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STAY GREEN?
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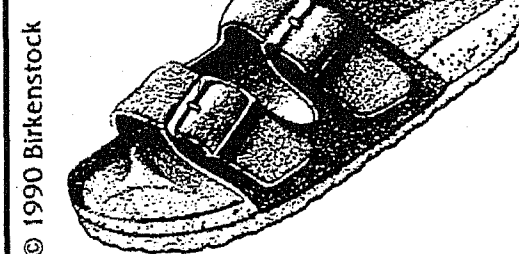
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Peary Court May Stay Green

During the research of *Solares Hill's* lead story on Peary Court, City Commissioner Harry Powell told writer J. D. Dooley, "At some point I stopped worrying about losing a park and started worrying about losing a country." The documentation of activities pertaining to the Navy's Peary Court housing project substantiates Powell's concern. The Navy may have hoped that its flurry of paperwork, complicated procedural policies and bureaucratic runaround would dissuade project opponents from challenging its decision. What the Navy didn't count on was the persistence of Harry Powell.

During his first term as a commissioner, Powell has been hailed as the "people's commissioner" and denounced as a bumbling busybody with two Irish setters and an armload of messy papers. Despite his demeanor, Powell has proven to have great powers of perseverance. He may have watched too many Jimmy Stewart movies as a child. His belief that justice will prevail, however, may yet endear him, like Stewart, to his skeptics.

With Last Stand's decision to sue the Navy, it appears that the diligent efforts of Powell, Starr Patik, the Keep Peary Court Green Committee and others may not be in vain. As of the *Solares Hill* deadline, a

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Navy spokesperson had informed Powell that the Navy is in the process of amending all the correspondence that states "there was no significant response during the 30-day comment period."

This correction is a necessary first step toward revision of the record of the Peary Court case. Though we'd like to think the Navy's mishandling of this situation has been more a result of self-delusion rather than of willful deceit, there may be no way of knowing this for certain. The Navy, however, could do much to repair its standing in this community by making a clean breast of its handling of the Peary Court situation and resuming the process in a more collaborative and less confrontational way.

According to Laurens Pitts, a civilian employee of the Commanding Officer's Office, Southern Division, U.S. Navy, the Navy will consider auctioning Peary Court in 1993 and, again, in 1995. If there are 160 housing units on the property, it will be sold as condominium space.

Ann Boese

The cover drawing of Hayley Pope and her dog Ben was done by Ted Haykal, who specializes in portraits and animals. He is a part-time resident of Key West.

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Can Peary Court Be Saved?

Last Stand files lawsuit against Navy; flawed FONSI is at heart of case by J.D. Dooley

Another chapter of the Peary Court story is beginning to unfold. A paper trail large enough to fill three large file cabinets shows a seriously flawed process, with misleading data leading to misinformed conclusions. The result is a lawsuit filed in federal court by Last Stand, the politically active group in part responsible for the Key West Airport noise ordinance. By this printing, the suit, which calls for an injunction on the Navy's Peary Court housing project until all the evidence can be heard in federal court, should have been filed.

In February 1989 the Navy released a document which is now at the heart of the matter: the FONSI (Finding Of No Significant Impact) report. The FONSI referred to the Navy's conclusion about its environmental assessment, "Navy Family Housing at Peary Court," of the proposed military housing project on Peary Court. The assessment was approved by the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation as Naval Air Station, Enlisted Men's Housing, and by the Office of the Governor as "housing for 160 junior enlisted men."

In a series of assurances to politicians about the project, Navy officials insisted that no significant negative comments were received during a 30-day period after the FONSI was published. This position involved so serious a misrepresentation of the

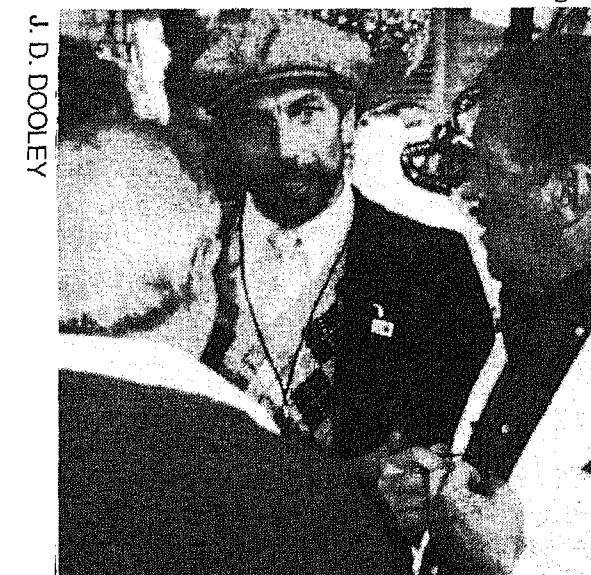
facts that the Navy has now recanted its stance.

The Navy owns a piece of land. It loans it to the City of Key West on a temporary basis. After a few years, it wants the land back so it can build a housing project there. No problem, right?

Many Key West residents were upset by the prospective loss of their Peary Court ballfield and one of the city's most accessible islands of green space. Initially, however, the main reaction was one of resignation. Local officials prepared to follow the usual channels available to them to oppose the housing at that site. Then mayor Richard Heyman sent the Navy a letter in July 1988 outlining concerns and potential problems with the proposed project.

Key West City Commissioner Harry Powell, who had been following the Peary Court issue, felt more deeply about the issue than did most. As early as November 1988, Powell had sent Congressman Dante Fascell and Senator Connie Mack letters protesting the plans to build on Peary Court.

By December 1988, the Peary Court effort was gaining momentum. City commission resolution 88-453 called for Key West's elected officials in Washington and Tallahassee to lobby Naval officials vigorously to look for other sites for the housing project. Locally, a petition urged private citizens to do the same. Most citizens felt as the



GREEN TALK: Commissioner Harry Powell (center) and Last Stand's Jim McLernan (right) lobby Congressman Dante Fascell.

commission did: the Navy owned 20 percent of Key West and the surrounding area, and surely it could find someplace else to build.

Not everyone felt that way, of course. The Military Affairs Committee (MAC), a self-appointed group of Key West businesspeople who attend military socials and welcome ships to Key West, disagreed. The MAC had a long history of support for Navy activities; its members included Randy Moore, David Horan, Ed Toppino, Frank Toppino, Jack Spottswood, Bob Chango and others. During the commissioning of the USS Key West, MAC had presented a the ship with a \$12,000 silver tray, which was paid for with Tourist Development

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MAC's official-looking stationary with the header "Military Affairs Committee, Key West, Florida" emblazoned across the top shows a leaping sailfish circled by the words "Key West." It is possible to confuse correspondence from MAC with an official letter from the City of Key West. It seems that's what some Navy officials may have done.

MAC, which meets behind closed doors on naval property and does not keep minutes of its meetings, passed a December 1989 resolution which read: "Be it resolved that the Military Affairs Committee is unanimous in support of Captain [William] Denning and the Navy in working out a solution to the Navy housing problem and that the City of Key West will work with the Navy to find alternative recreational sites."

The group's position, an official-sounding confirmation of the Navy's intentions,

became convenient to those higher officers who were called upon to defend the plans for Peary Court.

On February 2, 1989, Secretary of the Navy William Ball attended the massing of the colors at Fort Zachary Taylor. Armed with 4500 signatures on the "Keep Peary Court Green" petition and a file containing the correspondence between naval and elected officials and himself, Powell presented Ball with an information packet containing material collected in the effort to find an alternative housing site for the Navy.

Four days later, the FONSI report ran in the *Key West Citizen*. Published February 6, 7 and 8, the report outlined the Navy's plan to construct 160 housing units, which would result in "no significant impact to the environment." It closed with an address where copies of the environmental assessment could be obtained.

Like many large organizations which believe their decisions are made with some larger good in mind, the Navy was inclined to believe it was doing the right thing, and that all people of good will would support it. As messages moved up the chain of command to the point where they would be communicated to public officials, they tended to become more pro-Navy, more self-serving, and, at the same time, more self-delusional.

The Navy said it had performed the cursory environmental assessment and had no plans to perform a detailed environmental impact study. There was no word of public input, and no notification that a 30-day clock on public comment might have been triggered by the FONSI report.

Powell, who read the FONSI report in the *Citizen*, immediately wrote for a copy. Powell had written the same address earlier that week asking Richard Rohrbach, commanding officer of the Southern Division of the Navy's Facilities Engineering Command, to consider another site for the proposed housing.

Powell also wrote Secretary Ball, as a follow-up letter to the Secretary's visit, with a similar request.

Rohrbach replied, requesting that Powell refer all concerns to the local commanding officer, Captain William Denning.

In a reply letter to Congressman Dante Fascell, who inquired on behalf of Key West, Commander J.R. Allen, USN, writes, "A FONSI was published February 6, 7 and 8, 1989, in the *Key West Citizen*.

No significant objections were received during the 30-day comment period."

In a reply letter to Senator Connie Mack, who also inquired on behalf of Key West, Commander P.D. Chamberlin, USN, writes, "A FONSI was published February 6, 7 and 8, 1989, in the *Key West Citizen*. No significant objections were received during the 30-day comment period."

In yet another letter to Fascell, Captain B.L. Runberg, USN writes the exact same thing: "No significant objections were received during the 30-day comment period."

Others refer to this 30-day period throughout correspondence about Peary Court.

Down in the trenches, however, the message was the opposite. Laurens Pitts, a civilian employee of the Commanding Officer's Office, Southern Division, U.S. Navy, the man who released the FONSI, says, "There was no 30-day period. The Navy doesn't need one for this action."

If there were a 30-day comment period, Powell has numerous pieces of correspondence dated within that time frame, including a letter from Captain Richard Rohrbach, commanding officer of the office which released the FONSI. The letter thanked Powell for his letter dated February 10 [four days into the "FONSI period"] which "outlined your [Powell's] concerns about the Navy's plan for constructing family housing in the Peary Court area of Key West."

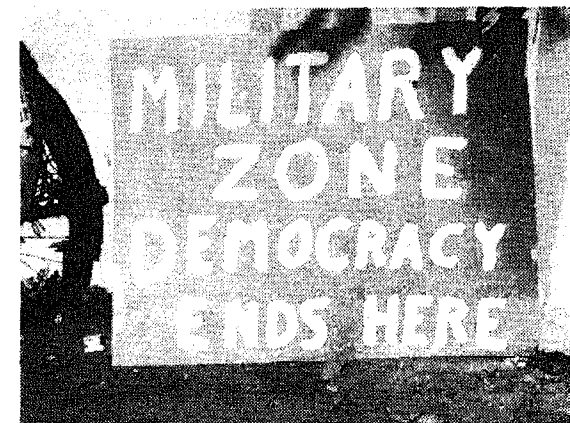
Also during the "FONSI period," Powell met personally with Secretary Ball, wrote to Ball, and again wrote to Rohrbach on the matter.

Senator Connie Mack wrote to Commander P.D. Chamberlin on February 15, and received this reply: "No significant objections were received during the 30-day comment period."

Because of the date, this was perhaps the most curious response of all. On February 15, 1989, the "FONSI period" wasn't even half over.

There are two possible explanations for the contradictions: One is that there is no 30-day period, and that all the Navy officials who referred to one were in error. The other is that there is a 30-day period, but the Navy forgot to publish that part of the FONSI.

What's the Navy's response? "Perhaps we were a bit misleading, but it doesn't matter," said Laurens Pitts. "We'd have done the same thing, anyway."



Attempts were made over four days to reach the actual authors of the Navy's documents, and in each case the identical response was given: "He is out of town on travel and cannot be reached." Commander Allen's secretary called back at one point and said Commander Allen was on another line and wanted more information. But calls to the commander after that were turned aside.

Finally, as this paper was nearing deadline, a Navy spokesperson informed Powell

that the Navy is in the process of amending all correspondence that states "there was no significant response during the 30-day comment period."

By March 1989, Powell became aware of a resolution passed by the Military Affairs Committee, but he was unaware of its contents. Powell sent a letter to then-MAC chairman Robert Feldman, a local attorney, asking Feldman to supply him with a copy of the MAC resolution along with the minutes to the meeting.

Instead of sending him a copy, Powell complained, Feldman sent the resolution to Senator Bob Graham, along with a cover letter on MAC stationery which reads:

"As Chairman of the Military Affairs Committee, I have been requested by Harry B. Powell, a City Commissioner, who, I understand, is acting strictly on his own and not on behalf of the City Commission, has asked me that I forward a copy of the resolution of the Military Affairs Committee to your office. Therefore, I am enclosing

same. "Please understand that the Military Affairs Committee is 100 percent behind the military on its endeavor to use its property as it sees fit. At the same time, the military will work with the city to help find an alternate area for a softball field."

"I am enclosing a copy of the resolution of the Military Affairs Committee dated December 8, 1988. If I can be of any further help to you in this or any other matter, please call me."

Whether Powell was enjoying the full support of the Key West City Commission changed daily. It can safely be said that he was never "strictly on his own."

Another point bothering Powell was the line in the MAC resolution which promised: "The City of Key West will work with the Navy to find alternative recreational sites."

"On whose authority do they make promises on behalf of the city?" Powell wanted to know.

Feldman's letter to Graham prompted

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Powell to do the same. In his letter, Powell explained that he was acting on behalf of resolution 88-453 and now had 5200 signatures on the petition. He also informed the senator that in the last election about 6000 citizens voted.

During the same period, despite the refusal of the city commission to pay for his trip, Powell went to Washington. There he met with Congressman Dante Fascell, Congressman Bill Lehman, Senator Connie Mack and Alice Slayton, aide to Bob Graham. Powell also spoke to members of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and distributed information packets to Senators Nunn, Hatfield, Rudman, Warner, Kennedy, Aspin, Lautenberg, Inoyou, Harken, Sasser, Burdick, Grassley, Byrd and Tauzin.

No concrete progress was made in Washington, but the word was certainly spread. The contacts Powell made later proved valuable, he says.

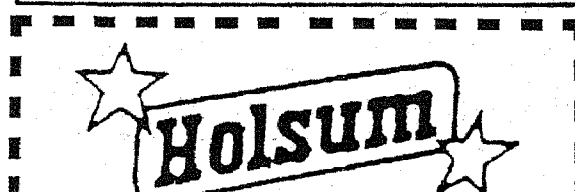
Throughout the remainder of 1989, letters flew and the files became thicker, but it wasn't until February 1990 that the Navy once again tried to fast-track the housing project.

On February 28, R.N. Johnson, a civilian who works for the Navy, wrote a letter to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, stating that the Navy had agreed to build the project under Key West Historic Architectural Review Commission (HARC) guidelines.

Even when it was back-pedaling, the self-delusional quality of the Navy's position persisted. Also within the letter,



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Johnson wrote, "The Key West City Commission passed a resolution supporting the Navy's project." In fact, of course, the city commission never passed a resolution in favor of the Peary Court housing project. Perhaps Johnson was making reference to the Military Affairs Committee resolution. In closing his letter, Johnson requested the Advisory Council approve the plan in "no more than two weeks."

Johnson's office was contacted for comment. It said that he was on travel and unavailable for comment.

In a letter to Congressman Fascell in May, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Jacqueline Schafer confirmed the Navy's agreement to follow HARC guidelines. Schafer wrote, "In further cooperation with the city, the Navy has agreed to incorporate HARC building-code requirements into the design of the project."

In April 1990, Powell sponsored a resolution to list the city as a consulting party in the development of the Peary Court project. Resolution 90-224, which passed unanimously, called for a public hearing and meeting among the city and the National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the U.S. Navy, the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer and the Florida Keys Historic Preservation Board.

As a result of that meeting, the National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation recommended that the Navy perform a study of alternatives to the Peary Court site. Needing Advisory Council approval, the Navy had to comply. However, it also apparently accelerated its building plans. A request for proposals went out, and construction companies were already lining up for the job.

The Navy study began. Powell was sent a matrix analysis, a tool for determining the preference of project sites. The matrix calculated the advantages and disadvantages of sites and ranked them numerically—the higher the score, the more preferred the site.

On the draft matrix, Peary Court was

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ranked highest. The factors considered include land availability, traffic, utilities, constraints, existing conditions and quality of life for military personnel. No civilian factors were included.

The draft matrix numerical ranking was as follows:

Peary Court	29
Truman Annex	25
Sigsbee Park	23
Trumbo Point	18
Stock Island	Unknown

On September 9, the final study was released. It contained the following matrix:

Peary Court	57
Truman Annex	43
Trumbo Point	41
Sigsbee Park	38
Stock Island	Unknown

The scores for Peary Court had been doubled, except for the "quality of life" category, which received a 5 on the draft matrix and a 9 on the final. In 10 of the 18 remaining possible scores for Sigsbee, Trumbo and Truman Annex, the scores were significantly reduced on the final matrix graph, making Peary Court the obvious choice.

A maelstrom of letters followed. In an October 1990 letter to R.N. Johnson, Key West City Planner Ted Strader revised the matrix, adding the civilian factors, with the following results:

Stock Island	252
Sigsbee Park	216
Truman Annex	212
Trumbo Point	208
Peary Court	169

Thus proving, if nothing else, that reports can be tailored to suit specific needs.

On November 20, a memorandum of agreement between consulting parties was released. It stated that the project would be built to the Secretary of the Interior's guidelines—not the more stringent HARC guidelines. The city commission took a vote and decided, on the 25th, not to sign the agreement.

The next day the contract was awarded to the Hunt Group, which had submitted plans months earlier that did not meet the HARC guidelines. A short time later, another contractor, Danville-Findorff, Inc., learned

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of the Hunt Group's contract award and subsequent plans. Based on the plans' non-compliance, Danville-Findorff filed a formal complaint with the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO), which launched an investigation into the Navy's bid procedure.

The Navy immediately terminated the Hunt Group's contract. Paul M. Fisher, a Navy attorney, fired off a letter to the GAO: "The Navy agrees that, as a result of certain procedural irregularities, the award of the contract was improper. Remedial action has been initiated to terminate the award of the contract and to reopen negotiations with all proposers. Since remedial action is being taken, this protest should be dismissed as academic."

In hopes of raising congressional questions, Powell sent Senator Graham a letter detailing the "procedural irregularities" which led to the GAO investigation. The result of that investigation is pending.

In March the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation sent a letter to Commander James Bell, asking that the Navy not resubmit the requests for (construction) proposals until each of the consulting parties agreed. The next day, the Council advised the Navy that the project fell under National Historic Preservation Act guidelines, and again asked the Navy to demonstrate steps taken in compliance with those guidelines.

Sue Lawley, civilian spokesperson for the Navy, said, "There was no significant response during the period before the bids were resubmitted." The requests went out.

A congressional hearing before the House Appropriations Subcommittee, which funds the Coast Guard, also took place in March. Because the Peary Court project is to be built with Department of Transportation funds and the Coast Guard will also utilize the available housing, the Coast Guard must appear before the Appropriations Subcommittee. Within the transcript, Congressman Larry Coughlin, the ranking Republican, questioned Admiral Kime, commandant of the Coast Guard.

Coughlin asked: "The Coast Guard has been trying to build family housing on Peary Court in Key West, Florida. Can you tell us the status of that contract?"

Admiral Kime replied: "We understand that the Navy's selection of their Peary Court property was the cause of some concern within the community. These concerns were subsequently resolved by the Navy."

On April 2, the city commission passed a resolution calling for the Navy to perform a full environmental impact assessment of the Peary Court project. In a heated two-hour debate, Commissioner Jimmy Weekley delivered a tirade against Powell. Defending Fascell, Weekley told Powell to stay out of his way because he (Weekley) was making progress toward a compromise.

Congressman Dante Fascell wrote the Key West City Commission the following letter, dated May 7, 1991:

"Enclosed is the response I have received from the Navy regarding the city commission's resolution calling for an environmental impact statement on the Navy's proposed Peary Court housing project.

"The letter is from Captain B.L.

Runberg, USN . . . and contains the following language: "The FONSI was published in a local Key West newspaper. During the following 30-day comment period, no written responses were received."

At the city commission meeting on May 21, Powell requested \$1000 to hire legal counsel for a complete review of the record. The attorney would advise the city as to whether it had a case based on the National Environmental Policy Act. If so, then perhaps the city could halt the process until the issues were resolved.

Commissioner Sally Lewis was not opposed to finding out the truth but did not want to enter into litigation with the Navy. The other commissioners were whole-

heartedly opposed. Mayor Tony Tarracino said, "Under no circumstances will I ever enter into a lawsuit against the Navy."

Powell's request was denied.

As a last-chance hope, Powell appeared before the board of Last Stand and told the entire story. After some discussion, Last Stand voted to obtain counsel and file an injunction in federal court against the Navy.

Armed, in part, with the Navy's decision to alter the crux of its Peary Court correspondence, Last Stand hopes that a federal judge will hear the entire case and make a decision to require the Navy to perform a full-scale, all-factors-included environmental impact assessment statement.

Like they say, it ain't over til it's over. ☐

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A Cultural Pas de Deux

Will two arts leaders survive on Monroe County's funding stage?

by Carole Heinlein

From Lorenzo de Medici to Jesse Helms, societal leaders have vigorously debated the role of public funding for the arts. No widely-shared conclusions seem to have emerged. However, there's hope that the recent experiences of Monroe County in the arts-funding arena will add at least a couple of zany footnotes to the history of the issue.

Realizing that there is a relationship between a healthy arts scene and an inflow of tourism dollars, Monroe County sought in the 1980s to put its money where its arts were. It entrusted advisory boards of Chamber-of-Commerce appointees with the task of making recommendations as to where to place Tourist Development Council (TDC) funds earmarked for advertising and promoting the cultural activities.

Monroe County Fine Arts Council (MCFAC) sought to make itself a major force in TDC arts spending. However, MCFAC was never given the authority, and the funding process remained the same through autumn of 1990.

Although MCFAC got off to a good start in 1980, artists and art organizations complained to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) that it wasn't giving them proper assistance they needed after Parvan Bakardjiev was hired in 1986. To many, the council's international festival was sparking bad feelings, and the future of local cultural growth was in dire straits.

Then, last October, the BOCC shifted course. By a 4-1 vote it awarded a contract to the Key West Art and Historical Society (KWAHS) to create a Cultural Umbrella Committee. In doing so, the BOCC made KWAHS the center of the county's cultural community, while largely turning its back on MCFAC, a part of its own county government.

It's too early to judge the results of the reorganization, but at least the recriminations and backbiting seem to have abated.

Essentially, the three-year contract gave KWAHS, whose executive director, Susan Olsen, is a fundraiser and grantwriter, the authority "to act as a county-wide Cultural Umbrella to make recommendations to the TDC concerning funding for tourism-related cultural activities." Amount allocated for the fiscal year: \$350,000.

Meanwhile, county government is continuing to fund MCFAC—to the tune of \$102,000 for the current fiscal year. Headed by Parvan Bakardjiev, a controversial impresario, MCFAC has been unsuccessful in getting more money from the BOCC.

To initiate the Cultural Umbrella, the KWAHS appointed a committee of five,

each representing one of the five TDC districts. The president of the KWAHS, Robert Feldman, an attorney, is a non-voting member.

Appointed were: Kathleen Elgin (District I), a graphic artist, member of the board of directors of the KWAHS and founder of the School for the Performing Arts, to serve as chairman; Jacqueline Rosenblatt (District II), a classical pianist; Jackie Wicks, a radio news director and former member of District III Advisory Council; Helen Burton, president of the Purple Isle Art and Craft Guild, an artist, former editor, and member of the Upper Keys Associates of the MCFAC (District IV); and Lorraine Foley (District V), owner of a graphic arts agency and

ment of Monroe County, Florida, for the purpose of developing, coordinating and promoting the performing and visual arts in Monroe County, contracting for artistic services, performances and exhibits and developing physical facilities for the use of the arts, all for the enjoyment, education, cultural enrichment and benefit of the citizens of Monroe County, Florida.

Note: It doesn't say for the tourists. It says for the citizens.

Bakardjiev, whose current salary as managing director is \$47,625, was hired in 1986. Among his contractual responsibilities was to create an international festival under the auspices of the MCFAC. His contract read: "Providing as well as producing a festival for the county and state of international stature and to produce a higher quality of performance in the art forms of opera, ballet, theater, poetry, dance, symphony, choral, chamber music, recitals, jazz, contemporary, etc."

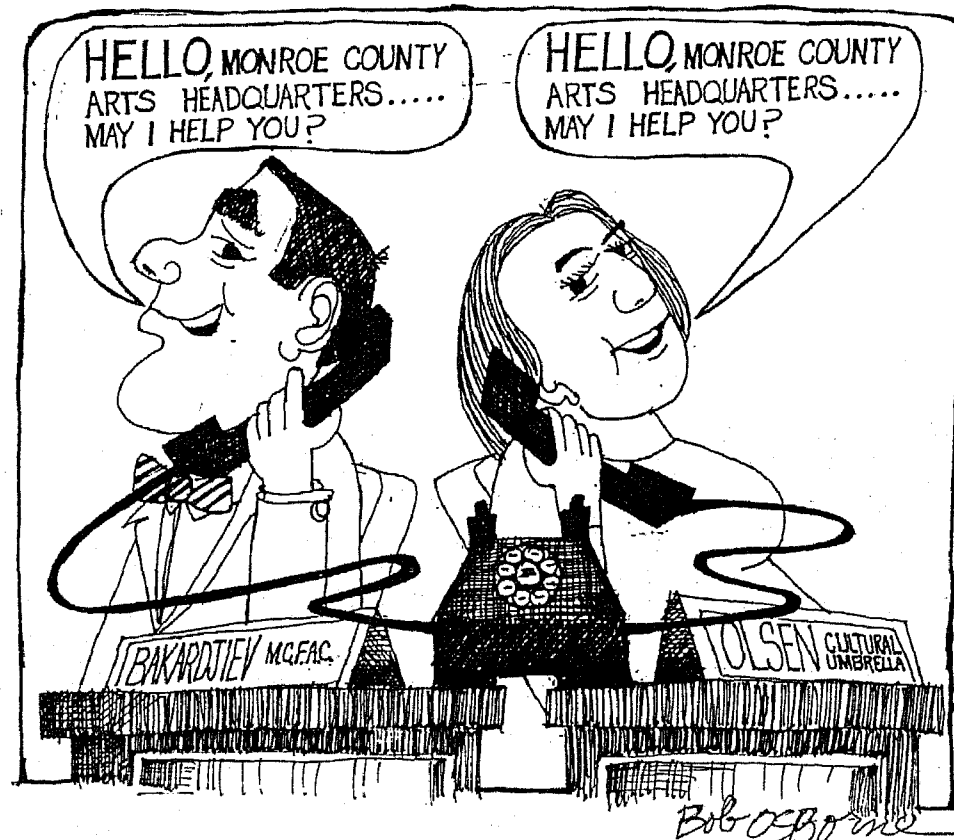
"In connection with the production the artists and performers will be drawn from city, state, national and international organizations. Local arts organizations will be (sic) become the backbone in artists in residence. The festival will also serve as a catalyst for local artists with exceptional talents by way of providing an opportunity to work with renowned artists."

"The festival will directly stimulate the local economy by increasing the number of visitors, especially the affluent visitor, who looks for a vacation spot that provides an array of cultural events."

The concept was exciting and promising. A festival of international stature that would offer high quality performances and attract affluent visitors seemed just the ticket for Monroe County. The Festival of the Continents, however, was ill-fated. (The festival, which is no longer being produced, still exists and is undergoing changes "quietly," according to spokesman Joe Liszka.)

Local arts organizations were concerned that the festival would consume the advertising dollars they wanted, and, as they discovered that few of them were included in the events, they became outraged that the MCFAC was supporting a largely imported festival. When the slick festival brochures failed to pull in all those affluent outsiders, and the artistic events didn't live up to their promise—to put it kindly—the arts organizations found themselves getting a more sympathetic ear from the Chamber-of-Commerce types to whom the BOCC had entrusted all that TDC money.

Enter Susan Olsen. Olsen had been hired as executive director of the KWAHS in 1986. Her first



board member of the MCFAC whose term expires this year. Susan Olsen is executive director.

"It's terrific. It's a breathe of fresh air," said Lorraine Foley of Key Largo, who has one foot in each camp. She describes herself as the "oldest and youngest member" on the MCFAC's board, which cycles through members quickly because of its by-laws. Foley's term expires this September.

Becoming a member of the Cultural Umbrella Committee has not made Foley popular on the MCFAC. But she sees the system working much better, and she feels that the citizens of Monroe County are benefiting by activities funded by bed-tax dollars.

"Locals go to it. Locals create it. Locals are involved," said Foley.

She has now had the opportunity to work with local artists and art organizations, and she says she "had no idea how disliked Bakardjiev was." She referred to MCFAC's reputation as "a public-relations disaster."

According to Monroe County Code, MCFAC was created as "part of the govern-

public offer to help local artists and art organizations came in 1987, according to an article in the *Key West Citizen* on October 4, entitled: "Artists Alliance Claims Monroe Fine Arts Council is not Doing Its Job."

It read, "Susan Olsen, director of the Art and Historical Society, said she has heard enough complaining and her organization is ready to start providing some of the services which are supposed to be provided by the arts council."

It continued, "She said an artists' registry will be started in the Art and Historical Society's new computer system, and she said statewide and nationwide competitions for visual artists will be posted on bulletin boards at East Martello and the Lighthouse Museum from now on. Starting a local newsletter was also discussed, but never got past a short mention."

One of the major bones of contention with Bakardjiev's administration of MCFAC was the way TDC funds were directed toward his own productions. When Olsen signed on to the Cultural Umbrella Committee contract, she took a vow of poverty. "No TDC funds will be used to cover administrative costs," the contract says. It does authorize the KWAHS's Cultural Umbrella Committee, however, to "apply for grants and programs that assist in administrative costs and fulfill the needs of the cultural agencies as a unit."

Currently, KWAHS, formed in 1949, has no secretary. Olsen, whose KWAHS salary is \$30,000, and assistant director Joseph Pais type their own correspondence, handle large mailings and so forth. Olsen is the only person on KWAHS's paid 12-member staff involved in Cultural Umbrella Committee activities. She claims she spends about 50 hours a month on Umbrella work.

Moreover, the KWAHS board of directors voted not to apply for other TDC support during the three years that KWAHS will control the Cultural Umbrella contract.

"I feel as if I cut my own throat," Olsen said. "Now I can't get any more money for advertising."

Funding would have helped promote special exhibits, advertise for visitors and produce brochures to generate business for East Martello and the Lighthouse Museum. In fiscal year 1989-1990, the KWAHS collected \$17,185 in TDC funds for museum brochures. "I feel it is not in [KWAHS's] best interest to do this," reflected Olsen as she readied for an exhibit of the history of the Customs House. "It politically hurts us. We can't run our own agencies and be fighting to improve the arts council at the same time."

"But somebody had to do it," she said.

The new arrangement has changed the procedure cultural organizations go through to get TDC funding. Instead of going to their respective TDC advisory councils, made up of appointees from their district, they go to people more familiar with cultural activities. These organizations are then represented at TDC meetings by Olsen before recommendations go to the BOCC for final approval.

Just over half of the bed-tax money which provides TDC funding comes from Key West, and most organized cultural

activities also originate here. Of the \$350,000 available, nearly \$195,000 was allocated to Key West-based cultural organizations and activities as of April. Another \$115,000 of the \$350,000 was allocated to Tinsley Advertising, the TDC agency, for advertising and production.

Meanwhile, the MCFAC is coordinating other cultural activities along the Keys, including Arts Explo, the council's county-wide celebration of the arts.

MCFAC will continue to do what it was charged to do, according to its new chairman, Ralph Cunningham, an attorney and politician from Marathon. He says MCFAC "is not going to serve as a lackey for the TDC."

Since Cunningham took over seven months ago, the council has been working on a membership drive and soliciting corporate donations. Bakardjiev says that his budget is now at \$200,000 and may go to \$220,000. MCFAC did not apply for TDC funding for fiscal year 1990-1991 or 1989-1990, according to TDC records.

Olsen's comment on MCFAC's decision not to apply: "They're foolish. They're entitled to it."

Olsen's track record helped the KWAHS get the Cultural Umbrella Committee contract. Her major accomplishment has been the Key West Lighthouse restoration, where she was able to raise almost a million dollars



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Bakardjiev's record for acquiring grant money has been spottier. In 1989, he received \$19,600 for local arts agency assistance, and another \$15,866 for four other grants, all relating to the performing arts. Last year, he got \$12,000 from the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs (DCA), and an additional \$13,000 for local arts-agency assistance this year.

In her new position, Olsen applied to the state for two grants, one a 3-1 challenge matching grant which would have brought an extra \$100,000 under the umbrella and the other a \$40,000 grant for administrative costs.

The challenge grant from the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs is "available to cultural institutions or groups of institutions which have regional or statewide impact." Olsen says that a review hearing on the application in Tallahassee in February was not well received. "[The judges were] not used to tourist monies being moved around like that," she said.

It seems that Monroe County's maneuvers to create the Cultural Umbrella, which puts tax money in an awkward position, may create difficulties. The state



UNDER PRESSURE: Susan Olsen has taken on responsibility for Monroe County's cultural future.

didn't accept Olsen's attempt to use the \$300,000 in TDC funds under the KWAHS Cultural Umbrella to match the \$100,000.

"One of the hardest parts in the process was putting these [grant applications] under KWAHS," says Olsen, who refers to the process as a "winning game."

Olsen had hoped to fund 50 different artists' projects with the \$100,000.

The second grant application is for \$40,000 for administrative costs. Olsen

should know the verdict on that one in July.

Olsen has had success in acquiring operating funds grants for KWAHS from Division of Historical Resources. The society received a \$30,000 operating grant from the agency last October, and another for \$25,000 this April. It is currently applying for an additional \$30,000.

"This was the third in a three-part cycle," says Olsen.

Understandably, MCFAC takes a dim view of the Cultural Umbrella Committee's attempt to function as a arts council to fulfill the needs of the arts community.

"We don't recognize any other arts council," says Arlene Reiser of Tavernier, last year's MCFAC chairman. "That was a poor thing for TDC to do. They don't know how to run a arts council."

"It is another unnecessary step in bureaucratic government, which we have a lot of in Monroe County," said Herman Stein, also of Tavernier, who served as chairman before Reiser.

According to County Commissioner John Stormont, who has been a county representative on the TDC and has attended MCFAC meetings, part of the reason MCFAC did not get more county money is the way in which MCFAC is set up.

Stormont says that MCFAC needs to educate itself about the technical problems relating to its structure. He also suggested "a change in attitude."

Bakardjiev's employment contract is with MCFAC, not the county. Bakardjiev says he initiated discussion to make the council part of the infrastructure of Monroe County. His current employment contract as managing director specifies that he will not become a county employee if this happens. It is due to expire next January.

Bakardjiev says he will continue on the job as long as his constituency is happy. He recently received a plaque, which reads: "Parvan Bakardjiev—The members of the MCFAC honor your inspirational leadership and awesome accomplishments in the Keys these last few years. We thank you and look forward to sharing your magnificent talent for many more years. 1991."

The plaque says members, not board members, points out Lorraine Foley.

In a future issue, Solares Hill will look at the needs of the arts community and the ability of the two local organizations to meet those needs.

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WKWF Radio

Key West's first station was born in a hurricane

by Bud Jacobson

In the 1930s and through most of the '40s, the only radio stations heard in Key West were broadcast from Miami or Havana. Reception varied depending on the weather and time of day, which affect AM broadcasting.

Then in 1948 a hurricane came barreling up from the horse latitudes in the Atlantic, aimed at the Florida Keys. Along with it came John Maloney Spottswood, scion of the old-line Key West family. Spottswood had been plugging for an FCC license for this town since he had come back from military service during WW II.

With a hurricane on the horizon and strategic political hookups in Washington, D.C., like Florida Senator George S. Smathers, Spottswood pleaded "the people are desperately in need of immediate news on that coming hurricane." Smathers backed him in the emergency FCC permit up, and before long all ears were tuned to WKWF Radio, AM 1600, "Wonderful Key West Florida."

The achievement was his springboard into Key West and Monroe County politics at a time when about 85 percent of the total population of the county lived in Key West. Spottswood was a Democrat; and the county was 99 percent Democrat. From a small but shrewd opening like this, Spottswood went on to be sheriff and then state senator. As sheriff he became President Harry Truman's favored host when Truman was here.

The radio station, in its time, was a great idea as far as the islanders were concerned. Prior to WKWF, their news came from the daily newspaper, *The Key West Citizen*, and the *Miami Herald*. News in the local paper consisted mostly of social notes, goings and comings of winter visitors, party

gossip, death notices and local sports. With a radio station, locally owned, they had a live voice, doing on-the-spot live news—or close to it.

WKWF was the first serious competition *The Citizen* had ever experienced, and it was not looked on kindly. News reporters and the city desk editor got short tempered when they heard their daily stories (sketchily rewritten) over the radio waves, and then had to endure snide remarks along Duval Street about being "scooped."

The studio and tower for the 500-watt station were set up on MacDonald Avenue on Stock Island, an area which was then more like a jungle than the suburb it is today. The tower still stands there today, and it's still 500 watts AM.

Spottswood gathered around him some of his oldest and closest pals, from their days in school and as young men around town. Among them were Kermit Lewin, later to be mayor of the city for three terms; Charley Wardlow, a licensed radio operator; Charley Lowe, a whiz in electronics and radio; Ray Schoneck, well-known in political and business circles—and others.

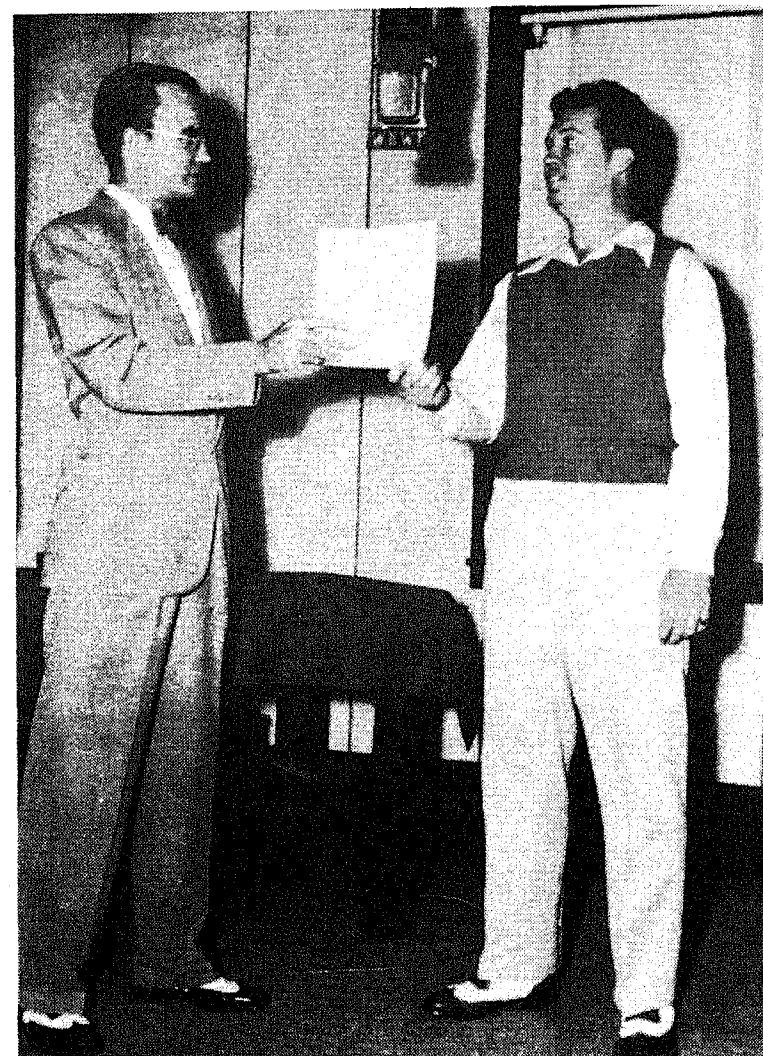
Lewin was WKWF's first announcer cum disk jockey, then Schoneck came on board. Wardlow was the engineer.

"We had a time out there on Stock Island, believe me," Lewin says with a smile.

"Ikey Parks owned the Palm Dairy property, right behind the radio station, and cows roamed all over the place.

"On summer nights we'd leave the back door open to catch a breeze. The lights would attract the cows who'd poke their heads in and our listeners would be treated to a prolonged moo-o-o-o in the middle of a commercial. It was down-home, all right!"

On weekend nights, Lewin recalls, the radio station would get sailors pounding on the door in the middle of the night, thinking it was Mom's Tea Room, the well-known



ON THE AIR: John M. Spottswood (left) & Kermit Lewin.

brothel and rest home for tired sailors after payday.

"We'd shake our heads, and point down the road," Kermit said, "It's about a half-mile."

As the station geared up, Spottswood added a station manager, another old friend, Charley Smith, who was later to become his manager for the town's first TV connection, Cable Vision, Inc. Another young rake who joined the staff as an announcer was John DePoo, famed for his witty and sometimes sarcastic imitations. DePoo was not around too long.

Then, as Lewin recalls, Spottswood added a charming young blond to keep the books in order. Her name was Mary Sellers—and later Mary Spottswood.

"Our biggest advertising account was Spottswood's drug store [now an antique emporium], at Simonton and Fleming, Lewin said. "John's mother, Florence, ran the business and his father, Colonel Bob, could be seen more on the golf links than in the store."

Radio spots cost anywhere from 80 cents to \$2.50 for a minute, "and you'd be surprised at the number of ads we got," said Lewin.

WKWF had radioland Key West all to itself for ten years. Among its most popular shows was an early morning newsy-gossipy talk show hosted by Duval Street businessman, Paul Sher, titled "Morning Call with Paul." It woke up a lot of people.

For a long time, Sher had been a political activist and was well-known in the downtown area, around Southard and Duval. He, along with ten or 12 friends and insiders, would hang out for their morning coffee at Chuck's, an open-air deli on the

ground floor of what was then J.R. Stowers hotel. (Today it's the site for the art deco restoration of the Pegasus hotel.)

Frequently, Sher got more hot gossip than would pass muster when the copy was read to the higher-ups. At one point, Spottswood got so nervous about the political hot pepper that he used a disclaimer, shoveling all the responsibility for Morning Call onto Sher's shoulders, and eventually the talk show faded out.

In the late 50s, Spottswood introduced cable TV to the natives who jumped at the chance to get a set and watch the news. Of course it wasn't easy—you had to fork out \$150 for a hookup charge and then pay the monthly fee. Reception was not the world's greatest.

He put the TV studio in with the radio station and hired more people—cameramen, announcers, etc.

One of the men he signed up was Eric Bromley, an experienced TV personality from the Maryland-D.C. area. Bromley could write and edit the evening news, sell ads and dream up promotions. His cameraman was E.J. "Duke" Yannacone, who would be moonlighting after a tour on the police force during the day.

"We always wondered if anybody out there was watching us," Bromley said.

The routine for the evening news would be that Bromley would write the copy, then

don a sport jacket, tie and shirt that he kept in the closet, sit down at the table in front of the camera, spread out his papers and pencils, and look at the camera. Duke would signal, and they were on the air.

The camera was stationary, and the angle was such that all viewers saw was the table top and Bromley reading the news, seriously in a baritone voice—like a real network anchor.

One hot summer night Bromley was in shorts and barefoot, but all the viewers saw was this announcer, dressed up and looking very professional behind the table. The show ended, and Bromley walked away toward the exit, but Duke turned the camera on his backsides and there was the dignified announcer—half undressed.

"We found out pretty quick that we had an audience. John told us about it in no uncertain terms," Bromley said.

At about the time Cable Vision made its entrance, the radio picture in Key West and the Keys began changing, slowly at first and then into a flood.

The second AM station opened on Boot Key, near Marathon, in the late '50s—WFFG (World's Finest Fishing Grounds). Within a year, investors in Key West started up WKIZ, the third AM station, 250 watts when it went on the air, with a young man from Alabama, Gayle Swofford, as man-

ager. The FM radio flood began sometime during the late '60s, and one of the leaders in that booming field was WIIS (Wonderful Island In the Sun) owned by then-County Commissioner W.A. "Billy" Freeman and his brother, David. They also owned the Porter Allen Company.

Today, from here to Key Largo, there are 13 FM stations dominating the airwaves, and more licenses are pending. One of them lists as a part-owner Charlie Ramos, former city and county commissioner and state legislator.

What Spottswood began as a tiny radio station in 1948 has turned into an "industry" in the Keys, employing upwards of 150 people and generating millions of dollars in revenue.

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by J.D. Dooley

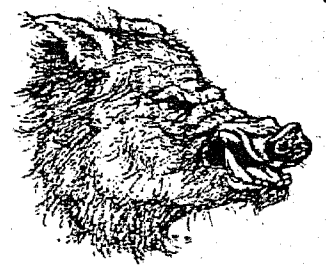
When Harry Met Jimmy

Commissioner Jimmy Weekley was irked when he discovered that Commissioner Harry Powell had added his name as a co-sponsor to Weekley's resolution to double commissioners' salaries. The original sponsor protested, withdrew his name, as well as his support, and stated, "When a commissioner sponsors a resolution, other commissioners should ask the sponsoring commissioner before co-sponsoring. I don't want to be associated with this resolution."

After the commissioners discussed doubling their \$8500-a-year stipends at the May 6 meeting, Powell withdrew his resolution, saying he planned to raise the question again later this summer when the commissioners study the next fiscal budget.

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The question of what politicians should be paid is as old as government itself. Historically, elected officials make little or no money for their endeavors. Some say this practice precludes anyone with a low income from attaining office. Others say that a city commissioner only works part-time and should be paid a part-time salary.

Commissioner Harry Powell argues the job is full-time. He says if he is to do the work effectively, he must be able to make ends meet at home.

"We eat, sleep and breath this job, and we are being paid \$4.02 per hour," Powell claims. "The average Monroe County income is \$16,000 per year. I don't want to live high on the hog—I would just like to be able to meet my financial obligations."

Commissioner Virginia Panico disagrees.

"This is not a job. We are elected officials," Panico said. "If you can't make ends meet, get a part-time job."

Powell says another job would seriously impair his ability to perform the task of commissioner.

"We are responsible for understanding each of the issues that come before us and acting accordingly," claims Powell. "If we can't spend time reviewing the city business and fully understand all the issues, then we are remiss in our duties."

Indeed, the agenda for the May, 7 meeting was 246 pages. Each commissioner is charged with not only reading the issues at hand but understanding them to the extent that they can represent the city as the governing body. Contained within those pages were: 32 resolutions, 2 presentations, 4 pro-

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posed city ordinance readings and 2 items for discussion.

When Powell was elected in 1987, the salary was \$10,500. The commissioners took a voluntary pay cut to aid the island's ailing budget.

And the Rich Get Richer

The commissioner's decision not to give themselves a raise did not hinder their ability to dole out the dollars.

At the regular meeting May 21, City Manager Felix Cooper received a 14 percent salary, boosting his annual earning to \$70,020.10—an even ten grand.

The commissioners had previously tabled Cooper's raise, pending the completion of a performance evaluation. The commissioners twice tried to evaluate Cooper, but found the evaluation procedures unacceptable. In the end, each in turn, said how he felt. As a group, they rated Cooper "better than satisfactory." Cooper's new salary is effective immediately.

Lewis Remains Mayor Pro Tempore

Mayor Tony Tarracino had barely uttered his resolution to make Commissioner Powell mayor pro tempore for three months, to be followed by Commissioner Virginia Panico until the end of her term, before it was voted down.

Early in his term, Tarracino promised to give each commissioner a turn at the pro tempore position, which means they would fill in for the mayor in his absence. The mayor explained that time had slipped by, and that his original mayor pro tempore, Commissioner Sally Lewis, has kept the position for 18 months.

Commissioner Panico, who recently announced she would not seek re-election in November as she has accepted a position with the Chamber of Commerce, said she was happy the way things are. Lewis said she enjoyed the post and did not wish to abdicate. Commissioner Weekley said he agreed with the other two, made a motion to deny, and that was that.

Last Stand vs. U.S. Navy: June 4

A presentation by Last Stand outlining its lawsuit against the Navy (see Peary Court, this issue) is scheduled for the June 4 city commission meeting. Among the speakers expected to appear is a representative from the law firm of Entin, Schwartz, Goldman, Margules and Moore. Steven Goldman, a partner in the firm, recently performed a cursory review of the documents and stated that he believed that litigation action against the Navy appears to stand a 90-percent chance of success.

Details are still incomplete at this writing. Disclosure of Last Stand's action will be presented at the upcoming commission meeting. The public is urged to attend.

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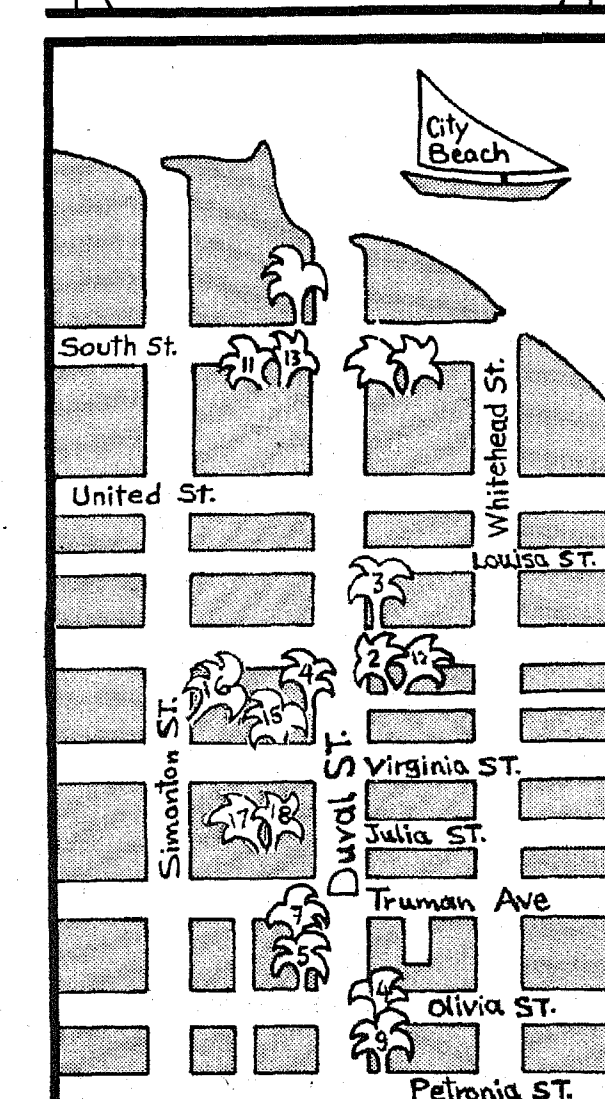
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On The Town

with Jane Phillips

Around the island . . .

When it comes to sensationalism, which translates to big bucks at the cash register, write-for-spice books about living celebrities sell best. Kitty Kelly's *Nancy* is the current example. Recent tomes on the entombed—Elvis, John Lennon, Pablo Picasso—don't do quite so well.

How is *Nancy* doing here on the island? "Only fifty-fifty," reports Dee Winter at Waldenbooks.

John Boisonault at Key West Island Bookstore says the book is "selling well," but his real bestsellers have a Key West setting: Thomas Sanchez's *Mile Zero*, James Hall's *Bones of Coral* and John Cole's *Tarpon Quest*.

Leslie Messer at Valladares & Son says *Nancy* is selling "okay." Sales there are brisk, however, for "anything by John Hersey," followed by Joy Williams' *The History Guildbook for Key Largo to Key West*. In a recent *New York Times* Best Living Author poll, Ernest Hemingway was at the top of the list!

Saltwater and freshwater conchs come together in the bocce league at the McCoy Indigenous Park. Memory Lane teammates, Joe Blum, Steve Bear, Barry Pope, Chuck Romito, Steve Gallick and Darryl "Tuna" Burgess won the championship, but everybody had a great time. (I've been told bocce is a game designed to be played with one hand, leaving the other free for liquid refreshment.)

One team held a mock santeria ceremony, complete with plastic chicken and candies. Another called for a steroid check

JANE PHILLIPS



LADIES WHO LUNCH: Pat Toppino, Sheila Sands and Sherri Smallwood.

on the opposing team. Among the regular players are Judge Richard Fowler, arts cheerleader and cultural umbrella-holder Susan Olsen and sculptor John Martini. John just returned from a major show of his work in New Orleans and was off again—in a flash—to Paris.

It's sink, not swim, for another sculptor, Ann Labriola. The initial piece of her "Stargazer," an underwater sculpture designed to encourage an artificial reef, was placed off Sand Key. To do the job Ann got a little help from her friend, the U.S. Navy.

On the island, bikes are a major form of transportation, and we don't like it when they disappear. One person in line at the post office expressed his disapproval of bike lifting. His T-shirt read "Bicycle Thieves Should Be Hung," with a body dangling from a palm tree.

Artist Errol Etienne solves the two-wheel problem another way. He's draped his conch cruiser with so much rope it resembles a landlocked shrimp boat. It's so easily recognizable he never has to lock it. (Errol is a one of a kind, too.)

Architect Dennis Beebe transformed

the drab Pegasus Hotel, owned by Dr. Eshri Singh, into a lavender art deco dream. Too bad the garish, orange T-shirt sale signs spoil the effect.

City Commissioner Sally Lewis says the vacancy left by fellow Commissioner Virginia Panico—who decided not to run again, opting for a high seat with the Chamber of Commerce instead—will be "a horse race right down to the finish line."

Anyone who attended the recent AIDS Celebrity Pillow fundraiser at the Casa Marina couldn't help but notice that Virginia "Vanna White" Panico, who assisted Miami T.V. personality Art Carlson with the auction, has great legs. She appeared in high heels, black hose and a tiny leotard. Key West's Vanna could give the real Vanna a race for the roses.

John Gilbert, top dog at The Reach, was beaming at so many locals attending the Key West Woman's Club Annual Awards Luncheon held at the resort recently. Everyone was commenting on the delicious food, especially pastry chef John Claude's assortment of petit fours and Grand Marnier Truffle.

Peggy McClaine, the club's dynamo

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president, was given a standing ovation and a beautiful crystal star, symbolizing the luncheon theme "Reach For The Stars." Debbie Horan presided, Gerri Louise entertained and Vicki Roush sang. Honored guest Senator Larry Plummer spoke a few words, commenting that he considered "Tallahassee the finest city in Georgia," and he was glad to be back. Among those receiving awards were Don DeFeo, Lou Petrocella, Jack Baron and Jeff Erwin. Club member Jackie Keegan was named "Woman of the Year," and Judge Sandra Taylor presented the Scholarship Award to a young woman with outstanding credits, Angela Robinson.

Bobby Nesbitt was on hand to entertain and delighted everyone with a song he wrote for the club. Bobby, who makes any event special, never says no to the club. He is rewarded annually with the latest edition of its cookbook—and the affection of each and every member.

After Dark . . .

CoCo Robiceaux, who plays guitar and sings at Harbor Light's Barrelhead Bar, says Key West is the best place in the world for a man. "All the women have jobs and tattoos—all the men sport-drink and fish." CoCo is one of the more colorful characters in town and made the cover of *Solares Hill* a few issues back. A New Orleans native, he sings "You Are So Beautiful," and everybody listens.

Unlike places where people complain about dull houseguests, we attract some fascinating ones down here and share them

ANOTHER AWARD: Key West resident Richard Wilbur was awarded the gold medal for poetry from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters in New York City on May 15. In addition he has received:

- 1952 • Guggenheim Fellowship
- 1954 • Prix de Rome
- 1957 • Pulitzer Prize for Poetry
- 1957 • National Book Award for Poetry
- 1959 • Boston Festival Award
- 1960 • Ford Foundation
- 1963 • Bollingen Prize
- 1973 • Shelley Memorial Award
- 1983 • PEN Translation Prize
- 1987 • Chevalier Ordre des Palmes Academique
- 1988 • Los Angeles Book Prize
- 1989 • Pulitzer Prize

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with our friends. That's just what architect Michael Miller and artist-wife Helen Colley did when international photographer pal dropped in from Boston. They hosted an impromptu slide show of Mano's

recent work. It was spectacular.

After you've been here awhile, you realize that sooner or later everybody comes to Key West.

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At Long Last, Summer

by Jeanne Somma

The rain beat fiercely against the window. Thor grumbled in the distance, the walls shook, and flashes of unharnessed electricity lit the room like a strobe gone berserk. Meanwhile, the so-called controlled electricity, for which I pay dearly, had quit! Ah, the rainy season had begun and I was drifting into the most pleasant slumber I'd had in months. The next morning I woke to the melodic hum of mosquitos desperately searching for a hole in the screen. But I didn't care. For me the arrival of the rainy season indicated the exodus of winter guests.

The last winter had been especially trying as the onslaught of guests started sooner than expected. Also, accommodations were limited. A carport converted into a miniscule one-bedroom apartment should have discouraged all but the most tolerant of guests. But in late November the first call came, and for the rest of the winter a parade of visitors marched through our lives.

Relatives

"Who was on the phone?" Jim asked. "My brother. He's coming to visit with his new girlfriend for a week or so. They'll be here tomorrow," I answered.

"Where are they going to stay?"

"I told him our place was small; he said he didn't mind. Maybe they can stay on our

boat."

A Dade County rental car stopped short in front of the house; two very weary travelers disembarked grousing about a hot, tiring ride from Miami.

"This place is nuts! These people can't drive! That road down here is terrible!" My brother threw up his hands as he spouted off.

"Hello George, welcome to Key West," I greeted.

He introduced me to Lorraine, a pouting, cosmopolitan teenager. I showed them the choice of accommodations, a futon on the floor or a berth in our 26-foot sailboat docked behind the house. Neither appealed to lovely Lorraine, but she settled for the boat, sighing unhappily. The four pieces of luggage which contained their necessities for the week took up more space than my furniture!

Much of Lorraine's time was spent in the bathroom adjusting hair or makeup, which were falling prey to the humidity. The power went out one night and the water pressure dropped to a trickle. This infuriated Lorraine since she was just about to take her evening shower and put on her night-time face. The unavailability of a bathtub, full-length mirror, and a walk-in closet was pushing her patience to the limit.

I really didn't see much of them. They were out "sunning and funning" all day and spent most evenings arguing or not speaking to each other.

"Too much sun makes Lorraine cranky," my brother explained.

As the week passed, Lorraine's pouting had manifested into distinct harrumphing. When they loaded up the car with luggage, new resort wear, and Florida souvenirs, I overheard her say to George, "Next time we're going on a *real* vacation at a resort? This is *not* a paradise!"

We waved as they pulled away, thinking that was it for winter guests.

The Party Animals

"Who was on the phone?" Jim asked. "My brother's friends. They're coming to the Keys and want to stop by. They'll be here tomorrow," I answered.

"Where are they going to stay?"

"I told them our place was small. They

said they had a camper."

It had been a long day; I was tired. The height of the season was upon us, and in a tourist-related industry, a 60-hour work week is not uncommon. I turned onto my street; the jagged sound of hard, ear-piercing, heavy metal rang out. Surprisingly, it was coming from the huge Winnebago, which was parked in front of my house!

"Heavy party, man," Tom said, inviting me into his rolling boom box. I climbed into a blue haze of cigarettes, marijuana, stale beer and old socks. The purple shag carpet on the walls and the colored lights pulsating to the beat of bad music sent me reeling back to my hippie days of the 60s. He introduced me to three young men, who were attempting to focus through half-mast eyes.

I took the beer Tom offered, but passed up the shots of tequila, explaining I partied in the summertime. At midnight, I asked them to turn down the music to avoid complaints from the neighbors.

"But this is the Keys, man. Margaritaville—ya know what I mean!"

They "couldn't relate" to why I didn't just take a few days off to party and "get down" while they were here. The garbage collectors commented on the four lawn-size bags of beer cans and liquor bottles. I pointed to the Winnebago, which was now quiet, harboring hangovers.

Three days later they pulled out in search of some "wild women and heavy partying." As they left, Tom sourly pointed out that "you sure aren't as much fun as you used to be" and "man that is really sad." The camper lumbered down the road, leaving in its wake bad music blaring through cracked speakers, a cloud of smoke and the rattle of cans and bottles.

The Three Budgeteers

"Who was on the phone?" Jim asked.

"My friend Gina. She and two friends are coming down to visit tomorrow."

"Where are they going to stay?"

"Here," I said with some misgivings as I thought about my conversation with her:

"Hi, it's Gina. Guess what? My friends Craig and Ben are coming down with me to see you."

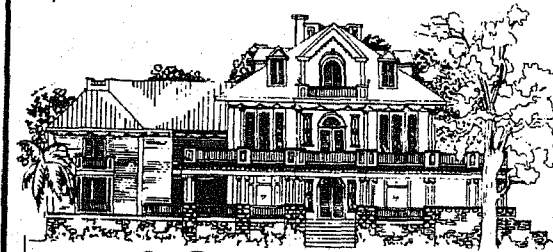
"Great, when are you coming?"

"We fly into Miami tomorrow. Can you meet us at the airport?"

"Gina, it's a three-hour drive to Miami from here."

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"That's okay. We'll wait for you in the bar. Paradise here we come!"

"I can't take the day off. You should rent a car—it would be a lot easier."

"We're really on a budget. You sure you can't come pick us up?"

This should have tipped me off that these were going to be high-impact guests. I hadn't seen Gina in over six years. Although we'd been best friends in high school 17 years ago, I should have realized we would be strangers to each other now.

The Budget rental car pulled in at 11 p.m. Three very tired people got out, whining about the long trip and the inconvenience of renting a vehicle. Our accommodations brought about groans of disappointment, but the alternatives I suggested—a local motel or campground—didn't "fit in the budget."

I returned from work late the next evening to three sunburned and hungry guests who'd been waiting for hours for dinner. My suggestion to order pizza was vetoed due to their lack of funds. I'll admit the dinner I fixed was not one of my best. Cooking with love is the key to a good meal, and love was definitely the missing ingredient that night. My guests were unhappy. "After all," as Craig put it, "we're not vegetarians. We're on vacation, we should be eating steaks."

The next morning on my way out the door Ben called to me to bring home beer since there was none left. A bottle of rum would be nice, too, he added. Later, when they returned from a brutal day of fun and frolic, I didn't have the piña colodas ready. While they took turns taking long steamy showers, I listened to a critique of my bar stock and what to do to improve it.

Based on the comments, one would think that I was solely responsible for the three rainy days that followed. If I'd been any sort of hostess, I'd have provided them with a slew of indoor activities to keep them entertained. As it was, only books and television were available. It was suggested that I get cable TV for times such as these. They went out to dinner one evening to one of the best restaurants in Key West, a luxury they'd been planning.

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"We'd love to treat you, but we're sort of low on funds," Gina explained.

The trio decided to go to the beach on my day off, and I was grateful for the time alone. As Gina gathered up what was left in the refrigerator for a picnic, she casually mentioned that there were no clean towels left and that if I were going to do laundry, she had a few things she could throw in.

The week dragged on; it felt like a month. On their last day here, Craig suggested fixing a celebration dinner—if I would cook, he would buy the wine. We barbecued some chicken, and the five of us shared the bottle of wine Craig had so generously provided. I toasted to their safe trip home with my four ounces of cheap chablis, thankful that the week had come to an end, and that Jim and I were still on speaking terms.

When they left early the next morning, I shed no tears. Jim and I had breakfast

together without the benefit of company for the first time in weeks.

Parents

"Who was on the phone?" Jim asked.

"My folks. They're coming to visit, and they're bringing Grandma."

"Where are they going to stay?"

"I don't know. It's too crowded here for all of them and Grandma won't do very well on the boat. Maybe we should stay in a motel."

My parents and Grandma arrived early in the afternoon. Since they have been here many times, they knew to find me at work. After the hugs and hellos, I told them about the cottage I rented right around the corner from us. I'd already stocked it with food and cold drinks and said I'd be over right after work. We had cocktails on the porch overlooking the ocean. These were the first guests I was truly glad to see and the first I didn't have to accommodate.

We went out to dinner or ordered take-out every night and spent hours talking and laughing. The week they were here seemed so much shorter than the week the Budgeteers were here! It had been a good visit, and I actually felt it hadn't been long enough. The morning they left, I did shed tears. I'm convinced the best guests are those who don't stay with you.

Mother-in-Law

"Who was on the phone?" Jim asked.

I sat there silent, dazed. I thought my parents would be the last of our winter guests.

"Jeanne, who was on the phone?"

"Your Mother. She's in Orlando visiting your uncle and wants us to drive up this weekend and bring her down here for a

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"What did you tell her?"
"I told her it would be better if she flew to Key West, that the drive is a long one. You know how she hates long drives."

As we drove back from the Key West airport, my mother-in-law filled us in on the latest family gossip. She didn't balk at the accommodations; we gave her our bedroom and slept on the boat. I wondered why we didn't always stay on the boat when company came; it was so peaceful and quiet out there.

The next day at work, I got a phone call from my mother-in-law. She wanted to know where the ammonia was. It seems she had some spare time and decided to clean my refrigerator since I was "obviously too busy to do it."

The following day when I came home



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from work, she was outside hosing down the screens. She explained that, having nothing to do, she thought she'd do me a favor and wash the windows. Upon further inspection, however, she realized that the screens were very dusty and needed a wash, too. I said a silent prayer to maintain patience, and together we put the screens back in place.

Between Jim and myself we managed to keep her out of trouble for the next two days. On Monday I took her to work with me. At the shop I gave her little chores to keep her occupied. This way, I wouldn't find her painting the ceiling or some such thing when I got home.

The next morning, before leaving for work, I made her promise to relax and enjoy herself, as if she were on vacation. That evening I came home to a batch of clean and ironed laundry, a freshly raked yard, two pecan pies, a vat of meatballs and sauce, and a batch of fudge-nut brownies!

My house was in order, my freezer was well-stocked with goodies, and it was time for Ma to return home. While I made her flight reservations and she prepared a month's supply of marinara sauce, I couldn't help but wonder where this 78-year-old woman got her seemingly endless supply of energy.

The Self-Tenders

"Who was on the phone?" Jim asked.
"John. He and Kim are coming for a visit. It seems they're so sick of having company, they're coming down from Key Largo to get away for awhile."

"Where are they going to stay?"

"Here, of course, on the guest futon, or on the boat."

I came dragging in late that night. I opened the door to luscious smells; Kim had dinner in the oven. A bottle of wine was chilling in the refrigerator, there were fresh-cut flowers on the table, and my favorite jazz group was playing on the stereo.

After a hot shower, I came back to life. The idea of having self-tending guests was a relief. The responsibility of hostess had been lifted.

Over dinner we compared notes on the variety and audacity of our winter company. Kim told us of one visitor who gave the house key to a friend of his. She came home from work one night to find a complete stranger who'd helped himself to a shower and something to eat. He was actually insulted when she insisted he find a motel for his one-week stay.

Sleepy and ready for bed, Kim got out her own sheets and towels. Bringing one's own linens is above and beyond the call of duty, but this couple knows how to visit with minimal impact.

When I asked them to stay a few days longer, John declined with the old adage: "Thanks, but company is like fish. After three days, it begins to stink."

The mosquitos buzzed at the screens; the still, humid air was stifling. Ah, rainy season, then summer—a full six months before the parade begins again. Next winter, I'm anchoring out in the harbor! ☹



A discouraged geranium droops in a pot on Georgia Street at the red door of the writer whose name is Estuary.

Her mother, who named her, lives near the big New York City library with the lions in front. Mother's lifelong pursuit is to read everything there is to know about the rivers of the world, about parthenogenesis, about the arguments against vivisection and so forth.

Estuary was her mother's chosen word one season, and she used it whenever she could work it into conversation. Vagaries was the word she took up the next season. She named her younger daughter, a veterinarian, Vagaries.

The writer, Estuary, occupies this room. The room is full of her; she gives a room its full dimension. She has pale, red hair held back by a beret, and is turned out in a sort of non-garment found in the Big Pine flea market. Estuary is makeupless, as are women who live alone and don't consult mirrors to please others.

As Estuary sits at the bleached pine table, she looks at a small bug that is giving her gaze right back from his one eye. The eye seems to be swinging slightly askew from a hoop out of its head. Can this be?

Estuary's cat stands in a doorway and begins attitudinizing. There are seven slamming doors in the cottage, and the cat must move or the door will fly shut onto him. There are already three notches on his tail.

Estuary now is in the part of her day when she makes earrings out of hard candy. It's a job she can take up and then put down.

You can see that Estuary accepts all of this—the being alone, the obsession to write, which might be a burden as well as a gift—this remarkable felicity of phrases. She accepts all of this philosophically as part of the inevitable pattern of her life. She has never showed being weary nor dispirited.

Tears are a waste of salt, she says.
A small, clean boy walks up. Her cousin's boy. He sidles up to the window keeping out of direct vision, eases his head up to the window, veers an eye in to see what's what. Her own boys when little frequently came in looking quite filthy, one pant leg ripped or bitten off by their playmate's pit bull. This cousin, the boy's mom, always says, out of earshot, of course, that she's a writer. She's the end!

The cousin's little boy has bright blackberry eyes and a face like a tiny, charming toad. He reaches up with a hand so wee it hardly can serve him to take hold of anything. An orange piece of hard-candy earring is left there for him. Must be the part that hangs down the ear, the cousin's little boy says.

Here, one of the seven slamming doors slams, and the agile cat leaps, tearing himself loose from some mice he has been watching.

As Estuary lays a purple-yellow-and-

blue hard-candy earring into a small box and onto a tuft of cotton, she is thinking. Should I have stayed and borne New York's iron heartbeat? Is it a steel heartbeat in Key West? Or even glass? Perhaps these questions come because between 1 a.m. and 3 a.m. she sat up reading a Samuel Beckett play. A lady was covered up to her armpits in dirt throughout. That's enough to put one off.

She likes the companionship of her fel-

lows, and she sadly recalls the invitation gone unanswered that came to her for a beluga bash in that sumptuous estate regally occupying an oceanside point on Key Haven.

She is best served writing her whimsical images of the inside skinny in Key West—the fragments and island spirits gracing splinters of Key West time. She writes her stories in a voice waggish, provocative, sad, acute, lean—"a unique blend of autobiography and imagination," the big New York publisher, Mr. Feinstein is said to have commented.

Just now, the cat, back in one of the seven slamming doorways, gives a cough, an affectionate sound. ☹

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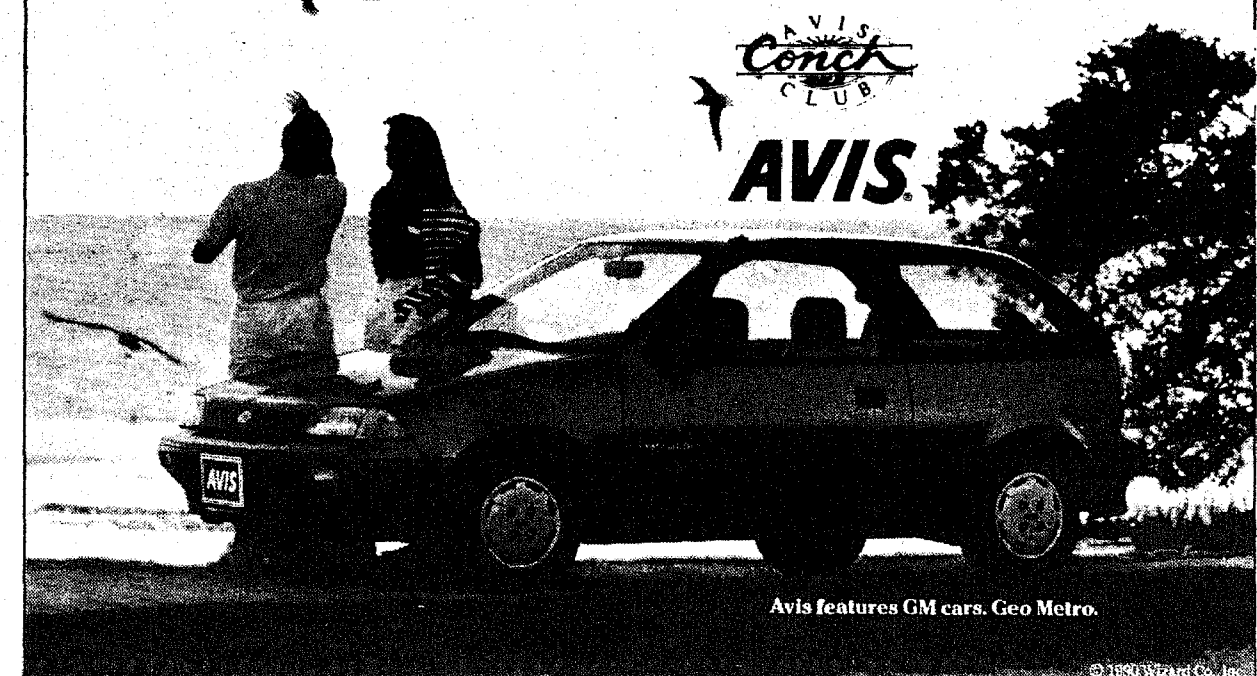
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Nature Notebook

The Magnificent Frigatebird

by Capt. Gaff McKetchum

Most species of birds fly through life bearing names that are merely descriptive (e.g., redwinged blackbird) or practical (barn swallow), not that it matters to them, of course. Others, such as the semipalmated plover, carry names of great ornithological exactitude. Occasionally, as in the case of the whip-poor-will, birds name themselves by their call.

It is rare, however, that ornithologists in charge of such things ascend to the level of poetic imagery in naming a species, but in the case of the magnificent frigatebird, *Frigata magnificens*, they have soared to the heights.

The frigatebird's name derives from the fast, medium-sized sailing warships of the 18th and early 19th centuries known as frigates. It was applied to the bird because of its habit of attacking other birds on the wing, forcing them to drop or disgorge their prey.

As the lunch falls through the air, the frigatebird acrobatically wheels about and snatches the meal in mid-air with its beak. This piratical behavior, known to scientists as *kleptoparasitism*, reminded early sailors of warships during the age of piracy on the high seas. Sailors also referred to *Frigata magnificens* as Man O'War birds.

Frigates are the stunt planes of the bird world, known to scratch their heads while

in full flight. (Thus, the Latin root of *magnificens*, "doing great things," seems apt.) Their long, angled wings, which span over seven feet, combined with their long scissor-like tails enable them to out-manuever all other sea birds. Literally, they can fly circles around their rivals.

Weighing only about three to four pounds, the frigatebird, given its wingspan, enjoys the greatest plane surface in proportion to weight of any bird. It can soar for hours, riding the thermals over the ocean and watching for favorite prey—flying fish, which are driven to skittering flight over the surface by large predators such as tuna, sailfish and dolphin.

Folding its wings and plunging from great heights, the frigatebird, with perfect timing, snatches the flying fish with its hooked beak from the water's surface without getting a feather wet. Surface feeding in this manner on flying fish, squid, jellyfish, young turtles and other creatures—not aerial piracy—is the frigatebird's primary method of feeding.

John J. Audubon, who knew the frigatebird by its older classification, the frigate pelican, (frigates are members of the family *Pelicanidae*), considered it "possessed of a power of flight which I conceive superior to that of perhaps any birds."

He describes a frigatebird diving to snatch a fish too large to swallow at once, rising with it and being accosted by several other frigates, one of whom grabs the fish away, only to lose it to another, who in turn loses it to a third:

"From bill to bill, and through the air, rapidly falls the fish, until it drops quite dead on the water, and sinks into the deep. Whatever disappointment the hungry birds feel. They seem to deserve it all ... Sights like these you may everyday see, if you take ship and sail for the Florida Keys."

Even today blue-water fishermen alter their course towards a diving frigatebird, assured that some large fish has *chased* the flying fish up to the surface where the frigate has *spotted* it. Local captains often call it the "sailfish bird," responsible for many a successful fishing trip.

The frigatebird ranges from the Bahamas south to Brazil. In Florida is found mainly in the Keys and the extreme southern



Atlantic and Gulf coasts. A year-round resident, frigates nest in a rookery in Florida Bay off Plantation Key and a smaller one in the Marquesas Keys. Often, they nest in the colonies of other species such as terns, herons, and pelicans; and in keeping with their piratical reputation, they prey on any unattended young, including other frigatebirds.

Frigates build their nests in the top of a bush or mangrove, collecting dry twigs from other nests or breaking them off of bushes with their beaks as they fly past. Nests are about two-inches high and fairly small, so that the nesting bird's wings and tail extend more than a foot beyond the edge of the nest.

In late spring, the throat pouch of the mature male frigatebird change from orange to bright red. He inflates this pouch, or gular sac, of bare skin to attract a mate, then keeps it inflated as he sits on the empty nest, adding sticks as the female brings them. Shortly after the eggs are laid, the male ceases inflating his pouch and it reverts to orange.

According to modern observers, frigates lay only one egg; Audubon, however, found two or, more commonly, three per nest. (Could this be a result of the accumulation of pesticides and other chemicals in the food chain?)

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During the six-week incubation period, both parents share brooding duties. The chicks are never left alone after hatching and are fed by regurgitation. They do not leave the nest until they can follow their parents on wing. After two or three years, the juveniles' white head plumage turns dark brownish-black and they are of breeding age. They are thought to breed every other year, and have a lifespan of 20 to 25 years.

Although a skillful aerialist, the frigatebird is awkward on the ground and moves with great difficulty on land. It prefers to roost in the tops of bushes or on an elevated structure in order to more easily achieve flight. Audubon reports seeing frigatebirds land and take off from a low sandbar, and even from the water, contrary to the accounts of modern authorities.

Truly, the frigate inspires all who see him, including Audubon himself:

"When the morning light gladdens the face of nature, and while the warblers are yet waiting in silence the first rays of the sun, whose appearance they will hail with songs of joy, the Frigate Bird, on extended pinions, sails from his roosting place. Slowly and gently, with retracted neck he

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glides, as if desirous of quietly trying the renovated strength of his wings. Toward the vast deep he moves, rising apace, and before any other bird views the bright orb emerging from the waters. Pure is the azure of the heavens, and rich the deep green of the smooth sea below; there is every prospect of the finest weather; and now the glad bird shakes his pinions; and far up into the air, far beyond the reach of man's unaided eye, he soars in his quiet but rapid flight. There he floats in the pure air, but thither can fancy alone follow him. Would that I could accompany him!

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Foster Homes Needed

The Florida State Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services is recruiting foster homes. Families are needed throughout Monroe County to provide temporary homes for children who are unable to live with their parents as a result of abuse, neglect or inadequate care. For more information, contact Ann Chapp at 292-6728.

Crank Her Up, Boys

City Electric System's two new medium-speed diesel generating units at Stock Island have begun start-up and testing procedures, Robert Padron, CES general manager said. The testing procedures, which are expected to run into early summer, enable the contractors to adjust the units' stack emissions to the lowest possible level and to reduce the units' fuel consumption. Becky Pattinson, consulting engineer with R.W. Beck & Associates, said "Residents in the area would expect occasional releases of smoke as adjustments are completed to the engines." In 1989, DER issued CES air emissions permits that require limited release of pollutants, including visible smoke, oxides of nitrogen and sulfur dioxide.

Fine Arts Council Gala

The Monroe County Fine Arts Council presents its closing gala, Friday, May 31 at 8 p.m. at The Reach resort. It will be followed by the sophisticated jazz styling of the Overseas Jazz trio for listening and dancing. The gala will feature Rumanian opera

COURTESY MCFAC



MCFAC JURORS: (From left) Jackie Fouts, Adeline Turner and Michele Cunningham judge the youth piano/string competition sponsored by Monroe County Fine Arts Council.

diva Henriette Kristhea, magician Danny Johnson, Parvan Bakardjiev, the Carmen Children's Chorus and the winners of the Youth Arts Competition. MCFAC presentations over the past five years include Ray Charles and the symphony on the beach. General admission is \$10; dinner buffet is \$14.95, or order from the menu. Call the MCFAC at 296-5000, ext. 362.

Monroe's Canine Champ

Sgt. Mitch Horn and his dog Rocky, both from the Monroe County Sheriff's Department, placed 8th overall and qualified for national competition at the United States Police Canine Association Region 1 field trials recently. The competition included bite work, obedience, officer protection and search techniques. Horn and Rocky scored 638 points out of a possible 700; they are now qualified to compete in a national con-

test this fall in Ohio. The county's Sgt. Donnie Fanelli and Velcro scored 591, also qualifying for the big competition.

Rabbits Raise \$2300

The 5K-10K Bunny Hop at the Ocean Reef Health and Tennis Club netted over \$2300 to benefit the Florida Keys Children's Shelter. Two-hundred ninety people entered the event, began at 9 a.m. on Easter morning. Thirty-seven minutes and eight seconds later, Ed Sutton crossed the finish line completing the 10K course ahead of Dorothy Friedland, whose time was 51 minutes and two seconds. First man in the 5K was Scott Pearson (19 min., 48 sec.); the first woman was Kathryn Quadrucchi (23 min., 17 sec.) Ocean Reef's catering club served more than 300 persons fruit and fresh-baked goodies; other sponsors were Ina Broeman of Virginia Slims Interna-

tional, Deer Park Water and Sunglass Products. Bill Schumacher of Schumacher Properties played the Easter bunny.

CES Bill to Increase

The Utility Board announced that consumers may experience an increase on their May electricity bills, because the fuel adjustment cost is increasing. The fuel adjustment cost, a variable rate which reflects the cost of purchasing fuel and power from other utilities, will increase \$4 per 1000 kilowatt hours. The average residential bill reflects 1000 kilowatt hours of consumption. In April, the adjustment was \$18 per 1000 hours; May's adjustment increased to \$22 per 1000 hours. The total electricity bill, including the fuel adjustment cost, will be \$88.70 per 1000 kilowatt hours.

Hemingway Short Story Contest

All stories submitted to this year's Hemingway short story contest must be original and unpublished. A "Hemingway style" is not a criterion for judging. Manuscripts must be typewritten or word processed, and double-spaced. Entrants may submit any number of stories (each not to exceed 2500 words) must be accompanied by a \$10 entry fee. Use an official registration form, available through the Hemingway Days office. Name and address must *not* appear on the manuscript. Entries must be received by July 8. For information call 294-4440.

Breast Cancer Screenings

A mobile mammogram service, Mamex, Inc. will make trips to the Keys, giving women the opportunity to get a mammogram. This life-saving screening takes only 15 minutes in the Mamex van; it is the most effective way to detect breast cancer early, when the cure rate is highest. Accredited by the State of Florida/HRS, Mamex meets the same guidelines as hospitals. Within eight working days of the screening, both the woman and her physician receive a written

report on the findings. For information, call 1-800-244-1431.

Fantasy Fest Theme: Junglemania

Don DeFeo, president of the Association for Tourism Development and general manager of the Pier House Resort, announced that the theme for Fantasy Fest 1991, which will take place from October 18 through 27, will be Junglemania. "We wanted a tropical theme," explained DeFeo, "and this one emphasizes the jungles of Central America, Brazil, Argentina." Jungle inhabitants, flora and fauna, birds and vegetation are expected to provide inspiration for costuming and float decoration. Festival director Ann Dickinson says that by emphasizing the South

American influence "we hope to attract the many colorful cultural music groups that were involved in 1990s festival."

Botanical Garden Gets Agua

Ellie Crane, president of the Key West Botanical Garden Society, reports that the Botanical Garden now has water. The Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority installed a water service tap at no cost and will provide one million gallons of water at no charge. This agreement, says Crane, is part of a settlement between the City of Key West, the Garden Club and the FKAA to compensate for damages to garden trees, shrubs, ground surfaces and wildlife caused by FKAA employees in 1987. Top news

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ACROSS FROM SLOPPY JOES

Page 26 • June 1991 • Solares Hill
from Education Committee Chairperson Eloise Boon is that a Jamaica dogwood has been identified and labeled. Carolyn Cash reports that the Garden Party fundraiser brought in \$3701.

Recycling Up 185 Percent

Floridians collected 76,000 tons of glass bottles and jars for 1990, representing a savings in energy equivalent to 684,000 gallons of fuel oil. The newly released volumes indicate a 55-percent increase over the previous year. "The continued strong growth of glass recycling in Florida is encouraging as the industry works to help communities meet their solid-waste reduction goals," said David Baker, director of the Southeast Glass Recycling Program. Over the past five years, glass recycling in Florida has increased 185 percent.

Home of the Catch-Release Whopper

John Morrisette of Royal Oak, Michigan caught and released 14 sharks to receive top honors in the release division at the Fourth Annual Round of the Clock Shark Tournament that ended May 12. He fished with Capt. Teddy Baier on *Lethal Weapon*. Second place, with five releases, was awarded to actor Gary Burghoff of Marathon. Burghoff, who portrayed Radar in the television series "M*A*S*H," fished with Capt. Michael Spaulding on the *Tenacious*.

AIDS Educators Available

Recently, volunteer educators from the Community Health Education Task Force



EDUCATORS IN AIDS PREVENTION: (Top row, from left) Loretta Hall, Joan Leggett, Sonja Johnson, Lee Thompson, Alelia Moton, Trish Demaris-Cravens; (bottom, from left) Phyllis Smith, Peggy Grank, Marva Sweeting, Linda Woods.

completed an eight-hour course in AIDS prevention, taught by Trish Demaris-Cravens from the local AIDS Prevention Center. Their course included information about how HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, is transmitted and methods of prevention. The volunteer educators have been trained to present programs on prevention to social, civic and church groups in the community. "With 313 cases of AIDS in Monroe County, it's important that all members of our community be well educated," said

Marva Sweeting, a volunteer educator. For information on scheduling a presentation, call 292-6701.

Students Adopt Rainforest

As part of Poinciana School's Environmental Fair last month, kindergarten classes conducted a Penny Drive to adopt acres of rainforest in Guatemala. Mrs. Parks', Mrs. Cravey's and Mrs. James' classes combined efforts and raised \$71.03, which will allow them to ensure protection for two acres. Miss Gard's kindergarten students also raised \$71.03, and they will adopt two additional acres. On May 3, student representatives delivered pennies to the First State Bank in exchange for a check to be mailed to the Earth's Birthday Project.

Become a MARC Member

Monroe Association for Retarded Citizens is holding a membership drive to celebrate its 25th anniversary. The people at

MARC say they are especially proud of its identity, which is of a working family that earns as much of its finances as possible. They invite people to drop in to see the group home on Windsor Lane and to visit the MARC Retail Plant Store, located at the Harris School. To become a member, call 294-9526.

Restaurants Provide Meals to AIDS Help

According to an article in the May issue of *AHI Notes*, "the AIDS Help 'meals on wheels' program, launched last winter by six restaurateurs, has moved into high gear through volunteer participation, expanding the role of this important effort." The program delivers and serves meals to AIDS patients who are physically unable to prepare their own meals. More than 200 meals are delivered to 19 individuals each month. Restaurants that have participated include Antonia's, Aunt Rose's, Burger King, The Buttery, Café at Louie's, Café Marquesa, Camille's, Marriott's Casa Marina, La Concha, Don's Conch Kitchen and many others.

Island Clean-up a Success

Over 200 volunteers turned out last month for the Fifth Annual Reef Relief Island Clean-up. Key Westers, including members of the Jaycees, Last Stand, Sunrise Rotary and the Key West High School Inact and Beta Club pitched in to remove debris from the shoreline. Offshore at Woman Key and Boca Grande, private boaters, *Stars & Stripes* charter guests and

COURTESY MCSO



SAVED DROWNING MAN: Monroe County Sheriff's Department honored citizens (from left) Sheriff Rick Roth, Randy O'Connell, Garland Ring, Capt. Bob Peryam and Gary Bladich (not shown).

folks on the *Schooner Constellation* picked up trash and debris. Several local businesses, including the catamaran *Fury*, Five Sixes Cab Co., and Mangia Mangia restaurant sponsored the event.

Citizens Help Officer Save Life

During a recent automobile accident on Big Pine Key, citizens were instrumental in

helping Sgt. Daryl Hull of the Monroe County Sheriff's Department save one man and pull another's body from the water. Sheriff Rick Roth said that without Garland Ring shining the light from his boat into the water, and without Randy O'Connell and Gary Bladich assisting with dive equipment and holding a dive light for Sgt. Hull, the rescue attempt could not have been made.

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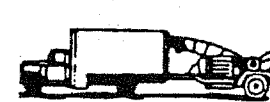


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Readers Write

FKCC Lauds Articles

Dear Editor:

Thanks to writer Judi Bradford and Solares Hill for the wonderful articles on the Library Gallery and department at Florida Keys Community College.

Kerry Sanclimenti
FKCC

Token of Appreciation

Dear Editor:

Our thanks to Solares Hill for the wonderful feature story on the efforts of Reef Relief. The story not only included a front-page reference, but John Cole's wonderful article inside elaborated on our various endeavors to save the reef.

As you know, public awareness is the key to concern and, hopefully, to action on the part of the public. Your article went a long way towards this goal.

Thank you for this contribution. As a small token of our appreciation, we have included you in our membership list for the year. This means you will receive all of our membership mailouts, action alerts, and no-

tices of events.

Once again, thank you! Together, we can help reduce damage to North America's only living coral reef.

DeeVon Quirolo
Administrator
Reef Relief

Innovative Parking Solution

Dear Editor:

Once again controversy arises between those that want to live in the 21st century and those who want to live in the 19th (Historic Architectural Review Commission prefers the latter). This time the conflict is over the city's parking problem. There is, however, a very sane compromise that could resolve both issues.

Since the county has purchased land on Truman Annex for a parking facility (hopefully to be multi-tiered) to meet our future parking needs, I propose that the solution to the proposed facility at Southeast Bank be as follows:

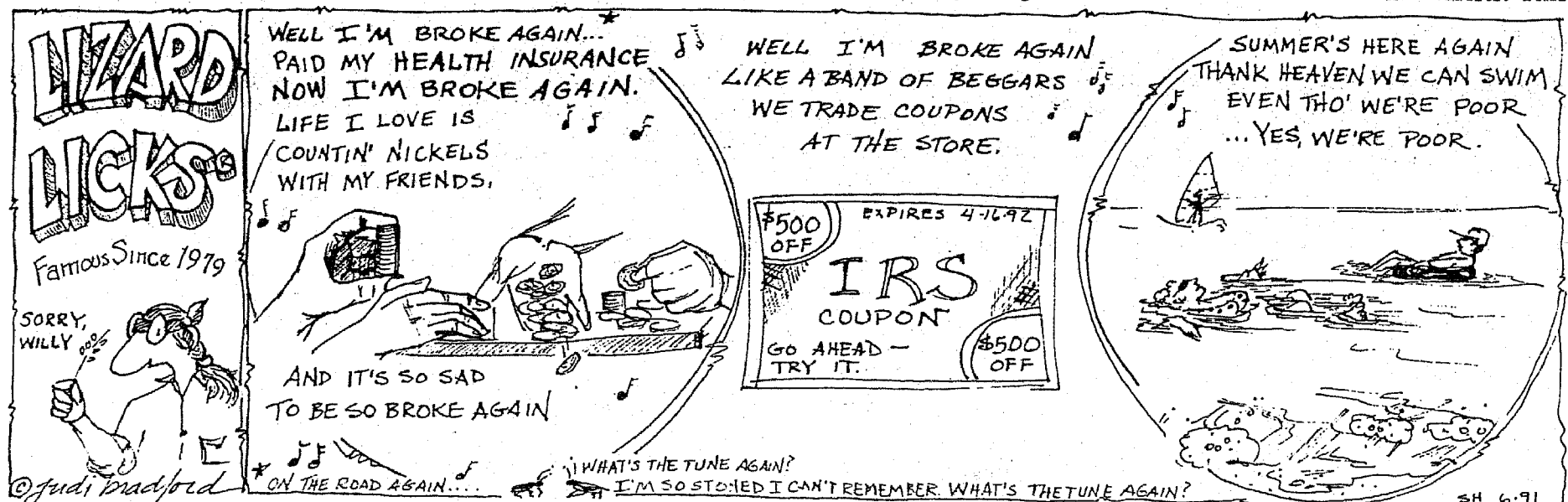
We have a very real problem regarding

those huge tour buses. Why not build this facility for tour buses only? This would permit the exterior to be built according to HARC specs and fit in with historic Old Town and, at the same time, solve an irksome problem.

Parked tour buses must keep their motors running to keep their air-conditioners running in order to keep the bus cool. With a multi-tiered tour bus terminal, centrally air-conditioned, buses could be cooled by hoses hooked up to them (the same as airlines at the airports).

Since the terminal would be centrally located, the tourists could roam downtown at will until their bus departure time. This would give downtown merchants a steady flow of tourists daily, and it would act as a magnet to attract bus tours.

We have then accomplished two goals. An aesthetically correct outside and a modern, clean, cool, quiet terminal inside to accommodate the buses and tourists. This



eliminates the noise and fumes when they are spread out in the streets all over the city. The proper agencies should get involved. By using elevators and rack-type storage (as are used in marinas) we can be well ahead of other cities in technology.

Vic Dahn
Key West

Author Agrees with Jail Story

Dear Editor:

Great article on "The Failed Jail." [Solares Hill, April 18 to May.] Writer J. D. Dooley is right. Keep up the good work.

Gerald P. Monks
Houston, Texas

Gerald P. Monks is the author of "Public Bail—A National Disaster?" which is a chapter of Crime in Punishment in Modern America. The book was published in 1986 by the Free Congress Research and Education Foundation, a tax-exempt research organization involved in a variety of education projects. The foundation's board of directors includes Jeffrey Bell, Citizens for America; Richard Rahn, chief economist, U.S. Chamber of Commerce; and Newt Gingrich, member of Congress.—Editor

Pasta-Hooch Politics

Dear Editor:

My name is Ron Carter, and I am running for city commissioner as the Pot-Smoking, Non-Violent Radical Hippie. My campaign slogan is "Smoke Pot, Expand Your Mind, and Vote for the Noodleman."

A vote for me is a vote for my platform, which I have detailed below. If I'm elected, this does not mean that I will be able to accomplish all of my objectives. It will demonstrate, however, that the citizens of Key West are looking for a more progressive governing body and that we desire a more free society.

My platform is meant for the information of voting age adults. I do not advocate law breaking—pot smoking, for example—for underage youths. I do believe that the youth of our community desire to be taught the "real truth" about drugs.

My platform includes:

No fee: I will not pay the city a fee to run for office. If I get the votes, I'll get the seat. In America, we abhor poll-tax, so why should I have to pay to run for office.

No campaign contributions: I will accept no campaign contributions. If I win the election, it will be because I'm the man for the job, not because I've got the best "red, white and blue" campaign poster plastered all over town. I do encourage supporters to display home-made signs, distribute self-written flyers, take out newspaper ads, etc., on my behalf.

No pay: I will accept no pay. To pay a commissioner only \$8000 a year to run a city is an insult. I'll help run the city part-time, because I feel I can make Key West a better town, not because I'm looking for a career.

No growth: I will encourage local construction companies to shift gears toward

restorations and discourage new construction. In order to increase tourism, we could allow more "bread-and-breakfast houses." This will also encourage restorations and will allow people with big homes to cover the high costs of ownership.

Shelter: Key West needs a shelter for the "working homeless," where hard-working people have an affordable place to live. Minimum wage employers (hotels, motels, restaurants, construction companies, etc.) should cooperate in establishing a place where workers could get a bed, lockers, showers and laundry facilities in order to maintain health and self esteem.

Crosstown bike paths: I have several ideas of how to make bicycling in Key West more pleasurable and safe.

Community garden: A community garden could be located at the old Civil War Cemetery at the edge of Peary Court.

Free store: I'll try to establish a free store, similar to the one I established in Bahama Village in 1970, where citizens can bring useful items which they don't need, put them on display, and take (free of charge) items they can use.

Public showers: Key West needs public showers. At present, the only free public showers (Smathers and Higgs Beaches) offer no hot water and no privacy. Showers could be city financed or operated on a non-profit basis with a nominal fee.

No private beaches: By law, the waterline around Key West belongs to its citizens.

Clothing optional beach: With a few signs and a fence, a clothing optional beach could be easily established. The beach between White Street Pier and Martello Tower might be a good location.

White Street Pier: I will work at cleaning up the present mess, which is smelly and unsightly. A hole cut through the pier for water flow is all that is needed.

Property tax reform: I have seen people, who built their own homes, forced out because of high property taxes. Your house is worth \$100,000 and a similar house next door sells for \$250,000. This should not be reason for your taxes to rise.

Police like fire: Our police department should be operated more like our fire department. Firemen do not ride around town looking for fires and the police department shouldn't be riding around town looking for trouble. Foot patrols with radios could walk a beat, communicating with and helping citizens. Well-equipped police could be "on call" at strategic locations.

Police ignore pot smoking: Arresting people for smoking marijuana is a waste of time and money for the police, jail and court systems.

Legalize prostitution: Legalizing prostitution for both men and women could reduce the risk of spreading AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. Prostitutes could be licensed and taxed for additional revenue, examined and issued health certificates by the health department.

Legalize hitchhiking: This energy-saving practice should not be criminal.

More trash receptacles: In a city where tourism is so important, cleanliness is paramount. The present shabby condition of trash receptacles is unacceptable, and there

are too few receptacles around the island. Receptacles should encourage recycling.

More public toilets: At present, this city is almost totally lacking in decent public toilets for tourists and residents.

Drinking fountains: To my knowledge, there is not one city-operated "public" drinking fountain on this entire island.

Selective law enforcement: Enforce the law for everyone, or ignore it all together. A good example is the open container law, which is enforced against locals but not tourists. Selective enforcement of any laws by the police or code enforcement cannot be tolerated.

Civilian review board: The cops policing themselves is a workable system as long as there is not favoritism and the police don't cover up for one another. A civilian review board could enhance the legitimacy of the present system.

Cigarette machines: The operation of cigarette machines should be a legitimate business, but placing the machines in unsupervised areas where children can be tempted to use them should not be permitted.

Work for welfare: People receiving welfare and/or food stamps should be required to do some community service. This would keep these citizens from stagnating and losing self esteem.

Law breaker: Most every citizen breaks a few laws everyday (jaywalking, spitting, etc.) We are all minor lawbreakers. In America, it is our duty to break laws which are unjust or otherwise stupid. Many laws are designed to give the police the opportunity for selective enforcement. I will encourage citizens to be "stupid law" breakers and will ask citizens which laws they would like me to try to eliminate from the books. Fewer laws will account for fewer offenses.

Ron Carter
aka The Noodleman
Key West

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Business Tides

On the new moon of May, **The Blue Moon Trader, New Age Emporium and Consignment Shop**, moved its location to the pink house at MM 29.7 on Big Pine Key. Proprietors **Beth Shirley** and **Diane Phillips** say the shop now includes a gallery, which features a local artist each month, workshops, seminars and a lending library. The expanded consignment section carries clothing, books, kitchenware and items found "once in a blue moon." Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Call 872-8864 for information about the shop or *The Full Moon News*, a monthly newsletter.

The new **Eckerd Drug Store**, at 2790 N. Roosevelt Boulevard, opened last month, bringing the chain's total to 1678 stores. Managed by **Diane Cantlay**, the store features a full-service pharmacy, non-prescription drugs, health and beauty aids, cameras, electronic items, full-service photofinishing and photo supplies. The pharmacy carries over 400 Eckerd Brand generic equivalent prescription drugs, which can reduce a customer's prescription expenses by up to 50 percent. Special Eckerd Care programs (DIABETICare, BABYCare, ECKERDCare 60+) offer newsletters containing information and coupons for savings throughout the store, which is open 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., daily.

Capt. Randolph C. Berkeley, III recently opened four nautical businesses, all located at Land's End Village & Marina. **Tribby**, a classic custom motoryacht, designed by the world-famous **Frances L. Herreshoff** and built in 1923, was recently restored—a project that took more than 13 years. Featuring leaded stained glass and

teak parquet flooring, **Tribby** is available for charter. **Berkeley** also opened **Tribby's Boatwain Store** (293-9556), which is managed by **Leslie Blanche** and carries provisions and ice, beer, wine, soda and munchies. It is open daily from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. **Tribby's Charter & Chandlery** (293-9558), a booking agency, will make reservations on anything from catamarans to classic yachts. Managed by **Scotty Gage**, the service's motto is, "We book the best." It also sells nautical gear and equipment, handles consignment sales, and is the southernmost dealer of **Avon** inflatables. Open daily, from 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Over 60 **Gerald Adams School** children recently toured **First State Bank**, as a part of the financial institution's Partners in Excellence program. Students from kinder-



TO THE VAULT: Joel Beck, assistant vice president at First State Bank, shows **Gerald Adams** kindergarteners around the bank. garten through third grade got to go inside the vault, hold \$1000 and sit in the president's chair. The Partners in Excellence program sponsors career seminars, recycling projects and other activities for students at **Gerald Adams** and their parents.

The Florida Society of Dermatology held its annual meeting last month at **Marriott's Casa Marina Resort**. About 120 of the state's dermatologists gathered to hear the leading members in their field at the island convention facility; it was the first time the society chose to meet in Key West. Social activities included a beachside luau.

At a recent **Key West Hotel & Motel Association** meeting, speaker **Robert C.**

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Booth, president of **Aviation Management Services**, a Miami-based airline consulting firm, described his vision of a new airline offering non-stop and direct jet services to Key West from major northern markets. He said the new service would generate some 70,000 additional tourists annually and pump \$37 million into the economy. His proposal calls for small jets carrying no more than 90 passengers and able to fly 1500 miles non-stop. They would be quieter than the planes that currently service the island, he said.

Raymond and Kim Vega recently opened **Mail Boxes Etc.**, an international franchise offering a variety of communication and business services. Located at 1107 Key Plaza, the business offers facsimile machines, call-in and answering services, packaging supplies, a copy machine, 24-hour access to personal mail boxes, Western Union, UPS shipping, notary, office supplies and more. Mail box customers may telephone the store to see if they've received mail and can request that it be held or forwarded. Call 292-4177, or fax 292-4178.

Located at 1015 Fleming Street, **Rich's Café**, one of the best kept secrets in Key West, is going public with the announcement of all new ownership, management, menu and prices. "Finally, the reasons we all moved to Key West are ours to enjoy," say owners **Richard and David**. Behind the **Eden House** and ahead of the times, **Rich's Café** is open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily for breakfast and lunch, and from 6 to 10 p.m. for dinner. Call 296-2961.

Christa Bruett, vice president of operations for **Rahn Properties**, is pleased to announce the appointment of **Don Singletary** as general manager of **Holiday Inn Beachside Resort and Convention Center**. A graduate of the University of South Carolina, Singletary has 16 years of experience, primarily with Quality, Comfort and Holiday Inn chains. He comes to Key West from **Rahn's Marriot Courtyard Hotel** in Alexandria, Virginia, where he was general manager for two years.

Frank and Joyce Sprague announce the opening of **UROK, Inc., Plumbing Contractors**, located at 3100-A Flagler Avenue. The Key West office and complete showroom is an expansion of their business in Fort Myers, which they have owned for 32 years. Offering new construction, service and remodeling, the company provides personalized service with discounts available to contractors. Frank is a state-certified plumbing and LP gas contractor; Joyce is the company's major stockholder, and, as president, she oversees both stores. Call 294-1111.

Bringing back the romance on the water is the incentive behind the new **Key West Rowing Club**, says owner **Tom Noeker**. The shipwright has combined 20

COURTESY KIM



ROMANCE: Tom Noeker, owner of a line of Row-mance skiffs and manager of the Key West Rowing Club, slides over the water with a mysterious woman.

working to produce a line of "Row-mance" skiffs, which are available for rent at Land's End Village, at the foot of Margaret Street. The skinny one-, two-, or four-person skiffs glide almost effortlessly through the harbor-edge waters and nearby islands. Members of the rowing club, which rents skiffs, sculling shells and sailboats, receive special discounts; lessons are available. Call 292-7984.

The American Board of Periodontology reports that it awarded **Loui G. Franke, D.D.S.** of Key West diplomate status at its recent meeting in Dallas. After two years of post-doctoral advanced specialty training at an accredited institution, Franke successfully completed an examination, which included submission of documented case reports. Franke received her D.D.S. and her certificate of advanced graduate study from the University of Maryland.

Inflatable Boats of the Florida Keys in Marathon now has a "smile section," which came about as a way to offer items that are inspirational and smile

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inducing (and not necessarily marine oriented.) Half of the profits from smile-section products, which include a children's book on the ocean, an inspirational calendar and a poster titled "How To Be Really Alive," will go to charities that work with children or the earth. Call 743-7085.

Key West Realty was recently purchased by **Tim Henshaw** and **Michael Council**. The new owners say they were attracted to the business because "the hard work the former owners have put into it establishes its great potential." An island resident since 1985, Henshaw has been with the company for more than two years, working as a property management associate and as head of the property management operations. Council has owned bou-

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tiques in Ft. Lauderdale, was a buyer for Marshall Fields department store in Chicago, and a men's fashion director at the Federated Department Stores. He has been a licensed real estate agent in Florida for 10 years.

Electronic Realty Associates, Inc. (ERA), has named **Bender-Tanis ERA Real Estate** of Key West to its Top 200 category for the 1990 sales year. This group represents the top 10 percent of ERA member brokers nationwide, based on production figures for sales volume. **Marc Hines**, broker for Bender-Tanis said, "The support we receive from ERA Real Estate, in terms of products and services, gives us a competitive edge in our local market, and

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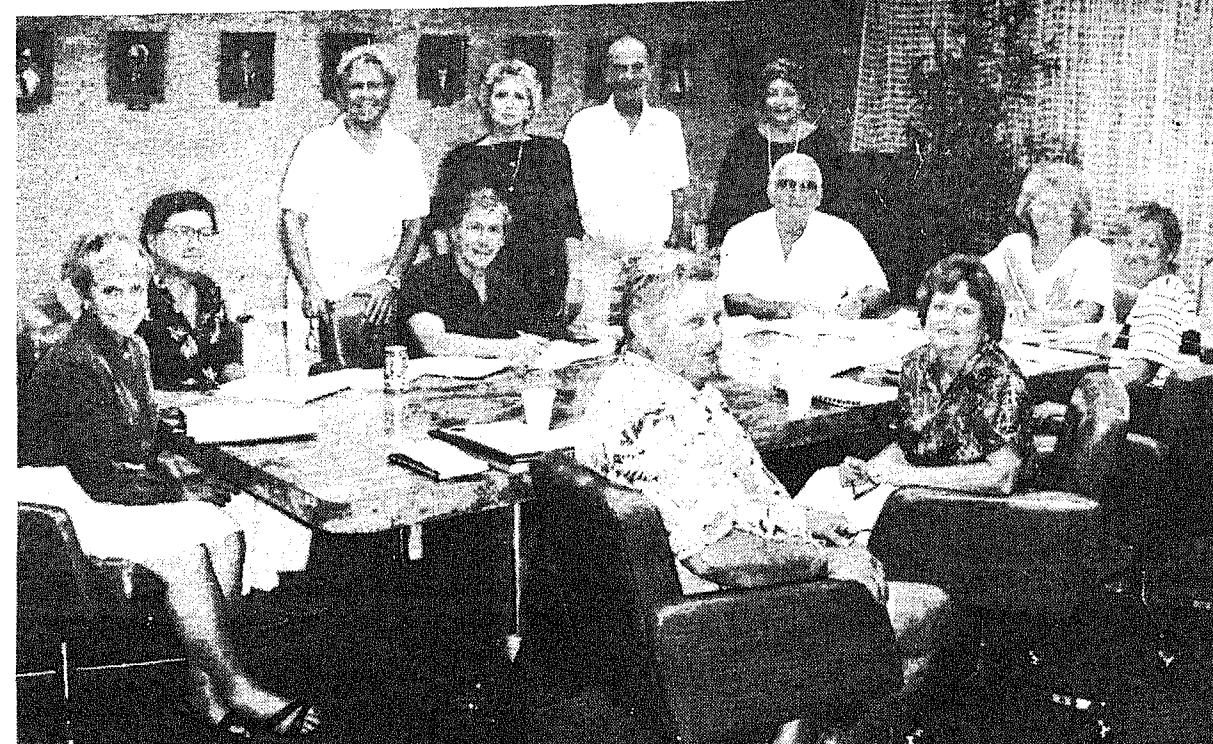


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COURTESY FOUNDERS SOCIETY

FOUNDERS SOCIETY: (Seated, from left) Jean Rodriguez, Ken Bryan, Joe Liszka, Dick Fugitt, June Girard, Helga Bozo, Evie Fugitt, Ken Alderman; (standing, from left) Max McQuillan, Kathy Woodman, John Rodger, June Nelson.

has made it possible for us to attain this degree of success."

The Board of Directors of the Founders Society is pleased to announce that **June Girard** has been elected to a third term as president. Also elected were **Dick Fugitt**, first vice president; **Ken Alderman**, second vice president; **Helga Bazo**, recording

secretary; **Nancy Malseke**, corresponding secretary; **Nelson Read**, treasurer; and **Orvis Kemp**, assistant treasurer. The society, a direct support group for the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center, is committed to capital improvements for the theater as well as to future productions.

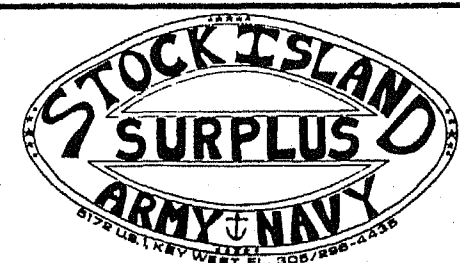
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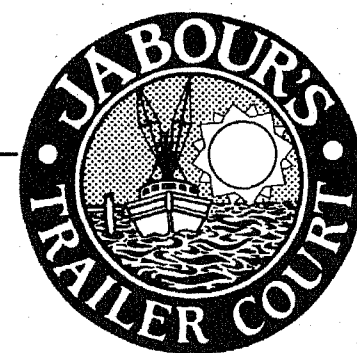
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Caring for Pets in Paradise

by Jane Phillips

There's a period of adjustment for pets as well as people moving to the Florida Keys, says Dr. Cheryl Magunson, a veterinarian at the All Animal Clinic on Stock Island. Our year-round warm climate leads to numerous parasitic problems. The transient nature of our community causes a high incidence of feline leukemia, a transmissible disease. A fight with a disease-carrying stray cat or a lick of a poisonous toad may put your pet's health at serious risk. But with regular veterinary care, common sense and, possibly, some help from local animal professionals, your four-footed furry friend should find life near the southernmost point nothing but the best.

Wormies and Squirmyies

Parasites cause heartworm, roundworm, hookworms, tapeworms, earmites, fleas and ticks. It's a good idea to avoid taking your pet to areas with heavy shrubbery or mangroves, where he is likely to pick up a parasite or two. Internal parasites can be detected by your veterinarian through blood and stool samples. There is a medication for protection against heartworms.

Tick disease (canine ehrlichiosis) is one of the most serious problems for dogs, which can become ill a week to a year after being infected. Signs of the disease can include loss of appetite, lethargy, fever, lymph-node enlargement and discharge from eyes and nose. A blood test is needed to diagnose the disease, which is treated with a tetracycline antibiotic. It can be controlled by insecticidal dips and a thorough spraying of the yard.

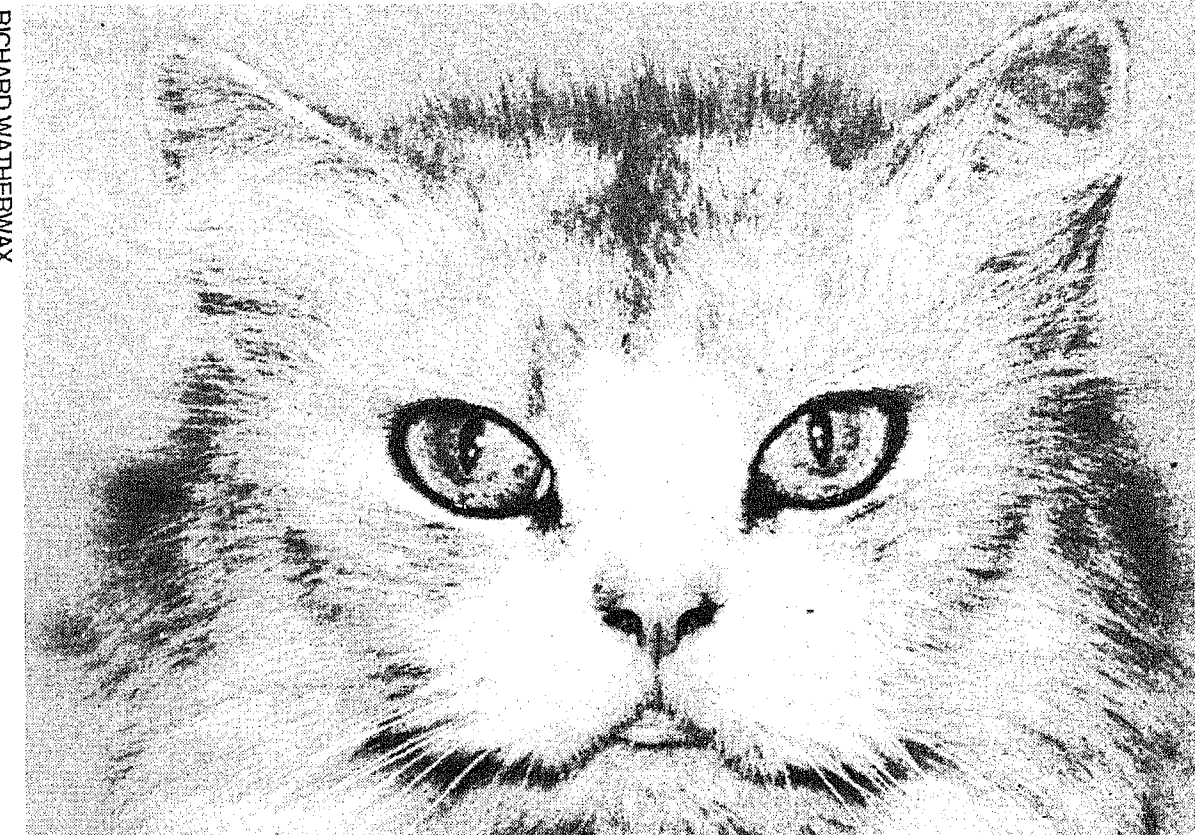
Lickety Split to the Vet

Bufo toads, common in the Keys, are poisonous to dogs. If you ever see your dog licking a toad, rinse out his mouth immediately with a garden hose and bring him to



HOSE JOB: Adopted through the Greyhound Rescue League, Chase gets an informal bath.

RICHARD WATHEWAX



FOR YOUR EYES ONLY: Summer, a silver Persian beauty, belongs to writer Jane Phillips.

your veterinarian at once.

Feline leukemia is usually spread by saliva during cat fights, grooming and mating; thus, outdoor cats have a higher incidence of the disease. The immune systems of some cats destroy the virus. One out of four infected cats die within the first year, three out of four within three years. Some cats survive but suffer from chronic illness.

Symptoms of feline leukemia include weight loss, poor hair and coat, loss of appetite, anemia, diarrhea, fever, gum inflammation and persistent bacterial infection. Fortunately, there is a preventive injection for the disease.

Some Don't Like It Hot

Though both dogs and cats can suffer from heat stroke, dogs are the more likely victims and should not be taken out on excessive exercise jaunts in hot weather or left in cars. For cats, a combination of high temperatures and humidity plus poor ventilation can be deadly. Unlike humans, for whom sweating acts as a cooling system, cats and dogs control body temperature through panting and radiation of heat from skin surface.

Short-nosed dogs such as pugs, bulldogs, Pekingese and boxers are especially susceptible to overheating because of their restricted breathing. All pets, however, should be protected from the sun and have fresh, cool water available. Limit exercise during hot weather, and never, never leave your pet in a closed automobile.

Any animal in heat shock should be treated promptly by a vet.

Flea, Fly, Foe

Fleas are a constant problem. With an outdoor pet, about the most you can hope for is to keep the flea population down by dipping the animal and spraying your house and yard. Flea foggers and sprays are available in hardware stores. Either hire a professional or try to do it yourself. If you're going it alone, ask your veterinarian or groomer to help you select the best product for your pet. It is most effective to de-flea both animal and home at the same time.

There is good news for those who live in carpeted homes. Pestex, Inc. will treat your home with an E.P.A.-registered solution of sodium polyborate, safe for humans and animals but deadly to fleas. The average application, which takes a little over an hour while you remain at home and costs about \$25 per room, is guaranteed for a full year—even if your animal is in and out of the house. The product kills new fleas as your pet brings them in.

For those of us without carpeting, the University of Florida is working on a product that will control fleas for six months. Entomologist Phil Koehler of the Institute of Food and Agriculture says it will be safer and more effective than the majority of

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pesticides now on the market. The product will be initially marketed under the names Torus and Dimilin. Its ingredients are fenoxycarb and diflubenzuron.

Preventive care is the best medicine for your pets. Puppies and kittens should be vaccinated against disease and have regular check-ups.

The All-Important Diet

Diet is important. Many low-cost brands of pet food do not offer the nutrition your pet needs. Veterinarians now carry a variety of food products for regular and special dietary requirements. One cat, which suffered from a chronic urinary tract infection (a common problem), hasn't had a recurrence since it went on a special-formula diet, suggested by the veterinarian.

To the Groomers

Many pet owners use grooming services not only because they want their animals to look good but also to prevent flea and tick infestations. Bleth McHaley, owner of Animal Crackers in the rear of The Bird's Nest, has a monthly maintenance plan for grooming that are priced according to the size and needs of the animal.

The front shop carries an assortment of pet toys, including a kitty playhouse for

\$139, a rubber mailman for dogs to chew, and a pooch pacifier in case your doggie misses his mama. For patriotic pets or owners, a whole array of leashes, collars and bandanas are available with "Key West" printed on them.

In the grooming business for 15 years, Pat Doerr of Head to Tail says the Key West climate definitely takes its toll on pets, causing matting and skin problems. While some experts believe you should clip long-haired dogs and others believe you should not, Doerr says "observing your pet is the best way to determine if he's too hot."

Of course, more is available than just a trim. Doerr says some clients get the works—bows and nail polish—and love it; others seem to be embarrassed and hide.

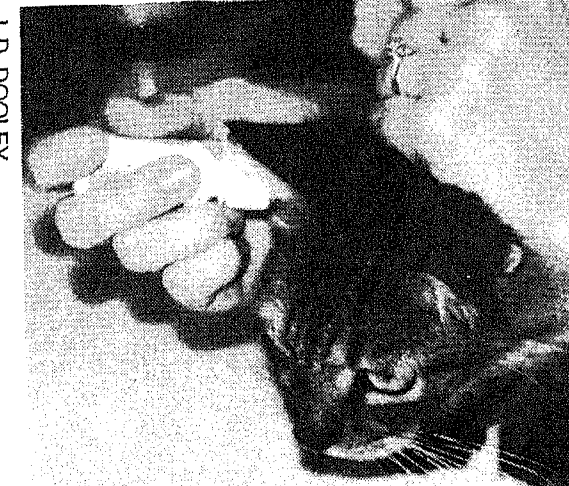
Ticks are the biggest pet problem she treats, with the number of lesions increasing every year. Owners, she says, often use too much insecticide on their animals, which can cause accidental poisoning.

What's Between Fluffy's Ears?

Kathy Baier, who lives on Big Pine Key, is an animal behavior consultant. She studied dog psychology when she was raising show dogs. She's also attended seminars on the subject. As a volunteer at the Marathon Animal Shelter, she found that

many dogs had minor behavior problems that kept them from being adopted.

Baier has found that problems occur because a dog's basic needs—social, nutritional and exercise—are not being met. Who can blame Fido for acting out with inappropriate bathroom habits, chewing on furniture, barking, etc.? Isolation can produce unbearable anxiety.



TENDER TOUCH: In the tropics, pet owners must pay special attention to veterinary needs.

"Unlike humans animals, four-legged ones have only one or two ways of relieving stress, which the owner often attributes to 'bad' behavior," says Baier. "House-breaking problems can occur from poor training to begin with—where the animal simply does not understand what is expected." Other problems can arise from poor diet, inconsistent diet or change in diet.

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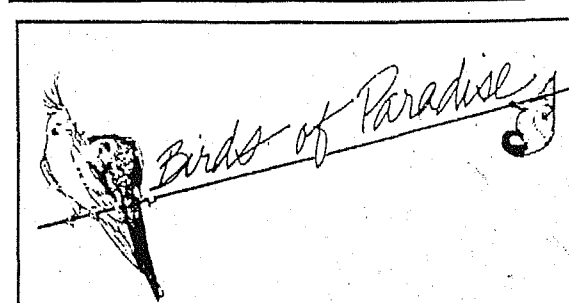


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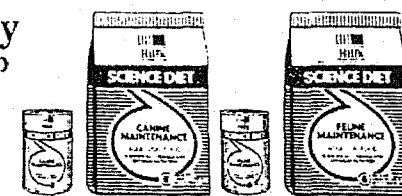
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Special Animal Organizations

The Lower Keys Friends of Animals, a non-profit, all-volunteer organization, provides low-cost spaying and neutering, assists people with animal needs, and provides advice in emergencies. Membership in the Friends of Animals is \$5 for two years and entitles you to discount services at certain vets. Volunteers are welcomed. For information call 296-3926, 296-8556 or 294-3532. In Big Coppitt, call 294-7467.

Dorothy Fork at 296-5106 heads up the local chapter of United Humanitarian, which also provides spaying and neutering.

The Monroe County Animal Shelter on Stock Island presently has 35 dogs and 51 cats and kittens, including pedigreed animals, up for adoption. If you are looking for a particular type of animal or breed, the shelter will take your phone number and put you on their "want list." The number to call is 294-4857.

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Best Friend Theory Is True

Many Key West animals are fortunate to be showered with love and affection. I spoke with a number of pet owners, who were thrilled to discuss their animals and their relationships with them.

Steve Walton, a body-builder-type bartender at Sloppy Joe's, mentions his mixed breed, Jo-Jo. "I got her at the animal shelter and she crawled over all the other puppies just to get to me," he says proudly. "Anyone that doesn't like my dog, I don't want to know." He admits there's a little rivalry on Jo-Jo's part if he brings a lady home.

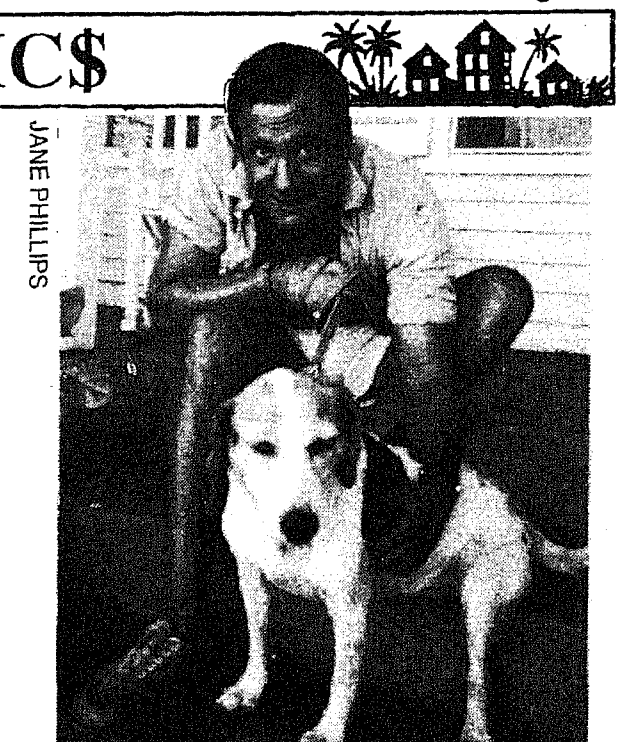
Entertainer Bruce Kirlie says his dog Sinatra is his most successful relationship. "I've split up with two people because they interfered with my dog," he says. His beagle is from the dog pound, she had one more day to go. It was instant bonding and they've been together seven years.

He adds, "To me she's a cross between Ava Gardner, Rita Hayworth and Audrey Hepburn."

Pets enhance daily living for many of us, says Dr. Katherine Hoover. "Pets have great therapeutic value. It has to do with generating positive feelings within yourself." In Canada, Hoover says, nursing homes now allow pets to come along with patients. She and her family have five cats.

Reach Resort executive Sheila Sands couldn't wait to tell me about her dog, Conchita. "Conchita spends more time on the roof than anyplace else," she said. "She started going up there from the sundeck when she was three months old." Conchita patrols the roof from corner to corner, often bringing a laugh from passersby.

"I got my first cat in a moment of weakness," confesses Don DeFeo, general manager of the Pier House, whose cats are named Pearl and Frances. "She's a Sia-



BEAGLEMANIA: Entertainer Bruce Kirlie is obsessive about his dog, Sinatra.

mese, but she was taken by a midnight express, and I now have her daughter, too." The new one will not bond with humans.

DeFeo had an afterthought to which many a pet-owner might relate. "[My cats] are really a pain in the ass."

People tell me from time to time that my silver Persian cat Summer and I look alike. It's the best compliment I've ever gotten! She and my other three cats, Sacha, Sweetums and Magdalena, are my constant companions. I can't conceive of a life without them.

When the time does come for your pet to go to that great kennel in the sky, however, cremation services are available through a Miami-based company called Pet Heaven. The cost is \$100 to \$150, and you will receive the ashes of your departed in an urn with a nameplate. Arrangements can be made through your veterinarian.

—Jane Phillips

No Fleas — One Year Guarantee!!

People have tried for years to rid their homes of fleas with pesticides, poisons, over-the-counter sprays and foggers. But until now, there was no environmentally friendly solution... Now a company called RX For Fleas is in the Keys with its safe revolutionary service and patented product. RX For Fleas is being recommended by veterinarians and consumers alike as being the method to rid your home of fleas.

In fact, a recent independent study conducted by Auburn University, College of Veterinary Medicine, concluded that the RX For Fleas method is 100% effective in killing fleas. Nationwide, more than 15,000 veterinarians recommend their clients use the RX For Fleas method. That includes many local veterinarians as well.

Dr. Harold Siegel of Siegel Animal Clinic says of the RX For Fleas service, "I have recommended this service to my clients who are serious about flea control. In my own home, it has prevented a flea problem from occurring in the presence of two pets. The product has been totally inoffensive, serving as an invisible guardian against fleas."

Anne Davey, who manages the RX For Fleas in the Keys office, says wherever she goes "people are thrilled to discover something available that's environmentally safer and effective for a full year with just one application. Our money-back guarantee and excellent customer service is welcomed by our many satisfied customers. The product is a neutral substance so it cannot harm your carpet or furniture, or void your carpet warranty."

Rt. Lauderdale resident Irene Stikar writes, "I just wanted to thank you for making my home flea-free. I tried bombs for months and they never worked for any length of time. I even considered an exterminator, but they averaged \$380 per year. I liked your price; it was much less expensive than a monthly service over the course of a year. I have two cats who also thank you very much."

Another happy customer, Julie Jackson writes: "Just a note to tell you how pleased we are with the RX For Fleas method. Our dog's battle with fleas was becoming a family problem. My daughter is highly allergic to fleas bites and we had tried everything imaginable. Now, no one is scratching and our poodle is a pet again!"

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Art Circle

Design & Wholesale

by Judi Bradford

As surely and steadily as the outgoing tide, a Key West style is drifting up to the mainland. A handful of busy island designers provide fashionable garments to almost a thousand stores and boutiques across the nation, in addition to selling directly to loyal clients. Locally, they employ about 200 people in a half dozen locations.

This fashion trend reflects the Last Resort lifestyle, with clothes designed for ease of movement and constructed from fabrics compatible with a tropical climate. Loose

and light, they drift on a tropical breeze and slip easily on and off, allowing for a quick dip in the pool or ocean. They can be mixed and matched, or turned from one type of garment into another with a new fold or a different tie of the sash. Their colors reflect the noon horizon or a palmy beach at twilight.

Swept Away

Mark and Kerry Carpenter started Swept Away in a tiny studio shop off Duval Street about a decade ago. Now they have three Old Town retail locations, a design and production loft and a thriving wholesale and mail-order trade. The couple functions as a team, sharing the business details, managing retail or production staff and creating the looks they desire.

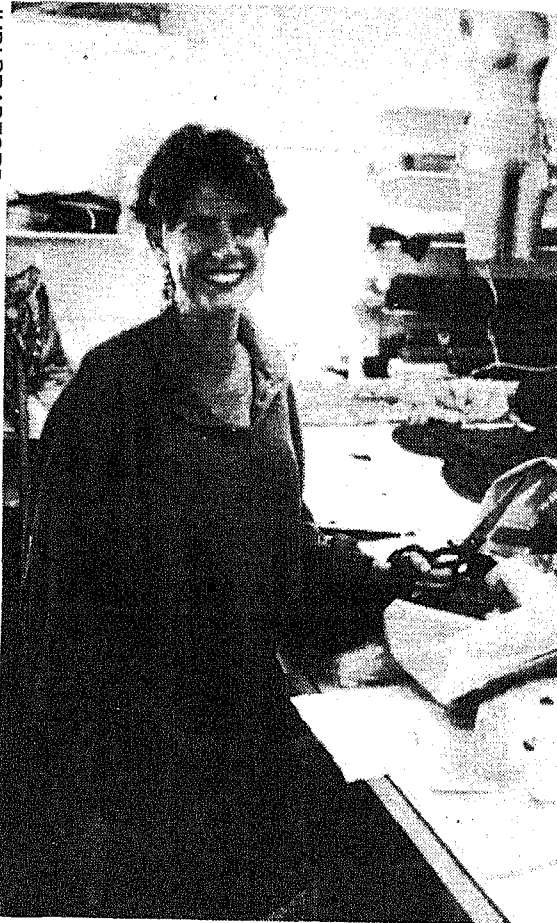
Named after the romantic Lina Wertmüller movie, Swept Away designs use fluttering rayons and crepes, and stretchy and clingy Lycra paired with structured over-garments in heavier weight fabrics.

While Mark travels extensively, researching new directions in fashions and fabrics, Kerry works with the materials and perfects the designs. Then she creates the patterns later used by production staff to manufacture the items.

Business is so good, the Carpenters are preparing a mail-order catalog, complete with an 800 number. All the photography is being produced in-house. The brochure layout, working proofs and copy blurbs cover their office.

When finished, the brochure will feature swimsuits. Some suits convert from mid-

JUDI BRADFORD



DESIGNER: Kerry Carpenter in the Swept Away cutting room.

western modesty to Mediterranean nearly-nude with a flip and fold of a reversible panel and the pull of a drawstring or two.

"Fashion design is not removed from business design and business planning," says Mark. "It involves a communication with the market."

"And then you've got the fit on top of it," adds Kerry. "If you've got a great design that looks good on only one body or on the mannikin and people try it on and are disappointed, that also a factor."

This has led them to offer customizing



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services. "Every shape of woman in my opinion," says Mark, "is fine. Part of the base of our business is we allow people to mix sizes and styles. They can go through all the different styles and find something. If they see a fabric, they can say, 'Hey, do it in this,' and we'll make it up. There's a give and take with the customer that translates to the rest of the store, too."

"I think the fashion business is not what you may see in a window," he continues. What's important, he says, is that the customers that are satisfied, the employees have been able to build their lives around local manufacturing and everybody's learned something.

Winter Sun

Anga Miller and Gazelle Lange started Winter Sun nine years ago with the thought that it was something they could do as a "family business." Their husbands are both musicians in the Survivors band, and the women babysit for each other's children. Somehow, though, Winter Sun developed a life of its own, and now the owners are hard-pressed to keep up with it and their families.

At first, they were importing sweaters from Ecuador—an opportunity that came out of a travel spree. Soon they were creating designs for their knitters and retailing them at Mallory Square. Both remember one night when a sudden norther blew in, and all the vendors on the dock were wearing sweaters borrowed from the Winter Sun inventory.

Trips to New York trade shows gave the women the inspiration to train their South



DREAM WEAVERS: Ecuadorian artisans work on textiles for Winter Sun garments. The yardage is draped through highland fields to dry.

American artisans in batik techniques. With direction from the Key West designers, South Americans learned the ancient Indonesian craft.

"It took off. It just went bam!" says Anga. "No one had ever seen anything like it, because it was something new—a whole new approach."

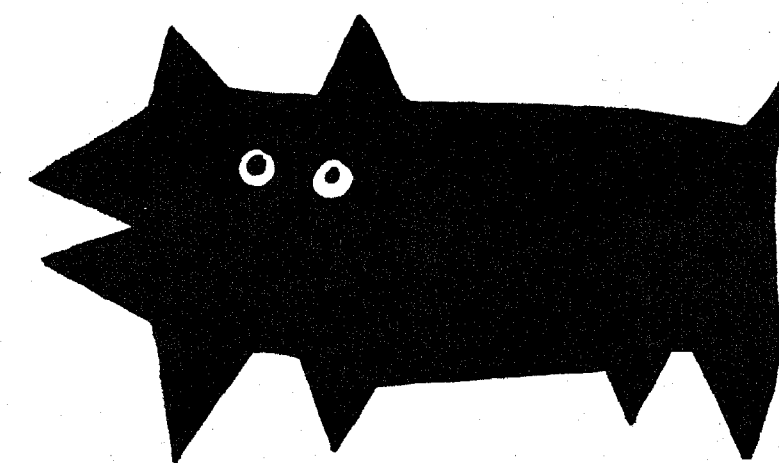
Gazelle adds, "The timing for it was just perfect . . . the batik look was really strong."

"And there were so many people from Indonesia selling it," Anga says. "It was really perfect for us to do this batik in a dif-

ferent place, because it had a completely different look and we stood out."

Today, there are 135 Ecuadorians washing and dyeing fabrics that are later stitched into graceful feminine garments which Anga designs for distribution to their six retail stores: Bar Harbor, Maine; Rhinebeck, New York; Santa Fe and two shops in Key West (one a wholesale outlet).

The business has grown steadily from Day One. Sometimes the emphasis is on retail, sometimes on manufacturing or wholesale. Right now wholesale is the major thrust, with merchandise being shipped to



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"If you are going to sum up the whole thing of what's been going on," says Gabelle, "it's been like a mushroom. In one way or another we have just been growing and metamorphosing for the last nine years, and we're exhausted."

But they both laugh and get back to the business at hand.

Banana Boat Batik

Banana Boat Batik is the result of the combined efforts of Marsha Beck and Jennifer Greene. Their line features hand-painted clothing, which has long been a Key West tradition. Using cottons, silks and knits, a handful of stitchers in Key West produce their simple, flowing styles, which are designed to be painted.

The women have thrown themselves into their work, and, like most of the Key West designers, they are learning the business as they go. Both had an interest in sewing and design but no professional training in that field. In fact, landscape architecture was Jennifer's specialty.

Through sales representatives and regional trade shows, the women are building a wholesale business.

Virgin Key West

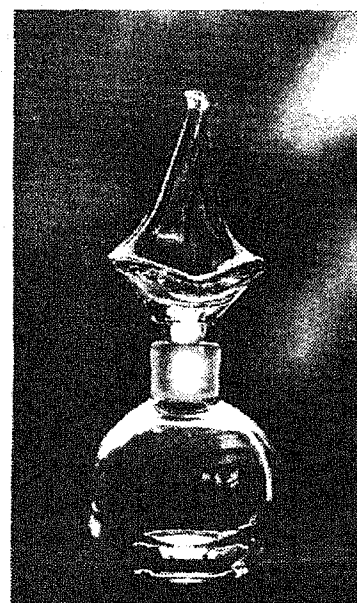
Virgin Key West is a showroom for the designs created by Robin Virgin and her husband, Gary. "Fashions with your tan in mind" is how they describe their loose and light styles, which are produced in clear equatorial colors.

Robin works primarily in cotton and has many fabrics dyed to her specifications.

The business specializes in specialized service. Customers are offered a refreshing glass of tea or a cup of coffee and invited to sink into an overstuffed sofa while they view what amounts to a private fashion show.

The Virgins frequently put on fashion shows at local establishments. Their loyal clientele returns each year to view the new season's collection.

"They come back; they take us to din-



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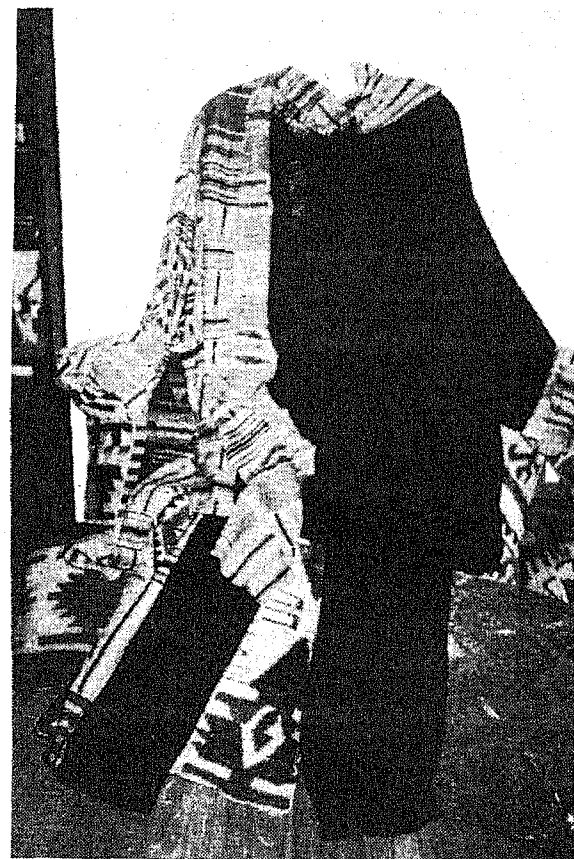
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Designing Against the Tide

by Judi Bradford

At Kudu, a gallery of African tribal arts, one sees native weavings and other crafts from the Dark Continent. This month owners Sherry Dranch and Edith Pearlman will begin carrying garments created by Ellen Steininger, one of Florida's leading weavers.

Jean Pierre Haynes in his recent book "Cocoanut Grove" says "[Steininger] has earned the title of 'Weaver of Dreams' because of her ability to create . . . sophisticated . . . elegant pieces of wearable art . . . The colors she achieves are as natural and as magical as nature itself . . . Her outfits are so soft and sensuous that



EXOTIC: African Kente cloth combined with Ellen Steininger's weaving.

people always want to touch them . . ."

Her designs are inspired by and combined with African textiles. Silk Kente cloth, mud-resist cloth from Mali and Yoruba fabrics from Nigeria are combined with the silks, cottons and rayons from Steininger's loom. The loose weaves are then fashioned into contemporary garments rich in grace and drama.

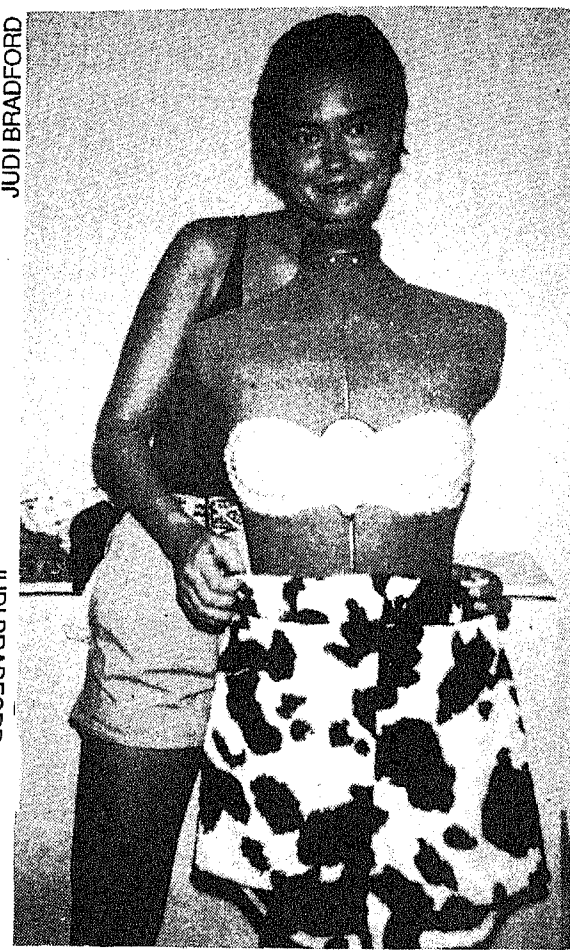
This spring, Kudu hosted a show of Steininger's work, which included a "Yoruban Nights" coat. The garment featured an opulent blue lining that gleamed through "windows" in the outer weave, giving a prismatic jewel-like effect.

Steininger's work has been seen in private gallery shows, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in Coral Gables and the North

ner," says Robin. "It has all been quite rewarding."

Key West Handprint Fabrics

Back in 1961, Peter Pell and Jim Russell started Key West Handprint Fabrics. Their



EROTIC: Laurie Tindall designs fashions for the thin and confident.

Miami Museum of Art. Her custom work, in addition to finished items, will be available to Key West clients through Kudu.

Laurie

After making clothes for her own glittering social life in the states and in Europe, Laurie Tindall began her career in fashion.

"I started designing things for myself because in Key West you obviously can't buy evening clothes," she says. "I was spending too much time traveling . . . I'm 28, and I need to do something. [Designing] is where my talent lies, so I started doing it."

Her confidence was shaky until a recent trip to Miami Beach, where she went to four stores and got orders from each. They bought exotic beaded bra halters and short shorts made from cotton cowhide, \$80-a-yard lace, and antique fabrics.

"Sometimes production costs for a single garment top \$200," she explains. "Most of the stores I'm selling to cater to the models, the very trendsetter type people."

Right now, Tindall is running a one-woman business, taking her time and building a foundation before expanding. In six months, she expects to be training employees for her main line and a second, lower-priced line.

workers silkscreened miles of floral patterns in tropical fruit colors, then constructed them into resortwear. Zanda and Erio Bocci designed the women's line, Jim Russell the men's.

At its peak, there were 22 shops and a

healthy trade with Lily Pulitzer designs. Six years ago, however, the Lily Pulitzer business collapsed, dragging Handprint down with it. Under new management, it is beginning to thrive again, with one Key West store and a bunch of wholesale accounts.

Wholesaling Pioneers Look Back

Cydall Cochran says she has been in the garment business forever. "I made fashions for the Last Supper," she says. She and a classmate made and sold miniskirts in junior high school. Later, she teamed up with her husband, Vaughn, first producing pottery then painted clothing. They opened a shop called Bahama Mama's, which was located at Duval and Greene Streets.

For years, Cydall turned out wraparound skirts, shorts and shirts and eventually bathing suits—all were canvases for the pair's freely brushed tropical images. When painting became too slow a process to meet the growing orders, they began silkscreening their designs in a Stock Island studio.

Cydall also worked with old garments and fabrics in a line called "Reminiscence." Old tablecloths became wraparound shorts and '50s curtains were transformed into jackets and vests.

"We wholesaled mostly in the islands," says Cydall. "The Rockefeller resorts picked up our line, and we did all their island stores . . . It was doing very well. Then Vaughn and I divorced. He was the main painter."

Cydall switched to silkscreening T-shirts at a time when only a few artists were doing so—long before the T-shirt shop concept was founded.

During that time, Duval Street was a few art galleries and mainly bars. Then Ed Swift and company redid the 600 block with bi-centennial grants, she says.

"That's when shops came into Duval Street," she says. "That's when clothing stores appeared. Nothing happened before that."

Cydall continued to produce the "Reminiscence" line, but gradually the T-shirt business took over. Recently, she sold Bahama Mama's and now, again, she is

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handpainting garments, mainly T's, that she sells at Sunset and to wholesale accounts.

She says it's a simpler approach to fashion after a dizzying 15 years of retail/wholesale/manufacturing.

While Cydall was painting, Liz Birmingham was sewing. She piloted a plane between her Onyin Skins stores in Tampa and Key West and her manufacturing sites in Miami at the peak of her garment business.

She started out making custom clothing in a crafts co-op on Front Street. Her specialty was "unusual fabrications in traditional forms." She made western shirts with detailing in chenille, old Florida draperies and Hawaiian prints.

"My feeling in designing is that nothing is really original," she says. "There are not too many ways to make a shirt. Variations on a theme are what happens."

She was in step with the times, creating caftans, dashikis and tunic tops. But her drawstring pants were in such demand that it thrust her into manufacturing.

That was fine with Liz, who found the anxiety of private fitting too wrenching. "It was horrible," she says, recalling a fitting for Jimmy Buffett. "He was a big hit around town, but had not made it really big at the time. I made the shirt too big. He had become bigger than life to me."

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She, of course, restitched it to size, but the anxiety remains.

Her cummerbund pants with reversible print/solid jackets were popular on a national scale. Her line developed into "casual-ly elegant resort and sportswear."

Then she retired. However, the peaceful life doesn't sit well with her, so now she is developing a line of jewelry.

"It's like garments," she says. "Merchandising and marketing is the thing."

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JUNE ART CALENDAR

Art Collections Key West • National and local artists in a variety of styles and themes. Monday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. 600 Front St. in the Bottling Court. 296-5956.

Art Safari Gallery & Key Largo Antiques • "Masks of the World," "Art of the Ancestors" and "Art of the Shaman," through May 20. Museum-quality collections, including beaded masks and spears from four continents. MM 98.6, Gulf-side, Key Largo. 852-5933.

Audubon House • "The Porcelain Birds of Dorothy Doughty." \$5 admission, children under six free, AAA discount. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. 205 Whitehead St. 294-2116.

Banana Boat Batik • Hand-painted silk and cotton by Key West Attitude. New ceramic work by Walt Hyla—animals, fish, lidded vessels, functional ware and hanging fish sculptures. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 419B Duval St. 296-2380.

Bohem • Hand-painted furniture and paintings on canvas, wood and masonite. Daily, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 706A Duval St. 292-4035.

East Bank Gallery • Closed for summer. See you in the fall. Daily, except Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 706 White St. 296-2679.

East Martello Museum & Gallery • History of the Key West Customs House through summer. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$3 admission for adults. 3501 S. Roosevelt Blvd. 296-3913.

Farrington Gallery 711 • Serigraphs by Igor Galanin. New watercolors by Sylva. Daily, except Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 711 Duval St. 294-6911.

Florida Keys Community College Library Gallery • Faculty Show, 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 • Our regular stable of artists. Thursday through Monday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Tuesday and Wednesday. 901 Duval St. 296-8900.

Grand Collection • Paintings, Asian antiques, ancient artifacts, tribal arts, jewelry. New hours: Sunday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 810 Duval St. 292-1331.

Great Southern Gallery • Antique prints and maps of Key West from 1840-1890. Figure drawing classes Tuesday mornings 9 to 11. Watercolor classes Saturday mornings by Errol Etienne. Summer hours: Thursday through Monday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 910 Duval St. 294-6660.

Guild Hall Gallery • Ink, pastel, watercolor, acrylic, prints, gyotaku fish printing, soft sculpture, fabric piecwork; printed and handpainted cards, ceramics, painted clothing, leather bags, photography, stained glass, ironwork, painted mirrors,

collage, painted woodcarvings by 17 Key West artists. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. 614 Duval St. 296-6076.

Haitian Art Company • Paintings, wood sculpture, metal cut-outs, papier mache by Haitian artists. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 600 Frances St. 296-8932.

Harrison Gallery • Susan Thayer, Andre Henocque and Helen Harrison. Daily, noon to 5:30 p.m. except Sunday and Monday. 825 White St. 294-0609.

Is It Art? • Handpainted art-wear, prints and wall-hangings. Summer hours: closed Wednesday, otherwise open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. 913 Duval St. 294-0411.

Island Arts • A unique selection of local arts, crafts and painted objects. Weekdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; weekends, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 1128 Duval St. 292-9909.

Island Wellness • Paintings by local and Caribbean artists throughout the summer. Daily, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and by appointment. 530 Simonton St. 296-7353.

Kennedy Gallery • New sculpture by Peter Olinoski. Etched glass pieces by Susan Pellish. Vibrant oil paintings by Michele Kennedy. Watercolor street scenes by Robert E. Kennedy. Daily, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., maybe later. 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.

Key West Art Center • Larry Selepec pen and inks. June 15 through 29, Sharon Leahy watercolors and acrylics. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 301 Front St. 294-1241.

Key West Lighthouse Museum • History of Keys lighthouses and technology of lighthouses. Also, life of a lighthouse 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 • Oriental rugs, kilims, collectors textiles, international folk art, ethnic musical instruments, tapestries, toys and African art. Summer hours: Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., except Tuesday and Wednesday. 1208 Duval St. 294-3771.

Lane Gallery • Various works by our regular artists. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1000 Duval St. 294-0067.

Lee Dodez Showroom • Handbuilt clay pieces by Lee Dodez and raku work by Jay Gogin. Classes by both artists. Also ceramic supplies: clay, glazes, equipment for the potter. Monday and Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. 901 Duval St., rear. 296-5901.

Loeber-Stanton Gallery • Originals by international artist Joe Loeber. By appointment. 1619 Atlantic Blvd. 296-8996.

Lucky Street Gallery • Paintings by Michael Haykin. Photos by Ann Jackson. Sculpture by John Martini. Summer hours: Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday noon to 6 p.m. 919 Duval St. 294-3973.

Miller Gallery • Canvas and mixed media works by Helen Colley in expressionist style of the 1940s and 50s. By appointment, please call 294-7687. 517 Duval St., Suite #200.

Mosquito Coast Island Outfitters • New paintings from South America. Back country paintings and prints by Michael Shannon. Bird prints by Marianna Bauerlein. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. 1107 Duval St. 296-6124.

Out on a Whim • Decorative arts. Call us for full decorative arts services. Shop open by appointment for the summer. 512 Olivia Street. 294-4650.

Pandemonium • Unique art fashions and furniture, tile tables and a new line of ceramic house numbers. Sale items. Monday and Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 704 Duval St. 294-0351.

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 • Functional and decorative ware from some of America's finest potters. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 717 Duval St. 294-3143.

Rose Lane Antiquities • Pre-Columbian art. Flexible hours or by appointment. 524 Rose Lane. 294-1873, 294-2270.

Studio 227 • Locklear multimedia, acrylics and watercolors by Karen Clemens, plus other artists. Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 227 Petronia St. 294-7141.

Tar Heel Trading Co. • Stoneware candle cottages by Jan Richardson. Designer jewelry by Suzan and Curtis Benzle, Linda van der Linde, and Kyle McKeown. Miniature boxes by Michael Fisher and Scott Peterson. 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. White functional stoneware by Janet Albert. Daily, except Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1011 Whitehead St. 294-5067.



Music Review

The Fabulous Spectrelles



GIRL GROUP: (From left) Spectrelles Penny Mollot-Jampol, Allison Mayer & Melody Cooper.

by Christine Naughton

Once upon a time, a local theater techie named Billy Cimino had this keen idea: A '50s girl group for his beloved Cayo Hueso. Do lang do lang do lang. Hey lie hey lie. Comah comah down shooobie do down down. Shimmy shimmy. Coco Pop. "Faaaabulous," said his friend Rae Coates, director and general theater animal about town. "We'll call them 'The Spectrelles!'"

Cimino and Coates set about making this dream a reality. Little did they know their pet project would go on to become the Official Girl Group of the Conch Republic. Toni (Penny Mollot-Jampol), Crissy (Melody Cooper) and Baby Tracy (Allison Mayer) are now in their eighth year as The Fabulous Spectrelles. Each is an accomplished singer, actress and dancer, with multiple theater credits and successful endeavors in areas of performance other than The Spectrelles.

Appearing at Crazy Daizy's, the Holiday Inn La Concha's downstairs barroom, and aided by their trusty sound man, Chuck Higbie, who is also the program manager at radio station WAIL 99 FM, The Fabulous Spectrelles presented a visual and aural feast.

Their wardrobe (in identical sets of three) and wigs (black for Toni, red for Crissy, blond for Baby Tracy) are notoriously campy, and their repertoire positively drips the essence of the 50s—when love was true but boys usually weren't.

Eyelashes out to here, hair teased up to there, sequined bods awiggle, The Spectrelles conjure a musical era born of gentler, more innocent times. At the Saturday night sockhop, boys with crewcuts and girls with ponytails did the Mashed Potato, the Swim and the Pony to the music of the 1950s glamorous girl groups.

The shimmering pink backdrop to the tiny stage parted and The Fabulous Spectrelles began their third show of a recent Thursday night. Higbie started the music

and Baby Tracy took the first lead with Leslie Gore's immortal "You Don't Own Me." Mayer maintained Tracy's heavy-lipped pout while soulfully belting the lyrics and pointing a painted fingernail at first one then another of her male listeners. The two remaining Spectrelles sang back-up harmony and reinforced Baby Tracy's painted fingernail and choreographed movements with their own.

Throughout the show, this format was followed, with the trio evenly distributing the leads and backup. Their harmony was sung in tune and on time, and the movements, executed with precision and good energy, were often hilarious. Throughout the Marvelette's "Too Many Fish in the Sea," for example, the ladies did the Swim and at the end each held her nose and sank.

Cooper did a particularly stirring rendition of "Heaven Must Have Sent You," a gospel-flavored ballad recorded by Marvin Gaye and Tammy Turrell. She gradually stoked the furnace with her tasteful choices of embellishment, drawing applause mid-song when she burst into fiery, full-throated wail. Cooper's voice was in excellent shape, and she exercised a relaxed control over it.

Mollot-Jampol effortlessly delivered two

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hits in a row, "Jimmy Mack" and "Be My Baby." But her style shone brightest on the sweet, lovesick teenage girl's cry made famous by the Chiffonnes, "He's So Fine." Her voice was strong, wide open and vibrant, with a youthful honesty. She kept her phrasing clean and forthright, which pleasantly balanced with the more flamboyant styles of Cooper and Mayer.

The fab three have kept in touch with Rae Coates, who returned to London last year and is greatly missed by his Key West cohorts. Coates has been busy securing enough bookings for the outrageous trio to make the passage to London, a trip which they hope will occur later this summer. In the meantime, The Fabulous Spectrelles can be found Thursday through Saturday nights at Crazy Daizy's with three shows, 10, 11 and 12.

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JUNE CALENDAR

Cultural Events



RICHARD WATERMAN

SALESMAN: Art Nicholas portrays Richard Roma, a vicious real estate in *Glengarry Glen Ross*, playing at the Red Barn Theatre.

6/1-6/9 • *Glengarry Glen Ross* by Pulitzer-prize winner David Mamet 8 p.m. at the Red Barn Theatre. Call 296-9911.

6/19-7/7 • *The Miss Firecracker Contest* by Beth Hanley 8 p.m. at the Red Barn Theatre. Call 296-9911.

Entertainment

Answer Café • Duval Square, corner of Duval and Virginia Streets. Call 296-3371.

Arthur's Garden • 525 Duval Street. Tues through Thurs. *Two Guys Havin' Fun*; Fri & Sat. *Acoustic Faire*; Sun. 2 to 6 *Keith Allen on steel drums*; Mon. *Ocean Blues*; Sun eve *Backyard Boys*. Call 294-9564.

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

The Bull & Whistle Bar • Corner of Duval and Caroline Streets. *Rick Steffan*, *Bert Lee*, *Dan Mulberry*, *Ben Harrison*, *Clark Whitt*, *W.W.*

Oz, and *Pat McCuen*, alternating schedules daily from 2 p.m. 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. Sun. and Mon., 8 p.m. to 12 a.m., and Wed. and Thurs., 5 to 10 p.m., *G.T. Weckerly*; Tues. and Wed., 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. and Thurs., 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. *Tumbleweed Ted*. Both will alternate on Fri. and Sat. Call 294-1838.

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.

Emma's Late Night • The Reach at Simonton and the beach. Call 294-3474.

Flagler's at The Casa Marina • 1500 Reynolds Street. Sun. brunch and Sun. night piano with Bill Lorraine. Mon. and Fri. Happy Hour, 5 to 7 p.m. Michael McCloud on guitar. Tues. nights at 9 p.m. The Tony Bishop Trio. Wed. to Sat., 9 to 1 a.m. contemporary jazz featuring Toni Bishop. Call 296-3535.

Full Moon Saloon • 1202 Simonton Street. Feb. 2 and 16, *Bill Blue and the Nervous Guys*. Call 294-9090.

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

Harbour Light's Barrelhead Bar • Garrison Bight Marina. Mon. through Thurs. 6 to 10 p.m. *Coco & the Mojo Hand*; Fri. 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. and Sat. and Sun. 6 to 10 p.m. Steve Bryan. Call 294-9343.

Havana Docks Late Night • The Pier House, 1 Duval Street. Call 296-4600.

Havana Docks Sunset Deck • The Pier House, 1 Duval Street. Call 296-4600.

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

Hukilau • 1990 N. Roosevelt Blvd. Friday and Saturday nights, *Coffee Butler* on piano. Call 294-2188.

Islander Restaurant • 528 Front Street.

Weekends, *Tinker* from 7 to 11 p.m. Call 292-7659.

La Te Da and The Crystal Café • 1125 Duval Street. *Bruce Kirle* on piano. Call 294-8435.

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

Martha's • S. Roosevelt Blvd (A1A) Mon. and Tues. *Joe Lowe*; Wed. through Sun. 7 to 11 p.m. *Barbara Redfern*. Call 294-3466.

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

Nightfall • The Reach at Simonton and the Beach. Tues. through Sat., 5 to 7 p.m. *Mickey and Squirt*. 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. Tues. through Sat. 9:30 p.m. to ? *The Other Brothers*. Call 294-6800.

The Quay • 12 Duval Street. Everyday 4 to 8 p.m. *Will Happey*; Fri. and Sat. 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., Sun. and Mon. 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. *Robin Fear*; Tues. 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. *Harry French*; Wed. and Thurs. 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. *Suzie Michaels*. Call 294-4446.

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

Rooftop Café • 310 Front Street. Sunsets Mon. and Tues. *Suzie Michaels*; Sunsets Wed. through Sun. *Leanna Collins*. Call 294-2042.

Schooner Wharf • 202 William Street. *Charles Kaczynski* on jazz violin and *Ken Thompson* with guitar and vocals every Sat. from 6 to 10 p.m. 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. Thurs., Fri., and Sat., 7:30 p.m. *Jeff Little* on piano. Call 296-4300.

Stephen's Bayside Café • 1970 N. Roosevelt Blvd. Call 294-5066.

Sun Sun Pavilion at The Casa Marina • 1500 Reynolds Street. Call 296-3535.

The Top at La Concha • 430 Duval Street. Call 296-2991.

Turtle Kraals at Lands End Marina • 1 Lands End Village. Weekends, *comedian Clark Whitt*. Call 294-2640.

Two Friends Patio Restaurant • 512 Front Street. Tues. through Sun. nights *Just A Mellow Crew*. Call 296-9212.

Viva Zapata • 903 Duval Street. Thurs. through Sat., 7 to 10 p.m. *Matthew Jampol* on classical guitar. Call 296-3138.

The Wine Galley • The Pier House at 1 Duval Street. Call 296-4600.

Meetings

6/4 • City Commission Meeting 3:30 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

6/4-6/5 • Board of County Commissioners Meeting noon in Key West. Call 296-2228 for location.

6/5 • Board of Adjustment Meeting 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

6/6 • Beach Advisory Board Meeting 11 a.m. in the city manager's conference room. Call 292-8100.

6/6 • Tree Commission Meeting 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

6/6 • TDC Meeting 10 a.m. at the Key West Teen Center. Call 296-2228.

6/10 • HARC Meeting 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

6/12 • Contractors Meeting 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

6/12 • Cultural Affairs Meeting 5:30 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

6/12 • Key West Agency Meeting 10 a.m. in Key West. Call 296-2228 for location.

6/13 • HARC Meeting 7:30 p.m. in the city manager's conference room. Call 292-8100.

6/18 • City Commission Meeting 3:30 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

6/19 • Contractors Exam Board Meeting 2 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

6/20 • Key West Planning Board Meeting 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

6/20 • TDC Meeting 10 a.m. at the Key West Library. Call 296-2228.

6/24 • HARC Meeting 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

6/26 • Mayor's Revolving Loan Fund Meeting 5:45 p.m. in the city manager's conference room. Call 292-8100.

6/27 • Code Enforcement Board Meeting 6 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

Family Fun

6/1-6/2 • Marathon Ladies Invitational Tarpon Tournament at Faro Blanco Marine Resort in Marathon. Call Marlene Jordan at (305) 743-6139.

6/4-6/8 • Don Hawley Invitational Fly-fishing-Release Tarpon Tournament at Papa Joe's Restaurant in Islamorada. Call Tony Nobregas at (305) 664-9212.

6/7-6/9 • Holiday Isle Dolphin Tournament at the Holiday Isle Resort in Islamorada. Call Lynda Gargano at (305) 664-2321, ext. 641.

6/8-6/9 • Tavernier Creek Dolphin Rodeo at Tavernier Creek Marina in Tavernier. Call Amie Dumont at (305) 852-5854.

6/9-6/12 • Women's World Invitational Fly Championship in Islamorada. Call Amy Knowles at (305) 664-9279.

6/8-6/14 • Tarpon Master Tournament at the Faro Blanco Marine Resort in Marathon. Call Marlene Jordan at (305) 743-6139.

6/10-6/16 • Little Palm Island Grand Slam at Little Palm Island in the Lower Keys. Call Ben Woodson at (800) 343-8567.

6/15-6/16 • Father's Day Dolphin Derby at the Landing Restaurant in Key Colony Beach. Call Sharon Lang at (305) 743-077

Well-Being

6/6 • Assertiveness Workshop at the Mental Health Center of the Lower Keys on Truman Annex. Taught by Dr. Elizabeth Saenger, workshop will be from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on the 6th and again on June 18. Cost is \$25. Call 292-6843.

6/13 • Nursing Assistant Certification Exam, offered by the Adult Education Program, will be at 5 p.m. in Room J-22 at Key West High School. Fee is \$5. Have picture I.D. and Social Security Card to register.

6/14 • Household Hazardous Waste



KIDS CONCH CAMP: Jan Carlyle, "M" West and Cristina Lindley have started a camp for children aged 7 to 14, emphasizing the reef and environment. Opening June 13, it is HRS approved. Call 296-0071 or 292-7654.

Collection Day conducted by Monroe County Municipal Service District. Collection site located on S. Roosevelt Blvd. on the lot adjacent to the airport exit. Open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For a list of collectible items call 292-4439.

6/21 • **AIDS Education Open House** at Marriott's Casa Marina, from 7 to 9 p.m. A service of the Florida Psychological Association and featuring expert speakers, it is free and open to the public.

7/1 • **Adult Education Summer Classes** for the Monroe County School District begin. ABE, GED and English as a second language classes will be Mon. through Fri. 9 a.m. to noon, and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Employability skills will be Mon. through Fri., 1 to 3 p.m. Computer skills will be Mon. and Wed., 1 to 3 p.m.

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

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 294-8912.

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.

AIDS HELP Seminars on the HIV disease 7 p.m. every Tuesday at the Activities Center. 2700 Flanier. Call 296-6196.

Indigenous Park. Call 294-4927.

Bahama Village Straw Market is held the first Saturday of every month. Located on Petronia Street between Whitehead and Thomas in Bahama Village from noon to sunset. Food, street performers and handmade crafts.

Breast Cancer Support Group holds meetings at South Miami Hospital the fourth Tuesday of every month from 7:30-8:30 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 Youth Center of Big Pine Key Methodist Church. Call 872-2861.

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

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

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 Sec-

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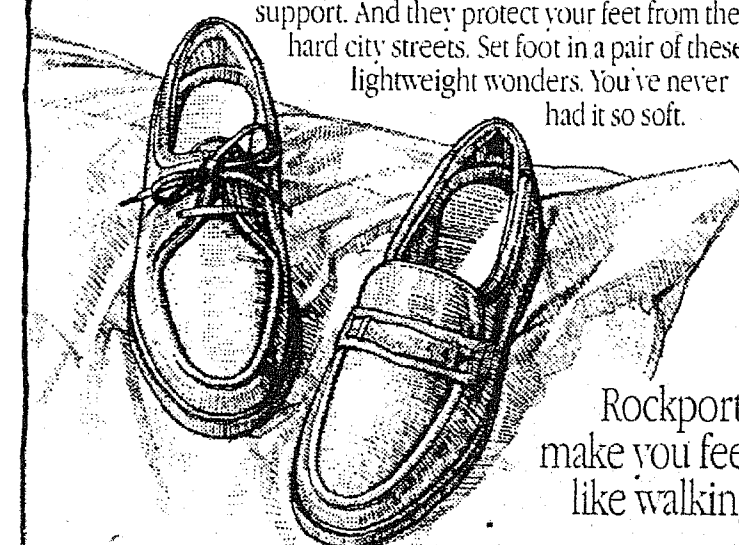
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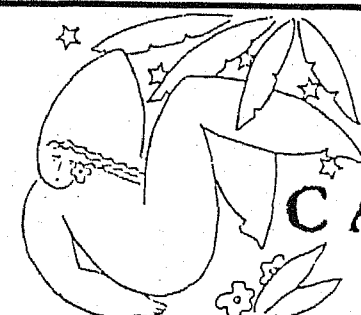
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ond Language, GED Preparation, Vocational Evaluation and Counseling, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Free to eligible applicants. Call 292-6762.

Depressive and Manic Depressive Psychotherapy Group meets 3 to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays 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 p.m. 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, 294-8612.

Island Wellness, at 530 Simonton Street, offers a variety of regularly scheduled courses and activities. Mondays: Integral Yoga at 10:30 a.m.; Group Rebirth at 1 p.m.; Tai Chi Chuan at 6:30 p.m.; Personal Growth at 7 p.m.; Audio/Visual Night at 8 p.m. Tuesdays: Tai Chi Chuan at 10:30 a.m.; Group Rebirth at 5:30 p.m.; Centering Workshop at 7 p.m.; Let's Talk Metaphysics at 7 p.m. Tuesdays: Integral Yoga at 10:30 a.m.; Group Rebirth at 1 p.m.; Integral Yoga at 5:30 p.m.; Healing Circle at 7 p.m. Thursdays: Tai Chi Chuan at 10:30 a.m.; Living From Freedom at 6:30 p.m. Fri-

days: Integral Yoga at 10:30 a.m.; Meditation Class at 7:30 p.m. Saturdays: Children's Playshop at 10 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays: Special workshops and presentations including massage therapy, reflexology, rebirthing hypnosis, psychic awareness. Call 296-7353.

Island Wellness Teenage Wellness Party is held Thursday evenings at 7:30 for teens 13 through 19. There will be a one-hour discussion on elements of self-care, followed by a dance. For more information, call Gary Young at 296-7353.

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

Key West Garden Club holds lectures the second Wednesday of the month. On the third Wednesday of each month, the Club will give practical demonstrations in gardening. Open to members and guests. Call 294-3210.

La Leche League of Big Pine Key meets at Big Pine Methodist Church 9:30 Monday mornings. Call 872-2148.

The Law and You with Attorney Fred Butner, Live from Key West. Wednesdays from 8 to 9 a.m. Radio debates. Guests include judges, attorneys, law enforcement officers and lawmakers. News analysis of law-related issues by co-host A.C. Weinstein. 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. Call 294-4352.

Literacy Volunteers of Monroe County is seeking volunteers to help in working with the media and in teaching others to

read. Call Bill Clift at 294-4352.

Lighthouse Program, 5825 Jr. College Road, Key West offers drug and alcohol rehabilitative 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 mistreatment. For membership information call 296-8682 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.

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

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. Also prose, music, dance; listen or perform. Free, refreshments served. 296-0785 or 294-1848.

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

Overeaters Anonymous meets in the chapel at Depoo Hospital Tues. and Thur. at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8 p.m. Use Emergency room Entrance. Call Sharon 296-8802 or Patti 745-2033.

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

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.

Problem Solving Group meets Tuesdays from noon to 1 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

Problem Solving for Teenagers Group meets Mondays 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

PWA's Living Room, a support group for PWA's, HIV +, friends and family, is held every Monday night at 5:30 p.m. at 816 Fleming Street, Suite 2. Call 294-5332.

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.

Small Business Counseling third Friday of each month at Barnett Bank of the Keys, Tavernier. To make an appointment, call 352-2861. Counselors are members of SCORE.

Stress Management Group meets every Friday from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

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.

Sweet Adelines, Presbyterian Kirk of the Keys, Marathon, Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

Tai Chi Chuan Exercise Class, instructed by Will Jones, is a "soft" form of physical conditioning. Classes are at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday and 6:30 p.m. Monday nights at Island Wellness.

Toddler Story Time for 2 and 3 year olds 9:30 every Friday at The Monroe County Library, 700 Fleming Street. Call 292-3595.

Transportation Program, available to those over 60 years old, weekdays 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. In Key West call 294-8468; Middle Keys call 743-9089; Upper Keys call 852-3204.

Understanding Family of Origin Group meets Tuesdays 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

Viva Zapata presents Matthew Jam-pool, classical guitarist, every Friday and Saturday night, poolside.

Writers' Walk, about one mile, takes place every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. The cost is \$10. Meet at Ocean Key House, 0 Duval Street. Make reservations. Call 745-3640.

Writers Workshop is currently accepting new members. Meetings are devoted to critiques of members' work, focusing primarily on short fiction. For more information call Mitch at 296-9081 ext. 284.

Women's Issues Group meets Thursdays from noon to 1 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

RESTAURANT DIRECTORY

Answer Café, corner of Duval and Virginia Streets in Duval Square. Pleasant outdoor café serving fresh salads, burgers, quiche, and sandwiches. Wine and beer. Daily blackboard specials. Breakfast and lunch every day. Dinner Thursday through Sunday, 296-3371.

Antonia's Restaurant, 615 Duval Street. Excellent Northern Italian cuisine in friendly, elegant atmosphere. Dinner served from 7 to 11 p.m., nightly. Visa, Mastercard. 294-6565.

Benihana, at S. Roosevelt Boulevard (A1A) and the Atlantic Ocean. Voted America's most popular full-service restaurant. Oriental chefs artistically prepare the finest steaks, shrimp, lobster and chicken right before your eyes. Full bar. Complete dinners from \$12.95. Open nightly. 294-6400.

Bill's Key West Fish Market and Restaurant, 2502 N. Roosevelt Boulevard. Serving the finest local seafood from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., daily. A local favorite. 296-5891.

The Buttery, 1208 Simonton Street. Praised by *Gourmet*, *New York Times* and *Bon Appetit* as one of the great restaurants in South Florida. The Buttery is truly a must-stop for the gourmand in Key West. A complete bar and wine list complement the distinctive Buttery menu, with nightly specials. Open for dinner, nightly; reservations are suggested. 294-0717.

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 for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday brunch, served from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Tuesday through Saturday open 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Closed Monday. 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. All-you-can-eat 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, charbroiled steak and prime rib. 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 6:30 to 11 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. 294-6230.

Duval Square Yogurt, located in the center of Duval Square. Offers the ultimate in "sinless indulgence," featur-

ing no-fat, no-cholesterol yogurt. Daily special flavors, including non-dairy fruit twist. Also serving health drinks and salads. Open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Saturday; noon to 10 p.m., Sunday. 296-2900.

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 café atmosphere, El Loro Verde now features a full liquor bar in its new dining room. 296-7298.

Emma's Seafare, The Reach, Simonton at the Ocean. A flavorful mix of Europe, Asia, and the Caribbean combine to create savory regional American favorites—hearty stews, snappy salads, local seafood, prime steaks, yummy desserts and the quintessential Sunday brunch beachside. Open seven days. The Sand Bar, overlooking the beach and the Atlantic serves conch chowder, oysters, grilled fish, chicken and sausage sandwiches, cocktails and frozen yogurt daily from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 296-5000.

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, fettucine 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. Closed Sunday and Monday. 294-4720.

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

Full Moon Saloon, 1220 Simonton 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.

Howard Johnson's Restaurant, 3041 N. Roosevelt Boulevard. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, daily. Offering breakfast specials and a daily all-you-can-eat \$8.95 seafood feast. 294-4342.

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.

La Lechonera, 3100 Flagler Avenue. One of the oldest restaurants in Key West, serving Spanish and Cuban cuisine with a full liquor bar. Daily

specials. Happy Hour 4 to 7 p.m. Take-out available. 296-7881.

La Ta Da, 1125 Duval Street. Superb food, sophisticated but relaxed atmosphere. Breakfast, lunch, dinner. Poolside. Crystal Café late night. 294-8435.

La Trattoria Venezia, 524 Duval Street. Featuring Italian and French cuisine. Dine in an elegant European atmosphere complete with Italian music and friendly, warm service. Open 7 nights 6-11 p.m. 296-1075.

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.

Martha's, at South Roosevelt Boulevard (A1A) and the Atlantic Ocean. Steaks and seafood. Exotic island drinks and soft live piano music set a refreshing mood to complement Martha's famous menu of steaks, prime rib and fresh native seafood. Open nightly from 5:30 p.m. Major credit cards. 294-3466.

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.

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.

Pier House Restaurant, One Duval Street. *Travel & Leisure* said the Scampi in Amaretto was well worth the trip. The *New York Times* called it "Key West's premier restaurant." Reserve a table with a waterfront view. 296-4600.

Quencher's Café, 934 Truman Avenue at the corner of Grinnell. Serving breakfast and lunch from 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., daily. Along with a complete breakfast menu they offer 62 varieties of fresh ground coffee. Lunch menu includes soup, sandwiches, quiche, veggie plate and fresh desserts. Catering is also available. 293-9555.

Rooftop Café, 310 Front Street, in the heart of old town offers 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.

Rich's Café, at the Eden House, 1015 Fleming Street. Under new ownership and management. The most seductive café in the Florida Keys. A relaxed tropical garden setting with outdoor dining. Daily breakfast and lunch specials. Breakfast and lunch, Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dinner 6 to 10 p.m., daily. Sunday brunch 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Full bar. Ten percent local discount. 296-2961.

Savannah, 915 Duval Street. Fine southern home cooking featuring dixe delicatibles 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. Shut Thursday. 296-6700.

Square One Restaurant, Duval Square. Superb food and service in a warm and elegant setting—all at affordable prices. The owners are present every evening to ensure your meal is completely satisfying. We invite you to try our innovative Duck. Square One—a bit of excitement in a classic setting. Open Monday through Saturday; lunch 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Happy Hour 3 to 6:30 p.m.; dinner 6:30 to 11 p.m. Reservations suggested. American Express, Visa, Mastercard. 296-4300.

Stephen's Bayside Café, 1970 N. Roosevelt Boulevard. Under new management. Bay view. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. Indoor and outdoor seating. Great prices, daily specials. Close to Old Town. 294-5066.

Tootsie's Deli and Bar, 925 Duval Street. Serving overstuffed deli sandwiches, bagels, salads and desserts. Also serving beer and wine. Open 10 a.m. to 2 a.m., everyday. Delivery, catering, and take out. 292-1433.

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. Lunch, Monday through Saturday, noon to 2:30 p.m. Dinner nightly, 7 to 11:30 p.m. 294-2288.



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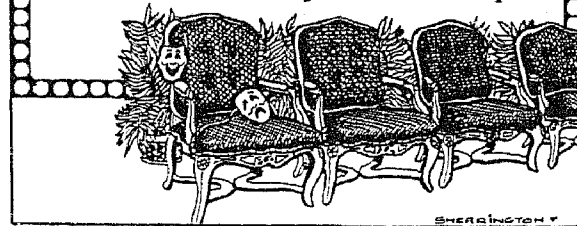
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AISLE SEAT

by Jane Phillips



Seeing the first production of a new play is an exciting event which was once reserved only for audiences in Boston and Philadelphia. Enormous costs have changed all that, and regional playhouses such as the Red Barn Theatre are paving the way for new playwrights. *The Cover of Life*, written by R.T. Robinson and directed by David Spangler and Joy Hawkins, recently made its debut at the Red Barn, where it will run through June 9.

R.T. Robinson grew up in the South and writes about what he knows best. Set in 1943 in Sterlington, Louisiana, his play exudes an enormous amount of down home Southern charm. It involves three young brides, who find themselves living with their mother-in-law while their husbands are off fighting World War II.

Bound together by little else than the brothers they married, each bride is appealing her own way. Together, they gossip, bicker and exchange confidences with dialogue that melts like butter on warm cornbread. Their earthy mother-in-law rules the roost until the three Johnnys come marching

home again.

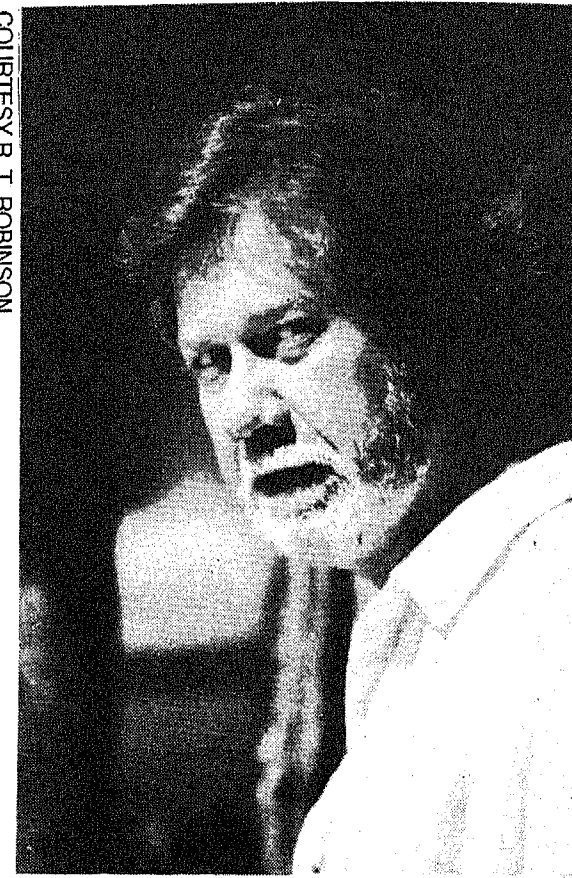
Adding a touch of sophistication to the situation, an editor from *Life* magazine (a Roz Russell-type character) plans to tell the women's stories, and put them on the cover of *Life* magazine. Her counterpart, a woman who works for the local paper, and one of the husbands complete the cast. The other two young husbands and the father-in-law are only spoken of in the script.

The trump card of this play is the dialogue. Sybil says she's "as hot as a fire cracker and safe as a Sunday morning," describing her attraction for men and her inability to conceive. The mother of the brood laments her sons have "blue eyes and black hearts," and Weezie's philosophy is "all southern men want to marry their Mamas," and, therefore, she has no concerns about watching her weight.

The talented cast gave the play a first-rate first run. Lisa Beningo (Tood) is enchanting, and gives a lovely performance that touches the heart. Marcella Trowbridge (Sybil) has the right seductive, hard-edge quality that sets her apart from the other women. Robin Deck (Aunt Ola) has strong moments dealing with the rage she feels inside.

Sally O'Boyle (Addie Mae) is the perfect hometown snoop, and gives us yet another terrific performance. Joy Hawkins (Lallage) is every bit the New Yorker—glamorous and beautiful and in perfect contrast to O'Boyle. Nikki Pezzi (Weezie) is the daughter-in-law in training, but we suspect she'll never have her mother-in-law's guts, and Don Perry (Tommy) is convincing as

COURTESY R. T. ROBINSON



THE PLAYWRIGHT: R. T. Robinson. the sailor home on leave.

The letter reading scenes, however, tended to be too lengthy and not all that interesting. Additionally, it's conceivable that Aunt Ola would handle her husband's revolver (it's been around the house for years), but it took a long stretch of the imagination to believe Tood would use it in a scene with her returning husband whom she

loves.

After any initial production come the cuts and revisions. That process is in progress now. Nonetheless, the audience seemed to enjoy the opening production, which was enhanced by Gary McDonald's set.

In a brief interview, R.T. Robinson he said he was "thrilled to see his play fully realized," and that there will never be better actors for several of the roles. He says he feels an obligation to "make each character ring true." He's excited about the play being selected as one of three for staged readings by the New Harmony Project in Indiana this summer. A possible Ft. Lauderdale production is also being discussed.

Waterfront Closes with a Hot One

The Waterfront Playhouse took on an ambitious project for its last show of the season and presented an energetic version of Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*. It's a play within a play; an action-filled crossword puzzle of puns threaded with classical and modern themes.

Polonius and Horatio, two attendant lords in *Hamlet*, are the central characters in this erudite comedy of words that was first done in Edinburgh in 1966. They are playwrights waiting for the drama to begin.

Various characters come and go as the two remain in limbo, bewildered by their circumstances, passing the time by flipping coins. A band of strange actors, with a specialty for death scenes, appear and there are cameo scenes featuring Hamlet, Ophelia, Claudius and Gertrude. They speak of life as "a gamble with terrific odds" and death as "the absence of presence."

Despite this somber theme, the scene is played out with gusto as the actors romp on stage spouting quick, clever dialogue. Here the audience has to pay attention.

The play was directed by Darryl Marzyck with a clear understanding of what the play was all about. He got sharp crisp performances from his actors. Michael Weidner and Scott Gilmore in the leads were a well-matched pair. George Gugliotti shone as The Player, and Tommie Grimstad made a stunning Gertrude. Others in the cast were Art Nichols, Dale Kittle, Nathan Stoner, Amber McDonald, Michael Tomasic, Rob Peral, Mira Negron, Walter Davenport and Tom Simmon.

Ray West's costumes added a spectacular dimension to the production.

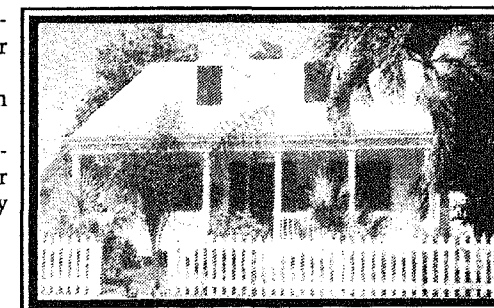


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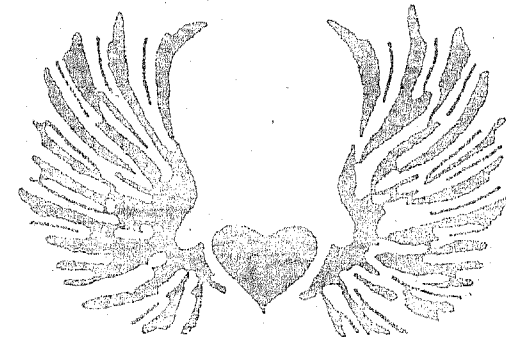
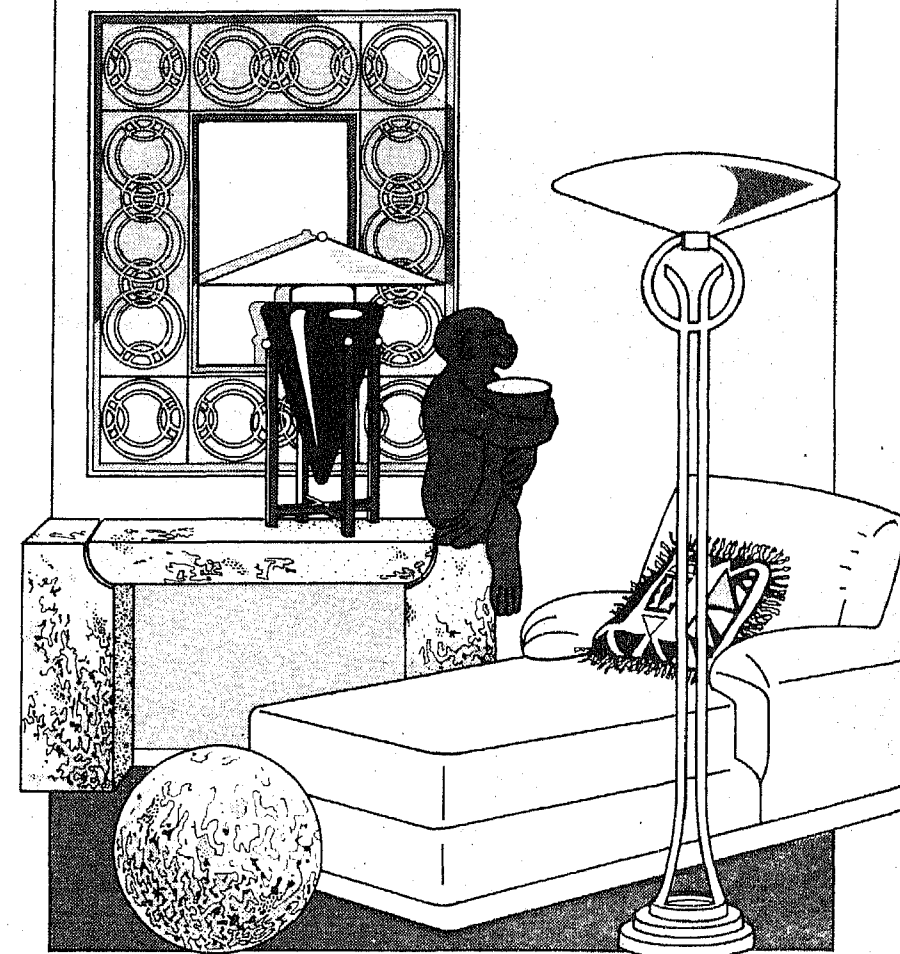
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