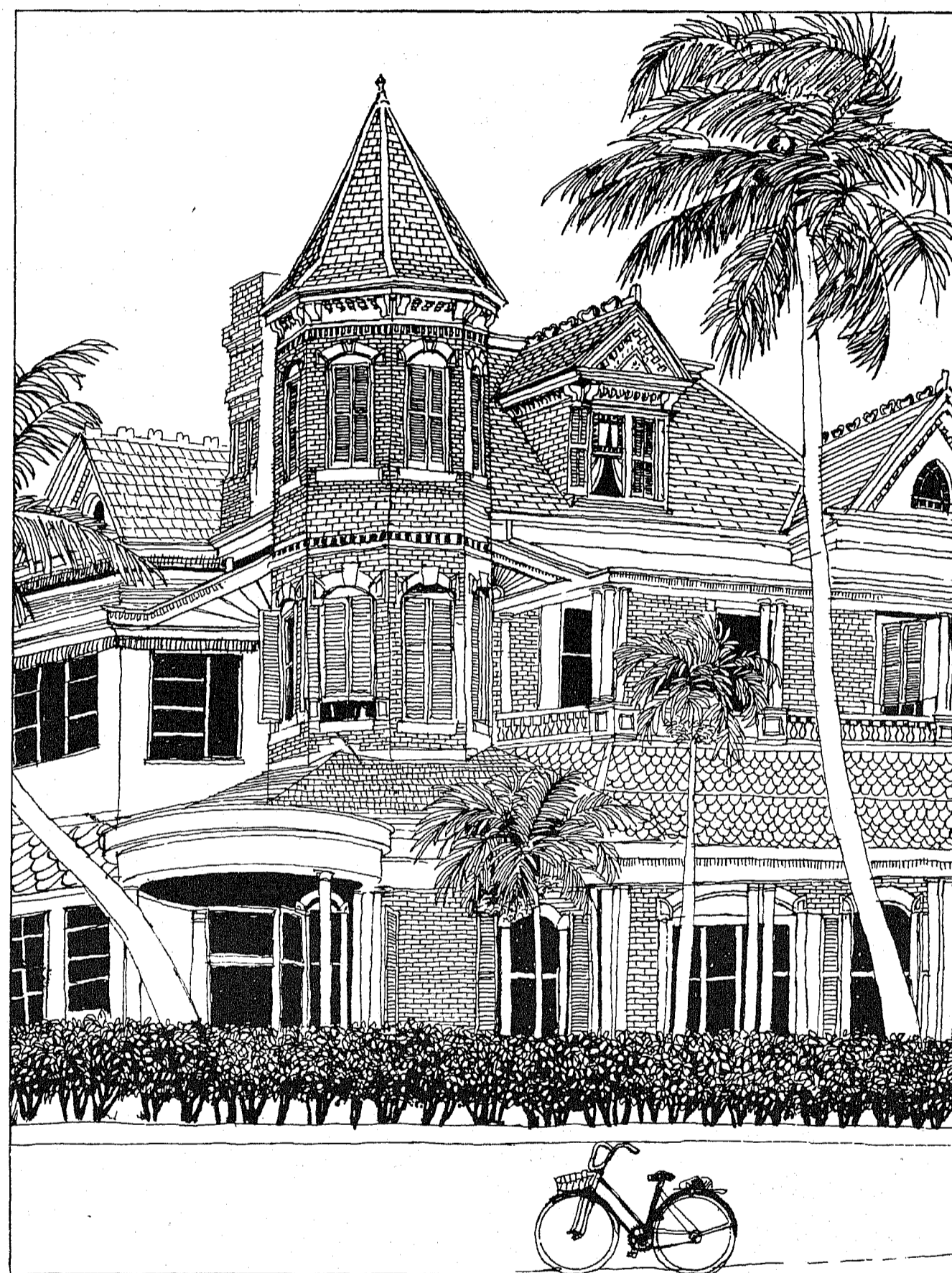


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solares shill
VOL. 13, NO. 5 / KEY WEST, FLORIDA / MAY, 1985



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FROM THE EDITOR

HELLO -

THE EDITORIAL ON page 3 says it all. We feel that the people of Key West will support a referendum calling for the incorporation of the Key West Police Department into the Monroe County Sheriff's Department under the terms of contractual consolidation. If for any reason the people of Key West felt in the future that the police department should be returned to the city, then that would be possible under the terms of the contract. It looks like there could be a considerable cost savings by eliminating the duplication of services. It looks like there would be a need for a considerable number of personnel to be hired by the sheriff for policing Key West. Even if the city police didn't have such a bad reputation it still would make sense to place our policing under one roof: it's cost-effective, it's more efficient, and there will be ample employment opportunities for the city police who pass the requirements for entrance into the sheriff's department. Of course there are numerous details to be worked out. A committee must be formed to investigate the best ways to bring this about. Next month, Solares Hill will present a report on how we feel this should be carried out.

COMMISSIONER CATES CALLED to correct a mistake I made in my column last month. I reported: "Commissioner Halloran was joined by Commissioners Balbontin and Mira in voting against it (Fort Taylor State Park as the site for the sewer treatment plant)." There were no votes taken; it was a public meeting at which the Commissioners made their feelings known. Thank you for the correction, Emma.

I'M PLEASED to see that those foul anti-Catholic hate sheets were pulled down off the unoccupied office fronts on the Fleming Street side of the La Concha. There is no place ever for such crap in our town. Chris Lane had an excellent

letter in the Sunday Citizen berating those who accuse others of racism for the flimsiest of reasons. I, too, was appalled that Officer O'Neill would be called racist for expressing his sentiments toward Detective Captain Casamayor. Strong words, maybe, but to wish that he (Casamayor) "would get a thousand years" in no way implies an anti-black bias. Similarly I read in the paper that the lawyer for Casamayor said something to the effect that all the charges brought against him were from bigots out to get him. This sort of loose "racist" charging does no one any good and should be stopped.

HEY, HAVE YOU seen the new commemorative stamp that has "LOVE" written on it? It would seem that the postal service is celebrating one of our prominent citizens; after all, right under "LOVE" is 22 (cents)!

GORDON LACY COMMENTS in his column that the musicals "Mame" and "Gypsy" were too long and too lightweight. I agree. Coincidentally, John Crowther, writing on the upcoming production at the Waterfront Theater of "Kiss Me Kate" remarks: "From Kern's 'Showboat' in 1927 all the way through to Bernstein's 'West Side Story' in 1957, our history is littered with gigantic, original, astounding musicals that declared to the world what America (and Americans) were all about." How about getting some musicals from that period to produce here? I suppose that there are ample reasons for the choices that have been made, but it would be great to hear some of the "heavy-weights."

IN HIS ARTICLE in this issue on affordable housing in Key West, writer Carl Babcock states that Assistant City Planner Tom Wilson estimates that there will be 1000 new hotel rooms around Front Street alone by the year 1990. Wheel! It looks like a referendum is going to be necessary to put restraints on this orgy of building. The only constant shout of alarm about these impending building horrors comes from Commissioner George Halloran. This building must be stopped.

SEE YOU NEXT MONTH.

Our cover artist this month is Bob Kennedy. His work may be seen at the Kennedy Studios at 716 and 133 Duval Street.

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EDITOR.....BILL HUCKEL
EDITORIAL CONSULTANT.....BILL WESTRAY
ART DIRECTION.....WALT HYLE

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EDITORIAL: MERGE THE CITY POLICE INTO THE SHERIFF'S DEPT.

(The following is an editorial opinion of Solares Hill as written by Bud Jacobson.)

IT IS ABOUT TIME, AND PROBABLY LONG OVERDUE, FOR ALL THE CITIZENS AND TAXPAYERS OF KEY WEST TO THINK SERIOUSLY ABOUT A GRADUAL PHASE-OUT OF THE KEY WEST POLICE DEPARTMENT AND A TAKEOVER OF THE CITY'S LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES BY THE MONROE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

THIS OPINION OF SOLARES HILL'S IS IN DIRECT RESPONSE TO THE SHOCKING DENOUNCEMENT OF THE KWPD, ITS TOP OFFICIALS AND ALSO THE SLOPPY MANAGEMENT OF ITS MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR BUDGET, FUNDED BY THE TAXPAYERS. SWORN TESTIMONY FROM WITNESSES IN THE FEDERAL COURTROOM IN KEY WEST, IN THE PAST TWO MONTHS, DURING THE TRIAL OF THE 14 DEFENDANTS, ALLEGING GRAFT, CORRUPTION AND BRIBERY, SEEMS TO BACK UP DRAMATICALLY STATEMENTS FROM THE U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE THAT FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS THE KWPD WAS AT THE CENTER OF A "RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE."

IT HAS BEEN SAID, TIME AND AGAIN BY WITNESSES IN OPEN COURT, THAT THE OPERATION OF THE KWPD IS INCOMPETENT; THE CHAIN-OF-COMMAND IS INEFFECTIVE; MANY TOP OFFICIALS PLAY FAVORITES AND INDULGE IN COVER-UPS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT; THERE IS VIRTUALLY NO FIRM MANAGEMENT POLICY EVEN TO THE POINT OF ISSUING PARKING TICKETS.

WHEN THE CHIEF OF THE KWPD, LARRY RODRIGUEZ, TOOK THE STAND IN THE FEDERAL COURTROOM AND WAS LABELED "AN UNINDICTED CO-CONSPIRATOR," IN THIS "RACKETEERING ENTERPRISE," IT

WOULD SEEM TO MEAN THAT HE HAD SOME KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT WAS GOING ON BUT FAILED TO TAKE ANY ACTION. UNDER QUESTIONING BY ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY MICHAEL SULLIVAN, RODRIGUEZ ADMITTED, UNDER OATH, THAT HE TOOK PART IN A QUESTIONABLE PAYMENT OF \$20,000 IN A REAL ESTATE DEAL ARRANGED BY HIS DEPUTY CHIEF, RAYMOND (TITO) CASAMAYOR. IT IS ABOUT TIME FOR THE CITY COMMISSION (AND ALL OF US) TO TAKE NOTICE AND DO SOMETHING.

AT THIS POINT IN THE EDITORIAL WE WOULD STRONGLY SUGGEST THAT A FIVE-MEMBER STUDY GROUP BE APPOINTED (WITH A LIMITED TERM OF OFFICE) TO REVIEW ALL ANGLES OF THIS SITUATION, THE POSSIBILITY OF A CONSOLIDATION WITH THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE, AND THAT RECOMMENDATIONS BE MADE BY IT TO THE CITY AND COUNTY COMMISSIONS. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT ONE MEMBER EACH BE NAMED BY THE CITY COMMISSION, THE COUNTY COMMISSION, THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS AND THE BOARD OF THE FLORIDA KEYS COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

THEIR RECOMMENDATION FOR A GRADUAL CONSOLIDATION (AND WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT WILL BE THE PREFERENCE) SHOULD BE PUT FORWARD TO THE VOTERS OF KEY WEST IN A REFERENDUM, CLEARLY WORDED, THAT WILL ORDER THE GRADUAL PHASE-OUT OF THE KWPD IN AN ORDERLY, LEGAL FASHION.

TO RETURN TO THE BACKGROUND FOR THIS EDITORIAL:

IT SHOULD BE MENTIONED, WE THINK, THAT THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME THAT SOME POLICE OFFICERS IN KEY WEST HAVE BEEN CAUGHT IN SOME SHADY ACTIVITIES, NOR IS IT THE FIRST TIME THAT THE CHIEF OF POLICE HAS COME UNDER SEVERE SCRUTINY. BUT ALWAYS, IN THE PAST, FOR REASONS MORE POLITICAL THAN ANYTHING ELSE, THE

TROUBLE SEEMED TO BLOW AWAY IN THE TRADE WINDS. JOKES WERE MADE. DISGUST WAS VOICED. NOTHING DEFINITE WAS EVER DONE TO CORRECT THE SITUATION.

IN RECENT YEARS, THREE POLICE OFFICERS WERE IMPRISONED, AND A COUPLE ARE STILL SERVING TIME. TWO POLICE CHIEFS WERE FORCED TO RESIGN AFTER INVESTIGATIONS INTO THEIR CONDUCT. OTHER POLICE OFFICERS, AND DETECTIVES, BECAME EMBROILED IN CIVIL RIGHTS INQUIRIES WHEN A YOUNG LADY WAS SEXUALLY ASSAULTED WHILE IN HER CELL. TWO POLICE OFFICERS LEFT TOWN AFTER A NAVAL OFFICER WAS SEVERELY BEATEN UP INSIDE THE POLICE STATION, AND THE SAD TALES GO ON AND ON.

FINALLY, AFTER MANY YEARS AND LOTS OF WHITWASH, ALONG CAME THE GRAND JURY (SPRING TERM 1982) THAT BLASTED THE KWPD, INDICTED THREE OF ITS OFFICERS AND WITH STRONG SUPPORT FROM STATE ATTORNEY KIRK ZUELCH LAID OUT THE BEST ARGUMENTS FOR CONTRACTUAL CONSOLIDATION WITH THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

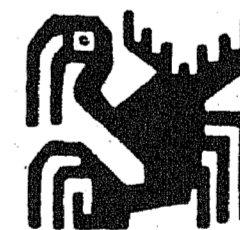
THAT GRAND JURY REPORT TELLS OF STARTLING FAILURES IN PERFORMANCE BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT - NO OFFICER ASSIGNED TO INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATIONS; NO DETECTIVE ON DUTY 24 HOURS A DAY; MIXED-UP PROCEDURES ON TAKING COMPLAINTS FROM CITIZENS; LACK OF ADEQUATE RESOURCES FOR ITS WORK.

"WE BELIEVE," THAT GRAND JURY ASSERTS, "THE CITY OF KEY WEST AND MONROE COUNTY WILL BE SERVED BEST BY HAVING THE CITY CONTRACT WITH THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT TO THE CITY OF KEY WEST."

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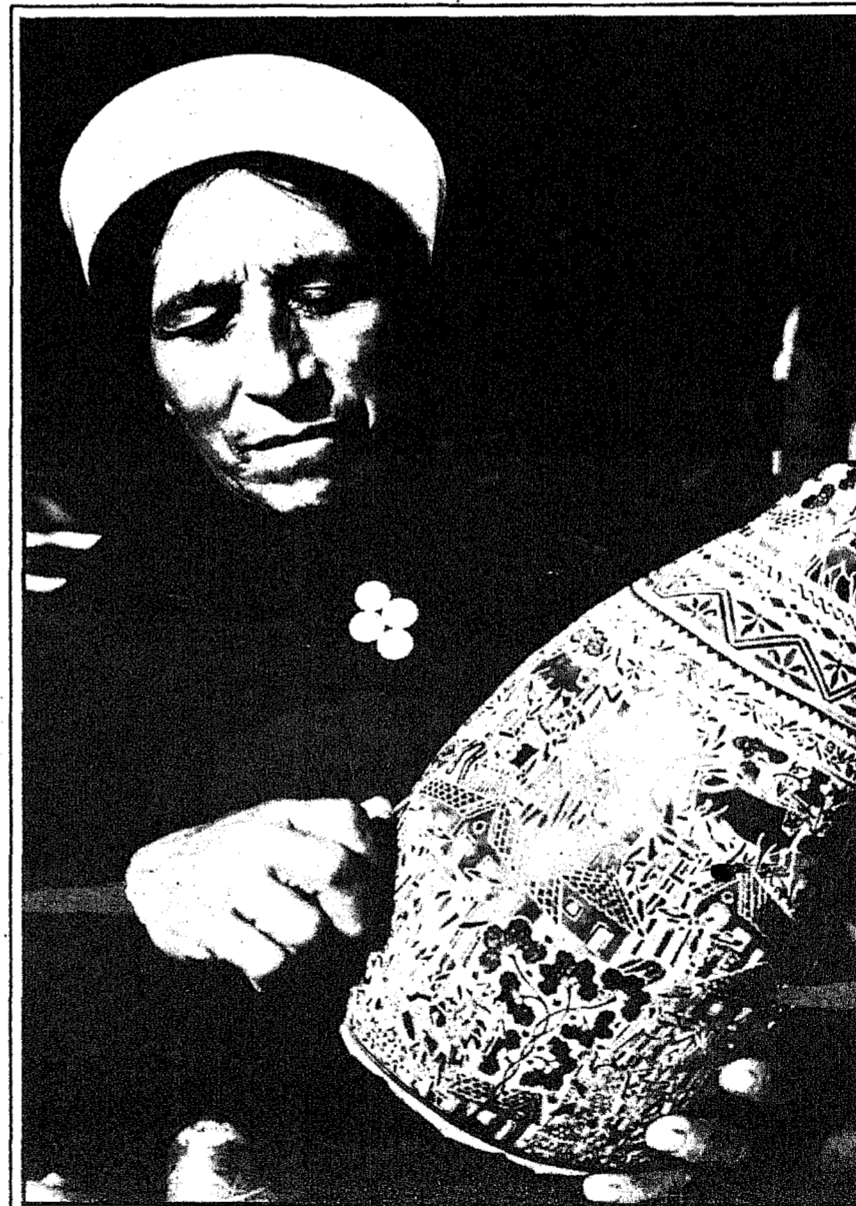
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THE REASONS GIVEN THEN ARE AS VALID TODAY:

INADEQUATE FUNDING WHICH, IN EFFECT, MAKES THE KWPD NOT COST EFFICIENT; OVER 100 MUNICIPALITIES IN FLORIDA "ARE CONTRACTING WITH THEIR COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT...28 CITIES HAVE ACTUALLY ABOLISHED THEIR POLICE DEPARTMENTS...THE EVIDENCE IS OVERWHELMINGLY FAVORABLE ABOUT THE SUCCESS OF THEIR PROGRAMS."

"A MAJOR CONCERN IS THAT CONTRACTING LAW ENFORCEMENT THROUGH THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT WOULD CAUSE THE CITY OF KEY WEST TO LOSE ITS 'IDENTITY.' THIS CONCERN IS UNWARRANTED. OTHER COMMUNITIES WITH THE SAME CONCERN STATE THAT THERE'S NO SUCH LOSS."

"IT IS OUR RECOMMENDATION THAT ALL PERSONNEL CURRENTLY WORKING IN THE KWPD BE BROUGHT INTO THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, PROVIDING THEY MEET THE SAME HIRING QUALIFICATIONS THAT ALL DEPUTIES MEET."

SOLARES HILL IS CONVINCED THAT THESE DAMAGING DISCLOSURES NOW TAKING PLACE IN THE FEDERAL COURTROOM WILL CAST A SHADOW OVER THE KWPD, FROM NOW ON, THAT WILL NOT JUST FADE AWAY INTO THE SUNSET.

A CONSOLIDATION OF THE KWPD INTO THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE MUST NECESSARILY INVOLVE A REVIEW OF ALL PERSONNEL, THEIR RIGHTS, THEIR QUALIFICATIONS, A REVIEW OF EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING BACKGROUNDS; A REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL SIDE OF THE OPERATION WHICH, WE THINK, WILL SHOW THAT A DEFINITE SAVINGS IN TAX MONIES CAN BE ACHIEVED FOR THE CITIZENS OF KEY WEST. VEHICLES AND ASSORTED EQUIPMENT CAN, OF COURSE, BE

CHANNELED INTO THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AND, POSSIBLY, COMPENSATION FOR THAT CAN BE MADE TO THE CITY'S BANK ACCOUNT.

THERE ARE MANY GOOD AND WELL-QUALIFIED CITY POLICE OFFICERS WHO COULD BENEFIT FROM THIS KIND OF CONSOLIDATION AND STILL NOT LOSE TOUCH WITH THE CITY. DEPUTIES ASSIGNED TO THE CITY, FOR EXAMPLE, COULD CARRY A UNIFORM PATCH SAYING "KEY WEST DIVISION."

IN 1978, SHERIFF W. A. FREEMAN, JR., PRESENTED A 3 1/2 PAGE PROPOSAL TO KEY WEST OFFICIALS ABOUT THIS VERY SUBJECT - CONSOLIDATION UNDER A CONTRACT AGREEMENT. AT THAT TIME, FREEMAN ESTIMATED THE TOTAL NET SAVINGS TO THE KEY WEST BUDGET WOULD BE \$277,332. THAT WAS SEVEN YEARS AGO; CONSIDERING THE ESCALATING COSTS OF MAINTAINING THE KWPD, WE WOULD ROUGHLY FIGURE THE SAVINGS TODAY COULD BE CONSIDERABLY MORE.

FREEMAN'S HANDLING OF THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, SINCE HE TOOK CONTROL OVER FIVE YEARS AGO (ASIDE FROM A COUPLE OF INTERNAL CONTROVERSIES), HAS SHOWN A BUSINESSLIKE APPROACH TO THE COUNTY'S LARGEST SINGLE BUREAUCRACY. THE RESULT, WE THINK, HAS BEEN TOP QUALITY LAWYERS WHO TAKE PRIDE IN THEIR "PROFESSIONALISM." IT IS NO SECRET THAT CITY POLICE OFFICERS FREQUENTLY APPLY FOR JOBS IN THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE WHERE TRAINING, ADVANCEMENT, SALARIES, MORALE AND OTHER BENEFITS ARE SUSTAINED AT HIGH LEVELS.

FREEMAN POINTED OUT NUMEROUS ADVANTAGES TO CONTRACTUAL CONSOLIDATION:

CENTRALIZED MANAGEMENT MORE

RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY; JURISDICTIONAL CONTINUITY; A TIGHTER LAW ENFORCEMENT BUDGET; MORE EFFECTIVE RECORDS KEEPING, IDENTIFICATION, ETC.; IMPROVED EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES DRAW HIGHER PAY AND THEIR PENSION PROGRAM COMES UNDER STATE SUPERVISION); IT WILL PROVIDE A LARGER SERVICE AREA FOR FIGURING FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAMS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT; IT WILL PROVIDE ONE EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT AGENCY FOR USE DURING EMERGENCIES SUCH AS HURRICANES, TRAFFIC CONDITIONS, EVACUATION, ETC.

FREEMAN SAID:

"THE CONSOLIDATION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES IS A VIABLE, PROVEN MEANS OF REDUCING THE COST TO THE COMMUNITY." THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME THIS SORT OF THING HAS BEEN TRIED IN FLORIDA, AND HAS SUCCEEDED, HE NOTES.

SOLARES HILL REALIZES THIS EDITORIAL PUTS IT AT THE CENTER OF WHAT COULD BE A HIGHLY EXPLOSIVE POLITICAL ISSUE THAT'S SENSITIVE AND FAR-REACHING IN ITS IMPLICATIONS. WE DO BELIEVE FIRMLY, HOWEVER, THAT WE MUST TAKE A STAND AND THAT, IN THE LONG RUN, IT WILL PROVE MUCH BETTER FOR ALL THE CITIZENS ECONOMICALLY AND ALSO FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF EFFECTIVE, CLEAN AND EFFICIENT LAW ENFORCEMENT TO PHASE OUT THE KWPD AND PLACE IT UNDER THE TERMS OF A CONTRACTUAL CONSOLIDATION WITH THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT.

WE URGE YOU TO CONTACT YOUR CITY COMMISSIONERS AND LET THEM KNOW HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT THIS.

SOME GOOD ADVICE

by BURT GARNETT

I ran into Burt Garnett the other day and was very interested in what he told me about an inexpensive hearing aid he had purchased at Radio Shack. I felt that many of our readers with hearing problems would enjoy knowing about Burt's find and, with his kind permission, we are reprinting this information from his column *Century Bound* which appears in the *St. Petersburg Times* and is syndicated by Scripps-Howard newspapers. For those who don't know Burt, he is a retired newspaperman who moved to Key West in the late '40s. At 97, he is, as his column title states, *century bound*...Ed.

MY NEIGHBOR, ON a recent visit to Cincinnati, Ohio, bought a hearing aid set for both ears and paid more than \$1,000 to the agent who supplied them. I recently bought a device with a small metal box (which holds batteries) with wires leading to both ears. The cost was \$37.83 (thirty-seven dollars and eighty-three cents). A few weeks before I made the purchase, I made an inquiry at an agency called Center of Hope, and was given the following information in writing:

| | |
|--|----------|
| Hearing aid evaluation | \$50.00 |
| Hearing aid | 300.00 |
| | \$350.00 |
| Thirty-day trial period, if not satisfied, funds returned, less: | |
| Evaluation | \$50.00 |
| Rental trial period | 35.00 |
| Ear mold | 25.00 |
| | \$110.00 |

MY HEARING AID costing less than \$38 helps me more than one I bought two years ago costing \$365.00.

I have inquired among others and the prices given them for cordless hearing aids for trial periods have been at least \$240 - usually more.

I believe the federal government should investigate the hearing aid manufacturers and their agents for vastly excessive costs, and for violating the laws forbidding restraint of trade. I also think the American Medical Association should investigate physicians who tolerate and perhaps cooperate with commercial "hearing aid services" and investigate these overcharges.

I DON'T KNOW whether I am unduly querulous in believing that inflation hits us oldsters more viciously than younger people, but costs of medicines and treatment of our physical ailments certainly sock us hard.

About twenty years ago, when I was writing a column called *What Price Retirement*, I know that hearing aids (which seem to me about as effective as those on the market today) cost about one-tenth as much. I got a lot of fan mail, most of it about dentures, eye glasses, and hearing aids. Producers of these things sent me their brochures and I talked with many users of the gadgets. My brother-in-law, who had been deaf in his left ear since childhood, got a hearing aid from a manufacturer in Freeport, Illinois. It cost him forty dollars and he was pleased with it. I know a man who recently bought one of the same kind of gadgets for five hundred dollars.

I'M VERY HAPPY with my less-than-forty-dollars device, purchased from a shop that sells radios, TVs, computers, and such things. I hope the competition will drive the high-cost hearing

aid profiteers out of business.

(The following letter is typical of the response Burt Garnett got from this particular column:)

Dear Sir:

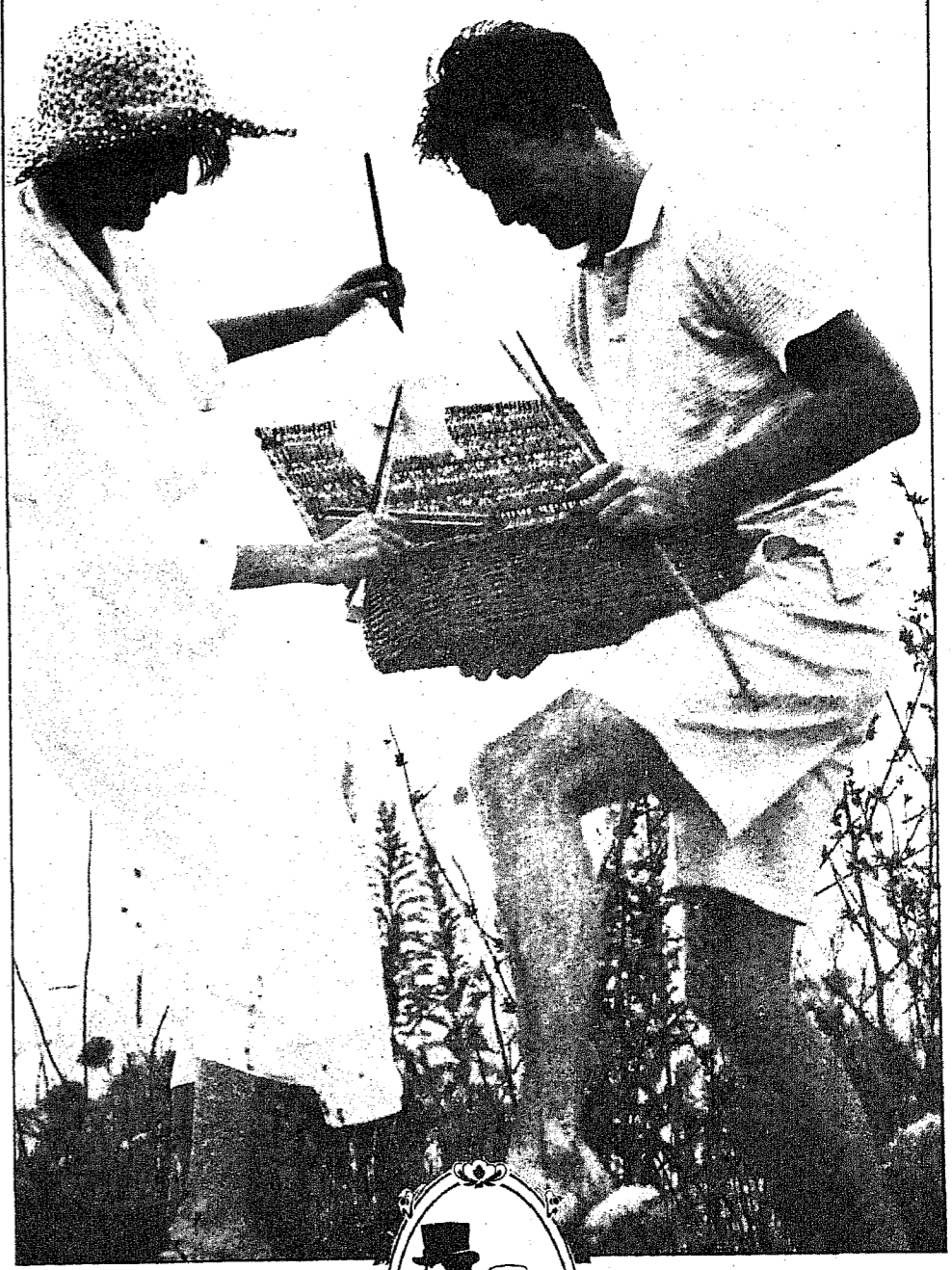
Just a note to say I appreciate your columns, but in particular the one about the Radio Shack hearing device. I got one and while I don't need it all the time, I use it to listen to TV using a 20-foot extension cord, and the amplifier suspended in front of the speaker. This way it doesn't have to be loud enough to

bother others. I have two hearing aids which cost over \$400, but the Radio Shack device is better in most applications. It should also be very useful in our 4-day drive back to Canada later this spring. My wife will wear the amplifier suspended around her neck and when she talks to me I'll be able to hear her over the road and wind noise, which I have trouble with now.

Best wishes for continuing good health.

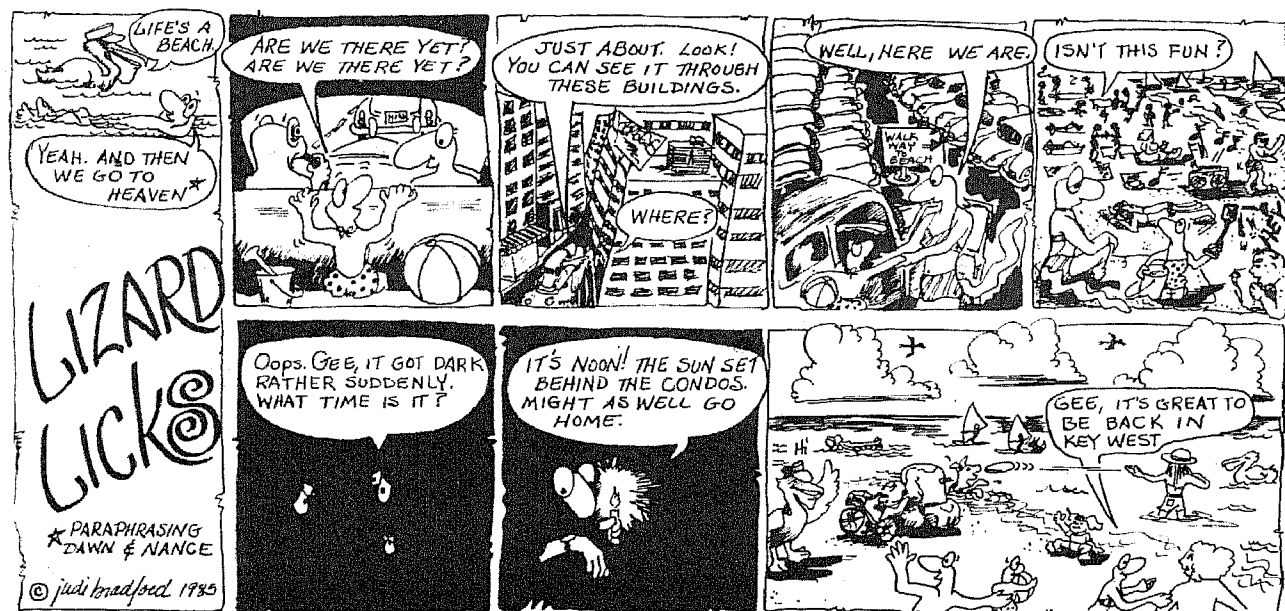
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MARRIAGE OF THE IMMORTALS — COLE PORTER & WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

By John Crowther

APRIL 23, 1985 the world celebrated the birth (actually the death — no one knows when he was born) of William Shakespeare. Happy 421st Birthday (or Deathday) will and... Many Thanks. If you hadn't given us *The Taming of the Shrew*, Cole Porter couldn't have given us *Kiss Me, Kate*. No "Another Op'nin, Another Show," no "Too Darn Hot," no "Always True to You (In My Fashion)," no "So In Love," and no "Brush Up Your Shakespeare, and they'll all Kow-Tow" either. As any composer of a Broadway musical will attest, it is the "book" (that is the story, the script) which really sets the "great ones" apart. *KISS ME, KATE*, based on *The Taming of the Shrew*, a book by Sam and Bella Spewack, music and lyrics by Cole Porter, is a "great one" by any standard... even that of "The Bard."

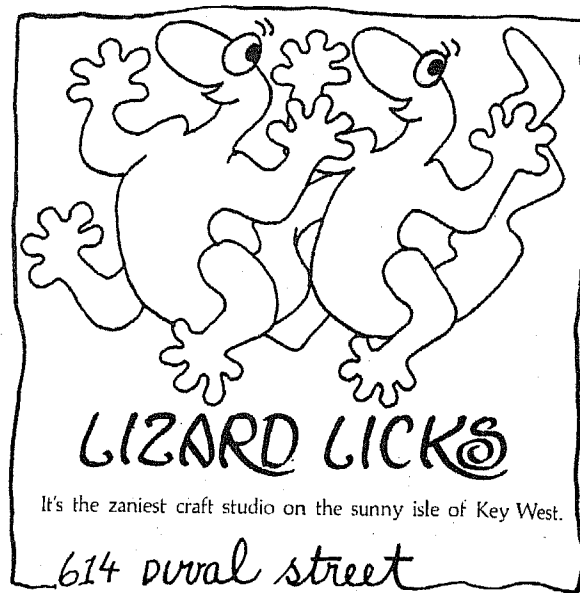
IT RAN FOR 1077 performances on Broadway when it opened there in 1948, received Tony's for "Best Musical," "Best Book," and "Best Composer" (Cole Porter); the songs became instant classics, and when *Kiss Me, Kate* (after three years of touring) finally left the shores of this young continent, it became the first American musical ever seen in Germany, Austria, Iceland, Italy, Yugoslavia, Belgium, Hungary, Poland, (where it played 200 sold out performances), Switzerland and Czechoslovakia... where it was called *Kysstu Mig Kate*.

Now there's a wench!

SURROUNDED BY a phalanx of friends on December 30th, 1948, Cole Porter attended the Broadway opening of *Kiss Me, Kate* at the New Century Theater, and sat as amiably enthused as the rest of the "house." He had survived ten years of crippling physical pain (his legs were crushed in 1937 when a horse he was riding reared up, fell back, and rolled over him), and doubted very much that he could top his own success of the 1930's, when he was the world's "Golden Boy." But *Kiss Me, Kate* proved to be a triumph for this delicate, agreeable man. He discovered, late in his career, that he had more talent than he had realized. It remains his liveliest and most enduring score.

THESE DAYS the lights are dimming fast on Broadway. The Broadway musical itself is an almost extinct species... uttering faint, barely discernable "last gasps." The aristocrats of the "Golden Age" (Berlin, Gershwin, Porter, Rodgers, Hart and Hammerstein) have left no apparent heirs. Or rock and roll has claimed them. To quote a character from the James Purdy novel *On Glories Course*... from now on... "it's all just bilge water and garbage, half breeds and mongrels. They will inherit the earth. We will become a forgotten whisper."

Well, not quite, perhaps. America suffers acute "memory loss," but she seems to be learning. Across the land, community and regional theaters not only remember, but very faithfully keep the "lights" alive. A production of *Kiss Me, Kate* marks the celebration of a unique American heritage. From Kern's *Showboat* in 1927, all the way through to Bernstein's *West Side Story* in 1957,



our history is littered with gigantic, original, astounding musicals that declared to the world what America (and Americans) were all about. These musicals embody and personify the great spirit, ingenuity, generosity, and energy of this land and its peoples. *Porgy and Bess*, *Oklahoma*, *Carousel*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *South Pacific*... to mention a few, may have done for America, and Americans, what Shakespeare (with *Lea* and *Hamlet*) did for England, and the English. And as American "turns around" (like a ship escaping the storm), and begins to resurrect and protect the "past" (architecture and the environment being the first clear steps in this direction), we can expect to see more, hear more of these classics. With all the talk of a "National Theater" in Washington, D.C., surely someone is going to suggest the idea of a theater where nothing but these musicals are presented — over and over. THAT the politicians will understand.

MEANWHILE, here in the "provinces," it is our privilege and pleasure to enjoy what Broadway can no longer afford. *Kiss Me, Kate* — opening at the Waterfront Playhouse on May 8th, is directed by George Gungleotti. The cast includes Joy Hawkins, Bob Hatton, and Allison Tradup. Choreography by Penny Molloy and Allison Tradup. Musical direction by Otis Clements (who, incidentally, wrote *Irene* for Debbie Reynolds in the 1970's). Costumes by Sandi Moland, sets by George Drescher, lights by David Bird. With its crackling wit, style, originality, sophistication, provocative songs and sparkling cast, *Kiss Me, Kate* promises to be a great show.



IT IS THE unholy hour of 4 a.m. The Pontiac that may be named "It Which is a Lemon" is packed to the gunwales. For the annual migration up to a summer mountain cottage with a kicky little pot-bellied stove that digests wood and coal atop a hairy gorge in North Carolina. 4:03 a.m. Stand, brushing teeth. A terrible disappointment, teeth. Two are so shaky that they have taken to twanging in a brisk Gulf breeze, causing a sound rather like a harmonica. A glance into the hall mirror with the oval, tarnished gold frame. A really sour facial expression, because my digestive juices seem to be making no contact with that taco ingested at 11 p.m.

THE SHARP, EARLY morning rocks of my travelling companion's personality are protruding. "Why did your cat, Bella Abzug, have to mess in the sleeve of my new mauve jacket!" 4:15 a.m. Turn for a wistful regarding of my shelf with my treasures on: a sea fan from Dog Beach, summer '65. Labelled "Sea fan from Dog

Beach, summer '65;" a rolled up poster of Ronald Reagan; an old signed postcard of Light Horse Harry Lee.

THE PONTIAC, It Which is a Lemon, rolls along with us through Sugarloaf and Big Pine Keys. Lights in windows. What are people doing at 5:15 a.m.? Reading Ecclesiastes? Watching out for key deer? Re-reading *The Enquirer* story about Grace Kelly seen in a churchyard in Montana? Driver still apparently mummified. I am nervous around reserve. Reserve is for East Germans. Fold and press into my mouth a stick of Freedent gum. Never turn on A.C. before 7 a.m. It is written. Settle back to think, my hair flying like washing by the open window.

PUTTING ONE THING WITH another, everything experienced during the Key West winter takes on good meaning. Those slides viewed at the Community College about the 35-day South Pacific tour. Possibly a pre-fabricated adventure, but lovely. Travelling companion and I always ram off on our own unstructured trips, accumulating misadventures. Such as being lost deep one night in a Guatemala sugar cane plantation when they set fire to burn it off. Or lunching at Maninitas Restaurant in Cuernavaca, Mexico, to discover sentries with machine guns all around the rooftop, Castro having squid in its own ink at the next

table. Beginning to retrieve luring thoughts of the second home's assets: the small mountain boy who gave me a tender, little trout the size of a clothespin for my dinner; the mountain neighbor who showed me to put my shoes in the refrigerator overnight if they need tightening; that one tulip that is said to bloom now beside the cottage split rail fence. Tulip, color of yellow; the mountain editor who indulges me, knowing I rather like to write, going through the open door of comedy, about things not exactly as they are and about a kind of world that is everywhere and nowhere; images of mountain faces coming back, who, not without affection, call us flatlanders or peninsulans.

BY THE TIME that we trundle onto the Turnpike, Northbound, we have sufficiently recovered our waspish good spirits and are deep in a snappy argument; whether Thomas Jefferson really was a deist, or not, this being somewhat, but not for sure, refuted by his writing "The Thomas Jefferson Bible."





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TO WINNIE

IT HARDLY SEEMS possible that it's been almost four years since the Orchid Tree Restaurant finally gave up the struggle against the almost insurmountable odds facing a vegetarian restaurant in Key West in the '80s. The memories of the marvelous dishes dreamed up by Maggie Webster and Winnie Jones are still deliciously vivid. The Wednesday reggae nights still pulsate; and the special joy of the children-filled Sundays at brunch still bring more than just a smile. Yes, the Orchid Tree was a magical place; and certainly that magic began with Winnie and Maggie and their overwhelming love and zest for life.

MAGGIE HAS RETURNED to town,

adding her special luminescence to the sunshine-filled life here. However, like the O.T. itself, Winnie finally yielded to an inevitable - cancer. One can be sure that she "did not go gentle into that good night" - for such was her vivacity and strength. For those lucky enough to have come into contact with her, Winnie was a truly dynamic and unforgettable individual. For those of us fortunate enough to have worked closely with her in those days - or any days - Winnie was the kind of person who made you happy to be who you were, and grateful to be here.

Like the crystal prisms that hung in the Orchid Tree, Winnie refracted and reflected light.

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A MOTHER AND a grandmother, Winnie never dropped that mantle; and many here were privileged to feel that special maternal love. The ear still hears:

"Jerry! Look at you; you're too skinny. Eat; eat!"

or
"Stony, Stony. What am I going to do with you? You are such a bad boy!"

or
"Judge! Whatever it is you're



Son Richard with Winnie

doing to that waitress, stop it and get back to work!"

or
"Richard! For the last time (ha!), get Grizzly out of here; this is no place for dogs."

AND ALWAYS, NO matter how severe the admonition, came the laugh. Hers was the kind of laughter that would bring tears or dry them - and so incredibly infectious even the Ayatollah would be compelled to smile.

YET IT WAS more than Winnie's remarkable energy, more than her mother's love that made so many people here in Key West so truly grateful to have known her. For above all else, Winnie was the kind of person - the special breed of friend - that many of us aspire to be. Winnie loved - and was loved.

"SHE ALWAYS HAD time to stop and say, 'Hello in there,' to the old and/or lonely; (though she herself never grew old and had too many friends to be lonely). Winnie was never too busy to listen. No story was ever too long, no tale too sad for her to pause, listen, and - what is more - care. (Though she too had tales - some sad - to tell).

And - to be sure - everything stopped for the children; everything for the children. Winnie's attention and love brought joyful gurgles from the infants and giggles from the toddlers; outright laughter from the children and a warmed-heart, wet-eyed smile from us eternal adolescents.

IT WAS THAT love - more than that remarkable creativity, more than that boundless energy, more than those snapping eyes or even that marvelous laughter - it is that love that stays here in Key West.

Yes, Win, you're gone now (to a deserved and blessed rest). And with you, gone the hugs, the laughter and the tears. But we shall not forget the examples of your patience, the lessons of your caring, or the essence of your love.

WE LOVE YOU, Winnie. See ya soon.

A LETTER FROM MACK & JAMIE

April 15, 1985
Venice, California

Dear Key West:

We're going to make our annual Southernmost Pilgrimage Southernmost Pilgrimage in late May, and we're really looking forward to coming home, as always. This time we'll be doing four shows Memorial weekend at the Pier House and hosting the Red Barn Theatre Show Biz Ball also at the Pier House, June 1st. So, we hope everybody will have a chance to come out.

Mimi McDonald of the Pier House is arranging the whole thing, and she asked us to drop a note to you to catch up on what's happening with us.

(A quick note to those readers who have no idea who Mack & Jamie are: We're a comedy team who started in Key West in 1980 and have since gone on to do casinos, clubs and a fair amount of television, including the Tonight Show among others.)

The most exciting thing on the horizon is the possibility of our own TV show. We shot a pilot in April,



Jamie and Mack

and apparently the Big TV Executives are very excited about its potential. The working title is "Comedy Break," and it would be a half-hour comedy-variety show that would air every week night. We do bits, we have celebrity guests as well as up-and-coming funny people, we show clips from classic sitcoms like The Honeymooners, we do funny voice-overs to old movies... you get the idea. We taped five half-hour shows, and we're pretty pleased with the way they turned out. Our guests were Don Knotts (who couldn't have been nicer), Don Adams (who could have), David ("Let's just wing it") Steinberg, Irlene Mandrell (very sweet and game), and Allison Arngim (who played prairie bitch "Nellie" on Little House on the Prairie).

At this writing, the distributor, Viacom, is trying to line up enough affiliates who want the show so we can go into production. It would be syndicated, so check your local listings and keep your fingers crossed.

In other words, the Zenith Corporation likes our style of humor and is considering using us to sell their VCRs and stuff. We'd LOVE to do commercials.

The most exciting thing that has happened to us in 1985 is that we toured with Diana Ross for four weeks! We were in Las Vegas at Caesar's for two weeks, then out east for two more. It was a very prestigious gig. We've never opened for a Superstar before, and Miss Ross definitely qualifies. In answer to the obvious question: Yes, we did spend some time with her, and, yes, she is very sweet and down-to-earth. One anecdote: she had us and the orchestra over to her house in Las Vegas for a barbeque, and she had her pool heated to about 80 degrees. Nobody had brought swimsuits because it was too cool, we thought. So she gave a bodyguard some cash, he went out and bought two dozen swimsuits, and we all dived in. (Okay, one more quick one: our agent sent her a videotape of us, she liked us and hired us. Our agent asked to have it back, and she said her daughters wouldn't let it out of the house. They have their friends over for mini-Mack-&-Jamie shows.)

Meanwhile, we're still working comedy clubs all across the country; but we're trying to cut our road work so we can get more done in L.A.

On the personal front, Mack's daughter will make her Key West debut this time. "Hurricane" Brittany is 20 months now, is walking, talking and tearing up whole neighborhoods. Mama Chrissy will of course come along, too.

Well, you're caught up. We'll be

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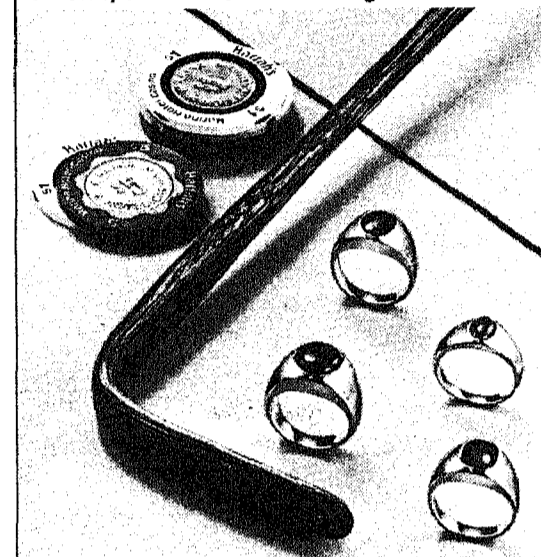
looking forward to seeing you at the Pier House June 1, for the Red Barn Theatre's zany fundraiser, the Show Biz Ball. We'll be playing host to some of our favorite local entertainers as we improv our way through this year's spectacular show.

We can't wait to see you all.

Love, Mack & Jamie

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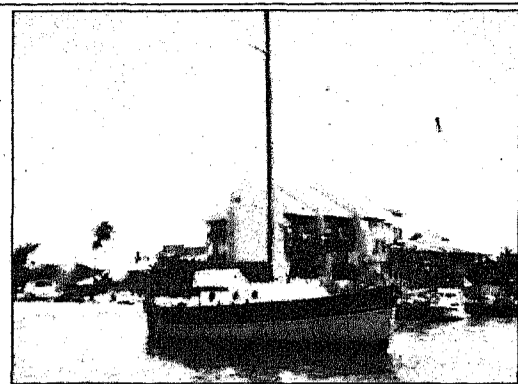
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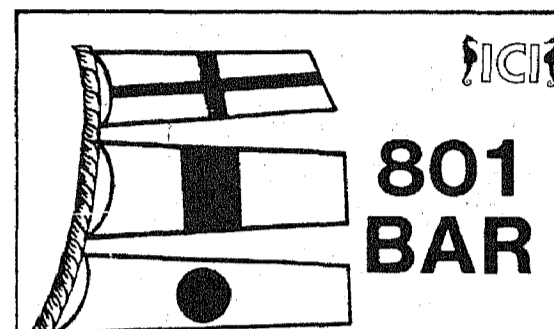
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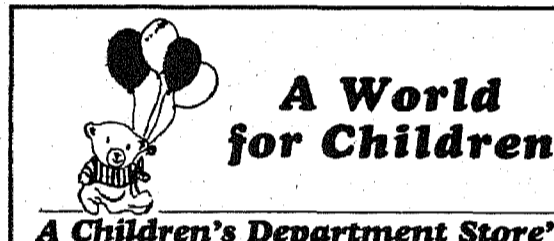


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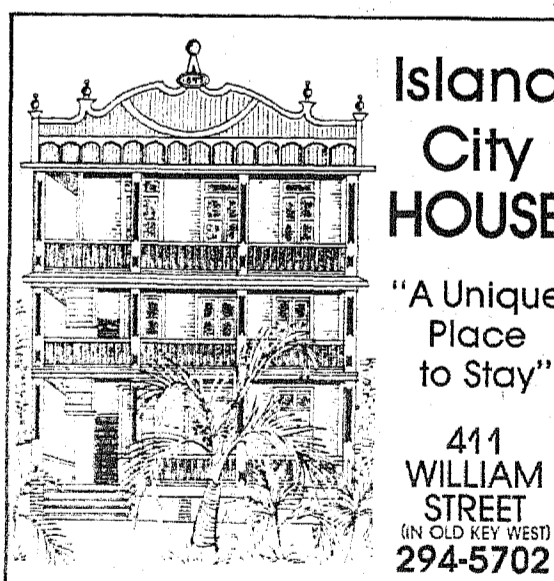


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AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN KEY WEST?

by CARL BABCOCK

CITY OFFICIALS AGREE, business-men agree, realtors agree and, most of all, Key West's workers agree: it is next to impossible to find affordable housing in the city.

But what to do about it — on that almost no one agrees.

Jane (not her real name) is a typical case. Some people are more fortunate than her in finding a place to live, some less.

Jane came to Key West nearly two weeks ago. She found a job as a waitress almost at once and set about trying to find an apartment.

AT FIRST SHE stayed at a motel that cost \$40 a night but soon switched to the lowest cost hotel she could find — \$28 a night.

She checked the classifieds and notice boards and asked fellow workers if they'd heard of anywhere to live. No luck.

As a waitress Jane makes approximately \$2 an hour, which is below minimum wage because the tips are supposed to make up the difference. Sometimes they do, sometimes they don't.

"I JUST WANTED something safe," she says, "but there are no apartment buildings or complexes down here."

She went to look at a room for rent for \$40 a week and "was shocked. It was dirty, with a dirty carpet, cigarette burns everywhere and no window or roof. It was a hallway someone had partitioned off. There was no way I was going to pay to live in a hallway."

"Someone could scale the wall easily and come in. I wouldn't have felt safe."

JANE GAVE UP trying to find

something reasonable and now rents an efficiency for \$275 a month which doesn't include utilities. It will take most of her salary to pay for a roof over her head.

The U.S. government has for years considered 25-30 percent of someone's wages the right amount to pay for housing.

But in Key West the cost keeps going up and up. A recent study completed by the city shows that an efficiency cost about \$150 a month in 1976. Today the average price is \$350. A four-or-more bedroom apartment cost \$400 a month in 1976 and today will cost at least \$750.

(IN MID-APRIL REALTORS Sara Cook, Inc. had an efficiency for \$350 a month plus utilities and a one-bedroom apartment for \$375 a month plus utilities.)

While rents have gone up, at the same time, according to the study, the availability of units has changed little. Of the rental units on the market today about 60 percent are efficiencies or one-bedrooms, up only 10 percent from 1976.

THE NUMBER OF three-or-more bedroom apartments has decreased from 25 percent of the market in 1976 to about 10 percent today.

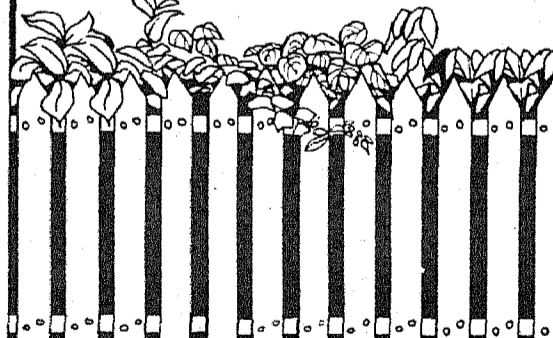
Who that hurts the most, besides the workers who have to pay the rents, is businessmen. Both Melody Reger, owner of Gringo's Cantina, and Margo Golan, general manager of Holiday Inn, say they have lost employees because their workers could not find affordable housing.

"I OPERATED THIS season with a shortage of employees," says Golan.



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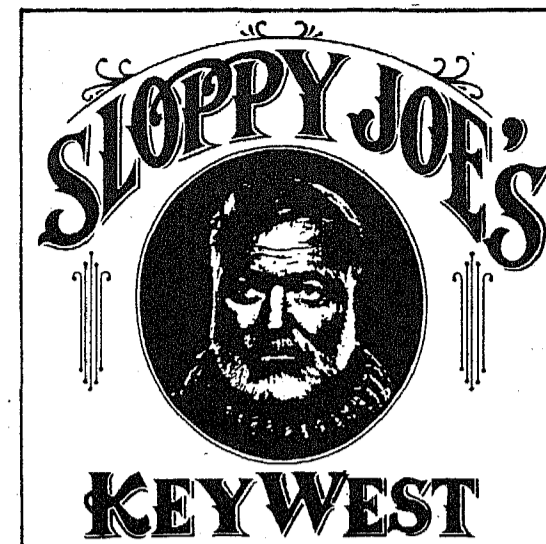
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"And that is a direct result of the high cost of living in Key West." She didn't open the hotel's Garden Gazebo restaurant because there were just not enough employees to staff it, she says.

"ONE OF MY employees pays \$450 a month for an apartment. He cannot make enough pay a month to cover his rent. Luckily for him his wife works and they make it. But alone he could not afford to live here."

As a hotel operator Golan has to make money: "There is only so much I can charge for a room or I'll price myself out of business." Which means she cannot free rooms for employees and "there is no way I can pay a maid \$10 an hour, which is what she'd have to make to live in the city."

GOLAN SAYS PEOPLE are moving away from Key West because of the high cost of living. "I've been here 25 years and it's gotten the worst it's ever been in the last five years," she says.

(Jane, for example, says she is dipping constantly into her savings to live here "and it can't go on forever. I'll have to find a job with a lot more money or leave Key West.")

REGER SAYS SHE has to pay her top employees more to keep them because of the rental situation. Gringo's is considering buying a duplex or apartment building to house its workers, the rental problem has gotten that bad, she says.

"I've lost people because they couldn't find a decent place to live. Something has to be done."

While Golan believes the high rents are a result of supply and demand, Reger feels the cost of utilities to the landlords has forced them to charge the high rates.

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"GRINGO'S PAYS ABOUT \$200 a month in sewage and \$600 in water. Costs here seem a lot higher than in other small towns," she says. "No doubt landlords have to raise rents to meet those costs."

Assistant City Planner Tom Wilson is disheartened by the rental problem. He has been following it for several years and says the trend is for Key West to lose its families and become a city of transients.

AND THAT, HE says, means the city loses people who care about the city and care what it looks like. "They'll only be here a short time," he says. "In order to live here people have to double and triple-up in apartments to meet the rent. They are turning dens and living rooms into bedrooms."

"And people with families are being forced out because even two wage earners usually can't afford the rents here," he says.

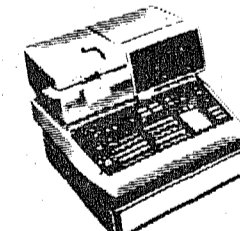
AND THE PROBLEM is growing, he says. More and more businesses are staying open year-round as the tourist season becomes a year-round operation. "We have maybe 500 workers come into the city during the spring high season (about five percent of the work force), the rest are here all the time. The biggest hotels only have about a five percent increase in their staffs for the spring."

WILSON ESTIMATES THERE will be 1,000 new hotel rooms around Front Street alone by the year 1990. And all of those hotels will need more and more workers. Most of those service jobs, which is the largest growing job sector in the city, do not pay high wages.

So not only are rents high, but the largest growing work force are the lower wage earners, he says. "Housing is really turning into a year-round problem."

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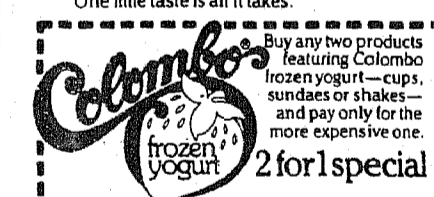
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Not only are places to rent becoming scarce but the ones available are demanding huge deposits, Wilson says.

WILSON HIMSELF FELT the blow a year ago when he moved into a two-bedroom apartment. He had to pay first and last months' rents in advance; \$450 security deposit; about \$500 for utility deposits; as it was unfurnished, he paid \$800 for furniture and he had to buy a stove and a refrigerator for another \$800.

"I ended up paying about \$3,000 to move into a new apartment." Wilson believes the high rents are a supply and demand situation and the only way out of the problem is to build affordable housing.

"There are several options. The city can get involved (which Golan favors) or we can help private developers," Wilson says. He says several developers have approached him about building moderate-cost apartments.

THE CITY WOULD be able to give the developers special consideration, he said.

However, City Commissioner George Halloran, who has been pushing for affordable housing, said he could see developers getting density and height waivers, but not a tax break.

"We just need the money too much," he says.

Another option, Wilson says, is the National Cooperative Bank out of Washington, D.C. "They lend money to groups of people who live in the house or houses they buy as a group. There are lots of combinations available."

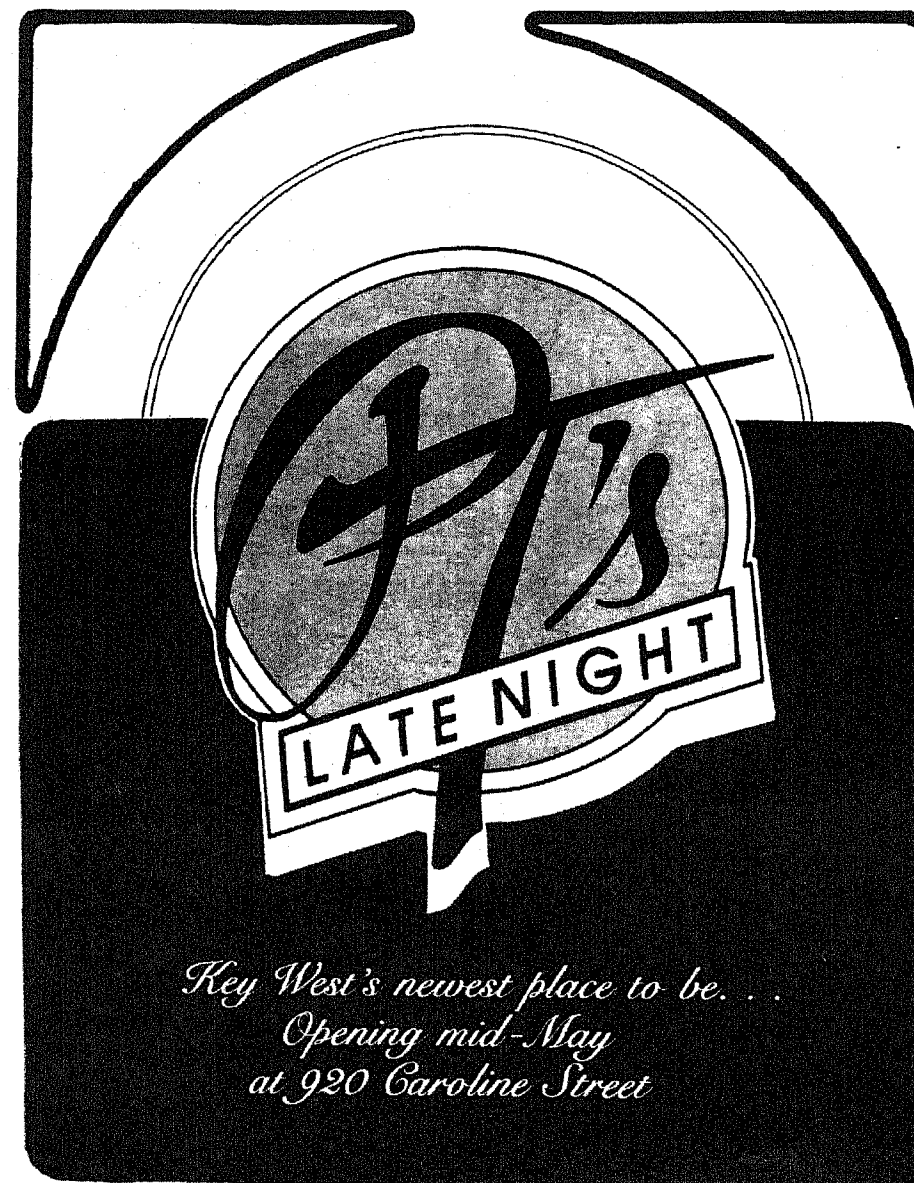
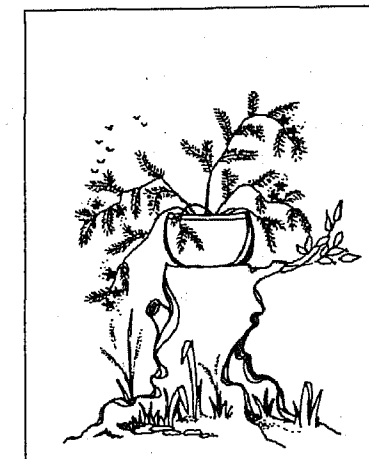
THE CITY IS keeping a close eye on land that could be used for moderate-priced housing, such as former Hawk missile site near the

airport, the development area around the Key West Bight, unused school properties (such as Douglas School), and the Navy property at White and United (a trailer park).


THE CITY ALSO owns land at Roosevelt Boulevard and Jose de Marti Drive and there are private parcels such as the Marks property on East Roosevelt Boulevard near the Riviera Canal, Wilson says.

But the key to all the speculation and anguish about housing is whether or not people will go ahead with housing for the city's workers. Or will Key West become, as a popular joke goes, a city of the rich where ordinary folks are exiled to Stock Island.

HALLORAN BELIEVES THE developers must be forced to build moderate-priced housing. "Before we approve another hotel complex we have to ask the developer where he intends the people who will work at the complex to live. We have to make it our major concern."



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THREE STORIES

by CHRIS GENTRY

GRAVES

ED JENKS UNEARTHED a fresh grave with his old pointed army shovel. "Jewwells and Rrrrrupies," he falsettoed, rolling his tongue. Then he laughed foolishly, covering his mouth with his hand.

ED KNEW THE woman only had a few days left to live. She had once been a famous cabaret singer. He saw her in her hospital bed, slumped over her pillows like a fallow fig; wrinkled and rasping. He had been on his way to deliver a catheter to Room 213 when he passed the old lady's door. What had held his attention was the large jeweled rings on all of her fingers and countless gold necklaces around her neck. "Near death, and decked," thought Ed, gripping the lapels of his white orderly's jacket. "Could be a quarter mile right there," he whispered to himself. He made some quick calculations.

HER FUNERAL TOOK place eight days later at the Palm Rest Funeral Home. At the woman's wake the day before, Ed slipped silently, unnoticed, in front of the open casket to make sure she was still bejeweled. She was.

At approximately 3:30 the following morning, Ed stood at the woman's gravesite, shovel in hand.

ED HAD DUG down about five feet when he thought he heard faint music. It sounded like a Dixieland piano. He stood up in the hole with a concentrated ear, squinting out into the darkness. He saw nothing. Ed continued digging. To his unnerved surprise the music was steadily grow-

ing louder. Now he heard laughing voices and a woman singing. It sounded like a party.



IN A BURST of charged nervous energy, Ed hacked at the last foot of moist earth. He hit the lid of the oak casket, speedily scraping the loose dirt free. The noise level of the honky-tonk piano had risen sharply. In a hasty effort to be done with this thing, thinking only of the jewels, Ed heaved open the lid with a vicious rip.

AS IF SOMEONE had pushed him, he fell headlong through two swinging doors onto the floor of a cowboy saloon. The men stopped playing cards. The girls stopped dancing. The boys at the bar quit drinking. The piano player quit playing. Everybody stared at Ed.



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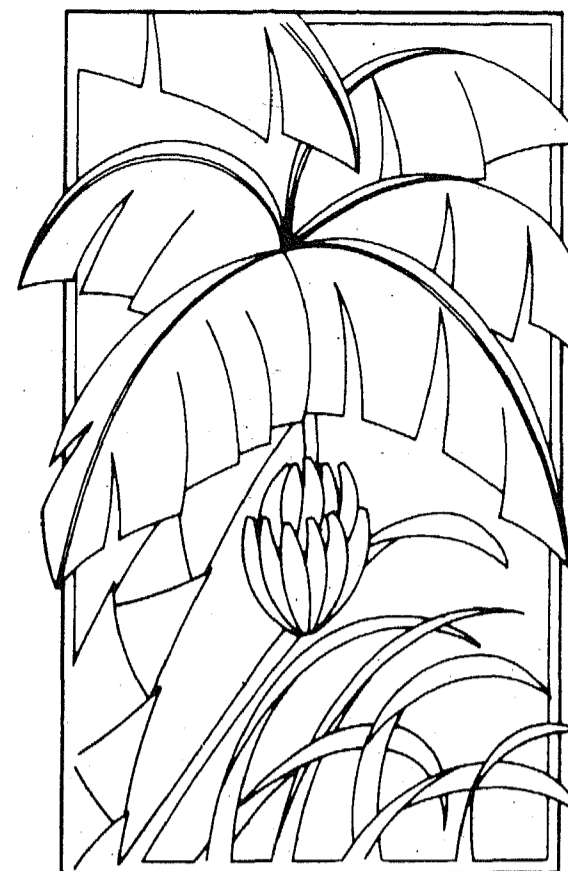
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"These what you're lookin' for?" said a female voice above Ed. It was a young blonde girl at the top of a staircase, splaying out her ringed fingers for Ed to see.

"Or these?" She ruffled her gold chains with her index finger.

"BUT...BUT...YOU'RE dead," yodeled Ed, with his pink lips rolled back like a monkey's.

"No...you are," said the girl softly. Then...somebody shot Ed in the back.

IT

"IT" ROLLED IN squishy thunks over the linoleum in her kitchen. "It" had taken almost seventy-six hours to compress itself enough to squeeze through the hairline cracks in the baseboards near the refrigerator. Harder still had been moving around beneath the large two-story

house for weeks, feeling for her "warm spot." "It" knew she most frequently inhabited the room directly next to the kitchen. "It" sprawled, exhausted, under the sink, wheezing in a liquid rasp.

ITS LARGE OCTAGONAL mouth began wrenching in ravenous anticipation. Its pursuit of the woman had been relentless. For months "It" had

been hidden in a small pit under a stack of mildewed lumber beneath the house. Lying on its spined back, "It" listened to her faint footsteps on the floors above. "It" imagined ferociously what she tasted like in her soft palces; her thighs, below her ribs, and under her arms.

SLOWLY, "IT" HOISTED itself upright. Its head swelled to the shape of a huge light bulb. Lurching into the living room, it grappled over the rug on splayed, hooked feet. She saw its reflection behind her in a clear ice cube floating in a glass of iced tea she was drinking. "It gets so monotonous," she thought, damning the redundant event she was doomed to repeat and repeat, and repeat. How many of them had she

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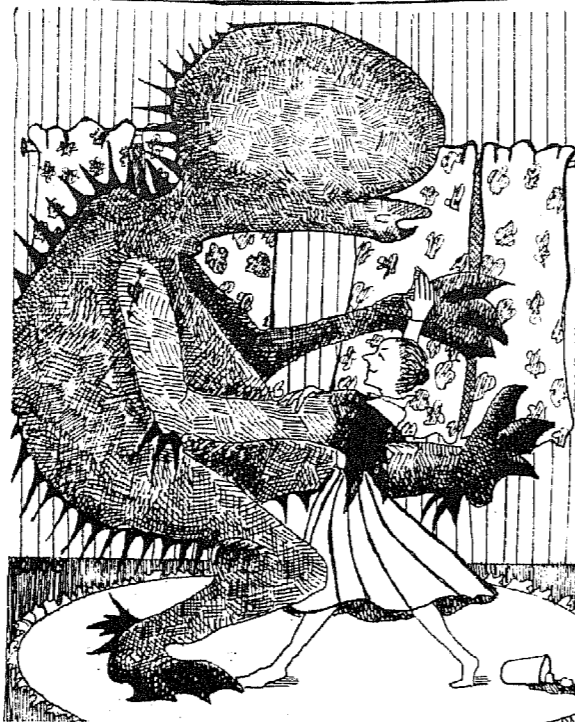
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lured up from under the house just this month alone.

SHE HIT A small switch at the base of the chair with her left foot. From audio speakers built into



the walls and ceiling came loud tuba music in a Latin tempo, backed up by choruses of what sounded like little children singing "Nong, nong, niny nong"; over and over in a flat chant.

In a tremulous screech, she bounded out of the chair in a spin, embracing "It" with her powerful arms. As the beat picked up, they threw themselves into a mad danceathon ("Bop Till You Drop") that resembled the tango done backwards with alternate bursts of rapid movements that looked like an extra fast jitterbug.

"IT" WAS STILL very weak from

struggling to get into the house. The woman picked up the pace. She wished "It" would hurry up and collapse. She was salivating out of control, and had fantasized all day on gorging herself. It had been four days since the last one came up and she was starving.

TIGHTROPE

MANNY VIGLUCCI WAS an exhibitionist. As a child, his sole obsession was dreaming up stunts to perform for the other kids in the neighborhood. They referred to him as "Wacky Viglucci."

Twenty years later, one hundred feet over a gas station in downtown New Orleans, Viglucci was about to attempt a ten day and night tight-rope walk to raise money for charity and win immortality in all the world's record books.

IN FRONT OF a crowd of about four hundred people, he climbed up the rope ladder to his waiting perch.

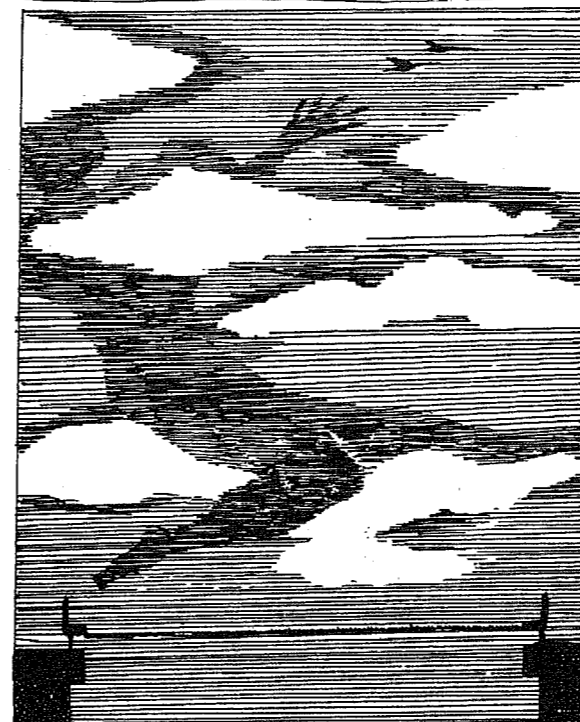
The tightrope had been constructed with a small platform at one end so an assistant could also climb up and leave water and dried fruit for Manny to eat. An aluminum pot with disinfectant was also there for his nightly toilet.

THE FIRST DAY was overcast with a slight chill in the late April air. Manny walked back and forth, getting the feel of the wire; exultant and exhilarated at once again being the center of attention.

For the first three days, Manny drew all his energies into pinpoint focus. He wanted to make sure his reserves of strength were plentiful for the last few days when he would really need it.

UNFORTUNATELY, HOWEVER, ON the morning of the fourth day he felt the oncoming symptoms of the flu. As the day wore on it got worse.

His nose was running. Also, packs of young boys gathered under the wire at night, shouting insults and



taunting him. Manny's only recourse was to involve his mind in deep memories of his childhood. He thought of things he hadn't recalled in years; even conjuring up the smells and sounds of those moments.

On the fifth day he felt better. He took to leaping on the wire a little to amaze the crowds below. Victory was in sight.

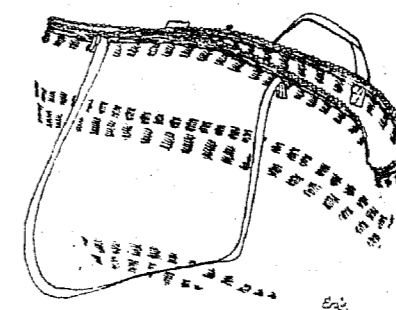
THAT AFTERNOON, HIGH winds with heavy rain moved over the city. He sweated in the heavy downpour, fighting to cling to his perch. For seven hours he defied all laws of aerial geometry. That night, alone in the thick fog,

he hallucinated on his own birth. He remembered the first sucks on his mother's breast, and the sound of his loud primal wail.

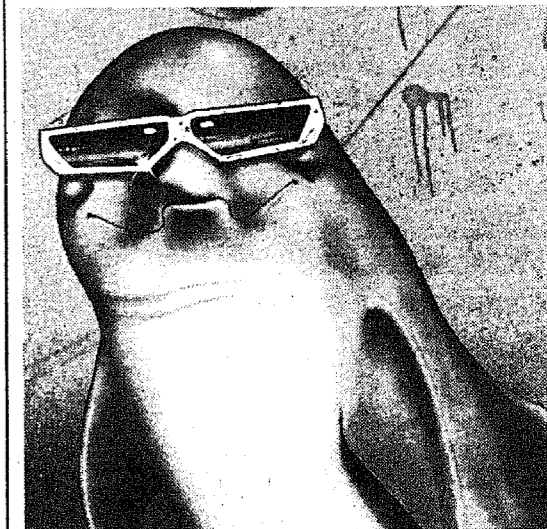
On the seventh day, everything had dissolved around him except for his awareness of the wire. Every second was an eternal calculation. He imagined himself to be many people at once. This new mental plateau gave him super confidence. It made him laugh. He felt stronger.

HE BEGAN DANCING on the wire. He undertook leaps and spins; even broad jumps. When it finally dawned on him that he couldn't even feel the wire anymore, Manny Viglucci laughed and laughed at the top of his voice. At that moment he decided to extend the walk for an extra five days to really hammer home his feat.

As for the people who had watched him on the ground were concerned, he was just a guy who said he was gonna try to walk on a tightrope for ten days one hundred feet over a gas station in downtown New Orleans, and had fallen off and killed himself less than fifteen minutes into the stunt.



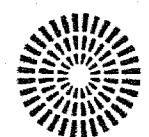
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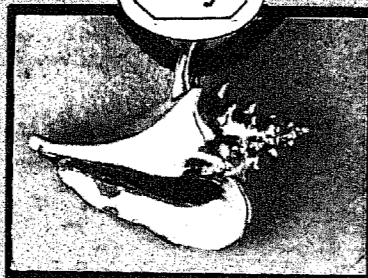
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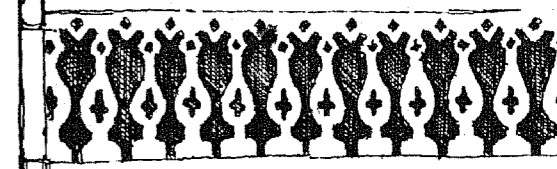
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SOME THOUGHTS

by GIL RYDER

THE GENERAL UPROAR about the projected Land Use Plan is, in itself, genuine progress in a democratic society, as was the uproar about the sewer plant projected for the Howard England State Park.

A word of caution: Those who want important changes in the Land Use Plan for environmental reasons should be very wary of falling into the same political bed with the speculators who also want drastic changes in the plan for completely different reasons.

KEEP IN MIND that speculators, through their agents and representatives, some of whom may wear the disguise of citizens groups (with a kernel of truth. After all, speculators are quite often citizens and they have the money and know-how to attract sincere citizens who are ignorant concerning the environment.) are not at all interested in preserving the environment or the quality of life in the Keys. They are seeking only profit and, in some

cases, political power that would help them acquire profit. With sufficient political power, restrictive land use laws could be eliminated or, at least, very skillfully avoided. Elimination or avoidance of restrictive land use laws would, very obviously, create money-making opportunities for speculators that would make King Midas look like an amateur.

THE CONDITIONS THAT would ensure speculative profit would also ensure destruction of a way of life in the Keys that we all now enjoy. Despite our complaints about the high cost of living, low wages, taxes, crime, bad roads, etc., etc., we must be enjoying our way of life; otherwise we wouldn't stay.

Now that we know enough not to get in bed with the speculators, we must also realize that we should not get in bed with the bureaucrats and planners.

SPEAKERS FOR THE speculators and speakers for the planners are very astute, well acquainted with sales techniques and, at least to a degree, with mob psychology. Speakers for speculators keep pounding away at constitutional rights of property owners, and property owners do have definite constitutional rights.

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The U.S. Constitution states clearly in Amendment 5, "nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation." Amendment 14 states, "nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law."

THE CONSTITUTION of the State of Florida addresses property rights as follows: Section 2. All natural persons are equal before the law and have inalienable rights, among which are the right to enjoy and defend life and liberty, to pursue happiness, to be rewarded for industry, and to acquire, possess and protect property, except that the possession of real property by aliens ineligible for citizenship may be regulated or prohibited by law. No person shall be deprived of any right because of race, religion or physical handicap.

None of the Constitutional rights in any way concedes or implies or states that an owner of property may do as he pleases with that property.

THE STATE CONSTITUTION specifies that "natural persons" have the right to acquire, possess and defend property. Any dictionary should be able to show you that a "natural person" is a person produced by nature. The same dictionary will show that a corporation is a le-

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gally constructed entity of several persons. Obviously, a corporation is not a "natural person" and this should at least raise the question of whether the corporation or any business organization is entitled to the same constitutional rights as constitutionally specified "natural persons."

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION also gives a citizen the much disputed right to bear arms - but - that right does not carry with it the right to shoot a nuisance neighbor or even the neighbor's noisy dog.

So with it the right to possess and protect property - that right does not include permission to utilize property in a manner disadvantageous to the community simply because such use would ensure a greater (or any) profit to the owner.

The speakers for the Land Use Plan do not lay particular stress on constitutionality, perhaps with good reason.

A NATURAL PERSON who bought a 50 x 100 building lot in July 1985, with the intention of building a single-family home in the near or distant future, might well find himself in a precarious financial situa-

tion, if the Plan is accepted as it stands.

When the time comes to apply for building permits, he may find that he must acquire adjoining land or TDRs in order to receive a building permit. Adjacent land owners are not likely to graciously sell their land at a price the prospective home builder can easily afford. They have him over a barrel and they know it.

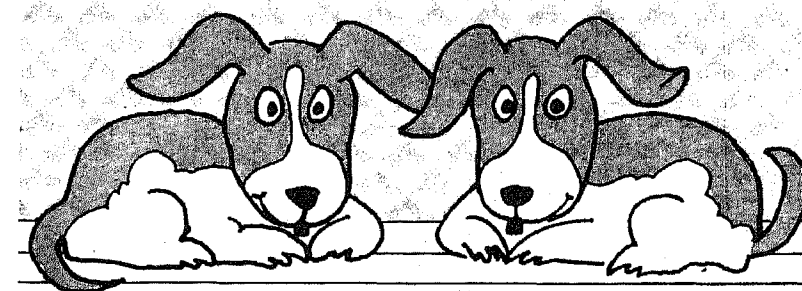
THE PROSPECTIVE HOME builder then goes for TDRs. There is at least a fair probability that he will find TDRs not readily available unless he goes through a third party who knows his way around, under the table, in the TDR market. The hopeful home builder will find the under-the-table operation more than he can afford.

Next step, the formerly hopeful and now despondent prospective home builder will suddenly be getting offers for his useless (to him) land. The offers will, of course, be far below his original cost of the land, but what can he do? He'll just have to cut his losses and run. What else could he do?

THE ABOVE SCENARIO is purely fictional, but don't bet the farm that

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it won't become very real. One way to keep the scenario fictional would be to grandfather in all 50 x 100 or larger lots in areas platted before 1984.

To have controlled growth, eliminate the Cluster Housing part of the plan, and throw out anything that even looks like Iron Laws against the little fellow and Rubber Rules for large developers.

JUST THINK ABOUT it. What would bring the biggest crowds in the shortest time? Certainly not the building by single lot owners. They probably won't come in much faster than our old timers die off. But - Cluster Housing occupants will come in rapidly due to heavy advertising and high-pressure sales techniques.

Is Cluster Housing the answer to our prayers? Of course not. The pitch for Cluster Housing now is that it's a more efficient way of housing humans, and that's probably very true. We must remember that efficiency is not the embodiment of happiness, neither is it a bulwark of democratic society.

Our homes are not businesses nor are they part of some fictional, computerized outer space fairy tale of the future. Our homes are, in general, a very personal part of our lives, even-

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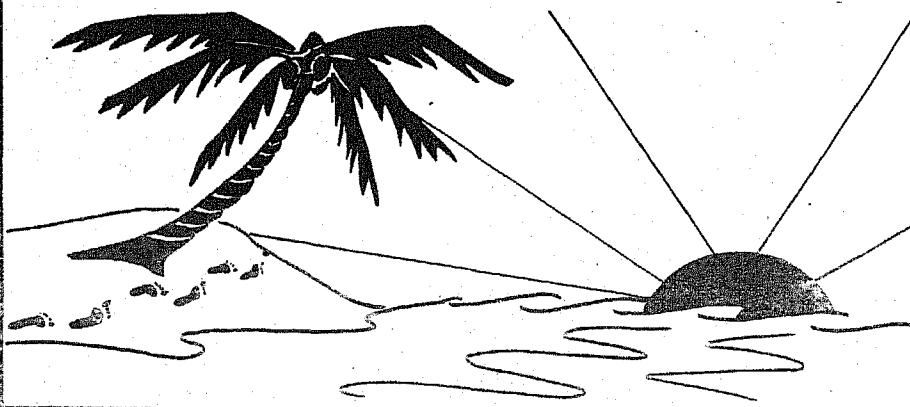
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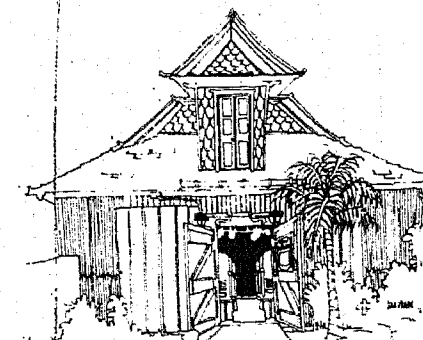
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tually reflected our own characteristics and personalities, certainly not just a place to store living humans efficiently.

SOME PEOPLE DO prefer cluster dwelling, as some people (including this writer) prefer cremation to burial, but let's not have either cluster housing or cremation an essential part of the way of life (or death) in the Keys.

Efficiency in some phases of our lives is essential. Surely we all want efficient medical services and police protection - which leads to another subject.

ELSEWHERE IN THE pages of Solares Hill you will find references to the suggestion that the Key West Police Department become one with the Monroe County Sheriff's Department. Now that's a good way to create needed greater efficiency. Key West and the rest of the Keys should all benefit from the establishment of a single, efficient police agency for the entire area.

This is not by any means a new idea. It has surfaced sporadically for at least fifteen years, but never got off the ground for a variety of reasons. Perhaps the time for that change is now. Both departments have good, well-trained personnel, and to have them merge into one centrally controlled and efficient agency should certainly bring even better safety and security to our inefficient and pleasant society.

BACK TO THE Land Plan. Wouldn't it be nice if the voters of the Keys were allowed to decide through referendum the type of housing for the Keys?

You could bet money that the majority would vote in favor of one-and-two-family houses and against cluster housing.

THE TEN MINUTE HONKY TONK VELVET VOICE AFFAIR

It's nearly midnight
The first day of 1985
In Captain Tony's Saloon.
A cold wind's blowing,
A warm fire's glowing,
And she walks in.

A classy woman
With a boyfriend.
After a moment, the boyfriend leaves.
The classy woman walks over to the fireplace.
'And where were you this time last night?'
'I ask in a clean straightforward voice.'
'In a Lauderdale restaurant.'
She responds politely.
The honky tonk band fires up a tune.
'I'm not into honky tonk,' I explain.
'But the girl on banjo has a velvet voice.'
The classy woman stands there.
I drink in her loveliness
She allows me.
The velvet voice begins.
The classy woman smiles.
She sits down next to me.
We listen to the honky tonk band
And the velvet voice
And stare at the fire in unison.
She leans very close to me.
I whisper something back
Touching that curl in front of her ear.
The boyfriend returns
And whisks the classy woman forever away
With a silly grin.

It's after midnight
The second day of 1985
In Captain Tony's Saloon.
The honky tonk band keeps on playing,
The velvet voice keeps on swaying,
Just like nothing happened.

-- Baxter Wood

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Gallery Hopping

By GORDON LACY

WHERE WE LEFT last month was Vaughn Gibson's one-man patron show. There were 15 impudent canvases and I am pleased to be among the ten purchasers. Figures speak.

The biggest third of the Kaufelt gang, to wit, and I use the word pointedly, David, gave a talk to a packed house at the library about the making of his first novel, "Six Months With an Older Woman." At the end, my neighbor, smiling, said to me, "What an old smoothie!" Thank you, Friends of the Library, and David, too.

I HAVE A slap and a tickle for the East Martello. Here's the tickle. Ron Clemons' ladies are naughty. The show had appeal and I was surprised to find a number of abstract works by Ron, done

previously and in between the ladies. Ann Sams of Miami showed sculptured fiber hangings; some are people ("friends") and some are just hangings. We witnessed the practical side of abstract when she put one on and wore it as an overcoat against the April 2nd chill and fit in perfectly and naughtily with the Clemons girls.

JACK BARON GOT edited out of last month's column: it wasn't me, not our editor either, so I'm going to have to sneak around and see what Mary is putting into her Diet Coke. Anyway, he's embarked on a multi-canvas wedding; bride, groom, ring-bearer, choir, in-laws, flower girls, and even an interloping cat, all more or less in reds except the bride in white. The total makes a room of portraits of a wedding. The idea is there and the tech too.



by GORDON LACY

"MAME" AT THE Tennessee Williams had lightweight charm except for a heavyweight lighter-than-air dancer who stole the evening and certainly our hearts. Three and a half hours seated is just too long unless it's going to be Wagner. At the risk of being sour grapes, enough of 1960 musicals. "Oliver," "Gypsy," "Mame," the terseness of the titles belies the actual hours seated. Next year I understand they are doing a sung version of "Sleuth"; I will not be there.

THE SLAP; East Martello had the chance to elect from the floor to its Board a woman of efficiency and taste who has been tried and tested on many committees. They blew it

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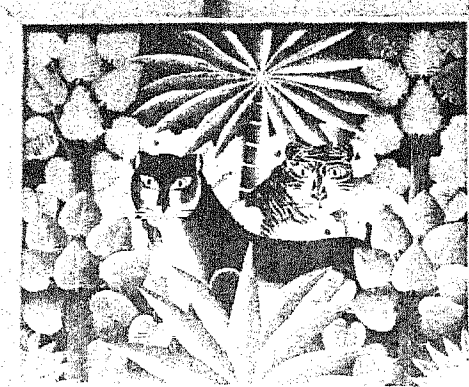
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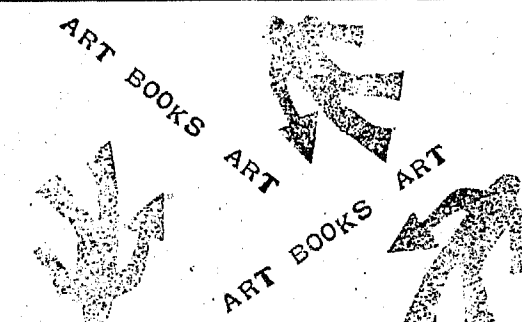
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and Joan Dwyer lost out to someone who is not even a member. Fortunately we have someone equally as professional taking over for Colin Jameson. A round of applause for Rose and kudos to Colin. And Joan, in my arms, our time will come.

FRED GROS' LAST show this season features Gerald Dupont of Quebec who paints faces in crowds, very stylized; Joanne Hasman whose oils on paper are lusciously colored; Terry Gindele paints in oil, highly abstract canvases. John Rankine bleaches out his designs on colored canvas and the ideas are charmingly raunchy. Voilà, four young artists championed by our Mr. Art as Jordan has dubbed Fred.

OUR FAVORITE PAINTING of the season has remained unsold. I cannot imagine that Tiny Michael Haykin's "Night Fall" has not been snapped up, but there it is laughing and crying and lighting up its space at Fred's. There is also a spellbinding Nablo, magnetism itself. Fred closes to the public in mid-May for his summer

break. Actually, he'll be using his gallery as studio and I hope we can sit outside and watch.

I WONDER WHY The Citizen can't have a reviewer. Not a critic, just a column of synopses (synopsi?) of what's going on; musical events, plays, movies. It might eliminate confusions like my son's displeasure with "Passage to India," which he thought was "Porky's Passage to India," and "Amadeus," the sequel to "Octopussy."

GINGERBREAD'S FINAL SHOW was of their stable of painters: Van Eno's Grimm's tales, John Kiraly's tropic-scapes, Ron Clemons' imprudent ladies, Kay Hopcock's floral watercolors, Bob Franke's street scenes as-it-might-have-been, Craig Biondi's opulence and grandeur and my special pet Alice Terry, who has particular talent and feeling for pastels. Her banana tree is vibrant. Articulate work, Alice. Plus Jim Salem's hi-tech exotic birds and newcomer Trog's clever studies of fish and shoes.

NED AT FARRINGTON'S accused me of neglect these last two months and to get back has saddled me with about four pages of copy. We shall ignore the free parking issue and tear into

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his list. Tessa Sherman will be on display and she does watercolors of architecture; houses without people but with a window or a door open, curtains billowing. There is an aura of present history. Farrington's has Millard Wells in exclusivity, the first place Wells has ever shown his nature lithographs and watercolors

continued on page 37

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TWO POETS

by PHOEBE REDNER COAN

1. THE PHENOMENON OF LINDA STITT

A SELF-PROPELLED TORONTO poet who has ambled onto the streets of Key West - saddle bags in tow - Linda Stitt hawks her poems without shame or doubt. With admirable and well-deserved faith, she can recite them truly from the heart and share her own tested wisdom.

Vivacious and in the bloom of womanhood, the chestnut-haired lady provokes the imagination of all who have opportunity to hear her recitations. Poetry trips off her tongue as easily as conversation.

NAMELESS, BLAMELESS AND OUT TO LUNCH

Don't think of yourself as a failure,
A loser, a promise unkept;
Consider that you are
The springboard from which
A lot of good women have leapt.

IN TRUE LINDA fashion, the poet will toss back her head, bellow in a raucous laugh and deliver another sagacity like:

How can I trust that your heart is pure,
Your values valid,
While you sit there picking the artichokes
Out of the salad?

"I can laugh at myself," she explains in a twinkle. "I enjoy my work, but don't know if I'll ever be satisfied with it."

LINDA HAS HAD the "chutzpah" to promote and publish three books of verse: "Reflections From a Dusty Mirror," "Yesterday's Poetry," and "What Do You Feed a Unicorn?"

She inspires other poets to go ahead and disseminate their pre-occupations in poetry as well. (Her books can be purchased at Mostly Magnificent on Duval Street.) She feeds unicorns, such as herself, the following advice in poetry:

Tell it loud enough
so everyone may hear it,
Live your highest self
and sing your truest spirit.
Times are tough
And life is rough
And if we have not faith enough
We fear it.

Recognize the light
and celebrate the power,
in your own illumined mind
Mankind comes to flower.

No more weak,
Dare to speak,
You are perfect and unique
Along, all one
And just begun
To know you are the thing you seek.

Sing yourself with love,
Tune your being to it,
You deserve
To sing and serve,
So do it.

"YOU CAN'T TAKE yourself too seriously. You need a healthy, non-defensive ego. You need some humility, self-discovery and a sense of the oneness of all."

"You see yourself in others, and we see others in us."

"I have some understanding of our evolution...That it's to some extent out of our hands. I recognize the degree of my responsibility and the power of the mind. Something is working above and beyond. It is a process of unfolding."

LINDA HAS ALSO taught poetry

workshops, which she loved. She defines the process of meditation and self-discovery as being one with the poetry process. "You can't teach



Linda

poetry...just the mechanics. It is truth, but not absolute truth. A poem for me is what is true at that moment." She has written that "before the ink has dried...the mind has changed a thousand times..."

"At the center of it all is the mystical experience. It is a discovery each must make for himself."

Linda's background includes strong theatrical training which has stood her in good service. Her 25 years of marriage yielded two children: a daughter, 32, and a son, 31. Her son is a graduate in filmmaking in Toronto, and her daughter - who resides in the same apartment house as she does - invites her for a coffee "when I've been good."

"I SCREWED UP as a wife and mother," she explains with mischievous air. "I never had all the answers they wanted."

A poem to her ex-husband reads:

It's taken me years
to learn to love
us both, without restraint
and when I see
what time has taught us
I have no complaint...
You were not
the ogre I thought you,
I was not the saint.

Of her marriage she explains that, "If the rut had been too comfortable, I would not have moved on. I couldn't go along with being a bitch forever..."

The easy reason
leaves me disdainful,
I just pay attention
when it's painful.

Friends encouraged her to do something with her work instead of doubting herself, and since then poetry has been her focus. "Everything is grist for the mill," she sums up.

"I'M NOT A critic's poet," she says. "Most of the response to my work has been on the grassroots level." People have thanked her for writing their thoughts. It is such as this that gives her the push to keep going.

"Though the chances appear to be slim
that each woman thinks I've
recorded her thoughts
and every man thinks they're for him..."

When in Key West, she was interviewed on the radio station by Marsha Gordon, and went up to Miami for readings

at the University and at resorts up the Keys... "I'll read wherever they want to hear..." In Canada she did a radio show called Words and Music and readings there as well. She feels most comfortable with the Key West poet's group as they are "very nurturing."

WHETHER WADING BY tidal pools at Ramrod Key (where she stays when visiting her parents) "to watch the little clams dance and wiggle around," or listening "to the ocean kissing and sucking," Linda enjoys her visits as much as those who have come to know her.

"I am responsible for the love I can find." But she knows she needs her solitude in order to filter and appreciate what it is she knows.

Men have occupied a great place in her consciousness. Her most recent works when here last were very song-like, flowing expressions of an honest sensual/spiritual love between the sexes.

"IN A SPIRITUAL marriage," she contends, "you would have lifetimes to help each other grow into potentiality. It would be a real commitment to the love, instead of the usual gimme, gimme thing."

"We are all passing through schizophrenia today and jealousy is part of that clinging, possessive love. The Buddhists advise us to see attachment, aversion and delusion... See them and understand how they work."

Though Linda follows no rigid schedules and does experience panicky dry spells, she is still prolific.

"I'VE AVOIDED A lot of contemporary poetry because it makes me feel stupid, and resentful. I'm a simple writer, not a literary giant. I'm not that literate!"

Your poetry feels as though my brain
has lain too many seasons fallow
Are you deliberately deep?
Am I intentionally shallow?

When you hear Linda read to a group, you see people totally entranced and gladdened by her words.

Her affiliation with the Key West Poets has been as a friend and fellow. Her winter's visit may extend sometimes to a summer home. Looking some ten years younger than her ears, the scintillating lady will tell you that "self-pity poetry is smarmy and not a service to others."

"I'D ENCOURAGE ANYBODY to create. Greatness is not the be-all and end-all." But Linda, being Linda, is as delightful as pure mountain water. Her clarity puts an order to things. Her hearty laugh tells you her humor is wholesome.

2. VIRGIE B. HORTENSTINE, EFFERVESCENT STUDENT

"IT'S DISHONEST to write to please others," says the amazing Virgie Hortenstine, who is determined to please herself and exact only the truth. Like Linda she stimulates the group here and brings her own special color whenever she arrives. She drives down from her farmhouse retreat outside of Cincinnati each winter to share ideas and rub minds with others.

EACH VISIT FAMILIARIZES her Florida friends with her wonderful quirks and freedoms of mind. From how to devour Florida lobster, to how to deal with "the law" in a cantankerous situation, Virgie has her own methods of handling situations. She always hits the nail on the head when criticizing poetry, and can pick out the "bull" from the pure honey every time.

Her poems and stories have a refreshing outlook, with the deft quality of a true poet.

She always takes at least one

course at the college upon arrival to "stay sharpened."

Her style is undaunted by the conservatism of some of her own generation. Thus she sadly admits to not having that many friends her age back in Ohio.

GAY DALTON, RETIRED Key West schoolteacher, artist and poet, says of her friend Virgie: "I've never known anyone so egoless. She is always revealing about herself what she learns. Her humor and honesty are one and the same."

"She doesn't try to cover up, either. She's single-minded when gaining a goal, but always open to criticisms of her works."

For a span of some 20 years, Virgie was also deeply dedicated to Civil Rights. Much of her writings then were a political and activists' tool. Now she has returned these past few years to more creative expression.



Virgie

MAURICE MCCRACKIN, A pacifist Presbyterian minister, tried by the government and defrocked by his church for nonpayment of taxes, was subject for much printed discourse from Virgie's pen. "He didn't pay taxes because the money would go for arms. He still formed a community church with the same congregation and continued on."

Virgie visits between Ohio, Tennessee and Key West every year. She visits the Fayette-Heywood work camp in Tennessee, where she has lived and has had a great part in organizing and maintaining. Many of her short stories spring from the people she has been a loving friend to over her years of visiting in Tennessee.

THROUGH HER INVOLVEMENT with the Quakers, Virgie has poured much energy towards working with rural blacks. Her experiences in this area have landed her some jail time (22 days in all) "on trumped-up charges." She rode on the Poor People's Mule Train shortly after the death of Martin Luther King. This was a wagon ride through the South and across the Potomac. "It elicited some minor violence from those whites who resented it."

THE LADY IS older, but younger than most. She is quaint in some ways, homespun, but on a par intellectually with any... Always there is the fresh look of an ever-pleased but bashful woman/child, with long ribbons of grey hair flowing down her shoulders. She drives up the Keys, never missing a shrub or bird or out-of-the-way path of interest.

"Look for the raisins," she advises poets. "Don't say it too plainly and outright. Say it in a way that sparkles, and captures the imagination with a living picture. Poetry is a revelation you must put to words. But you have to work on it." Devotion to her art is like a religion to her.

SHE IS PUBLISHED in such places as: The Southwest Review, The Friends Journal, Christian Century, Good Housekeeping, Washington Evening Star,

the 11-mile trek to Cincinnati for a university seminar.

Living in the country, she had lots of rich time to discover "I am ME, not somebody else."

"I was religious. We lived behind a church and it was the only place I got to go." Her voracious need to learn and experience grew from these beginnings. "I wished I had been exposed to more as a child."

The only books in her mother's scanty library were: "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm" and "Pollyanna

ONCE IN A HIGH AND MARBLE ROOM

Once in a high and marble room
Where quiet watched us through the walls
As if dignity might tap a shoulder
To mind a squeaking shoe, a loosened thread,
Yet no one saw a thread or heard a shoe.
Each moved deftly past the others,
Liquidly, like fish in opaque water --

Once you were there with me,
You were a tiny thing beneath your dark-blue coat,
Behind long lashes;
And quiet and marble
Tensed your small hands.
You were still and solemn; silence
Made your eyes large and your
Lashes darker; and the marble walls
Were white cosmetics on your face;
Your dark-blue coat was longer,
And your brown braids were browner;
You were older on this day.
I had never seen a green shoot
Grow an inch within an hour.

In a lighted alcove, behind glass,
You watched a man who placed some china dolls,
Blue, small-featured, Dresden,
Grouped on a swish of silk.
You swallowed in your throat and smiled
Quickly and to yourself and with bright recognition
As to a welcomed playmate suddenly seen.
Your fingers itched with wanting.
You spoke, and then were startled
At the shower of sound down upon you.
You did not feel me there till then.
Your fingers tightened on my hand.

Then a doll slipped
And fell through the man's fingers.
Your cry was deep and sudden
As if the doll had cried it.
Broken pieces in your fingers,
In your pillow, through your future,
Your cry was sharp with broken pieces.

With your tear-wet face against me
I took you far, heavy with sobbing,
To the cool and prickling grass;
And the earth rocked from your sorrow.
I stayed with you long,
Long, before the grasses
Could with their constant curling, curling,
Comfort a small child,
Stroke her fingers with caressing blades,
Stroke her small fingers.

--Virgie Bernhardt Hortenstine

Solares Hill, Florida Keys Magazine, Radio Mirror, has also won first prize in a national contest for a children's book ("Keo the Otter" was published by Grosset & Dunlap), and she is presently working on a novel; "Put On Your Shoes, Put On Your Head Rag," about rural blacks of Tennessee.

"Poetry makes me feel very good, even if it is sometimes hard to understand." She has been most recently working on her longest poem ever (33 pages at last count). She doesn't feel at all dwarfed by this ambitious project, on the subject of man's evolution. She has the firm belief in herself to attempt it. "The adventure of the revelations as they unfold keep me going."

VIRGIE LIVES IN Colerain Township, Ohio, the setting of her own childhood. Here on 50 acres, where she and her lithographer husband Francis raised their girls, she now lives and works and thinks. Occasionally she makes

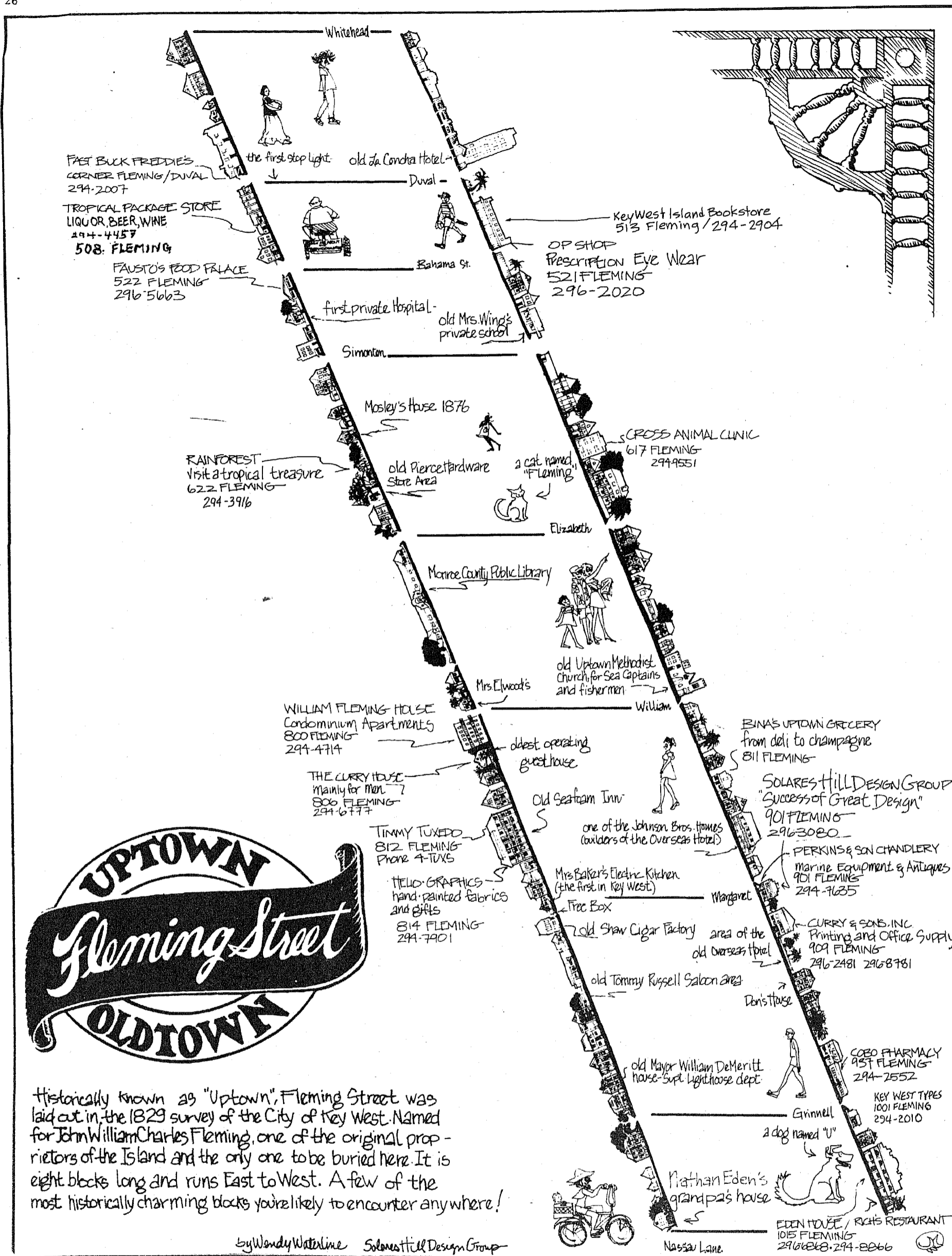
of the Orange Blossoms."

AS A MOTHER, she later taught in her own nursery school for many years and found that "I was a cool mother, with little ability to show affection."

She remedied this by taking sensitivity training and delving deeper into her psyche, despite the pain and discomfort of realizing herself. "This was pre-Summerhill and I had to relearn mothering in order to end up friends with my children."

Her three girls filled her days and left little energy for her artistic life. One of the saddest parts of her life, however, was the loss of her four-year-old due to a kerosene heater that exploded in their home. (The following poems are about her four-year-old.)

EACH YEAR VIRGIE arrives with two electric typewriters. "I need



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

There's warm excitement in your braids this morning -
they disobey the comb, or is it I
who try
to fold their pattern while I undergo the spell of shining cheek,
listen as you speak
and photograph to keep a mind's clear image of this new,
pink-starched you,
all in slow rhythm of remembered lullaby?

How can a heart so small
that trembles with mouse feet as you press against me
ever hold all
of everything as big, as overpowering as this day will be?

And now
is the surrender that is made of pain,
to occupy the new place in your heart and not complain,
to know that your desire
will be the thin books in the satchel
the cookies and the sandpile will retire,
feeling how
I feel. I bow.

And may the New Love's knowing hold
how much, how little wisdom's in a six-year-old.

-- Virgie Bernhardt Hortenstine

LATE SUMMER

Now in a timid whirlwind the warm air
Sets last year's curled leaf rasping on the ground
And summer foliage, pale to yellowing,
Rises in one great nostalgic wave,
Straining at restraint.

More dissipated now than debonair
Returns the robin to his sun-dried bath pool,
Pressing his wiry feet in the moist center,
Standing with bushed and lacerated feathers --
A statue-prayer for rain.

The wind, continuing eternal contest,
Soars with redoubled threat of catapulting
Leaf and bird into the high wild sky,
When he shall call recant of Aesop's tale,
Conquering the sun.

-- Virgie Bernhardt Hortenstine

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TESTAMENTARY

You are dead now, Robert Lowell. You told me in class
Once when you condescended upon the Middle West
To pull my words from deeper places
Deep as from wells
From bottoms of seas.
I was a latter-day Saint Vincent Millay, you said
(I thought at first that was a compliment).
And you went on pulling your words
As we pull onions in the springtime
But from deeper places
Underneath the heart.
We foraged, you in a larger pasture.

You looked warily over your black-rimmed spectacles
Lest a word take wings and escape
Or lest a student escape without wings.

And when you died
It was as if you stood up and lost us a lap.
And we all fell shattering to the floor
Not knowing, as you didn't know
That among us all, you would die first
Willing the world to peasants.
O Lamb of Shepherds, Dove of Jesus, what will we do
Now Lowell is with God, with whom all Lowells have been conversant
(Indirectly) through the years?

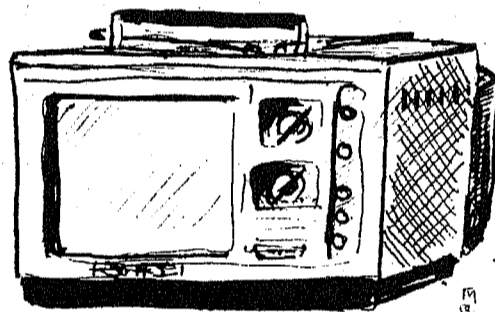
-- Virgie Bernhardt Hortenstine

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one in case the other goes on the blink." She is always busy at work on something, taking classes and weaving beautiful experience from the fabric of her life - on paper.

She got bad news from her doctors while here last winter. Despite her robust appearance, cancer had been detected. Since then she has had her hands full trying to regain her health. She still hopes to connect with Key West in the weeks to come. Her spunk is up. Like the smile of the Chesire Cat that will not fade, there is that about Virgie that does not let you forget her friendliness and her words. You feel her still. You hope for her return.



THE DOPE TRIAL: PART TWO

By JOE CRUMPET

THE COCAINE CONSPIRACY trial of fourteen defendants in the federal courtroom in Key West is shaping up as one of the strangest ever seen in this town -- and there have been some weird trials here, as we all know.

The trial is now heading into the merry month of May, after being peppered with rumors, lengthy recesses, holidays for various reasons, several motions for a mistrial, witnesses who won't testify, others who are a trifle too outspoken - it is expected to go to the jury in the middle of May.

ONCE THE JURY gets it, with all the instructions due from U.S. District Judge C. Clyde Atkins, it seems highly probable there'll be a long wait before decisions come in, possibly by the end of May, at the earliest.

Bookmakers on "the street", that ubiquitous place which is never quite pin-pointed, are being very cautious with the odds posted on who's-going-to-get-what. One of the veterans in the gambling games along Petronia St. (who shall be nameless) when asked about it, removes his planter's hat, scratches

a bald spot, and pronounces:

"A few gonna walk, maybe one, others gonna walk to ja-a-a-il, but don't quote me."

IN THE LATTER part of April, there was a flurry of talk near the county jail when, supposedly, one of the defendants and his lawyer entered the cell area and were allowed to question a prisoner. That story spread through the rumor mills like peanut butter.

A businessman on Fleming Street was fired up and indignant when he heard about it and, even though he wasn't one of Key West's almost one hundred practicing lawyers, claimed "that's witness tampering if I ever heard of it, and what's the government doing? Nothing! This trial is ridiculous."

AT ABOUT THE same time, police Sgt. Bill O'Neill, who had testified for the government against Deputy Chief Raymond (Rito) Casamayor, was swiftly taken off a walking patrol on Petronia Street when the NAACP warned his bosses in city hall that he might be in danger in that part

of town which is predominantly black -- O'Neill is white.

In the courtroom, on two occasions, the judge had to conduct inquiries (outside the hearing of the jurors) when "rumors" were floated through the city that a juror might have been improperly questioned by a government agent. The upshot of both the inquiries was that what had supposedly been heard was much too vague to pin down.

IN THE FIRST rumor investigation, attorney Robert Leeman, Jr. said he overheard a remark from some unidentified person in the lobby outside the courtroom as he was passing through the area, to the effect that the government had talked to a prospective juror. That evening, he relayed what he heard to the owner of the Sugarloaf Lodge, Lloyd Goode, and to John H. Keane, a former lawyer. They talked about the incident and the word got out.

Judge Atkins checked with FBI agents; nothing could be shown to back up the rumor. The defense yelled "foul," but the court said "no way, go back to work."

Then, just before the 10 day recess toward the end of April, the defense heard there was another "rumor" about government interference; the judge listened to what they had to say, but denied a mistrial motion.

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TWO OF THE COUNTS against Casamayor alleging that he had threatened grand jury witnesses were dropped. One of the witnesses, Sue Avery, refused to come back from Australia, and testimony from the other, Beverly Romine, was ruled not strong enough to support the charge.

A former "close friend" of Tito Casamayor, Terry Haas, showed considerable hostility to the government when she was called to tell about how she had been used to get a \$3,000 cashier's check made out to Sgt. Carroll Key. Casamayor, she said, gave her the money while he waited in his car outside the bank.

Observers who had followed the first trial of eight men on dope charges, and saw them all acquitted, are more impressed this time as the government seems to draw the string tighter, through the use of tapes, photos and apparently stronger witnesses, like County Judge Alison DeFoor. DeFoor, talking about Casamayor, said he would not "trust what he said," and thought "he was running a con game" in the police department.

THE COURTROOM SCENE itself presents an interesting glimpse into who's fascinated by some of the scandalous testimony emerging from witnesses on the stand.

Regulars among the spectators are well known Conchs like bail bondsman Manuel (Currito) Ortega; former owner of the Bottle Cap, Johnny Gavilan; businesswoman and gallery owner, Marion Stevens; the wife of the police chief, Gwen McCook Rodriguez; deputies from the sheriff's office; assorted writers like Danny Banco, and friends.

DEFENSE LAWYERS themselves are a colorful lot.

One of them who stands almost as tall as Nathan Eden (he's a dominant figure when he looms up to make an objection) is a dandy of no small talent. He's always in court, foppish-

ly attired in a dark trimly cut suit; his shirt is always of a pastel color with a sparkling white collar; his breast-pocket handkerchief always matches the pastel color of his shirt; he sports a large solid gold key chain across a slightly bulging vest.

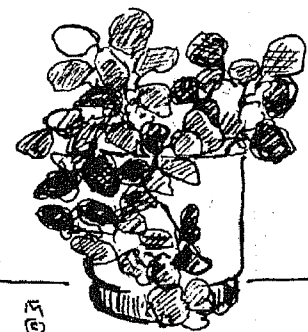
PATRICIA WILLIAMS, defending Casamayor, is the only woman lawyer in the row of fourteen. She is a tiny, beautifully dressed, black woman of incisive thought and manner, as she cross-questions witnesses.

Joining Eden as a local defense lawyer, is Ray Bodiford, more casually dressed than those smartly turned out Miami eagles.

THE DEFENSE ROW is magnetic in its assembled talent.

The government's side with Sullivan and his sharp young assistant, whose skill at questioning shows years of courtroom battling, Eileen O'Conner, are supported by numerous law enforcement agents, not to mention a special IRS reporter who quietly takes notes on how all the money slipped quietly from hand-to-hand.

NO WONDER the trial is the best show in town, bar none.



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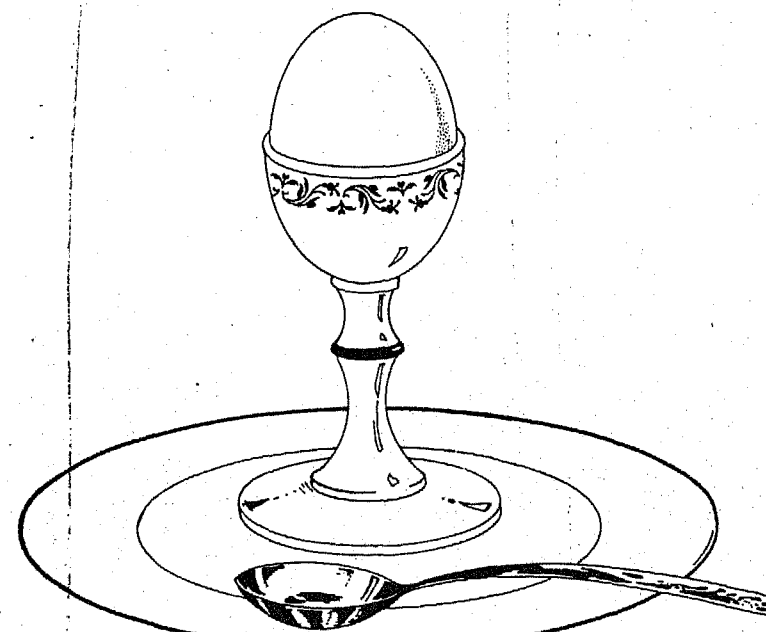
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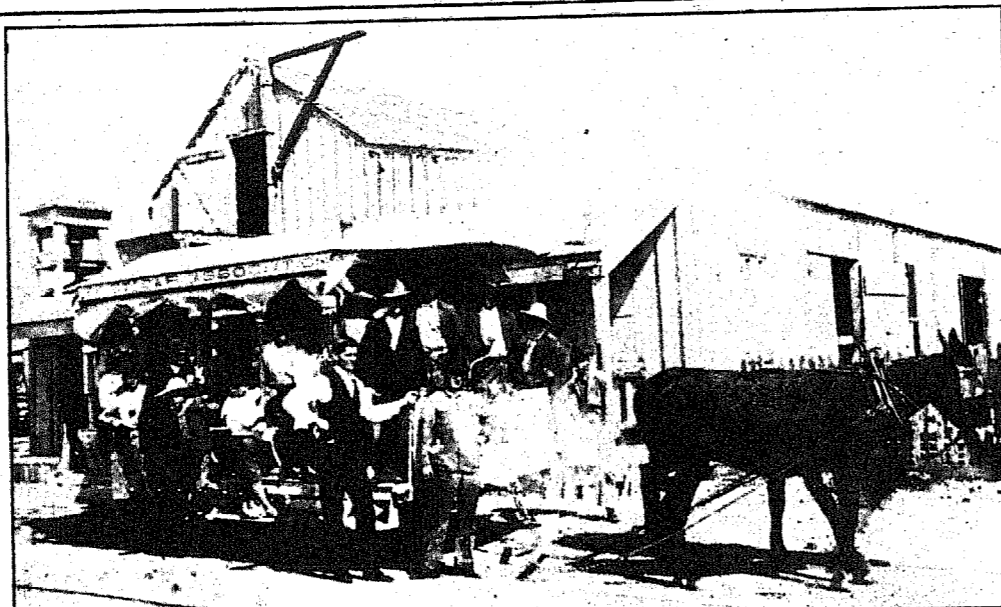
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THE OLD AND THE NEW

by CHRISTOPHER BELLAND, AL PRITCHARD
& BONNIE POWELL

"NOW COME ON, Jose, drink your cafe and let's go! We have another mile to go and I don't want to be late today. Senor Gato is giving a morning speech to all of the workers about this new trolley transportation deal. Come this time next week we let the mules do the walking and we just sit back and enjoy our trip to the cigar factory."

THE TEMPERATURE WAS already reaching the 80s as the sun was just coming upon the island of Key West. The year, 1885, was the beginning of some big changes for the thousands of Cuban cigar rollers who worked for a variety of factories on the island. One of the biggest factories was owned by Eduardo Gato, an enter-



First it was mule drawn



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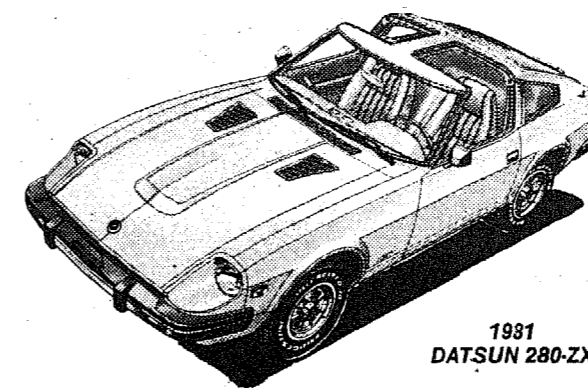
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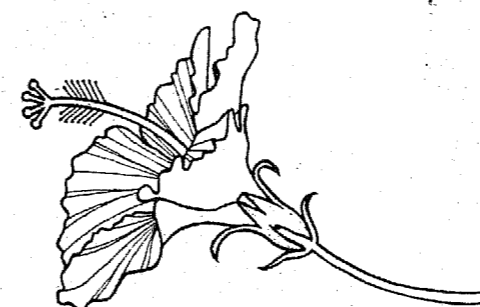
prising man who realized that transportation for these workers could be a money-making venture, as well as a convenience for the workers who had always walked up to two miles a day to and from the factories. Mr. Gato had already received permission from the city of Key West, and when the franchise for the trolley was granted by the county for areas outside the corporate limits of the city, the trolley dream became a reality. Gato and his partners, Walter C. Maloney, Jr., Louis Pierce, George G. Watson, John White, and Charles B. Pendleton, opened their operation for business in

December 1885. The tracks ran from Whitehead to Division Street (now Truman Avenue) and up Division to White Street. The other line extended along Front Street and proceeded on Simonton to Eaton, Margaret, Southard, and White Street. The terminus on White Street contained Alicia Carey's Ice Cream Parlour, which was a popular spot for the young people of Key West.

THE FIRST TROLLEYS did not work as smoothly as Mr. Gato had hoped due to two types of strikes. There was not much anybody could do about the mules on a summer day when they de-

cided it was too hot for such heavy work. The mules would plop down on the street for a break and when no amount of prodding could get them to move, the disgruntled passengers had no choice but to continue the trip on foot. The second type of strike was a much more costly one. One of the recurring problems of the cigar industry of Key West was the sporadic labor strikes by the workers. The strikes were called for any number of reasons, from wages to hours to not having their favorite lecturers read to them while they worked. The trolley system gave the workers added leverage against Mr. Gato by boycotting the trolleys when-

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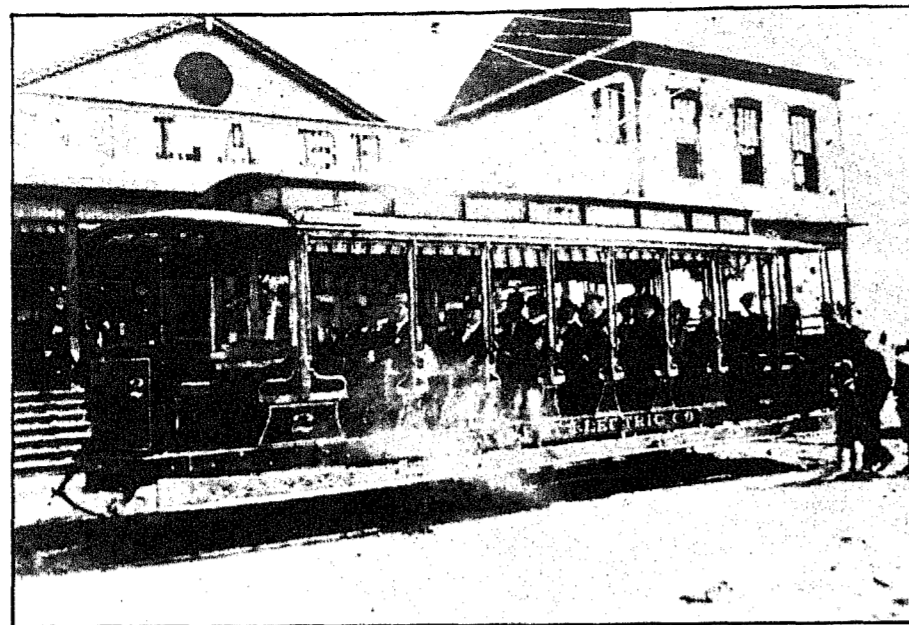
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ever the labor disputes arose. An empty trolley is not a profitable one, and Mr. Gato sold the business in 1896 to Mr. John Jay Philbrick.

MR. PHILBRICK WAS responsible for the original La Brisa at the end of Simonton Street. This was a gathering spot for passengers and the general public for many years to come. Mr. Philbrick bought the trolley franchise with the intention of turning the entire system into electric streetcars. He passed away before completing this project but investors from New York and Chicago bought the company from his heirs and founded the Key West Electric Company. The first electric trolley ran from Duval Street over to La Brisa on February 13, 1899, carrying some 500 people on its first day of operation. Every day in Key West one would see any of several yellow trolleys delivering people to their destinations. The fare remained constant at 5 cents per trip with one transfer included in the price. This transportation was available to Key West citizens every



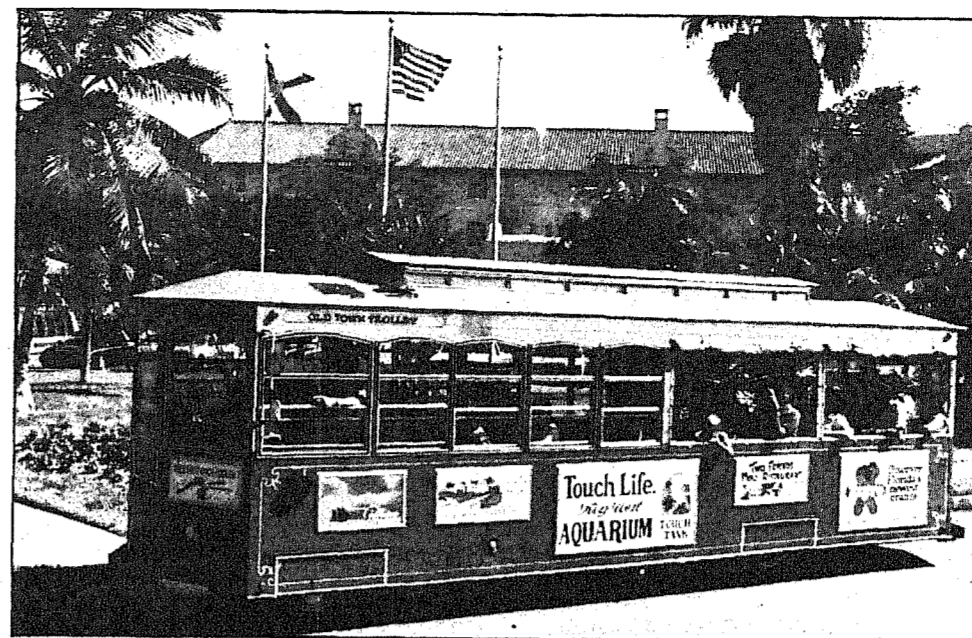
Next came electric

day from 5 a.m. until after midnight. The trolleys ran on unpaved roads with single tracks and a double overhead for power; they were equipped with oil lamps, benches, international fare registers, and even rain curtains.

IN 1906, THE company was purchased by Stone & Webster who ran a profitable operation until 1926. In 1908, Stone & Webster received valuable help from a young man out of Savannah, Georgia named Mr. Bascom Grooms. After starting out as a laborer, Mr. Grooms rose swiftly through the ranks to become superintendent. Finally he became president with an office in the cupola of La Brisa. Under his management the line was expanded out to what is now Flagler Avenue to the New Seidenburg Cigar Factory. In 1909, a sheet iron car barn was erected at the south end of Simonton Street, but it only lasted a year before the hurricane of

1910 destroyed this building and many others in Key West, including La Brisa. The car barn was rebuilt with poured concrete which lasted until 1960 when it was demolished to build the Santa Maria Motel. Mr. Grooms also founded the Swanky Key West Electric Company Club for his bachelor employees. The attractive clubhouse and their uniform of formal tuxedos helped make their parties very popular with the loveliest of Key West ladies. Since one of the strict membership rules of the club excluded married members, Mr. Grooms gave up his membership by marrying Miss Rosalie Boyer, a Key West girl he had met in Savannah.

ANOTHER EMPLOYEE FOR the electric trolley was Mr. J. P. Rollo who drove the vehicles from 1917, in the war emergency, until after the war was long finished. Mr. Rollo earned 21



Today it's propane

cents per hour working the swing shift, morning until noon, and from 3:00 p.m. through the evening hours.

In a recent interview, Mr. Rollo stated several interesting facts which gave some insight about the early years of Key West. The motor-men on the trolleys did not have to be literate but the driver did since he was required to write out trip sheets throughout the shift. Segregation was strictly enforced and blacks were only allowed on the very back seat. Many times Mr. Rollo had to pass by potential passengers he had known all his life because of this archaic "quota" system which limited the trolleys to six blacks per vehicle.

THE TROLLEY WAS a profitable business at one time as reports filed with the state show. The revenue for 1920 was over \$107,000 and the trolleys carried over 2 million passengers. The following years' figures demonstrated the decline in the population, and in the beginning of the depression

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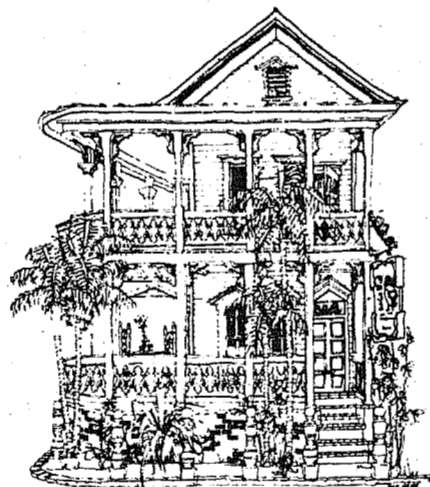
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era, the profit from the trolleys dropped from \$35,000 in 1920 to \$721 in 1925. After showing a loss of over \$6,000 in 1926, the demise of the company was imminent, and, in September, 1925, half the line was abandoned. The final trolley trip of the remaining line was June 30, 1926.

KEY WEST WENT through many changes over the years as transportation ranged from cars to buses, trains, and planes. In the late seventies Key West was just beginning to bloom as a tourist haven. The word was spreading quickly about the perfect weather, fascinating history, and the total beauty of the island people. As Key West enjoyed a continuing national interest in restoration and history, Duval Street and Mallory Square became the focal point once again for businesses, shops, museums, and boat rides. Two local businessmen, Ed Swift and Chris Belland, were the key forces in the development of the downtown area, and as they took

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a nostalgic look at the bygone era of the trolleys, they realized that trolleys could once again serve a very useful purpose. Not only could they be used effectively as touring vehicles to guide our visitors around the island, but with a reboarding privilege they could alleviate the downtown parking shortages. On December 20, 1980, the Old Town Trolley took over where the old mule drawn and electric trolleys left off. The company started with seven trolleys named after the nicknames of old streets such as the Chicken Alley, High Tide Alley, Grunt Bone Alley, Rocky Road Special, and the Love Lane Express. The seats are exact replicas of the cast iron work on the original trolleys, but instead of being limited by tracks, the new vehicles run on propane to enable the drivers to show off the entire island. The new tour system includes a one and a half hour narrated tour with talented guides expertly trained on the history of the island and local attractions. The new trolley also provides door-to-door service by picking the passengers up at the hotels and depots and dropping them off at several local attractions including the Mallory Square area. The trolleys depart every 30 minutes until 6:00 p.m. for returns enabling the passengers to complete the tour at their leisure. One of the new trolley's favorite passengers was Mr. J. P. Rollo, the conductor from the original trolley. Mr. Rollo visited Key West from Northern Florida and was presented with a conductor's cap and a lifetime pass after enjoying the new system.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS have passed since the first mule drawn trolley made its first trip up Division Street. Once again the trolley is playing an important role in the Key

West lifestyle. The traditions of the Key West Electric Company Club and Bascom Grooms are being revived and renewed and trolleys will always share their rightful place in the lore of the island as we celebrate our 100 year anniversary.

continued from page 23

outside of his Islamorada studio. Ned has gotten into window displays organized by a mysterious (aren't they all?) French man named Jacques who assembles neighbors' products (Emeralds, Tropical Towels, Bob's Flowers and Balloons, etc.) and with Ned's art supplies welds all into unity.

BURGESS-MEINSTER IS A sort of iceberg. Only one-seventh of what they have is visible. I recommend getting on a buddy basis with either Jordan or John because they are sitting on quality stuff. Fred Gros watercolors, for example. Visible is Adolf Gucinski who along with Haykin and Gibson constitutes SoMo's avant garde. Adolf was seen in Red Barn's "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" and he is competing in the Seven Mile Marathon run. He has also crossed the Atlantic alone twice in his own boat; not just everyone's foreplay to oil painting.

KAREN AT ARTIST Warehouse, sandwiched between Jordan's and Croissants de France, with her newly finished studio is painting out back and framing up front and Leo at Jordan's is serving his usual sexy hamburgers (that caviar and cream number is real decadence) and salads and nice late afternoon beers in the treed-in patio. Carole and Claude's right-hand orange delivery jeep died and was towed away, and has been replaced by the same in white.

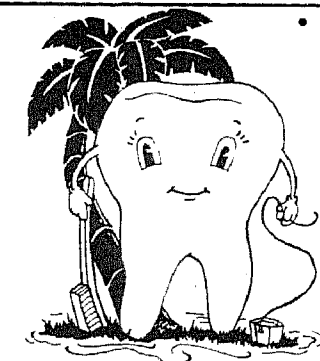
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Lots of News, where do we begin? First, our Key West Lucky 13 Prize Party this month will be at the POOLSIDE TIKI BAR at the RAMADA KEYS' END RESORT, and do bring your bathing suits. Around the pool and bar area, we'll have room for 5-6000 people. Chipper, RAMADA's F & B Manager is looking forward to having everybody there. The public is invited. In the LMK area, our Lucky 13 party will be at PELICAN POST, MM 30.

This month begins the special members' price at Big Marvin and Little Marvin's BAHIA CABANA in Ft. Lauderdale: \$25 for 1, 2 or 3 persons; \$35 for 4, in 15 special units. This offer is good through 12/1/85, excluding special holiday weekends and the Ft. Lauderdale Boat Show weekend. You must have an ICI card to get the rate and your welcome cocktail. Call 1-524-1555 for reservations.

In addition, ICI members may now fly round trip on SOUTHERN EXPRESS AIRWAYS to Ft. Lauderdale or Miami for only \$75!! Leave any day but Sunday, return any day but Friday. Overnight stay, 24-hour advance purchase and ICI (plastic) card are required. Offer is non-transferrable and non-refundable. An annual member (plastic) may buy an additional ticket for a non-member traveling on the same plane. You must have an ICI card and ID both when you buy the tickets and when you board. Offer good through 12/15/85.

Something special for the Ladies... and we mean LADIES ONLY! On May 24th and 25th, a representative of the PLEASURE COMPANY of California will arrive to hold a special showing and sale of their exclusive line of intimate lingerie and apparel and notions, lotions and potions. Two private ladies-only parties will be held. On Friday the 24th, THE STRAND will host the show-sale upstairs at the luxurious SAVOY BAR, and on Saturday, upstairs

at the PELICAN POST, MM 30. Personal checks, credit cards accepted. Admission: ICI cardholders, annual and visiting - \$1; their non-cardholder guests - \$2. General public (ladies only) are invited - \$3. Show-sale time is from 8 p.m. to about 11 p.m. in both locations. This is an ICI special event not to be missed.

Another new item for ICI members: Prudential-Bache Financial Planning of New York will hold seminars and workshops for ICI members aboard CUNARD LINES CARIBBEAN CRUISES leaving from San Juan. ICI cardholders will receive a 15% discount on the 7-day cruises, which includes airfare from Miami. Please see your May-June Directory for details.

ICI is looking for ARTISTS, CRAFTSMEN, ARTISANS and of course ICI BUSINESS AFFILIATES to submit products for the ISLAND CLUB INTERNATIONAL COLLECTION MAIL-ORDER CATALOGUE. The 16-page full color catalogue will be published by KEY WEST LIFE MAGAZINE and carried in the magazine. KEY WEST LIFE is the in-flight publication for SOUTHERN EXPRESS AIRWAYS, as well as in the in-room magazine for the area's leading hotels and motels. Extra catalogues will also be carried in the seat pockets of the planes for passengers to take with them. Because of the high number of in-flight and local hotel room copies in circulation, the pass-along readership of KEY WEST LIFE (and the ICI catalogues) is extremely high, with almost 215,000 readers. (ICI business affiliates receive 10% off KEY WEST LIFE advertising.) If you, or an artisan/craftsman you know, wants information on the catalogue, call (305) 296-3280. Need to rent a car almost anywhere? ICI

members renting an ALAMO car, three days or longer, receive the first day free! Offer good through August 31st. Reserve 24 hours ahead and show card on pickup.

Five or six members (that we know of), in making reservations at the WINDWARD PALMS, across from the Casino in Freeport, Bahamas, have had trouble reaching the phone numbers in the ICI Directory. So did we. The numbers are correct. This hotel offers ICI members a fantastic deal. If you can't reach their U.S. toll free number, 1-800-327-0787, have the operator connect for you.

Over 1,400 Florida Travel Agents are receiving this month the ICI/SOUTHERN EXPRESS "GETAWAY TO KEY WEST" TOUR PACKAGE. Island Club anticipates that this major drive, which runs through December 15th, will substantially boost the off-season tourist market for local participating hotels, guesthouses, our business affiliates and the town in general. June 20, 21, 22, and 23 ICI goes to the BAHIA CABANA, 4 days, 3 nights, for \$69.50!!! Price includes round-trip transportation on our chartered luxury PARTY BUS and rooms! There's only room for 40, so call now! For more information, call 296-3280, or Marsha Robertson, 872-3085.

Would you like to join Island Club International? Send your name, address, age (19 or over please) and phone, together with your \$36 check or money order (no cash) to ICI Membership, P.O. Box 4250, Key West, FL 33041, and if you write down where this month's Lucky 13 parties will be held, and the dates and places of our "Ladies only" special event parties, we'll throw in a 13th month free membership. Who says 13 is unlucky?

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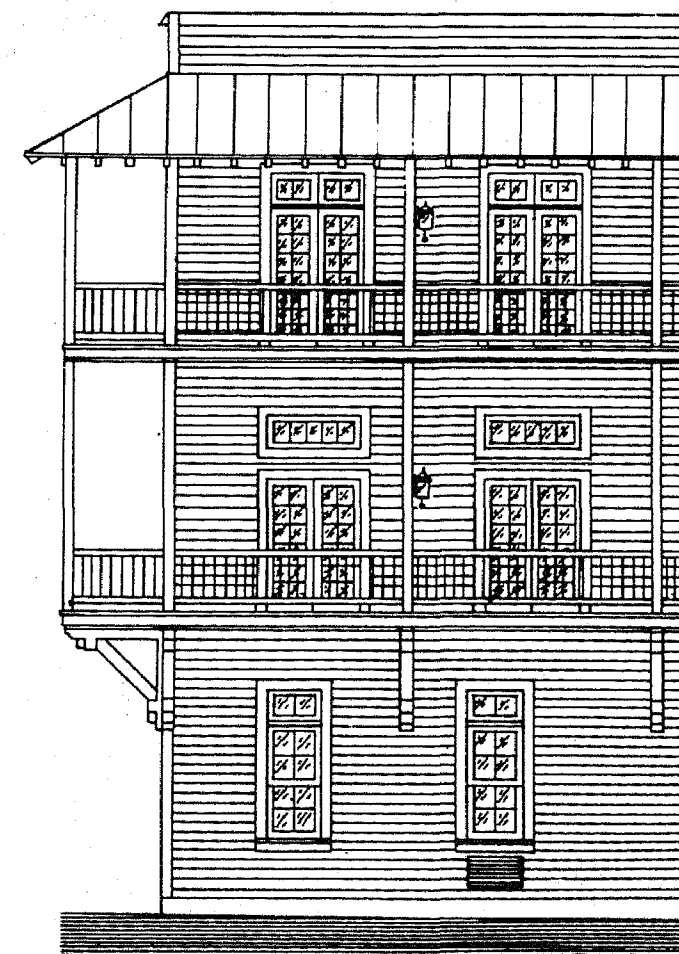
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Carole cried relating this, but Croissants goes on.

AT THE MIAMI Fine Arts Center just 154 miles to our north, simultaneous traveling shows. "The American Painters of the '70s" with second class stars was a second class show. The '70s gave birth to no de Kooning, no Pollacks, no Rothkos; even Stella and Francis are well out of this. I hate to admit a fifteen-year hiatus, but this looks like a dress rehearsal when one expected a performance. However, one was supplied by the Enrico Baz show upstairs. He is a specialist on a theme interpreting the works of Picasso and Picabia among others and his work is three-dimensional, generous, pertinent, political, violent and funny. And also lovable; a humanist. His room entitled Holocaust is a searing jagged-cut-out papier mache puzzle of limbs, animals, heads, feet, genitals, all devouring or being devoured, each piece nailed (one nail) to the walls, predators and victims, all swept away alike. I hope some of us went up to see this great modern who fashions his generals out of braid and medals.

THE SEASON IS winding down. Lucky Street by the middle of May will be showing the regulars three as-yet unspecified days a week; to say, Lebrun, Demo Grillo, Jaffe Seljas plus the Spinosa brothers ceramic and clay works.

BARBARA OF ARISTOS on Simonton's last show for the season is two-man; new Conch Michael Shannon, an ex-Kentuckian who is into our waters and mangroves and shimmering special purples; and an older Conch, Al Crespo, who has switched from hyper-realism to something akin to Pollack-dripped expressionism, for my par-

ticularly biased taste a happy departure. Change usually means progress and is arrived at by more hard work than meets the I.

THE GUIDO IN midtown is going through some changes. Loys Locklear has enlarged her space, Wayne Pelke has departed, Judi Bradford has a new exposition mirror to show off her delicious creepy-crawlies, Sonia Robinson's leathers are more and more so, and if I needed a purse, that's where I'd go. The Build rotates two spaces a month to show guest artists like Vianne and Fritz Strange's stained glass and Valerie Hoh has become a member. Her retro tile work is ultra-chic and to be found also at Sandford's. Sign of same, whose windows rival P.B. Freddie's. This month Sandford has myriad sacks, bags, purses, each different and signed and superb. Her windows are glittering joy.

THE MOSELEYS on Rose Lane deserve a SoMoscaw too. They are not ideally priced but they have worthwhile merchandise at prices that New York and San Francisco cannot do. A new shipment from Costa Rica of pots and dishes dating from 600 to 900 A.D. in the \$250 range, pre-Columbian Peruvian grave pieces from \$50 to \$200, wearable, even. My favorite is an ivory and bead Ghanaian necklace that at \$75 is a steal.

RUTHIE, DUDLEY AND Malley at the Haitian Art Co. will do their usual annual sale after the tourists leave. They make way for new stock and we locals benefit. I'd like to call attention here to the Haitian's collection of decoy ducks worked in the Artibonite Valley style. They are pet-able and absolutely lovely.

JOE LISZKA OF Key West Aloe is to be commended for his new catalogue,

certainly a SoMo first; a glitzy mail-order brochure for ordering not only Key West Aloe's seductive products but also Ann Irvine's note paper, Judi's lizards, John Kiraly's cards, and I've been saving Dennis for last, Dennis of wicker fame's wire-enamelled bird cages, handmade by himself.

LAWRENCE FORMICA'S DREAMLAND at La Te Da was sheer delight. Hats off to all, especially to our favorite slavedriver, Peg McLain.

YES, VIRGINIA, THERE is a Bubba and he did call. He is changing not just glasses but opticians and so cannot read this article and is on sleeping pills. But his last call made me crash out. "...parties to raise money for more parties to raise more..."

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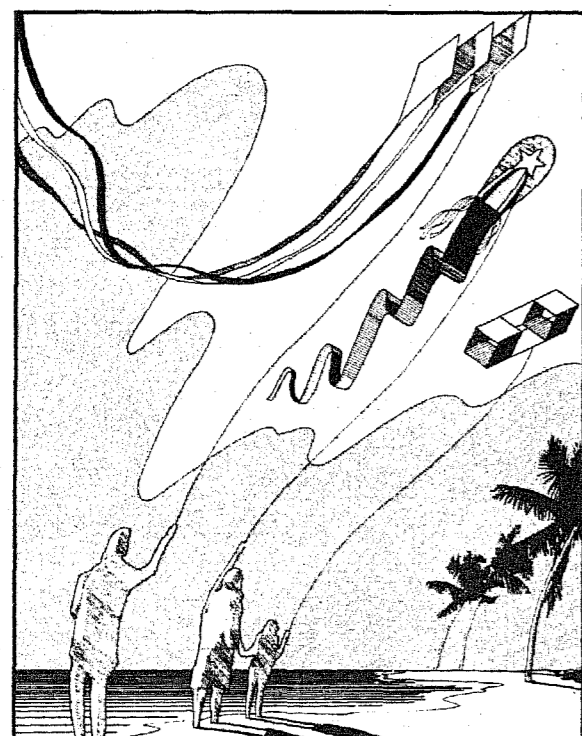
Due to the current strength of the dollar, I have been notified of a temporary PRICE REDUCTION:

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| Single | \$130 | \$115 |
| Double | \$170 | \$145 |
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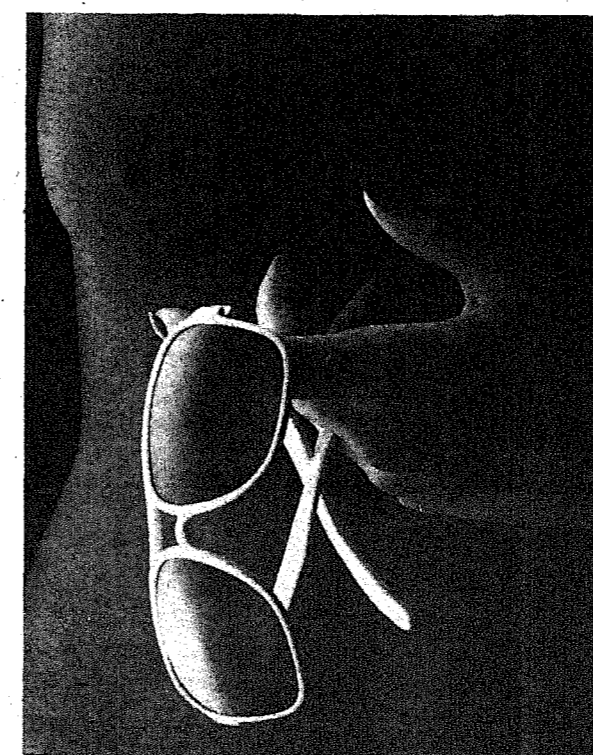
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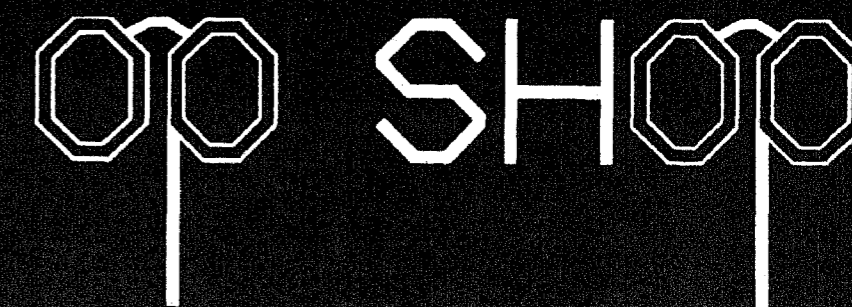
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLORIDA KEYS WATERCOLOR SOCIETY JURIED ART SHOW

THE FLORIDA KEYS Watercolor Society will have a juried show at East Martello Gallery and Museum opening to the public on Tuesday, May 14 and running through June 1. Gallery hours are 9:30 to 5 p.m., seven days a week. Internationally famous Islamorada watercolorist Millard Wells, AWS, will judge the show.

A reception for the artists and members of the Gallery will be held from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Tuesday evening, May 14.

THE NEWLY FORMED Florida Keys Watercolor Society is now one year old and has 75 members living throughout the Keys to as far north as Miami. The FKWS, through its juried shows, stresses excellence and endeavors to reward improvement and quality work of its members.

WE WOULD LIKE to make an appeal to a community known for its empathy and concern for the needs of others. The family of the late Segundo "Sonny" Perez, unfortunately at this time, falls in this category.

Needless to say, tragedy may strike any of us, but in this particular case, a young man has died and left a widow and three small daughters without any immediate financial support. Nancy and the children are unable to make decisions at this time and we, as friends,

would like to relieve this burden as much as possible.

AN ACCOUNT HAS been established at Florida Keys First State Bank at 1201 Simonton Street, Key West, Florida in the name of "The Perez Children Fund." If you have any questions concerning the fund, please feel free to contact Vi Ann Stange at Fabric World (294-1773) or an officer of the Florida Keys First State Bank (296-8535).

We are hoping that you will find it in your hearts and minds to help in any way you can to ease the financial burden and mental stress of coping with these tragic circumstances by donating to this worthy fund. With sincere appreciation, Concerned Friends of the Family.

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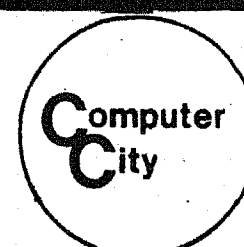
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604 Duval St., Old Town, Key West, FL 33040

time period, new grants are expected.

ALL DONATIONS WILL be used to continue the program. Antonia's Restaurant, one of Key West's finest, has most generously offered their facilities and staff to prepare and serve her fabulous northern Italian specialties. The Key West Business Guild will pay for food and beverage costs, mailing, printing, promotional and all other expenses. 100% of the donations will go directly to the AIDS Education Project.

THE PRICE OF admission is \$100 per person. Please contact Ed Seebol, 1100 Angela Street, Key West, FL 33040, (305) 294-9334 for full details. Act quickly, please. Our community cannot allow this program to lapse or go out of existence.

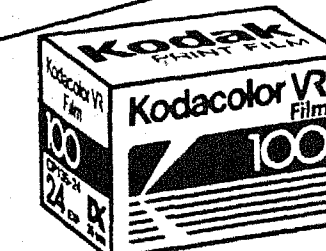
KEY WEST BUSINESS GUILD

THE KEY WEST Business Guild in conjunction with Antonia's Restaurant is sponsoring an AIDS Education fund-raising dinner. As of last week, all funds ended for the AIDS Education Program which has been operating from the Florida Keys Memorial Hospital. The program - which has a national reputation for its success and accomplishments - requires \$5,000 to \$7,000 to last three to four months. Within this

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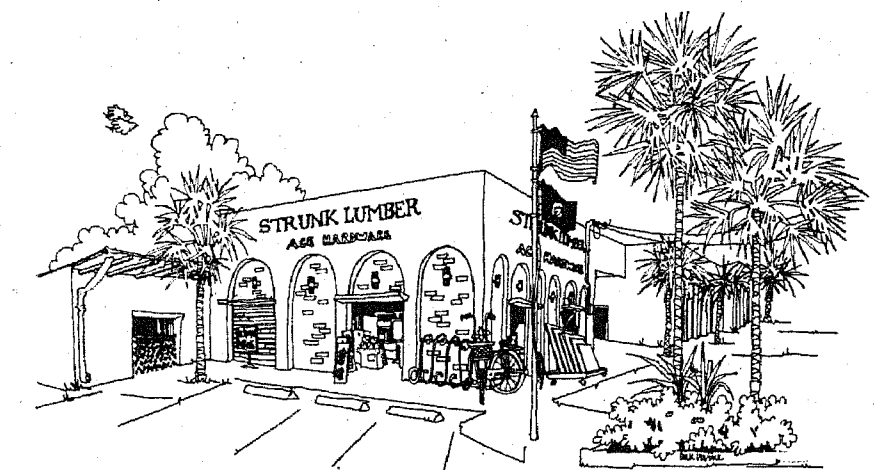
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EDITORIAL

By BILL WESTRAY

STREETS AND HIGHWAYS:
Travelling up and down U.S. 1 from Key West to Key Largo recently, we have been impressed at the substantial improvement in traffic flow that the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) has been able to achieve. A great deal of congestion has been relieved at various busy intersections by adding turning, stacking and acceleration lanes that allow through traffic to keep moving, while turning traffic slows or stops and awaits its opportunity to make a turn in or out. In particular the improvements at Jewfish Creek, and at Sugarloaf, Ramrod, Big Pine and other Keys have helped expedite traffic flow as traffic volumes have increased. This increased work, according to John Taylor of DOT's South District, has resulted from the funds generated from the FIFTH cent sales tax, that has brought in about \$25 million for road maintenance, statewide, where only \$3 million was available before.

NOT SO COMMENDABLE has been the foulup at Stock Island Cow Key bridge, where a mistake in the size of the Aqueduct Authority pipeline connection had delayed the reopening of the southbound bridge through a second tourist season, causing traffic to be constantly congested, and back up a half mile or more during



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peak hours. Taylor also advised that bids will go out in June for signalization and rearranging that same intersection; will this mean another tourist season of impossible congestion at the only road entrance to Key West?

WE HAVE LEARNED that the viaduct on North Roosevelt Boulevard at the old Food Fair plaza is breaking down much the same as the Cow Key Bridge. It is going to have to be closed or restricted to truck traffic while the bridge is repaired or replaced. Since Flagler Avenue is not suitable for heavy truck traffic, the 18-wheelers may have to be rerouted along Bertha Street and South Roosevelt Boulevard.

We have been impressed with the efforts being made by City of Key West road crews to improve the marking and yellow-striping of lanes and curbs. But we have seen little other evidence of work to effect other traffic improvements within the city as recommended by the recent DOT traffic circulation study. The police need to stop the parking along yellow curbs at intersections where such cars restrict visibility, slow traffic and cause accidents.

WE HAVE LONG predicted that traffic circulation is the most immediate restriction on further development in Key West, and our predictions seem to be coming true more rapidly than we had expected. We wonder what will happen to the traffic problem when all the new hotels - Reflections, The Galleon,

Budget Travel
AND
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Sands, Hampton Inn, and others become fully operational; when work gets started on redevelopment of Truman Annex; when the 18-wheelers start wheeling in front of 1800 Atlantic and Smathers Beach?



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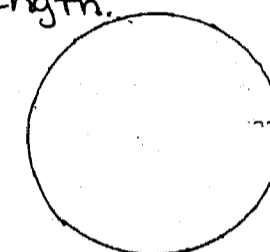
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Divide the circle into 4
equal parts by drawing
three curved lines of
equal length.



The 50 Puzzle

In the shortest time possible, you are to connect any 3 boxes that touch each other at some point - horizontally, vertically or diagonally that add up to 50.

| | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 12 | 30 | 9 | 17 | 31 | 16 |
| 7 | 3 | 6 | 21 | 23 | 32 |
| 2 | 19 | 11 | 8 | 14 | 7 |
| 13 | 20 | 25 | 28 | 17 | 9 |
| 26 | 16 | 4 | 18 | 10 | 30 |
| 1 | 5 | 27 | 9 | 29 | 33 |

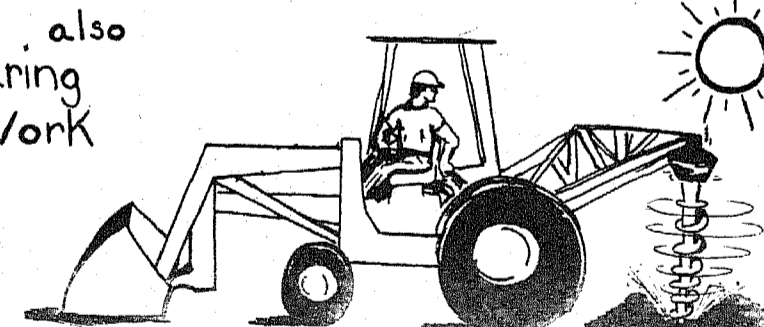
Answers

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|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 12 | 30 | 9 | 17 | 31 | 16 |
| 7 | 3 | 6 | 21 | 23 | 32 |
| 2 | 19 | 11 | 8 | 14 | 7 |
| 13 | 20 | 25 | 28 | 17 | 9 |
| 26 | 16 | 4 | 18 | 10 | 30 |
| 1 | 5 | 27 | 9 | 29 | 33 |

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For Our Gay Community ...

GAY EVENTS
 CALENDAR OF REGULARLY
 SCHEDULED EVENTS

SUNDAY
 Papillon - Tea by the Sea Dance,
 7-10 p.m.
 Number One Saloon - Movies
 Copa - Complimentary Buffet
 Metropolitan Community Church - 319
 Duval, 11 a.m.
 La Te Da - Tea Dance, 4 p.m.
 Lighthouse Court - Movies
 Old Plantation - Movies and Dancing

MONDAY
 Number One Saloon - Movies and all
 night happy hour
 Old Plantation - Show night
 Lighthouse Court - Movies

TUESDAY
 Number One Saloon - Movies and 50¢
 draft beer
 Club Key West - ½ price lockers,
 6-11 p.m.
 Old Plantation - Wet briefs contest
 Lighthouse Court - Movies

WEDNESDAY
 Number One Saloon - Movies and
 50¢ shirt nite
 La Te Da - Tea dance, 4 p.m.
 Old Plantation - Dynasty
 Pigeon House Patio - Lois at the
 Piano Bar
 White Elephant Restaurant -
 special dinner.

THURSDAY
 Number One Saloon - Movies
 Copa - Cabaret nite
 Lighthouse Court - Movies
 Claire - "Sisters at Sea" Ladies Tea-
 5-8 p.m.
 Old Plantation - X-rated films, 10 p.m.
 Pigeon House Patio - Lois at the Piano
 Bar

FRIDAY
 Number One Saloon - Movies
 Lighthouse Court - Movies
 Old Plantation - Contest
 Copa - Dancing
 Pigeon House Patio - Lois at the Piano
 Bar

SATURDAY
 Number One Saloon - Movies
 Lighthouse Court - Movies
 Old Plantation - Amateur Strip Night
 and Tammy's Old Southern Bar-Be-Que,
 4-8 p.m.
 Copa - Dancing
 Pigeon House Patio - Lois at the Piano
 Bar

Lighthouse Court - Movies

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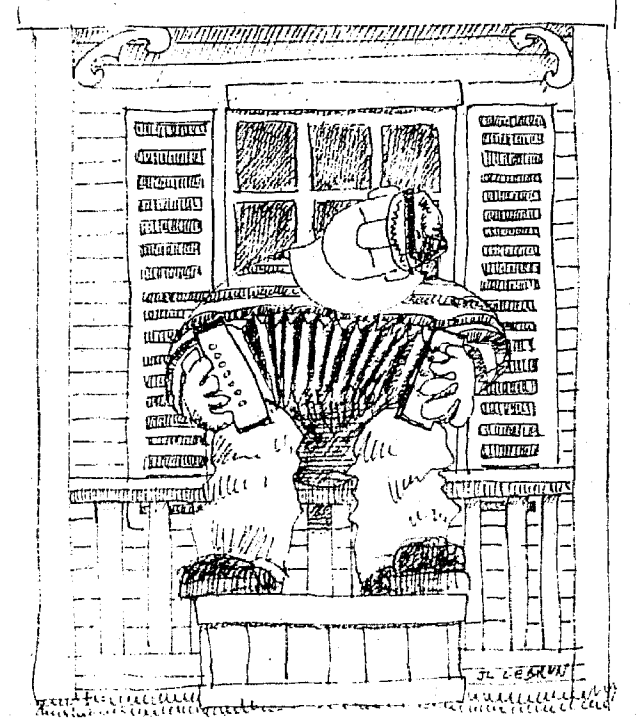
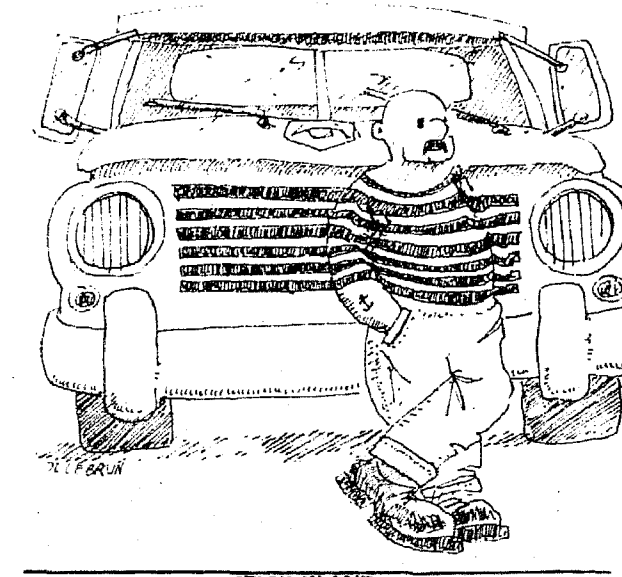
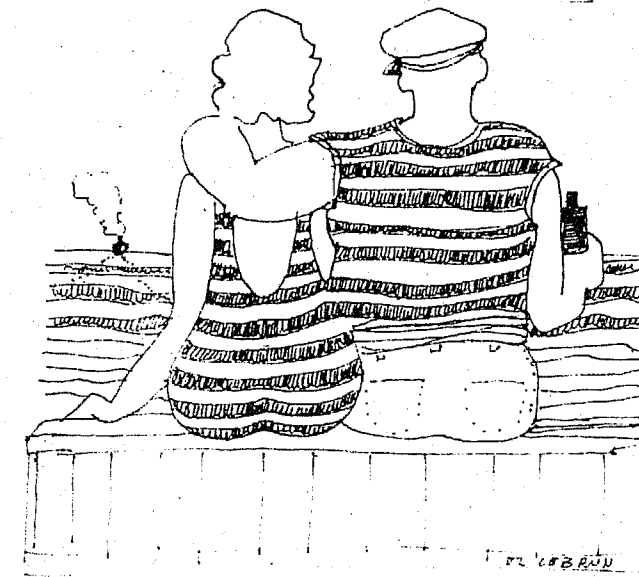
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 all day long.

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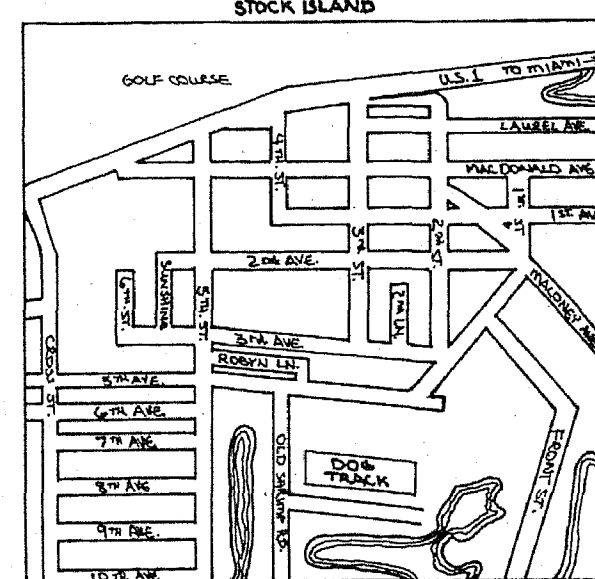
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EVENTS

GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

Art Moderne Galerie, 516 Amelia Street, 296-3156. Open 1-5 daily. Contemporary art.

Art Unlimited, 217 Duval Street, 296-5625. Hours 12 to 5 p.m. or by appointment. Quality local and Haitian art.

Artists Warehouse: 814 Duval, 294-7141. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Featuring local artists, Karen Clemens, and Rudy Prazen. Framing shop also.

Burgess-Meinster Gallery, 810 Duval St., 296-7382. International and local art, folk art.

East Martello Gallery & Museum: 3500 S. Roosevelt Blvd., 296-3913. 5/5-5/13, Monroe County School Show. 5/14-6/1, Florida Keys Water Color Society Show.

Farrington Galleries: 711 Duval St. 294-6911. An artist-supply gallery featuring new work by Mario Sanchez, including his woodcarving "Bucket of Fish" and the new biography on him by Kathryn Proby.

Fred Gros Gallery: 901 Duval, 294-9545. Closed for summer.

Gingerbread Square Gallery: 910 Duval St. Information: 296-8900. Appointments: 294-2165.

Guild Hall Gallery: 614 Duval Street, 296-6076. Exhibiting an outstanding array of original art by Key West professionals: Judi Bradford, Ann Irvine, Fran Keschull, Loys Locklear, Maxine McMullen, Wayne Pelke, Irma Quigley, Norma Renner, Carolyn Seiler and Sonia Robinson. Featuring oils, acrylics, ceramics, watercolors, drawings, prints, woodcarved paintings, wood sculpture, fine leather and soft sculpture.

Haitian Art Co.: 600 Frances St. on the corner of Southard St., 296-8932. The largest collection of Haitian Art in the country featuring paintings, metal and wood sculptures, watercolors and papier-mache.

Key West Art Center, 301 Front St., 294-1241. Local artists.

Lacy Gallery: By appointment only. 294-7115.

Lighthouse and Military Museum: 938 Whitehead, 294-0012. The highest view of Key West can be had here, along with a survey of aircraft and wartime mementos.

Lucky Street Gallery: 322 Margaret St., 294-3973, 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Contemporary art.

Perkins Chandlery: 901 Fleming Street, 294-7635. Showing the following artists: Roland Barker, A.S.M.A.; W. White, primitive wooden sculpture.

Rose Lane Antiquities, 524 Rose Lane (off Duval), 294-1873. Pre-Columbian pottery and gold; primitive art from Africa; antique gold jewelry.

Oldest House Museum: 322 Duval St., 294-9502. Antique lovers will enjoy this excursion into the furniture, housewares and decorations of Old Island interiors "way back when." Be sure to visit the kitchen out back.

Ernest Hemingway Home and Museum: 296-5811 or 294-1575. 907 Whitehead St. Open daily 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. A registered National Historic Landmark. This site possesses exceptional value in commemorating or illustrating the history of the United States.

Greenpeace, 612 Duval, Key West.

Films & Library Events

Monroe County Public Library: 294-8488, 700 Fleming.

Children's Movies at 10 a.m., Saturdays:
5/4 Thumbelina; The Carpenter's Three Wishes; See
5/11 Paul Bunyan; The Northwind & The Sun; Lafcadio the Lion
5/18 The Witch Who Was Afraid of Witches; Hooper Bloob Highway,
5/25 Farm Animals in Rhyme; The Red Balloon

Adult Movies, Wednesdays:
5/8, 6 p.m.: Detective Story
5/22, 6:30 p.m.: Against the Wind & Tide

Regular Events

The League of Women Voters of Monroe County: Lower Keys meeting every 4th Sat. For info call Dore Skinner 296-6254. Middle Keys unit meets every 3rd Thur. For info call Doris Abram at 743-4166. Upper Keys unit meets every 3rd Thurs. For info call Evelyn Gilsey at 664-4134. AL-ATEEN: Friday, 8:30 p.m., Sigsbee YMCA.

BINGO: Starting 7:15 p.m. Thursday nights at Sugarloaf firehouse at mile marker 17.
Coffee Mill: 915 Ashe St., 294-8072. Call for information on our many classes.

Single Again: a group for single adults to meet and socialize. Information: 294-0533 or 296-3423.

Florida Keys Chapter, AARP, No. 1351: Located in the Armory, Southard and White Streets, 294-4641, Ext. 361. Meetings 2nd Monday every month, 7:30 p.m.; Blood Count from 6:15 to 7:15; Bingo Wednesdays 1:30 p.m.; Duplicate Bridge 7:30 p.m. Tuesday; Thursday, 1 p.m.; Saturday bridge party 1 p.m. KEY WEST GARDEN CLUB: Meets 1st Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. West Martello, for information 294-3210

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS: Friday night, 7:00 p.m., 2318 Fogarty Ave., 5th St. Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. If you have a drug problem, come to us.

City Electric Utility Board: meetings 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 5 p.m., Board Room, 930 Caroline.

Big Coppitt Key Firehouse, bingo, Fri. nights, 8 p.m.

Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority: 296-2454.
5/17 Key Largo, 10 a.m., Key Largo Holiday Inn.

VFW AUXILIARY #6021, 2nd & 4th Sundays, Post Hall, 803 Emma St., 8 p.m.

Viet Nam Vets: Thursdays, 296-6843.

Friends Worship Group (Quakers), inquiries, Sheridan Crumlish, 294-1523.

Key West City Commission, meetings 1st and 3rd Mondays at 8 p.m., City Hall, corner Simonton & Angela streets.

Child Abuse: Question, referrals, reporting information and general information. Call Barbara Hunt at F.K.M.H.. 294-5531.

Duplicate Bridge weekly; Tuesday 7:30 p.m., Thursday, 1:00 p.m., AARP Building. Call Martha Kiplinger, 296-5766.

Key West Womens Club, regular meetings 1st Tuesday of each month, 2:30 p.m. 319 Duval St.

Mail-a-book program, costs you only 29 cents, for mailing. Library, 4-8488.

Marathon Lions Club, dinner meetings 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, Indies Resort, Duck Key, 7:30 p.m.

Marathon Shrine Club, luncheons every Friday, at high noon. All Shriners welcome.

Monroe County Commission: 510 Key West County Courthouse, Courtroom B

The Lower Keys Property Owners Assoc. Located at the west end of the No. Name Key bridge on Big Pine Key, bingo, every Wednesday, 6:00. Call 745-3613.

United Humanitarians, low-cost spay program now in effect; please call 296-5106 for information.

Wesley House Board of Directors, meetings second Tuesday of the month, 5 p.m., 1100 Varela St., 296-5231. Peaceworks meets every Monday in May, at 419½ William Street, #1 (in back), 7:00 p.m. 296-4280; 294-2647.

Self Help

AL-ANON-MEETINGS IN KEY WEST Sigsbee Park YMCA 296-6616, meets Tuesdays and Fridays at 8:30 p.m. AA meets same time. AL-ANON-Key West group St. Ann's Hall meets Mondays at 7 p.m. AA meets 8:30 p.m. AL-ANON- Memorial Group PKMH, 294-5531 ext. 3495, meets Wed. at 8:30 p.m. AA meets same time. AL-ANON-St. Bede's Group meets Thurs. 12:00 noon St. Bede's Catholic Church 2700 Flagler.

KEY WEST SINGLES: Put some fun in YOUR life, meet new friends. Write P.O. BOX 4183 or call 294-6973, Carolyn or Jack.

Alcoholics Anonymous: 404 Virginia St. Clubroom open 10 a.m. - 11 p.m. daily. Meetings: 8:30 p.m. nightly; 7 p.m. Sun., Wed., Fri., noon Mon. - Sat.; 10:30 a.m. Sun., 11 p.m. Fri., Sat.

Domestic Abuse Shelter, Inc., call 6-HELP, 4-LINE.

Zonta Help Line: 296-HELP. Call any time when you need help or referral service. 296-4357.

The new Chemical Dependency Treatment Program (for alcohol/drug abuse) opened June 1 and f.k.m.h. For information call 294-5531 ext. 3496.

La Leche League: Every 3rd Tuesday, M.M. 24-2, Summerland Key, 10 a.m. Call 745-2274.

Classes on the Ovulation Method of Fertility Awareness: Avoid or achieve pregnancy naturally. Instructor Registered Nurse certified by The Ovulation Method Teachers Association. For information, call 296-7214.

KEY WEST'S HOROSCOPE
BY LINDA CRATES

Sun in Taurus, after 20 in Gemini. Venus in Aries. Mercury in Aries, after 13 in Taurus. Saturn in Scorpio, retrograde. Jupiter in Aquarius. Mars in Gemini. Uranus in Sagittarius, retrograde. Neptune in Capricorn, retrograde. Pluto in Scorpio, retrograde. North Node in 18 degrees of Taurus.

THE FULL MOON on May 4th in Scorpio is also the date of the total eclipse of the moon. This is a potent position in the Key West chart. The Mars-Jupiter conjunction in Scorpio

in the 6th House sector, a potentially violent aspect, may be triggered by the Full Moon on this date. This is certainly a Saturday to watch.

THE NEW MOON on May 19 in 28 degrees of Taurus aspects the First House of the Key West chart. This is another potent aspect. Saturn is opposing the Lights on this date with a square from Jupiter, adding to the powerful vibrations at work.

This month is highly charged for Key West, and we may make the headlines again in the national news.

THE GOOD NEWS this month is the Great Benefic, Jupiter's transit of the 10th House sector of the Horoscope of Key West. Our public image continues to improve, and the respectability of the city is on an up cycle that will last throughout 1985.

VENUS MAKES A long transit through the constellation Aries in May in square aspect to our stellium of planets in Capricorn. Social situations will be plagued with dissension, arguments and strained friendships. Nothing will be low-key this month.

Special Events

Friends of Animals, Open House, 1-4, May 5, 296-8682.

Helping Hand Stroke Club: 3rd Wednesday every month, 2:30 p.m., classroom, FKMH. Information: Karen Coler, 6-6401.

Bulimia Group: Call 4-HELP or 6-LINE

Natural Childbirth Preparation Classes: Beginning every two months. Discussing labor, delivery, breathing, the coach's role. Call 294-3490 for information.

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the more you'll love them!



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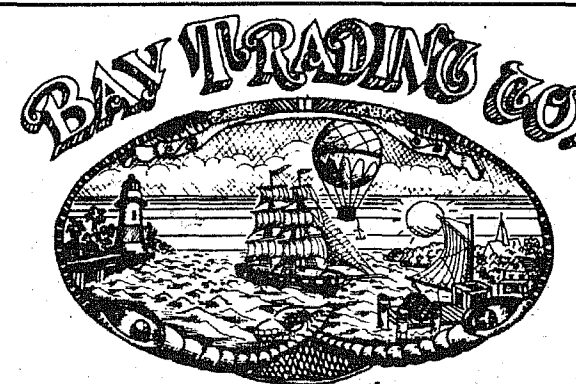
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