

The highest point in Key West

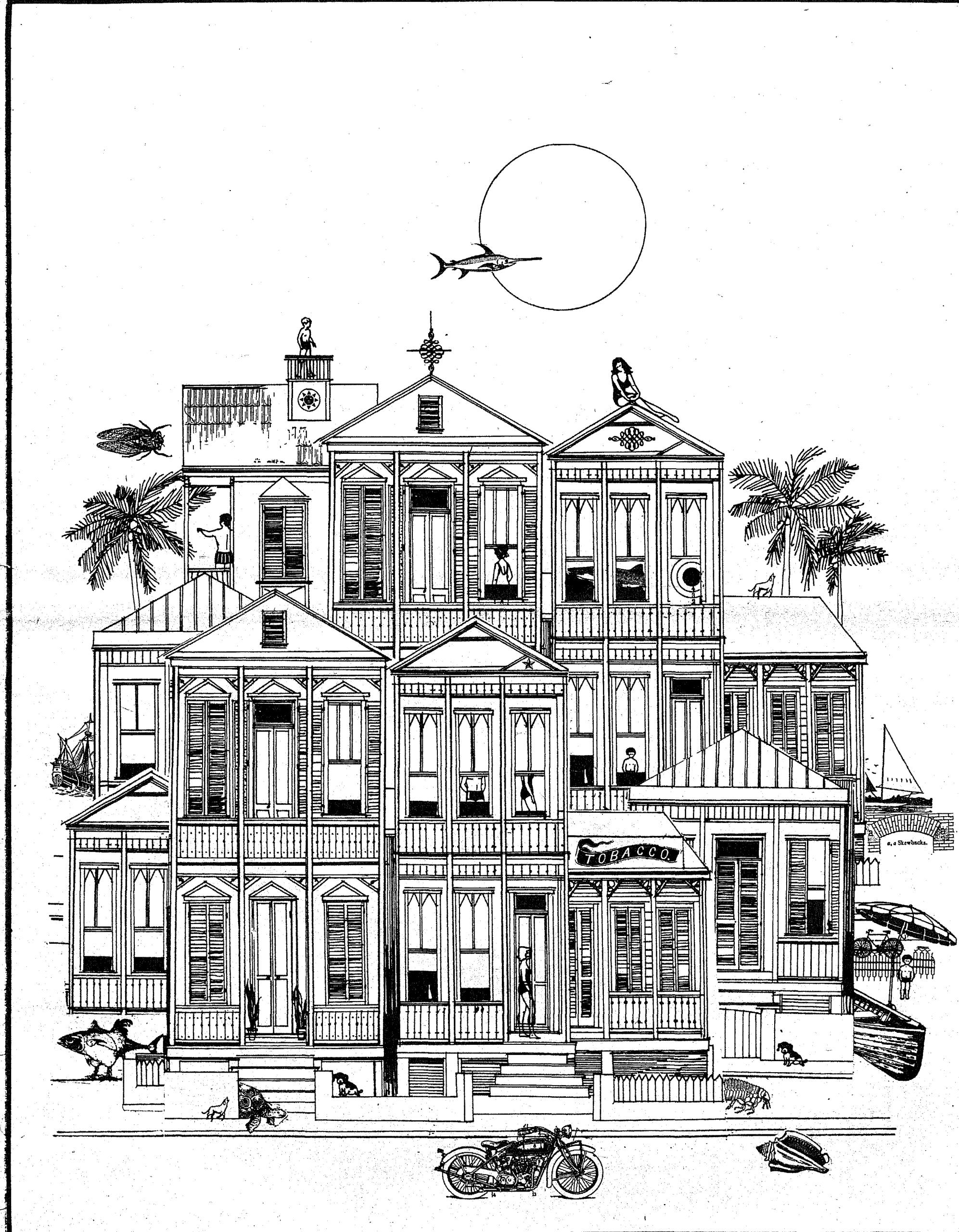
solares hill

FREE

Vol. 1, No. 14

Key West, Florida

December, 1972



two suggestions

The thought I'm discussing concerns the Florida Marine Patrol and its effectiveness in conserving marine life in this area.

This is one idea on how to solve a small part of the enormous ecological problems facing us today.

There is a very large amount of money spent each year on powerful boats and cars, guns, and people, by the Florida Marine Patrol. The people and equipment are used to defend the commercial marine life from being overfished by the fishermen.

In the case of shrimping, a nursery area was declared and fishermen were forbidden to frag their nets in this area. For the most part, this decree was ignored. When that didn't work out a size count was tried. If your shrimp were over 70 shrimp per pound, they had to be thrown overboard. That is a ridiculous rule because by the time the shrimp are counted most of them are dead or dying anyway.

The conservation patrol has tried arrests and fines and jail terms, too, but that still doesn't really help the fish. None of these methods have made much progress in conservation.

A proposed idea would be an artificial reef made by old cars dumped in the nursery area. There are plenty of old, useless cars rotting in the dumps of Key West and Stock Island that could be used. They would make a good hiding place for fish and crawfish as well as shrimp. No shrimper would put his nets overboard to a bottom like that.

Perhaps the Florida Conservation could become a little more scientific and study underwater methods of saving the fish. For example, they could study such phenomena as the thousands of dead fish spotted recently west of the Marquesas; the reasons for such catastrophies, and how to prevent them.

There could be better means of marine conservation that would HELP fishermen more than harass them.

R.S.

Millette's

CUSTOM DRESSMAKING
AND ALTERATION

217 DUVAL ST. 4-4429

Marion Steven's

ARTISTS
UNLIMITED

The Unique Art Gallery

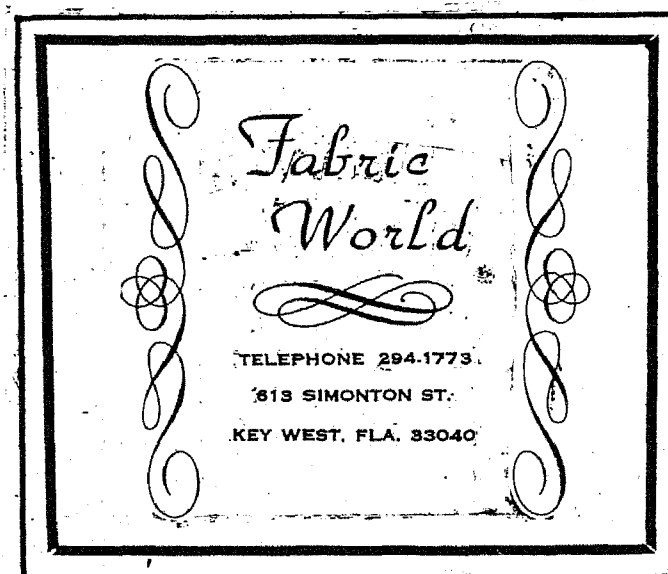
Keys and Caribbean
Invites you to Trip and/or Buy

221 Duval St.

It has been suggested by several local residents that some recognition of our world renown playwright and author Tennessee Williams be made here. The timing of this recognition could coincide with the soon to be aired 60 minute television show about Mr. Williams. The most fitting manner of recognition would be the dedication of the playhouse in his honor.

It is our understanding that this proposal has been made in the past but failed before the Board of Directors of the Playhouse.

Those who feel that this is a fine way to pay tribute to Mr. Williams should contact any of the Board of Directors of the Waterfront Playhouse as soon as possible.



What possible reason could there be for that new NO SALVAGING sign at the city dump? A old and much respected activity is the art of dump picking. Also, for many Key Westers who make their living hauling, the dump has proved to be an excellent source of additional income. The sign reflects a dog in the manger attitude on the part of someone and ought to be removed.

W.H.

Lou's Bar
AT DUVAL & CAROLINE
The Gateway To Old Town



THIS IS OUR SUBSCRIPTION FORM

HERE IS \$5.00 FOR MY SUBSCRIPTION TO 26 ISSUES OF SOLARES HILL.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Contents

1. Cover Drawing by Thom Szuter
2. Two Suggestions and some ads
3. Editorial by Bill Huckel
4. Eco-Alternatives from CLEAR CREEK
5. Community Center by Lonnie Mikul
6. Common Sense by Gil Ryder
7. Brookwood Johnson Poem
8. Current and Groovy
9. Two Drawings
10. Land Crab Hunt by Ray Daniels
11. Spiritual Calendar by Gary and Louise
- 12.

Editorial

I think that a battle, a showdown battle, is being fought here in Key West. It is a battle between beauty and ugliness.

Let me show you what I mean.

All of a sudden Key West is in the midst of a giant building boom. This building is going on everywhere. There is no central planning for all this building. The results can be catastrophic.

Look at Roosevelt Boulevard. It is ugly. It is God-awful ugly. It is the result of no planning, no concern for the beauty of an area.

This is bad enough.

But this ugliness is spreading.

And it is helped by a dangerous local belief.

This belief is that just the old town is beautiful and worth preserving and that the rest of the island is up for grabs by the developers and that what happens to it doesn't matter.

It does matter.

This reasoning is dangerous.

It is false.

Key West is a whole island. We call it a paradise. This paradise is made up of all parts of the island, not just the old town.

The drive into Key West on A1A is still beautiful.

You drive past open water on your left and mangroves and salt marsh on your right. This beautiful entrance to Key West is being zoned for condominiums and more condominiums.

Driving further down A1A you pass the airport and all the open land surrounding it. Talk is on about transferring the airport and developing the whole area.

Further down past Key West Towers is more open land - how soon will more buildings be constructed there?

And, then, there is the whole, beautiful Rest Beach area. Can we have this whole area replanted and returned to its natural state or will condominiums take this spot away from the town?

Picture this whole area from the entrance to Key West down A1A to the salt marshes to the open fields to the woodsiness of Rest Beach as one high-rise building after another. This would be terrible.

Will our children have to read about how beautiful Key West was and never get to see it?

How can we make ourselves realize if we become surrounded by ugliness we become ugly ourselves?

What do I mean?

Look at Manhattan. It is an island, too. It is fully developed. It is dirty and ugly - and it is a hellish spot to live in.

Walk down its streets and all you sense is uptightness, anger, frustration.

It is overloaded. You can't breathe there. It is going down.

I referred to Key West as a lifeboat when I spoke against the zoning variance that permits the submerged land near the airport to be reclassified as land fit for development; in this case, for the development of 1100 condominium units. I said that night that I feel that we in Key West will go down if we overload our island.

A person can still breathe here. If he feels uptight, angry or frustrated, he has a place to go to calm down.

He can ride a bike or take the family in the car for a ride out by the beaches and have a chance to relax. There are open spaces there - a person can breathe.

But, again, picture this as all developed. Concrete from the pier to Stock Island along A1A.

Could you then breathe? Could you then feel free?

No!

And all this building is coming!

The builders will tell us "it's progress" and "don't be selfish - share your paradise," etc.

There will be no paradise with a parade of buildings down A1A.

Obviously there is going to be some building in Key West. The question is: how much?

How many people can Key West hold comfortably?

Remember we are an island only two miles by four miles.

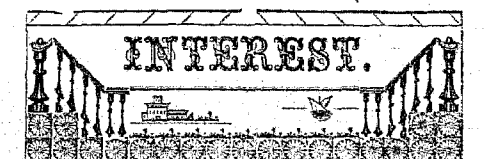
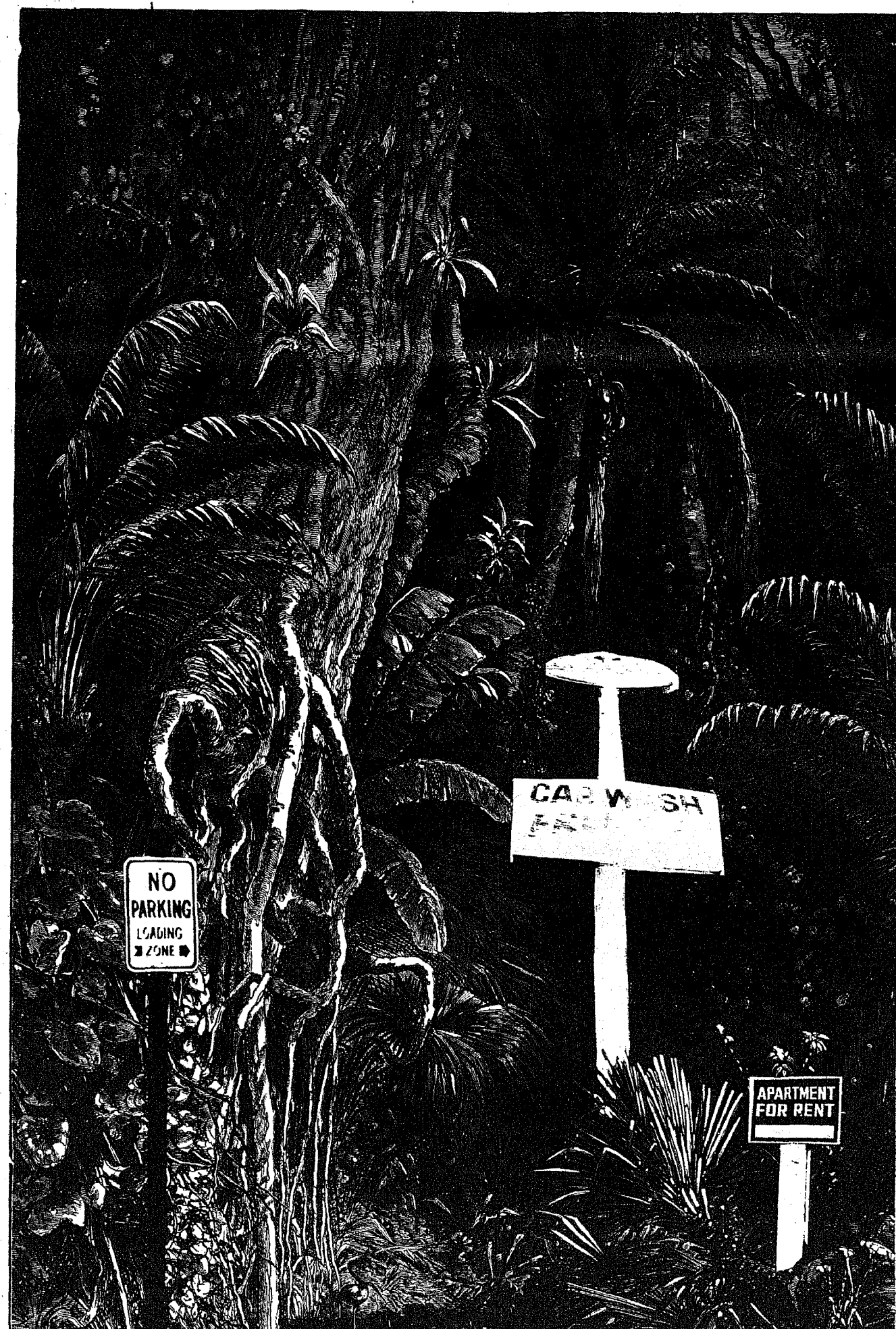
We mustn't overload our island.

Man needs beauty to live peacefully.

We must put a stop to this unplanned, haphazard building NOW and plan carefully just what can be build up and what MUST remain natural.

Don't let us repeat Roosevelt Blvd. on A1A.

W. Huckel



Artists and craftsmen of Key West, we need you. Starting Saturday, December 16 Leather Soul and Key West Perfumes will be sponsoring a mini art festival in the gardens at the corner of Greene and Duval Streets, every weekend. This is for you - to share your work with the public and receive a little recognition for your hard work. This is the first step in getting a good arts and crafts council started in Key West, so please help us. There will be no fee or commission charged and your only responsibility is a display which can be very simple. Suggested categories include: Painting, Drawing, Sculpture, Graphics, Ceramics, Macrame and Metal Work.

Contact Sonia Feierabend at 425 Greene Street or call 204-6772. This

Solares Hill is a community newspaper published every month from the slopes of Solares Hill, Key West's highest peak, stretching a full 18 feet into the tropical heaven, by Solares Hill Publishing Co., 518 Duval St., Key West, Florida 33040. Subscription price: \$5.00 for 26 issues.

EDITORIAL "DANCING BILL" HUCKEL COPY EDITOR JANET WOOD
ART DIRECTOR BENJAMIN CURRY "DINK" BRUCE

With a little help from our friends ...

Solares Hill can be picked up free at:

Gemini 11
Nelsner's
Swift's
Padron's
Moody's
Fausto's
New Hope Leather
Vallardares Newstand
Juan May's Grocery
White's Book Store

COMMUNITY CENTER

By Lonnie Mikul

When the Community Pool opened on November 16, the excitement in the kid's faces was enough to make all of the effort worth while. This event, however, did not signify the end of a single community project, but was merely the first step in achieving a community's dream — a total community center for the people of Key West.

The Community Pool, built in 1958, had never been opened on a fully-staffed basis. Several times it was opened with no plans for future operation, no life-guards, no one to maintain the filter system. Representatives of the community were periodically requesting that the pool be repaired and re-opened, but their efforts were generally ignored by the City and County Commissioners.

On Labor Day of 1971, the Pool and Cultural Association (PACA) raised the money to repair the filter system and fix the pool. Volunteers from the Navy worked on the filter system and community people cleaned up and painted the pool itself. However, as a result of rust in the water pipes, improper chlorination, breakdowns in the filter system, the pool closed down again after a few days of operation.

In the Spring of this year, another attempt was begun by PACA to re-open the pool.

PACA members decided that the first step in getting any action towards the pool opening was to convince the City Commission that the people of the community wanted the pool opened. A petition was designed for this purpose.

Several high school students canvassed the community door-to-door after school for a week and obtained over 500 signatures asking that the pool be re-opened.

This petition was then presented to the City Commission by Mr. Roosevelt Sands, Jr. who said to the commissioners (as best I can remember): "As you see me standing here, I want you to picture 500 others standing beside me."

Within a few days, the Mayor was meeting with PACA members to begin planning for the repair of the pool. The city appropriated \$16,000 for the repair, and most importantly, the continuing maintenance of the pool.

In addition, the County Commission put up \$12,200 to pay salaries of life-guards and a night watchman for one year. This was the first time that continuing maintenance was planned for the pool, and the first time a paid staff was ever hired.

The opening of the pool, and the events leading to the opening, were significant for a number of reasons. First, the petition was probably one of the infrequent times in Key West history that 500 people had shown a united front on any issue.

The efforts of community people are to be commended, particularly those of the students who worked so hard on the petition.

The City and County commissioners are to be commended also, as this was the first time that local governments had made a concentrated effort to respond to the wishes of the Black community.

The most important aspect of the pool opening, however, is not in the past, but in the future. The cooperation of the local governments and the community people has laid a ground work for a new era in race-relations in Key West.

This spirit can be maintained by continuing the next step, which is the development of the entire community center of which the opening of the pool was but the first step. A concentrated effort by the community people, with the cooperation of the city and county, can lead to the development of a true community center that can respond to the needs of the community residents.

There are limitless possibilities for the Community Center. Some of those planned are a health clinic, free school and reading room. But if any of these projects are to succeed, there will need to be a concentrated community effort to make them a reality.

Only then can the dream be realized; to make the Community Center "the finest community recreational and cultural



The pool is but part of the whole concept of a Key West community center.



Made In Key West

by

LATIGO

seven landsend village

hand crafted leather macramé silver

Handy
Dandy

ECO-ALTERNATIVES

People are always screaming, "Yes, I see the problem, but what can I do?" The overwhelming mass of existing alternatives for constructive, corrective action tends to make those that ask, "What can I do?" appear either insincere, slovenly, ignorant or simply masochistic.

However, given that yet another possibility exists—that they have not yet been exposed to the numerous alternatives available to us all—*Clear Creek* endeavors to do away with that final obstacle to action by presenting a handy-dandy list.

Keep in mind that the incorporation of some of these alternatives may involve alterations in your basic life style; but change is incredibly exciting and we hardly recommend it.

For openers, try questioning those daily, taken-for-granted actions with regard to the effect they may have on your *immediate* environment (home, neighborhood, community). Certainly we must not lose sight of the larger problems (as corporate polluters continue to desecrate the land and dump poisons on our heads), and must continue to fight — with our votes, voices, consumer dollars and our bodies in front of the bulldozers, as it comes to that. But when we're not dealing with those larger problems — as we carry on our daily lives — why not pursue some simple, constructive actions that

collectively will have untold positive results . . . besides, once you get into it, it's really fun.

Don't allow yourself the cop-out, "The little things I do can't possibly have a bearing on the overall scope of things." Nonsense! Just watch how fast your back porch fills to overflowing with tin, aluminum, stacks of paper and glass containers, once you stop discarding them. Watch your electric bill go down as you start turning off lights you don't need. *Feel* your body get healthier as you start eating better foods and using a bicycle more and a car less. Most of all, sense the satisfaction and good feeling that comes with realizing you are becoming more a part of the solution, and less a part of the problem.

We invite you to carefully consider the following list of alternatives (more next month), each requiring various amounts of commitment, initiative and energy, and decide which you might be able to incorporate into your particular style of life (which, remember, may require some change).

No one can adopt all, or even most, of these alternatives right away; but if everyone of us will start doing even two or three of the things on the list that we're not already doing (and maybe add one or two every few weeks), we would have a remarkably more livable world.

EDUCATION

If you happen to be a shell-shocked victim of media overkill, and know only that there is a "pollution problem" and that "ecology" is "in," you might do well to get some specific information before you leap into action. Here are some sources:

The Environmental Handbook, G. DeBelli, ed., N.Y.: Friends of the Earth-Ballantine, 95¢. *What's Ecology?*, Cliff Humphrey, Hubbard Press, \$2.95.

Population, Resources, Environment, Paul and A. H. Ehrlich, San Francisco: W. H. Freeman and Co., \$8.95 (Share a copy or use library).

Moment in the Sun, R. and L. Rienow, N.Y.: Ballantine, 95¢.

Also: Contact and get involved with your local ecological organization. If there is none, start one with your friends—present a program, organize a recycling drive, reproduce and distribute this page of alternatives.

ENERGY

Americans constitute 6 percent of the world's population, but consumer roughly 50 percent of the world's resources. How much do you consume?

- Turn off unnecessary lights. Use low wattage bulbs, except for reading. Work near windows or outside in daytime. Use candles (make them yourself) at night.

- Wear warmer clothes and turn the heater down in winter. Insulate your house with rugs and wall hangings.

- Wear less clothes and avoid electric air conditioning in summer by opening house in the cool of evening and closing it up early in the morning for the day.

- Depend less on electric blankets, knives, toothbrushes, can openers, dishwashers, disposals, shavers, gadgets and toys.

- Use the clothes dryer only on wet days — hang clothes in the sunshine. Iron less—when decided wrinkles were bad?

- Cut grass and hedges by hand (if you have to cut them at all!)

All Power Pollutes.

TRANSPORTATION

American autos belch 90 million tons of dangerous gasses and particles into our air each

year, contaminating our lungs and killing our trees. Planned obsolescence causes 9 million cars to be junked annually. Automobiles gobble up precious natural resources—gas, oil, metal and rubber—and create further environmental problems by demanding freeway and road construction.

- Drive less! Walk, jog or ride a bike (improve health and spirits). Utilize public transportation. Form car pools. Shop less—combine errands.

- Urge and support the establishment of bike trails and lanes in your community.

- Consider taking the train on your next vacation—pollutants emitted per passenger mile are highest in automobiles, followed by commercial jet airplanes, the diesel bus, a train and, the lowest, an electric streetcar or bus.

- If you must use a car—the smaller the better. Keep it tuned and drive at moderate speeds.

- Perhaps more importantly, consider the whole concept of mobility—why is it necessary to travel hundreds, or even thousands, of miles each month, when you could spend the rest of your life exploring the areas accessible by foot or bike, and never discover it all.

RECYCLING

The average American generates about 1800 lbs. of trash each year. 75 percent of the trash in this country is tossed into town dumps. The biodegradable refuse—wood, paper, food and garden wastes—will eventually disintegrate; the tin cans will eventually rust away; but the non-biodegradable materials—glass, aluminum and plastics—will lay there forever. All of this trash came from some resource—trees, metal ore, minerals or petroleum—only a tiny percentage is ever reclaimed or reused. It is time to recycle.

- Glass: Buy only returnable bottles for recycling and widemouthed jars for reuse. Contact local bottling companies about glass reclamation programs. Support drives to ban disposable, non-return bottles.

- Paper: (It takes 17 trees to make a ton of paper.) Save and bundle newspapers for local paper drives.

- Cancel subscriptions to magazines and papers you no longer read. Share your magazines with friends. Donate to libraries, schools, prisons, hospitals, etc.

- Reuse paper bags. Take your own reusable cloth bag to the market. Don't buy products with excess packaging.

Substitute cloth napkins for paper, rags and sponges for paper towels, and cloth handkerchiefs for kleenex. Don't use paper plates and cups.

- Use both sides of each piece of paper. Reuse envelopes. Keep a scratch-paper drawer. Use a blackboard for messages.

- Use the library instead of buying books. Loan those you have to friends. Sell used books to campus bookstores and used book dealers. Donate unwanted books to libraries.

- Return junk mail to the sender. Write to the Direct Mail Advertising Assoc., 230 Park Ave., N.Y., N.Y. 10017, and have your name placed on the "drop-out" list, which is circulated to sellers of direct (junk) mail lists.

- Plastic: Non-biodegradable. *Don't buy.* Reuse what you have—cottage cheese containers, bread and vegetable bags, baggies, etc. Use cloth diapers instead of plastic disposables.

- Aluminum: Cans, foil and packaging. Buy and use as little as possible. Save and flatten cans for recycling. *Never* throw aluminum away. Non-aluminum cans should be saved separately for recycling.

- An empty garbage can is a sign of sound ecological living.

FOOD

In today's mass produced, manufactured foods, many chemicals are added to augment flavor, appearance and shelf life. Refining and processing of foods often removes nutrients and requires the addition of vitamins and more chemicals. Pesticides and heavy metals (mercury, lead) accumulate in animal flesh, milk, fish and in many of the foods we are expected to eat.

- Be cautious of foods with additives. Read labels carefully. Learn more about nutrition.

- Avoid prepared foods (T.V. Dinners, Metrecal, etc.). Avoid frozen and canned foods.

- Grow, make, bake, brew what you can.

- Buy organically grown foods—patronize natural foodstores.

- Experiment with a less carnivorous diet—try vegetable proteins like nuts, whole grains and beans.

- Utilize leftovers promptly in casseroles, soups, salads—more creativity, less waste.

- Treat yourself to home-baked, whole grain breads, homemade jam, fresh garden salads.

- Eat well to live well. You are what you eat!

COMMON SENSE

By Gil Ryder

BEWARE OF FALSE PROFITS

Residents of the Florida Keys should be extremely grateful that we have so far been spared the unbearable horrors of pollution now besetting so much of our country. We do have some pollution. Our sewer systems are inadequate for our needs, and certainly the City Electric System on occasion makes the air unbreathable over a good part of Key West. These unfortunate conditions are correctable and, hopefully, will be corrected in the immediate future.

However, if we do not, each of us, separately and together, make our voices heard, we will very shortly be suffocating in filth. That is not the prophecy of a fortune teller gazing into a crystal ball. It is a very logical conclusion to reach if we simply look the facts in the face.

Let us accept the fact that a great many people living now in polluted areas are acquainted with the relatively pure air and water of the Keys and, further, that a percentage of them will ultimately take up residence in the Keys. The population will more than double in a few short years.

What happens to the mess when a hundred thousand people are flushing toilets five times a day? What happens to half a million gallons of human waste every day? Where will it go? It will go where you swim and fish!

How much garbage will be created by 100,000 people? Probably 500 tons a week - and no place to go with it. Whether we like it or not, incinerators must come into the picture, and it's an ugly picture indeed, with many smoke stacks belching acrid, stinking smoke day and night.

Where will all the needed electric power come from? From more power plants, meaning more smoke stacks, more "Bunker C" oil being burned, belching out a sulphurous smog to scorch the lungs.

Remember - each Key is small. There is no possibility of sticking these nasty necessities in the low-income neighborhoods, as some would have it, and forgetting them. We'll be much aware of them in all neighborhoods, as the Key West residents are all aware of the C.E.S. stink.

Just imagine having another 25,000 automobiles in the Keys!

What can we do to minimize the horrors that confront us? Not much - just talk and write and get your friends to do the same. Talk to anyone who will listen about the coming pollution. Write to your representatives in Tallahassee and in Washington D.C. Tell them how you feel - not just once - write at least one letter a month to an elected representative.

WRITE TO THE PAPERS. Don't expect leadership in this matter from newspapers. A newspaper, as any other business, must be practical. A large part of a newspaper's income is derived from the advertising of large real estate developers, so we can't really expect them to beat the drums for adequate sewage, water supply, or garbage disposal. The implementation of such demands would obviously hold up construction, curtailing not only the housing developers' profit, but also real estate advertising profit of the newspapers.

We know that these are false profits, with ultimately more lost than gained, but those who are motivated solely by the quest for immediate gain have no interest in ultimate good or evil.

Don't expect leadership from local politicians. The basic political ego cries always for bigger and bigger constituencies. The more people he

Business organizations also see a large population only as a source of more dollars in the till and are conveniently blind to the myriad messes caused by an increase in population without adequate preparation.

"What profit a man who gains the earth and loses his soul?"

Let all reasoning persons of good will argue loudly and continually for a moratorium on building until all sanitary necessities are completed. No family would move into a house without a working toilet. Why, then, be willing to live in an area without proper sewer and garbage disposal. Why must we continually foul our own nest?

We accept the unacceptable only because we have been conditioned to it by the greedy, money-mad developers, interested only in quick, easy, immense profits, who care not a whit for the havoc they are creating.

So - beware of false profits. As an individual, you can't do much - but do it now!

FT. TAYLOR AND THAT 38 ACRES

Not too long ago, the newspapers serving this area carried an item concerning the Navy's release of 38 acres. This 38 acres had on it, among other things, an ancient structure known as Fort Taylor. Later items in the newspapers refer only to the preservation of Fort Taylor. All mention of the surrounding 38 acres is omitted.

Is it any wonder that some of our local citizens are beginning to question if the emphasis on the historicity of this structure is not a rather ripe red herring being used to keep them from noticing what may happen to the 38 acres?

Let us paint a not too pretty picture of what could happen. It would be a relatively simple matter for a giant real estate developer to convince our city and county officials that the best possible use of this 38 acres would be to fill it with condominiums, high-rise apartments, motels, gas stations, shopping centers and other business buildings. They could easily show that these buildings would bring profit to their owners and taxes to the city and county. The professional expert speakers for the giant development company could just as easily convince our local business people that all the new residents occupying the new apartments, or dwellings of whatever type, would be persons of above average income who would surely be free spending customers in the local stores, ergo, the storekeepers will all become rich.

So far, this is not too bad a picture. The loss of the 38 acres to the general public and access to what might have been the only public beach in Key West that provided a way to swimming-depth water over a sand bottom rather than foot-tearing coral, might be a small price to pay to insure economic stability to the city and county, and assured prosperity to our storekeepers.

Now let's look at the other side of the coin: The expert speakers for the developer will not mention the fact that the cost of providing adequate sanitary sewage disposal, electric power, storm drainage, garbage disposal (where is it going?), police protection, fire protection, and other less noticeable services, may far outrun the income from the new taxes.

The expert speakers for the developers will not point out to the local business man that the free spending affluent society moving into the high priced dwellings will spend their money in the

that will, of course, be a part of the project, and that a good many of the local storekeepers' customers in the old sections of the city will now desert him, unable to resist the lure of the modern newcomers, and our friendly neighborhood storekeeper will shortly join the electric street car and other loved ghosts of the past.

Many would question the reliability of this unpleasant prognosis on the sure ground that no statistics have been quoted, no i's dotted and no t's crossed. Let those who would question visit the communities that have in the last 25 years ruined their environment in the holy cause of economic progress, and see for themselves the smog, the pollution, the crime in the streets. Let them spend some time in California and talk to the outraged citizens who have just now, November 7, 1972, voted for drastic measures to save their last 250 miles of unpolluted oceanfront open to the public.

Too many people have been too long impressed by the rapid number-spouting jargon of the statistical nitpicker, who always has high-sounding technical phrases to prove that our pseudo progress will bring nothing but good and wipe out all evil. For instance, the statistical type ad for automobiles, using technical phraseology and numbers such as 300 HP or 400 HP, weight of car 4000+ lbs., etc., leads many car buyers to believe (ask them) that you can only be safe in big,

heavy, high speed cars. The buyer of the big, heavy, high speed car is not told, nor does he realize, that most people buy big, heavy, high speed cars, and that the theoretical safety factor is now canceled out. Neither is he told that a large number of high speed car owners (including, possibly, himself) will drive now at speeds beyond their ability and/or the existing conditions. So a theoretical safety factor has now become a hazard to the extent that we are now killing 1,000 people a week with cars that are really designed and sold for the express purpose of enhancing "Economic Progress."

What has this to do with the subject at hand? Just this: It shows that the things the public is not told are often more important than the things they are told.

We should certainly in this day and age have combed the hay out of our hair and learned to regard the charming, slick talking, gold brick salesman with a modicum of doubt.

We shouldn't be afraid to bite a coin to see if it's real.

And we shouldn't be afraid to question our politicians about the things they did not mention.

What about that 38 acres? We need that 38 acres as park land giving public access to the beach. We don't need more buildings, more smokestacks, more pollution, more crime.

By all means, let's holler before we're hurt. Let's not wait until we're faced with 38 acres of buildings. Let's be guided by what we can see, hear, feel, smell and taste. Let's go visit the polluted and smog-ridden areas. Let's talk to the people there and observe for ourselves the obvious causes of the environmental disaster.

Don't listen to the optimist, listen instead to the pessimistic cynical dreamer of nightmares. We cannot enclose ourselves with skyscrapers and fill our streets with bumper to bumper automobiles without paying a tragic price. A long time ago, Baron Collier said, "There is no such thing as a free lunch." It's still true, and it applies to so-called "progress" as well as to lunch. Some one's going to pay - the hard way - and that someone is you.

What has this to do with the 38 acres? Everything. Our elected officials don't mention the 38 acres anymore and neither

be they just haven't thought of it recently - but then again, maybe they have.

Let's ask questions. Let's talk it up. If we're wrong, we can always apologize.

Another recent item in the newspaper concerns the Key West Airport and tentative feelers being put out to combine the civilian airport facilities of Key West with the military at Boca Chica. This may be a very good idea. Boca Chica might take much bigger passenger planes and make it possible for our visitors from far away places to arrive in Key West area without the nuisance of changing planes at Miami - a great convenience that might bring more money-spending visitors to Key West. A very important added factor would be the elimination of much air travel over our island which would reduce the ever-present possibility of a fiery crash in a residential area or occupied school yard.

But nothing is completely good, so let's ask some questions anyway. What will happen to the air commuter service and its' employees? What happens to the various people now employed, or doing business, at the Key West Airport? For what purpose will the land now occupied by the airport be used? How much more pollution will the new use of the land cause?

Our various elected officials may well feel that these questions are impertinent, but it is high time that we stopped worrying about an individual's feelings and started worrying about the destruction of our environment - before it happens.

Let us all try hard to realize that any question concerning the environment asked by any citizen, at any time, is pertinent and that it is very important for the citizens to question and criticize their officials. Let us hope that more and more citizens will question and criticize in order to alert our government to the fact that they were elected to serve the best interests of all the people.

If we do this, perhaps we can leave a small part of the world that will still be worth living in to our grandchildren.

KEY WEST ECONOMY

Various officials came to Key West to confer with the leaders of the community in order to find ways and means to save us from an economic slump when the Navy, or a good part of it, leaves the area.

I attended the meeting between the Federal people and our local leaders, and served in one of the "Workshops."

Our local "leaders," by and large, were conspicuous by their absence. I did see Mr. Gamble (City Commissioner) and Mr. Brown (County Sheriff) in attendance all through the day and a half. I also saw Mr. Parker (County Commissioner) for part of the first day. There may have been other officials there (I hope there were) but there couldn't have been many.

The business community was very poorly represented also. In the "Wrap-up," when the various officials were addressing the assemblage, I had the oddest feeling that they must have been somewhat embarrassed because they surely realized that their remarks were being largely addressed to themselves; they obviously outnumbered the Key Westers.

It's nice to know that the Federal Government is interested in us and willing to help, but it does bring up some interesting questions.

Where are the followers?

Many would accept the title of "Leader," but few would admit to being followers, and we can't have one without the other.

Are our elected officials leaders, or are they simply people we have hired by means of the ballot to perform tasks and assume obligations as specified in the City Charter?

Are our business people our leaders or are they simply storekeepers from whom we purchase various goods and services?

Since these questions are not easily answered, let's table them and ask a few more.

How much of the Navy will be gone from the area by January 1975?

How many permanent residents (conservative estimate) will Key West have in January 1975?

How many winter residents does Key West Have?

How many tourists (vacationers) can be depended upon each year?

Do we want to attract industry to the area or do we want to attract more tourists, winter residents and retirees?

Can we have tourists, winter residents and retirees - and industry, or would one discourage the other?

What choice in this area would give the greatest benefit to the most people?

What changes must be made in Key West to attract more winter residents, more retirees and more tourists?

What must we do to keep the average visitor here at least ten days?

When, and if, we have approximate answers to these questions, the answers will lead to still more questions. We will know how many permanent and part-time residents and how many tourists can be depended upon each year, and from these figures we should be able to get down to the real nitty gritty, realistic questions.

How many automobile agencies, jewelry stores, supermarkets, drug stores, restaurants, bars, movies, dirty movies, book stores, pet shops, barbers, beauty shops, bowling alleys, real estate agencies, gas stations and other businesses will this known population be able to support?

We don't have the answer to this question, but we could speculate on it.

Should we try to attract industry? Probably now. Industry would tend to keep tourists away and would gradually run off the winter residents and retirees. Industries have a tendency to lose contracts or markets, forcing them to lay off employees. When unemployment in an area goes up, business goes down. An industrial town has a yo-yo economy - too many ups and downs.

How about tourists? Great. But we must decide what type tourists we want and then be sure we can keep them interested for at least ten days each visit.

Also, we must encourage more Key West residents to open small family-type, tourist oriented businesses. After all, we can't all be maids and waiters.

How do we keep tourists here more than ten days? By being pleasantly different from any other place in America.

We must make sure that we keep free of smog and water pollution. (Take note CES.)

We need public bathing beaches, not just a strip of sand along the ocean, but beaches that continue a sand bottom out to swimming depth of water. If necessary, the city must buy up all the oceanfront real estate west of Simonton Street, remove the buildings and create a public bathing beach. From Simonton

unfortunately the beaches have all been covered with buildings.

Would we have the courage to ban all private vehicles with internal combustion engines from Key West?

How about an electric street railway system with gaily painted cars? Encourage the use of bicycles and electric automobiles. Encourage taxicab owners to paint their cabs in bright, gay, vacationland colors.

Why not close Duval Street from Angela to Eaton and make the area a pedestrian mall? Have the business people of that area get in the spirit and use gaily striped awnings - plant palm trees in the middle of the street - put out chairs, tables and beach umbrellas.

Let's admit that Duval Street south of Eaton looks pretty tired, if not downright crummy, and do something about it?

Mallory Square area looks great. Why not have Duval Street look great from ocean to gulf? Encourage our honkytonk saloon operators to tear their joints down and erect luxurious tropical lounges with outdoor patio boozing facilities. Why not attract people with money, and make it so attractive they'll stay longer and spend more.

A thing of beauty is a joy forever. Let's have the tourists come back the next year and bring friends with money.

Don't advertise economy. Advertise "Key West - for a little more you go First Class" and make sure it is first class!

Let's get more retired folks to settle here. Their money comes from somewhere else and is spent here. We don't need extra jail space for them and they send no children to school. The only emergency service they need is medical, and this they pay for. Retired folks have visitors and the visitors spend money here.

More winter residents. Like the retired, they cost us nothing and they spend money.

We need vision and the courage to implement the vision.

Do we dare to be different? Do we dare to discourage the use of internal combustion private autos? Wouldn't it be great if tourists knew that they could leave their cars in Homestead or Florida City, travel to Key West by monorail, then be able to rent little electric autos or bicycles to get around, or use taxis or other adequate, and attractive, public transportation?

Let's keep in mind that tourists do not want to see factories, skyscrapers, slums, heavy traffic, pollution, or dirt of any kind - they have all that at home. They want clean air, clean water, beautiful palm-fringed beaches (without rocks under water to break a leg on!).

We do have excellent fishing facilities, comfortable motels, appetizing and exotic restaurants. But the thing we need to hold the tourist here is missing; we do not have good swimming beaches! Check with the State Park Department at Bahia Honda and find out what the real tourist attraction is!

Keep in mind that we have a better climate than Miami Beach or Bermuda. All we need now is gumption, and the tourist trade alone will more than make up for the loss of the Navy.

In good times or bad we can keep Key West packed with tourists, but first we must want them. Then we must forge ahead and make our island a storybook attraction. It can be done in such a way that everyone would profit, including the tourists!

If the tourists leave Key West with happy memories, they'll not regret the money they've spent, they'll be grateful for a relaxed, carefree time. Their improved sense of wellbeing will be a definite profit, and they will return for more of the same.

BROOKWOOD JOHNSON REPORTS

Key West Current Events
(Show and Tell Time)

The winter season is falling in on us and Key West is awakening from its annual October nap to find a lot of activity in the air. Currently, Warner Brothers is filming a feature length TV pilot film entitled "Key West." This film is not to be confused with another film being produced in Islamorada entitled "Islamorada" nor with the documentary in production in Marathon called "Marathon."

The plot of "Key West" will center on two men who retire from government service in order to continue their lazy ways in their native Cayo Hueso. At the time this goes to press there were, for some unexplained reason, eleven Key West residents who were not going to appear in the extravaganza, but the producers have hopes of including the names of every single Key West resident in the opening credits.

Among those still "waiting" are Willie the Weeper, the familiar creature who walks the streets of the town waiting for his once white shirt to dissolve, and Mr. Michael LaRocque who claims the publicity might somehow interfere with his private life. Another holdout has been the Monroe County Sheriff, Robert L. Brown. Sheriff Brown correctly points out that law enforcement is a serious business and the inconveniences and frivolities of television production do not mix well with legal professionalism. It has been rumored that the Sheriff also tends to be somewhat shy in public situations.

The budget for the production has been estimated at well over 3/4 million dollars, most of which will be spent on film equipment, salaries, helicopter rentals and breakfasts at Shorty's. In order to streamline their operation Warner Brothers has already purchased Southeast Airlines, AAT, 400 bicycles, Louie's Backyard and the Key West Aquarium. When asked about the aquarium purchase Mr. Phil Abramson of WB simply hinted that 2 Jewish would provide lunch for a lot of people in those crowd scenes.

Some of the initial filming has taken place at a private home on Pinder Lane in Old Key West. These sessions had to be discontinued when it was discovered that the weighty equipment trucks has caused William Street to sink 4 inches. The idea of propping up the street with the seemingly useless City Electric smokestacks is currently under consideration.

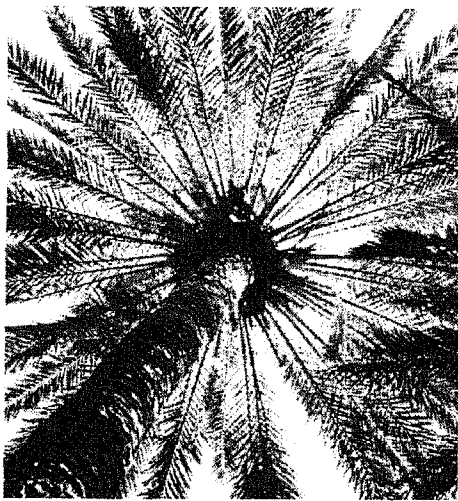
The idea men behind "Key West" have, in a few short weeks, shown a remarkable level of perception when it comes to visually projecting the local manners and atmosphere. The simple spot scenes of a mother and child riding on a bike, the owner of Sloppy Joe's counting his money, or the commonplace (to us locals) sight of a Porsche sports car tumbling off the Seven Mile Bridge all fit wonderfully into the tropical life we know and love.

One of the most remarkable facts associated with the filming group is that the Musical Director, a former Nashville-based folk singer now living in the Keys, speaks Spanish and French as well as his native English. As luck would have it, his name is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

All in all it looks like a big shot in the arm for the Key West economy and image. With the possibility of this pilot film leading to a weekly TV series there remains the hope that all of our relatives and friends up north will really think that we're having fun on this forsaken end of the earth, hunk of marl at the end of U.S.1.

Three cheers for Hollywood, which is in California.

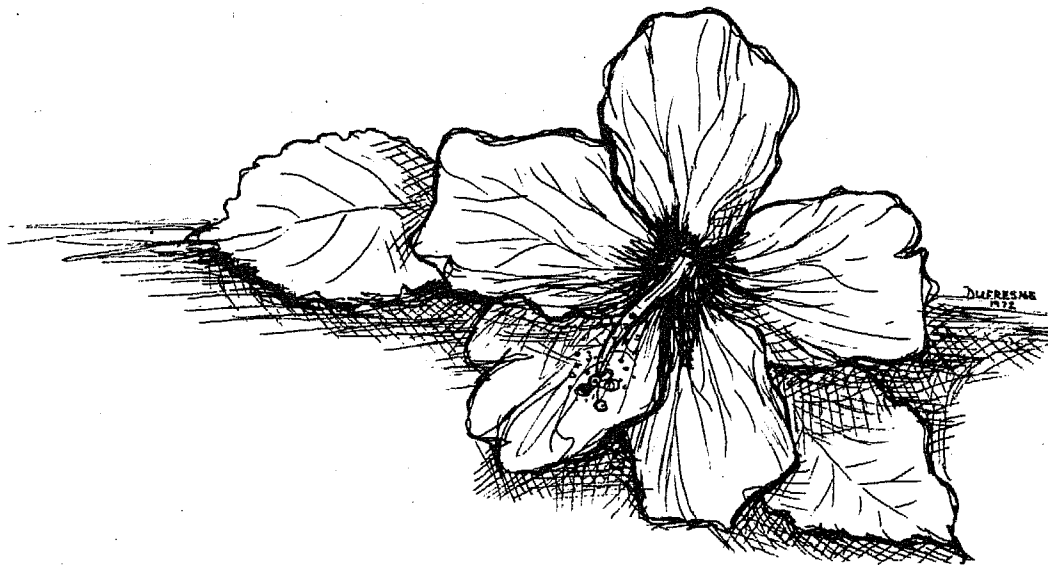
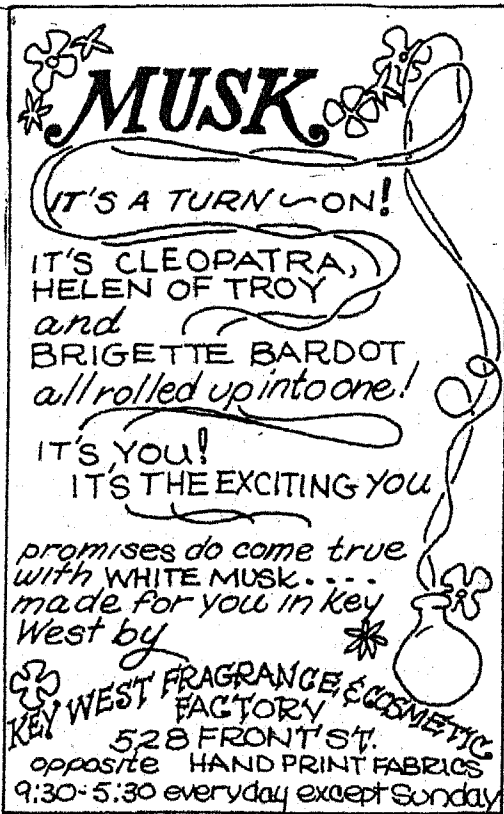
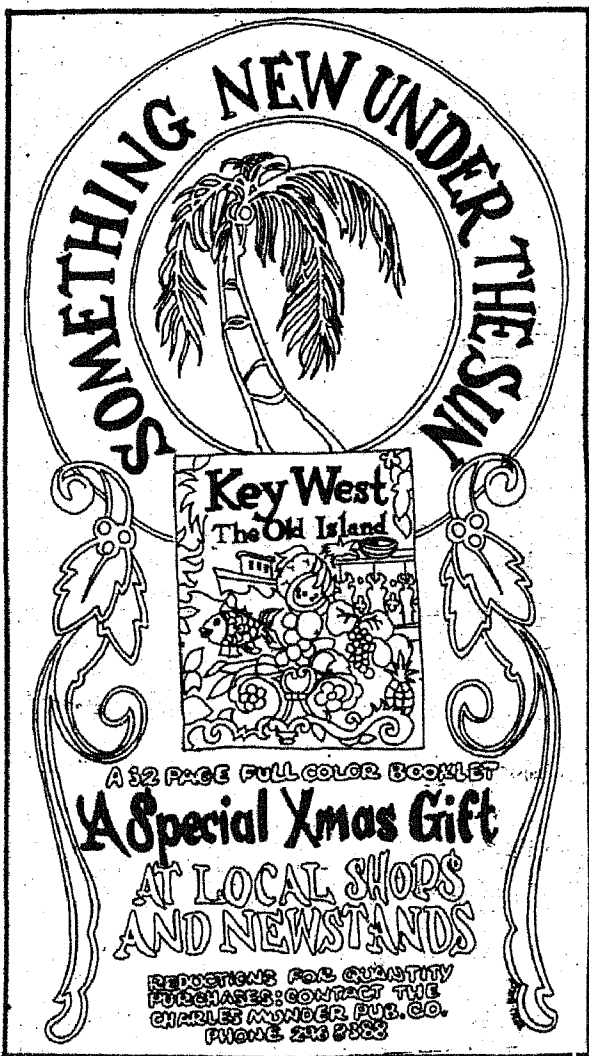
Brookwood Johnston



Palm extended



Simonton at Truman



LOSERS LAMENT

We gave not an inch to shame or deceit.
We fought the good fight and went down in defeat.
We had heads of long hair and some that were bare
And even a few most obviously square.
We telephoned gladly and checked off lists madly
And followed the rules handed down.
We worked for high goals and watched at the polls.
And didn't even carry the town!

A McGovern Worker

current and groovy

by Bill Huckel

Photos by Kashkin and Huckel



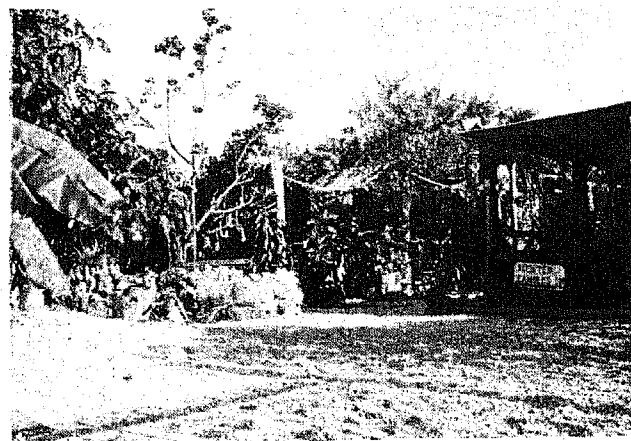
A familiar sight to many Key West-ers is Arthur Pretto who is pictured above sitting on the wall across from St. Paul's Church. Arthur, here seen talking to two young friends, Darren Guttman and Michael Webster, is a man very knowledgeable about Key West and the rest of the world and almost every afternoon he holds court at the wall.



The Red Doors Inn is seeing better days. Not only is the inside being fixed up and the outside being painted, but also some huge beautiful palm trees have been planted out in front.



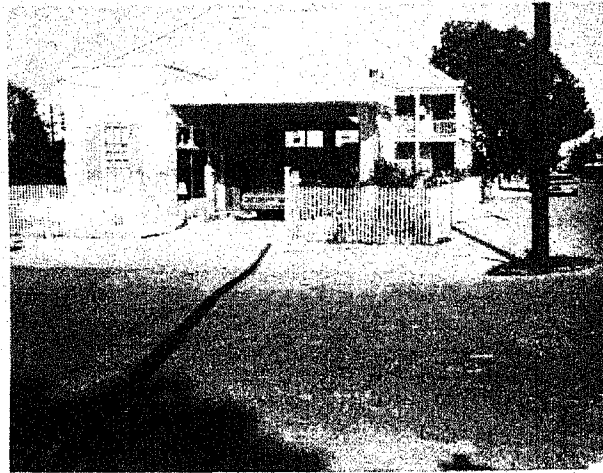
A pleasant addition to the Key West scene is this new fruit and vegetable stand on Whitehead Street across from the Hemingway house. It is called Julian's and it sits under some lovely trees.



The above, which looks like a tropical garden in Pago Pago, is the home of the Jucery, created by Scott and Chera Lutz. In these groovy surroundings, juices are sold daily (fresh juices) and on Sunday and Monday nights super food is sold and free music is heard.



For those who enjoy eating outside, there is a treat in store for them. The new Rancho Luna Restaurant on the corner of Packer and Truman Streets has a large outside terrace for dining or drinking.



The building above used to be an unattractive gas station. Then Jesse Dalton, a man who had restored a house previously on Whitehead and United Streets, got inspired and changed it to the attractive building it is today. It is on William Street at the corner of Eaton.



The pen and ink drawing (up) is of the famous Bahama House before its restoration. The artist is Ann Dufresne.

The pencil sketch of Martin Luther King (left) is by artist Gregory Myrick.

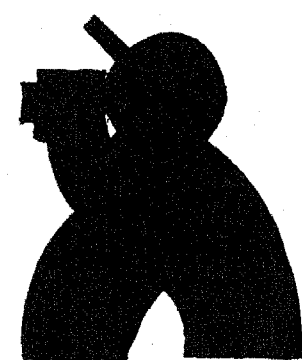


G.M.



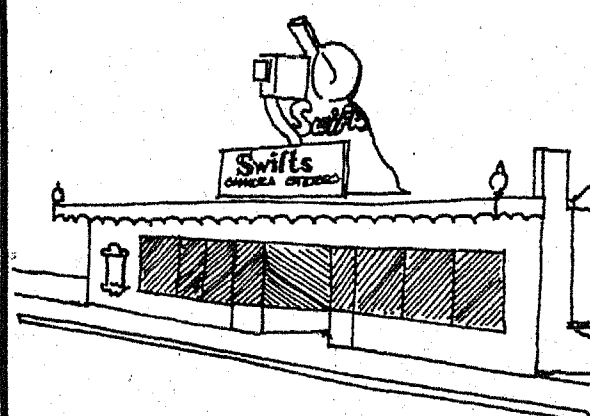
NO. 5
PIRATES ALLEY

HANDMADE
CLOTHING &
ACCESSORIES



SWIFT'S

Camera and Stereo

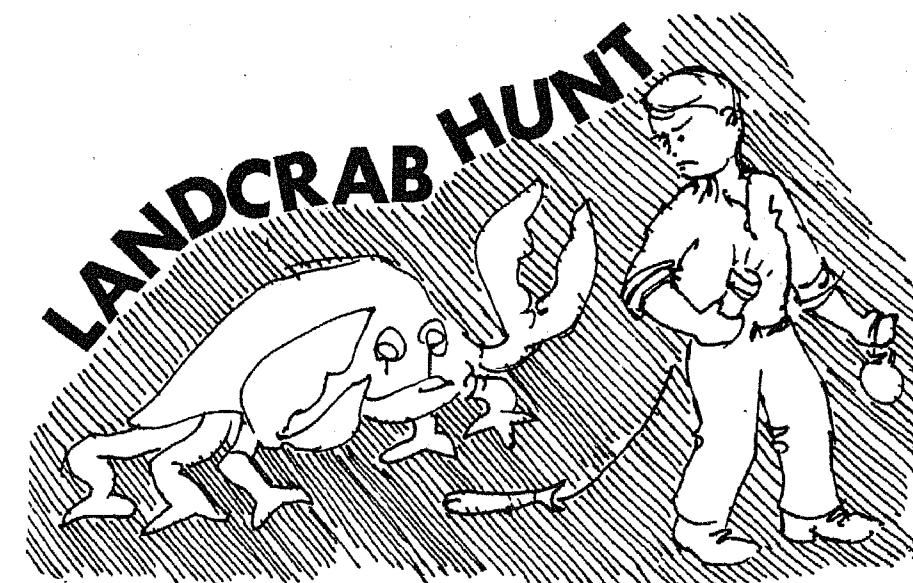


423 Duval St. Ph. 296-8576

We service what we sell



Did the German artist, Heinrich Kley, know about the C.E.S. smoke stacks?



Are you bored and nothing will help?

Try organizing a land crab hunt.

When I was a youngster this exercise was tried by more northerners than I can remember, and none ever claimed to be bored.

First and most important is the bait you use. Land crabs just love fresh mullet, so you must catch fresh mullet. To catch mullet you borrow or buy a cast net, practice a little and start throwing. What, you didn't catch any mullet? Well, go ahead and buy some from the bait store. After all, what old crab can tell fresh fish from frozen.

The next thing is the location for hunting land crabs since I doubt if you will find many in the middle of a parking lot. Try Big Pine Key; it is a haven for land crabs.

Now get your equipment together - you will need a flashlight with a red lens cover (land crabs don't like bright light), a 15 inch piece of cord or heavy string, a piece of mullet, an old pan and a stick or large spoon, a bag full of crushed garlic cloves, and at least three helpers with cloth bags or pillow cases.

And here is how the hunt starts: you tie the cord around the piece of mullet and then tie the loose end to a belt or belt loop in the back of your pants. Next tie the bag of garlic around your neck or pin it to the front of your shirt, station your helpers well ahead of you and out of sight, pick up your red light and place it under your arm so you can see, pick up your beater (the pan and stick) and let one of your friends go beating through the brush for you. Allow at least 5 minutes after the beater goes before starting the hunt.

Caution though, catching land crabs is a slow business. You must walk carefully and slowly dragging the bait on the ground and it could take 3 or 4 hours. When you feel a tug on the bait, stop and signal with the light, your helper(s) will run in and bag the crab.

A beginner may not catch many crabs, but practice makes perfect.

And, besides, you are not bored anymore, are you?

By Ray Daniels



DISTINCTIVE GIFTS FROM
SOUTH AND NORTH AMERICA
ALPACA, SILK, LEATHER, WOOL
COPPER, BRASS AND WOOD
ESKIMO SOAPSTONE
SCULPTURE
HANDCRAFTED
STERLING JEWELRY

430 Greene Street

If you are looking for that special holiday gift or if you are just in the mood to browse, we welcome you.

Jack & Blana Bollem

BIRTH OF TWINS AT SAN CARLOS THEATRE

Theatre 7 - Theatre 9

The San Carlos is going to operate as a TWIN THEATRE starting Wednesday, December 20.

We will feature two different first run features. Each will charge separate admissions. Each will cater to different cultures and tastes. Each will be a responsible theatre that responds to the changing cultural demands on it.

Theatre 7 - Theatre 9 are two ways the San Carlos is imaginatively seeking to represent more kinds of people more ways - as a TWIN THEATRE, as a concert hall, or even a playhouse.

How can we do this?

We didn't want to divide our screen (largest in Key West); we created instead Theatre 7 and Theatre 9. And with it a policy of trying to show more family type movies at Theatre 7 and a policy of finding out the unusual at Theatre 9 with directors like Fellini, Kubrick, Bergman, Warhol and movies like Malcolm X, Yellow Submarine, The Godfather, Macbeth, On The Waterfront, "Z", and W. C. Fields type movies.

(MIDNIGHT MOVIES, Friday & Saturday, December 15 & 16, "Last Movie" starring Dennis Hopper)



Poor
Richards
Buttery
restaurant

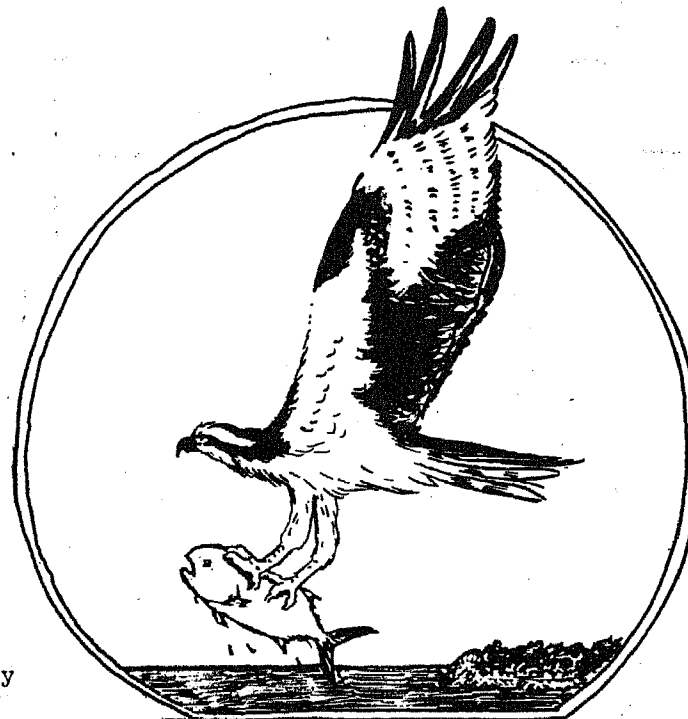
REOPENING DEC. 15, 1972

408 GREENE ST.

The Osprey

Thurlow Weed

Key West Naturalist Society



"Fish hawk" is a common name for the Osprey. Scientifically, it is Pandion haliaetus, which means mostly "sea eagle."

While the bird is distributed all over the world, there is only one species, the European Osprey. Our American Osprey and the Australian Fishing Eagle are subspecies. It occurs over most of the United States, and is a permanent resident in peninsular Florida.

The Osprey is a large bird of prey - two feet long and with a wing spread of 4 1/2 to 5 1/2 feet. People sometimes confound it with the Bald Eagle, but there are important differences - one being size. The Eagle's wingspread is a good two feet larger.

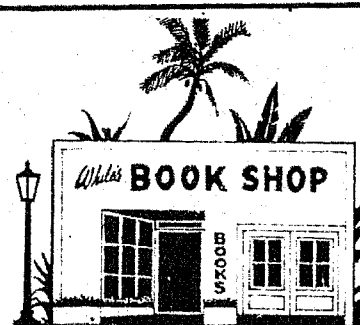
The Osprey is white underneath and mottled with dark brown. The back and tops of the wings are quite dark. Like other birds of prey, it has a meathook for a bill - very heavy, curved and sharp.

It eats only fish that have been taken alive. It catches them by dropping upon them feet-first. It locates a fish, gets above it (often hovering briefly, like a night-marish hummingbird that flaps) and plummets. Grabbing the fish in its talons, it immediately rises again into the air. Then it juggles the fish around until it points into the wind. With the fish facing into the line of flight, there is the least wind resistance. The bird then proceeds to its nest or to a feeding perch (an Osprey feeding on a perch on a feeding perch that used to be a feeding perch??).

The Osprey does not dive and swim underwater, as do cormorants and some ducks. It does not hurtle down bill-first upon its prey, as do terns, pelicans, and kingfishers. Because it hits feet-first, the fish it takes are those of shallow water or those swimming at the surface. There is an Osprey that fishes the inland waters near the airport quite regularly.

An English Ornithologist, Newton, believes "osprey" to be a corruption of "ossifraga" or ossifraga - "bone-breaker." The only bones it breaks are those of fish, if any, but from the way it whacks the water when it comes down, you'd think it's going to break its own bones in the impact.

Mostly they drop upon fish from minor elevations - a hundred feet or less - although plunges of 300 feet have been recorded. On occasion an Osprey catches two fish in one dive - one in each claw.



We're loaded with books
big books, little books,
beautiful books.

Books make the best Christmas gifts
534 Fleming Street 296-9089.

R. I. Brasher reported the case of the Osprey that goofed. It occurred on the St. Lucie River, here in Florida. The Osprey selected its fish and went on to pounce in the usual manner. But it committed a grave error of judgement as to the size of the fish.

Instead of pulling the fish out of the water and flying away with it, the bird found itself pulled out of the air and being swum away with. Both creatures were unhappy about the experience. The bird could not let go and the fish had Osprey claws embedded in its side. By the time the bird got itself disengaged it was almost drowned, and required ten minutes of lying on the deck of Brasher's boat to recover enough to fly.

The Osprey builds a huge nest of sticks and twigs. Several excellent examples may be seen along US-1 north of the Jewish Creek Bridge, on the high-tension poles and the microwave tower. They are visible for a great distance.

Look for Ospreys along the Keys beside the road - on utility poles and wires, or cruising on patrol up and down the bridges. Occasionally one overflies downtown Key West.



PAINTINGS & GRAPHICS

AT FRONT & FITZPATRICK

GALLERY & GALLERY

SPIRITUAL CALENDAR

By Gary and Louise

"BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD"
"KNOW THYSELF"

The present stage of history finds the above concepts interesting to a significant number of people. Many want to know: Who am I? Where do I come from? Where am I going? What is God? Where is Love? How can I live a useful and constructive life in this difficult world?

There are many possible sources of inspiration in answering such questions. The following can be found in Key West:

1. **BAHAI FAITH:** Informal discussions on Tuesday nights at 8:00 PM, at 2405 Linda Avenue (off of Flagler past the High School on the right). The Bahai Faith is a universal religion.

2. **BIBLE STUDY CLASSES:** Wednesday evenings at 7:30, upstairs from the Rose of Sharon, 1113 Truman Avenue (near White).

3. **BOOKSTORES:** Used and new books on mysticism and metaphysics are available at the Used Bookstore at 610A Duval St. White's Bookstore at 534 Fleming Street includes a nice selection of religious and metaphysical books in their stock.

4. **CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM:** Located at 329 Duval Street, open 12:00 noon to 4:00 PM daily except Sundays and holidays. Christian Science books and publications are for sale, loan, or can be read there. Also there are earphones for listening to records - and they sell Christmas Cards. Christian Science emphasizes spiritual healing.

5. **CHURCHES:** Check the Yellow Pages for a complete listing. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, on the corner of Duval and Eaton Streets, for example, offers the magical sacrament of communion at the mass several times a week.

6. **GROUP MEDITATION:** Every Tuesday night at 8:00 PM (except from December 13 until January 10 when no meditations will be held). Located at 1209 Virginia St., Apartment 9 - use side door and go upstairs - a mind expanding experience; a meeting ground for all beings in LOVE, UNITY, AND PEACE. (See poster at Wayne's Used Bookstore.)

7. **THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY:** Located at 1117 Virginia Street (just off White St.) Public meetings on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 8:00 PM. The Theosophical Society is an organization founded in universal brotherhood dedicated to discovering individual truth in comparative religion, science, and philosophy, and the investigation of unexplained laws of nature. Occult library and bookstore open to public at meeting times. The schedule for December:

Wed., Dec. 14, "The Search for Truth"
Wed., Dec. 28, "The Meaning and Use of Evil"

8. **TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION:** Taught in Key West by Steve Glickman, 717 Eisenhower Drive, Apartment B, telephone: 296-5595. A large body of scientific data has been collected indicating great physiological and psychological benefits to those who practice this technique.

9. **URANTIA BOOK STUDY GROUP:** Call Eric Nystrom for information: 294-6231. Urantia is a name for earth. This book is in the library and contains the history of the universe and Urantia.

10. **THE WELL:** Located at 705 1/2 Duval Street, The Well is a Christian Coffee House open on weekends 8:30 to 11:00 for discussion, refreshment and song.

• Fully Qualified
• Free Pick-Up & Delivery

Nick's TUNE-UP

COMPETENT MECHANIC
ANY MAKE AMERICAN CAR

• ELECTRICAL SYSTEM • IGNITION
• CARBURETION • TRANSMISSION REPAIR

916 JAMES ST. 296-9616