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**“GIFT FROM THE SEA” 50TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL
TO BE HELD ON CAPTIVA ISLAND IN NOVEMBER**

CAPTIVA ISLAND, Fla. (April 1, 2005) – Fifty years of wisdom, insight and inspiration will be celebrated during the week-long “Gift from the Sea” 50th Anniversary Festival on Captiva Island, Florida, in November 2005. The Festival will celebrate the 50th anniversary of author-aviator Anne Morrow Lindbergh’s best-selling book, “Gift from the Sea,” which was inspired by a visit Mrs. Lindbergh made to Captiva Island in the early 1950s. The Festival’s theme is “*Celebrating 50 years of Wisdom, Insight and Inspiration: 1955-2005.*”

The week-long Festival will celebrate the book’s anniversary through a variety of artistic and cultural events from Nov. 12 through 18, including:

- an invitational Art Show at the Captiva Community Center Hall
- an invitational Craft Show at the historic Captiva Island Inn
- a “Taste of Captiva” culinary event, also at Captiva Island Inn
- a series of programs at the Captiva Memorial Library
- the 2005 Lindbergh Symposium at ‘Tween Waters Inn on Captiva, a one-day symposium featuring several well-known speakers associated with the Lindberghs.

“Even though ‘Gift from the Sea’ was published 50 years ago, it is remarkable how relevant people still find it today,” said Southwest Florida resident Margaret Eiluned Morgan, niece of Charles A. and Anne Morrow Lindbergh and coordinator of the Festival. “The book’s focus on the importance of time for oneself amidst all the competing pressures of family, work and community still strikes a chord for many in today’s society.”

(more)

2-2-2-2/ "Gift from the Sea" 50th Anniversary Festival to be Held on Captiva Island in November

After its initial publication in 1955, "Gift from the Sea" remained on the New York Times best-seller list for more than a year. More than three million copies of "Gift from the Sea" have been sold during the past 50 years, and it has been translated into 25 foreign languages. It continues to sell well today in several formats, including hard-cover, paperback, large-print and audiobook.

A special 50th anniversary edition of "Gift from the Sea" was published earlier this year by Pantheon Books, a subsidiary of Random House Inc. The anniversary edition includes a new introduction by Reeve Lindbergh, award-winning author and daughter of Charles A. and Anne Morrow Lindbergh.

The Festival is being presented by The Earth Shine Institute, a supporting organization of The Charles A. and Anne Morrow Lindbergh Foundation. The Earth Shine Institute presents educational and cultural programs in Southwest Florida that further the vision of Charles A. and Anne Morrow Lindbergh. For more information, visit www.earthshineinstitute.com.

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Additional Comments From Margaret Eiluned Morgan on the Variety of Readers Who Enjoy "Gift from the Sea":

The book's message is a remarkably enduring one and attracts readers across a wide range of interests: nature, spirituality, biography, women's writing, beach and seashore, Florida writers, etc. A wide variety of readers respond to it: girls as young as 10 enjoy it; often it is given as graduation gift or coming of age gift to girls (sometimes as a family tradition from one generation to the next); Buddhists read it as an inspirational text as well as many church groups; caregivers, hospital workers, therapists and many under stress find it useful for balancing their own stressful lives; vacationers to Florida and other beaches read it as a "beach book"; it is read at weddings, funerals, birthdays, and graduation ceremonies.

Excerpts from 50th Anniversary Edition Introduction by Reeve Lindbergh:

"Her book offers its readers, finally an extraordinary kind of freedom, and I think this is the reason it continues to be so well loved, and so well read, after all these years. I am talking about the freedom that comes when one chooses to remain open, as my mother did again and again, to life itself, whatever it may bring: joys, sorrows, triumphs, failures, suffering, comfort, and above all, always, change."

"At whatever point one opens GIFT FROM THE SEA, to any chapter or page, the author's words offer a chance to breathe and to live more slowly. The book makes it possible to quiet down and rest in the present, no matter what the circumstances may be. Just to read it -- a little of it or in its entirety -- is to exist for a while in a different and more peaceful tempo."