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islander

BRIEF

VOLUME 44, NUMBER 5

WEEK OF MARCH 25 - 31, 2005

SINCE 1961

32 PAGES



BIG ARTS presented their "The Sky Special" on March 19th, featuring live entertainment and lunch for three. The BIG ARTS "grillers" cooked the "dops" (from the Blue Sky Special) will be on April 13. See page 17.

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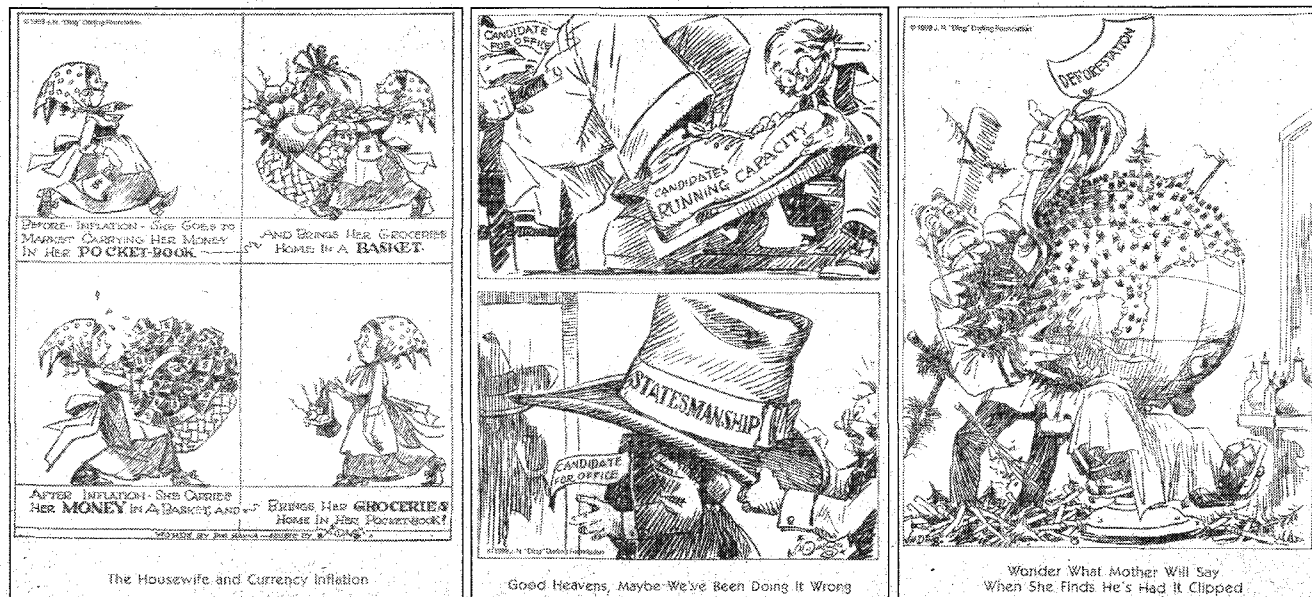
New Darling collection introduced

By Anne Bellew
Staff Writer

A temporary power outage greeted "Ding" Darling's grandson at the Thursday, March 17 lecture in the Education Center of the renowned cartoonist's namesake refuge on Sanibel. Power was soon restored and a full house, including a busload of middle school students, watched and listened raptly as Kip Koss introduced his recently published *A New Ding Darling Sampler* — 200 of the 15,000 cartoons with which Jay Norwood "Ding" Darling chronicled "the history, trends, thoughts and politics of the United States" from 1912 to 1961.



Kip Koss (right) at a book signing following his lecture at "Ding" Darling.



The timelessness of the art of J.N. "Ding" Darling.

Darling's editorial cartoons often appeared on the front page of the *Des Moines Register* and were syndicated throughout the country. A frequent island visitor, the Pulitzer Prize winning artist served as head of the U.S. Biological Survey (forerunner of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service) and was designer of the first Federal Duck Stamp in 1934.

Koss pointed out — and even the briefest glance through the new book verifies — the timelessness of many of Darling's cartoons as well as his uncanny ability

to spear unwary politicians. (Roosevelt purportedly appointed him to the Biological Survey to avoid further barbs.) Darling's way of painlessly inoculating common sense into the public consciousness was another of his inimitable talents.

A New Ding Darling Sampler is available for \$14.95 through the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society's bookstore in the Education Center at the refuge or by logging on to www.dingdarlingsociety.org.

Birding at the Preserves

Join birders on weekly outings to preserves owned and managed by the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation. Both new and experienced birders will enjoy a variety of birds in a diversity of wildlife habitat. Botany enthusiasts are

also welcome to help identify plants along the trails. Walks begin at 7:30 a.m. On March 25, meet in the parking lot of the SCCF Nature Center. All outings are free to everyone. Please call SCCF at 472-2329 for more details.

SCCF Shoreline Discovery Walks

The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation will once again be offering this weekly educational program. Learn about the animals that live along and use our shores, the life cycle of the sea turtles that nest here and the natural forces that shape the barrier islands of Sanibel and Captiva.

Shoreline Discovery programs will explore the fascinating marine creatures that live in this highly dynamic ecosystem. Programs will begin with an orienta-

tion to the animals in the Conservation Foundation's marine touch tank and then proceed to Gulfside City Park for a Discovery walk.

The Conservation Foundations Shoreline Discovery Program will be offered on Thursday mornings at 9 a.m. This program is \$/adult and free for children. A beach parking fee of approximately \$2 may also be required. Call the Conservation Foundation's Nature Center at 472-2329 for info.

Upcoming Audubon outings

- Saturday, March 26 at the Sanibel Fishing Pier and Lighthouse. Meet in Fishing Pier parking lot. \$2/hour parking. *Note: This is the final trip of the season.*

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

Kids: Take me to the river

The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation will be offering an environmental education program for kids entitled, "Take me to the river."

Kids will have the opportunity to learn about the fascinating aspects of wetlands by exploring and investigation Sanibel's interior wetlands. This interpretive program will be geared for ages 5 - 12 and will take place on Wednesday, March 30

and Wednesday, April 6.

An adult must accompany kids, so kids, parents and grandparents, please dome to the Conservation Foundation's Nature Center and "Take Me to the River." Space will be limited so reservations are required. The program will be free for kids and \$5/adult. For info and reservations, call the Conservation Foundation at 472-2329.

Butterfly House tours

Tour the SCCF Butterfly House on Tuesdays at 10 a.m., with a guide who will teach you about the life cycle and behavior of butterflies. \$1 donation. The house is also open to visitors without a guide.

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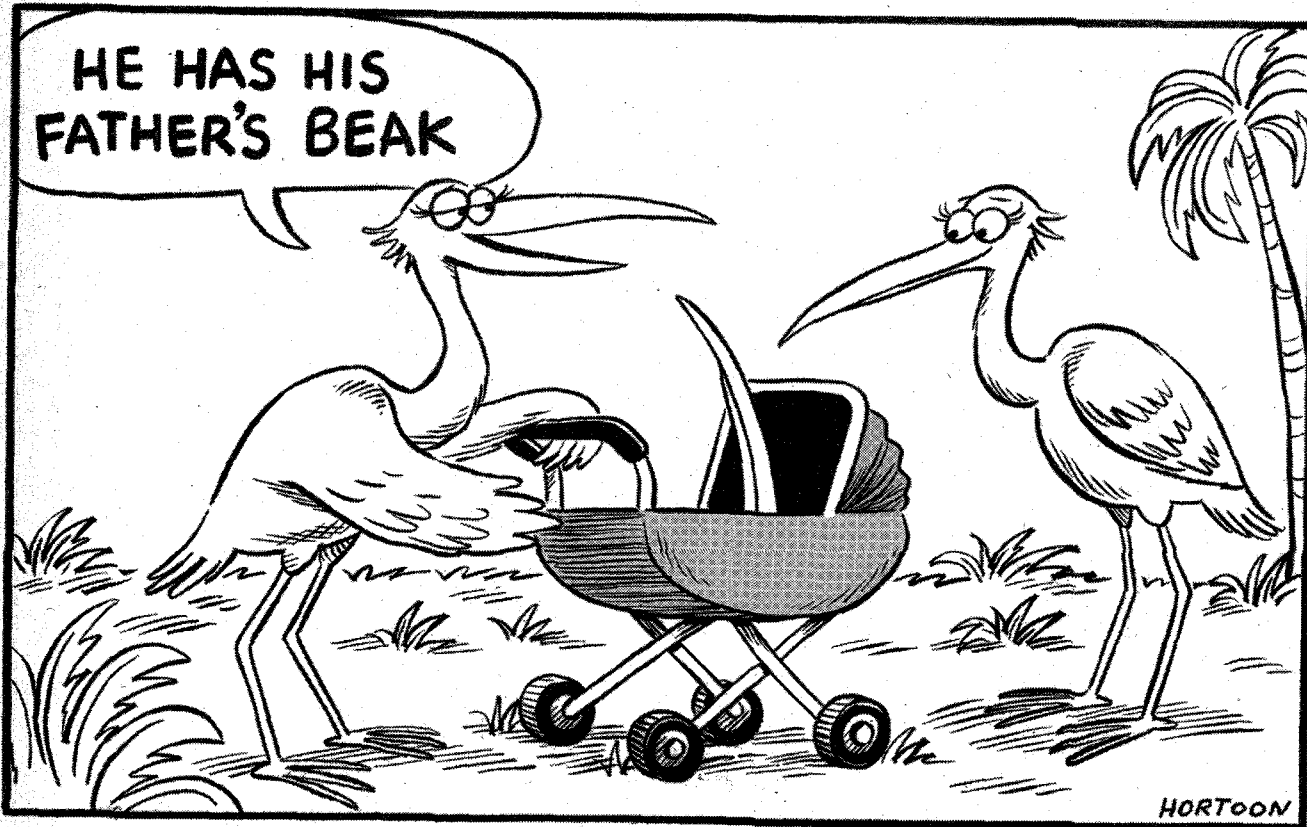
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Lions Arts & Crafts Fair

The 22nd Annual Sanibel-Captiva Lions Club Arts & Crafts Fair will be held today, Friday, March 25 and Saturday, March 26, from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Sanibel Community Center at 2173 Periwinkle Way. There is plenty of free parking across the street at the Schoolhouse Theatre.

This juried event features over 150 exhibits showing hand-crafted items. There will be a food court. \$3 donation. All proceeds benefit Lions charities: seeing-eye dog programs, Florida Eye Bank, Sanibel School, scholarships for the blind, training for the blind and support for local charities.

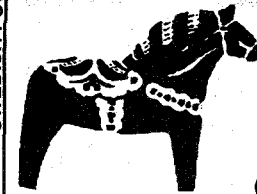
Stars over Sanibel

Learn about the constellations, our solar system and the Milky Way and indulge your natural curiosity about the mysteries of the universe. Wednesday evenings through the end of March at the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation Nature Center. Meet on the porch; the group then proceeds to the trails. \$5/adult; \$2/child. Reservations are required. Call 472-2329.

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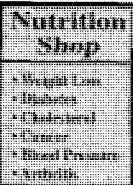
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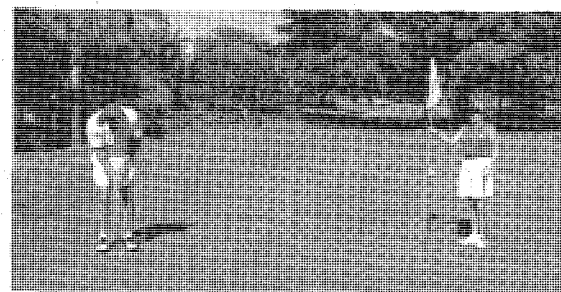


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OBITUARIES

Noel J. MacCarry

Noel MacCarry, one of the well-known Storytellers of Sanibel and a long-time civil rights advocate, died March 16, 2005 at Hope Hospice following several years of declining health. He was 87.

Born in Rochester, N.Y., in 1918, he attended a one-room school in the Adirondacks, then Stuyvesant High School in New York City, and received his Bachelor's from Notre Dame. He began his working life as a copy boy at the New York Daily News and, after two years of service during World War II, worked for the International News Service in Pittsburgh, then the Associated Press bureau in Philadelphia where he met his future wife, Bert, his night editor and boss. They were married in 1946.

Shortly afterward, the couple quit their

jobs and joined a friend in Peru for a business venture that didn't materialize. After their return to the states, MacCarry joined Lederle Laboratories Public Relations Department where he was named Director of Industrial & Community Relations a year later.

After 22 years with Lederle, at age 53 he took early retirement to move into a new career working for social change: Executive Director of the Rockland County [N.Y.] Commission on Human Rights. The move was partially prompted by the death of his eldest son, Timothy, at the age of 22, who was found shot while working with the Chicano movement in California. His second son, Noel, also a civil rights advocate, urged him toward work that would benefit people, especially minorities and/or the less fortunate.

Always outspoken, during the seven years he was with the Commission, MacCarry is credited with bringing the agency increased prominence in both local and national affairs. In fact, there was a "rumor" that one newspaper editor posted a notice in his newsroom to the effect that "You don't have to print every single press release you get from Noel MacCarry!"

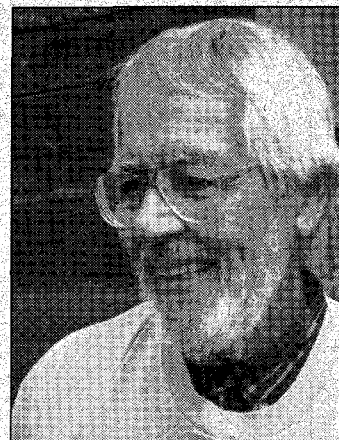
When he was appointed to the directorship, he acquired the nickname "Don Quixote," the legendary Spanish nobleman renowned for his unreachable ideals — only MacCarry's wind-

mills were real people with real problems. It was said at the time that he had "about as much chance of stamping out bigotry as Quixote had of slaying his dragons," according to a profile in the *Island Reporter* in 1981. Nonetheless, the soubriquet stuck — the MacCarry home is filled with Quixote images, from statuettes on music boxes that play "The Impossible Dream," to linens featuring Picasso's familiar image of the knight and his friend Sancho Panza. And Noel was enormously successful in his "quests," even awarded a Life Membership in the NAACP for his contributions to human rights.

He retired from the commission in 1978 and he and Bert moved to Sanibel the following year, where his plan was to develop a free-lance writing career. "He wrote a lot," Bert says, "but I don't know that he ever got much published. He was very devoted to a clipping service he started — kept in mind all kinds of things he knew various friends were interested in, clipped them out pertinent articles and mailed them out all over the place. And he wrote very long letters."

Continuing his advocacy role, MacCarry served as chair of the Human Rights Advocacy Committee for Southwest Florida's 10-county district of the Department of Health & Rehabilitative Services. Prior to that, he'd volunteered for the Lee County Citizens Dispute Settlement program, as well.

Bert was the original story teller of the



two, but Noel would accompany her on trips and, if she was unable to perform for some reason, he started filling in. Bert said with a chuckle, "He was more popular than I was!" The two of them taught many story-telling classes around the state and, about 20 years ago, were asked by former students to help create a group that would meet strictly to tell stories... The Tamiami Tale Tellers were born.

"Noel was a Pied Piper and a pixie mixed together," story teller Maggie Mullins said. "He was a remarkable man who lived a story. The two of them were founders of the whole story-telling movement in Lee County. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to them."

"He taught many of the local story-tellers," her husband Steve added. "We'll continue to meet, but it'll never be quite the same."

The MacCarrys taught story telling at seven Elder Hostels from Florida to Vermont and were awarded the 2002 Lifetime Achievement Award at the Florida Storytelling Camp, only the second time the honor had been given. MacCarry is survived by his wife of 58 years, Bert; one son — Noel C. MacCarry, and his wife, Debbie, of Danbury, Conn.; and three grandchildren — Brian, Erin and Kevin. His older son Timothy died in 1970.

A memorial service was held March 17. Donations in Noel's memory may be made to Hope Hospice, 9470 HealthPark Circle, Fort Myers 33908.



Noel and Bert MacCarry



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Jacinto Thomas Mendez

Sanibel resident Tom Mendez died in a tragic accident Sunday, March 13th, 2005. He had been a resident of the area for the past 25 years and an employee and resident of Periwinkle Park for 17. Formerly from Lansing, Mich., Tommy was 47 at the time of his death.

Last Thursday afternoon (March 17th), so many people showed up at the funeral home to pay Tommy their final respects and say goodbye, that two services had to be held. Yet a third took place on the island the next day, also packed. Well over 100 people crowded into the funeral home chapel for each service — standing along the side walls, sitting on the floor, crowding into the family room and the vestibule. The service on the island at Sanibel Community Church was also packed. Many at the services, men and women, were in tears as family and friends spoke of their love and overwhelming feeling of loss.



"Truly he was the greatest blessing in my life," a very dear friend said. "To me he was Sanibel."

Hailed by his older brother as "one of the people who taught me how to live, how to love, even how to play the guitar," Tommy was loved by everyone who met him.

"Every time I saw him, he was happy," fellow-islander and Bank of America branch manager Richard McCurry commented. "And he lived every day to the fullest."

"... My guitar was broken once

and he offered to fix it for me. He took it home, fixed it and brought it back to me while I was working at the little branch bank down from the park. He pulled in on his golf cart and was stuck there at least a half-hour playing for customers. Everyone who came in kept asking for more!"

"He was one helluva a special guy and

Mendez, continued right

Last REO coming up

The Resident Environmental Orientation (REO) offered by the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation in partnership with Captiva Cruises is a free orientation for residents, property owners and the business community of Sanibel and Captiva islands. The REO is only offered during the winter months on Mondays from 2 - 6 p.m.

Programs include a review of the conserved lands of the island, island formation, conservation history and the Conservation Foundation's Landscaping

for Wildlife program. Thanks to Captiva Cruises, the orientation will culminate in a trolley ride and short boat trip on Pine Island Sound.

The REO provides an excellent overview of the islands and opens the door of opportunity for people to learn more. These Monday programs are limited to 25 people so reservations are required.

For info and reservations, call the Conservation Foundation at 472-2329.

Weeds and Seeds

We are a group of amateur botanists who love to find and identify native plants on Sanibel. We gather on the porch of the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) on Monday mornings at 8:45 a.m. Our walks begin at 9 a.m. and last for two hours. You will need parking money when we leave the Foundation to explore other parts of the island.

For additional information, please call

Susan Sprout at 395-2791, Elaine Jacobson at 395-1878, or Candice Ethridge at 395-9498.

• March 28 - Oak Hammock - Come walk with us under the island's oldest stand of live oaks. Many native shrubs and herbaceous plants grow along this trail which is not open to the general public. Hike leader- Bill Wollschlager

"Ding" Darling and the Everglades: Lecture at the refuge

Joyce Mazourek, the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) liaison at J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, will speak about Everglades restoration at a special presentation on March 31 at 1 p.m. in the Education Center.

Mazourek, who joined the refuge staff last June, serves as advocate for the protection of refuge property, meeting with other agencies involved in the Everglades restoration to examine the water supply and its effect on habitat.

Admission is free; the event is sponsored by the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, the refuge's non-profit friends organization, as the last of its 13-week Thursday Afternoon Lecture Series. For more information, call 472-1100 ext. 241 or log on to www.dingdarlingsociety.org.



Joyce Mazourek

Mendez, from left

"He'll be really, really missed," Periwinkle Park owner Dick Muench said. "Almost eighteen years — he grew up here! As Jerry [Dick's brother] said at the service: 'God must have needed a good maintenance man...'"

"Tom wasn't just an employee, he was our friend."

"Tom was unique in that he exemplified the term, 'care and respect,'" Anne Bellew, who lived and worked in the park and met Tom the day he started to work, added. "It was almost as if the two words were one — he respected you, he cared for you; and if he cared for you, he clearly respected you as well."

"I met Tom the day he came to work, the same as Anne," David Muench continued. "I could instantly tell we'd be friends for a long time. His absence leaves a huge hole in my life, in all of our lives... And there's something missing from the atmosphere of the trailer park, as well. He was more than a 'guy who worked here,' he was family to all of us."

"People come and go in all of our lives. Sometimes we say they are replaced... Tom will never be replaced. He was a big brother to me that I could go talk to if I needed someone — there's no way you can replace that."

"I've known Tom for close to 20 years. You couldn't ask for a nicer guy," Island Condo Maintenance owner Steve Walter said. Island Condo is next door to the park and did the maintenance on much of its landscape equipment. "He'd come over after work and we'd sit around kind of rehearsing the day. He was always friendly, always willing to help people out... It's going to really be hard for the park residents — every time they look at a water heater he fixed, or a furnace, crank a window with a new crank or get their gas tanks refilled, they're going to be reminded of Tom."

"You know," he continued, "Tom may have only been here 17 years, not 30 or 40, but he was truly 'an Islander.'"

"Tommy and I had a kind of 'inside joke,'" Dawn Muench volunteered, "so I want you to know, Tom, I'll take care of your animals for you! And I'll always miss you and love you."

Surviving, in addition to hundreds of friends, are Tom's two sons, Jacinto Thomas Mendez, Jr. and Tyler Mendez of Sanibel; his mother, Abigail Beltran of Faison, N.C.; two brothers — Peter Rivera of Englewood, Fla., and William Rivera of Ontario, Cal.; two sisters — Maria Lord of Alexandria, Va., and Karla Ussell of Lansing; and his grandmother, Sarah Cavallero.

Lucille Gardner, a long-time resident of Periwinkle Park, had known Tom well over the years. "Those two boys are very important to me. From the time they were little, I've cared about them, and I so appreciate having them as a part of my life and watching them grow up. This is really going to be tough on them."

Another of the park residents made a special point of pointing out to the boys and the rest of the crowd at the service how proud Tom was of his sons. "Any time I'd ask about them," he said, "Tom would beam and tell me how great they were, how well they were doing, or relate

some neat thing they'd just done."

Laura Hesse, who's been on the island for 30 years, also knew Tom, the proud father... "He showed up all the time to see our kids play ball — from T-ball on. He was so very proud of Tommy. Most people there were so-called 'baseball moms' like me, but it was Tom who was always there for his boys. When Tommy was seven or eight, he would be down there with him before the games helping him with his stance, his batting, his catching, or whatever Tommy needed help with."

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Memorial Fund for Jacinto Thomas, Jr. and Tyler, c/o Kiser Funeral Home, 9231 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers 33919.

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REPLANTING PERIWINKLE

Periwinkle Way Corridor Restoration Project community workshop

There will be a Community Input Planning Workshop about the Periwinkle Way Corridor Restoration Project on Thursday, March 31 from 3 - 9 p.m. at the Sanibel Recreation Center at 3840 Sanibel-Captiva Road, offered by the City of Sanibel and the

Periwinkle Partnership.

Learn about the project and provide your ideas and your input on vegetation material selection, pedestrian and bicycle safety, streetscape amenities, funding and maintenance, among other topics.

If you cannot attend you can also send your comments and suggestions to the City at thinkperiwinklerestoration@mysanibel.com or mail to the City of Sanibel, Planning Department, 800 Dunlop Road, Sanibel 33957 or call 472-4136.

Answers to frequently asked questions

1. What is the objective of the Periwinkle Way Restoration Project?

The objective of the Periwinkle Way Restoration Program is to develop a Master Plan that restores the character of our community that existed prior to the Hurricane. The Master Plan will be used to apply for grants and other funds to replant Periwinkle Way and Tarpon Bay Road.

2. What is the status of the restoration of Periwinkle Way?

The City has hired a professional landscape architect firm, Vanasse-Daylor, to develop a Master Plan for restoring the hurricane damage along Periwinkle Way and Tarpon Bay Road. The next step is to obtain community input during the Planning Workshop.

3. What is the purpose of the Community Input Planning Workshop?

The purpose of the Community Input Planning Workshop is to hear the public's opinion on what you want for the restoration of Periwinkle Way. At the Workshop you can learn about the project and provide your ideas and input on vegetation material selection, pedestrian and bicycle safety, streetscape amenities, funding and maintenance among other topics.

4. When and where is the Community Input Planning Workshop?

The Community Input Planning Workshop will be from 3 - 9 p.m. on March 31 at the Sanibel Recreation Center, 3840 Sanibel Captiva Road.

5. Where are the boundaries of the restoration project?

The overall project area consists of the road rights-of-way for Periwinkle Way from the intersection at Lindgren Boulevard to the intersection at Tarpon Bay Road, approximately three miles in length. Also included in the project area are road rights-of-

way for Palm Ridge Road and the half-mile segment of Tarpon Bay Road between Periwinkle Way and Palm Ridge Road.

6. What type of vegetation will be planted in the Periwinkle Way right-of-way?

The answer to this question will be determined after the City hears what you want to be planted along the Periwinkle corridor. Your input will help determine what will be planted in the Periwinkle Way right-of-way.

7. What is the timeline for completing the Periwinkle Way restoration project?

The type, nature and costs of the project identified through the Community Input Planning Workshop, as well as the availability of funding, will determine the schedule. Depending on funding it may take 5 years or even longer to complete the entire Master Plan.

8. Are FEMA funds available to restore the Periwinkle Way corridor?

Planting new vegetation is NOT a FEMA eligible expenditure. FEMA funds were used to clear the right-of-way of vegetation that was harmed or damaged by the Hurricane.

9. How will the project be funded?

We want to hear your ideas for funding this important project. In addition to the grants the City is also working to identify any other local, state or federal funds that may be dedicated to the Periwinkle Way Project.

10. Is the City pursuing any grants or other funding for the projects?

The City of Sanibel is pursuing grants and other funding mechanisms for the Periwinkle Way Restoration Project. We would also like to hear your ideas on funding this important project.

11. Is a maintenance plan part of the Master Plan for

the Restoration of Periwinkle Way?

Yes. Good maintenance and management techniques will be part of the Master Plan.

12. What are the next steps after the Community Input Planning Workshop?

Following the Community Input Planning Workshop, the Master Plan will be reviewed by the Vegetation Committee and the Planning Commission at public meetings. The Master Plan for the Restoration of Periwinkle Way will be approved by City Council at a public meeting.

13. Who is the Periwinkle Way Partnership?

The three original partners in the Periwinkle Partnership were Sanibel Beautification Incorporated, the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation and the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce. This partnership is inclusive and open to the entire community. You can be part of this partnership by participating in the preparation of a Master Plan for Restoration of Periwinkle Way.

14. If I cannot attend the March 31st Workshop, how can I submit my suggestions and ideas?

You can also send your comments to the following City e-mail address, thinkperiwinklerestoration@mysanibel.com; mail to the City of Sanibel, Planning Department, 800 Dunlop Road, Sanibel, FL 33957 or telephone (239) 472-4136.

If you have any additional questions, contact the City of Sanibel, Planning Department by calling 472-4136.

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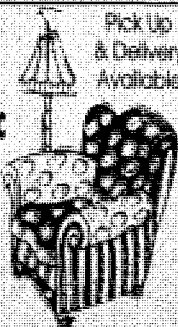
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Bailey's Easter Spring Contest 2005

Drop by Bailey's General Store to see the winners of the Spring drawing contest. Drawings are hanging at the front of the store and can also be found throughout Bailey's Center.

First, second and third place winners were chosen from Sanibel School entries from students in the first through fifth grades.

Stop by and catch a peek at Spring!

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Refuge staff honors volunteers



After updating the crowd on refuge happenings, Jess and Jeff Combs, refuge volunteer coordinator, presented 84 awards to volunteers for years and hours of service, beginning with Betty Hess and Mary Lou Schadt, who received their 20-year awards.

Below is a complete list of award recipients, who received certificates, pins, and glasswork etched by Sanibel artist Luc Century.

2005 Volunteer Awards

150 hours: Iver Brook; William Cruickshank; Bonnie Dale; Maggie Hanson; Herb Lieberman; Fred Monick; Marie Monick; Joyce Mutz; Sam Patrino; Marian Pool; Anne Scott; Jim Scott; Denny Souers; Dennis Wahl; John Wolf; Martha Wolf; Victor Young;

250 hours:

Iver Brook; Harry Gleitz; Audrey Holman; Peggy Hupfeldt; William Hupfeldt; Maryan Hurtt; Alys Kerns; Herb Lieberman; Peg McEwen; Tom Mustachio; Martin Pokedoff; Esther Pokedoff; William Pugh; Clint Rivenburgh

500 hours:

William Cramer; Michael Denham; Lois Greenberg; Jerry Halweg; Cleora Keeley; Barry Litofsky; Susan Moore; Arthur Pore; Helen Richmond; Shirley Schiffman; Whitman Smith

1,000 hours:

Theresa Baldwin; Arthur Cramer; Mary Cramer; Bart Cuderman; Bruce

Miles

1,500 hours:

Dan Davis; Judy Davis; Is Gotti; Jean Lammers

2,000 hours:

Carroll Branyon; Ann Wollschlager

2,500 hours:

Norm Honest; Jack Rushworth; Bill Wollschlager

3,000 hours:

Jim Sprinkle;

3,500 hours:

Jim Sprinkle

4,000 hours:

Jim Sprinkle

4,500 hours:

Richard Hulit; Jim Sprinkle

5,000 hours:

Richard Hulit; Bill Rankin; Jim Sprinkle

7,000 hours:

Jeanne Rankin

8,500 hours:

Molly Krival

10-year award:

Caroline Adams; Joanne Claassen; Betsy Doonan; Edward Elmendorf; Lucille Exworthy; Joe Fisher; Maryan Hurtt; Carolyn Johns; Irmgard Lampron; Rudolph Lampron; Bruce Miles; Joan Miller; Sharlene Myatt;

Georgia Nef; Emily Palmer; Carole Stark

20-year award:

Betty Hess; Mary Lou Schadt

Free Ham radio training

Individuals interested in becoming amateur Ham radio operators are invited to participate in a nine-week training program being offered through the Lee County Chapter of the American Red Cross. The class is open to any person of any age. During last summer's hurricanes, Ham radio operators were the communications link among Red Cross shelters, emergency management personnel, and other service organizations.

The class, which will be taught by a registered instructor, will be held Mondays from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. at the Emergency Operations Center on Ortiz Avenue, Fort Myers, from April 4 through June 6. There is no charge for the class; each participant will need to purchase a \$15 text book. The class will stress communications that shelters, hospitals, and emergency management personnel need during emergencies. Individuals will not need to learn Morse Code and there is no obligation to join any organization.

The class is being offered jointly by the American Red Cross, All Lee Emergency Response Team (ALERT), and the Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club. The class will prepare individuals for their FCC amateur radio license. For info contact Lorna Brown, 822-7999.

Center celebrated first anniversary

By Nola Theiss

Special to the Islander

The Center for Sustainability and Environmental Education held its annual meeting on February 26 at the West Wind Inn, following an all day meeting with its board members. Among those on the Board (not necessarily in attendance at the February 26 meeting) are environmentalists and writers David Orr, Alison Hawthorne-Deming, Terry Tempest Williams and Sanibel's own former Mayor Louise Johnson and Director Peter

Blaze Corcoran. This was the Center's first anniversary although its work has become well-known on Sanibel as a sponsor of lectures featuring Barbara Kingsolver, Terry Tempest Williams, Mary Evelyn Tucker and an earlier program, with ECOSanibel, with authors Peter Mathiessen and Janisse Ray.

Following the board meeting, Mallory and Peter Haffenreffer of Gulf Shores hosted a party for members of the Center, including many local citizens. The event was catered by Mozella's Foodworks.

GAEA Kayaks

Tuesdays - Ostego Bay Foundation - 2 - 5 p.m. - Enjoy a guided tour of this wonderful Marine Sciences facility and then take a guided paddle on the Great Calusa Blueway to see the critters you just learned about - in their natural habitat. A portion of the proceeds goes to support the Foundation (www.ostegobay.org) - \$40 per person

Sunday, March 27 (Easter) - Great Calusa Blueway Tour - 10 a.m. - Paddle on this nationally recognized paddling trail. We meander in and out of the mangroves, and across the grass flats seeing the birds that live there, the fish and various other critters. You will learn about the ecology of the estuary that we'll be in and you'll also learn some history of our natives, the Calusa, that thrived in these estuaries for 1000's of years. It's a beautiful trip! - 2 hours - \$35 per person.

For more information and a reservation call 239 694-5513.

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'Catch o' the Day' kicks off SCCF Tennis Tourney

On Friday, April 1 — and this is no April Fools joke — Bank of America, located at 2450 Periwinkle Way, invites you to put on your clam diggers, cast your net and join them for an island style fish fry. The cocktail party, commencing at 6:30 p.m., launches SCCF's 13th Annual Tennis Tournament and it is the fourth consecutive year that Bank of America has been a joint sponsor of the tournament.

Bank of America also provides the tournament T-shirts for all entrants, featuring SCCF's signature pelican. No small wonder that SCCF has presented Bank of America with its "Conservation Partner Award."

Tournament play will be at The Dunes on April 2 and 3. General Manager, Kevin McCune has donated all the court time for the tournament.

All players and sponsors are welcome to participate in all activities including cocktail party, silent auction and meals during the tournament.

For further information call Marti Bryant at SCCF 472-2329 or Dianne Marotta at The Dunes 472-3522.



Income Tax Aid at Island Seniors

Every Wednesday through April 13, AARP volunteers are offering tax help. This service is free and open to the public. Bring your W-2's, 1099, and last year's return if possible and you will walk out with a completed tax return. AARP will be at the Senior Center at the corner of Palm Ridge Road and Library Way from 1:00 to 5:00 each Wednesday. No advance registration is required.



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PRUNING (AND RETIRING) YOUR MORTGAGE

Cost cutting has become something of an art form for those who are serious about saving money. One potential area of saving that most people fail to consider is their mortgage. You can shave years off your mortgage and save thousands of dollars in interest by adding a little extra to your mortgage payment each month.

Suppose you took out a 30-year mortgage for \$200,000 at 6.25% interest with a monthly payment of \$1231.43. Your total payments over the life of the loan will come to \$443,315. If you pay just \$100 extra each month, your total loan payments will be \$391,440 saving you \$51,875 and retiring your mortgage about 5 years earlier! Adding \$200 monthly instead would bring the savings to \$84,027 and cut off more than 9 years of payments!

But is it in your best interest to pay off your mortgage early? It depends on such factors as alternative uses of money, how long you plan to live in your home and your income bracket. Consult your tax account to find out if an early payoff is a good option for you. The potential savings are huge!

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.

San-Cap Optimist Celebrity Golf outing

The Second Annual Sanibel-Captiva Optimist Club Local Celebrity golf outing will kick off on Saturday, April 16 from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at Ellington's Jazz Bar & Restaurant, located at 937 East Gulf Drive on Sanibel (at Sanibel Inn). Guests will enjoy an evening of smooth live jazz, gourmet hors d'oeuvres, two-hour open premium bar and the excitement of a live and silent auction. This elegant evening is inclusive with the golf package but it will also be offered to the public for a \$25 entrance fee.

The following morning, the games will begin at the Dunes Golf and Tennis Club, located at 925 Sandcastle Road. Registration will begin at 7 a.m. - 8:15 a.m., with a shotgun start at 8:30 for this Handicap Foursome

Scramble format. The outing includes a continental breakfast, complimentary driving golf balls, golf cart, golfer's goody bag and free snacks, beer and soda on the course.

Throughout the course there will be a variety of betting holes to challenge your skills, such as Beat the Celebrity Pro and Hold-in-One contest. The day will come to a close with a delicious premium buffet, awards and a raffle. Golfers are invited to bring guests to join in the afternoon fun for an additional \$25. The cost for this all-inclusive two-day event is \$125 per person.

Tickets are available at the Dunes Golf & Tennis Club Pro Shop, the customer service desk at Bailey's General Store, Ellington's or by calling Dan Alton at 472-3861.

Under the Sea

I wish to thank each and every one of you who helped make the "Under the Sea" fundraiser for the Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum the huge success it was.

Whether you attended, gave prizes and items, made a donation or helped decorate and organize this event, I thank you all. It would never have happened without your help.

We now look forward to next year.

Anne Joffe
Chairwoman, Fundraising
Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum

Sanibel Shell Show

On behalf of the Sanibel Captiva Shell Club, and as Chairwoman for the Shell Show, I would like to thank everyone who helped make this year's event the best yet.

To all who entered, judged, chaired, organized, attended, fed us and worked hard, you have my sincere thank you.

Anne Joffe

Thanks to Lazy II from Rec

The Sanibel Recreation Department would like to express our sincere gratitude to the laze Flaming II. On Saturday, February 5, Ron Rich and his staff barbecued hamburgers and hot dogs for the Safe Boating Day event. donations from their generous efforts raised \$275 for our youth program - thank you, Lazy Flaming II!

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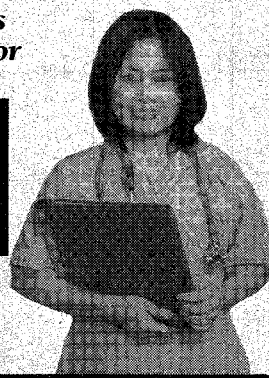
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Raffle donations needed for Taste of the Islands

The biggest party on the Islands is going to be even bigger this year as Taste of the Islands turns 25 years old. The event, which is CROW's biggest fundraiser, is slated to take place on April 25th at Community Park next to the Sanibel Community Center.

All the essential details are being taken care of neatly in the background. In the foreground, we are asking for your help. If you would like to donate a raffle prize — a romantic dinner for two, a week's vacation on the Islands, a precious memento or perhaps a valuable keepsake — the monies generated from your generosity go to this needy cause. If you'd like to help, please contact good citizen Linda Gornick of VIP Realty at 472-5187, ex. 261. (You may call 24 hours a day).

National Day of Prayer May 5

The theme of this year's National Day of Prayer is "God Shed His Grace on Thee". It's great to join in prayers led by citizens and leaders of our Island's police and fire departments, government, conservation groups, houses of worship, schools, arts and businesses.

Jean Wood has been a creative, driving force in this observance since 1994 but she has health challenges. If you or your organization would like to participate; if you would be willing to help with coordination or publicity, etc., kindly call her friend Chris Jorgensen at 437-4472 soon. Veterans are always welcome to come in uniform and lead us in prayer for our troops.

Jam Sessions at the Legion

Come join the fun The Legion is located at Sundays 3 p.m. - Close — 4249 Sanibel-Captiva bring an instrument and Road at the Mile Marker jam with other local musicians or come just to listen #3. Call for more information at 472-9979. and enjoy.

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Animal House Auction Nets \$18,500

The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation's silent and live auction event at the Sanibel Community House on Tuesday, March 8 netted \$18,500 to support the Foundation's intern program.

The open bar and catering were sponsored by John and Sheila Morley and highlights of the spirited auction bidding included an early and unmatched high bid of \$525, which won Bob Hanger the intricately designed Shell House by Kathy Boone. John Morley's successful bid of \$1,000 won a reproduction of the original Bailey Homestead, by artist Nancy Wilson with the help of Dean Skaugstad. Morley promptly gifted the piece to the Historical Village where it will remain on permanent display. Sam Bailey then came in with an additional donation of \$500 so both the Foundation and the Historical Village benefited from this magnificent piece of art.

A friendly family bidding war also took place between Dean Skaugstad, longtime SCCF Board member and Head

Hammerhead, and his daughter, Annie Skaugstad Nachtsheim, aka "The Dumpster Diva." They both wanted the Raccoon House by Wayne Boyd, featuring raccoons frolicking in a miniature version of a Soon Come Hauling dumpster. Annie's husband, Henry, owns Soon Come Landscaping. After frantically bidding her up, Dean finally relented, letting Annie's final bid of \$825 stand.

The most exciting and highest bidding went on for Charlie Frese's piece entitled Sanibel Fish House. With master auctioneer and SCCF board member Warren Schwab literally nose-to-nose with the two final bidders, he led them to a final bid of \$5,000 by long time SCCF supporter Charlotte Baker.

The evening was preceded by a display of the animal houses at Bank Of The Islands and a pre-auction Artists Party hosted by the bank on March 3. "I can't think of a more fun way to support the SCCF Intern Program," said Bank President Robbie Roepstorff.

Easter Services

At St. Michael's Church

Good Friday:

- Noon One Hour Liturgy.
- 7 p.m. Meditations on Stations of the Cross

Saturday:

- 5 p.m. First Eucharist of Easter with Easter hymns.

Easter Sunday:

- 8 a.m. & 10 a.m. The Feast of the Resurrection: Identical Eucharists.

Note: Please arrive early for seating.

St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church is located at 2304 Periwinkle Way, for more information, call 472-2173. www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org.

Chapel by the Sea

Good Friday

Service at noon

Service at 11 a.m.

Easter Sunday

Chapel by the Sea is located at 11580 Chapin Lane on Captiva.

At Sanibel Community Church

Easter Sunday

Sunrise service on the causeway at 6:30 a.m.. Message by Dr. Daryl Donovan; Chancel Choir, the Praise Team, Teen Challenge and a Youth Drama; Believer's Baptism will be offered.

be at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.; contemporary worship service at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

The Sanibel Community Church is located at 1740 Periwinkle Way, (Next to Jerry's Market). For more information call 472-2684.

At the church, traditional services will

Community Church Mother Daughter Tea

On Saturday, March 5th, Sanibel Community Church hosted a Mother/Daughter Tea. Second through fifth grade LOGOS girls, moms, and special lady guests were treated to a lovely event held in the church courtyard. Tables were set with beautiful white cloths and pink and red rose topiaries. Guests dined on strawberries, cake, tea sandwiches, scones, and gourmet cookies lovingly prepared by many church members. Virginia Nicodemi was responsible for the beautiful table settings and sumptuous food presentation.

Elaine Donovan began the program with a prayer and entertainment was provided by sixth graders, Katie and Maggie McCann who sang very sweetly to the group.

Several children modeled fashions from Nanny's, a Sanibel business specializing in children's couture. Jan Gabrielson, owner, generously donated the fashions for the



event. She did a fabulous job as the MC. Many families returned to Nanny's afterwards to purchase these modern yet modest fashions. After the fashion show, each girl presented their guests with a long-stemmed red rose.

The day ended with a talk about how God has created each person with a special purpose.

TO YOUR HEALTH

Holistic Health Notebook: In Celebration of Goof-Off Day



Carol Simontacchi

This morning I headed into the office, anticipating a hard day at work. Just another day on Paradise Island.

But then I heard on the radio that today (Tuesday) is National Goof-Off Day, and suddenly I wasn't in the mood to work. I thought, "What is an appropriate way to celebrate this important holiday?" You will be happy to note that, while tempted, I did not pull off the causeway, remove my shoes and stockings, and spend the day dipping my toes in the water. I went to work. Shucks! Another holiday wasted!

I instead spent the day celebrating the release of my new book, *Natural Alternatives to Vioxx and Celebrex*. In terms of size, it is a little book, but in terms of useful information, it is a volume. I've written copiously on the topic of inflammation lately; no need to belabor the point. But given the enormous problem that inflammation poses to our national health, it may be worth belaboring, just a little.

If you have been following the recent debate over Social Security and Medicare, you will know that we simply must do something to lower health care costs in this country, or our children will go broke trying to fix the system. Fortunately, fixing Medicare and the health care crisis is no more complicated than adjusting the items on your dinner plate. The research in my book bears this out. Diet and lifestyle play a huge role in inflammation and consequently, in the development and/or prevention of virtually every health condition.

What conditions are potentially caused by inflammation? Well, start with the top of your head (Alzheimer's, certain forms of depression, and autism), proceed down to your chest (cardiovascular disease, stroke and several lung disorders), your GI tract (IBS, Crohn's disease, and colitis), and your skeletal structure (osteoporosis and rheumatoid arthritis, osteoporosis, and so on). Oh yes, let's not forget disorders of the soft tissues (like fibromyalgia) and the endocrine system (metabolic syndrome). That nearly covers everything, doesn't it?

Fortunately, there is so much we can do to extinguish the fires of inflammation, including avoidance of pro-inflammatory foods (red meat, grains, sugar, soft drinks, coffee and alcohol), de-stressing our lives and getting plenty of sleep, and taking care of old injuries.

I provide lots of recipes and menus to help you construct your own anti-inflammatory diet.

How Else To Celebrate?

Unfortunately, it was hard to get into a celebratory mood because, thanks to the polluted air in the airplane and the freezing weather in Southern California, I'm suffering from a cold. Unthinkable! Instead of sipping organic champagne, I'm snorting Xlear (to rinse the bacteria from the respiratory tract), gulping Atomic Echinecea and Wellness Formula, and washing my hands every five minutes.

Sigh... Well, by the time you read this column, I expect to be well again – and without burdening the health care system any further.

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

Arthritis Foundation golf books

On May 1 golfers all over the state of Florida will begin taking advantage of great savings with their 2005 Arthritis Foundation Golf Book. This discount golf book allows you to golf at over 270 Florida Golf Courses at free green fees with cart rental or reduced green fees. Golf books are available for \$15 and when you buy three you get one free. The

Arthritis Foundation Golf Book is valid from May 1 - October 31. Some courses are valid through November. Order your 2005 Arthritis Foundation Golf Book today. Please call 1-800-741-4008 or 941-794-1400 or send a check or money order made payable to the Arthritis Foundation Golf Book, 501 Village Green Pkwy, #5, Bradenton, FL 34209.



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Hal Theiss is a genuine rocket scientist who worked for NASA for over 30 years on some of the most well-known NASA programs, including Apollo, Voyager, and Hubble. On Tuesday, March 29 and April 5, at 7 p.m., Hal will be teaching a course

on the "Successes and Failures of the NASA Space Program" as part of FGCU's Renaissance Academy offered on Sanibel. The cost of the course is \$20. Call 590-1095 to register.

The St. Isabel Women's Guild is holding its final meeting of the season Tuesday, April 12. It will be a spring luncheon held at the Beachview Restaurant at noon. The cost is \$17, which will be collected at the door. Please have exact change or a check made out to the Beachview Restaurant. Sign-up for reservations will take place at the March "Mad

Hatter" meeting or can be made by calling Kay Liptak at 395-8839 by April 5. Your reservation must be honored, but if you need to cancel, please do so by calling Kay by April 7. At the time the reservation is made you will be asked to make your entree selection from the following choices: Chicken Caesar Salad, Cobb Salad, or Fruit Plate.

- 1) I'm just out of the hospital & not feeling up to par.
- 2) My wife has the flu & I don't cook.
- 3) At our age we could use some help.

4) Our children worry we are not eating proper meals.

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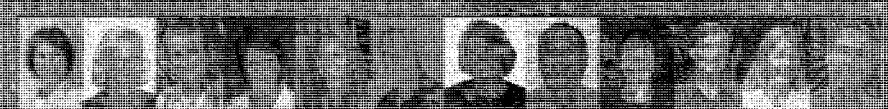
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Algeria	1985	11,000,000	238,000	46	3,500,000	1,400	7,500,000	32	1.8%	2.8%	1.2%
Algeria	1990	12,000,000	238,000	50	4,000,000	1,600	8,000,000	34	2.0%	3.0%	1.4%
Algeria	1995	13,000,000	238,000	55	4,500,000	1,800	8,500,000	36	2.2%	3.2%	1.6%
Algeria	2000	14,000,000	238,000	59	5,000,000	2,000	9,000,000	38	2.4%	3.4%	1.8%
Algeria	2005	15,000,000	238,000	63	5,500,000	2,200	9,500,000	40	2.6%	3.6%	2.0%
Algeria	2010	16,000,000	238,000	67	6,000,000	2,400	10,000,000	42	2.8%	3.8%	2.2%
Algeria	2015	17,000,000	238,000	71	6,500,000	2,600	10,500,000	44	3.0%	4.0%	2.4%
Algeria	2020	18,000,000	238,000	76	7,000,000	2,800	11,000,000	46	3.2%	4.2%	2.6%
Algeria	2025	19,000,000	238,000	80	7,500,000	3,000	11,500,000	48	3.4%	4.4%	2.8%
Algeria	2030	20,000,000	238,000	84	8,000,000	3,200	12,000,000	50	3.6%	4.6%	3.0%
Algeria	2035	21,000,000	238,000	88	8,500,000	3,400	12,500,000	52	3.8%	4.8%	3.2%
Algeria	2040	22,000,000	238,000	92	9,000,000	3,600	13,000,000	54	4.0%	5.0%	3.4%
Algeria	2045	23,000,000	238,000	97	9,500,000	3,800	13,500,000	56	4.2%	5.2%	3.6%
Algeria	2050	24,000,000	238,000	101	10,000,000	4,000	14,000,000	58	4.4%	5.4%	3.8%
Algeria	2055	25,000,000	238,000	105	10,500,000	4,200	14,500,000	60	4.6%	5.6%	4.0%
Algeria	2060	26,000,000	238,000	110	11,000,000	4,400	15,000,000	62	4.8%	5.8%	4.2%
Algeria	2065	27,000,000	238,000	114	11,500,000	4,600	15,500,000	64	5.0%	6.0%	4.4%
Algeria	2070	28,000,000	238,000	118	12,000,000	4,800	16,000,000	66	5.2%	6.2%	4.6%
Algeria	2075	29,000,000	238,000	122	12,500,000	5,000	16,500,000	68	5.4%	6.4%	4.8%
Algeria	2080	30,000,000	238,000	126	13,000,000	5,200	17,000,000	70	5.6%	6.6%	5.0%
Algeria	2085	31,000,000	238,000	130	13,500,000	5,400	17,500,000	72	5.8%	6.8%	5.2%
Algeria	2090	32,000,000	238,000	134	14,000,000	5,600	18,000,000	74	6.0%	7.0%	5.4%
Algeria	2095	33,000,000	238,000	139	14,500,000	5,800	18,500,000	76	6.2%	7.2%	5.6%
Algeria	2100	34,000,000	238,000	143	15,000,000	6,000	19,000,000	78	6.4%	7.4%	5.8%
Algeria	2105	35,000,000	238,000	147	15,500,000	6,200	19,500,000	80	6.6%	7.6%	6.0%
Algeria	2110	36,000,000	238,000	151	16,000,000	6,400	20,000,000	82	6.8%	7.8%	6.2%
Algeria	2115	37,000,000	238,000	156	16,500,000	6,600	20,500,000	84	7.0%	8.0%	6.4%
Algeria	2120	38,000,0									

FISH fetes volunteers



FISH Board members and guests at the annual FISH Luncheon. Photo above left: (standing, from left:) Volunteer Chandra Liebetrau; Charlene Timothy, president; Board members Maggie Feiner and Kristin Zinkann. Seated: Guests. Photo above right: (standing:) Lyn Veillette with Board members George Veillette and Tom Wiley. Seated: Board member Susan Bluehs with volunteer Marcia Parish.

Members of the Sanibel FISH volunteer group attended the annual volunteer offset luncheon at the Dunes on Tuesday, March 15. Approximately 50 volunteers and guests enjoyed a friendly "get-together" and lunch under the pavilion in sunny conditions.

FISH (Friends in Service Help), a volunteer organization, provides personal support to Sanibel citizens who may be unable to help themselves. Volunteers provide transportation for medical appointments, meal and wheelchairs to



elderly or disabled persons. In total, the volunteers traveled more than 10,000 miles during 2004 while providing these services.

During a short meeting, FISH board members were introduced by president Charlene Timothy.

FISH also sponsors a monthly luncheon called "Friendly Faces," to enable anyone new to Sanibel to meet others on the island. Date, time and location is announced in this paper in the issue just prior to the meeting.

Bradley's donations for charity

The 7th Annual Minnesota Twins Celebrity Golf Class and Auction, held on February 22 raised money for Lee Cancer Care of Lee Memorial Health System, the Minnesota Twins Orthopedist John Leubs winning a diamond pendant from Bradley's Fine Jewelers. The two-day event held at Pelican Preserve Golf Club raised over \$40,000. Bradley's

Fine Jewelers also recently donated another piece of jewelry to help raise money for the Realtor Association of Greater Fort Myers and the Beach's 8th Annual Fantasy Auction. The Feb. 12 gala raised just over \$78,000 for these charities. Bradley's Fine Jewelers raised \$1,600 with their contribution of a diamond pendant necklace.

SEAWEED GALLERY



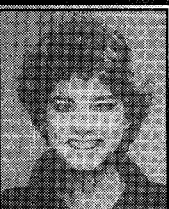
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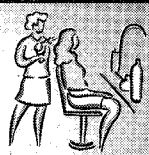
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Ecuador, the Galapagos and shelling

"Shell Searching on the Coast of Ecuador, and a Visit to the Galapagos Islands" is the topic of the Tuesday, March 29 meeting of the Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club. It will be held at 7:30 p.m. at The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum on Sanibel. The slide show presentation will be given by Jim VunKannon of Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

VunKannon has been active in shelling for more than 30 years. During that time he was involved in yacht manufacturing and visited most of the islands of the Bahamas and the Caribbean.

He is a retired Navy captain and holds a bachelor's of science degree from Auburn University and a master's degree in industrial engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology. VunKannon is semi-retired from the yacht manufacturing industry and is now able to devote more time to his favorite hobby, shelling.

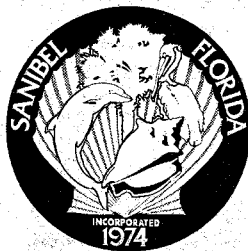
VunKannon and his wife, Carolyn, have exhibited at the Sanibel-Captiva

Shell Club Show for the past seven years. They also exhibit at six or seven shell shows a year around the country. VunKannon notes, "We have won a lot of major trophies but it is strictly a hobby for us. The most fun is traveling to the islands and looking for the shells!"

The Shell Club board wants to remind club members and the general public that all meetings of the Shell Club are held at the museum, unless otherwise noted. Programs are sponsored jointly by the Shell Club and the museum, and the museum helps support speaker honoraria and expenses.

There is no admission charge and members of the public are invited to attend. Light refreshments will be offered at the meeting.

The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum is located at 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road on Sanibel Island. For further information about the March 29 meeting, call the museum at 395-2233 or 888/679-6450.



The Periwinkle Partnership

COMMUNITY INPUT PLANNING WORKSHOP

PERIWINKLE WAY CORRIDOR RESTORATION PROJECT

Thursday, March 31, 2005

3:00 p.m. through 9:00 p.m.

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We want to hear from you!

Learn about the project and provide your ideas & your input on Vegetation Material Selection; Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety; Streetscape Amenities; Funding & Maintenance among other topics.

If you cannot attend you can also send your comments and suggestions to us at thinkperiwinklerestoration@mysanibel.com; mail to the City of Sanibel, Planning Department, 800 Dunlop Road, Sanibel, FL 33957 or telephone (239) 472-4136.

Stories for Grownups at Sanibel Public Library

The fourth and last in the popular series of "Stories for Grownups" will be held on Friday, April 1, at 2 p.m. in the Sanibel Public Library. The featured storyteller will be the long-time, and much beloved Sanibel resident, Mozella Jordan. Mozella was a member of one the earliest black families on the Island. Her stories will be about that rare and complicated role she had to play in the segregated South of the 1960's.

Ms. Jordan was one of the people who fought to integrate the schools on the Island. It doesn't take much imagination to identify with what the struggle was for

her and her children. It's where stories come from. Many islanders know Mozella from her family restaurant, or from her reputation as the best caterer this Island has ever known. Now, come see her as one of the best storytellers the Island has ever known.

At every first Friday, half of the program is given to stories from people in the audience that day. You don't have to tell a story, but if you have one, short and lively, it will be welcome.

The program is free and open to the public. For more information call the Library at 472-2483.

Sanibel Library lecture: Seminole Wars

John and Mary Lou Missal will discuss America's forgotten war against the Seminole Indians on Friday, March 25, at 2 p.m. as part of the library's Fourth Friday History series. According to the Missals, "there are hidden stories in American history that need to be told." Their book, *The Seminole Wars: America's Longest Indian Conflict* published in 2004, looks at a conflict that is truly America's forgotten war.

At its peak, over half of the entire United States Army was serving in this war. A naval squadron was formed and ships were built specifically to serve in this conflict. It was the first prolonged guerilla war fought against the United States. It lasted seven years and cost more than the entire federal budget for just one of those years. It dealt with slavery, and was the story most reported in national newspapers for over two years. And it was one of the few wars in which the United States was forced to sue for peace.

The Second Seminole War, a major conflict that was part of a series of three

wars, spanned over forty years of our nation's early history. The causes of these wars were national issues, and men from every

corner of the nation were called to fight the worst conditions imaginable. Questions were raised and lessons were learned that are still relevant today.

The program is free and open to public. The Sanibel Public Library located at 770 Dunlop Road. For more information call the library at 472-2483.



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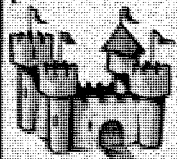
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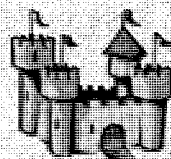
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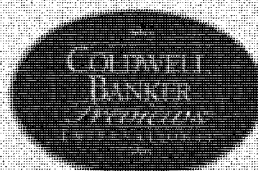


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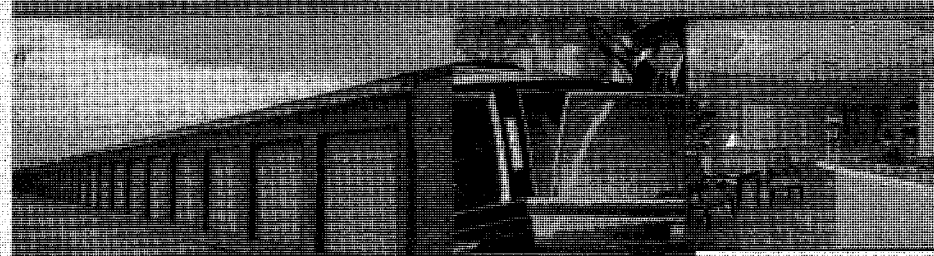
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Consumer Advocate Cynthia Bercowetz

Cynthia Bercowetz, author of *Don't Get Ripped Off? Get Help! Tell It to George* will be at the Sanibel Public Library on Wednesday, April 6 at 2 p.m. as part of the library's Meet the Author series.

Bercowetz has made a career of helping solve consumer problems. For 35 years she wrote an advice column in Connecticut newspapers. She has hosted radio shows, produces a weekly TV show on public access and continues to speak on how to be a smart consumer.

Don't Get Ripped Off! is a dynamic consumer survival guide filled with

advice and answers to consumer questions. Bercowetz, a victim herself of identity theft, warns readers about ID thieves who steal personal information and explains what she did to track down the ID thieves. She shows consumers how to avoid internet and phone scams, con artists, bogus contests, disreputable contractors and outrageous prices.

The program is free and open to the public. The Sanibel Public Library is located at 770 Dunlop Road, Sanibel. For more information call the library at 472-2483 or logon to www.sanlib.org.

Sanibel Reads seeks titles

Apr. 1, 2005, is deadline for book nominations for Sanibel Reads' book of the year 2005-2006. As its inaugural season comes to a close, the one book-one community program wants also to calculate the number of readers who participated.

To be counted with those who read *Small Wonder* and *Hoot* this season and to suggest possible reads for next year, stop by Sanibel Public Library and complete a survey. You can otherwise print out a survey from www.zebis.com/sanibelreads and fax to Kathleen Teaze at 472-9524. Please complete only one survey per household.

You can e-mail your nominations, participation statistics, and comments to sanibelreads@yahoo.com.

Sanibel Reads seeks either one book appropriate for both adults and children, or one book for each age group. Criteria includes: 1) local relevance; 2) author availability; and 3) paperback edition availability.

To view and vote on the final nominees for next year's Sanibel Reads selections, visit www.zebis.com/sanibelreads between Apr. 4 and 10. Sanibel Reads will announce election results in local papers on Apr. 15.

Chamber Annual Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Sanibel-Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce will be held on Monday, April 18 at 5:30 p.m. at 'Tween Waters Inn in the Wakefield Room.

The Walter Klie Lifetime Achievement Award, Citizen of the Year Award, Sue

Rosica Gray Award and Islands of the Arts Awards will be presented; new Board members will be installed. A cocktail party and reception will follow. Please RSVP by April 4 by calling the Chamber at 472-1966 or e-mail office@sanibel-captiva.org.

Air Travel reminder

With the peak travel season in full swing and airlines re-booking flights affected by weather, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) at

Southwest Florida International Airport reminds travelers to arrive at the airport at least two hours prior to their flight's scheduled departure time.



Members of the Sanibel Captiva Sail & Power Squadron toured a sugar cane refinery and an orange juice processing plant on an overnight trip to Clewiston last week. Above, Power Squadron member Jurgen Thyssen and U.S. Sugar tour guide Hunter.

Hurricane Seminar at Shell Factory

Representatives from four organizations will be on hand for a hurricane seminar to be held Thursday, March 31 at the Shell Factory in North Fort Myers.

The seminar will begin at 2 p.m. in The Patio on the north end of the facility. Emphasis will be placed on preparing homes to be left for the hurricane season, especially for manufactured homes and recreational vehicles.

Participants will learn about shelters and assistance that can be provided; there will also be information for individuals with special needs.

Marissa Oakes, WINK-TV meteorologist, will inform participants about what hurricanes are and how they are tracked. Candace Rotolo, WINK-TV reporter, will report on her perspective of covering last

year's hurricanes and recovery efforts. Terry Pye, North Fort Myers Fire Chief, will discuss how fire departments are involved before, during, and after disasters. A representative of Lee County Emergency Management will provide information about how the department assists organizations in their emergency preparations and coordinates activities following disasters. The Red Cross representative, Jody Van Cooney, will explain shelters and assistance that is provided following disasters. A question-and-answer period will follow the formal remarks.

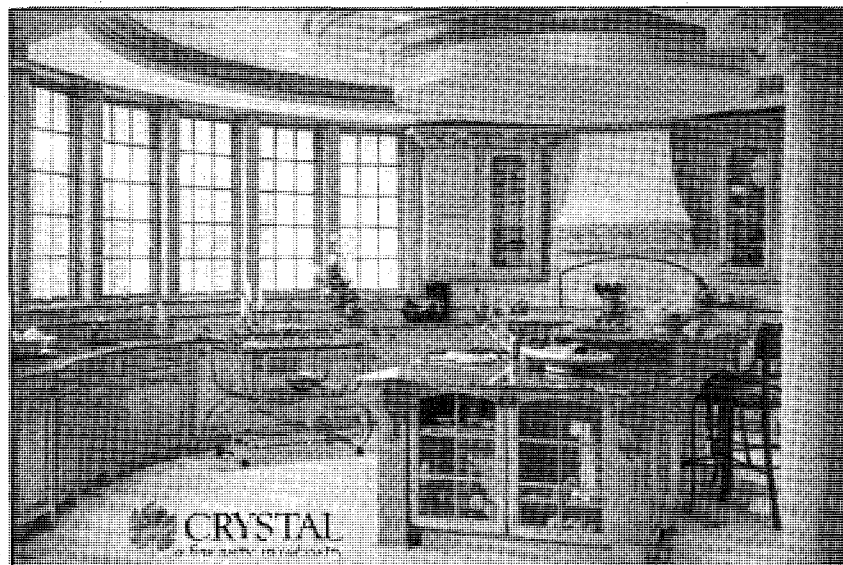
The seminar is free and there will be take-home literature. For more info call 239/995-2141, ext. 110 or Emergency Management at 239/477-3600.

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Poker Pedal - April 10

The Sanibel-Captiva Chapter of the American Business Women's Association will be sponsoring its third annual Poker Pedal on Sunday, April 10. Hop on your bicycle or rent one of ours and bring your friends and family, too (you can walk or drive the route, as well). Pick up a map at the registration area at Bank of the Islands and visit seven of the fifteen locations designated on the map, collecting a playing card at each stop. Participating businesses include Curves, The Island Book Nook, the Bike Shop, Island Nutrition and the Islander Trading Post, to name just a few. Time is not a factor but each participant must complete the route between 11

a.m. - 3 p.m. Grand prizes include a new bicycle, a week-long island stay and jewelry.

Pre-registration is \$25; on the day of the event it's \$30. Entry forms are available at the Bank of the Islands, Billy's Bike Rentals, Tom Louwer's Tax/Accounting and Curves of Sanibel. Participants receive a fabulous T-shirt donated by major sponsor, Bank of the Islands, and all participants are invited to the great party at the Community Center from 3 - 5 p.m.

Proceeds provide scholarships to local women in need of assistance for college.



POETIC LICENSE

Baptism

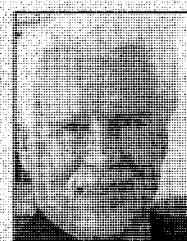
By Jesse Millner

Yesterday at dusk we swam in the Mediterranean, so cold and salty that I screamed and gasped for breath but felt as if I were shining. For a moment I thought of Bishop's baptism and how at the fish houses the cold water became some immutable truth, and I immersed myself again and again, seeking the burning presence of god.

We drove back up the hill from the playa, the Moorish watchtower fading back into the past, the white city of Mojacar unfolding as the road turned and then disappeared again, my body still numb and holy in the way pilgrims must have felt when they were baptized by some wandering true believer.

Today we will go to the sea again and I am already preparing myself for the dive below the green water, past the rush of shells, past the cobalt jellyfish that were so beautiful, when we watched them float by, they shone like pieces of some long burnished glass.

Jesse Millner will read his poetry at the Sanibel Library on Saturday, April 2 at 2 p.m. He is the author of *The Drowned Boys* and teaches creative writing at Florida Gulf Coast University.



Joseph Pacheco

Sprinkle retrospective at refuge

"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society (DDWS) is hosting a retrospective showing for Sanibel bird sculptor, Jim Sprinkle, 2004's Angel of the Arts artist whose "Freedom Fighter" occupies the White House in Washington, DC.

The exhibit takes place in the Education Center at J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge through April.

Color photographs illustrate 27 of

Sprinkle's works held in private collections, along with a shot of Sprinkle presenting President George W. Bush with his sculpture.

Admission is free; the exhibit is sponsored by the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, the refuge's non-profit support "friends" organization. For more information, call 472-1100 or log on to www.dingdarlingsociety.org.

Open Mic - March 25

There will be an Open Mic on Friday, March 25 between 4 - 6 p.m. 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 Readers' List and limit their reading time to five minutes. If you choose not to read, you are welcome to listen.

For more info, please call Joseph Pacheco at 472-1280 or The Bean at 395-1919.



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This secluded, friendly, established condominium community offers water views from every unit, two pools with Jacuzzis, tennis, boat docks and ramp with direct access to Pine Island Creek and Charlotte Harbor. Completely sold out since 2003, rapid appreciation in value has made resales at Blue Crab Key a scarce and highly desirable real estate investment. Limited resale units available starting in the low/mid \$300's.



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Visit www.bluecrabkey.com

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PoetryFest 2005 at BIG ARTS

Once again, an exciting and illuminating afternoon awaits Sanibel residents and visitors in early April.

Poets young and old, from Sanibel, Southwest Florida, FGCU and other regions of Florida, will gather at Phillips Gallery, BIG Arts on Saturday, April 9, from 1 - 4 p.m. to celebrate National Poetry Month. The event is sponsored by the San-Cap Poetry Society, Florida Gulf Coast University, BIG ARTS and the *Islander*.

Inaugurated by the Academy of American Poets in April 1996, National Poetry Month brings together publishers, booksellers, literary organizations, libraries, schools, and poets around the country to celebrate poetry and its vital place in American culture. Thousands of businesses and non-profit organizations participate through readings, festivals, book displays, workshops, and other events.

Sanibel's 4th Annual PoetryFest will feature nationally celebrated poets Jim Brock and Jesse Millner as well as Sanibel's own Joe Pacheco, recently featured on NPR's *Morning Edition*. Sanibel poets Laura Barr, Don Brown, Belle Deutscher, Carol Ehrlich, Vince Faraone, William Highsmith, Mary LaVelle, Sid Simon and Lorraine Vail will perform their poetry together with students from Florida Gulf Coast University.

Poets and members of the public are invited to participate by reading their own work or a favorite poem by other poets.

A reception sponsored by BIG ARTS and the *Islander* will follow the readings. Admission will be a donation of \$3 to BIG ARTS. For further information, please call Joe Pacheco, 472-1280.

ISLANDS' GALLERY TOUR

Tower Gallery: A successful artists' co-op



Nancy Santeusano

Jo Anne Bedient, president of Tower Gallery says that many things have made the Tower Gallery very special. Working as a cooperative, the artists have control over their own work and there's a lot of interaction between the twenty-two or twenty-three artists who have been juried into the gallery. "This is a good place to try new things, as opposed to a commercial gallery where gallery owners make the choices of what they want."

The gallery location on Tarpon Bay Road is inviting and has opened up many opportunities. Bedient, acclaimed as a premier clay artist and best known for her ceramic shoes, has been invited by other gallery owners to exhibit her work nationwide after they had seen her work here. Marcia Hopkins-York, one of Tower's newest artists, has received an invitation to exhibit her paintings in Germany. She "glopped" on the paint and turned out a very free, abstract with particular appeal to the European eye, with their strong emphasis on freedom.

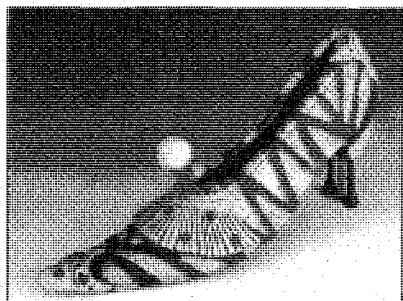
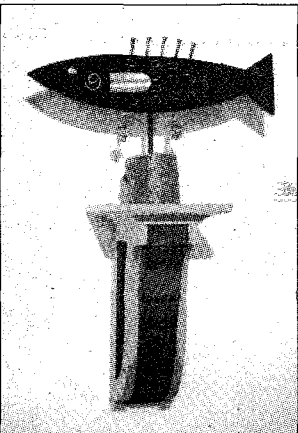
In 1982 the Tower Gallery had

its beginnings at the Bell Tower in Fort Myers and moved to the old Cassidy House in Sanibel twelve years ago. Originally the Cassidy House had been on the Gulf and was moved to Tarpon Bay Road to become the home of the Matsumoto Gallery for a few years. Both the house and the garage, now the Tower Gallery and the Twilight Café, were moved together to their new location. In 2004 under the direction of Lalita Cofer, fourteen artists who had been longtime members purchased the property, now called Gallery Place. "Our goal is to have anyone become an owner if they like. It's such a wonderful experience to be part of the gallery and we want to preserve it for future artists as well. A storefront doesn't have the charm or personality of this old house. This is a perfect setting," points out Cofer, who is noted for her collage technique which she calls "painting with paper."

Shirley Vale, who works in oil and acrylic using her own recognizable style of impressionistic palette knife painting, has been associated with Tower for twenty-two years. Linda Wiggins and her fun and whimsical "cat" paintings have been at Tower for seventeen years and other longtime artists include Jo Anne Bedient and her raku clay shoes; Rod Bush, whose theme is often "The Darker Side of Watercolor," multi-talented Ron Sebring, with his architectural background and now working in pencil, watercolors, acrylic, woodcuts and even



Above: Linda Wiggins's "Cattin' about the Orient," Kit Hoisington's "Sanibel Beach." Below: Charlie Frese's "Blue Fish" and JoAnne Bedient's "Dressed to a Tee."



Tower, see page 17



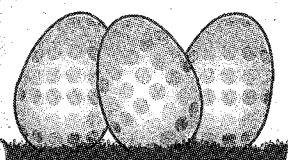
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SERVICE CLUBS

Toni Westland speaks at Rotary

By Jack Luiszer

After a day of constant and torrential rains, on the way to last Friday's 7 a.m. Rotary meeting at the Dunes Country Club, we were reminded of why we live in SW Florida. The sun was out, temperature moderate and the humidity low. We also wondered what to expect at our weekly program. Over the past seven months we had numerous speakers telling us about their post "Charley" experiences. All were extremely interesting and we were wondering if another could enlighten us with new information. Well, again we were pleasantly surprised with our most recent speaker, Toni Westland.

Toni is a Park Ranger and the Environmental Education Specialist, working at "Ding" Darling for the past two-and-a-half years. Her education — not one but two BS degrees in Natural Resource Management and Environmental Education from the University of Wisconsin — certainly suits her for this job. In addition, she was with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers for 5 years working on the Mississippi River and in North Georgia and Lake Okeechobee.

The information that she presented

would fill more than the space allotted here. Just a few of the interesting points are:

- A 13' crocodile at "Ding" Darling has been in and out of there since 1980. This endangered species was at one time relocated 60 miles away only to return to our wildlife sanctuary here on the island. Guess it would rather live here than Naples.
- There are 545 Wildlife Sanctuaries nationwide, none one more than 50 miles from any big city.
- The "Duck stamp" has been a major contributor toward the purchase of over 93 million acres of habitat with over \$500 million of funding since 1934. It costs \$15 for each stamp with 98% of every dollar going directly into the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund to purchase Refuge habitat. If you have this stamp, you can get into any National Wildlife Refuge nationwide for free.
- Former "Ding" Darling Manager, Lou Hind, rounded up over 100 volunteers from the Atlanta area to help us after Charley.
- The blue goose was designed by Mr. "Ding" Darling (given name being Jay Norwood, you can use this as a trivia

question). This symbol has become synonymous with the "Refuge System."

- The existing wildlife tract may not have been if it were not for Mr. Darling's letter to the Governor of Florida imploring him to stop the sale of this acreage. His eloquence resulted in the sale being blocked and President Truman designating the land as the Sanibel National Wildlife Refuge in 1945.
- About three weeks before Charley, Refuge management and the City of Sanibel signed a "Memorandum of Understanding" (MOU) which outlined the joint efforts necessary between the two agencies regarding, preparedness, support, clean up and action required if we encountered a major storm. Hey, talk about timing!

The Rotary Club of Sanibel/Captiva is a service organization providing scholarship, cultural awareness and community

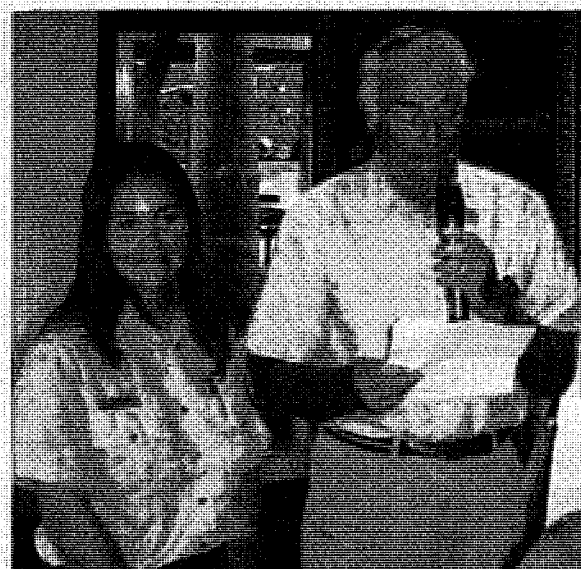


Photo by Chet Sadler
Past president and "Ding" Darling volunteer Bill Currie introduces Toni Westland to the Rotary Club.

service both locally and internationally. If you want a chance to do something for someone else and in return gain a sense of self-fulfillment and satisfaction, join us at 7 a.m. Friday's at the Dunes Country Club.

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Sears house still stands

By Jane Hogg

In today's dot.com world mail-order is a given. But eighty years ago? Well, yes. In fact, back then home-sweet home could have been just a mailbox away.

Case in point is Morning Glories, the carefully renovated and meticulously maintained house alive and well at the Sanibel Historic Village and Museum. Originally ordered from the Sears Roebuck 1924 Honor Bilt Homes catalog, this Springwood model was priced at \$2211, a total not including plumbing, heating, wiring or the kitchen sink. And where to find these necessary extras? No problem. The Sears catalog had a sizeable section devoted to all these required items plus a wide variety of doors, windows, moldings and other interchangeable building materials.

All a purchaser need do was select, order, and wait for boxcars to arrive, assuming you were within hauling distance of a railroad siding. (Here, of course, that meant adding a final barge leg for its island destination.)

Lacking available funds? Not to worry. Sears also provided money to finance it by granting mortgages. The only money-related question asked, "what is your vocation?" Even English-language competency was unimportant; they boasted an entire department of interpreters.

When completed the final order included about 30,000 pieces. Nails and hardware weighed in at some 750 pounds. Paint and varnish totaled 27 quarts. There was a detailed set of blueprints and a personalized 76-page instruction booklet. Every stud, board, rafter, joist and molding was cut, notched, mitered and numbered to match the plan. The do-it-your-



Photo by Jeff Magg
Sears house survives at Sanibel Village and Museum

selfer need only provide masonry, labor and a building lot.

Two families, Ross and his brother Martin Mayer, lived next to one another on a waterfront site near the bottom of Bailey Road. Between them lay a shared artesian well, generating plant and bathhouse big enough to house the children and the servants. Electricity, relatively unknown on the island until 1945, made these two houses somewhat unique in their being able to boast such a convenience. Both homes had been born in a Sears catalog. The first one, much larger, has had numerous extensions added over the years. Recently up for sale, its location no doubt helped determine the hefty asking price.

In 2001 Morning Glories, the smaller of the two, was given to the museum. Let curiosity be your guide and wander through the house, fully furnished in historically accurate Sears-provided furnishings. Visit the Museum at 950 Dunlop in Sanibel. Open 10-4 Wednesday through Saturday, their phone number is 472-4648.

Tower, from page 15

sculpture. Cathy Taylor is well-known for her alphabetical designs and award-winning abstracts and Carole Nastars, painting in vibrant layers, exhibits her "cow" paintings with such intriguing titles as "Ladies of the Evening" and "Queen of All Cows." Each artist is very different and each one continues to discover the media they like best, never stopping their experimenting with new techniques.

Other artists working in varied media include Sheila Hoen, whose paintings are reminiscent of the impressionists and inspired by her trips to France. Lois Ferguson, working in oil and acrylics, creates art which is often described as mystical, moody and atmospheric. Caroline "Kit" Hoisington's paintings are very powerful, dynamic and evocative of the tropics as portrayed in "Sanibel Beach View." Debbie Kleinow works in mixed media and is noted for her colored pencil portraits of children. Charles Lister is fascinated by surrealism and his still life acrylics on paper — or what he calls his "tissue applique pictures" — are seen in works such as "Of Things Remembered." Susan Sadler with her strong sense of texture and balance paints almost geometric landscapes as in "Study in Blue" and recently has created a new line of jewelry where she uses heavy silver wire shaped into whimsical forms—perfect for those who seek their own distinctive style.

Charles Frese, vice president of the gallery, is a woodworker whose overactive imagination, combined with his sense of

humor, inspire him to design fun, functional outdoors/indoors furniture that makes people smile. Sculptor Ralph Bigletti in his "Terminally Ill Metal Works" studio creates abstract sculptures "proving that humor is a vital part of artistic satisfaction." Becoming very popular among gallery visitors are the painted wooden bowls of Marianne Ravenna, who finishes her bowls with a food safe finish and emphasizes, "Given proper care your bowl should last forever."

Also at Tower is the sophisticated jewelry and "sun catchers" of Connie Sebring and the sterling silver jewelry adorned with semi-precious gems of Joyce Krivenko and Susan Sadler. In a different venue is the photography of Francine Litofsky, who skillfully displays her ability to capture images of wildlife and landscapes. Photographer Charlie McCullough, who now lives in his grandfather's 1908 house on Sanibel, has long been recognized for his sharp images "about Sanibel, Captiva and the world, vintage images spanning seven decades." In sharp contrast and new to the gallery are the Tempism paintings of Perry Thompson. As Thompson explains, Tempism is the cutting edge of a new era in art called Art of the 21st Century.

The old, the new and the unusual are all represented at Tower Gallery and in the words of Jo Anne Bedient, "To me this gallery is a greenhouse. Here, we grow artists."

BIG ARTS lunch feeds body and spirit

By Laura Nickerson
Staff Writer

Last Thursday, BIG ARTS hosted a Blue Sky Special lunch between noon and 1 p.m. on their comfortable patio. Hot dogs, chips and a cold drink were only \$3, and the entertainment, provided by singer/guitarist Keith Cole, was included.

BIG ARTS president Debbie La Gorce was on hand to introduce not only Cole, but also the group of fun-loving guys in charge of tending the grill, whom she dubbed "the stalwart grillers." They included Herb Goldenberg, better known as the "Grand Weenie," Albert Hann, Chuck Bonser, John La Gorce, Bill Flack, Charlie Riley, Bill Downey, and Hal Patinkin.

Goldenberg commented, "I'd really like to see this build into a regular thing."



and Debbie La Gorce added, "The guys just love doing this, and it's a fun way to spend the lunch hour."

Folks from toddler to senior age filled the steps and benches, munching and keeping time to the music. If you happen to be on a workday lunch-break or otherwise in a hurry, there was no wait for a meal; the Grillers had the dogs hot, and individually wrapped, well ahead of schedule.

Cole's lilting renditions of favorite tropical tunes by artists including Harry Belafonte and Jimmy Buffet kept feet tapping and faces smiling between bites. It appeared that a good time was had by all.

The next Blue Sky Special will be at noon on April 13.

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Gypsy at Broadway Palm

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre brings you one of the greatest show biz sagas of them all. *Gypsy*, playing through April 23. This blockbuster musical is based on the true story of Gypsy Rose Lee and her climb from humble beginnings in vaudeville to stardom in burlesque. Gypsy Rose Lee was pushed into stardom by her ambitious stage-mother, Mama Rose, whose spirit and unquenchable energy kept the family together.

Gypsy features some of the finest songs ever created for theatre with music from Jule Styne and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. The songs include "Let Me Entertain You," "Everything's Coming Up Roses," "Some People," "If Momma Was Married," "You Gotta Get A Gimmick" and "Together, Wherever We Go."

Gypsy makes its third stop in Southwest Florida after critically acclaimed productions at both of

Broadway Palm's sister theatres; the Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre in Lancaster, PA, and Broadway Palm West in Mesa, AZ.

The creative team behind *Gypsy* includes Rob McKercher as set designer, costumes by John P. White, and lighting and sound design by Russell A. Thompson. All three recently designed Broadway Palm's smash hit, *42nd Street*.

Everything's coming up roses at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre with *Gypsy*, playing through April 23. Performances are Tuesday through Sunday with selected matinees. Ticket prices range from \$22 - \$46 for adults. Tickets are now on sale and can be reserved by calling 239/278-4422, by visiting the website at www.BroadwayPalm.com, or by stopping by the box office at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.



Cabaret at NDT

Naples Dinner Theatre presents Kander and Ebb's *Cabaret*. Loaded with classic songs like "Wilkommen," "Cabaret," "Marriage," and "Two Ladies" the score is a winner. But the real star of *Cabaret* is the book. Based on Christopher Isherwood's novel, *The Berlin Stories*, and the play by John Van Druten, *I Am A Camera*. *Cabaret* is set in the underworld of pre-war, deep-in-the-depression Berlin, with the emerging Nazi threat.

Cabaret stars newcomer Sarah Nasto

as Sally Bowles, with Marc Ginsburg, Shain R. Stroff, Barry Marcus, Kay Francis. Direction - Michael Weinstein; Choreography - Christopher Noffke; Musical Direction - David Sherling; Production management - Stephen Hoppe.

Cabaret runs through April 24. Tickets are \$47.50 for evening performances and \$40 for matinees. Box office: 239/514-STAR (7827).

Now THAT'S Broadway at the Schoolhouse

The Great White Way! While we might not be able to take everyone to New York to share in the splendor that is Broadway, here at The Schoolhouse Theater we are going to do the next best thing, bring Broadway to YOU!!!

The cast of *Now THAT'S Broadway* is made up of five incredibly talented musical theater performers. Elizabeth Kensek, a Chicago native and Magna Cum Laude graduate of Wesleyan University, has toured the country and has been in many Regional Musical theater productions. Returning to The Schoolhouse Theater is Funny Girl, Danielle Vetro. Audiences will remember Danielle in the hilarious "Vitameatavegamin" sketch in *Make 'em Laugh*, our first show of the season. Ken Johnson makes the third star of this five star cast. Kenny is a Fort Myers favorite, having performed in MANY productions at the Broadway Palm, and is sure to become an Island favorite. No stranger to

Sanibel is Bobby Logue. Bobby is our fourth cast member and has been in quite a few productions at The OLD Schoolhouse Theater. You might remember him in his incredible roll as Jesus in "Godspell" a few years back. He is excited to bring his talents to The NEW Schoolhouse and is ready to perform his heart out for our amazing audiences. Finally, Island favorite Victor Legarreta makes the fifth member of the "Fabulous Five". He is very excited at the chance to sink his teeth into a plethora of Broadway material. You will get a journey through 75 years of musical theater. *Now THAT'S Broadway* is a show you will NOT want to miss. All-Star cast, Broadway caliber talent, incredible music. Who could ask for anything more?

Now THAT'S Broadway is playing through April 30. For tickets, call the box office at 472-6862 or visit the theatre at 2200 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel.

Artists' studio tour and luncheon

Be a part of the 1st BIG ARTS' Artists Studio Tour & Luncheon Friday, April 8, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The tour will include a visit to six different studios (three on Captiva and three on Sanibel) with lunch at the Captiva Island Yacht

Club. The day's schedule is flexible so guests can visit the studios in small groups starting on either Captiva or Sanibel and enjoy lunch in between. The cost is \$40 per person. Space is limited. Call BIG ARTS to register, 395-0900.

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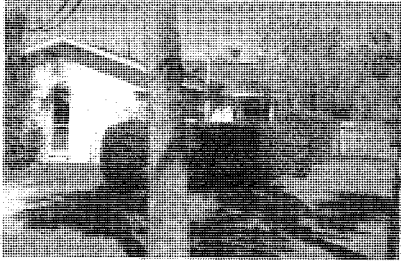


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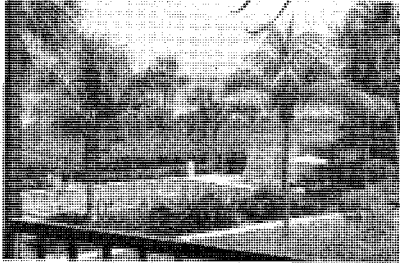


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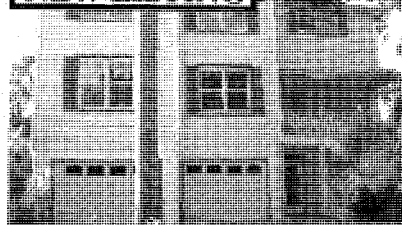
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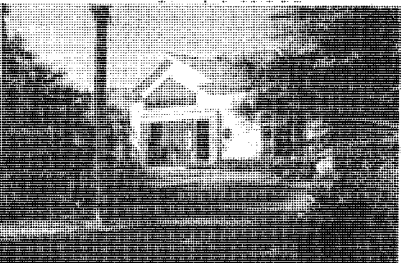


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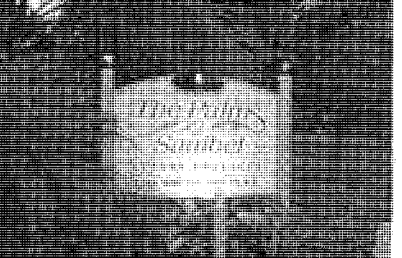


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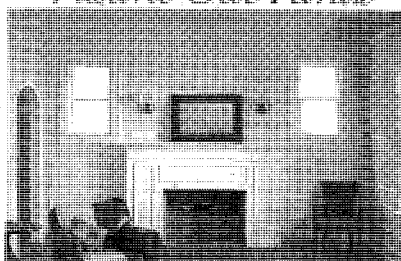


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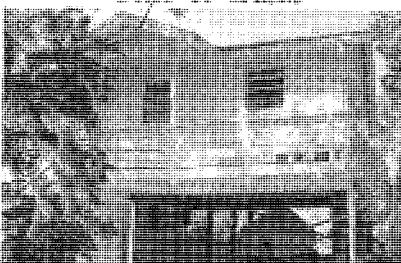


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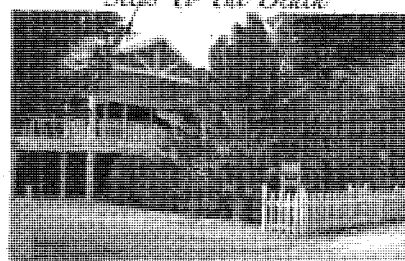


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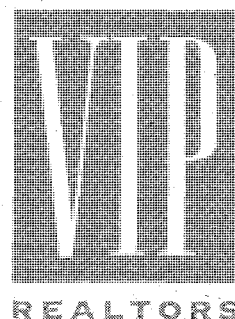
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Marsha Wagner

The Tale of the Allergist's Wife, currently playing at the Florida Rep, is of the best of the last decade's American comedies, the sort of intelligent, solidly written show that will more than likely become an integral part of the theatrical scene for some time to come. As the play opens, we meet middle-aged, emotionally wrecked culture vulture, Marjorie Taub (the multi-talented Carrie Lund). Marjorie inhabits a \$1,500,000 condo on Riverside Drive on Manhattan with her devoted, ego-driven, retired allergist husband, Ira (Peter Thomasson). She's within walking distance of the gourmet maven mainstay Zabar's, all the major museums, theaters, and concert halls... what more could an upper West Side intellectual matron want?

Well, for one thing, a more effective, emotionally supportive husband who could help her out of the emotional tailspin she's been in since her beloved psychiatrist died.

Included in Marjorie's cast of ineffective characters is her mother, Frieda (Jane Bushway), offering unwanted advice and graphic descriptions of various lower intestinal disorders; and Marjorie's childhood friend, Lee (Marcy McGuigan, making an auspicious Florida Rep debut), who unexpectedly appears, rekindling

Marjorie's interest in life. Lee is such an unbelievable blast of talent and pizzazz that Marjorie begins to wonder if this creature is a figment of her muddled mind.

But no, she is not. In fact, before she vanishes from Marjorie's life again, she moves in and shakes up the entire family by challenging their insights, philosophies, reworking their relationships and sexual preferences while, all the while wrapping herself in a colorful cloak of mystery. Before Lee's appearance, Marjorie pursued her cultural superiority like a pilgrim in search of the Holy Land, even though she recognized herself as a pieced-together, dilettante-ish intellectual. Marjorie's descent into a nervous breakdown is hurried along after an expensive emotional outburst in the New York City Disney Store, where she smashes a number of figurines. She retreats into what threatens to be a permanent shivah for her unsatisfactory life.

Playwright Charles Busch has written Marjorie as a classic New York yenta, a kind of kvetch with a difference: even as she has us laughing at her every gesture and expression, she also reveals the genuine pain of a woman who's been cut off from expressing her artistic possibilities.

The Taub battleground is situated in the elegantly chic set designed by Richard Crowell, complete with furniture from the showrooms of Robb & Stucky Interiors and wonderful artwork on loan from The

Arts for Act Gallery. The fabulous clothes by Costume Designer Roberta Malcolm complete the picture of Manhattan high style.

Marjorie is one of the most complex and demanding roles in modern comedy, calling upon an actor to waver on the brink of madness for nearly the entire play. Lund hurls herself into the role with spirit, intention, honesty — winning laughs and sympathy all over the place for the whole two hours of the production. Thomasson gives the kind of seamless performance that can only come from a master of the acting craft. His every move and nuance are geared to serve the playwright's intentions... resulting in his getting every laugh smoothly and unerringly. Bushway has enough comedic skill to overcome any over-dependence on what could become tiresome scatological humor and the supposed shock-appeal of a little old lady using the F word.

Rounding out the cast is the chic, attractive, bright and breezy McGuigan. She is plus-perfect, displaying great flair as the flamboyant school chum who mysteriously pops back into Marjorie's life.

McGuigan works her way effortlessly into all of this script's demands, mining laugh after laugh to create many entertaining moments, generating a totally dramatically satisfying performance. Jonathan Weber in the minor role of an over-educated young Iraqi doorman, Mohammed, adds a lot with his touch of youthful, hunky energy. And, last but certainly not least, kudos go to Producing Artistic Director Robert Cacioppo for directing this play with comic know-how, wit, intelligence and on-target timing.

So... if you are longing to see a play that moved critics to rhapsodize that this was "A window-rattling comedy of mid-life malaise... *The Allergist's Wife* earns its wall-to-wall laughs," and is "...an intelligently funny and satirically relevant comedy." I can only add, Right On! Now, if all of this intrigues you (and it should), then you'd better move it and phone the box office at 332-4488 for your comedy prescription, since *The Allergist's Wife* will only be in residence 'til April 10. When you call, don't forget to tell 'em Marsha sent you.

BIG ARTS On Stage presents *Con Amore*

Written especially for The Company, *Con Amore* is the latest work by Island writer Bob Maxeiner. It will premiere Sunday, April 10, at 8 p.m. in a reader's presentation at Schein Performance Hall at BIG ARTS, 900 Dunlop Rd. Produced by BIG ARTS On Stage, *Con Amore* is a work in two parts: "The Love of Lyrics" and "The Lyrics of Love." Tickets for \$20 are available at BIG ARTS or by calling 239-395-0900.

The Box office is open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Con Amore is a work celebrating the presence of love throughout life. Part one, "The Love of Lyrics," examines the life and work of poet Ogden Nash. Nash, a lyrical genius, had a zest for life and an immense love for his wife, Frances, and his children. One of his greatest wishes was "to make my children glad that I am their father."

Part two, "The Lyrics of Love" looks at the works of songwriters as poetry. "We bring out the poetry of lyricists whose words about love deserve to be heard on their own without musical enhancement," noted Maxeiner. *Vignettes from Carousel, Fiddler on the Roof*, and other musical shows will be viewed. *Con Amore* will be directed by John Bartis, noted director, performer, and educator.

Long time Company members Marsha Wagner, Kevin Pierce and Bob Maxeiner will be joined by Susan Berg, who is making her debut at BIG ARTS. Susan has a Master's degree in Performance Studies from Northwestern University. Marsha,

well known to Sanibel audiences, has played notable roles in "Agnes of God" and in "Master Class" as Maria Callas. Last spring she performed in Maxeiner's premiere performance of his play *Still Time*. Kevin's voice should be familiar to many as he is a professional voice over artist for radio and TV ads, training films, and documentaries. His show, "The Florida Environment," runs every day on

WGCU 90.1 FM at 6:50 a.m. He also hosts The Florida Gulf Coast University report on WGCU TV.

Bob Maxeiner, a retired physician, has written multiple scripts for The Company for performance at BIG ARTS including the annual Christmas Programs and evenings devoted to Robert Frost, Carl Sandburg and others. He has two works of fiction in island bookstores: *Transplant*, a novel, and a collection of short stories entitled *Innocentia*. He has written five plays, but *Still Time* was his first to receive a live performance last April.

Con Amore will be the final production of this season's BIG ARTS On Stage. Ruth Iyengar and John Kramer co-chair the On Stage committee which produces a series of theatrical programs designed to promote enjoyment of theater arts and to provide live, enriching theatrical experiences of a professional nature to the residents and visitors of Sanibel and Captiva. If you would like to receive early notice of next season's schedule and the many other fine programs offered at BIG ARTS, become a member by calling 395-0900.



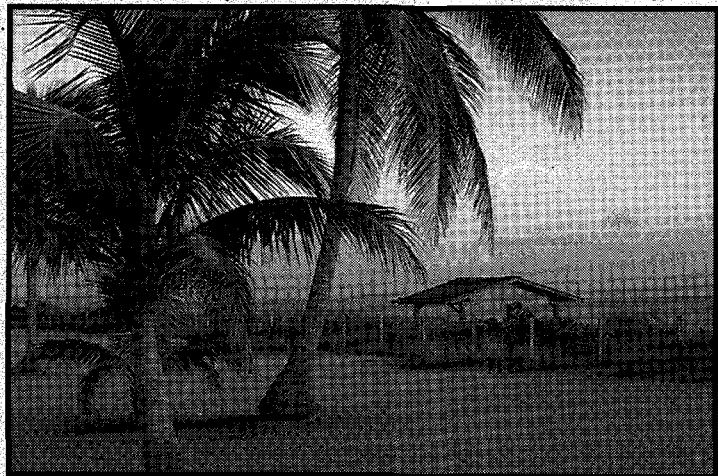
Robert Maxeiner

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Be a Clown! - Spring break workshop

Florida Repertory Theatre, in cooperation with The City of Fort Myers Recreation Division proudly announce a one-time only special spring break workshop entitled *Be A Clown!* at the Riverside Community Center on Monday, March 28th from 11 a.m. - 2p.m.

Frightened of white grease paint, balloon animals, and crowded cars? Fear not!

"Clowning is a general term to describe comedic performances, onstage, on film, or under the big top," says Jeff Haffner, Florida Rep's education director, who will be leading the one-day class. "My background is in *comedia dell'arte* (an Italian form that uses masks), mime, and in the style of movement of silent film clowns such as Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin. Although there is a rich tradition in circus clowning, this workshop will focus on elements of physical comedy."

Haffner, who has toured over 33 states as an actor, puppeteer, clown, and stilt walker, will be teaching principles and fundamentals of physical comedy. These will include how to fall safely, slapstick, status, how to juggle (juggling equipment will be supplied), the magic number "3" and, of course, safety.

Be a Clown! is most appropriate for people ages 11 and up. The \$15 fee includes three hours of instruction and pizza lunch. Class size is limited. To make a reservation or to learn more about this or any of Florida Rep's other education programs, please call 239/332-4665 x 20.

Camp Florida Rep

Florida Repertory Theatre announces its seventh season of offering quality performing arts training to young people in the Fort Myers community. Camp Florida Rep 2005 will be held in the historic Arcade Theatre in downtown Fort Myers, from June 6 - August 5.

Now under the guidance of Florida Repertory Theatre Education Director Jeff Haffner, Camp Florida Rep is structured to incorporate performance technique for young performers of all experience levels. Students will learn poise, gain confidence, stretch their imaginations and have fun, all under professional guidance.

Four two-week sessions are being offered for young people in grades K through 12. Students in 7 - 12 grades are part of the "Stars in Training" program where advanced theatrical technique is studied. All campers will study acting, music, dance and technical theatre with professionals of the highest caliber. At the end of each two-week session, a new musical will be performed for the public ^ each with an original ending.

Florida Repertory Theatre Producing Artistic Director, Robert Cacioppo says, "We have had incredible success with Camp Florida Rep over the past couple of years... We have encouraged Jeff to put his mark on this year's camp and with his extensive experience in puppetry, clowning and children's musical theatre, this should be a very exciting summer."

Camp sessions and musicals are as follows:

- Session #1 - *Go West, Young Pigs, Go West* - June 6th - June 17th

The Fabulous Limelitters

It all began in 1959. The Limelitters, a folk group formed by Louis Gottlieb, Alex Hassilev and Glenn Yarbrough, played in concerts and folk houses like San Francisco's Hungry I and Hollywood's Ash Grove during the height of the folk music boom of the early '60s. It was prime time for the Weavers, Peter Paul and Mary, Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, the Kingston Trio and the Limelitters.

"If the Kingston Trio are the undergraduates of big-time folk singing, the Limelitters are the faculty," *Time Magazine*.

Now, as the Limelitters sail through the beginning of the new century, their unique blend of thrilling harmony,

whacked-out humor and contemporary satire consistently draws standing ovations from audiences that, today, span three generations. With their energy and enthusiasm undiminished, The Limelitters (Hassilev, Andy Corwin and Mack Bailey now) remain the most exciting folk act the genre has produced.

The Limelitters' Sanibel performance is Saturday, April 2nd, at 8 p.m. in Schein Hall. You don't want to miss this performance!

Tickets \$37 per person and available at the BIG Arts box office — 395-0900 — or in person at 900 Dunlop Road.

Empire Brass at Shell Point

On Tuesday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m., the Empire Brass will bring their show-stopping sounds to the Shell Point Auditorium. The Empire Brass enjoys an international reputation as North America's finest brass quintet, renowned for its brilliant virtuosity and the unparalleled diversity of its repertoire. Equally at home with Bach and Handel as with Andrew Lloyd Weber and Duke Ellington, these five musicians have held leading positions with major American orchestras and toured the world with their stunning sounds.

At just \$25 per person, tickets for this public concert series are always affordable for everyone who loves the

exhilaration of live performances in an intimate setting. Tickets will be available at the door the evening of the concert. All Shell Point concerts are sponsored in part by Friends of the Arts at Shell Point and WGPU Public Media.

Shell Point Retirement Community's Auditorium is located in the Village Church on The Island, at 15100 Shell Point Blvd., in Fort Myers. The community is located off Summerlin and McGregor, just two miles before the Sanibel Causeway. For reservations or more concert information, call 454-2067.

- Session #2 - *Survivor: Wonderland* - June 20th - July 1st
- Session #3 - *The Twelve Dancing Princesses* — July 11th - July 22nd (or *How to Break a Spell in Three Easy Steps*)
- Session #4 - *Toad vs. The wild Weasels* — July 25th - August 5th (*This Time, It's Personal.*)

Camp Florida Rep runs Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. After-care pick-up is available until 5 p.m. for an additional \$20 per week. Cost is \$150 per week or \$300 per session. "Stars in Training" have a special rate of \$125 per week or \$250 per session. Family and referral discounts available. Early registration is recommended as class size is limited.

Camp Florida Rep is sponsored in part by Hill, Ball & King LLC. For more information or to receive a brochure, call 332-4665 x 20 or visit Florida Rep on the web at www.floridarep.org.

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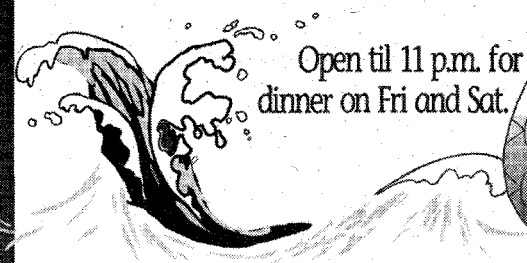
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MUSIC NOTES

Prazak String Quartet — An extraordinary concert

On Saturday, March 19, the Sanibel Music Festival presented the Prazak String Quartet in the intimate and acoustically exalted sanctuary of the Sanibel Congregational Church, thanks to the generosity of the concert's sponsor, Oswald, Trippe and Company.

The ensemble flawlessly performed works by Haydn, Janacek and Dvorak.

As students at the Prague Conservatory of Music in 1972, violinists Vaclav Remes and Vlastimil Holck formed a string quartet with violist, Josef Kluson and cellist, Michal Kanka. They embarked on a prize-winning international career and in months, the group won first prize at the Prague Conservatory Chamber Music Competition. After thirty years, the

Prazak Quartet has released 20 award-winning CDs and appeared in major European capitals. They tour the United States and Asia once a year to critical acclaim.

Vaclav Remes, first violinist, performs on a 1730, Lorenzo Guadagnini violin, 2nd violinist, Vlastimil Holck and violist, Josef Kluson play instruments made by Tomas Pilar and cellist, Michal Kanka plays on a State Collection, 1710 Giovanni Grancino cello. With these prized instruments, their musicianship, phrasing, tonal quality, dynamics, intonation and even their unified vibrato created a godlike performance that was in a class by itself. Their metal music stands were placed at a level where they were able to establish eye contact and communicate body language with no obstruction. They play as one and as evidenced by their facial expressions, listen to each other with complete rapture and musical understanding of every musical line. They possess the ability to listen closely to each other whether their roles are supportive or soloistic and are able to blend in and out with great sensitivity. Each member does not let up and performs at peak level with ferocious intensity.

The ensemble opened the program with, *String Quartet in G minor, Op. 74, No. 3, "Rider"* by Josef Haydn. This quartet is one of 83 string quartets written by "the father of string quartets" and is known as the "Rider" or "Horseman" for its galloping rhythms in the first movement, "Allegro," and final movement, "Allegro con brio." The second movement, "Largo assai" began with a solemn choral introduction with intonation, vibrato and tonal quality sounding as precise as an organ. Lovely song-like melodies unfolded with classic Haydnesque grace. The third movement, "Menuetto" was a treat to hear as its rhythmic triple time dance rhythms unfolded flawlessly.

The second work performed was, *String Quartet No. 2, "Intimate Letters"* by the Czech composer, Leos Janacek. A fine example of "Program" music, (an instrumental composition intended to represent distinct moods or emotion or to

depict actual scenes of events) was written by Janacek in the last year of his life. It was inspired by his love for Kamila Stosslova to whom he wrote over 600 "intimate letters" that were passionate with impatient outbursts of anger but also contained gentle lyricism. Who better than the Czechoslovakian Prazak Quartet to capture all of the subtle nuances of the Czech composer's feelings? The Quartet's rendering was a tour de force of tonal beauty, the likes of which I have never heard performed so poignantly.

The concluding work was *String Quartet in G Major, Op. 106* by another famous Czech composer, Antonin Dvorak. Written in four movements, the composition flows with sublime melodies. Although it was 46 years ago, I can still recall Professor Norman Lloyd in Juilliard's, "History of Music" class saying that, "Dvorak is one of the greatest melodists in all of music. Greater than Mozart, Beethoven, Haydn or Tchaikovsky." Perhaps an exaggeration but one cannot argue with Dvorak's melodic elegance and grace as heard in his Quartet No. 2. The quartet performed the work with breathtaking romanticism, unerring phrasing and tonal excellence. It was sheer aesthetic beauty par excellence!

As expected, the appreciative audience stood and erupted in a thunderous chorus of cheers. Perhaps a riot might have ensued had the average age of the audience been forty years younger. It was that overwhelming a performance and thankfully, will be broadcast on WGCU-FM, 90.1 on Tuesday, May 10, 2005. How fortunate to have witnessed musical artists perform on a level that simply eclipses mere greatness with moments of incredible, sublime musical virtuosity! Applause should be given to sponsor, Oswald, Trippe and Company and the many hardworking Sanibel Music Festival staff for making this extraordinary concert possible.



Harold Lieberman

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Lavay Smith And Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers

The skillet was lukewarm at Schein on Saturday, March 18, as the 2004-05 BIG ARTS Great Performers Series wound down. Lavay Smith and her Red Hot Skillet Lickers presented an over-two-hour presentation of jump and swing music of original songs and those of Ray Charles, Count Basie, and other '40s and '50s artists. Vocalist and bandleader, Lavay Smith, raised in the Philippines and Southern California, has been attracting crowds since 1989, not only in her home-based San Francisco's "Cafe du Nord," but also at major festivals throughout the United States. The packed, sold-out concert was sponsored by Chuck and Helen Kettman and BIG ARTS President, Deborah La Gorce and husband John. Arrangements for the seven-piece band (advertised as an eight-

piece band) were written by Musical Director and pianist, Chris Siebert, and New York based arranger, Dave Berger. The musicians were: Bill Ortiz, trumpet, Danny Armstrong, trombone, Charles McNeal, alto sax, Mark Hynes, tenor sax, David Ewell, acoustic bass, and Darrell Green, drums.

The first set opened with "Sweet Eyes" a medium fast tempo song composed by David "Fat Head" Newman and made famous by Ray Charles. Using a format of playing the "head" followed by improvised solos by each player - trombone, alto, trumpet, bass, drums and piano, the ensemble reprised the "head" (tune's melody) and then "took it out," (brought the arrangement to its conclusion.) The arrangements, or "charts" were

Skillet, continued right

MUSIC OFF-ISLAND

Piano virtuoso comes to Shell Point

To help describe the concert seen and heard in the Shell Point Retirement Center on March 10, here's a quote from the Program: "Already being hailed as 'one of the hottest young pianists in the world,' Anthony Molinaro's stunning performances and unique versatility have captivated audiences and critics alike since his victory at the 1997 Naumberg International Piano Competition."

"Stunning" and "unique" certainly belong in any comment on this darkly dignified artist's concentrated presence at Shell Point's concert grand. Without a doubt, his technique is tremendous. His focus included body positions and facial expressions related solely to the musical sounds conveyed through his lightning hands.

The audience's hunger for traditional classics was somewhat appeased through the opening Schubert/Liszt. Molinaro had added his own touches to the second selection, a Rachmaninoff Andante for Cello and Piano. Prokofiev's War Sonata (Sonata No. 7) closed the concert's first half. The third movement, "Precipitato,"

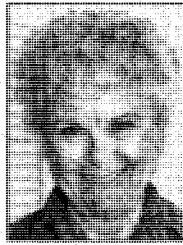
sent the audience into Intermission wondering what more this young pianist could possibly summon.

But summon he did — familiar melodies of George Gershwin that Molinaro had stretched with his personal arrangements and variations. Recognizable were "Summertime" and "I Got Rhythm." The evening's conclusion was devoted to the modern classic *Rhapsody in Blue*, including Molinaro's lengthy variations and improvised cadenzas (which he has taped on a popular CD).

The audience sprang to its feet cheering as the last brilliant passage came to an exciting end. Crowds of impressed admirers collected around the foyer table where Molinaro CDs were available. He even stopped by for autographs.

An informal post-concert talk with the pianist revealed a personality as serious as his life's work. Surprisingly, his career interests include jazz — he has his own

Molinaro, see page 24



Charlotte Heimann

St. Petersburg Ballet unexpected surprise

It was an evening full of unscheduled surprises, including the program itself. At Barbara B. Mann Hall on March 9 the St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre presented a series of small-cast "choreographic miniatures" plus some familiar pieces. This third in the 53rd season of the Fort Myers Community Concert Association was sponsored by Mrs. Sidney R. Davis, with series underwriter

Mrs. J. Howard Wood.

Problems with the timing of elaborate set installations proved unsolvable. Result: although the audience expected to see the dramatic full-length ballet, *Giselle*, they responded well to a Gala Program consisting of "Pas de Deux, Trois and Quatre" — plus one exquisite solo and a finale with the entire company.

Classical ballet fans were delighted with excerpts from *The Nutcracker*, *Swan Lake*, *Le Corsaire*, and that period favorite *Dying Swan*. They were all presented with the skillful technique of disciplined Russian dancers. In more recent choreography, there was a full-length ballet entitled *Rodin Sculptures*. With six short scenes, it was, in truth, a series of choreographic miniatures as originated by Leonid Jacobson. Various moods were set to music by Debussy, Prokofiev and Berg.

To resemble Rodin's models, dancers were clad only in skin-tight flesh-colored body suits. Five pairs of ballerinas and

their male partner proved the beauty of uncluttered dance line in five separate Pas de Deux. An emotional solo called "Despair" was beautifully done by one of the company's stars, Anastasia Lyubomudrova.

The piece concluded with a wild two-person romp called *Minotaurus and Nymphe*. It was close to being unintentionally(?) comic... the Minotaur wore a hairy body suit.

A clear audience favorite was a Pas de Deux from *Le Corsaire*, with its spectacular leaps for the male star and series of precise pirouettes for the ballerina. The familiar Tchaikovsky Adagio from *Swan Lake* pleased as it introduced prima ballerina Yulia Prosyannikova. Later, she stole the evening with her touching solo, *Dying Swan*, to the beloved music of Camille Saint-Saens.

The men of the St. Petersburg Ballet were expert partners with occasional exciting displays of their strength and sharply disciplined technique. Outstanding was Nikolay Semenov, a slight young man with astonishing ability to lift his ballerina partners as if they were truly airborne. He demonstrated his own considerable solo skill in the demanding classic Petipa choreography, as *Le Corsaire*.

For the Finale, Khachaturian's rousing *Dance with Sabers* filled the stage with

Ballet, see page 24

Skillet, from left

well written and sounded similar to the bebop style arrangements written by Marty Paitch for the late Mel Tormé's classic '50s recordings. The bold sound and blend of the saxes and brass were effective although hampered by the lethargic and dull sound of the bass and drums. The rhythm section, besides lacking energy, did not provide the necessary impetus needed to excite and inspire both ensemble and solo performance. The second tune was Illinois Jacquet's, "Embryo," which used the same formula as the previous tune although a tenor sax solo was added.

Wearing a flower on the right side of her hair (almost similar to Billie Holiday's "white gardenia" hair style) and sparkles on her eyelids, the "star of the Show," Miss Lavay Smith sang a moderate tempo, Billie Holiday hit record, "Miss Brown To You." This was followed by Smith's original composition, "Daddy." Unfortunately, Smith does not project the soul and pathos nor the sense of time and phrasing of the great Billie Holiday. In addition, her glitzy stage appearance, although masked by smiles, seems forced and somewhat labored.

A Kansas City (even without the rhythm guitar) style was applied to the up-tempo version of Count Basie's, "Boogie Woogie." Pianist Chris Siebert was most convincing as he captured this distinctive pianistic style with great authenticity. Lavay next sang a Bessie Smith slow blues classic, "Sugar In My Bowl" and then her original composition, "Everybody's Talkin' 'Bout Miss Thing." This was followed by Ella Fitzgerald's hit, "Deed I Do" and Big Maybelle's hit, a mambo version of, "I've Got A Feelin'." Duke Ellington's, "It Don't Mean A


Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing" closed out the first set.

All of the above arrangements featured improvised solos and concerted ensembles. Solos were predictable and lacked subtlety and inventiveness. Even within the energetic "jump" style, solos tended to border on the hysterical and raucous quality and lacked melodic development. Repetitious effects and gimmicks shrouded most solos making them predictable.

However, trombonist Armstrong's brash and biting tone was enjoyable, as was his impressive circular breathing and vocals. His jazz articulation "swings" and he is able to project this quality to the listener. Perhaps the highlight of the night was his poignant, "Tricky" Sam Nanton plunger solo (with mute) in the slow blues, "Gee Baby Ain't I Good To You." Trumpeter, Bill Ortiz has a good feel for the idiom as he leads the ensemble. However, his solos lack dynamics and creative depth. Songs played after intermission were, "Symphony In Sib," Lester Young's, "Tickle Toe," Lavay singing, "On The Sunny Side Of The Street" a slow, "Gee Baby Ain't I Good To You," "Big Fat Daddy" and Irving Berlin's, "Blue Skies." The last two tunes of the concert, with audience participation, were, "Walk Right In" followed by the instrumental New Orleans dixieland, sure-fire audience "grabber" "When The Saints Go Marchin' In."

Although some of the audience rose to a standing ovation, many of the audience had left after the first half. After all of the great BIG ARTS concerts presented this season, Lavay Smith and her Red Hot Skillet Lickers was a huge musical fiasco and sad disappointment.

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 and trumpet with Benny Goodman, Arthur Godfrey and many other well-known band leaders.



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Jaco Pastorius at Jazz Alliance concert

The Jazz Alliance concert will take place Saturday April 30, on the Alliance for the Arts campus lawn, located at the southeast corner of McGregor and Colonial Boulevards in Fort Myers. The headliner, Jaco Pastorius Big Band has strong ties to Southwest Florida, dating back to their 14 years as the host band for Sanibel Jazz.

Formerly the Atlantean Driftwood Band, the Jaco Pastorius Big Band features many of this area's favorite musicians,

including Ed Calle, Mike Levine, Billy Ross and special guest vocalist Dana Paul. Jaco Pastorius Big Band is conductor Peter Graves' labor of love, created to honor an original member of the Atlantean Driftwood Band.

The late Jaco Pastorius is widely considered to be the most creative bass guitar player of all time. His style of play revolutionized the instrument and has influenced bass guitars players over the past 25 years. Pat Metheny called Jaco "the last jazz musician

of the 20th century to have made a major impact on the musical world at large."

In 2004, the Jaco Pastorius Big Band recorded *Word of Mouth Revisited* to worldwide acclaim. The album was a tribute to Jaco's works and featured the greatest bass guitarists as featured artists on songs composed by Jaco Pastorius. Many of the songs on the album were originally recorded by Jaco and The Atlantean Driftwood Band as part of Sanibel Jazz, a 14-year tradition in Southwest Florida during the 1980s and 1990s.

The April 30th evening concert opens at 5 p.m., with the music beginning at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$ 20 at the gate on the night of the performance. All through the evening, great food specialties and beverages will be catered by *Someone Delectable!*

Proceeds from the jazz concert will help to support the Alliance for the Arts. Join the gathering of jazz lovers, celebrating our southwest Florida lifestyle Saturday evening, April 30, from 5 - 10 p.m. on the Alliance lawn. For additional information and advance ticketing, call the Alliance for the Arts at 239/939-2787. This is one reunion concert you won't want to miss!

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**It's CROW'S
Taste of the Islands
25th ANNIVERSARY!!!**



**You can help CROW by being
a Volunteer at this 2005
Taste of the Islands Event**

SATURDAY, APRIL 23rd

9:00 AM

- ☐ Set fencing around Community park site
- ☐ Assist with tent set-up
- ☐ Assist with restaurant table set-up
- ☐ Pick-up plants/canopies on island as needed (trucks helpful)

2:00 PM

- ☐ Open, bag and distribute garbage boxes & butt buckets
- ☐ Prepare raffle ticket packets
- ☐ Hang signs (Gates and Tents)

SUNDAY, APRIL 24th DAY OF THE EVENT

11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

- ☐ Sell Tee-Shirts
- ☐ Entrance Gate Ticket Takers
- ☐ Main Beverage Tent *(2nd shift available only)
- ☐ Remote Beverage Tent *(2nd shift available only)
- ☐ Food and Beverage Ticket Sales
- ☐ CROW Information Table
- ☐ Raffle Ticket Sales Table
- ☐ "Trolley Talkers"
- ☐ Parking Assistants

2:30 - 7:00 PM

Same as above, write in your choice



AVAILABLE SHIFT TIMES

11:00AM-3:00PM

3:00PM-7:00PM

PLEASE FAX FORM BACK TO ANN ARNOFF, 472-2764

A packet will arrive by mail with your assignment letter, parking pass and a coupon for a discount on an event shirt. Entry wristbands will be given to you at the volunteer check-in tent when you arrive at the event.

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Day Phone _____ Fax _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT

The Jubilation Singers

The Sanibel Community Church is proud to present the Jubilation Singers in concert, Saturday, April 2 at 7 p.m. This auditioned choir of treble voices, boys and girls, grades 4 -12, is one of the six choirs for children and youth at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Fort Lauderdale. They sing regularly for worship services and concerts at Coral Ridge church and are seen frequently in the national broadcasts of "The Coral Ridge Hour." In addition they perform for a variety of civic and community events, delighting audiences with their musically

sensitive presentations of excellent choral literature.

With Integra Music of Nashville, the Jubilation Singers have produced two recordings, *Lord Our Creator*, a collection of sacred classics, and Mendelssohn's *Elijah for Young Voices* which was named to the Notable Recordings for Children list. The concert is free and open to the public - a free will offering will be taken - and will be at the Sanibel Community Church, 1740 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel. 472-2684

Hot Caribbean rhythms at BIG ARTS

It will be a hot time in Schein Hall at BIG ARTS, Thursday, March 31, when Ritmo Caliente De Caribe Orchestra take the stage at 8 p.m. Ritmo Caliente Del Caribe (hot Caribbean rhythms) and dance troupe are taking audiences back in time to those great old Havana nights where the mambo, rumba and cha-cha were king. With their dazzling costumes and dancers, Ritmo presents a variety of Latin/tropical themed interactive shows instantly taking the audience to the biggest Latin tropical Havana night extravaganza this side of Cuba.

This high energy choreographed dance show highlights south Florida's multi-cultural flavor with its non-stop salsa, merengue, mambo, paso doble, Latin Jazz, Brazilian bossa nova and samba and tango. By the time it's all over, chances are that you will have participated in a 'Conga' line, learned some hot salsa dance

steps and played the maracas.

Ritmo is produced by Bobby Ramirez. Born in Cuba, this talented flautist, saxophonist, vocalist, composer and arranger, and no-holds-barred entertainer, is a multi-talented musician who brings his own unique style and warm, entertaining charisma to every performance.

Rameriz is also affectionately known by music fans worldwide as "El Manisero Del Ritmo" the peanut vendor, for his joyful entertainment charisma and ability to perform flavorful Cuban dance music on the flute. He released his debut CD, "Ritmo Jazz Latino," several years ago, receiving commendable reviews. "Pan Con Bistec" is the title of his latest CD.

This concert is sponsored by the West Wind Inn. Tickets available at \$31 per person. BIG ARTS, 395-0900, 900 Dunlop Road, Sanibel.

Molinaro, from page 23

jazz trio with Grammy Award winner Paul Wertico on drums. And he has a long-standing collaboration with harmonica virtuoso Howard Levy; an extended European tour is in the works for this duo. His piano concerts have taken him all over the world; his "off time" is divided between his native Chicago and Rome, Italy. Asked what he does "for fun,"

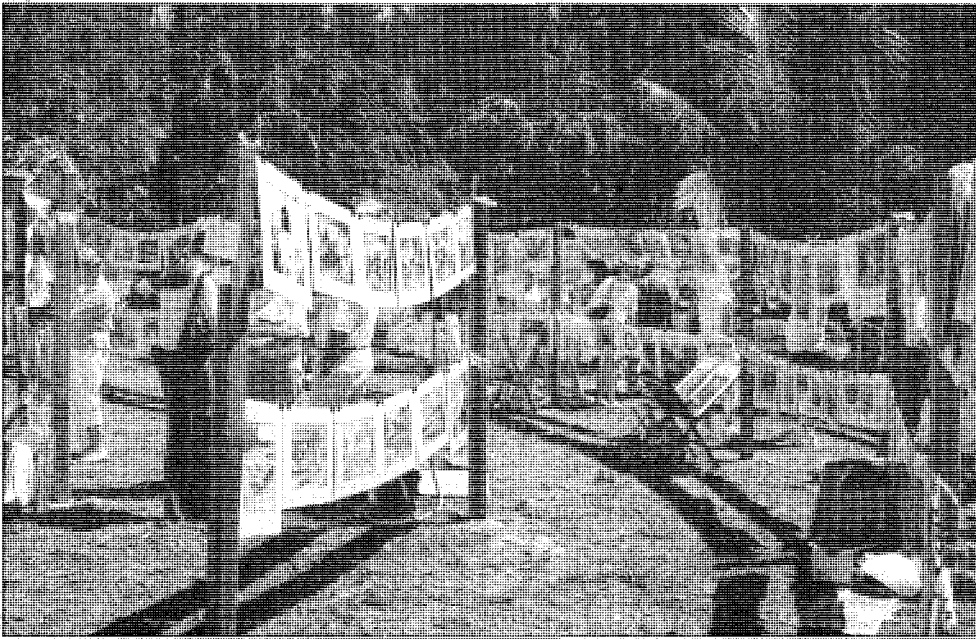
Molinaro replied without a smile, "I run."

This Shell Point Concert Series will conclude on April 5 at 7:30 p.m. with a performance by Empire Brass, a quintet of horn masters with a great sense of humor to add to their "shining sound." Tickets are \$25 for general seating in the Village Church Auditorium. Call 454-2067.

Ballet, from page 23

the whole company whirling in what looked like mass confusion. Obviously, it was carefully planned by choreographer Yuri Petukhov, Artistic Director of this St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre. The audience responded with enthusiasm matching that of the dancers, having experienced a most unusual evening of ballet.

The Fort Myers Community Concert Association's season continues on March 17th with the Amernet String Quartet, called by *The New York Times* "an accomplished and intelligent ensemble." One week later, the season closes with the incomparable Itzhak Perlman. For information, call 939-3236.



San-Cap Art League Events

The 4th Annual Clothesline Show will be held on Sunday, April 3rd on the Sanibel Community House grounds from 10 AM to 3 PM. It is free and there is plenty of parking. This very popular show has hundreds of beautiful original unframed pieces of art hung on clotheslines at very low prices.

Represented are more than 30 local artists who will be there to chat about their work and the variety of mediums they use. Featured are paintings of different nearby locations completed by the Art League artists on their weekly paint-outs. Other subject matter includes wildlife, flowers and still life, decorative wall hangings, work done while traveling, experimental collage and much more.

The 29th Annual Juried Art Exhibit with 80 framed paintings continues after-

noons at BIG ARTS Phillips Gallery and over 40 colorful watercolors by Rita McLain are displayed in Sanibel Public Library. These free shows continue through March 31 and both buildings are on Dunlop Rd. League members invite visitors and residents to join them in their Thursday paint-outs for a fun morning followed by lunch and a "gentle" voluntary critique at the following locations:

April 7 – Bailey Tract

April 14 – Ding Darling Refuge followed by lunch at Doc Fords

April 21 – West Wind Inn area

April 28 – Johns' home

For more information call 395-4683 or 472-8834 or write to P.O. Box 1192, Sanibel FL 33957.

Art Night on Captiva

The Celebration Center on Captiva's Andy Rosse Lane will host an Art Night on Wednesday, March 30 from 6 - 9 p.m.

Participating businesses are Seaweed Gallery, Tommy Dixon Collections, O2 Outfitters and Beach Time.

Alliance trip to Naples Museum of Art

Alliance for the Arts Executive Director Louise Senneff announces that "a limited number of spaces for members of local arts organizations and the general public have been made available" on an Alliance-sponsored Wednesday, March 30th roundtrip motorcoach excursion to the Naples Museum of Art for docent-led visits through three major art exhibitions currently on view there until the end of the month: "Matisse-Picasso and Friends: Impressionism to Surrealism," "Victor Vasarely: Founder of Op Art" and "The Prints of Andy Warhol: From A to B and Back Again." According to Senneff, "Each exhibit is well worth a special trip by itself; the three together provide an unparalleled combination of significant artworks."

"Matisse-Picasso & Friends: Impressionism to Surrealism" features 35 paintings and 14 sculptures by Matisse, Picasso, Degas, Van Gogh, Gauguin, Cézanne, Rodin & others based in and around Paris who served as the creative foundation for the most influential art movement of the last two centuries. "Victor Vasarely: Founder of Op Art" consists of "The Most

Spectacular Eye-Popping Art Ever Created!" and makes an incredibly dramatic, dynamic, and kinetic impact upon all viewers. "So refined was his talent and skill—you actually can see some of his works move before your very eyes!" "The Prints of Andy Warhol: From A to B and Back Again" is a major retrospective of his works, containing 61 images of his graphic works

Participants will be able to see all three of these shows, as well as many other wonderful exhibits also on display at the Naples Museum. The tour schedule has the bus leaving at 9:15 a.m. from the main Alliance building at Colonial & McGregor Boulevards in Fort Myers and returning back to the same location at 5:30 p.m. The total "door-to-door cost" including roundtrip transportation, admission to the Museum and guided commentaries for the three world-class shows, as well as lunch is \$75 per person, contingent upon a sufficient number of advance reservations, which are likely to be quickly achieved. Call 939-2787 to reserve now!" and Senneff promises, "You will remember these three spectacular exhibitions for the rest of your life!"

Ladies of Monet II at CCA

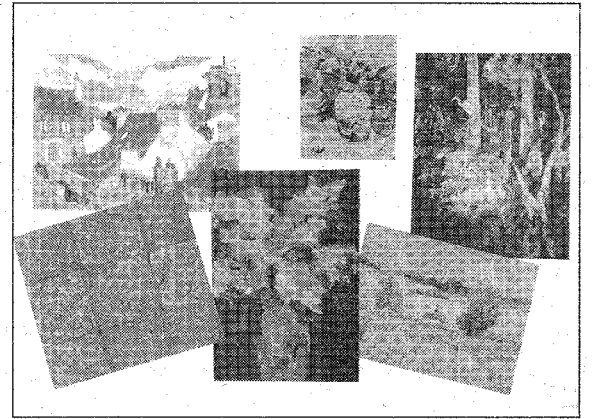
The final Captiva Civic Association's Art Exhibition of the season is "Ladies of Monet II" featuring six local artists: Betty Cater, Sheila Hoen, Judie Jones, Roslyn McGlynn, Anne Walter and Lytha Weston.

Betty Cater's goal as a painter to take you into a special place. That may be a colorful garden filled with wonderful smells, a landscape you have never visited, or people doing what they love to do." Betty is currently studying at FGCU with Gale Bennett of Fort Myers and Giverny, France.

Sheila Hoen, also of Sanibel, says that "my art is totally absorbing, a complete joy to me. My painting is full of light, shining through from space, defining my subjects. I paint in an impressionist-expressionist-abstract style with acrylics, using tertiary colors."

Judie Jones of Naples painting career started early. She was a junior and senior high art teacher, and later an interior designer for model homes. Today she is concentrating on painting. Over the years she had studied with many wonderful artists, Tom Lynch, Judi Betts, Jonathon Greene, Nita Engle, Zolton Szabo, and others.

Captiva's Roslyn Jerdon McGlynn is an interior designer, artist and photographer. She has been inspired by the beauty of Monet's garden, and having spent years creating award winning gardens, her artistic expression has blossomed. Incorporating "color, shape and texture to evoke emotion" has been her goal."



Anne Walter of Sanibel has taken workshops in pastels both on Sanibel as well as in Door County, WI at the Peninsula Art School. She enjoys working "en plein air" on locations both on Sanibel and in Door County.

"Painting is my passion!" says Lytha Weston of Sanibel. She is currently an Art Major at FGCU. Color is the driving force in her work, whether it be portraits, abstracts, primitive paintings or any work done in her impressionistic style. Lytha is also a partner in a company "Art by Lytha and Sally" which does murals and party painting locally for large events and fundraisers.

All six ladies have studied with Gale Bennett at Monet's home in Giverny, France. The exhibition may be viewed on Wednesdays and Thursdays, noon - 2 p.m. through April 14 and on Sunday, April 3, from noon - 2 p.m. at the Captiva Civic Association, 11550 Chapin Lane, Captiva Island, Florida.

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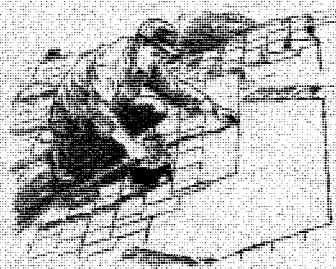
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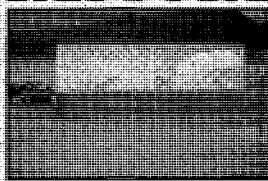
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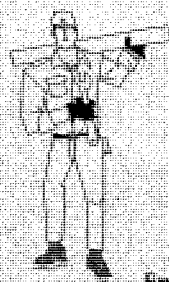
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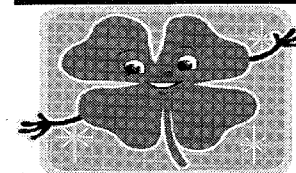
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Near Beaches & Sanibel 2/Bdr., 1/Ba., unfurnished Very clean, quiet! Annual lease. Water & lawn service include annual lease \$700 Per month. (239) 433-2448

Pleasant one-bedroom furnished apartment on Sanibel, near Gulf beach and causeway. Florida room and deck, ground-level, natural setting, w/d, carport. Available April-December \$700/month. Utilities furnished. Call owner (239)-395-0036.

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Two-bedroom duplex apartment on Sanibel. Furnished. Ground-level. On quiet street near Gulf beach. Available April - December. Livingroom, dinette, full kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bath, screened/glassed-in lanai. Carport, w/d. \$800 per month. Call owner (239) 395-0036.

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(in Periwinkle Place Shopping Center)

Sanibel, FL



Peaches Plus

By Karen Nelson, Staff Writer



Women who wear sizes 14 - 24 will be delighted to discover Peaches Plus in Periwinkle Place. This welcoming shop offers stylish, easy-wear styles in a rainbow of spring colors and you feel at ease the minute you walk into the open, airy space.

Peaches Plus opened about a year and a half ago in Periwinkle Place. The styles are mostly upscale casual but you can also find some dressy looks for that special occasion. "We can do colors, and we can do black-and-white," notes Sue Bobak, who co-owns Peaches Plus with Donna Wieland. (They also own Peach Republic in Periwinkle Place.)

Yellows and oranges are hot colors for this spring and pink "is really maintaining its popularity." Stylish shoes and lots of accessories round out the selection here, so you can literally outfit yourself head to toe. Peaches Plus carries hard-to-find Sanibel Perfume.

Among the lines you'll find are Tienello (featuring soft, wearable tencel) and ONLY (100% cotton and oh-so-perfect for Florida casual lifestyle). Liz & Jane offer fine linen as well as cotton selections, and you can nurture your sense of humor with one of the whimsical Diane Wat T-shirts for dog and cat lovers. Tribal pants — in khaki, hot pink and lime green — are very popular. They have an excellent fit and they also launder well. And speaking of laundry, almost everything in the shop is machine washable — perfect for a no-care vacation.

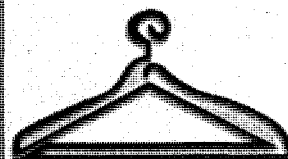
For the perfect outfit for your vacation in paradise (or even if you live here), ladies of plus style will love Peaches Plus.

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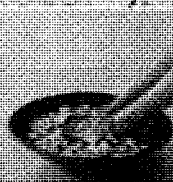
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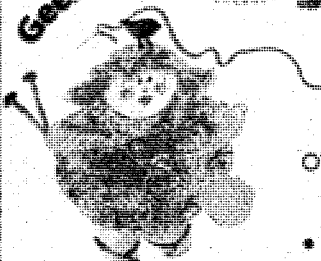
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WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS				
City	Sat. High	Sat. Low	Sun. High	Sun. Low
Cape Coral Bridge	3:41 a.m. 6:44 p.m.	12:21 p.m. 10:51 p.m.	4:07 a.m. 6:46 p.m.	12:04 p.m. 10:05 p.m.
Captive at Redfish Pass	1:31 a.m. 4:34 p.m.	9:05 a.m. 7:35 p.m.	1:57 a.m. 4:36 p.m.	8:43 a.m. 6:49 p.m.
Fort Myers	4:34 a.m. 7:37 p.m.	1:03 p.m. 11:33 p.m.	5:00 a.m. 7:39 p.m.	12:46 a.m. 10:47 p.m.
Melange Pass	3:09 a.m. 6:12 p.m.	11:47 a.m. 10:17 p.m.	3:35 a.m. 6:14 p.m.	11:30 a.m. 9:31 p.m.
Pineland	2:07 a.m. 5:10 p.m.	10:45 a.m. 9:15 p.m.	2:33 a.m. 5:12 p.m.	10:28 a.m. 8:29 p.m.
Point Ybel	12:36 a.m. 3:39 p.m.	9:07 a.m. 7:37 p.m.	1:02 a.m. 3:41 p.m.	8:50 a.m. 6:51 p.m.
Punta Rassa	1:25 a.m. 4:28 p.m.	9:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.	1:51 a.m. 4:30 p.m.	8:43 a.m. 6:44 p.m.
St. James City	1:56 a.m. 4:59 p.m.	9:35 a.m. 8:05 p.m.	2:22 a.m. 5:01 p.m.	9:18 a.m. 7:19 p.m.

[illegible]

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FUTURE FORECAST - SATURDAY

TIME	TEMP	WIND	WIND DIR	WIND SPC	WIND DIR	WIND SPC
12:00 PM	74	10	SE	10	10	SE
1:00 PM	75	10	SE	10	10	SE
2:00 PM	76	10	SE	10	10	SE
3:00 PM	77	10	SE	10	10	SE
4:00 PM	78	10	SE	10	10	SE
5:00 PM	79	10	SE	10	10	SE
6:00 PM	80	10	SE	10	10	SE
7:00 PM	81	10	SE	10	10	SE
8:00 PM	82	10	SE	10	10	SE
9:00 PM	83	10	SE	10	10	SE
10:00 PM	84	10	SE	10	10	SE
11:00 PM	85	10	SE	10	10	SE
12:00 AM	86	10	SE	10	10	SE
1:00 AM	87	10	SE	10	10	SE
2:00 AM	88	10	SE	10	10	SE
3:00 AM	89	10	SE	10	10	SE
4:00 AM	90	10	SE	10	10	SE
5:00 AM	91	10	SE	10	10	SE
6:00 AM	92	10	SE	10	10	SE
7:00 AM	93	10	SE	10	10	SE
8:00 AM	94	10	SE	10	10	SE
9:00 AM	95	10	SE	10	10	SE
10:00 AM	96	10	SE	10	10	SE
11:00 AM	97	10	SE	10	10	SE
12:00 PM	98	10	SE	10	10	SE
1:00 PM	99	10	SE	10	10	SE
2:00 PM	100	10	SE	10	10	SE
3:00 PM	101	10	SE	10	10	SE
4:00 PM	102	10	SE	10	10	SE
5:00 PM	103	10	SE	10	10	SE
6:00 PM	104	10	SE	10	10	SE
7:00 PM	105	10	SE	10	10	SE
8:00 PM	106	10	SE	10	10	SE
9:00 PM	107	10	SE	10	10	SE
10:00 PM	108	10	SE	10	10	SE
11:00 PM	109	10	SE	10	10	SE
12:00 AM	110	10	SE	10	10	SE
1:00 AM	111	10	SE	10	10	SE
2:00 AM	112	10	SE	10	10	SE
3:00 AM	113	10	SE	10	10	SE
4:00 AM	114	10	SE	10	10	SE
5:00 AM	115	10	SE	10	10	SE
6:00 AM	116	10	SE	10	10	SE
7:00 AM	117	10	SE	10	10	SE
8:00 AM	118	10	SE	10	10	SE
9:00 AM	119	10	SE	10	10	SE
10:00 AM	120	10	SE	10	10	SE
11:00 AM	121	10	SE	10	10	SE
12:00 PM	122	10	SE	10	10	SE
1:00 PM	123	10	SE	10	10	SE
2:00 PM	124	10	SE	10	10	SE
3:00 PM	125	10	SE	10	10	SE
4:00 PM	126	10	SE	10	10	SE
5:00 PM	127	10	SE	10	10	SE
6:00 PM	128	10	SE	10	10	SE
7:00 PM	129	10	SE	10	10	SE
8:00 PM	130	10	SE	10	10	SE
9:00 PM	131	10	SE	10	10	SE
10:00 PM	132	10	SE	10	10	SE
11:00 PM	133	10	SE	10	10	SE
12:00 AM	134	10	SE	10	10	SE
1:00 AM	135	10	SE	10	10	SE
2:00 AM	136	10	SE	10	10	SE
3:						