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OPINION

Last week's ruling by Monroe County Judge Susan Vernon that closing city beaches at 11 p.m. is unconstitutional has infuriated city officials. There is the feeling that the homeless have taken the public beaches from the public, that their presence is harmful to the image of the city.

In one sense they are right: we have worked hard to preserve - and build - a city that appeals to our tourist trade and to the residents. Unfortunately, that hasn't stopped part of our population from being homeless.

Judge Vernon's decision was based upon an earlier decision by U.S. District Judge C. Clyde Atkins that ordered Miami to provide its homeless with "safe zones" since the city had not provided adequate shelter.

The city of Key West, rather than being outraged at the ruling, should be spurred into action. Banning the homeless from the beaches and squandering police hours and manpower on enforcing the statutes are not solutions to this chronic and devastating problem.

One simple way to deal with the decision is for the city to establish "safe zones"—away from the beaches in question—where the homeless could sleep nights without the threat of harassment. Unfortunately, this does nothing to address the larger problem.

The better alternative would be for the city to join forces with local groups like the Outreach Coalition. By combining efforts, there are some feasible alternatives to trying to just hide our homeless problem.

The ideal solution is to provide a shelter where people could regain their self-respect and rehabilitate their lives. There are vacant properties, there are people who care enough to volunteer. All that's missing is the concerted effort to make the change.

The national disgrace of homelessness is as evident on our small island as it is in large cities like Miami or Boston. And don't think the tourists don't see it. If we want to do our best for visitors and for those of us who live here—even for those without homes—we need to address the real problem.

The advantage of our microcosm is its size. Key West's homeless problem is far more manageable than Miami's. Judge Vernon's ruling is an opportunity for the city of Key West to do more than chase its homeless off one beach and onto another; it is a chance for us to provide for them in a way that could be considered trend-setting by the rest of the country.

-Alyson Simmons

ON THE COVER: The brothers Wegman: three talented souls who have wandered the earth and lighted in Key West. Cover photo by Janet Marcantonio.



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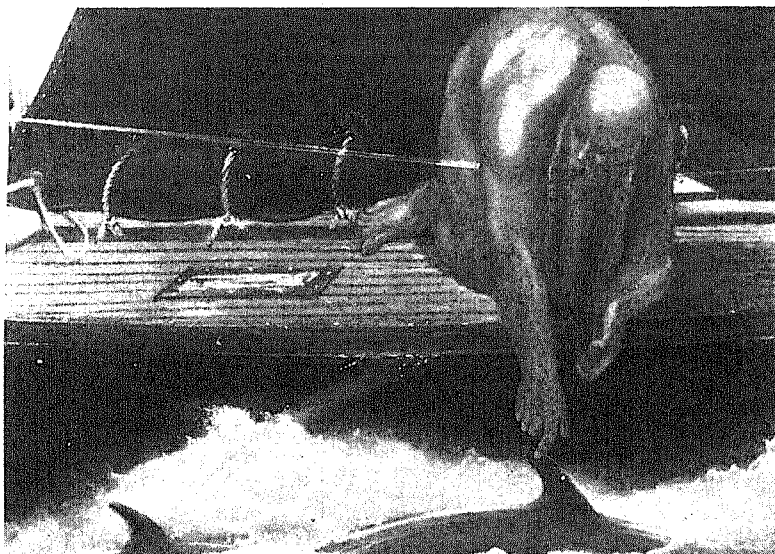
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COVER STORY

The Four Winds, the Seven Seas, and the Three Wegmans

by Christine Naughton

There is no striking resemblance among them. If you met all three at a party, you probably wouldn't guess they were brothers. One emits the cosmic aura of a shaman; another the offbeat vibe of a comic genius. And if these two ever want to make some serious money, they might consider marketing a teddy bear using brother Tim as the prototype.



"TOUCHING OCCASION" by David Wegman.

These are the brothers Wegman, in order of appearance into their family of eleven in Fort Wayne, Indiana and illuminated by the spotlight of who they have since become: David Allen, painter, world traveler; Timothy Gene, entrepreneur, caretaker of pianos; James Scott, humorist, versatile visual artist. Ever a pushover for the creative type, Key West plucked these three plums from the Wegman family tree in the early 1970s and claimed them for their own.

David's art is full of motion and emotion. Often carrying a nautical theme, his compelling paintings explore a spiritual plane on the nether side of realism. They carry such titles as "Handicapped Angel," "Where the Buses Don't Run," and "How Many Times I've Prayed." Sometimes, David paints water spilling over the borders of his pieces, carrying a third dimension.

With his paintings, which he also transforms into greeting cards, clothing and postcards, David has financed a life of nearly constant traveling. He is now sailing on his fourth boat, The African Queen IV, a schooner he built on the beach in St. John. He owns land

in Maine, upon which sits a log cabin he built as residence and art studio. He has close friends on every continent.

Tim owns A 440 Piano Studio, on Caroline Street, and counts among his close friends Vladimir Ashkenazi, Yehuda Guttman, Jackie Rosenblatt and the late Leonard Bernstein. Sometime in the 1980s, while he was proprietor of a popular health food store and restaurant on Southard Street, Tim realized his passion for pianos was taking over his life. He

became local legends, including the famed "Hang Bike Thieves." Currently hard at work for Low Key Productions, creating murals and scenery for the Fox TV series, "Key West," Jim is pleased and honored to be working with two of his longtime idols in the scenic design business, Jose Duarte and Jo Brown. He lives in town with the lovely Melissa Marisco and their son Zachary.

The single most evident quality the Wegman brothers share is a genuine individuality. In their presence, one senses in each the certain faith of the maverick—the firm belief in life's possibilities, a readiness for adventure.

The men agree it was the late Ewald John Henry Wegman's philosophy that rubbed off.

"Our father definitely believed you should do your own thing, and not be a slave to anybody else," says David.

Tim mentions antecedent pioneers on their mother's side of the family as well. The great grandparents of Ruth Maisie Sophie Wegman traveled in Conestoga wagons across the frontiers of the 1800s.

David was the first to venture to Key West. Back home in Indiana, he showed an early agility at his father's tool and dye work, and his parents groomed him to take over the business. He gave it a shot for a couple years, but it was not to be. At 25, he found himself heeding a call to come away from his familiar surroundings and devote himself to artwork. David left the family business, his wife and daughter, and Fort Wayne in one swoop.

Like many young folks in the throes of transition, David embarked on a period of aimless wandering. Eventually, he convinced his wife in Fort Wayne to let their five-year-old daughter, Carla, join him. With Carla, David found Key West in 1971.

Once here, David had discovered a place to feel at home, at least for a while. They stayed, and by 1974, Tim and Jim had joined him.

"I was in my sophomore year, studying engineering at Purdue," says Tim. "I was a student senator, all involved. I came down here, and I just decided that this was the type of lifestyle that was more conducive to the way I thought life should be."

Jim's motivations and circumstances were similar to David's. Working in a silkscreen shop, in a sort of assembly line production of "world tour" t-shirts for rock bands, he felt a need to pursue his own artwork, and escape the familiar. He, too, left his wife and their daughter, Holly, and plunged himself into the island life.

The brothers fondly recall that colorful era in Key West's historical tapestry. Those were the days of Howie's Bar, the closest thing Duval Street had to a nightclub in the early 70s. "Duval Street was closed up back then," says Tim.

David went to work for Howie, and lived over Howie's Bar. He obtained a business license for Carla, and set her up in a fruit stand on Duval Street.

Tim recalls his first impression of David's new digs.

"When I first came down, I remember going upstairs and David had a little burner and an aluminum coffee pot. He had a pencil with a lobster tail curled around the end of the pencil and it was stuck down there in the aluminum coffee pot, cooking." Tim and Jim crack up and raise their eyebrows in David's direction.

Next to Howie's was an empty lot, upon which sits the Bagatelle Restaurant today. For those unfamiliar with the Bagatelle, it is a beautifully restored Classical Revival house.

"Howie paid a dollar for that house, and had it moved from next to the library onto that empty lot," says David, who narrowly missed out on this opportunity of a lifetime, for want of a lot of his own.

"It cost Howie \$9000 to move it," Jim says.

"And about \$30,000 to put it back together," says Tim. "He sold it for about \$150,000."

After a moment of silence for the missed opportunities in life, David picks up the thread of the story.

The bros had discovered they could supplement their income by painting signs. David remembers a particular sign he painted for Howie.

"Howie comes in and says, 'make a sign for this new guy, Jimmy Buffett, I got playing in the bar on Tuesday and Wednesday nights.' Coffee Butler and the Cups were playing the weekends."

Tim wandered back and forth for a few years between Fort Wayne and Key West. He recalls a stint in trapping lobsters for the A&B Lobster House.

"I got a job as a mate for Gray Lynch, on the Little Bit. I worked for him for a couple of years. Years later, I was watching a documentary on TV, and they said Grayson Lynch was the Number Two guy charged with the Bay of Pigs invasion! He was down here, incognito, being a lobster fisherman. We'd be out in the boat, and he'd always be looking around with binoculars. Still, it was a real surprise to me when I learned what he was doing."

Eventually, Tim bought his own lobster boat, but the lobster trade was dying out. After a few years of down-island hopping in the Caribbean, Tim settled down in Key West to work in and eventually buy the Herb Garden. In the ensuing years, parlaying deals in everything from Big Pine real estate to sailboats to baby grand to antique cars, Tim slowly but surely carved the niche that he happily occupies today.

"When Tim was lobstering was right around the time I took off," says David, referring to the departure from which ensued his life of dedicated sailing.

"I bought my first sailboat, The African Queen. It was an old Cuban refugee boat, a 30-foot sloop, no engine. A few of us went out and got caught in Hurricane Agnes in the Gulf of Mexico—150-knot winds. We were out there for ten days, blowing around. We were bailing with buckets to keep her floating. We finally beached it up in Venice, Florida."

In spite of the stormy baptism, David found himself hopelessly addicted to sailing.

"I got another boat up at Annapolis, a little 27-foot double ender, a Danish boat, sailed it down to Key West, and started doing trips over to the Bahamas for a couple of months, and then back."

It was during this time that David met Barbara DiClemente. They sailed together for three years, and had a daughter, Crystal. Eventually, the couple bought a house on Center Street.

David financed his escapades with a series of pen-and-ink drawings of the Caribbean. The couple also published a boating cookbook, *Cruising Without Cans*. By 1976, he also was producing jewelry and t-shirts.

In 1979, a friend approached David with a proposition for making a lot of money.

"That's when three other friends and I went to Trinidad, picked up this freighter, took over to the Mediterranean, and loaded on 22 tons of hash. It was the coldest winter in 40 years in Europe, and we got held up in the Straits of Gibraltar for two weeks, anchored with all this stuff on board."

"Then we find out the guy who hired us and was supposed to meet us on the other end, our friend from Key West, died in a plane crash. So that changed everything. They found his body four months after we had gone to prison."

David and his shipmates were arrested by the Coast Guard. "We were in jail in Manhattan. We were in the same cell with Carmine Galante. We thought we were going away for 20 years."

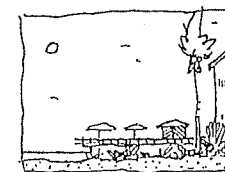
David recalls prison as a difficult transition. He produced a lot of artwork, trying not to think of too much. But it didn't turn out as badly as it could have. Because of clean prior records, the four men were released after serving part of their year's sentence.

Rejoining his brothers in Key West, David learned his relationship with Barbara was over. He lost no time getting back into sailing. Though he maintains his home in Maine, where he continues to produce dramatic, powerful paintings, the bulk of his time is spent at sea. He had visited a plethora of exotic ports of call in every watery corner of the planet, and by all indications will continue to do so indefinitely. As this issue of Solares Hill goes to press, he sets sail upon another cruise around the world.

Every three years, the Wegman family reunites. The most recent reunion was this past June in Woodville, Ohio, a few miles from the Grandpa Wegman's farm, where the boys spent most of the summers of their youth.

David flew from New Zealand to attend. The brothers remember it as a great time. Amid the particular warmth and joy that typically surround a huge family, there were many happy memories of their father.

"Just about everybody in the family made it," says Tim. "The best part was seeing my father's brothers. It was almost like being with our dad again."



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The Blue Rooms

Where fantasy becomes reality—for a price

by Joe Silva

"Amber" is sitting next to the bar inside The Red Garter Saloon. The room is small but crowded and at its center is a narrow runway surrounded by a U shaped bar where men can set their drinks down and watch the dancers up close. The house DJ announces her and, to a brief chorus of hoots and mild applause, she walks to the center of the room and waits for her first song to begin. She is dressed in a sheer white negligee that barely covers her lacy undergarments. There isn't much room for her to maneuver, but as the music begins to pound from the speakers she does her best to appear graceful and seductive in her high heels. She moves quickly through the smoke and dim lights, sometimes spinning around the pole at the top of the runway or reaching up to grab the brass handles above her. She tosses seductive glances from her pretty round face to the men seated around her. Her smile is full and painted in a deep maroon lipstick.

Before the first song is half over, Amber drops the short nightgown from her shoulders and undoes the wispy bra she is wearing and tosses it to a corner of the room. She begins to make the rounds to men seated on their stools with dollar bills dangling from their fingertips. Some slip the money into Amber's garter belt as she approaches them while others wait with their bills between their teeth so she can nuzzle them with her cleavage briefly as she takes her tip.

By the end of Amber's second number she has removed everything except her high heels and as the Van Halen tune comes to an end, she stretches the parameters of the tease. The men now slap her behind as she passes. She lets their hands linger on her thighs as they give her their cash. Her garter is a thick green flourish of dollar bills. When the song ends, the DJ announces that Amber is available for semi-private "lap dances" at the back of the club.

Another dancer will be up next and the

two song routines will continue until 4 am when the bars on Duval Street empty and close their doors for the evening.

The Red Garter is just one of a few clubs scattered around Key West that provide the city with adult entertainment. Recently, they have been a point of interest with the Key West Police Department and the local agents of state Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Division. During the month of October two such establishments, The Upstairs Bar at the Rum Runners complex and Teasers were the target of an operation aimed at keeping erotic dancers from committing "lewd sex acts."

Local agents from the Alcohol and Tobacco Division say they had received complaints that dancers were not keeping within the boundaries of local and state statutes that set standards for the behavior of the dancers while performing "lap dances."

The complaints prompted agents, along with local police to formulate an investigation of the Key West adult nightspots that resulted in twenty-three arrested and warrants for the arrest of two other dancers.

According to police reports, plain clothes detectives visited The Upstairs Lounge on October 9 from 11 pm until 1 am and received lap dances where "... the dancer would remove all of her clothing and rub her genitals, breasts and buttocks against the patron's genital and face area. The dancers would move to the rhythm of the music straddling the bar patrons simulating sexual activity... for the duration of one song for twenty dollars, or a higher negotiated fee." Later, uniformed officers returned to place seven dancers (one of which was a 17 year old minor), a bouncer, and the club DJ (additionally charged with carrying a concealed weapon—a switchblade) under arrest.

The raid on the more recently opened Teasers bar on Truman Avenue was similar, with police netting 12 dancers, the club's manager and a doorman.

"We're not out to try and deprive anyone of their livelihood," says Sgt. David Banks, a local agent of the state Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco Division, "We're just trying to get the lewd and lascivious behavior to stop."

But Manny Machine, a Tampa lawyer representing 13 of the people arrested during the Teasers bust offers a different perspective.

"I liken this to the situation in 1968, when the producers of 'Hair' went off Broadway and on the road to conservative towns and dared to go naked onstage and dance."

Machine maintains that "lewd sex act" involves the fondling of sexual organs, not to include a woman's breast or pubic "region." He plans to attack the constitutionality of the statute.

"The owners think that the statute is vague and this is a case of arbitrary

enforcement," Machine continues, "What might be lewd to one law officer of grave sensitivity, might not be to another." He questions whether this activity meets with the expanding amount of moral latitude in a society that's moving closer to a new century.

This latest probe is not the first to focus on Key West night life. In the mid 1950's bars like the Mardi Gras club and The Preview Lounge on Duval Street were raided by police for violating city ordinance 3.28. The ordinance was passed in early February 1953, and stated that it was unlawful for performers to solicit drinks or mingle with club patrons. "B-girls" or "burlesque girls" would often entice customers to buy them drinks when they weren't on stage stripping for the audience. At that time the Mardi Gras club (which burned in 1963) charged 60 cents for a beer or a dollar for a shot of liquor and employed a drummer and a piano player to provide music for the dancers.

Nationwide, strip clubs are a three billion dollar-a-year industry with their own trade magazines like "Gentlemen's Club." In the past five years the number of upscale Playboy-type clubs in the U.S. alone has risen from 800 to 1100. And it's estimated that at 250,000 women have at one time or another been exotic dancers. Current concerns over AIDS may be partially responsible for the rise in popularity of "top quality" men's clubs.

Reviewing the police reports alongside the amount of grinding still going on in local clubs, it doesn't seem much has changed. But one of the principal detectives involved in the operation finds the situation to be improving.

"We still go in, monitor, and the situation is progressing," says Detective J.J. Johnson. "It seems like they are trying to comply. There's no genital contact, no rubbing with the buttocks, or playing with themselves."

The issue of genital contact is what Machine intends to pursue. Since there has been no instance of genital to genital contact between the dancers and those who received the lap dances, there may be an avenue for acquittal. According to Machine, he has been successful in litigating cases such as these before. In the past he has had charges of a similar nature that were brought against 137 people (club patrons, dancers, and managers) in the Tampa area dismissed when the case reached the state Supreme Court.

Historically, though, the 796.07 statute that the Key West case is based on has withstood arguments that "such conduct was a protected form of free speech."

It's also reasonable to suggest that if dancers, DJ's, bouncers, and managers can be arrested for being party to a "lewd sex act" can't the recipient also be held accountable? However, there has yet to be any dialogue concerning club clientele.

Proceedings began on the November 23, with dancers facing a \$3000 - \$3500 fine if found guilty. The B-girls of 1955 faced only a \$100 fine for their charges of indecency.

"There's more than just nudity going on here," says state misdemeanor attorney, Mr. Barnard, "This is nudity coupled with an overt sexual act."

Machine asks, "Has anyone arrested Jennifer Beale or the producers of Dirty Dancing and Flashdance for what they did in those films? They haven't and they never will."

A Night in a Blue Room

At clubs like the Upstairs, there is usually a cover charge of two dollars to get in and upwards of three dollars for a mixed drink. Once stamped and in the door at The Upstairs, you can see dancers wandering around inside in bathing suits and loose clothing. The DJ sits over an elevated dance floor that's considerably larger than the one at the Red Garter and the women's bikinis glow in the black light. The bar is filled with power boaters down for the weekend races, military men, and assorted locals.

Slightly bolder from the beers at the Red Garter, my friend Kanu and I take seats in front of the stage.

"Gentlemen," the DJ booms out over the PA system "please welcome our next dancer, Melody!"

The room is immediately darkened and Melody appears from behind a curtained doorway and begins to strut around to Metallica's "Enter Sandman." The flashing lights bathe the stage and Melody's initial impact is sort of impressive. The whole scenario resembles an R-rated version of MTV video without the machine generated smoke or the

guys with the poodle haircuts. But after a few minutes we begin to notice that she is not a very good dancer and slightly less than attractive in brighter light.

Eventually she places a long leather musketeer-type boot in front of us and awaits her due. When we sit back and decline to tip, she waits in front of us, jiggling and exposing more of herself and finally asking "Aren't you going to tip me?" Reluctantly we put a dollar in her boot.

The waitress also doesn't take no for answer. Having just finished a beer we weren't anxious for another but her response was "C'mon you gotta have something in front of you if your going to sit here." Over the course of the next few dancers, Kanu's coke becomes an erotic prop as the performers snatch small handfuls of ice to rub themselves down.

Other dancers who are not onstage chat with customers, smiling and trying to talk them into purchasing a private dance. The going rate for a lap dance, which takes place in a separate area, begins at about \$20 and usually lasts for the duration of one song. At the entrance to the private dance area is a club bouncer who stands at the partially curtained door.

Occasionally he'll look over to ensure that no one in the room is crossing any of the vague lines of propriety that are established in whispers between the dancers and their customers.

"We've had to throw some guys out," says a former Upstairs' bouncer. "Some guys pull their ----, or try and touch a girl between their legs and we gotta get them out of there."

There is a fair amount of contact between the two, and an older power boater that we observed was smitten to the extent that he

purchased three dances in a row. While he's hanging on to the girl, the waitress checks to see if we need anymore drinks. We shake our heads "no." A few minutes later the bouncer at the door of the lap dance area tell us "it's time for you guys to go." The puzzled looks on our faces don't stop him from escorting us directly to the door.

I'm not sure there was any grounds for our ejection, but we left without contesting the issue. Maybe he thought we were undercover law enforcement officials or perhaps we'd fallen behind in our tipping or drinking, but we saw no minimums posted anywhere when we handed over our two dollars for the cover charge. And it's hard to imagine that we were booted for staring excessively at the lap dancers and dances. Overt voyeurism as a premise for ejection at The Upstairs doesn't seem to make much sense.

J.S.

CHEAP ROOMS



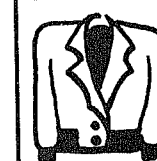
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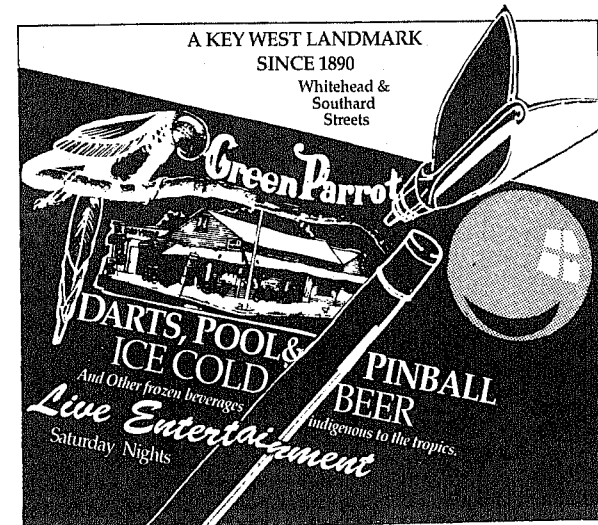
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57 Channels—and Something's On...

Two public TV stations?

By Lee Irby

Mankind is genetically predisposed to acts of both territoriality and altruism. Nowhere is this dichotomy more evident than when two public television stations begin sniping at one another.

Public television is home to long newscasts in a short attention span world. It is the darling of the cultural elite, an object of devotion among the high-minded and urbane. But even the caviar crowd is beholden to the

deep urgings of our hominoid ancestors.

In the works is a locally owned and operated, non-profit station, WWFD, Channel 8 on the dial and number one on the irritation list of Miami's public station, Channel 2. *Theirs* has become a battle for turf—or, to be more accurate, pie. The pie in this case is the funding for public TV that shrinks with every new station that comes on line.

"Key West is probably the last unbuilt, first service market left in the country," claims WWFD head John Bailee. "No place needs public TV more."

"My understanding is that, with those translators there, they can't be a first service provider," counters Channel 2's general manager Don MacCullough. A first service provider is the first public signal delivered over the air to an area. "Since they aren't a first service provider," says MacCullough, "they're going to have trouble getting the funding they need."

"He's trying to preserve his own little world," Bailee fired back. "Our signal originates in Monroe county. That makes us a first service provider."

At stake is nothing short of the complete transformation of county government, as well as a revolutionary change in the county court system. And for once, the entity in the best position in the midst of all this momentous upheaval is the county itself.

Channel 8 is owned by the Curry family, who were granted an FCC commercial license in July 1988. The Currys beat out many other media conglomerates for the prized license, but, instead of launching a commercial venture, the family donated it to Florida Keys Educational Broadcasting, a non-profit organization that is now WWFD.

While education, according to program director Lynn Bailee, is the station's number one priority, the county's various public forums are also attractive targets. The station hopes to broadcast every county commission meeting in its entirety. "Communications is vital to unite the Keys," Ms. Bailee said.

"We plan on having three permanent locations and two-way cameras so that people in Key West can talk to the commission in Key Largo," she explained. Currently, county commission meetings aren't televised. The political landscape will change drastically.

"Now the commissioners won't treat people the way they used to," said a person very familiar with county government. In fact, rudeness was an issue in John Stormont's recent defeat.

"We like the concept," said Mayor Jack London. "It's an intriguing notion. But we want to keep county commitments to a minimum."

To install Channel 8's proposed microwave system will cost \$382,500—none of which the county has forked over. Instead, the commissioners voted to instruct county staffers to hunt for some available money.

But county administrator Captain Thomas Brown sees a more complicated future for televising county meetings. "We could give them a little bit of money, but we won't be the sole provider," he said. "The city, businesses, and school board should also kick in."

What the county seems to covet most, however, is fiber optics. To that end, the county is awaiting Requests for Proposals which would study the cost-effectiveness of a county-owned fiber optics network which would not only allow for televised meetings but a datalink between computers and a telephone system. "We spend a

million dollars a year on the telephone," said Captain Brown. "We could save money with our own system."

Further complicating the issue is that TCI's franchise agreement with the county is up for renewal, and among the discussions is a possible fiber optics joint venture between TCI and the county. These talks are preliminary, according to Brown. Any fiber optics network would not be operational for 4 years.

"We're not going to make a large commitment to Channel 8 until we have fully explored fiber optics," Brown said.

Mayor London concurred. "The county's in a good position," he mused.

Bailee insisted that Channel 8 has a role if the county goes with fiber optics. "What is fiber optics?" he asked. "A piece of equipment. That's all. It still needs to be operated. You still need a TV station."

Bailee further contends that fiber optics will not reach into every home, but that Channel 8 will, since all that's needed is a pair of rabbit ears. "We can provide a much-needed emergency broadcast channel," he said. "During the hurricane, communication county-wide was inadequate."

The Sheriff's office is also exploring a form of county-wide communication, and Channel 8 is at the center. If all goes as planned, by December 1993, they will begin broadcasting first appearances live from the county jail. Such a plan will replace hauling those hapless orange-clad prisoners up and down the Keys.

"It will save money," said sheriff spokesperson Greg Artman. "There'll be no more transportation costs—we can save up to \$100,000 a year. And it'll be safer."

In fact, the sheriff's office has \$320,000 to spend on televising first appearances. Channel 8 claims it needs \$44,500 for the job. County Judge Richard Fowler has been trying for "6 or 7 years to make this happen," he said. "But people have dragged their feet."

Artman said that televising first appearances—setting bail, determining probable cause for arrest—would act as a deterrent. "If people know they'll be on TV," he explained, "it might have an impact."

But while many Florida courts do use some form of in-house television for first appearances, Monroe county might be the first to air its proceedings over an accessible channel, according to Fowler. The problem is: not everyone arrested is guilty; this plan could harm the reputations of the innocent by portraying them as criminals on television.

"It may not be the best way of dealing with the problem," Fowler admitted.

Thus it seems that Channel 8 has many hurdles to clear in the coming months. It's also clear that the Bailees are determined to bring educational public TV to the Keys. "We're not going to live and die with carrying the county," Bailee said. "We'll get funding from the federal government or I'll eat the paper."

They want to house their station in Key West but nothing is settled. A top choice was Flipper's on North Roosevelt but the city is unwilling to part with such a valuable piece of property.

Despite the hurdles, there is a good chance future students can review their homework while they watch TV, courtesy of Channel 8.

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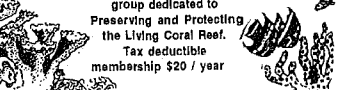
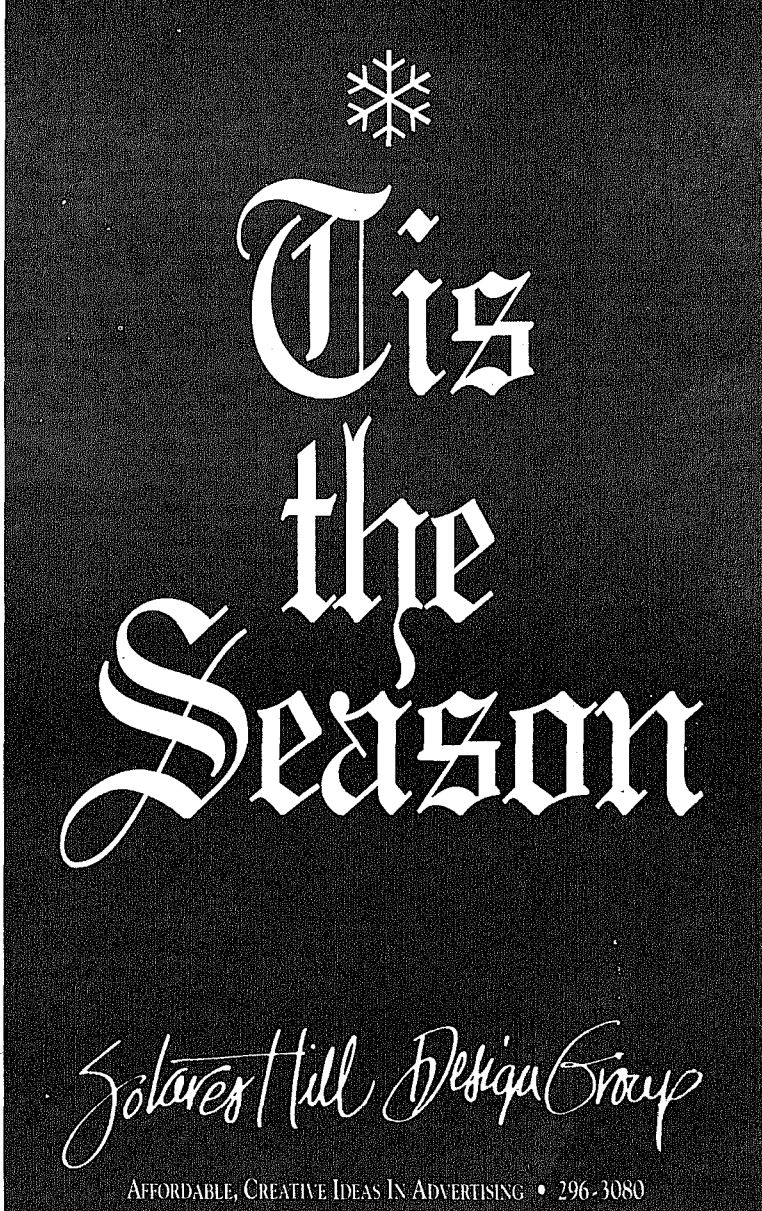
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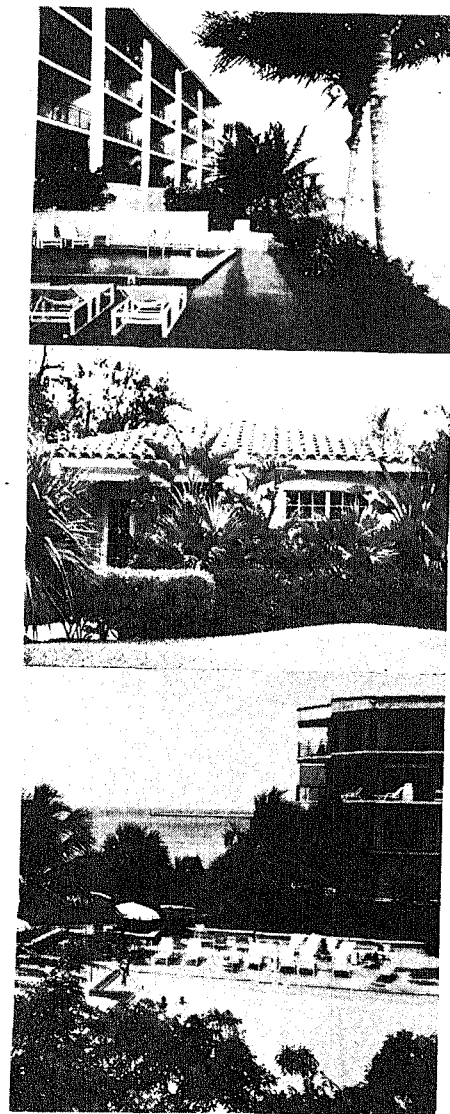
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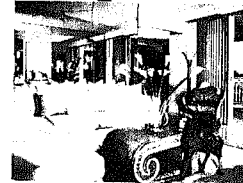
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By Lee Irby

Pillars of Salt

The teeth-grashing over Fantasy Fest continues unabated because, in large part, the city commission on November 17 refused to let it die. By appointing a committee to examine the public health, safety, and welfare concerns of the Fest, the commission only reopened old wounds and legitimized elements of the radical right whose remedy is to abolish the Fest altogether.

Instead of ordering staff professionals to solve the problems of public safety that a throng of 50,000 can jeopardize, the commission concocted a veritable trailmix of interest groups to sit on the Mayor's Advisory Committee for Fantasy Fest.

Jimmy Weekley suggested this awkward compromise, in an attempt to salvage a resolution sponsored by Mayor Dennis Wardlow that even Sally Lewis found unfocused. "We don't need a committee to tell us what is good and bad," she said. "This committee needs a specific charge."

Joe Pais lamented spending more tax dollars on "another committee that we really don't need."

The original Wardlow resolution listed only nudity and lewdness as the advisory committee's main focus. Public safety wasn't mentioned. Wardlow was plainly catering to the morality police by naming Informed Families of Monroe head Elmira Leto to the committee.

Leto admits she has not attended a Fantasy Fest since the first one. One must wonder whether she will be able to illuminate the problem of public safety, or, for that matter, even give an accurate account of exposed breasts, buttocks and genitalia during the Fest.

But Weekley once again did what the mayor is supposed to do, namely build consensus through compromise and find common ground. Wardlow's resolution, in Weekley's estimate, "appealed to the extremes," he said. "The people on the committee need to be objective." Weekley was also troubled by the lack of a sunset clause that would terminate the committee after a certain duration.

Weekley recommended naming representative of the Neighborhood Improvement Association, Key West Business

Comp Plan Deadline

Another deadline looms on the horizon. By December 10, the city must have "substantially" progressed in its settlement talks with the Department of Community Affairs concerning the upcoming comprehensive plan.

If by then talks have failed to produce a meaningful resolution, the city faces an administrative hearing, which could result in fines. City Planner Ted Strader, however, told the commission that the city and DCA are "coming to closure on a number of issues" and that the hearing will probably be avoided.

DCA's Tricia Wrenn agreed with the general assessment Strader gave, but cautioned that some sore points still remained. "The two biggest issues are hurricane evacuation and the traffic on Truman Avenue," she said. "They are very complicated and unresolved."

Guild, TDC, Chamber of Commerce, State Attorney's Office, Duval Street Merchants, and the Board of Realtors, in addition to Informed Families and Lower Keys Ministers Association.

Weekley could have voted to kill the resolution, especially since Lewis and Pais had expressed discontent. His was the critical vote. That he didn't may mean Weekley is thinking about a run at the mayor's seat. It makes sense, since he often acts more like a mayor than the current one.

Bight Financing

The city encountered a little early turbulence trying to piece together its financing package for the Key West Bight. Its long-time bond counselor, Bob Olive, cautioned against floating public bonds for the project without first getting validation—a process that might take 45 days and cost the city an additional \$50,000.

Validation would ensure that the bonds are going to fund a public, and not private, venture. The Bight has both public and private usages.

The Bight deal must be closed by January 13, or else the city must pay for another option to the Singleton estate. Validation would have jeopardized that date.

The city then sought a different bond counselor on the deal. "We sounded out many other people, and they thought Mr. Olive was being too conservative," said Assistant City Manager Ron Herron. "The project is definitely more public than private."

The public-use vs. private-use split on the Bight is 52% to 48%, according to Herron. That would ensure that the bonds are non-taxable and thus repayable at a lower interest rate. A private-use bond series would entail higher interest rates and end up costing the city more in the long run.

Herron says that this temporary glitch is settled, and the city will not seek validation of the project. "Joe Edwards at Prudential Bache is on board, and we're looking to close in January, when interest rates will be more favorable," said Herron.

One city official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said that the Bight project was "in jeopardy" unless the city sought validation. "It's private use of public bonds," he said.



ON THE TOWN • WITH JANE PHILLIPS

Party, party ... The Founders Society of the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center kicked off the season with a breezy, starlit gathering of the clan on Eisenhower Drive. Art patron and society president Charles Monroe hosted the annual event and made sure everyone had a good time. The Island Junkanoo added to the ambience with their special music. Roger Holtkamp tended bar while wife Nancy talked theatre, especially the up and coming season at the Waterfront Playhouse. Jeanne Poirier told about plans for a museum and Bill Manville and Suzie Salowe are glad to be spending more time in Key West. When asked what they were most thankful for, Community College President said, "My good health;" blonde



REUNION AT SLOPPY JOE'S: pictured left to right: John Wells, Holly Garber, Susan Hawkins, and Lou Pfang.

attorney Candida Cobb, who looked hardly old enough to go to a bar, let alone be a member of one, agreed that good health topped her list; Stargazer sculptor Ann Labriola said, "I'm so thankful I have another project coming up." Donna Harvey, June Girard and Dr. John Turner were most thankful for their families. But no one said it better than romance novelist Judy Alexander, "What am I most thankful for? That man over there (indicating poet Ralph Williams). He's my man and I'm his muse." They loved Key West so much they moved here!

A poignant reminder of the late Vaughn Gibson appeared in the program for Petras Geniuses' piano recital at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center. The ad read "of music ... of Mozart ... of memory ... Vaughn Gibson." We will remember him as a gifted person and devoted patron of the arts.

Washington area pop-country-comedy team Holly and Lou (Holly Garber and Lou Pfang) recently were a hit at Sloppy Joes, but that's not their only Key West connection. For openers, Holly was Susan Hawkins very first boyfriend and he survived being a brother-in-law to John Wells and Tom Murtha at the same time (some of their comedy material had to have come out of that experience). John sat in with the group on guitar and Susan popped into Sloppys for a reunion. As John puts it, "We had 10 terrific years together before it became unglued. Then we met Joy Hawkins and Carol MacCartee. The four of us formed a group called 'The John Wells Delegation' and we ended up in Key West."

The invitation read "We've been married nearly 900 years—come and help us celebrate!" It was written on notepaper featuring the artwork of hostess Sondra Schnieder. She and hubby Howard are settling into their Riviera Drive home—they brought their art collection down from their Manhattan penthouse so we know they're here to stay. The Schnieders spent ever so much time in Brazil. Whenever New York got gray and cold they'd jet down to Rio for fun and sun. They're still enjoying the international set. Their recent cocktail party included Eduardo De Gongora (Spain), Abelardo Ortiz-Benavides (Mexico), Guy Jungbecker and Fred Voight (Germany), Anna Maria and Maurizio Manciola De Montefano (Italy) and Errol Etienne (Canada). (If you have trouble remembering names, how would you like to meet this group!) There was a generous sprinkling of Yanks, as well, including Bill and Elaine Ellinghaus (NY), Tony and Helen Grimmins (CT), Tom and Kitty Clements (ME) and Tom and Joan Dalbey of Denver and Santa Fe.

We all know that politics make strange bedfellows but County Commissioner Jack London (recently chosen by fellow commissioners as the new mayor of Monroe County) didn't even want to hang out with himself as a "Conch Republican." Referring to the antics of Pat Buchanan and Pat Robertson this last election year he said, "I just couldn't take it anymore." He switched back to being a Democrat.

Craig and Deevon Quirello seemed to be everywhere at their sixth annual Cayo Carnival to benefit Reef Relief. It was a great night at Martello Garden. Volunteers have as much fun as party goers. Sculptor Jay Gogin and wife Robin were dishing out Japanese food but Jay made sure he got a chance to sample the other goodies, as well. Non-stop music was provided by Conjunto Caribe, the Survivors, Dabs in 5th and Exuma from the Bahamas. If you like



THE EYES HAVE IT. Party-goes Pat Green, with miniature toy Tullulah, is off to Bankok.

Exuma's reggae beat you might like his artwork, as well—like his music it's colorful and energetic. Diane Zolotow is showing some of his paintings at Lucky Street Gallery.

Wonder why the island is a little quieter and not quite as much fun? Two of our favorite ladies are out of town—Gerri Louise Gates is visiting family in New York and Pat Green is off to Hawaii and Bangkok.

The Key West womans Club gift to the community, their annual Christmas party, will be held December 6th. It's one of the nicest things that happens all year.

When designer Suzie Salowe and writer Bill Manville invite you to lunch, you can be sure the conversation will sparkle. This year's intimate apres Thanksgiving get-together was a delight. Elaine and Hy Wietzen were on hand to celebrate Hy's birthday. Writer Ellis Amburn entertained everyone with tales about his Texas roots and family tree.

Correction: In last issue's On the Town, Bill Huckel was erroneously named as riding Fast Buck Freddie's float. The name should have read Bill Conkle. We regret any confusion this may have caused.

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COMMUNITY NOTES

National Association of Black SCUBA Divers Meet in Key West

In 1701 the English slave ship the "Henrietta Marie" sank off the Marquesas Keys after unloading a cargo of slaves. Now, 291 years later, the National Association of Black SCUBA Divers has scheduled a ceremony to honor enslaved Africans by placing a commemorative plaque at the shipwreck site.

The wreck was discovered in 1972 by Mel Fisher, and is considered the world's biggest

source of tangible objects from early slave traders.

Association president Ric Powell says that the plaque—scheduled to be placed in January—will honor not just the slaves brought over on the "Henrietta Marie," but every African transported against his or her will.

Helping Adults Learn to Read
Literacy Volunteers of America-Monroe County offers free, confidential, one-to-one

tutoring for any adult in Monroe County who needs and wants help. The basic reading (READ) program provides tutoring in basic reading and computational skills to those who already speak English. The English as a second language (ESL) program provides tutoring to foreign-born people who wish to learn English.

If you know someone who needs help, or would like to be a volunteer, tutor, or help in another way, call Mary Casanova or Friday Lambert at 294-4352.

RAVE Program Scholarships Awarded

Thanks to the generous donations of a local couple, five RAVE (Renewing and Advancing through Vocational Education) Program students have received scholarship awards ranging from \$350 to \$1000 for the 1992-1993 academic year. The program provides support services to single parents and displaced homemakers who enroll in "high wage" vocational degree programs at FKCC. The selected recipients have demonstrated perseverance and dedication to their educational goals.

Recipients are: Diana Pedicini, Juanita Hawkins, Ronda Norway, Stephanie Lane, and Patricia Cox.

Lizard Licks Rolls Into Recognition

Lizard Licks is proud to have won Best Walkers (even though technically they were rolling) with their ten-rollerblader canopy dragon in the Fantasy Fest Parade.

It was wonderful and it was grueling. "Rollerblading in the Fantasy Fest Parade is a lot like snorkeling in a shark pit," says dragon lady, Judi Bradford, who lost four pounds in the two and half hours it took to travel Duval. "It was a tough diet, but I'd rather do the parade than count potato chips any day."

Instructor Training Classes

The American Red Cross will be conducting instructor training for Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation and First Aid Instructors. Candidates must be certified for CPR as well as first aid to register for the classes. The classes will be held December 11 through December 13. The community needs qualified instructors to prevent needless suffering and prevent loss of life. Call 296-4033 for advance registration.

KEY WEST HIGH SCHOOL**Vocational, Adult and Community Education Course Offering Form**

Term III Registration will begin on Monday, November 30th - Thursday, December 3, 1992 from 7:00-9:00p.m. in Room J-22 (Upstairs) at Key West High School. Most classes will begin on December 7th and 8th, 1992 and will end on March 3rd and 4th, 1993. For more information call (305) 293-1540.

KEY WEST HIGH SCHOOL - 293-1540
ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

CODE	TITLE	DATE	TIME	LOCA	INSTR.	CR	FEE
900000	Adult Basic/ESL	MW	6:30-9:30pm	J-27	TBA	0	n/c
9900000	Adult Basic/ESL	T/TH	6:30-9:30pm	HCB	Suarez/ Farina	0	n/c
ADULT GENERAL EDUCATION							
9900020	GED Preparation	MW	6:30-9:30pm	J-31	Lindsay	0	n/c
9900020	GED Preparation	T/TH	6:30-9:30pm	J-31	Hanshaw	0	n/c
Both GED Preparation Courses will work in the C-2 Computer Lab							
2100310	American Hist/Govt.	MW	6:30-9:30pm	J-13	Puig	1	\$27
0104320	Art Basic Draw/Paint	T/TH	6:30-9:30pm	E-6	Hawthurst	1	\$27
0708310	Conver. Spanish II	Tues.	6:30-9:30pm	J-23	Kelly	1/2	\$13.50
0708300	Conver. Spanish I	Thurs.	6:30-9:30pm	J-23	Kelly	1/2	\$13.50
0708300	Conver. Spanish I	Tues.	6:30-9:30pm	J-13	Puig	1/2	\$13.50
1900300	Drivers Training	MW	6:30-9:30pm	J-35	McKell	1	\$27
1001310	English I, II, III, IV	MW	6:30-9:30pm	J-23	Allen, J	1	\$27
1200310	Algebra I	T/TH	6:30-9:30pm	J-25	Rodger	1	\$27
1205400	Applied Math	T/TH	6:30-9:30pm	J-27	James	1	\$27
2002300	Beginning Science	M/T	6:30-9:30pm	J-26	Murtha	1	\$27
LIFELONG LEARNING							
1501340	Beg. Weight Training	MW	6:30-9:30pm	Wgt. Rm	Milliken	0	\$30
9900510	Woodworking	T/TH	6:30-9:30pm	E-7	Klimowich	0	\$30
9900660	Community Band	Wed	6:30-9:30pm	Bd. Rm.	Frischman	0	\$15.00
9900730	Sewing (Arts & Crafts)	T/TH	6:30-9:30pm	B-7	Sanlana	0	\$30
9900580	Drama	MW	6:30-9:30pm	J-31	Ayala	0	\$30
9900550	Auto Detailing	T/TH	6:30-9:30pm	V-103	Bennett	0	\$30
ADULT VOCATIONAL EDUCATION							
1400204	Creative Photography	T/TH	6:30-9:30pm	TBA	Brogdan	1	\$30
8200330	Prac. Compu. Skills	T/TH	6:30-9:30pm	J-29	Evans	0	\$30
30 Inservice Points can be earned by taking a 5-week computer course for teachers only. Course begins on Tuesday, December 8, 1992							
8200330	Prac. Compu. Skills	Wed	6:30-9:30pm	J-29	Evans	1/2	\$30
Computer Course will begin on Wednesday, December 16, 1992							
8203200	Bookkeeping/Acct	T/TH	6:30-9:30pm	J-27	TBA	1	\$30
8709000	Auto Body Repair	MW	6:30-9:30pm	V-103	Smallbone	1	\$30
8709100	Auto Mechanics	MW	6:30-9:30pm	V-102	Higgs	1	\$30
8418100	Nursing Assistant	T/TH	2:00-4:00pm	KVCC	Sheddan	1	\$35
8418100	Nursing Assistant	T/TH	8:00-8:00pm	KVCC	Sheddan	1	\$35
8209010	Typing	MW	6:30-9:30pm	J-12	Sanlana	1/2	\$30
Typing course will run for five (5) weeks.							
8209220	Bus. Office Proced.	T/TH	6:30-9:30pm	J-12	Johnson	1	\$30
Prerequisite: Typing I Course							
8754200	Welding	T/TH	6:30-9:30pm	Welding	Smith	1	\$30
Welding course will begin on Tuesday, January 5, 1993							
8721300	Building Maintenance	MW	6:30-9:30pm	Welding	Allen, K	1	\$30
8500350	Nutri. & Food Choice	MW	6:30-9:30pm	B-5	Triggiani	1/2	\$30
8515000	Food Prod. & Services	T/TH	6:30-9:30pm	B-5	Sadler/ Callahan	1	\$30
Additional Lab Fee \$10.00 for Food Production Course							
8430109	Private Sec. Guard	MW	6:30-9:30pm	J-25	Goddard	1	\$30
8500300	Parenting Skills	T/TH	6:30-9:30pm	J-33	Shuman	1	\$30
COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER-HARRIS SCHOOL - 293-1632							
ADULT BASIC EDUCATION							
9900000	Adult Basic/ESL	M-F	9am-3pm	Harris	Gonzalez	0	n/c
9900020	GED Preparation	M-F	9am-3pm	Harris	Hanshaw	0	n/c

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ISLAND ECONOMICS

Karen Taporowski and Stacy Meehan of **Welcome Aboard**, located on Summerland Key, invite you to their Open House on Sunday, December 6 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come browse among their unique gifts and cards for every member of your family. And they don't want you to miss the selection of gourmet candies and cookies, creative gifts for kids, beautiful handmade jewelry, and much more.

Rae Miller, Executive Director of **Monroe County United Way** recently announced the appointment of Jerry J. Williams as Chairman of United Way of

Monroe County. Williams has been a member of the Middle Keys Board of Directors since 1988, and has served as Vice-Chairman for the past two years. He is President and C.E.O. of First National Bank of the Florida Keys. In addition, Williams is a director of the Greater Marathon Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Board of Directors of the Monroe County Fine Arts Council and board of Trustees of Fisherman's Hospital.

Stephen G. Waddell has joined the case management team of **AIDS Help, Inc.** of Monroe County, where he will concentrate on

services and support for people with HIV illness in the middle and upper Keys. Waddell served previously as a program coordinator and counselor with the domestic safety program on the county's Domestic Abuse Shelter. He earned his bachelors and masters degrees from the University of Wisconsin. Waddell is a former fisherman, and has served in the armed forces. He is a life member of Disabled American veterans and of the Organization of Florida Fishermen.

Fifteen year Key West resident **Abelardo Ortiz-Benavides** has come out of retirement to offer his talents as an interior and exterior decorator. Ortiz-Benavides studied architecture at the Universidad Ibero Americana in Mexico City, design studies at the Corcoran School of Art and Mount Vernon College. "I do not impose my taste on clients," says Ortiz-Benavides, "My aim is to have the project reflect the taste and personality of the owners."

Dr. Bill Goldner announces the opening of his new dental practice at #1 Luani Plaza. **Paradise Dental Care** establishes a new direction in the career of Dr. Goldner, who founded the largest group practice in the Keys. Paradise Dental offers personalized care with an emphasis on cosmetic dentistry. A patient-oriented environment, the latest in dental technology, and a careful selected professional staff complete this premier setting. New and continuing patients are invited to call for weekday appointments.

The toy train has come to Key West! Find it at the **Imagination Station**—the newest, most adventure to steam onto the island since Flagler's Folly.

"I've ordered everything from classic wooden blocks to crystal radio kits, rocks and minerals, educational games, infant playthings and water toys—with more on the way," says owner **Donna Nelson**, who also owns **The Bird Nest** ("The most popular pet shop on Fleming Street.") "This is the toy store that great parents have been looking for," she says.

Offering toys for kids from infancy to age 12, the shop opened November 17. Stop by and catch this new train of gift ideas in Searstown near Bavarian Bakery.

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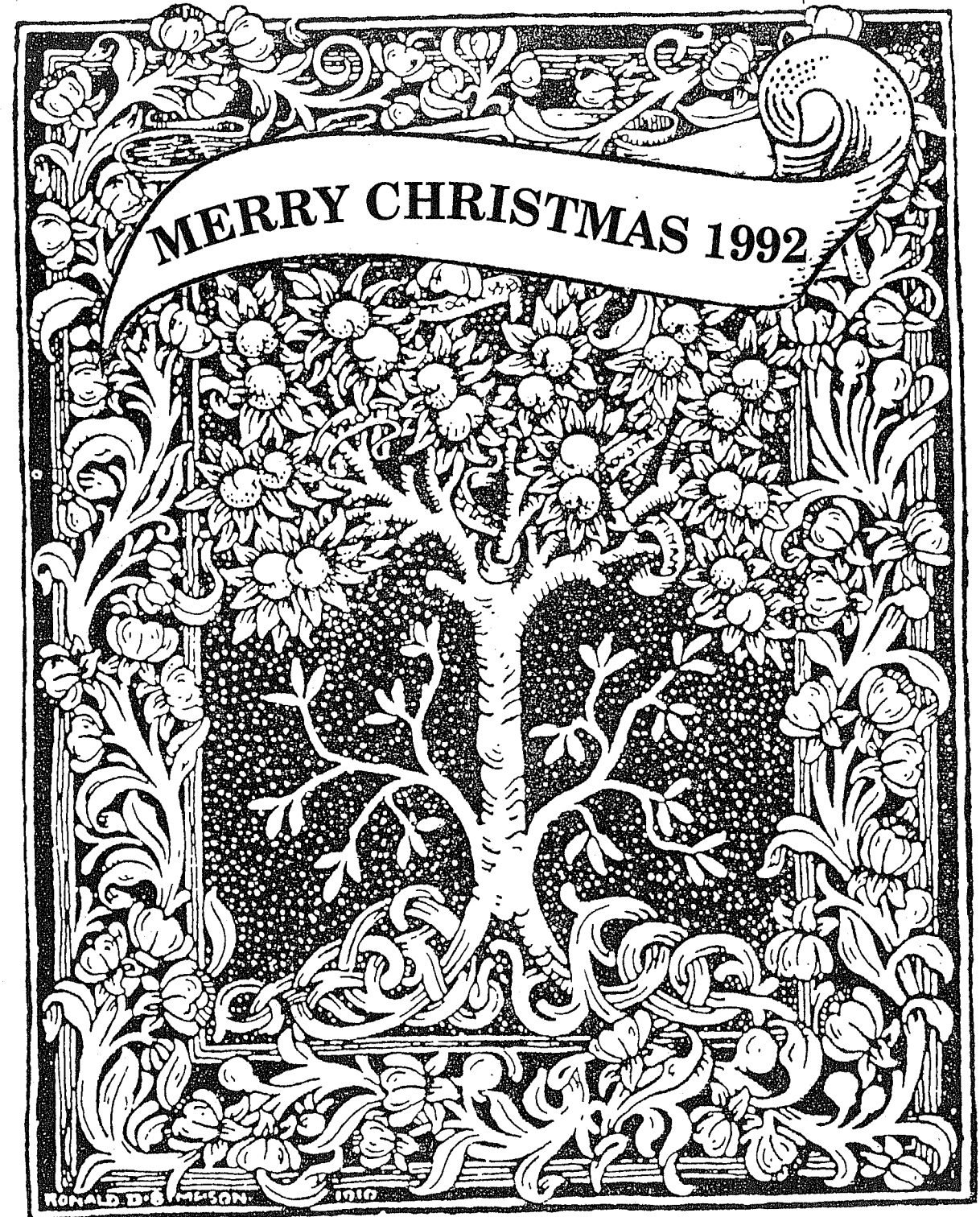
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Solares Hill Gift Guide



A Little Something for Everyone

Gift ideas for the young at heart

by Alyson Simmons

No one wants to be the recipient of that gift from hell—the wide-collared pumpkin-colored polyester shirt and matching rayon tie or the scratchy hand-knitted wool sweater that even the coolest Key West night won't warrant—but it's even worse if you're the giver of tasteless trash.

PERSONAL:

I am an "ageless 45" S/W/M. I have chosen to live in the Keys, and am at the best time of my life. I am intelligent, funny, romantic, sensitive, intuitive and supportive. I do not abuse drugs, alcohol or women.

I believe there is such a thing as chemistry between people that cannot be explained. It causes an attraction, an attachment, a feeling of closeness that does not happen frequently, but is so special when it does happen.

I would like to meet a S/W/F for a special type of relationship. One that has this type of chemistry. I am looking for a friend that would become a best friend, and if things worked right a lover. If not, still a friend.

I have really no specific parameters, since the chemistry I am ultimately looking for has no specific formula - it just happens. I would imagine this woman is between 30-55, but she may be younger or older. I would imagine that she is bright, independent, a "free" spirit - the kind of woman that would be attracted to the Keys.

If you are interested in some coffee and some conversation, give me a call. My name is Rick and my number is 745-2618. Leave a message on my machine, and I'll get back to you.

To help avoid the embarrassment of having your gift end up as the liner for the cat box, the writers of *Solares Hill* have joined forces to come up with some of their favorite ideas for great gifts for the young at heart.

Although this 3000 pound gift may be too big to stuff into a stocking, it is truly one of a kind. For just \$15 you can adopt a manatee. The Save the Manatee Club will issue an adoption certificate, an underwater photo of your manatee, its life history, and a subscription to their newsletter. In addition to being the only one in your neighborhood to have one, the funds donated for adoption help the critically endangered animal by fueling research, education, and lobbying efforts.

In a similar vein, you can adopt a dolphin from the Dolphin Research Center. Again, you adopt a specific animal, and it's just an hour's drive to meet and, at an added cost, swim with your dolphin. Adoption fees help pay for the feeding and care of these fabulous, mystifying creatures.

Now how about something nostalgic and frivolous. The most recent invasion of the trolls

is sure to strike a chord of déjà vu in any survivor of the '60's. Back then they were pretty basic: little naked plastic dolls with impish grins and unkempt hair. These days trolls come in a variety of sizes—from tiny earrings to some the size of cabbage patch dolls—and they are often outfitted in some truly silly attire. If your sweetie is a diver, get her a snorkeling troll: complete with fins and a neon wetsuit. If he likes to windsurf, you can find one riding the waves, his blue hair flying in the wind. Or how about a bride and groom for that newlywed couple. But the most appropriate is that little gray-haired guy whose black shirt says "forty isn't old if you're a tree." This one really means something to those of us who remember them from the first time around.

Memories make good gifts. One really special idea is to sneak into your parents' or grandparents' closet and borrow those dust-covered slides. Pro Photo offers a special price on converting slides to prints. Take out the best shots and put them together in a print photo album. This is the kind of gift that brings tearful smiles.

Jane Phillips has a suggestion for the more sophisticated taste. She says, "wrap up a copy of 'Elizabeth Bishop—the collected Prose' and include an invitation to attend this year's Key West Literary Seminar on the poetry of Elizabeth Bishop January 7-10 at the Tennessee Williams Fine Art Center. There will be a star-studded line up of participants including one Nobel Laureate, two past Post Laureates of the United States and three Pulitzer Prize winners. These seminars are wonderful and feature some of the most stimulating, enlightening and witty dialogue you'll ever hear. If you or anyone on your gift list have become partially brain dead due to too many TV sit-coms, this is the ideal remedy."

A season subscription to local theater is another thoughtful way to save someone from TV dementia.

For the outdoor enthusiast, Key West offers a plethora of gift ideas. Big ticket items include windsurfers and catamarans: good ways to make the most of the northerly winter breezes. For the motorhead, waverunners are better than any land-locked Honda or Harley.

"Tropical Mike" Hall suggest giving someone an open water SCUBA certification. Or, if they're already certified, how about a specialty dive course to help them work on buoyancy or learn how to shoot underwater photos.

A day trip on one of the local catamarans or glassbottom boats like the Discovery would make a great gift for the boatless.

Then there are the ephemeral gifts, the precious things you can't hold, ride, or even eat. Lee Irby suggest time and pity are rare and wonderful gifts. "My perfect gift," he says, "would be a non-life-threatening illness whose cure rate is 100 percent, but which takes three to four months of bedrest. Then maybe you could read, relax, and have nice long meals. Plus, people would feel sorry for you. Genuine pity, in this age of complaint, is a treasure. Enjoy!"

Although illness is hardly a gift, time is something everyone can treasure. Spend some time with someone who is alone this Christmas. Or give the gift of time by helping out, maybe babysitting for a harried friend.

And don't forget yourself: enjoy a glass of wine and a bubble bath or a walk along the beach. The holidays can be a hectic time, be sure and treat yourself while you're at it.



christmas BY THE SEA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DATE	Time	Place/Event
Dec. 1-6	7-9 pm	East Martello Museum, Trees of Christmas
Dec. 3-6	8 pm	Red Barn Theater, "Made in Key West"
Dec. 3-5	8 pm	Tenn Williams FAC, "Good Evening"
Dec. 5	7-10:30 pm	Great Southern Gallery, Artists & Models Ball (AIDS Help fundraiser)
Dec. 5	7 pm	Duval Street, Christmas Parade
Dec. 5-6	2, 4 pm	Waterfront Playhouse, "Emperor's New Clothes"
Dec. 6	3 pm	Old Stone Methodist Church, "The Messiah"
Dec. 6	6-10 pm	Woman's Club, Christmas Tree Lighting-Party
Dec. 7-26	Daily	J.C. Penney's Store, Children's Poster Exhibit
Dec. 7-19	10 am-4 pm	Christmas in the Keys—Monroe Elementary
Dec. 11	8 pm	Woman's Club, Clubhouse Holiday Tour
		Tenn Williams FAC, College Chorus Concert
Dec. 11-12	5-8 pm	5 Private Homes, Holiday House Tours
Dec. 12	1-3 pm	Duval Street/Downtown, Mini Concerts
Dec. 11-23	Daily	Key West Garden Center Holiday Tour, West Martello Tower
Dec. 12	6:30 pm	Annual Incredible Christmas Art Sale, Gingersbread Square Gallery
Dec. 18-19	8 pm	Red Barn Theater, "Bad Habits"
Dec. 19	1-3 pm	Duval Street/Downtown, Mini Concerts
Dec. 18	6-9 pm	Duval Street/Downtown, Late Night Shopping
Dec. 19	8 pm	Gulf of Mexico Harbor, Lighted Boat Parade
Dec. 19	7 pm	KWBG Christmas Masquerade Ball
		Pier House Havana Docks
Dec. 22-25	5-9 pm	Mallory Dock, Santa at Sunset
Dec. 20	7 pm	St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Christmas Concert
Dec. 21-23	6-8 pm	Old Stone Church, Live Nativity Scene

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The Most Wonderful Time of the Year...

Or is it?

by Judi Bradford

Ho, Ho, Ho, 'tis the season to be frantic. I admit it—I was once a crank about Christmas. The best part of the holiday for most of my life was taking down the tree, sweeping out the pine needles and getting back to normal life. That was when I still did trees.

The extra work load seemed worthy of neither the joy of giving nor of receiving.

The Christmas card tradition got ditched early on as an insane busy-work project invented by farm families after the harvest, during those long winter nights when testing the combustibility of your shoe soles on the hearth was bigtime entertainment. It seems completely anachronistic with telephone service now firmly established. I never felt enthusiasm for decorating either.

The only thing about the event I enjoyed was making fudge for all my friends each year (and taste-testing large quantities of it). Then those rascals went on diets or converted to a nutritional morality that excluded chocolate. I gave up.

Then I met my husband, whose mother had annually transformed the family's home



into a fantasy toyland for her six children. Gary had inherited the Xmas DNA molecule.

You can imagine how shocked I was our first Christmas together when I came home to find our apartment smelling of fresh pine with garlands of the stuff twining everything but the ceiling fans. He had a tree set up and decorated. Before Christmas Eve had arrived, he had installed three trees!

I grudgingly went along, but, you know

what? It turned out to be fun. Now I get grumpy if he doesn't let me help decorate.

Ah, but the shopping... it can still seem a burden so I try to make it an event I can look forward to. The best solution was the year I managed to do all my shopping by catalog in early October, having most of the gifts shipped directly to the recipients at the appropriate time. I haven't managed to repeat that performance, however. Time slips away.

Most Christmas eves I—like several thousand of you—end up hyperventilating on Duval Street, willing to pay any amount for someone to take over the rest of my list. Although I dread getting started, if I can avoid that last week before Christmas, I find I have a good time once underway.

I shop by location. I pick a half a dozen stores, carry in my list and do it. Selecting the stores is the trick. I try to avoid the huge and the popular—latent agoraphobia.

Budget enters the formula here. If budget is ample (which mine almost never is) Fast Buck Freddie's, Lucky Street Gallery, H. T. Chittum and some of the other upscale spots yield merchandise that never fails to dazzle.

Usually, however, my too-much-month-

left-at-the-end-of-the-money accounting forces me to apply lots of imagination to the cash. But still I drift through at least one of my upscale favorites. Sometimes a bargain can be had and it is dangerously possible to find a shirt for that special someone that is worth a week's wages.

New stores are good sources. They often have introductory prices to tempt customers and features items that may not have been seen in this area. On my list this year is Coffee, Beans and Spice in Overseas Market. There is also a new toy store at Searstown. Imagination Station has a kiddie play corner so you can keep the little ones occupied while you shop.

I have some regulars that I visit with reliable success in the mid-range price category. Greenpeace has great kid's books and a wealth of politically correct T-shirts.

There is a huge population of talented artists in Key West that creates an inventory of original artwork, clothing and home accessories. Sunset at Mallory Square, Island Arts and Guild Hall Gallery are good sources for exceptional work in mid-and upper-price ranges with some small items that are wonderful stocking stuffers. A walk through any of our island galleries is a pleasant interlude in a shopping trip.

Handmade items have a quality that make them special gifts. Plantation Pottery, Tar Heel Trading Co. and a number of other small shops sell wares made by artists around the country.

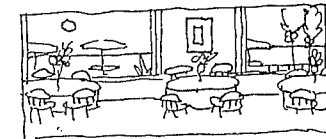
Regionally distinct items make great gifts. Besides the galleries, Swept Away and WinterSun, among others, offer merchandise designed by locals. Be sure and check their sale

racks for a little reward for yourself.

Speaking of rewarding yourself, plan your shopping ventures so you can have a special drink or snack with a friend. The break is revitalizing and you may have some inspirational shopping clues you can swap with each other.

For small gifts, I often cruise the antique shops and the souvenir shops around lower Duval so I can hot glue kitschy stuff to craft decorations from Buddie's or Woolworth's.

I can hardly wait to get started! ♥

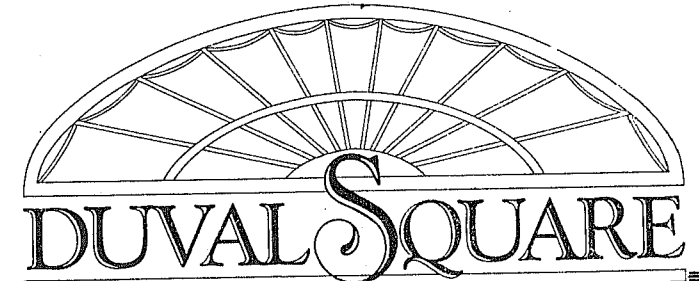


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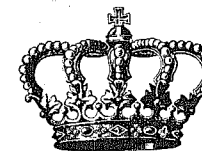
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GRITS, GRUNTS & GRUYERE • WITH JEANNE McCLOW

Fabulous Gifts for the Food Fanatic

Like nearly everyone else at this hectic time of year, I've been busy putting together my Christmas shopping list, wishing all the while that everyone on it were as easy to please as myself.

This is the case, I think, because I'm a "foodie" and that puts me into a category that can -- and usually does -- take in a lot more territory than most people realize. Just for starters, a foodie's interests might include anything from nutrition to kitchen science to vegetable gardening to social history to cake decorating.

One thing is certain, though—the foodie devoted entirely to his 9000 tastebuds doesn't exist. Readers tend to think that since I write about food, I spend all my time in the kitchen or eating. In truth, I like any other writer, spend most of it hunched over a typewriter. But even I must admit to having been shocked when I was invited to a business lunch by a well-known food critic and writer and found myself dining in the office with her on a bag of fast food.

So, as you consider the gifting possibilities for the foodies on your list, think about the different aspects of the subject that specifically interest them. Don't just race off to pick through the nearest pile of cutesy potholders or gimmicky egg cookers.

To help avoid this, I thought I would offer some suggestions here, but the possibilities were so vast, how to begin? Well, since a picture was said to be worth a thousand words, I decided to set up a photo of some of the things I had that might prove inspiring.

I started by putting out a few little items—a one-handed pepper grinder, for instance—that anyone, cook or no, would find useful. Right next to it, I placed a salt shaker, the only salt shaker to own if one is a denizen of a humid climate. It has a spring-loaded lid with springs that, when closed, plunge right through the holes in the top of the shaker. A very smart idea for only \$1.75.

In the same grouping, you'll also see a mushroom brush, which is the preferred way to



GREAT GIFT GOODIES for your "foodie" friends.

clean fungi; an enameled garlic press; and a nostalgic frosted shotglass from the 1940s, which, with its 4-ounce capacity, is, for some, the preferred way to measure liquor.

Now if one were to have a larger budget, one might consider giving something like a bread-making machine. There isn't one in the photo because I can't afford one, but the thought of being surrounded by the aroma of fresh-baked bread evermore is an appealing one. And now that the health experts have given the okay to nearly unrestricted bread consumption, such a gift could be appreciated by even the calorie counter.

Another item I'd like to have—but don't for the same reason—is a second microwave. Considering that during the years I worked for *Food & Wine* magazine in New York next to some purists who would have nothing to do with microwaves, it amazes me that I should have one, let alone two. It was the convenience along with the heat of the tropics, I guess, that won me over. Besides, at least two microwaves per household is to be de rigeur by the year 2000 I'm told.

Another convenience I can't imagine being without is the mini-food processor in the back of the photo. It really does do almost everything, and when I made this discovery, I had a great deal more for my next yard sale. What a relief to be able finally to look at the onions one is chopping through dry eyes!

I am equally fond of my little stovetop grill on which I can produce very tasty meals in minutes. I can even make them fat-free if I feel so inclined. I didn't put my grill into the picture for reasons of composition, but they are available across the country for less than \$10. Mine, however, is worth its weight in gold.

The one appliance that I'd never buy for myself but certainly enjoy having is the waffle iron. I wouldn't buy one because it isn't versatile enough to justify the space it takes, but I keep it because having waffles on a sunny patio is such a nice thing to do.

The space-usurper I can justify is a toaster-oven—it is just the thing for the single person. In fact, I feel good every time I use it because I know I'm conserving energy.

Other than the portable mixer I use for whipping up all those airy concoctions that taste so good on a hot night, that about does it for me in the way of appliances. I've had many others, but in my quest to simplify, I've found that these seem to be all I need for now. Even my crockpot is destined for a yard sale because the foods it does best are too heavy to be good tropical fare. One appliance I know I won't be needing is the electric potato baker I saw advertised in today's paper. Think versatility before you think buying.

For pots and pans, I count almost entirely on my enameled cast-iron Le Creuset pieces, which will last a lifetime. They are expensive but worth it, and they can be found second-hand. I got mine at a flea market and at about a tenth of the original price. Cast-iron, by the way, is said to be very "in" again, especially those old Griswold and Wagner skillets. I got my first evidence of this not long ago when I overheard a middle-aged couple at a flea market

bartering for some pieces they wanted for their daughter's wedding present.

Some of the other cookware that I own and like is the ultra-basic wok with a bamboo-steamer inset I got cheap in NYC's Chinatown; the unglazed clay stewing pot the Chinese call a *sabo* that turns out spectacular lemon chicken; and a huge earthenware *paella* dish with handles that I use for everything including fruit.

But to return to the flea market a moment. I was at one of these that I discovered the cookie jar with the "raining" cookies. Having always been of the mind that a house was not a home without a cookie jar, I guessed that I would finally be having a home as soon as I got it over the threshold. It even bore the artist's signature. It also bore a small chip, but I suppose this was the reason for its \$3 price tag. For me, it simply added to its charm, and it certainly wouldn't have deterred me from giving it as a gift—I like Barbara Bush's idea of giving recycled presents.

Next to the cherished cookie jar is a stack of cherished books, but none are cookbooks. They are books about food and they include several on the history of eating, as well as Janet Bailey's *Keeping Foods Fresh; Safe Food -- Eating Wisely in a Risky World* by the director of the esteemed CSPA (Center for Science in the Public Interest); and one of Harold McGee's fascinating tomes of "culinary lore and scientific explanations," *One Food and Cooking*.

Garnishing the stack is a 1993 calendar featuring close-ups of beautiful foods. This one was put out by CSPI, but the market abounds with them. I myself can't have too many

calendars because there are numerous things I like to keep track of.

CSPI also puts out the *Nutrition Action Health Letter*, a gift subscription to which would delight even most laymen. Of course, there are other institutions offering health-and-food-oriented publications, too, that can be subscribed to, not to mention a plethora of glossy food magazines.

Staying with the idea of gifts in print, there is in the photo a book lying open. It is an early Key West Women's Club cookbook and I treasure it. Not just for its recipes, but for all the tales and little poems and pieces of art that help to tell the fabulous history of Old Key west in a slightly different manner. Many people are fascinated by old cookbooks, and perhaps the great French gastronome Brillat-Savarin put the reason for it best with his now-famous lines: "Tell me what you eat and I will tell you who you are."

The remaining objects pictured—a pair of rooster egg cups done in glass, a set of porcelain coeur à la creme molds in front of a blue-enameled Turkish coffee maker, a mortar and pestle carved of marble, four tiny seafood forks atop a set of Monet-flowered napkins, and two handsome Chinese cooking utensils—are there by way of showing that the functional and inexpensive don't have to be mundane. They can just as easily be tasteful, beautiful, and interesting. Happy shopping.

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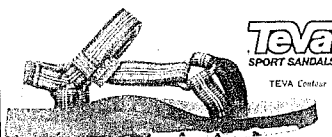
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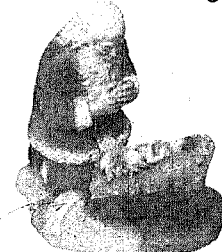
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Blood, Sweat, Tears, & Ballet

Ballet School is not dance class



MISTRESS DENISE PLOUFFE leads her students in the rigors of ballet.

by Anne Carlisle

When the Ballet School performs portions of the "Nutcracker" during this holiday season at the newly renovated San Carlos, the school's young dancers and their founder/teacher, Mistress Denise Plouffe, are not likely to be fazed by the unfamiliar environment.

New boards are nothing new for Plouffe and her troupe of dancers. Though their performances on various stages have been a

staple in the Key West art scene since her arrival a decade ago, their home has been far from constant. In that time the ballet school has moved five times or more—depending on how one counts moves in and out of various borrowed spaces.

Some students come from as far as Marathon and Big Pine to study with Plouffe—in the early days she traveled to teach. Like the magi, Plouffe and her most loyal followers have been persistent in their search for the ideal. But their quest has been for a home for the dreamed-

of Ballet School.

Three years ago, in desperation and determination to reach her goal of establishing a bonafide ballet school, Plouffe turned a large part of her own home into a studio. "I like my home the way it was," she said wistfully. Despite the enormity of this sacrifice, she is pleased with the advantages of finally having control over her studio space.

"The difference," she said with great satisfaction, pointing to a schedule on the wall (no sign of a day off for the dance mistress in the

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near future), "is that now we have daily technique classed." Tap and jazz are taught as electives; students are required to take ballet.

This means that the one in a hundred student who can make it all the way to the top can get there, from here... thanks to Miss Denise, who was not content to run just another dance class.

The distinction between dance class and a ballet school is an important one to Plouffe—important enough for her to have resisted the popular (and more economically comfortable) route.

"Ballet school is not a dance class," emphasizes Plouffe, adding, "this is not to say anything against dance classes, only that they are very different experiences, with very different atmospheres and expectations."

Instead of setting her sights on teaching tap and jazz to future cheerleaders, she has single-handedly insisted on making available to Key West talent a school with the rigors and challenges of a performing arts school, such as the one she developed in New York City before coming here.

The results will be enjoyed by the community in December when 38 Ballet School dancers take the floor at the San Carlos to perform portions of the "Nutcracker" ballet. Prop master Tim Hruby has created a memorable sleigh especially for the event.

"We are very excited about this. We're calling it the First Annual. This is not a dancing school recital; it is more serious than that," says Plouffe. Dancers were chosen by audition.

Plouffe acknowledges the difficulties and frustration that have culminated in the school and this performance with cheerful resignation. She admits that parents can be a hindrance, though certainly many are a help.

"Frankly, peer pressure is a problem in a small town such as this one. Not so much with the younger students, who look up to the older ones and work hard. But it is not easy running a serious ballet school in a place where life is a barbecue."

In larger cities, students don't go to performing arts school together, as a rule, and they view it as a great privilege. There is more temptation here to take it for granted, more difficulty in breaking away from the crowd for the rigorous practice required.

Nonetheless, Plouffe reports that any discouragements she feels always disappear when she walks into class and sees a student hard at work. Many of the performers seen on



the San Carlos stage take at least three classes a week.

The school currently has around 100 members—numbers range from 90 to 130 from year to year. Plouffe is particularly proud that the school now has two scholarship students, Jamila Tazewell and Richard Farina. The scholarship fund was established by Ralf Harmer, a Broadway performer and friend of the school who has passed away. Scholarships are awarded by audition.

However, the trademark of the excellent ballet teacher is that she is preoccupied with the progress of each individual, including those that need more work than the scholarships students. Commented a former student: "Miss Denise is really easy to work with. she has high expectations of you, but she is always willing to help you reach them."

There is an interesting parallel between the evolution of the school from dance class to Ballet School and Plouffe's own individual development, from the youngest daughter in a family of gifted "hoofers," as she fondly refers to them.

Her sisters opened a dance school and Plouffe, nearly 20 years younger, grew up in that school. At the age of fourteen, she went to Boston to take a class at the Boston Ballet and was invited to study at the school. At fifteen she made her first professional appearance, by nineteen was a principal dancer with the Boston Ballet, and she studied with George Balanchine in New York. She did choreography for modern dance companies and danced on Broadway—all things a dancer dreams of.

Early on, however, she showed a talent for and an abiding interest in teaching, working with children at Vladimir Dokoudovsky's New York Conservatory of Dance. Though her own

dancing career was cut short by an injury to her foot that aggravated a preexisting condition, Plouffe's affinity for teaching has made hers a story of success—and sacrifices.

In the course of the struggle to build the school and a ballet company, she has taught master classes with Ballet Florida, performed in and choreographed shows for all the local theaters, and put up her own money to build a studio. While admitting "I don't think I ever would have done this if I had known how much work it was going to be," she also shows no signs of letting up on her enthusiasm and dedication. "I realize I couldn't quit."

She would like to pass that spirit of "the will to do, the soul to dare" on to her students—and to some extent, on to their parents.

"Going to ballet school requires that your parents are committed to it enough to pay for it, to get you there, and to pick you up."

What is the value to those who continue the devotion even though they are not the one in a hundred who will make it? "What is the value of any art?" Plouffe retorts. "What is the value of reading literature when you don't have the gift to be a master writer? In the doing, of course."

Dancing requires a teacher more than other arts. In addition, dancers like boxers, have to come to a space where they can practice their art. "You don't practice on your own with ballet. You come to the school, you put your hair back, you put on your shoes and go to the barre and you do it. You don't think, 'this is boring.' It becomes second nature."

Plouffe has evolved into more than a master teacher, she is a philosopher about the art form, and about a way to live one's life to the fullest through it. "Ballet is not something that can be done two times a week like tap dancing and show dancing. It is not about reviews and pink tu-tus. It is about the art of the body, making it do the most that can be done."

"Ballet is blood, sweat and tears. Ballet is emotion. The same moves have been done for generations. Isn't that astounding?"

"Christmas at the San Carlos" will be performed December 18 & 19 at 8 p.m., December 20 at 3:00 p.m., and December 27 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10, available at various outlets, the San Carlos or the School. The dance portion will be the first half of the program, about 35 minutes—a perfect length for younger members of the audience," commented Plouffe. The second half will feature a nativity scene, choral groups and local talent.

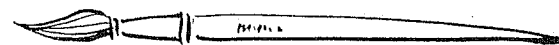
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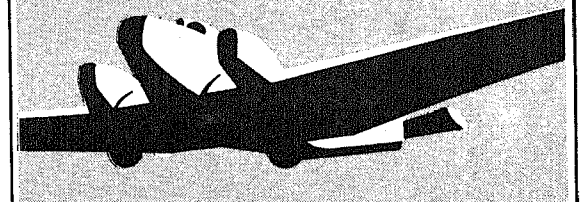
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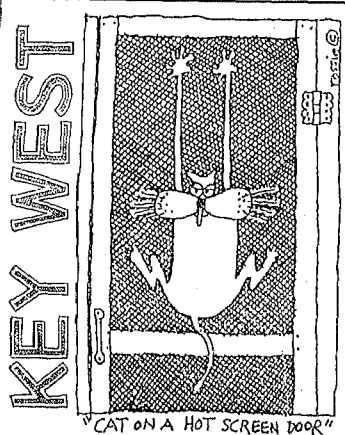
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Holiday Events Calendar

Lower Keys Friends of Animals will be marching in the December 5 parade down Duval Street sponsored by the **Lower Keys Ministerial Association**. Please watch for Santa and his elves and his dogs and cats. The parade is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.

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Photo Courtesy of Campus Calendars

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This year the **Easter Seal Center of Hope** is offering for sale the 1992 Christmas in the Keys ornament. As in years past, a local artist has donated the design; this year Dick Moody's artwork graces the ornament. Each ornament is 24K gold-plate over brass, three dimensional and comes in a velvet finished case enclosed in a self-mailer. Proceeds from the \$11.20 price will benefit the Easter Seal Society—Center of Hope. Call the Center of Hope at 294-1089.

Once a year Key West harbor shimmers with the magical brilliance of thousands of holiday lights. The **1992 Lighted Boat Parade** is scheduled for December 19 at 8:00 p.m. Entrants are now being sought for the events, which is open to any boater. Among the enticing prizes are two American Airline tickets to anywhere in the U.S. Registration is available by calling 294-6135.

Helpline, Monroe County's only 24-hour crisis intervention, information, and referral telephone hotline service is sponsoring its second annual **"Cardless Christmas."**

Go ahead and mail Christmas cards to all your out-of-town friends and family, then phone you holiday wishes to local friends and family. Now donate the money you would have spent on local cards and postage to Helpline. Then, on December 20 Helpline will publish a Christmas card in the *Key West Citizen* to everyone in the community, and listing those who donated. Phone 292-8445 for further information.

Gala at the Guild: The artists at **Guild Hall Gallery** are hosting their annual holiday party December 4 from 7 to 9 p.m. It is a popular get-together for all the friends and fans of the 18 members of the artist cooperative. Guild hall Gallery, 614 Duval Street.

Island Arts, the "uptown" artist cooperative, invites their patrons to an open house December 10 from 5 to 9 p.m. Highlights of the event will be aired on 107FM Radio's live remote coverage. Be sure and register for the doorprize drawing.

The kids at the **Sugarloaf Elementary and Middle School** are presenting the **"Sugarloaf Sharks Christmas Craft Show"** on Saturday, December 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The show will feature high quality hand-made crafts by local craftspeople, including wreaths, ornaments, stuffed animals, and pottery. Santa will make an appearance for some great photo opportunities, and there will be many goodies to eat. The show is being held at the school grounds on Crane Boulevard at mile marker 19.5 on Sugarloaf Key.

The **Florida Keys Outreach Coalition** and **Louie's Island Bakery and Pantry** are joining forces to benefit Key West's homeless and needy. Gift certificates are on sale

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Sokres Hill • Dec. 3 - Dec. 16, 1992 • Page 27

throughout town for \$10 worth of gourmet takeout lunches, dinners, and desserts from Louie's. The certificates, which the sponsors hope will be slipped into Christmas cards and stockings instead of cash, can go a long way in Louie's Pantry.

The Coalition has been functioning for over a year in areas where there are no resources or where resources have been stretched to the limit.

The benefit certificates will not be sold at Louie's, but you can order them from Coalition members. Call 296-2392 for more information.

Lower Keys Friends of Animals is holding a fundraiser on December 4, at 5 p.m. at the Tiki Bar of the Ramada Inn. Come enjoy an

evening of fun, food, great prizes, and entertainment. A raffle—with over 100 prizes—will feature round trip tickets for two anywhere in the continental U.S. Proceeds from the event go to the spay/neuter program of Lower Keys Friends of Animals, a volunteer, non-profit organization funded solely by contributions. Call 294-5541.

Thanksgiving has its pumpkin pie, and Christmas has its cookies. The Top O'Spray lounge at the **Ramada** is celebrating with a **Christmas Cookie Bake-Off** on December 16 at 7 p.m. All contestants must bring two dozen homemade cookies and the recipe to enter. First prize is a trip to the Sunrise Hilton in Ft. Lauderdale. The cookies will be auctioned and the proceeds will go to buy toys for kids.

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ART CALENDAR

DEC. 3 - DEC. 16

Audubon House • "A Family of Harbor Pilots" - Showing through January. Admission \$5, children under six free, AAA discount. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. 205 Whitehead St. 294-2116.

Bonsai of Key West • Wood and metal accessories. Wood puzzle jewelry boxes, lamps, ceramic fish, stone and wood fountains, origami mobiles—all by local artisans. Tortugas photos and bonsai sculptures. Open daily from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. 310 Duval Street. 294-2921.

Carambola Gallery • M.E. Ching acrylics. Roger Connelly watercolors; masks by Doris Christie; acrylics by Harry Greene; pottery by Tom Woodruff; hand-crocheted jewelry by Aenne McWay; oils and painted furniture by Gay Cunningham; oils on canvas by Mark Hagan. Closed Tuesday and Thursday, other days 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 814 Fleming St. 296-2545.

Caribe Concepts Gallery • Local artist Phil Rote, erotic mermaid series. Darlene Emmerich, feline watercolors. Grand Opening in new location: 218 Whitehead St. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. daily, sometimes earlier and sometimes later. 294-3302.

Lee Dodez Showroom • Sculpture by Lee Dodez and hand-built clay pieces by Jay Gogin. New classes with Jay Gogin at FKCC. Open Monday and Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and by appointment. 901 Duval St., rear. 296-5901.

Donkey Milk House • Victorian paper dolls. Books for kids. Historic china, scented candles and potpourri. Old town watercolors. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 613 Eaton Street. 296-1886.

East Martello Museum & Gallery • ABC Quilt project through January 4. Part of a national program that supplies quilts for AIDS and other terminally ill children. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$3 admission for adults. 3501 S. Roosevelt Blvd. 296-3913.

Florida Keys Community College Library Gallery • "Florida Straits—An Exhibition of Marine Art", coordinated by the Key West Maritime Historical Society, through December 14. Open Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Junior College Rd., Stock Island, 296-9081, ext. 202.

Gingerbread Square Gallery • Annual incredible Christmas and AIDS benefit

December 12-19, New John Kraly limited edition serigraphs. Thursday through Monday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Tuesday, Wednesday. 1207 Duval St. 296-8900.

Goddesses • Aphrodite's Boutique is now open Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Join our Full Moon Celebration on the 9th at 7 p.m. \$10 entry. In the Temple, an interpretive multimedia artistic journey into the ancient forces of the feminine including portraits, sculpture, performance art and art services. 717 Duval Street in the courtyard. 292-5058.

Grand Collection • Paintings, Asian antiques, ancient artifacts, tribal arts, jewelry. Daily, 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 • Intricate patterns of Lon Michaels on canvas. Ray Mabry concrete garden sculptures. New works by Melba Cormany. Ask about our art classes beginning this month. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 910 Duval St. 294-6660.

Guild Hall Gallery • The artists cooperative kicks off the season with its annual Christmas Party December 4, 7-9 p.m. Eighteen keys artists in a cooperative featuring the island's widest variety of arts and fine crafts. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and often later. 614 Duval St. 296-6076.

Haitian Art Company • Pre-Christmas sale until December 24. Spirit flags, papier mache, paintings, wood sculpture, metal cut-outs by Haitian artists. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. We will be open until 9 p.m. December 18-25. 600 Frances St. 296-8832.

Harrison Gallery • Special showing for the month of December of works by Norman Aberly, Nancy Bender, Marc Caren, Bill Ford, Wendy Gell, Helen Harrison and Susan Thayer. Daily, noon to 5:30 p.m. except Sunday and Monday or ring the bell. 825 White St. 294-0699.

High Tide • Oil paintings and prints with local flavor and also local artists. Affordable prices from \$5 to \$300. Packing and shipping available. Daily, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. 826 Duval St. 293-0331.

Island Arts • Open House December 10, 5-9 p.m. will feature a live 107FM radio remote and door prize drawings. Artist cooperative and consignment shop with a unique selection of

local arts, crafts and painted objects. Monday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., sometimes later. 1128 Duval Street. 292-9909.

Island Wellness • "Conch Fritters" by visiting New Mexico artist Joyce Mechelina Centofant. Paintings by Jeff Wheeler. Daily, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and by chance. 530 Simonton St. 296-7353.

Joy Gallery • Works of Lucie Blodeau, Jim Warren, Irma Quigley and Douglas Greenwood. Open 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., sometimes later. 429 Caroline at the corner of Duval. 296-3039.

Kalypso • A new gallery featuring the work of three women: Carrie Disrud, Suzanne Pereira and Jean Disrud. Art, wear, sculpture, paintings and quilts. Painted fabric made into garments and quilts plus artwork. Three jewelers too—painted paper and bead works, silver earrings with semi-precious stones and collage pins. Daily except Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 609 Whitehead Street. 296-0977.

Kennedy Gallery • Zbyszek, internationally recognized mixed media artist. Sculpture by Tom Joris. Vibrant oil paintings by Michele Kennedy. Watercolor street scenes by Robert Kennedy. Daily, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., maybe later. 1130 Duval St. 294-5997.

Kennedy Studios • Graphics, limited edition prints. Daily, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. 133 Duval St. 294-5850; 511 Duval St. 294-8584; and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 308 Front St. 293-0999.

Key West Art Center • Members Juried Show coming up November 22 until December 5. Paintings by member artists. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 301 Front St. 294-1241.

Key West Handprint Fabrics • Original artwork of local artisans handscreened and printed on fabric and made into wearable fashions. Constant new designs and monthly themes. Free factory tours of fabric being printed on premises. Daily 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 201 Simonton St. 294-9535.

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 \$4 adults, \$1 children 7 to 15, under 7 free. 938 Whitehead St. 294-0012.

Kokopelli Southwest Gallery • "A touch of Santa Fe." Jewelry, furniture, pottery and accessories from New Mexico. Open daily 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. 292-4144.

Kudu Gallery of Tribal Arts • Tribal rugs and kilims. African art, collector's textiles, jewelry. Also ethnic musical instruments, tapestries and toys. Open 10a.m.-6 p.m. daily except Wednesday. 1208 Duval St. 294-3771.

Leda Bruce Gallery • World-class gallery of originals, many local artists. See our new Beverly Hills Thrift Shop—costumes, deco furniture, incredible shoes, pocketbooks, feather boas, anything theatrical and magnificent. Stay in touch for information on our Sunday concerts. Yoga on Thursdays at 8 p.m. with Carol Christine. Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Oceanside on U.S. 1, MM 30.2, Big Pine. 872-0212.

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

Lucky Street Gallery • Bahama artist Tony McKay (also known as singer Exuma. See him at Cayo Carnivals). Open Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday and Monday, noon to 6 p.m. Closed Wednesday. 294-3973.

Miller Gallery • Contemporary paintings and drawings, Chinese watercolors. By appointment. 517 Duval St. 2nd Floor. 294-7687.

Pandemonium • An artist-owned and operated gallery of modern ceramics, tiles and handpainted clothes. Unusual collection of specially selected items for Christmas giving. New gift items from around the world and also travel items. Special ceramic house numbers. Sale corner of seconds. Open daily 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and 8-10:30 p.m. 704 Duval St. 294-0351.

Pearl-Beal Studio • New handpainted furniture by Jeff Beal and Lenny Addoriso. Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 531 Whitehead St. 294-0815.

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.

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al and decorative ware from some of America's finest potters. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., except Friday and Saturday 'til 9 p.m. 717 Duval St. 294-3143.

PS Lane Gallery • December 12-January 7, exhibit of smaller work by the Gallery's longtime artists and introducing new artists brought to PS Lane. Three specially designed "Christmas Trees" will be auctioned by scaled bid, proceeds benefitting AIDS Help, MARC House, and Wesley House. Showing contemporary work by nationally known artists. New work by Scott Jones. Open daily noon to 6 p.m. 1000 Duval St. 294-0067.

Robinson Gallery • Featuring the art of Wyland and other international artists. Daily, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 711 Duval St. 292-1655.

Sign of Sanford • Watercolors, handpainted rugs, fabrics and bags. Preparing rugs and silk hangings for a show in Boca Raton. Approximate hours 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. "When the door's open, I'm open." Closed Sunday. Located at the handpainted awning, 328 Simonton St. 296-7493.

Studio 227 • Small active gallery of local artists, featuring island images. Custom framing using archival and museum techniques. Also professional restorations. Call about clay classes. Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 227 Petronia St. 294-7141.

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

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

Tibbins Pip Gallery • A working gallery featuring local artists. Hours by appointment temporarily. 1311 Pine Street. 294-0671.

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

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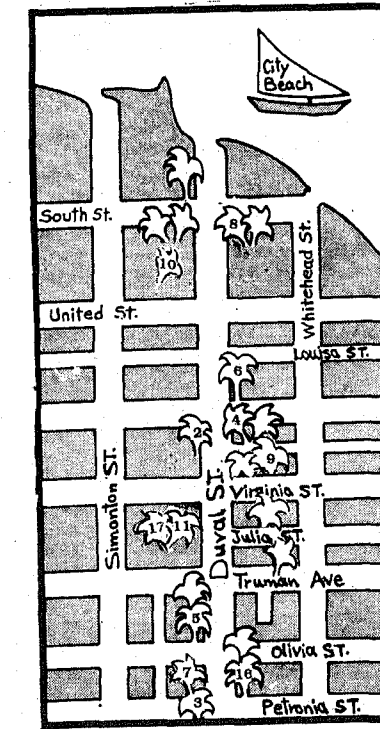
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ART CIRCLE • BY JUDI BRADFORD

Staring at a Blank Wall

"Find me a wall. I feel an art attack coming on!" No. That's not how it happens with me. It may come to some artists in a squall of inspiration, but most I've talked to ease into the task of painting a mural.

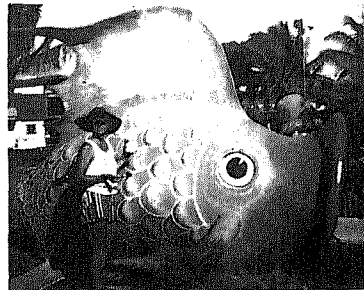
Like a monk contemplating eternity, an artist beginning a mural sits quietly and stares at a blank wall. If you follow the artist's eyes, however, you see that they are not focussed on the heart of the lotus, they are roaming over the blank expanse.

So this is how it starts, an observer might think. Next she'll be pushing a shopping cart down Duval Street and muttering to herself.

In fact, this is the most important part of the project. I just finished a mural at Imagination Station, the new toy store in Searstown. It's not something I do a lot of, but it's a refreshing change—a chance to work big, stretch a little, draw with my arms instead of my fingers. Artists should probably paint murals as a fitness program, like joggers running an occasional 10K.

Back to the wall. The concept usually comes from the person who commissions the mural. Sometimes the artist is given *wall blanche*. And then it's just the artist and the wall.

When I began, I scanned the wall while rambling through all the items in my mental



MARTHA COOK BASTES a fish, her current project at Magic Carpet Golf.

files that related to the theme. New age philosophers put a lot of faith in visualizing but it's age-old in the arts—a skill that seems as natural as breathing to artists.

Without a Sketch

It's not long before the image is created in the artist's mind and projected to the wall. I do a rough pencil sketch, but not much more. You might expect lots of paperwork to precede a project of this scale, but most muralists I have talked to work with a minimum of sketches.

Wyland, who holds the current world record for overachieving in the field of mural painting, starts right in with his automotive airbrush on a blank wall.

On a more local (but not exclusively so) level, Martha Cook and Jim Lehmkuhl do the same, beginning with their brushes and rollers instead of a sketch.

Personally, I would never admit that I worked without sketches and drawings—probably because I went to art school where we were drilled on the necessity of preparation. Of course the writers I know don't normally work with outlines and notecards the way Miss Burley taught us in English class either.

Martha Cook hesitated when the question was put to her, too. It seems blasphemous or contemptuous to work so spontaneously. But, like a Catholic family with an only child, people sometimes make practical choices.

"I change my mind so much during the process that even if I did a sketch it wouldn't be relevant for long," says Lehmkuhl. He compares it to designing a house while living in it versus working from architect's blueprints.

Leaving Room

"You have to leave room for what happens while you're painting," says Cook. And it's true. You start slapping paint and your mind keeps time by supplying ideas. The idea mode is faster than the paint mode, a natural design that allows the artist to refine a concept for one area while working on another area.

"You don't know what's going to happen while you're doing it," Cook continues. Then she tells a story they invented about a face in the window in one of their murals, a sad tale, worthy of the Grimm brothers' pen.

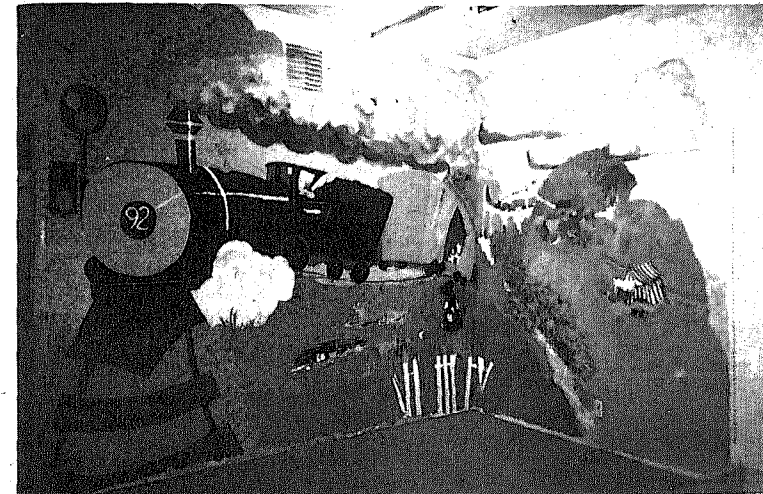
Elements from real life find their way into the images as well. Cook's calico cat can be leaping a wall in the same mural. In my mural at Imagination Station, the store owners' two sons can be found fishing on the river bank and my daughter is represented carrying a basket of flowers around the corner of a house in the far village.

Teamwork

Cook and Lehmkuhl have collaborated before on murals. They did the mermaid scene on the tower building in the highway median in Key Largo and the Croissants de France mural, among others. Their mural at Coffee, Beans and Spice transform the store into a European village with flagstone walks with dandelions growing in the cracks. It is an evening scene with the moon high overhead that sets a cozy tone for the shop. Three dimensional elements—window frames attached to a painted building for instance—further the trompe l'oeil illusion.

Lehmkuhl paints murals constantly in Key West and around the country. He has done over 40 in Miami Sub franchises. The tropical scenes in the Perry's Restaurants in the Keys are his, as are the Ocean Key House and Bottle Cap murals. Captain Bob's, done in 1979 was one of his first.

Cook has done a variety of wall treatments. She marbelized, stippled and



IMAGINATION STATION: mural by Judi Bradford.

muralled walls and ceilings of the Play It Again house on Casa Marina court. The house has been recognized in national magazines, including "Southern Living" and "Art and Architecture." Currently, she can be seen under a wide sunhat bringing life to the figures at Magic Carpet Golf.

Wyland

Wyland is a real phenomenon. At 36 years of age, he has painted 33 walls. He started in high school with a mural of the Alps for the town Dairy Queen in Michigan where he grew up. His goal is 100 murals by the year 2011.

Nowdays, his subject matter is sealife—

usually lifesized. He calls the murals "Whaling Walls" and does them to raise awareness of marine ecology.

Wyland holds the Guinness record

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(July 9, 1992) for the largest mural in the world, a circular convention center in Long Beach, California. He must also hold the paint-per-mile-per-hour record. He painted a pod of blue whales cavorting under the water's surface on the Redondo Beach generator station in California—3000 gallons of paint on a wall 622 feet long and ten stories high. He did it in eleven days.

The sea scene on the K-Mart in Marathon is by Wyland. The Dolphin Research Center, too, displays one of his marine mammal walls.

Murals: a nice thing to do for a wall. There are many examples in Key West, and not all in commercial establishments. Perhaps you have seen some of the several in private homes, as well. So next time you decide to slap a coat of paint on the diningroom wall, why not think a moment, ponder that large blank space, and imagine.

Correction: The photos that accompanied the Roberta Marks story in Art Circle last issue were incorrectly credited. The portrait was by Rolf Nesser and the photograph of the artist's work was by Dane Taylor. Our apologies to both photographers.

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Gigs

by Bert Lee

Readers of these pages know Christine Naughton as a thoughtful observer of the local music scene. But she is also much more. Christine is one of the most talented singers on the scene. In her reviews of others, it is clear that she actually listens, and her comments reflect an understanding of the process of making music. Personally, I've been a loyal fan of both her music and her writing for some time, and was delighted to be asked to review her.

My assignment took me to Havana Docks at the Pier House. Christine is featured Wednesday evenings with Skipper Krippitz's Tincture of Time. That night, the ensemble consisted of Dave Burns on piano—always a treat—and Mike Gillis on bass. Skipper Krippitz provided the drums and percussion.

Burns displayed his flair for harmonic inventiveness, his chord substitutions alternating between lush and angular. Listening to Burns, I am always struck by the apparent effortlessness of his invention, his turnarounds, intros and endings reveal a quirky and playful musical sensibility. Next, the band



CHRISTINE NAUGHTON delights the crowd with her vocal style.

offered a lyrical treatment of Mike Mandel's "Quietly There." This tune provided a great setting for Skipper's delightful percussion work.

Warmed up nicely, the audience was then treated to Christine, who opened with "Like Someone In Love." Among the women vocalists on our local scene, Christine may very well be the most fluent jazz stylist. She listens, and her phrasing rises out of creative interplay with her sidemen.

Burns' intro to Mancini's "Days of Wine and Roses" once again delighted, with its relaxed references to all manner of modes. I've always liked Christine's handling of this tune, and her scattered solo was outstanding. Seat is sometimes baffling to casual jazz listeners, and as a result, not offered much these days. But

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Christine makes it her own in a way that delights even the novice listener.

The evening progressed, and Christine displayed strength in all parts of her range, swooping from her lovely smoky alto into some crisply executed high notes. Gillis's solo was inventive and authoritative. Unlike many guitarists covering bass, he knows how to hold the bottom without undue busyness, but come time for solos, watch out!

Christine's handling of "My Foolish Heart" mesmerized. Melody and telepathy seemed to spark between Burns and Christine during the ending—an ending all the more moving for its obvious spontaneity.

Next, a loose and lively treatment of "Beginning to See the Light" demonstrated how a great singer can put a new gloss on an old chestnut.

Christine closed with a haunting rendition of Miles' "All Blues." Her control of the long lines of melody created an air of expectation, and her players conspired with the kind of magical understatement that artfully offset the passionate outbursts of the solos.

The relaxed sense of interplay between band and singer, the very real sense that these were four musicians—not a rhythm section with a singer—enhanced the performance. Christine is a musician's vocalist; she compliments and inspires those that play with her.

If you have not yet had the pleasure of hearing Christine, or wish to enjoy her again, she is featured every other Wednesday with Krippitz's Tincture of Time Band at the Pier House, starting at 9:00. She is a special and unique musician who can be, I warn you duly, wonderfully habit forming.

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ADrift ON THE COLORED CURRENT

by Robin Shanley

I couldn't believe he was asking me to do this. I walked over to the rail of the boat aware of how quiet it was with the engine broken down. Capt. Anders stayed in the wheelhouse, his forehead glued to the radar shoe. What he saw was a large green blip moving towards us with great deliberation toward us, the bullseye of the screen. It had to be the Coast Guard. Even though we were in the Yucatan Channel between Cuba and Mexico, it was a choke point for any cargo moving towards the States and patrolled regularly. Now they had us in their sights and now it was time for something horrible.

His hands were grimy with grease and his clothes soaked with sweat from the hot, airless engine room. He's removed his Greek fisherman's hat, the secret bald spot making his leprechaun beard look all the more virile. He leaned in the doorway and looked at me with a casual intensity, his beer belly casting a shadow on the deck.

I remember once in Florida, when we were unloading shrimp at the seawall and a wino's dog chased a little dock cat into the filthy water. It fell between our boat and the concrete wall and was thrashing wildly, trying to swim. Someone tried to save it with a long poled net, but the kitten was too wild and continued to drown. Capt. Anders came over to see what the commotion was about, sized up the situation, and, in the only other time I've seen him remove his hat, started to climb down the fenders to the pitiful creature. This is a very dangerous maneuver. Not only do you stand a good chance of slipping and falling into water where no one could help you, probably striking your head in the process, but any change in the wind or another boat's prop wash would shove our boat against the wall, crushing Anders and his round belly between them. I tried to shove more tires into the gap, as he clambered further down the rotting shrimp-filled tires and rusty chains to the oily, trash bobbing, cat thrashing surface below. He grabbed it! Yes, Capt. Anders! Hurray, and up he comes, the wild wharf kitten biting and slashing with its claws as he holds it up by the neck nape in his big callused hand. The kitten is a terrified, furious ball of black and white and when Anders gets halfway up he launches it to the top, where it takes off like a furry bolt of lightning. Later, as I dab his lacerated hand with mythololite, watching him wince, I bitch him out for taking such chances for such a worthless scrounge cat and he looks at me and says:

"It wasn't his fault."
Now I plead with him:
"It isn't their fault."

I'm sure I'd rather suffer whatever penalties than bring this thing to its stinking conclusion. Don't get me wrong. I've pitched bales and keys over the side more than once.

That is just a business consideration. Just as this trip had become a complete disgusting bust somewhere near Aruha and Colombia. We had anchored in a small bay near Santa Marta when the Mafia guy came back from his phone call to Miami. The deal had fallen through, someone hadn't stayed paid off and we were to go back with a much smaller cargo.

Parrots. That's what the bosses in Miami wanted, to compliment their art deco bars, their mistresses' poses, to grace their corrupt shoulder. Only they were too cheap to buy them from a legitimate dealer. It was their whim that we smuggle them back from a little village where the boys would snare wild birds and sell them for ten dollars American, wings clipped and some already talking. They paddled up to our boat in small canoes until we had six cages full on the back deck. Then it was time to leave and we left very well until the engine broke down.

The Coast Guard was ten miles away now. Capt. Anders made contact, and, in a last ditch effort, told them we weren't in danger and would be under way soon. And, of course, they kept on coming.

Like any good captain, Anders would never ask his crew to do something he wouldn't do himself. I was ashamed as he pushed past me to the back deck, as if I had started something I

couldn't finish when the heat came down.

I crossed to the lee of the boat to be by myself.

Have you ever been out in the true Gulf Stream? Not the tired old dirty green stuff that sloshes in the Gulf of Mexico, but the deep clean gods beyond. It's the prettiest thing you'd ever see, a dark, dark midnight blue and on a still day the sun makes a great star in it like a sapphire ring, the rays slanting down to hypnotic vertices. I was lost in this star when I heard the splashes on the other side, and as I watched the powerful current pulled the cages beneath me, slower than I would've imagined, and I could catch a flash of a brilliant green wing, like the sun makes setting on a cloudless horizon, with a bright speck of red and yellow, followed by another ghost or angel of white and that's how they all drifted away, one after another, like a sad blue escalator, going endlessly down.

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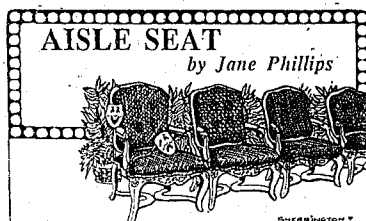
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Waterfront Playhouse

Bruce Peterson and Kelly Moore have done it again. Their new production "The Emperors' New Clothes" follows previous children's show successes "City Mouse, Country Mouse" and "Hansel and Gretel" at the Waterfront Playhouse.

The two adapted the well-known Danish fairy tale, written in the mid-1800's by Hans Christian Anderson. The charming simplicity of the original story has been translated into this somewhat updated version. The original musical score is a delightful collection of toe-tapping, hum-along songs performed by a talented cast. The actors dash on and off stage, zip up and down the aisles and include the audience in the fun.

Good news for theatre-goers. Rae Coates came in from London for the part of Earl of Olay, a member of the Emperor's court. He plays opposite English actress Joan O'Dowd as Lady Kenmore. These two will do anything to keep their favored position with their ruler, including not believing their own eyes. Bruce Peterson appears as Emperor Phineus the 1st, a



"THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES" at the Waterfront Playhouse stars Bruce Peterson (sans hair), Mary Falconer and Bryant Lanier.

man who is consumed by a passion for fashion. Marjorie Paul-Shook has the role of Empress Mirabella who must make do with her husbands discards. While the Emperor laments "I Haven't A Thing To Wear" her theme is "I've Got The Hand-me-down Blues." Tom Luna who scored three hits last year ("Hansel and Gretel", "Lend Me A Tenor", "Talley's Polley") plays Merlin the Village Idiot—it's an elected position. Mary Falconer and Bryant Lanier literally tumble into good fortune as The Taylors. The youngest cast member Anna Hooten is well able to keep up with her fellow actors—she has the role of Megan.

Kelly Moore's costumes provide more magic, and Betty Tradup Saint and Skipper Kripitz accompany the musical numbers on piano and drums. Judi Bradford's set works well. It's a perfect cast—they sing, they dance,

Page 34 • Dec. 3 - Dec. 16, 1992 • Sokares Hill they have fun and you will too. Final performances take place December 5th and 6th with shows at 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. Call the box office for reservations 294-5015.

Pier House - Old Havana Docks

"Thursday Night Live—that Improv Thing" is the latest entertainment innovation at Pier House. Borrowing their name from "Saturday Night Live"—the television show that evolved from Chicago's "The Revue From Second City"—the local group presents weekly shows from 9:00 - 11:00 p.m. in the Cabaret setting of Old Havana Docks.

Each show is different. Host Ray James asks the audience for suggestions and the cast goes into action creating impromptu scenes. If James feels the actors are striking out he tosses in the hat—in this case a battered blue one—or instructs drummer Skipper Kripitz to sound the gong. End of skit. There are a variety of ways the cast handles the subject. For instance, if they miss a beat they have to "die" on stage. The night I attended they did take-offs on everything from fishermen to safe sex.

Improvisational theatre depends largely on the versatility of the performers and the chemistry created between them and their audience. Actor Jed Sloe is a whiz at this sort of thing. He has the ability to totally immerse himself in a role on a moment's notice and come up with a bizarre characterization. Sloe and Tom Murtha created a wonderful scene using the styles of William Shakespeare and Edward Albee. Murtha ended that one with the line "Methinks we're through." Others in the cast include Casey Crabtree, Stacy Hannah, Jim and

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Jeannie Somma, Barbara Lotito, Katie Tierney, Denise De Paul and David Baird.

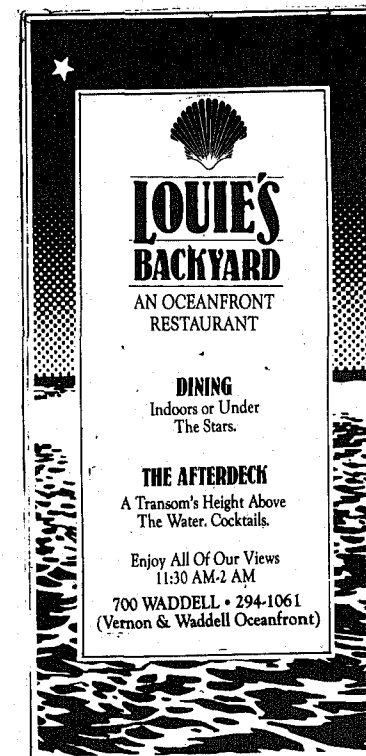
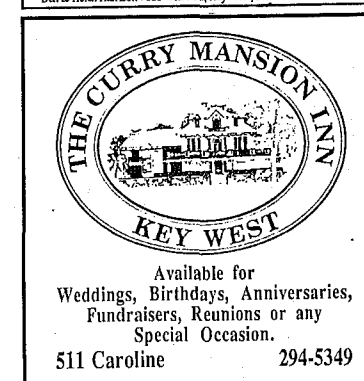
Red Barn Theatre

Key West continues its love affair with the Red Barn. A capacity audience turned out for the fifth "Made In Key West" show. There was a guest appearance by "Thursday Night Live—that Improv Thing." Sally O'Boyle joined them and would be perfect as a permanent member of the group. The fabulous Spectrells wiggled on stage in all their spandex glory and totally captivated the audience with "And Then He Kissed Me", "One Fine Day" and "My Boyfriend's Back." The trio, Penny Mollet, Melody Cooper and Allison Meyer just keep on getting better. The cast from last year's hit "Six Women with Brain Death or Expiring Minds Want to Know" reminded us how good that show was while John Wells and Company performed some of his original material. A nice addition was the inclusion of two second-generation "Barnies," Amber McDonald and Zoe Hawkins-Wells who, along with young Sonya Manning sang "Sun on the Moon" by James Taylor. For information about the coming season call the box office 296-9911.

Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center

Key West classical music lovers had a rare opportunity to preview a concert being performed later in the month at Lincoln Center in New York. The United Way of Monroe County and the City of Key West Cultural Affairs Commission collaborated to bring Lithuanian born pianist Petras Geniusas to Key West where

he played the same program planned for Lincoln Center. A graduate of the Tchaikovsky Conservatory, Geniusas has received international acclaim including the top prize at the 1992 Palm Beach International Piano Competition. His performance was electrifying from the initial delicacy of Clementi "Sonata In F-sharp minor, Op 26" to the dramatic Wanger-Liszt "Liestod" from "Tristan and Isolde". He was rewarded with a number of curtain calls and a standing ovation.



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Solares Almanac

December 4 - December 17

The sun begins to lose its pep as the calendar slides towards the winter solstice on the 21st. Even here in the Keys where our December days are hours longer than they are in Newark or Sioux City, there is a noticeable brevity to our sunlight from now until after the

New Year. But take heart. On December 7, official sunset will occur one full minute later than it did on the sixth. Which does not mean the day will be longer; sunrises will continue to be later and later right through the month, and on into January. This shifting solar spread won't mean mathematically longer days until somewhere around the first of the year. And then you'll have to use an accurate chronometer to measure the difference.

And a minute here or there won't matter much to the sunset celebrants on Mallory Pier and its neighbors. For them, December has a different sort of bonanza. It's a matter of record that this month has the lowest number of rainy days and comes close to having the most cloudless days. Which means that even though Old Sol might seem to be loafing on the job, when he's up there he's giving it all he's got. As for the data: the sun will rise around seven and set around 5:40 for most of December's first half.

More importantly, a full winter moon on the 9th will have tides racing in and out of Key West Harbor from the seventh right through the fourteenth, with some significant minus low tides through much of that period. If your boat is moored in a marginal spot, you'll most likely bump the bottom from the ninth through the twelfth, especially if the wind blows briskly from the northeast, which is its favorite December direction.

That wind, as those of us who were here in December three years ago have learned, can get downright cold at times. There were several days in the mid- to low-forties during that memorable December, days and nights made all the more unforgettable by the folks who send us our electricity which, in that time of need, was not forthcoming. Ah well, that was then; this is now and we are much more likely to enjoy days and nights that range from 65 to 75 degrees, the norm for this splendid time of the year - here in

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Key West, of course. Don't go looking for 75 degrees in Sault Sainte Marie.

These first weeks of December are planning weeks; what with you-know-what looming ever larger on the holiday horizon, some order must be pulled from chaos, otherwise you may have visitors you never expected. Here's a planning tip: if you are in need of an extra fowl or two for the holiday tables, you might try the golf course on Stock Island. There's a fresh water pond there overpopulated with Muscovy ducks—a fine, broad-breasted breed with an excellent table reputation.

If you grab one or two (having a burlap bag handy) the Florida Keys Audubon Society and its regional brethren will be pleased. The Society and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are at work persuading folks who release Muscovies (most often after the "cute" ducklings have lost their charm) that large flocks of non-native waterfowl are not only an environmental nuisance but displace native birds and, concentrated in a small area, can help spread avian cholera and other avian ailments. The two organizations are cooperating in a Muscovy transferal program, but any transfers you might engineer on your own could do nothing but help the cause—and your holiday planning.

Then there's this report of a Key West resident working in his backyard pruning a gumbo-limbo tree. As he rested, one arm outstretched while his hand gripped a limb, a hawk arrived from the heavens and alighted on that very arm. The two, man and bird, looked into each other's startled eyes for a long moment before the hawk was the first to recover and took off for other, less populated parts. The bird was a handsome, and rare, peregrine falcon, a descendant of the hawks that once did indeed, perch hooded on the arms of the lords and ladies who used them as hunters.

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

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Bill's Key West Fish Market and Restaurant, 2502 N. Roosevelt Boulevard. A local favorite serving the finest local seafood from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., daily. Tuesday through Thursday, all-you-can-eat fish or fried clams. Fish market open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. 296-5891.

Camille's, 703 1/2 Duval Street. A local restaurant with the casual Key West touch, serving high-quality fare

for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Daily specials. Entrees are reasonably priced, made of only the finest ingredients and cooked to order. The Sunday Brunch has become a tradition for many locals. Open daily for breakfast & lunch 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dinner served Tues-Sat 5-9 p.m. 296-4811.

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

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

808 Duval, Recommended by concierges and guest houses as the best "new" restaurant on Duval. Specializing in rack of lamb, Maine lobster, and stuffed swordfish served in an atmosphere of casual elegance where locals and tourists dine. Open seven days from 5 p.m. Air conditioned dining room—room or tropical courtyard. Major credit card accepted. 293-0006.

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.

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

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

Howard Johnson's Restaurant, 3041 N. Roosevelt Boulevard. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, daily. Offering breakfast specials and a daily all-you-can-eat \$9.95 seafood feast. 294-4342.

Jerry's Oyster Bar & Grill, 1114 Duval Street. Serving lunch and dinner daily. Specializing in Oysters Moscow or Rockefeller plus raw or steamed. Much more than an oyster bar, offering chicken, baby back ribs, New York strip steak, combo platters, sampler platters, kabobs, appetizers, salads, soups, sandwiches and desserts. 294-7061.

Jimmy Buffett's Margarita-ville 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 Cheesburger in Paradise. 292-1435.

Larry's Ice Cream & Yogurt, 1075 Duval Street within Duval Square. Open seven days and nights. Truly gourmet ice cream in scrumptious flavors and custom mixed fresh fruit frozen yogurt. Experience a variety of treats inside and out including original Key West smoothies and coladas. 294-2301.

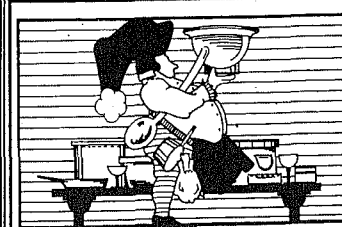
Lighthouse Café, 917 Duval Street. Specializing in wonderful Southern Italian and seafood dishes, served in a beautiful garden setting or cozy indoor dining room. Open for dinner 7 to 11 p.m. Reservations suggested. Diners Club, Visa. 296-7837.

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.

Mango's, 700 Duval Street. Great island cuisine with a Caribbean flavor, local seafood and vegetarian dishes. Daily hours are breakfast, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.; lunch, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Happy Hour, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. with tropical drinks and munchies; dinner, 6 p.m. till midnight. Outdoor seating right on Duval. Large inside dining room. All major credit cards. 292-4606.

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Perry's of the Florida Keys, 3800 N. Roosevelt Blvd. and in Key Largo. Open seven days. Featuring local seafood, prime rib, salad bar, key

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PT's Late Night Bar & Grill, 920 Caroline Street. Number one locals spot. Large portions and small prices. Grilled dolphin, smoked baby back ribs, chicken, steak fajitas, best prime rib in town, fried alligator. Large screen TVs. Food served until 3 a.m., cocktails until 4 a.m. Visa and Mastercard. 296-4245.

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

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Shalom Key West, 601 Duval Street (3 doors off Duval on Southard). Key West's only Glatt Kosher restaurant, specializing in vegetarian and authentic Middle Eastern delicacies as shawarma, babaganoush, felafl, shish kabob. Open daily from 10 a.m. to midnight. Closed Friday evening until Saturday at sundown. Call 294-3584.

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Stick & Stein Sports Rock Cafe, North Roosevelt Blvd. in Key Plaza (next to K-Mart). Featuring an impressive selection of appetizers, salads, sandwiches, pizza and a variety of entrees from T-bone steak to shrimp in a basket at the best prices in town. Open daily for lunch, dinner and late night snacks. Pool and darts from 10 a.m. to 4 a.m. Major credit cards accepted. 296-3352.

Tamarinds, at Duval Square, 1021 Duval Street. Key West's newest café offers breakfast, lunch and dinner. Our menu features eggs, grilled seafood, fresh salads, sandwiches, burgers, soups and luscious desserts at affordable prices, presented in an innovative manner with a Caribbean flavor. Enjoy dining inside or outside in our relaxing oasis. Breakfast 8 to 11:30 a.m., lunch 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., dinner 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. Takeout available. 294-2809.

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Accessing Key West

By A. J. Salvatore

The woman in the electric wheelchair cruises down Duval Street at about 10 miles per hour, dodging trash cans, street lights, pot holes and pedestrians. Pedestrians are the least of her worries; they scatter like ants at the sight of a wheelchair to let this less-than-fortunate person pass. It's the other obstacles that annoy her.

"I feel sorry for anybody who lives in Old Town and has to use a wheelchair," she says, her voice vibrating from the bumpy ride. "It's got to be a trick."

She rounds the corner at Sloppy Joe's Bar and heads down Greene Street toward Old City Hall, where more pedestrians dash to the curb to give her plenty of room.

When she gets to the intersection, she flashes a sarcastic smile. "Here's another one of Key West's famous curb cuts," she says. "Watch this."

She barrels down the steep slope of sidewalk, bounces onto the street, then banks right so she doesn't wind up in the middle of traffic. Now she's on Ann Street, where thick roots from giant mahogany trees erupt through the pavement.

"Uh oh," she says, still smiling. "I forgot about this part."

Arjean Wilson has legitimate gripes about the City of Key West. "They've got a long way to go to make the City of Key West wheelchair accessible," she says. "Right now, it's a barrier." But she doesn't let the obstacles she faces every day get the best of her. That's one thing eight years in a wheelchair has taught her.

Wilson, 32, is paralyzed from the waist down. She was enlisted in the Navy in Connecticut in 1984 when she had the accident that changed her life forever.

It was the day of one of her first parachute jumps from a helicopter. She skydived into a row of power lines and received a severe electrical shock to her spinal cord and third-degree burns over most of her body.

Now, Wilson is a Navy veteran. Her 13-year-old daughter, Danielle,

has the same fire-red hair and pretty blue eyes as her mother. She likes to ride around in the electric wheelchair when her mom isn't using it, and she likes to work the controls of the automatic lift in their custom-made Ford van. Danielle is too young to drive, but that really doesn't matter. Her mother uses special hand controls to make the twice-a-week trip from Summerland Key to Key West so Danielle can attend dance class.

A single mother, Wilson works part time at a local radio station, takes classes at Florida Keys Community College and receives physical therapy at the Center of Hope on Stock Island. Someday, she says, she'll be able to walk again.

Until that time, Wilson will look toward the American Disabilities Act for a written guarantee that she will not be discriminated against because of her handicap.

The American Disabilities Act is a piece of legislation as monumental as the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Signed into law in 1990, it bans discrimination against the millions of physically disabled citizens in the United States by requiring public and private employers to change the way they do business in order to accommodate them.

Today, states, counties and cities throughout the United States are making the nation accessible.

Key West is no exception.

A fleet of new buses the city recently ordered will come fully equipped with wheelchair lifts. Street and sidewalk repairs will include curb cuts at all intersections. When Old City Hall was restored, included an elevator and handicapped-accessible restrooms. Elsewhere, automatic teller machines at local banks offer a Braille alternative, and public telephones have been lowered.

"Anything we do today has to be and will be handicapped accessible," said Raymond Archer, the City of Key West's chief building official. That's why he ordered several newly installed bus shelters to be removed. When private contractors built the shelters earlier this year, they set some of them right in the middle of the sidewalk, creating enormous physical barriers.

"I had to ride in the street with cars whizzing by me," recalls Dorothy Ratz, a

disabled woman from Fort Myers who was in Key West visiting family.

Archer admits there was a problem. "Some of the shelters created hardships and several of them have had to be moved," he said. "We realize that now."

Ratz suffers a nerve disorder in her legs and is unable to walk for extended periods of time. She said Key West has more physical barriers than any other city she's been to.

"All of the utility poles are in the middle of the sidewalk," she said. "Sometimes, I have to ride in the grass and that's when I get stuck."

Because Key West is such an old city, officials face obstacles less obvious than those they're trying to remove.

"Most of the lanes were for horses," said Archer. "Some of our right-of-ways aren't enough for utility poles, two-way traffic and everything else that needs to be there, let alone for a wheelchair. We're limited, like a lot of old towns, on what we can do."

Archer said it's the city's goal to accommodate all handicapped persons, but that it's going to take a lot of time and money.

"We can't go out there and re-do our streets all at once," Archer said. "We try to pick the most-traveled corridors in the city and make those accessible first. It's something that's going to take some time."

Even with the American Disabilities Act, there will always be places on the island that will remain inaccessible to the physically disabled.

Wheelchair-bound individuals will never be able view the panorama from the top of the Key West Lighthouse. They might never be able to see the studio where Ernest Hemingway penned his famous novels. To make some historical monuments accessible would ruin them.

Wilson agrees that the historical value of these monuments should come first, even if it means she'll never be able to enjoy their beauty.

"There's got to be a line drawn somewhere," Wilson said. "I would hate to see the Hemingway House destroyed because of a ramp or a wide doorway. It's too beautiful to be defaced."

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YOU WON'T BELIEVE HOW AWFUL THIS IS.

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American Disabilities Act is reasonableness. Businesses must accommodate physically disabled patrons so long as it does not create an "undue hardship" on their operations. Undue hardship is defined as any action that requires a degree of difficulty or expense that's out of proportion with the size of the business and the nature of its operation.

The language gives employers plenty of room to conform their businesses to the new law. In some cases, the law means that a meeting must be held in a room that can be reached by someone who can't climb a flight of stairs. In other cases, it means a whole new set of wheelchair-accessible restrooms must be constructed.

As of July 26, private businesses with 25 employees or more should have come into compliance with the ADA. Businesses with 15 to 24 employees have until July 26, 1994, to adjust.

The law is sure to create hardships on public and private employers; it's not cheap to build handicapped restrooms or install a wheelchair lift on a bus. However, tax credits are available under the ADA to private employers for costs associated with making their places of business accessible. For public employers, state and federal grants might be available in the near future.

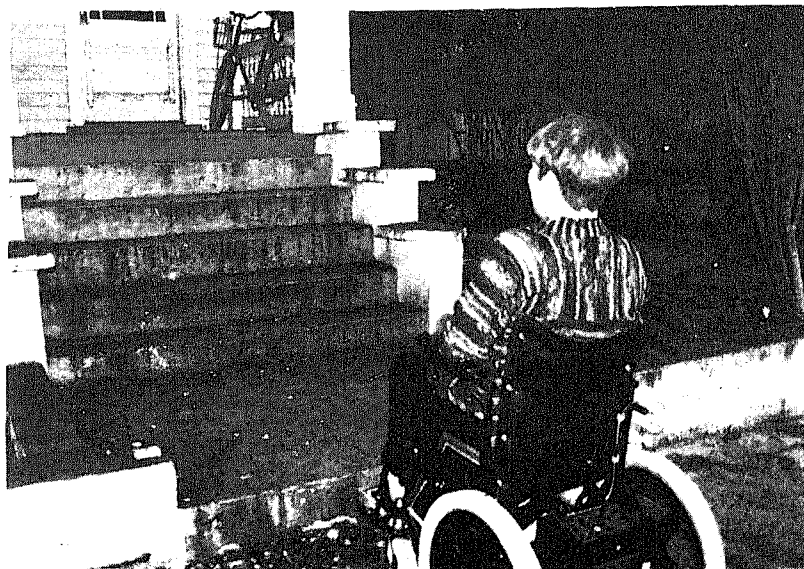
In addition to legislating public and private businesses, the ADA also regulates public accommodations such as libraries, hotels and parks, public transportation such as buses and rail vehicles, and telecommunications.

The American Disabilities Act is a relatively new law, and public awareness about it needs to be spread. Sue Bautista, a physical therapist at the Center of Hope, is doing just that.

Bautista and Beth Shaw, the Center of Hope's executive director, have visited several businesses on the island to educate employers about their new responsibilities. Bautista said most of the employers they met didn't know they were supposed to be in compliance as of July 26, or worse, were ignorant of the law.

"It appears that no one in Monroe County is really taking this as seriously as other counties," Bautista said. "There's a lot of things that employers need to do. Technically speaking, any place with a counter at chest level is violating the law."

The removal of physical barriers in the workplace is not only for patrons. It's also for employees. A wheelchair-bound person can't work as a hotel desk clerk if he or she can't see over the counter.



INACCESSIBLE: Key West presents challenges for the disabled.

Bautista said this is a revelation to a lot of employers.

"They never thought of what it would be like to hire somebody in a wheelchair," she said. "Some employers say, 'Well, a person in a wheelchair would never be able to do this particular job,' and I say, 'Try telling that to my patient in a wheelchair who gets down on the floor to clean her house—cleans it faster than I probably could—and then gets back in her wheelchair all by herself.' She could probably do any job."

Key West City Hall at 525 Angela St. and at 604 Simonton St. are only partially accessible to wheelchairs, so city workers take steps to accommodate those who can't climb them.

Signs hang on office doors throughout

City Hall notifying wheelchair-bound citizens that if they are unable to access a department, the department will be brought to them.

"You have to try whatever you can to make a reasonable accommodation, and until we hire a person in a wheelchair, we think this is a reasonable accommodation," said Louise Henderson, the City of Key West's director of personnel and risk management. "When we hire someone in a wheelchair, we might have to think again."

Wilson said Key West needs a disabled person's voice in City Hall, and said she's more than willing to take the job.

"If city officials set their minds to it, they could make this a dynamite city for people with disabilities," she said. "I'd be the first to start rattling their cages."

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& KEY WEST

Cultural

11/19-12/12 • *The Night of the Iguana* by Tennessee Williams and directed by Ken Carter at the Marathon Community Theatre. Call 743-4841.

12/3-12/5 • *Good Evening* Key West production of Peter Cook and Dudley Moore's comedy revue at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center. The production is sponsored by the Ocean Key House. Call 296-3464.

11/20-12/6 • *The Emperor's New Clothes*, a children's classic written and directed by Bruce Peterson, music by Kelly Moore at The Waterfront Playhouse. Call 294-5015.

11/24-1/4 • ABC Quilts an exhibit of baby quilts made for children with AIDS and other catastrophic illnesses. On display at the East Martello Museum. Call 296-3913.

12/1-12/8 • *Made in Key West V* this traditional season opener/fundraiser is a celebration of local talent at the Red Barn Theater. Call 296-9911.

Events

12/1-12/8 • *Trees of Christmas*—This second annual event is sponsored by the Key West Art and Historical Society. The trees have been decorated by a school class from the community. They are displayed at East Martello. Afterwards, the decorated trees will be delivered to local needy families.

12/5 • Christmas Parade sponsored

by the Lower Keys Ministerial Association. Parade begins at 7 p.m.

12/6 • *The Messiah* Handel's glorious celebration performed at the Old Stone Methodist Church. Performance begins at 3 p.m.

12/5 • Woman's Club Christmas Tree Lighting Party from 6-10 p.m.

12/7-12/26 • Children's Poster Exhibit "Christmas in the Keys" by Monroe County elementary students. Daily at J.C. Penney in the Overseas Market.

12/7-12/19 • Woman's Club House Tour 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Woman's Club.

12/1-12/28 • American Red Cross Blood Drive 3 various times and locations to make it easy to give the gift of life. Call 293-0001 for locations.

129 • Garden Club Craft Workshop 9:30 a.m. at the West Martello Tower.

12/11-12/23 • *Holiday Garden Tour* Daily at the West Martello Tower, sponsored by the Key West Garden Club.

12/5-12/5 • Key West Men's Senior Golf Tournament Key West Resort Golf Course. Call 294-5232.

Meetings

12/1 • Board of County Commissioners Meeting, 6 p.m. Key Conolly Beach City Hall. Call 294-4641.

12/10, 12/14 • HARC Meeting, 5 p.m. at Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

12/17 • Key West Planning Board 5 to 10 p.m. at Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

12/16-12/17 South Florida Water Management District - 8:30 a.m. in West Palm Beach. Call 1-800-452-2045.

Ongoing

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bereavement Support Group, ten-week closed group for anyone who has experienced the death of someone close. Meets Thursdays from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Free of cost. Call Charmaine Jordan at 294-8812 or Pam Soucy at 292-6843.

Blood Pressure Screenings (free)

24 hours a day, 7 days a week in the registration area of the emergency room of South Miami Hospital. Call 662-8118.

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

Breast Cancer Support Group holds meetings at South Miami Hospital the fourth Tuesday of every month from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Call 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.

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

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

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

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

Community Learning Center at Harris School offers Adult Basic Education, Job Preparation and Placement, English as a Second Language, GED Preparation, Vocational Evaluation and Counseling, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to

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Page 42 • Dec. 3 - Dec. 16, 1992 • Sokres Hill

days at 6 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church, 1215 Petronia Street. Call 294-8912.

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

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

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

Quality Time—Parenting News for the Keys, a half-hour television talk show focusing on family issues presented by MOMS inc. on TCI Channel-5 Wednesday nights at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 294-4637.

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

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

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

SHARE Support Group for parents grieving the loss of a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth or newborn death. Meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 7:30-9 p.m. at South Miami Hospital.

Call 305-662-8120.

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

St. Mary's Flea Market every Saturday beginning at 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the ball-field of Mary Immaculate School on Truman and Windsor Lane. Spaces available for \$10. Call 294-1031.

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

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

Survivors of Sexual Assault Support Group meets Mondays at 8:30 p.m. at the Holy Innocents Episcopal Parish Hall, 901 Flagler Avenue. For more information, call Christine Smith at 292-3400.

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

T'ai Chi Chu'an Exercise Class, instructed by Will Jones, is a "soft" form of physical conditioning. Classes are at 10 a.m. Tuesday and Thursdays at Island Wellness.

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.

Women's Issues Group meets Thursdays from 10 to 1 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

Entertainment

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

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

Captain Hornblower's • 300 Front Street. Jazz on the patio Thursday through Sunday. Leanna Collins Thurs-Sat 7-11. Call 294-4922.

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

Club Havana • The Pier House at 1 Duval Street. Call 296-4600.

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

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

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

Flight 121 • 121 Duval Street. Entertainment Tuesday through Saturday. Tuesday night jam sessions from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Call 293-9266.

Full Moon Saloon • 1202 Simonton Street. Call 294-9090.

Green Parrot • 601 Whitehead. Call 296-6133.

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

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

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

Mango's • 700 Duval Street. VooDoo at Mango's for the month of April: *Insomnia* with deejay Curtis Lee Friday nights; *Vision* on sound by London Loudboy Tony V Saturday nights; *Meister Lee & phonic phind* Utopia Monday nights; *T.V. Rush into Liz's*

spaceship playground Tuesday nights. Call 292-4606.

Mangrove Mama's • MM 20 Sugarloaf Key. 11/29 music and island dancing featuring *One World*. Call 745-3030.

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

Martha's • S. Roosevelt Blvd (A1A). *Barbara Redfern*, Wednesday-Sunday 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Call 294-3466.

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

Nick's Bar and Grill • Hyatt Key West 601 Front Street. Call 296-9900.

Nightfall • The Reach at Simonton and the Beach. Featuring live entertainment with Christine Cordone Wednesday through Sunday nights 5 to 10 p.m. Closed Mondays. Call 296-5000.

Ocean Club Lounge • The Reach at Simonton and the Beach. Oceanside entertainment Wednesday-Saturday evenings with *Larry Smith* on piano. *Phil Sampson* on piano during Sunday Brunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. 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. Live country music Wednesday-Sat at 9 p.m. *Seminole Rose* featuring *George Wright*. Call 294-6800.

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

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

Red's Place • Corner of Duval and Caroline, behind The Bull. *The Carl Davis Group* plays blues-plus nightly from 9:30 to 2.

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

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

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

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

Florida Keys Children's Shelter Ribbon Cutting Committee meets weekly 7 p.m. at 2221 Patterson Avenue to organize the November 21 celebration. Call Keisha at 294-4202.

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.

Gurdjieff and Ouspensky Reading and Discussion Group meets 7 p.m. every Monday at Unity Church, 3424 Duck Avenue. For information, call 292-4964.

Helpline, 24-hour Monroe County Crisis Intervention telephone service needs volunteers to answer phones. Training provided. Call 292-8445.

Helpline South Dade Switchboard, churches or other organization seeking volunteers, individuals interested in volunteering may call 296-Help or 294-LINE to link up with a team.

HIV Support Group, meets 6 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays at AIDS Help, Inc. 2700 Flagler activities center. Call 296-6196.

Island Wellness at 530 Simonton Street, offers regularly scheduled courses and activities. Monday: Daily R & R at noon; Tuesday: T'ai Chi Ch'uan at 10 a.m. and Daily R & R at noon; Wednesday: Daily R & R Thursday: T'ai Chi Ch'uan at 10 a.m. and Daily R & R at noon; Friday: Daily R & R at noon; Sundays: alternating schedule. Call 296-7353 for details.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

KWAMI Share and Care Support Group for families and friends of people

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

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

La Leche League of Key West meets second Monday of every month 6 p.m. at 2505 Flagler Avenue. Breastfeeding classes for pregnant moms begin at 5 p.m. Call Joanne at 872-2861 for meeting information.

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

Literacy Volunteers of America meets from 6 to 7 p.m. on the last Thursday of each month at 724 Truman Ave. Meetings are for tutors to get together and exchange and update information. LVA offers tutoring on a one to one basis for adults in basic reading, math, GED preparation and English as a second language. Call 294-4352.

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

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

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

Meditation and Relaxation Support Group for Oncology Patients meets the second Tuesday of every month from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the 6th floor family lounge of the South Miami Hospital. Call (305) 669-0400.

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

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

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

Neighborhood Improvement Association Meeting last Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at Martin Luther King Center on Catherine and Thomas. The public is invited to help discuss ways to guide Bahama Village to a brighter economic future.

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 to 8:30 p.m. at the South Miami Hospital. Call 662-7146.

Overeaters Anonymous meets in the chapel at DePoo Hospital Tuesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 11 a.m., and Sundays for a Step Meeting at 8 p.m. in the downstairs conference room. Use emergency room entrance. Call Demi at 745-4355 or Sandy at 293-0368.

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

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

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

Positively Sober is a 12-step Recovery Group for men and women who are HIV-positive and a member of another 12-step Recovery Group. This group meets Thurs-

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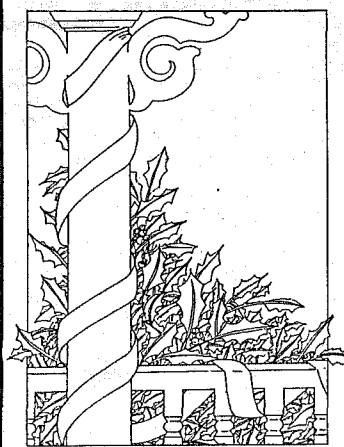
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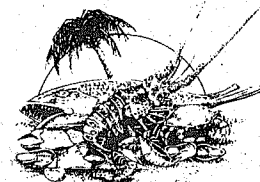


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*South
Beach*



**Seafood &
Raw Bar**

**Oceanfront
Dining**

\$6.95

**Earlybird Dinners
4 p.m. - 6 p.m.**

Broil Dolphin Almondine
Grilled Lemon & Herb Chicken
Seafood Pasta Marinara
8 oz. Top Sirloin
served with cole slaw,
potato, garlic toast

Locals Club

**15% discount card
for all food items.**

(not valid on any other promotion)

Ask for your card
on your next visit.

**Casual Atmosphere
Deck on the Ocean
Excellent Food
Moderate Prices**

**1405 Duval Street
294-2727**