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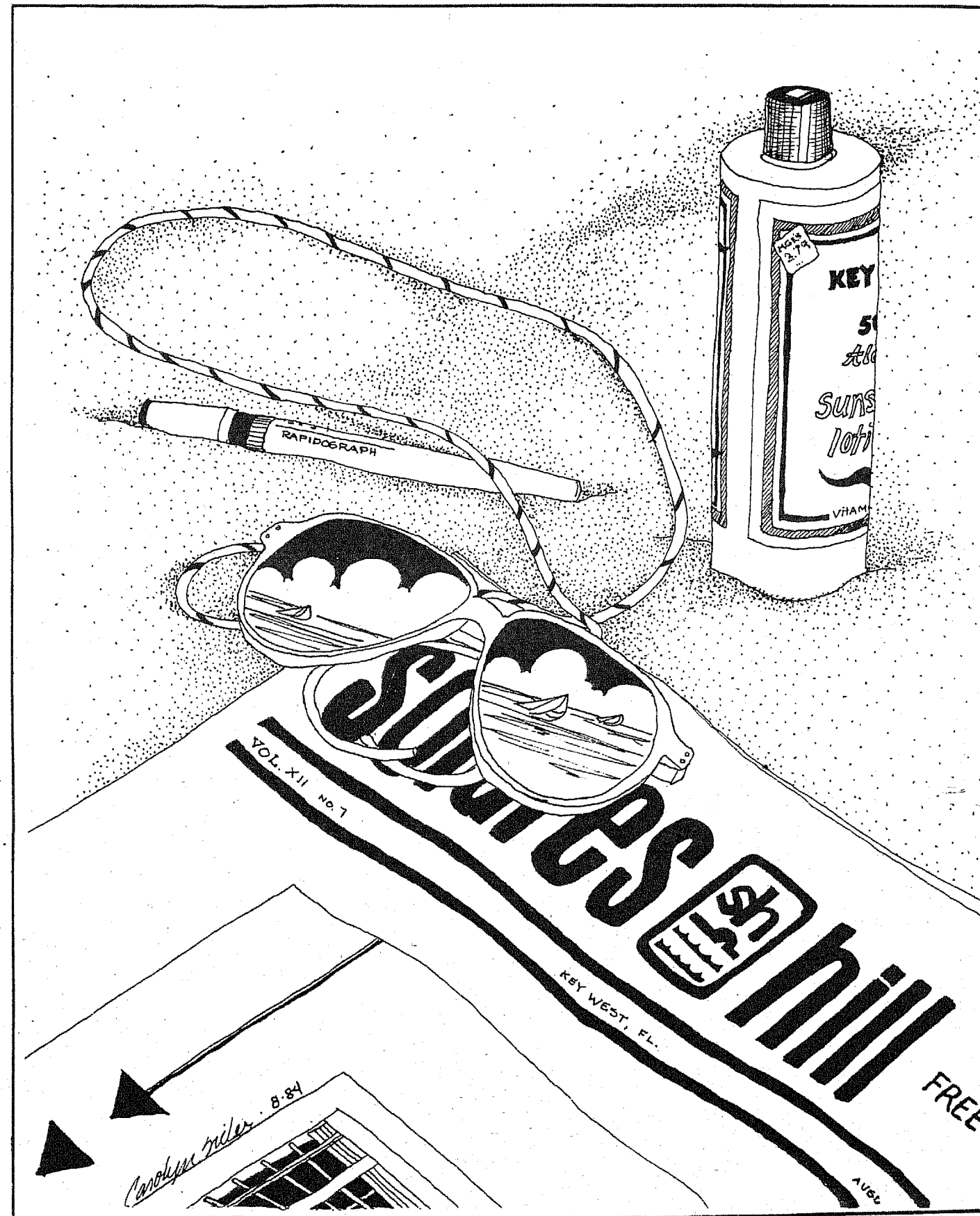
solares hill

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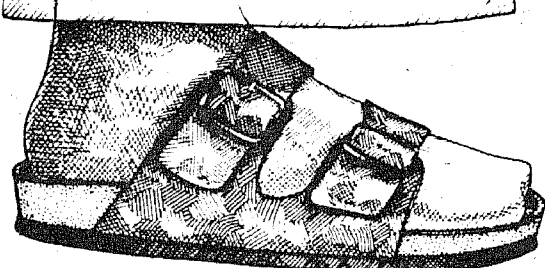
VOL. XII, No. 8

KEY WEST, FL

SEPTEMBER 1984



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FROM THE Editor

HELLO -

MARGARET FORESMAN ADVISED us that the Key West Citizen had won the Florida Press Award for the best Page One presentation twice and had gathered a second and a third place as well during her years at the paper. We had reported that they had won the award only once. Good going, Margaret!

PROGRESS IS CATCHING up with Big Pine Key. Residents are petitioning for safer traffic conditions there due to the increase in injuries and deaths on the highway. They are asking for a reduction of the speed limit on U.S. 1 from the area of North Pine Channel to the Toppino batching plant. Also, they seek a traffic light at the intersection of U.S. 1 and Key Deer Boulevard, improved lighting along U.S. 1, and pedestrian crosswalks with appropriate warning signs and signals.

NEWS AT KEY West Life magazine. Don Nettleton, Graphics of Key West, Marilyn Ferguson, type director there, and Frank Motta, art director form the new management team. This talented threesome will continue their functions at the magazine as consulting production manager, editor, and art director, as well as overseeing all operations of the business. The three have over fifty years experience in the field of graphics and communications. I have worked with all three of these people and I know that this will give an added boost to this fast-rising magazine.

I'M NOT THE least bit uncomfortable with the application for U.D.A.G. funds to help repair and restore the magnificent Harbor House Arcade. This building is an important part of our architectural history and plays a large part in the commercial life of the Mallory Square area. Good luck on your project, Bill Jones.

WE ARE GOING to be doing an examination of the first year of Mayor Richard Heyman's administration in a

forthcoming Solares Hill. Faults and virtues, pros and cons, approval and disapproval, etc. One characteristic of Richard's that will be shown is his undeniable courage. Solares Hill salutes him for taking on his fellow commissioners, Joey Balbontin and Jimmy Mira, for their unbecoming conduct in the commission meetings. He is right and they have been wrong (see Alden Solovy's Commentary in this issue) and the city has been disgraced by this nonsense.

WE DON'T SALUTE Richard, however, for his tardy realization that the city has (or had, unfortunately) an interest in the disputed alley that the Sands Beach project has claimed. The city should have fought for its alley at the hearing before Judge Gomez, but instead it defaulted and the fight was left up to a group of interested citizens who ultimately were found to be without standing. Had the city joined in the battle for this alley, Key West might have realized some much needed extra revenue from its sale.

SEE YOU NEXT MONTH.

Our cover artist this month is Carolyn Seiler. Her work may be seen at Guild Hall Gallery, 614 Duval St.

IN MEMORIAL OF MY TEAMMATE, BILL BUTLER

There'll be no cheering in the stands today, Bill Butler has passed away. Put down the ball that's the end of the game. Baseball has lost a great name. Lower the flag on the center field mass. Dust off home plate as a final tribute. Standing at the plate in that final inning without the slightest chance of winning, he slid on his spikes and got set to swing. Bill was a ball player that gave everything. With two strikes on him he thought he could hit but the greatest pitcher in the game of life, conqueror of misery, pain and strife, threw him the third and final strike. The mounts man was pitching fast. Just one more ball would be the last, as Bill Butler swung and missed. His star shined in this evening mist. Put up the ball, that's the end of the game. Baseball has lost a great name.

Erskine Sands

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Solares Hill is a community newspaper published every month on the slopes of Solares Hill, Key West's highest point, by Solares Hill Company, 513 Fleming, Room 3, Key West, Florida 33040.

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

With a little help from our friends ...

Solares Hill Co., Inc.

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LEWINSKY'S - TRADITION IN MEN'S CLOTHES

by BUD JACOBSON

"IF THESE WALLS could only talk..." Hal Lewinsky, a tall, thin, senior citizen of this city, shakes his head and muses with a smile on his lips, "that'd be the day - we'd hear a lot of history and some of the choicest morsels of gossip from the old courthouse in the 1930s and '40s."

HE STARES DOWN the length of his men's clothing shop toward the big display windows fronting Duval on the corner of Smith Lane; and many of the ghosts of those years, some of the most powerful figures in Monroe County, wander in and out of the "oldest men's clothing store in this county."

"Guys like Bernie Papy, Howard Wilson, Claude Gandolfo, just to mention a very few, were my customers, and they'd look around for something or just stop and talk. We don't have that any more."

LEWINSKY'S IS ONE of the last stores of that period you'll find.

High ceilings, green and beige faded walls, a loft for storage, old posters for Florsheim shoes and Arrow shirts, natural wooden floors, big glass showcases, racks of shoes with a hand-printed sign above them saying:

"Don't Mash These Shoes - They Aren't Tomatoes."

THERE ARE MANY more pithy sayings like that tacked around the walls, mostly the point is: get off your duff and things'll get better - they're yellow with age and were included in shipping packages from Beau Brummel ties.

Lewinsky leans back comfortably in one of the chairs. Business is a trifle slow these days, mostly because of the drastically changed styles and the changed attitudes in Key West toward clothing of any kind.

"YOU KNOW, YEARS ago we'd be sitting here and the dudes from the cigar factories would go strolling past, 'specially on a Saturday, and they'd be dressed, my friend: White suits, white panama hats, little string ties, fancy shirts, silk socks. They looked sharp. Most everybody dressed when they walked down Duval. Not any more," he smiles.

It was in the steamy hot summertime of 1904 when Lewinsky's father, Frank Lewinsky, was drawn to Key West from New York. Business was good and there was opportunity here - commercial fishing, sponging, cigar making were booming. He was related to the Wolkowsky family, the family of David Wolkowsky who had originally built the Pier House in the 1960s.

FRANK LEWINSKY OPENED a furniture store on Duval, two doors from the Strand theater, and then in 1920 he built the two-story structure at Duval and Smith Lane, containing two stores. He leased those to the Wolkowsky family, and they opened The Broadway Shops - ladies' apparel in one and men's in the other.

At the end of 1929, The Crash hit, "in Key West we were at rock bottom, no foolin'." No money around; we were dealing in scrip. In those Depression years, every Saturday my father would open the store to the poor people in town and they could come in, change their scrip for cash or get canned goods. They looked forward to that."

Those were the years President Roosevelt developed numerous public works projects to get the people working again, from East to West and North to South - and in the farthest South, the Florida Keys, the giant program had to do with building the highway, U.S. No. 1, "the original one," parallel to the Florida East Coast Railway roadbed. The highway opened officially in 1938 and was supposed to replace the old car-passenger ferries that took as much as 12 hours to reach Miami.

LEWINSKY AND HIS good friend, Charles J. Curry, (whose brother, Kingman, was chief baggage agent for



Lynn and "Hobby" Lewinsky hold a certificate of recognition for 50 years of selling Florsheim shoes.

IN 1930, THE ladies' shop closed and Frank Lewinsky moved his furniture store in; the men's store remained the same.

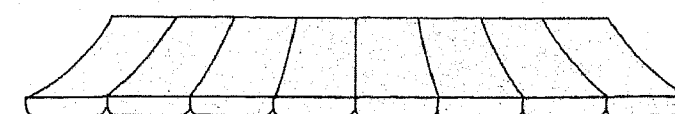
"I graduated from Key West High School in 1930, and a lot of my friends from school are still here; I'm lucky many of my friends are still around." Lewinsky kind of liked mathematics, and off he went to Georgia Tech to learn engineering in what is still one of the country's best schools for that subject.

"I STAYED THERE two years but the Depression only got worse, so I came home to Key West."

the FEC in Key West) got jobs on that road and bridge project, "and we were darn glad to get 'em, believe me." The two men, along with hundreds of tough old veterans of WW I, labored and sweated out there in the heat of the sun, swatted mosquitoes at night, surveyed for the highway and sang rousing choruses of "Working On the Railroad."

"ON LABOR DAY weekend in 1935, I rode the last train into Key West. There weren't too many on board. One of them, though, was Georgie Brooks, the youngest state attorney in the history of Florida. Good old George."

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ON THE HEELS of the last train into Key West roared the worst killer hurricane ever to hit the northern hemisphere. The barometer reading was the lowest ever recorded. The railroad disappeared. The highway washed out. Bridges were hurled into the ocean. Over 400 men and women died. At the western end of the highway, little old Key West was all by itself, again - and for a long time, too. "Somehow or other, we all made it."



Lewinsky's on Duval Street

THE MAIN PASTIME during the Depression days in Key West, Lewinsky recalled, was for a lot of guys from the courthouse and around Duval to wander into Lewinsky's, into the furniture side of the store, where they'd sit around and "talk things over." That's where you heard it all; politics, business, gossip, scandal," Lewinsky laughs.

They were almost all customers of the men's shop - Papy, the king of the roost then; his chief lieutenant, Howard Wilson; Ross Sawyer, clerk of the county; county commissioners like Frank Bentley, Gerald Saunders, and others; Lance Whitmarsh, head of the electric company and his assistant, George Lucas; members of the Artman family; attorneys and judges like William V. Albury, Aquilino Lopez Jr., J. Y. Porter; banker, Willie Porter; Bob Dopp; Iggy Carbonell, the owner of the Strand.

"YOU KNOW, WHEN Aquilino married Lillian Lujan, I outfitted her father and brothers in suits for the wedding."

"One guy, I remember, used to come in after his wife, Pauline, ordered shirts for him - Ernest Hemingway. He'd stand around and shoot the breeze. The last time he was in Key West, before he died, he came to say hello. His friend, Dominguez, the bullfighter, was with him. That was nice."

ANOTHER BIG SHIRT customer is Sheriff Billy Freeman, "who orders his Arrow shirts six at a time." David Freeman is another old customer, along with Charles Major, Sr.

STORES ALONG DUVAL were owned by members of many of the old families like Arthur and Gladys Mulberg, Joe Pearlman, Frank Holtsberg, Herman and Ruth Holtsberg, and many more.

Lewinsky and his wife, like many Corchs, are fascinated by some of the island's quirky habits, like nicknames - Mrs. Lewinsky has collected over 500 of them, including her husband's, "Hobby." Circuit Judge Helio Gomez, too, is engrossed in the nickname collection mania and hopes to publish them.

LEWINSKY IS A life member of the Elks Club and has been active in the Power Squadron, Civitan and in B'Nai Zion Synagogue.

Photo by Ami Brazier

Portrait of the Month

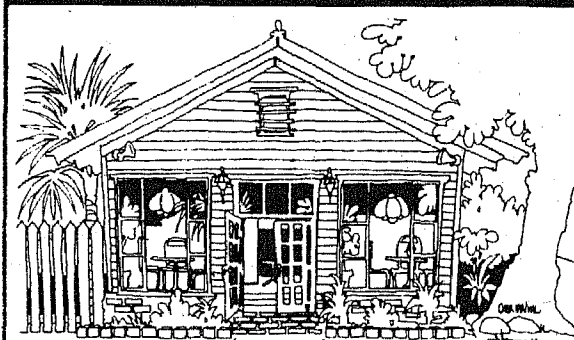


Franklin Stevens

Award Winning Photography by Joan Strunk

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NAUTICAL JARGON

by GERALD SEMLER

IF YOU HAVE the desire to become a sailor on the Seven Seas, you must first become familiar with the mariner's language. Here is a list of terms and expressions that will test your seafaring knowledge.

(1) BULKHEAD: (a) Another name for an Admiral. (b) A large under-water coral formation. (c) A wall within a ship.

(2) DAVY JONE'S LOCKER: (a) The third locker on the left at the yacht club. (b) Any locker on board a ship. (c) The bottom of the ocean.

(3) WEIGH ANCHOR: (a) To find out how heavy the anchor is. (b) To pull up the anchor and sail away. (c) A game sailors play in which the anchor is swung through the water with a crew member attached.

(4) SHRIMP: (a) Any small boat. (b) A vessel used to haul marijuana. (c) A large seagoing fishing boat used for netting shrimp.

(5) HIGH SEAS: (a) A series of large lakes in the Himalayas. (b) The open waters of an ocean. (c) A famous bar in Shanghai.

(6) CROW'S NEST: (a) The place where crows lay their eggs. (b) Small platform or box at the top of a mast used for a lookout. (c) Both (a) and (b).

(7) DRY DOCK: (a) A marina that doesn't sell liquor. (b) A

pier constructed on very tall pilings. (c) A structure used to haul a boat out of water in order to make repairs.

(8) YELLOWTAIL: (a) What seamen call someone who is afraid to go to sea. (b) A good-eating fish that's a member of the snapper family. (c) A small sail located near the back of the boat.

(9) GANGWAY: (a) What sailors yell when they're in a hurry. (b) A narrow street along the waterfront. (c) An opening on the side of a vessel used for loading and unloading.

(10) SKIPPER: (a) The ship's captain. (b) A high speed vessel that bounces over the waves. (c) The name of Admiral Nelson's dog.

(11) GOOSENECK: (a) A neck disorder seamen acquire looking out for land. (b) A piece of metal hardware used to attach a boom or pole to the mast. (c) What's left for the crew to eat.

(12) BOOBY HATCH: (a) What a newborn booby bird does when it breaks out of its egg. (b) The wooden cover over a small opening on board a ship. (c) That part of the ship where the captain's quarters are located.

(13) SUBMARINE, TRIPLE DECKER and WHALER: (a) A long sandwich made with leftovers from the ship's kitchen, an extra thick ham and cheese sandwich and a fish sandwich. (b) A vessel that can travel underwater, a large sailing ship

and a boat that catches whales. (c) Three types of boats that John Wayne captained during World War II.

(14) STARBOARD: (a) A piece of wood sailors used to navigate with at night. (b) The right side of the ship when facing forward. (c) A football player named Roger who played for the Navy Academy and later quarterbacked the Dallas Cowboys.

(15) MIZZEN: (a) What the ship's gun crew is doing when they can't hit the target. (b) A female cook aboard ship. (c) Third mast back from a ship's bow.

(16) FLUKE: (a) When the captain's navigation is correct. (b) A large square sail. (c) Flat triangular pieces at the end of each arm of an anchor which catches onto the bottom.

(17) LLOYDS OF LONDON: (a) A chain of fish and chips restaurants usually found along the waterfront. (b) Three famous brothers who sailed around the world together in a 6 ft. boat. (c) Maritime insurance company which insures ships and their cargoes.

(18) SCUPPERS: (a) The name of Admiral Nelson's cat. (b) Heavy rubber shoes worn by seamen during rough weather at sea. (c) Small openings in the side of a ship which allows water to run off the deck.

(19) LEE SIDE: (a) The side the Confederate Navy fought for. (b) The sheltered side away from the

continued on page 17

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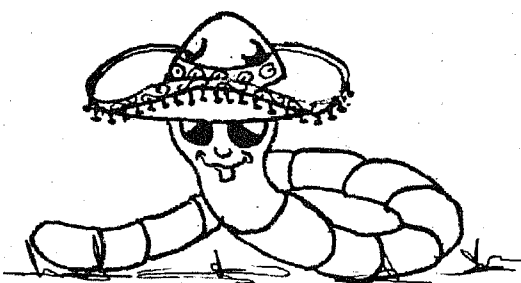
WORMING ONE'S WAY

by HELEN R. CHAPMAN

I READ A VERY SAD STORY in the paper the other day. The worm-diggers in Maine can't live on their earnings. They're striking for a penny-a-worm raise. A worm-digger who was quoted in this news item has been digging worms for thirty-two years. As rich as I think my imagination is, it fails to envision digging worms for thirty-two years. It further staggers my imagination to realize that worm-diggers must have a union if they're striking. I know Labor is big in this country, but a worm-diggers' union? They're getting four cents a worm now and our 32-year digger, quoted above, claims that after a single low tide, he has scooped 2,000 worms. Eighty bucks a scoop ain't bad. How long can it take to scoop 2,000 worms? I'm surprised everyone in the state of Maine isn't out there moonlighting. It's a pastime made to order for small boys.

WORM-DIGGING, according to the report, is a precarious occupation, dependent on "seasons, tides and dispositions of fishermen as far away as San Diego." Well, yes, San Diego is pretty far away from Maine and just why fishermen on the west coast have to import their worms from Maine is beyond me. It must depend on the Californians' disposition, never mind the fishermen's.

There must be lots of worms in California: Camino Real worms, Hidalgo worms, worms rich in history. The truth is, probably, that ever since Californians found gold, they refuse to dig for anything less. Maybe they'd show more enthusiasm for the work if they were given a more dignified title, such as Planarian Plucker or Fluke Flicker. Annelid Analyzer is nice. How about Rotifer Rotator? BECAUSE OF ALL THIS DEMAND for higher pay, the price of worms will go sky high, thereby worsening the already uncertain disposition of the fishermen. They may be forced to smuggle in Mexican worms, those not already in tequila bottles, causing graft between them and customs officials in order to procure good



quality worms. No self-respecting San Diego fisherman would succumb to a whisper on a street corner, "Psst! Senor, want to buy some good worms? Muy cheap!" Or back in Maine, a mysterious Quebecien might step out of an alley in Augusta and, slipping a small box from under his coat, murmur

"Psst! M'sieur, want to buy some dirty French worms? Tres cheap!"

THEN, THINK ABOUT THE TRUCKERS. I assume that worms from Maine cross the country by truck. I can't conceive of them going Federal Express. No one could possibly need a worm overnight, birds notwithstanding. Consider the danger involved in driving a semi full of worms. That's a lot of worms! Suppose there's an accident, the truck jack-knifes and spills its slithering slime out onto an interstate. Traffic skids across medians, horrendous collisions occur. Insurance rates soar. The worm truckers will strike. Eventually organized crime will become involved. This worm business will get completely out of hand and all because Californians won't dig their own worms!

MAYBE I SHOULD go to Maine and research a novel. It seems as if every American way of life has been written about by somebody. I don't think the worm-diggers of America have been given their due, though. They're probably very interesting people. What compulsion forces them to dig for worms for thirty-two years? Does this occupation go from generation to generation? Perhaps it's a family affair, a cottage industry, as it were. I'm all for giving them their penny raise, if only to supply the Wall Street Journal with a great headline: "Worm Terms Firm."



THE BEGINNINGS OF KEY WEST

(We are indebted to the Florida Keys Land Trust, Inc. and to Ross McKee for permission to reprint this excellent history of the salt ponds.)

If we were able to turn back the pages of time to the beginnings of Key West we would find two familiar things: public controversy and unusual occupations. Among the latter were "wrecking" and the manufacture of salt from sea water in Key West's unique Salt Pond. The earliest controversy, of course, was over the ownership of the island. John W. Simonton, a citizen of New Jersey, had purchased Key West from a colonial Spanish field artillery officer, Juan P. Salas, for \$2,000. His claim was contested by one George Murray, but a U.S. land claims board ruled in Simonton's favor on December 14, 1825 and a year later Murray signed quitclaim deeds over to Simonton's partners, William Whitehead and Pardon C. Greene. Thus, one wonders at the outset what would have happened, and how different might have been the history of the Salt Pond, if Simonton's claim had not been sustained and another proprietary group had taken over the island.

However, as things turned out, John Simonton had taken physical possession of the island on January 19, 1822. It was his good fortune that Salas wanted money more than real estate. As was often the case with kings, the King of Spain was short of cash during the colonial wars that ended with the cession of the territory of Florida and its adjacent islands to the U.S. by Spain on February 22, 1819. So on August 26, 1815, the Spanish king discharged his debt to Salas not only for back pay as an officer but also for unpaid services as secretary to the colonial governor at St. Augustine.

A second controversy arose early in the settlement's history when Commodore Porter, of pirate suppression fame, tried to impose his own version of city planning on the fledgling town. His idea was to copy the Parisian plan of L'Enfant which employed starlike patterns of streets radiating from central plazas which could be controlled by artillery in the event of civil unrest. Fortunately, this warlike sort of municipal plan failed, and Key West ended up with a typical grid plot by the island's first surveyor, H.L. Barnum. His survey was rendered into a map by William Ades Whitehead in February of 1829 as part of Whitehead's duties as a "disinterested person" chosen to divide the island up among the original proprietors: Simonton, Greene, William Whitehead and John William Charles Fleeming (Fleming). It is with this first map of Key West that the history of the Salt Pond begins.

OWNERSHIP AND EXPLOITATION OF THE PONDS

From the beginning, the Salt Pond of Key West has been private

property. The four original proprietors divided the island into four more or less equal parts. But these were not big chunks. Like present-day developers, Simonton, Greene, Whitehead and Fleming took their share of building lots in the original 258-acre town plot at the north-west corner of the island. Then they divided up a non-subdivided series of square sectional tracts in the southwestern half of the island.



Key West in the early 1930's. Note the salt pond areas to the right.

Finally they shared a series of long narrow tracts in the eastern third of the island. These extended from the dry land along the Gulf of Mexico right across the Salt Pond to the Atlantic Shore. The total acreage of the Salt Pond in those days was 340 acres, larger than the old town pond but normal bay bottom lined with mangroves and filled with a score of small mangrove islands. It was in this convoluted area of tidal flats and mangroves that the most spectacular of Key West's wild birds congregated, and it was here, rather than in the Salt Pond, that the

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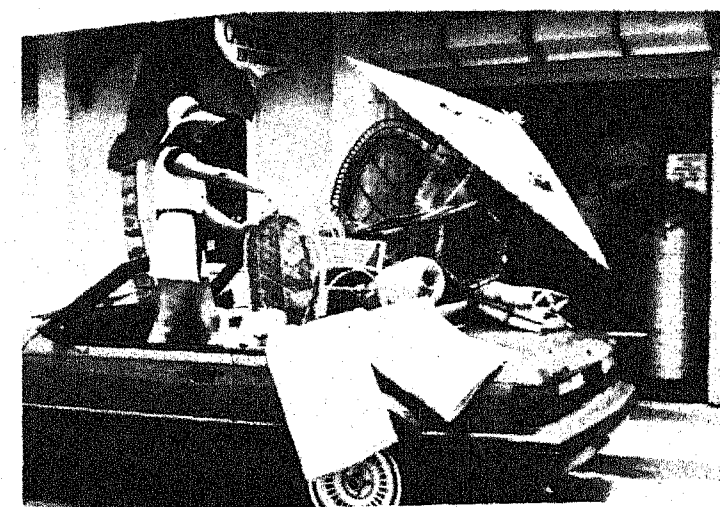


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famous naturalist and artist, John James Audubon, conducted his field trips in 1832.

Audubon would often rise at 3:00 a.m. to take a boat around to "the long sand bank on the eastern extremity of Key West... leaving not a pond or lake or bog unexplored, often wading through mud up to his knees, obliged to scramble over the roots of mangroves in search of specimens." While Audubon explored his "virgin wilderness," Key Westers were running a commercial salt business only 200 yards to the west.

Today, the two areas have become one, primarily as the result of development. A surviving part of the bay bottom bight is impounded behind the four lanes of South Roosevelt Boulevard but remains connected with the ocean by culverts. Another section of the bight is connected with the Atlantic by the Riviera Canal and the bight itself is now connected to the northern section of the true Salt Pond by the canal. Part of the bight has been impounded by a berm constructed by the development firm of Context-Marks. According to opponents of the project, the berm is illegal, and the matter has been in the courts since 1974. Thus, in discussing the Salt Ponds (plural) of Key West today, one must remember that the ocean bight has been combined with the original Salt Pond.

THE SALT INDUSTRY

The 340-acre Salt Pond was a real prize for the settlers of Key West. There was nothing quite like it anywhere else in the Keys because it was not a tidal flat or a conventional wetland. Surrounded, as it was, almost entirely by dry land, it was only flooded by hurricanes or extreme annual storm tides. Its principal outlet and inlet was a very narrow creek which would be Ninth Street on the present town map, if it were not water.

Even before the town was settled, the original proprietors took note of the possibilities for salt production on the pond. They considered it the most attractive potential industry. The man most interested was John Fleming, who undertook extensive studies of sea salt production in Europe in preparation for starting the local business.

In a letter, his friend William Adey Whitehead said, "Many years will pass before our island will have upon it a man so able to bring to light the capability of our natural salt pond to which we look for the ultimate prosperity of the place."

Unfortunately, Fleming died in 1832 before he could put his own plans into effect. However, Richard Fitzpatrick of South Carolina anticipated him by leasing the Whitehead sections of the pond in 1830 and hiring a black planter from the Bahamian island of Exuma named John Hart to construct and operate a salt works for three years. The salt bonanza never materialized. It turned out to be a tough business, at the mercy of the weather.

Hart and his crews, which may have been slave labor, constructed a series of salt pans 50' by 100' in size by building dikes of coral rock two feet high across the pond. Down the center from north to south they constructed a canal from the Gulf to the south bank of the pond. They installed gates, filled the pond on flood tide and then impounded the water for evaporation during the dry season. The weather was not cooperative. Rains came early the first season and wiped out the "crop." The second season, a few thousand bushels of salt were harvested. In 1834 a reduction in import duty on foreign salt led Fitzpatrick to abandon the works which at that time employed 30 men.

Yet salt was an essential of life in those days and, in the absence of freezer plants, especially important to the fish plants of the Carolinas and Virginia. So the following year, the Lafayette Salt Company, organized by John Simonton, took over the pond. It, too, failed. The company passed into the hands of Charles Howe, who bought out the other stockholders after the works were damaged in the hurricane of 1846.

Things began to look up. In 1850 the crop totalled 35,000 bushels, and Howe bought the Whitehead section outright. He sold a half interest in 1851 to W. C. Dennis, who actually managed the works. Production varied over the years from 15,000 to a record 75,000 bushels in 1855. This was banner business news in newspapers as far north as Pensacola. In those years the Salt Pond was profitable. But Dennis died in 1864, and the works were acquired the following year by Lieutenant

W. R. Livermore of the U.S. Corps of Engineers. Livermore may have been a good engineer, but he was not a successful businessman, and he seemed unable to manage his newly-freed black labor force. He spent a small fortune improving the works and then abandoned them in 1868. In 1871 part of the works passed back into the hands of C. and E. Howe, but any further attempt to make salt in Key West ended with the hurricane of 1876. In 1906, Howe sold his interest to W. D. Cash, and, subsequently, the Key West Realty Company bought his and the Livermore Estate's remaining interest and laid off the area into town building lots. Nothing came of this first attempt at real estate promotion, and the Salt Pond went back to nature. The mangroves multiplied, the birds nested, the ducks visited and marine life was restored. The bricks of the East Martello Fort, which had been started before The War Between The States and never completed, began to crumble, and if John James Audubon had returned to the area in 1910, he would have found little changed from 1832.

There was a moment in 1920, right after the First World War, when a grandiose Palm Beach-like development was proposed for the shore area between Bertha and White Street, but nothing came of this. However, the artist's conception of this development has been used for the cover of this booklet because it presents such an idealized picture of the still-wild Salt Pond and the adjacent bight.

THE ARRIVAL OF DEVELOPMENT

We skip now to March of 1926 when a stranger named Malcolm Meacham came to town. It was the height of the 1920's land boom in Florida and promoters like Meacham and Joseph P. Day of New York were making hay. Meacham was touted by none other than W. C. Barron, the founder of Wall Street's *Barron's* magazine, who came from Havana in his private yacht to sing Meacham's praises to *The Key West Citizen*.

What Meacham did was to buy the land that had been assembled by the Key West Realty Company from the Cash and Livermore interests and others. It totalled 1,000 acres, approximately half the island of

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Key West. The price was \$500,000, or \$500 an acre. Meacham paid \$200,000 and gave back a \$300,000 mortgage to the realty company. William R. Porter was president of both the realty company and the First National Bank of Key West at the time. He will figure prominently in the subsequent history of the Salt Pond.

Publisher Barron, who was the "blue sky" type, contributed an article to the *Citizen* of March 9, 1926, predicting that the real estate values of Key West might exceed \$100 million in the future. (He was short by about 1,000 percent.) He noted that Meacham was associated with Joseph P. Day of New York, Anthony Drexel Biddle, Sr., of Philadelphia and others in successful development schemes in the Palm Beach area. He touted the original "Overseas Highway" (then under construction from Florida City as a toll road) as the instrument which would transform the Florida Keys, and he noted that Key West was planning improvement of its own road around the Salt Pond to tie in with the highway.

According to Barron, Meacham was planning a five-million-dollar development just for starters. "His dredges are ready to move in," Barron said, and went on to indicate that an additional 1,000 acres of filled land might result with an ultimate value of \$50 million. Presumably this would have included the Salt Pond. Barron went on to trumpet that "the only values in the State of Florida are the values created by man." He itemized some of these: "Several sub-divisions have started to cut up practically the whole of Key Largo." "C. Bascom Slomp, Secretary to the President (Coolidge), is interested in Key Largo City, a \$60 million proposition." "Anglers Park promises 50-foot wide streets and is offering interior lots for \$3,000 and waterfront lots for \$10,000 with 1/3 down."

Meacham's operations in Key West were a good deal more modest than Barron predicted. He started out with safe and sure dry land, offering building lots on County Road (now part of Flagler) and Avenue "E" (now Eagle Avenue) at prices starting at \$695. In 1927, construction started on Key West Boulevard (now South Roosevelt). In September of that year, the fledgling Pan-American Airways started work on their 25-acre "airdrome" on land leased from Meacham and later to be called Meacham Field. It was simply a marl strip with a small shed hangar adjacent to the East Martello. It was built on dry land lying between the Salt Pond and the Cow Key Channel bight. In that boom year of 1927 everything looked rosy for Meacham and for

Key West. Plans were made for filling the Salt Pond.

Then came the stock market crash and the Great Depression. Meacham's huge tract reverted to the realty company, and it was not until the late 1940's that we hear about the Salt Pond again. Meanwhile, however, the city went bankrupt and lost its charter. The 1935 hurricane damaged the overseas railroad so badly that it was abandoned, but this tragedy inspired new interest in completing the Overseas Highway. World War II intervened and helped to restore the economy of Key West, so at the end of the war there appeared to be prospects of renewed land development in the quiet little town.

THE KEY WEST INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ENTERS THE PONDS

During World War II Meacham Field served as a military air strip. A triangular concrete runway system was built together with dispersal pads. This involved a certain amount of fill, and both the bight and the original Salt Pond began to shrink. At the end of the war, the county signed a lease with William R. Porter, who still headed the Key West Realty Company. The lease was an interesting document because it obligated Monroe County to pay all the taxes, including city taxes, on the realty company's property. Porter, it should be noted, had been a member of the County Commission at one time.

The County Commission, finding itself saddled with an onerous lease and a need for constructing a permanent county-owned airport in the Key West area, made a tentative offer of about \$100,000 for the 282-acre site. This was turned down by Porter, who apparently wanted \$135,000 plus \$20,000 for tax payments. The Commission then filed a condemnation suit. While this was still pending, Porter rocked the entire community by announcing the sale of all his company's properties to a Chicago syndicate for \$200,000.

History is silent on the exact circumstances of and motivation for this amazing deal, but various sources aver that William Porter, an imperious and willful man, had conceived an animosity for the officials of his native county and city, and had let it be known that he would not sell his huge tract to anyone from Monroe County. In

fact, he did turn down offers from within the county, including one from Charley Toppino, who was then starting his concrete manufacturing business.

In any event, Abe Golan, a Chicago attorney living in Miami, learned of the situation. Lacking the capital to proceed on his own, he enlisted the aid of Chicago investors Vincent Conley and Charles Helberg. Together they formed the Key West Improvement Company and made the historic deal with Porter for less than half the amount of money that Malcolm Meacham had contracted to pay Porter 13 years before. (This serves to throw some light on the catastrophic deflation caused by the Great Depression, especially in Florida where land-boom prices resembled those on the New York Stock Exchange from 1926 to 1929.)

The Golan group inherited the County's condemnation suit along with the land, which embraced not only the airport site but the entire half of the island of Key West east of Bertha Street, except for part of the Poinciana area. Of course, it included the Salt Pond and the bight. Then began one of those financial *paseo dobles* for which the Monroe County Commission is famous but which is too complex to relate here. However, the ultimate result was the sale of 156 acres to the County by the Golan group for \$150,000. This, in effect, left the Chicago syndicate in control of about 800 acres of Key West at a net cost of \$50,000.

Looking back, one is amazed that the still-wild Salt Ponds survived this new potential threat, but they did. And the reason is not complicated. Messrs. Golan, Conley and Helberg chose to develop the dry land instead of the ponds.

Over the years, moreover, a substantial amount of the land controlled by the Chicago triumvirate was given away or sold. Today, some thirteen separate private owners control the submerged land of the ponds. In addition, the City of Key West, Monroe County and the U.S. Government own substantial acreage.

When Congressman Dante Fascell dedicated Key West International Airport on July 4, 1957, more than \$1,150,000 had been expended in runway improvement, control tower construction and a terminal building. Since then the total investment in facilities has more than doubled because in the late 1970's the runways were lengthened, taxi ways were widened, and more salt pond was filled. All this was a matter of substantial satisfaction to Vincent Conley, the sole

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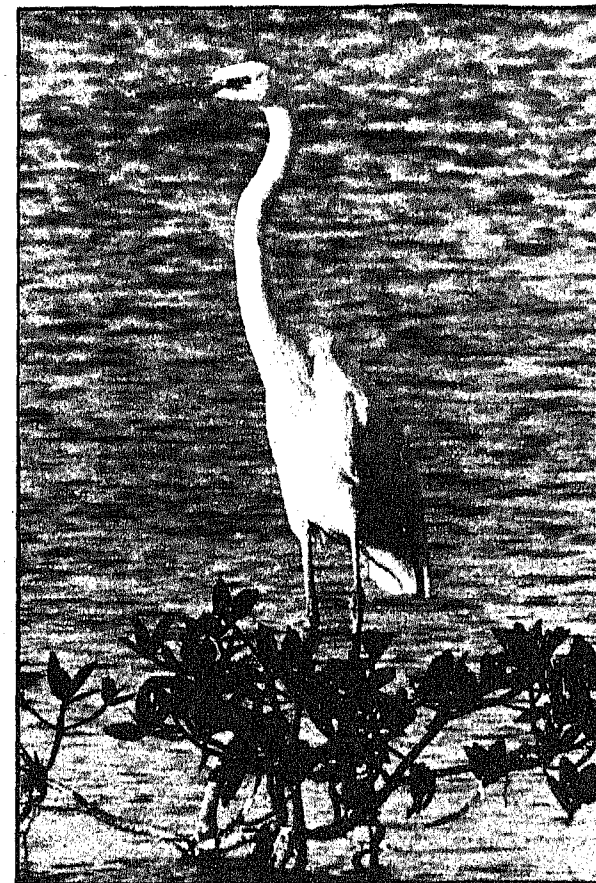
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to the Florida Keys Land Trust of the acreage on South Roosevelt Boulevard that now comprises the Riggs Wildlife Refuge. This first gift was followed by a much larger donation in 1963 of 38-plus acres of Salt Pond land on the north side of the airport adjacent to the Riviera Canal. This new gift, because of its strategic location, may conceivably start the chain reaction that will result in permanent protection of the Salt Ponds in its wild state.

The donation was the result of the generosity of the heirs of Maurice Spilky, a Chicagoan who purchased the tract from the Charles Helburg Estate. Receiver of the gift was the Nature Conservancy which conveyed the land to the Division of State Lands of the Florida Department of Natural Resources. The department has asked the Florida Audubon Society to manage the property. So, given the miracles that have saved the Salt Ponds since the beginning of Key West, who is to say that one will not happen again. Meanwhile the creatures of nature enjoy life in the pond as always, oblivious to the human controversy that swirls around them. The second part of this report is devoted to that natural life.



ECOLOGY OF THE KEY WEST SALT PONDS

A winter visitor to the Riggs Wildlife Refuge in the early morning has a treat in store. As he or she parks the car and walks through the gate onto the simple wooden platform, the mangroves close around and it is like walking into a different world. The sounds of cars on South Roosevelt Boulevard are muted and the visitor comes face to face with the peaceful life of the centuries-old Salt Pond. There are blue heron and white heron and a score or more of smaller wading birds; there are blue teal and mallards and mergansers and coots. There are fish a foot long jumping in the deeper reaches of the pond, and minnows of a dozen species swimming among the roots of the mangroves.

Watching the migratory waterfowl is an experience. Because most of the pond is only six inches to a foot deep, the ducks do not "duck." Instead, they form up in squads of six or eight and literally "vacuum" the bottom. Putting their heads down and paddling furiously with their feet while their bodies remain on the surface, they chase the small fry hither and yon, all the time remaining in tight formation and throwing wakes like miniature power boat racers.

Ocean birds such as terns, gulls, cormorants and pelicans also frequent the pond, but they know their place in the aviary pecking order and maintain a respectful distance from the ducks and herons. They do not feed in the pond but use it just for a rest stop before resuming their daily hunt for schools of mackerel.

Around the pond are mangrove fringes and buttonwood transition growth. Some stands are badly infiltrated by Brazilian pepper and Australian pine but others are pristine. Here and there are small hardwood hammock areas. The southerly pond on which the Riggs Wildlife Refuge is located is only one of eight ponds that once were part of the original Salt Pond and the original bight that existed before the filling and development, which are described in the preceding section, occurred. Each of these ponds has differences in marine life which depend upon the amount of tidal flow, proximity to the Riviera Canal or to one of the ocean culverts, and the degree to which their banks or other adjacent land has been disturbed. However, the flora of the ponds can be divided into the usual three categories: mangrove, transitional zone and hardwood hammock. Because of the airport development, including the World War II dispersal areas, and the former Hawk missile battery site, and because of filling of the eastern portion of the bight, there is a good deal of disturbed open dry land, occupying former submerged areas, which has become quite sterile and barren. Yet, there remains a large acreage in the wild state in which the indigenous fauna and flora continue to flourish.

At the eastern end of the airport there are substantial stands of hardwood trees and red, white and black mangroves. The forest canopy there rises to a height of 50 feet in spots. Dominant plant species in the mangrove area are sea daisy, beach elder, saltwort, mayten and perennial glasswort. The eastern hammock areas, which have

been disturbed by earth-moving machinery, motorcyclists and campers, still contain a large number of hardwood trees up to 25 feet in height including buttonwood, gumbo limbo, Spanish stopper, wild dill, poisonwood and black bead. There are also joewood, bay cedar and seaside mahoe, cinnamon bark, sea grape, strangler fig and wild banyan. Other species identified include the saffron plum, hog plum and Darling plum.

Plants and shrubs of the hammock areas adjacent to the Salt Ponds include: alligator weed, burmarigold, sandspur, dido cactus, spurge, crowfoot grass, rubber vine, erithalis, false boxwood, moon vine, railroad vine, sky blue morning glory, bush lantern, bamboo grass, Christmas berry, yellow root, white indigo berry, white tuber vine, sea purslane, necklace pod and wedelia.

The mangrove area additionally contains salt grass, saltjoint grass, tidal grass, seaside gentian, beach morning glory, marsh elder, samphire, cordgrass and dropseed. The ponds themselves contain extensive grass beds. These vary according to the time of year, the amount of rain, the level of the water and the amount of tidal flow. The sea grasses observed include *Ruppia Maritima* and *Halodule Beaudetii* (L.L.).

Marine life in the Salt Ponds includes: small barracuda, blue crabs, shrimp, sheepshead minnow, Florida Keys killifish, rainwater killifish, key silverside, and snailin molly. Also more than a dozen species of mollusks and crustaceans and the small fry of various ocean fishes. Thus the ponds are still of great economic importance because they serve as an important nursery for the replenishment of commercial ocean fish stocks in the Key West area.

A FRIENDLY HABITAT

One of the remarkable things about the Key West Salt Ponds is how the wild life has adapted to the nearby presence of man. Key West International Airport is a busy place but the waterfowl and wading birds take the noise of landing and departing aircraft in their stride. The ducks do not even pause in their feeding. Nesting takes place in spite of such predators as raccoons and Key West's large roaming dog and cat population. The most westerly of the ponds is sandwiched between Key West By The Sea Condominiums, the new La Brisa Condominiums and the Key West High School. Yet it supports a large bird population and abundant marine life. Still there are dangers. Only a dozen years ago, large blue claw crabs were abundant in the Riviera Canal and the adjacent ponds. Then the easternmost pond was impounded by a berm for a proposed development, and the crabs disappeared. They are seldom sighted today.

CONCLUSION

In the first section of this study, which reviewed the history of the Key West Salt Ponds, the reader will have noted that time after time the ponds were threatened with extinction and yet somehow survived. Human fate and economics had a lot to do with this: if the early salt makers had been consistently successful and their markets had endured, things might be different today. If the land boom speculators of the 1920's had been successful, the ponds might have disappeared entirely under residential housing, commercial plazas, hotels and apartments. If the post-World War II speculators had been bolder and possessed of more capital, they too might have been able to develop the Salt Ponds before federal, state and local environmental controls were imposed. If the two attempts to operate jet aircraft out of Key West had proved profitable for National Airlines and Air Florida, respectively, the airport might have been further enlarged and much of the remaining pond area destroyed.

As it is, none of these things has happened. Substantial pond areas remain. But the future is unclear. Most of the pond acreage is still privately owned, and the owners continue to pay taxes year after year, hoping that present laws and regulations may change and permit them to develop their property in accordance with the city's zoning map and ordinances. Various conservation groups, on the other hand, hope that a way will be found to save the ponds permanently now that they have survived more than a century and a half of human development in Key West. The ghost of John James Audubon, presumably, would approve.

Just in the past three years, the balance appears to be swinging, ever so slightly in favor of conservation. The recent 38-acre acquisition by the Nature Conservancy, referred to in Part I of this report, may be just an aberration in the long-term trend toward development, or it may be a first important indicator in favor of preservation. Certainly it demonstrates that Florida's Department of Natural Resources is aware of the importance of Key West's historic Salt Ponds. But, as with most human endeavors, money enters into the equation, and acquisition of the remaining privately-owned parcels in the ponds promises to be a long and costly task.

However, the Nature Conservancy, a national organization, and its relatively tiny neighbor, the Florida Keys Land Trust, are now visible factors in the monetary equation. Donations or bargain sales to these organizations may provide sufficient financial incentive, through tax deductions, for many landowners to offer their properties for public use as a forever wild preserve. The next few years will tell the story.

Meanwhile, the Key West Salt Ponds endure as a natural domain ruled over by the birds and animals that inhabit it. It is a domain which human beings may also enjoy as observers and through which they can explore by skiff and canoe. The ponds constitute a natural studio for the photographer and a natural laboratory for the biology classes of the Key West schools and of the Florida Keys Community College. It is in large part to these young people who will inherit the Key West of the future that we dedicate this brief and informal study.

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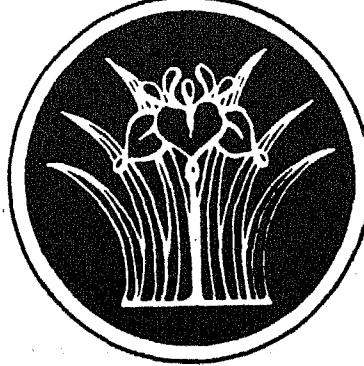
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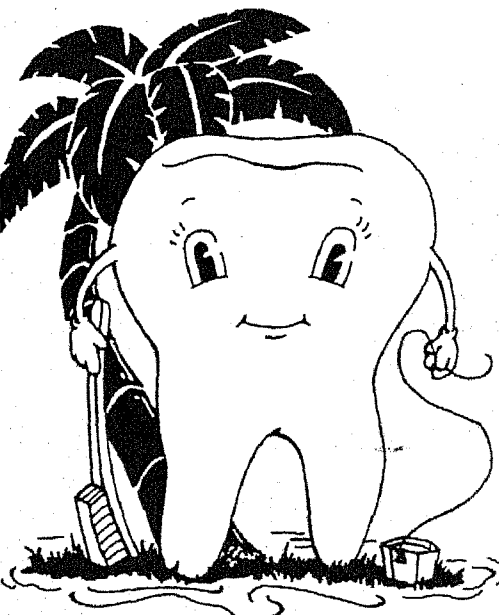
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SOME THOUGHTS

by GIL RYDER

SEPTEMBER 4TH IS a crucial date this year. That is the day of Primary Elections, and the results of the Primary Elections may very well direct the future of the Florida Keys.

September 4th is the day for you, the voter, to play a strong part in directing the course of history of the Florida Keys for the foreseeable future.

THE KEYS ARE, undoubtedly, going to grow in population. That population growth will create business opportunities which will, in turn, create employment opportunities. The employment opportunities will attract people seeking work who will, in themselves, add to the population.

All these people will need housing. The problem that the County Commission will face, and have to solve, is how to provide all this housing without destroying the pleasant way of life, pleasant outlook, beautiful scenic water views and serene atmosphere that now exist.

THEY MUST ALSO be prepared to deal with the disposal of vast amounts of garbage, trash and sewage, and the provision of adequate potable water and reliable sources of electric power. They must be ready, willing, and able to cooperate with the Sheriff's Department so that the Sheriff's Department will be able to handle the crime that will surely increase with the expanding population.

ALL THESE AND many other problems will have to be addressed through

legislative action. Don't let that statement scare you - it does not refer to the State Legislature. The County Commission is, in itself, a legislative body.

WE MUST MAKE sure that we are electing Commissioners capable of writing County ordinances that will be clear, concise, and effective, easily understood by the lay population and not open to varying interpretations or legal quibbling as to exactly what the words and phrases mean, or too long discussions concerning intent and purpose.

Our Commissioners do not need to be lawyers, accountants, engineers, or

THE BIG ISSUE IS: WILL THE CITIZENS OF THE KEYS, THROUGH THEIR ELECTED OFFICIALS, CONTROL THE MANNER IN WHICH THE KEYS GROW, OR WILL THE CONTROL BE LEFT IN THE HANDS OF SPECULATORS AND DEVELOPERS.

professionals of any sort. Neither do they need university degrees, but they must be men and women with sound common sense, well able to communicate and equally well able to be communicated with.

EACH CANDIDATE FOR County Commissioner should understand that he, or she, is applying for a \$50,000 job that pays only \$16,000 but is, nevertheless, a full-time job, and that the citizens, whether they are voters or not, will not excuse laxity or ineptitude just because the job is underpaid.

IF WE SHOULD ever be fortunate enough to get five such paragons in office at the same time, we should be eternally grateful to them for accepting the job and we should also be thankful that we had the good sense to elect them.

THE PRIMARY ELECTIONS give us the opportunity to weed out the least

qualified candidates, a procedure that then allows us to select from among the best qualified candidates in November.

However, if we fail to vote, or even fail to vote sensibly, in September, we cannot regain that lost ground in November. The future of the Keys is at stake on September 4th.

EACH COUNTY COMMISSIONER is paid \$16,166.00 per year. That adds up to a total of \$80,830.00 per year for the Commission as a whole - not by any means too expensive for good legislative government. Unfortunately, the cost remains the same whether you

are getting good government or bad. You can have either one: good government or bad. The choice is yours.

It is the responsibility of each citizen to consider seriously the background, character and intelligence of each candidate, and then judge who is best qualified for the office sought.

WE MENTIONED CRIME as a problem but, though the County Commission should interest itself in that area, it's a problem that must be handled by police agencies, the State Attorney's office and other parts of the criminal justice system, with the cooperation of the County Commission.

FINANCES ARE ALWAYS a problem, and the Commissioners should have the cooperation of the various department heads, through the County Administrator, to assure that such finances will be handled in a sensible manner.

This seems to be a good spot to list the salaries paid for the various elective offices: Clerk of the Circuit Court, \$35,750; Sheriff, \$35,750; Superintendent of Public Schools, \$39,164; Property Appraiser, \$35,750; Tax Collector, \$30,630; Supervisor of Elections, \$28,891; County Commissioner, \$16,166; School Board Member, \$11,263; Mosquito Control Commissioner, \$6,000.

IN MOST CASES, each candidate must pay a filing fee of 5% of the job's salary - it's not cheap to run for office. The filing fee is not returned to the losers.

The cost of running for office is heavy. That is why we should all make campaign contributions to the candidates we favor. The salaries shown are, of course, not all the salaries paid by your taxes - the cost is enormous. That knowledge alone should cause the voter to take a very serious interest in political matters. Even if you can't bring the cost down, you can make a serious effort to bring the quality up.

A SMALL CONTRIBUTION to your favorite candidate's campaign does not mean that you can dictate to the candidate when he or she is elected, but, if the small contributions do not come in in sufficient numbers, then a handful of large contributors will obviously get the candidate(s) elected. Then the shoe is on the other foot. Large contributors, not balanced by small contributors, stick out like a sore thumb, and we will find that the ones who pay the fiddlers call the tunes.

OBVIOUSLY, THE CANDIDATES need a bit of your money as well as your vote, if we want to uphold the old American

principle of government "by the people, of the people, for the people." We might, otherwise, get government "of the people, by the Special Interests, for the Special Interests."

All the elective offices are extremely important, but the County Commission, our legislative body, will be the controlling factor in the next two years, and will decide how the Florida Keys will handle the growth problem. They will decide how we are going to pay for the new schools, more teachers, more principals, more secretaries, more custodians, more policemen, more dogcatchers, more paved roads, more traffic controls, more emergency services, and the many other expenses that go with growth.

YOU MAY THINK that the new rules concerning our growth, prepared by the State, will take care of everything - but they won't. Land Use Plans, Land Use Maps, Area of Critical Concern, etc., aren't worth the paper they're printed on if we have County Commissioners who turn a blind eye toward infractions, grant too many special exceptions and variances, or lack the courage of their convictions when a lawyer says, "You'll be sued." We can't afford to have even one Commissioner who is weak-kneed, unaware of the issues and their complications, or who could be corrupted by money, love, booze, or favors.

THE BIG ISSUE in this election is growth - not whether or not our population will increase, because we will grow no matter how you vote. The big issue is; will the citizens of the Keys, through their elected officials, control the manner in which the Keys grow, or will the control be left in the hands of speculators and developers.

DO WE WANT Commissioners who will be guided by the honeyed words of developers, or do we want Commissioners who will regard it as their duty to protect the inarticulate, lawyerless, homeowners, who do not want to see their communities destroyed by ugly construction and left with inadequate access to the waterfront?

IT'S ALL UP TO YOU. Get the facts; vote in the Primary and again in November.

Remember: "The greatest evils are perpetrated by good men who do nothing."

KUDZU KONDOS KOVER THE KEYS

The Kudzu vine is a dangerous weed. That covers ground with amazing speed. It starts in the middle and goes round for miles. Covers the farms and goes over the stiles, Obeyes no law or moral creed And it all begins with a tiny seed.

It must be killed when it first appears, For it can't be controlled with machete or shears. Just like the condos that are spreading apace, They'll be running us off - we'll lose the race.

When Kudzu Kondos Kover the Keys, We'll gladly trade for a plague of fleas. The sights and scents we all once knew Will be so much smoke, blown up the flue. We'll offer up prayers to the powers that be, But prayers won't work - we'll have to flee.

Gil Ryder

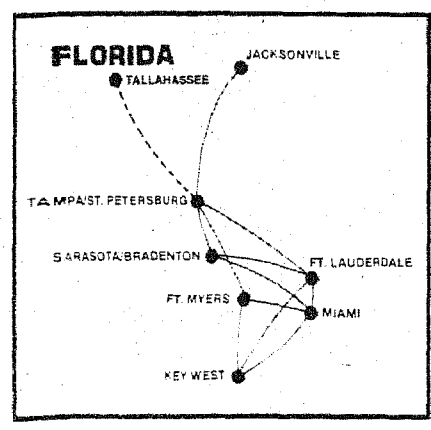


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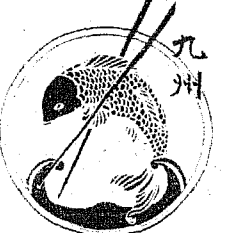
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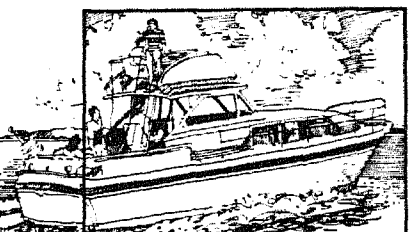
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Rincon Criollo



Por: *Martha Menendez*

AQUÍ ME TIENEN de nuevo mis estimados lectores y con mucho interés, quiero dedicar la primera parte de este artículo, a la organización llamada, "Big Brothers/Big Sisters de America."

Hace varios años, yo escuchaba de vez en cuando anuncios por la radio, televisión, y periódicos sobre esta gran organización. Me acojonaba solo de pensar los miles de niños que viven en hogares de padres divorciados, y de falta de comprensión y amor. Leyendo un día un artículo en el periódico, pude notar cuan maravillosa fue la idea de formar esta organización la cual resuelve los problemas de tantos y tantos niños en America, pues también llegó cierto día, en que tuve una llamada telefónica y la persona que me solicitaba me pedía ayuda para esta Organización, yo, dispuesta a cooperar, le pregunté que clase de ayuda quería, y solo me pidió que le hiciera unos anuncios por la radio en español sobre dicha Organización, yo, encantada

acepte, y Gracias a Dios se ha tenido un gran éxito, pues varias personas de habla hispana han llamado para cooperar con Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Y ahora que tengo la oportunidad de comunicarme con ustedes a través de este periódico, vuelvo de nuevo a poner mi granito de arena y hacer una explicación un poco mas amplia sobre lo que llamamos Big Brothers/Big Sisters y la voy a hacer a través de un panfleto que me dio la Directora de dicho programa en Monroe County la Señorita Kit Jones la cual tiene su oficina aquí en Cayo Hueso, el panfleto dice así:

"ESTOS NIÑOS NECESITAN UNA persona especial".
Esa persona especial es Ud.

UD. PUEDE HACER MUCHO por la vida de un niño Hispano, quien esta creciendo sin uno de los padres, o sin los padres. Muchos de ellos no reciben amor, consejos o compañía. Lo cual muchos de ellos lo necesitan, Ud puede ofrecer a uno de ellos compañía y quizás lo pueda ayudar a evitar problemas en la escuela, en la casa o en la vecindad.

¿QUE PUEDE UD. HACER?

UD. PUEDE OFRECER unas pocas horas de su tiempo cada semana para compartir

con uno de estos niños (edad de 6 a 18) como un hermano mayor o hermana mayor. Puede jugar football, ir a pescar, preparar un pastel o enseñarle a coser. Esto no cuesta dinero. Solo tiene que dar un poquito de su tiempo. ¿Que conseguira Ud. con todo esto?
Una felicidad profunda y sin limites, al conocer que Ud. estara ayudando a un niño o niña hispana que necesita realmente de Ud. y Ud. puede hacerlo mejor que otra persona.

AHORA AQUÍ MÁS O MENOS llega lo relacionado a este panfleto que han dis tribuido por algunos comercios de nuestra Isla, pero si Ud. no lo tiene a su alcance con mucho gusto les doy el telefono de la oficina aquí en Cayo la cual esta localizada en Peary Court, y les contestara la Señorita Jones, ella se encargara de explicarle mas detalladamente, por favor lea todo este artículo examínalo bien, y si tiene la oportunidad de ayudar a una criatura, aquí esta el telefono, 294-9891.

El pasado mes de Agosto, el Alcalde de nuestra Ciudad Mayor Richard Heyman hizo una declaración sobre la enfermedad tan espantosa que muchas personas estan tan preocupadas llamada AIDS, él proclamó ese mes como el mes de precaución lo cual se han preparado varios programas. El Director de este programa se llama Allan O'Hara el cual tuvieron

diferentes en formas educacionales sobre dicha enfermedad. Si Ud. esta interesado en saber mas sobre este asunto, puede llamar al señor O'Hara al Florida Keys Memorial Hospital de lunes a viernes al telefono 294-5531, y él con mucho gusto lo atendera.

REFERENTE A LOS PROGRAMAS educacionales del High School ofrecidos a los adultos, puedo informarles que a partir de los días 4, 5, 6, y 7 del mes de Septiembre pueden inscribirse toda aquella persona que quiera coger un curso ya sea para obtener creditos por el diploma o alguna carrera vocacional tales como Corte y Costura, Mecanica, Electricidad, etc.

Si desea mas información, puede llamar al High School al telefono 294-5212, Ext. 245 o 246. Las horas para inscribirse son de 7 a 9 de la noche, y la persona debe presentar su Social Security (Seguro Social). Estos cursos tienen diferentes precios, tales como los que se quieren obtener para acumular creditos para el diploma de High School son \$5. Los vocacionales \$10 menos el de enfermera que son \$15. Las clases de Ingles son todas gratis.

En mi humilde opinión, estimada dama o caballero, si Ud. Tiene un tiempito por la noche y no sabe en que emplearlo, seria una gran idea asistir a las clases de su preferencia.

SI AÚN NO HA TERMINADO el High School. ¿Porque no lo hace ahora? Esta es una gran oportunidad para dar otro paso avanzado en la vida. No se detenga, siga hasta llegar a la meta, que nuestro Mundo esta lleno de muchas oportunidades, y esta es una de ellas. Y cuando salga este periódico a la calle, ya las mamás estaran muy contentas porque sus niños estaran acudiendo a las clases, yo como mamá tambien que soy me siento feliz, pues ya es hora que de unas bien ganadas vacaciones estos niños regresen a sus Escuelas a seguir aprendiendo, tenemos que recordar que ellos son el Futuro del Universo.

CON MUCHO CAROIO LOS DEJO, y espero tener muchos escritos agradables a la disposición de ustedes.

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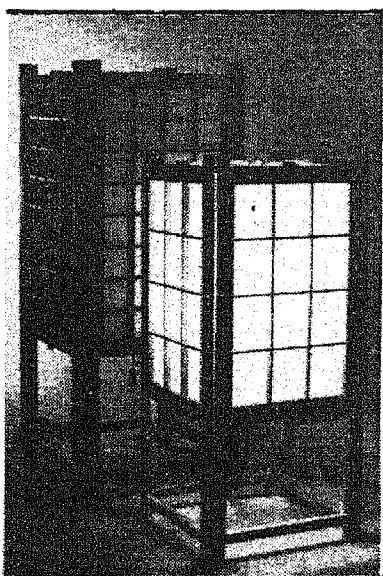
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Gallery Hopping

EVERYONE SAYS SEPTEMBER is the pits. It will be our first September here, but my feeling is that everyone is probably right.

Gingerbread Gallery closed.
Lucky Gallery, also, closed.
Artist's Warehouse, Karen,
closed.

Sign of Sandford, too.

FARRINGTON'S, 711 DUVAL, open Tues.-Sat. 9-5:30. Although, Ned will be studying the latest techniques at the National Picture Framers' Convention in Chicago, the gallery is featuring local Don Van der Linder's (Skipper) watercolors.

JACK BARON, 802 Truman, literally cannot close; his tons of oriental impediments have arrived, blocking doors and windows. He paints bravely on in the dusk.

RUTH KRAVITZ, HATIAN Gallery, 600 Frances, has an overwhelming problem of a different sort: a giant 3x6 painting by the famous Prefet Dufault, and the price is in line with the quantity; \$9000. A go-see for this month. People are getting edgy about Dudley's continuing absence. I predict we haven't long to wait now...

THE STALWART KEY West Art Center, 301 Front Street, 11-5, never misses a day, and faithfulness counts.

AT THE GUILD Hall Gallery, 614 Duval, open 9:30-5:30, also, every day, home of the 12 ultra-cooperating artists. I tried to speak to notably-speakable-to Ann Irvine, but with the crowd buying up cards and prints, I

satisfied myself with a wave and a smile. Hers.

SEPTEMBER IS A good month to check out the coolth* and garden breezes at Jordon's, 808 Duval. Good art, good food, good company, but whether the lazy afternoon bridge is good depends on one-self and partner.

*Coolth: see Laurence Durrell's "Constance or Solitary Practices."

LACY GALLERY, 801 Whitehead Street, 10:30-5 except Sun. Imported paintings and lithographs and antique porcelains. A nice messy mixture of pedigree stuff: ours. Big news here is a just-in shipment of 19th and 20th Century canvases from Paris. Browsing obligatory.



by GORDON LACY

FRED GROS, 901 Duval, will be open with his stable of painters, not the least of whom, himself, refreshed from his August stint as art judge at the Iowa State Fair, going onwards and upwards toward his grand November opening.

EAST MARTELLO, WAY out at 3000 S. Roosevelt, 9:30-5:00 daily, is well worth a visit for the metal sculptures of our local man, Robert Windisch, much admired; with, as dividend the oils and acrylics by Middle-Keys Philadelphia abstractionist, J. L. Sicre. Good double bill.

GILBERTE SWEENEY, ART Modern Galerie, Amelia St., 1-5 only, is a very productive artist in oils, collages and sculptures. Have a look at her "insult column," my this-month's thing.

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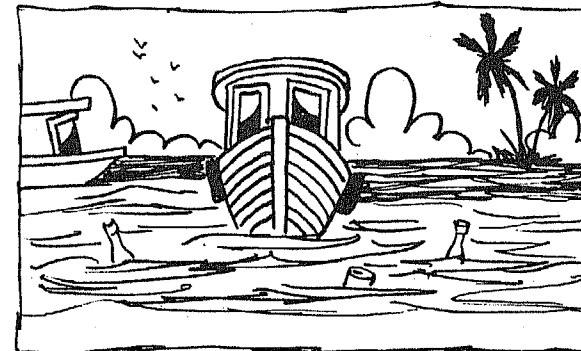
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continued from page 5

wind. (c) The extreme bottom of the boat.

(20) SICK BAY: (a) A harbor full of derelict ships. (b) A small



inlet on the coast of Anarctica. (c) The hospital on board a ship.

(21) ROLL AND PITCH: A deck game played with a heavy wooden ball. (b) The way sailors walk when they've been at sea too long. (c) The movement of a ship from side to side and from bow to stern.

(22) AYE AYE: (a) What an admiral in the Mexican Navy says when he is told his ship has run aground. (b) A term used by seamen to acknowledge an order. (c) A large clumsy seabird.

(23) SECURE ALL HATCHES: (a) For everyone to shut up and be quiet. (b) To close all openings on board ship. (c) To go ashore and collect turtle eggs for breakfast.

(24) TROLLING: (a) What seamen's wives are doing while the sailors are out at sea. (b) Fishing by trailing a fishing line from a slow-moving boat. (c) Finding the speed of a large sailing vessel by dragging a crewmember through the water just ahead of the sharks.

(25) SEXTANT: (a) A small pocket guide sailors study before entering a port. (b) The ship's second ranking officer. (c) An instrument used to determine location at sea.

(26) STUFFING BOX: (a) Where the ship's cook puts the stuffing. (b) A tiny locker where a sailor keeps his belongings. (c) A device used to prevent leakage where the propeller shaft goes through the hull.

(27) MAYDAY: (a) An international seamen's holiday when sailors do the may-pole dance around the ship's mast. (b) The one day of the year when the Spring tide is both at its highest and lowest. (c) International distress signal.

(28) DINGY: (a) A naval officer on his first cruise. (b) A native of a group of islands off the southwest coast of Australia. (c) A small open boat.

(29) BREAST LINE: (a) A row of singing mermaids. (b) The line you have to get in on board a cruise ship if you want chicken instead of fish. (c) A line located near the middle of the boat, used to secure the boat to the dock.

(30) FLOTSAM AND JETSAM: (a) The twin daughters of Neptune. (b) The two men who invented the navigational compass. (c) Wreckage and cargo found floating on the water from a wrecked or sunken ship.

ANSWERS: 1. c, 2. c, 3. b, 4. c, 5. b, 6. c, 7. c, 8. b, 9. c, 10. a, 11. b, 12. b, 13. b, 14. b, 15. c, 16. c, 17. c, 18. c, 19. b, 20. c, 21. c, 22. b, 23. b, 24. b, 25. c, 26. c, 27. c, 28. c, 29. c, 30. c.

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THE FAMOUS POETESS, Elizabeth Bishop, after returning from Paris in 1935, lived nine years in Key West during the '30s and '40s. There was not a lot of carrying on about her residency as there is today over a stable of lesser gifted writers who transplant to Key West. (This smart-alecky remark does not include playwright Tennessee Williams nor James Leo Herlihy nor Jimmy Kirkwood.) Elizabeth Bishop, who died in 1979, after winning all the poetry plaudits and prizes the world has to offer, quietly went about her business through the lanes of the island with

her friend Loren MacIver who at that time encouraged her to pursue her gifts as a painter, also. Poetess Marianne Moore visited her in Key West.

I PICKED UP just-published "Elizabeth Bishop's Prose" when I was looking for Joyce Cary's "The Horse's Mouth." Bishop's book contains two pithy stories about Key West. They brought back all the Key West charms which I ordinarily try to block out, summertime, up here on the mountain. When you allow your thoughts to mix Key West's doings and images with the mountain's, it's like sitting on a badly designed teeter-totter. Or, it's like a dog trying to manage two tails. Summer's life at the top (5,000 feet) gives a miss to Key West's gender confusion, vulnerability to hurricanes and a localized island epidemic of genteel (some-

times) alcoholism.

A KEEN READER, who reads authors for style, it would be a deficient summer if I couldn't re-read Pamela Hansford Johnson's "Cork Street Next to the Hatters" or Kingsley Amis' "Lucky Jim" or Peter de Vries' "Reuben, Reuben" or anything and all by Graham Greene or Lawrence Durrell's "The Alexandrian Quartet." Bishop's tale, "Mercedes Hospital," blending fiction and fact, is of the Mercedes Hospital, "Casa de Pobre," given to Key West by a Cuban cigar maker millionaire and named after his wife, Mercedes. There, Elizabeth Bishop finds a saint, a poor nurse running all of it in "a soiled white uniform, dirty long white shoes, a Poor Box nailed to the wall of the lobby and a yellowed picture of Marti ascending to heaven." "Mr. Tommy," there 14 years, sings hymns just to spite his cousin, "Mr. Sonny," in the

next room. There's a tubercular Negro named Milton, and in "the little crazy house" is Antonia in a long, ragged flannel nightie with a neck ruffle. "The sun falls onto her; the hot island wind blows in on her straight from the embers of the huge red poinciana tree outside." Maria, the nurse, so Bishop said, ran the place on \$130 from its donor and whatever she could scrounge. Bishop also writes a short story, "Gregorio Valdes," about falling in love with a primitive painting in a window of a barber shop on Duval Street. This picture of royal palm trees in a row of seven each side of a view, is next to an announcement of an operetta at the Cuban school, all covered with dust, fly spots, and littered with termite wings, and is bought for \$3.

I IMMEDIATELY GET on the horn to consult my Resident Key West Verifiably Historical Eminent Advisor, Beva Sanchez, who happens to be visiting her grandchildren in Huntsville, Alabama. I can visualize Beva, straightening her shoulders and clearing her throat preparatory to straightening us out: "I, Beva Lacedonia, was born in this house that became Mercedes Hospital! The house was temporarily in the care of my father, Jose, who had been a captain in the Gato cigar factory. The house then sat on what is now Bayview Park. The cigar king, Eduardo H. Gato, gave Key West the land and the house also so long as the house was used as a charitable hospital. He and his wife Mercedes had left for Cuba. Gato also gave his two sons houses, one across from the Margaret Truman Lauderette and one across from the Southernmost House on South Street. A nurse, Maria Guaguin did for all the patients and begged everywhere for the things that they needed. She stood at the doors of the cigar factories, and workers threw money into her box. Island people always gave

her old clothes and food. She was seemingly inexhaustible. When she left (or died), the hospital, as all had predicted, closed. And, of course, it is a matter of record that it was moved to the corner of White and Virginia Streets where presently Richard Fischer breathes warmth and beauty into the historic old frame building. The first marriage of J. Y. Porter, a prominent lawyer who practiced in another day in Key West, was to Edna, granddaughter of Gato, and their progeny today are Gato heirs, heirs to the cigar fortune. Canny Gato, it is said, tied up the bequests in conservative allotments. These Gato-Porter descendants live in Miami."

I HANG UP the telephone and refer to Bishop's "Mercedes Hospital." "Among Nurse Maria's saintly qualities, tenderness is lacking. In fact, it is the lack of tenderness that is the consoling thing about her! I realize that we suspect saints because of the ambiguous nature of all good deeds, the impossibility of our knowing why they are being performed. Maria hasn't any idea that what she is doing where she is needs explaining."

SITTING HERE PONDERING, I consider all manner of thoughts about the nurse who may have been a sort of saint. Perhaps we cannot ever grasp the comprehension of what Love is. God? Anyway, the boughs that bear the most fruit, hang the lowest. And, it should be a comfort that psychoanalyst, Dr. Karl Menninger said, "Generous people rarely are mentally ill."

A Republican, I feel quite tenderly about Mercedes Hospital, Casa de Pobre, and its saintlike Nurse Maria, as I believe surely in more personal charity.



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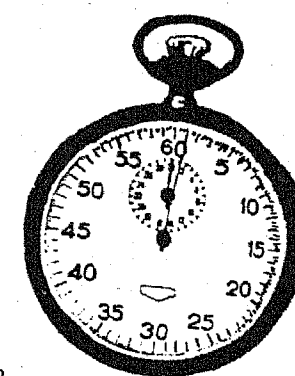
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COURSE OFFERINGS

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION	DATE	FEE	ROOM	TEACHER
Adult Basic Ed. (1-8)	T-Th	N/C	J-27	Moses
Adult Basic Ed. (MARC)	M-F	N/C	MARC	Josephson
English as a Second Language	T-Th	N/C	J-22	TBA
ADULT GENERAL EDUCATION				
Art (Basic drawing/painting)	T-Th	\$5	E-6	Bertocci
Algebra (Elementary)	T-Th	\$5	J-32	Rodger
American Government	M-W	\$5	J-25	Scollo
Bible History	M-F	\$5	St. James	Rev. Carter
Bible History	T-Th	\$5	Ley Wm.	Rev. Muller
Conversational Spanish	M-W	\$5	J-23	Kelly
Conversational Spanish (3-6 PM)	Thur.	\$5	J-23	Sanchez
Drivers Training	T-Th	\$5	J-17	McKell
English I-IV	M-W	\$5	TBA	Widener
GED Review (Computer Assisted)	M-W	\$7	C-2	Puig/Hall
GED Review (Advanced)	M-W	\$7	J-35	Puig
General Science	M-Th	\$5	J-28	Evans
General Math	T-Th	\$5	J-32	Rodger
Micro Computers (5-week terms)	T-Th	\$5	J-5	TBA
SAT Review	T-Th	\$5	TBA	TBA
ADULT VOCATIONAL EDUCATION				
Auto Body Repair	M-W	\$15	V-103	Aulozzi
Auto Mechanics	M-W	\$15	V-102	Higgs
Accounting (Computerized)	T-Th	\$15	J-13	Turner
Basic Electricity/Electronics	T-Th	\$15	E-8	Fernandez
Fish & Shrimp Trawling (9AM-noon)	M-F	\$15	B-19	Hagenkottter
Nursing Assisting (Mon, Tues, Thurs, & Sat)		\$15	C-34	Cumberland
Sewing	T-Th	\$15	B-7	S. Roberts
Typing	M-W	\$15	TBA	L. Roberts
Welding	M-W	\$15	Weld.	Lisle
Woodworking/Shop	M-W	\$15	E-7	Ciesinski
Office Skills Training (1-4PM or 6-9PM Daily)	IMTS			Freeman
COMMUNITY SCHOOL				
Gymnastics	M-S	dues	Gym	Beets
Karate	M-Th	dues	C-30	Lisle
Boating Course	T-Th	\$6	HOB	Logeman

FOR INFORMATION CALL 294-5212, Ext. 245 or 246. Registration is from 7 to 9PM in the J-Wing Auditorium at Key West High on September 4, 5, 6, and 7, 1984. Social Security Numbers are required for registration.

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SPECTRUM SCHOOL - WHERE YOU ARE #1

by C.A. and P.K.

YOU'RE SPECIAL HERE. You are part of a unique blend of students, teachers, parents and community folk who are found in and around Spectrum School. Going on its fourth year, Spectrum School, located on Big Coppitt Key, has taken real life and applied it to the education of its students who range in age from five to fourteen years. This alternative to public and parochial school provides academic instruction with a zest for learning and living. The holistic approach applied at Spectrum is evident in that its goals include intellectual, emotional and spiritual development, as well as training to build sound physical and manual skills. There is an integration of intellectual and practical knowledge here, where the student-teacher ratio never exceeds 10 to 1.

A FAMILIAR FACE at Spectrum School is that of Pepper Kellum, who along with her associate, Carol Anderson, tries to provide an environment where children can develop a positive self-concept and become strong, sensitive, skillful beings. The home-like setting of the school helps to capture the curiosity, imagination and intellect of the child, leading to an exciting learning experience and fulfillment in day-to-day living. These two certified teachers are aware that children have needs that go beyond the acquisition of specific knowledge, skills and habits. Children at Spectrum School are encouraged in their eagerness to grow and learn. Development flourishes here, in an atmosphere that is friendly to them, where responsibilities are realistic and situations offer challenges with satisfaction.

SPECTRUM SCHOOL IS interested in the involvement of family and community in its student's curriculum. Outside activities and studies are an important part of Spectrum School. Spectrum School students and staff have initiated the section of this paper called "Especially for Kids" where games, stories, recipes and information pertinent to "kids" of all ages is presented in an artistic, imaginative manner.



LOOKING TOWARDS THE future, Spectrum School would like to open its doors to pre-school children and is presently pursuing information that could lead to a suitable location for a pre-school. Public input is encouraged in this area and anyone having access to a school site should notify

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SAT. 10:00-12:00		

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the school so that our pre-schoolers may have the opportunity for a joyful beginning to their education.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION in the learning process is vital. We can't lose sight of the fact that all humans share the need for reasonable acceptance and happiness. Children must be permitted the privilege of growing where their individual worth is recognized, irrespective of family, religion, race or ethnic background. It is Spectrum School's wish to give children these privileges.

FALL CLASSES RESUME September 4th. There are presently a few openings left in the kindergarten and elementary classes. Transportation is available to and from Key West, and car pools can be arranged in other areas of the Lower Keys. Anyone desiring more information should call the school at 296-3252 as soon as possible, as class size is limited.

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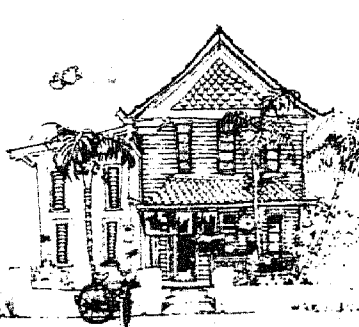
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GENTLEMAN Jim & Bubba-Tin

"I'M A GENTLEMAN. I always have been a gentleman and I always will be a gentleman," said City Commissioner Jimmy Mira.

"I just want you to know that you can call me Bubba-tin and I'm proud of it," said Commissioner Joe Balbontin.

Commissioners Gentleman Jim and Joey Bubba-tin!

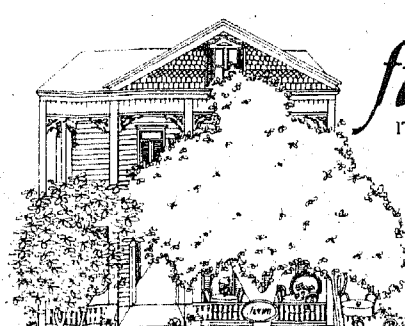
THEY'RE MAD, THESE two City Fathers. They're mad at Mayor Richard Heyman. They let him know about it at a commission meeting August 20th.

The rhubarb began a week earlier. At the August 13th commission meeting, both Bubba-tin and Gentleman Jim ignored speakers by whispering, passing notes, and walking out of the room. In fact, Balbontin stood in the hallway in front of the commission chambers making small talk and missed the presentation by one of the four firms competing for the city grant writing contract.

THE BEHAVIOR OF Bubba-tin and Gentleman Jim was less than distinguished and was certainly unbecoming of an elected official. These incidents were nothing new. For months, the attitude of these two commissioners seemed to deteriorate, with an always increasing number of outbursts, interruptions, whispering, note-passing, and walk-outs of the commission chambers.

IN RESPONSE, Heyman sent the two commissioners letters reprimanding them for their unprofessional antics at public meetings. The letters were strongly worded; Heyman was fed up with the disruptions from these two commissioners. To Balbontin, Heyman

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SLOPPY JOE'S



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wrote: "Your conduct at our meeting Monday night (August 13th) was reprehensible...Your frequent outbursts and failure to follow Robert's Rules of Order were insulting to me, personally, and to the commission as a whole. I must insist that you refrain from personal attacks on other commissioners and threats of violence against them." To Mira, Heyman wrote: "It is our duty, as commissioners, to extend courtesy and attention to those making presentations before us...Your relaxed attitude to the proceedings is more reflective of an unruly high-school student than an adult elected to the governing body of Key West."

So, the die has been cast.

REGULAR COMMISSION WATCHERS and members of the press corps knew that the August 20th meeting would be hot. Fireworks were expected, and fireworks came. Gentleman Jim and Bubba-tin showed their true colors. No one was disappointed.

The show began early. At the start of the meeting Mira asked that one of the last items on the agenda - a discussion of "Conduct at City Commission Meetings" - be taken first. He said the agenda change would allow a larger TCI audience to hear this very important and pressing discussion. As it stood, the discussion was slated for late in the meeting. Heyman, as meeting chairman, ruled that the agenda should stand as presented. When he didn't get his way, Mira called for a vote to see if others agreed with Heyman's ruling. When the roll call was read, both Balbontin and Mira sat mute when it came their turns to vote. Even though Gentleman Jim called for the vote, he refused to participate. With Commissioners Cates and Halloran agreeing with Heyman, the agenda stood unchanged and the meeting continued.

JUST A FEW minutes later, Mira called for the meeting to be recessed. City Attorney Joe Allen was late, and

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Mira said the meeting could not be conducted without a lawyer. Heyman ruled that the commission work at the moment was routine and the lawyer was not needed at the time. The meeting would continue, Heyman said. Again, Mira called for a vote on Heyman's ruling. Mira voted against the ruling, Balbontin didn't answer when his name was called, and the other commissioners voted to continue the meeting.

NEXT, TWO PAYMENT resolutions were passed. On both these resolutions Mira voted no - meaning that the city should not pay those bills - and Balbontin abstained. It was left to the three other commissioners to pay the bills. In sum, Mira failed to vote once and Balbontin refused to vote four times, even though in the past the city attorney said it is patently illegal for a commissioner to refuse to vote. By not voting, Allen once explained, a commissioner is failing to live up to the duties prescribed in the state constitution.

PREVAILING WINDS: COMMENTARY



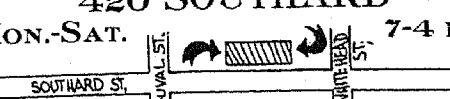
by ALDEN SOLOVY

AT THIS POINT Heyman wisely called for a recess and went to telephone Allen. Once Heyman knew that Allen was on his way, the meeting was reconvened. Again, Mira and Balbontin objected to continuing without a lawyer, Heyman called for a vote on proposed personnel rules. "I can't vote without a lawyer," Balbontin said, but just at that moment Allen arrived. A shout came from the back of the room - "The lawyer's here!" - and the audience broke into applause. Once Allen took his seat, both Balbontin and Mira voted without asking one single question. If it was so im-

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portant to have the lawyer there for that issue, how come no one addressed him on the matter, not even Bubba-tin and Gentleman Jim who so strongly cried out for the lawyer. Obviously, Mira and Balbontin were just using the situation to cause trouble.

DURING THE MEETING there were at least 10 separate incidents in which Mira and Balbontin ignored the commission proceedings to whisper, pass notes to each other, and carry notes over to the city attorney. In addition, Balbontin walked out of the meeting three times and Mira walked out twice. No other commissioner behaved this way. The other commissioners seem to know that they were elected to participate in the proceeding, not to ignore them with whispering and note passing. The other commissioners seem to know that they were elected to stay in the commission chambers during the proceedings, not to willy-nilly walk out of the meetings whenever they choose.

AT ONE POINT, Heyman called for a special commission meeting at 3 p.m. the following Friday. Mira complained that the mayor should have consulted the other commissioners before setting the time. In this, Mira was correct, and Heyman proceeded to ask the will of the commission. Balbontin said he couldn't make the meeting because "I've got an appointment Friday at 3 p.m. with my pedicurist." Let's assume, for a moment, that Balbontin really does pay someone to polish his toenails. What he was saying, in so many words, was that getting his toenails clipped and polished was more important than conducting city affairs. If that is what he believes, he has no business on the commission. Now let's assume that he does not have his own personal pedicurist. After all, the fellow who wants to be a gun-slinging cop doesn't seem the shiny-toenail kind of guy. In

that case, Balbontin was just making trouble for the mayor and other commissioners. Again, there is no place for that kind of behavior on the commission.

AT ANOTHER TIME during the meeting, Mira made the comment that he and Balbontin were the only native Key Westerns on the commission. Commissioner Cates pointed out to Mira that she, too, was born and raised here. "In case you've forgotten," she said,

FOR MONTHS, THE ATTITUDE OF THESE TWO COMMISSIONERS SEEMED TO DETERIORATE, WITH AN ALWAYS INCREASING NUMBER OF OUTBURSTS, INTERRUPTIONS, WHISPERING, NOTE-PASSING, AND WALKOUTS OF THE COMMISSION CHAMBERS.

"I'm a native-born Conch," Mira responded, "You haven't shown it too many times. That's why I forgot." Gentleman Jim just couldn't resist the insult. He also couldn't resist the mayor by calling Heyman's votes on the Sands Project inconsistent. "You vote for it, you vote against it, you vote for it, I feel like I'm watching a tennis match," Mira said.

MIRA ALSO ATTACKED the motives of the mayor's proposed ordinance which would prohibit commissioners from working in any capacity under the city manager. Mira said the ordinance was designed to keep Balbontin from being an auxiliary cop. "It's vindictive," Mira charged, even though Heyman explained his true motives as trying to maintain an orderly chain of command in city government (see this column, August 1984, Solares Hill, for details). Mira claimed that Heyman would benefit from the ordinance. "This is not in the best interests of the city, but in the best interest of Commissioner Heyman," Mira said. Of course, Mira could not explain how Heyman would gain from the ordinance.

BALBONTIN DID NOT resist getting his own shots in. He sarcastically referred to Halloran as Professor Halloran and accused the mayor of being afraid to see him in a cop's uniform. Balbontin said the ordinance against commissioners serving under the city manager did not apply to him because he was made an auxiliary cop before the ordinance was even proposed. "As far as I'm concerned, I'm grandfathered in," Balbontin said. In other words, Balbontin is going to

ignore the will of the commission to do whatever he feels like doing at the moment. Apparently, Balbontin does not believe the law applies to him. And he wants to be a cop!

AMAZINGLY, THIS LAUREL and Hardy routine was just the prologue. The vaudeville act began in earnest when the discussion on conduct at city commission meetings began. Mira lashed out at Heyman's letter. "I felt that you have taken a very cheap stab at me," Gentleman Jimmy Mira said. "I thought Mayor Heyman was my friend." Mira attacked Heyman's ability to conduct city commission meetings and added, "he has no right to reprimand me." However, Mira's behavior does deserve rebuke, and as the man in charge of commission meetings, Heyman was within his rights to take Mira and Balbontin to task.

MIRA QUOTED HEYMAN'S letter, the part comparing the Gentleman's behavior with that of an unruly high school student. Mira said that Heyman was casting aspersions on all high school students, that Heyman branded all high schoolers as children. Wrong, Gentleman

Jimmy. The quote implies only that some high schoolers are unruly from time to time, and that is how Mira had been behaving. Mira took Heyman's words out of context, distorted the meaning, and then absurdly attacked the mayor with it.

BALBONTIN WAS ALSO in high style. First, he read Heyman's letter into the record. Balbontin used an affected tone of voice, an obviously anti-gay stereotype aimed as a weapon against Heyman's sexual preference. Balbontin's reading was so ridiculous, embarrassing, and obnoxious that neither Halloran nor Allen could contain their laughter. Both sat at the dais trying to repress themselves. Next, Balbontin called Heyman a "dilettante badly prepared for office" and branded the past year under the new mayor as an "art deco administration." Balbontin told Heyman "your place as one-fifth of the commission is equal to other city commissioners. I must not accept rebuke from you." Finally, he ended with another thinly-veiled attack on Heyman as a gay. Balbontin had company in his attack on Heyman's sexual preference. Mira told Heyman, "You are the first for many things in Key West."

INSTEAD OF ADDRESSING the substantive issues of conduct at commission meetings, both Bubba-tin and Gentleman Jim attacked the mayor in needless innuendo, slander, and falsehoods. On top of that, they displayed a remarkable double standard. For example, during the meeting several speakers made comments which both Balbontin and Mira found offensive. The comments had to do with Bubbaism, and both commissioners demanded an apology and that the mayor stop speakers from using insulting language. Yet, even though they would not tolerate insults, together they managed to insult all three of the

other commissioners. What's right for others should also be right for Balbontin and Mira. Still, they made accusations without proof and used personal, unrelated matters to cloud the true issue at hand.

THE ISSUE IS simple: the public deserves - demands - better behavior from Balbontin and Mira. That is not to say that the other commissioners are blameless. At one meeting Cates made some unfortunate comments to Halloran which were picked up by TCI microphones, Halloran has interrupted commissioners a couple of times, and the mayor has, at times, been reluctant to use the gavel to keep the meeting in order. The differences between these incidents and the antics of Bubba-tin and Gentleman Jim, however, are profound. With Cates and Halloran we're talking about a very few scattered moments. Mistakes, not conscious efforts to disrupt meetings. And I have never seen them leave the commission chambers, for any reason, while the commission was in session.

AS FOR THE mayor, he has worked diligently to prevent the sort of circus side-show behavior which has typified commission meetings in the past. Save the August 13th and August 20th meetings, he has done a creditable job. His reluctance to use the gavel has been as a courtesy to everyone wishing to address the commission. Perhaps the speeches have been redundant, but everyone gets the chance to be heard.

HEYMAN WAS 100 percent right in telling Balbontin and Mira to clean up their acts. However, releasing his letters to the press was a bad idea. There's no doubt that this sort of thing makes attention-getting headlines, but Heyman should have given

Balbontin and Mira the chance to straighten up before sharing the letters with the public. Then, if that failed, the next step might have been to release the letters to the press. Publicly asking Balbontin and Mira to show respect is like asking the class clown to stop making faces at the girls. All you do is egg him on.

THE TIME FOR bickering is over. The business of city sewer improvements, building a solid waste incinerator, street and sidewalk improvements, increased police and fire protection, and revising the Code of Ordinances is just too important to be caught up in this malarkey. "Jimmy Mira has always been a gentleman," said Gentleman Jimmy Mira. "I am an adult man, fully aware of my duties as a city commissioner," said Joey Bubba-tin. Well, boys, it's finally time to prove it.

FOOTNOTE: I PROMISED several people that this month's column would be positive, highlighting the many good things happening in the city, like the drive led by Cates to improve police protection, the diligent work of Art Mosley and Tom Wilson in writing the C.A.P. document (see Editorial in this issue), Balbontin's efforts to increase the Navy presence in Key West, and the excellent work of Dr. Frank Ferrin in advocating patient rights and improving the quality of obstetrics. I trust that by next month Gentleman Jim and Bubba-tin will have calmed down so that I can make good on that promise.

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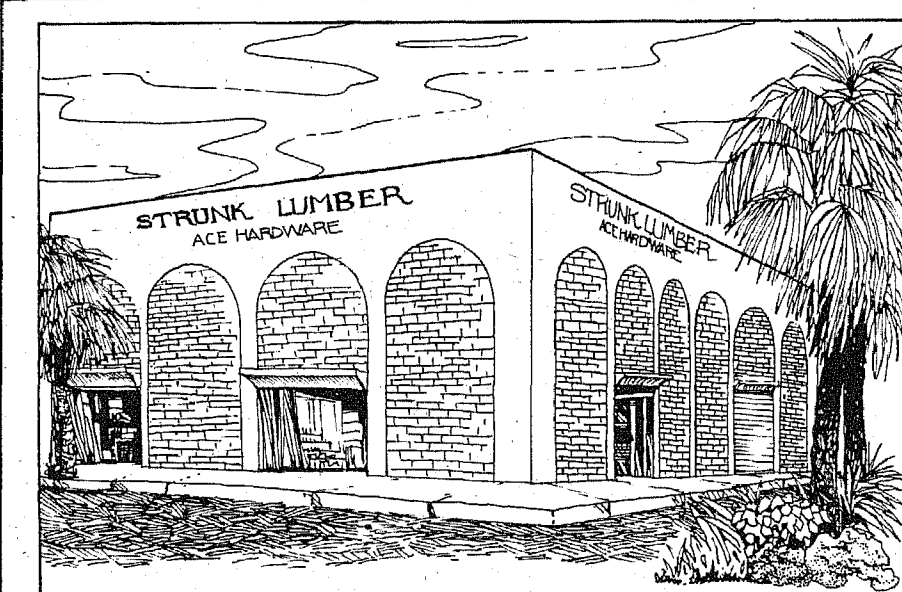
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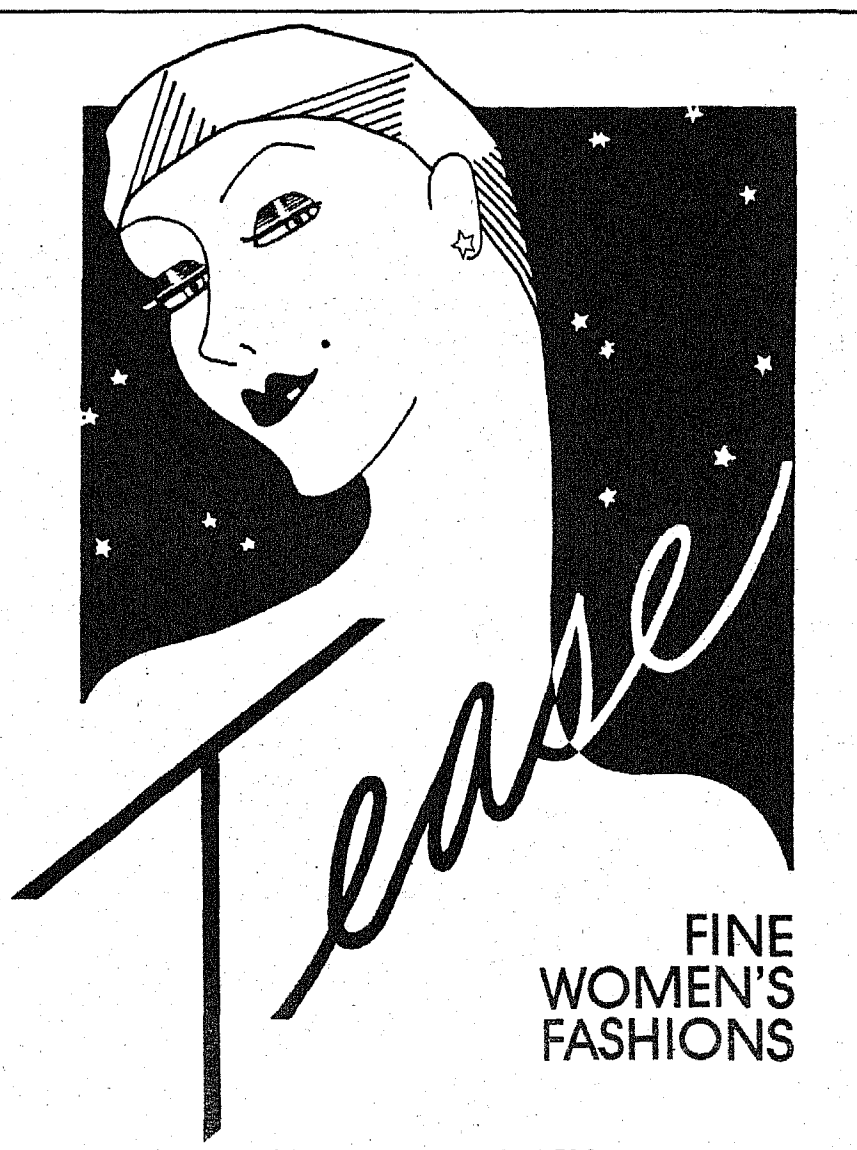
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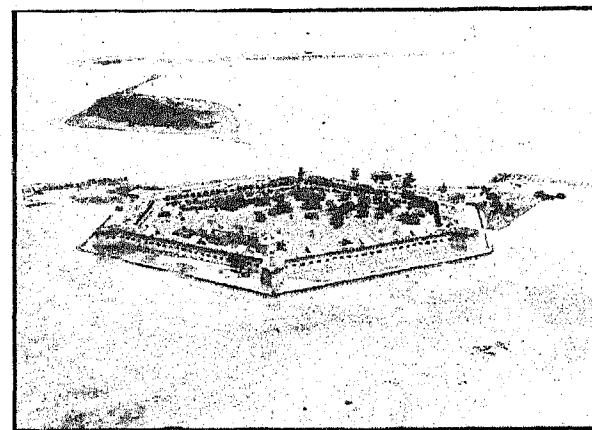
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AIR SNORKELING - A NEW WAY TO SEE THE REEF

by VIC DAHN, JR.

A RECENT ADVENTURE exposed an exciting, memorable way to "see" the living reef. This remarkable journey I call "air snorkeling" because our crystal clear waters permit a novel view of the reef and reef life. The Key West Seaplane, operating out of Murray Marine on Stock Island, offers several round trips a day to Fort Jefferson in the Dry Tortugas, 68 miles west of Key West and the end of a string of Keys and underwater reefs - the last land mass of the Continental United States. The four pilots - Ross Sprague, Jerry Schnaedelbach, Ralph Sorensen and Mickey Frederickson have probably the most fun and interesting "jobs" in Key West. Their narrated trips are run in safety and comfort. The airline is just one level down from a certified commercial airline. Flight reports are filed and they are always on radar from the control towers of Key West International and NAS Boca Chica. The 35-minute flights to the Tortugas both outward and inbound offer some of the most spectacular views of the reef to be seen. Flying at 500 feet enables you to see the reef in great detail and even lets you see the marine life, including tarpon and hammerhead sharks along with giant sea turtles (after whom the Tortugas were named) which start swimming away when they hear the sound of the plane's engine as it passes through the complete silence that is encountered when out over the reef. The Tortugas were originally named Las Tortugas after these sea turtles, but soon became known as the Dry Tortugas because of the complete absence of fresh water on the islands.

LOCALS AND TOURISTS alike have a built-in adventure awaiting them. Departing and arriving Key West by water, you fly low over the island and you can even pick out your house if you live here. Coming back, the approach almost makes it look like you are heading right for the runway at Key West International, but a gentle turn flies you past Sigsbee Island and then landing in the clear waters of Blue Lagoon Bay.



Fort Jefferson

Flying outbound you fly over the last of our living reef for about 18 miles and soon are approaching our own Marquesas about 19 miles out and famous for its great fishing. The coral and sponges of the reefs are clearly visible as well as many of the larger fish (which are pointed out by the pilot). Shortly you are over the deep, dark blue waters of the Gulf of Mexico. It is a sharp contrast with the light green waters over the reef itself.

Shortly again, the pilot calls your attention to the underwater "mountain" which in reality is a mighty "desert" stretching for many miles and whose undulating sand dunes actually resemble a complete underwater desert (which they are) and which move and change just as the open-air deserts of America and Africa. A beautiful sight to behold. Leaving the desert, it is not long before you can see the 7 islands that comprise the Dry Tortugas.

AS YOU APPROACH Fort Jefferson the plane descends and banks slowly, circling the Fort so that pictures can be taken from the air. You can spot the many boats and yachts that are anchored in the harbor of Garden Key, which is the home to Fort Jefferson. There are also boats tied up at the dock, mostly charter boats from Key West and Marathon. You soon land in the clear waters of the harbor and taxi to a sandy landing on the beach and there before you, in all its grand majesty, is the massive structure of the Fort itself. You will have two hours to climb all over and inside the Fort. The seaplane loads up with departing passengers and you watch it take off, leaving you to learn about the history and significance of this monument. The only people who actually live at the Fort are the National Park Rangers, who are very helpful in answering your questions. There is a ten-minute slide presentation in the small museum which details its conception during Abraham Lincoln's term as President. To help preserve the Union and provide a blockade of Confederate troops, both Fort Jefferson and her sister Fort Zachary Taylor here in Key West were planned as our southernmost garrison, although neither ever got to fire their cannons in anger at an enemy.

BUILDING A FORT on this remote key was a miracle of engineering. 13-million bricks had to be shipped in and

labor was conscripted from New York, Pennsylvania and Key West. Sometimes conditions were almost intolerable, with storms and diseases taking a heavy toll in victims. Looking at the Fort from inside the walls, it appears incredible it could have been built. Though Union troops were garrisoned there at times, it became famous as a place to house Federal prisoners, the most famous of whom was Dr. Samuel A. Mudd. Not knowing President Lincoln had been assassinated, Dr. Mudd treated the broken leg of John Wilkes Booth, the assassin. The doctor was sentenced to life in prison at the Fort. In 1867, yellow fever struck the Fort, and 270 of the 300 troops there died. After the prison doctor was stricken, Dr. Mudd and Dr. Daniel Whitehurst of Key West were pressed into service to treat the remaining victims for which Dr. Mudd was given a Presidential pardon.

PART OF THE charm of your visit is the absolute quiet which prevails at the fort (absolute from September to March), but which is broken from March to September by the calls of hundreds of thousands of nesting noddies and sooty terns which nest on neighboring Bush Key during those months. These migratory birds unerringly find their way back to this small island year after year, traveling from South America and Cuba. The sight and sound of these birds is staggering, and bird watchers from all over the world come to the Fort to picture their activities through telephoto lenses. Visiting Bush Key is prohibited during the nesting season.

THE TERNS ORIGINALLY came from West Africa. They arrive at Bush Key in January but do not land. They circle about and fish and mate at this period and it is not until March when they flock to the island to build

their nests in the sands. They remain until September, when their young are mature enough to make the long journey back, which is a navigating feat remarkable in its accuracy. There are others who watch all this activity. The soaring frigate birds which normally habitate the Marquesas fly to the Tortugas soon after the arrival of the nesting terns. They circle and soar in the air currents, ever watchful of a careless move by a tern to expose its

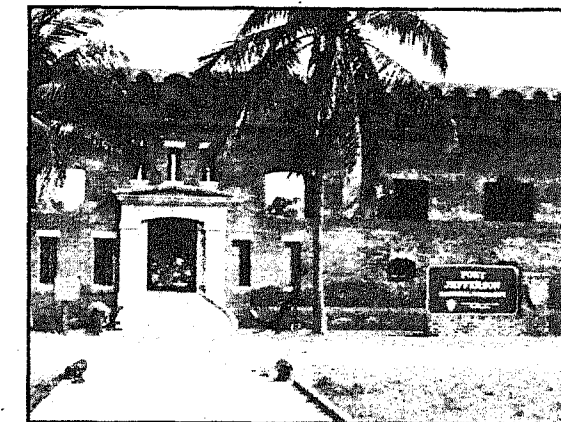


Photo by Vic Dahn

nest so the frigate can dive in to swoop up an egg or an unhatched chick. Many times the terns set up such a ruckus and swarm to chase off the larger frigates that it is not all that easy for the frigates to get a free meal.

DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS, camping is permitted and there are many tables set about the fort. You must remember to bring trash bags with you for there are no facilities for trash. There is a well-marked snorkeling trail and gear is provided so you can explore the crystal clear waters of the reef and observe the myriad colorful collection of fish and the giant sea turtles there in abundance.

After an exciting stay of inspecting the fort and exploring the grounds, all too soon you hear the sound of the returning seaplane which arrives to pick you up. But you still have a treat in store, because they rarely cover the same territory on each trip so you have different things to observe on your return flight. One thing the pilot will point out is the wreck of a sunken Spanish ocean liner which departed Morro Castle in Cuba. It had anchored in deep water off Half-moon Shoal. The ship was the 325-foot Valbanera, and a hurricane in 1919 blew it aground and broke it in two. All aboard perished in the storm, and you can see it lying on its side where she has been ever since.

WE NOW APPROACH the beginning of our reef, and the pilots point out the two huge gashes where two Navy destroyers ran aground and channels had to be dug to free them from the tenacious coral hold on these large ships. Approaching Key West and passing by Mallory Square you can look straight down Duval Street from end to end, and the 1-mile street doesn't look that long at all.

As you let down, you watch the clear water come ever closer and with an easy splash there is white water around the pontoons as the plane taxis up to the ramp and your journey is over. Suddenly you feel reluctant to leave the plane - you feel like flying right back out there again to the quiet and beautiful remote Tortugas, quiet nature at its greatest.

25

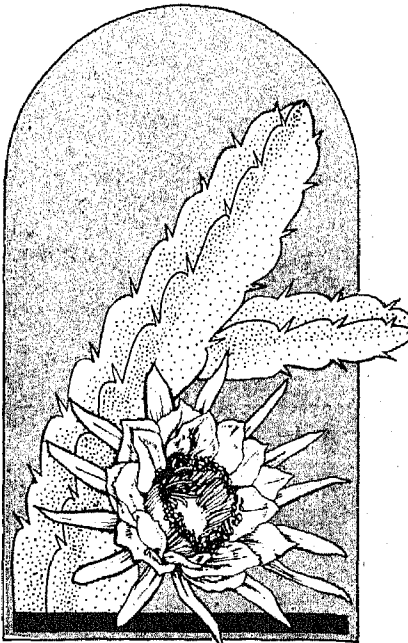
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FOXY'S

FROM TALES OF THE WEST INDIES

THE SAILBOAT'S GENTLE rocking had Roger sleeping like a log after the long offshore passage. The morning sun streamed through the open hatch and the sound of tinkling bells on grazing goats drifted down from steep green hills. He woke slowly as the events from the past few days lingered in his thoughts. As his eyes opened they were filled with a sky as tropical blue as the water they were anchored in. Stumbling into the forward cabin to make some coffee, the sight that greeted his eyes came like a slap in the face. There was no order anywhere, sights and smells of disarray, dampness and worse filled his senses. In one corner a crumpled form slept fitfully, jammed between the folds of a soaking wet

sleeping bag.

ROGER TRIED TO move silently as he lit the stove and drew some water for coffee. The hoped-for hot, steaming mug of morning wake-up landed in his stomach like a sucker punch. Salt water had contaminated the water tanks. Roger's stomach coughed the salty black brew right back up, and he was thinking that he never should have left the dock in the first place. Or, he reflected, fallen in love.

ROGER HAD BEEN excited when he first contracted to deliver the forty-six foot sailboat from the States to the Islands. His problems began when he tried to get hold of some of his friends for crew and found that everyone was too busy to take two weeks off. Against his better judgment, Roger was forced to advertise for crew in the local newspaper. The boat was almost immediately besieged with vagabonds of every description seeking a free passage south. Most of the people were quickly turned away as being either inexperienced, unqualified or just plain unfit. He would have kicked himself, though, if he had turned the two coeds away.

THE TWO GIRLS were just completing their first term at a local college, and both of them said they had sailing experience. They wheedled and cajoled with Roger to take them along, offering to do all the cooking and even pitching in to do some of the dockside work. Roger finally relented and signed them on board for the voyage. The girls celebrated by whipping up an exotic dinner and filled his head with wine and dreams. They would have to leave a week later than scheduled,

but with the extra crew, they could make better time and still arrive on schedule.

ONE OF THE girls spent a few nights on the boat before her exams, and Roger was certain it was love. When the girls both arrived for the departure, an argument erupted between them over the sleeping arrangements and just who was going to be sleeping with whom. The argument became more heated as exam tensions and old rivalries were let out in angry screams. Things quickly got out of hand and both girls went at each other in a slapping, clawing melee. People from the surrounding boats in the marina had to help Roger break things up. Hands had to be pried away from long hair and band-aids put on necks and faces. The girls were still spitting at each other when Roger told them he had to leave on this tide if he was ever going to keep his contracted schedule. The new love of his life carried her belongings aboard and threw her arms around Roger's neck, while her girl friend stormed off the dock.

THE ROMANCE LASTED as long as the good weather. When his girl friend was on watch one night, a sudden squall struck the boat. With the sails up, each gust of wind threatened to tip them into the water and the girl started getting hysterical. When she panicked and let go of the wheel, the boat surged like a drunken camel. Roger couldn't get her to come back up on deck all the next day. Their speed slowed as Roger was forced to lower sail and get some rest. The girl had locked the hatchway from below and Roger could hear her getting seasick. The winter storm that caught up with them on the last leg of their trip almost finished them off.

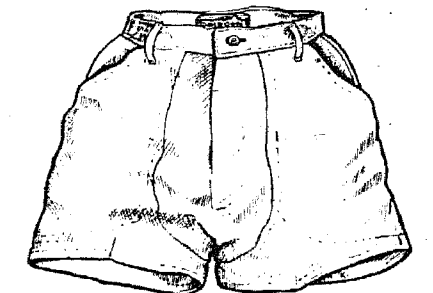
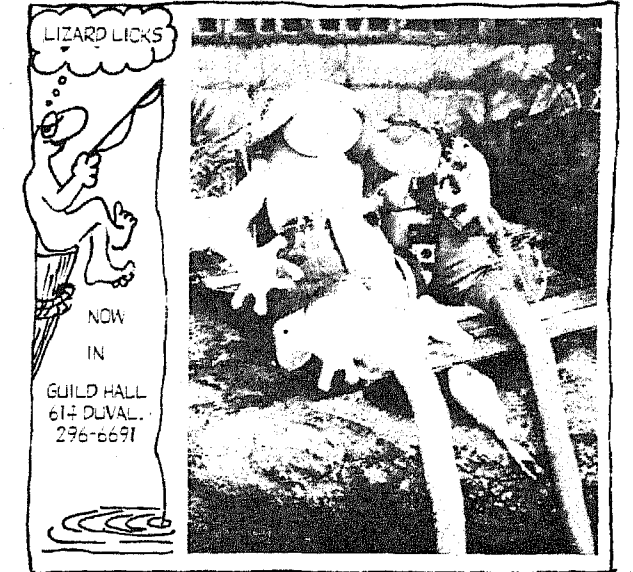
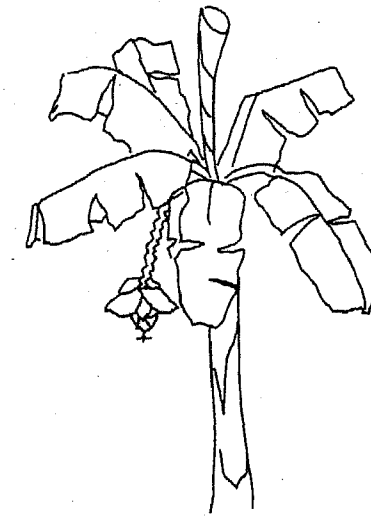
WITH STEADY WINDS blowing at almost forty miles an hour, the sailboat flew along under shortened sails.

Each time Roger asked his love to please open the hatch or spell him at the wheel, she would respond by screaming that he was "an animal." As the storm continued, the waves grew until footing and balance were impossible. Down below the girl was starting to get hysterical. Roger was desperately in need of some rest, but while the full-throated screams drifted up through the bolted hatch he stayed on deck in his life harness which was tied to the wheel. Her panic grew until Roger was jolted by the shattering of the hatch cover. "I'm getting out of here!" she yelled in a hoarse voice and tried to climb out of the hatch. Just then a breaking wave swept across the deck and into the open hatch. Before Roger's astonished eyes she was half-washed, half-thrown, still screaming, back down below. With these waves, there was no leaving the wheel, and he screamed for her to cover the open hatch as every few waves sent white water cascading down below. His only answer was an echoing scream, by now totally incoherent. He was thankful that the bilge pumps were able to get rid of the extra water, but everything below-decks was getting soaked...

A DAY LATER, they limped into the tiny island Roger had promised to show his new love. As high as it was wide, the island had a single road, but no vehicles. Where the turquoise water met the lush green hillsides, there was a small harbor with a white sand beach that boasted a restaurant-bar named Foxy's. Clearing customs consisted of buying a cold beer for the local officer who could always be found at Foxy's. Roger had hoped for a nice romantic breakfast at Foxy's and a swim in the baby blue lagoon afterwards, but his girl friend had other thoughts when he woke her up. While Roger finished coughing up the horrible salty coffee, she woke up and turned over in her sleeping bag.

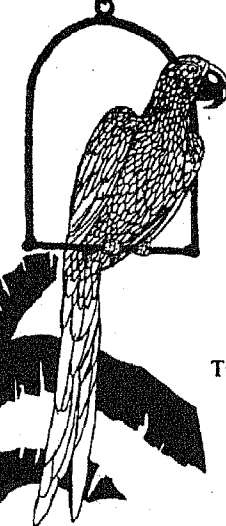
"I never want to see you again in my whole life," she screamed, calling him "an animal" and punctuating her screams with a poorly directed, but clearly intentioned, kick. Roger tried to calm her down, but she was yelling to be taken "to the airport," so he pulled up the anchor and they sailed over to the larger island that was their destination.

WHEN THEY DOCKED, Roger called a cab and she ran for it like a chicken after a June bug. There were no good-byes. Some of the local kids at the dock helped Roger clean up down below and the boat was turned over to the owner. Maybe he'd be able to stop off at Foxy's on the next delivery.



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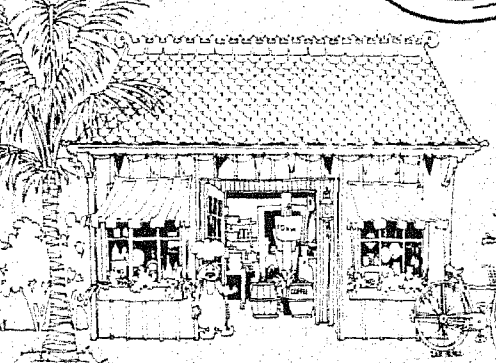
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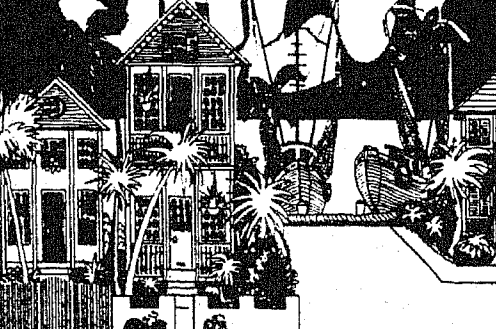
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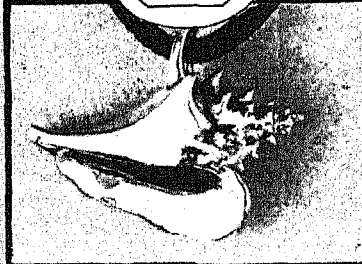
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QUESTIONS FOR THE CANDIDATES

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

1. What are your feelings on the future of the Keys - specifically, on residential development?
2. Do you believe that the County Building Department and the Planning and Zoning Department need improvement?
3. If there are delays in enacting the new County Land Use Plan, would you vote for continuing the moratorium on new major development until the new plan is in effect?
4. How would you improve the effectiveness of the Code Enforcement Board?
5. Without proper enforcement the new County Land Use Plan and its ordinances will be next to useless. What would you, as commissioner, do to ensure proper enforcement?

ROBERT DUNN
COUNTY COMMISSION, DISTRICT 5
DEMOCRAT

Did not reply.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER
MARY "KAY" REICH
DEMOCRAT, DISTRICT 5

1. Future Residential Development - I would support any residential development that would enhance and beautify the Keys, but not overburden the existing service facilities.
2. County Building Departments - I believe the Planning, Building and Zoning departments need competent staffing and supervision, and I would work to achieve this end.
3. Moratorium - I would favor continuing the present moratorium until specific guidelines are in effect to insure that future development will be beneficial to all the citizens of Monroe County.
4. Code Enforcement Board - The Code Enforcement Board is made up of vitally interested and active people whose purpose was to ease the present case load of the courts by dealing specifically with zoning violations. Presently there are not enough cases being referred to them by the inspectors. I would work for much stronger supervision from the County Commission to see that the present inspectors report every violation immediately so that the Board can be the effective tool it was designed to be.
5. Land Use Plan - I have attended almost all of the public hearings and meetings open to the public concerning the Land Use Plan and have read the entire proposal. As County Commissioner, I would see to it that the guidelines would apply to all cases equally and that a complete and comprehensive study be made on each request before any decision even be considered.
6. I would further like to state that my major goal as County Commissioner is to bring about complete cooperation between the various offices concerned with the Government of Monroe County by establishing an open line of communication with the County and City of Key West. We have good laws in Monroe County that just need to be enforced properly. I will work toward bringing county government back to Monroe County and out of Tallahassee. My other priorities concern a public transportation system throughout the Keys and afford-

able housing for everyone.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER
CHARLES HOWELL
REPUBLICAN, DISTRICT 5

1. Our primary obligation is to those citizens who currently reside here in Monroe County. In dealing with future development, we must not overlook our duty to protect the rights of those persons already living and working here.
2. There is no doubt these departments have not performed in an acceptable manner. A thorough review is in order; guidelines can be established and qualified personnel hired; close supervision and follow-up procedures should be instituted.
3. Some delays in the Land Use Plans are inevitable. In principle, I support the continuance of the moratorium. I see no reason to cause undue delay in those areas until the entire plan is approved.
4. Many things can be done to improve the effectiveness, such as establishment of better procedures, logging of complaints, adequate staff, and putting some teeth into the code enforcement.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER
SAUL LANE
REPUBLICAN, DISTRICT 5

1. The Florida Keys, because they are unique, have a personality of their own. Those of us who have moved from other areas to enjoy and savor this wonderland should not try to change the "personality." As a Commissioner, I will be directly responsible to the public by being a Conservationist. A Conservationist is one who takes a systematic approach to future building. one who CONSERVES FOR OUR FUTURE and one who will wisely use and at the same time protect and restore our natural resources.
2. Most emphatically! Not only does it need improvement, it needs to be completely revamped and restructured. The Building Department should be a department by itself. The Planning and Zoning Department should be independent. Each of these departments should be responsible to a single person whose job will be to enforce the actions of these departments to comply with all existing rules and regulations. The net result will be an end to "favoritism." Any department is only as good as the PEOPLE feel towards it.
3. This question might be moot at this point of time. I don't think that Tallahassee and its planners for the Keys will permit us the luxury of a do-nothing moratorium.
4. Code Enforcement must also be set up as an independent department. When this is accomplished, it must be made a department of the Sheriff's office who has the power of arrest. This department, too, will be responsible to the same person as the Planning and Zoning and Building departments.
5. This question was answered in question #4. The penalties of non-enforcement are only too apparent. Just look around! Do we have any time left?
6. I would like to address the problem of "confrontation politics." Monroe County is the biggest business in Monroe County. A businessman is required to make it work efficiently. To stay in business it must be conducted in an orderly manner or else we will lose our profit. In this case

Election

SOLARES HILL IS again recommending candidates in the upcoming election.

A group of us who are involved with the paper put our heads together and back those candidates we feel are best able to serve the needs of Key West. As our readers know, we have a strong environmental bias, and those candidates who have shown most concern for our natural surroundings have an edge over those who have been less committed to preserving our environmental heritage. In the case of an unknown, much scrutiny is given his or her answers to our questionnaire. In the case of an incumbent, we have the person's record to refer to to help us make a judgment.

WHEN WE ENDORSE, it means that we all generally agree that this person is the best one for the job. When we indicate a preference, it means that we all did not agree on this person, or that we felt some restraint on an all-out endorsement, but that he or she is the more favored by our group.

We do have some candidates who do not answer our questionnaires. This is self-defeating. Even though some of these candidates know that we will not be picking them, our readers do not always agree with us politically and would be interested in seeing what the other candidates have to say. Any candidate who does not answer is missing the chance for a free opportunity to get his views across to our large reading audience.



JOHN STORMONT

ENDORSED

JOHN C. STORMONT has been serving with great distinction on the County Zoning Board. A planner for Monroe County said he felt that Stormont was one of the few people who not only understood what zoning matters meant, and could lucidly expound on them, but also consistently followed the law in interpreting them. He has a proven record of awareness of our County's needs and is our endorsed first choice for Commissioner, District 5.



WILLIAM "BILLY" FREEMAN

ENDORSED

POLITICIANS OFTEN SAY "Let's look at the record." In doing so it makes our job very simple in District 3. Incumbent Jerry Hernandez has had 8 years of pointed anti-environmental activity that ultimately earned him a rebuke from the Monroe County

Round-Up

Grand Jury for his associations with the developer of the controversial Port Bougainville project while a seated Commissioner. While his opponent, William "Billy" Freeman, is a newcomer to environmentalists, he is no stranger to the political arena. He has served with great distinction for over a quarter of a century as Supervisor of Elections in an office that has been scandal-free during his incumbency. He is a practical, down-to-earth, intelligent man who has impressed many people with the soundness of his views. We endorse William "Billy" Freeman for this job.



RAND WINTER

ENDORSED

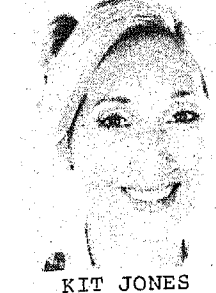
WE HAVE THREE able attorneys in this race, but only one of them has escaped controversy. John Keane, the incumbent, has been suspended from office pending the outcome of his trial - on charges of grand theft and unlawful compensation. Hugh Papy had his lawyer's license suspended for one year by the Florida Supreme Court in 1978. Rand Winter was the Governor's choice to fill out Keane's unexpired term, which he has done with enough enthusiasm to seek the job on his own. We see no reason why he shouldn't and endorse him for this position.



WILLIAM FREEMAN, JR.

ENDORSED

IN THE SEPTEMBER 1984 Florida Keys Magazine, publisher David Ethridge wrote in his column: "Several years ago, Sheriff William Freeman began a vigorous attack on problems in his department. He took his lumps, lost some friends and allies, but came out with a department which is widely respected in the county." That's the long and short of it. Sheriff Freeman has given us a first-rate Monroe County law enforcement agency and we most wholeheartedly want to keep him at the helm. Strongly endorsed.



KIT JONES

PREFERRED

profit is not money but a better way of life for all of us. I have every intention of bringing my 42 years of experience into the political arena.

FRED PHILLIPS
COUNTY COMMISSION, DISTRICT 5
REPUBLICAN

Did not reply.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER
JOHN STORMONT
REPUBLICAN, DISTRICT 5

1. Any development issue concerning a particular portion of the Keys necessarily affects intensity flow considerations in other parts of the Keys (i.e. water capacity, traffic, service capacity), so overview criteria must be universal rather than localized.

Because ecological considerations so critically limit intensive utilization, Keys development must be restricted by various caps placed on classifications of housing and business regarding intensification and expansion.

Naturally, a balanced determination must be made to ensure viable economic conditions to support a tax base as established by the limitations.

Generally, as you are aware, the limitations of environment have been met or exceeded in a large portion of the county.

A shift of emphasis toward projected non-residential tourist facilities, providing localized cores of rapid turnover economics, rather than continuation of urban expansion and associated business sprawl will tend to minimize ecological impacts overall.

2. Each department definitely needs improvement: Building Department, to more professional and less favored response to building situations; Zoning Department, to more stringent application of law; and Planning Department to more critical review "backbone."

The attitude of "we can't legally do anything" in all areas can be eliminated by employment of experienced county legal staff in each area, who are aware of current legal justifications for requirement actions.

Quite naturally, with these functions being under the County Administrator, County Commission direction to the Administrator is a must requirement to implement improvements.

3. Most definitely. Interim plan defensibility precludes legal staff capable of such defense, which doesn't exist (never has).

Current permissive planning philosophy, if allowed to control non-moratorium interim development, would negate any Land Use Plan advantages when adopted.

4. A basic premise to Code Enforcement is that the laws are legally defensible. If current interpretations of current laws prevail, non-defensibility exists and laws must be rewritten before enforcement can take place. Otherwise, competent legal staff must replace existing staff to rigorously defend such laws.

Unfortunately, any new program, such as Code Enforcement, must undergo evolution to achieve the stature required for its purpose. The ultimate goal of enforcement is not prosecution but deterrence.

As in most instances of county government, lateral transfers to achieve staff simply continue existing incompetency in the new situation.

5. Quite simply - hire legal staff who are (1) competent to write defensible ordinances and (2) determined and motivated to vigorously defend them (neither of which exist presently).

MONROE COUNTY COMMISSIONER
WILLIAM J. ("BILLY") FREEMAN
DEMOCRAT, DISTRICT 3

1. Low intense use of land may preclude the need for big bond issues. This would place less of a strain on county facilities until such time as proper costs could be charged to the developers. HOWEVER, let us WAIT for the SCIENTIFIC STUDIES that the State of Florida and the County of Monroe have paid over a million dollars in planning - this should be the BEST DATA AVAILABLE. I pledge to the people of Monroe County that I shall be guided by the new LAND USE PLAN and MAP to be made available soon.

OPINION POLLS of THE PEOPLE, I understand, want single family housing with not more than two stories. In fact, my wife and I live in a cottage with a yard, which we love, and have enjoyed fifty years of life together.

2. YES, INDEED I DO. One has only to read newspapers, listen to radio or television, or read county reports to know that the MONROE COUNTY BUILDING DEPARTMENT has been riddled with scandal. It is no wonder that people express themselves as having no faith in government when they hear these stories. Then, it would appear that some of the employees who were innocent (or claimed innocence) had much blame placed on them.

As your commissioner, I would permit qualified people to use my name as a reference, but I would refrain from ordering that "so-and-so" be HIRED. This did not work in Hitler's Germany, and I would not try practically brutal, political force to make officials commit acts which were not for all of the people's good.

I would try to INSURE that the BEST QUALIFIED, AVAILABLE ELIGIBLES (keeping in mind the Veterans' Preference Act) filed for jobs in Building, Zoning and Planning. WHY? Because they are three of the most vulnerable departments of YOUR County government. I reiterate - we want the BEST of everything for Monroe County, and particularly in these three fields. ZONING affects you greatly!

3. YES!

4. I believe that Monroe County's Code Enforcement Board could be very effective were County officials, particularly some of the COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, to stop promoting themselves via this Board. This group of appointed VOLUNTEERS has called out for help, and I understand, that the County is finally listening to their pleas for help. I would hope to hasten such help - not only with this Board but with all County Boards. I would not make an appointment to this Board based on "politics" (or any other). My first concern would be, "Is this person qualified?" My second concern would be, "Would there be any apparent conflict of interest?" I do not want ANY shadows cast upon these fine groups of volunteers, who will always (I hope) be acting for ALL of the people of our county - and NOT FOR ANY special interest groups. I would ask for progress reports on actions and see that enforcement capabilities (legally) were placed with the proper people.

5. As I understand, the new LAND PLAN AND MAP for Monroe County will be adopted by your County Commissioners, and I hope that as your County Commissioner I will be voting on it. I understand further that ONCE ADOPTED, variances (changes) will be permitted only every six or twelve months, etc., (dependent upon HOW Commissioners vote) so this provision, if applied, will insure enforcement to some extent.

Further, inspectors must be qualified, efficient, and without employment conflicts, AND they MUST

continued on page 33



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perform efficiently on the job. Full use of such an employment policy and force will aid the county - our county.

I will dedicate myself to the next four years on the MONROE COUNTY COMMISSION as I have for the past 28 years as Supervisor of Elections. For all of those years (seven times have I been a candidate and seven times have I won over opponents, and some-times unopposed), neither MY STAFF NOR I has ever been attacked.

I know Elections Laws forwards and backwards, AND I HASTEN TO ASSURE YOU that given a little time in YOUR COUNTY COMMISSION OFFICE, I will KNOW those laws and regulations never to be forgotten - BUT TO APPLY THOSE LAWS to the BENEFIT of ALL PEOPLE - NOT JUST A CHOSEN FEW!

JERRY HERNANDEZ
COUNTY COMMISSION, DISTRICT 3
DEMOCRAT

Did not reply.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

1. Please specify why you think you should be the Public Defender.
2. If there is any other issue you would like to address please do so.

JOHN KEANE
PUBLIC DEFENDER
DEMOCRAT

Did not reply.

PUBLIC DEFENDER
HUGH R. PAPY
DEMOCRAT

In response to your question why I should be Public Defender, my answer is two-fold. First, I believe I am best qualified to serve the citizens of Monroe County as Public Defender. Secondly, I am an independent attorney and citizen with no ties to conflicting factions of our judicial system.

As a 26-year member of the Florida Bar Association and a former Municipal Court Judge, I have the extensive experience so necessary in being a successful Public Defender.

The Public Defender's Office must not become a counterpart of, or under any circumstance answer to, the State Attorney's Office or the local or state politicians. As Public Defender, I will insure that the office remain independent to best serve the citizens of Monroe County. Perhaps my opponent(s) cannot make the same promise or claim.

As the Public Defender's Office must remain an office of the public, the Public Defender must be of the highest integrity, cost-conscious and possess genuine concern. For all of the afore-

mentioned reasons, I believe I should be the Public Defender for Monroe County.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

PUBLIC DEFENDER
RAND WINTER
DEMOCRAT

1. Since being appointed the Public Defender in April by the Governor, I have made a good beginning towards restoring public confidence in the office, improving the staff morale, and bringing fiscal integrity to the position. In four months under my leadership, the office is more efficient and better able to fulfill its responsibility of delivering quality legal services to court-appointed clients. I have achieved these results while at the same time eliminating waste and frills, thus, reducing the cost to the taxpayers.

2. There are significant differences in both style and experience between the three contenders for the position. While my opponents appeared for years in local felony courts on an infrequent basis, I have been a working lawyer in those same courts on a daily basis. I believe that my experience and commitment will enable me to both make the office most effective and participate in the reforms necessary in the Monroe County criminal justice system.

SHERIFF

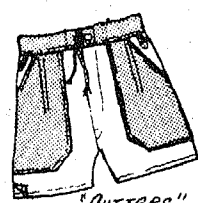
1. In what way would you attempt to improve the Sheriff's Department in the next 4 years?
2. Is there any other issue you would like to address, please do so.

SHERIFF
WILLIAM FREEMAN
DEMOCRAT

1. I would continue the programs I have started as Sheriff and concentrate on future plans I have developed such as county-wide microwave communications system; increasing the Crime Prevention Programs; the final building of the Jail Addition and staffing and continue to maintain the highest standards of integrity in the State of Florida.

2. I believe that I have built and maintained one of the finest and most respected law enforcement agencies in the State of Florida, if not the nation. I believe the issue, in any Sheriff's office, is integrity of not only the Sheriff but all Department members. The members of the Sheriff's Office are above reproach and are dedicated professionals who provide quality law

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enforcement services to our community. I intend to maintain honesty in law enforcement and would like to leave you with the thought that quality law enforcement has no price.

SHERIFF
FRANK HERNANDEZ
DEMOCRAT

1. I want to be a Sheriff who serves the people with the best in law enforcement in partnership with the public I serve. This is a public position that needs public trust, input, and cooperation to succeed. I want to give the people of Monroe County superior law enforcement at a price we can afford.

2. I will take my annual budget to all areas of the Keys to arrive at the level of protection we can afford. I hope to involve the people in redeployment of personnel and equipment in such a manner to effect efficiency and cost savings without sacrificing the safety of people.

SHERIFF
BILL SHAW
REPUBLICAN

1. By providing patrol service to Key West to help combat the crime, drugs, the speeders and wreckless drivers that use Roosevelt Boulevard and Flagler Avenue as though there was no speed limit.

2. A large amount of the taxes are paid by Key West residents, but yet the Key West residents receive not one cent of services from the Monroe County Sheriff's Department. Under Bill Shaw's administration, this will change very quickly. Green and white patrol cars, as well as unmarked cars.

will for the first time in the history of our county, patrol the streets of Key West to combat the terrible crime rate that exists.

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

1. Why do you feel you should be Supervisor of Elections?
2. If there is any other issue you would like to address, please do so.

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
R. L. "BOBBY" BROWN
DEMOCRAT

1. I have served over 20 years in public office, and feel that my qualifications and experience can serve the public best in this most important office.

2. I intend to bring the elections office to the people by year-round educational programs. Trained staff members from the supervisor's office should offer this as a regular service to the schools including assisting them in their own elections. Year-round educational programs to the general public should be offered. Seminars and workshops should be held for all candidates, their treasurers and other workers and the general public should be invited to participate so that the interest in the election process is kept high.

Besides introducing modern methods and educational programs for our citizens, I will continue to perform all the other important functions of the office faithfully so as to reflect fairness to all persons involved in the elections.

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
DENNIS WARDLOW
DEMOCRAT

I believe I should be Supervisor of Elections because of my qualifications and experience. I offer an administrative and technical background to the office, and I have worked in both political and non-political areas to promote voter awareness and participation. I have established positive objectives for the continuance of the integrity and efficiency of the supervisor's office. These objectives are:

To establish definite hours for the supervisor in the Upper, Middle and Lower Keys.

To establish additional voter precincts where needed.

To establish programs to educate voters.

To computerize record keeping.

I will be a FULL-TIME supervisor working for all the Keys.

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
KIT JONES
REPUBLICAN

1. The Supervisor of Elections plays the pivotal role in American politics. She or he is charged in and by Florida law with, among many other duties: registration of eligible voters; overseeing all elections in the county; and generating and maintaining all records related to those functions.

The quality of administration of the supervisor can help or hinder voting activities in the county. So, it is crucial that the supervisor be

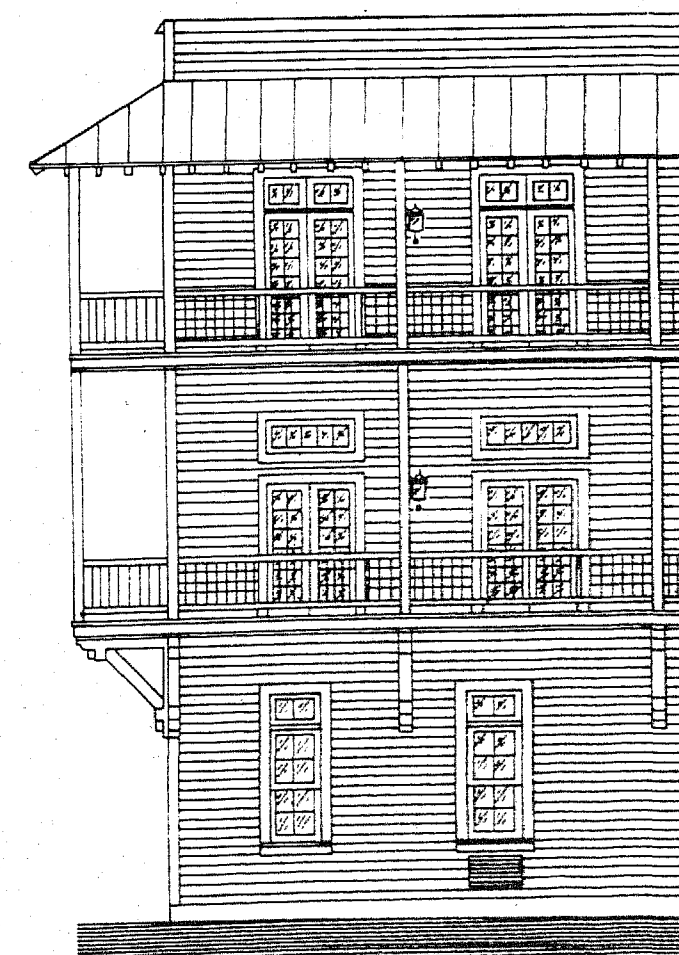
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a qualified, progressive individual with an understanding and desire to meet the spirit as well as the letter of the law. I am that individual.

Prior to filing for election I began preparing myself for office. I have spoken with Mr. Billy Freeman, our supervisor of 28 years. I am happy to say that he has stated to me he will assist me in any way he can to administer the office. I am becoming familiar with the workings of the system through contacts with other supervisors, and keeping up with developments in our own system - especially the transition from our old methods to the new computerized ones. Mr. Freeman had the forethought to begin phasing in the new system. Absentee voting in this election is by computer. He tells me that Key West elections in 1985 and countywide elections in 1986 will be by computer. I am preparing now to insure that it is a smooth transition.

From 1981 until declaring for election, I was a Deputy Supervisor of Elections. I was the founder (with other community-minded people throughout the Keys) and the first president of the League of Women Voters of Monroe County. In my role as a Leaguer and a Deputy Supervisor, I personally registered a substantial number of the approximately 2,000 new voters through the League's voters service efforts.

I am a graduate of Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

As a businesswoman in Dallas I helped turn a losing concern into a profitable one. In three years' time we built it up to \$5 million per year gross profit.

Currently, I am Executive Director

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for Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Monroe County.

My other work in Monroe County has included:

- Counselor and Instructor, Florida Keys Community College.
- Teacher, Monroe County School Board.
- Qualification by the State of Florida as a Social Worker.
- Lobbyist for voters of all descriptions: old/young, male/female, racial majority/minority, rich/poor, Conch/new-comer.
- Advisor to several civic organizations.

2. My goals are:

- to come close as is humanly possible to 100% registration of eligible voters in Monroe County, and;
- to create a model elections system - one that is convenient, economical and practical.

Then, all of the people will speak. They will, through their other elective representatives, decide the future for Monroe County - whether it be making an environmental preserve of it or a parking lot; or, I fervently hope, a healthy community guided with vision, and a place in which all its residents will live and function actively and happily.

I am not a member of any political "buddy system," but stand on my own merits: my history, ability, honesty, and understanding of the office which I seek. In my campaign I have been and will continue speaking to any civic or social group about the office, my qualifications and plans for it.

My promise to the voters is a simple one: to administer the office of the supervisor of Elections for Monroe County in an up-to-date and people-oriented manner.

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

1. Do you think that our local court system is operating efficiently?
2. What would you do to reduce the backlog of court cases?
3. If there is any other issue you would like to address, please do so.

CIRCUIT JUDGE
BILL G. CHAPPELL
DEMOCRAT

1. Yes. I think it not only operates efficiently, but continues to improve. Many innovative ideas have been integrated into our court system during my 16-year tenure as a judge in this circuit.

2. I do not agree with the premise that there is a backlog of cases, particularly in the criminal justice division, over which I now preside. If there is a delay in the case being brought to trial, it is not because the Court has not set a trial date, but rather because either the state attorney or the attorney for the defense is not ready for trial and asks for a continuance.

3. Judicial personnel are continuously involved in ongoing studies regarding improvements in the entire system. Serving as I have, as Judge of the Juvenile Court, Criminal Court of Record and Circuit Court, both criminal and civil divisions, has given me the opportunity to be personally involved in bringing many of these improvements to our Circuit.

CIRCUIT JUDGE
RICHARD J. FOWLER
DEMOCRAT

1. No.

- 56 other counties in Florida make better use of juries than we do. Too often a jury is called in and there is nothing for them to do and the criminal court uses more juries than the rest of the courts put together.

- Cases await trial for two years and longer while defendants sit in jail at \$40.00 a day in taxpayer expense.

- 90% of the people in jail are waiting for trial - there is at present no method to have their cases tried first.

- Victims and witnesses of crimes are told to reserve months at a time out of their lives waiting on uncertain trial dates and further penalized when a case is continued.

- This is not efficiency.

2. - Insure jail cases are tried first and establish and enforce a no continuance policy.

- Since most cases are disposed of by plea, a defendant must be allowed to enter that plea more often than the once-a-month as is presently the case.

- Establish a regularly scheduled motion calendar to avoid hearing them the morning of trial which causes victims, witnesses, and jurors to wait needlessly.

- End the policy of setting all cases for the first Monday of the month which causes double scheduling, untold confusion and further delay.

- Most of all, efficiency in any system is the result of hard work and constant attention. The energy and dedication must be put into the court system to make it work.

3. The Circuit Court also acts as the Appeals Court for misdemeanor cases (drunk driving). Those cases have been left unresolved and justice unserved for 2, 3, and 4 years. Those appeals must be decided promptly.

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WE'RE OF THE opinion that the position of Supervisor of Elections should not, if possible, be held by a politician. Both former Sheriff "Bobby" Brown and former Key West Mayor Dennis Wardlow are two of the best known politicians in the county; political new-comer Kit Jones has her work cut out for her to become known to the voters. Her credentials are excellent; particularly pleasing is the work she has done registering voters as a Deputy Supervisor of Elections. Though untested, she is our obvious preference for this position.



RICHARD FOWLER

ENDORSED

SOMETIMES IT'S TIME for a change. Monroe County jail has a too-large and too-expensive population of prisoners languishing while waiting for trial. Much has been said about this backlog of cases, but nothing much has been done to alleviate it. Challenger, Richard Fowler, has come out with a strong platform to help remedy this issue (see his responses to our questionnaire) and has established a first-rate reputation in the State Attorney's Office. It is time for a change. We endorse Richard Fowler for Circuit Judge.



HARRY KNIGHT

ENDORSED

IN ALL THE years that Harry Knight has been Tax Collector we have heard nothing to suggest that he hasn't been doing a good job. Sure, we've heard some grumbling about him over the years, but it has been at a minimum and his professional conduct has not been challenged. We're very comfortable in endorsing Harry Knight for another term.



GERALDINE CARON

ENDORSED

WE'VE HEARD UNUSUALLY high praise for School Board incumbent Geraldine Caron from local educators. It sounds like she is the sort of conscientious, hard-working, concerned and intelligent person boards cry out for. Add to this her Ph.D. and you have our endorsed candidate for the School Board.

REFERENDUM

VOTE YES

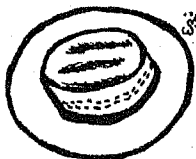
VOTE YES ON the referendum. The referendum calls for an interim board comprised of 4 directors of the South Florida Water Management District to serve with the 5-man board of regular Monroe County residents for a period of 18 months. During this period the new Monroe County directors should be able to learn the ropes of water management from the more experienced South Florida group. Vote yes.

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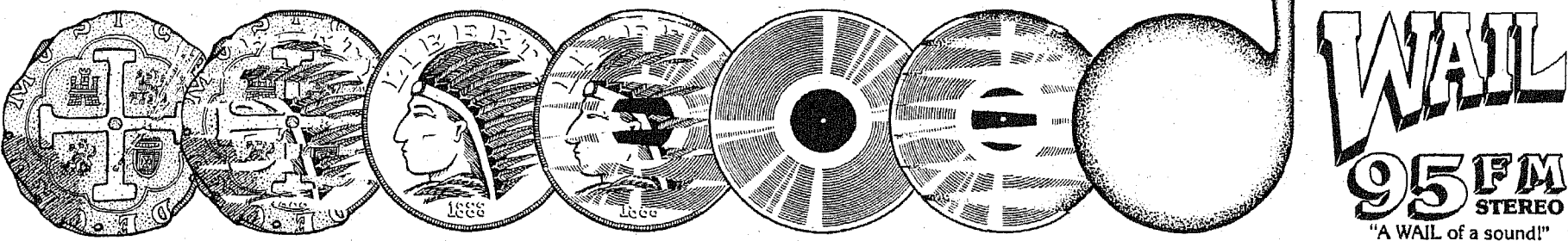
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Key West GOLD is back!



EDITORIAL

by BILL WESTRAY

THE CITY'S LONG-AWAITED CITY ACTION PLAN was completed and hand-delivered to the local Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) planner about 12 minutes before midnight on Monday, August 6, last. We were fortunate enough to be present in City Planner, Art Mosley's office as the final pages were being pulled out of the City's new word processor, and run off and collated by the Xerox machine. This gave us the opportunity to read the entire 150+ page document as it was being assembled and delivered to DCA to meet the August 6 deadline growing out of the City's redesignation last February, as an Area of Critical State Concern.

THE PLAN IS an excellent work product and should be regarded as an excellent framework within which the city action plan may proceed. In particular the demographic study covering the housing and population trends since 1980 through 1995 are of great value. This is the first thorough update in this area since the Milo Smith plan of 1969. One plan is the difference between the 1980 Official Census of less than 25,000 (24,342) compared to the estimates of over 30,000 by various other authorities. The difference appears to be the way the population was counted. The census takers apparently counted only permanent residents, and largely ignored seasonal (part time) and transient (tourist and other visitor) residents. The CAP counts all of these and rightfully concludes that all three categories have about the same impact on our utilities, streets, police, fire and other public service needs. This would seem to explain that while the census data seemed to show that our city was declining in population, utility usage and traffic counts kept climbing, indicating steady population increases. A great deal of original effort went into this demographic part of the CAP and city planners Tom Wilson and Art Mosley are to be loudly commended for this tremendous effort. Of course, Mayor Richard Heyman was the driving force behind the project. He conceived the plan and "bird-dogged" the resources to get it moving.

PROBABLY THE MOST significant finding and prediction coming out of the demographic study is that our city has grown from about 30,000 total

population (permanent, seasonal and tourist) in 1980, and will reach about 44,000 in 1995. Another finding was that while the census population dropped from 27,563 in 1970 to 24,382 in 1980, almost all that loss was in navy personnel and dependents (6500), while the actual civilian population increased by about 3,000 during that same ten years. In any case, a steady population growth of about 2.5 percent per year is forecast for the next 10 years.

THE STUDY GOES on to assess the present and projected impacts of this growth on utilities and other public services. In particular, sewers, garbage, electricity, water, police, and fire services are addressed. Traffic is discussed, but results of the Spring Traffic studies by Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) were not available as yet.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE CAP REPORT CONFIRMS THE CONCERNS THAT WE HAVE BEEN WRITING ABOUT IN SOLARES HILL FOR SEVERAL YEARS. THAT IS, THAT OUR GROWTH

IS AND HAS BEEN OUTSTRIPPING OUR ABILITY TO RELIABLY SUPPLY OUR PRESENT POPULATION, AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ENORMOUS INCREASE IN THE COST OF UTILITIES THROUGH RATE INCREASES, AND SERVICES THROUGH TAX INCREASES, AND THAT WE DO NOT KNOW HOW WE ARE GOING TO SUPPLY OR PAY FOR OUR FUTURE NEEDS IN ALMOST ALL OF THESE AREAS.

SEWERS - We have no sewage treatment system and need one. A primary treatment system including partial sewer pipe replacement will cost \$28 million. We don't know where to put the treatment plant. We talk about putting it next to the ocean in Port Taylor State Park. The state and many others object. We also need a secondary treatment plant and further repairs to our collection (sewer line) system. This will cost many million dollars more. Meanwhile, developers want to dispose of sewage by pumping it into the ground (injection wells). There is real danger that sewage pumped into the ground will contaminate many of the shallow wells in use around the city. PRESENT SOLUTION - NONE.

GARBAGE - Our present dump is nearly overflowing. It has enough remaining capacity to last until June 1986, according to the CAP. The City

Commission has decided to buy an incinerator system at a cost of \$12.8 million. It is subject to a referendum by city voters on the ballot this fall. When operational, it will reduce the daily volume to 1/10 of the present need. To say this another way, it will extend the remaining useful life of the dump to last another 5 years. If the plant is late in being finished, we may find the dump is already full and we would have to find another place to haul the ashes from the incinerator. The residents of the Lower Keys have already screamed very loudly that they don't want Key West's garbage in their back yards. PRESENT SOLUTION - CONDITIONAL AND QUESTIONABLE.

ELECTRICITY - Present capacity - 110 to 120 megawatts (MW) peak with all auxiliaries on line. Largest units one (1) 37 MW steam turbine, three (3) 15 MW old steam units, one (1) 22 MW GT peaking unit. Present peak demand is about 68 megawatts according to the CAP. City Electric System (CES) being an isolated island system with no outside tieline connections, has for years

maintained a double contingency policy. This means the amount of electricity that it can generate with its two largest units off the line. This is based on having one large unit out of service for maintenance, and losing a second large unit unexpectedly. The two largest units generate about 59 megawatts. Losing both units at the same time leaves a maximum capacity of about 61 megawatts. Therefore, during any period when a peak demand of 68 MW or more would be required, CES could not "hold the load" in a double contingency situation. The CAP says that CES is considering dropping its double contingency policy in favor of a single contingency policy. This wouldn't provide more electricity; it would only increase the number and length of blackouts. CES has approved plans to overcome this deficiency by tying into the mainland "grid" network to supply about 50 megawatts of power from FPL nuclear plants and other mainland sources. But the Florida Keys Electric Cooperative at Marathon which controls all the power lines north of Seven Mile Bridge (about 80 miles of main transmission lines to Turkey Point), has refused to allow CES to use its lines for the planned tieline. CES plans to go to court over this controversy but hasn't done so as yet. We

believe that FKEC wants to keep all its power for the big new developments in the Middle and Upper Keys (Port Bougainville, Carysport, Garden Cove, etc.). If CES were to try to build 80 miles of new highlines (50 MW 138 KVA) it would cost around \$50-55 million. No plans have been formulated for this except for the Seven Mile Bridge portion. All tieline work completed so far by CES is within the present service area and would be needed whether the tieline is built or not. If CES abandons its tieline plans and looks instead at new generators in Key West it will cost about \$16 million per 10 megawatt generator. We need about 50 megawatts - that's \$80 million. The CAP estimates new major residential developments in the next 10 years at about 4,382 new living units. CES estimates power needs for these new living units at 5 kilowatts (KW) per unit, plus a fixed additional amount for each development project. Just for the living units a new demand for 22 megawatts is created, costing at least \$35 million. Allowing for contingency reserve and replacement of existing old

A GREAT DEAL OF ORIGINAL EFFORT WENT INTO THIS DEMOGRAPHIC PART OF THE CAP AND CITY PLANNERS TOM WILSON AND ART MOSELEY ARE TO BE LOUDLY COMMENDED FOR THIS TREMENDOUS EFFORT. OF COURSE, MAYOR RICHARD HEYMAN WAS THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THE PROJECT.

units, and power for new commercial development, we are facing costs in this direction of \$50 to \$60 million. PRESENT SOLUTION - NONE (A REAL CAN OF WORMS).

WATER - In this area we are probably in better shape than in any other utility area. The Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority (FKAA) has fulfilled the predictions of the South Florida Regional Planning Council in 1979 and become the "catalyst of explosive development in the Florida Keys." We have a 36" diameter pipe coming out of Florida City with a capacity of at least 19 million gallons per day (19 MGD), and probably as much as 24 MGD with additional pumps and pressures. The pipe size is reduced progressively to 30", then 24", then 18" in diameter as it runs down the Keys. However, it is still capable of delivering about 6 MGD to Key West, where the present daily demand is slightly over 3 MGD. The new pipeline cost about twice as much as was forecast; \$63 million for 80 miles instead of \$42 million for 130 miles as they promised. But we got it. The distribution system is still lousy and seems to be getting better very,

very slowly. They put in about 10.5 MGD into the pipeline every day, but sell only about 7 MGD. About 3.5 MGD (33 percent) gets lost into the ground through leaky pipes or otherwise. FKAA has an impact fee policy that is reasonably close to the true cost of providing service. They charge nearly \$2000 for each new hookup, or expansion living unit. They also charge to run new lines to new customers. The trouble is, they haven't consistently enforced this policy for the last ten years, and when they recently tried to collect back fees from guest houses and other tourist and seasonal residential expansion accommodations in Key West, they created a near revolution. THIS ISSUE HAS NOT BEEN RESOLVED. Meanwhile, both old and new residents enjoy some of the highest water rates in the United States, over \$6 per thousand gallons, as we struggle to pay off the \$63 million loan for the new pipeline. PRESENT SOLUTION - FAIR, WITH EQUITABLE SOLUTION OF THE IMPACT FEE QUESTION AT ISSUE.

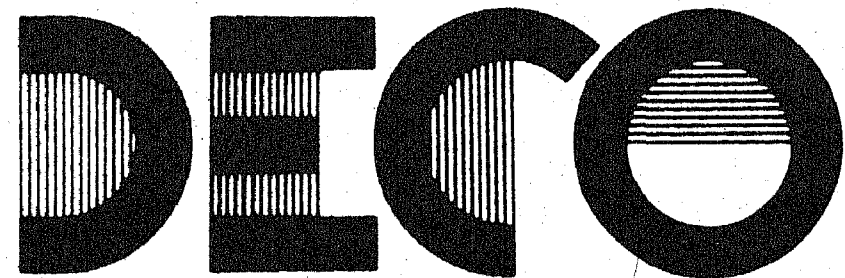
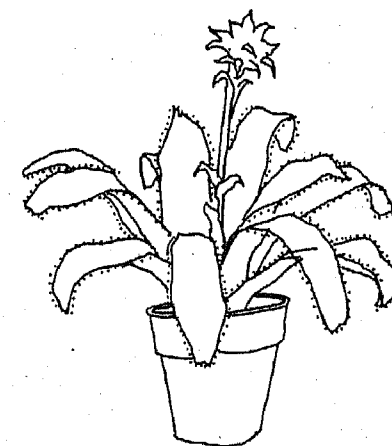
POLICE AND FIRE SERVICES - The CAP

reviews manning standards in other communities and concludes that the City is overstaffed in these service areas. The police chief disputes this conclusion, on the basis of the transient and seasonal nature of the demand. We believe that this area needs more study, and defer comment. PRESENT SOLUTION - AT ISSUE.

TRAFFIC - We have continually argued that this is the most serious problem facing the future development of Key West and the Florida Keys. U.S. 1 is already grossly overloaded at many key points along its length. Traffic fatalities grow each year. DOT efforts to widen key points of congestion, and create turning and passing lanes have been helpful, but they seem only to be stop-gap solutions to the most pressing bottlenecks. DOT did traffic counts in Key West last spring and was supposed to have some interim solutions to our planners in July. They slipped. We're waiting. But building goes on. Large projects are still approved with great acrimony between commissioners and between citizens. We believe that there is a need for more off-street parking, elimination of curb parking and restrictions on truck traffic and

daylight deliveries in congested areas, one-way paired streets, and better traffic signs. We anxiously await the DOT study and recommendations, to see what they recommend. PRESENT SOLUTION - NONE. A CRITICAL ISSUE.

WE CONCLUDE ON the point that we have made a good start with the new CAP. We have a long way to go. The Florida Department of Community Affairs has the next move, and will have until February 6, 1985, to help get a new comprehensive plan in place for the City. But their capacities are limited too. We suggest that a joint task force of City and DCA planners, working together at the Truman Annex offices of DCA and the county planners, drawing upon the combined planning disciplines of each and all the young professionals, the consultants, and old experienced bureaucrats, might without undue interference, produce products that would be acceptable and beneficial to all. Key West cannot produce a viable plan in a vacuum, nor can the county. The city, the county, the regional authority, the independent boards and commissions (CES, FKAA, FKEC), each have responsibilities in this matter, and are mandated under Area of Critical State Concern Guidelines to cooperate and discharge their responsibilities. IT'S CALLED INTERAGENCY COORDINATION! LASTLY, IT TAKES WILLING AND INFORMED LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING. THE REAL JOB IS NOT DONE, IT IS JUST GETTING STARTED. LET'S KEEP IT MOVING!



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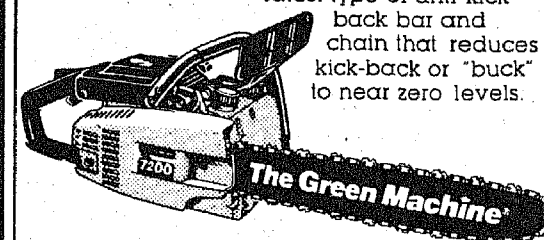
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UPDATE: CITY GRANT WRITING

by Alden Solovy

THERE'S MONEY OUT there, and lots of it.

That has been the theme of the recent drive by the City Commission to improve the quality of grant writing coming from the government of this city. There is literally millions of dollars for the asking from state and federal sources, as well as private foundations.

THE PROBLEM, explains City Commissioner George Halloran, is that you have to know how to ask for the money the right way. In the past, former city manager Bob Bensko has handled grant writing for Key West. Now, the city commission is negotiating with a national grant writing firm which will help the city go after the big bucks.

Linton, Miels, Reisler & Cottone, Ltd., of Washington, D.C., was ranked the best of four firms making presentations to the City Commission at a meeting August 13. Details of the contract are being worked out, and final action is expected by the commission this month. Along with providing grant writing services, the city will ask the firm to train staff members in grant writing techniques. Thus, many of the smaller grants which the city currently does not apply for will be handled in-house at City Hall. The result is expected to be a boon to city coffers, as well as additional money for citizens through grants like the state's Weatherization Program.

BENSKO'S FIRM, Group Seven Management Consultants, was also slated to give a presentation at the August 13, meeting. Instead, Bensko's lawyer,

Michael Halpern, told the commission that Bensko would not make a presentation. Rather, Bensko would stand on his record. That record, Halpern said, includes acquiring more than \$11 million in bonds and \$7 million in social service grants. Including the additional \$3 million grant applications outstanding, Halpern said the Bensko record includes attracting more than \$20 million to Key West.

BUT THAT record has also been riddled with problems, said Halloran, who made the original motion to terminate the city's contract with Bensko. Halloran said those problems include:

-- FAILURE to file quarterly reports as outlined in the Bensko contract. Those reports were to outline new grants which the city might be able to obtain.

-- CONSISTENTLY bringing grant applications to the city commission at the last moment and then rushing them through the approval process. On one such grant, an application for \$750,000 from the state Department of Community Affairs, the application was denied because it arrived at the state offices after the deadline. (The city subsequently filed a lawsuit to get the grant, an agreement calling for the grant in the next year's funding cycle was reached, and then the lawsuit subsequently dropped.)

-- INCONSISTENCY in the quality of grant writing. On the same DCA \$750,000 grant, which was a day late, the state department sent a letter of criticism about the contents of the application. The letter called the grant application "confusing, unstructured, and very poorly

written." The letter, from John DeGrove, DCA secretary, said "the problems and major flaws (in the grant)...rendered the application, as submitted, ineligible."

-- IMPROPER payments to Bensko. The city paid \$1,200 to Bensko for obtaining a weatherization grant. The fee was paid with grant funds as Bensko's contract called for him to receive a percentage of all grants which he acquired for the city. Subsequently, the state said that the fee could not be paid from the grant, so the city had to reimburse the state the \$1,200 from its General Fund.

WHILE BENSKO was city manager he also drew his commission as a grant writer, even though that violated federal laws. The city had to use more than \$10,000 in

is being forced to pay those workers the money they should have been paid in the first place; a total of \$30,000. Since the grant has been spent, that money will have to come from local tax dollars. The cost to the city will be much higher because the city must attempt to locate all those employees and calculate what they are owed, as well as the federal withholding taxes, a task which is expected to take hundreds of staff hours, time which residents must pay for in tax dollars.

-- DRAWING commissions before the city received the grant funds. Bensko was paid in excess of \$8,000 for work on the beach restoration grant applications. However, that

DUE TO THESE PROBLEMS, HALLORAN LED A DRIVE TO GIVE BENSKO THE 60 DAYS NOTICE REQUIRED BY HIS CONTRACT.

General Funds to repay the grant funds which were given to Bensko.

-- POOR GRANT management. An Urban Development Action Grant for improvements to the Pier House was approved and used during Bensko's tenure as city manager/grant's writer. However, even with multiple warnings from the federal government, construction workers were underpaid under laws governing wage and hour requirements. Now, the city

grant -- targeted for Rest Beach -- has not yet produced one cent for the city.

DUE TO THESE problems, Halloran led a drive to give Bensko the 60 days notice required by his contract. On August 20, the city commission voted 3-to-2 to terminate the contract with Bensko. Commissioners Joe Balbontin and Jimmy Mira voted against breaking off the contract.



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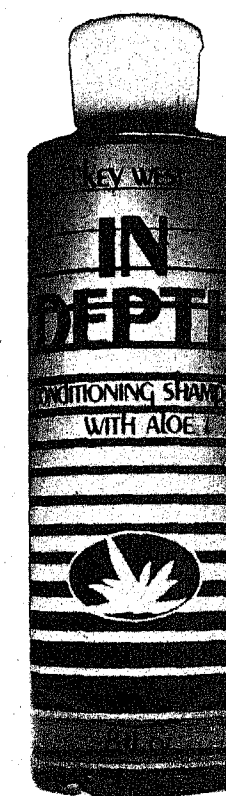
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UNTIL DEATH DO US PART

by RICHARD MARSH

"YOU'LL NEVER take me alive."

powered rifle with a telescopic sight.

THE DEFIANT VOICE echoed among the rocks halfway up the hill. "That's all right with me, kid," murmured a tightlipped state police corporal crouched behind a boulder. "I went to police academy with that cop you killed." He cocked a high-

"WE DON'T know for sure, Ken," the lieutenant next to him said. "We're not the judge and jury."

A BUSINESS-SUITED man wearing a captain's badge walked up to the car that stopped at the side of the road and opened the passenger door. A young woman with a fresh, pretty face stepped out quickly and cast a worried glance up the hill.

Her soft brown eyes widened at the sight of the state police officers stationed behind a litter of rocks and boulders at the foot of the hill. Rifles, shotguns, and revolvers, all aimed toward the hill, gleamed in the bright sunshine. She brushed a honey-coloured wisp of hair away from her face and allowed the captain to take her arm and lead her from the road into the boulder-strewn area.

"HOLD YOUR FIRE, men," the captain said loudly enough to be heard on the hill. "We're going to try and settle this without anyone getting hurt." He spoke quietly to the girl, then walked back to the road and stood next to the

man who waited at the car with a black bag in his hand. "Billy," the girl called up the hill. "Billy, listen to me."

"PATRICIA, what are you doing here?" The voice sounded less harsh than before. There was a movement among the rocks. "I see where he is," the corporal said. "Take it easy, Ken," the lieutenant warned. "The captain knows what he's doing."

"BILLY," Patricia said in a shaky voice. "I want you to give yourself up. They'll kill you if you don't."

"No way." Defiance returned to the voice. "I'm not going to the chair for something I didn't do."

"You can prove you're innocent in court."

"NO, I CAN'T. It's a perfect frameup. They have an airtight case against me. When I get out of here, I'll send for you, and we can get married and start a new life together somewhere else."

"Billy, it won't work. They think you killed a policeman. They'll never stop looking for you. You have to give yourself up."

"NO WAY. Even if it's not the chair, it's twenty years minimum. With nothing to look forward to when I get out. I don't expect you to wait twenty years to marry a forty-year old ex-con."

"Billy, please listen..." "Will they let you come up here and kiss me goodbye?"

SHE LOOKED back at the captain. He shook his head firmly. She began to climb the hill.

"He'll take her hostage," the corporal said. "Then we'll never get him."

"The captain said hold your fire, the lieutenant reminded him."

A CURLY-HEADED young man stepped out from behind a rock and held out a hand to the approaching girl. A hunting rifle in the other hand pointed toward the sky. Patricia ran toward him.

"Got him in my sights," the corporal said. His finger tightened on the trigger.

"No," the lieutenant shouted. He reached out to tip the rifle barrel up, but he slipped and fell against the corporal. The shot reverberated among the rocks. They all watched in horror as the girl tumbled down the hill.

"YOU KILLED HER," Billy screamed. He stood in the open and fired his rifle wildly down the hill. A volley of shots crackled. Billy jerked twice and rolled to the foot of the hill.

"Stay where you are, men," the captain ordered. "Doc, come with me." The captain and the doctor ran forward. They were joined by a clergyman and a reporter with a press camera.

BILLY LAY WITH one leg twisted under him, sprawled on his back next to Patricia, among clusters of yellow-flowered weeds. The doctor cast a practiced eye over them both, opened his bag, and set to work.

"Where's Patricia?" Billy whispered through clenched teeth. One hand clawed feebly at empty air. "Billy," Patricia gasped. Her hand groped toward him. She coughed and moaned. A thin red line trickled from the corner of her mouth.

THE CLERGYMAN gently brought their hands together. "Billy," she said, "I was going to tell you that I would have married

you now and waited for you if you had to go to prison. I'd wait for you all my..." The coughing choked off the rest of her words.

BILLY SAW THE clergyman dimly through the red fog that was descending over his eyes.

"Then marry me now, before it's too late. There's a preacher standing right here."

"Oh, Billy. Yes, yes. Hurry." She coughed again and gasped desperately for air.

The clergyman looked at the captain. The captain shrugged and nodded.

THE CLERGYMAN'S VOICE quavered at the end of the abbreviated ceremony when he came to the line "until death do us part." A tear rolled down his cheek when they repeated the line together, and their hands, cushioned by a clump of weeds, clasped more tightly.

"It's getting dark," said Billy. "I can't see."

PATRICIA'S EYES glistened moistly in the sunlight.

"Oh, Billy, Billy." She turned toward him, throwing her hand across



his chest, and coughed again. The coughing ended with a sigh, and her head drooped limply next to the yellow flowers.

THE CAPTAIN SLOWLY removed his hat. The reporter snapped a last photo and dashed toward his car, muttering to himself, "Deathbed Nuptials; Lovers Cut Down in Hail of Bullets; Exchange Vows Among Wildflowers." He sped off as the ambulance arrived.

"Take the boy first," the doctor ordered, when the attendants brought the stretcher. "He's lost some blood from the bullet in his leg and the one that went through his shoulder. And wash that blood out of his eyes, when you have a chance. He got a nasty gash on his forehead when he fell."

I GUESS there's no hurry about the girl," the captain said, clearing the huskiness out of his throat.

"No hurry," the doctor said. "She'll come around once we get her

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away from this ragweed. I'll bet she hasn't been taking the allergy medicine I prescribed for her. Help me carry her to the road."

"YOU MEAN SHE'S NOT..."

"Just fainted from all the excitement. Shaken up a bit. A few bruises. Looks like she bit the inside of her mouth when she twisted her ankle in the gravel up there, but there's no loose teeth."

A YOUNG MAN, who had hoped to pursue his romantic intentions with Patricia once Billy was out of the way, read the article on the front page of the evening paper. He phoned the police with information that unlocked the airtight case against Billy.

It's a holiday custom now, in a certain household, for one of the curly-headed youngsters scattered in front of the fireplace to say, "Grandpa, tell us that story about when you and Grandma got married."

BILLY PLACES his hand on Patricia's. "I was young and hot-headed," he begins, "and madly in love with the prettiest and bravest and truest girl in the whole world."

PATRICIA LAYS DOWN her knitting

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and wraps Billy's hand in both of hers. "You forgot to say 'luckiest,'" she says with a smile. "We were both very lucky," Billy says solemnly. Then he tells the story. At the end, he nods and says, "Yes, we were very lucky that day."

THEN HE GRINS mischievously, and, because the ritual never varies, a chorus from around the room joins him when he adds, "Because the preacher never sent us a bill."

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BY EMMA CRUZ

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Mercury in Virgo retrograde, turning
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Saturn in Scorpio.
Mars in Sagittarius.

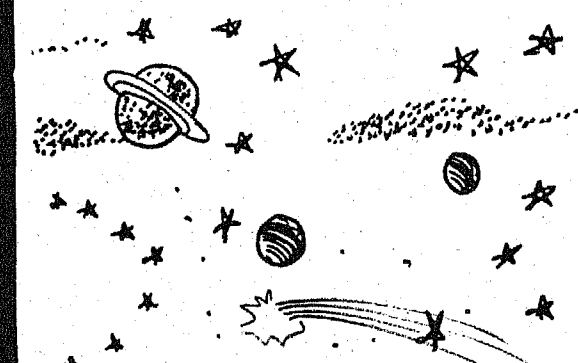
Uranus in Sagittarius.
Neptune in Sagittarius retrograde,
turning direct on the 10th.
Pluto in Scorpio.
North Node in 1 degree of Gemini.

THE FULL MOON on September 10th
in Pisces aspects the 4th and 10th
Houses of the Key West chart. There
are opportunities for new beginnings
under very favorable aspects.
Jupiter is now in direct motion in the
constellation Capricorn, which is the
Sun sign of the Key West Horoscope.
Finances are positive; loans are
also favored. The money picture is
good.

THE NEW MOON in Libra on
September 24 aspects the 5th house of
the Horoscope. Politics and social-
izing are strongly affected. These
areas will be picking up momentum
toward the end of the month.

OVERALL THIS IS a very good
month for Key West, and its citizenry
in general.

ALL PLANETS WILL be in direct
motion by the 10th of this month.
Many situations that have been delayed
or "on hold" will be moving forward
expeditiously. This fall and winter
are auspicious for Key West in general.



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The Tree Commission

by ELLEN SUGARMAN

"Commissions are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree."

SOMETIME IN EARLY June, I met a friend for a drink. Like myself, she had only lived in Key West for half a year. Like myself, she was really feeling the heat. In fact, that afternoon, she was in a state of raving hysteria.

"Barbarians, ignorant savages," she ranted, speaking of the people she had bought her house from, "imagine - they lived there sixty years, sixty years! And in all that time they never planted a tree."

BECAUSE THERE WERE no trees on the property, my friend's house was an oven and the surrounding yard resembled nothing so much as a parched desert. Being new to the neighborhood, my friend may have been over-reacting. But there certainly is a great deal to say for having shade trees in the tropics. In this climate, every large shade tree is important. A shade tree can dominate your yard and make it nearly fifteen degrees cooler than it is out on the street. And it can lend considerable shade to your house as well. And almost nothing is as comforting as retreating to the well-shaded veranda with a cold drink and watching the world go by.

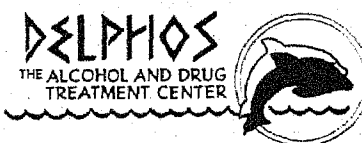
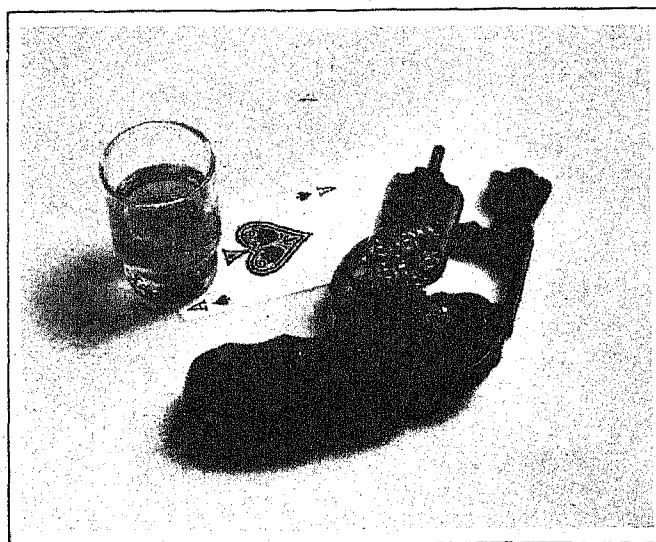
BESIDES LENDING SHADE and serenity to a property, large trees also add value. Any realtor will tell you that the landscaping - in particular, the large trees - account for 20-25% of the value of a piece of property.

Many of the trees you notice as

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you walk around Key West are not indigenous to the island; they were brought in and planted by people who cared enough to take the time and spend the money to establish these trees down here, usually around their own houses. Generally speaking, the large trees were planted at least forty years ago; in some cases, longer, for trees such as the so-called Tree of Life (sap. Lignavita) which is the slowest growing tree in the island. Although there's a myth that in the tropics you just put it in and it comes right up, it's not necessarily true. For that reason, it's a good idea to do what you can to preserve and respect the big trees, and that, basically, is the job of the City Tree Commission.

MEANWHILE, UNTIL THESE THINGS (THE TREE COMMISSION LAWS) GET MORE DEFINITION, WE ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING GLORIOUS SHADE TREES ALL OVER KEY WEST.

ENVIRONMENTALISTS IN THE '70s and '80s, nature lovers throughout history, poets and artists and photographers and most of us at some time or another have thought that trees are among the very best of Nature's handiworks. That is, we probably feel that way until said trees become a nuisance by getting in our way, making a mess, tearing up a sidewalk, filling our sewer lines with their roots, interfering with something we want to change or accomplish on our property. At that point let's say our relationship with the tree changes in a significant way. We want to do something to drastically alter the situation and sometimes, if it goes far enough, we suddenly discover that we are simply over it. We want the tree out, and that's final.

"OH, PEOPLE'S RESPECT for the large trees is growing all the time. I've seen it growing in the years I've been on the Commission. Except when it

hits your own yard, that is. Then it's different. Then they just don't give a damn," says Fran Ford. Along with Tim Fahey, Ray Blazevec, Mufti Kieffer, and Joel Koford, Ford has the somewhat dubious distinction of being one of our Tree Commissioners. It is a difficult job. First of all, it's always difficult to sit on a City Commission. Personalities clash - and Key West is full of personalities, feathers get ruffled, and the work of the commission isn't always easily accomplished. In the case of the Tree Commission, it's been particularly hard for the Commissioners to carry out their charge - the preservation and protection of the large trees in Key West - because the Tree Commission has

absolutely no power to enforce its rulings. At present, it's a paper tiger. It can tell people what to do or not to do, issue permits or deny permits, but it cannot put any teeth into its actions. So, the Commission has to rely mainly upon the good will of fellow citizens or in their powers of negotiation, and be content to act in fact only in an advisory capacity - although it certainly was not established as an advisory board. If the Commission instructs a person not to cut down a tree, and that person goes home and in a fit of pique cut down that tree, no one can stop him. Furthermore, no one can do anything after the fact to make that person pay for the abuse.

"WHAT ARE YOU gonna do after it's cut, embarrass them in the Miami Herald?" asks one disgruntled Commissioner. In terms of enforcement, there aren't enough people in-

involved with the Commission to go around and check whether or not people are complying with their decisions.

It isn't as though the Commission wants to rule Key West with an iron fist, a Thou-Shalt-Not-Cut-Trees attitude. There are situations and many particular trees that will not elicit a Nay from them. "Oh, we don't just say you can't cut down trees. That would be dumb!" says Ford vehemently. "We will issue a permit if it makes sense."

THERE ARE GUIDELINES that help make them their decision, things like the size of the tree, how old it is, how healthy it is. They talk to experts like Cliff Rogers, City Landscape Coordinator, or Janet Bunch, Monroe County Horticulture Extension Agent. They ask how they feel about the particular tree, is it diseased? Is it important? Should it be saved? They discuss it among themselves and weigh the situation and then vote on the permit - like any other City Commission would.

GUIDELINES INCLUDING A list of particularly important trees were established in the ordinance that set up the Tree Commission. At that time, the Garden Club went around the city and made a list of trees that were special and should be protected, trees of a certain age and size and their location, "historically significant trees." The ordinance states that the Tree Commission has the responsibility of "...providing for permits to remove certain trees on public and private property in the city of Key West...whereas, Key West is an island community and its trees and other vegetation are important to its residents; and, whereas, it is desirable to preserve and maintain certain trees in the city...all trees within the city are both an economic

and an aesthetic asset to the city and the state" and the additional responsibility of "fostering the planting, growth, and protection of trees." A tree is defined as "a woody plant having one erect perennial stem or trunk at least nine inches in diameter at a point four feet above the ground, a definitely formed crown of foliage and a height of at least ten feet." The ordinance clearly states that "no person shall remove any tree in the city, as defined herein, whether situated on publicly or privately owned property, nor create any condition injurious to any such tree without having first applied for and obtained a permit from the building official..."

THE WAY THIS works is simple. People setting out to do any work on their property that will involve large trees are supposed to be advised when they come before the building department for a permit that they will first have to go before the Tree Commission to determine the fate of the trees. (Of course, slip-ups can easily occur at this point if a person fails to mention that any large tree is going to be affected by the proposed work.) The next step is to make application for a Tree Permit. A typical request is the following, taken off a currently pending application:

"Three large trees are in danger of causing damage to an historic house by wind and impact and by close proximity to the house, causing moisture accumulation and rot."

The applicant then comes before the Commission for their ruling. If permission is granted to remove the tree, a permit is issued; if permission is denied, then the party does not get a permit. At this point, the applicant is expected to

comply with the decision of the Commission, and in fact, many people do whatever the Tree Commission tells them to do. Unfortunately, however, because of the lack of any punitive controls in the mechanism, compliance is not exactly the order of the day.

HISTORICALLY, THE SANDS episode stands out as one of the most flagrant abuses of the system. The Sands applied for and was granted a permit to transplant two trees. They used that permit to bulldoze the entire property, leaving all the uprooted trees to lie in the sun for ten days. Not one tree was ever replanted; all of them were lost.

RECENTLY, THERE WAS another episode involving the cutting down of a tree that brought home once again the powerlessness and futility of the Tree Commission as it now stands. Some local people wanted to cut down two large trees - 50 year old Sapodillas - to put in a swimming pool. Even before their application was presented to the Commission - and subsequently turned down - one of the trees was pruned mercilessly. Then a stop work order was ordered and a red tag was put on the job. But that didn't stop anything. In no time, the mutilated tree was simply cut down. And that, it seemed, was that.

THIS IS AN interesting case in point. Two otherwise law-abiding, well-respected and very well-liked citizens resorted to an act of lawlessness. Their behavior was, in fact, quite out of character. They decided it was their property and they really wanted that tree down and nobody was going to stop them from doing that. So they opted to disregard the rule of the City.

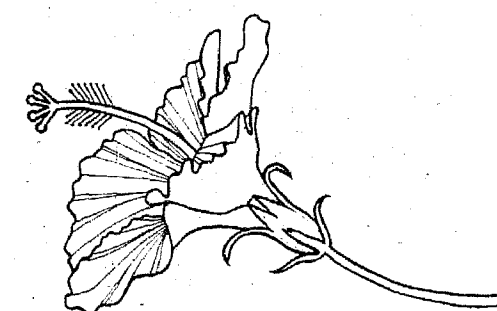
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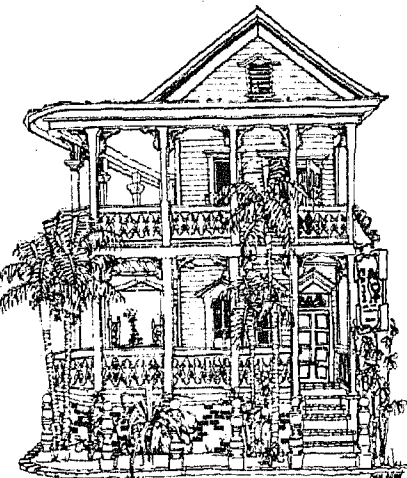
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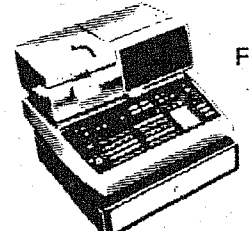


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hand here: the whole question of public trust versus private property. When you own property, do you also own the large trees on that property? Can anyone, even the City itself, dictate what you can and cannot do about those trees? Do large trees represent part of the community's holdings, as the ordinance states, are they "an asset" of the city? Who owns the trees? One could ask, who owns the Earth? There are those who believe that the Earth, the things of Nature, don't belong to us at all — that instead we are charged with their care and protection. If you happen to have something that is of value to the community on your property, are you responsible to the community to care for it? In the case of mineral rights, and certain valuable resources, it has been legally determined that those things don't belong to the property holder. In some places, like Miami, for instance, where there is an extremely stringent tree code, the answer to this is much more clear-cut.

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THE TREE COMMISSION has a real tough role here in Key West when it comes to private property. How can it say to people, "You can't." How must it balance and negotiate this stance? Many people have the attitude that when it comes to their own property they'll do exactly what they want on it. A man's home is his castle, and all that. As Cliff Rogers explained, "With the private property thing, you often get a real explosive type of response — 'They can't tell me what to do on my own property.'"

AND SO IT goes. And, to be fair, there seems to be a point to both sides of the debate.

The question remains, why have a Tree Commission at all if you don't give it some clout and if people don't have to listen to it? Why should these citizens expend all their time and energy sitting on a commission when everyone can just thumb their noses at them? Our city is committed to protecting the large trees, so what can be done to demonstrate the importance of that commitment?

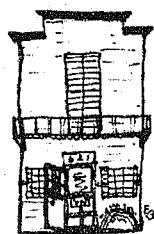
COMMISSIONERS WANT MORE power. They want to be able to levy fines and even lift licenses of the people who cut trees for a living, in the event that they disregard the permit situation before taking down a large tree. "They should have to ask to see the property owner's permit before they agree to cut in the first place." They also want a stricter ordinance, with more of their powers spelled out. They want punitive measures to make the commission effective. (As one Commissioner put it, "They're supposed to have a permit and a license to cut down a large tree. All they really need down here is a saw.")

"No person should be able to remove a large tree without approval of the Tree Commission. It's as simple as that," says Ford.

WHEREAS NOT LONG ago there was talk of mass resignations, and the Commission lost one of its most active members, Bea Howton, over this very issue, Commissioners today are feeling a little more optimistic about things. "I'm not going to leave," says Ford, speaking for her fellow Commissioners as well. "I'm in high hopes that we can get this thing ironed out."

GETTING THE THING ironed out is the present assignment of Peter Ilchuk, who has been charged with the job of rewriting the bylaws of the Tree Commission. "We wanted to tighten it up a little bit, bring it into line with the other City Commissions and Boards. We're giving it a permitting and fining system." Ilchuk has finished the draft and it needs to be reviewed by the City Attorney and come before the Commission and then be approved by the Tree Commission itself. It is expected that this will be accomplished sometime in October.

Meanwhile, until these things get more definition, we are in danger of losing glorious big shade trees all over Key West.



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LETTERS TO THE Editor

I WISH TO THANK the "Solares Hill" and Bill Huckel for the opportunity to comment on the Editorial in the August Edition. The Editor follows community events closely, and I believe operates out of the best of motives, but happens to have a drastically different view of things.

While the Taxpayers' League does favor carefully controlled and environmentally sensitive developments, we are absolutely opposed to paving the Keys with High Rise a la Miami Beach.

Our current membership is composed of taxpayers from all walks of life, all income levels, retired folks, and youngsters actively working for a living—and we welcome anyone who shares our concern for the future of the Keys.

THE TAXPAYERS' LEAGUE of the Lower Keys and Key West was formed primarily to secure the average man's place here by assuring that we could not be forced to leave by excessive taxation and the high cost of living such as utilities.

The editor's statement blaming our present high utility cost on the fictitious "massive developments" is totally erroneous when applied to the Lower Keys. This can be verified by checking with the utilities themselves. They are operating at 50% to 60% capacity and are looking for business. Outside of the Key West Sewer and Solid Waste disposal, future growth was properly planned for and when that growth was blocked, financial shortages occurred and rates had to be raised.

These rates will continue to increase, mainly because of a highly vocal special interest minority in the Keys which continues to preach the "no growth" philosophy. These people have their place in the sun and resent having to share these islands with newcomers. But they are doing a lot of harm in the process, both to us and to themselves.

WE, THE TAXPAYERS of Monroe County, will suffer when land which had been held by private individuals for years (some for generations) will be removed from the tax rolls. Since the services (schools, sheriff, roads, etc.) will not be reduced, the rest of us must make up the millions of dollars of lost revenue—and we will. You can verify this with our County Property Appraiser.

Why do I claim that the county will lose millions of dollars in tax revenue? To answer that, I would like to use my property as an example, since it was referred to in the August Editorial.

MY WIFE AND I were fortunate to be able to sell a successful small business which we had built over a period of

years. We set out to find the site for our dream: to build our own home. When we "found" the Keys, we knew this was the place. We fell in love with a point of land on Little Torch Key on a natural deep-water harbor.

The land was for sale, but the 125 acre block would take much of our money. Using environmentally knowledgeable consultants, we formulated a plan to be able to place a small development on the land, recoup most of the cost of the land, reserve a portion for our home and donate the rest to the Florida Keys Land Trust. Being a member of the Audubon Society, an avid naturalist photographer with a passion for boating and diving, I was proud to be able to create our own nature preserve and to live right in it.

NOW COME THE PROBLEMS. First, the philosophical ones: Unbeknownst I had crossed over into being a land owner. Worse yet, I was spouting words like building here, developing there. There are certain factions in the Keys that associate the word "developer" with greed and irresponsibility. The same way that some racial and religious minorities had bigoted slurs heaped upon them. It is ironic that the Keys have a loud group of protestors who live in fairly ugly developments and who bad-mouth all future projects—even the good ones.

Next, come the real problems. This group of "no growth" protestors in conjunction with some paid lobbyists for the Audubon Society, have succeeded in bringing down upon the county a series of Laws—the latest is called "The Principles for Guiding Development".

Although these laws duplicate those of the Corps of Engineers, the Dept. of Environmental Regulations (DER), and the County Land Planners, for the most part they discourage bad development—and for that we support them. But contained in this 26 page document are a few sentences which use the word prohibit in a general sense, i.e. "Removal or trimming of any native vegetation is PROHIBITED for any reason" along with specific prohibitions affecting all types of land.

THE RESULT BEING that out of 125 acres, all of it above sea level, and with more than 60 acres so barren that no trees or shrubs will grow, there is no place that I am going to be allowed to put a house—unless these rules are modified. But I am not singled out, because these rules make NO distinction as to the size of the land. A single lot owner with native vegetation growing on his property couldn't legally build either.

In addition, the chances of getting access to the water are about 0 in the Lower Keys. These rules prohibit that, too. The main reason we are all here is

for the water, and we have been assured by the State for years that water access would never be denied us.

PLEASE NOTE THAT I AM NOT referring to developments here. Nor has this comment anything to do with environmentally sensitive areas. THESE BLANKET PROHIBITIONS COVER MOST ALL THE AREA OF THE KEYS.

In effect, this taking of the land has been accomplished with no provision for property owner compensation. This is quite a different situation that reduction of property values through proper zoning regulation. Even our county land planners, their "expert consultant" and most of our county commissioners have tried to get these rules modified, both, at public hearings and by direct correspondence.

Only token changes were made, but the absolute prohibitions of property use have been maintained. Up to now, it was only in communistic governments that property owners had their lands confiscated with no compensation.

I AM NOT SURE that the Governor intended to stop all further use of land in the Keys, and it is probably not within the State's capability to enforce such harsh restrictions. But the fact remains that anyone who trims a branch off a native bush in his yard is a criminal. It is obvious that the politicians in Tallahassee did not do their homework on this one.

Some people may feel that we made an investment and it turned out to be a bad one—so don't cry about it.

But, from our standpoint, this wasn't an investment; it was a purchase. The same way you would buy a stove or a car. If someone stole your car, you would get angry and ask the government to help you find the crook. Well, the State Government stole our land. Who do we turn to? The State advises us to go to court. This seems to be the only alternative.

WE ARE TRYING to inform the property owners and taxpayers of the Keys that their land has been taken. Possibly, together, we can do something to correct this injustice.

Notice again, I am not referring to developers but to private property owners. A developer wouldn't get caught in a situation like this. He has a business to run and he'd be long gone.

REMEMBER DO NOT LET anyone blind you to the facts by using the "environment" as an emotional weapon to foster the anti-growth philosophy. Read the rules for yourself.

Most true naturalists and environmentalists agree that man is a part of the environment and that we have a place in the Keys. If we use a little common sense and consideration for our surroundings, we shouldn't even have to feel guilty for being here.

Al Fried, Chairman
 Lower Keys Chapter of
 the Taxpayers League

continued on page 45

BILL VESTRAY COMMENTS ON AL FRIED LETTER REGARDING HIS AUGUST EDITORIAL ON THE TAXPAYERS LEAGUE

WITH RESPECT TO FRIED'S contention that we have excess capacity in our utilities, such as electricity, water, garbage disposal, etc., police, roads, etc., and that if we could just build more living units, the rates and taxes would come down, he is just "WHISTLING DIXIE". Our editorial in this issue addresses this issue directly, based on the findings in the new City Action Plan, and we stand on that editorial. We urgently need 50 megawatts of new power to support new development, and new power sources will cost us \$50 to \$80 million which we will have to pay in the future. We overbuilt the waterline, and are paying dearly for it. Had we built a smaller line, we would be paying less today. Our streets and highways are critically overloaded in Key areas.

The Taxpayers League was formed by Bud Post of Post Buckley Shue and Jernigan and the writer was present when Bud Post announced its formation. It was built to help the big new developers, primarily in North Key Largo. I'm sure that other less affluent residents and workers have been lured into the organization under the false premise that more building will reduce taxes and rates, but professional planners like Dr. Art Marshall and Dr. John DeGrove know that this is FALSE, and we challenge Al Fried to authoritatively cite a single community where major new development has cut these costs.

MY WIFE AND I TOO had the opportunity to buy marginal wetlands in the same area as Al Fried's holdings for next to nothing back in the mid fifties. We looked at it and told the seller that it could never be built upon. Fifteen years later, the County Comprehensive Plan prohibited the kind of development that Fried wants on Little Torch Key. He has no vested right to build as he pleases; he must conform to existing

building laws and guidelines. If he can't realize the profits that he originally anticipated, it's TOUGH. We once bought shares in a gold mine and lost. We bought oil leases and lost. We invested in treasure hunting, got a little back, and have some paper shares left that MIGHT be worth something some day, but maybe not. We took a flyer and lost and we don't cry about it. We didn't invest in land speculation so we haven't lost there. We did buy a home in a developed subdivision that is worth 5 times what we paid for it; but the dollars we paid for it (based on the gold standard) are worth 1/10 what they were worth when we bought our home here in 1954.

We believe that Al Fried should get his facts straight, and stop crying when he's made a mistake. Our professional planning consultants have told us that we're already overbuilt. Post Buckley has told us that we could need up to 34 hours to evacuate the Keys. Dr. Neil Franke of the National Hurricane Center has warned that he can't reliably forecast the point of landfall in a storm within a 50-mile radius within 12 hours, and he warned that we could face the loss of 10,000 lives in the Keys, or along the West Coast of Florida if a Category 5 hurricane should hit. The reason is overdevelopment. The last category 5 storm was the Labor Day storm of 1935. It could happen again.

THE FACTS ARE THESE: We are deficient in electricity, roads, sanitary and storm sewers, garbage disposal, county police and fire services. We have more than enough water, but a lousy distribution system that loses about one-third of all the water it carries. We have a surplus of schools, but have a new baby boom moving down on us. We have a surplus of hospital beds. Across the board, we probably would need to spend over ONE BILLION DOLLARS to meet the infrastructure needs of new development already approved or applied for. Slowing down the building is the only way to allow the existing infrastructure to meet present needs and avoid or postpone the exorbitant costs of building more roads, bridges, generators, sewer plants, pumping stations, police and fire stations, etc. in the immediate future. We must follow the basic guidelines of Critical Concern by not letting development outstrip the utility and public service infrastructure. And those of us that are concerned about all of this are not the minority, Mr. Fried, WE ARE THE MAJORITY. Q.E.D.

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Summerland Key
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82787 Overseas Hwy.
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Tavernier Towne
Tavernier
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5200 Overseas Hwy.
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Monroe County's Largest Financial Institution

FOR OUR GAY COMMUNITY ...

CALENDAR OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

SUNDAY

Papillon - Tea By The Sea Dance 7-10 p.m.
 #One Saloon - Movies
 Copa - Complimentary Buffet
 Metropolitan Community Church, 319 Duval
 11 a.m.
 La Te Da Tea Dance 4 p.m.
 Lighthouse Court - Movie

MONDAY

#One Saloon - Movies
 Old Plantation - Show night
 Lighthouse Court - Movie

TUESDAY

#One Saloon - Movies
 Club Key West - 1/2 price lockers 6-11 p.m.
 Old Plantation - Wet Briefs Contest
 Lighthouse Court - Movie
 Island House - Steak Cookout 7-9 p.m.
 Michael's (contest)
 Pigeon House Patio - Randy Wall 9-12

WEDNESDAY

One Saloon - Movies
 La Te Da - Tea Dance 4 p.m.
 Michael's - The Dating Game
 Lighthouse Court - Movie
 Copa - Dynasty - 8:30-12:00 free drinks
 Pigeon House Patio - Randy Wall 9-12

THURSDAY

Island Circle Meeting - 8 p.m.
 #One Saloon - Movies
 Copa - Cabaret Night
 Lighthouse Court - Movie
 1114 Duval Video DJ Nite
 Claire - "Sisters at Sea" Ladies Tea
 5-8 p.m.

Pigeon House Patio - Randy Wall 9-12

FRIDAY

#One Saloon - Movies
 Lighthouse Court - Movie
 Copa - Dancing
 Old Plantation - Contest
 Pigeon House Patio - Randy Wall 9-12

SATURDAY

#One Saloon - Movies
 Lighthouse Court - Movie
 Old Plantation - Amateur Strip Nite
 Copa - Dancing
 Pigeon House Patio - Randy Wall 9-12

OUTRIGHT BOOKS

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 KEY WEST, FL 296-5356

GORDON ROSS' NEW SHOW

GORDON BONDESEN, known to local people as Gordon Ross, is presenting a show "The Women in My Life": a Night of Theatrical Illusion and Song, August 31 and September 1 at 8:30 and 11:00 PM



at the Red Barn Theatre. The stars include Carol Channing, Bette Davis, Bette Midler and special guest, Perri Halevy. Well, the glamorous and talented Perri Halevy will be there in the flesh but the other ladies will be mimed by Gordon. He is very well known to local audiences as a talented

mime and female impersonator.

In a write-up of Gordon in the Key West Citizen a few years back, the writer wrote:

"Gordon Bondesen is what one might term a 'self-made' performer, but with God-given talent. He was associated with dancers and learned how to move gracefully in his early years; and when he was in high school he saw a talented artist of mime, Michael Laurent, perform at the Fontainebleau Hotel in Miami.

Thus inspired, he began working with recordings of famous artists such as Liza Minelli and perfected their movements and facial expressions and this gradually developed into what is presently in Key West, headed by Gordon.

Gordon has worked out all the costuming to perfection also, and his rendition of Carol Channing, Bette Midler, Carmen Miranda, Diana Ross are superb to name a few. His Liza Minelli rendition particularly from 'Cabaret' is absolutely marvelous.

Next fall should this group schedule a concert, don't miss it as they are excellent."

THIS PROMISES TO BE GOOD entertainment and the show should be a great success.

AIDS MONTH ROUNDUP

AIDS AWARENESS MONTH was a huge success! The entire month of August was punctuated with events that helped our community become more aware of this mystery disease called AIDS.

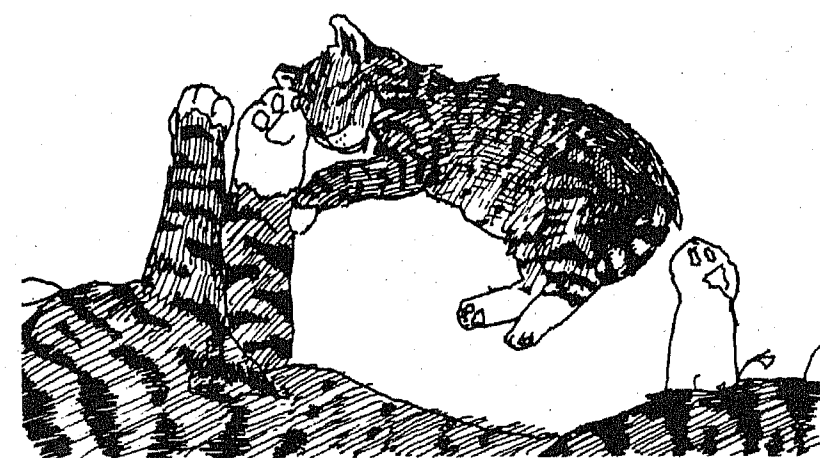
Allan O'Hara, Coordinator of the AIDS Education Programs, in affiliation with Florida Keys Memorial Hospital, utilized radio, television, newspapers and community seminars to help provide a greater understanding of what can be done to help reduce the impact of AIDS. The highlight of the month, the three-day AIDS Conference, sponsored by the Florida

Keys Memorial Hospital, was held at the Casa Marina. It was attended by representatives from around the state, and as far away as Texas.

O'Hara stated, "I'm delighted with the interest and support shown by this community. We have been able to prevent the hysteria and undue concern that was prevalent in other areas of the country. I think this is due to the willingness of people here to check out rumors instead of spreading them."

"Our work isn't finished yet," O'Hara explained. "A lot remains to be done. But as long as people know they can get the information they want just by calling me at the hospital or at home, we have come a long way (PKMH 294-5531 ext. 4704 Monday-Friday; 294-8302 evenings and weekends)."

O'Hara told us that he will send information to anyone who asks for it. He has an extensive collection of brochures, booklets, and newsletters available, as well as an impressive library of books on related topics that are available to help answer most any question.



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THE TROPICAL DISCO

Glass enclosed dance palace overlooking a tropical jungle.
 Gets the hot men & keeps them!

THE GRAND PIANO BAR

Already a legend. Cruise Duval from our Verandah, sing along with Jay Foote. Popular after beach hangout, too.

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Glamorous getaway — lush and romantic.
 The place to get acquainted

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Men, Muscle, Video Games, Pool and a
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Softer Music and Intimate Conversation
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THE GARDEN

Lush, Tropical Foliage, Outstanding
 Tropical Drinks and Entertainment Nightly



623 Duval Street • Key West • 296-8521

THE PREMIER DANCE CLUBS OF FLORIDA

continued from page 54

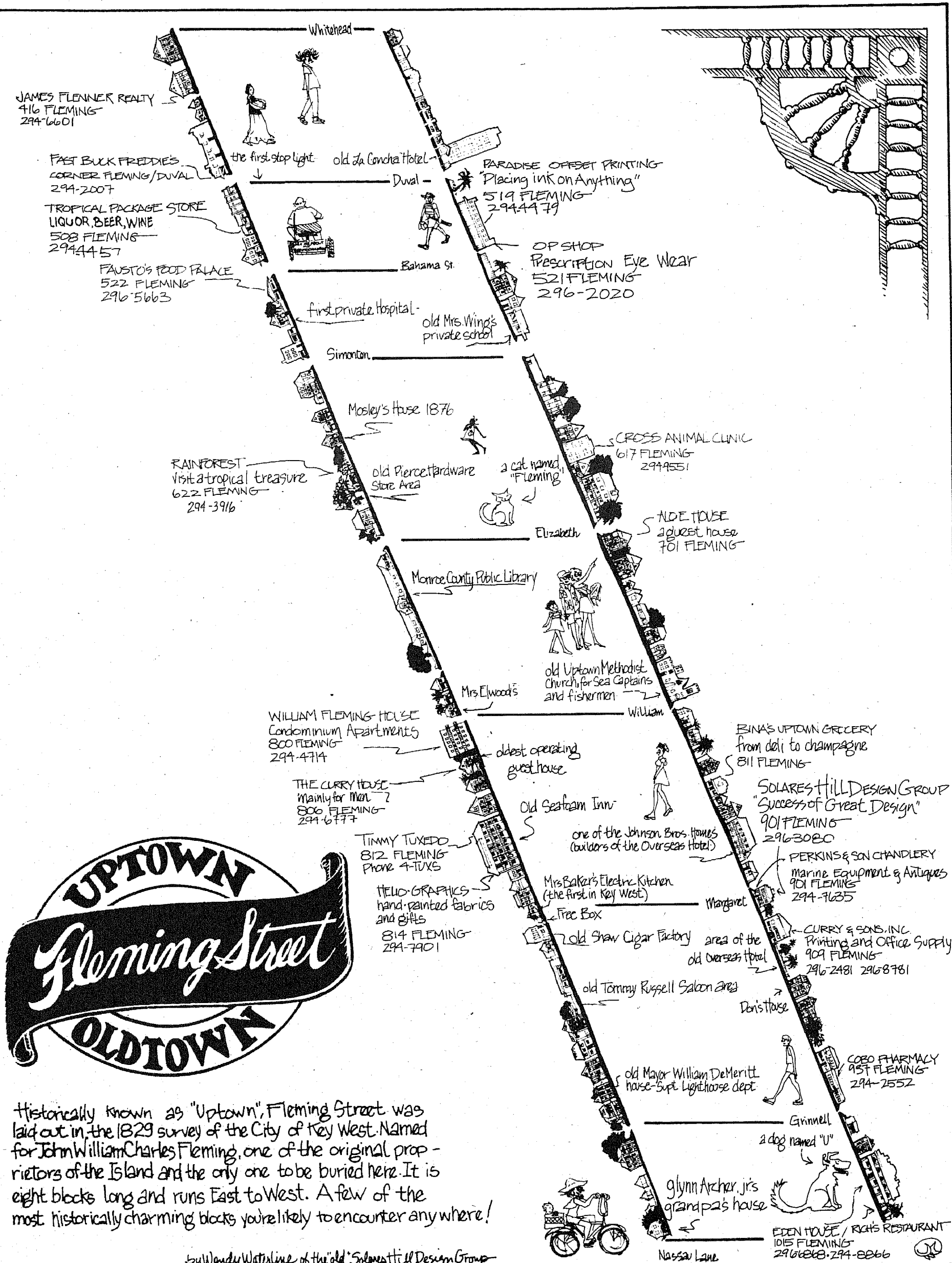
Helping Hand Stroke Club: 3rd
 Wednesday every month, 2:30 p.m.,
 classroom, PKMH. Information:
 Karen Coler, 6-6401.

Bulimia Group: Call 4-HELP or 6-LINE

Natural Childbirth Preparation Classes:
 Beginning every two months. Discussing
 Labor, Delivery, Breathing, the Coaches
 Role. Call 294-3490 for information.

Prenatal Exercise at the Coffee Mill,
 916 Ashe St., Thursday 4 - 5 and Sat.
 9 - 10. All 294-3490 for information.

Overeaters Anonymous: YMCA, Sigsbee
 Park, Thursdays 8:30 p.m.



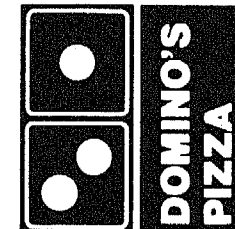
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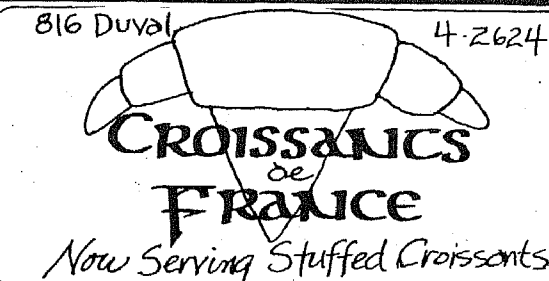
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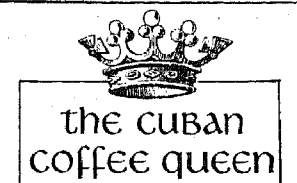


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Cold beer, Wine, Soda, Milk
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512 GREENE ST.
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Next to Key West Aloe
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DISCOTEQUE
9 pm to 4 am
TROPICAL GARDEN
BAR
Noon to 4 am
GRAND PIANO BAR
10 am to 4 am
with Jay Foote Nightly
STABLES
Western/Levi/Leather
Bar
9 pm to 4 am
SHOW STAGES
Game shows, cabaret,
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Mon. & Thur. midnight
218 Duval St., Old Town, Key West
294-4383 2-84



SLOPPY JOE'S
September
Musical Line-Up
Evenings 10 PM - 2 AM
SEPT. 1-2, 4-8
THE
UNTOUCHABLES
RHYTHM AND ROLL
SEPT. 11-16
MEMPHIS
ROCKABILLY
FROM NASHVILLE
SEPT. 18-23
SPOT
JAZZ ROCK FROM PHILLY
SEPT. 26-30
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SEPT. 17-18, 24-25
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NEW ROCK
Every Monday is
Football Night
Big Screen
Big Sound
Great Discounts
on Drinks
AFTERNOONS 5-9 PM
SEPT. 1, 6-8, 13-15, 20-22, 27-29
MICHAEL
& JOHN
SEPT. 2-3, 9-10, 16-17, 23-24, 30
JOEL
SEPT. 4, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26
PAMELA
KEY WEST

**Ernest Hemingway
Home and Museum**
Registered National Historic Landmark
Take a leisurely tour of the home and
gardens where Hemingway wrote many
of his finest novels during the years of
1931 to 1961.
This site possesses exceptional value
in commemorating or illustrating the
history of the United States.
Open daily 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.
907 Whitehead, Key West, Fla.
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Adults 3.50 Kids 2.75
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See unique military
artifacts and enjoy the
best panoramic view
of Key West
**LIGHTHOUSE AND
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917 DUVAL 296-7857 KEY WEST
LUNCH 11:30 - 2:30 DINNER 6:00 - 11:30
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Performances Daily
2407 N. Roosevelt Blvd.
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Explore the exciting history
of the Florida Keys, the
country's best preserved
Martello Fort, and the
extensive art gallery
**EAST MARTELLO
GALLERY
& MUSEUM**
South Roosevelt Blvd.
(adjacent to Key West Airport)
Daily 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. 3-84

EVENTS

Special Events

Key West Power Squadron: Safe boating course, free, Registration September 4 & 5, K.W.H.S. 7-9 p.m. Classes begin September 25, 7:30 p.m., Tues. & Thurs., Horace O'Bryant School

Galleries & Museums

Artists Unlimited, 221 Duval St., 296-5625. Hours 12 to 5 p.m. or by appointment. A delightful gallery in a Conch-style setting with an international reputation.

Artist Warehouse: 814 Duval 294-7141. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon thru Sat. Featuring local artists and Karen Clemens. Framing shop also.

East Martello Gallery & Museum, 3500 S. Roosevelt Blvd., 296-3913. A "fort-museum" with some of the most interesting facts of Key West history and lore. 9/7-10/3 Robert Windisch & Jorge Silve

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. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Daily. Contemporary Art and Tribal Art.

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

Guild Hall: 614 Duval St., 296-6076. Open 9:30 to 5:30 daily. Exhibiting an outstanding array of original art by Key West professionals Barbara Bauer, Judi Bradford, Ralph Freer, Adolph Gucinski, Ann Irvine, Fran Kebschull, Maxine McMullen, Wayne Pelke, Irma Quigley, Norma Renner, Naya Rydzewski, and Carolyn Seiler. Featuring oils, acrylics, watercolors, drawings, prints, porcelain, burnished sawdust-fired pottery, stoneware and other media.

Haitian Art Co.: 600 Frances St., 296-8932. Paintings of renowned Haitian artists including Ezene Domond, Jackson Lovinsky, etc. Open 7 days, 10-6.

Jordons Cafe & Art Gallery: 808 Duval, 296-5858. Open 7 evenings a week.

Key West Art Center: 301 Front St., 294-1241. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Exhibiting works of 90 artists throughout the Keys.

Lacy Gallery: 801 Whitehead St. Open 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. except Sundays. Imported contemporary art works and French antique porcelains and china.

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 St. Gallery: 322 Margaret St. 294-3973, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Daily. Contemporary Art.

Maira: the art gallery at 11 Key Lime Sq., 294-1254. Original art and framing. Open 10 to 5 p.m.

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

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.

Films & Library Events

MONROE COUNTY LIBRARY

Adult movies:
9/19 7 p.m. Balloon Safari
8/12 6:30 p.m. The Bermuda Triangle

Children's movies:

9/1 Deep Sea Doodle; Foot Stomping Music; Mowgli's Brother
9/8 Alphabet; See; The Chicken in Times Square
9/22 The Boy & The Boa; Las Cadio the Lion Shot Back; The Walrus & The Carpenter
9/29 Hook, Line & Sink; Snow White; The Seven Wishes of Joanna Peabody

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. There will be 2 free classes on Saturdays starting in March. They are jewelry making for kids (ages 7 - 60) 2:30 - 3:30. African Dance for kids (ages 3 - 60) 3:30 - 4:30. All are welcome to attend. Poetry, 8 p.m. 1st and 3rd Sundays.

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 Poetry Guild:** Summer, 1st and 3rd Sundays, Monroe County Beach Gazebo.

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: 9/21 - 10 a.m. Cheeca Lodge, Islamorada

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.

The Movement of Spiritual Inner Awareness, Tuesday nights, 8:30 p.m. 1005 Seminary Street. Tune in to your true self. Join us for one of the positive things happening in Key West. Call 294-6739

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:

9/7 10 a.m. Plantation Sub-Courthouse
9/11 Key West Public Hearings
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.

Key West Singles: For information call 296-3423.

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 FKMH, 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.

AIDS Screening Clinic, Saturday, April 7th. Call Beverly Smith for appointment 296-3048.

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.

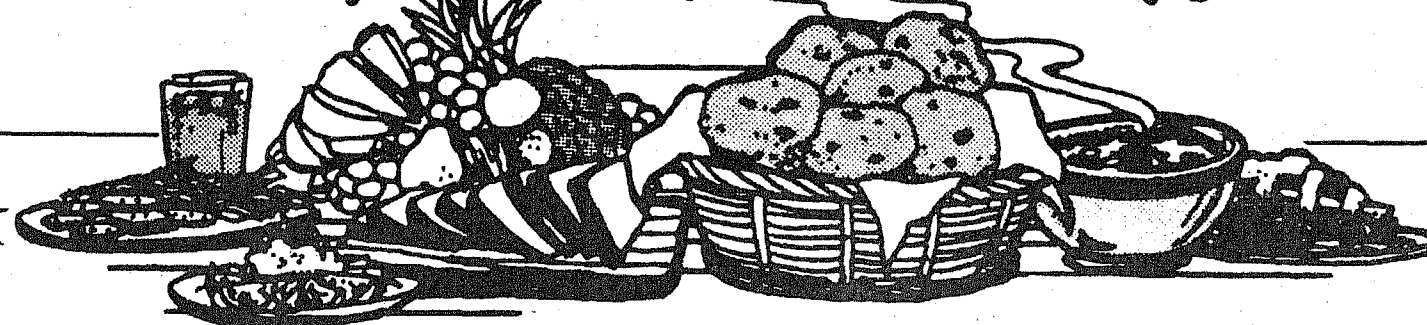
Zonta Help Line: 296-HELP. Call any time when you need help or referral service. 296-4357.

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.
continued on page 49

THE EATERY



PRESENTS

A BREAKFAST BUFFET

Bacon	Scrambled Eggs	Sausage
Home Fries	French Toast	Hot Cakes
Grits	Corned Beef Hash	Baked Apples
Chipped Beef Gravy	Blueberry Muffins	Sausage Gravy
Biscuits	Prunes	Rolls
Fresh Fruit Mix	Orange Juice	Pineapple Chunks
Coffee	4.99	Tea

Breakfast Buffet: 8-11 am • Mon.-Sat. / 8-2 pm • Sun.
Open 6 am - 4 pm Daily

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On commissionable ads paid within 10 days, you deduct 5%.
That can add up quickly.

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We have Key West's fastest service and best prices.

Ask us for a quote and compare.

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Follow these Guidelines:

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- (3) PROOF your job...we all want it to be right.

Stop into our treetop studios in the historic Perkins & Son Chandlery
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