

Weasley, Muggles and manatees

A New Jersey friend, Allison, visited me over the Thanksgiving holiday and we took a ride over to the Charlotte Harbor

Environmental Center. I've been printing the CHEC column for almost two years, but have never seen the facility. Al and I enjoyed our visit, and I hope to get back there to see more.

The setting was beautiful, the trails looked inviting and the staff and volunteers were friendly and helpful. It was a simpler feature, however, that caught my attention. There — on a case containing handouts, among the professionally printed brochures — were stacks of hand-made pam-



Schmoozin'

Lynne James

Port Charlotte Herald Editor

23170 Harborview Rd.
Charlotte Harbor, FL 33980
941-206-1177
email: ljames@sun-herald.com

phlets sharing information about manatees, as processed in the minds of third grade school children.

Monica Dorken is CHEC educator/program coordinator at the Alligator Creek

Preserve and she takes an informative program to students and then asks them to create the fliers. I asked her to write this week's column about that process — to go along with the photos I took of some of the 'great works of art.'

You can see the article on page 8, then go visit the center and look at some more.

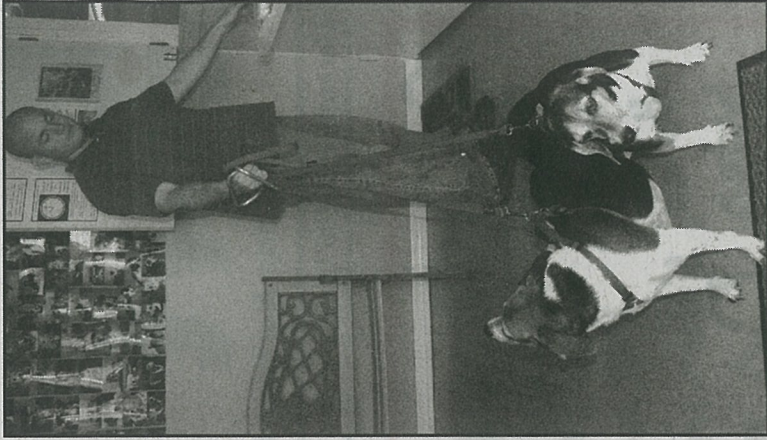
PAWS FOR EARS

My beagles, Muggles and Weasley, went to PAWS Doggy Day Care and Grooming in Port Charlotte last month to get baths and have their nails clipped. They don't like the process at all, but I think it's a great place.

This weekend, PAWS is helping EARS in Englewood.

EARS Animal Rescue Sanctuary will hold an Adopt-a-Thon from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at 145 W. Dearborn St. in Englewood. And PAWS will clip your dogs' nails for a donation to EARS.

Paul Cottrell will be on hand to entertain. Pat Yager from Garden Art & Forever Memories will have a table to take orders for garden memory stones for pets and those proceeds will be donated, as well. For more information, call 941-475-0636.



I took this picture as PAWS' Richard Witherill was trying to have Weasley and Muggles see things his way.

SCRUBBING GRANNIES

While you are out and about on Saturday, stop and get your car washed by auxiliary grannies. From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 110 will hold Granny's Car Wash at 3152 Harbor Blvd. in Port Charlotte.

The ladies will even offer coffee, tea and pastries while you wait.

GIFTS WRAPPED

Every day, including Christmas Eve, the ladies of the GFWC Woman's Club of Port Charlotte will wrap gifts for donations at the Port Charlotte Town Center Mall. Proceeds will go to the group's scholarship fund and other charitable endeavors.

Customers can choose from a variety of papers, ribbons, bows and gift tags. The booth is located near the food court and open during normal mall hours.

Happy Hanukkah.

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RUDY THE RETIREE



YOUR GRANDSON MUST HAVE EATEN THEIR DINNER AGAIN.

WHITAKER

The Sun

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23170 Harborview Rd.
Charlotte Harbor, FL 33980

941-206-1177

Derek Dunn-Rankin
President

David Dunn-Rankin
Publisher

Chris Porter
Editor

Lorraine Schneberger
Charlotte Sun/Editor
lorraines@sun-herald.com

Lynne James
Port Charlotte Herald Editor
ljames@sun-herald.com

Mark Yero
Circulation Director

Debbie Dunn-Rankin
Advertising Manager