supposed to be shown on Sunday, but unfortunately, there was an incompatibility problem: Tyler's documentary was on CD for a computer and the WGCU equipment was DVD-only.

### WGCU schedule for *Untold Stories: Sanibel*

*Sanibel: After The Ferry* will be aired on Friday, Dec. 24 at 9 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 25 at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 26 at 11 p.m.

*Sanibel: Civil War to Pre-Causeway* will re-air at 9:30 p.m. on Dec. 24, following the 9 p.m. showing of *After The Ferry*. It will also be shown preceding *After The Ferry* on Dec. 25 at 6 p.m. and following *After The Ferry* on Dec. 26 at 11:30 p.m.

### Upcoming on WGCU

A half-hour documentary by Keith Cruickshank called *Landfall*, about the experience of returning to the island following Hurricane Charley, will air on WGCU in mid-January.

### For more *Sanibel* oral histories

There are oral histories (and videos) available at the The Sanibel Public Library as part of the Sanibel Oral History Project.

Elinor Dormer began talking to long-time residents and taping the conversations when she was working on *The Sea Shell Islands: A History of Sanibel and Captiva*. The Sanibel Library has the audiotapes of those conversations, many of which have been transcribed. In the 1970s, the Library Board became involved; a few more inter-

views were added and then the project went into pause mode.

In the late 1980s, Library Board members Betty Anholt and Jody Brown became involved. They began transcribing the tapes that existed as well as taping some new interviews. Brown got a camera and they began videotaping the interviews, which were also simultaneously audiotaped and then transcribed.

There are about 20 interviews that have not been transcribed, including some dating back to Elinor Dormer that are not transcribable due to tape deterioration or poor quality of the recording. However, there are still a lot of newer recordings awaiting transcription and volunteers are welcome!

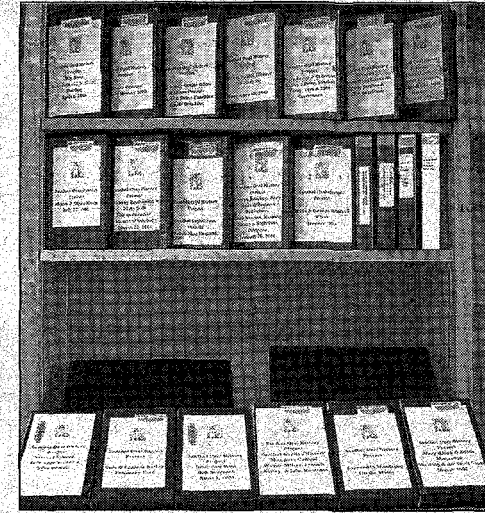



Photo by Karen Nelson

### Oral History Project videos in the Sanibel Library.

The Premier Showing  
*"Sanibel After the Ferry"*  
Sunday, December 12  
3 to 5 pm

**Island Nutrition Center**  
*For your good health*



**Avoid the cold and flu season!**  
Source Naturals Wellness Formula is the classic immune system support product!

For more information on how to "eat for good immune health," see Carol at the Island Nutrition Center  
1633 C Periwinkle Way (next to the Cricket Shop, under the orange awning)  
**472-4499** Hours: M-F 9 - 5, Saturday 9 - 4

## Islands rank in Condé Nast Top 10

Sanibel and Captiva Islands have been lauded as among "the cream of an impressive crop" in Conde Nast *Traveler* magazine's 2004 Readers' Choice Awards, ranking on the Top-10 North American Islands list. The popular travel magazine with a circulation of 771,000 surveyed its readers for the November 2004 issue, asking them to rate their favorite island destinations for scenery, friendliness, lodging, restaurants and activities. Sanibel Island ranked fifth, while Captiva Island came in at eighth.

Referring to the southwest Florida islands as "newcomers among established stars," other prominent vacation destina-

tions on the roll included Vancouver Island, Nantucket, Prince Edward Island, Hilton Head and Kiawah, S. C.

According to Conde Nast *Traveler*, "Sanibel and Captiva Islands were struck by Hurricane Charley, but not hard enough to challenge their debut on a list." The publication continues, "Wherever greatness emerges, you find it - and praise it for all."

In the 17-year history of the awards, Editor in Chief Thomas J. Wallace states that "the standards move relentlessly higher" in the latest survey.

## A Luminary thank you

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the entire membership of the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce, thank you to all of our friends, partners and contributors who helped make our islands a special place for the whole family to celebrate the start of the holiday season at our 20th annual Luminary Festival.

Special thanks to Santa, Mrs. Claus and the elves, City of Sanibel, Sanibel Fire Department, Kiwanis Club, Rotary Club, Lions Club, Florida Recycling, Captiva Cruises, Adventures in Paradise, Jerry's Center, Colonial Bank, She Sells Sea Shells, Everglades Explorers, The Cedar Chest Fine Jewelry, Tarpon Bay Explorers, Sanibel Day Spa, Comfort By Design, Executive Title, Clo Whitney, Sanibel Café, West Wind Inn, Gully's Family Restaurant, The Sanibel Bean, Green Earth Landscaping, Lazy Flamingo, Castaways at Blind Pass, Beachview Cottages, The Bait Box, Sanibel Moorings, Nave Plumbing, Sanibel Home Furnishings, Doc Ford's, Her Sports Closet, RTI Insurance

Services, Sanibel Community Church, Sandalfoot Condominiums, Aboriginals, Art of the First Person, The Jacaranda Restaurant, Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation, St. Michael's & All Angels Church, Sanibel Susan Realty Associates, St. Isabel Catholic Church, Island Management Group, Island Cinema, C.R.O.W. Wildlife Clinic, Gooderham & Associates, Bailey's General Store, The Grog Shop, The Shell Net, Bailey's True Value Hardware, Weddings By The Sea by Patricia Slater, Bank of the Islands, and Beachview Golf Club.

And thank you to our island residents who came out in such strong numbers to support our local business community as we head into what will hopefully be a happy, healthy and prosperous 2005 for the islands of Sanibel and Captiva. May it be a year of peace on earth and goodwill to all.

Anne Joffe, President  
Sanibel & Captiva Islands  
Chamber of Commerce

## Tony Lapi named to Lee TDC

The Lee County Tourist Development Council (TDC) has selected Tony Lapi, president and CEO of Rochester Resorts, to become an ex officio member effective Dec. 3.

The longtime resident of Sanibel Island was recently appointed by Governor Jeb Bush to serve on the Florida Commission on Tourism.

A graduate of Syracuse University, Lapi joined Rochester Resorts and purchased Tween Waters Inn in 1976 and grew the company from four employees to 150. He became vice president of Rochester Resorts in 1995 and was named president and CEO in 2001.

In addition to serving as a board member for the United Way for the past 15 years, he also serves as treasurer of the Sanibel Captiva Chamber of Commerce. He served on the Sanibel Community

Board and was president for two years. He is currently president of the Florida Shore & Preservation Association.

The nine member TDC was established by the BOCC in 1983 to increase tourism to Lee County.

### Albion reappointed as TDC chair

The Lee County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has reappointed Commissioner John Albion as chairman of the Tourist Development Council (TDC) for his second consecutive term effective today.

Albion previously chaired the TDC in 1994, 2000, 2001, and 2004. In addition to the TDC responsibilities, his other current liaison BOCC committee appointments include the Affordable Housing Committee and the Horizon Council.

## Christmas Eve Services

**Sanibel Community Church**, 1740 Periwinkle Way, 472-2684

5 p.m. - contemporary worship

7 p.m. - contemporary worship

9 p.m. - traditional with choir

11 p.m. - Christmas communion

**Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ**, 2050 Periwinkle Way, 472-0497

Christmas Eve

5:30 p.m. - Lighthouse beach - see right for more information.

10 p.m. - Midnight service in the Sanctuary

**St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal**, 2304 Periwinkle Way, 472-2173

Christmas Eve

5 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Christmas Day

10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

December 26

8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

**St. Isabel Catholic Church**, 3559 Sanibel-Captiva Road, 472-2763

Christmas Eve

5:30 p.m. - Vigil

10 p.m. - Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

### Christmas Eve Beach Service

All residents, visitors, children, dogs on leashes and boaters are cordially invited to follow the luminary trail to the annual traditional Christmas Eve service at Lighthouse Beach beginning at 5:30 p.m. and lasting until darkness falls. The Sanibel Congregational Church sponsors the service. Dr. Ran Niehoff will present a 45-minute nondenominational rendition of the Christ Child's birth, aided by sound effects from the audience, the sound of a twinkling star, the breeze and more. As darkness falls across the beach, each worshiper will light a candle to celebrate the arrival of the Holy Night. There will be a free will offering for the benefit of the Salvation Army and Habitat for Humanity. Plan to bring a chair or blanket and insect repellent.



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Mimi's Cafe  
Taste of New York  
T.G.I. Friday's

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## OF SEA AND SHORE

### Killing the Golden Goose

Once upon a time, in a land far, far away there lived a beautiful Golden Goose. She was a splendid bird, with elegant snow-white feathers and a fine, proud waddle to her stride. As wonderful a creature as she was, it was her golden eggs that made her so admired.

Unlike your standard folktale variety, these eggs weren't solid gold. With her eggs, the gold was only the thickness of an eggshell. It was the magic inside that inspired millions of people to keep returning year after year to visit her.

Every sunrise, just after the Golden Goose laid one of her precious eggs, her Caretakers would, with the goose's permission, of course, gently remove it from her nest. Then, with all eyes upon them, the Caretakers would break it open, whereupon all the people watching would fall into a trance. They would enter into a magical, dream-like world they had all journeyed so far to partake of.

What could possibly be inside the eggs – you might ask? Well, inside were magical spells that would sweep the awaiting crowds away to a tropical island. Like a fine, fairy dust, the magic would transport everyone away to a kingdom filled with long stretches of sandy beaches, bike paths, and wildlife preserves filled with birds, reptiles and adorable animals. There were lovely boutiques, interesting shops and excellent restaurants. There was even a quaint, historical lighthouse on one end.

But there was a catch. The Golden Goose and her Caretakers lived on a small, densely forested island at the end of a long, winding road. The only way to get to the island was by crossing a rickety, dilapidated wooden bridge. The catch was that the bridge wasn't owned by the Caretakers but by a mean old troll named Mr. Lee.

Mr. Lee was a very nasty, grumpy old troll with ugly warts, bushy eyebrows and the IQ of a brick. But he owned the wooden bridge and sure as sin, he made a point to charge everyone a toll to cross his bridge on his or her way to visit the Golden Goose. For decades, this was simply how it was and no one really complained about it or felt it was unfair. After all, it was Mr. Lee's bridge and the visit was well worth the toll.

But, as time passed, Mr. Lee kept spending all the money he made from the Golden Goose on anything but his decrepit old wooden bridge. He built roads all over his land, making big, fancy overpasses, baseball stadiums, and some even alledge that he took some of the money and had a grand time squandering it away with his troll-like friends, drinking and partying late into the night. It finally came to the point where crossing the run-down bridge got to be outright dangerous.

So one day mean old Mr. Lee announced to the Caretakers of the Golden Goose and all the people who came to see her that he would have to build a new bridge over the river.

"Oh, you'll love it!" He pronounced. "It will be tall and fancy and, most importantly, I will be able to charge you two, three, maybe even six times as much to see the Golden Goose."

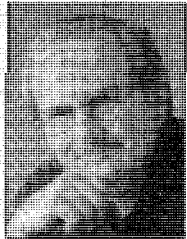
At about the exact same time Mr. Lee made his troubling announcement, a terrible storm swept over the whole kingdom. It was the worst storm they had seen in 40 years and it wrought tremendous damage throughout the land. The Golden Goose was so battered and frightened that she wasn't able to lay her Golden eggs for months. The visitors stopped coming, hearing that the lovely

forests had been blown down and the Golden Goose had taken ill. People started talking, saying it would never be the same.

But mean old Mr. Lee didn't give a darn about some stupid storm. He said that the walkway needed replacing immediately and he was going to start charging double even before it was completed. He was so mean.

"But it's not fair," complained the Caretakers.

"Buzz off," replied Mr. Lee. "It's my walkway and I'll charge as much as I want to because I'm a troll."



Charles Sobczak

Soon things got much, much worse. The Golden Goose, who had been ailing ever since the storm, really started sliding downhill. On the rare occasions she actually laid an egg, the magic inside it grew weaker and weaker, then began to fail. The shops started closing up and the fine restaurants sat half empty. The Golden Goose's condition seemed to worsen with each passing day. Something had to be done.

The troll didn't care, though he started to notice that even though he was charging twice as much to visit the goose, only half as many people were coming over to see her. He scratched

his big dumb head and said, "If things don't pick up, I might have to start charging even more!"

Meanwhile, the Caretakers of the Golden Goose didn't know what to do. They went to the King of all the lands and asked for help. But the King was on the take from Mr. Lee so he wouldn't listen to their complaints. The Golden Goose was dying, slowly but surely, and nobody seemed to care.

By this time, the Caretakers were getting desperate. Finally, one of them decided to confront Mr. Lee directly. He crossed over the walkway and went all the way downtown to where the nasty old troll lived. He knocked on his door and stood there, shaking in his boots.

"Who's there?" growled the unfriendly Mr. Lee.

"It's just me, one of the Golden Goose's Caretakers."

Mr. Lee got up and opened the front door. He looked down on the Caretaker and scuffed, with the smell of liquor on his breath.

"What do you want? You're not here to quibble about my toll increases are you? You're not going to talk about my bridge design either, because if you even bring it up, I'll bite your little head off."

"No, I'm here to tell you that the Golden Goose is dying."

"What?"

"Yes, she's losing all her feathers and she hasn't laid a Golden egg in a month. Soon, if she dies, no one will want to come to our island again."

"Hm-mm-mm," pondered the ignoramus. "I never thought of that possibility."

The Caretaker bit his lip. He wanted to add about a thousand other things the big, dumb oaf had never thought of. But he couldn't mention the unsightly sprawl-marts, the lack of planning along the winding road to the

river or anything else because the troll had already threatened to bite his head off if he did.

"What can we do to save her?" asked the Caretaker.

"I don't know. I'll have to think about it," said Mr. Lee, slamming the door as he spoke.

For once, the troll didn't know what to do, so the next day he went to the King for advice.

"One of the Caretakers told me the Golden Goose is dying," he told the King. "What's going to happen if she kicks the bucket?"

"No more Golden Goose, no more visitors. No visitors, no tolls and that's bad news for both of us."

"No tolls, no kickbacks or taxes, King," Mr. Lee said, reminding him of their unscrupulous arrangement.

"No money, no parties, loose women and boondoggle projects for all my rich troll friends."

"Maybe we raised the tolls too high, do you think?" asked Mr. Lee in a very rare moment of insight.

"They can afford it, all those rich people wanting to see the Golden Goose."

"Not if she's sick. Not if she's not laying any more magic eggs."

"True," admitted the King.

So they sat there for the longest time, scratching their hairy heads and wondering what to do about the conundrum they had gotten themselves into. They were once dead certain that everyone would love the new high-span walkway and pay at least double to visit the Goose, but it wasn't so. The tolls were taking their toll and now, horror of horrors, the Goose was on her deathbed.

"I've got it!" said the King.

"What is it?" Asked Mr. Lee.

"We'll form a troll commission. We'll ask the Caretakers of the Golden Goose what they think is a fair price to pay to cross the new wooden walkway and we'll all work together to solve the problem."

"I don't like the sound of it," replied mean old Mr. Lee. He was used to getting his way and didn't like the idea of working with the Caretakers one bit.

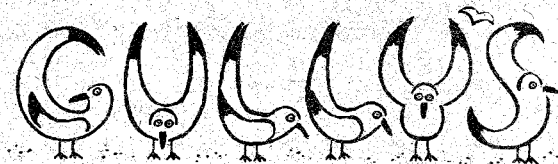
"Well, we can't have a dead goose on the other side of your walkway now, can we?"

"No, I suppose not."

"Then it's settled. We'll form a cooperative Troll Commission and regulate the walkway and its tolls together."

And so it was formed. The grumpy old Mr. Lee got together with the Caretakers and worked out a fair and equitable fee for crossing the walkway for everyone. The Caretakers got a special discount, and the visitors paid a reasonable price to see the goose. The Golden Goose soon recovered from her ailments and everyone lived happily ever after.

*Charles Sobczak is the author of Six Mornings on Sanibel and the award-winning hurricane novel, Way Under Contract. His books are available throughout the island.*



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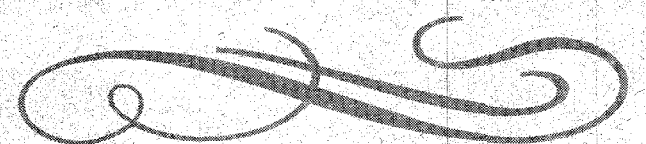
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# Polar Bears preparing to plunge

On Saturday, January 1, 2005 the Sanibel-Captiva Chapter of the National Polar Bear Club will hold its 5th annual meeting at the crack of noon at Tarpon Bay Beach (the south/Gulf end of Tarpon Bay Road). Parking for 89 cars is available at the city lot. Don't forget to display your current new sticker or pay the parking fee.

The meeting will begin with the singing of the traditional Polar Bear anthem by the Cubbies (first timers), Juveniles (one time previous dippers) and seasoned Adult bears (those who took the plunge in previous years). Following the anthem the Polar Bears will enter the icy Gulf waters BACKWARDS, facing the huge crowd of supporters, onlookers,

tourists, and mice (those who wished they had the courage to join in).

The highlight of this year festivities will be a symbolic throwing back into the sea of authentic, Periwinkle Australian pine chips (now to be known as Charley chips). By throwing Charley back into the sea, the curse of a hurricane visiting our islands during the coming year will hopefully be broken.

Following various bear-frolicking activities in the water and the traditional Polar Bear Group Huddle/Hug (a body-warming activity), all participants will receive a free membership card and a certificate suitable for framing. There will also be an opportunity to sip from the

giant Polar Bear champagne glass, have your picture taken in the infamous shell pith helmet and to engage in storytelling about your heroic experience with fellow Polar Bears from around the world.

Massive media coverage is again expected to be on hand to historically document this annual event.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME and encouraged to attend. Remember to wear your bathing suit and bring a towel. Chairs and coolers are optional. Come join your friends, family, neighbors, tourists, politicians and other island char-



**Papa Polar Bear John Carney (bearing the infamous shell pith helmet).**

acters for one 'helluva' memorable activity. It is the ONLY event going on at the crack-of-noon on New Year Day and it's FREE AND FUN!

For more information about this chilling event, you may contact "PapaBear" (John Carney) at 395-1767.



## New Year Eve Champagne and Wine Dinner Friday, December 31, 2004

6:00 PM or 9:30 PM Seating

For reservations call 472-6200

### Amuse

Lobster Aspic  
Piper Heidsieck NV

### First Course

Jonah Crab Cheesecake, Hazelnut Vinaigrette

### Second Course

Cold Smoked King Salmon, Chive Blinis, Osetra Caviar  
Katnook "Estate" Chardonnay, Australia, 2000

### Third Course

Duck Confit and Golden Chanterelle Risotto  
Merryvale "Reserve" Merlot, 2000

### Forth Course

Roasted Red pepper and Muscle Broth  
Louis Jadot, Pouilly Fuisse, 2002

### Fifth Course

Butter Poached Homard, Tarragon and Short rib Daube

### Sixth Course

Slow Simmered Escargot, Pancetta lardons, Montrachet Ravioli

### Seventh Course

Intermezzo

### Eighth Course

Wet Cured Ostrich Loin, White Bean Cassolet  
Guenoc, "Beckstoffer" Cabernet, 1993

### Ninth Course

Braised Beef Cheeks, Sunchoke Puree  
Silver Oak "Alexander Valley" Cabernet, 2000

### Grand Finally

Apricot Gateau, Vanilla Bean and Godiva Sauce  
EOS, "Tears of Dew" 2001

\$150 per person. Twenty percent gratuity will be added.

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## TO YOUR HEALTH

### Holistic Health Notebook: Another use for cranberries

If you have ever suffered through a bladder infection (UTI), you do not want to do that again. Burning, itching, fire-y pain, and lots of other uncomfortable symptoms.

Women are more at risk for UTIs than men because of physiology and hormones. I won't go into the graphic details about common practices that increase the risk of bladder infections (this is a family paper, after all), but just know that cleanliness is important. (If you need to know the details, you will have to come ask me.)

Women tend to get UTIs around times of hormonal changes, like after giving birth or during perimenopause. Lifestyle habits can increase UTIs too, like eating sugar (eating sugar causes nearly every harmful thing, doesn't it?), taking antibiotics, douching, and alcohol consumption.

The first time I got a UTI, I raced to the doctor, took an antibiotic, broke out in a fiery red rash all over my body (still had the infection), and learned for the first time about cranberries.

Up until that time, the only thing I knew about cranberries was how to make cranberry sauce to grace the Thanksgiving table.

Most women now know about using cranberries (not sweetened cranberry juice) to treat or prevent UTIs. In an interesting study of 419 persons who were asked the question, "Does cranberry juice consumption help prevent urinary-tract infections?" it was found that 71% of the respondents believed that cranberry juice could prevent urinary-tract infections. Eighty-one percent of the respondents believed there was no evidence to support the use of cranberry juice to treat urinary-tract infections.

Initially, doctors believed that cranberry juice worked by acidifying the urine, but this was later proven incorrect. A 1984 study found that cranberries work by pre-

venting E. coli from adhering to uroepithelial or bladder cells. Bacteria, including E. coli, have different types of adhesins on their surface that allow the organism to cling to epithelial cells and proliferate. Cranberries contain proanthocyanidins that inhibit the bacteria from adhering to the bladder wall, so they are flushed out in the urine.

In vitro studies show cranberry juice does inhibit bacterial adherence to uroepithelial cells. A 1994 study found that in elderly women who were given cranberry juice, subjects were 42% less likely to contract bacterial infections. In 2002, a study showed that consumption of either cranberry juice or cranberry tablets resulted in a statistically significant reduction in the number of patients experiencing at least one symptomatic urinary-tract infection per year compared with placebo.

I certainly found that to be true. I started taking cranberry capsules and enjoyed quick relief from the infection.

Sugar feeds bacteria, so drinking sweetened cranberry juice to prevent UTIs may be taking two steps forward and one step backward. We recommend drinking unsweetened cranberry juice — which can really pucker the lips. You may blend it with unsweetened orange or raspberry juice for a delicious beverage but if that is still too tart for you, you will have to follow my example and take the capsules.

If the pain is too intense and you can't wait a few hours to get relief, fill a sitz bath with warm water, mix in 1 teaspoon grapefruit seed extract, and sit in it for a few minutes. Do this several times the first day, after which your infection will probably be gone.

For more information, contact Carol at Island Nutrition Center (472-4499).



**Carol Simontacchi**

# SHELL SHOCKED

## All I want for Christmas is my two front trees

Ask anyone in Sanibel what they want for Christmas and you'll hear the same refrain: "All I want for Christmas is my two front trees, my two front trees, my two front trees. All I want for Christmas is my two front trees and I'll be a happy camper."

I was shopping at Bailey's recently and as a whim I decided to do a poll of shoppers. I wanted to find out what they wanted for Christmas. My goal was to find out what was highest on the gift priority list — personal items or a quickly restored Sanibel. A quickly restored Sanibel won out easily in this unscientific poll.

But first things first. I asked a woman shopper if there

really is a Santa Claus. She hesitated slightly and replied, "I think Santa Claus is Francis Bailey. They're one and the same."

I asked her how she came up with that conclusion. She said, "Have you ever seen Francis in a Santa costume? There's no mistaking it. The gestures, the mannerisms. He's Santa Claus all right."

I spotted a young mother with her two-year-old riding in the shopping cart. "What do you want for Christmas this year?" I asked. "Trees," she said. "Lots and lots of trees."

"Just for yourself?" I asked. "No", she replied. "For all of Sanibel. We need our trees back and this would be the most perfect of all Christmas presents."

"But how realistic is that?" I asked. "We certainly couldn't have trees sprout up overnight."

"I believe in miracles," she replied. "Imagine waking up Christmas Day, looking out your window and seeing tall, beautiful trees where none had been the day before. You gotta believe."

While the checkout person was adding up my grocery items I asked him what he wanted for Christmas. "I want Sanibel to look the way it did as soon as possible. Christmas is soon enough for me," he said.

"Now isn't that curious?" I responded. "You're the second person I asked who wants trees more than anything else. Don't you want a new car or something like that?"

He gave me a quizzical look. "You can always get a new car. But you can't always grow a new tree as quick-

ly as you would like. No, I'll take a new tree over a new car any day. That'll be sixty-six dollars and fifty cents, please."

Yes, folks, trees, foliage and vegetation won out in my unscientific poll over motorcycles, new cars, flat screen TV's and bicycles. All Sanibel wants for Christmas is its two front trees — multiplied by everyone who owns a house, condo or business.

I recently ran into a group of Sanibel residents in New York at a benefit. They had all gathered to support the work of a long-time Sanibel snowbird to fight leukemia. As I greeted one Sanibel resident after another, and the conversation invariably turned to Charley's aftermath, I couldn't help but notice the genuine feeling of optimism being expressed by every-

one. To a person everyone reflected on the unique qualities of Sanibel and the pioneering spirit of its residents. They could hardly wait to return to Sanibel to help get it in shape for Christmas 2004.

There is no stopping the Sanibel Christmas spirit. It is one of hope, optimism, enthusiasm, gratitude and good will. Christmas in Sanibel will be festive, reflective and business as usual. Christmas trees will abound and Christmas lights will minimize the havoc played by Charley.

There is no place in the world I'd rather be than in Sanibel during Christmas. Who knows? Maybe Santa will grant us those two front trees after all.



Art Stevens

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## Pet of the Week: Billy

Billy is a happy boy who would love to be "Home 4 the Holidays". He is a small, two-year-old Border Collie mix. He is gentle with children and he loves other dogs too! To adopt Billy, call Lee County Animal Services at 432-2083 and ask about ID #251378.

December is "Home 4 the Holidays" month at Lee County Animal Services. Throughout the month of December the shelter hopes to unite hundreds of orphaned pets with loving, adoptive families.

Anyone adopting a pet during the month of December will receive a special gift. Staff members will be taking photos of families and their new pets. The holiday photos may be framed or made into buttons and given to the adoptive parents as a way to commemorate such a special occasion.

The Shelter is located in Six Mile Commercial Park on Six Mile Cypress Parkway (between US41 and Metro Parkway). Adoption hours are 10 am to 4:30 pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 10 am to 7 pm on Tuesday and 10 am to 2:30 pm on Saturday. The Shelter is closed on Sunday. Pictures of pets available for adoption can be viewed on line at [www.leelostpets.com](http://www.leelostpets.com).



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## IN MY OPINION

### Overseas

Sanibel locals go "overseas." Everyone else traverses the causeway. Is there some special meaning that locals attach to the word "overseas" which distinguishes them from day visitors and tourists? It must be so.



Murray Saltzman

Going overseas suggests an expanse that divides one place from another in spirit, if not in demography and vegetation. The fact is, Sanibel is different. It wants to be different. And the difference separates Sanibel as if it were an ocean apart from the mainland.

Now every generalization has its flaws and this one no less. Sanibel's determination to be different is not universal. But most of the locals came here because it was a different kind of

place to begin with.

There are all kinds of facets that distinguish the character of a Sanibel local. The way they dress, for one thing, sets them apart from others. Locals dress down; sometimes so far down they look like beach bums. After all, Sanibel locals do live on an Island.

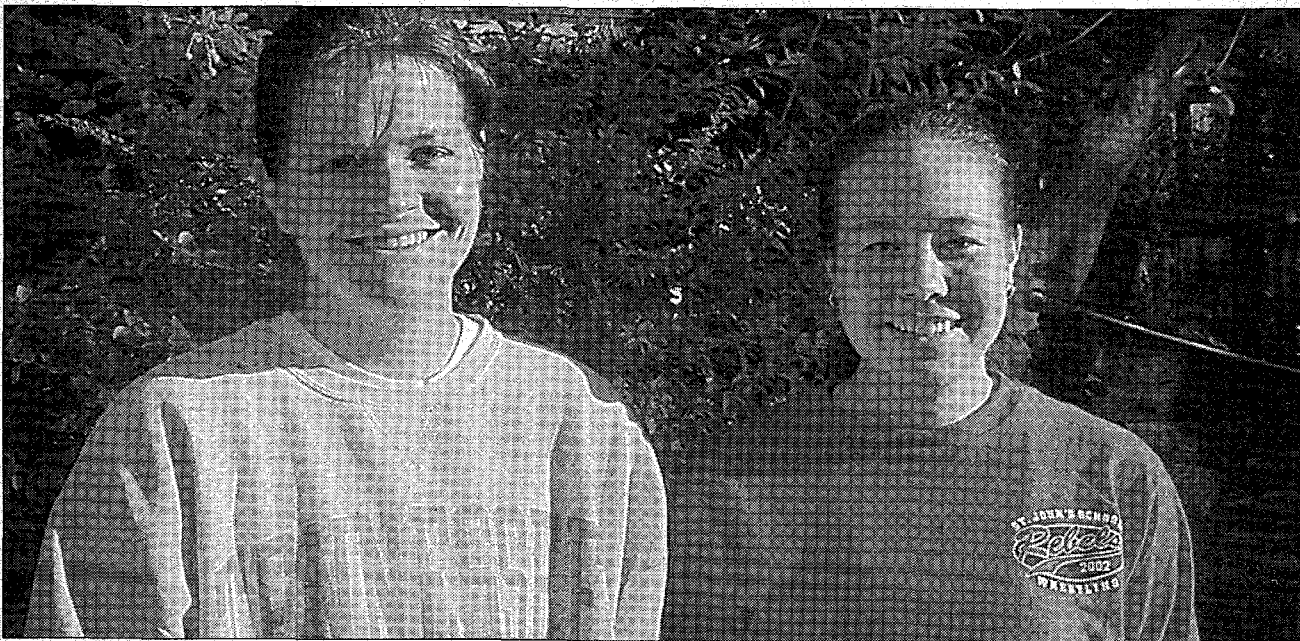
Dressing down sends a message. It's not the clothes that make the man/woman. It's the grey matter. The other side of this is that dressing down expresses contempt for contemporary materialism. Overseas, schlemiels look unkempt with no choice. A Sanibel schlemiel can afford the best, but looks unkempt and is proud of it.

And if the local is just a little bit odd in behavior this is all to the good. Sanibel is tolerant of its droll characters. If you are not idiosyncratic prior to arriving on the Island, this is the place to cultivate your eccentricity.

Sanibel residents are well informed. They attend lectures, concerts and plays. They discuss politics, religion, art and theater. If you are really an ardent overseas patron, you read the classics and aspire to be conversant with the various types of birds, trees, turtles, and butterflies that come to a welcoming island home. The island even has a parakeet with whom locals converse.

So the word "overseas" does suggest a distinctive character to those who reside a vast ocean apart from the mainland. You who cross over the causeway, please stay only for awhile. The spirit of "overseas" is very distant from you.

### New student externs at CROW



Anne Gottfried (left) and Meghan Kruse

The Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife on Sanibel, welcomes two new externship students, both of whom are in veterinary school. Each of these students will spend four weeks at CROW learning about wildlife medicine and rehabilitation.

Anne Gottfried arrived on Sanibel from Tennessee where she is in her third year at the University of Tennessee, College of Veterinary Medicine. She also received her undergraduate degree from the University of Tennessee. Anne is originally from Lebanon, Ohio, near Cincinnati, and brings with her a background of experience in zoo education, avian maintenance and small animal clinical skills. She loves animals and is excited about learning at CROW.

Meghan Kruse is a graduate of Yale and is now in her first year of veterinary school at North Carolina State. She is not new to CROW, as she is back for a fourth time serving as an extern. Each year she learns something new, and chose veterinary medicine as a result of her previous work at CROW and with Dr. PJ Deitschel.

"It's always fun to come to CROW and see new faces of students arriving," says board President Ann Moran. "Meghan and Anne will be wonderful additions to the four students we currently have at CROW all of whom represent different states around the country."

"The challenges are many in treating the ever-growing wildlife patient load at CROW and the students are an integral part of caring for our patients. Throughout the year, CROW has upwards of 36 students to help in our wildlife efforts and when they leave, they take with them a better knowledge and appreciation for wildlife medicine and rehabilitation, spreading the good work of CROW to all corners of the world," said Moran.

CROW relies exclusively on private donations to operate. Gifts can be mailed to CROW at PO Box 150; Sanibel, FL 33957. For more information about CROW, contact Birgie Vertesch at 239.472.3644, or via the web at [www.crowclinic.org](http://www.crowclinic.org).

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## Tween Waters Resort

**Christmas Day Buffet**  
Sat. Dec. 25, 2004 - 11:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Enjoy a festive holiday spread with fresh seafood display, Chef's Carvings, traditional and island favorites.

Adults 28.95 Children (3-12) 14.95

Tax and gratuity not included.

18% gratuity is added to parties of 6 or more.

Reservations required 472-5161 ext. 421

**New Years Eve Party** in the  
CrowsNest with The Modulators 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Even more Modulators

Jan 1, 2005, Jan 4 thru 8th, Jan 11th thru 15th

### Special Event

The Blonde Songbook - Tues. Dec. 28 8-10 p.m.

Tribute to history's great Blonde performers / singers...Mae West, Peggy Lee,

### Weekly Specials in the CrowsNest

Melt n Your Mouth Meatloaf Monday

Terrific Teriyaki Tuesday

Wild Hog Wednesday

Terrific Chicken Thursday

Fish Fry Friday

Super Spaghetti Saturday

Succulent Shrimp Sunday

*The*  
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 Mary Lou Bailey

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**NEW LISTING**




**CUTE, CUTE, CUTE!**  
 Darling, cozy cottage located just steps from the beach! Older two bedroom, two bath home with some updates on a glorious piece of ground! **\$469,000.**  
 Call Mary Lou Bailey at 472-1511.




**STUNNING GULF FRONT CONDO**  
 2 BD/2 BA + Den. Great sunset views from this 2nd floor condo unit. Semi private stairwell down to the beach. Amenities include heated pool, tennis, covered parking, elevator, extra storage and much more. **\$1,300,000.**  
 Call Andy Gelberg at 472-1511.

**PENDING**




**THE ROCKS**  
 This 3 bedroom, 2 bath home is located on a wide corner lot in The Rocks. It has a large caged pool and you're located only steps to the beach. **\$699,500.**  
 Call Judy Reddington at 472-1511.

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**UNIQUE ART-DECO LINED HOME**

This tri-level W. Gulf Dr. home offers massive geometric areas relieved by curving expanses of glass block, rounded corners, balconies and decks. 4,733 sq. ft. of living space. The property has some storm damage and is being sold as-is with right to inspect. **\$999,000.**  
 Call Glen Simmons at 472-1511.



**1195 PAR VIEW DRIVE**  
 Golf course living and close to beach, nearly new Robb & Stucky furnished, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath pool home close to the clubhouse, tennis, and restaurant. Deeded beach access with parking. **\$1,295,000.**  
 Call George Veillette at 239-691-8838.



**SUNDIAL**  
 Easy Island living with all the amenities. Breath taking view of the Gulf, courtyard and pool. Large 2 bedroom and den, fully furnished with updated kitchen, screened lanai, tile throughout and beautifully decorated, turn-key condition, great rental with weekly on-site rental program. **\$899,000.**  
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**UPSCALE NEAR BEACH HOME**  
 Fabulous offering, lakefront, 1987 pool home, near beach. Wonderful 3 bedroom, 2.5 baths, cathedral ceiling, fireplace, upgraded system, great spaces all open to Island living. Priced to the market, this is an excellent value! **\$689,000.**  
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**BUILD YOUR DREAM**  
 Invest in the future or build now on this attractively priced near beach Sea Oats lot located on a cul-de-sac and backing to conservation lands. Survey Available. **\$289,000.**  
 Call Susan Rosica at 472-1511.



**ADORABLE SANIBEL HOME**  
 Charming starter or retirement home featuring 2 bedroom and 1.5 bath. Beautifully landscaped on corner lot not far from the public beach. **\$375,000.**  
 Call Mary O'Leary at 472-5154.

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**BIRD OF PARADISE**  
 Wonderfully remodeled home in Captiva's desirable Village Area. Old Florida style with 3 BD/3 BA and large heated pool and spa. Beautifully furnished. Great rental income. Just a short stroll to Captiva's wonderful beach, shops and restaurants. **\$1,745,000.**  
 Call Jim Branyon at 472-5154.



**OFFICE CONDOMINIUM**  
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Totally remodeled from new windows, cupboards, floors, appliances, to dishes... every detail has been exquisitely redone. Views of central courtyard with tropical vegetation & heated pool, only steps to the beach allow peace to abound! Ground level storage, elevator, under building parking allow "easy living" in this fully furnished 2 BD/2 BA Sanibel property. **\$669,000.**  
 Call Barbara Lawson at 472-4121.



**PRIVACY PLUS**  
 Comfortable Captiva living in this 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse with private master suite upstairs. This Gulf to Bay community offers great privacy with beach and boating only steps away. Heated swimming pool, lots of dockage and excellent weekly rentals. **\$895,000.**  
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# Island style:

## Exploring some of great fashions for men, women and children on the islands

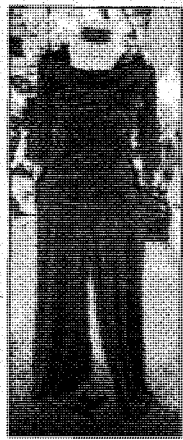
By **Laura Nickerson**  
Staff Writer

Island style, that "life's a vacation" flair that touches everything on-island is nowhere more apparent than in the islands' apparel shops. The styles are artful, with ethnic influences. Kimonos, sarongs, and palazzo pants abound. The new "ponchos" are seen everywhere. Light and lacy, they are a pretty cover-up for an island evening. Colors can be tropical brights, or soft pastels and neutrals.

Two new fabrics are featured; a stretchy "ribbon effect" crepe, and there is a lot of Tencel. All natural fibers, from linen to cashmere, remain attractive in this climate. 100% cotton, in knits, chenilles, and fleece, is the starring attraction, everywhere.

### KEY LIME CLOTHING CO, 359

Periwinkle Way. Yummy soft comfortable separates in brushed cotton fleece, knits, and chenilles in a parfait color selection of periwinkle, aqua, lime, cotton candy pink, and white. Especially for the holidays, there are rich, jewel-tone, stretch velvet tops and palazzo pants, in ruby or lapis. At Key Lime they say "It's not about how many customers you have, it's all



about having great stuff to sell that makes the season and the whole year." 395-1870

### THE SPORTY SEAHORSE SHOP, 362



Periwinkle Way on Sanibel's East End, stocks a nice assortment of sports and fashion wear. You'll find striking, long, sheer floral dresses from Hawaii, and a great assortment of bathing suits by Jantzen, It Figures, Caribbean Joe and others. Bags, hats, and accessories are also available. The Seahorse staff are looking forward to a great winter season. 472-1858

### T-SHIRT HUT, 1504 Periwinkle Way.

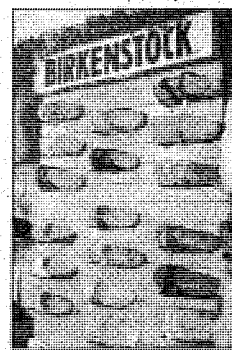
All cotton shirts. This year, colors and designs are more subtle and the theme is "simplicity sells." T's with embroidery are popular, also small screened prints, and new colors like indigo scratch dye, a slightly distressed periwinkle shade. One unusual item is a T-shirt that appears to have a black and white design until you take it out in the sunlight, when it changes to a full color scene. These are fully washable, and non-toxic. 472-1415.

### GRACE SHOE OUTLET, 1547

Periwinkle Way. The shop offers several nice lines of comfort shoes. Arcopedico, from Portugal, are butter soft and fashionable too. A German made shoe offers replaceable cork insoles, which mold to the feet. Men's shoes include Clarks, and Sebagos. Children's shoes are available here, too. 472-9995.

CRICKET SHOP, 1633 Periwinkle Way at Anchor Point. This is a shop dedicated to sportswear, swimwear, and cover-ups. Bathing suits by Gottex, Jantzen, Bay Breeze, Cool waters, and more. A nice supply of straw bags, visors, hats, and sandals. Fun and colorful beach towels with matching terry pillows for soaking up the sun. 395-2277

### COMFORT BY DESIGN, 1640 Periwinkle Way at #3 Lime Tree Center.



A must stop for comfortable, good-for-your-feet shoes. Only three brands are stocked: Birkenstock, Mephisto, and Ecco. One of these should be exactly what you need for total comfort. All three brands are designed to provide full support,

promote good alignment, and ease any back or foot pain. Mephisto also caters to the style conscious. Mens, womens, and childrens sizes available. 395-0666 or 800-454-3008.

H2O OUTFITTERS and FOOT-LOOSE, 1700 Periwinkle Way, in Jerry's Shopping Center. Owned by one company, the merchandise in each store is meant to compliment the other. While H2O offers popular lines of sportswear for the whole family, Footloose features many types of shoes including really pretty sandals, boat

shoes, and athletics. 472-8890

SANIBEL SURF SHOP. Attractive and lightweight lycra suits protect your body on or off the board. Surf wear and gear by O'Neil, Billibong, Victory, and their most popular line, Quicksilver. A sought after product here is something called "sex wax" which is used by surfers to help the surfer's feet grip the board. Second location in Jerry's Center at 1700 Periwinkle Way. 472-8185.

### Tahitian Gardens

I CAN TOO SPORT. All preshrunk cotton, garment-dyed, mix-and-match separates in soft sherbet colors. Neat line of matching accessories including beach bags, hats, jewelry and even thong style flip-flops in suede, terry, or leather. Never again need your shoes not match your shorts! Nice

selection of Sunny Hawaii handbags. 395-2511.

### COTTON VERANDA. Featuring Club

West, 100% cotton, made in USA clothing, and handpainted, wearable art sweaters, sweats, and dresses by Victoria of



Island style, see page 14

## Wooden Horse Gallery

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# MARZALUNA

The Italian Kitchen!

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**December 10th - 23rd**  
As We Are Offering...

Ten Dinners for Ten Days for Only \$10.00  
(NOT GOOD WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS)

Choices will include, (but not be limited to) Linguini with white or red clam sauce, Penne-Saluto, Chicken Parmesan, Lasagna Bolognese, Chicken Marsala, Calamari Marinara, Pork Marsala or Tilapia Piccata. \*

All specials include a choice of soup or salad and fresh baked bread (served with roasted garlic and olive oil).

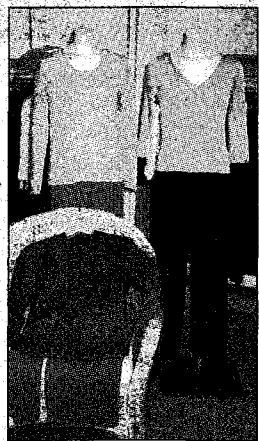
To help you celebrate try our famous "MARZARITA FOR TWO!" A giant margarita served in a 46 oz glass which will also be available for \$10.00

\* These specials are not valid with any other discounts or coupons and are for dining in only! Call 472-1998 for more information.

Serving Dinner from 5 -9 PM, 7 Days a Week  
472-1998 • 1200 Periwinkle Way  
Located 1/2 mile West of the Sanibel Causeway

## Island style, from page 13

Naples. Their brilliant blue acid wash is still a hot color, and exciting new pinks and greens are coming in soon. For men there are Club West and Kahala (made in Hawaii) shirts and shorts in exotic, tropical prints. Phone 472-6868.



Forever Green  
EILEEN FISHER BOUTIQUE, 2055 Periwinkle Way. Subtle and beautiful, off the rack designer garments, that approach couture in workmanship and style. A soft, feminine palette in combinable shades named hydrangea, crocus, shadow and dove; primarily natural fibers; and simple, universally flattering styles make this collection the contemporary woman's perfect choice for work, play, travel, and special occasions. 472-4655.

PLUS PERFECT INC. 2055 Periwinkle Way. Gorgeous garments for gorgeous gals size 14-26. A carefully chosen collection for those with

discerning taste in fabric and style. Top labels including Linda Lundstrum, Amanda Gray, Mel and Lisa, and Eileen Fisher have created glamorous, well draped designs that are fashionably suited to the fuller figure. For all the great times in a woman's life, from casual to special occasion. Really flattering bathing suits, and some unusual jewelry, too. 472-8110.

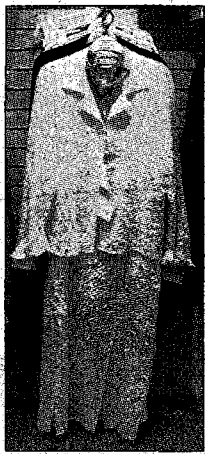
### Periwinkle Place

PARADISE of SANIBEL. Popular lines are Caribbean Soul and Sea Dog T-shirts, in mens, womens, and childrens sizes. Also hats, jewelry, and gift items. The decor here



is so over the top, with lagoons, a tiki hut counter, giant tropical birds and a flower strewn floor; that it's a fun place to bring your guests for souvenir items. They'll feel like they just got stranded on Gilligan's Island. 472-3020

TRADER RICK'S GREAT COTTON CLOTHING. A special mix of wearable art and carefully chosen sportswear, with handmade soaps, jewelry and more. The one-of-a-kind artwear is by Mad Lab. Each garment is beautifully pieced in flowing designs, hand dyed, then hand painted with stylized symbols of flowers, fish, and more. Their off the rack lines in the new tencel fabric include Focus and Tianello.



Lampwork glass jewelry is made by the owner, and the store slogan is: "the most important thing about our clothes is the women who wear them." 472-9194

CHICO'S (also in Palm Ridge Plaza.) Their word for this holiday season is "bling" which is just Chico's way of saying holiday glitz is all the rage. Beaded lace tunics with maribou trim, gilded brocade jackets, cut velvet kimonos, and ponchos woven with glitter and glass bring home the point. As usual, the Traveler's collection, in acetate jersey,

offers several new pieces. The new Traveler's shade is "elm-wood", a soft oyster. Whimsical ethnic influenced jewelry and accessories add to the look. 472-0202; 472-3773

PEACH REPUBLIC. A one stop shop for the ladies, with all types of clothing and a room full of great shoes. Tencel sport and fashion lines are available by Sigrid Olsen and Cynthia Max. New and unusual vintage look-a-likes from Dear Friends have quaint ruffles and bows, and are reminiscent of the fashions that used to be featured in *Victoria* magazine. Pair those with charming bowed espadrilles by Rapunzel Rapunzel. Full shoe line by Onyx compliments any island wear. 472-8444

PEACHES PLUS. Same owners as the REPUBLIC, same great sense of style too, only for bigger gals. Ribbon crepe reversible jackets here are crushable, and travel easily. Nice sportswear lines in great colors and styles that flatter a fuller figure. 472-8444

CARIBBEAN COAST. Massive collection of Tommy Bahama menswear, but also featuring a really terrific line of woven handbags made from mien yap, a grass root fiber from Bali. The bags come in several charming shapes. Ladies cute and glitzy island motif T-shirts with matching visors are great for the holidays, whether you are golfing or just sipping eggnog. 472-2993

DOCKSIDE. Classic menswear shop focusing on great clothing for travel, sport, and island life in general. Nice line of Exofficio brushed nylon, wrinkle-free travel wear, and a beautiful collection of Guy Harvey for the fisherman, including sport shirts, Ts and tanks printed with your choice of redfish, tarpon, billfish, marlin, and many others. Tilley's hats rated UPF50 for keeping the sun off your head. 472-9098

FRESH PRODUCE. Nationwide chain, Sanibel store is largest in the country, and walking in the door is like walking into a tropical fruit salad. The motto here is:



"Life's too short to wear beige everyday." 99% of store items are cotton, and you'll find everything here from sleepwear to swimwear in a range of island sunset colors with names like periwinkle, sunflower, celadon green, perfectly pink, breeze blue, cherry and punch. Solid black or white are also available, and most items are woven cotton separates. 395-1800.

THE BEACH HOUSE. An amazing inventory of 5,000 bathing suits. Classic one-piece suits, bikinis, and all swimwear separates imaginable. Halters, bandeaus, and bra-tops ready to pair with boy short, high-cut, low-rise, or even less on the lower half. The tankini, a classic tank top with bikini bottom flatters almost everyone, and is well represented here. Colors are bright, or basic black and white. A red tropical print sarong style one-piece with matching pajama pants was particularly fetching. 472-2676

T-SHIRT PLACE of SANIBEL. Huge assortment of island Ts from small -2X. Sea Dog, Life Is Good, many other well known, well made shirts. Also available are baseball caps with great colors and sayings, and beach accessories including tote bags, sun glasses, beach towels, and jewelry.

HER SPORTS CLOSET. Colorful collection of sportswear by Lily Pulitzer. Leon Levin shorts and tops. Special Angela Moore Jewelry line compliments all the shades of the "Lilies." Now also carrying sleepwear, swimwear, handbags, flip-flops, and shoes. Recent acquisitions include a new line of LaCoste sportswear. 472-4206.

THE BROWN BAG. All casual menswear featuring Tommy Bahama and Paradise Found. The Tori Richards shirts are made from a very fine cotton lawn which looks and feels exactly like silk. Also popular are Indigo Palms jeans and T-s. 472-1171.

WEST WIND SURF SHOP. The shop carries Billibong, Roxies, O'neil, and Hurley lines of surf gear for men and women. In the kids department, little surf stuff, and Sanibel Island T-s are available. Flip-flops come in varieties by Reef, Teva, and Rainbows. West Wind does have some actual surfboards in stock, should we happen to get a few more windy, wavy days this season. 472-3490.

ISLAND PURSUIT. Some classy menswear lines including several styles of white, artistic, European influenced shirts by Bugatchi; some sport subtle embroidery, others are pieced in an all-white, diamond pattern patchwork. For women there are some lovely lightweight cashmere sweaters, and delightfully whimsical, painted and appliqued a-line skirts, which have the store adopting a "buy bigger to

**Tiny Bubbles!**

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SANIBEL BEACH PLACE  
FORT MYERS

**Island style, from page 14**

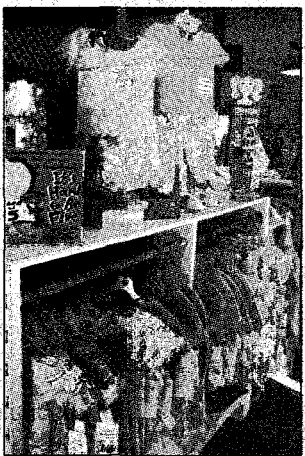
wear lower" policy, in order to satisfy some young clients, who prefer to show off their bejeweled and pierced navels. 472-4600.

**Back out on Periwinkle**

C.TURTLES, 2242 Periwinkle Way. A light hearted approach to fashion with satin, fully embroidered, light weight coats and jackets, slinky, hot pink dresses, and metallic leather, retro 60's look handbags that have mirrors inside which read, "I am the fairest of them all." A Michelle Ray necklace features a real gold -dipped four leaf clover, and a tag reading "hope, faith, love, and luck," for each of the clover's leaves. It's just like one worn on screen by a star of the new television program, "Desperate Housewives" last week. 472-1115.

**The Village Shops**

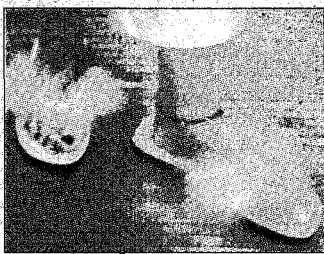
NANNY'S. A delightful children's shop, stocking outfits for girls from infant



to size ten, and boys from infant to size eight. Labels include Le Top, Anita G. and Florence Eisman. Long, smocked, "Little House on the Prairie" frocks by Plum

Puttling really steal the show. For the boys, its Eland, and Baby Boys that are making waves, with well-wearing styles for outdoor play. The huge wooden rocking horse presides over all, a favorite with boys and girls alike. 472-0304.

ESSENTIALS. A shop to completely pamper yourself in. Wonderful products



for bath and body. Lots of unusual jewelry. whisper sheer nylon mesh bra-tops in heavenly

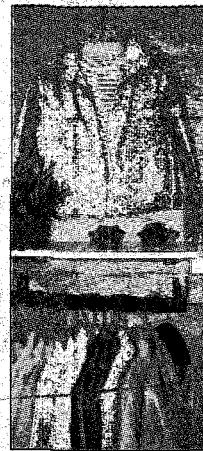
colors. Really fun chenille slippers in tropical motifs such as flamingoes, palm trees, sail boats, and frogs. Totally feminine, maribou feather flip-flops, for the glamour gal in every gal. Just make sure your guy doesn't try to tie flies with your feet. 472-7770.

WHY KNOT SANIBEL & WHY NOT RELAX. These two shops are located one behind the other, and their focus is companionable as well. While Why Knot Sanibel carries oodles of cashmere sweaters in an amazing array of colors, and Cambio jeans to run around the islands in, Why Not Relax stocks clothing for total relaxation, that is easy to fit, and easy to care for. Both shops offer a great island color range. 472-3003.

LUCKY DOG of SANIBEL, 2359 Periwinkle Way. Charming shop of many rooms, each one full of new delights. Featuring great fashion for many occasions, beaded mesh ponchos, UBU micropak reversible jackets that come in their own small pack, and SoChe limited

edition evening or any-time bags, in small attractive shapes, beautiful fabrics, and stunning embellishments of lace, lame, fur, feathers, sequins, beads, and more. 395-3733.

LOOKIN' GOOD, 630 Tarpon Bay Road, in The Old Sanibel Shops. If you



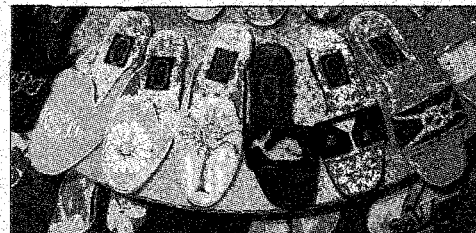
need a stylish jacket, this is the place to start looking. The shop's become known for them, and they currently have several terrific toppers on hand. Nice examples of the crushable "ribbon look" jackets that are so great to travel with, and really hot, coated linen zipfronts and blazers, that look like patent leather, but are light as a feather, and come in

great colors like scarlet, lime, and hot pink. Other clothing items and accessories are also available. 472-6888 or 472-5593.

RINALDI FASHION SHOES, 2330 Palm Ridge Road # 5. A fully stocked shoe store, with many lovely island style shoes and sandals, in leather, suede, straw, and tropical fabrics. Also carry Minnetonka moccasins, and sneakers. 472-5666

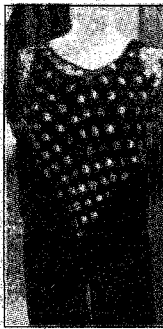
ON SHORE, CASUALLY, 2330 Palm Ridge Road. A sportswear shop that has doubled in size this month, for the purpose of introducing its brand new line, "soft as a grape." Extreme comfort clothing, some in cotton, some in linen, these feel like pajamas for the day time. Loose shift dresses, sweats, and every imaginable style of pants, shorts, and tops, in subtle pastels, with floral motifs. The shop also carries a full line of swimwear, sportswear, cover-ups and accessories.

JONNA'S of SANIBEL ISLAND, 2330 Palm Ridge Road #9. A true wearable art shop, featuring many wonderful handmade clothing items. There are denims called bleach batiks by Colly Kelly, which are painted with blue-on-blue scenes called "Ding Darling" and "The Lighthouse." Painted T-s, jackets and dresses by artists Kaak, and Rose are available, and you can order an item of your own to be painted with anything your heart desires. Best of all, there are handmade needlepoint shoes in more than a dozen designs, including



florals, and opticals, that are made to order, with a four or five day delay for pick-up.

O2, Andy Rosse Lane, Captiva, floors 2 and 3 of Celebration Center. A small charming two level shop, which houses all the great family sportswear and footwear they've become known for, in their other locations, H2O Outfitters, at Periwinkle Place, Footloose in Jerry's Plaza, and pre-hurricane, at Chadwick's Square, Captiva, which they will return to when it reopens. 472-7507.



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# Island Home

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## Where the thrifty shop on Sanibel

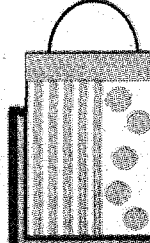
By Laura Nickerson  
Staff Writer

Haunting thrift shops for great buys no longer carries with it the age-old stigmas of poverty and shame; in fact, quite the opposite is true today. Movie stars and world renowned performers and artists wear second-hand, retro chic garments to upscale places and events, and many furnish their fabulous lofts and estates, at least partially with unusual vintage items that once belonged to someone else. As styles and whims change, those same items and much more, may get donated right back to an individual's favorite stomping grounds for bargain hunting.

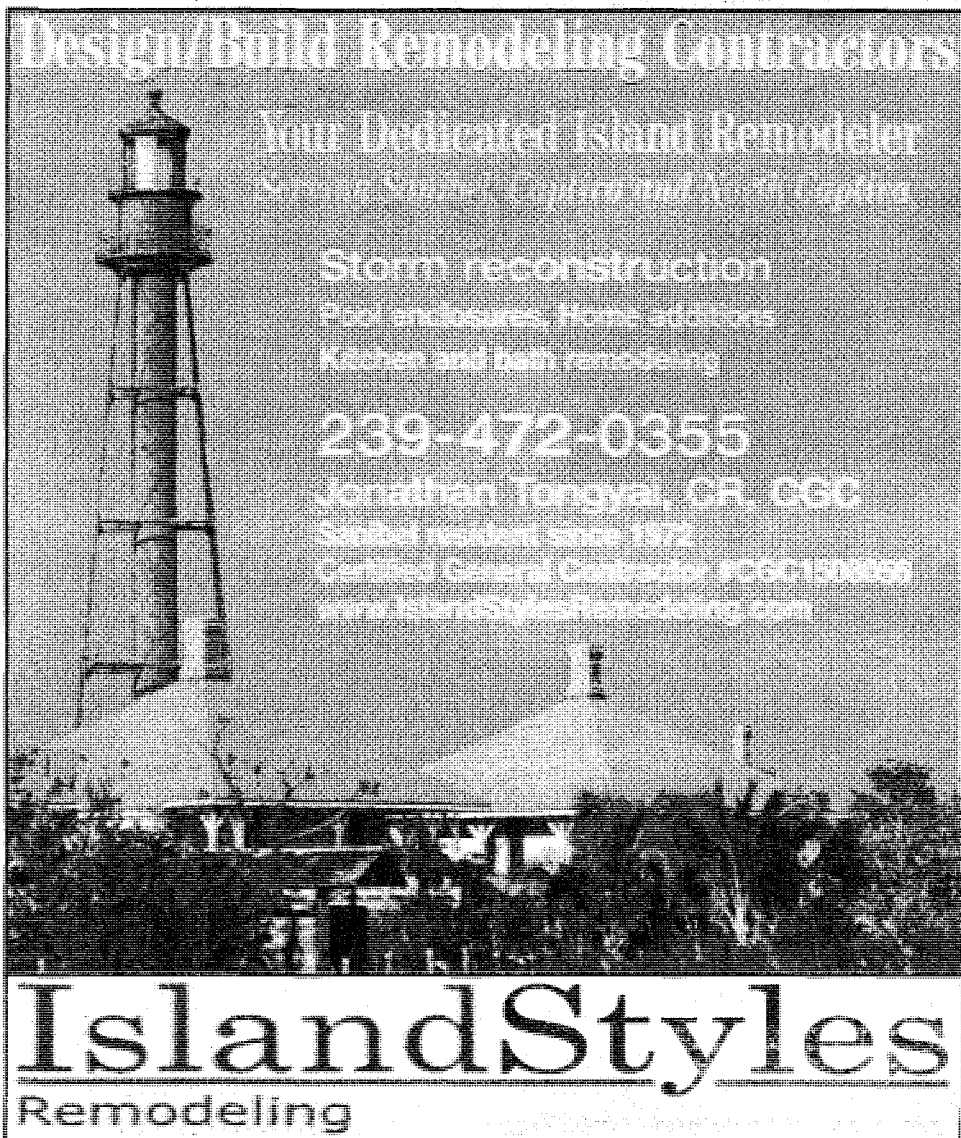
Real estate brokers with model homes to furnish, property managers with fast rental turnover on redecorating budget, and interior designers hot on the trail for that one-of-a-kind piece that will make a room come alive have all been known to check out the local thrift shops.

Cable television programs with redecorating themes like *Design on a Dime*, and *Trading Places* on the Style Network or HGTV have done their part to advance the theory that good quality seconds are preferable to lower quality new items of the same price. On these and many other programs, designers cull

**Thrifty, see page 17**

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## Thrifty, from page 16

great choices in chandeliers, small furniture and decorative accessories from mountains of merchandise at big city thrift shops, then clean and sometimes alter the items. The striking results are photographed in snazzy redone rooms at the end of each broadcast.

Many teens also love thrift shopping, finding it a creative alternative to mainstream shopping for making their own statements in room decor, school and/or play clothes. Teens like to experiment with style as much, if not more than adults, and savvy parents are allowing their adolescents' whims free rein without breaking the bank. Items like black leather jackets, nylon op-art patterned dresses, oversize shirts, vintage prom gowns, and orange or lime green 1960s style swag lamps may be a teen's "must have" today, but tomorrow that same creative young soul might revert to wearing khaki shorts, T-shirts and boat shoes, and want back the old ship's wheel desk lamp he grew up with.

On Sanibel, there are only two stores that qualify as actual thrift shops, and the newfound popularity of second hand shopping is no different here on the islands than anywhere else. On mornings that the shops are open, lines form outside by those hoping to be the "early birds that catch the worm," and the beauty is, everyone's got a different taste in worms.

At Noah's Ark, which is completely run by volunteer members of Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, Gillian Bath has been overall chairperson for two years. She manages an unpaid daily staff that on a perfect day includes two chairpersons overseeing ten additional volunteers. The system rotates, so everyone takes a turn performing essential tasks. Gillian's assistant is Betty Carr.

It may not be an ideal system, and occasionally volunteers can't show up when they are scheduled, but the shop has been around for 40 years, so they must be doing something right. It certainly appears that the volunteers enjoy what they do. Some of them, from the earliest days when Noah's Ark was across the street from its present location, still come by to lend a hand or see how things are going.

Gillian said, "There is a special spirit here, a camaraderie amongst volunteers, that makes Noah's Ark a very happy place to be, both for us and for our shoppers."

The treasure hunting at Noah's Ark is fast and furious each morning at 9:30 when the store opens, and sometimes the pace doesn't let up for three hours, until closing time at 12:30, which means a hectic schedule for volunteers. During season, the shop operates every Monday through Friday, plus the first Saturday of each month. Summertime, in June, July, and August, the shop adopts abbreviated hours and is only open Tuesdays and Fridays, 9:30-12:30. Noah's Ark is closed for cleaning and repaving each May and September.

"The store attracts many kinds of shoppers" said Gillian, "We get antique dealers from Fort Myers, and islanders doing EBay who look for good buys on vintage items. We get quite a few condo owners that rent units, and need nice clean replacement towels, sheets, pots, dishes, and decorator items to spruce up their places for new visitors. Tourists on vacation stop by for an extra bathing suit or pair of shorts, and European tourists in particular love to take back our designer sweaters to their cold climates." Gillian continued, "Working women come for the wonderful designer clothing and jewelry, and many locals stop in almost every day, just to look at books, artwork, or furniture. We even have several

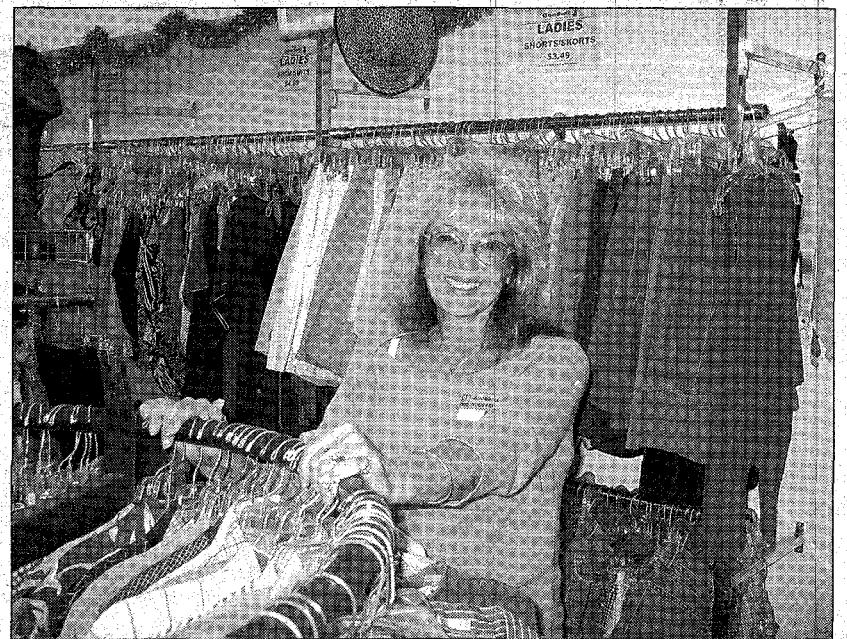
Caribbean islanders who come for used televisions and small appliances to ship back home to their own island. We try to have something for them all."

When asked what was one of the strangest items that she could remember having been donated, Gillian mused before finally answering, "Oh, that would have to be the antique organ. We all thought it would be worth a small fortune and sell right away, but no one wanted it at any price. I guess people just don't use them anymore."

As a rule, the prices are extremely reasonable at Noah's Ark, there are not too many advertised "sales," and merchandise that hasn't sold after a period of time gets re-routed to other charities. If they

**Thrifty, see page 18**

**Sandra Double, manager of Sanibel Goodwill**



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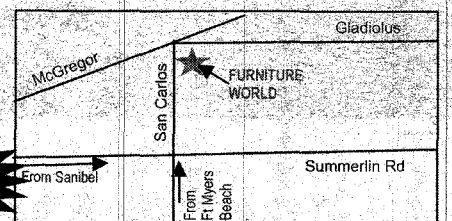
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## Thrifty, from page 17

have something big around for a really long while, sometimes they put it on the front porch overnight, in the hope that someone will take the item and leave an appropriate donation. At the time of this interview, there were three wicker bar stools on the porch.

At Christmas time, the shop does put out special seasonal merchandise, and decorates a tree with donated ornaments. "We used to really decorate the shop completely," Gillian laughed, "but everything we put up, someone wanted to buy; even whole trees with all the ornaments already on them. I guess we have some talented volunteers."

Noah's Ark has always been first and foremost an outreach program which gives donations of both money and merchandise to charities of its own choosing. They are not necessarily the same charities as those of Saint Michael's, which has occasionally even asked the shop for a loan to finance a special project at the Episcopal Church.

One of Noah's Ark's ongoing commitments is to Habitat for Humanity, and they built a Habitat house last year. "Non-profit organizations prefer larger monetary donations these days," Gillian explained, "because smaller amounts really don't go very far or allow them to accomplish much. As a result, we have had to limit our donations to fewer organizations to whom we give more money, for a greater good in the long run."

Brightest Horizons, of Harlem Heights, receives donations of children's items including toys and clothing.

Quality of Life, a program affiliated with the Lee County public schools in the Dunbar district of Fort Myers, receives donations of books, computers, and other learning-oriented items. Many other unsold items from the shop are given to migrant farm workers through Living Waters Church.

Gillian summed it all up nicely. "Our goals for the shop are to always make our budget, and to present a joyful face that is open to the public, of service to islanders, and ever outreaching to those in surrounding communities."

**Goodwill Industries** also operates a thrift shop on Sanibel. It's one of 23 stores the agency runs throughout Southwest Florida.

Sandra Double is the current manager of the Sanibel Goodwill, and has held that position for the last two years. She has had ties to the islands for a long time, beginning back when she worked for Tween Waters more than a decade ago. She has taught a progressive line dancing program for the City of Sanibel Senior Center for the past seven years.

Sandra personally hand picks all of the clothing, 75% of the shoes and purses, and 40% of the housewares that wind up on display in the shop. The balance comes from Goodwill headquarters. She selects items for style, cleanliness, usefulness, and general saleability within the small shop, and Sandra knows her market.

"Everyone shops thrift stores nowadays," she said. "Most people no longer feel one way or another about it anymore."

It's just another fun place to shop, and at the same time you are helping others."

The shop, which is still smaller than many of Goodwill's other super-sized locations, has actually almost doubled in size this past year. An entire new room was added for housewares, linens, art and decorative accessories, even some small furniture.

"Great donations are coming in almost constantly, on a year-round basis. The people here are very generous, both permanent islanders and winter residents," Sandra said. "The items donated here are mostly of exceptional quality and in beautiful condition. We get many things with original store tags still on, that have never been used at all."

Sandra believes that the shoppers at the Sanibel Goodwill are from all walks of life, and shop for an equally wide variety of items. She explained, "Teens living on island, and those just visiting here, shop for bathing suits, jeans, tops, funky hats, and CDs. They seem to prefer this to department store shopping. I also have a lot of rental property owners looking to refurbish their units. They buy everything from pots and pans to towels." Sandra continued, "Women from all over Lee County come in for designer label clothing, and I stock really great menswear as well. We have at least as many male customers as female."

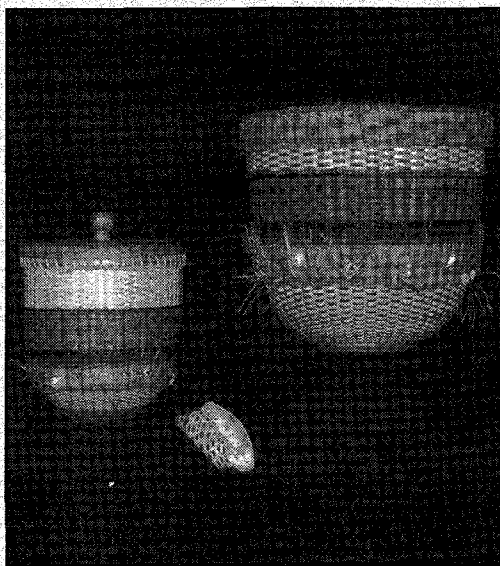
Sandra's most mysterious, non-sale item that she was certain would sell quickly, yet is still in the shop three months later, even after marking it down, is a burundy velvet opera cape. It even made it

through Halloween, when over 80% of her costumes and props sold. "I just don't understand it" she said, "I was sure that was a really hot item." On the other hand, a soft handmade doll, fashioned as a mermaid, was about to be rejected by a fellow employee, when Sandra told him to put it out for sale. It sold in half an hour.

Sandra's assistant manager is Don Gilliland and the store has two other employees. Gloria Johnson, who has lived on Sanibel for 38 years, has worked at the Goodwill store for the last four. Betty Sammons has lived on island for 27 years.

Like all Goodwill stores, the Sanibel shop uses a color rotation system to let the manager know how long items have been on the racks and when they should be pulled. This results in 50% off to customers on all merchandise of one color tag per week. In addition, the Sanibel store participates in the Goodwill's ten punch shopper's card program. Each time a customer spends \$10, the sales clerk adds one punch hole to their card. When all ten holes are punched, that customer gets a \$10 credit towards their next purchase. Wednesday is Senior Day at Goodwill, with 15% off to anyone over 55. The prices may start out a little higher than at Noah's Ark, but by shopping on the right days, and taking advantage of the discounts, a good shopper can wind up with great deals at both locations.

The Sanibel Goodwill is located at 2440 Palm Ridge Road, in Pelican Place. It is open to the public from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 12-5 on Sundays.



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# Holiday Hints: Center pieces

Set your holiday tree apart with personal touches, like these inexpensive and easy-to-make yet attractive center pieces.

- ▶ A tiny tree, real or not — a rosemary tree, perhaps — in a small pot and swathed with a remnant of velvet or seasonal fabric works well. You can get teenie-weenie battery-operated lights now, too.
- ▶ A throw-away pie plate, glass or plastic serving piece, even a large deli take-out bowl, featuring three or five) different-sized pillar candles surrounded by an assortment of ornaments, mixed nuts in shells or your very own shell collection from your visit is a quick, fun way to go.
- ▶ A shiny bucket, filled with sand and garnished with half-a-dozen (or more) taper candles plus greenery, pinecones and/or assorted orna-

ments. Elegant with same-color pillar candles, too.

- ▶ A row of votives in glass holders down the center of the table is elegant. Loosely twine ribbon in and out for a plus and/or "throw" in glitzed up pine cones for a special touch.
- ▶ This year there are cute (what are supposed to be) yard signs, most not more than a foot wide. Invest in several to hang on chairs with ribbon or
- ▶ lean against tall glasses down the center of the table.
- ▶ Ping pong balls, dusted with gold spray and/or glitter, heaped in some sort of pedestal bowl or stand.
- ▶ Stack up a short pile (or several) of pre-decorated boxes. This year, in addition to the shirt/pajama shapes, there are sturdy round and square ones that nest.

# Safety items good for holiday gift giving

Safety and security are among the best presents anyone can give their loved ones this holiday season.

Recognizing how difficult it is to capture and gift wrap "safety," the Red Cross helps consumers give this elusive, but essential gift, and — at the same time — help support the nation's leader in disaster response and lifesaving training.

During this holiday season when frazzled consumers comb through sales pages and scour online sites for the "perfect" gift for loved ones, the Red Cross offers a convenient, yet practical solution for those relatives and friends "who have everything" or "don't want a thing."

The gift of safety is indeed a 'safe gift.' It never goes out of style, it does fit, and it is something one can never have too much of. The Lee County Chapter has a limited supply of a variety of products that would make great holiday gifts for family, friends,

employees, or business associates. Among the items available are

- A new CPR audio prompt kit containing an audio prompt for infants, children, and adults, gloves, a breathing barrier, and a key chain.
- Several first aid kits
- Pet first aid handbook, video, and first aid book
- Babysitting first aid books, safety kits, and fanny packs
- CPR key chains
- American Red Cross logo radios and penlights

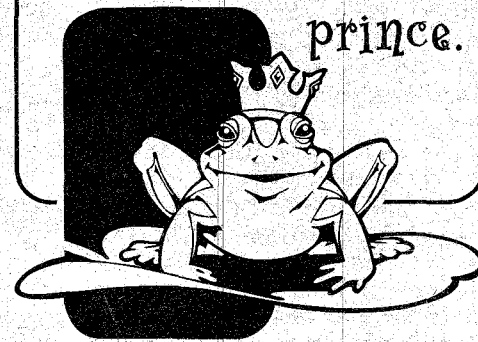
Prices for the above items range from \$3 to \$35, plus tax where applicable. They are available from the Health and Safety Department at the chapter office, 2516

Colonial Blvd. (second floor of the AAA Building), Fort Myers. Hours of operation are 8:30-4:30 Monday-Friday.

Additional "vintage Red Cross" items, including T-shirts and an authentic World War II knit kit for knitting enthusiasts are available at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org).

The Red Cross is dedicated to helping make families and communities safer at home and around the world. It provides training in life-saving skills and mobilizes relief to victims of disasters in addition to assisting members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families. All American Red Cross disaster assistance is free, made possible by voluntary donations of time and money. Red Cross chapters receive no government support. For additional information about the Red Cross and the assistance it provides, making donations, or volunteering, call 278-3401, or log on to [arclcc.org](http://arclcc.org).

Stop in to one of the fine shops on Sanibel-Captiva to dress up your prince.



## Thrifty, from left

Goodwill Industries is a non-profit organization. Revenue from all Goodwill thrift stores helps support programs for people with disabilities and other barriers to employment. Goodwill provides housing and vehicle assistance, job placement services, job coaching, benefits planning assistance, and vocational

assessments. Their new charter school for the disabled is scheduled to open in August of 2005. The Goodwill website is [www.goodwillswfl.org](http://www.goodwillswfl.org) and shoppers seeking unusual or antique items are encouraged to visit their online auction site at [www.shopgoodwill.com](http://www.shopgoodwill.com).

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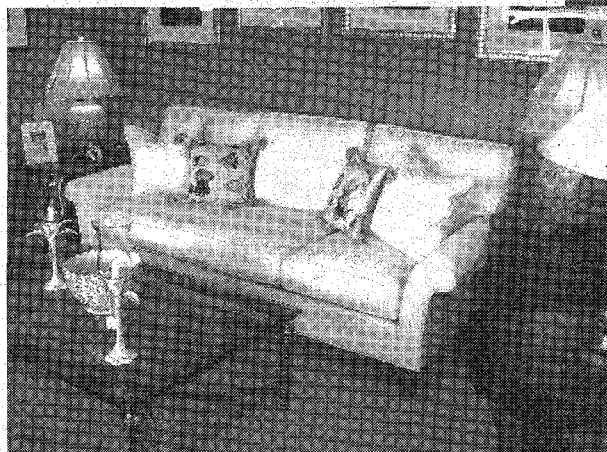
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## Sanibel resident Henshaw resigns OSHA post

Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao announced the resignation of Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health John L. Henshaw. Henshaw is departing his post at the Department of Labor on December 31, 2004.

"As head of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, John Henshaw has demonstrated outstanding leadership, great wisdom and sincere concern for the safety and health of America's workers," said Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao. "John's efforts have been instrumental in creating safer and more healthful workplaces. Under his leadership, workplace fatalities have declined to record lows, and fatalities among Hispanic workers, which had been increasing since 1995, have been reduced by nearly 12 percent since 2001."

Henshaw was nominated by President George W. Bush to head OSHA on June 13, 2001 and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on August 3, 2001. During his administration, OSHA has pursued a vigorous program of firm and fair enforcement, combined with outreach, education, and compliance assistance to reduce the number of fatalities, injuries and illnesses in workplaces covered by the Occupational Safety and Health Act. The agency has consistently exceeded inspection goals, and created hundreds of alliances and partnerships with business, labor and community groups to foster safety and health. Because of these efforts, there are now more than 1,100 sites in OSHA's Voluntary Protection Program, more than 200 Strategic Partnerships Program sites and nearly 200 Alliances. More than 350 of these cooperative programs involve unions, which is an all-time high.

### John L. Henshaw

As Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, John L. Henshaw heads the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Henshaw has more than 26 years' experience directing environmental, safety and health programs in the chemical industry.



**John Henshaw**

Most recently he served as director of environment, safety and health for Astaris LLC, a joint venture between Solutia and FMC Corporation. Previously, he held a similar position for Solutia and Monsanto.

Henshaw received his master's degree in environmental health administration and industrial health from the University of Michigan in 1974 and his undergraduate degree from Appalachian State University. He served as president of the 12,000-member American Industrial Hygiene Association from 1990 to 1991 and chaired the AIHA Foundation's endowment campaign in 1996.

He has served on the EPA National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Advisory Board, on the University of Michigan and St. Louis University advisory boards, the Registrar's Accreditation Board and the joint RAB-ANSI (American National Standards Institute) board for environmental programs.

Henshaw has authored articles on safety and health management as well as chapters in industrial hygiene and management textbooks. He also served three and a half years in the Air National Guard as a bio-environmental engineer with the rank of Captain and was honorably discharged in 2000.

He and his wife have four grown children and four grandchildren. Henshaw enjoys sailing, golf and other outdoor activities.

## Chelle Koster Walton wins Meeker Award



Photo by Laura Nickerson

**Nancy Hamilton from the Lee County VCB, Chelle Koster Walter and Chamber President Anne Joffe.**

Anne Joffe, President of the Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce, and Nancy Hamilton, Communications Director for the Lee County Visitors and Convention Bureau, present First Prize in the 2004 Ken Meeker Media Award competition, a check for \$1000, to travel writer Chelle Koster Walton.

Walton, a professional travel writer and a Sanibel resident, is the first local author to receive the award in the six-year history of the competition. Each year the Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce and the Lee County VCB collect all articles published about the islands as a travel destination. This material is presented, without author identification, to a panel of local judges.

Walton's article, "Sanibel & Captiva Islands, by Wheels, Heels & Padded Keels," which appeared in the magazine *American Eagle Latitudes*, was called "by far the best" submission by the judges from *The Island Sun*.

"Best coverage, best writing, best photos, and best overall presentation," said

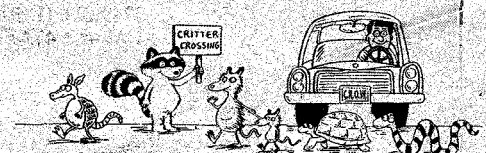
the judges of Walton's article.

Madelyn Merwin took Second Place in the competition for her work, "Paradise Found," and Elizabeth Maupin took Third Place for an article on Sanibel published in the *Orlando Sentinel*.

Walton is the author of eight travel-related books, and a regular contributor to many national publications.

The Meeker Award is named for Ken Meeker, former Executive Director of the Chamber. In accepting the prize, Walton noted the award was especially meaningful because she regularly met and had coffee with Meeker after he retired from the Chamber.

"We talked about the books we were writing, and the books we wanted to write," she recalled.



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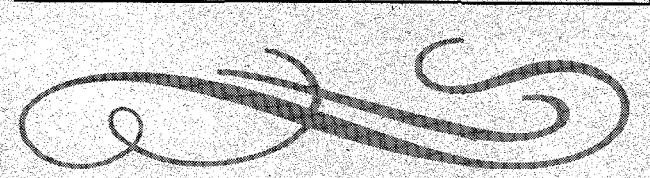
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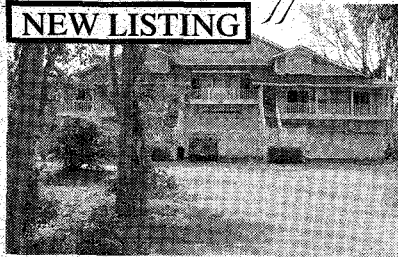
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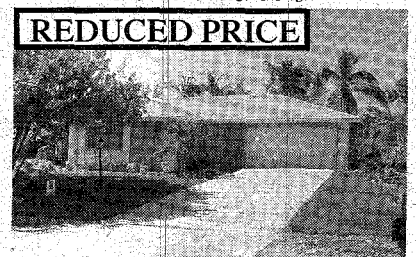
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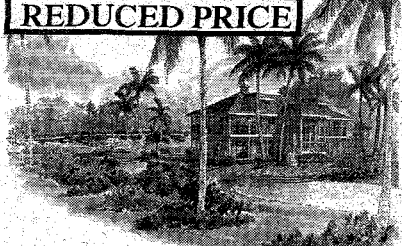
*Shell Harbour*



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- Seawalled canal on East end
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**Jim Hall • 472-5187 x 215**

*Roosevelt Channel Compound*



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**Karen Bell • 472-7800 x 270**

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**Sheryl Lesch • 472-5187 x 295**

*Loaded With Extras*



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**Ada Shissler • 472-5187 x 254**

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- Beautifully remodeled, large open living
- Great beach family value

**\$2,895,000 (105524)**  
**Lynda Traverso • 472-5187 x 226**

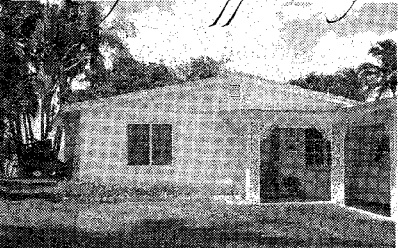
*Spacious Near Beach Home*



- Wonderful, totally renovated 4 BD/2 BA home
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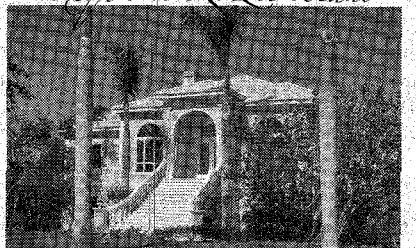
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**Ralph Hansen • 472-5187 x 221**

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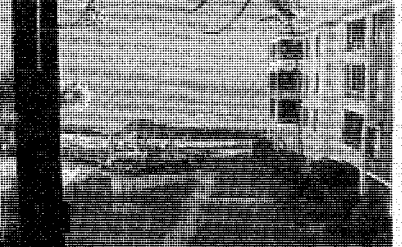
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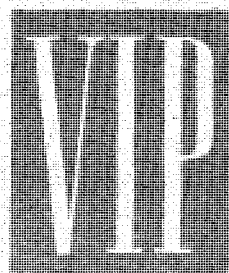
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# Beloved island birders moving west to seek new challenges

By Anne Bellew  
Staff Writer

Spouse, parent, grandparent, teacher, birder, volunteer. All these terms can be used to describe Bev and Clair Postmus. Bev and Clair have three daughters and six grandchildren; they are both teachers; they are both birders. Clair fell in love with Sanibel first, way back when he came here with students on off-campus educational field trips.

Now, after 14 years as a vital component of the Sanibel birding community, the Postmuses are moving on. "We stay young by being challenged," Bev said, "and now it's time for us to seek some new challenges. We're not unhappy here, by a long shot, but at the end of last year we kind of felt the same way we did when we retired from teaching... time to move on, time for a change." Plus, she added, they have photographer friends where they are going whom they knew in Illinois. "There'll be more company for Clair since so many of his camera-toting friends here have either moved away or died!"

"We'll really miss all our friends here a lot, but we're thrilled to see people moving enthusiastically to fill our spots. That makes all these years of teaching worth it!"

They plan to live, for the time being anyway, in Green Valley, Arizona, not too far from the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge and the Sonora Desert Museum. "A completely different ecology," Bev explains, "with a lot of expert birders. We spent a month there last summer and, boy! are those birds hard — not only to actually see, but to identify. They're very small, they don't stop and 'pose' in plain sight, none of that. We're going to be on the receiving end of the bird ID classes for awhile, believe me. We'll continue to volunteer but there's going to be a big learning curve!" Buenos Aires will be blessed with their talents and "I plan to get on the waiting list for docents at the Sonora Desert Museum," she said.

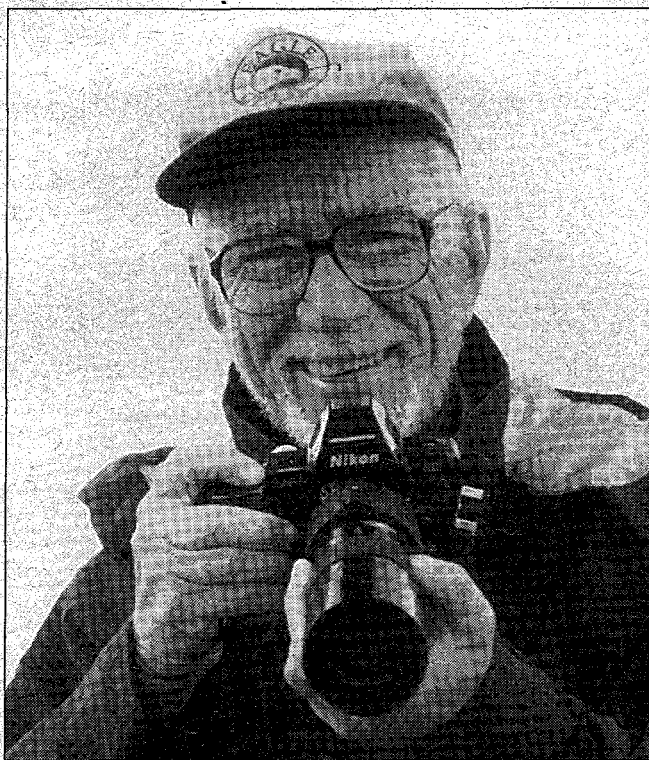
Over the years on Sanibel, they both have shared their knowledge and enthusiasm for nature through volunteer work at "Ding" Darling, the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation and for Lee County Parks' Bird Patrol on Bunche Beach.

While Bev is happy just discovering things in the natural world and writing about them, Clair loves to photograph them. Even though Sanibel is a great "playground" for them, they travel widely to pursue their interests. They use any images Clair captures on film to produce slide shows which they have presented to Audubon groups, camera clubs, churches, libraries, and schools, not only in Florida but in Chicago and Michigan where they lived prior to their move to Sanibel. They have presented at the international meeting of the Photographic Society of America in 1992 in Lake Tahoe, again in 1998 in Orlando and, in September of last year, in Houston.

Clair's pictures have been published in books, magazines and calendars. Bev, an eloquent writer and a member of Island Writers Group 3, has contributed her knowledge to the Sanibel-Captiva Nature Calendar and other environmental publications; her columns and nature diaries have been widely read in both the *Islander* and the *Island Reporter* and will be sorely missed.

The Postmuses were presented the Regional Director's Honor Award by Sam Hamilton, Director of Region IV, in Atlanta earlier this year in recognition of their continued excellence and overall dedication to the refuge and the resources on Sanibel — particularly their recent work with endangered snowy plovers and their longtime dedication to the welfare of the piping plover.

Over the years they have created and led interpretive programs, guided new and experienced birders through the intricacies of identifying LBJs (those "little brown jobs" that skitter up and down the beach), and sought out on the refuge for survey purposes the elusive mangrove cuckoo — just a few of their many accomplishments.



Clair (left) and Bev Postmus

Bev and Clair brought new meaning — not just to our knowledge about birds but to how we see all of the natural world of Sanibel.

— Phyllis Gresham,  
SCCF member &  
"Ding" Darling volunteer

Clair and Bev Postmus brought new meanings to our lives when they moved to Sanibel and shared their love of birds with us. Bill and I attended Thursday night meetings of San-Cap Audubon where we were introduced to their marvelous programs. For years we attended their classes on Bird Identification at SCCF and enjoyed many outings in the field with them. Their love and care of our feathered friends is unselfishly given as shown at J. N. "Ding" Darling Refuge where Bev and Clair have given so many hours to teaching bird identification to us volunteers and to crowds of visitors on Wildlife Drive. Many of Clair's bird photos are used in the Educational Center at the Refuge, another example of this couple's desire to share their love of nature.

The Postmuses will be sorely missed here in South Florida, but we wish them a fond farewell as they leave for their new home and more adventures with birding, teaching, photography and programs.

Ann and Bill Wollschlager,  
San-Cap Audubon  
"Ding" Darling volunteers

Thank you, Bev and Clair, for all of the years of great education here at the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Refuge. A refuge in Arizona is going to get a great set of volunteers!

Toni Westland,  
Environmental Education Specialist,  
USF&WS

Bev and Clair have been invaluable volunteers for the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation. They have put their efforts toward many programs — guiding bird walks, conducting bird identification workshops, providing beautiful photos of birds for numerous educational uses, assisting with the Snowy Plover Project, and helping in many other capacities. Through their dedication and attention to detail, they have set an example for other volunteers. Their passion for birds and willingness to give their time and expertise to understanding and protecting them has made Sanibel and its surroundings a better place for both birds and people. We will miss them and wish them all the best.

Brad Smith, SCCF Land Manager

When I met Bev and Clair Postmus many years ago, Clair made sure I knew that Bev was the birder and he took pictures. That respect for each other is one of reasons I care so much about them. No one who has birded with them would question their extraordinary skills and enthusiasm any time since. And Clair knows his birds, too.

Others in the Sanibel community are expert birders and volunteer to share their knowledge with visitors. However, the Postmuses stand out as a couple who volunteer for the Refuge, SCCF and San-Cap Audubon — virtually a full time job. My husband and I have enjoyed listening to Bev's comments on what she sees and we regard Clair's photographs as among the very best in a competitive field.

When we told them about Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge, famous for the nesting of thousands of seabirds, they volunteered there — way out in the mid-Pacific — and returned with a fabulous program to share with people here and in other parts of the country. When photos were needed to complement exhibits in the J.N. "Ding" Darling Center for Education, Clair provided them.

Sanibel won't be the same without them. Arizona will be the richer.

Molly Krival, co-founder of the  
Friends Group mentoring program

Bev and Clair Postmus have been tremendous advocates for the J.N. "Ding" Darling NWR. Their volunteer contributions have far exceeded any monetary value. Perhaps one of the most valuable contributions the Postmuses made was in the form of protecting Bunche Beach. The extensive notes they took while birding there proved that the endangered piping plover does use the area. Ultimately, the area was designated critical wintering habitat, and the discovery also became the driving force for Lee County and the Refuge to purchase the property in order to preserve this valuable habitat.

Bev and Clair have taught us a lot of the years and we at the refuge will miss them dearly.

Kevin Godsea,  
Lead Refuge Ranger

The Postmuses have been invaluable to this refuge. Without them starting to formally survey birds in the refuge, we would not be in a position to conduct the regular surveys that are currently in place.

"Not only that," added a former refuge employee, "but, without fail, when presented with a 'stumper' by a

visitor or even someone local, after 'I don't know... reckon the biologist does?' the next line was, invariably, 'Call Bev 'n Clair.'")

*Jeff Combs,  
"Ding" Darling  
Volunteer Coordinator*

As President of Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society and a part-time nature guide, I must confess to not knowing the difference between a bald eagle and an osprey on my arrival to Sanibel in 1998. Thanks to two wonderful mentors/teachers/role models and co-learners, I now know the birds better and I know two fine human beings ready to migrate west.

Through Bev & Clair Postmus, I have learned a deep appreciation of and sensitivity toward Southwest Florida and its unique environment. They taught many of us in workshops, in classes and on various field trips. Always patient, insightful and willing to share teachable moments with friends and strangers alike, they also designed new programs for the seasonal lecture series and managed beach projects including the nester/rester and snowy plover project. They indeed represent the best of our citizens of Sanibel.

Having served on various committees (City Wildlife, Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation and Audubon) with this couple, I know their commitment to a sense of wonder and the good in nature. Sadly but proudly, we must now allow them to fly free to their next nesting site... best wishes to Bev and Clair Postmus.

*Paul & Chris Andrews,  
President & First Mate,  
San-Cap Audubon*

I first met Bev and Clair Postmus on Wildlife Drive at "Ding" Darling shortly after moving here in the spring of 2001. It didn't take long to realize that Bev and Clair's mission in life is to teach and pass on their knowledge of birding and bird photography. They make it more enjoyable for everyone they come in contact with, from the first-time birder to the most experienced. Never condescending, always the patient teacher making everyone feel at ease. Sanibel will miss these wonderful people.

*Hugh Verry,  
San-Cap Audubon*

Sanibel Island is forever changed because of the many contributions made by residents Bev and Clair Postmus. Bev and Clair have willingly shared their knowledge and passion for the environment of Southwest Florida with thousands of others through leading birding and ecology trips, teaching classes, and leading programs. Clair's photographs appear in several nature publications as well as in the Sanibel-Captiva Nature Calendar. Bev has authored several birding publications and brochures. Her articles on birding have appeared regularly in the local newspaper.

Bev and Clair were instrumental in urging Lee County to acquire Bunche Beach, an important feeding habitat for migrating shore birds located near the causeway bridge. In addition, Bev and Clair have led efforts to monitor and protect nesting snowy plovers and least terns on the Sanibel beaches.

Most of all, Bev and Clair will be

remembered as inspiring teachers who have helped others to understand how people and animals can live together.

*Malcolm and Sue Harpham,  
San-Cap Audubon  
and Refuge volunteers*

I have had a wonderful friendship with Bev and Clair. Our love of birds and nature brought us together when they first came to Sanibel. Over the years we have shared that love with others through many field trips and birding classes. We have a mutual admiration for each other's talents and a lot of good memories of times together doing what we do best.

Bev is a master teacher and Clair a master photographer; they've been a great asset to our island. Thanks to them, the snowy plover is being monitored and protected on our beaches. That is only one of their many contributions. Sanibel will not be the same without them, and those of us who know them so well, will feel a real loss.

I understand their need to move on, and I can only wish them "Happy birding!" but I will certainly miss them.

*Mary Lou Schadt,  
Audubon & Refuge volunteer*

Clair and Bev Postmus are probably two of the best volunteers "Ding" Darling has ever had; they are so motivated and dedicated — certainly two of the very best out of a lot of superb ones during the 14 years I was there. Their departure will be a significant loss not only to this refuge but to the entire Fish & Wildlife program in the South Florida area.

Bev is an expert birder who keeps excellent records. It was her records that were so vital in determining the piping plovers' use of our beaches as wintering habitat.

But our loss is the desert southwest's gain, I suppose. When they get out there, I do hope they will volunteer at Buenos Aires... I understand it's not too far from where they will be living. It's also part of our refuge system — our family of refuges — so I suppose you might say they are merely going to another relative's house to stay...

*Lou Hinds,  
Former "Ding" Darling  
Manager  
Refuge Supervisor,  
Arkansas & Louisiana*

"The first time ever I saw her face..." was in December, 2000, at the SCCF Annual Board Meeting. Having recently retired and feeling quite uncertain of how to construct my new life, I had asked a friend and Sanibel resident how I might expand my minimal knowledge of birds. Immediately, I was advised to contact Bev Postmus.

That evening at SCCF, I got myself introduced to Bev — tall, slender, with perfect posture and a no-nonsense, direct gaze. To my gushing "I am delighted to meet you," Bev, a woman of few, but distinct, words said, "And, pray, what would you like from me?" Absolutely set back, I responded with a stutter-studded answer, "I would appreciate the opportunity to go birding with you."

"Be ready at 7 a.m. tomorrow morning at the office, if you want to go," she announced and promptly turned away. Later, phoning my husband out of town, I

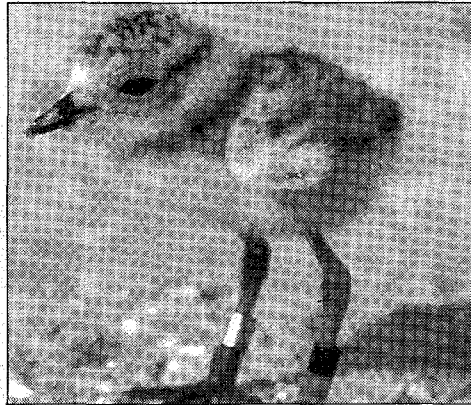
giddily said, "Guess what? I am going birding with Bev Postmus tomorrow morning." His response suggested that I had significantly overstepped my birding limitations and perhaps had even lost my mind.

A sleepless night ensued, filled with fear of missing the alarm and with images of appearing the inept enthusiast. Bedraggled, but on time, I met Bev and her friend, Randon, at the appointed spot. Their smiles and welcoming words overshadowed my awe of their professional-looking binoculars and birding scopes as well as their vests covered with emblems, representative of birding spots worldwide.

So began the next part of my life, a part for which I shall be forever grateful. In the years that followed, Bev became my mentor, teaching me that learning itself is pure joy... even more, Bev is now a cherished friend.

*Elaine Jacobson,  
Audubon*

So long, you two... we'll never forget you. Just remember — "... We're out birding, beaching or just bumming around... Leave a message. We'll get back to you..."



## SCA - Fitness with Carla

Welcome back to Carla Ferrel who spent so many years on the Island introducing many of the residents to fitness.

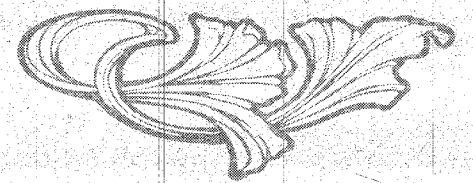
Carla has been living in Phoenix, AZ for the past few years working as the Director of Health & Fitness for the Phoenix YMCA's. This has enabled Carla to direct the Valley fitness staffs, travel to learn the latest trends in fitness, and further develop her teaching and leadership skills.

She will be instructing "Extreme Balance, Strength, Flexibility and Cardiovascular Training for the Older Adult" here at the Community House on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 - 10 a.m.

This class focuses on functional fitness training, which involves acceleration, deceleration and stabilization strength movements.

Traditional machines do not allow for this type of training and, in fact, this type of training is excellent for developing the core muscles needed for stabilization and support, namely the abdominal, lower-back and hip muscles.

Classes will begin Tuesday, January 11. Passes and single class admissions are available; stop by SCA at 2173 Periwinkle Way or call 472-2155 to reserve your place.





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# Jennifer Wigington - from Sanibel to a life in Africa

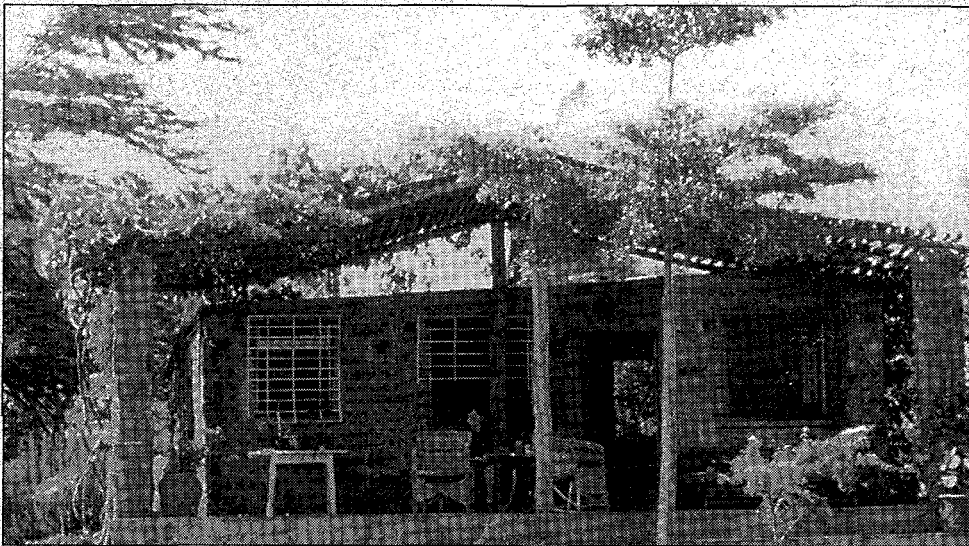
By Laura Nickerson  
Staff Writer

Jennifer Wigington had ties to Sanibel extending back to childhood visits to visit her father's good friend, Francis Bailey. Her younger sister, Mary Melissa fondly remembers all the time spent on Sanibel as children. "My father and Francis Bailey were good friends. We spent many weekend days at the old Bailey place when we were young. Sanibel and Captiva were different then. Hippies camped out on the beaches, and nobody thought anything much about it. There were lots of artists and very few homes, only some beach cottages," she said.

Jennifer, Mary Melissa and their brother grew up in a beautiful old Florida farm-

house nestled on an acre of property on the Caloosahatchee, just off McGregor Boulevard. Parents Letcher and Peggy Wigington had moved their young family here in 1956, from Indiana.

Jennifer suffered prenatal difficulties, including a shortened umbilical cord, which resulted not only in her being very small in stature, but in having severe, and sometimes very painful, spinal and leg problems throughout her life. However, she was treated no differently as a child than her siblings by the family and she never thought of herself as being limited in any way. Her life, rather than being bound by physical limitations, is a testament to a personal strength that few — regardless of physical condition — ever experience.



Above: Jennifer Wigington, husband Kenneth and son Robin during their six-year African odyssey. Below left: Jennifer's private and primitive home in the wilds of Kenya

Active in sports, she loved swimming and her father — an avid sailor — remembers being out in the boat one weekend, when Jennifer decided to take a swim. "After she had been in the water about an hour, I asked her if she wasn't tired yet, didn't want to stop yet. She said no. This went on for three hours of marathon swimming before she finally wanted to climb back on board. All that time, she just swam alongside the boat, like a fish."

Jennifer went to college in Indiana and Hawaii, where she studied marine biology; she later traveled to Australia and New Zealand, where she worked measuring the regrowth of coral. She was the first woman in the state of Florida to become a certified scuba diver.

Jennifer's travels also took her to Scandinavia, where she met Kenneth Larsson, a Swede, at a music festival in Denmark. The two shared the same wanderlust, and set off on a jaunt through Northern Africa, the Mediterranean, and Eastern Europe.

Returning to Sweden, the couple married and decided to put down temporary

roots while saving money for a long trip to explore Africa. During their years in Sweden, Jennifer and Kenneth had a son, Robin Larsson. When he was eight, they set out for Africa in a fully laden primitive camping vehicle, with a pop-up canvas sleeping area, and an enormous front rack that, to a boy of Robin's age, must have seemed like a balcony.

The original plan was for Robin was to be home-schooled by his mother along the way as they traveled across Africa for a period of one year. As their first year was drawing to a close, Kenneth's skill as a piano tuner became the means for the family's continued travels throughout Africa. The couple was able to create a schedule that kept them moving from town to town, booking piano tunings ahead of themselves. Apparently there were out of tune pianos all over Africa.

The family eventually settled in Kenya, where Kenneth's business blossomed to include importing pianos. Jennifer taught at the International School in Nairobi, where she lived during the school week. On weekends, and whenever possible, she

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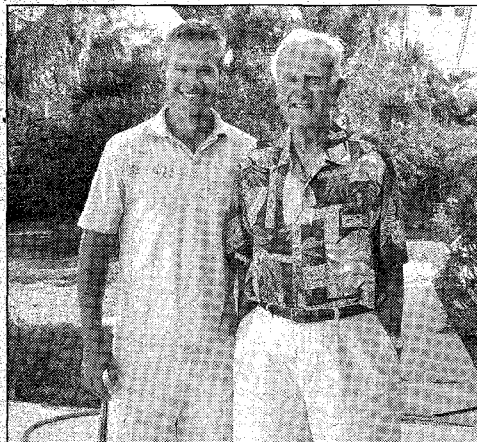
**Jennifer, her son, Robin, and her sister, Mary Melissa, during a family reunion**

preferred the small primitive home out of town on the open range, with a nearby river that allowed her to commune more directly with nature.

"My mother shot a lot of wildlife photography in that locale," said Robin. "There were days that you could get within 20 feet of a lion sunning himself. Giraffes, rhinos, and the great wildebeest migrations — we've seen them all on or near that property."

Jennifer catalogued the entire journey in photographs and in her journals. She taught young Robin not only the ABC's and other basics, but how to keep his own journal. Robin wrote about each place, each new experience. He drew every animal and mentioned every new tree. These travelogues are now a unique memory of a childhood spent in a constant quest for knowledge, and an ongoing commitment to nature.

As he carefully opened each old vol-



**Robin Larsson with his grandfather, Letcher Wigington, on Sanibel**

ume, it was obvious in his poignant smile how treasured were his memories. As those childhood weeks became years, one can trace the growth of the eight-year-old boy into a 14-year-old adolescent through the subtle changes in content and style of the pages. "You can tell how young I was by how large my letters are in the early volumes," he said. "My mother always focused on the animals and all things natural. She was a wonderful teacher who lived life to the fullest, with rarely a thought for her-

self. She was loved and admired by everyone who knew her."

Desmond Morris, the British news reporter and author of *The Naked Ape*, interviewed Jennifer for the BBC. She met Diane Fosse, who dedicated her life to saving the gorillas in Rwanda, and knew Jane Goodall, whose work with chimpanzees is internationally recognized. Goodall even came to speak to Jennifer's students at the International School.

Although Kenneth eventually returned to Sweden alone, and Robin spent years away in college, Jennifer remained in Africa. She obtained her pilot's license, occasionally skydived, and climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, though she was only 4 feet, 11 inches tall. She led safaris and documented her experiences through photography. She championed the cause of the African elephant, campaigning against illegal poaching, and she taught at the International School for 16 years.

Jennifer returned to Sanibel annually for at least a month to visit her parents. Sister Mary Melissa remembers those family reunions. "We were all there... It's always very casual and usually involves diving. Most of us are divers. My sister Jennifer would always bring many beautiful slides of Africa, and give us a slide show in the evenings."

Jennifer was diagnosed with cancer and underwent surgery earlier this year. She continued teaching, even through her chemotherapy. It was thought for a time that she was in remission but, by October, she was again feeling badly. Her doctor in Africa recommended that she move back to the United States because she was too

**Wigington, see page 28**

## Bringing the Calusa to life at Pineland

**By Karen Nelson  
Managing Editor**

Who were the Calusa? Most newcomers and visitors to the area have never heard of them. But now, thanks to the newly opened Calusa Heritage Trail at the Randell Research Center in Pineland (on Pine Island), one can get a clear sense of who they were, how and when they lived and what happened to them.

Southwest Florida was the heartland of the Calusa Indians, who dominated south Florida when the Spanish arrived, collecting tribute from tribes as far away as present-day Cape Canaveral and the Florida Keys. They were skilled engineers, gifted artists and fierce warriors. The 13 signs of Randell's Calusa Heritage Trail recreate their world with vibrant illustrations, detailed maps, timelines, pictures of artifacts and quotes from Spanish historical records.

Even as late as the 1980s, little was known about the Calusa except that they were mentioned in Spanish historical records and they left behind some very large shell mounds. There was one spectacular discovery made in 1896 by Smithsonian archaeologist Frank Hamilton Cushing. In the anaerobic mangrove muck of Key Marco, Cushing found a treasure trove of carved and painted wooden masks and sculptures, fishing nets, and tools made of bone, shell and wood. (The Cushing finds are divided between the University of Pennsylvania, the Smithsonian and the Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville.)

Following Cushing's work, archaeologists conducted excavations in scattered sites throughout southwest Florida but until 1983, when the Southwest Florida Project took shape under the direction of William Marquardt — director of the Randell Research Center and curator of archaeology at the Florida Museum of Natural History — very little work had been done in Lee County. Furthermore, there had been no coordinated effort to develop a comprehensive overview.

Work is ongoing but after excavations (some extensive) on Useppa Island, Buck Key, Josslyn Island, Pineland, Sanibel,



**William Marquardt, Randell Research Center director and curator of archaeology at the Florida Museum of Natural History, welcomed those who attended the trail opening. The posts behind him are the supports for the teaching pavilion, yet to be completed.**

Mound Key, Cash Mound and other sites, a clearer picture is emerging of the Calusa. Throughout most of human history, cultures have been able to develop from roving groups of hunter-gathers into sedentary, stratified communities because the development of agriculture provided the steady supply of food as well as the food surpluses needed to support a non-working "ruling class." The Calusa, however, were able to provide for themselves because of the natural bounty of the local estuaries: Charlotte Harbor, Pine Island Sound, Estero Bay and — further to the south — the Ten Thousand Islands.

Signs on the Calusa Heritage Trail show Calusa daily life from a number of perspectives. The Calusa cacique (chief) and his wife are pictured dining while sitting atop Brown's Mound; the village spreads out grandly at their feet.

**Calusa, see page 26**

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## Calusa, from page 25

A pendant sign, situated at the base of the mound, shows the view looking up at the mound from the other side of the canal, which is crowded with canoes as children run along the canal embank-

ment. The Calusa constructed a two-and-a-half-mile long canal at Pine Island which traversed the island; it was 30 feet wide, six feet deep and that depth was maintained by a series of per-

manent "locks" and feeder ponds: a sign explains how the canal was built and maintained.

A sign shows recovery after a hurricane which hit Pineland around 300 AD. Archaeologists know about the hurricane because excavations reveal a layer of sand and high-salinity shells that were deposited while they were still alive — probably the result of a storm surge. There is a wonderfully imaginative sign that overlooks Smith Mound — the burial mound — which describes Calusa spirituality.

Signs and maps show life at Pineland as it evolved from its first human occupation in 200 AD to become a major Calusa site. The final sign on the trail explains

what happened to the Calusa, who were decimated by disease and finally forced from their homeland by slaving raids.

### Randell funding and the Calusa Heritage Trail

The Calusa Heritage Trail and the new activity deck, restrooms and planned teaching pavilion first took shape in Marquardt's mind about ten years ago. During the Year of the Indian programs in the late '80s and early '90s, Pineland was visited by thousands of school children as well as hundreds of volunteers participating in excavations. At that time, there were no facilities. As recently as eight months ago, four groups gathered by some



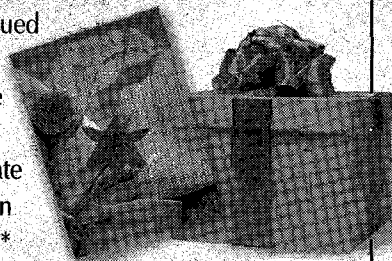
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## Calusa, from page 26

picnic tables beside Brown's Mound and sanitary facilities were provided by Portajohns.

Marquardt actually got the idea for the teaching pavilion while attending a CROW orientation tour about 10 years ago. The Florida Museum of Natural History has a working relationship with CROW. In fact, many of the birds in the Museum's mangrove rookery exhibit came from CROW (CROW staffers preserved birds that didn't survive so that Museum taxidermists could get them). Marquardt was on Sanibel and decided to stop by and attend the daily tour.

As he sat in the CROW pavilion, he looked at the space and thought, "It's open, it's inviting. We need something like this..."

Marquardt explained, "We've had school programs from 1990 on [at Randell]. It's amazingly difficult to get school program funding, and teachers often have to choose just one field trip a year. When the kids came out [to Pineland] and it started to rain, there was no place to go but back to the bus. I wanted us to have a safe, comfortable place for school programs and community events."

Planning for the Heritage Trail began at about the same time. While Marquardt was visiting Mission San Luis in Tallahassee, he was impressed with their interpretive signs and the "two things came together in my mind."

He presented his ideas to the Randell Advisory Board and "talked up the trail and visitor center because they were practical and provided us with a place of our own."

Development on the Calusa Heritage Trail began in 2001, and major funding for the trail was provided by a Special Category Grant from the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, as well as through in-kind services and volunteer efforts. The paved walkways, observation platforms and footbridge over the Pineland Canal, which were all included in the state grants, were designed in concert with the teaching pavilion complex.

The architecture and engineering for the pavilion and the deck complex were donated. Plans didn't require anything big but, when asked about the cost, Marquardt would explain that whatever was built had to be able to hold up to bad weather. It did: the deck, restrooms and pilings held up admirably beneath a direct hit by Hurricane Charley. However, as the project hopefully nears its final stages, Marquardt notes that it was "more expensive than I could ever have imagined."

The restrooms, activity deck and pilings for the pavilion have been completed and only the pavilion itself, which will contain a classroom, gift shop and small storage area, remains unfinished.

Funding is an ongoing challenge. Except for John Worth's salary, which comes from the Florida Museum of Natural History, they "generate everything else by selling things or getting donations and grants. Donations and merchandise and book sales and membership in the Friends of the Randell Research Center — it all adds up."

In order to complete construction on the teaching pavilion, Randell Research Center will be applying to the State for a Facilities Matching Grant. Explained Marquardt, "We've decided that with all the hurricanes, it would be a very long process to raise the funds. The Facilities Matching program exists and we've raised more than half of the money needed." They will know in April, at the end of the legislative session, if the grant will be awarded. If they receive the matching money, they will start construction in the summer of 2005 with hopes of completing the pavilion by the end of the year.

"The State has a tight budget this year but we're going to try to make our case and hope the legislature will include the Facilities Matching Grant."

The Randell Research Center is under the auspices of the Florida Museum of Natural History, the state's official natural history museum, located on the campus of the University of Florida in Gainesville. The Museum has fronted about \$75,000 for hurricane clean-up so far. Both the Ruby Gill house (Randell's headquarters) and the Pineland Post Office, which is maintained by RRC, required new roofs, at a total cost of about \$57,000; another \$18,500 was required for clean-up at the

Pineland site. (The Randell Center's budget for contingencies is normally around \$5,000 a year, which was gone within two weeks after Charley hit.)

It is expected that "FEMA will reimburse 90% of costs in public areas. The trail and the Pineland site are public." The Gill house and the Post Office are covered by state insurance because the University leases them from the County; the University is currently in the process of negotiating with the State for reimbursement.

### Looking toward the future

The Randell Research Center has continued to uncover new information about the Calusa. Randell Assistant Director John Worth has been conducting winter season excavations at Pineland. He has also made several trips to Spain and Cuba to research both the Spanish historical records and the connection between Pineland and Cuba.

However, completion of the pavilion and classroom will signal the end of a major fund-raising effort and the re-intensification of Randell's true mission: to "continue learning and teaching the archaeology, history and ecology of southwest Florida."

### More on Frank Hamilton Cushing

Two new volumes of Cushing's writings will be published in January 2005, both by Phyllis E. Kolian and Brent R. Weisman: *The Lost Florida Manuscript of Frank Hamilton Cushing* and *The Florida Journals of Frank Hamilton Cushing*.

• *The Lost Florida Manuscript of Frank Hamilton Cushing* contributes new information on selected sites in Southwest Florida (including Pineland) and adds



Art by Merald Clark, Courtesy Florida Museum of Natural History  
The illustration on the sign topping Randell Mound, which overlooks Pine Island Sound and Captiva Pass, showing the Calusa harvesting the abundance of their estuarine world.

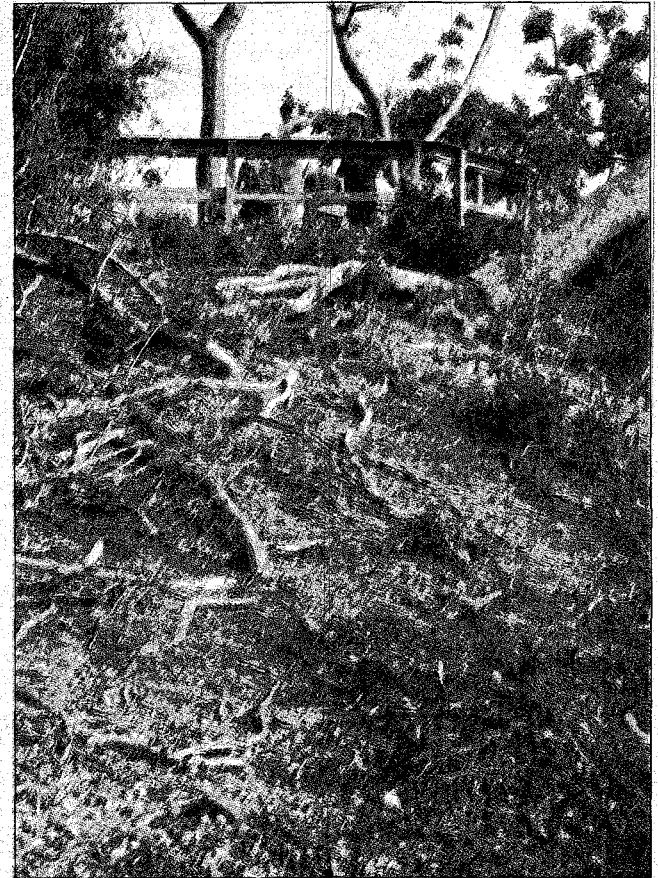
important details on the excavations and artifacts found at the Hope Mound and Safford Mound sites near Tarpon Springs.

- *The Florida Journals of Frank Hamilton Cushing* bring to light the journals of the brilliant anthropologist Frank Hamilton Cushing. It is intended for a more popular audience.
- *Cushing's Exploration of Ancient Key-Dweller Remains on the Gulf Coast of Florida* — his notes on the Key Marco excavation — is already available.

All three books are published by the University Press of Florida. Marquardt notes that, while there is not a lot of information about Pineland in Cushing's lost manuscripts, the information is still "compelling because he gives not one but two sketched maps of the mounds, canals, lakes and water courts that he sees. The descriptions are very specific." In fact, this new information was incorporated into the Calusa Heritage Trail signs.



Left above: Lee County Commissioner Ray Judah (left) and John Worth, assistant director of Randell Research Center, cut the palm-frond "ribbon" at the Dec. 10 trail opening. The "ribbon" was woven by Dick Workman; the cutting tool was a replica chert knife. Right above: Hurricane Charley stripped the mounds — especially Brown's Mound — of much of



their vegetation and extensive clean-up was required. One benefit of Charley's pruning job is that the view from the top of the mound is now spectacular. The Calusa kept their mounds clear of vegetation, so that one gets a much better sense of what the mounds would have looked like when the Calusa were in residence.

## Wigington, from page 25

weak to sustain additional chemotherapy.

Jennifer died on November 3 this year. Her sister remained with her in the hospital for the last three weeks of her life, understanding — in the way only a sister can — as Jennifer drifted in and out of other languages and private thoughts.

She leaves behind a legacy rich in humanity, intelligence, and courage. Her son Robin, said to be a fine writer, will attempt to preserve that legacy in the coming years. "I am returning to Africa with my mother's remains," he said. "That is where she would want to be returned to. Africa is a place that grows inside you," he added. "If you come to love it, you can never be away from it for long. It keeps calling you back. We are ready to return now."

Robin is currently a consultant for the Catholic Church, assessing the needs of four million displaced people in the Sudan and leading needs assessment workshops for the Church.

For his planned work on the life of his mother, he has all of her journals and photographs, letters to people and publications the world over, friends and students who loved her, and, most of all, he has his own unique memories, of a brilliant woman with a heart as big as all Africa. She introduced him to a life full of personal freedom balanced by an overwhelming sense of responsibility to care for the planet. With his gentle demeanor, open attitude and kindly intelligence, his story of his mother promises to be a biography worth pursuing.

Jennifer's father, Letcher Wigington, is a Sanibel resident and has played his own role on the island. As president of Michigan Homes, Letcher was approached by

Hugo Lindgren when he was seeking the best plan for developing what is now Shellpoint Harbor, and the two became fast friends.

Letcher obtained exclusive right of sale for his company on the new development. Now in his 80s, and a Sanibel resident, Letcher reminisced, "I remember walking in the canals when they were finished, before they let the water into them. They had the water blocked off at the marina, and when everything was done, they opened up the dam. It sure felt funny, though, walking in those empty canals." Michigan Homes also built the residences in Beachview. Letcher Wigington remained the company's president for almost 20 years.

"I might not have always agreed with how they went about it, but I am very grateful that the City of Sanibel formed when it did and that they set about preserving this wonderful island for all time."

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# B

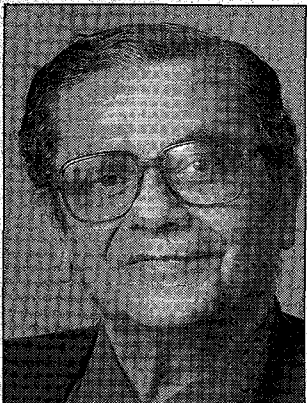
## The 2005 Forum at BIG ARTS

As it moves into its third year, The Forum at BIG Arts has built an enviable reputation and is increasingly recognized for its elite and enriching scholarship in Southwest Florida as well as around the country. Started in 2003, as an alternative to "Inquiring Minds," by BIG ARTS member Dick Wright, a retired marketing and sales vice-president for Johnson & Johnson, the program continues to present intellectually stimulating speakers ranging from diplomats (William J. Crowe, Jr.) to congressmen (Sen. Richard Lugar), from world-renowned economists (Jagdish Bhagwati) to news anchors (Ted Koppel).

Like the BIG ARTS Current Events group on Wednesday mornings, these evening presentations are standing room only — so popular, in fact, that, this year, only series tickets are being offered (245 have been sold in the first eight days) until after Christmas... so promising from the very beginning that the infamous shut-down of the causeway could not commence until after the inaugural speaker was able to get off the island to make his plane following the lecture.

The eight speakers on the 2005 schedule include a former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, a Harvard professor who's an expert on far eastern economic policy, a Senior Associate at the Carnegie Institute for International Peace, a former director of the CIA, and the director of the Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars. Also presenting their insights are a Henry A. Kissinger Senior Fellow in U.S. foreign policy, a Columbia professor who's a Senior Fellow on the Council on Foreign Relations, and a *Washington Post* columnist — "one of Washington's finest journalistic thinkers," according to the American Political Science Association.

**Professor Jagdish Bhagwati** (Jan. 11) has published more than 300 articles and 50 volumes. He is currently a university professor at Columbia and a Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations.



**Bhagwati**

Born in 1934 and raised in India, he graduated from Cambridge University in 1956, studied at MIT and Oxford, and returned to India in 1961 as an economics

professor at the Indian Statistical Institute and a professor of International Trade at the Delhi School of Economics. He returned to MIT, leaving 12 years later to join the Columbia faculty where he served until 2001. Currently, he is an External Adviser to the World Trade Organization and a member of U.N. one of Secretary General Kofi Annan's high-level advisory groups. He is regarded as one of the foremost international trade theorists of his generation and has appeared frequently on national TV programs from CNN and the BBC to *The MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour* and the *Charlie Rose Show*.

**Walter Russell Mead** (Jan. 16) is Henry A. Kissinger Senior Fellow in U.S. Foreign Policy - Council on Foreign Relations and author of the recently released *Power, Terror, Peace and War: America's Grand Strategy in a World at Risk*. His 2001 book, *Special Providence: American Foreign Policy and How It Changed the World*, received the **Lionel Gelber Award**, called by *The Economist*



**Mead**

"the world's most important prize for non-fiction," and nominated for the 2002 Arthur Ross Book Award. The Italian translation won the Premio Acqui Storia which is given to the most important historical book published in Italian. His articles have appeared in *Esquire*, *Worth*, *The New York Times*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Wall Street Journal* and *The New Yorker*.

A graduate of Yale, Mead is considered a leading interpreter of the history of U.S. foreign policy and America's role in the world.

**Admiral William J. Crowe** (Jan. 30) was appointed Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff by President Reagan and named Chairman of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board by President Clinton. From 1994 to 1997, Crowe served as the U.S. Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

After graduating from the Naval Academy, Crowe began his career in the submarines, then served as Assistant



**Crowe**

Gulf; as a vice admiral, he was Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Plans, Policy & Operations; in 1980, was named Commander in Chief of NATO forces in Southern Europe and, three years later, became Commander in Chief of Pacific Forces. After retirement, he took a position at the University of Oklahoma as a professor of geopolitics. He is chairman of the board of advisors of Global Options, a crisis management firm in Washington, D.C., and returns to Annapolis often as Olin Fellow in the political science department.

He holds an M.S. in education from Stanford and a Ph.D. in politics from Princeton.

**Dwight Heald Perkins** (Feb. 17) has held the Harold Hitchings Burbank chair in Political Economy at Harvard since 1981 and served as director of the Harvard Asia Center since 2002. He has been a faculty member in the Economics Department since 1963 and at the John F. Kennedy School of Government since 1969.

A graduate with distinction and high honors from Cornell with a B.A. in Far Eastern Studies, Perkins received his Master's and two Ph.D.s in economics from Harvard. He has authored or edited 12 books and over 100 articles on economic history and development with special reference to the economics of China,



**Perkins**

N a v a l Attaché to President Eisenhower. In Vietnam he was senior advisor to the Vietnamese Navy Riverine Force; he commanded U.S. naval forces in the Persian

Gulf; as a vice admiral, he was Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Plans, Policy & Operations; in 1980, was named Commander in Chief of NATO forces in Southern Europe and, three years later, became Commander in Chief of Pacific Forces. After retirement, he took a position at the University of Oklahoma as a professor of geopolitics. He is chairman of the board of advisors of Global Options, a crisis management firm in Washington, D.C., and returns to Annapolis often as Olin Fellow in the political science department.

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K o r e a , Vietnam and other nations of east and southeast Asia. In addition, he has served as advisor or consultant on economic policy and reform to many of those same govern-

ments, as a visiting professor or scholar at universities in both Japan and China, and has taught in the Fulbright Economic Training Program for several weeks each year in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam since 1997.

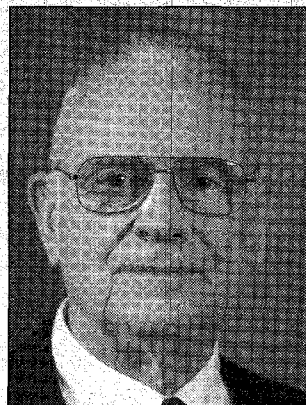
**Robert Kagan**, Ph.D., (Feb. 20) is senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. His fields of expertise include China and Iraq, democracy, human rights, NATO expansion, national security, and the use of force. Author of several books — his most recent, *Of Paradise and Power* (Knopf, 2003) — he writes a monthly column on world affairs for *The Washington Post* and is a contributing editor to both the *Weekly Standard* and the *New Republic*. *Of Paradise...* was on *The New York Times* best-seller list for 10 weeks and the *Washington Post* best-seller list for 14. It was also a best-seller in Europe and Canada and has been translated into over 20 languages.



**Kagan**

Secretary of State George P. Shultz, and as Deputy for Policy in the Bureau of Inter-American Affairs.

**Lee H. Hamilton** (Feb. 23), vice-chairman of the 9/11 Commission, became president and director of the Woodrow



**Hamilton**

Wilson International Center for Scholars in January of 1999 following 34 years as a congressman from Indiana. During his tenure there he served as chairman and ranking member of

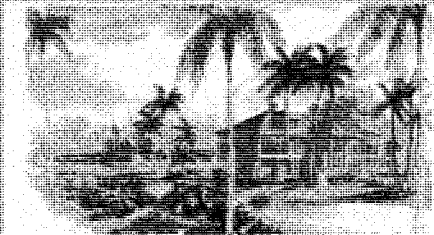
Forum, see page B3

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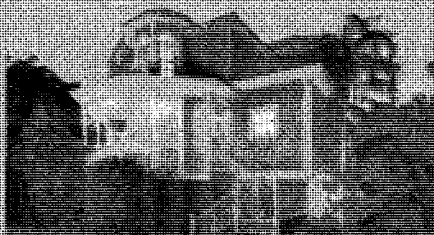
**BUILDING SITE - CAPTIVA ISLAND**

Wonderful 100'x100' lot for sale in Captiva's "Villaggio" gated neighborhood. Close to everything you need and want for your island lifestyle. Steps to the Gulf of Mexico beaches and the Bay. \$1,230,000



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Almost 1/2 acre directly on Clam Bayou. Located on a cul-de-sac in Sam Bell's popular Heron's Landing which offers a community dock, pool and deeded beach access. Plans are available for a home well suited for this lot. \$489,000



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Beautiful near beach 3 BR/2 BA home with heated pool and spa. This home offers Maple hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen with custom cabinetry, large master suite with open step into stronger with glass tile & 2 screened lanai's, vaulted ceilings in the great room with wood burning fireplace and plenty of storage. This house is just steps to the beach and close for everything you want and need. \$2,195,000



**NEW LISTING**

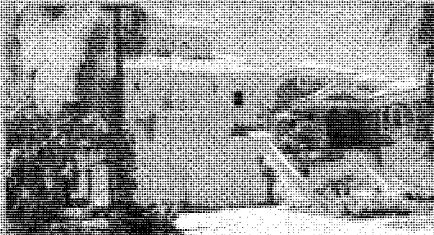
**DIRECT GULF FRONT ESTATE**

Breathtaking direct Gulf front estate-sized property offering a 3 BR/3 BA main house and a 3 BR/2 BA guest house. This ground level main house has direct Gulf views with gorgeous sunsets, surrounded by beautiful vegetation and offers terrazzo floors, skylight, hurricane shutters, gourmet kitchen, laundry room and a limestone coral patio. The main house overlooks the Gulf of Mexico and has a screened porch. The property also offers a screen enclosed heated pool and spa, a pool house with shower and changing room, a detached carport and garage. This 3 BR/2 BA guest house has tile floors throughout, vaulted ceiling, full kitchen with breakfast bar, laundry room, 2 car garage, air conditioned storage and an expensive imported wood deck. \$5,495,000



**ESCAPE TO PEACE AND QUIET**

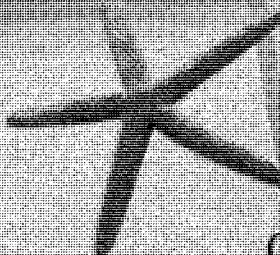
Wonderful Sunset Captiva home with 2 BR/2.5 BA. This home offers a great view with tropical sunsets, all master suite, screen enclosed porch and plenty of storage. Great community offering deeded beach access, pool, tennis, dock with Gulf access and BBQ grill. \$789,000



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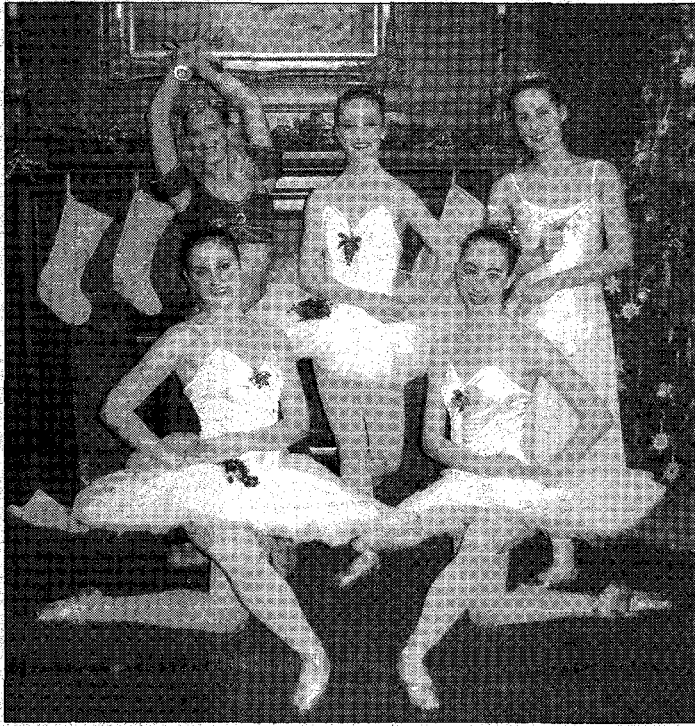
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## PERFORMING ARTS BRIEFS

### The Nutcracker returns to Sanibel

On Saturday, December 18, Schein Hall at the BIG ARTS on Sanibel will be a-glimmer with The Sugar Plum Fairy, the dancing sweets, and waltzing flowers as *The Nutcracker* returns to Sanibel by popular demand for the fourth consecutive year.

Gulfshore Ballet and BIG ARTS are co-sponsoring this very special holiday program as a community event. There will be both a Matinee and Evening performance to give more people the opportunity to attend. The matinee performance at 4 p.m. will be an all-student performance. The evening performance at 7 p.m. will



feature New York City Ballet guest dancers Ashley Boudier and Jock Soto in the roles of the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier. Both performances will be introduced by Steve Greenstein, executive director of the Sanibel-Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce. The evening performance will be followed by a complimentary "Nutcracker Sweets" reception on the veranda.

*The Nutcracker* is an event to be enjoyed by the entire family. Ticket prices for the matinee performance are \$10 for adults, and this performance is FREE for all children and students. Tickets for the evening performance and "Nutcracker Sweets" reception are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and children. Families are urged to reserve their tickets now by calling the BIG ARTS box office at 395-0900.

Gulfshore Ballet is a nonprofit educational institution providing classical ballet training and education to children in Lee, Charlotte and Collier counties. The School is located at 2155 Andrea Lane in Fort Myers. For information, call 590-6191.

### Urban Cowboy benefit for Gulfshore Ballet coming up January 21

Bank of the Islands is the Corporate Sponsor of "Urban Cowboy - A Boot Kickin' Island Fun-Raiser" scheduled for Friday evening, January 21 at the Sanibel Community House to benefit Gulfshore Ballet, Southwest Florida's only non-profit classical ballet school.

"Most people don't know that Melinda Roy, one of the ballet school's founders, is also a Tony-nominated Broadway choreographer," said Bank of the Islands President Robbie Roepstorff. "She choreographed the musical *Urban Cowboy*, and is able to bring the show's stars to Sanibel for a real down-home, fun event."

"This is going to be an evening for eating barbeque and kicking your heels up," said Co-chair Phil Johnson. "We'll have a deejay, Melinda will be teaching line



dancing, and most importantly, the stars of the Broadway cast are performing the show's hit numbers."

Co-chair Nanelle Wehmann joined Johnson in also thanking Brenda and Marty Harry of Doc Ford's for graciously donating the bar for the event.

Priced at only \$50, tickets can be purchased by calling Nanelle Wehmann at 395-2774.

### Forum, from page B1

the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and chaired the sub-committee on Europe and the Middle East from the early '70s to 1993. He also served as chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and established himself as a leading congressional voice on foreign affairs, particularly in promoting democracy and market reform in the former Soviet states, promoting peace and stability in the Middle East, expanding American markets and overseas trade and overhauling the U.S. export and foreign aid policies.

As chairman of the Joint Committee on the Organization of Congress and a member of the House Standards of Official Conduct Committee, he was a primary draftsman of several House ethics reforms.

**R. James Woolsey, Jr.** (March 6), a former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, is vice-president for Global Strategic Security at Booz Allen & Hamilton. Besides serving as director of the CIA, he has served the country as ambassador to the Negotiations on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe from 1989 to 1991, as Under Secretary of the Navy from 1977 to 1979, and General Counsel to the Senate Committee on Armed Services from 1970 to 1973. He was appointed by the President to the



Woolsey

he served as an advisor on the U.S. Delegation to the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT I) in Helsinki and Vienna.

He is one of the signers of the Project for the New American Century letter sent to President Clinton in early 1998 and of another Project... document, "Statement on Post-War Iraq," in March of 2003. The next month he said to a group of college students, "...the United States is engaged in World War IV; it could continue for years... This fourth world war, I think, will last considerably longer than either World Wars I or II did for us — hopefully, not the four-plus decades of the Cold War."

U.S.-Soviet Strategic Arms Reduction Talks and to the Nuclear and Space Arms Talks in Geneva between 1983 and 1986. Earlier, during his time in the Army, from 1969 to '70,

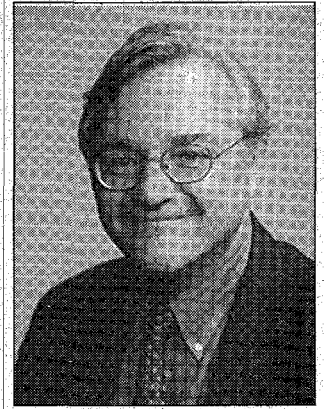
*Washington Post* columnist **E.J. Dionne, Jr.** (date uncertain at press time) specializes in examining the strengths and weaknesses of competing political philosophies. His analyses of American politics and trends in public sentiment is considered some of the best in the business.

During the 14 years Dionne spent with *The New York Times*, he covered state, local and national politics and filed stories from around the world, including Paris, Rome and Beirut. *The Los Angeles Times* deemed his coverage of the Vatican the best in two decades.

He joined the *Washington Post* in 1990, reporting on national politics, and almost immediately published what turned out to be a best-selling book, *Why Americans Hate Politics*. Called "a classic in American political history" by *Newsday*, it anticipated all the major themes of the 1992 campaign, won the LA Times Book Prize and was nominated for a National Book Award.

His op-ed columns for the *Post* started in 1993 and were syndicated two times a week in 1996. His second book, *They Only Look Dead: Why Progressives Will Dominate the Next Political Era*, was published that February and was described by *The New York Times Book Review* as "luminously intelligent and quietly passionate polemic that deserves to alter the terms of American political debate." In

December, the *Sunday Independent* of London named Dionne to its list of 40 of the most influential thinkers of our time. The American Political Science Association



Dionne

praised Dionne for his "insightful daily contributions to the political discourse of our nation [whose] tireless efforts uplift the public ... in a time that cries for reasoned debate [and] not more negative ads, rumor or simplistic sound bites." In '97 the *National Journal* named him among the most influential Washington journalists and *Washingtonia* magazine rated him among the city's top 50 journalists.

Series tickets only will be available until Dec. 27 for \$135 for the series. On Dec. 27, individual tickets will be available for \$20 each. Call BIG ARTS at 395-0900.

## MUSIC NOTES

# E.G. Kight at Schein

On Saturday, Dec. 11, BIG Arts presented blues composer, vocalist, guitarist and band leader, E.G. Kight and her three-member band consisting of Gary Porter on drums, Johnny Fountain on electric bass and Lee Anderson playing electric and acoustic guitars. Of the 17 songs performed, more than half were original compositions written by Kight.

Most notably, her closing number, "Southern Comfort," from her album of the same name, made the 2004 Grammy pre-nomination list for Best Contemporary Blues Album. She also received nominations for the 25th Annual W.C. Handy Blues Awards for Best New Artist Debut, Contemporary Female Artist of the Year and for Song of the Year for "Southern Comfort."

She was one of only eight Blues artists in the finals of the International Songwriters Competition. And the readers of BluesWax, the largest subscription Blues publication in the world, selected Kight's music on its final ballot for Blues Artist of the Year and Blues Album of the Year.

The group opened with Kight's "Let The Blues Move You." Unfortunately, the volume was exceptionally loud and disturbing. The electric bass, along with into-

nation problems, was especially loud and rough and tended to distort the band's overall sound. To my ears, this audiogenic assault bordered on physical discomfort and abuse. Additionally disturbing was the poor tonal "rumble" quality of the drums which also had an adverse effect upon the group's sound and even cancelled-out the electric guitar solo by Anderson. In spite of the poor backing, Kight's Bonnie Raitt/Phoebe Snow style of singing projected to the appreciative, fan-based audience in attendance. Her next original composition, "Let The Healin' Begin," which held at No. 1 in the top five for 34 weeks on Billboard's blues chart, contained a nice slow ballad feel, only slightly hampered by the out-of-tune bass.



Harold Lieberman

Next was a blues standard, "I Ain't Got No Business." Not the regular 12-bar blues but an 8-bar blues, this rendition contained a nice catchy intro and allowed Kight to flash her infectious smile and project her appealing vocal style. This was followed by the classic Harry Warren hit of 1942, "At Last" which was warmly received.

The next four songs — "If You Ever Touch Me," "Mighty Good Man," "When

You Were Mine," and "Trouble" — were all written by Kight and allowed guitarist Anderson to display his sliding, bottleneck technique and heavily tremolo solos over an infectious rhythmic ostinato. Another welcome effect was the à cappella vocal trio performed by Kight, Anderson and Fountain. After intermission, Kight and Anderson performed on acoustic guitars and along with bass and drums, featuring her compositions, "I Don't Want To Start Over," "Peach Pickin' Momma," plus one she didn't write, "I Ain't Got Nothin' But The Blues." All was going well with the sound until the transition back into the electric guitars heard on a slow blues number, "Crossroads." Once again, the volume reached at least 90 decibels and again created a that all-too-familiar disturbing volume threshold. This one, however, did allow Kight to step out of her strictly backup rhythm guitar role and play some tasteful improvised solos. Her hit, "Southern Comfort" closed the program but a rousing standing ovation demanded an encore. She obliged with her original own "Blues In Green," a well-constructed composition held together with a catchy "Bo Diddley"-type rhythmic ostinato that also allowed the drummer, Porter, to "stretch-out" with a tasteful extended



E.G. Kight

drum solo.

E.G. Kight is an award winning composer with a convincing blues genre voice who was fully appreciated by an enthusiastic audience.

# The Naples Philharmonic Brass Quintet

What a delight to have heard The Naples Philharmonic Brass Quintet perform at Schein Hall on Tuesday, Dec. 7. As part of BIG Arts Great Performers series, the musicians — Mo Anderson, on tuba, Tracy Leonard on French horn, Matthew Sonneborn and James Stephenson, III on trumpet, Michael Zion on trombone, and James J. Dallas playing percussion (all members of the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra) — performed an impressive, high-level, first-rate concert of varied music spanning over 500 years. Dressed in elegant formal attire, the group's tonal quality was crystal clear, with intonation and musicianship that were impeccable along with stylistic phrasing that truly captured the eras of the Renaissance, Baroque, Impressionism and Modern periods. Their endurance never faltered as their embouchures held firmly and resiliently throughout the almost two-hour concert.

The opening work, *Canzona Per Sonare No. 2* by Giovanni Gabrielli, with its multiple melodic lines which echoing one another, was brilliantly performed by a quintet that displayed sensitive dynamics, a sonorous tonal quality and superb intonation. The ensemble's matching vibratos, precision starting and ending of phrases was truly most impressive and is surely a result of hours of

practicing together and fine tuning their craft.

The next work, *Renaissance Dances* by the Flemish composer, Tielman Susato, was greatly enhanced by Dallas whose drumming added a new timbre to this delightful four-movement composition. The first movement, simply referred to as "Fast," featured tasteful embellishments on the piccolo trumpet with the addition of drums. The second movement, "Slow," was very musical in its lyricism. Leonard performed beautifully on the horn in the third movement, another "Fast," which also featured the drums giving this movement a true Renaissance sound. The fourth and final movement, "Faster," was in triple meter accented by the tambourine.

*L'Homme Au Marteau Dans La Poche* by Viennese composer, Werner Pirchner (1940-2001), was next and is a very modern composition in seven movements which allows the players to use exaggerated vibratos, plunger wa-was, odd meters and awkward intervals. The third movement, again modern in its harmonies and melodies, sounded surprisingly similar to Leroy Anderson's "Sleigh Ride." An excellent, well-projected tuba solo, performed by Anderson, filled the hall with warm and sonorous overtones. Bell-tones and muted contrasting timbres closed this work in a somber and sustained mood.

The last piece before intermission was Tadeusz Kassati's *Petite Musique de rue*. All three movements are quite modern and end somewhat abruptly. Very nice muted-trumpet technical flourishes were performed effortlessly by Sonneborn, and the last movement in triple meter contained bold trombone glissandos and cascades of triple tonguing by the brass.

The second half got off to a rousing start with Khachaturian's *Sabre Dance*. This familiar gallop was nicely joined with the drums and created an eerie circus mood. *Trois Chanson* by Debussy featured a lyrical flugel horn solo in a sensuous, impressionistic mood.

The group next identified the various trumpets that were heard throughout the concert — cornet, piccolo trumpet and trumpets in B-flat, C, D, and E-flat. Also, the flugel horn was identified and its relationship to the cornet was explained — both are of conical bore while

the trumpets are cylindrical bore. The cylindrical bored instruments are brighter in sound.

*Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5* by Brazilian composer Heitor Villa-Lobos was extremely well played by the quintet and highlighted the poignant Bach-like melody played impressively in the trumpet's high tessitura by Sonneborn.

*Aquarela Do Brasil* also known as *Brazil*, is regarded as the unofficial national anthem of that country. It was written by Ary Barroso (1903-1964), an important pre-bossa nova Brazilian composer. The arrangement for Brass Quintet by Duda evoked catchy, sensuous rhythms and lyrical melodies. Trombonist Zion captured the spirit with his full, vibrant sound and jazzy solo.

W.C. Handy's "St Louis Blues" allowed Stephenson to stretch-out on his trumpet and improvise with a tasteful ad lib solo. The last number, "Handful of Keys" by Fats Waller, was most impressive, especially Sonneborn's effortless piccolo trumpet playing in all registers.

During my years as a professional brass player, I have witnessed and heard numerous brass quintet concerts including The New York, Canadian, Empire, American, and Dallas Brass Quintets and place, without reservation, the Naples Philharmonic Brass Quintet as one of the premier ensembles in the country. Also, in 1957-59, while studying at Juilliard, I was a classmate of Jorge Mester, the new music director of the Naples Phil and, although it has been over forty-five years, I vividly remember Mester as one of the most gifted and talented violists and conductors who will demand the highest level of performance from every member of the orchestra. His brass and percussion performers did not disappoint.

Harold Lieberman is a Professor of Music emeritus at Ramapo College of New Jersey, has also taught at Manhattan School of Music and played solo trumpet with the CBS Symphony Orchestra trumpet as well as for Benny Goodman, Arthur Godfrey, many other well-known band leaders.



Naples Brass Quintet



## CENTER STAGE

## Deck the halls... Sing fa la la...

The Schoolhouse Theater was all decked out holiday-style from spanking new red upholstered seats in the center section and bright green ones on the sides to candy canes with snowflake notes on the proscenium with palm trees and sea life bordering the sides. The Bermuda-shorts-clad, stocking-capped cast of four right away cranked up the heat with Christmas carols to a calypso beat. Forget wind, forget snow on Sanibel... we've got sun and sand instead, so it's merrily a-swimming not a-sleighing we will go. By magic, the fun-loving players — Amanda Davis, Juliet Hicks, Geoffrey Nelson, Peter Riopelle and Michael Baer (at the 88s) — transformed the sun-drenched set into a winter wonderland. There was snow falling from a snow machine, a fire crackled in the fireplace, added to a red-draped piano and an exit door to relive Christmases passed in the Northern climes.

The quartet, now dressed in appropriate shimmering holiday attire, sang "snow" tunes ("Winter Wonderland," "Let It Snow," "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year") and turned the Schoolhouse into a veritable Holiday House. A ukulele-toting Tiny Tim made an appearance to tiptoe through the white snow edition of "Jingle Bells," which was followed by a USO salute that presented the talented cast playing guest star arrivals: Marilyn Monroe (Amanda) did her sizzling version of "Santa Baby," followed by the Andrews Sisters (Amanda, Juliet, Peter in drag). Geoffrey, as an Elvis-the-pelvis knock-off, delighted the ladies in the audience by having a "Blue Christmas." Our island's senior citizens were roasted as well as toasted with thoughts of how wild oats turned into prunes and bran flakes, as "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer," and a snow-haired Peter begged Santa for his two front teeth. Amanda pulled us back to the real spirit of the season with her lovely rendition of "A Grown-Up Christmas Wish," after which the audience rocked 'n' rolled straight

to intermission with the '50s selections — "Jingle Bell Rock"... "Around the Christmas Tree."

Act II started with a trip around the world — "Feliz Navidad" drop-kicked us straight to "Christmas in Killarney" with Peter as a mini green leprechaun doing a hilarious Christmas jig. The Aloha State got its Christmas greetings in with "Mele Kalikimaka." The lively Sanibel section contained bits of hits commenting on the Jingle of Bills in the \$6 Causeway tills, while "O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum, how lovely are your branches," became "Australian Pine, Australian Pine, your stumps are very pretty" ...with enough mulch for 60 years. A TV version of *The Dating Game* featured Frosty the Snowman, Brian, the super proportionately tongued reindeer, and Peter as a cigarette-toting, whiskey-voiced ballerina clad Tooth Fairy — a sight to behold... tutu much and too funny for words.

This diverse madcap holiday celebration featured Hanukkah Harry and the cast singing and spinning the dreidel in the "Dreidel Song," and the Rockettes were paid a tribute with a nifty tap number to "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus." The classy end of the show was introduced by Peter giving one of the nicest readings ever of "'Twas the Night Before Christmas" in a very special homage to his Dad. The sweet sounds of the cast singing "Silent Night" sent the appreciative, audience out into the peace and beauty of our beloved Sanibel Island's star-filled night.

*Christmas On Sanibel...* is quite simply a darling show, a combination wacky version of the Simpsons do Sanibel at Christmas and a reminder of the many wonder-filled gifts our hometown bestows on us at this time and throughout the year. Artistic Director Victor Legarreta has cobbled together a fitting, fun-filled holiday present with a terrific cast for all of our families as well as our visitors to enjoy. So, if you're ready to spend some time laughing at the ridiculous as well as the irreverent, served

up island style, then Yule love this treat mixed with a dash of seasonal songs and traditions. Phone 472-6862 for tickets and times. Like the ad says "Yule Love It!"

Another holiday treat I enjoyed was offered up by SPOT (Shell Point's Own Theater). *Christmas Together* was conceived, compiled and directed by former islander and actress-par-excellence Charlotte Heimann. This Holiday Readers Theater presentation consisted of two acts. Act I — Holly Dazem directed by Heimann — featured a fine Santa Claus (Steve Modrich) and an equally fine Mrs. Claus (Penny Modrich), a wonderful host played by Phil Hilton, some lovely Christmas essays and witty poems, well read by a talented group of Shell Point residents including Rani Ward, Chuck Higgins, Pat Broman, Mandy Johnson, June Lockhart, Herman Bips, John Littlejohn and Mary Ann Bennett. Act II — A Christmas Carol, adapted by Tom Smith and directed by Phil Hilton and Ruth Deuber — presented Smith's skillful reading of the lead role, Scrooge, along with the equally skilled Heimann making a cameo appearance as the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come. The entire cast of senior character readers played with such joy that they were quite magically transformed into a much more youthful, vigorous troop right before our very eyes. Holiday magic is alive and well and living at Shell Point. Bravo, players! You were fabulous... do keep on acting and reading.

One more bit of theater news to lay on you guys. Word of mouth is absolutely "fantastic" on the Theater Conspiracy's latest winner of its New Plays Contest, the sharp-edged, deftly written *Cuttings* by Thomas Atkinson. The well performed tour-de-force role features local actress Joanna Olsen, in a not-to-be-missed evening of really great live theater. *Cuttings* closes Dec. 18. Performances are Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 8 p.m. Don't miss this one. Phone 936-3239 for tickets, then remind 'em Marsha sent you. Meanwhile, I'll be looking for you when I get to see *Cuttings*, so be there!



Marsha Wagner

Starring Cindy-Lee: *The Blonde Songbook*

*The Blonde Songbook* is a fully staged and choreographed, 90-minute musical-comedy montage celebrating the career and persona of unique, theatrical "blonde" bombshells including Jean Harlow, Mae West, Marlene Dietrich, Marilyn Monroe, Betty Grable, Doris Day, Peggy Lee, Judy Holliday and more... The production, starring Cindy-Lee, blends popular standards with original material as it surveys the life and résumés of these Hollywood legends with stops along the way for Cindy-Lee's uniquely riotous, ad-lib interactions with the audience. Bring back all those wonderful memories of days gone by with songs like "Just in Time," "Falling in Love Again," "I Wanna Be Loved by You," "Ten Cents a Dance" and more.

*The Blonde Songbook* was developed in well known New York cabaret clubs such as Don't Tell Mama, The Duplex and Steve McGraw's. "Audiences are being treated to some really fine musical comedy," New York radio personality, John Michael Koroly critiqued, "whether it involves torch-



ing the hell out of a ballad or crooning an amaretto-smooth cover, Cindy-Lee shows herself in a spectrum of styles."

The two-act show was conceived, written, and arranged by Cindy-Lee and her long-time accompanist, Regan Ryzuk with additional contributions from the comedy team of Honey & Buddy.

*The Blonde Songbook* will be playing one night only on the islands at Tween Waters Inn on December 28. To reserve tickets, call 239/810-1738.

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## APPRECIATION ON YOUR HOME

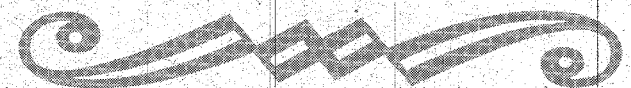
Most people who rent a home are probably paying less EACH month for housing than they would pay for a mortgage on a similar home. Why are people willing to pay more each month to own their own home? While rent will increase year by year for those who lease a home, your payments (with a fixed-rate mortgage) will remain constant for the life of your mortgage, and the value of your home increases as you build up equity.

The rate of appreciation depends on many factors—the location, interest rates, and the general economic climate in your community. From 2002 to 2003 the average American house gained in resale value by an average 6.48 percent. Even in a soft economy, that's more than double the rate of inflation of the value of goods and services elsewhere in the economy.

On the East and West Coasts, appreciation rates have historically remained above the national average. Home prices in the central part of the U.S. tend to appreciate at a more moderate rate, but are less vulnerable to sharp or sudden declines in market value.

If you purchased a home within the last 50 years, the median value has already more than doubled. Even if appreciation rates slow down, your home is an unparalleled long-term investment.

Margie specializes in Sanibel, Captiva and Ft. Myers real estate. She was named Realtor of the Year by Sanibel and Captiva Assn. of Realtors in 2000 and 2002. Her new book, "How To Make Your Realtor Get You The Best Deal—South Florida Edition" is must reading if you are thinking of buying or selling. Call Margie at PMR 472-1511, or e-mail her at Margie@MargieDavison.com.



## New Year's Eve Dance Party

Say a not-so-fond farewell to 2004 and welcome in the New Year at BIG ARTS. Schein Hall will be the venue of the celebration, featuring the sweet and swinging sounds of the Vince Evans Quartet. The combo consists of Ron Beaver on piano, Jim Blakemore on drums, Sal Sprazzo on trumpet, and Vince Evans on bass and vocals.

The evening will kick off with a scrumptious holiday dessert bar — cheese-cake, baklava, cannoli, rum

cakes, pecan tarts and more of your favorites.

Dance the evening away on our new dance floor! Don party hats, toot horns, and toast the New Year with chilled champagne!

Coffee, soft drinks, ice and set ups provided. Festivities start at 9 P.M. Tickets are on sale now at BIG ARTS, 900 Dunlop Road, 395-0900. \$40 per person for a holly jolly holiday eve!

## New Year's Eve at Broadway Palm

Ring in the New Year at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre with the all-singing, all-dancing extravaganza, *42nd Street* on December 31. The hit musical includes the songs "Lullaby of Broadway," "We're in the Money," "I Only Have Eyes For You" "Shuffle Off to Buffalo" and more.

The New Year's Eve menu consists of chef carved Rib of Beef with Au Jus and Horseradish Sauce, Macadamia Nut Crusted Grouper With Mango Cream Sauce, Pork Tenderloin Roasted In Corn Husks, Chef Greg's Broadway Chicken Breast, Penne Pasta with basil, tomatoes and pine nuts, Twice Baked Potatoes, Mushroom Paella, Creamed Artichokes, Chef's Mix of Asparagus, Carrots and Brussel Sprouts, Peel & Eat Shrimp,

Seafood Salad and Holiday Desserts and Ice Cream.

After the performance of *42nd Street*, there's a late night cabaret. Each guest at Broadway Palm receives champagne, noisemakers and hats for the official countdown. After midnight coffee and cookies will be served in the lobby.

Toast the New Year with *42nd Street* at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre. The New Year's Eve package is \$100 per person for dinner and the show. Tickets are limited. For reservations and more information, call 239.278.4422, visit the website at [www.BroadwayPalm.com](http://www.BroadwayPalm.com) or tickets can be purchased at the theatre box office at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.

## BIG ARTS Film Society

### Academy Award contenders

Mark your calendars now to attend BIG ARTS Film Society's "Academy Award Contenders" on Wednesday afternoons at 3 p.m. at Island Cinema beginning January 12. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased in advance at BIG ARTS, or at Island Cinema the day of the showing. The following films will be shown: *Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou*, *Hotel Rwanda*, *Beyond the Sea*, *The Woodsman*, *Million Dollar Baby*, *Bridget Jones*, *The Edge of Reason*, *Closer*, *Finding Neverland*, *The Aviator* and *Ray*.

The title of the Wednesday matinee film will be announced 10 days prior to the showing. Call BIG ARTS, 395-0900 or the Island Cinema, 472-1701.

### Discussion and dinner

On the third Wednesday of each month, beginning January 19, BIG ARTS Film Society will host a discussion and dinner following the matinee showing, led by local film critic, Priscilla Friedersdorf.

Dinners will be held at Sanibel Bean on Periwinkle Way, Amy's Overeasy Café on Tarpon Bay, and The Seafood Factory on Periwinkle Way respectively. Please plan to join the "Fan Club" for these thought-provoking and insightful discussions. Reservations are required and can be made by calling Natalie at BIG ARTS at least one day in advance of the movie date, 395-0900.

### Windows on the World

Monday, Dec. 20, 7 p.m., join the Film Society for *De-Lovely*, the next film in the Windows on the World film series. Showing in BIG ARTS Schein Performance Hall, this 2004 film is an original portrait of American composer Cole Porter filled with numerous renditions of his unforgettable songs.

For further information on BIG ARTS Film Society and other programs offered at BIG ARTS, please call, 395-0900.

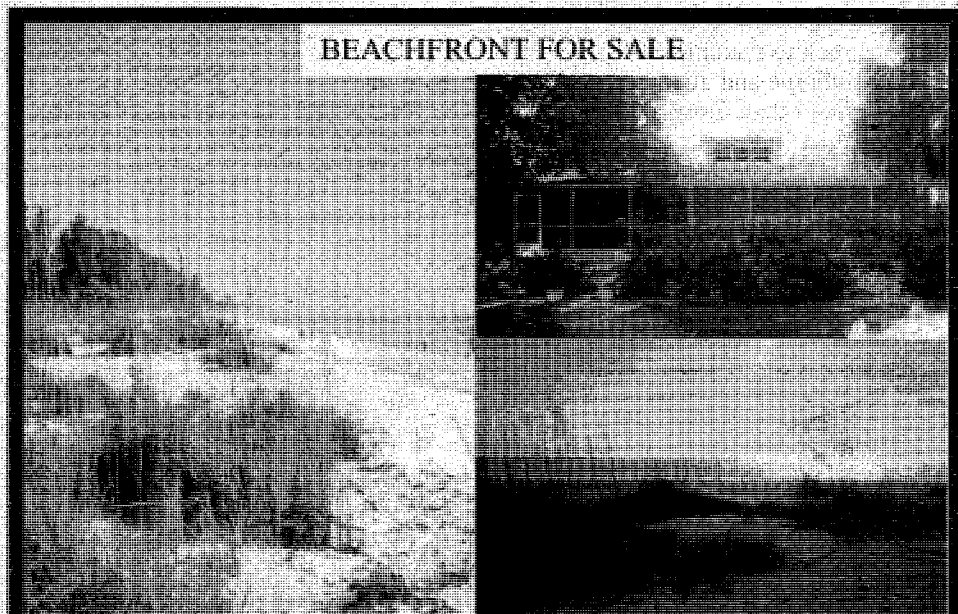
## Tony Bennett at Mann on March 26

Tickets go on sale Dec. 18 for the return of Tony Bennett to the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall on March 26 at 8 p.m.

Tony Bennett is the kind of artist that moves the hearts and souls of audiences; a singer's singer who has received high praise from his colleagues through the years, including Frank Sinatra, who stated unequivocally, "Tony Bennett is the best singer in the business."

With over 50 million records sold world-wide and platinum and gold albums to his credit, Bennett has won ten Grammys including the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award.

Tickets for Tony Bennett go on sale Saturday, Dec. 18 at 10 a.m. at the Box Office, by calling 481-4849 or online at [www.bbmannpah.com](http://www.bbmannpah.com). Ticket prices are \$101, \$89 and \$69.



### BEACHFRONT FOR SALE

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Have you ever wished for life on the beach? This spot is for you with nearly an acre of land directly on the Gulf. A pristine setting that has a 3 bed - 2 bath - 3000sqft home for you to sit back, relax and enjoy life's simple pleasures. Don't miss out!

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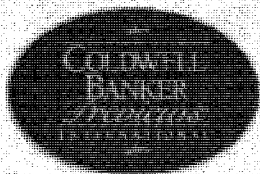
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The evening will include orlas and duets from Verdi, Lohr, and Sandheim.

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SPONSORED BY : BIG ARTS' ANGELS & THE SANIBEL CAPTIVA TRUST COMPANY.

## Christmas Open Mic at the Bean

The Sanibel Spoken Word will continue on Friday, December 17 between the hours of 4 and 6 p.m., with a Christmas Open Mic reading at The Bean on Sanibel. Writers, residents and visitors to the islands are invited to read and listen to original and favorite selections of poetry and prose.

Open Mic readings are informal. The only requirements are that performers sign the Reader's List and limit their reading time to five minutes. If you choose not to read, you are welcome to listen. For further information, please call Joseph Pacheco, 472-1280 or the Bean, 395-1919.

## Fiddler on the Roof at Mann

*Fiddler on the Roof*, one of the classics of American musical theatre, will be presented at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall for two performances only, produced by Troika Entertainment.

*Fiddler* has received a warm welcome on stages around the world since its debut and the lovable, engaging milkman named Tevye has delighted audiences with his comical and wise observations on the family, marriage, and traditions.

The score, by composer Jerry Bock and lyricist Sheldon Harnick, is comprised of a string of hits including "Sunrise, Sunset," "Matchmaker, Matchmaker," "If I Were A Rich Man,"

and "Do You Love Me?"

One of the longest running musicals, *Fiddler on the Roof* enjoyed renewed success in its recent revival. Based on the timeless stories of Sholom Aleichem, *Fiddler* is a family musical about the bonds that hold husbands and wives and parents and children together in times of hardship and times of joy.

See *Fiddler on the Roof* at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall. Call the Box Office, by calling 481-4849 or online at [www.bbmannpah.com](http://www.bbmannpah.com). Performances will be on Sunday, Dec. 19 at 3 and 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$50, \$40 and \$30.

## Salute to Vienna at Mann

"Salute to Vienna," the extraordinary official recreation of Vienna's famous Neujahrskonzert (New Year's Day Concert) will return to Fort Myers with an all-new cast and program on Monday, Jan. 3 at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall.

Salute to Vienna has become an annual tradition with sold-out performances across the U.S. and Canada, with audiences swept off their feet by concerts that combine glamour and elegance with fun and laughter.

Salute to Vienna offers the very best of Johann Strauss and his contemporaries in music, song and dance.

Laszlo Maklary will host and lead the Strauss Symphony of America. Members of the acclaimed Hungarian National Ballet will present Viennese waltzes and exhilarating polkas in beautifully costumed dance segments. Soprano Ute Ziemer and tenor Jerry Hadley will perform and, new this year, Salute to Vienna will welcome the special guest appearance of International Ballroom Dance Champions, Csaba Laszlo and Szilvia Szogi.

The performance will be Monday, Jan. 3 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$38, \$48 and \$58. Call the Box Office at 239.481.4849 or 1.800.440.7469.

## POETIC LICENSE

### Rich Man's Rap

*Anapestic couplets composed during frozen shoulder and stiff neck therapy administered by Mr. David Lackenby, PT, MOMT to Mr. Joseph Pacheco at Physical Therapy of Sanibel.*

You may think I'm unfair to the poor when they rhyme  
And make use of the f word one-third of the time  
And their bitching about bitches who call in the cops  
'Cause the old man got high and he gave them some bops  
And their mommas get ranked out in syncopation  
By Gangsta MC's and the 5% Nation  
And they start to make fortunes that equal my own  
When a year or two past they did not own a phone  
But I'm forced to use all my prestige and power  
To sabotage BET and the MTV hour  
And divert some resources to education  
That can teach them to think without syncopation  
And start reading and writing with motivation  
And dream about working for my corporation  
Where they can be exploited in the proper way  
With two week vacations and a 401K  
And after twenty-nine years of serving The Man  
Be downsized a month short of their pension plan  
When their kids are preparing to go into college  
And impress everyone with their white bread knowledge  
And the wife's tummy tuck is no longer covered  
And they're left de-boned like Old Mother Hubbard  
I'll be out on the golf course with my gold parachute  
With the coupons from pension funds I helped to loot  
And I'll laugh at the rappers who are no longer around  
'Cause the kids will have switched to a different sound  
T.S. Eliot and his Cats will be ruling the roost  
As the kids rock to readings of Marcel Proust  
And it's Swinburne and Tennyson and William B. Yeats  
Who'll be bigger than Eminem and even Bill Gates  
What a pleasure to hear the Top Ten of the Day  
Will be headed by Poe and St. Vincent Millay  
What a pleasure to know ne'er again will be heard  
An f—, b— or s— after every word  
And to know the dead poets won't collect e'en a dime  
'Cause I'll own all the rights to their writings in rhyme!



Joseph Pacheco

Don't miss our Christmas & New Year's Eve Extravaganza!

Come join Artistic Director Victor Legarreta and our talented cast of actors ring in the New Year in an evening filled with holiday fun and laughter.

The evening will start at 9:00 p.m., December 31st, as you sit back and enjoy "Christmas on Sanibel," our island Christmas extravaganza that is sure to become a family tradition for years to come.

At the end of our regular show, join our zany cast in the lobby as we enjoy a full buffet complete with champagne, wine, beer and soft drinks.

We will re-enter the theater, champagne in hand, to count down the last moments of the old year. Following our New Year celebration, you will be treated to a special cabaret show designed exclusively for our New Year's Eve audience.

Tickets are \$100 and are going fast so reserve your tickets early!

The Schoolhouse Theater

2200 Periwinkle Way • Sanibel, FL 33957  
239-472-6862



## WHO'S WHO ON THE ISLANDS

### Nanelle Wehmann - Connoisseur and collector of fine art

As a college graduate eager to land her first job, Nanelle Wehmann started her career as a reporter for *The Kansas City Star*. With her double major in journalism and art and her deep love for art itself, beginning in 1969 she decided to buy one piece of art each year. However her one restriction was that the piece had to be within her budget. "I met a lady who had just opened up a contemporary gallery in Kansas City and met lots of artists whose work I started to collect. My choices were and still are highly eclectic and at that time I viewed art in the



Nancy Santeusanio

same way that people view an investment in the stock market. Luckily I never bought anything I didn't like and I still have everything I bought."

With her outstanding organizational skills coupled with her engaging style and ability to work with people, Wehmann was invited to join AT&T in their public relations department. She completed successful assignments in New York and, in the late eighties, was transferred to San Francisco where she was in charge of public relations for

thirteen western states with a staff of thirty five people. That's when she started buying the work of California artists, some of whom she had met in Kansas City. Wehmann describes her public relations assignment as the world's best job and, to add to her enthusiasm, California is where she met her late husband Fred Wehmann.

Fred had bought a beach villa on South Seas while they were still under construction and, in 1985, Nanelle and Fred started coming to Captiva. Five years later they both took early retirement and moved to the island. They were full of energy, loved living on The Plantation, played tennis and dived into many volunteer activities, serving on the Board of the Captiva Civic Association,

running the ABC Sale, serving on the Board of The Pirate Playhouse and co-chairing many of the Gulf Shore Ballet benefit parties and cancer benefits.

"I'm a party planner not by profession but just because I love it." Wehmann calls her cooking an extension of art. "I like to use my creative energy experimenting with new dishes and my dinner guests have fun voting on whether a dish is a keeper or not."

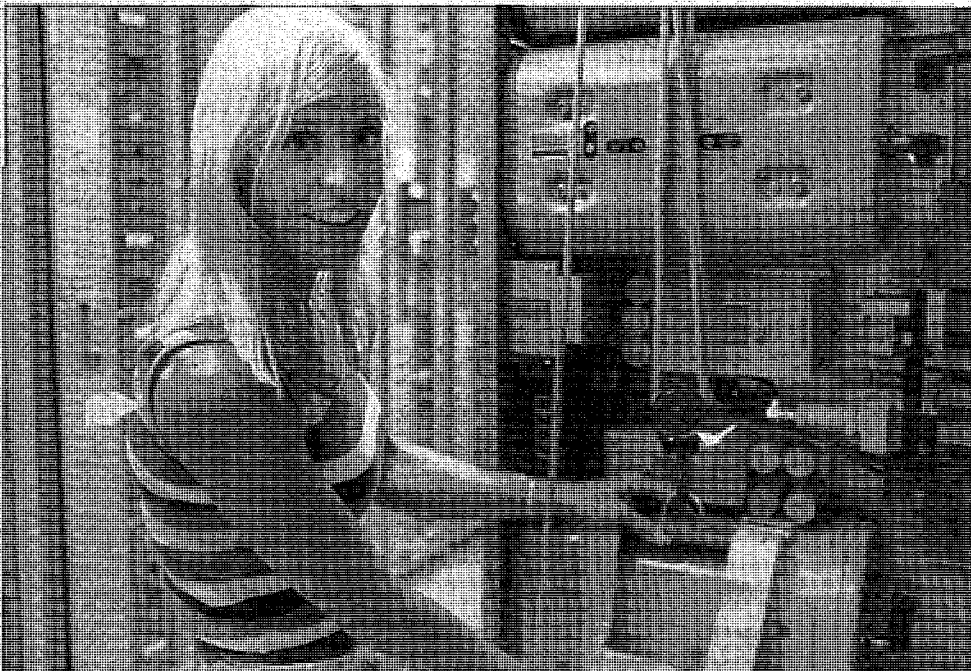
Looking at the art collection in her home, it is easy to see that it is highly eclectic, including both traditional and nontraditional. She notes, "I made some very good choices of art in the seventies and eighties. Among a few of her pieces are works by Jasper Johns, Larry Rivas, Claes Oldenberg, Roy Lichtenstein, John Salt and "The Giant Lady" by Viola Frey, a clay sculpture standing over seven feet tall. All of these artists are well known nationally. Wehmann acknowledges that since she's been on the islands, she's enjoyed buying the works of some of the local artists including Mary Voytek and the neon art of Jeanine Goodison and Carl Marcheschi, whose work is now in "neon art" museums in California and New York.

Wehmann calls herself an unofficial interior decorator. "When I get new ideas, I end up wanting a new house. My late husband used to say that sometimes people just repaint the house they are in. I don't do that." For her, a house is like starting a new art project. She admits that she never gets overly attached to any house but likes to change when she has new inspirations and ideas. "I had four houses in Kansas City, five in California and the new house I'm building now will be the fourth house since I've been on the island." She adds that she's left a trail of black and white checkered floors across the country. "I just like them." She's had all kinds of flooring surfaces and in her new house she's putting in some black and white check marble floors. She likes playing different colors, textures and materials against each other and the newest thing on the marble floor will be a contemporary staircase with the risers wrapped in metal, creating "the toolbox look".

Creativity and whimsy are evident in many of the pieces she has selected. Her massive glass top dining room table sits on a painted steel base and the chairs are leather with painted numbers on the back so that guests can have fun finding their seats. The art displayed on the walls and as sculptures captivate the viewer but, secretly, Wehmann regrets that she didn't buy "A Slice of Lemon Pie" by Wayne Thiebaud, whom she calls one of the most "painterly painters" of the pop era.

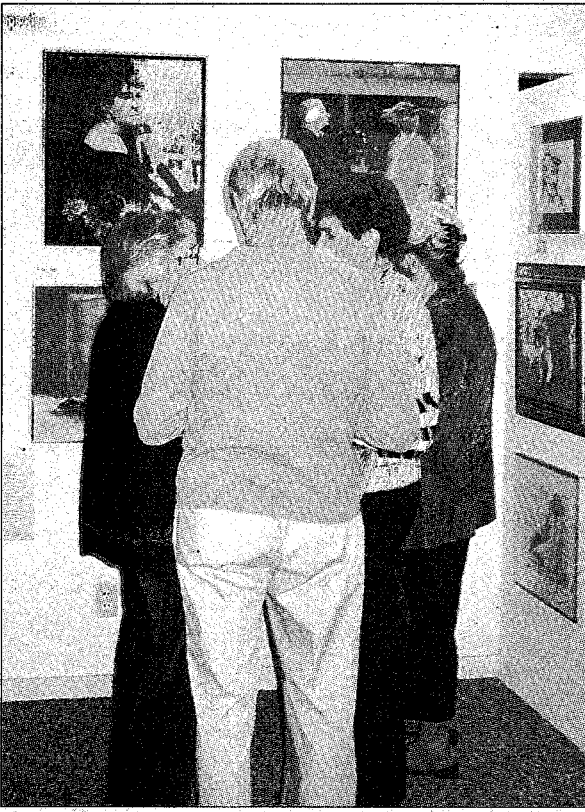


With her eye for creativity, even Wehmann doesn't know what piece of art she may choose to add to her newest, thirteenth house.



Clockwise from left: *Kansas City Star* reporter; Wehmann at three years; Personality Queen at Oklahoma University. Wehmann was the first woman promoted to district manager in the 13 western states for AT&T. Skiing in Vail during a team competition. At the Nelson Art Museum in Kansas City in 1969 with Roy Lichtenstein and his wife, Dorothy, Wehmann and the museum director. This was the first piece of art that Wehmann bought.

## Lola Katchen retrospective at Hirdie Girdie



Left and above: Friends gathered at the Hirdie Girdie Gallery for a retrospective for artist Lola Katchen, whose works are shown on the back wall in the photo at left.

Hirdie Girdie Gallery held a retrospective honoring Lola Katchen, one of the gallery's founding members, on Monday, December 13.

Believing that one must develop a relationship with a good painting and so, each of Katchen's paintings tells a story or contains a puzzle, pun or mystery to be solved slowly.

Open from November to May each year, Hirdie Girdie features the work of artists in a variety of media, from painting to ceramics to basketry and woodcarving. Member artists are Kathy Boynton, Don Case, Gordon Coughlin, Don Daniels, Judy Andrews Friedman, Phil Krym, Bea Pappa, Sue Pink, Mary Ross, Nancy Cameron Smith, Jeff Springer and Barbara Vermilye.

Hirdie Girdie Art Gallery is located at 2490 Library Way (on the corner of Tarpon Bay Road) on Sanibel; phone 395.0027.

## Fiddler on the Roof at Mann

*Fiddler on the Roof*, one of the classics of American musical theatre, will be presented at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall for two performances only, produced by Troika Entertainment.

*Fiddler* has received a warm welcome on stages around the world since its debut and the lovable, engaging milkman named Tevye has delighted audiences with his comical and wise observations on the family, marriage, and traditions.

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See *Fiddler on the Roof* at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall. Call the Box Office, by calling 481-4849 or online at [www.bbmannpah.com](http://www.bbmannpah.com). Performances will be on Sunday, Dec. 19 at 3 and 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$50, \$40 and \$30.

## Linda Eder's Holiday Tour at the Mann

Linda Eder's Holiday Tour will bring the sounds of the holiday to the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall Tuesday, Dec. 21 at 7:30 p.m.

Linda Eder's first true national exposure was via *Star Search*, where she had an unprecedented 13-weeks of success. She created the leading role of Lucy in *Jekyll & Hyde*, which went on a 35-city tour before opening on Broadway in 1997. *USA Today* reviewed the Broadway version of *Jekyll & Hyde*, describing Linda as "a captivating presence and a Streisand-esque singing voice that elevates everything it touches." Linda's memorable performance as Lucy earned her the Theatre World Award for Best Broadway Debut as well as the Drama Desk and Outer Critics, Circle Award Nominations for Best Actress in a Musical.

Her solo albums include *Linda Eder* (RCA), *...And So Much More* (Angel), *It's Time* (Atlantic), *Christmas Stays the Same* (Atlantic), *Gold* (Atlantic), *Broadway My Way* (Atlantic) and *Storybook* (Angel/EMI) have won Linda critical and popular accolades. A DVD version of Linda's holiday concert, taped live during her Bravo TV special in 2001, *Christmas Stays the Same* (Rhino), was

released this fall.

Her performance last year at the Mann Hall was a tremendous hit; with her receiving a standing ovation at intermission as well as at the end of her performance.

Accompanying Ms. Eder on many of the holiday favorites she will be performing will be the Mt. Olive Gospel Choir from the Mt. Olive A.M.E. Church here in Fort Myers. Founded in 1990 under the direction of Rev. H.L. Smith and the piano guidance of Cliffony Teal and Victoria Sanderson, the Choir presently boasts 46 vocal engines. The Choir has traveled as far north as Detroit, Michigan to perform, as well as Orlando, Tampa, St. Petersburg, Lakeland and Naples; and also sang with Grammy Award winner, Barry Manilow, for his 1993 Fort Myers Benefit AIDS concert.

Linda Eder's Holiday Tour is sponsored locally by Bonefish Grill. Tickets for the Linda Eder Holiday Tour are on sale and available at the Box Office, by calling 481-4849 or online at [www.bbmannpah.com](http://www.bbmannpah.com). Ticket prices are \$47, \$37 and \$27.

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# 2005 Angels of the Arts Awards

Along with approving a “newly reinforced Angels Award design” and making a variety of administrative recommendations during their most recent committee meeting on November 30, the 2005 Lee County Angels of the Arts Awards Steering Committee authorized the presentation of three major new “Angels Awards” This action expands the current list of twelve Angels Awards categories to a total of fifteen categories.

At the first Angels of the Arts Awards Ceremony, held in March 2004, Angels Awards in twelve categories were presented to Lee County individuals considered to be either important practicing artists or major supporters of the arts. Those two groups will continue to be the primary focus of the Angels Awards, with all the 2005 recipients being announced at the Champagne Reception and Awards Presentation held at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre on March 6, 2005.

Two of the three new awards will represent an expansion of the current Artist of the Year award category. Accordingly, a total of three Artists of the Year will now be named. They are specifically: “Visual Artist of the Year” (honoring painters, sculptors, digital artists, etc.); “Performing Artist of the Year” (recognizing actors, dancers, musicians, singers, etc.); and “Literary Artist of the Year” (celebrating creative writers of fiction or non-fiction, plays, poetry or songs, etc.). The third new 2005 Awards Category will be for

“Business/Corporate Supporter of the Arts”, which will designate the local business firm or organization whose support of artists and the arts during the year is most noteworthy.

Extended discussion was generated during the committee meeting by the suggested possible addition of another new category: Young Artist of the Year. However, committee consensus indicated that with both the Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra and other already-established local groups offering awards for “Young Artists,” no similar separate Angels Award category would be necessary. It was also noted that any local young literary, performing or visual artist might well be named as a recipient of the existing “New Artist of the Year” Angels Award.

In addition, committee members called for even more complete definitions and descriptions of the qualifications for all fifteen awards categories as well as publication and promotion of the following detailed 2005 Angels Awards process and timetable. It was felt those steps would help ensure maximum participation by members of the public and the arts communities in making nominations for this year’s Angels of the Arts Awards.

**Key Dates in that process include:**

- 12/17/04 Mailing Initial Advance Announcement Packets to Lee County Arts Organizations, etc.
- 1/7/05 Mailing Nomination Forms



**PREMIER PROPERTIES**



**Gulf Pines**

Wonderful 3/2 home overlooking bayous, tucked away on a high and dry lot. New roof, new stairs, well, lot, & ground level being re-done November 2004. Amenities include private beach access, community pool, tennis, and clubhouse. This could be your own private retreat. Words will never express the dynamic impact this home will have on you. Call to see today. \$699,000



**Cute & Comfortable**

Discover this totally renovated 3 bedroom, 2 bath home surrounded by mature, tropical vegetation. Private, spacious open deck with hot tub & shower. The large garage accommodates up to 4 vehicles. White on white kitchen with eat-in kitchen and breakfast bar, tile throughout, laundry room/office combo. \$599,000

**Gulf Shores**

This ground level house is looking for the right owner. In this one-of-a-kind near beach residence you will enjoy unobstructed water views from almost every room and. Offering a spacious, open floor plan, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, oversized screened porch and double garage. Only 4 lots to private beach access. Outstanding investment potential! \$630,000

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& Information Packets to Lee County Arts Organizations, etc. [Personal/Professional Information Request Forms to Proposed Nominees will be mailed out immediately upon receipt of completed Nomination Forms]

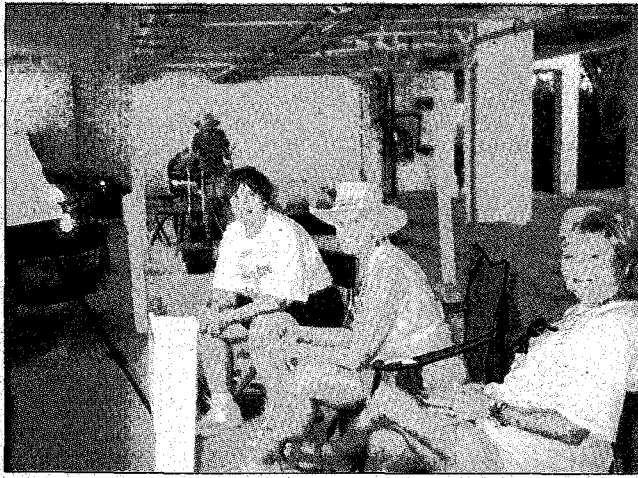
- 1/7-22/05 Publication of Nominations Forms by the Local Press
- 1/25/05 Deadline for Proposed Nominations by Lee County Individuals (residents or visitors) and Organizations
- 1/25/05 Press Conference Announcing 2005 Angels Awards Nominees
- 2/4/05 Deadline for return of Information Request Forms from proposed nominees
- 2/7/05 Selection Committee Weighted Scoring/Tabulation Process for the selection of three nominee finalists in each category and award winners.
- 2/10/05 Final list of all nominees announced to press. Designated Angels Awards recipients' names secured into bank vault.
- 3/6/05 Champagne Reception and Awards Ceremony, 5 - 8 p.m., at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre,

Cape Coral Arts Studio; Carrie Lund Cacioppo, Florida Repertory Theatre; Jerry Churchill, SWFL Craft Guild; Jan Egeland, Gulfshore Ballet; Ginny Fleming, The Schoolhouse Theatre; Liz Fowler, BIG ARTS; Shirley Barry, SWFL Symphony Orchestra; Bonnie Grossman, In the Name of the Artist; Susan Johnson, Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre; Ducey Liber, Addison Gallery; Geri McArdle, Professor of Education; Carol McLaughlin, SWFL Community Foundation and Recipient of the 2004 “Arts Organization Leader” Angels of the Arts Award; David Robinson, Artist and Edison College President Emeritus; Ilene Safron, Main Sail Video; Louise Senneff, Alliance for the Arts; Ellen Sheppard, Artist and Recipient of the 2004 “New Artist” Angels of the Arts Award; Amy Tardif, WGCU-FM News Director, host of “Arts Edition” and Recipient of the 2004 “Arts Broadcaster” Angels of the Arts Award; and Amy Bennett-Williams, *The News-Press* and WGCU-FM. (Unable to attend because of previous commitments were committee members Ernest Cantu, saxophonist, and Kat Epple, flautist, who provided follow-up comments.)

At any point in the Angels of the Arts Awards process, questions from the public about any aspect of the Angels of the Arts Awards can be directed to Monty Montgomery, Publicity Director at the Lee County Alliance for the Arts, by calling (239) 939-2787, ext. 24, or e-mailing [awards@artinlee.org](mailto:awards@artinlee.org).

Members (and their affiliated Arts Organizations) on the 2005 Angels of the Arts Awards Steering Committee who attended the meeting and are helping make plans for the March 6, 2005, Ceremony include: Cher Bear Bell,

## San-Cap Art League shows

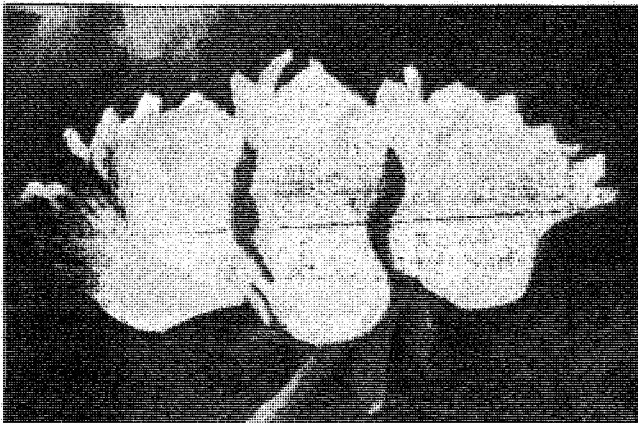


Mary Lou Hicks, Randon Eddy and Carolyn Johns (Terry Shattuck in background) at the San-Cap Art League Paintout at Tween Waters Inn.

There is a members exhibition of the Sanibel-Captiva Art League at the Sanibel Library until January 3, 2005.

This show features new members as well as regular exhibitors. There are Sanibel flora and places of interest by plein-air artists and the creativity of studio artists shines in many subjects.

With the opening of the new wing of the library, the show has expanded, and there are now 45 paintings. Please call the Library at 472-2483 for hours.

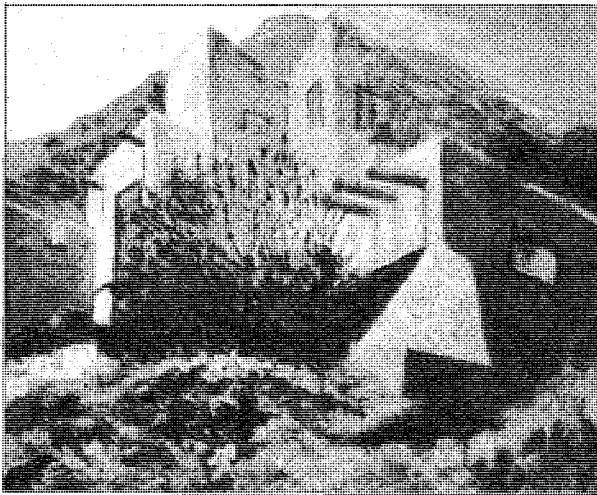


## Call for artists

The Southwest Florida Craft Guild has issued a call for artists for the Fine Craft Market Day on Sanibel, to be held at the Community House at 2173 Periwinkle on Saturday, April 9 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. The Guild sponsors the event to promote member sales and invites area fine craft artists to join them for this juried sale.

The event is the major scholarship fundraiser for area students at Cypress Center for the Arts; the Sanibel School art program will also benefit. Entry deadline is February 14. For info, call Jerry Churchill at 472-3876.

Works by San-Cap Art League members shown clockwise from below: Gerald Holman, Ann Bischoff and Carol Rosenberg.



## Myra Roberts at Arts for ACT

Sanibel artist Myra Roberts has an exhibit, "Greetings from Florida" at the Arts for ACT Gallery at 2265 First Street in downtown Fort Myers through Jan. 5.

Roberts' award-winning work has been featured in numerous group exhibitions and solo shows. Describing her work as nostalgic, Roberts says that, "I want people to have fun with my art, just like I'm

having fun with my everchanging styles."

She works as a full time studio artist on Sanibel and her work is represented by the Seaweed Gallery on Sanibel and Captiva, as well as at the Arts for ACT Gallery.

Proceeds help benefit Abuse Counseling and Treatment. For more info about ACT, contact Claudia at 939.2553.

## BIG/small Buy It off the Wall

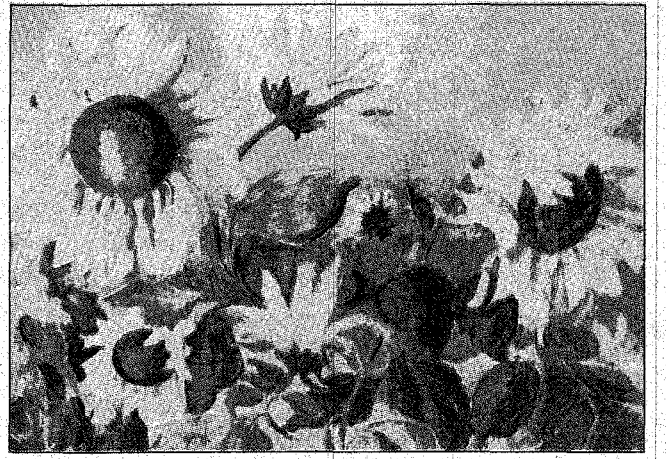


BIG ARTS' BIG/small BUY It off the Wall exhibit opened on December 6 in Phillips Gallery at BIG ARTS Center.

This non-juried show is open to all island and near-island artists, and will appeal to a wide spectrum of artists, collectors, and holiday shoppers. Each piece will be no larger than 10" X 14" and each time something sells it will be replaced by a new work until the show closes on December 29. Although this is a non-juried show, BIG ARTS Visual Arts Committee maintains very high quality standards and reserves the right to accept only appropriate work. Consequently, shoppers are sure to find something to please the most discriminating art lover on their gift list!

## Sheila Tardosky one woman show

Local artist Sheila Tardosky will have a one woman show of her art works for the month of December at the Congregational Church on Sanibel in the Fellowship Hall.



## Big/Small, from left

Come enjoy the fun and excitement of BIG ARTS' constantly changing art show! For more information, please call 395.0900.

## San-Cap Art League paint-outs

The next Sanibel-Captiva Art League Paintout will be this Thursday, Dec. 23 by the Sanibel Lighthouse at 9 a.m. The morning painting session is followed by lunch (bring a bag lunch) and informal critique. Please call Joan Bitzer at 472-0935 with any questions.

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## Matzaluna celebrates ten years

In honor of their tenth anniversary Matzaluna will offer ten dinners priced at \$10 from December 10 to December 23. Choices include, but are not limited to Linguini with white or red clam sauce, Penne Saluto, Chicken Parmesan, Eggplant Parmesan, Lasagna Bolognese, Chicken Marsala, Calamari Marinara, Pork Marsala or Tilapia Picata\*.

All specials include a choice of soup or salad and fresh baked bread (served with roasted garlic and olive oil). To help you

celebrate try our famous "Matzarita for two". A giant margarita served in a 46 oz. glass which will also be available for \$10.

Matzaluna is located at 1200 Periwinkle Way. Dinner is served daily from 5 pm to 9 pm. Call ahead seating is available.

\*These specials are not valid with any other discounts or coupons and are for dining in only. Call 472-1998 for more information.

## Christmas at the Historical Museum 1936 dollhouse draws a crowd at Historical Museum

A two-story, three-foot long doll house is the buzz at this year's Holiday Antique Toy show at the Sanibel Historical Village and Museum. The house, replete with vintage 1930s toy furniture, was built by Raymond Clinton for his daughter, Mary Ann Wasson. Clinton, uncle of former President Bill Clinton, enjoyed working with wood and made the house for Mary Ann in 1935. The doll house was passed

down from generation to generation and has now been donated to the museum to be enjoyed by new groups of children.

The Antique Toy Show runs from December 1 - January 8 at the Sanibel Historical Village and Museum located at 950 Dunlop Road. The Village is open from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. from Wednesday to Saturday. Donation is \$5. For more information, please call 472-4648.

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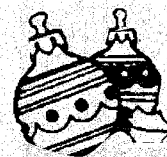
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## Art of Shelling book signing

Chuck and Debbie Robinson, husband-and-wife authors of *The Art of Shelling*, will sign copies of their book at The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum on Sanibel on Tuesday, Dec. 28, from 1 - 3 p.m.

"We're really looking forward to it," Chuck Robinson said recently in a telephone interview from his home in Manasquan, N.J. "We've visited the museum many times and it's an

honor for us to be asked to do a book signing by museum store manager Patricia Jones."

*The Art of Shelling* is "a complete guide to finding shells and other beach collectibles at shelling locations from Florida to Maine." The second edition of the book was published in 2000 and was featured in an article about beachcombing in the July 2002 issue of *Martha Stewart*

*Living Magazine*.

*The Art of Shelling* highlights 28 shelling locations, including Florida, and is "loaded with interesting facts about shells and the seashore."

Shell Museum director Dr. José H. Leal calls the book "a well-organized, informative, and concise sourcebook for the recreational shell collector." Jan Larson, of Rutgers University Cooperative Extension,

notes, "This fun book not only informs the reader about shells, it helps to elevate their understanding of the seashore environment."

The 180-page paperback *The Art of Shelling* sells for \$14.95 at the museum store. The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum is located at 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road on Sanibel. For further information, call the museum at 395-2233.



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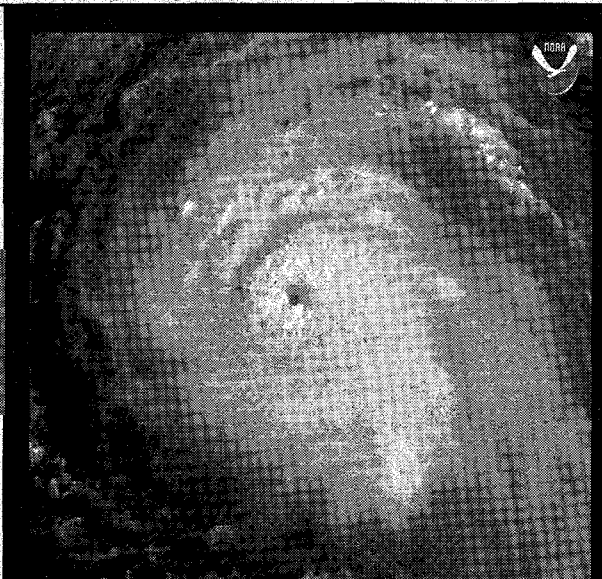
is now taking orders for their pictorial history book of the recent hurricanes.

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  - ~ documentation from the local fire department and police officers
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**Sign up now for the Safe Boating Course**

There's still time to sign up for the Public Safe Boating course offered by the Sanibel Captiva Sail & Power Squadron. The course begins at 9 a.m. on Saturday, January 8 at the Sanibel School. It consists of four classroom sessions, plus an educational cruise, participation in live demonstrations at Sanibel Safe Boating Day (February 5), and an exam. Class size is limited. To pre-register, call Jim Strothers at 395-1856 today.

This is an introductory course that teaches the basics of safe boating. Included are the "rules of the road", making sure your boat is properly equipped, some basic navigational instruction, use of a marine radio, basic weather, engine troubleshooting, and basic piloting.

An important feature of the course is the educational cruise. Students take a cruise of the local area lasting approximately two hours. They learn what the different markers mean as well as what the same area looks like after dark.

On Sanibel Safe Boating Day

(February 5) students will participate in live demonstrations presented by the Sanibel Marine Patrol, the Sanibel Fire Department and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Upon completion of the course, students are offered membership in the Power Squadron, which will allow them to take many more advanced courses to improve their boating knowledge and skills. Advanced Power Squadron courses being offered include engine maintenance; marine electronics; weather; cruise planning; sailing; seamanship; piloting; advanced piloting; navigation and skipper saver. For more information about advanced courses, contact Jim Bradford at 768-5476.

Chartered in 1975 with 50 members, today the Sanibel Captiva Sail & Power Squadron has 400 members. The United States Power Squadron is the oldest organization in the U.S. dedicated to safe boating. It has over 450 squadrons with over 60,000 members.

**Offshore Sailing School appoints new sales manager**

Doris Colgate, President and CEO of Offshore Sailing School, has announced the appointment of Diana Smith as sales manager for the firm, effective in January. Headquartered at the Fort Myers Sales Office, Smith will be responsible for all aspects of sales nationwide, including courses and programs, special events and boat shows around the country.

Smith was most recently senior sales account manager and market intelligence officer for Delphi Corporation, the world's largest automotive supplier in Detroit, MI. She was on the Founding Board of Directors of the National Women's Sailing Association, serving as President from 2000 through 2004. Her career includes extensive experience in business-to-business and retail sales, as well as event planning, marketing and promotion for events. Smith is an avid sailor, both racing and cruising, with 11 Port Huron-to-Mackinac races in her resume as both crew chief and skipper, and has led cruising flotillas and delivery crews.

"We are delighted to have Diana join

our team," said Colgate. "Her sailing background and business experience are the right match for our goals as we head into our fifth decade."

Steve and Doris Colgate's Offshore Sailing School is ranked #1 in America by Practical Sailor for instructors and curricula. Offshore bases include four in Florida — Hawk's Cay Resort on Duck Key, Mansion House B&B in St. Petersburg, the Pink Shell Resort on Fort Myers Beach, and South Seas Resort on Captiva Island — plus Tortola, British Virgin Islands; Abaco, Bahamas; The Sagamore on Lake George, New York; Liberty Landing, New Jersey and Chelsea Piers, New York.

Sailing at every level and powerboat training are offered. The school and its instructors are US SAILING certified to provide the finest boating education available. Offshore is celebrating its 40th year anniversary in 2004.

For more information, contact Offshore Sailing School at 800-221-4326 or visit [www.offshore-sailing.com](http://www.offshore-sailing.com).



San-Cap Power Squadron member Jack Finley and toys to be donated.

**San-Cap Power Squadron donates toys**

Sanibel Captiva Sail & Power Squadron members brought Christmas toys for boys and girls to their 29th annual charter and holiday party.

The toys will be shared between

Community Cooperative Ministries, Inc., in Dunbar and Brightest Horizons in Harlem Heights.

The project was organized by Power Squadron member Jack Finley.

**Non-stop to Hartford from SWFIA**

**Delta Connection to add new non-stop service to Hartford**

Delta Connection has announced plans to begin two daily nonstop flights between Southwest Florida International Airport and Hartford, Conn., beginning March 2, 2005. This is the first scheduled nonstop service between Southwest Florida and Hartford. With this new service, SWFIA will have daily nonstop flights to each of its top 20 domestic markets.

Beginning March 2, Delta Connection carrier Comair will begin twice-daily non-stop jet service between Hartford and Fort Myers. To celebrate the new service, customers may purchase travel between Hartford and Fort Myers at fares starting as low as \$67 each way based on round trip purchase (round trip purchase required) from now until Dec. 23 (restrictions apply).

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**FORECAST FOR DECEMBER 18 & 19**

SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.

**WEEKEND TIDES**

City	Sat. High	Sat. Low	Sun. High	Sun. Low
Cape Coral Bridge	9:22 a.m. 11:41 p.m.	4:28 p.m. 5:34 p.m.	11:08 a.m. 6:15 p.m.	6:01 p.m.
Captiva at Redfish Pass	7:12 a.m. 9:31 p.m.	1:12 a.m. 2:18 p.m.	8:58 a.m. 9:51 p.m.	2:45 a.m. 2:59 p.m.
Fort Myers	12:15 a.m. 10:15 p.m.	5:10 p.m. 6:16 p.m.	12:34 a.m. 12:01 p.m.	6:43 a.m. 6:57 p.m.
Matacha Pass	8:50 a.m. 11:09 p.m.	3:54 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	10:36 a.m. 11:29 p.m.	5:27 a.m. 5:41 p.m.
Pineland	7:48 a.m. 10:07 p.m.	2:52 a.m. 3:58 p.m.	9:34 a.m. 10:27 p.m.	4:25 a.m. 4:39 p.m.
Point Ybel	6:17 a.m. 8:36 p.m.	1:14 a.m. 2:20 p.m.	8:03 a.m. 8:56 p.m.	2:47 a.m. 3:01 p.m.
Punta Rassa	7:06 a.m. 9:25 p.m.	1:07 a.m. 2:13 p.m.	8:52 a.m. 9:45 p.m.	2:40 a.m. 2:54 p.m.
St. James City	7:37 a.m. 9:56 p.m.	1:42 a.m. 2:48 p.m.	9:23 a.m. 10:16 p.m.	3:15 a.m. 3:29 p.m.

**PORT CHARLOTTE**  
70/52 Sat  
64/43 Sun

**CHARLOTTE COUNTY**

**PUNTA GORDA**  
70/52 Sat  
66/43 Sun

**LEE COUNTY**

**BOCA GRANDE**  
71/57 Sat  
66/46 Sun

**LEHIGH ACRES**  
70/53 Sat  
67/45 Sun

**PINE ISLAND**  
70/54 Sat  
66/44 Sun

**CAPE CORAL**  
71/53 Sat  
65/44 Sun

**FORT MYERS**  
71/54 Sat  
64/43 Sun

**IMMOKALEE**  
70/53 Sat  
67/45 Sun

**CAPTIVA ISLAND**  
71/58 Sat  
65/46 Sun

**SANIBEL ISLAND**  
77/69 Sat  
78/64 Sun

**FORT MYERS BEACH**  
71/53 Sat  
65/44 Sun

**BONITA SPRINGS**  
71/55 Sat  
64/44 Sun

**ESTERO/SANCARLOS**  
71/55 Sat  
64/44 Sun

**COLLIER COUNTY**

**MARCO ISLAND**  
71/59 Sat  
67/47 Sun

**NAPLES**  
71/57 Sat  
67/46 Sun

**Gulf of Mexico**

**BOATING FORECAST**  
Wind: N/A  
Seas:  
Bay & Inland:

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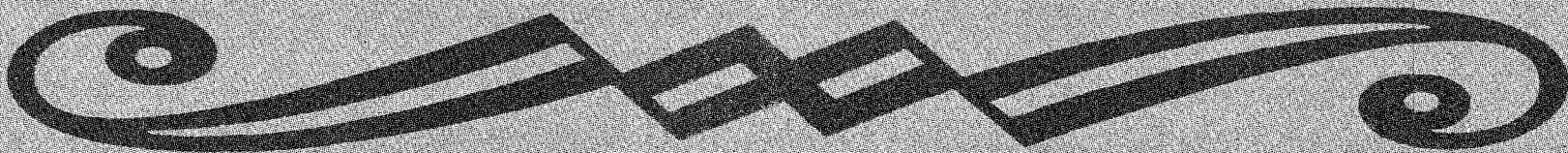
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**STATE FORECAST-SATURDAY**

CITY	HIGH/LOW
CAPE CORAL	65/44
DAYTONA BEACH	65/42
FT. LAUDERDALE	74/57
FT. MYERS BEACH	71/53
GAINESVILLE	61/38
JACKSONVILLE	64/33
KEY WEST	73/64
KISSIMEE	66/46
MIAMI	75/58
ORLANDO	65/48
PANAMA CITY	66/37
PENSACOLA	55/35
SARASOTA	66/48
ST. PETERSBURG	65/50
TALLAHASSEE	60/34
TAMPA	68/41
VERO BEACH	70/49
WEST PALM BEACH	72/53

**SATURDAY SUNRISE 7:10 AM**

**SUNDAY SUNSET 5:39 PM**



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