



## **Lily & Co. Jewelers to celebrate grand opening on Sanibel, Nov. 25**

SANIBEL, Fla. (Nov. 6, 2006) – Sanibel’s first “jewelry gallery,” Lily & Co. Jewelers, will celebrate its grand opening November 25 at 5 p.m., announced co-owners Karen Bell and Dan Schuyler.

In July, Sanibel-Captiva Realtor, Bell and Schuyler, a jeweler with 28 years’ experience opened the doors to Lily & Co. Jewelers, at 520 Tarpon Bay Road, in Sanibel. On Saturday, November 25 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., the pair will host an evening of celebration for members of the public, featuring food, wine, art and jewelry.

Representatives from some of Lily’s couture jewelry designers including Jeffrey Bilgore, James Breski, Marya Dabrowski, Steven Douglas, Akiva Gil, Beny Sofer and The Touch will also make appearances. Local artist Lynda McHugh, who is currently showing at Lily will also be present. McHugh’s paintings are inspired by Native American art and goddess mythology and use women as central themes.

The store, constructed more than 90 years ago, is on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places. After being constructed in 1915 as a church by the Florida Baptist Convention of Jacksonville, the building opened as a school for African American children in 1929 during Lee County’s efforts to update the educational facilities

throughout the county. The school remained in service until around 1963, when the current Sanibel Elementary School, the island's first integrated school was built.

In a change from its origins, today the store is Sanibel's first *jewelry gallery* combining a fine jewelry store and art gallery in one location. Lily & Co. namesake and *spokesdog* is Lily, Bell's two-year-old Labradoodle who is often on site to greet customers and visitors.

Lily's couture jewelry collection includes pieces from famed designers such as Michael Beaudry, James Breski, Marya Dabrowski, Louis Erard, Steven Douglas, Akiva Gil, Gurhan, Hidalgo, Magick, in addition to pearls from the Coronation line. Finally, Lily & Co. will offer the only collection of loose G.I.A. and A.G.S. certified diamonds, along with a selection of A.G.T.A. certified gem-quality colored stones.

Lily & Co. has also dedicated space in its gallery to showcase art from up-and-coming and classical artists.

Store hours are Monday thru Thursday 10 a.m. -- 6 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. -- 8p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. -- to 6 p.m. For more information about Lily & Co., call (239) 472-2888 or visit [www.lilyjewelers.com](http://www.lilyjewelers.com).

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