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# Solares hill

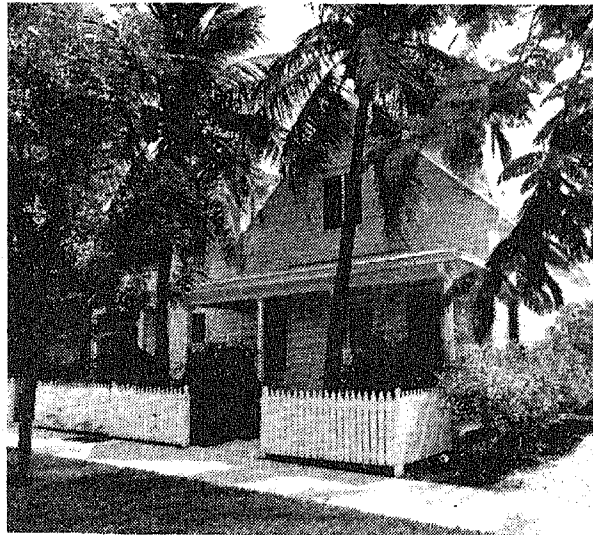
Vol. 17, No. 6 • March 19 - April 1, 1992

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The referendum came; and the referendum went. Monroe County voters decided to continue selecting their superintendent of schools through the election process, rather than changing the position to an appointed one, as was proposed. But, in the end, many were dissatisfied.

Citizen activists and the electorate, in general, believed they were not adequately informed on the issue. There had been no debates, no distribution of literature by special-interest groups or the school board, and the media had not even grazed the subject.

Only when the current superintendent of schools, A. J. "Bookie" Henriquez, announced—just days before the "Super Tuesday" election—that he definitely would not continue in his position when his 24-year term ended, did the ramifications of the referendum begin to take shape.

Voters now have until 1993, when Henriquez steps down, to gather information about the pros and cons of an election vs. an appointment.

In the meantime, the county commission and the school board indicate that they will work together to reapportion the school districts. Reapportionment is long overdue, and the completion of this task will more equally balance the duties of each school board member.

Beginning with Alyson Simmons' article, "The Mysterious Superintendent of Schools Referendum," on Page 3, *Solares Hill* will continue to look at issues critical to education standards in

Monroe County. To better serve our readers and to help voters prepare for the next election, we invite comments and article suggestions pertaining to local education. Notes and telephone calls are welcome.

Also in this issue is a look at the beginnings of Key West's approach to the problem of helping the homeless. Right now the community is strongly divided over where to locate a homeless shelter and, in fact, whether to provide such a service at all.

While the city commission won't be deciding for at least another month whether to grant a variance to allow the county to lease the old Truman School at the corner of White St. and Truman Ave. as a shelter, several commissioners (as well as many of their constituents) are shaking their heads "no."

*Solares Hill* empathizes with this attitude, but we believe that every county in the country should provide for a number of homeless individuals based on a percentage of that county's population. If we don't abandon our NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard) attitudes, the problem will never be solved.

As writer Lee Irby found while researching "Homeless Shelter Received With NIMBY," which appears on Page 6, there are funds available for shelter projects. To be eligible, however, the county and city must settle on a shelter location. The proposed site may not be the best one, and those with opinions on the subject should contact their commissioners.

Ann Boese

The cover photographs were  
shot by Mike Smith.

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**Solares Hill** is a community newspaper  
published bi-weekly by Key West Publications,  
1217 White Street, Key West, FL 33040.  
Phone: (305) 294-3602

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**The Mysterious Superintendent  
Of Schools Referendum**

by Alyson Simmons

It was a simple ballot: who do you support for your party's presidential nomination, and "Shall the superintendent of schools of Monroe County be appointed upon the expiration of the current superintendent's term?"

This quiet referendum went practically unnoticed by the general population until the current superintendent, A.J. "Bookie" Henriquez announced that he would leave the position at the end of this calendar year.

Prior to the announcement there had been some rumblings that the change would somehow "grandfather" Henriquez into an appointed position, without out a chance of his losing out during an election. But, when the veteran county employee insisted he was ready for a career change and definitely was not interested in continuing as superintendent, Monroe County voters found themselves facing a referendum about which little was known.

Although 59 percent of voters marked their ballots "no," which means that the superintendent of schools will remain an elected position, the issue received little media attention. Many believe that questions about whether the position should be elected or

appointed were never answered, and that opinions on the subject were not adequately aired. Also, some say, the school board should be reapportioned to reflect shifts in population before other changes are instituted.

Given the general confusion, it is quite possible that the referendum could end up on the ballot again.

**Reapportion First**

"A major redistricting of the school board should occur before [the issue of how the county acquires its superintendent] is even brought before the electorate," says Lisa Versaci, a concerned Key West resident.

Superintendent Henriquez says the last time the school board was reapportioned was in 1987. Since reapportionment can occur only in odd-numbered years, the issue cannot be resolved until 1993.

"The board waited for the outcome of the reapportionment of the county commission districts," says Henriquez, "before approaching school board redistricting."

That decision came in late December—too late for school district reapportionment, according to Henriquez. He and board members concur that the issue will need to be studied for 1993.

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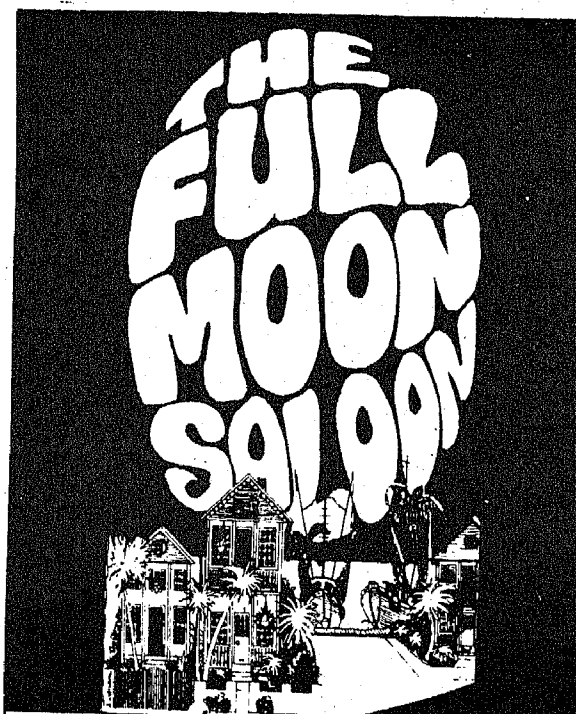
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Henriquez feels there is a "misperception" of the board's interests, however. Although technically three of the five seats are based in Key West, one district—that of Geraldine Caron—actually covers the lower keys from Stock Island to Marathon. Therefore, although the districts have not been updated, there is representation for one of the fastest growing areas in the keys.

County Commissioner Jack London agrees that reapportionment is a "problem that should be addressed soon. We need to see more equal representation on the school board," says London, "to more equally reflect the population distribution."

#### Appointed vs. Elected

There is concern that allowing a five-member board to appoint a superintendent takes control away from the citizens of Monroe County. Indeed, of nearly 70 school districts in the state, only 20 have appointed superintendents.

Additionally, the districts of Seminole and St. John's counties recently voted to change from appointed to elected.

Lake County has vacillated over the issue for the past 25 years, but now strongly supports electing its superintendent. Unfortunately, the numerous changes mean that the county went through "a lot of superintendents in past years," according to Betty Cofield, secretary to the Lake County superintendent.

Monroe County, too, has grappled with the issue in the past. In the early 1960s, and again in the 1970s, a change in the method of choice was proposed; it was defeated both times.

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There are pros and cons to both methods of choosing a school superintendent. Foremost in the minds of many lower keys residents is the fact that an election allows the public to decide firsthand who will head a district with 9000 students, 1100 employees, and a \$60 million budget.

Elected superintendents may hold the position longer than appointed ones, accord-

**Of nearly 70 school districts in the state, only 20 have appointed superintendents.**

ing to John Gaines, executive officer of the Florida Association of District School Superintendents. Indeed, continuity is something that Monroe County residents have become accustomed to during Henriquez' 24-year reign.

As an elected post, the superintendent's salary would tend to cost the taxpayers less, according to Gaines. However, the size of the district dictates salary levels either way. For example, the Indian River district has about 10,000 students and an elected superintendent. That salary is \$78,000. St. John's district—also 10,000 students—recently voted to appoint their superintendent and is in the process of a search. The advertised salary range is \$75,000 to \$90,000.

Commissioner London agrees that salary may be somewhat higher for an appointed superintendent, but says "you get what you pay for. In an important position like this you could end up penny wise and pound foolish."

The commissioner supports the idea of appointing the superintendent. "I'd rather see

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an appointed official," he says. "Take it out of the political arena. As it is now, the best politician wins."

#### Do Politics and Education Mix?

Henriquez agrees that the best politician, not necessarily the best educationally qualified individual, will win.

Currently, the only qualification to run for this office is to be a registered voter and be 21 years of age. By making it an appointed position, "the board would be able to set additional qualifications, and the people who met them could apply for the position," says Henriquez.

He also points out that a political format "narrows the field" by keeping out some highly qualified candidates who prefer to steer clear of politics. "In addition," says Henriquez, "an elected situation may divide the educational community."

An election also limits the base from which potential candidates are chosen. To run for local office, a candidate must be a local resident. When a school board appoints the official, it has the freedom to launch a nationwide search for the best candidate.

A final advantage of board appointment is the fact that the board would then have the power to fire the appointee if his performance were poor.

#### Time To Reconsider

The quiet referendum is over—defeated, some believe, by lack of knowledge. Days before the vote, school board member Frank Courtney said, "It will probably get voted down. People don't know about it, and they

tend to vote 'no' when they're not up on an issue."

Courtney points to the lack of media coverage for the trickle of public debate over the issue. Henriquez, however, believes that the group of upper keys parents and citizens who proposed the referendum is at fault.

"The school board agenda'd that item twice, and the public kind of ignored it," says Henriquez. It was up to the organizers, he says, to educate the voters. Election results show that support efforts were better organized in the upper keys.

Monroe County residents will be electing a new superintendent in 1993. Now is the time, it seems, for voters and the school board to study the options.

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# Homeless Shelter Idea Received With NIMBY

by Lee Irby

NIMBY sounds like it could be a cousin of "Saturday Night Live's" most famous figurine, Gumby, except the acronym stands for Not In My Back Yard, which is hardly a laughing matter. In fact, a NIMBY attitude over a proposed homeless shelter seems to be dividing Key West into those who approve of a site for Monroe County's first homeless facility and those who do not.

The current hot potato in the debate for a shelter is the old Truman School, which the Monroe County Commission voted unanimously to provide to the Florida Keys Outreach Coalition (FKOC) for a multi-purpose center for the homeless and underprivileged.

"It's an ideal site," said the Rev. Father Robert Gendreau, president of FKOC. "It's got a working kitchen, numerous bathrooms, rooms for classes and services, and a fence that we intend to utilize."

Also, said the reverend, an existing courtyard would block the view of passersby, lest they catch sight of a homeless person.

Another advantage is the rent, which, according to Gendreau, will be a nominal \$1 per year to be paid to the county.

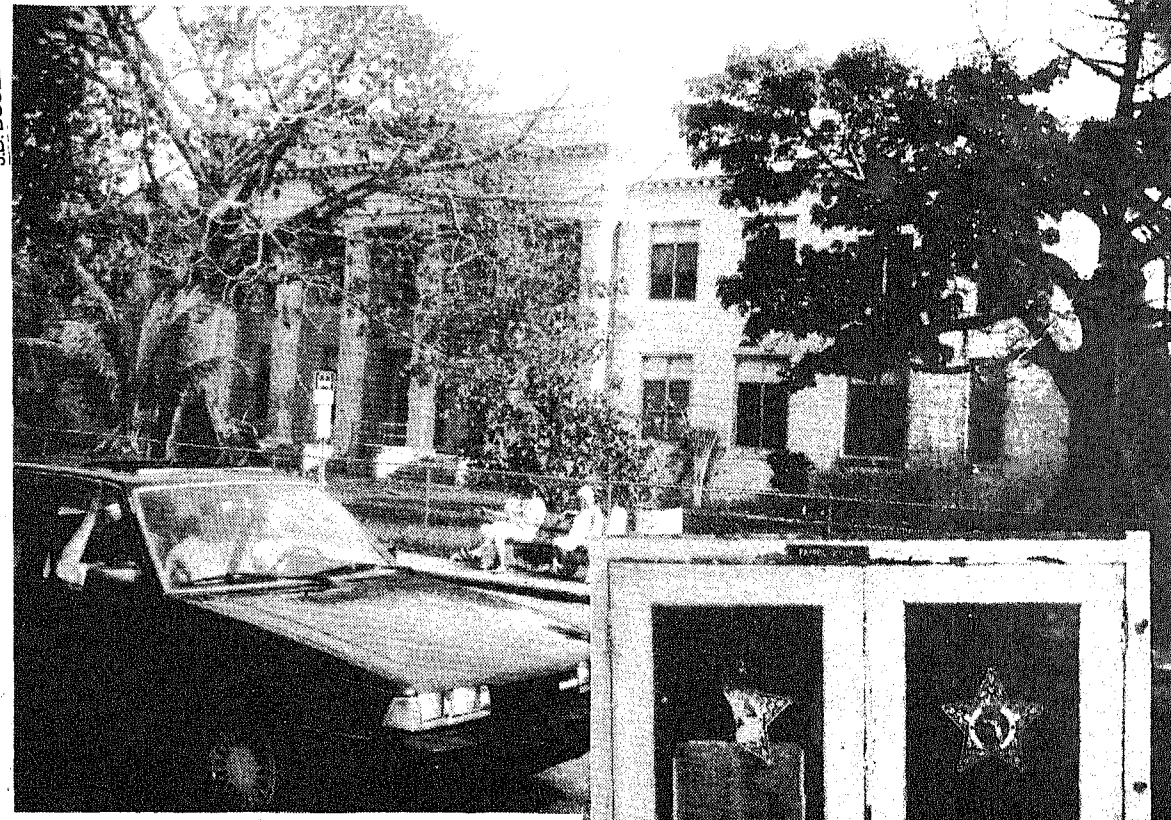
So far, so good. But when the word got out that a homeless shelter may be situated on the southeast corner of Truman and White Streets, the proverbial poop hit the fan.

Many insist the location is unsuitable. "I sympathize with the homeless," said Gordon Smith, manager of a nearby bike shop, "but I think that a shelter located there would negatively impact my business."

A local art gallery owner agrees. "It's a valuable piece of property that the county could make some tax revenue from," said Robert Kennedy. "Plus, it's right at the gateway of Old Town. It'll be the first thing people see when they get off North Roosevelt—a soup kitchen."

In fact, food is one of the biggest problems some have with the idea of a shelter. The term "free lunch" creates the image of an army of marauding street people descending upon White Street and overrunning Bayview Park.

Rick Tribble, Key West's community affairs liaison, who is working with the



NEW LIFE: The old Truman School has been proposed as a homeless shelter site.

FKOC, said he ruled out the possibility of a free lunch program.

But Gendreau said he was hoping to coordinate the feeding programs now operating in the local churches at the shelter, possibly starting a pantry program to help families between paychecks.

"St. Mary's [Mary Immaculate] feeds just about four blocks away," he said. "It won't be such a radical concept. And go to Bayview Park—there are homeless people there now."

While Kennedy and others have openly voiced their objections, some citizens recently chose a more confrontational approach to making their views known and distributed anonymous leaflets decrying "the bums and dirtbags" the shelter allegedly would serve.

"These were probably the same people who were cheering at the KKK rally [which recently took place at Bayview Park]," said Gendreau. "And you can quote me."

According to Tribble, any shelter proposal will meet some stiff resistance.

"I'm working with FKOC to try to

address these neighborhood concerns before we take our plan to the Board of Adjustment," said Tribble. "We're going to have details worked out in full, like how many the shelter would house, and for how long. The point is, [a homeless person] has got to want to work to stay there. It's not going to be for bums."

The details of a workable shelter have yet to be finalized, Tribble said.

The Board of Adjustment, made up of the city commissioners, meets once a month to hear appeals for variances, or changes in zon-

ing. To operate a shelter at the Truman School, which is now zoned for housing, FKOC would have to seek such a variance. Both Gendreau and Tribble indicated that the FKOC would present its proposal to the Board in May.

"We're taking our time," Gendreau said.

At this time, the official city commission position on the variance is "no comment."

"Since the Board [of Adjustment] is a quasi-judicial body, we can't comment on pending cases," explained commissioner Joe Pais. "I can assure you that I will approach this case like I would any other change in zoning. I don't have any preconceptions. I'm going to listen first and then decide."

On the question of a homeless shelter in general, however, Pais had some rather specific proposals.

"I think it should be in Homestead," he said. "We don't need people driving 104 miles to come down here if there's help available up the Keys. The housing is more affordable on the mainland. There are more jobs and opportunity."

Commissioner Harry Bethel echoed Pais' views. "Homelessness is a sensitive issue," he said. "But Key West is built-out now. It's small and overpopulated. It might be a good idea to put a shelter somewhere else."

Bethel said he feared that a shelter on the island would act as a "magnet," attracting homeless people from the mainland.

"I want to help people who want to help themselves," he said. "I don't want any sponging. The thing is, I've gotten a lot of response from people who don't want a shelter in their neighborhood."

Commissioner Jimmy Weekley said he wouldn't mind a shelter here. "The guidelines would have to be strict, and we'd have to study the impact on the neighborhood," he said.

Neither Commissioner Sally Lewis nor Mayor Dennis Wardlow could be reached for comment.

While it appears likely that strong neighborhood opposition could derail FKOC's efforts at Truman and White, the group has other sites in mind, including the old Navy commissary and the old hardware store on Stock Island (though zoning and neighborhood opposition work against them there, too).

"The city's in a bind," Gendreau said. "[The commissioners] are the ones who identified a homeless shelter as an area of concern in a joint city-county meeting on January 15."

As far as the city's efforts to locate or construct its own shelter: "There's nothing going on," said Tribble.

The area of cost will undoubtedly be a major component of the coming showdown at the Board of Adjustment meeting. Pais and others expressed reluctance to pay for the shelter with local tax dollars. But Gendreau said that FKOC is planning to fund the shelter without using city or county money.

"Key West has never applied for any McKinney Act money, which is federal funds specifically earmarked for the homeless," he said. "The main reason is there's no shelter. But, for example, we could get \$100,000 through HRS just to renovate the building. There's money for counseling, alcohol and substance abuse, literacy, food—money that our community paid for and is entitled to. With fundraisers, we shouldn't need local tax revenue to pay for a shelter."

"We don't want to overburden the local taxpayer," said Stefan Rosenzweig, a lawyer assisting the FKOC. "Dade County got around \$300,000 from the McKinney fund last year. We just need to go out and get the grant writers."

But Deanna Lloyd, grant manager for Monroe County, indicated that the county, through its hired grant specialists Langton & Associates, was ready to pursue that money, once the shelter was approved.

"The criteria is strict," she said. "You need a location before you apply."

The Florida Keys Outreach Coalition will hold a fundraiser for a shelter on April 5 at East Martello Tower. Food, drink and entertainment, featuring the Key West High School Jazz Band, will be available.

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"COCONUT HOTLINE": Host George Murphy sits at right.

## Channel 5:

### TCI's Dietrich Leads Nation In Live Cable Production

by Anne Carlisle

Perusing the schedule for Channel 5, Key West's local cable television studio, one notices with amazement (and amusement) the diversity of live shows on the air. In the blink of an eye, it seems, the set changes from a gigantic spinning earth to dancing flamingos, and content shifts from grade-school environmental projects to videos of local drug busts.

As for the show hosts' on-camera styles and attitudes, nothing could be more polarized. Social commentator Michelle Hardin, for instance, coordinates her outfits with her set and keeps one dog, sometimes two, at her feet. Gerry Tinlin reviews the generally light-and-lively material for his show with guests in advance, while the all-around host George "thirty-seconds-is-a-lifetime" Murphy thrives on winging it.

Behind the scenes, there is but one constant: a soft-spoken man with an acute sense of humor and a clear sense of mission. Joe Dietrich has been manager of Channel 5 since 1982, when he convinced the management of Telecommunications, Inc. (TCI) to embark on community programming. He is now producing about 16 live shows a week—more live television than any other cable studio in the country!

That's right folks, TCI-5 in Key West leads the nation in live production.

#### Doesn't Want To Brag

"I don't want to brag," said Dietrich with a modest grin, "but this is unheard of in any city I know." Even in big cities, most affiliates tap into the "network feed" to fill their programming spots.

In public access television, the franchise with the city usually includes a mandate for community programming. This, however,

does not determine how many hours a week must be produced. In Miami, for instance, the cable company does two or three shows a week to fulfill its community service.

"I came from Flint, Michigan, where I had managed a small cable system," said Dietrich. "That was 15 years ago. There was no studio in Key West then, so I bided my time."

Three years later Dietrich pitched his case and got the red "on air" light glowing. "The engineer and I built the studio from scratch, with a very small budget and some leftover materials from the days when the Spottswoods owned the station," he said. "I approached community leaders, and we went on the air with public service programming."

#### Local TV Pays For Itself

The live shows and the advertising contracts came later. Dietrich is extremely proud that his live television programming pays for itself, which is yet another unheard of accomplishment.

"Most programs of this [local] nature operate in the red," Dietrich said. "Then, after awhile, the company shuts them down. We pay for ourselves."

This means new and would-be show hosts must solicit enough sponsors to pay for their time slots, which run \$150 for every half hour, \$300 for an hour.

And so, since the show hosts are *not* paid for their efforts, why do they do it? Fame, fun, good citizenship? All of the above?

Citing show hosts like George Murphy, who also hosts a morning radio talk show and manages a comedy club downtown, and Michelle Hardin, who teaches school and writes for the *Key West Citizen*, Dietrich conjectured, "Many [hosts] are community minded. It can't just be ego. It's too much hard work."

Hardin does a half-hour live on Wednes-

day nights. The rest of the week she can be seen around town with her video camera, taping socialites on their off-hours (and enjoying very little free time of her own).

"I do it because it's fun," said Murphy.

"David Letterman" without a budget" is how he describes his hour-long Friday night show, "Coconut Hotline." Typically, his guests include touring comedians and entertainment artists in addition to an assortment of local public service promoters.

One of the longest existing formats, Murphy's show has been on the air for six years. Before his first show, he had never been on television, but he had become known as a media figure by writing an investigative political series for *Solares Hill*. "Bill Huckel [former *Solares Hill* owner/publisher] recommended him," recalled Dietrich. "[Murphy] just sat down and did it. From the first camera shot, he was a natural."

In its infancy, Murphy's show was more political than it is today. But there was always a soupçon of spoof, such as when Murphy's novelist friend Bob Reise, billed as "Our Man in Washington," was shown in front of the White House, claiming to have interviewed the president.

In another edition, public relations personality Gordon Ross and an outside camera crew called BVD (short for Boulevard Camera) collaborated on another hoax. While Ross chatted with Murphy, the camera showed a stranger (actually a studio assistant) walk up to Ross' new moped, which was parked outside, and drive it away.

But perhaps the most memorable Murphy moment for Dietrich was when animal activists leaned back on the set's sofa and flipped heels over head. This segment made national television last year on Dick Clark's "TV Bloopers" and is scheduled to be shown on an international bloopers show.

#### Other Twinkling Stars

Other venerated old-timers include Roger Braun, who hosts "Political Pulse" on Tuesdays and commentates live on televised election-return nights.

"I really admire Roger," said Dietrich. "He tries so hard to be fair, and he's a real person on the air."

Dale Alexander ("Health Dimensions") and Professor William Trantham from Florida Keys Community College ("Improving Human Capabilities") have also been with Channel 5 from the beginning.

The list continues from psychic Barbara

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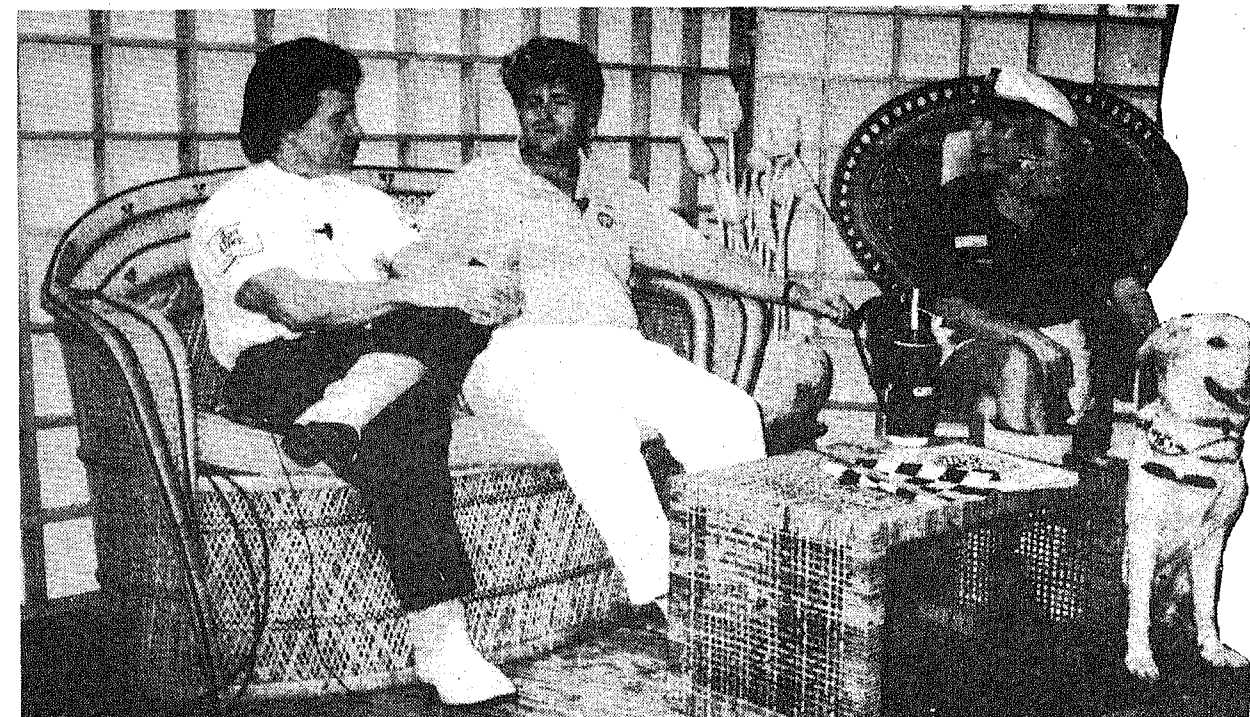


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LOCAL CHIT-CHAT: Show host Michelle Hardin, like the other TCI hosts, donates her time. So does her dog, who appears regularly, sometimes with another canine friend.

Norcross and astrologer Sioux Rose ("Astrology") to Captain Jim Sharpe ("Fishing the Florida Keys"), who is also a firefighter in Miami. "I'm sure he must get business from the show, because he's always catching fish," said Dietrich.

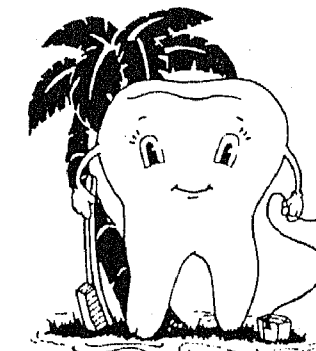
A few contributors—like Nora Williams and Tim Wilson, a couple who do movie reviews—come from the upper keys. "They produce the whole thing in their spare time," said Dietrich.

#### The Media Curse

Catching hell is an intrinsic risk in doing live television. Every night, between the hours of 6:30 and 8 p.m. when all the programming is done, the program manager is the man on the spot. Dietrich recounted some grin-and-bear-it moments with a mixture of relish and resignation:

"Townsend Kiefer was the first live show we did," he said. "He was very controversial and was known for his caustic remarks, but that brought viewers. We had a lot of outages in those days. Kiefer would come back on and blame Bobby Padron [a long-time member of the Utility Board]. The show was so bad it was exciting."

"One night a light bulb exploded, and we all thought Kiefer had been shot. We had lawsuits threatening, and he wouldn't tone it down. He was on about a year. His dog died a natural death, and he swore someone poisoned it. I'm serious."



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The tape went on the air that way, with Gregory rolling his eyes up and down. He was at home watching, and he was wild. He thought he was a real big star, of course."

#### Commission Meetings Are Tops

City commission meetings, which are aired live, can be absolutely hilarious. Dietrich has kept tapes of the days when Joe Balbontin and Richard Heyman were commissioners and Dennis Wardlow was mayor. The issue came up of nudity on the beaches.

"It was terrible," said Joe. "There were a few locals, including a blind minister, who turned it into a morality issue. Balbontin implied that Heyman's lifestyle was immoral. Heyman [who is openly gay] retorted that he understood Balbontin's business matchbox covers featured topless women, and 'wasn't that hypocritical?' Balbontin's response was: 'First of all, I am not cynical.' It was too much."

Then there was the night Police Chief Tom Webster stormed onto Balbontin's show without even waiting for a promotional break. "The phone calls were totally against him," said Dietrich. "People get full of themselves and don't realize the effect it has."

#### A Say For Everybody

Though a few years ago the FCC struck down the fairness rule, which required cable stations to give equal time to opposing viewpoints, Dietrich (who in earlier days was a gay rights activist in Buffalo and knows what it's like to be silenced) sticks to the rules of fair play.

"Everybody gets their say," he said.

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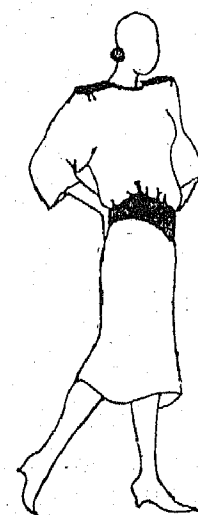
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"And if someone comes to me and says that something was presented one sidedly, in their opinion, I will give them equal time."

"Only once did I have to drag someone out of the station. In the old Spanish show, one of the guys had been screaming and yelling at the interviewer. On the break he took the gold plaster [bust] of José Martí and smashed it on the floor into a hundred pieces. We didn't have anybody who spoke Spanish, so we always put a disclaimer at the end of the show."

Those were active years. A more recent trauma occurred when psychic Barbara Norcross went on record on the air with a prediction that the Palm Beach rape case would end with the discovery that Ted Kennedy was the perpetrator.

"I told her it was an irresponsible thing to have said," said Dietrich. "It was live TV. There was nothing else I could do."

#### Slips Of The Tongue

The world of live TV has its lighter moments, and slips of the tongue take on a life of their own before the camera's unblinking eye. Joe Balbontin slipped one night. Usually, he closed his show, "The World According to Joe," with a message to kids: "Just Say No to Drugs." After hosting a show that featured religious themes, he exhorted his listeners to "make sure your children just say no to God."

Linda Schuh of the defunct "Eye on the Keys" was doing a voice-over and forgot her mike was on. The cameraman signaled her and she said "Oh my god, I think I f--cked this up," loud and clear over the air.

Dietrich admits to kidding astrologer Sioux Rose. "She is very sincere. Anyway, she had a visiting astrologer on this one time. Sioux Rose said, 'I just love Uranus.' The other woman looked her square in the eye and said, 'I just love Uranus, too.'"

Amazingly, all the shows on the schedule, including the 16 live shows, are produced by one full-time manager and three part-time assistants. Dietrich's assistants are Bob Sumner, director; Jeremy Parker, camera/floor manager; and Matt Stauch, the cameraman who covers the city commission meetings.

#### A Cable Stepping Stone

Working in a cable studio can provide the very best kind of experience for would-be television producers. Last year part-time cameraman Bill Miller got into the New York University film school based on his Channel 5 experience.

Dietrich is proud of this, and of the other missions he and his small staff have accomplished.

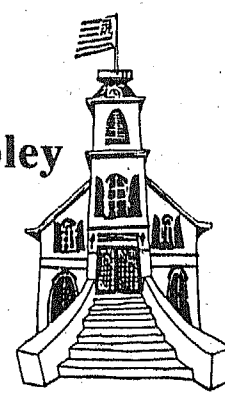
"Two years ago we did an hour-long show on AIDS awareness among students," he said. "It went so well here we decided to submit it to national competition." They received two national awards for excellence in cable programming.

"TCI flew me out to San Francisco to receive the award," said Dietrich. "I felt proud when I found out how much more we were doing than others. I found out big companies aren't doing it, even though they have big budgets and staffs."

That may be because they don't have Joe Dietrich. And we do.

J.D. Dooley

## 510 GREENE STREET



Federal Judge Lawrence King lived up to his reputation for doing the unexpected. Two weeks ago he chose not to accept the opinion of a magistrate serving beneath him on *Last Stand vs. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney et al.*, better known as the issue of the Navy housing project planned for Peary Court.

Federal Magistrate Stephen Brown, who was hearing preliminary portions of the case, advised King against injunctive restraint, which would have halted Navy plans to begin construction.

King chose instead to issue the restraining order and move toward a final solution by setting a March 12 hearing date.

On March 12, King said the legal issue was not the timeliness of the suit, as Brown had stated, but whether the Navy obeyed NEPA law in 1988. He advised both parties to concentrate on the merits of the suit.

King also brought up wetland regulations, raising the question of applicability to Peary Court. He said that in the past the government had successfully argued that the area involved is wetland and is claiming now that the area is not—a point that seemed to support Last Stand's position.

King, however, cautioned that due to the expense, he would not require the Navy to perform another Environmental Assessment unless it was warranted.

King said he has visited the site and is aware of the environmental sensitivity of the area. He spoke of driving on Palm Avenue during periods of localized flooding. In its case, Last Stand alleges that the area already suffers from improper storm-water management. The Navy claims that the 160-unit housing project would not adversely affect Palm Avenue.

Perhaps the surprise of the day came from Key West Mayor Dennis Wardlow, who testified on behalf of the city commission's recent resolution in favor of Navy housing located on Peary Court.

During cross examination, Last Stand's attorney Joel Sachs asked Wardlow if NAS Boca Chica commanding officer Michael Currie insinuated, during a recent city commission meeting, that the Navy would leave Key West if the housing were not approved.

Wardlow answered that Currie had not. In fact, Currie had said that the issue would be out of his hands, and that he could not promise that the Navy would stay. He

## CRITICAL SHORT-NOTICE MTG

SPEAKER - CO, NAS KEY WEST

WHERE - TRUMBO POINT RV PARK

WHEN - 1700, WEDNESDAY, 19 FEB

SUBJ - PEARY COURT HEARING BEFORE CITY COMMISSION TONITE AT 1900

*I regret the short-fused nature of this meeting, but it is absolutely critical that we support the Mayor in his bid to pass a resolution supporting the Navy on the Peary Court Housing Project — the very future of the Navy presence in Key West depends on it.*  
Capt. Mike Currie

claimed that failure to approve the housing would be a signal to the Pentagon that Key West didn't want the Navy.

As the military continues to downsize, Currie suggested, a top level decision to close the Key West base could be made on whether citizens supported the housing project.

To give the impression of support, some say, the Navy required Naval civilian personnel to attend city commission meetings.

One civilian employee, who requested anonymity, said he had been summoned by Commander Currie to attend a February 18 meeting at the Naval Air Station. During that meeting, he and others were told to attend the city commission meeting and support the resolution or jeopardize their jobs.

(What is unclear is whether Currie was referring to their jobs being endangered by the Navy pulling out of Key West, due to a lack of housing, or endangered by their not showing up at the commission meeting.)

Naval Public Affairs officer Lt. J.G. Robin Perkins, speaking on behalf of the Navy, first said that no such meeting took place. She later amended her position by stating that civilian personnel were kept abreast of the Peary Court situation during general forum meetings with Currie.

She said she was not sure if, during one of the general forums, Currie requested the civilian employees to attend the commis-

sion meeting.

On March 17 a memo surfaced (allegedly from Commander Currie) dated Wednesday, February 19, on NAS Boca Chica stationery. It was handwritten and signed Capt. Mike Currie.

The large underlined letters across the top of the page read: "Critical Short-Notice Mtg."

The body of the memo contained the following: "I regret the short-fused nature of this meeting, but it absolutely critical that we support the mayor in his bid to pass a resolution supporting the Navy on the Peary Court housing project—the very future of the Navy presence in Key West depends on it."

Throughout the process the Navy has claimed a dire need for more military housing in Key West. However, according to a source within the U.S. Navy, who wishes to remain anonymous, Navy squadron VAQ 33 will be pulling out of Key West on October 1, 1993, regardless of the outcome on Peary Court.

Lt. Perkins refused to confirm or deny the report claiming that a move that far in the future, 17 months, is beyond NAS Boca Chica's scope of knowledge.

In his closing statement, Judge King called for a "proposed order with a finding of facts and conclusions of law from both sides." This, in effect, is a request for each party to present in writing the decision that they would wish to see implemented.



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## The Ghost of East Martello?

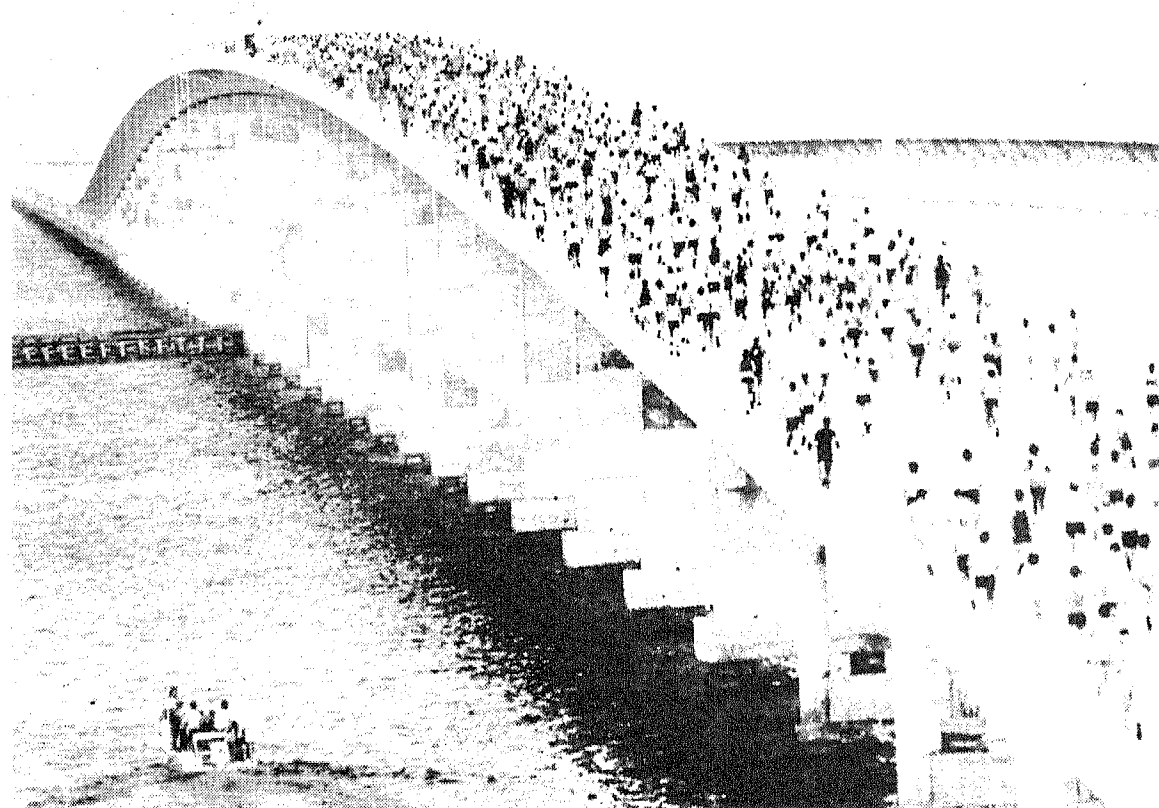
The Founders Society of Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center is planning a fundraiser March 28 at East Martello Museum that will include music, prizes, open bar, buffet dinner with table seating, costumes and a ghost hunt. The museum, crowded with pictures of historical locals with seamy or questionable pasts, provides all the clues needed to make the discovery of the ghost fun as well as challenging. First prize will be Sunday Brunch for two at the Pier House. Tickets are \$30 per person and can be purchased by mailing checks or Visa/Mastercard numbers with expiration dates to: Founders Society, FKCC, Key West, FL 33040.

## New Theater Festival

Members of the Key West theatrical community, including all the local theaters, have created the All-Theatre Networking Group and are planning a Southernmost Theatre Festival beginning in September and leading to a more ambitious project for 1993. The festival will invite professional, amateur and academic theater groups to perform up to 32 short pieces at local theaters. Nationally recognized experts in theater will be invited to judge the performances, and awards will be given in a number of categories, including best professional production, best actress/actor, etc. The event hopes to follow in the success and tradition of the popular Hemingway Days Festival and Key West Literary Seminar. For more information, write P.O. Box 992, Key West, FL 33041.

## Around the Island Race

The Key West Sailing Club's 18th Annual Around the Island Race for sunfish and sailboards will be held April 4 at the Casa Marina Watersports Beach. Anyone with a sunfish or sailboard may enter. The course, which covers about 15 miles, circles Key West, Sigsbee and Fleming Keys, including a passage under the Cow Key Channel Bridge. Racing begins at noon with the two classes starting 15 minutes apart. Sailors may choose to make the passage in either direction. Several prizes will be given in each class at the awards dinner on the beach following the event. The entry fee is \$15 or \$20 after April 2. To register send



SEVEN-MILE BRIDGE RUN: This annual event is slated to have 1500 runners.

checks c/o Howard Crane, 1103 Ashby Street, Key West, 33040. Final registration will be on the beach the day of the race between 10:30 and 11:30 a.m., with a skippers' meeting promptly at 11:30.

## Seven-Mile Bridge Run

The 11th Annual Seven-Mile Bridge Run is, once again, slated to have 1500 runners on Saturday, April 11. The race begins at 7:30 a.m. on the east side of the bridge, which will be closed to vehicular traffic from 7 to 9 a.m. Runners must pre-register for the race by application since participation is limited and the quota is expected to be filled early. The entry fee is \$20, and applications may be obtained by calling (305) 743-8513.

## New Reading Group

A new monthly reading group has been formed in Key West. The group will meet monthly to discuss books ranging from fiction to non-fiction and sci-fi, etc. This month's selection, *A Woman of Substance* will be discussed at the next meeting. For

details on time and place, call Paul during the day at 294-8488, or after 5 p.m. at 296-0683.

## Coral Reef Coalition Conference

The First Annual Coral Reef Coalition Conference will meet March 19 to 22 at the Holiday Inn Beachside. The coalition, which is made up of over a hundred environmental groups as well as scientists, divers, fishermen and government officials, will discuss relative topics in hopes of developing a model for management of the Keys' marine resources. Registration fees vary. For more information, call Reef Relief at 294-3100.

## Spring Garden Tours

The Key West Garden Club will sponsor tours of private gardens not usually open to the public March 27 and 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tours will be conducted by garden club members and other qualified guides, who will be familiar with the names of plants in each garden. Tickets will be \$6 and may be purchased at the garden club, the Hos-

# • COMMUNITY NOTES • COMMUNITY NOTES • COMMUNITY NOTES •

pitality House or any of the tour homes. The tour will conclude at the garden club, located at West Martello Tower, where punch will be served. For information, call Lucie Adams at 296-4411 or Sheila Bilbrey at 296-7426.

## Montessori Celebrates Its 20th!

The Montessori Children's School of Key West, Inc., which is celebrating its 20th anniversary, is in the midst of its annual fundraiser. This year's donation drawing features \$7000 in prizes, including a \$3800 shopping spree in Key West, an all-expense trip to Disney World, a local getaway vacation, a health a beauty package, a \$600 Mel Fisher coin, artwork, jewelry and more. Drawing tickets are available from Montessori parents or by calling the school office at 294-5302. In addition, there will be an alumni reunion party April 4 at Mary Spottswood's backyard with a huge Italian feast, games and entertainment. Profits from these events will help with the school's new expansion program and will also provide extras for the facility and classrooms.

## Spring Break 1992—A Photographer's View

The Key West Art and Historical Society is inviting all local photographers to exhibit their works in an exhibition that will open at the East Martello Museum on April 7th. The exhibit, titled "A Photographer's View of Spring Break 1992," will show images of the vacation season. Anyone with a camera can participate. Deadline for submitting photos is April 1; they must be framed for hanging. Works can be for sale and all contributors will be invited to the opening reception. For information, call 296-3913.

## FKCC Vocational Programs

Florida Keys Community College offers several vocational programs which can maximize wage-earning potential including: business administration and management, computer programming and analysis, criminal justice technology, diving business management and many more. Special support services are available to assist eligible single parents, displaced homemakers, and single pregnant women who enroll in high wage vocational programs. For more information, contact Mary Blair of the RAVE (Renewing

and Advancing through Vocational Education) program at 296-9081, ext. 216.

## Anniversary Benefit Concert

The Harid Conservatory of Boca Raton will be performing a benefit concert in celebration of the first anniversary of the Share School of Music, Key West's non-profit children's music school. The concert will be at Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center March 28 at 8 p.m.; it will be performed by a string quartet from the conservatory's outreach program. Ranging from age 17 to 22, the gifted young performers have been selected from across the U.S. and foreign countries to attend Harid Conservatory on full tuition scholarships. They will perform a varied program, including classical works of Bach. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students (age 18 and under); they may be purchased at Fast Buck Freddie's or Leda-Bruce Gallery in Big Pine, or call the school at 294-5299.

## Petition for Hotz Is Circulating

Ashley Simmons Hotz is coordinating the Monroe County petition drive to get H. Ross Perot's name on the general election ballot on the independent ticket. Hotz says to achieve the goal, petition organizers must secure at least 60,312 registered voter signatures before July 15. Perot, who appeared on "Larry King Live" last month, is a billionaire and says he will not accept contributions for over \$5. He wants to create electronic voting for citizens "to straighten out Congress and the Senate, and take away the power of special interest groups and PACs, and give the power back to the people, where it belongs." Those interested in working on the petition should call Hotz at 294-4773, or call 1-800-634-2010 if you are in the upper keys.

## Worth the Trip

Former leader of Earth First Dave Foreman and Thoreau scholar Thomas Blanding are among nationally recognized environmentalists to speak at Palm Beach Community College's Third Annual Cultural Awareness Festival's "Writes" of Spring, billed as "A Celebration of Ecological Consciousness at the Spring Equinox," on March 25 and 26. Foreman will participate in an environmental ethics symposium kicking off "Writes" of Spring 1992 on the Eisey Campus of PBCC, according to

Professor Edwin Riley, coordinator for the event. Other events, all open and free to the public, include campus nature walks, a steel drum performance, an environmental fashion show, environmental awareness booths, plus arts and crafts. For more information, call (305) 625-2554.

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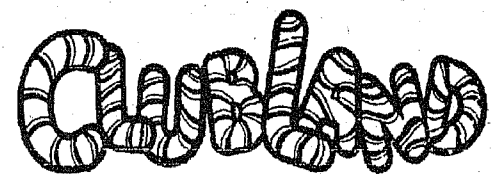


## On The Town

with Jane Phillips

Is there anyone in town who doesn't know Peggy McClain? Three hundred of her closest friends got together to honor her at "Peg O' My Heart," a testimonial dinner at the Casa Marina, where she received ac-

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MARRIED: Newlyweds Richard and Barbara McNally with Capt. Tony Tarracino.

lades from her many admirers including Wilhemina Harvey, Mary and Landy Spottswood, Petronella Collins, Peter Ilchuk, Michael Tierney, Mayor Dennis Wardlow, and Liz Kern, to name a few.

What was it like to grow up in Peggy's household? Son Joseph Garren said, "She was a cross between Auntie Mame and General MacArthur. She taught me that life is a banquet." Nancy Jameson commented on their long friendship: "I've known Peggy through several hair colors."

A poll of Peggy's pals elicited these single word descriptions: Jack Baron, "extraordinary"; Lisa Versaci, "compassionate"; Kathleen Elgin, "brass balls"; Ann Dickinson, "giving"; Larry Harvey, "dynamic"; Sally Lewis, "persistent"; Susan Olsen, "bitch." (Olsen added "My definition for PMS is Peggy McClain Syndrome—Wanna buy a raffle ticket?")

Joe Lizka stripped down to his shorts and donned a Santa outfit. Vicki Roush sang "That's What Friends Are For." (Peggy has a legion of them.) Rex Brumgart appeared in a wheel chair as Queen Victoria—it was that kind of night.

All agreed that retiring Key West Woman's Club prexy Peggy was irreplaceable. Marva Green, new club president,

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BARTENDER EXTRAORDINAIRE: Janice Stevenson helped out at the Cash's party.

said "Peggy is the most persuasive woman I've ever met. She is the only one who could have ever gotten me to appear half-naked on the Woman's Club float.

Perhaps David Kaufelt said it best, "Peggy's star is so bright, it will burn forever."

Carolyn and Jerry Cash entertained what seemed like half of Key West at their "Jump-Up" party at the Sonny McCoy Indigenous Park. Carolyn made all the food and even borrowed Allen Merrill's recipe for conch fritters. Pals Janice Stevenson and Dick Moody pitched in by bartending.

Blonde knock-out Janice was getting lots of attention. Carolyn arranged it that way: "We have Janice for all the men to look at and Dick for all the women!"

Enjoying the music by the Junkanoos were Joan and Buzz Houdus, Nancy and Bill Malaske, Shirley and Al Steinman, Pat Green, Shirley Freeman, Lisa Griggs and oh, so many more.

It was a beautiful evening under the stars for the cocktail buffet-dinner party given by Molly Leeds and Kay Maunsbach at their White Street home. The poolside gathering introduced South African tour friends Dan Shea and George Drumhammer to islanders Marta and Martin White, Bill Halpin, Stephen Widdup, Liz Kern, Kathleen Elgin, Jim McLernan, Joe Pais, Bob Chaplin...

### Nautical knot...

When entrepreneur Richard McNally purchased and restored the sportsfishing boat once owned by union boss Jimmy Hoffa and named it "Special Lady," he didn't know he was about to meet a special lady who would soon become his bride. Her name was Barbara Walker, and she was the manager of Harbour Lights.

Linda Schuh performed the ceremony

on board "Special Lady" and pronounced Richard and Barbara "shipmates for life."

Captain Tony Tarracino was on hand with a bottle of champagne to christen the boat. Commenting on special occasions Captain Tony said, "I never mind going to funerals—I figure the poor guy's troubles are finally over."

Guests went topside at Schooner Wharf to celebrate this happy event.

### Cock-a-doodle-do...

Many citizens would like to tell politicians what to do when they leave office. In case your wondering what former city commissioner Harry Powell is doing (when he's not making drug busts)—he's the ice cream man. Powell's route takes him up the Keys. He says the job "puts a smile on my face and a song in my heart." Not so with chickens: Powell's been known to take a pit shot at those in his neighborhood.

On the other hand, artist Susan Thayer chose chickens as the sole subject matter for her art show at Harrison Gallery. A woman on Grinnell Street walks her rooster on a leash, and Gerry Wood earned lots of chicken-feed writing about chickens for *Tropic* magazine.

As for me, when the rooster leaves Key West, I won't be far behind.

The "Insensitivity Award of the Month" goes to Key West Citizen writer Vernon Silver. The cub reporter unnecessarily commented on the housekeeping standards of Vicki Lawrence, who recently committed suicide. Those of us who saw her entertain



PEGGY-O-MY-HEART: Recent guest of honor Peggy McClain (second from right) surrounded by well-wishers (from left) Marva Green, Donna Harvey, Peggy Williams.

will miss her sparkle.

Enjoying the après concert reception at the Casa Gato Impromptu Concert series were Don DeFeo, Chapin Leinbach, Dick Cassidy, and John Roger whom everyone agreed "looked wonderful."

### Friendship...

Captain Michael P. Curry, commander of the Key West Naval Air Station, has made a point of saying the Navy is Key West's best friend. He dropped the issue of

feeding stray cats and commented that if the Navy does not get its Peary Court housing, "we'll sell to the guys with the deepest pockets and the biggest bucks."

### Love for Sale...

The price of everything is going up, but Don Taylor still objected when lady of the evening Angie Singleton marked up the price of her sexual favors from \$40 to \$50. When she didn't get the 25-percent increase, she yelled "rape." The police were called to quell the disturbance.

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## Letter from Havana

By Ellen Rosenzweig

President Castro, who has been making free public speeches lately in an attempt to raise morale, says that 1992 will be the worst year of the "special period," a time in which adjustments to the dissolution of the Soviet Union will be made but will not yet be noticeable. The country's major problem, he explains, is its fuel supply, since Cuba previously received all its oil from the Soviet Union in exchange for sugar.

Starting in early 1991, however, the amount of oil contracted from the Soviets diminished, once the Soviets started measuring the value of Cuban sugar in terms of its world market value. Last year, Cuba expected to receive just over ten million tons of oil from the Soviets, as compared to the 13 million in previous years, and due to the Soviets' internal problems, the deliveries fell short.

(Oil was virtually the only product Cuba did receive from the Soviet Union last year, despite trade agreements covering many commodities. The total Soviet shortfall of contracted goods was about \$2.1 billion, according to Castro.)

In 1992, Castro says, the country must be prepared to live on one-third of the 13 tons it is used to having—which amounts to a little over four million tons—until the government secures other fuel imports. Consequently, in late December a new series of fuel conservation measures were issued for 1992.

When the "special period" went into effect in late 1989, gasoline rations were cut by 30 percent—from 35 gallons to 20 gallons

every three months. Under the new guidelines, another 30 percent has been taken off for private cars, with 70-percent cut for state cars.

Also in late 1989, consumers were told to reduce their electricity use by ten percent (under the threat of having their electricity cut off if they did not comply). With the new measures, reductions will be made for households in the higher consumption brackets; as a result, over 70 percent of consumers will not be affected.

Taxi service will now be limited to hospitals, funeral homes and bus and train stations, while tourists taxis will be unaffected. The extremely overloaded bus system will suffer new reductions as well. To encourage commuters not to ride the buses, 500,000 Chinese bicycles have been sold in Havana and more are expected to arrive soon.

Television broadcasts have been cut to five hours a day, starting at 7 p.m. Many movie theaters have been shut down, while those that remain open have been put on a rotating schedule—i.e., some have showings in the afternoons, some in the evenings.



Victory Gardens?

About two years ago, when it became clear that the Soviet Union and the other former socialist countries would no longer be able to provide Cuba with food, the government launched what it called the food program. It was an intensive effort to boost agriculture throughout the country and, in particular, to meet the needs of Havana, which has no agriculture of its own. Due to the lack of fuel, the use of tractors has greatly diminished and animal traction has been revived.

Despite rosy predictions, the food program has not to date been able to satisfy demand. In fact, there have been many fewer fruits and vegetables in these usually abundant winter months than there were last year.

In addition to organizational problems, a lack of fertilizers and other necessary resources, it has become clear that there will not be enough gasoline to bring the produce into the cities. The new trend now is the cultivation of small plots all over the cities and seeds are being sold for home gardens.

Of course, it remains to be seen whether the Castro government will survive 1992. So far, signs of recovery are few and far between. It's still unclear from where Cuba might get its oil (despite the concern expressed by the leaders of Mexico and Venezuela, both oil-producing countries); nor is it clear where the money to buy the oil would come from. This does not even address the other goods and raw materials needed to meet basic demands.

The main antidote the government is promoting are joint ventures—investments by capitalist firms, usually with 50-percent Cuban participation, in tourism, biotechnology and medical equipment manufacturing. Business is now the word of the day in revolutionary Cuba, but it remains to be seen whether these joint ventures can bring in enough money fast enough to make a difference.

In what seems to be an attempt to placate Western critics, the Communist party of Cuba resolved at its 4th Congress in October that members of the National Assembly (Cuba's legislature) should now be elected directly by the people. Exactly how this principle will be put into practice remains to be seen. In any case, such elections would probably not satisfy President George Bush or the Cuban exile community, who are demanding a plebiscite of some sort regarding Cuba's top leadership.

So the "special period" continues, and despite all the dire predictions from abroad, I wouldn't be very surprised if revolutionary Cuba survives this difficult year. As I said earlier, Cubans have gotten through other bad times in the last three decades, giving the term "survivors" new meaning.

In the next few months I hope to keep you up-to-date on this crisis in Cuba, but I would also like to tell you about some of the fascinating things happening on this island despite the "special period."

Until next time—*Hasta la vista!*

Ellen Rosenzweig is an American citizen who lives and writes in Cuba. Her "Letter from Havana" will be published monthly in Solares Hill.



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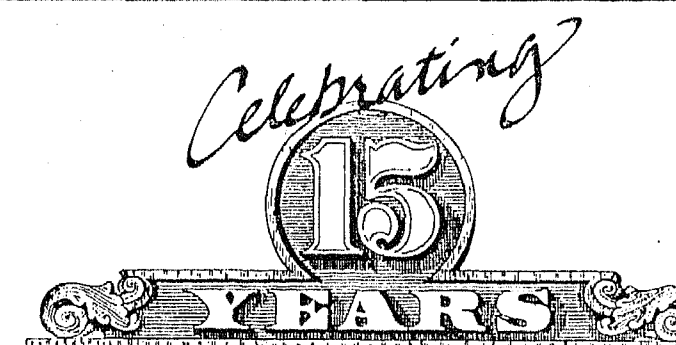
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## Chea Pena Remembered The Maine

by Judi Bradford

Chea Pena died Thursday, March 5 of natural causes; she was 103. Shortly before Pena's death, writer Judi Bradford interviewed her for "View of the Century," a series of articles being written to preserve the priceless memories of some of our island's oldest residents. Bradford says that the elder Conch was alert and spoke eagerly during the two-hour interview, which took place in Pena's cheery living room.

Chea Pena remembered the Spanish-American War. She remembered the milkman walked his cow from house to house, delivering milk. ("Ten cents a quart," chirped Chea.) She remembered Pavlova dancing here and José Martí speaking from the veranda at La Terraza on the corner of Catherine and Duval.

Even in the last month of life, Chea was going strong. She moved about on her own two feet and kept up lively conversation. Last Christmas she cooked Cuban pork with homemade mojo sauce and black beans for dinner. Her recent memories included visits from Ann Jillian (and an autographed record) and photos with screen star Don Johnson, who called her his "Good Luck Lady" and solicited her lucky kiss before competing in

the powerboat races.

Although arthritis had cramped her sewing skills, she occasionally revved up the 88-year-old Singer treadle. Her living-room sofa was brightened with smocked satin pillows she had stitched. In fact, if you were to guess her age, you would probably miss by 25 years or more.



**TREASURE:** Chea Pena, who died recently at the age of 103, holds a carnival cup her husband gave her before they were married. Her daughter Gina, stands left.

### A Solid Family Unit

Chea (her true name was Mercedes) lived with her only child, Gena Ruffing, and Gena's husband George; or perhaps they lived with her. The three seemed to be a solid unit—certainly the mother-daughter team was inseparable. Ask a question and they answered as one, finishing each other's stories, embellishing each other's descriptions. The Conch Tour Train stopped often in front of the family's tidy little Conch house near the Reynolds Schools, where the conductor would point out the flowering trees and plants that Chea tended.

### Folding Fans and Carnival Glass

Inside, the house was—and still is—bright and sunny, gleaming clean and filled with mementos. Shadow-boxed and hanging on the wall are a romantic hand-painted folding fan, which was an engagement present from Chea's husband, and the elegant 14-karat-gold and mother-of-pearl pen, which used to sign their wedding certificate.

The china cabinet in the dining room is filled with nostalgic glassware. A ruby carnival-glass cup is engraved: "Mercedes Trevejo [Chea's maiden name] recuerdo Febrero 22, 1905." It is another memento from her engagement days.

She met her husband at the cigar factory where they both worked. Each dawn, from the time she was 14 until she married, she walked to the Ruy Lopez Cigar Company, where she stripped wrappers for *panatelas* and George rolled them. In those days, a *lectore* read newspapers and novels to the workers.

When Chea married George Pena in 1909 (after a five-year engagement) she put her energies into tending her home and husband. Occasionally she helped out in her brother's ice-cream store or her father's grocery. After 25 years of marriage, their daughter Gena was born. George died 25 years later.

### Flagler Wore a Top Hat

Chea was a young woman when Henry Flagler arrived on the first train to Key West in 1912. In a photo of the event, which is exhibited at East Martello Museum, she and her husband can be seen in the crowd. Chea said those were days of joyful celebrations: children sang and tossed flower petals in Flagler's path; ambassadors and statesmen from all over the hemisphere came to honor the man who built the "train that went to sea."

"He was feeble," recalled Chena, who shook his hand. "Wore a big top hat."

Those were the days when Saturday and Sunday meant a fancy dress promenade along Duval Street with a stop for a coke at the Kress & Co. soda fountain and another at Carmona's ice-cream parlor next to the Cuban Club for tropical fruit ice cream. It was also the time of conga lines, lavish entertainment, revolutionary speeches at the San Carlos and dancing at dance clubs.

For a while she and her extended family lived on Duval Street next to Valladares Newsstand. Late each night her mother made a pot of Cuban coffee. Friends who were socializing and playing dominoes at the nearby Cuban Club would stop by for a "coffee break."

"Everybody had to get a cup of coffee before they went to bed," Chea said, chuckling. "My husband used to go to bed sometimes at nine o'clock. At ten o'clock I used to wake him up for coffee."

"It was like the old homestead," said Gena. "Where the grandmother was, everybody came. We always had a house full."

Havana trips were common, and friends and relatives from Miami would stay overnight on their way to Cuba. There were trips to Miami, too, but they were more difficult—a series of ferries up the keys and twice the distance to Havana. Plus, having been founded in 1870, Miami was less than 20 years older than Chea.

When cars arrived on the island, Chea wanted to learn how to drive.

"I couldn't do it. I couldn't direct the car," she said. "I went on County Road—Flagler now—and when I see the other cars coming, I would go right into the bushes; You can't drive like that if you go in town—you'll drive into the houses."

### Fountain of Eternal Youth

Key Westers have always conserved water. Before the Navy built the pipeline from the mainland, natives used cisterns to collect water for drinking and cooking; they used well water for washing and cleaning. Laundry water was thrown on the plants and trees to control mites and aphids.

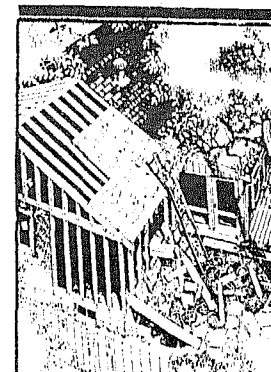
"The U.S. Public Service came down and said the cisterns weren't sanitary," Chea recalled. "They put fish in them."

"You'd pump the water," said Gena, "and the little fish would come out. You'd scoop 'em out and throw 'em away."

Gena laughed. "People had used the water for years, though," she says. "We never had to boil it or anything."

Chea interrupted offhandedly. "Sometimes we'd get a dead rat in 'em—then we'd boil the water."

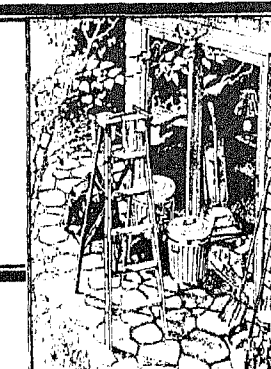
When asked about the secret of long life, Chea answered without hesitation, "Maybe it's that water."



## Solares Hill's Home Improvement Guide

A Special Pullout Supplement

Text and Photos by Mike Smith



**S**lipcovers, a paint job and window treatments: these improvements come instantly to mind when one is considering a domiciliary facelift. However, one of the most effective ways of bringing new life into an entryway, bedroom, kitchen or even an entire house, is new flooring. Re-doing the floor is the *pièce de résistance*, the touch that brings it all together.

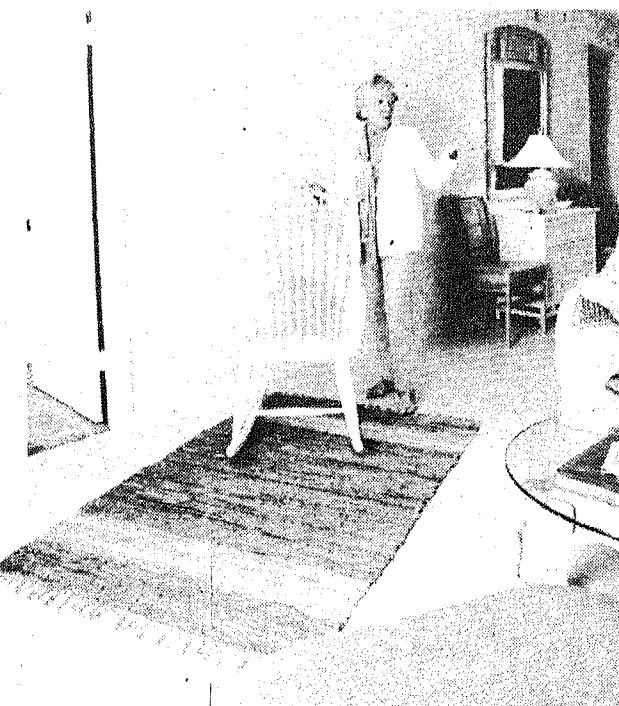
Years ago, the "ultimate look" in floor was considered wall-to-wall carpeting. These rich, plush broadlooms looked fabulous in the beginning, but they often deteriorated rapidly in high-traffic areas such as foyers and hallways. Then came linoleum, a popular alternative to conventional surfaces, which required less maintenance than hardwood (Remember Johnson's Paste Wax and the hands-and-knees routine of polishing?).

While today's market presents unlimited fashion variables (consider the variety of materials coupled with colors, designs and textures), the number of coverings available still boils down to a few: carpeting, ceramic tile, sheet vinyl, vinyl tile or wood. Each has its own characteristics and some special "do's" and "don't's."

### Carpets: Plush But Vulnerable

"For areas of comfort or where "plushness" is desired, such as in bedrooms, living rooms or dining areas, most people still prefer the look and feel of wall-to-wall

**RUGS AND TILE:** Lois Barrowcliff points out a casual rug on ceramic flooring.



carpeting," says Alan Solomon, owner of Key Carpet and Furniture.

"But there are disadvantages," says Solomon. "Even high-quality Stainmaster® type carpets can get pretty nasty looking in less time than you'd think in high-traffic areas, so most people go with something else."

"In kitchens, hallways and entryways, you're a lot better off with some kind of vinyl flooring or ceramic tile—something that doesn't show wear as much."

According to Kurt Techmer, manager of Ornamental Tile and Carpet, the trend is toward ceramic tile. Not only is it virtually "wear-proof," says Techmer, it becomes an "investment" if it's done properly.

"The beauty of ceramic tile is its longevity," says Techmer. "It will outlast any other kind of flooring. And, for the most

part, once it's down, it's there until you get tired of it. For that reason, it's considered an investment in your home."

But, reminds the expert, tile is probably the most expensive flooring available. The bonus to it is that it will last "practically forever."

Techmer says that the favorite flooring for bedrooms, however, is wall-to-wall carpeting. (Would you like to jump out of bed in the morning and be rudely awakened by an ice-cold floor?).

Mike Freebery, manager of Carpet and Casuals, concurs, adding that carpet is usually favored in any area that is designed around comfort.

He suggests that consumers look for a carpet that is "tightly woven; the more density per square inch, the better." But, he says, be careful not to confuse thickness with density. (Those who have lived through the age of "shag" carpeting will understand.)

Freebery says trends in carpeting turn over every three to five years. "Right now we're selling a lot of teal and greens," he says. Greys and mauve are still popular as well.

**REJUVENATION:** Interior designer Lois Barrowcliff discusses a wall-to-wall carpet installation with Hank Parker. The project gave new life to the pulpit of the White Street Baptist Church.



## Beneath Your Feet

## The Bottom Line On Floor Covering



What fibers are selling best today? Freebery says that nylon, stain-proofed carpeting with five-to ten-year warranties make up about 90 percent of his market. A small percentage, he says, favors polypropylene, which is stain-proof, fade-proof (a bonus in South Florida) and *bleach*-proof.

Carpet-buyers, he says, will buy a new carpet every seven to ten years. "About 70 percent of those carpets will be installed."

Most local shoppers, he says, steer clear of area rugs. "We don't sell very many expensive area rugs. People are worried about wool, but they are misled." Wool is a very resilient material.

"I sell a lot of the low-end rugs," he says, adding that "low-end" means a couple hundred dollars, whereas "high-end" starts at about a grand. "They are machine-made instead of man-made."

#### Tile Is Clean and Cool

Lois Barrowcliff, owner of Barrowcliff Design Associates, adds that tile, or even marble floors (by today's standards, a slightly pricier cousin to ceramics), have a much cooler "look and feel" than most other surfaces. For that reason, area rugs are usually laid down on tile-covered living or dining room floors. Rugs add warmth and comfort to these major conversation centers and cut down on the "hollow" sounds of voices or music as they bounce off the walls and floor.

"If you do tile everywhere," Techmer says, "you tend to get a little bit of an echo, but that can be reduced with area rugs, decorative tapestries and, of course, the furniture itself. Anything that absorbs sound will minimize the problem."

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An interesting alternative that: a) virtually eliminates the annoying acoustical condition; and b) gives a unique, "custom" look to anyone's home, is a combination of tile and carpeting installed in a flowing, free-form design.

The key is to determine the exact location of your furniture, mark it, and ask your friendly tile/carpet installer to match the diagram. Of course, you may have a problem rearranging the chairs, couch and coffee table, but it is a great look.

#### The average homeowner can re-do his kitchen floor if he can handle a razor knife

"Draw a line on the floor and we can match it," boasted Techmer. "Tile is laid in sweeping curves to follow the outline of the furnishings and wall-to-wall carpet is installed to the edges of the tile. We do it everyday, though it's a little more expensive than a straight tile, or carpeting, job because of the extra man-hours necessary for installation."

#### Welcome to Vinyl World

A somewhat less pricey answer for conventional flooring (especially for kitchens and baths) is vinyl tile, though it, too, has drawbacks.

First, many people associate it with commercial applications (a lot of the patterns reflect that opinion), such as hospital corridors, supermarkets and department stores. Second, while vinyl is cheaper than ceramic flooring, it doesn't wear nearly as well. Third, quite a bit of "prep" time is necessary to assure the "sub-floor" to which the tiles will be adhered (either with adhesive or self-stick) is smooth and flat, with no "pimples, bumps or blisters."

On the plus side is the incredible number of choices available for patterns and textures from such giants in the flooring industry as Armstrong, Mannington and Tarquette. Many are truly beautiful designs that mimic every conceivable surface from designer bricks to floral prints. And, installing vinyl-

tiles can be a weekend "do-it-yourself" project.

"The average homeowner can re-do his kitchen floor with no problem if he can handle a razor knife and has a couple of hours of free time," says Ornamental's Techmer. "It's easy. I did it myself."

Right behind vinyl tiles for kitchens and baths is sheet vinyl (today's answer to linoleum). Yes, beautiful patterns are available; yes, it is durable, much more so than carpet for high traffic areas; and yes, it is easy to maintain (but, then, so are ceramic and vinyl tiles). But it is definitely not a do-it-yourself project, and it can be as expensive as "top-of-the-line" carpeting, depending on your choice of patterns and colors.

What's more, floor prep involved in sheet vinyl is extremely demanding, since sheet goods are considerably thinner than their 12- x 12-inch counterparts or their ceramic cousins. (Carpet is the most forgiving if your floors are in less-than-perfect shape.) Add their close-bonding properties, and even long-forgotten stains or previous patterns (if sheet vinyl is laid over an existing floor) may bleed through. And since they're one-piece, with no pile to hide a nick of the knife, installation can get a bit dicey.

#### Good Old Wood

The final option, as pointed out by Barrowcliff, is that old standby—wood. As a designer, she tries to work her use of wood around the island's nuances. For example, since planked flooring has been the mainstay of many a homeowner in Key West from the days of the wreckers, she reasons: "Why not paint it?"

"A painted design on a floor, for instance a large diamond pattern in the entrance foyer, gives a unique, attractive look to the room," she says. "It's different, and if it's finished properly with several coats of polyurethane, it should require minimum maintenance."

Barrowcliff added that the key to a beautiful floor was sanding the old floor down to bare wood (literally hundreds of Old Town homes feature classic Dade County pine planking, which is a lovely, rich reddish color when exposed), priming and sealing the surface, and then applying the pattern, followed by five or six layers of urethane.

"It takes time and patience," she cautioned, "but the end result is well worth the effort. And once a year, you'll probably want to add another finish coat to protect the surface, depending on how much foot traffic

you get in the area."

#### Sisal Mats: A Tropical Tradition

Barrowcliff also suggested an alternative to the standard broadloom carpet look: woven sisal matting. Popular in the tropics for decades, its principal drawback is a tendency to rot when exposed to the daily rainfall and humidity common to this latitude during the summer months.

"A number of the broadloom manufacturers now have synthetic sisal," she says. "It's impervious to the elements, yet it looks like the real thing. It gives you a wonderful look, but it's currently only available through decorator and designers—so you won't necessarily find it in the average carpet or floor covering store."

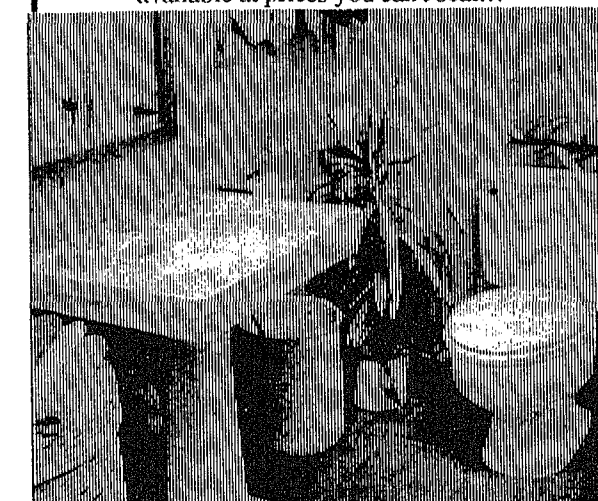
#### A Final Analysis

Carpeting, tile, vinyl (sheets or squares) or wood (planked or parquet): those are the options.

Carpeting doesn't wear well in high-traffic areas, but gives a rich and luxurious look to any bedroom, living room or dining

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area. Ceramic tile is practically impervious to wear, but what happens when you decide to go for a different "look"? Vinyl tile or sheet vinyl is a possibility for a kitchen or bath, but in a living or dining room, it tends to smack off the room. And wooden floors, painted or natural, require an ongoing maintenance program to keep that "like-new look."

The experts have indicated a combination of carpeting and ceramic tile as the best of all worlds. And you can install ceramics yourself. Ornamental Tile sells, or rents, almost anything you'll need to turn that tired old bathroom into a showpiece. In fact, Techmer said he had talked more than one homeowner through an entire installation.

The bottom line, according to Barrowcliff, is to consider color and light when you're creating your environment. They are, she claims, far more important to your psychological "well-being" than most people believe.

"Your very emotions are affected by the colors you choose," she emphasizes, "because certain colors create a response that

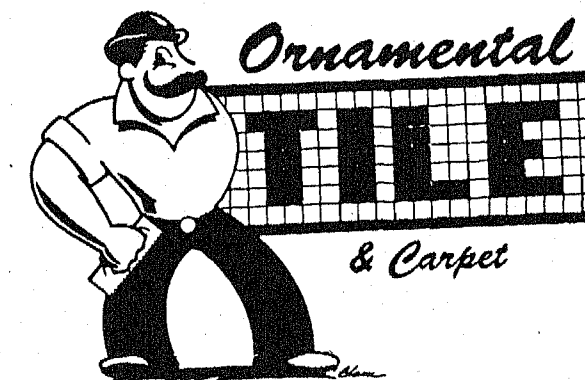
most people aren't aware of. The use of light colors gives you a feeling of space and airiness, while dark colors make a room seem smaller. People feel closed in, trapped, almost suffocated by deep red, navy blue or black. That's why hospitals are light green or blue. They're cool, restful colors, easy on the eyes."

So keep it light, keep it cool, and consider the pros and cons before taking the flooring plunge. But remember, it's really up to you. After all, you're the one who has to live with it.

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# DECKS

## Are Key To Outdoor Living

"Decks are great down here," says Key West architect Michael Skoglund. "As a renovation, they're a minimal investment for the maximum enjoyment, yet they add the maximum amount of desirability when you turn around to sell the property. They really do make a big difference."

Skoglund explained that South Florida, and particularly the Keys, are primarily environments for outdoor living. Charcoal or gas grills do year-round duty, and many homes feature wading or swimming pools, bubbling fountains and exotic tropical gardens. In fact, a great deal of the Keys' famous "laid-back lifestyle" revolves around the back yard.

"People coming down here from up North don't really understand how much time they're going to spend outside their homes," he says. "But once they're all moved in, the first thing they want to do is take that back yard and deck it over. They may leave a few trees going up through it, but they'll want a series of stepped decks, or one extra large deck or whatever. And it is a big improvement you can enjoy right away."

### A Reasonable Investment

While decks can be expensive, says Skoglund, they aren't nearly as expensive as a rebuilt bathroom or kitchen.

"They're nowhere near the cost of interior work," he says. "A bathroom should cost about \$5000, depending on how you want it done. And a new kitchen will probably run you \$10,000 to \$12,000. But you can build one helluva deck for \$5000, and it'll show more. It's a more noticeable, visible improvement."

"I should hope so," agrees Joel Witherspoon, manager of the Scotty's store on North Roosevelt. "You can build a 12- x 12-foot deck for as little as \$250 if you do it yourself. But we usually estimate the average cost around \$700."

Witherspoon adds that decks are "good Saturday projects" for the do-it-yourselfer, especially considering their ease of assembly, pressure-treated, weather-resistant lumber—Scotty's carries Georgia-Pacific's Choice One brand; Builder's Choice features UltraWood from Sunbelt Forest Products—and the availability of new products like "Deck Blocks" that replace poured concrete "footings."



THE GREAT OUTDOORS: Maison de Pepe on Duval Street is adding a deck to expand its restaurant space. The project by Mike Skoglund will add a cocktail lounge and raw bar.

"You simply set 4- x 4-foot uprights in the blocks and the weight of the deck holds everything in place," he says. "That way, you don't have a permanent structure, which is perfect for people who rent trailers. Let's say you want a deck and the landlord agrees to give you break on the rent, but you aren't allowed to drill into the ground to sink posts. Deck blocks are the answer."

### Lumber and Tools

Most decks are based on standard lumber lengths—8, 10, 12, 14 and 16 feet—so very little trimming is required. The key is to start with a formal plan: Scotty's has a free hand-out that covers the basic steps and includes detailed drawings, and the library has several books on the subject. Be certain to follow it carefully.

Minimum tool requirements include a hammer, a skill saw for cutting posts and

trimming, an electric drill and bits for making holes and setting deck screws, a level and a tape measure, a chalk line, twine for layout, a framing square, a line level and a socket set for through-bolting beams are helpful.

"The trick," emphasizes Witherspoon, "is not to go out and attack it, get frustrated and make yourself mad. Just take it easy and follow the directions. A deck is easy to build and easy to maintain. If it's done right, it should last 20 years."

An alternative is a brick or concrete patio, though according to Fred Sims, co-owner and manager of the Builder's Choice/Ace Hardware store on North Roosevelt Boulevard, the popularity of wooden decks outweighs brick by a four-to-one margin. And concrete slabs aren't even in the running.

"We don't carry brick products here," he said, "although when I was at Scotty's, we sold quite a few. They were mostly used for

driveways, walkways or commercial applications in Old Town, but occasionally we'd see someone do a patio."

The problem, he explained, is that bricks are fairly expensive due to transportation costs, and the process of leveling the ground, creating an adequate "bed" and setting each brick by hand is extremely "labor intensive."

"It's a project," he explained, "a real project. To be done right, you should pour concrete and mortar them all in place. Most people have neither the time nor the expertise to go out and set that many bricks and have everything come out perfectly."

"You simply aren't going to see the average homeowner build a brick patio. They'll wind up calling a mason instead."

A possible consideration for breathing new life into an unsightly concrete slab, or converting the carport into an outdoor living area, is by adding a topping of "pavers": clay or terra cotta blocks that are installed much like ceramic tile, although the actual setting adhesives and grout are different.

"If you have an existing concrete slab," explained Techmer, "pavers are a beautiful way to finish it off rather than having to deal with the ugly old concrete. It's something the average homeowner can do himself, though he'll need to rent a wet saw to cut the blocks."

"And paving tile is fairly economically priced, certainly cheaper than bricks, and a wide range of styles and colors is available. But then anything beats concrete."

### Don't Forget Your Permits

All the experts caution, however, that whether your preference is a wooden deck or a brick patio, any home improvement project

with a value in excess of \$500 has to be permitted—and that figure includes the estimated costs of your own labor.

"I live in the county," Scotty's Witherspoon explains, "and as you'd imagine, I get a pretty good break on the price of materials. I paid less than \$225 for everything. But the county still said, 'Hey, what about your time?' I told them I enjoyed the hell out of it

**Any home improvement with a value in excess of \$500 must be permitted.**

or I wouldn't be doing it. But they insisted on including my time."

Witherspoon advises do-it-yourselfers to pay the \$10 or \$12 for a permit. Those caught without one run the risk of having to dismantle their projects and to start over.

Permits notwithstanding, residents of the Florida Keys and Key West enjoy the best of all worlds. They spend more time outdoors than anywhere else in the nation, so a deck is one of the most practical additions anyone can make to his, or her, home.

And, adds Witherspoon, people can do a lot more with a deck than a patio.

"You can start with a basic plan and keep expanding," he said, "so as you can afford it, you can add another level, built-in planters or any number of additional features. I've seen people go as far as to eventually enclose it, make it into an extra room and build a new deck in back. They never stop."

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# Exterminators -Or- The Boys Of The Bug Brigade

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That might be from the script for a climactic episode of "Batman," or perhaps a bar-room brawl from "Blazing Six-Guns," but it's not. It's your friendly exterminator's internal monologue while he's on a call. Sworn killers to a man, the boys of the bug brigade do mortal combat on a daily basis with hordes of eight-legged pests.

And while kill or be killed may be the law of the jungle, it doesn't usually work that way in the keys.

"Not in the tropics, it doesn't," said Richard Hoeffer, owner of Island Exterminating (formerly Southernmost Pest Control). "You can't get them all. All you can hope for is a control basis. That's the best you can do."

A common fallacy among people moving into Florida from the northern states, said Hoeffer, is the belief that if you have bugs, you're dirty. In the south, that is true only to

a point.

"Sanitation is the first measure of pest control," Hoeffer admitted, "but here in the tropics it doesn't get cold enough in the winter to kill them off like it does up north. They keep living in the palm fronds or the mulch piles or wherever, and when it cools down, they just burrow deeper to stay warm."

"As soon as the temperature starts to rise," he continued, "here they come again. It all depends on the elements. When it's too hot, too cold, too wet or too dry outside, they move right back inside."

Ron Mock, manager of the local branch of Orkin, the world's largest pest control company, said homeowners can take a number of preventive measures to keep the crawly critters in the yard rather than in the house.

"Good weather seals in your house," he said. "Proper caulking around the doors and windows helps a lot, as do screens under the eaves as well as on all other openings. Keep shrubs and trees cut back so they're not brushing against the roof or the siding. Don't let a lot of trash collect around the founda-

tion, and of course, don't leave exposed food out. That will attract insects—as well as rats and mice—like a magnet."

## Walk Like An Egyptian

Mock said the biggest problem he is experiencing this year is pharaoh ants, though flea and rat infestations were on the upswing as well.

"[The pharaoh] is a tiny little ant that's almost transparent," he explained. "They're called 'sweet ants' or 'cookie ants'; and they're extremely hard to control for the simple reason that the ants most homeowners see, and spray, are foragers. When you kill them, the colony will produce twice as many to make up for the food it just lost."

Mock said that the only way to control pharaohs is with a baiting technique in which the ants take insecticide back to the nest.

"Spraying them with conventional pesticide," he explained, "only alerts the colony to produce more; and that merely compounds the problem. You have to kill them where they live, not out in the open."

## The First Flea Calls

Mock added that about mid-February he started getting his first flea calls. A month later, the number is up to over 15 a day and climbing. The exterminator believes that in addition to the ants, Key West may be in for a fearsome flea season.

"We don't have enough cold winters here," he said, "and last year was a perfect example. We didn't have any really cool days, so the fleas didn't go into their dormant stage. We've had continuous breeding and continuous offspring. As a result, we're probably going to have a terrible flea problem this year. I'm afraid it's going to last all through the summer months until the weather starts cooling off."

"The best flea control is a 'three-way-street,'" emphasized Tony Alvarez of The Exterminator. "One, you have the yard sprayed; two you have the interior of the house sprayed; and three, you dip your pets. You may still see an occasional flea jumping here or there, but the infestation won't be anything like it used to be."

Alvarez added that keeping your dog or cat well groomed and regularly vacuuming the carpets greatly aids in flea control.

Other pests that frequently give Key West residents fits are cockroaches—the large "palmetto bugs" are actually American or

Australian roaches; the little "guys" are the German variety—bees, carpenter ants, rodents, scorpions, termites and wasps.

## Amateur Squash Meisters

Zapping bugs around the house may seem simple to the average homeowner, but pest-control professionals caution against "do-it-yourself" programs for a variety of reasons.

"To begin with," Hoeffer pointed out, "bugs can develop a resistance to certain substances. Once they do, it takes four generations of insect breeding to break that immunity. So the homeowner who keeps spraying with one of the over-the-counter preparations may kill a few, but over a period of time they'll become immune to whatever toxin [making control] more difficult."

He added that most people don't know where to spray. "Insects live in cracks and crevices, behind kitchen counters or in the walls, not in the middle of the floor," he said. "How many roaches have you seen nesting in the center of linoleum?"

Alvarez said that professionals also used "flushing agents" to get the bugs out in the open where they could be hit with a lethal dosage of toxic spray.

"Our sprays leave a residual deposit," he said. "But if the bugs don't walk in it, it's harmless. That's why spraying won't usually work for termites unless it's a very small infestation. They never come out of their tunnels, so they have to be gassed."

Mock said that the biggest problem was that most homeowners, especially people from up north, don't know what to look for.

## The Tenacious Termite

"If [termites are] caught in the early nesting stages," he said, "spot treatments, or removing the affecting wood, may be all that's necessary. But once they've established a beachhead, tenting is the only answer."

"Generally, you're going to find small piles of granulated pellets, almost the consistency of sand, along door frames, baseboards and around furniture legs," he said. "Or you'll find wings—swarming wings—on an end table, where there may be a lamp, or on outside windowsills."

Mock said termites were attracted to light during swarming, which primarily occurs at night.

"When I say nighttime," he added, "that can be anywhere from early evening to early morning. When they see a light, they head straight for it. After awhile, they lose their wings and crawl away—but they leave the evidence behind."

"Remember, these termites will go after anything that contains cellulose, whether it's a book, your TV set, if it has a wooden cabinet, the furniture and anything else."

Hoeffer said termites "live in the trees outside, swarm into the house, take one look at the furniture and say, 'Hello there. Here's my steak dinner!'"

## Scorpions, Bees and Rats

Despite their depiction in B-Grade horror movies, scorpions don't pose a great threat. True, they range throughout the Keys, but they: a) are organic feeders, and b) live primarily outside. Only during inclement wea-

ther do they move inside to stay dry.

Bees and wasps can be a problem, but they won't cause recurring problems like fleas, ants and roaches. One shot from the bug brigade, and they're usually history.

Rats and mice, on the other hand, can be extremely dangerous. Not only do they host disease-carrying fleas and mites, their incisors grow continuously and must be gnawed to maintain a manageable length. To do this, they'll chew on electrical wires, which can create a fire hazard, or on plumbing supply pipes, which might result in a flood.

Hoeffer calls palm fronds overhanging a roof a virtual rat "freeway." And leaving the doors open with only the screen between you and the outside world (including the rodents)

is an open invitation. The best control is to build them out to begin with.

The last common pest, carpenter ants, are fairly easy to detect. Alvarez suggested looking around window and door frames for tiny holes—a dead giveaway that the large ants had set up housekeeping in your moldings.

"They don't actually eat the wood," the Exterminator said. "They just burrow it out to make a place to live. But because they come and go, they can be killed with sprays."

That's about it. Certainly other pests exist in the keys. After all, it is the tropics. But the brigade with the bug spray has gotten pretty darn proficient in doing the dirty deed. And in the long run, it really is better to let a pro handle the hit.

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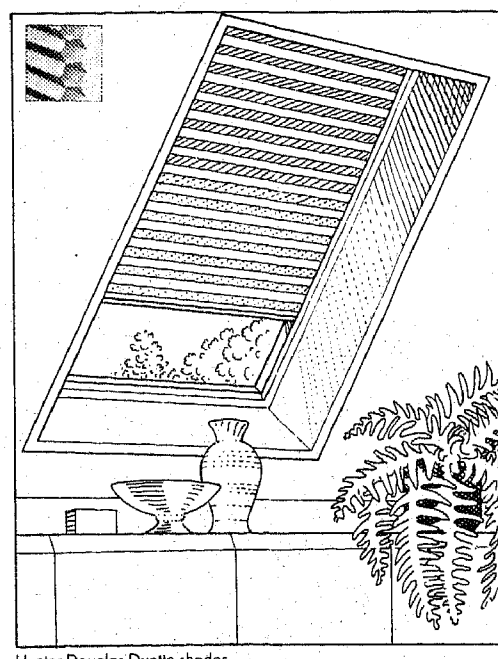
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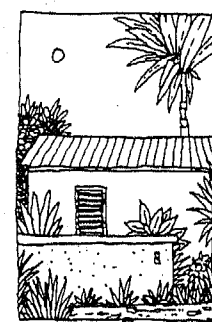


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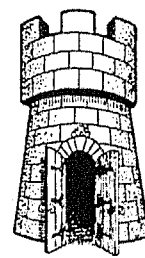
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# The Case For Custom Furniture



You've just purchased or rented a new house, perhaps a cozy "three-and-two" with an ample living room, full dining room and dynamite den. Now comes the task of furnishing your personal slice of paradise, and for a great many Key Westers, it can become a major chore.

You may get lucky and find just what you want at one of the department stores or a retail furniture outlet—the *Yellow Pages* list dozens between Marathon and Key West—but what if you don't?

After you've exhausted all the obvious choices and still haven't found the right sofa, the perfect desk or the proper picnic table for the deck, what's left?

Custom furniture. Somewhat more expensive than an "over-

the-counter" alternative, custom furniture's most intriguing aspect is that it is usually one-of-a-kind.

"There's no doubt custom furniture costs more than what you'd find on a showroom floor," explained Ray Tolan of Made in Key West. "But it's better built and it's unique. And people don't seem to mind paying for something they know nobody else has."

Custom appeal actually extends beyond the aspect of singularity. Frequently a custom piece is the only way to exactly fill an odd space, or to come up with exactly the right pattern or color scheme, or to strike a balance of exactly the right features.

## Furniture That Fits

"We build a lot of things to an individual's specifications," agreed Ellison

Ashe, owner of Joppa on Stock Island. "People tell us a sofa has to be just so long because it's going on a certain wall, or it has to be a certain color because of the rest of the room—that kind of thing. Then we design and build it."

In addition to Ashe's overstuffed couches and chairs with a "European flair," another prime custom example is a dining table in the final finishing stages at Jimmy Wray's Key West Woodworks. The client wanted a "massive table that seated ten"; he provided his own lumber, a stack of exquisite Honduras mahogany.

"The biggest challenge was keeping the price down since he already had the wood," admitted Wray. "On something like this, it's really easy to go over [a budget], but part of the problem of estimating the cost of a piece of custom furniture is that you've never built one before."

"And right in the middle of building it," he continued, "you may find something that doesn't work right visually. So you have to refine it and make a few changes, and there's simply no way you could have figured that before you started building it."

Wray, who also offers a line of custom cabinets constructed from architectural elements off the Old Town houses he used to restore (they're on display at Island Arts on Duval Street), said he truly enjoyed having the license to design and build furniture, although it wasn't easy trying to figure out the "likes and dislikes" of his customers before applying saw to wood.

## Dialogue Is Most Important

"Probably the most important part of building a piece for somebody," he said, "is having a dialogue with the customer to find out where it's going, what room it's going to be in and how big it can actually be."

"Normally I do my own designs," he said, "but if someone has an idea in mind, I'll be happy to build it the way they want. I've never had anybody come in with a set of plans and say, 'Build me this.' That would be kind of nice, actually, because it's not easy designing something to suit someone else's taste."

Wray explained that even when he builds to a client's specifications, his sense of proportion influences the final look. "There may be some element about it that doesn't strike them quite right," he said. "You never really



know until the thing's almost done."

"I try to give people a choice," said Tolan. "I'll usually draw it several different ways and ask them if that's what they want. Sometimes I'm right on the money, and other times they'll tell me they like this here and that over there, and 'can we combine them' in the finished piece. But I'm involving my

customer in creating something he or she really wants."

## Peeking Allowed

Interestingly, all three craftsmen agree that most customers don't want to see the finished product until it's really "finished."

"People don't normally come in and look at it as you progress," Wray said. "They don't seem to want to. I guess they want you to have the freedom to do your own thing."

However, he asks clients to look at the piece before he starts the actual finishing process. "At that point," he said, "I can still make a few changes without starting over. Once the first finish coat is on, I'm at the point of no return."

Ashe has it a bit easier, since much of his business revolves around fabrics, which the customer specifies up front. On the other hand, he said he frequently gets into a number of variables like the softness or firmness of the cushions, or their height or depth.


"One lady came in who had a back problem," he said, "and I offered to make one cushion with extra support just for her. She said 'No, make them all the same.' So I made one side of each cushion soft and one side firm."

Ashe said the woman came back to check on the progress. "She felt the seat cushions were too high," he said. "No problem. We lowered it. Then it was a little too low, so we raised them half an inch and she was happy. That's what we get. But you won't find many major manufacturers who can, or will, do that for you. That's what 'custom' is all about."

While Ashe can "manufacture" a piece very nearly at wholesale prices (compare one

of his sofas to a similar model at Sears or even K-Mart, if you can find it), custom hardwood furnishings are usually a cut above the rest.

"Three thousand dollars for a dining room table may seem high down here," pointed out Wray, "but a lot of hours go into making it, depending on the style. And it's actually a bargain if you [compare it to the] price [of] a similar table in New York. It might be as much as \$7000 up there."

Good point. Good furniture. And great quality—the kind that will last a lifetime. The "case for custom" is a strong one, indeed. 



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## ROOFING For The Tropics

According to good old Mr. Webster, a roof is "the cover of a building, dwelling or home." A roof also keeps the wind and rain out, the air conditioning (or possibly heat) in, and generally protects people and their belongings.

"A roof is a pretty basic component of your home," emphasized Robert Svetlik, owner of Atlantic Builders. "It protects everything that is under it, yet it's usually the last thing people consider when it comes to maintenance. As long as nothing is falling down on their heads, they don't think about it."

Sad but true. A New Town friend waited until bits of plaster splattered the carpet after every rain to reveal the "valleys," or the joints

where two angled sections of roof meet. What he discovered was that the entire surface was shot, and his house needed a completely new roof. That's not unusual for Key West.

### Consider Climate and History

The Island City, with its harsh tropical sun and high prevailing winds, poses unique problems for roofers, since the lifespan of the more common roofing materials, which work successfully only a few hundred miles north in more temperate climes, is dramatically decreased.

"Ninety-pound roofing," pointed out A-Plus' Rik Thompson, "which is nothing more than shingles in roll form, is supposed to be a 10- to 15-year roof. Down here, it's more like seven, 10 years tops, before it blows itself apart. And an asphalt [shingle] roof won't even make it to seven."

Thompson said the only truly long-term roofs were metal shingles, metal sheets (called "vee-crimp" or "five-vee" in the business), Spanish (or "barrel") tile and slate. Each has positive and negative characteristics.

For the steeply sloped roofs common to many residential structures in Old Town, the choice historically has been metal for longevity and fire control.

Asphalt shingles are "grandfathered in" under the Historical Architectural Review Commission's (HARC) guidelines, which are enforced to maintain the historic authenticity of Old Town. But asphalt shingles are the first roofing surface to "let go" during even moderately high winds.

HARC also accepts tile, which is expensive and requires nearly double the normal load-bearing capacity from supporting structural members.

Finally, slate provides an excellent, long-lasting surface. But the cost of transporting the material to the Keys outweighs its practicality. (Atlantic's Svetlik said he'd encountered only two slate roofs since he's been contracting roofs in Key West.)

"Real slate rock roofs are wonderful," said Michael Chodzin, owner of Chodzin Roofing. "They are easily able to withstand anything our tropical climate can throw at them. But just the cost of shipping the suckers down here will kill you, so there aren't very many examples of slate shingle roofs in this town."

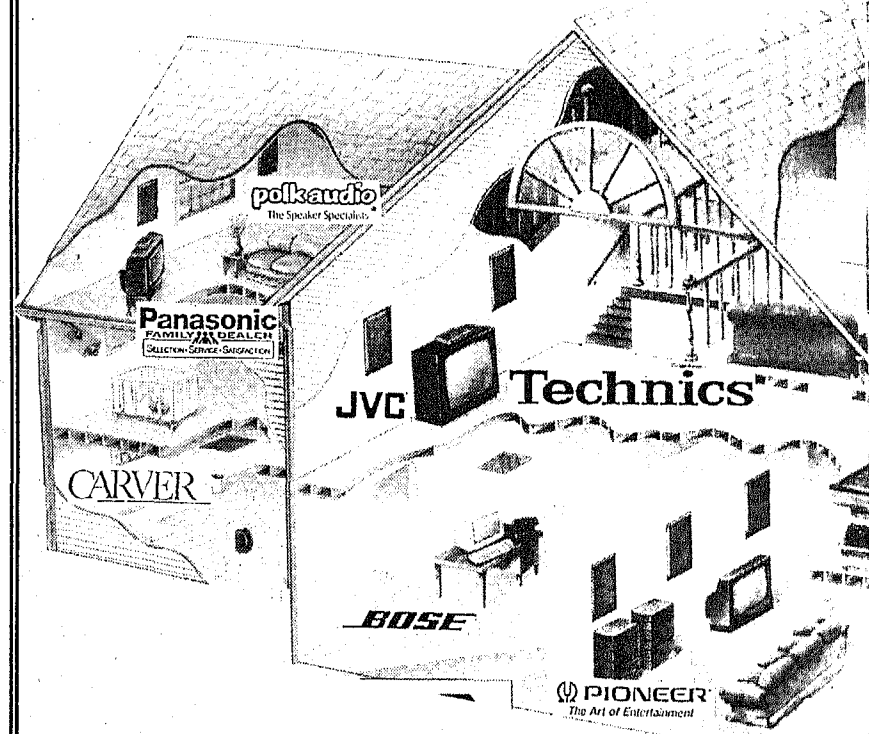
"That's why installation and maintenance, at least in the Keys," he adds, "are dying arts. No one has slate-roof experience anymore."

### Spanish Tile Is Sturdy, Expensive

Spanish tile is the proven alternative for longevity (30 years or more) and high wind resistance (they will withstand a category four hurricane with hardly a rattle). As pre-

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viously noted, it requires special trussing to support its weight and is considerably costlier than most other materials.

"You're going to bite the bullet cost-wise on these," pointed out Thompson. "But you're looking at a 30-plus-year roof. I was recently on a roof that was 38 years old. It's definitely beginning to disintegrate now, with a few more areas that are cracking and breaking—but that's normal. In the meantime, they got 38 trouble-free years out of that roof!"

Thompson explained the tile everyone sees and admires is only an outer layer of heavy-duty protection. It is by no means waterproof; the surface beneath is the waterproofing medium.

"In the traditional sense," he said, "they've used a built-up roof, usually 90-pound roll roofing underneath, with the flashing metals and trim already completed to make it watertight."

"Then the cement people come in, and they start setting the tiles, one by one, by pressing them into the cement. That's what holds everything together, but it's an expensive process."

Thompson said Shark Key was a prime example of some of the beautiful glazed roofing tiles available. But, as with slate, the cost of these exquisite royal blue ceramics may be prohibitive for the average Key West homeowner.

### Metal: A Safe Bet

The answer, it seems, is metal—specifically sheet metal as opposed to shingles—although the two can work together to provide a pleasing overall effect, especially if the main body of the roof is shingled and porches and outbuildings are vee-crimp.

Today roofers may use a tropical-friendly material called "Galvalume." "It comes with a 20-year, no-maintenance warranty from the manufacturer," said Thompson. "When it first came out, I was skeptical, but so far, it's proven true. Eighteen years ago Michael Chodzin did a house on Fletcher Lane, and it looks as good today as the day he finished installing it."

Thompson explained that unlike the galvanized steel roofs introduced as an alternative to wooden "shake" shingles, and mandated by the city commission after the second disastrous Key West fire, Galvalume is an aluminumizing additive to the old standby that, coupled with screw fasteners rather than roofing nails, nearly doubled the life of standard vee-crimp.

"It seems to be the best of the new systems coming down the line in metal," he pointed out. "And it's thoroughly HARC approvable—in fact, they just dance with glee at Galvalume because it's an inexpensive, yet a perfectly proper metal roof for the historic district."

Thompson said the screws give extremely high wind resistance (wind-tunnel tests show the sheeting held up through a category three storm and well into a category four), and the surface doesn't deteriorate in our climate.

Naturally, Galvalume shingles are available locally, but all three roofers caution that their cost is comparable to tile, yet it isn't nearly as hurricane-proof as vee-crimp.

"You have to understand where metal shingles come from," Thompson explained. "They're an extension of the Victorian Era, when pressed or stamped metal was an art

deco form used on ceilings. That was the industry that spawned metal shingles, and they were a natural replacement for both slate and wooden 'shakes.' They were far more durable, and certainly more fireproof, than wood, yet much lighter in weight than slate."

Today, metal shingles, for all their intrinsic beauty and appeal, haven't changed one bit in their installation procedures, which can be compared to hand-stapling thousands of sheets to your roof, one page at a time. It's expensive, so you might want to look into asphalt shingles or rolled roofing.

### Cheap, But Not Pretty

"An asphalt-fiberglass shingle roof is the least expensive alternative out there," said Svetlik. "[It's] not very pretty but very inexpensive. In fact, the average homeowner can do it by himself, or hire somebody else to do it relatively cheaply."

Svetlik said he rarely receives calls for asphalt-shingle work, because a roofing contractor is not required for its installation. "It's the only roofing job that falls into that category," he said. "All the rest require a license for installation."

Next is 90-pound roofing, similar in appearance to the shingled look, but without the hundreds of seams just begging to leak. And finally, there are numerous synthetic roofing materials, combining the installation flexibility of 90-pound with plastics and rubbers. Probably the most important new product for the tropics is a modified bitumen rubber surface—called SBS—that comes in rolls and strikingly resembles 90-pound roofing.

"Manufacturers are guaranteeing SBS rubberized roofing for 20 years," Thompson said. "And as far as I can see, I think it's going to hold true. Even here in the tropics, I think their claims are reasonable, because the warranty is rated far below how long the surface will actually last."

Finally, there are true plastic and hypalon surfaces, though they're intended for commercial flat-roof applications.

"Some of those plastic surfaces," Chodzin complained, "just aren't going to last in my opinion, because of the infrared and ultraviolet radiation we get down here. Plus the red algae will eat the hell out of the plastic if standing water is allowed to remain on the roof."

### Talking With Your Roofer

So the choices for Key West, in terms of cost and durability, boil down to tile, metal shingles, vee-crimp, synthetics, 90-pound roofing and asphalt shingles in descending order.

But what about the roofer himself? What should you look for in his estimate?

"Material costs haven't changed all that much over the past few years," stressed Chodzin, "but labor costs and workmen's compensation expenses have skyrocketed."

Chodzin said that naturally the newer materials are more expensive than their predecessors, and that's where the trade-off begins. If you want a long-lasting roof, go for the higher-quality material. If it's only a matter of a year or two, asphalt shingles are the answer.

Thompson added that one way of "skinning that cat" a little better was to re-roof

rather than doing a complete tear-off, which adds the cost of labor and dumping fees to your total.

"Let's say you just built, or renovated, your house," he said, "and you really can't afford a top-of-the-line roof right now. So go with asphalt shingles. They'll be fine for five years or so before they start to burn-up, and by then, maybe you can afford to re-roof with an overlay of metal. Now you've got extra protection, extra insulation and you're good for maybe 20 years. That's what I recommend."

All three roofers pointed out several considerations when you're discussing a project with your roofer.

First, tell him exactly how long you're planning on staying put. If the house goes on the market next year, it's possible that a patching job will suffice. If your term of tenure if set for five years, maybe you'll want to consider asphalt shingles, since they'll last longer than you will at the present location for a minimum investment. Or, if it's a long-term affair, go for the gold and commission a Galvalume roof. It's less expensive than you'd imagine, and it's the best choice Key Westers have right now. ☐

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# ISLAND ECONOMICS • ISLAND ECONOMICS • ISLAND ECONOMICS •

## Business Tides

Rose Sanchez, a sales associate with Century 21 All Keys, Inc. was recently awarded Top Associate, a high level of recognition given to top producing sales associates. Additionally, Century 21 South Florida Region awarded her for being in the top hundred out of 5000 associates in the 250 offices in the region. She has a proven track record with over \$38 million in closed sales. Noted among her sales was the closing of the Commander's Quarters on Truman Annex which, at \$1.3 million, was the highest priced residential property sold in the Keys during 1991.

Great Southern Gallery, in its tradition of presenting the gallery for a three-day show beginning April 1, is calling for entries for a selling show, "White & Black." Exhibitors: 1) You must be a Key West artist; 2) You may submit no more than two pieces for showing; 3) your work must be for sale (50 percent gallery commission); 4) Your artwork must be ready to hang; 5) Your artwork, if not sold, must be picked up by April 5; 6) Artwork must be submitted before March 20 to be juried. The gallery will offer a framing discount to selected artists. Call Dick Moody at 294-6660.

Melissa Kendrick, director of development for the Mel Fisher Maritime Heritage Society, announced that the society has retained The Market Share Company to handle its marketing and public relations. The Key West company will also create collateral materials and act as consultants for the society's upcoming Discovery '92 Maritime Festival scheduled for June 21 through 28. The society is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to exhibition, education, archaeology, preservation and research of maritime history.

It possesses an internationally-recognized collection of maritime objects at its Greene Street location.

ImmuneCare of Key West, the first local comprehensive HIV-positive outcare program of its kind, recently opened its doors at 520 Southard Street. The center, which is a comprehensive, community-based health service, offers patient care at its state-of-the-art diagnostic and treatment facility. It is a partnership between Drs. Larry Siegel, Ian Garriques and Mark Whiteside and NMC Ventures, a subsidiary of National Medical Care, Inc. ImmuneCare offers free initial HIV screenings, which include lab testing and clinical staff consultation, as well as comprehensive medical programs utilizing up-to-date technology. NMC is a unit of the internationally-recognized W.R. Grace & Co. based in Boca Raton. Call 296-4990.

Artist David Harrison Wright is the new president of the Key West Art Center, and artist Gretchen Williams is the new vice-president. Williams, who recently won eight Purchase Awards at the Key West Outdoor Art Festival in February, is in charge of programs. The art center holds meetings the 2nd Thursday of each month at 2 p.m.; they are open to the public. Call 745-1425.

Ann Warren, owner of Family Jewels at 513 Duval Street, announces that she will permanently be closing her doors on April 15. Until then, the store will be having a going-out-of-business sale, and all items will be half price. The selection includes diamond bridal sets, men's diamond, emerald and sapphire rings, sea-creature jewelry designed by Warren plus much more. Warren will soon be pursuing wholesale design work and hopes to put out a catalog. Call 296-0291.

Salvatore (Sal) Rapisardi, owner of the Atlantic Shores Motel and Papillon Bar was named an honorary member of

the board of directors of AIDS Help, Inc. Originally from Brooklyn, N.Y., Rapisardi came to Key West more than two decades ago and has owned Atlantic Shores/Papillon for 16 years. He has been a major supporter of AIDS Help, Inc. both personally and through sponsorships and fundraisers at his motel. In addition to Rapisardi, Judge J. Jefferson Overby, Susan Luck Sellers, Dr. Larry Siegel, Mary S. Spottswood, and Rev. Steven M. Torrence have been recognized by honorary board membership.

Frédéric Lechevallier, a recognized French painter, will exhibit 15 canvases at the Miller Gallery March 21 through April 4. Discovered by Claire and Gordon Lacy of Key West, Lechevallier is winner of numerous juried shows in France, including the bronze and silver medals in the Salon de Clichy. He was selected in two consecutive years for the Montrouge Annual, which shows 200 young painters and sculptors, chosen from a field of 1500 contenders. His work has been purchased by the City of Paris and Mercedes-Benz Corporation. Miller Gallery is located at 517 Duval Street, second floor; and is open from noon until 6 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Call 294-7687.

A bequest of \$10,000 was made to the Wesley House Daycare Center by the representative of the estate of Marjorie E. Smith. The bequest was a great surprise to the center and will help the center maintain quality childcare on a permanent basis. To meet the need for local childcare, which has risen dramatically in the last five years, the agency has continued to expand its family services. "It is an extremely significant assist to the agency's efforts to establish a futuristic operation," said board of directors president Roger McClelland of the donation.

Long-time island resident Lloyd Mager recently started the Key West Nature Bike Tour. Leaving from Moped Hospital at 601 Truman Avenue, the three 90-minute tours a day "steer visitors away from the fuel fumes and noise, and take them on a journey through the lush, tropical, natural splendor of the island." Mager says the tour group moves slowly to "smell the flowers and sample fruits." At \$12 per person, tours begin at 9 a.m., noon and 3 p.m.; call 294-1882 for information.

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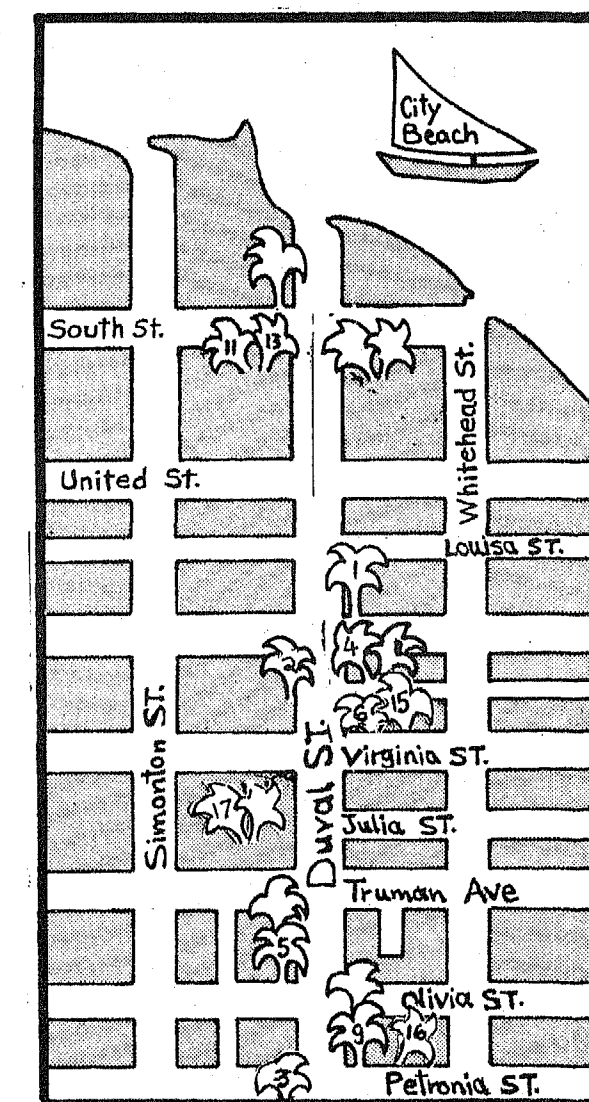
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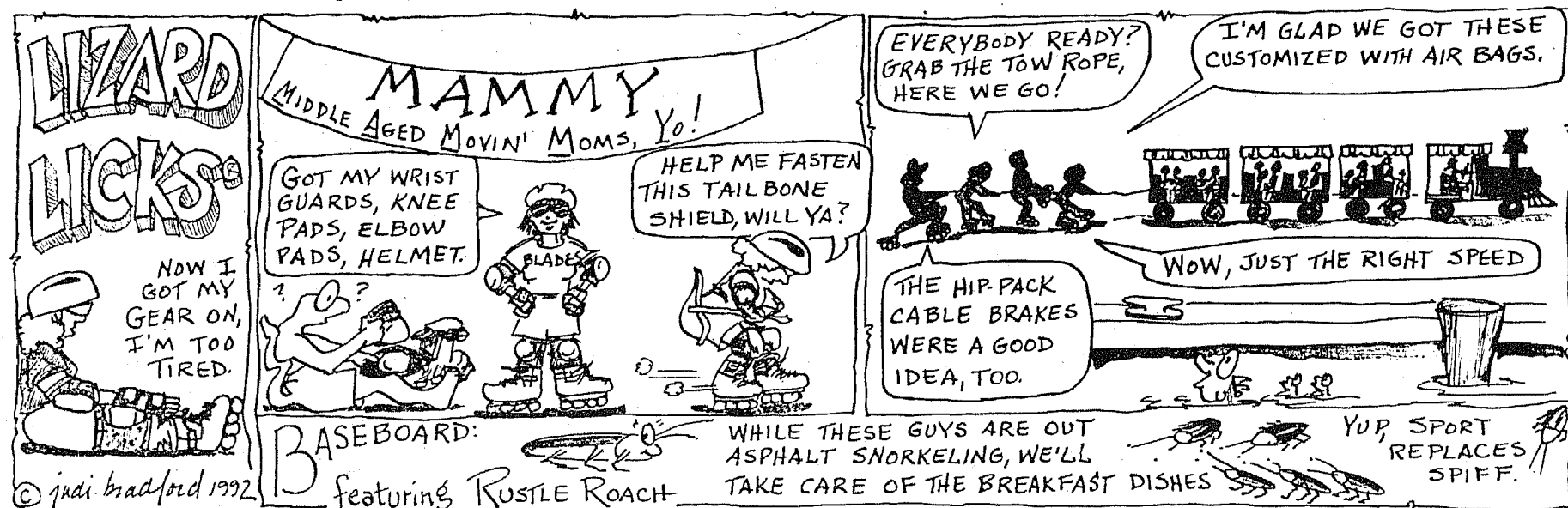
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# Readers Write

## Free Thinker Airs Views

Dear Editor:

Recently, the newspapers have been full of the NASA study concerning the alleged depletion of the ozone layer. While it is true that chlorine molecules are found in the upper atmosphere, it is also true that 98 percent of this comes from natural sources such as the oceans and volcanic activity. Probably less than one percent has actually been confirmed as being a product of man-made CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons), which in their original form are too heavy to rise very high in the atmosphere.

People need to understand that the mainstream news wires and television stations are owned and controlled by members of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Trilateral Commission and even the Mossad (remember Robert Maxwell?). NASA is also full of "politically correct" scientists.

(If the general public finds it hard to believe that our news is controlled or that the government could lie to us, maybe they should turn off their televisions, do some research, and demand accountability from the parties involved.)

Environmental concerns are legitimate, but legislation and public policy concerning the environment can be abused by those who control the governing bureaucracies. It often serves politics to make the citizens of a nation

fear a common enemy. It was once the spectre of communism. Now it's drugs, AIDS, and the environment.

While all of these concerns are valid, they are often used to pass "crisis" legislation, which increasingly violates the constitutional rights of citizens. Additionally, changes in these types of laws or public policy are not usually printed in the regular newspapers or broadcast on television. Yet, ignorance of the law is not an excuse if you unwittingly violate such legislation. Sting operations are most successful when the public is kept ignorant.

Global warming and ozone depletion is a theory based on a computer model which contained faulty input (such as excessive rain in the Sahara). Additionally, one of the main proponents of the ozone hoax, Dr. Stephen Schneider, was a leading advocate of the "Big Freeze" theory. Remember that? This man advocates scary scenarios in the media.

Also, William K. Reilly, chief administrator of the EPA, has ignored studies refuting the acid rain theory, has caused a panic concerning projected deaths by skin cancer due to "ozone depletion" (although the only fatal form of skin cancer, melanoma, is not caused by sun exposure), and has slandered scientists who come up with findings contrary to his own.

There have recently been two new studies

refuting the ozone depletion theory, one reported by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the other reported by the *Geology Journal*. Other studies seem to have shown that the hole in the ozone layer is a natural anomaly that waxes and wanes much like sunspots.

Other newsworthy stories not reported in our newspapers: more evidence of our POWs still alive in southeast Asia and Russia; massive evidence of survivors of flight KAL 007, which "crashed" over the Sea of Japan on Aug. 31, 1987, with Representative Larry MacDonald on board; the planned and inevitable crash of the Federal Reserve pyramid scheme, in which a few international bankers will emerge winners; the U.N. Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which would guarantee religious freedom subject only to limitations as prescribed by law; new tax laws, which could make people unwittingly guilty of "money laundering"; and other gestapo-like legislation involving property seizure and jailing of folks who deal in cash or coin, presumed guilty until proven innocent, all under the pretext of fighting a War on Drugs.

If we need new strict laws, how about one requiring that all changes in law and public policy be printed in newspapers so that American citizens can both know what is going on and also protect themselves from

unwittingly breaking a law? Just because our obscenity and blasphemy laws have been relaxed does not mean we don't have censorship. The exception is the letters columns of our newspapers, subject to discretion of the individual editors.

Diane Boyett  
Key West

## What's Wrong With This Picture?

Dear Editor:

Today, one humane society worker will be forced to kill more animals than the number of dollars he earns in a week, because people don't want the animals.

Today, one business in our community earns millions of dollars a year and creates thousands of pounds of waste—waste that the business refuses to recycle because recycling bins are ugly and recycling is inconvenient.

Today, every few minutes, someone will kill a tree that has shaded, oxygenated, and directly or indirectly been host to a complete ecosystem of creatures for hundreds of years, because its lumber can be sold for dollars.

As for the great elephant, who was slaughtered to appease our insatiable desire for ivory trinkets, his carcass is worthless.

On this same day on planet Earth, there are humans that are paid six-figure salaries to find a new way to sell anything and everything to minimum wage earners. What are they selling? Everything from sprays to take away natural body scent, (while depleting the ozone), to a pound of beef that took 16 pounds of grain to produce, and anything else to which he can attach the illusion of power, knowledge or sexiness.

How are they doing this? By seducing the middle-income manager to work 80 hours a week to "produce," while he loses his garden, loses touch with his family, loses his appreciation for a healthy, exercised body and a well-rested, well-played psyche, so that he can win... "A Promotion," (i.e., money and power).

What is the importance of money and power? We need these to have more of the things that we have been selling... "things" that eventually will be non-functional (or non-existent for that matter), due to our loss of natural resources (to produce and manage said "things"). Quite likely, these "things" will also, in the very process of being created, destroy our gardens, our oceans, our wildlife and our very breath.

What is wrong with this picture?

Barbara Veitch  
Key West

## School Board Is Blocking National Public Radio

Dear Editor:

Some people get it; some people don't. The Monroe County School Board doesn't seem to get the idea that National Public Radio (NPR) is supposed to be just that: national and public. At little or no cost,

## Finds Editing Meddlesome

Dear Editor:

Enclosed is my check for \$50 payable to the Mab for President Campaign Fund. Bill Manville's "Key West Days and Nights," which features the character Mab, is a delight and, as fiction, deserves to be printed without meddlesome editing. I can only imagine what havoc you might have performed on the works of e.e. cummings.

Also, kudos to J.D. Dooley on his recent string of well-researched articles. After a couple of years of some rather questionable reporting (dubious in terms of content and intent), it's nice to see *Solares Hill* getting back on course with the work of a writer who obviously does his homework. Dooley's article on the post office, which ran in the February 27 - March 18 issue, was excellent. In particular, uncovering the case law of a city taking on the federal agency, and the unregistered status of the leasing agent, were both commendable.

One of the most important functions of media is to be a watchdog on government. It's good to see *Solares Hill* picking up where other local media have given up.


Elliot Baron  
Key West

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## Solares Almanac

### March 20 - April 1

After a six-month swing south, the sun begins to conquer darkness as the vernal equinox on the 20th marks the start of spring, a glorious season for Old Sol. Days become longer than nights, even here in this southernmost village where the sun's presence is so often taken for granted. North of the Mason-Dixon, darkness at long last begins to recede from the early afternoon. No wonder "spring break" has acquired its elements of primitive celebration: most of these Dionysian striplings are prisoners of the darkness just released by the sun's equinoctial passage. They have good cause to celebrate.

From now through late June, the sun is king. It warms the air, the sea and the soul. Its diurnal rhythms move creatures who never leave the depths of the Atlantic, but whose travels are motivated by shifts in underwater dawns and twilights. Tarpon are timed by the sun's clock, and their renewal

of the species is triggered more by the length of the days than by any change in temperature or current. Soon the great fish will migrate in vast schools, pausing in the Marquesas and off back-country hammocks to swim in silver circles, one after other, around and around, dancing a sexual ballet only the tarpon comprehend.

And with the sun's ascendance, some of the Keys finest weather takes center stage. These last days of March and these earliest days of spring promise moderate temperatures in the high seventies and low eighties, prevailing winds from the south and south-east, as well as some of the most dependably dry weeks on the entire Keys calendar. The heating base—the number of days in a month when the temperature gets no higher than 65 degrees—is no longer a climatic factor, and won't be until next December.

The full moon that shone so sweetly on the 18th will wane throughout the next twelve days. As it does, the swift—but not radical—tides that bracketed that moon will moderate each day until, as the moon's last quarter rises late on the 26th, only frequent sailors will be aware of the ebbs and flows.

High tides will move from the forenoon on the 20th to the late afternoon of the 31st, but none will propel anything other than well-mannered currents. These flat tides may be a boon to some navigators, but they do not motivate shoal water feeders like the permit and bonefish as much as the full-moon floods.

Sunrise sweeps the sky at 6:30 on the 20th and, by the end of the month, it occurs a full ten minutes earlier. At the same time, the sunsets which dip into the Gulf at 6:38 on the 20th will allow Mallory Square latecomers five more minutes to scramble to sunset by the month's end. All told, that's 15 more minutes of daylight gained in just 12 days.

These shifts in solar rhythms help motivate late-staying winged winter visitors like the kestrel and broadwing hawk. As tempted as they are to take it easy in the Keys, ancient migratory compulsions will move almost all of them along the windward

passages that carry them north. Along with shorebirds, like the yellowlegs and several of the sandpipers, these seasonal residents travel as far north as Maine and beyond. As soon as their nesting duties are over, they begin stoking body fats for the return trip. It's an endless cycle, but one which takes them to some of the nation's loveliest and wildest habitats.

There is one broadwing we know who may be among the last to leave. A regular visitor to one of Key West's Washington Street backyards, where the proprietor feeds him a daily ration of palmetto bugs, the hawk was wounded by a shot from a BB gun. After diligent care the injured bird recovered, at least as far as observers could tell. The test will come when it begins its migration; not until next fall will Washington Street residents learn if "their broadwing" has made the circuit.

Loss of habitat at the hands of humanity—along with such inhumanities as BB guns—has cost us many of our natural celebrities. To support their recovery and to help raise conservation consciousness, Key West photographer Alan Maltz has recently published a splendid collection of color photographs of some of the Keys, and Florida's, most endangered species, including Key deer, the roseate spoonbill, the manatee and more. It's available at many Key West stores. Ask for it.

*The Almanac is written for Solares Hill by John Cole, with much help from Capt. Bill Somers of the charter sloop Relevance, author and publisher of Key West tide tables; flats fishing guides Capt. Gil Drake and Capt. Jeffrey Cardenas; the Florida Keys Audubon Society, the meteorologists at the Key West National Weather Service offices at the Key West Airport; the National Marine Fisheries Service; Thomas J. Wilmer, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service biologist; and others who generously provide insight and information. Any errors, however, are the author's and his alone.*

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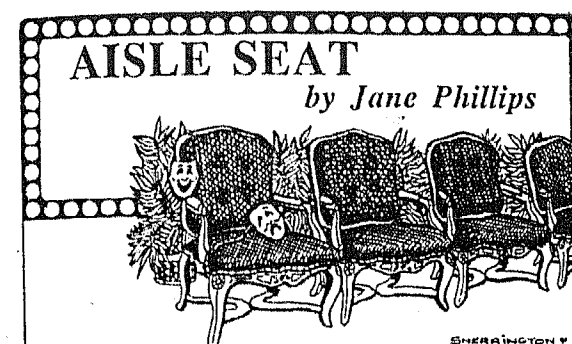
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### A Night To Remember

The stars were out at the Strand for "Putting It Together Again—A Theatrical Event." The annual fundraiser for AIDS Help, Inc. proved once again the fine caliber of entertainment we have in Key West. Produced by Gordon Ross, the evening featured Danny Weathers, John Goodwin, Gene Nelson, Gerri Louise Gates, Carmen Rodriguez, The Fabulous Spectrelles, Vicki Roush, Kathleen Brown, Kathy Grier, Chuck Lamb and musicians Bobby Nesbitt, Dave Burns, Richard Tazewell, Skipper Kripitz and Dick Moody.

Gordon Ross began the show singing "Spring Can Really Hang You Up." What followed was one terrific number after another. Some highlights included Bobby Nesbitt's "Delores Del Rio," which mentioned audience members Rex Brumgart, Vidal, Sue Sellers, and others.

For her comedy routine, Gerri Louise Gates appeared on stage costumed in flashy cruisewear. "In the restaurant business I have to depend on people who dress like this to make a living!" she said. The biggest laugh, however, came when she mentioned the parking lot at the Overseas Market Place: "It's good in the summer if you don't have a pool."

The Spectrelles knocked everybody dead as did vocals by Carmen Rodriguez, Vicki Roush and Kathleen Brown. Dave Burns played his special brand of jazz, and Danny Weathers, fresh from *Lend Me a Tenor*, scored another hot one with Broadway show tunes.

The Off-Key Westers (Peggy McClain, Jane Vandergriff, Don De Feo, Sue Sellers, Bill Sellers, Richard Heyman, Mary Spottswood, Virginia Panico and Rex Brumgart) trooped on stage as the Von Trapp family from *The Sound of Music* and sang "Do Re Mi," led by Bobby Nesbitt. I don't know who enjoyed it more the audience or the singers.

### "The Mikado" Was Delightful

Seeing the annual English touring company production of O'Doyle-Carte Gilbert and Sullivan operettas at New York's Schubert Theatre was one of the highlights of my Manhattan theater-going days. Originally called the "Savoy Opera" (because they were usually performed at London's Savoy Theatre), "The Mikado" has always been one of the most popular. First produced in 1885, it is the charming story of Nanki-Poo and Yum-Yum.

Nancy 3. Hoffman gave a one-woman interpretation of the operetta at the Red Barn Theatre on two consecutive Monday nights. With little more than sticks of bamboo, a curtain, a few masks and fans she played all the leading roles and the chorus. The petite



THE OFF-KEY WESTERS AT CLUBLAND: (From left, front row) Jane Vandergriff, Don DeFeo, Sue Sellers, Peggy McClain, Virginia Panico, Mary Spottswood, (middle) Bill Sellers, Rex Brumgart, (back) Richard Heyman, Bobby Nesbitt.

performer brought out the marvelous humor of Gilbert and Sullivan plus the sense of fun she was having assuming all the parts. William Pickett accompanied her on piano.

### A Bit of Chekhov

"A Day in Hollywood—A Night in the Ukraine" is two shows in one. Act 1 is a musical revue, and Act 2, a musical farce. Both are performed by eight cast members, who are accompanied by two pianos.

The production runs March 17 through 21 at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center and is directed and choreographed by James Propes. It was written by Dick Vosburgh and Frank Lazarus with additional music and lyrics by Jerry Herman. The original version opened at the Royal Theatre in New York City in 1984.

Act 1 opens with the cast appearing as ushers and usherettes tap-dancing across the stage and inviting the audience to "Just Go to the Movies." The scene is from the famous Grauman's Chinese Theatre. Stills of screen stars—Ginger Rogers, Fred Astaire, King Kong, Betty Davis, Joan Crawford, Jeanette McDonald, Nelson Eddy, etc.—flash on a theater screen. A variety of musical numbers followed, including "Let's Face the Music and Dance," "Ain't We Got Fun," "Hooray for Hollywood," and "Thanks for the Memory."

Highlights were "Over the Rainbow," "The Best in the World," "Nelson," "Good Ship Lollipop," and a wonderful spoof of the Hollywood Board of Censors—"Doin' the Production Code."

Act 2 opens with "A Night in the Ukraine." The scene is an elegant country estate, and the plot is based (very) loosely on Chekhov's *The Bear*. What follows is much like a Marx Brothers movie—even down to a Margaret Dumont character. The character based on Groucho Marx is "Serge B. Samovar," a lawyer whose father named him Serge because he really wanted a new suit. (The jokes are like that.)

The footman "Carlo," is based on Chico Marx and affects an Italian accent. The character who resembles Harpo is "Gino," the gardener miming throughout, honking a horn and performing a harp solo on a tricycle wheel.

"Mrs. Pavlenko" (typical Dumont character) is a rich widow with a beautiful daughter who falls madly in love with a coachman/playwright.

The dialogue is made up almost entirely of jokes—the kind of broad comedy found in

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# ART~CIRCLE

By  
Judi  
Bradford

## The Art Of Setting The Stage

The seats are shabby, and the room, cramped by close walls and a low ceiling, smells of stale air and ancient dust. While the crews are working, sunshine streams through the door onto chipped paint and worn floors. Later, when the room is filled with theatergoers, each patron is aware of his neighbors' perfume, hair spray, knees and elbows. This is theater at its tiniest.

But when the lights dim and eyes adjust to the darkness, minds spring open to fantasy and are coaxed into new worlds by fundamental element of theatrical illusion—the stage set.

When it's a Gary McDonald set, viewers might find themselves hypnotized by rich detail, burnished with a patina of life: there are finger smudges on his door jambs, paint drips on his windowpanes. Or it might be sparse, symbolic—a empty picture frame set at an angle in front of the purple-and-orange expanse of the western sky.



McDonald's background of communications design and emotional color analysis provides him with a visual tool box that's larger and heavier than the average. He is part of a group of Virginia Commonwealth University arts students who burst onto Key West's stages like fireworks in the bicentennial year. The list of now-familiar names includes his wife Mimi, Rita Brown, Joe Good (now a world-renown dancer in San Francisco) and Gordon Mackie. They became the driving force behind the lively Greene Street Theater during its short but dynamic life.

When Bill Prosser (also a VCU alum) was heading the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center, McDonald began teaching a scenic design course there. "That forced me to get the books out and learn the vocabulary," he says. However, when the Red Barn Theatre opened in 1980, he left teaching and moved back to creating.

McDonald's versatility helps spark his imagination. He acts, plays music, paints and produces as well as taking charge of the scenic and lighting design. His sets demonstrate that range of talents. They have a distinct emotional quality that coozies up to the script and flirts with the audience. For Edward Albee's *Seascape* a truckload of sand was dumped and drifted on the stage stage. With the sea oats standing tall against the ocean-blue background, one could almost feel and smell the sea air.

The current production, a comedic musical revue entitled *Six Women with Brain Death—or Expiring Minds Want to Know*, is a good example of McDonald's use of symbolism—one of the most profound elements found in the visual arts. In textured



REAL SAND: Gary McDonald and his set for Edward Albee's *Seascape*.

pulsing pink, the stage represents the inside of a woman's brain. Tucked into the convolutions are random fragments of memory: a Jane Fonda workout record, a Pee Wee Herman doll, curlers, toys, et cetera.

"The theme is that the mind is cluttered with information," says McDonald. "It's like spelunking—you're lost in a cave."

His sets have caught the eye of theater celebrities. The late great writer Tennessee Williams asked to meet him, and Shel Silverstein comes by to see the Barn's sets, even if he doesn't catch the play.

McDonald has designed sets for several Key West world premieres for Philip Burton, Tennessee Williams, Shel Silverstein and Jerry Herman; he has also worked on a Hemingway mini-series with Stacy Keech.

With each new theater contact, McDonald learns more ways to work magic on the stage. "Directors are open to my ideas," he said modestly. "I like to work with a pattern motif and subliminal messages."

Technical considerations are also keyed into his designs. For instance, space is very

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GLAMOROUS: Darryl Marzyck puts the finishing touches on the *Lend Me a Tenor* set.

restricted at the Red Barn, a charming theater whose backstage area is probably one of the smallest in the world.

"Most of it is outside," says McDonald. "If it's not raining, it's okay."

Like any good problem solver, however, he looks at the space restraint as a medium to work with instead of a limit.

### Waterfront's Set Wizard

"I'm the oldest living member of the Players," jokes Darryl Marzyck, set designer

for the Waterfront Players, as he describes his long association with the group. He acted in high school (which was not so long ago for him) and has worked backstage and onstage all over town. He majored in theater at University of South Florida at Tampa "largely because of this theater."

Marzyck is organized and resourceful. The backstage ceiling at the Waterfront Playhouse is used for set and prop storage. Despite the somewhat decadent styles of most of the pieces, their arrangement reminds one of the Shaker method of hanging chairs on the walls.

"You have to be able to look at something and see something else," he says about set design. He pulls out an oddly formed piece of styrofoam packing crate, turns it around, places it into a door frame—voilà! gingerbread trim. Topiary tree? Try some PVC and Christmas garland.

"I don't throw anything away until it's the size of toothpicks," he says, elaborating on the use and reuse of set elements. He kicks some splintered wood chips on the floor, "These are trash!" Everything else gets reused. "Trim it differently—it's a whole new world!"

Difficult sets seem to fascinate him. The challenge of solving all the little puzzles presented by the play *El Salvador*, for instance, is what he mentioned when asked about his favorite design project.

"You had to see into a lot of other areas from the main set—balconies, hallways, other rooms," he explains.

The most recent production, *Lend Me Tenor*, was similar in that regard. It has doors

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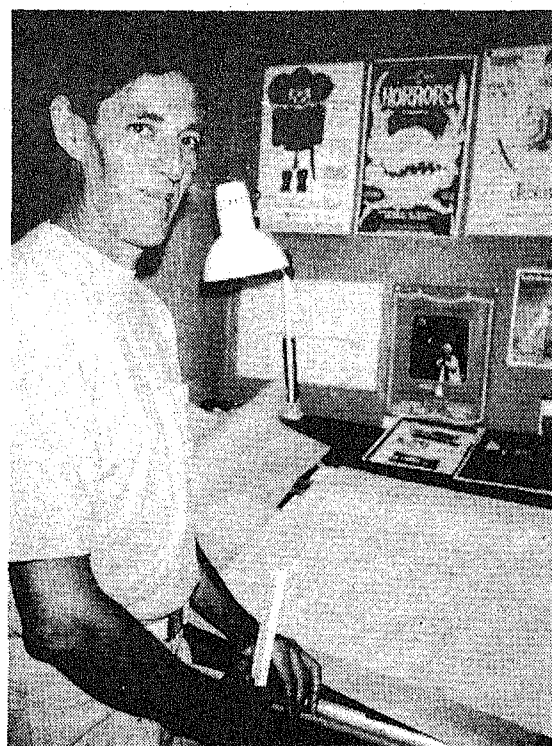
and hallways and a window overlooking the city of Cincinnati. Marzyck built nearly everything on the stage except the sofa. During this interview, he was putting the finishing touches on a baby grand piano.

Unlike many sets, the *Tenor* set had to be built very sturdily. The action in this musical farce includes slamming the doors—and pounding on them. He jostles a flat, "I'm very pleased that I managed to make a set that wiggles very little."

Marzyck carried out a deco theme in *Tenor*, with sponge-painted walls, detailed accessories and trim moldings. He enjoys period pieces and fantasy, which he finds encourages creativity.

"I like sets that go back or go forward in time or go someplace that isn't real," he says. Last year, the junior theatergoers in town got the opportunity to enjoy his set design (and his acting skills) in *Country Mouse/City Mouse*. The tin-can cottage in the country fields was a favorite among children.

When asked about the time he puts in, his answer is emphatic: "This is a full-time job!" He also recently opened Rara Avis gallery on South Street. "I thought about dropping the



ARCHITECTURAL: Michael Boyer at the drawing table.

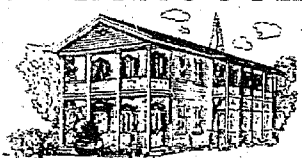
theater work when I started the gallery," he says. But when the time came he found he couldn't give it up.

#### Boyer: Backstage Only

Out at Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center, Michael Boyer presides over a set designing arena that looks like an architect's office. It's tidy ("Oh no, it's much worse than usual," he exclaims) and spare, by backstage standards. There is little of the Dagwood's closet effect.

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Boyer is very much into the process of set designing—the sketches, the blueprint elevations, the models, the color rendering. He was working on three projects in the studio and described it as hectic. The only evidence of "hectic," however, was the Marlboro Light, which he had lit and then left teetering in the ashtray. Unlike Marzyck and McDonald, Boyer is content to stay backstage. He doesn't tread the boards in performance.

For *A Day in Hollywood, A Night in the Ukraine* he built a partial model of an arched corridor that figured in his plans. A false perspective created the illusion of greater length.

Boyer is a Midwestern boy, who gained his undergraduate and graduate degrees in theater from Western Illinois University. He worked with several theaters in the Midwest and North Carolina, then hit New York, living first in the city then in Long Island.

He lives in Key West only half the year, leaving in April to ready the stage of the Gateway Playhouse in Bellport, Long Island. One of the oldest running summer stock theaters, Gateway produces five or six musicals each summer.

"I enjoy doing musicals because they are not very realistic," he says.

He says, however, that he is probably better at realistic sets. "I do get a little into details," he says, citing as an example *Death Trap* from last year's program.

When asked about his favorite, his reply is quick: "The next one!"

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#### Art Collections Key West

• National and local artists in a variety of styles and themes, featuring new local artist Marc Karen. Monday through Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. through 7 p.m. 600 Front St. in the Bottling Court. 296-5956.

#### Art Safari Gallery & Key Largo Antiques

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#### Audubon House

• Audubon's "Birds of Prey" through April 30. Admission \$5, children under six free, AAA discount. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. 205 Whitehead St. 294-2116.

#### Bohem

• All-new selection of painted furniture, including a new line of framed mirrors. See our second studio Pearl-Beal at 531 Whitehead St. Our furniture and artwork will be moved there March 1. The Duval St. shop will remain open with our all-original T-shirts and clothing. Daily, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 706A Duval St. 292-4035.

#### Carambola Gallery

• Gay Cunningham oil on canvas and hand-painted furniture, Anne McWey hand-crocheted jewelry, Tom Woodruff pottery creations. Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., 814 Fleming St. 296-2545.

#### Lee Dodez Showroom

• New classes at FKCC by Jay Gogin. Sculpture by Lee Dodez and hand-built clay pieces by Jay Gogin. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and by appointment. 901 Duval St. rear. 296-5901.

#### Donkey Milk House

• Recent watercolors of Old Town by Barbara Dorf, noted English artist. "Beguiling... above all the elegance."—Sir Hugh Casson, president of the Royal Academy. Historic china by Mottahedeh. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 613 Eaton Street. 296-1866.

#### East Bank Gallery

• Paintings by local artists, highlighting Dick Matson originals. Also limited edition prints and custom framing. Daily, except Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 706 White St. 296-2679.

#### East Martello Museum & Gallery

• March 10, Florida Keys Watercolor Society. Get your cameras clicking for the April 7 show, "Photographers' View of Spring Break '92," amateur and professionals invited. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$3 admission for adults. 3501 S. Roosevelt Blvd. 296-3913.

#### Florida Keys Community College Library Gallery

• Student all-media show featuring student work from Key West, Marathon and Coral Shores. Open Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Junior College Rd., Stock Island, 296-9081, ext. 202.

#### Gingerbread Square Gallery

• Carol Sadowski show of oils on canvas begins April 11, featuring historic buildings in Key West and the South of France. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1207 Duval St. 296-8900.

#### Grand Collection

• Paintings, Asian antiques, ancient artifacts, tribal arts, jewelry. Daily, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 810 Duval St. 292-1331.

#### Great Southern Gallery

• Carrie Disrud, acrylic on canvas, painted furniture and papier-mache wall-hangings. Harry Greene, oil sticks on paper. Marble garden sculpture by Pat Stone. Art classes continue with instructors Errol Etienne, Harry Greene, Jim Salem and Sanford. Also our regular artists. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 910 Duval St. 294-6660.

#### Guild Hall Gallery

• Artists' cooperative featuring ink, pastel, watercolor, acrylic, prints, gyotaku fish printing, soft sculpture, fabric piecework, printed and handpainted cards, ceramics, painted clothing, leather bags, photography, stained glass, ironwork, painted mirrors, collage, painted woodcarvings by Key West artists. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and sometimes later. 614 Duval St. 296-6076.

#### Haitian Art Company

• Norman Aberly bonsai. Ceramics by Byron Temple and Susan Thayer. Spirit flags, papier mache, paintings, wood sculpture, metal cut-outs by Haitian artists. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 600 Frances St. 296-8932.

#### Harrison Gallery

• "Living Sculpture," March 22: bonsai by Norman Aberly and ceramics by Byron Temple and Susan Thayer. Andre Henocque, Matthew Lineburger, Sondra Schneider, Alan Tidball and Helen Harrison. Daily, noon to 5:30 p.m. except Sunday and Monday or ring the bell. 825 White St. 294-0609.

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#### Island Arts

• Artist cooperative and consignment shop with a unique selection of local arts, crafts and painted objects. Weekdays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, Saturday, Sunday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 1128 Duval St. 292-9909.

#### Island Wellness

• "Conch Fritters," contemporary humorously work with Key West subjects by visiting New Mexico artist Joyce Mechelina Centofanti working in watercolor and oil on paper. Paintings by local and Caribbean artists. Daily, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and by appointment. 530 Simonton St. 296-7353.

#### Kennedy Gallery

• Zbyszek, internationally recognized mixed media artist. Thom Mil-sap, dynamic oils. Vibrant oil paintings by Michele Kennedy. Watercolor street scenes by Robert Kennedy. Daily, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., maybe later. 1130 Duval St. 294-5997.

#### Kennedy Studios

• Graphics, limited edition prints. Daily, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. 133 Duval St. 294-5850; 511 Duval St. 294-8564; and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 306 Front St. 293-0999.

#### Key West Art Center

• Paintings by art center members. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 301

#### Key West Lighthouse Museum

• History of Keys lighthouses and technology of lighthouses. Also, life of a light-house keeper. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission \$3 adults, \$1 children 7 to 15, under 7 free. 938 Whitehead St. 294-0012.

#### Kudu Gallery of Tribal Arts

• New acquisitions of tribal rugs and kilims. African art, collector's textiles, jewelry. Also ethnic musical instruments, tapestries and toys. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings until 9 p.m. 1208 Duval St. 294-3771.

#### Lane Gallery

• April 6, David Paul, English miniatures. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., sometimes later. 1000 Duval St. 294-0067.

#### Leda Bruce Gallery

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#### Miller Gallery

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#### Pelican Poop Shoppe

• Haitian art, paintings, metal sculpture, papier mache, wood carvings. Ceramics by Mary Ann Worth. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 314 Simonton St. 292-9955.

#### Plantation Potters

• Come see our new arrivals. Functional and decorative ware from some of America's finest potters. Daily, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., sometimes later. 717 Duval St. 294-3143.

#### Rara Avis Gallery

• Oil portraits, reproductions of masters and original work by local artists. Daily, noon to 6 p.m. 507 B South St. 292-3611.

#### Robinson Galleries

• Featuring the art of Wyland and six other international artists. Daily, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., often later. 414 Greene St. 292-1655.

#### Studio 227

• Handbuilt claywork, watercolor originals, Bahama Village scenes by local artists. Local neighborhood children's art classes. Hours: Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Locklear multimedia; acrylics. 227 Petronia St. 294-7141.

#### Sunset Arts and Crafts

• Selected work by local artists and craftsmen—many Mallory Square vendors at the Sunset Celebration. Daily, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., often later. 414 Greene St. 296-7920.

#### Tar Heel Trading Co.

• Functional and decorative work from many of America's best-known craftsmen. Porcelain and silk jewelry, heirloom toys and puppets, inlaid wood boxes, pottery, fused glass and porcelain figurines. Daily, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. 802 Duval St. 294-8589.

#### Whitehead Street Pottery

• Stoneware, porcelain, Raku vessels. Daily, except Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1011 Whitehead St. 294-5067.

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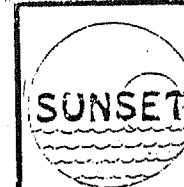
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## Wilbur's More Opposites Gladdens The Heart

by Maud Crosby

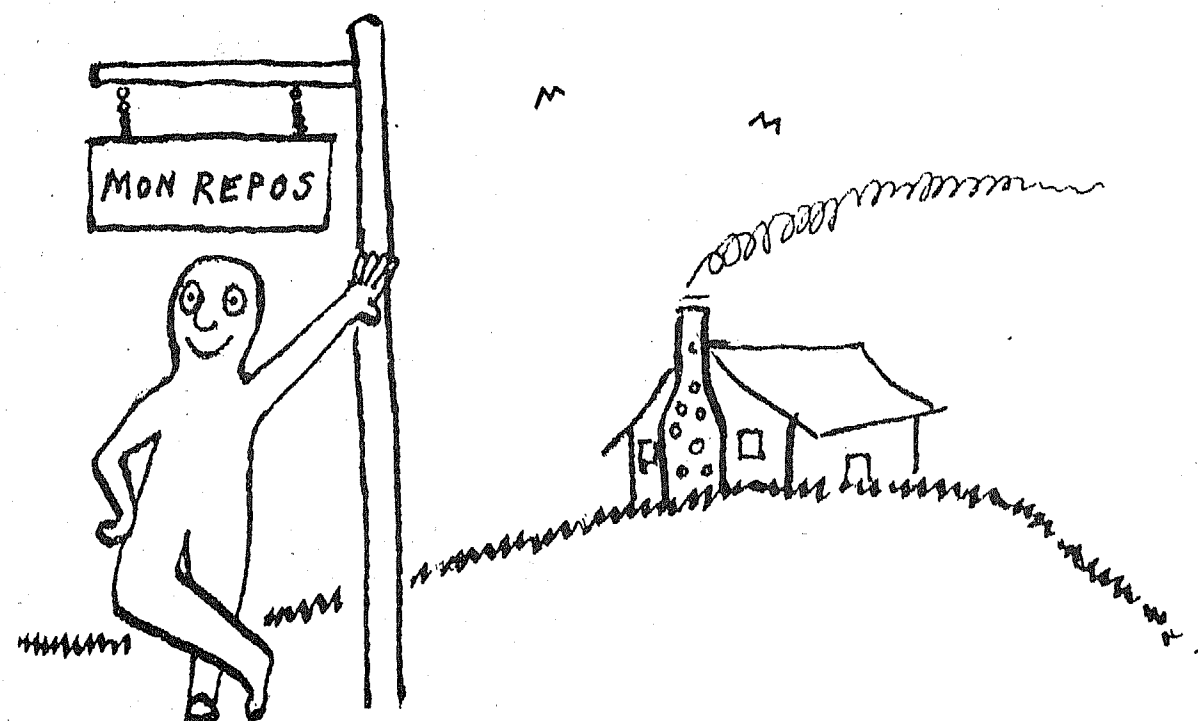
*More Opposites; Poems and Drawings by Richard Wilbur; 34 pages; Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Publishers; \$12.95.*

When Richard Wilbur's first collection, *Opposites*, was published in 1973, I was unknowingly enjoying my first bout with co-dependency by relating to the poetic revelations of Dory Previn and Gailwin Kinell. Since then, John Bradshaw has enlightened me (and millions of others) to the "child within."

Richard Wilbur also speaks to the child within us all in his latest collection. Not merely poetry for poppets, *More Opposites* is a grouping of simplified profundities, which serve to gladden the hearts of us all who live in this increasingly complicated world.

The expression, "children of all ages" has been relied upon far too often and, unfortunately, has become more than just trite. But overworked as it may be, the term still applies. We are all kids at heart. And I, happily approaching my second childhood, delight in Wilbur's latest offering.

Of Wilbur's 34 poetic and witty observations of opposites, this one appeals to me the most:



*What is the opposite of road?  
I'd say the answer is abode.  
"What's an abode, you ask. I'd say  
It's ground that doesn't lead away—  
Some patch of earth where you abide  
Because it makes you satisfied.  
Abodes don't take you anywhere,  
Because you are already there.*

While Wilbur's talents are secure within his writings, his line drawings compliment

and add to the simplicity of these wisely whimsical wordings. Recognizing Richard Wilbur as the country's Poet Laureate and a sage gentleman, his sense of humor also prevails. Simply stated, *More Opposites* is a joy to read.

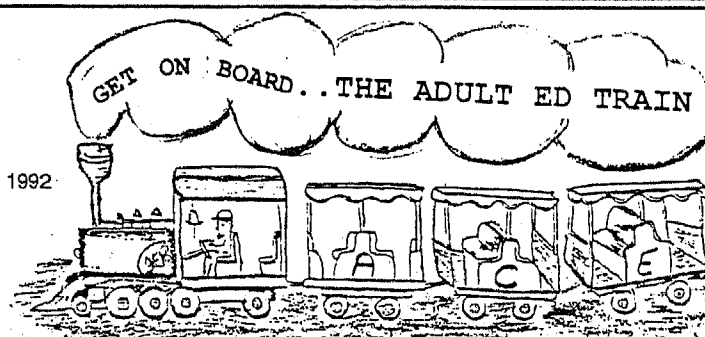
On a more serious note, Richard Wilbur's translation of Moliere's *School for Husbands* will be published this spring.

Maud Crosby lives in West Palm Beach, where she is a freelance writer, a police reporter and a frustrated poet.

Registration Time: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Room J-22 (Upstairs)  
Key West High School  
2100 Flagler Ave., Key West, FL 33040  
For More Information,  
Call 294-5212 Ext 265 / 266  
Most classes will begin April 1, 1992 and end June 10, 1992.



adult &  
community  
education



**Monroe County School District**  
Adult and Community Education  
Term IV, 1992 Course Offering Form  
Registration: March 30 - April 2, 1992  
Late Registration: April 6-9, 1992

### KEY WEST HIGH SCHOOL - 294-5212

#### ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

CODE	TITLE	DATE	TIME	LOCA.	INSTRUCTOR	CR	FEE
9900000	Adult Basic/ESL	M/W	6:30-9:30pm	J-27	Hanshaw/Bice	0	n/c
9900000	Adult Basic/ESL	M-Th	6:30-9:30pm	HOB	Suarez/Farina	0	n/c

#### ADULT GENERAL EDUCATION

9900010	General Ed Promotion	T/Th	6:30-9:30pm	TBA	TBA	1	n/c
9900020	GED Preparation	M/W	6:30-9:30pm	J-31	Lindsay	0	n/c
9900020	GED Preparation	T/Th	6:30-9:30pm	MLK	TBA	0	n/c
1501340	Beginning Weight Tr.	T/Th	6:30-9:30pm	Wgt. Rm	Freeman	1	\$13
		M/W	6:30-9:30pm	Wgt. Rm	Milliken	1	\$13
		M/W	6:30-9:30pm	J-13	Puig	1	\$13
		T/Th	6:30-9:30pm	E-9	Hawthurst	1	\$13
		Thurs	7:00-10:00pm	J-23	Kelly	1/2	\$6.50
		Fri	4:00-7:00pm	J-23	Kelly	1/2	\$6.50
		M/W	6:30-9:30pm	J-35	McKell	1	\$13
		M/W	6:30-9:30pm	J-23	Allen	1	\$13
		T/Th	7:00-10:00pm	J-25	Rodger	1	\$13
		T/Th	6:30-9:30pm	J-34	Layhew	1	\$13
		T/Th	6:30-9:30pm	Big Pine	Brett	0	n/c

#### LIFELONG LEARNING

9900510	Woodworking	M/W	6:30-9:30pm	E-7	Hawthurst	0	\$13
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#### ADULT VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

AC00001	Bookkeeping/Actt	T/Th	6:30-9:30pm	J-27	Evans	1	\$25
ARR0900	Auto Body Repair	M/W	7:00-10:00pm	V-103	Smallbone	1	\$25
ASR0990	Auto Mechanics	M/W	7:00-10:00pm	V-102	Higgs	1	\$25
HCP0100	Nursing Assistant	T/Th	2:00-4:00pm	KWCC	Sheddan	1	\$30
HCP0100	Nursing Assistant	T/Th	6:00-8:00pm	KWCC	Sheddan	1	\$30
OFT0105	Typing	M/W	6:30-9:30pm	J-12	Santana	1	\$25
PMT0801	Welding	T/Th	7:00-10:00pm	Welding	Smith	1	\$25

### MARATHON HIGH SCHOOL - 743-3030

CODE	TITLE	DATE	TIME	LOCA.	INSTRUCTOR	CR	FEE
9900020	GED Preparation	M/W	6:30-9:30pm	B-2	Sympton	0	n/c
HCP0100	Nursing Assistant	T/Th	8:00-12:00pm	MM	Fay	1	\$30
1001310	English I,II,III,IV	M/W	4:00-7:00pm	B-4	Saenz, A	1	\$13
9900630	ESL	M/W	7:00-10:00pm	B-4	Saenz, V	1	\$13

The above schedule is tentative. For more information call Marathon High School at 743-3030.

### CORAL SHORES HIGH SCHOOL - 852-9264

CODE	TITLE	DATE	TIME	LOCA.	INSTRUCTOR	CR	FEE
9900000	ESOL	M/W	6:30-9:30pm	TBA	Allen, S	0	n/c
9900020	GED Preparation	M/W	6:30-9:30pm	TBA	Flaherty	0	n/c
9900010	Gen Ed Promotion	T/Th	6:30-9:30pm	TBA	TBA	1	n/c
9900550	Intro to Computers	M/W	6:30-9:30pm	2-D	Ramsay	0	\$13
HCP0100	Nursing Assistant	TWThS	6:30-9:30pm	TBA	Necly	1	\$30
9900580	Drama	M/W	6:30-9:30pm	VT-2	Allen, R	1	\$13

The above schedule is tentative. For more information call Coral Shores High School at 852-9264.

### COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER - HARRIS SCHOOL - 292-6762

CODE	TITLE	DATE	TIME	LOCA.	INSTRUCTOR	CR	FEE
9900000	Adult Basic/ESL	M-Th	9am-12	Harris	Hanshaw	0	n/c
9900000	Advanced ESL	M-Th	1-3pm	Harris	Hanshaw	0	n/c
9900000	Adult Basic/ESL	M-F	9am-12	Harris	Valerga	0	n/c
8301600	Empl Skills/Job Plac	M-F	1-3pm	Harris	Valerga	0	n/c
9900020	GED Preparation	M-F	9am-12pm	Harris	Santilli	0	n/c
9900550	Beg. Word Perfect	M/W	1pm-4pm	Harris	Santilli	0	\$13
9900550	Adv. Word Perfect	T/Th	1pm-4pm	Harris	Santilli	0	\$13

GED Pre-tests are offered at the Community Learning Center on Fridays. Please call 292-6762 for an appointment.

CHILDCARE - Babysitting/childcare services are available for students attending evening classes. Inquire during registration for further information.

All programs are open to students without regard to race, color, sex, religion, natural origin or handicap.

## Gigs

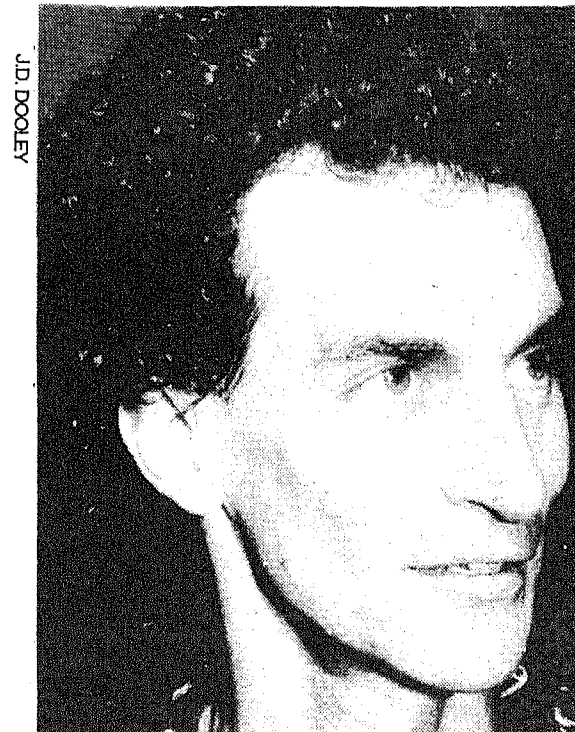
by Christine Naughton

### Tincture Of Time At Club Havana

On Wednesdays, beginning at 9 p.m., the Pier House's Club Havana offers a rotating roster of the island's best resident jazz players. Opinion among some "experts" in town has long held that such an idea would never sell, but the six-week old series has played to consistently packed houses. Hosted by drummer Skipper Kripitz, the program is called "Tincture of Time."

Two recent performances spotlighted opposite ends of the time spectrum. One rekindled a happy musical association of several decades' standing—pianist Betty Saint and saxophonist Ed Weech; the other ignited the fiery energy of great players only recently brought together—saxophonist Carol Chaikin and vibraphonist Dave Pike.

Behind it all beamed the indefatigable Kripitz, greeting and introducing everybody (as host) and playing his tail off (as musician). This extraordinary percussionist never sounded better. In addition to his usual meticulous timekeeping, Kripitz splashed his work with color, wit and surprise. And his utter joy at hosting the successful series was contagious.



SKIPPER KRIPITZ

Those present could only agree that nobody swings quite like Betty Saint. On the Tincture of Time stage, Saint performed standing up, as always. Her entire body participated, notes flowing from her tapping, stockinged toes through her gyrating body, and then out her ten flying fingers. Saint grabbed huge handfuls of chords and threw them into solos that drew whoops, whistles and spontaneous bursts of applause from the room of eager listeners.

She drove the band—Weech, Kripitz and bassist Jim Hall—like a shiny Cadillac, eliciting particularly beautiful work from Weech. His polished, buttery smooth sound on alto sax graced every tune, and he played outstanding solos on "Willow Weep for Me," and "Another You."

The following Wednesday brought seven wonderful musicians together onstage. Joining Kripitz were vibraphonist Dave Pike, vocalist Carol Pike, saxophonist Carol Chai-

kin, guitarist Tim McAlpine, acoustic bassist Ron Sumner and conga player Sinesio.

Space restrictions alone prohibit the accolades appropriate to each player: this was an exciting lineup. Every tune was superb, with excellent solos by all.

McAlpine's ingenious playing, especially on "Scrapple from the Apple" and "Blue Monk," underlined this guitarist's ever-brilliant work.

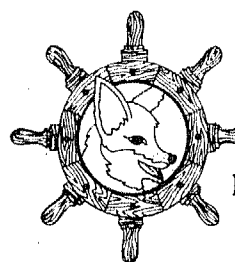
Carol Pike's vocal treatments were delightful, and her work on "Moonlight in Vermont" was a highlight of the evening. Her full, clear alto tones perfectly executed each picturesque phrase, caressing the lovely lyrics. A newcomer to be reckoned with, Pike exhibited professionalism, musicality and control—she is quite a singer.

Chaikin sat in with the band for the last set. The ensuing musical interaction between Chaikin and Dave Pike was absolutely electric. Both players, possessed of utmost sophistication of ear, expressed ideas which seemed to flow as quickly as they could play them. Both favored an emphatic delivery, swaying and rocking on their toes, showering notes over long phrases like sparkling confetti. It was as magnificent a set of jazz as might be heard anytime, anywhere.

The Tincture of Time spotlight has also shown upon vocalist Libby York, Leanna Collins, the Small Mystery Band and The Paradise Swing Orchestra with vocalist Carmen Rodriguez. In addition to rotating these bands, Kripitz hopes to include pianist Dave Burns, vocalist Toni Bishop and saxophonist Terry Kiev in future lineups.

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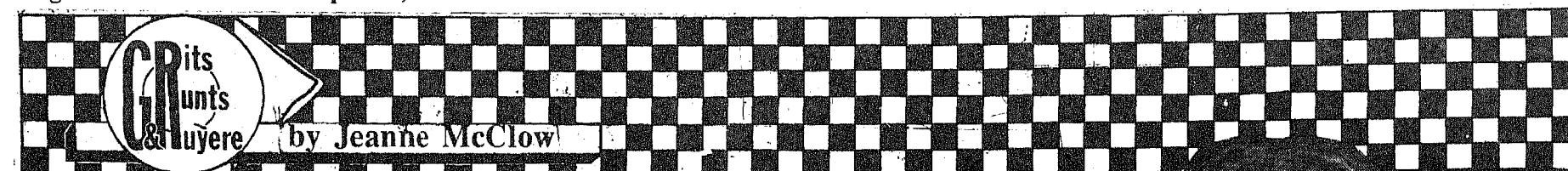
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## Love Your Vegetables

I stood in the market turning the magnificent stalk of purple-tinged broccoli around in my hands, making excuses to myself for

even considering buying anything so monstrous. I bought it anyway; and I finished it, too, but it took some planning. The happy results were a soufflé, a pasta salad, a stir-fry, and a sautéed side dish.

In truth, it took more than just planning. It took getting a very fresh stalk of broccoli in peak condition into my hands at the right moment—nothing short of a miracle, all things considered. Such miracles do happen, however. You can help them along by knowing what to look for when you shop for vegetables and how to care for them at home.

Certainly the array of vegetables available these days has never been greater (a fact that should inspire even the least-creative cook). Before you go shopping, though, know what is in season and plan menus accordingly. You may have to revise them on the spot, considering what is being offered, but that's part of the challenge.

Choose loose vegetables over packaged ones and inspect them meticulously before you gently lay them in your basket. Look for a firm texture, and a bright, rich color, which indicates that the vitamins are intact. Often, the younger, smaller specimens will prove the tastiest and most tender. In short, go for the vegetables that *look* the best, because they probably will be.

When you get home, sort through the packaged vegetables and discard any that are yellow or decaying. Then store all that you will not be eating very soon. That means most will go in the refrigerator.

The reason for instant refrigeration is that until you cut it up or cook it, a vegetable is living and breathing—and producing the enzymes that will age and eventually destroy it. During this process, undesirable changes occur in both the flavor and appearance of a vegetable. Although the action cannot be halted, it can be slowed by keeping a vegetable cold enough (about 32-degree F.) to suppress its breathing. The 40-degree temperature of a refrigerator is not really low enough, but it's the best most of us can do.

Unfortunately, refrigerators don't offer the humidity most vegetables require to stay plump and crisp either. To help compensate, place each variety, unwashed, uncut, and dry in a clean, dry perforated plastic bag and close it. There, the vegetable can create its own environment. You can also use a clean crisper drawer.

Some veggies, notably, potatoes, onions, tomatoes, peppers, and garlic, don't do well at temperatures below 50-degrees F. Lacking the old-fashioned root cellar, most of us will have to be content with just keeping them as cool as possible. Potatoes must also be kept

JEANNE MCCLOY

BROCCOLI BOUQUET: Veggies need care.

in the dark to prevent greening. (Sprouted potatoes are, by the way, safe to eat).


Both potatoes and onions require lots of air, so store them loose in baskets but keep them separate—each gives off a gas that the other "dislikes." (For a similar reason, play it safe and store vegetables away from ripe fruits, especially apples.)

Try keeping tomatoes, peppers, and garlic in the butter compartment of your refrigerator—the temperature should be just right. Do be aware that no matter what you do to it, a tomato that has not begun the ripening process on the vine will never ripen and will never develop flavor. It may turn red though.

Don't bother storing corn and peas. The instant these are harvested, they begin to lose flavor as their enzymes convert the sugar to starch. Within half a day, most will have been lost. If you absolutely must hold them, refrigerate immediately and keep them refrigerated until the last possible moment.

Keep mushrooms refrigerated in a closed brown bag or on their tray loosely covered with cheesecloth.

Freeze ginger in a plastic bag and use as needed or peel it and store in a covered glass jar filled with wine or sherry. Refrigerate up to three months. You can use some of the wine, but replace it.

While space limitations prevent my going into more detail on this subject, there is at least one very useful book available that does, *Keeping Food Fresh* by Janet Bailey, Harper & Row. 

## RESTAURANT DIRECTORY

**Antonia's Restaurant**, 15 Duval Street. Excellent Northern Italian cuisine in friendly, elegant atmosphere. Dinner served from 6 to 11 p.m., nightly. Visa, Mastercard. 294-6565.

**Bill's Key West Fish Market and Restaurant**, 2502 N. Roosevelt Boulevard. A local favorite serving the finest local seafood from 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., daily. Our new breakfast menu features seafood omelets. 296-5891.

**Camille's**, 703 1/2 Duval Street. A local restaurant with the casual Key West touch, serving high-quality fare for breakfast and lunch. Daily specials. Entrees are reasonably priced, made of only the finest ingredients and cooked to order. The Sunday Brunch has become a tradition for many locals. Open daily, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. 296-4811.

**Casablanca Café**, 900-904 Duval Street. A tropical inn serving imaginative Caribbean-style cuisine, fresh local seafood, stone crab claws (in season), shrimp, and such mainstays as prime rib, steaks and pasta. Dine in a lush, tropical setting. Also located on the grounds is **Bogart's Irish Pub**, which boasts the largest selection of imported and domestic beers on draft. Open at 6 p.m., daily. 296-0815.

**Conch Café**, 1211 Duval Street. Charming sidewalk café serving home-cooked meals. Desserts, beer, wine, sundries, eat in or take out. Open 7 days a week for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Monday 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Tuesday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. 294-7227.

**Crab Shack**, 908 Caroline Street across from Land's End Village. Fresh seafood served from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., daily. Peel-your-own spicy steamed shrimp every day. Widest variety of crab dishes on the island. We also cook your catch as you like it. For the landlubber, charcoal-broiled steak and prime rib. Blue plate specials nightly. Dine indoors and out. 294-9658.

**Dim Sum**, 613 1/2 Duval Street in Key Lime Square. A gourmet Asian restaurant serving exotic Chinese stir-fries, Indian curries and Thai, Indonesian and Burmese specialties. Wine and sake bar. Open 6 to 11 p.m., Wednesday through Monday. 294-6230.

**Dos Lobos**, 6 Charles Street, just one-half block west of Duval. Real South-of-the-Border cooking. Tacos, chimichangas, enchiladas, burritos, fajitas, chili and much more. Good cooking, very reasonable prices, and patio dining. 293-0733.

**El Loro Verde**, 404 Southard Street. More than a Mexican restaurant, El Loro Verde presents innovative yet

authentic variations of both Mexican and Caribbean dishes. Popular for its cafe' atmosphere, El Loro Verde now features a full liquor bar in its new dining room. 296-7298.

**Fiorini**, 523 Eaton Street. One of Key West's oldest and most romantic restaurants. Fiorini's menu is unmistakably Italian with a hint of the tropics: yellowfin tuna *putanesca*, shrimp Diane, yellowtail in cucumber caviar cream sauce, fettuccine with basil, walnuts, and garlic. And for dessert try a genuine cannoli made fresh by Mama Fiorini. Open for dinner 7 to 10 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. 294-4720.

**Flagler's**, Marriot's Casa Marina, Reynolds Street. Elegance, nostalgia, romance and an exquisite view of the Atlantic. Beautiful food in beautiful surroundings, blended into an extraordinary American dining experience. Featuring America's traditional recipes, including seafood and chargrilled steak. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. And a new Sunday brunch menu with a local discount. Live entertainment in Flagler's Bar. Reservations suggested. 296-3535.

**Flamingo Crossing**, 1105 Duval Street. The locals' favorite dessert spot features freshly-made-daily ice creams, sorbets, honey yogurts, sundaes, shakes and all-fruit vitari. Also enjoy Florida Keys Finest Key Lime Pie in a tropical garden setting. Open daily from noon to 11 p.m. and midnight Friday and Saturday. 296-6124.

**Full Moon Saloon**, 1220 Simon-ton Street. "Where locals always visit, and visitors always feel local." Serving 11 a.m. to 4 a.m., daily. Lunch, dinner and late-night specials. Featuring a moderately-priced American menu, including fresh seafood, meats, pastas, salads and sandwiches. 294-9090.

**Half Shell Raw Bar**, Land's End Village, foot of Margaret Street. Serving lunch and dinner til? Freshest shrimp, fish and lobster direct from their own fish market at the shrimp docks. Cash only. 294-7496.

**Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville Café**, 500 Duval Street. Opens 11 a.m. for lunch, dinner, and late night rock and roll, starting at 10:30 p.m. Serving fresh seafood, meats, salads & Key West favorites: Conch chowder/fritters, squid rings and the famous Cheeseburger in Paradise. 292-1435.

**Lighthouse Café**, 917 Duval Street. Specializing in wonderful Southern Italian and seafood dishes, served in a beautiful garden setting or cozy indoor dining room. Open for dinner 7 to 11 p.m. Reservations suggested. Diner's Club, Visa. 296-7837.

**Louie's Backyard**, 700 Waddell on the Atlantic Ocean. Featuring international cuisine in a restaurant ranked among South Florida's best. Dining inside or outdoors on the water. Enjoy cocktails on the Afterdeck Bar. Open from 11:30 a.m. to 2 a.m. 294-1061 for dining reservations.

**Lucy's**, 1114 Duval St. Enjoy our American cuisine with a southern Cajun influence in a relaxed open atmosphere. Serving breakfast from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and dinner from 6 to 11 p.m. Wine and beer available. 292-4002.

**Mangrove Mama's**, mile marker 20 on Sugarloaf Key. Featuring natural and local seafood served in an olde tyme Keys atmosphere. Dining inside in an old 1919 "Flagler building" or outside under the banana trees. Enjoy the wine bar with a large selection of wines by the glass. Open from 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. For dining reservations and entertainment schedule, call 745-3030.

**Mary's**, 808 Duval. Offers delicious burgers—most notably the Mary Burger—in addition to other daily dinner, lunch and breakfast specials. Everything is fresh and made to order; beer and wine are available. Indoor and outdoor seating. Breakfast is served from 12 a.m. to 12 p.m. Open 24 hours. All major credit cards accepted. 296-7554.

**Palm Grill**, on the corner of Frances and Southard Streets. American Island cooking using fresh herbs, native seafood and the finest produce. Grilled meats, fish and vegetarian selections. Creative and affordable. Dinner 6 to 10:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Sunday Brunch 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday dinner 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Visa/Mastercard. Reservations suggested. 296-1744.

**Paradise Café**, corner of Eaton and Grinnell Streets. Home of the famous island Monster Mix. Featuring the biggest sandwiches and the lowest beer prices in Key West. Open for breakfast and lunch, Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free delivery. 296-5001.

**Rich's Café**, at the Eden House, 1015 Fleming Street. A relaxed tropical garden setting with outdoor specials; serving special German beer and wine. Breakfast and lunch, daily, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. 296-1183.

**Rittenhouse Deli**, Duval Square at Simon-ton Street. Serving breakfast, lunch, light entrees and desserts on our lovely deck. Open daily from 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Free parking and delivery. Call 292-8350 or fax your order to 292-8346.

**Rooftop Café**, 310 Front Street, in the heart of old town offering rooftop and indoor seating. Breakfast 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., lunch 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., daily. Dinner until 11 p.m. Live entertainment weekends. 294-2042.

**Savannah**, 915 Duval Street. Fine Southern home cooking featuring dixie delectables like mouth-watering fried chicken, cornbread, collard greens, fresh fish, and unbeatable mash potatoes. Dine in a grand old conch house or outside in a tropical garden setting. Open for dinner daily at 6:30 p.m. 296-6700.

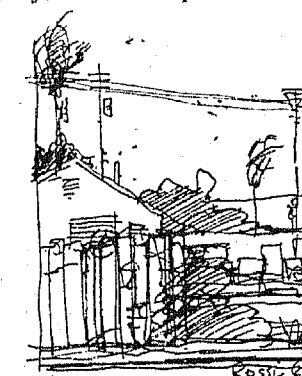
**Square One Restaurant**, Duval Square. Superb food and service in a warm and elegant setting—all at affordable prices. Open Monday through Saturday: Happy Hour 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.; dinner 6:30 to 11 p.m. Reservations suggested. American Express, Visa, Mastercard. 296-4300.

**South Beach Seafood & Raw Bar**, on the beach at the ocean end of Duval Street. Fresh Key West Seafood, baby-back ribs, chicken, steak, oysters, clams, nightly specials. Serving beer and wine. Dine inside or outside on our beach deck. Open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. 294-2727.

**Tamarinds**, at Duval Square, 1021 Duval Street. Key West's newest café offers breakfast, lunch and dinner. Our menu features eggs, grilled seafood, fresh salads, sandwiches, burgers, soups and luscious desserts at affordable prices, presented in an innovative manner with a Caribbean flavor. Enjoy dining inside or outside in our relaxing oasis. Breakfast 8 to 11:30 a.m., lunch 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., dinner 4 to 11 p.m. Takeout available. 294-2809.

**Turtle Kraals**, Land's End Village, foot of Margaret Street. Harbor view dining for lunch and dinner. Great hamburgers, seafood—check out the music. Visa/Mastercard. 294-2640.

**Yo Sake**, 722 Duval Street. Neo-Japanese inside or torchlit garden dining; traditional Japanese and original island creations. Full sushi bar. Dinner nightly, 6 to 11:30 p.m. 294-2288.



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# CALENDAR • MARCH 19 - APR. 1

## Cultural

**3/19-3/21 • A Day in Hollywood: A Night in the Ukraine**, a musical double feature by Dick Vosburgh and Frank Lazarus at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center. For ticket information, 296-9081, ext. 326.

**3/19-3/22 • Six Women with Brain Death or Expiring Minds Want to Know**, directed by Joy Hawkins at the Red Barn Theatre. Call 296-9911 for ticket information.

**3/19-4/5 • Camille** directed by Cameron Murray at the Waterfront Playhouse. For ticket information, call 294-5015.

**3/21 • Le Nozze di Figaro** a four-act opera by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. 1:30 p.m. on KEY 93 radio.

**3/23 • Arista Trio** 8 p.m. at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center. For ticket information, call 296-9081, ext. 326.

**3/26-3/27 • Alexander Roy London Ballet Theatre** performing "A Midsummer Night's Dream" 8 p.m. at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center. Call 296-9081, ext. 326.

**3/28 • Harid Conservatory of Boca Raton in Concert** 8 p.m. at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center. Featuring a string quartet of gifted young performers from all over the world. For ticket information, call the Share School of Music at 294-5299.

**3/28 • Parsifal**, a stage-consecrating festival play in three acts by Robert Wagner noon at KEY 93 radio.

**3/19-3/22 • 13th Annual Rain Barrel Arts Festival** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days at the Rain Barrel Gallery at mile marker 86.7 on Plantation Key. Featuring ceramics, glass, jewelry, sculpture, photography and fine art plus food and live entertainment and a nature walk in a hardwood tropical forest. For more information, call Cyd Nielsen at (305) 852-3084.

**3/21-3/22 • Spring Orchids 1992** presented by the Key West Orchid Society 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days at West Martello at Higgs Beach. Featuring several thousand orchids on display, plus displays and sales from famous grower Dr. Martin Moates. Refreshment gazebo. Adults \$4, children under 12 free.

**3/22 • Miss Budweiser Spring-break Bikini Contest** at the Holiday Isle Resort in Islamorada. For information, call (305) 664-2321.

**3/25 • Australian Gold Spring-break Body Building Competition** at the Holiday Isle Resort in Islamorada. For information, call (305) 664-2321.

**3/25-3/26 • "Writes" of Spring 1992—A Celebration of Ecological Consciousness at Palm Beach Community College**, Eissey Campus. Featuring an environmental symposium with several nationally recognized environmentalists including Dave Foreman, plus arts and crafts, entertainment, food and nature walks. Free to the public. For more information, call (305) 625-2554.

**3/28 • Spring Fashion Luncheon** 11 a.m. in the Casa Marina Convention Room. Featuring fashions by J.C. Penney, La Trend, Britches, Virgin, Robbies and Assortment. Proceeds benefit the restoration of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Reservations are required. For information, call 296-2673 during the day, or 296-9088 in the evenings.

**3/28 • Who is the Ghost of East Martello?**—a fundraising party at the museum benefiting the Founders Society of TWFA. Featuring music, prizes, open bar, buffet dinner, costumes and a ghost hunt. For reservation information, call Dick at 296-7473.

**3/29 • AIDS Help, Inc.'s Artist/Celebrity Tray Auction** 7 p.m. at the Casa Marina. For more information, call 296-6196.

## Events

**3/19-3/22 • First Annual Coral**

**Reef Coalition Conference** at the Holiday Inn Beachside in Key West. For information, call Reef Relief at 294-3100.

**3/20 • FKCC Student Show Opening** from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Library Gallery followed by refreshments. Free to the public. For more information, call 296-9081, ext. 282.

**3/21-3/22 • 13th Annual Rain Barrel Arts Festival** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days at the Rain Barrel Gallery at mile marker 86.7 on Plantation Key. Featuring ceramics, glass, jewelry, sculpture, photography and fine art plus food and live entertainment and a nature walk in a hardwood tropical forest. For more information, call Cyd Nielsen at (305) 852-3084.

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## Meetings

**3/19 • Key West Planning Board Meeting** 5 to 10 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

**3/23 • Key West Alliance for the Mentally Ill (KWAMI) Meeting** 7:30 p.m. at the Care Center for Mental Health, 4th Street and Patterson. Featuring guest speaker Dr. James Holbrook outlining the current programs of the center and conducting a tour of the facilities. The public is invited. For more information, call Helen at 294-4875 or Mary at 294-9905.

**3/23 • Friends of the Library Meeting** 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Old City Hall.

**3/23 • Maritime Society Meeting** 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Old City Hall.

**3/24 • League of Women Voters Meeting** 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Beachside. Featuring Jack London as a guest speaker.

**3/24 • HARC Meeting** 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

**3/30 • Friends of the Library Meeting** 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Old City Hall.

## Ongoing

**Adult Children of Alcoholics** meets Mondays at 7 p.m., Tuesdays 5:30 p.m. and Thursdays 8:30 p.m. at Holy Innocents Church, 901 Flagler Avenue. Call 296-3286.

**"A Course in Miracles"** study group meets at the Crystal Loft, mile marker 29.7 on Big Pine, every Monday at 8 to 9 p.m. Call 872-9390.

**AIDS Help** needs volunteers to assist in the office, as well as to be buddies to people with AIDS. Call Steve Smith, director of volunteers, at 296-6196.

**AIDS Help Support Group Meetings** for PWAs, ARC, HIV+, families, friends and lovers are held each Thursday at 6 p.m. at 2700 Flagler Avenue. Call 296-6196.

**Anchors Aweigh Club**, Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings daily at 404 Virginia Street. Call 296-7888.

**Audubon Society of the Keys** meets the second Monday of each month at 5 p.m. at Indigenous Park. Call 294-4927.

**Blood Pressure Screenings** (free) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in the registration area of the emergency room of South Miami Hospital. Call (305) 662-8118.

**Blue Moon Trader Art & Craft Market** every Saturday at mile marker 29.7 on Big Pine. Artists from throughout the Keys display and sell their wares. Call 872-8864.

**Breast Cancer Support Group** holds meetings at South Miami Hospital the fourth Tuesday of every month from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Call (305) 662-9611.

**Breezeswept Beach Estates Civic Association** holds meetings at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the Church, 901 Flagler Avenue. Call 296-3286.

**"A Course in Miracles"** study group meets at the Crystal Loft, mile marker 29.7 on Big Pine, every Monday at 8 to 9 p.m. Call 872-9390.

**AIDS Help** needs volunteers to assist in the office, as well as to be buddies to people

## Miscellaneous

**3/20-3/22 • Shipboard Operations—Dry Tortugas Trip**, a two-credit course offered by FKCC. For more information, call 296-9081, ext. 228.

**3/25 • Weight Control** through self-hypnosis with Monica Geers Wednesdays from 6 to 10 p.m. through April 22. For information, call 296-9081, ext. 282.

**3/30 • Smoking Cessation** through Hypnosis with Monica Geers 6 to 9 p.m. at FKCC. For information, call 296-9081, ext. 282.



**SHE-HE:** Kelly Moore goes through a dramatic face change in *Camille*, which opens March 18 at the Waterfront.

with AIDS. Call Steve Smith, director of volunteers, at 296-6196.

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**Breezeswept Beach Estates Civic Association** holds meetings at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the Youth Center of Big Pine Key Methodist Church. Call 872-2861.

**Cancer Support Group for Family Members** meets Thursdays from 4 to 5 p.m. in the 6th floor family lounge of the South Miami Hospital. Call (305) 662-8196.

**Cancer Support Group for Cancer Patients** meets Tuesdays from 4 to 5 p.m. in the 6th floor family lounge of the South Miami Hospital. Call (305) 662-8196.

**Card & Game Night**, Senior Citizens Center, Big Pine Key. Call 745-3698.

**Children Problem Solving Group** for ages 8 to 12 years meets Thursdays from 3 to 4 p.m. and 4 to 5 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

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**Childbirth Classes** begin monthly at Key West and Big Pine locations. Sponsored by The March of Dimes and FKCC. The course is affordable for everyone. Call 296-9081, ext. 282.

**Codependency Group** meets Tuesdays from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

**Community Learning Center at Harris School** offers Adult Basic Education, Job Preparation and Placement, English as a Second Language, GED Preparation, Vocational Evaluation and Counseling, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Free to eligible applicants. Call 292-6762.

**Community Education Series** dealing with the disease of addiction meets every Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon in the Tower Building of South Miami Hospital. Call (305) 662-8118.

**Community Guitar Orchestra** meets in Key West at the Share School of Music on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. The Big Pine Group meets at the United Methodist Church on Mondays from 6 to 7 p.m. All guitar players are invited. Call 294-5299.

**Depression and Manic-Depression Group** meets 3 to 4:30 p.m. on the second Friday of each month at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

**Eating Disorder Group** meets every Friday from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

**Early Recovery Group** meets Wednesdays from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

**Florida Right to Life** meets the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Key West Baptist Temple, 5727 Second Avenue, Stock Island. Call Patti Baldwin at 296-7337.

**Guardianship of Monroe County** helps disabled adults and elderly residents in decision-making. To volunteer or for more information call Elizabeth Covino at HRS, 292-6728; Betty Campbell at Florida Keys Memorial Hospital, 294-5531; or Liz Kern at Hospice, 294-8812.

**Helpline** the 24-hour Monroe County Crisis Intervention telephone service needs volunteers to man the phones. Training will be provided. Call 292-8445.

**Island Wellness** at 530 Simonton Street, offers a variety of regularly scheduled courses and activities. Monday: Daily

R & R at noon; Tuesday: Tai Chi Ch'uan at 10 a.m. and Daily R & R at noon; Wednesday: Daily R & R; Thursday: Tai Chi Ch'uan at 10 a.m. and Daily R&R at noon; Friday: Daily R & R at noon; Sundays: alternating schedule. Call 296-7353 for details.

**Just Say No** supper club meets Mondays from 4 to 6 p.m. 292-8248.

**Key West Community Band** meets in the Key West High School Band Room Wednesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. Anyone who can play and read music is invited. Bring your own instrument. For information, call June MacArthur at 294-9329.

**Key West Garden Club Ramble Work Sessions** held every Tuesday and Friday from 10 a.m. until noon at the Garden Center (West Martello Tower). The public is invited. Call 294-3210.

**Key West Maritime Historical Society Traditional Rowing Program** meets every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at the northside of Garrison Bight Marina on the 32' long boat *Wilhelmina*. Memberships cost \$10 per year for individuals and \$25 per year for families. Call Capt. John Duke at 292-7903 or 872-3536.

**Key West Rowing Club** meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. in their historic boathouse at the Land's End Marina. For membership information, call 292-7984.

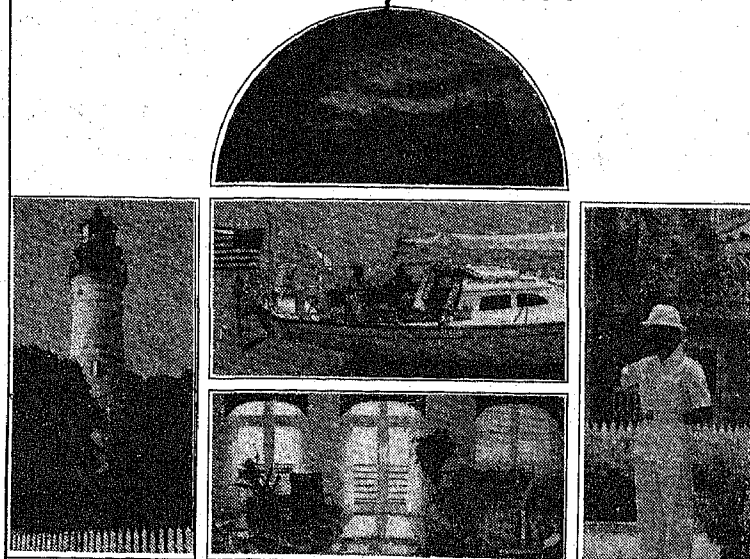
**Key West Sports Car Club** meets at 8 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of every month in the back room of Wag's restaurant on N. Roosevelt Blvd.

**Kiss AA** (gay preferred) meets every Monday, Thursday, and Saturday at 8:30 p.m., plus every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the rear of Metropolitan Community Church, 1215 Petronia Street. Call 294-8912.

**KWAMI (Key West Alliance for the Mentally Ill)** holds monthly meetings on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Care Center for Mental Health, 4th Street and Patterson Avenue. Each meeting will feature a guest speaker or special program. Call Helen at 294-4875 or Mary at 294-9905.

**KWAMI Come Back Club-Project Return**, a self-help social club where people with emotional disturbances and mental illnesses gather with KWAMI members. Group meets Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Peace Covenant Church, 2610 Flagler Avenue. Call Helen Gerbracht at 294-4875.

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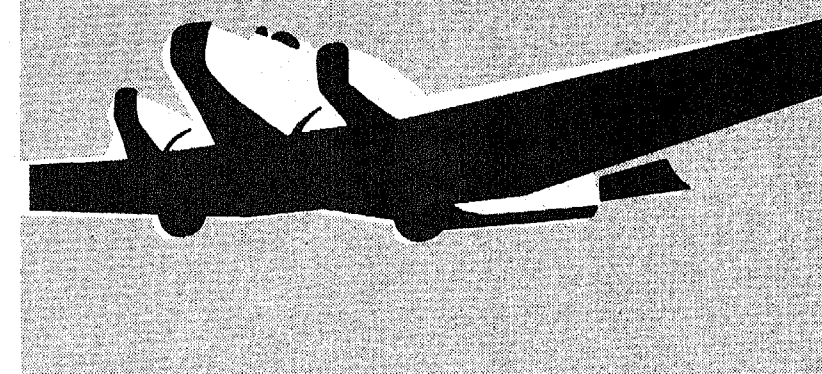
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**KWAMI Share and Care Support Group** for families and friends of people with mental illness meets 7:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at the Care Center for Mental Health, 4th Street and Patterson Avenue. Free of charge and open to all. Call Helen at 294-4875 or Mary at 294-9905.

**La Leche League** of Big Pine Key meets the second Monday of every month at 10 a.m. in the Big Pine Baptist Church. Call Joanne at 872-2861 for meeting information.

**Last Resort Codependents Anonymous** meets Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in the rear of Metropolitan Community Church, 1215 Petronia Street. Call 294-8912.

**The Law and You with Attorney Fred Butner**, "Live from Key West." Wednesdays from 8 to 9 a.m. Radio debates. Guests in-

clude judges, attorneys, law enforcement officers and lawmakers. Broadcast on AM 1600 WKWF Talk Radio. Number to call in during broadcast: 294-1600.

**Literacy Volunteers of America** meets 7 p.m. on the last Monday of each month and offers volunteer training programs as well as workshops. LVA also offers one-to-one tutoring for adults in basic reading and math, GED preparation, or English as a second language. Call 294-4352.

**Literacy Volunteers of Monroe County** is seeking volunteers to help in working with the media and in teaching others to read. Students are also needed. Call Lisa Snyder at 294-4352.

**Lighthouse Program**, 5825 Jr. College Road, Key West offers drug and alcohol re-

habilitative services for adolescents (age 13 to 17)—individual and group counseling, education, prevention, tutoring, vocational, day treatment and outpatient services. Call 294-5237.

**Lower Keys Friends of Animals** helps animals that are victims of misfortune. Group meets 7 p.m. Tuesday evenings at the Ramada Inn. For membership information call 294-7467 or 296-3926.

**Marine Archaeology Expedition**. Third Sunday of the month. Each session focuses on wrecks and the coral reef environment. Membership fee goes toward seminar and monthly newsletter. Call 800-468-3255.

**Meditation and Relaxation Support Group for Oncology Patients** meets the second Tuesday of every month from

7:30-8:30 p.m. in the 6th floor family lounge of the South Miami Hospital. Call (305) 669-0400.

**Monroe County Public Library**, Fleming Street, offers preschool story hour on Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.; Saturday movies 10 a.m. 294-8488.

**Monroe County District School Board Meeting** is held the second Monday of each month in the board room of the Administration Building, 242 White Street. Call 296-6523.

**Mulch for Gardening** is free to anyone who wants it. Provided by City Electric System, the mulch pile is located on Atlantic Boulevard at the intersection with Stevens Avenue.

**Old Island Harmony Barbershop Chorus**, Old Stone Church, Key West, meets Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

**Open Poetry Reading** meets the first Sunday of the month. Bring original work only. Free, refreshments served. 296-0785 or 294-1848.

**Ovarian Cancer Support Group** meets the first and third Wednesday of every month from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the South Miami Hospital. Call (305) 662-7146.

**Overeaters Anonymous** meets in the chapel at DePoo Hospital Tuesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8 p.m. Use emergency room entrance. Call Sharon 296-8802 or Patti at 745-2033.

**Pool & Dart Tournament**, Big Pine Moose Lodge, Wednesdays. Call 872-9313.

**Pool and Dart Tournament** at Stick & Stein in Key Plaza. Blind Draw Tournament every Saturday at 8 p.m. Eight ball every Thursday at 8 p.m. Nine ball every Sunday at 8 p.m.

**Pool Party** every Sunday at the Key Wester Resort, A1A on the Ocean. Live music with the Survivors, food, fun and exotic swimming. Call 296-5671.

**Positively Sober** is a 12-step Recovery Group for men and women who are HIV-positive and a member of another 12-step Recovery Group. This group meets Thursdays at 6 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church, 1215 Petronia Street. Call 294-8912.

**Prenatal and Postnatal Exercise Classes** are held Monday through Saturday from 10:45 to 12:15 p.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. at the South Miami Hospital. Call (305) 662-5335.

**Preschool Story Hour** for 4 and 5 year olds, 9:30 a.m. every Thursday at The Monroe County Library, 700 Fleming Street. Call 292-3595.

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**Problem Solving Group** meets Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. No charge but referral required. Call 292-6843.

**Problem Solving for Teenagers Group** meets Tuesdays 4 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

**Quaker Worship Meetings** every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in the garden in the rear of 618 Grinnell Street. For more information, call Sheridan Crumlish at 294-1523.

**Quality Time—Parenting News for the Keys**, a half-hour television talk show focusing on family issues presented by MOMS inc. on TCI Channel 5 Wednesday nights at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 294-4837.

**Recorder Class** for the children of Bahama Village at the Martin Luther King Junior Community Center. Call Lee Thompson for more information, 292-8248.

**Recycling Drop Off Center**, located on Stock Island, is open daily. Accepting clean, separated glass, newspaper, aluminum and plastic. Call 292-4433.

**Schizophrenia Support Group** meets alternate Tuesdays 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

**SCORE-Key West** (Service Corps of Retires Executives) offers free business counseling to the public and will assist anyone in furthering their business plans. Call Mike at the Chamber of Commerce for an appointment, 294-2587.

**Small Business Counseling** third Friday of each month at Bannett Bank of the Keys, Tavernier. To make an appointment, call 352-2661. Counselors are members of SCORE.

St. Mary's Flea Market every Saturday beginning at 7 p.m. in the ballfield of Mary Immaculate School on Truman and Windsor Lane. Spaces available for \$10. Call 294-1031.

**Stress and Anxiety Management Group** meets every Tuesday 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

**Survivors of Incest Anonymous** meets every Wednesday from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the rear of the Mental Health Center. For details call 296-4357.

## Entertainment

**Beach Club Bar** • The Pier House, 1 Duval Street. Call 296-4600.

**The Bull & Whistle Bar** • Corner of Duval and Caroline Streets. Happy Hour at The Whistle, 5 to 9 p.m. daily.

**Captain Hornblower's** • 300 Front Street. Jazz on the patio every night. Call 294-4922.

**Captain Tony's Saloon** • 428 Greene Street. Call 294-1838.

**Club Havana** • The Pier House at 1 Duval Street. The Byrds on March 9 from 8 to 10 p.m. Call 296-4600.

**ClubLand** • The Strand Theater, 527 Duval. Multi-media dance party Wednesday through Sunday. Thursday is Ladies' Night. Bar Wars Sunday feature two-for-ones until midnight. Call for events and concerts. 293-0016.

**Coconuts Comedy Club** • The Top at La Concha at 430 Duval Street. Call 296-2991.

**Crazy Daizy's at La Concha** • 430 Duval Street. Call 296-2991.

**Flagler's at The Casa Marina** • 1500 Reynolds Street. Call 296-3535.

**Full Moon Saloon** • 1202 Simonon Street. Call 294-9090.

**Green Parrot** • 601 Whitehead. Call 296-6133.

**Harbour Light's Barrelhead Bar** • Garrison Bight Marina. Call 294-9343.

**Hog's Breath Saloon** • 400 Front Street. Nightly entertainment from sunset until 2 a.m. No cover charge. Call 296-4222.

**Islander Restaurant** • 528 Front Street. Call 292-7659.

**Mangrove Mama's** • MM 20 Sugarloaf Key. Tim McAlpine and Ron Sommer jazz dinner every Friday night from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Sam Anderson on guitar every Saturday from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Island dancing with The Survivors on the last Sunday of every month. Call 745-3030.

**Margaritaville Café** • 500 Duval Street. Live entertainment. Call 292-1435.

**Martha's** • S. Roosevelt Blvd (A1A). Call 294-3466.

**Memory Lane** • The Econolodge 2820 N. Roosevelt Boulevard. Call 294-5511.

**Nick's Bar and Grill** • Hyatt Key West 601 Front Street. Mel and Tracey Wednesday through Sunday. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a spectacular sunset nightly. Call 296-5000.

**Nightfall** • The Reach at Simonon and the Beach. Mickey and Squirt 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a spectacular sunset nightly. Call 296-5000.

**Ocean Club Lounge** • The Reach at Simonon and the Beach. Larry Smith on piano 7 to 11 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Drink specials and canapes. Call 296-5000.

**Pirate's Den** • 300 Front Street. Adult entertainment nightly, 8 p.m. to 4 a.m.

**Peek A Boo Lounge** • 300 Southard

Street. Live adult entertainment nightly, 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. Call 294-0959.

**Poinciana Lounge** • 3432 Duck Avenue. Call 294-6800.

**The Quay** • 12 Duval Street. Call 294-4446.

**Ramada Inn Top O'Spray** • 3420 N. Roosevelt Boulevard. Call 294-5541.

**Red's Place** • Corner of Duval and Caroline, behind The Bull. The Carl Davis Group plays blues-plus nightly from 9:30 to 11:30 p.m. songwriters group where local songwriters sing their latest. Call 292-9520.

**Rooftop Café** • 310 Front Street. Vocalists Cathy Grier or Leanna Collins alternating nightly either 3 to 9 p.m. or 9 p.m. to midnight. Call 294-2042.

**Schooner Wharf** • 202 William Street. Every Thursday jam session with 10 to 15 musicians. Every Sunday from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. songwriters group where local songwriters sing their latest. Call 292-9520.

**Sloppy Joe's** • Corner of Duval and Greene Streets. Entertainment beginning daily at 2 p.m. Call 294-5717.

**Square One Restaurant** • Duval Square. Joe Lowe on piano Thursday-Saturday evenings. Call 296-4300.

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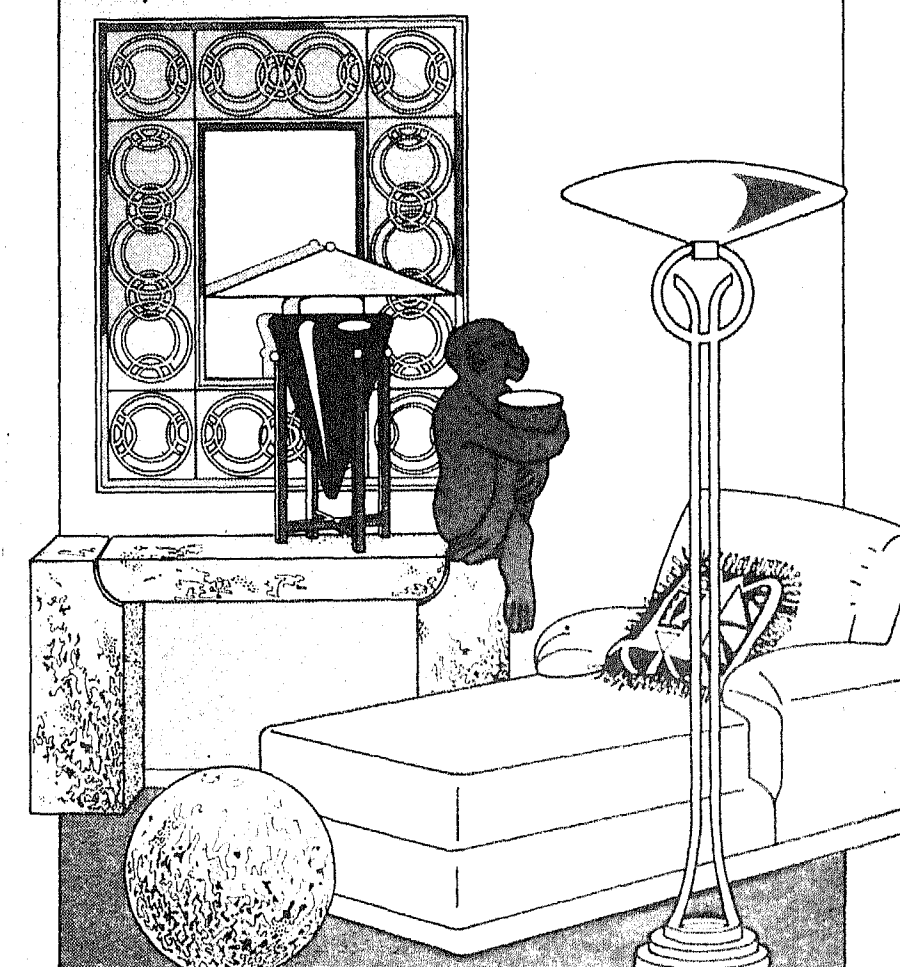
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