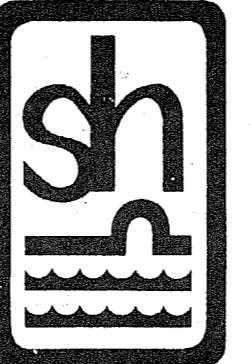


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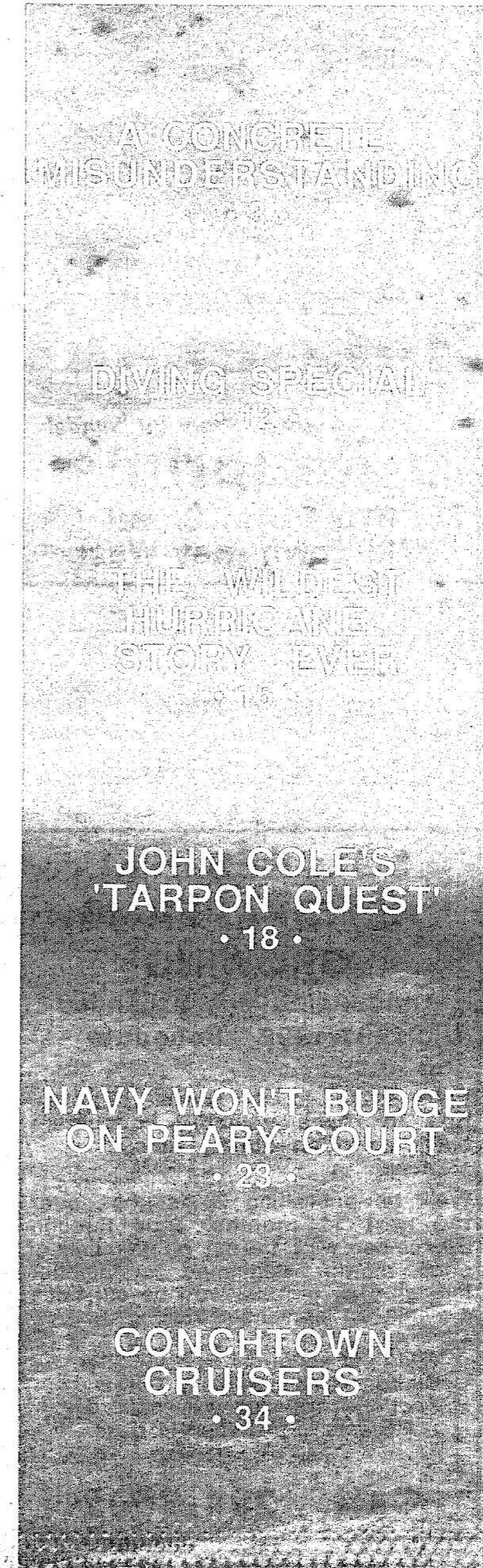
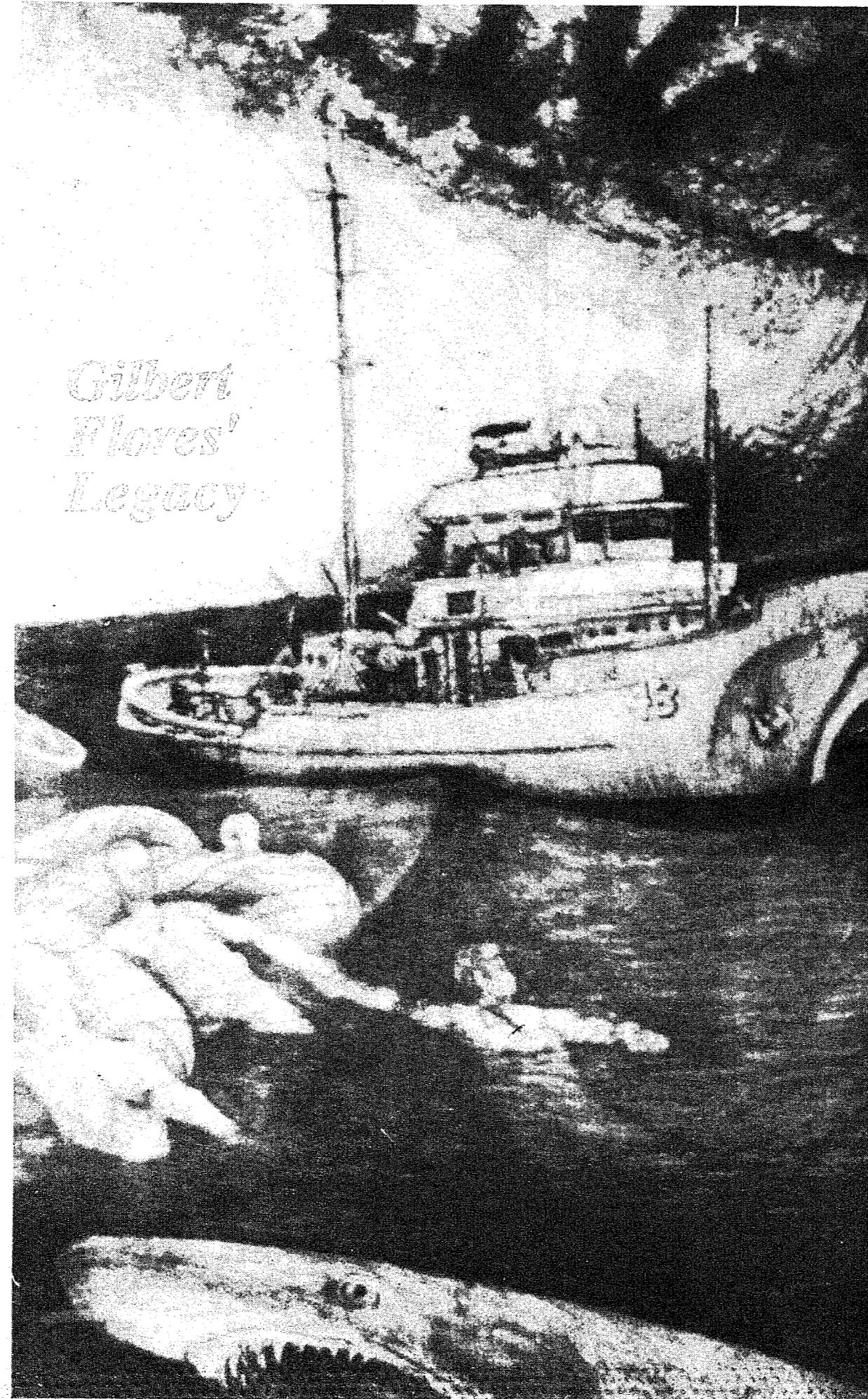
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JOHN COLE'S 'TARPON QUEST'

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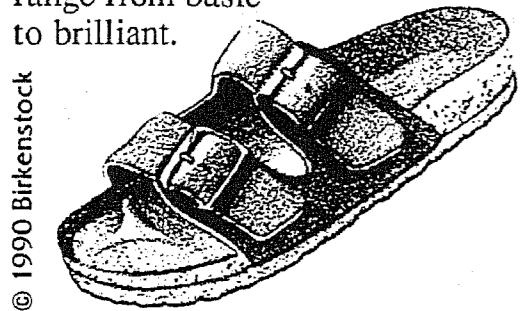
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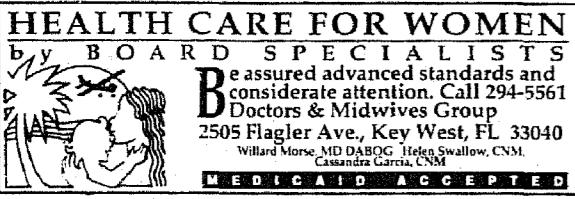
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Good Writing

The legend on the Old Town trolley said "Tennessee Williams Line," and I couldn't help but wonder which of Tennessee Williams' lines—yes, including some from *Streetcar*—might be most appropriate for this crowd. The eyes of the audience of expectant pink-faced tourists stared at everything that moved, especially the little chickens scurrying to keep up with their clucking mother as she crossed the street.

Key West, we hear, is a writers' colony to which some of America's greatest writers repair for inspiration. We even have a modest writers' industry centered on the Key West Literary Seminar, which providently brings in more and more outsiders each year to breathe the air and quaff the brew that Hemingway breathed.

None of these fine writers could support themselves, of course, from the income Key West could provide them. Journalism could not even support the bar tab of a writer. (Photographer Don Pinder is the only real artist our journalism has ever supported.) And nobody has ever made a street living providing pithy verbal portraits of our tourists.

When what was the new management of *Solares Hill* took over a couple of years ago, it had hoped to encourage contributions from the literary luminati who live in our midst. So far, that effort has been a failure. With only a couple of exceptions, the big names have quite understandably offered less than their best work, and the unknowns have for the most part stayed in the woodwork.

But we must persevere. Good writing is

too important for us not to. Good writing is a democratic force; it belongs in everyone's life. It elevates the human condition. It increases life's possibilities. It should be accessible to all, in every community of this land—and especially in Key West.

The chapter segment beginning on Page Eighteen from John Cole's *Tarpon Quest* is to my mind what we should be publishing. It is a local fish story that breathes with life. The turbulence of the school of tarpon Cole and Jeffrey Cardenas encounter near the Marquesas is an image I will not easily forget.

Wherever there is a possibility of an experience of life's extremities, there is the possibility of good writing. The much-maligned Hemingway knew that. Key West has always been such a place. It still is, every day and every night, every dawn and every sunset, each street scene and each passing car.

Solares Hill, in my view, has an obligation to reach out to the writing community to solicit work that can enrich our lives. We need material that enriches, informs and enlightens. If you have some to share, please let us know.

We will persevere.

Geddy Sveikauskas

This month's cover depicting the Mariel boatlift is by the late Gilbert Flores, the talented Key West architect and artist who died on May 23. See story on Page 36.

Turf War

Curbing a Concrete Appetite

by Chris Yerby and J.D. Dooley

The foot or two of space between some of Key West's sidewalks and its curbs may seem an unpromising space for a symbolic turf struggle between community-minded environmentalists and their allies on the one hand and a coalition of city bureaucrats and the city's most powerful private contractor on the other. But the tempest in this particular tiny teapot is quite real. It shows how people can approach a situation from very different perspectives—and can understand each other's point of view very little.

Point man for the sidewalk-building side, which offers a variety of reasons for wanting cement in the disputed areas, is city director of engineering and facilities Paul Mitchell. In a long interview, Mitchell recently made clear that he's got better things to do than to squabble over patches of ill-kempt weeds. His job, he says, is to stretch the \$500,000 sidewalk repair program in this year's city budget as far as he can. If that means making or delegating on-the-spot decisions, so be it. If his critics succeed in wrapping the program up in red tape, he says, fewer sidewalks will be built.

What are his qualifications? He's an expert. "You haven't had the training in this that I have," Mitchell said.

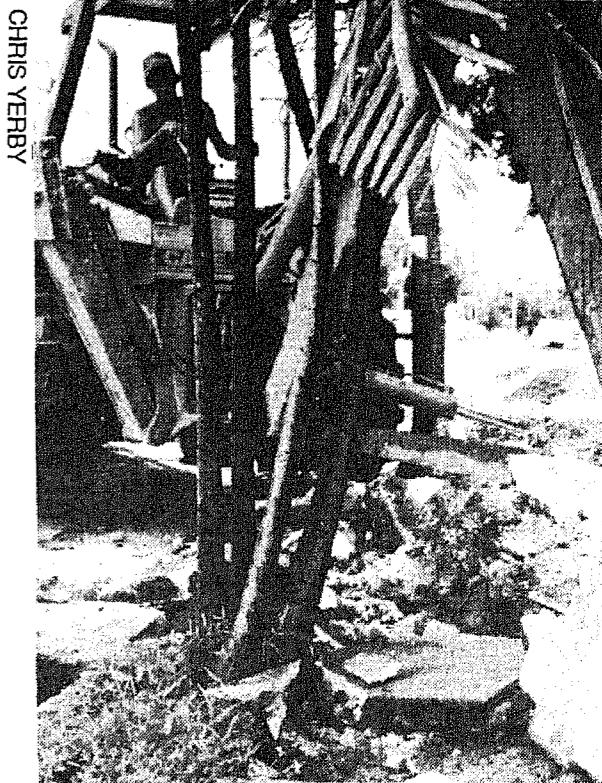
Mitchell has a bachelor's degree in civil

engineering and a professional engineer's license. A native Key Wester, he was a construction engineer for the state Department of Transportation for several years before coming back to Key West.

On the other side are community people like Bernie Shulman who want the spaces between sidewalks and curbs left open and unpaved. Contending that they have been ignored until recently, the anti-concrete forces say that sidewalk work hasn't been reviewed by either the Tree Commission or by HARC (Historical Architectural Review Commission). Members of both these city-appointed volunteer groups echo the complaints.

Shulman says she started noticing the changes in May. She was outraged. Riding around town on her bike, she says, she observed "the damage" being done. She appealed to the Daughters of the Conch Republic for help. Its chairman, Captain Vicki Impallomeni, jumped in. Other groups were notified—Last Stand, Reef Relief, the Hotel-Motel Association, the Audubon Society.

The Daughters of the Conch Republic have this year been conducting an Earth-Day project called "Adopt-A-Block." Plants are made available to citizens (through the MARC House and Friends of Florida) who want to enhance a block or improve open



MAKING SIDEWALK: Toppino's at work. space, with prizes awarded for the best efforts.

"Perhaps the saddest part is the schools," said Impallomeni. "This was a real opportunity to teach the children how to care for the earth, how the earth cares for us," she said. "But now the schools have concrete."

"I Have My Orders"

Right now, there is an uneasy truce between the battling sides. On June 10 city

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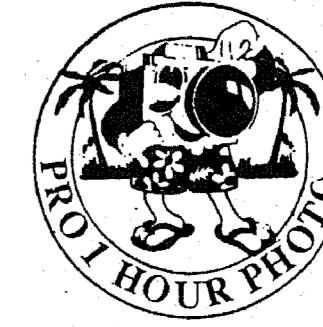
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manager Felix Cooper sent the mayor and city commission a memo instructing Mitchell's office to cease paving over dirt and grass strips along the streets. Assistant engineering manager Roland Flowers confirmed that the order had, in fact, gone out to his site inspector, Annalise Mannix, whose job it is to direct and inform the work crews.

On location at Duval and Southard, Mannix, a previous resident of New York City, said, "I'm telling the crews to leave the open spaces alone That's the order. Personally, there are a lot of weeds that don't need to be here, but I have my orders."

"Originally, it was an economics-and-aesthetics decision," Flowers explained. "The areas that always had two-foot-high weeds were removed because no one was maintaining it."

Toppino's, the winning contractor on the sidewalk project, won the bid because it offered the lowest "unit price," meaning the lowest price per linear foot of sidewalk laid. "If a contractor has his current licenses and is qualified to do the job, why not go with his lowest price?" asks Mitchell.

Toppino argued that financially it was better for the city to bring the cement all the way to the curb. Doing that also meant less work for his firm, of course. "When we repair the curb," he said, "it's easier to make one form than it is to make two."

Although the contract specifications were unclear, Toppino's two closest competitors in the bidding say that they understood that two forms would be required for some of the work.

Directions to remove the green spaces between the sidewalks and the curbs had come "from the city," Toppino insisted. Increased payments to the contractor, if any, must be approved by the city commission, the city's finance department says.

Previous to this change in policy, work crews and project supervisors made on-site decisions regarding where to cement over open space. It was Mitchell's decision to establish the policy by which strips of open space which did not appear to be maintained were paved over.

Mitchell admits no consideration was given to future plantings or to groups who may have wanted to contribute their time to maintaining the areas. The city engineer's office confirms there was no communication with the Tree Commission, nor with any other interest group, such as the Daughters of the Conch Republic.

"My decision was based on safety and economics," Mitchell explained. "There's no money in the budget this year to maintain those weeded spaces." Cementing to the curb and eliminating open area between sidewalk and curb was less expensive, he said. If people want to remove the cement and plant something, Mitchell added, they need only fill out a simple form. "We asked residents and business owners if they wanted to keep their space," he said, "and if they did, we left it."

They Asked for Green Space
Not so, says Carl Masiello, who owns Spanish Gardens Motel at 600 South Street. Masiello says he was refused eight or ten



SPANISH GARDENS: Carl Masiello wanted to plant eight or ten trees.

cut-outs for trees in the sidewalk. "I was willing to plant trees and maintain them," says Masiello. "It would look nicer with trees. If you use the right trees, there's no maintenance." Where a strip of open ground used to be, there is now cement.

Bascom Grooms, a 65-year resident of Washington Street, kept a manicured green strip that matched his immaculate lawn. He had planted hibiscus plants there. He says he even mows the weeds growing out in the street by his house.

Grooms thought he had "cleared it" with the contractor as to what would be left. When the sidewalk crew moved in, he had



BASCOM GROOMS: "I'd kill for my hibiscus," says the Washington Street resident.

without their approval. A letter was hand-delivered to city manager Felix Cooper requesting an explanation.

According to Hernandez, the normal procedure on projects working without proper permitting was a red tag, and then a stop-work order. No one from the city engineer's office had come to HARC on the sidewalk project.

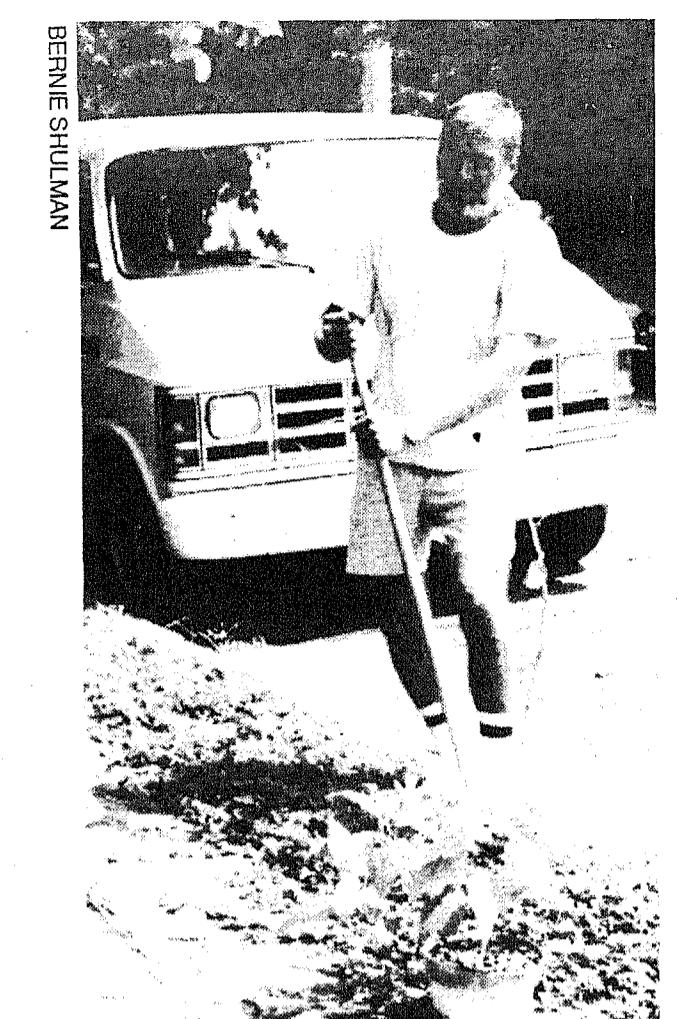
The letter from HARC to Cooper points out there appears to be some "reluctance, perhaps even opposition, by some city departments to consult with duly appointed city boards on issues clearly within their purview."

During a June city commission meeting, commissioner Jimmy Weekley pointed out that the HARC guidelines never specifically mentioned sidewalks. Though Weekley thought the Tree Commission should have been consulted, he could understand why HARC had been left out of the information loop.

The June 12 letter from HARC discussed the relationship of the "streetscape" to the character of the historic district. "The importance of this relationship was clearly covered in our newly approved standards and guidelines," it said. "Under HARC, approval must be secured on alterations to streets, sidewalks or street furnishings."

According to the letter, "It is important to protect the community's interest in the character of the historic district and to demonstrate that the city is following the same procedures as private property owners."

Cooper expressed amazement that no questions had been raised before this.



ADOPT-A-BLOCKER: Martin Felix on Elizabeth Street.

"We've been on this project for nine months," Cooper said. "I don't think this issue is as serious as everyone says it is, but we'll certainly direct our contractors a little

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closer in the future."

Contractor Frank Toppino said he was unaware that an appearance before HARC was necessary. He passed the buck. "We work for the City of Key West," he said. "We get all our instruction from the city. No one ever brought up anything about HARC."

It's up to the contractor to keep himself fully informed of all laws which affect work in Key West. Toppino signed a contract which states that the contractor "shall comply with the regulations of the appropriate historic preservation boards, as applicable, and protect against potential loss or destruction of significant scientific, historical or archaeological date, sites and properties in connection with the project."

The sidewalk construction services contract document specifies that "each bidder to the job shall inform himself of, and the bidder awarded a contract, shall comply with, federal, state and local laws, statutes and ordinances relative to the execution of the work. This requirement includes, but is not limited to ... environmental protection ... permits, fees and similar subjects."

City attorney Ginny Stone said she was hard-pressed to say who was at fault. She said that the city would always do what was best for the health, safety and welfare of its citizens.

Better Coordination for Everyone

In his response to Hernandez, Cooper planted a foot solidly in each camp.

The sidewalks, he said, were a "repair" project falling in the same routine category

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as potholes and signs. "If these projects do not significantly change the character of the particular area," wrote Cooper, "it would be burdensome to the public works department to prepare an application and wait for approval in order to proceed with the project."

Cooper added, however, that he would "instruct the engineering department to consult with the historic planner on any project which significantly alters the character or streetscape of an area, including next year's sidewalk program."

What about HARC's requests for corrective work where planted areas have been paved? "As far as the current sidewalk project goes," wrote Cooper, "it is over 80% completed at this time. If HARC would like to review the remainder of the project, I would be glad to instruct Mr. Roland Flowers to review it with you."

Early in June the Tree Commission passed a resolution asking the city manager to halt further paving until the controversy was resolved. On June 7, the *Key West Citizen* quoted Roland Flowers as saying that the decisions to pave the green spaces were made because the grounds were not being maintained. "The easiest thing to do is

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Commissioner Sally Lewis asked for "better coordination for everyone."

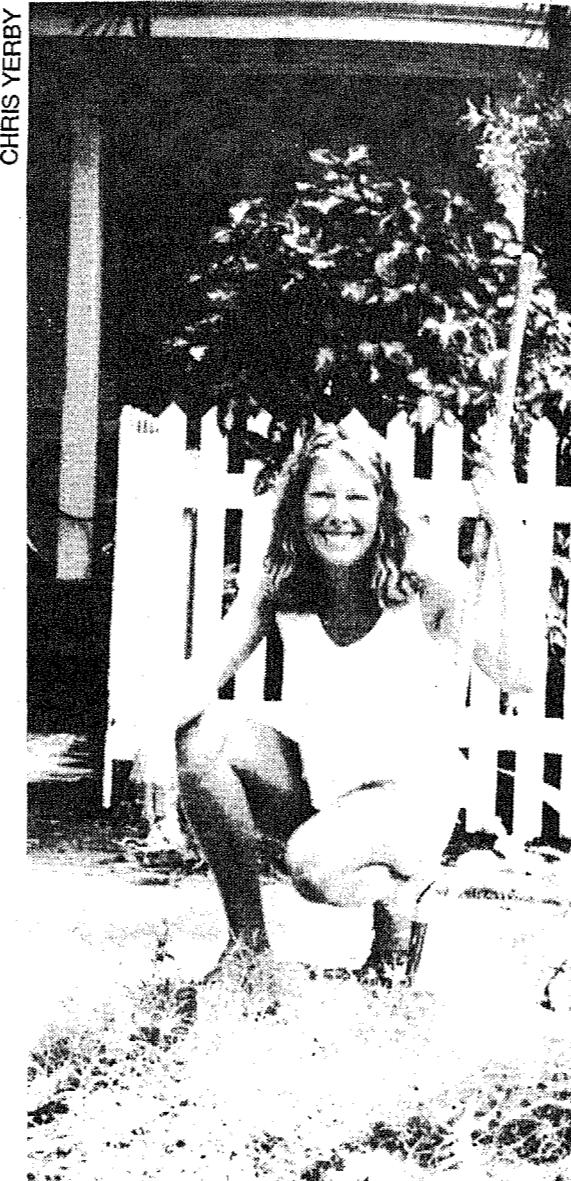
Cooper acceded to the request for better communication efforts, but reminded the commission, "If we have to go through HARC [on this sidewalk project], it would be a monster. If there are any projects with significant changes, we'll certainly go to the board ..."

"That's all we want," Lewis replied promptly.

Weekley favored a clearer communications policy, too.

One of the things that makes communication difficult is that the documentation for this \$500,000 project appears so sparse—the opposite fault to the strangulation in red tape for which government is justifiably famous. Surely there is a middle ground somewhere between too little paperwork and too much.

Bernie Shulman had been surprised to find that there were no project drawings for the sidewalk work, even though the request for proposals and the contract had referred to them. The "attached drawings" the work



BERNIE SHULMAN: She was outraged.

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The publicly available written work orders that gave Toppino's marching orders consisted of single sheets of paper with dozens of block listings on them and the side of the street that needed the

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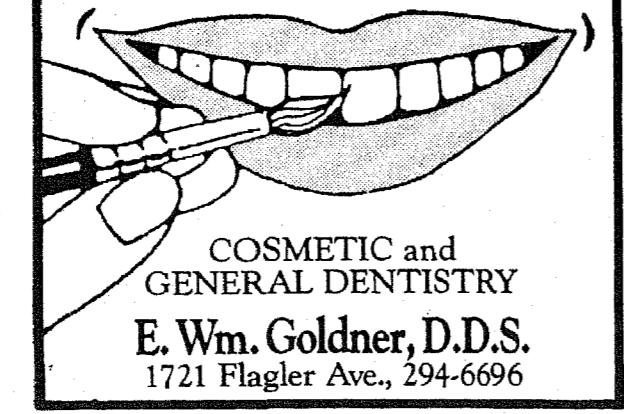
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sidewalks. One of these work orders remained unsigned for several months, and Toppino's signature on it was finally apparently backdated. If there are in the files records of approvals from other agencies, rough drawings of proposed changes, and consent forms from affected property owners, Paul Mitchell did not make these available.

Mitchell, whose resume includes a 1989 course "How to Deal with the Press," would not be interviewed without a written list of questions submitted to him beforehand. In this instance, proper and timely paperwork were required.

On June 19, Mitchell addressed the following piece of paper to his subordinates on the subject of press contacts: "Effective immediately, and to remain in effect until rescinded in writing, please direct all questions from the press corps to my office or to the city manager's office."

"Original Condition"

In some places in Key West, heavy chunks of cement have been dragged across the green strips to be loaded onto the trucks for removal from a sidewalk job site. According to the contract, the contractor should "remove all excavated materials from grassed and planted areas, and leave these surfaces in a condition equivalent to their original condition."

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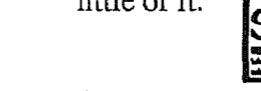
"Regarding the trees, I've always been in favor of the trees," Roland Flowers said. "We've left room for them. The one on Eaton Street that got so much publicity because it was paved all the way to the trunk? We'll be correcting it."

Adds Toppino, "We've never removed a tree. We may have had to do a little root pruning, however."

Mitchell says the job isn't finished yet. A city punch list will contain the corrections still to be made. "It would certainly be to the contractor's best interest to get those taken care of as soon as possible," Mitchell said.

Toppino wants to be notified if anyone is dissatisfied. He said he'll see that the problems are resolved.

"Have you ever flown over Key West?" Frank Toppino asked. "There's plenty of green in town without worrying about a little of it."



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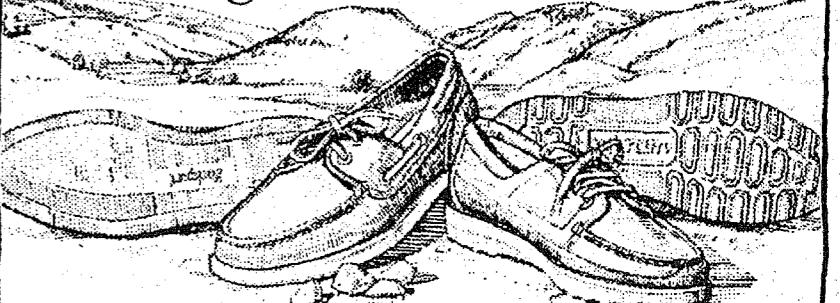
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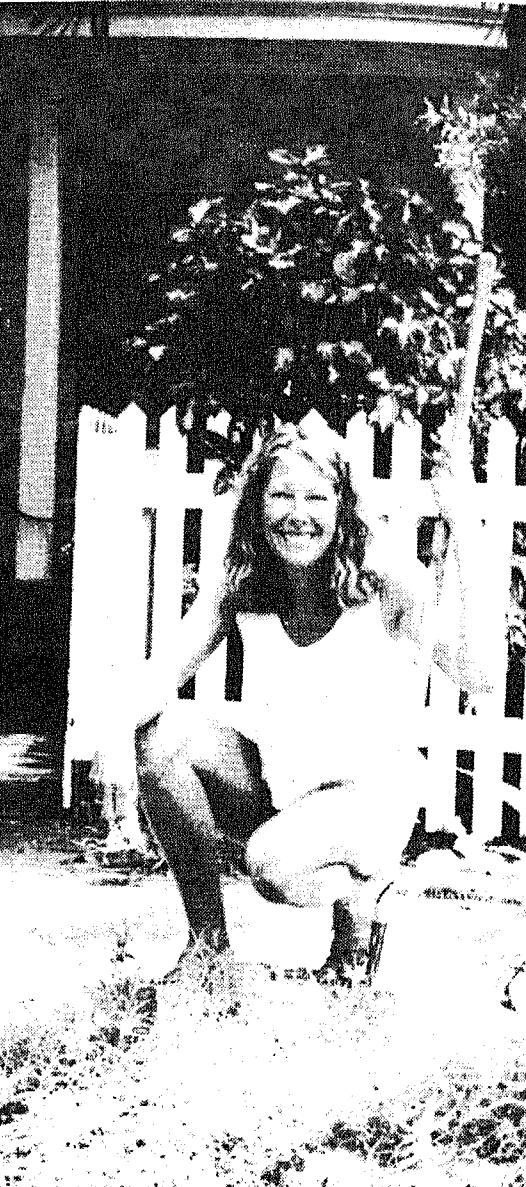
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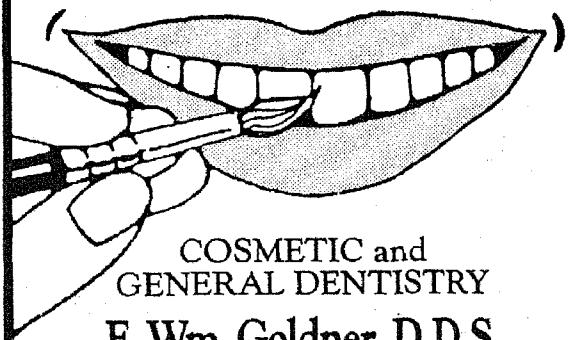
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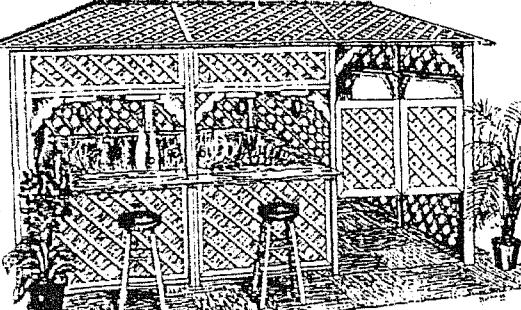


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sidewalks. One of these work orders remained unsigned for several months, and Toppino's signature on it was finally apparently backdated. If there are in the files records of approvals from other agencies, rough drawings of proposed changes, and consent forms from affected property-owners, Paul Mitchell did not make these available.

Mitchell, whose resume includes a 1989 course "How to Deal with the Press," would not be interviewed without a written list of questions submitted to him beforehand. In this instance, proper and timely paperwork were required.

On June 19, Mitchell addressed the following piece of paper to his subordinates on the subject of press contacts: "Effective immediately, and to remain in effect until rescinded in writing, please direct all questions from the press corps to my office or to the city manager's office."

"Original Condition"

In some places in Key West, heavy chunks of cement have been dragged across the green strips to be loaded onto the trucks for removal from a sidewalk job site. According to the contract, the contractor should "remove all excavated materials from grassed and planted areas, and leave these surfaces in a condition equivalent to their original condition."

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"Regarding the trees, I've always been in favor of the trees," Roland Flowers said. "We've left room for them. The one on Eaton Street that got so much publicity because it was paved all the way to the trunk? We'll be correcting it."

Adds Toppino, "We've never removed a tree. We may have had to do a little root pruning, however."

Mitchell says the job isn't finished yet. A city punch list will contain the corrections still to be made. "It would certainly be to the contractor's best interest to get those taken care of as soon as possible," Mitchell said.

Toppino wants to be notified if anyone is dissatisfied. He said he'll see that the problems are resolved.

"Have you ever flown over Key West?" Frank Toppino asked. "There's plenty of green in town without worrying about a little of it."



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Chief Webster's Most Excellent Contract

by June Keith

Until now Key West police chief Tom Webster's employment contract has been like the weather—everybody liked to bitch about it, but nobody *did* anything about it. Now, there appears to be a break in the clouds.

Circuit judge J. Jefferson Overby added another—and perhaps final—chapter to the mercurial saga of the police chief's contract in June when he responded to the city's

request for an official declaratory judgment and handed down the verdict that the city has a clear legal right to rescind Webster's open-ended, life-long employment contract.

Webster and his attorney had argued that they did not.

The contract was negotiated back in 1987 by then-city manager Joel Koford, who had worked with Webster previously in Temple Terrace, Florida. Both men left the Tampa-area city for other jobs. Koford came to Key West. Webster moved to Lake Oswego, Oregon, where he served a term as police chief.

"We made the contract so appealing he couldn't resist, I think," Koford told reporters shortly after hiring Webster. Several months later, Koford resigned and left the island.

The City of Key West picked up the tab for moving Webster, his family and his household from Oregon to Key West. Webster took over the office of police chief in April 1987. His beginning salary was a relatively modest \$45,000, but he had built-in guaranteed raises, and a remarkable benefit package. Inexplicably, the contract was open-ended in terms of time.

It was not until election time, almost a half year later, that the media took a hard look at the agreement and brought the terms of the new chief's cushy contract to the

attention of the public and embarrassed city officials.

The city commission never reviewed the contract or voted on it. According to the city laws at the time, the city commission didn't have to.

Before leaving office in November 1987, lame-duck mayor Tom Sawyer and the city commission unanimously passed a resolution calling for all future employment contracts to be reviewed by the city commission. The resolution didn't apply to the police chief, however.

In his first year of employment with the city, Webster collected about \$83,000 in salary and benefits. The salary of the police chief in Chicago is \$78,750, in Detroit \$78,660, and in Dallas \$75,333.

In June 1989, city manager Richard Witker requested Webster's resignation, saying that Webster's exit would be in the best interest of the city.

"I think it is best we have a change in personnel"

to force his resignation.

Currently, Webster's salary and benefit package has a cash value of \$104,740. Current city manager Felix Cooper calls the contract "obscene, ludicrous." In an August 1990 memo, Cooper complained that there was no provision for performance evaluation in the contract. Wage increases were automatic, regardless of performance.

Webster's contract awarded him a \$840 monthly housing allowance. He lives 20 miles from Key West and commutes to work in a late-model car supplied by the city. The vehicle's gas and maintenance costs are supplied by the city, too. If Webster drives his car outside the county for personal reasons—as he did last September when he took a New England vacation—the city pays for every automobile cost except gas. The contract provides for police uniforms (he doesn't wear them) and an annual clothing allowance of \$1320.

The chief's contract allows for him to set his own hours "as he sees fit." Cooper's memo states: "He claims an average of 37 comp-time hours per month, allowing him to take every Monday off. He is on the premises only four days per week. Chief Webster uses his comp time for vacation, and his vacation pay accumulates without a cap. Presently the accumulated vacation, sick pay and other unused time is valued around \$75,000."

While city employees pay for part of their own coverage for dependents, Webster receives free insurance for his dependents, at an annual additional charge to the city of \$8160. The city also pays Webster's retirement benefit contributions, which cost: \$8834 annually; other city employees pay for their own retirement contributions out of their paychecks.

According to David Fernandez, the city's finance director, and Louise Henderson, personnel manager, Webster has been adamant about making certain the city adheres exactly to the terms of his contract.

It was about a year ago, at the insistence of commissioner Virginia Panico, that former city attorney Robert Gray finally decided to contest the contract.

"It was just unbelievable to me that this unfair contract could go on and on," says Panico. "And I was uncomfortable with the housing allowance and the car. The taxpayers can't afford this! And yet I was told by many people that there was nothing we

could do about it."

Last July 1990 Cooper issued memos telling Webster and several other city contractual employees that their contracts expired on October 31 of that year. Webster wasn't the only one whose contract was redone.

On Gray's advice, Cooper advised Webster that the chief's contract could be terminated by the city.

Webster responded in a memo to the city manager that his contract was "valid, legal and binding." Webster asked Bob Gray to document his position. Gray did, essentially showing the city's legal cards in an attempt to convince Webster that it was time to deal.

Webster hired an attorney, and asked for a legal opinion. "I strongly disagree with the

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opinion rendered by the city attorney for the City of Key West that your employment agreement is in any way terminable at will by either the city manager or by yourself," he wrote.

On August 15, Cooper presented a new contract to the police chief, once again

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Diving Deep

by Tropical Mike Hall

In this era of excitement, thrills, adventure and risk, many people are being lured to sea to explore and unveil the mysteries of the undersea world. While most divers are satisfied with basic underwater exploration, some divers decide to go the distance and dive deep.

All certifying agencies recommend 130 feet as the maximum depth for safe recreational diving, because there is no decompression involved. So why go deep? Some people want to cover a new shipwreck or treasure. Some folks are fond of the chemical effects of depth on the body,

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LOOK MA! A diver exhibits his underwater findings.

Technology is changing advanced deep-diving procedures are changing. Working divers, such as underwater welders and pipefitters on oil rigs, use various mixes of air to maintain safety and complete underwater tasks. These mixes, however, are not available to the recreational diver. With proper training, divemasters or divers who wish to continue their diving education may get the experience of prolonged bottom times using mixed gases.

Nitrox (nitrogen-oxygen mixtures), for instance, increases bottom times by reducing the nitrogen level in the breathing mixture. Classes in nitrox use are available to qualified divers only at Capt. Billy's Key West Diver, Inc. on Stock Island, and at Hyperbatics, Inc. in Key Largo.

Other mixtures that reduce the effects of nitrogen include heliox (helium-oxygen mixtures), which works well but may reduce body temperature, causing divers to

get cold rather quickly. Trimixes, helium-nitrogen-oxygen mixtures, are also used.

Using regular air during deep diving presents hazards. The oxygen in the air could become toxic. At depths of 292 feet in seawater, the partial pressure of oxygen equals one atmosphere or 100%, when it becomes toxic. It can affect the central nervous system, sometimes leading to death.

A diver using regular air must also extend decompression times due to his body's hindered ability to eliminate the inert gases. Computers are used today during deep dives to calculate a body's nitrogen level. Once limits have been exceeded, the computer indicates exact decompression stops where divers should wait until they're cleared.

Very thorough planning is involved in

deep diving. Contingency plans should always be considered: What if I exceed my depth? Is there ample air supply? Is there surface support in the event of an emergency?

Deep dives should be planned so that both divers in a team use the same breathing mixture, know and follow all decompression stops, and are computer-assisted in the event of an error in manual computations.

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Searching for Lost Treasure

by "Tropical Mike" Hall

The wonders that unfold in the mystic underwater world hold many exciting adventures. Many treasures long lost within the currents and depths, from Spanish galleons to wedding bands lost by careless tourists, have been recovered. The glimmer of gold or the sparkle of a precious stone is enough to send a treasure-seeking diver's heart racing.

The sea takes its toll on lost treasures. Many items become so encrusted that it is difficult to determine whether an object is worth special preservation efforts. Steel deteriorates faster than other metals.

Locally, several objects that warrant attention have been recovered from area reefs. A small boy on a snorkeling trip found a gold spoon from an old Spanish tile wreck. Many of the tiles bound for Cuba have been found intact and in broken pieces. They make great conversation pieces. A great many ships ran aground on area reefs and scattered their bounty among the ocean floor. Brass spikes and granite ballast stone can be found among many of the coral channels.

Diving knives and watches are the lost objects probably most encountered these days. Still, they are unexpected bounty, and each discovery is a thrill to its finder.

While on a normal day of diving recently, I spotted an encrusted object partially sticking out of the sandy sea bottom. I pulled it free. The half stuck in the sand was not encrusted—it had a dull tarnish to it. The object was heavy for its size, about seven inches long and an inch wide. As I wiped the tarnished end with my hand, a black soot covered my hand. Even in the water, a brilliant silver color gleamed in the sunlight. My heart pounded. "Silver bar," I immediately thought. I continued the dive, my mind much disturbed by my discovery.

When we surfaced, the crew and I examined the shiny bar. We wrapped it in moist towels to prevent further deterioration while I completed my next dive. We were consumed with excitement on the return trip. What had we discovered? At last back on land, we analyzed the bar. What a disappointment! It was a combination of zinc and carbon—typical steel.

I use the encrusted remains as a paperweight. But the excitement of the discovery is a reminder that there is still hope of finding



SAY CHEESE: Although many divers long for the thrill of finding lost treasure, the beautiful sea life is just as valuable.

Even Key West Harbor hoards many lost and forgotten items. Coke bottles from Key West Bottling Company lie in the waters off the docks along with lost Rolex watches, diamond earrings and innumerable personal items fallen into the drink. Somewhere on Sand Key reef lies an emerald earring once in my ear, its green sparkle lying in wait for the glitter of a searching eye. Keep the thought of discovery and adventure in your mind, and you will never be disappointed.

deep diving. Contingency plans should always be considered: What if I exceed my depth? Is there ample air supply? Is there surface support in the event of an emergency?

Deep dives should be planned so that both divers in a team use the same breathing mixture, know and follow all decompression stops, and are computer-assisted in the event of an error in manual computations.

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BIG BRAIN: Intricate brain coral is one of the rare underwater treasures found in the Keys.

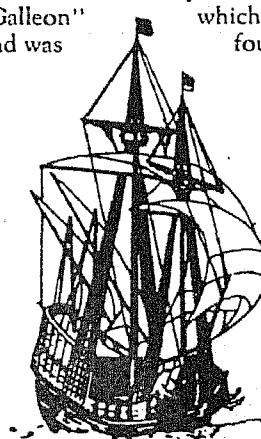
The art of deep diving on shipwrecks off Key West has been pursued for a long time by Capt. Billy of Key West Diver, Inc. His approach to deep diving is educational and informative. Successful completion of his course includes computer-assisted decompression dives on the *Curb* and *Wilkes Barre*.

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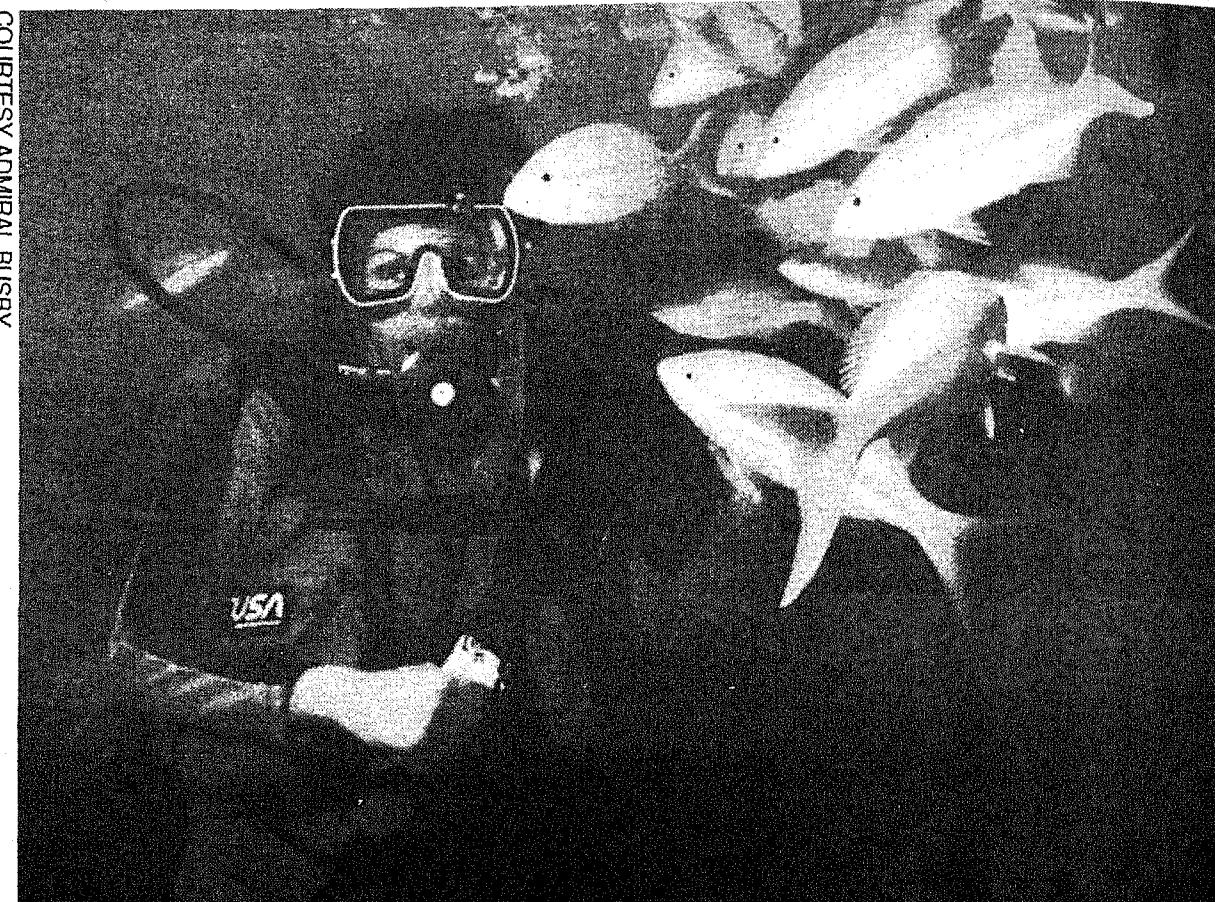
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FRIENDLY FISH: A school of yellowtail stop to pose for a picture.

Before deep diving, acquire the proper training and always prepare by being physically fit. Abstaining from smoking, alcohol and drugs before a deep dive is crucial. Most importantly of all always dive

within your personal and training limitations. ■

Tropical Mike Hall is a PADI instructor employed at Captain's Corner, Zero Duval Street.

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The wildest hurricane story ever

How I Survived Hurricane Hugo

by Dean DuBonnet

During the great Hurricane Hugo on September 23, 1989, about five or six people, including myself, remained on Folly Beach, a barrier island just outside Charleston, South Carolina, after evacuation orders had been issued. The National Guard forced everybody else off by three that afternoon. Some left at gunpoint. Of the stragglers who slipped through the evacuation cracks, two guys didn't make it. The tidal wave—an 18-footer—blew their house to smithereens.

Fortunately, I survived. Here's my story.

I hear I'm on a videocassette called "Hugo." A lot of people have told me about it. The footage on me was done after I'd been up for about 72 hours straight, participating in what we called "a continuous hurricane evacuation party." In that condition, I was interviewed by the local news and about a dozen major newspapers and national magazines, including *Time*.

On the video, my next-door buddy—an old hippie named Mountain—is ranting and babbling and telling the interviewers, "We're staying!" I told reporters that I was in Key West when Floyd came through. I said that Floyd was 80 to 90 miles per hour,

and that Hugo's predicted 125 miles per hour didn't seem that much different.

Anyway, after the interview Mountain came out of his apartment, which was near the seawall, with a drink for both of us. About three-quarters of the way through the drink—about 2:30 that afternoon—I asked him what was in it. "Grape juice, pineapple and a big shot of Everclear," he said. It was this potent concoction combined with a lack of sleep which made me decide to take a quick nap before running to the mainland.

What I didn't know was that Floyd (so I've since been told) was more like 65 miles per hour. Plus I am now aware that a hurricane's force squares after 90 miles per hour. That means wind-speed indicators were blowing out at 225 miles per hour. Some say the force of Hugo was as strong as Mount St. Helens, and Hurricanes Camilia and Alicia combined. There were about 700 tornadoes inside Hugo.

About eight o'clock that night I woke up. I was wet. The sea was about eight feet high and coming in my room. The tools of my trade, two chainsaws and some other pieces of gardening equipment, were well under water. The timing chain on my Chevy pickup was out, so I couldn't move it,



THE AFTERMATH: DuBonnet on his front deck about 100 yards from the Holiday Inn. "The bottom half here was my room. You can see the water line where the 18-footer hit."

either. It was starting to go underwater.

I walked out on the deck as the sun was going down. A huge dirt-brown spiral of cloud, probably two miles in diameter with a 100-foot-wide outer ring, was forming.



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Page 16 • July 1991 • Solares Hill
I'm from Nebraska and have been through two tornadoes, but this was the most threatening thing I'd ever witnessed. I ended up grabbing two pairs of shorts, three or four T-shirts and started walking uphill. Folly Beach is about a half-mile by about eight miles; its elevation is the same as Key West's.

About three blocks inland I saw what looked to be the highest point, which I estimated at about 15 feet. There was a stone house with the front door open. The house appeared to have been hastily evacuated—lots of things, minus the furniture, were lying around. Outside, the wind was blowing hard and picking up speed.

When the 18-foot wave hit at about 10:30 p.m., I was alone, standing on a kitchen countertop with my ankles in water. The surge had come over the island.

Transformers were blowing out, sounding like sticks of dynamite. The wind was unbelievable. In a later interview, I compared it to the wail of a 200-foot-tall woman in labor. It was fucking weird. It sounded so eerie, strangely humanlike. At one time it sounded like an old man in pain, intense pain. Then it would change to the sound of



SERIOUS WIND: Street scene on Folly Beach after Hurricane Hugo. The author claims his pickup truck, above, was blown 100 yards.

a woman hitting triple high C. Screaming, evil spirits, a train going by: it would have made a good soundtrack for a horror movie.

Needless to say, I was thinking about the things I'd done wrong in my life and making deals with the Guy in the Sky. Then about half the roof ripped off. I almost panicked and thought of other shelter. (Maybe it wouldn't have been so bad if I hadn't drunk that Everclear.) Luckily, I decided not to move, because the chances of getting seriously wounded by flying debris were pretty

good. I sat it out until the eye came over—about 12:30 in the morning. Totally dead calm.

I walked out of the house into knee-deep mud; the water had receded. By starlight I could see that most of the yard's 27 pines, which towered up to 70 feet, had been uprooted or snapped 15 to 20 feet from the ground. The wooden houses all around me were blown apart.

About 45 minutes later the backside of Hugo picked up. Saying prayers again, I went back inside the stone house. Same thing happened. Water rose up to my ankles, and more of the roof came off. It was black overhead, and I could hear glass shattering and metal shaking, like tin being used to sound like thunder in a high school play.

The wind started dying down around four or five o'clock, and by eight or nine Hugo had passed. That morning the only sign of life was a yellow Labrador, whose tail was wagging so fast he looked like he'd just shot up a gram of pure Peruvian cola.

Folks, here's my advice: If a Hugo comes this way, make like the pelicans and get the flock out!

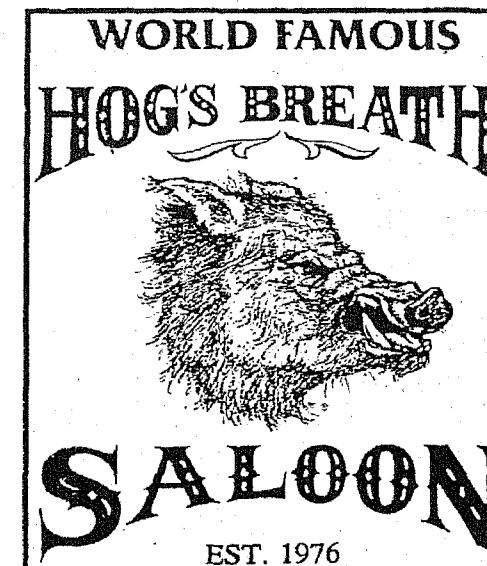
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An excerpt from local author John Cole's new book

'Tarpon Quest'

by John Cole

Booked at least a year ahead for every available fishing day in April, May and June, Jeffrey's schedule is inflexible. More than a year ago we had chosen May 27 and 28 as my two days. On the 25th I stood on our front porch marveling at the downpour cascading from our roof and watching a bedraggled flock of ibis huddle in a corner of the park across our street, trying to find shelter from the blustery gale.

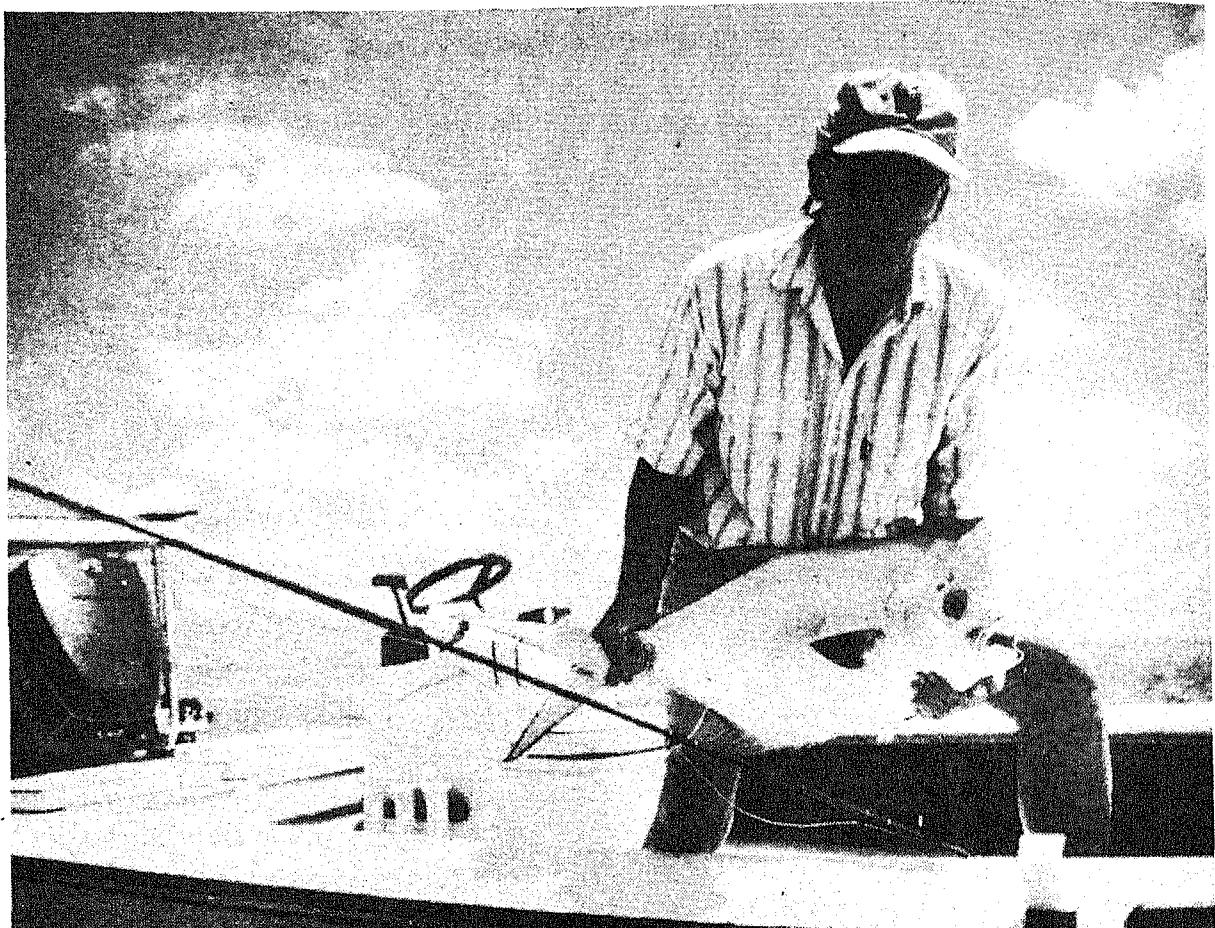
The 26th was not much better, although the wind dropped toward the end of the day and the rain stopped around noon. There had been no fishing for anyone for three days.

At 5:30 on the morning of the 27th, I arrive at Garrison Bight as planned, but full of questions and doubts about what the day will bring. Overhead, stars announce clear skies, and blush in the east indicates the sun will be bright. But storms like the one that has left Key West streets littered with palm fronds and frangipani blossoms do not exit cleanly. The tumult of their passing disturbs the seas and its creatures; normal behavior patterns are upset, fish that appeared regularly at this location are nowhere to be found, and it takes more than a single day of good weather to bring them back.

I'm certain Jeffrey is aware of this, but he will not articulate the slightest doubt. "It's going to be a great day!" he says as the *Waterlight* idles out of the harbor in the dark. "One of the best days of our lives."

This is pure Jeffrey. He begins every day determined to make it the best. It's as if his will can bend life into shape, can, by the sheer intensity of his enthusiasms, remove every moment from the path of all possible misfortune. It is contagious, this concentration on the positive, this love for where he is and what he does, this unflagging enjoyment. It takes more than a tropical

JEFFREY CARDENAS



PROOF POSITIVE: Writer John Cole displays a permit caught on a fly while fishing with Key West flats guide Jeffrey Cardenas.

depression to stifle Jeffrey's vitality, much more, and I am quickly won over. I stop worrying about where the tarpon may have been blown and start believing that we will find fish before most of Key West has had breakfast.

We are speeding west now, toward the darkest sky, toward the Marquesas 25 miles out there in the night. Jeffrey wants to be there first. He synchronizes his fishing with tarpon behavior: they are shy, more nocturnal than diurnal, and easily spooked by the sound of motors. Our best chance, as Jeffrey sees it, is to be the first and only

boat, to approach quietly and to be in the one place where tarpon are most likely to surface.

For years now he has bet on the Marquesas, the circle of hammocks and islands on the west side of the Boca Grande channel, the last landfall west of Key West before the Tortugas, and for years he has remained convinced that the early angler gets the fish, which is why I paddled into my kitchen at 4:30 this morning for a cup of coffee and some toast. It wouldn't do, I told myself, to keep Jeffrey waiting, not even a minute.

Because we leave an hour before sun-up, the sky is still murky when we reach Boca Grande Channel, one of the roughest holes in south Florida waters. Even on windless days, the clash of tides and currents pushing through the deep, narrow passage from the ocean to the Gulf creates short, random, lumpy seas that can rattle a small boat's seams. This morning's channel is total disaster; swelling remnants of the storm mix with a chop from the southwest, which in turn fights a swiftly flooding tide.

Jeffrey scarcely slows. We bounce hard from one short sea to the next. There is one tense, snarling moment when the *Waterlight*'s entire hull is airborne and the Evinrude's propeller blades whine miserably before we slam into the next choppy swell.

"That's called an air bite," Jeffrey explains when we reach the Marquesas' eastern tip and slide into friendlier, more protected waters to collect ourselves and begin our tarpon quest. "We're the first boat

here," he observes.

In the unwritten rules of conduct for Key West flats guides, being first allows us to pick our spot, any spot in the entire rich array of the Marquesas' watery crossroads which tarpon have favored over the centuries.

This morning we wait off the east shore along the rim of the flat that stretches toward the channel we have just crossed. This juncture of deep water and shoal is a tarpon highway. Migrating from the west and south from the Atlantic to the Gulf, large schools cruise the edge of these flats like automobiles taking a wide curve in the road.

But this morning there is no traffic. As we watch and wait, other skiffs arrive and take their places. Soon, the entire Marquesas perimeter will be ringed.

At 8:30, when our day is three hours old, Jeffrey says, "Well, I guessed wrong this morning." His voice and tone are their own Greek tragedy.

"I think the storm messed things up," I

Solares Hill • July 1991 • Page 19 tell him, knowing how intensely he wants to find me a fish. For a moment I consider lowering the flames of our purpose. This has all come to too much, I tell myself. What does it matter if we don't succeed, if we head back tarponless. A great many anglers have done the same.

I'm about to start a more lighthearted conversation aimed at keeping our endeavor in scale, but I stay silent. Jeffrey, I realize once again, is so committed he'll think any such rationalization on my part is a signal I'm ready to quit, and that he will not take.

We move on, first to the south side, then to the west, each a stage for prior melodramas. We were staked off on the south when that record tarpon ate my fly, took its run and then came back so fast I looped line on my reel. And we were on the west when another great fish hooked up close to the boat and I botched clearing my loose fly line. Clumsy disasters both, and both unspoken as we return to the scenes of my crimes.

It is eleven, and we have seen one



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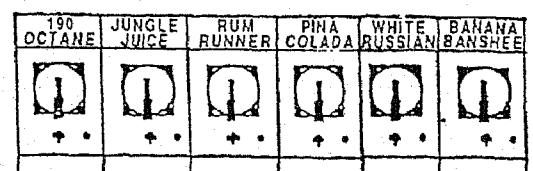
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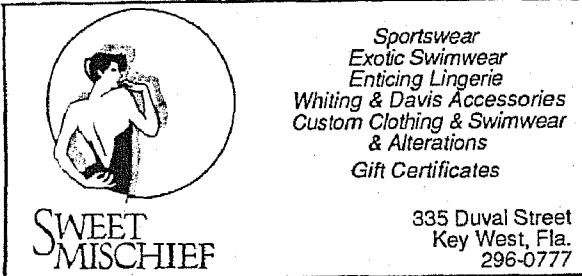
Page 20 • July 1991 • Solares Hill
school of juveniles cavorting in the mouth
of one of the several southside channels. I
cast to the school and got a strike I missed,
a depressing omen.

"John, you've got to strike your fish
much harder, much faster. You were
standing there looking when that small fish
hit. Remember now, keep your rod tip low,
pointed directly at your line. Hold the line
tight in your left hand, and move your rod
low, parallel to the deck as hard as you
can." Jeffrey takes my rod from me and
demonstrates. "Give it all your energy. Put
your back and shoulders in it."

He is a fine teacher, and sets high
standards.

"Let's take a break," he says after a
few minutes, and we stake off for lunch.
It's a quiet meal. With the morning gone, it
is all but impossible for Jeffrey's hopes to
be sustained. In his history, afternoons are
not tarpon time.

With the sandwiches gone, deck tidied
and motor running, the captain looks over
the day's dwindling opportunities and asks,
"Where do you want to try next?" as if I
knew. It's a half-rhetorical query and I
leave my half untouched. Jeffrey must



decide.

"Let's go back to the east side again.
Check it out. See if anything has changed
with the tide. Okay?"

Of course okay.

This is the Atlantic, here to the east of
the Marquesas. It is an oceanic edge we
navigate here at this coral and marl outpost,
this final wild jewel at the end of the Keys
necklace. And we drive a distance offshore,
leaving a wide band of open water between
us and the shore so our passage will not
disturb any of the anglers staked off on the
flats or at the channel mouths.

As we turn east, at speed now, up on a
plane, I look for the smudge of Boca
Grande Key against the horizon, across the
lumpy channel we'll have to transit one
more time on our way home. I'm hoping,
quietly, that it has settled a bit since our
snarling, slamming dawn. And I'm peering,
a trifle on the sly, to see if I can check the
dimensions of the swells.

As I do, I pick up a bit of watery
turmoil between us and the channel. The
surface I can see looks ruffled, blown by its
own internal wind. I have seen this before.
It can mean fish are plowing these blue-
green acres.

Then a tarpon leaps silver, then
another.

Now I am certain. "Out there!"
pointing.

"Yes, I see."

"They are tarpon, aren't they?"
Jeffrey answers yes, but adds, "I don't
know what has them so wild."

I haven't thought of the fish as ill-
behaved. To me, their jumps and thrashing
seem a larger-scale version of times off

Montauk when a school of bluefish slashed
their way through a couple of acres of bait.
"We'll have to wait and see if they settle
down," Jeffrey says.

He heads even further offshore at full
throttle. A good half-mile beyond the
continuing tarpon tumult, he swings east
again, leaves the fish a mile or so behind
and cuts back north toward the shore,
slowing as we reach the edge of the flats,
then shutting down. We drift in the swells
as he navigates with his electric motors,
keeping our bow facing the fish, closer now
and moving steadily toward us.

"They should come this way," he tells
me. He is a guide now, a man who has
learned the invisible roads tarpon travel.

And he is right. As we drift, using the
electric motors sparingly and only to hold
our bow toward the approaching school, it
becomes clear the tarpon mass will soon
engulf us. It is a large school, perhaps two
or three acres of fish, most of them
thrashing, cutting water, leaping and
generally creating an awesome commotion.
Awesome enough, certainly, to set my heart
thumping, my hands tremble and my knees
likewise.

"I don't know what has these fish so
frantic," Jeffrey calls from the poling
platform, "but get ready to cast to eleven.
Get ready. Start casting now!"

We are surrounded by huge tarpon.
Their silver shapes hurtle across every
corner of my vision. Like a sea within a sea,
the waves of their tumultuous presence
break over my consciousness. I am bewildered,
without orientation, all but paralyzed.

"Cast to eleven. Eleven," Jeffrey
yells.

And I do. I see the pod of tarpon he
sees. They are on the move and I am casting
into the wind. But, as Jeffrey told me, I
must have been practicing and it shows. The
fly drops in front of a moving fish. Without
hesitation, a tarpon eats the Gurkha that
Jeffrey tied the previous evening. "A
footsoldier in our war on tarpon," he told
me as he selected it.

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I am part of that war. Remembering
instructions, I strike and strike again, hard.
"That's the way. That's the way." Jeffrey
begins the instructions and encouragements
that flow like a river from the stern.

The line begins to surge and rise.

"He's going to jump! Bow to him!
Bow!"

I dip my rod tip to the water.

Far off, far, far off a silver pillar bolts
upright from the sea, hovers an instant and
tumbles into foam. Could that be my fish?
It is, it must be. Already so much line gone.

It is the beginning of a contest that fills
most of 45 minutes.

This is a feisty, tough and battling fish.
It jumps, more than seven times, we count.

It runs. And toward the end of its struggle,
it moves into the shoal waters of the flats
where Jeffrey is all but certain it will tug the
line against a coral head and snap the frayed
leader.

Jeffrey is behind me now as the fish
comes closer. This is one guide who sees an
end to frustration and does not want the
final moments to change the course of
events. Each move I make, each crank of
the reel, each shift of counterbalance and
direction is orchestrated by Jeffrey's
encouraging instructions.

And, at the moment when the ache in

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my shoulders and the sweat in my eyes is
persuading me that yes, this fish can still
prevail, the tarpon is alongside, its great
length almost at rest, a wild creature wearily
at peace.

Gently, Jeffrey leans over the rail,

removes the fly, hoists the tarpon high
enough for me to hold it a few seconds
while he takes a photograph. And then the
fish is gone.

"That's my tarpon," I exult. "That's
my proper tarpon. And see, I caught it with
you. Just as I told you I would. Now we
can all relax."

"About a 50-pounder," Jeffrey says.
I'm delighted it was not larger. I am truly
weary.

Jeffrey is full of congratulations.
Bubbling. But he still ponders the why of
the unusually restless, leaping mass of
tarpon: a sight, he tells me, he has seldom
seen.

"I think I know why those fish were so
excited," Jeffrey explains, looking at the
puzzle as precisely as he looks at each
dawn, each day, each life. "I think they
were jumping with joy. They'd been
traveling through that storm and when they
saw the Marquesas they knew they were
close to home. They were rejoicing," he

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says. "They were dancing with joy."

And, each in our own way, so are both
of us, as Jeffrey points the bow toward
Boca Grande Channel for our fast ride
home.

The above is an excerpt from "Tarpon
Quest," John Cole's latest book, published
by Lyons and Burford of New York
(\$16.95). "Tarpon Quest" contains a detailed
natural history of the tarpon and some of
the author's personal experiences. It is
available at local bookstores.

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ordinance against the procedure, which involves boring a hole deep into the ground and injecting the waste.

Consultants for the new county jail had recommended treating the waste to a potable (drinkable) level and reusing the waste for irrigation and industrial purposes. The remainder of the water was to be injected. The Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority's contract prohibits anyone else providing potable water on a commercial basis.

The new city plan to tie the jail to the city sewage line doesn't please county administrator Tom Brown, who says the decision would cost county taxpayers \$450,000 annually. Says Brown, "We could save ten million gallons of water by reusing gray water treated to a tertiary or potable level."

The county wanted to include a treatment plant in the new detention facility.

Anticipating 1991's Improprieties

With this year's election on final approach, Florida State Attorney Kirk Zuelch has issued a polite warning to those about to run for the two city commission seats up for grabs in November. At a May 31 press conference, Zuelch and elections supervisor Harry Sawyer announced that both offices would be monitoring campaigns closely. A recent investigation found several minor violations of campaign and election law during last year's county elections.

Several improprieties, all involving contributions, were found in county commissioner Earl Cheal's campaign. Five violations were discovered involving Political Action Committees (PACs), which are not restricted by guidelines as stringent as those faced by candidates. In this instance, a PAC called Common Ground Of The Florida Keys Inc. placed and funded a radio ad for the Cheal campaign after having already donated \$1000 (the legal limit) to the campaign.

Cheal claimed that he was unaware of the advertisement, which was placed by Bob Ernst, who also placed ads for Cheal.



Peary Court Revisited

The regular city commission meeting June 4 drew a large crowd.

Last Stand offered a presentation describing its lawsuit against the Navy in regard to Peary Court. Last Stand is calling for an injunction against building on the Peary Court site until the entire process can be reviewed by a federal judge. The organization is hoping a federal order will force the Navy to perform a full environmental impact assessment. (More about Peary Court elsewhere in this issue.)

Miami lawyer Steve Goldman, who reviewed the case for commissioner Harry Powell on a pro-bono basis, told the commission that a lawsuit of this nature would stand better than even chance of success. "Maybe as high as a two-thirds chance of success," Goldman said. His law firm has already spent 25 hours reviewing the case. "If the firm were to bill for those hours the cost would be in the neighborhood of \$2500," Goldman said. "The suit could cost as much as \$50,000 before a conclusion is reached."

Jim Farrell of Last Stand said the organization was in full support of the military in Key West, however much it disagreed with the Finding Of No Significant Impact issued by the Navy on Peary Court. He asked the city for cooperation in the form of court depositions from the city staff.

Over the years, he said, members of the city staff have been requested to study certain issues concerning Peary Court including, architecture, traffic flow and environmental concerns. Such information would be useful to Last Stand as it sifts through three years of research and correspondence.

Commissioner Sally Lewis had no objection to city staff cooperating by giving information already obtained. Commissioner Jimmy Weekley noted that the city would have no choice if subpoenaed.

In other matters, David Banks, chairman of the Spring Break Advisory Task Force, outlined the problems associated with spring break faced by the city. A five-page report described twelve areas of concern. It recommended a first-aid station for Smathers Beach, a heavier police presence throughout town, signs describing laws, the need for trash containers, increased court costs to reimburse the city for its expenses, crowd control for densely populated facilities, and a stronger letter to colleges and universities explaining Key West's laws.

The commission passed a resolution keeping the task force in business for another year.



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Navy Rebuffs Weekley On Peary Court Compromise

by J.D. Dooley

City commissioner Jimmy Weekley's compromise plan to build 160 units of Navy housing on only 14 acres—about half—of Peary Court has failed. Last week, Navy Captain B.L. Runberg, commander of the Navy's engineering command for the southern district, turned down Weekley's offer at a meeting in Charleston, South Carolina. Runberg said the Navy would proceed with its plans to build the 160 units on the 29 acres at Peary Court.

Calling for the entire process to be reviewed by a federal judge, the local environmental organization Last Stand hopes a federal order will force the Navy to perform a full environmental impact assessment. Last Stand presented its position at a city commission meeting early in June.

At the city's expense of \$992, Weekley, accompanied by city manager Felix Cooper, flew to Charleston on June 20 for the meeting with Runberg.

The Navy's position is that it has complied with federal regulations and will proceed as planned with the project. "What I was trying to do was find out if there was a middle ground here," said Weekley.

The Navy was unequivocal in its response. "I learned that if there is ever to be a change in the Peary Court plan, it would have to come from the local commander," Weekley said. Was there a better chance of that occurring with a new commander, Capt. Michal Curre, replacing Capt. Jack Ensch next month? "If a commander was to change the position of another he would have to have strong justification," replied Weekley.

Weekley said he feels better for having tried. "Now at least I can put faces to the

names of people we have been dealing with on this issue," he said upon his return to Key West. "This was a long shot, but I felt it had to be taken. This plan would include all the elements that the Navy called for in their RFP [Request For Proposal] and leave half the acreage open as green space."

A drawing at the city planning department depicts the Peary Court housing project on half the 29-acre parcel instead of the entire parcel, as the Navy had proposed. This rough drawing was apparently the basis for Weekley's proposal.

The Weekley compromise was brought to light in a heated discussion between commissioners Harry Powell and Weekley during the April 2 city commission meeting. Weekley disclosed that he was meeting with "parties involved with the Peary Court issue" at Margaritaville Restaurant, but would not explain in detail what his compromise included. This touched off a firestorm of speculation.

Since mid-April, Weekley and Powell have been feuding bitterly over tactics on Peary Court. Powell's high-visibility grass-roots campaign against the project and war of correspondence with upper-echelon Navy officers and elected officials garnered the headlines, while Weekley's lower-key approach has been in the background. Weekley's refusal to comment publicly on the conditions of his compromise fueled the debate rather than dampening it.

Were it not for the obvious antagonism between the two commissioners, one would have suspected a good-cop, bad-cop act in their approaches. Ironically, the effect of their separate efforts so far has arguably been more effective than if they indeed had been working together.

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Weekly said that the description of his actions as secret misconstrued his efforts. "It wasn't a matter of secrecy as much as a matter of not getting people's hopes up," Weekley explained this past weekend. "I didn't know if I would be going until recently. Congressman [Dante] Fascell arranged the meeting for me and I wanted to be able to approach the Navy without a lot of publicity surrounding the visit."

Even after his trip, Weekley was not giving up. He next plans to lobby Senator Bob Graham and Fascell.

Even if Weekley's efforts at a compromise had been successful, Powell says, he would have opposed the deal. "I couldn't buy it," he said. "They'd probably have to do a whole new environmental assessment. If they could build the project on fourteen acres at Peary Court, they could do it on fourteen acres anywhere. They should look at their alternatives again. If they compromise, they should compromise all the way and relocate it."

As for the suit, the Navy has 60 days to respond. Last Stand is using that time to gather expert opinions and affidavits. By early August the federal court will decide whether or not the Navy must re-examine the entire impact assessment procedure.

"This is a suit against a procedure," said Jim McLernan of Last Stand. "We are not opposed to the Navy. We are opposed to the procedure used to find no significant impact. People may think we are against the Navy. That is not true."

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Community Notes

Big Bucks from Tallahassee

Last month the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources chose the Customs House Preservation Project in Key West as a recipient for a \$16,000 grant. The grant funds will be matched by the Key West Art and Historical Society enabling the total of the funds to be used for the execution of an extensively researched historical study of the building.

The Trust for Public Land has secured an option to buy the building from the Truman Annex Company and plans to formally close it some time after July 15 in order to begin the study project in August. Constructed in 1891, the building was once considered the finest example of Romanesque Revival architecture in Florida. For information, call 296-6206.

And More Diner

The Key West Art and Historical Society



also was awarded grant funds totalling \$120,000 from the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources for the restoration of the citadel in the center of the East Martello Museum. The project will include the replacement of the citadel roof, structural repairs to the support beams and the repointing of the bricks. The starting date is spring 1992. The project should take eight months to complete.

Revival of the American Indian

The Florida Endowment for the Humanities (FEH) announced that it will begin a year of emphasis on the American Indian culture. The organization recently sponsored the performance of Kevin Locke, a flute player, singer, dancer, storyteller, and member of the Lakota Sioux tribe in South Dakota. FEH, the state arm of the National Endowment for Humanities (NEH), is an independent, non-profit organization which supports and funds statewide public humanities projects through contributions from individuals and corpo-

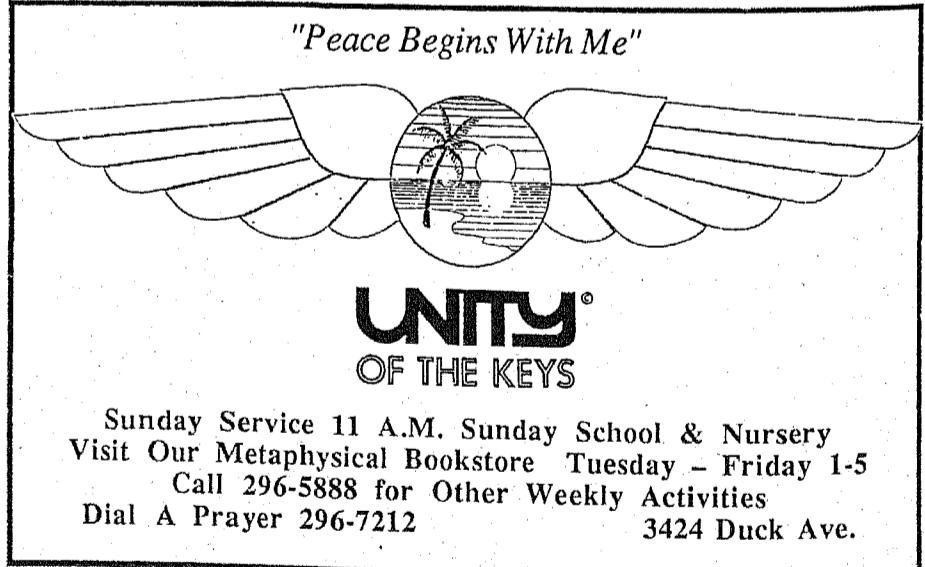
rations. For information on upcoming FEH activities, call Susan Lockwood at (813) 272-3473.

Helping AIDS Help

Beta Omega, the local chapter of Beta Sigma Phi sorority, recently put together a dozen large, brightly decorated baskets and boxes overflowing with foodstuffs, books, cassette tapes, and necessities for AIDS Help, Inc. of Monroe County. In turn, AIDS Help distributed the gifts to those who would especially benefit—the seriously ill, the homebound, and people with limited means. According to Sue Banks of Beta Omega, "We wanted to do something to help the growing number of our neighbors and friends throughout the Keys who are living with AIDS." Many local businesses donated merchandise to the project.

Wanted: Victim Advocates

The victim services department of the State Attorney's office in Key West announced that it is currently accepting



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enrollment for the next training series for rape victim advocate volunteers. Anyone interested in exploring the challenges and rewards of being a victim advocate should contact Christine B. Smith at the State Attorney's office, 292-3400.

Buy the Right Stuff

According to the EPA, any paper manufacturer can claim to make recycled papers because recycled fibers can include mill waste normally used in manufacturing. Genuine recycled papers such as post-consumer and non-deinked post-consumer papers are pure recycled products. Non-deinked post-consumer paper has not been stripped of ink so sheets may appear mottled. However, these papers are the most beneficial to the environment.

Cheers to Delostrinos and Paige

The Fourth Degree Assembly of the local Knights of Columbus awarded scholarships to two local youths at their graduation ceremonies. Carolyn Delostrinos was awarded \$1000 at the Key West High School ceremony. She will attend FKCC this fall. In addition, Matthew Paige was awarded \$100 during his eighth grade graduation ceremony at Mary Immaculate School. Both students were awarded the scholarships in recognition of their dedication and patriotism.

Meetings to Discuss Water-Use

The South Florida Water Management District has scheduled public workshops to discuss changes in rules governing water-use permits. Additionally, the district has scheduled three regional public meetings to discuss the development of new rules designating critical water-supply problem areas throughout the 16-county region. For information, call (407) 687-6322.

New Support Group

A new anonymous group has been established to help those dealing with the scars of incest. Survivors of Incest Anonymous is a twelve-step program developed to teach skills for coping with the aftereffects of childhood trauma. The group meets every Wednesday from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the rear of the Mental Health Center. Details are also available through Helpline at 296-4357.

Time to Prepare

As the hurricane season of 1991 approaches the Red Cross urges families and businesses to develop structured disaster plans. The Red Cross is seeking volunteers to help man shelters in Key West, Sugarloaf, Big Pine and Marathon. Leadership volunteers willing to manage shelters, as well as people for registration, feeding, and rendering first aid are needed. For more information call 296-4033 or drop by the Red Cross office at 600 White Street in Key West.

Street Fair Returns

Key West's streets will ring with merriment, music, food, crafts and entertainment July 20 and 21 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. After an absence of several years, the Hemingway Days Street Fair will return. Festivities will

take place on Greene Street (from Duval to Whitehead) and on Fitzpatrick Street. The police department plans to auction off over 50 bicycles. Artists, craftspersons and vendors are invited to participate. All artwork must be handmade. For information call Tony at 296-7920 or Susanne at 294-0208.

An Alternative Tax System?

Relieved that April 15 came and went? Ron Savelo, spokesman for Citizens for an Alternative Tax System (CATS), says you shouldn't be so quick to relax. This is the time of year when the IRS goes into full gear with notices, audits, liens, levies and seizures. CATS, a national public-interest

Solares Hill • July 1991 • Page 25 group published by the Church of Scientology, proposes elimination of the IRS and the federal income tax system by replacing them with a flat 16% national sales tax. Sound too good to be true or too weird to be true? Well, CATS is ready to field questions and ideas. Call 1-800-228-2864.

Helpline Needs Volunteers

Helpline, the 24-hour Monroe County crisis intervention telephone service, is looking for volunteers to help man the phones. Training sessions are planned for August 3 and 4 and 10 and 11. No previous experience is required. Shifts are four hours each and flexible to individual schedules. For more information, call Lucy or Naomi

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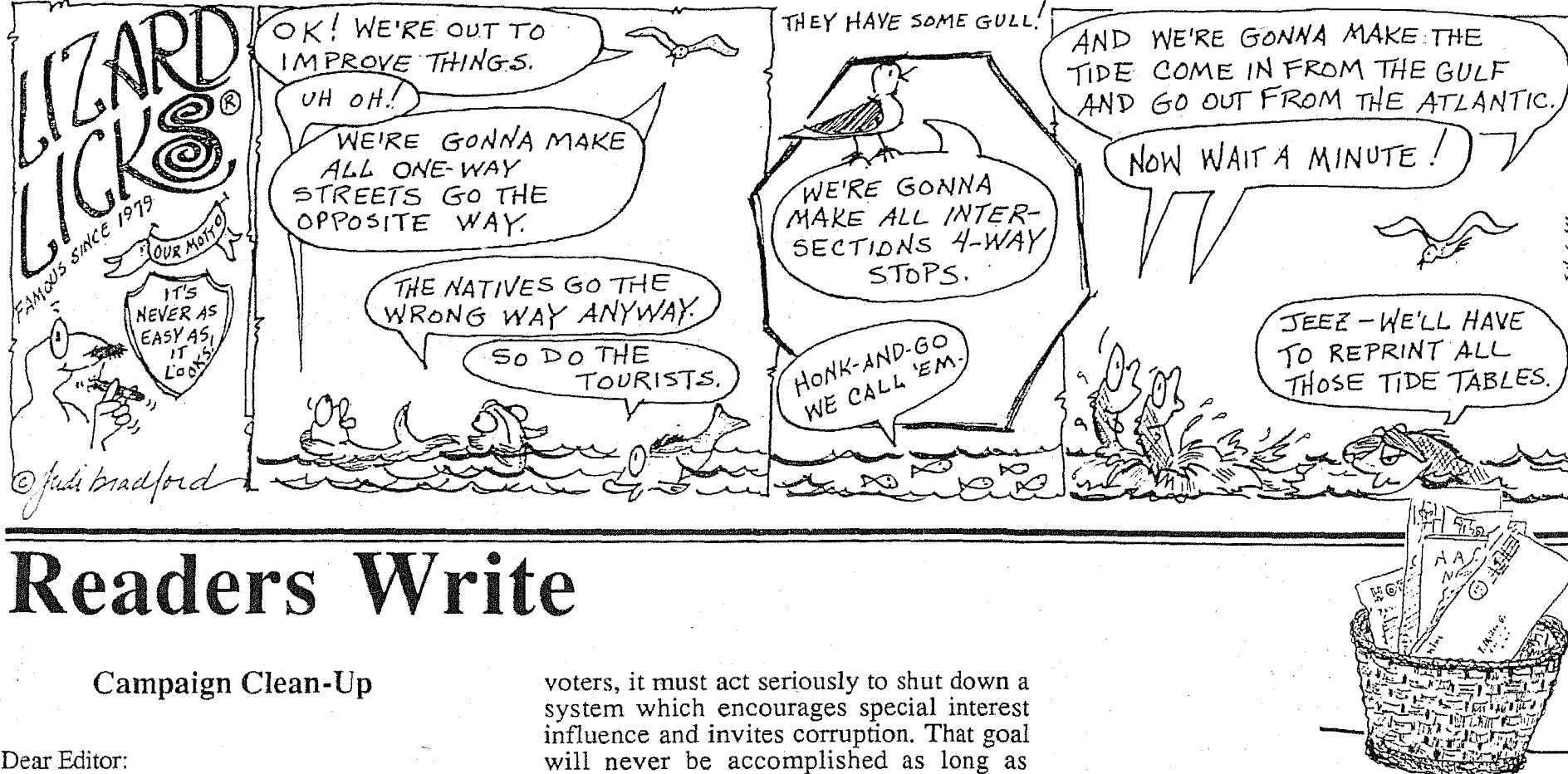
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The King of Recycling
Joe Roth, managing owner of the Holiday Isle Resort in Islamorada, has found an answer to his trash problem. When visitors at the resort didn't catch on to the recycling concept, employee Jim McLaughlin took it upon himself to personally sort through the trash. The property that once filled up 48 dumpsters a week, now totals only nine.

McLaughlin recycles about twelve tons of trash each month, saving the resort enough money in dumpster fees to hire two more people in the recycling department. Holiday Isle has now become so caught up in recycling that it has made an offer to all schools and groups to visit and learn how to start their own recycling program.

More Pillow Talk

Pillows autographed by comedienne Joan Rivers and Roseanne Barr arrived too late for the recent pillow auction benefiting AIDS Help, Inc., but they are now on display at the Lane Gallery at 1000 Duval Street. Barr's pillow boasts she and her husband Tom's signature along with some words about their love and marriage. Rivers' pillow asks her trademark question, "Can we talk?"



Readers Write

Campaign Clean-Up

Dear Editor:

Perhaps the greatest lesson to be learned from the Keating Five case is that the need to raise obscene amounts of campaign dollars from private interests exposes all lawmakers to potential ethical conflicts. Taxpayers end up paying dearly when special interest campaign contributions secure legislative results in Congress. You don't need to look any further than the \$500 billion savings and loan bailout to see how we all lose out under a system that so heavily favors wealthy contributors.

If Congress is genuinely interested in cleaning up the way campaigns are funded and winning back the trust and respect of

the public is invited to place silent bids on the pillows at the gallery in advance of a special auction being planned for late July. The April auction at the Casa Marina raised more than \$26,000 for AIDS Help, Inc.

Knowles Declares Candidacy

Leonard H. Knowles has officially declared his candidacy for a seat on the utility board of the City of Key West. Knowles, a native Conch, began his career at CES 28 years ago as a meter reader in 1959 and climbed through the ranks to become superintendent of the meter and commercial department, a position he held until his retirement in 1987.

"I believe that I can make contributions to the system which will eventually save money for the rate payers, and save energy, too," says Knowles.

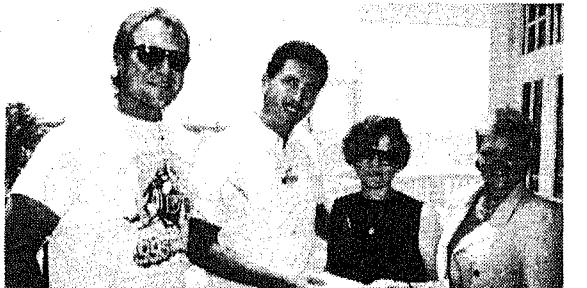
Political Etiquette

If you have a community or political issue that concerns you but you're unsure of the correct method for contacting your legislator, the League of Women Voters suggests the following tactics for letter writing: write a brief, issue-specific letter including identification of legislation by bill number, subject or sponsor, if possible; identify yourself as a constituent; give reasons for your position and state the effect

of the legislation on you, your community, and the people or facility you represent; state which action you would like taken and ask for a reply; if you do not receive a reply, follow up with another letter asking for a response; when a legislator votes as you asked, send a thank-you note.

Queen for a Day

Frances Arroyo was the lucky winner of 99 WAIL's "Queen for a Day" contest last month. She gathered her \$1250 in cash and



COURTESY 99 WAIL

QUEEN FOR THE DAY: (l to r) WAIL deejay

Chris Allan, the Hyatt's Tom Garcia, Queen Francis Arroyo, and general manager of WAIL/WKWF Connie Rice.

prizes cushioned in the back seat of a chauffered Lincoln, finally winding up the day with an intimate dinner for two at Nick's Seafood. Fifteen local businesses took part in the contest. The winning entry form was drawn from Heavenly Ham.



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14. What Is Your Present Favorite Restaurant? Where is it located?

15. How Do You Spend Your Free Time?

16. Where Do You Spend Your Free Time?

17. Do You Own A Home?

18. What Is Your Greatest Community Concern?

19. What Kind Of News Do You Like To Listen To On The Radio?

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On
The
Town
with Jane Phillips

Around the Island . . .

Wherever you are this summer, island ambiance is as far away as your tape deck. *South Of The Real World: The Music of Key West* is a collection of more than two hours of your favorite local performing artists and musicians. All proceeds from sales benefit the Monroe Association for Retarded Citizens (M.A.R.C.). Workshop manager Mark Linda conceived the idea, and mentioned it to dynamo Vicki Roush, who got on the coconut hotline with Ben Harrison and the rest is history. It's a true blend of island music with show tunes, country, jazz and boogie-woogie.

Along with Vicki and Ben are a total of 34 performers, including **Shel Silverstein**, **Bill Blue**, **Coffee Butler**, **Barry Cuda**, **Leanna Collins**, **Lonnie Jacobson** and **Kenny Drew**. Leanna and Lonnie hosted a terrific birthday bash for jazz pianist Kenny Drew at their Key Haven homes. Of course, there was a jam session. Kenny's off on a European tour and will be missed by all, but mostly by **Robin Kaplan**.

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BIRTHDAY BASH: (l to r) Jazz pianist Kenny Drew celebrating his birthday with musical pals Robin Kaplan, Leanna Collins and Lonnie Jacobson.

attended the AIDS vigil at St. Paul's Church came with the heartfelt words spoken by Bud Shipley. He told about the gift of love and caring he has received in our community. It made us all proud to live here.

Proud mom Esther Tupino, an officer at Southeast Bank, hosted a party to celebrate daughter Gina Gonzalez' graduation from Key West High School. Along with Gina, our own Queen Conch Monroe County Mayor Wilhelmina Harvey was getting lots of attention after her recent meeting with Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Phillip of England. The mayor was their tour guide to Fort Jefferson.

She likens the prince to "a regular Conch" and she describes the queen as "charming and sweet." Our 79-year-old mayor had to look after herself while the queen had three ladies-in-waiting. Other guests at the party

included Nancy and Roger Holtcamp, Wendy Tucker, Theresa Russell, Paco Archilla and Gina's uncle, Jim Tupino.

Former TWFAC head George Brashears, who now lives in Washington, D.C., came down for a visit. He has a real case of "island fever." Don't be surprised if he moves back.

Grover Sanders is one person who finds it hard to leave town. An inmate at the county jail, Sanders bolted recently and instead of heading for the mainland went straight to his favorite bar, Two Friends, to enjoy a cool one. That's where he was picked up and received a free ride back to jail.

People come here for a variety of reasons. Michele Casson, who received national media attention when the Kennedy scandal broke in Palm Beach, arrived in Key West to "hide out." She got herself a job as a cocktail waitress at Rick's Bar, one of the busiest spots on the island.

County Commissioner Earl Cheal gets the Alice-in-Wonderland award for thinking that county employees would not be offended by his memo encouraging them to shed some pounds. It read in part, "The public loses confidence in public servants

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when they see them fat and lazy." His comment drew national attention. Maybe it's time to organize a sensitivity seminar for elected officials.

Stretching the imagination just a tad is developers attorney Jim Hendricks claim that he is really a conservationist. Hendricks is presently representing a client who wants to erect a 96-unit condo in the mangrove area next to 1800 Atlantic.

Discovered during the production of *Smoke On The Mountain* at the Red Barn Theatre, Brent Burns traveled to Fayetteville, N.C. to fill in for a cast member in the New York touring company of the same show.

Affordable housing at Truman Annex is financially out of reach for many of those it was supposed to serve. Now Pritam Singh wants to build 39 fewer "affordable units" and replace them with 43 additional "non-affordable units." What we really need is "affordable" affordable housing.

After Dark . . .

Dancing 'til the wee hours at the gulfside Rave Disco were locals Tony Falcone (just back from Australia), Sophie Painchaud, Mike Mulligan and Adrian Chorley. They were outnumbered by what appeared to be a college crowd.

Raymond Baker and Joseph Viana hosted a farewell party for Moira McKinlay-Logan and hubby Glenn Logan. Glenn was transferred to Washington State and the gang wouldn't let them go without letting them know how much they'll be missed. Friends were invited to toast "Moira, Queen of Scots" (referring to her

native Scotland). Among the well-wishers were Virginia Panico, Anne and Ross McKee, Sally Lewis, Max McQuillin, Judge Richard Fowler, Joe Pais, Bob Chaplin and Henry La Chapelle, who presented the couple with an original painting.

A stunning duo at the Monroe County Fine Arts Council gathering at the Reach were dark-haired arts supporter Adaline Turner chatting with blonde opera star Henriette Kristea. Winners of the Youth Arts Competition performed and displayed their artwork. There was also island music by the Key West Junkanoos and operatic arias by Ms. Kristea and Parvan Bakardjieva.

Susan Olsen organized a kick-off party for the Customs House Preservation Project at East Martello Museum. Susan knows how to get things done, and it was a big success. Among the sponsors were Dane Dastugue, serving as official host, and Jane Vandergrift, looking glamorous in all black. Attorney Sherri Smallwood strolled the grounds with a new man on her arm, attorney Arnold Tucker. When I asked if they planned to merge, Sherri actually blushed. It was a great night for our town.

Tangled in our own lariat: In the recent roundup (June Solares Hill) of poet Richard Wilbur's many honors we omitted his 1987 appointment as poet laureate by the Library of Congress.

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ISLAND ECONOMICS

Business Tides

Jacques Bordage and Patrick Pichot announce that the official Conch Republic flag is now available as a beach towel. Claude Valdez, designer of the flag, recently gave the exclusive rights to the dynamic duo. The plush towels, measuring 35" by 60", can only be found at Baskets A La Carte at 1206 Duval and Les Bisoux de France at 1108 Duval.

William St. Lawrence at the Key West Chamber of Commerce can lend

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an ear and some free words of wisdom to individuals interested in starting a small business. A member of the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), St. Lawrence is a certified SCORE counselor as well as a successful businessman in his own right. His experience ranges from owning a travel agency to real estate and development to captaining a charterboat. He is available for counseling sessions at the Chamber building, 402 Wall Street. Call 294-2587 for an appointment.

What do coral polyps and tacos have in common? Not much, but between June 27 and July 27 the Taco Bell in Key West and Key Largo will donate ten cents to Reef Relief for every taco sold. This is the second year that Taco Bell has transformed itself into a Reef Relief education center, distributing resourceful information on protecting the living coral of the Florida Keys. "It makes good business sense to take care of our natural resources, and we want to help Reef Relief take care of the coral reef," says Albert Vigil, general

manager of Taco Bell. The promotion will provide individuals with the opportunity to become a "Sea Fan" of Reef Relief for \$20.

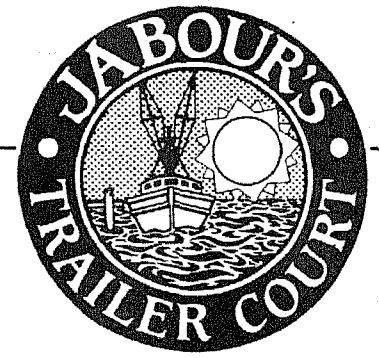
Jim McCarthy and Harry Cosec have teamed up and opened Harry's Island Hideaway and McCarthy's Rose Cabaret at 618 Duval Street. The location was formerly Gloria's Garden restaurant. The Hideaway offers casual Continental dining indoors or outdoors under the stars. Chef Philip Guin and his staff present remarkable meals at affordable prices. McCarthy's Rose Cabaret also boasts the best live blues and up-tempo cabaret music on the island. Call 294-7787.

The Linen Mill in the Big Pine Shopping Plaza is in the process of changing its name to Island Styles better to reflect the selection of clothing, swimwear, household linens and accessories that they now carry. Owners Sherrill Magruder and Karen Kendall are working to provide permanent residents, snowbirds and tourists with the clothing and accessories vital to the casual style of the Florida Keys.

The Key West Business Guild received an award for "Outstanding Contribution to the Gay Travel Industry" at the Annual Convention of the International Gay Travel Association in San Francisco. The guild was commended for its worldwide effort in promoting Key West to the gay traveler. "The Key West economy owes a great deal to the Key West Business Guild's promotional efforts," says IGTA president Fred Kohn.

Construction work is under way on Duffy's Steak and Lobster House, formerly Kokomo's, at 1107 Simonton Street at Truman. Owner-manager Timothy Ryan, who has operated Cafe des Artistes since 1983, says the menu will feature steaks, lobster, prime rib and fish dishes along with baked potatoes with various toppings. Meals will range in price from \$10.95 to \$16.95. The remodeling project includes enclosure of the building to permit air conditioning. Completion is scheduled for mid-July.

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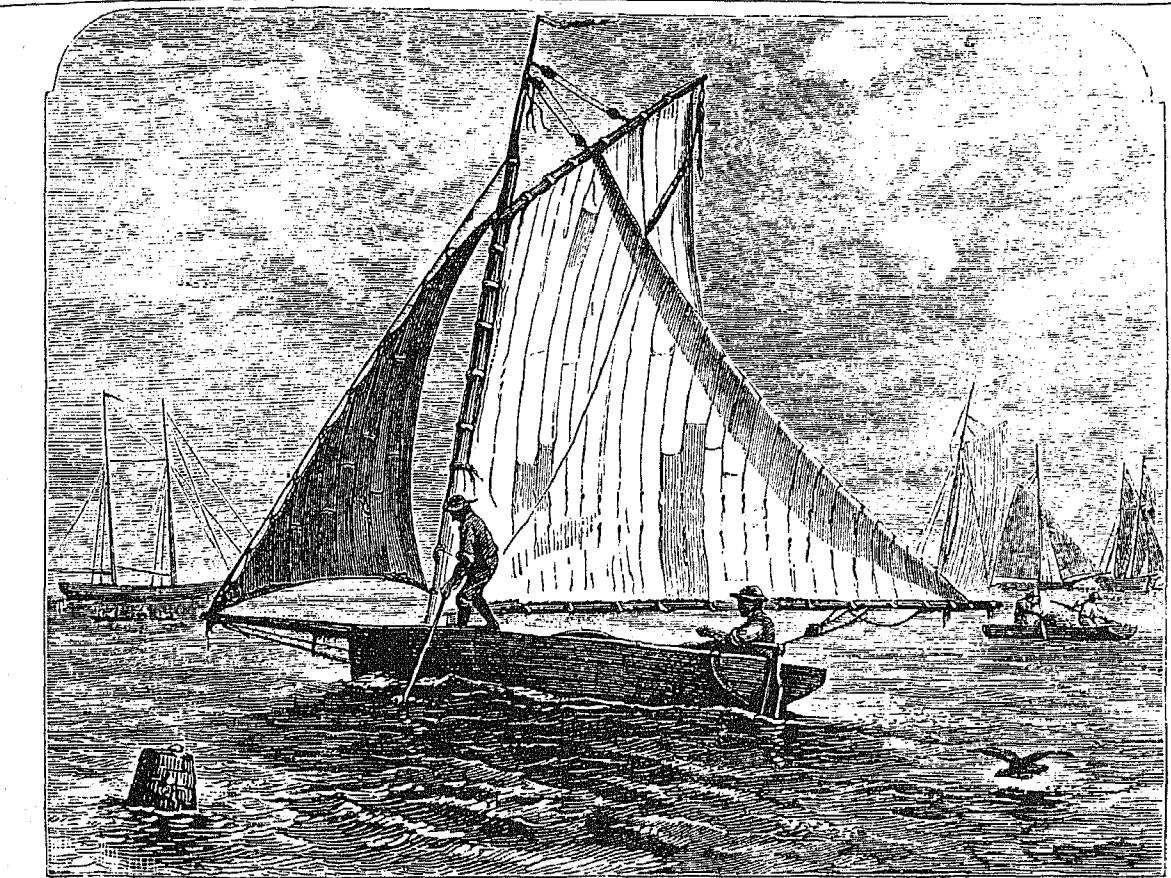
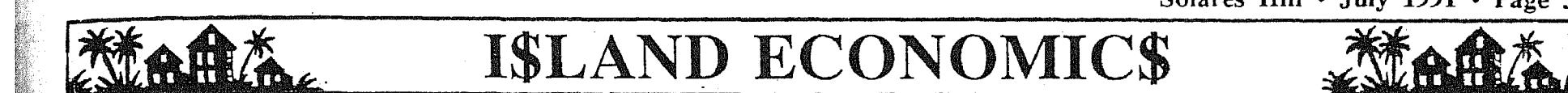
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ISLAND ECONOMICS



SPONGE FISHING AT KEY WEST.

The Great Southern Gallery at 910 Duval Street recently announced acquisition of a collection of historic antique prints from various publications circa 1810 to 1890. These include maps of the Keys and old Florida. A limited selection dealing with life

in Key West as well as military actions as reported by Harper's magazine are featured. There is also a group of prints depicting images of tarpon and barracuda fishing in Key West. Call 294-6660.

When Florida Keys Land & Sea Trust began its efforts to preserve the environment in the Keys nearly ten years ago, Key West Aloe was one of its staunchest supporters. This year, the trust will mark its tenth anniversary by purchasing fifteen more acres of critical wildlife



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Governor Lawton Chiles has appointed Sandra Higgs, administrator for the Monroe County Tourist Development Council, to a new statewide commission guiding Florida tourism. Eighteen of the state's top tourism officials will be charged to develop "an effective, cost-efficient program of overall state tourism promotion." Other appointees include representatives of Walt Disney World, Alamo-Rent-A-Car, Royal Caribbean Cruise Line, the Florida Restaurant Association and the Florida Hotel-Motel Association. The commission's first project is to assess the state's role in tourism promotion and the maintenance of a strong tourism economy. Findings are due in October.

The Florida Keys & Key West, in conjunction with American Airlines, recently launched a major travel trade campaign in the United Kingdom. The marketing effort, funded by the Monroe County Tourist Development Council (TDC), is highlighted by an arrangement to provide travel agents and tour operators Keys' collateral material on a continuous basis.

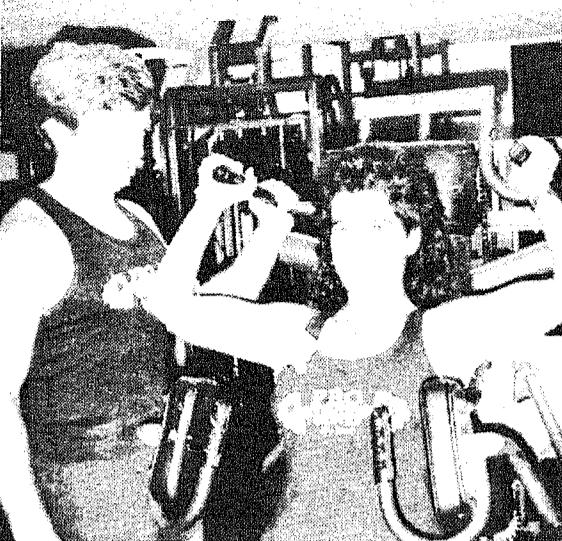
WKRY, KEY 93.5 FM announced that Eric Steckle has joined its on-air staff. Steckle recently returned to Key West after living in Orlando. Before moving north, he was an on-air personality and



ISLAND ECONOMICS

program director at WKWF and on-air host of "Channel 5 Review" on TCI Channel 5. At KEY 93.5 FM he will produce and host an afternoon music show every Saturday afternoon and will assist in production of the Supertime Symphony program weeknights.

Marion Serelis of Pro Fitness, located in the professional building behind DePoo Hospital, has a plan for shaping up. In addition to Nautilus equipment, an extensive selection of free weights and all the standard conveniences, Pro Fitness provides personal training at all times at no



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hair shows around the country. He is available for private consultations. Call 294-2686 for an appointment.

Unlike many people, Brooks Burton can say he's worked happily with the same company for twenty years. On May 26, Burton celebrated his twentieth anniversary of employment with **Barnett Bank of The Keys**. He came to Key West during tenure with the Navy in 1952 and became one of the three original officers with Key West's Boulevard Bank in 1971. Boulevard Bank merged with Barnett Bank of The Keys in 1983, and in 1991 Burton was named senior vice-president of Barnett.

City Electric System general manager Robert Padron has announced that Stanley T. Rzad has assumed the duties of finance manager for CES. Rzad, formerly assistant to the finance manager, will be responsible for overseeing all of CES's collection section, general accounting section, and information services section. Rzad has been employed as a controller by both the Schlegal Corporation and the City of Altus, Oklahoma. He has been with CES since January 1991.

Lance is proud to announce his recent affiliation with **Southernmost Hair and Nails** at 507-A South Street. Lance, formerly of **John Santiago's Hair People**, specializes in hair coloring and perms and pays close attention to the most current, workable cuts possible by attending

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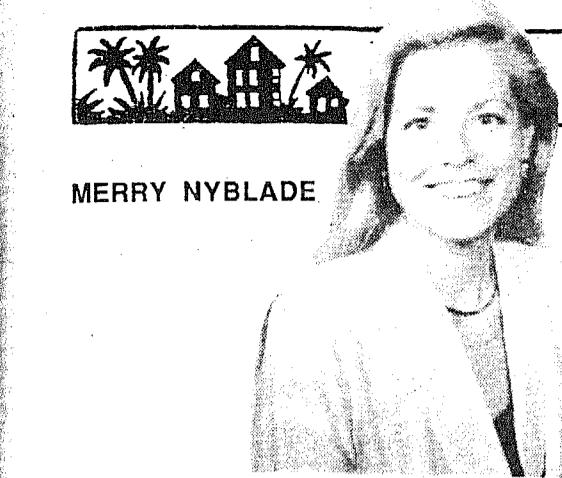
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advertising sales staff. Nyblade recently moved to Key West from Traverse City, Michigan. Her education includes a degree in commercial art and a certificate of marketing and merchandising. Before coming to Key West, she was director of advertising and a Realtor for Real Estate One, Inc. in Traverse City.



MERRY NYBLADE

ISLAND ECONOMICS



OFFICERS: Dennis Beaver, Marion Serelis, Rick Van Hout, Tom Schmitt, and Diane Pansire.

The Key West Chamber of Commerce welcomes the following new members: Cheri Smith of Tropical Weddings, Leslie Blanche and Rusty Schwindt of Trilby's, Christopher Olivier and Jane Schultz of Sun Studio, Cindy Tellone and Elli Riley of MOMS, Inc., Ron Hammer of Key West Cargo, H.L. Murphy of the Key Lodge Motel, and Randall Smith and Darrell Taranto of Coast Casinos, Inc. (Atlantic X).

The Mel Fisher Maritime Heritage Society recently named **Madeleine Burnside** executive director. Burnside will oversee a staff of 27 employees as well as manage collections and operations and develop new programs for outreach into the community. Burnside was formerly the executive director of the Islip Art Museum in Long Island, New York.

Island Wellness recently announced its 1991 schedule of classes and workshops. In addition to a revised schedule of Tai Chi Ch'uan classes, owner **Gary Young** will be instructing a Daily R&R program and Reflexology/Massage Workshops for couples. "Stress is an unavoidable fact of life and all people are faced with a choice to manage and thereby reduce the effects or let the stressful events that we encounter magnify in intensity and control us," says Young. Daily R&R classes will be held Monday through Saturday at noon

with an alternating schedule on Sundays. Call 296-7353.

Electronic Information Booths are being constructed and installed in Key West at the airport and downtown on Duval Street near Southeast Bank by Hotline Information Services. Visitors and locals will be able to access businesses directly (free of charge) simply by dialing a three-digit number displayed on HARCA-approved 4" x 5" backlit color boards. According to **Bob Moran** of Hotline Information Services,

Ron's Southernmost Car Clinic

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CONCH TOWN

by Judi Bradford

Hot cars. On this island in the sun, just a drop of sweat away from the true tropics, all cars are hot. Some, however, are hotter than others.

Rustbuckets. Park a car in the morning, come back at lunch and the rust has started. Whaddya do? Call the body shop? Not today. Put that bumper sticker on it for now. Many years later, the car is completely covered with bumper stickers, in some place several layers thick.

"You cannot take the bumper stickers from the car now," Jacques and Coco Vivien say together, collaborating on phrases and sentences in their luxurious French accents. "There is not any car beneath them perhaps." They bought the baby blue '76 Plymouth from a friend. It was a great deal. But it was too, what shall we say, too baby blue, too station-wagonish.

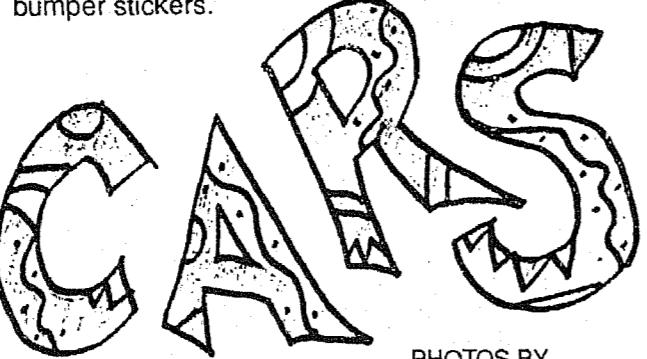
Now, after much loving bumper-sticker maintenance, it suits Jacques and Coco well. They find it indispensable for ferrying houseguests back and forth to the airport or to dinner in town from their Bay Point home. Their exotic sports car isn't used to cart home the goodies they find at yard sales, either.

The large bumper sticker on the driver's side back door is from Ville de Yaounde 1^{er}. Translated from the French it reads: "This trash container is property of the community of Yaounde 1^{er}. Please keep our city clean."

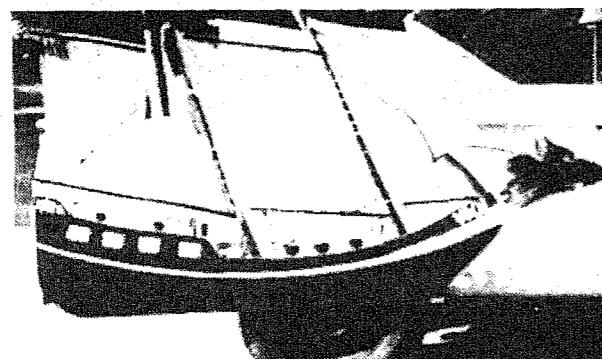
The Schooner Wolf "land yacht" was created as the celebrity vehicle in the Conch Republic parade this year for Captain Finbar, master of the Conch Republic flagship. The little truck belongs to Captain Terry Amadio, relief captain for the Wolf. "Jake the Sign Painter" painted it. Mike Jansen was in charge of assembly and



BUMPER STICKER ART: Jacques and Coco Vivien hold together their station wagon with bumper stickers.



PHOTOS BY
JUDI BRADFORD

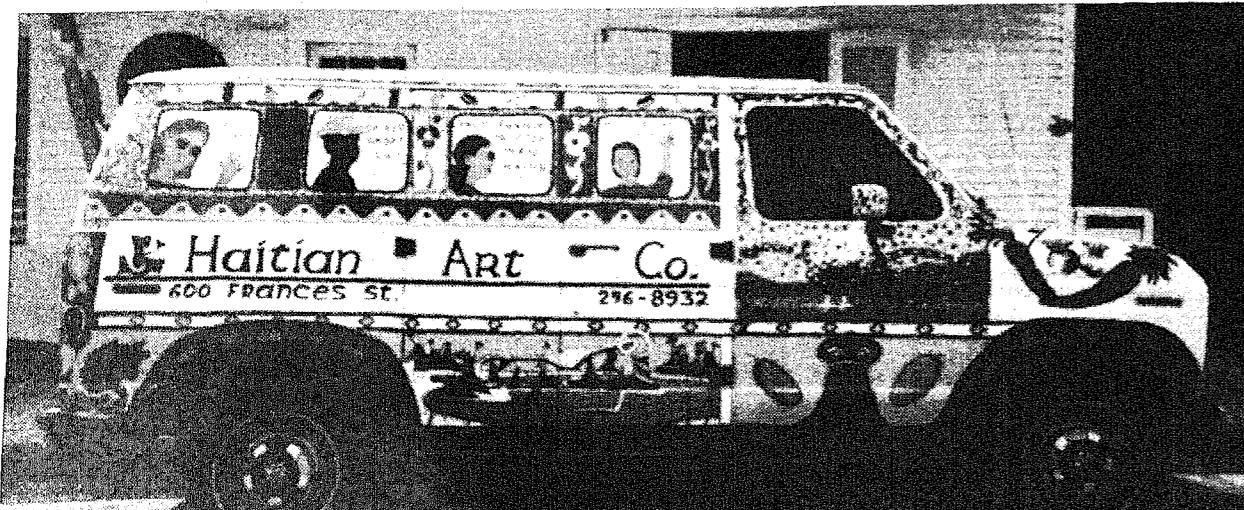


THE LAND YACHT: Captain Terry Amadio of the Schooner Wolf in her boat away from home.

with juggling playing a large part in their act. Butch was originally white, and Karen had begun zebra strips on her flanks. She arrived home one day after an outing and found Bounce and friend Tim Settimi, also a juggling entertainer, putting the finishing touches on a proper juggler's car, with all



BUTCH: Owner Mademoiselle Ooo LaLa and her son Daniel Samson enjoy the sun roof, while little Katie Zimmerman takes control of the steering wheel.

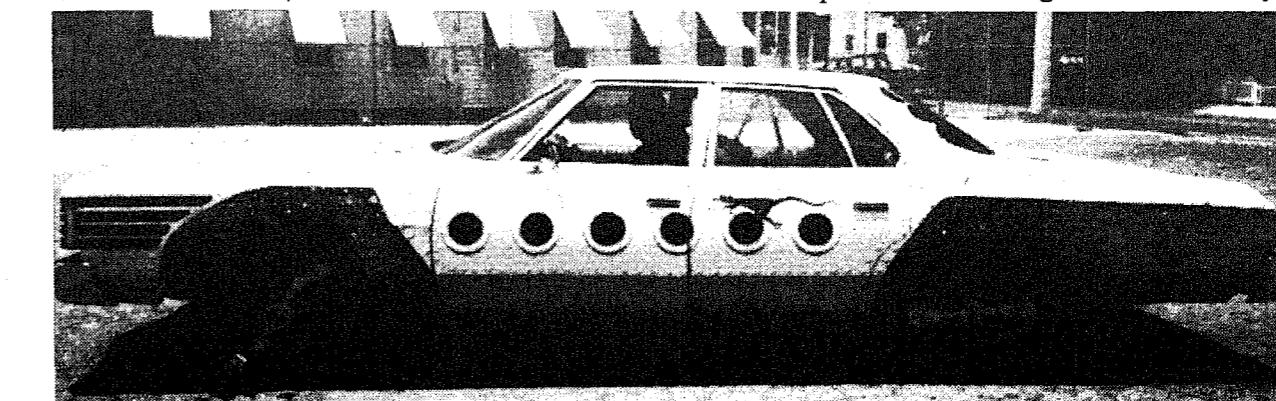


PORT-AU-PRINCE TAP TAP: The Haitian Art Company van has portraits and quotes (in Creole) of the gallery's family and friends.

the balls in the air. The spots are contagious. The utility trailer parked near Butch has sprouted juggling balls, and so has the gate to Karen's back yard. I see a trend here.

In Port Au Prince the Tap Taps, vividly painted open vehicles with people crammed into them and hanging off of them, provide bus service. In a nation of desperate poverty, the spirit of the natives comes out in their folk art. The Tap Tap (Creole for "hurry up!") is a rolling testimony to that determined joy in life.

It was only a matter of time until the Haitian Art Co. van metamorphosed into a Tap Tap. Ruth Kravitz had been toying with the idea for a long time. Then she connected with Jeff Wheeler, a commercial art student



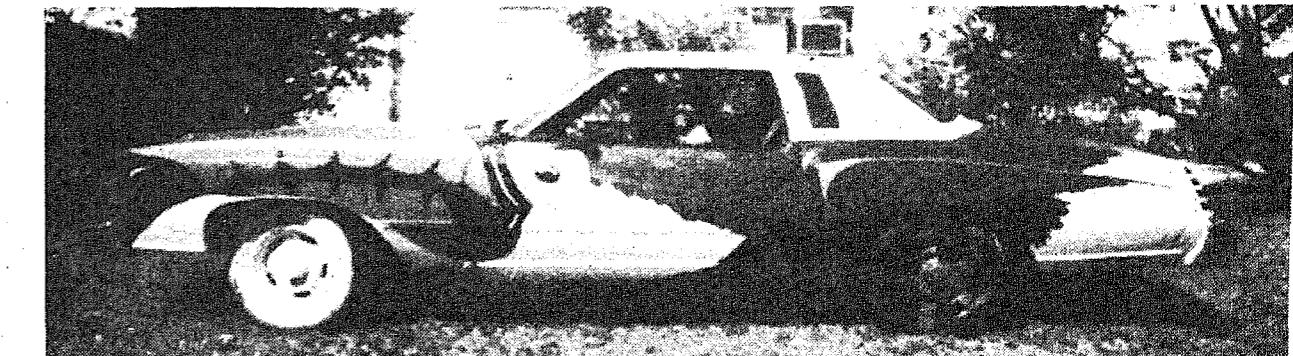
WE ALL LIVE... Jim Hanshaw in his Yellow Submarine.

from Texas Tech here on sabbatical, and look what happened. The people featured in the van windows are Ruth's family and the staff at Haitian Art Company. Oh, yes, those are her cats, Clea and Rousseau.

Everyone has a Creole quote. Her

lasts.)

Rick Worth is responsible for an explosion of creative cars recently. He painted his own Conch cruiser as a coral reef, with a cowhide roof. He's like a summer storm, always changing things,



A T-BIRD, LITERALLY: A Rick Worth design for Michael Feathers and his dog, Bananas.

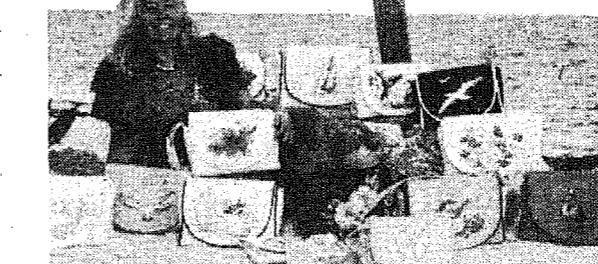
doing something. The first car he painted died after a parade performance so he "... painted a pasture on it and sent it out to pasture at Alex's junkyard." You probably saw it: cows on a VW Rabbit with a "Herd for Sale" sign.

Suddenly he's in the car painting business. People bring their cars to him. He charges \$200, and everybody's happy. He was working on a Renoiresque landscape when last we saw him.

Rick transformed Michael Feathers' '76 Monte Carlo into a T-Bird. A toucan. "It flies now," says Michael. The design looks abstract until the bird form reveals itself. "Some people can't see it," Michael laughs. "The illusion makes it even more magical."

Jim Hanshaw's car is now a yellow submarine with propeller wheels (and an occasional lizard scurrying past portholes). Another Rick Worth job. The paint job has affected the way Jim drives. The car floats along now. "There's a conversation at every corner," he says—and lots of smiles along the way. ■

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Gilbert Flores' Last Legacy

by Stephanie Sanchez

Gilbert Flores died suddenly on May 23, 1991 at age 46. A long-time Key West resident, he was a renowned architect and a fine, though unrecognized, artist.

I first met Gilbert in the mid-1980s when the Truman Annex was a vital cultural center. The old brick forge, machine shops and army barracks which still stood down on the waterfront, and the Naval Administration Building housed other artists, writers and photographers. Many of us came from New York, California or other northern points. Gilbert, with his Guayabera shirt and Cuban good looks, was of Key West.

Gilbert and I had adjoining third-floor studios which looked out over the gulf through a waving date palm. Mornings I would hear his pencil scratching away at the mural mounted on the thin walls dividing our studios. Nurtured by his love for Key West and its people, I watched Gilbert's mural grow into a major work of art, tragically left unfinished by his premature passing.

Though Gilbert was influenced by the billboard scale of James Rosenquist and painterly style of Malcolm Morley, the



AN ARTIST AND HIS ART: The late Gilbert Flores stands before his mural.

uniqueness of this piece was in his motivation, the emotion behind the images. Having personally observed the tragedy of the Cuban boat people, Gilbert was moved by the courage and optimism of these desperate souls, cast ashore in a foreign and often hostile land. His mural, this month's *Solares Hill* front cover, is a striking and moving piece of artwork.

Gilbert knew, deeply, that it was only by happenstance, by God's grace, that he wasn't of their ranks; his family had migrated from Cuba before the inhumanity of Third-World politics made drastic escape measures necessary. He also saw the boat people as representative of all Americans, for are we all not immigrants? (Even "Native Americans" trace their roots to Asia).

The completed images in Gilbert's mural are both timely and timeless. Fear, despair, hope, jubilation, the sweep and drama of the sea and sky—the images are a chronicle of a unique yet universal human experience. ■

Stephanie Sanchez hopes to see Gilbert Flores' work displayed locally in a public place, where all may enjoy it; perhaps East Martello or City Hall.

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JULY ART CALENDAR

Art Collections Key West

National and local artists in a variety of styles and themes. Daily, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. 600 Front St. in the Bottling Court. 296-5956.

Art Safari Gallery & Key Largo Antiques

"Masks of the World," "Art of the Ancestors" and "Art of the Shaman," through May 20. Museum-quality collections, including beaded masks and spears from four continents. MM 98.6, Gulfside, Key Largo. 852-5933.

Audubon House

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

Banana Boat Batik

Hand-painted silk and cotton by Key West Attitude. New ceramic work by Walt Hyla—animals,

fish, lidded vessels, functional

ware and hanging fish sculptures.

Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 419B Duval St. 296-2380.

Bohemian

Hand-painted furniture and paintings on canvas, wood and masonite. Lots of new stuff. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 706A Duval St. 292-4035.

East Bank Gallery

Closed for summer. See you in the fall.

Daily, except Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 706 White St. 296-2679.

East Martello Museum & Gallery

History of the Key West Customs House through

summer. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$3 admission for adults.

3501 S. Roosevelt Blvd. 296-3913.

Farrington Gallery 711

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

Florida Keys Community College Library Gallery

Faculty Show, Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Junior College Rd., Stock Island, 296-9081, ext. 202.

Gingerbread Square Gallery

Serigraphs and original works by John Kiraly. Works by local artists Sal Salinero, George Carey and Ron Clemmons. Summer hours: Thursday-Monday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Tuesday and Wednesday, 901 Duval St. 296-8900.

Grand Collection

Paintings, Asian antiques, ancient artifacts, tribal arts, jewelry. New hours: Sunday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., except Tuesday and Wednesday or by appointment.

1208 Duval St. 294-3771.

Lane Gallery

Frank Monaco acrylics on canvas July 15-25. Various works by our regular artists. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1000 Duval St. 294-0067.

Lee Dodez Showroom

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

Guild Hall Gallery

Ink, pastel, watercolor, acrylic, prints, gyotaku fish printing, soft sculpture, fabric piecwork, printed

Loeber-Stanton Gallery

and handpainted cards, ceramics, painted clothing, leather bags, photography, stained glass, ironwork, painted mirrors, collage, painted woodcarvings by 17 Key West artists. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. 314 Duval St. 296-6076.

Lucky Street Gallery

Ginger Thom's sculpture. Painted furniture by Carrie Disrule. Summer hours: daily except Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 919 Duval St. 294-3973.

Haitian Art Company

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

Harrison Gallery

Susan Thayer, Andre Henocque and Helen Harrison. Daily, noon to 5:30 p.m. except Sunday and Monday or ring the bell. 825 White St. 294-2116.

Is It Art?

Hand-painted artwork, prints and wall-hangings. Summer hours: closed Wednesday, otherwise open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. 913 Duval St. 294-6124.

Out on a Whim

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

Pandemonium

Unique art fashions and furniture, tile tables and a new line of ceramic house numbers. Sale items. Daily except Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday noon to 5 p.m. 704 Duval St. 294-0351.

Pelican Poop Shoppe

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

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Rose Lane Antiquities

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

Studio 227

Locklear multimedia; acrylics and watercolors by Karen Clemens, plus other artists. Call for info on Bahama Village children's two- and three-dimensional art classes for ages 6-10. Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 227 Petronia St. 294-7141.

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Wooden puzzle boxes by Richard Rothbard. 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.

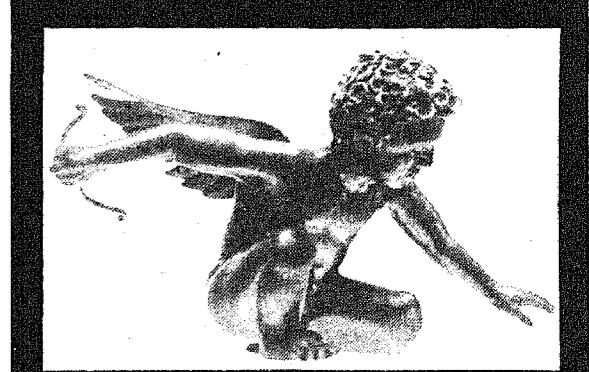
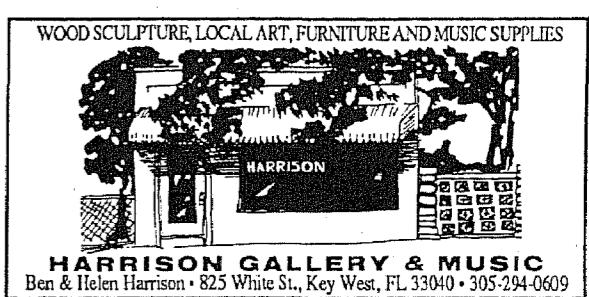
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11th Annual Hemingway Days Festival

July 15 to 21

The summer of 1981 was characterized by heat and Ernest Hemingway. Dogs drowsed in the streets. Ceiling fans did double duty. And in Sloppy Joe's bar, a small group of people defied the general lassitude and organized a tribute to a literary giant who loved Key West. The result of their efforts was the first Hemingway Days Festival.

The three-day event, with its Look-Alike Contest and Short Story Competition, was such a success that organizers expanded it in 1982. That year, the Hemingway Home and Museum became a sponsor and the site of

the first "Characters in Costume" party. By 1985, Hemingway Days was the hottest major event of the hot Key West summer.

Over the next several years, the festival incorporated new events. Among them were the Hemingway Days Conference and Writer's Workshop, developed in 1988 and featuring participation from literary notables, Hemingway scholars and family members.

At a ceremony in Key West during the 1989 celebration, the U.S. Post Office issued a 25-cent stamp paying tribute to Hemingway and bearing his likeness. Pro-

fessor James Nagel unveiled the letters and diary of World War I nurse Agnes von Kurowsky, who became the source for the heroine of *A Farewell to Arms*.

Last year, the now week-long celebration



featured new events including back-country kayak tours and a Writers-Walk guided tour of Key West's literary heritage.

The 1991 celebration will feature a melange of family, literary and sports-related events reflecting the great exuberance that characterized Hemingway.

"For those of you who come to this little island with a big heart, braving the heat," says Hemingway's granddaughter Hilary, "enjoy the Hemingway celebration, and know that the family is with you and having a damned good time." 

KEY WEST

Writers Walk

Join a one hour, one mile guided walking tour of literary sites in Key West five times during Hemingway Days. \$10.00. Sponsored by the Key West Literary Seminar, Inc. (305) 745-3640.

7:00 p.m.
Monday, July 15
Wednesday, July 17

10:30 a.m.
Friday, July 19
Saturday, July 20
Sunday, July 21

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A VIP Tour for 2 of the MEL FISHER MARITIME HERITAGE SOCIETY MUSEUM and a behind the scenes tour of the archeology labs not normally open to the public.

His & Her Ray Ban Sunglasses from SHADES OF KEY WEST.

Dinner for 2 from ANGLER'S SEAFOOD HOUSE.

2 Tour Admissions To THE LITTLE WHITE HOUSE MUSEUM.

Lunch for 2 at ALEXANDER'S NY DELI.

2 Tour Admissions to HEMINGWAY HOUSE

Just Let Go!

Ernest Hemingway

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Experience one of America's Top Ten Summer Festivals right in your own back yard. The 1991 Hemingway Days Festival offers a selection of literary events second to none. Enjoy the Hemingway Days Conference & Writer's Workshop, storytelling contests, fiction & poetry readings, writers' walks, and the short story competition.

Hemingway Days Festival
July 15 - July 21, 1991

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Hemingway Days Schedule

MONDAY, JULY 15

8 a.m. • Hemingway Radio Trivia Contest runs every morning throughout festival. No entrance fee.

1 p.m. • Hemingway Days Writers' Workshop a three-day workshop devoted to fiction writing. Admission is \$45 per person.

7 p.m. • Writers' Walk guided tour leaving from the Ocean Key House. Admission is \$10 per person.

8:30 p.m. • Fiction Readings and VIP Reception at the Ocean Key House. Free to workshop attendees and festival guests.

TUESDAY, JULY 16

9 a.m. • Keys Wildlife Kayak Tour leaves from Mosquito Coast Island Outfitters, 1107 Duval Street. Admission is \$45.00 per person.

1 p.m. • Hemingway Days Writers' Workshop day two of a three-day fiction writing workshop. This session is devoted to poetry.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17

9 a.m. • Keys Wildlife Kayak Tour leaves from Mosquito Coast Island Outfitters, 1107 Duval Street. Admission is \$45 per person.

1 p.m. • Hemingway Days Writers' Workshop last day of a three day workshop. This session is devoted to writing for stage and screen.

THURSDAY, JULY 18

9 a.m. • Keys Wildlife Kayak Tour leaves from Mosquito Coast Island Outfitters, 1107 Duval Street. Admission is \$45.00 per person.

1 p.m. • Hemingway Days Writers' Workshop day two of a three-day fiction writing workshop. This session is devoted to poetry.

FRIDAY, JULY 19

9 a.m. • Keys Wildlife Kayak Tour leaves from Mosquito Coast Island Outfitters, 1107 Duval Street. Admission is \$45.00 per person.

7 p.m. • Second Round of the "Papa" Hemingway Look-Alike Contest at Sloppy Joe's Bar. Entry fee is \$10 per person. Free to watch.

7:30 p.m. • Twilight Party & Concert at the Hemingway House & Museum. Admission is \$15 and includes food and entertainment.

SATURDAY, JULY 20

9 a.m. • Keys Wildlife Kayak Tour leaves from Mosquito Coast Island Outfitters, 1107 Duval Street. Admission is \$45.00 per person.

1 p.m. • Hemingway Bell Regatta Skippers' Meeting & Party. Entry fee is \$25 per boat regatta. Racers party free of charge.

10:30 a.m. • Writers' Walk guided walking tour leaving from Hemingway House & Museum. Admission is \$10 per person.

10 p.m. • Hemingway Bell Regatta Awards Ceremony at the Pier House Resort. Free to regatta entrants.

5 p.m. • Announcement of Short Story Contest Winners at the Pier House Resort. Free to watch.

5:30 p.m. • Final Round of the Hemingway Radio Trivia Contest at the Pier House Resort. Free to watch.

6:30 p.m. • Final Round of the Hemingway Story-Telling Competition at the Pier House Resort. Free to watch.

10:30 a.m. • Writers' Walk guided walking tour leaving from Hemingway House & Museum. Admission is \$10 per person.

10 p.m. • Hemingway 5K Sunset Run through Old Town Key West. Registration is \$12 in advance, \$15 the day of the race.

Solares Hill • July 1991 • Page 39

Food and live entertainment. Free admission.

7 p.m. • Final Round of the "Papa" Hemingway Look-Alike Contest at Sloppy Joe's Bar. Entry fee is \$10 per person. Free to watch.

7:30 p.m. • Hemingway 5K Sunset Run through Old Town Key West. Registration is \$12 in advance, \$15 the day of the race.

SUNDAY, JULY 21

9 a.m. • Keys Wildlife Kayak Tour leaves from Mosquito Coast Island Outfitters, 1107 Duval Street. Admission is \$45 per person.

10 a.m. • Key West Sailing Club's Hemingway Bell Regatta

10:30 a.m. • Writers' Walk guided walking tour leaving from Hemingway House & Museum. Admission is \$10 per person.

1 p.m. • Second Round of the "Papa" Hemingway Look-Alike Contest at Sloppy Joe's Bar. Entry fee is \$10 per person. Free to watch.

1 p.m. • Cayo Hueso Arm Wrestling Championship at Sloppy Joe's Bar. Entry fee is \$5 per person for both men's and women's divisions. Free to watch.

2 p.m. • Hemingway Bell Regatta Awards Ceremony at the Pier House Resort. Free to regatta entrants.

5 p.m. • Announcement of Short Story Contest Winners at the Pier House Resort. Free to watch.

5:30 p.m. • Final Round of the Hemingway Radio Trivia Contest at the Pier House Resort. Free to watch.

6:30 p.m. • Final Round of the Hemingway Story-Telling Competition at the Pier House Resort. Free to watch.

10:30 a.m. • Writers' Walk guided walking tour leaving from Hemingway House & Museum. Admission is \$10 per person.

10 p.m. • Hemingway 5K Sunset Run through Old Town Key West. Registration is \$12 in advance, \$15 the day of the race.

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ISLAND OUTFITTERS • KAYAK GUIDES!

MOSQUITO COAST

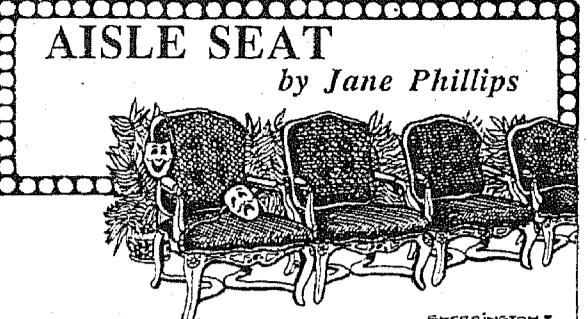
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Director Susan Hawkens has assembled a marvelous cast for the last production of the Red Barn Theatre's season, "The Miss Firecracker Contest," by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Beth Henley. The production runs through July 7.

This appealing play, set in the small Southern town of Brookhaven, Mississippi, which is not as tranquil as its name implies. This brook runs deep, with a swift current and no certain haven. Each character has an inner conflict to resolve. Each does so in a different way, with comedic overtones. Henley breathes life into stock characters such as the aging Southern belle, the wayward brother, and yes, the young girl with the tarnished reputation.

Marcella Trowbridge shows her wide range as an actress in the role of Carnelle Scott, a castoff to whom no boy in town is a stranger. Despite her nickname, "Miss Hot Tamale," she's mended her ways. But can the town forget? Carnelle enters the Miss Firecracker contest, the big event that accompanies the Fourth of July hoopla, hoping to tap-dance her way out of town in



HOT, HOT, HOT: Marcella Trowbridge and Michael Whalton in a scene from Beth Henley's play "The Miss Firecracker Contest."

a blaze of glory.

Tommie Grimstead has never been better than in the role of Elain, Carnelle's cousin, a former beauty queen who leaves her husband and two sons every time she gets bored. She seems all femininity, her voice dripping with honeysuckle, but inside she's the reigning ice queen. She treasures her clock collection more than her two children. She abandons them without a care: "Don't ask me about the children, they'll manage." She tolerates her husband ("He makes me ill") in order to acquire the finer things in life. This "mom" is a tart with a Southern accent.

Her brother Delmount, beautifully played by B.R. Burns, has been around forever. He "has his way" with two sisters and shrugs it off with "They were dying for it, I just obliged them." He's been institutionalized, "hates to work," and has a problem with booze. What a catch, the ladies can't get enough of him!

Majorie Paul Shook plays a kooky seamstress with gusto. Where else but

down South would you find someone who sews doll clothes for frogs?

Mimi MacDonald, who plays pageant director Tessy Mahoney, is completely unrecognizable from her other thespian appearances. She has fine comic timing. Finally, Michael Whalton as Mac Sam turns his character part into a real gem.

You may have seen all these actors before, but never like this! Set designer Gary MacDonald once again does wonders with the small Red Barn stage by concentrating on dressing the set to perfection. Jim Prokes and Victoria Blackin have a flair for costuming.

Director Hawkens deserves a shower of stars for this one. Call the box office at 296-9911 for reservations.

"Glengarry Glen Ross" by David Mamet had its world premiere in London in 1983, made its debut in the United States in Chicago, and had its Broadway opening in 1984. It earned the playwright a Pulitzer Prize for drama. A play about greed, avarice and cupidity, it was recently presented at the Red Barn Theatre under the direction of Carole MacCartee.

Though the characters in this particular play are involved in real estate, they could just as easily be car manufacturers or baby-food distributors. When lust for money is in full force, ethics are dispensed with. The dialogue has a staccato-like beat that develops its own rhythm. The ensemble players established a dance of words where one actor led and another followed. It made for fascinating theatre.

The all-male cast was up to the task. The nice juxtaposition between actors was particularly effective in the two-character scenes. Fred Gros (Shelly Levine) was a presence to be reckoned with. Put him on the same stage with Jed Sloe (James Lingk) and you have a marvelous theatrical chemistry. Art Nichols (Richard Roma) played a younger wheeler-dealer with conviction. The scenes with Jerry Campbell (George Aronow) and Michael De Moldau (Dave Moss) thickened the plot, and Tom Murtha's buttoned-down character (John Williamson) was properly flustered trying to deal with this band of thieves. Tom Simmons played a detective (Baylen) who tried to make sense out of all this mayhem. Under MacCartee's skillful direction, the entire cast did a fine job.

Under MacCartee's skillful direction, the entire cast did a fine job.

Music Review

Jazz at Bayview Park

by Valerie Ridenour

showcases Rick Peterson in his element, and Naughton's top-drawer scat. Romance follows with Oleta Adams' current hit, a Nancy Wilson classic, "Get Here," as interpreted by Naughton. An energetic arrangement of this soulful tune shows off Peterson's sensitive, lyrical lines. Good choice.

A funky band original features Sampson's keyboard work and a brilliant soprano sax by Kiev. Naughton showed us a different way to use an Evian bottle (she drank from it). Christine's son Michael decided to make his stage debut with "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

Slow, bluesy jazz may be the group's forte. "Child On A Summer Day," with its pleasant changes, highlighted each player's interpretive talents. A vintage Belafonte calypso number was a crowd pleaser, and "Charade" was enhanced by an eloquent intro by Peterson and well-chosen keyboard sounds from Sampson. Billie Holiday's classic "God Bless The Child" was Naughton's masterpiece, her lush vocal framed in smooth Peterson guitar lines.

Naughton is an exceptional vocalist, blessed with a clear, smooth tone, superb control and an awesome range. The opening tune is an easy-tempo Jobim. Flawless vocals float on rhythmic guitar and solid electric piano enhanced by Olean's magical percussion.

Small Mystery is a magical ensemble. Sally Lewis and the cultural affairs committee are to be congratulated on a splendid choice for a Sunday In the Park concert. One wonders why this band is not booked here at the park at least once a month.

Spyra Gyra's "The Shaker Song",

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Big Pine Cones Win Country Competition

For the first time since its inception, the promoters of the Ace Hardware/G.M.C. national country-music competition included acts from the Keys. WFFG radio sponsored the event at Hog's Breath Saloon. A dozen excellent acts took the stage, with first place going to The Big Pine Cones, a bluegrass band featuring Terry Cassidy, Dan Mulberry, Mark Bolens, Jimmy Williams and Mike Mullen, who were awarded a prize of \$100 gift certificates from Hog's Breath Saloon and Clancy's Restaurant, and a \$50 gift certificate from Dick Anderson's cellular phones, co-sponsors of the event.

Second-prize winners Southern Cross received a \$100 certificate from Clancy's Restaurant and a \$50 gift certificate from Willy's Two-Step Country Western Lounge and Kitchen. The Cones and Southern Cross, who are John Tindall, Michael Lindsay and Dave 'Big G' Gelinas will go to Marathon to compete with winners from the Middle and Upper Keys, singers Reid Massengill and Desire Lynch, at the Buccaneer Resort for \$1000 worth of equipment from Morrell Music.

The regional winner will go up to state-level competition. Good luck, folks. It would be great to see some of our talented Conchs in the national spotlight.



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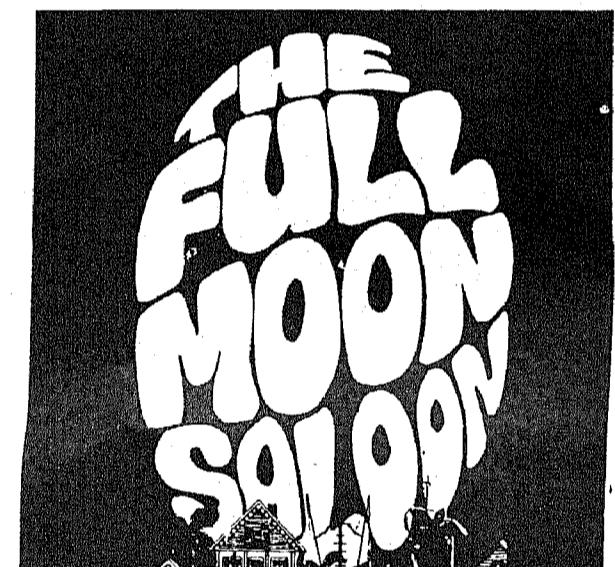
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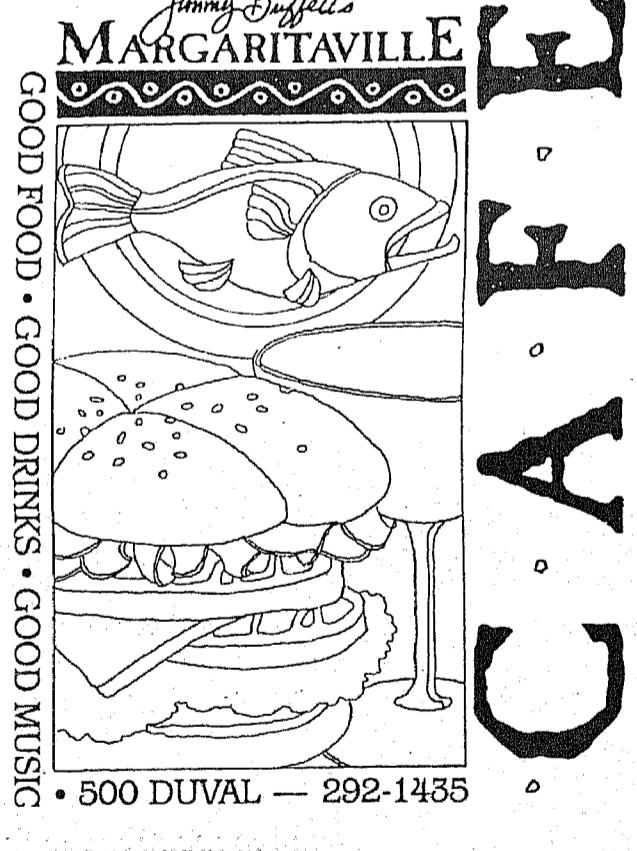
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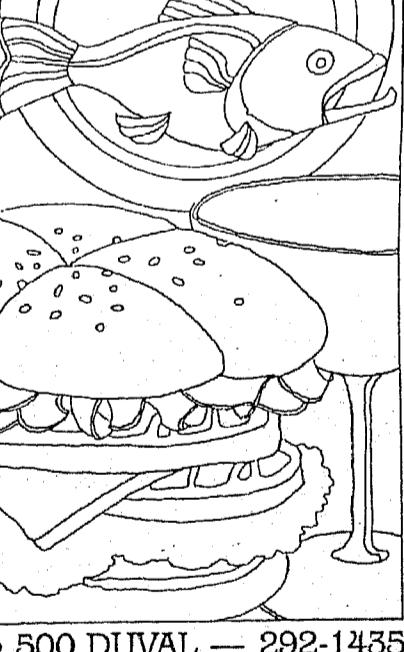
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All About No-See-Ums

by A. d'Rianne

Q: What is the life cycle of no-see-ums, what eats them, and are they proof of the devil? —Harry Powell, Key West

A. Good question, Harry. I thought no-see-ums, scorpions, mosquitoes, fire ants and politicians were *all* proof of the devil.

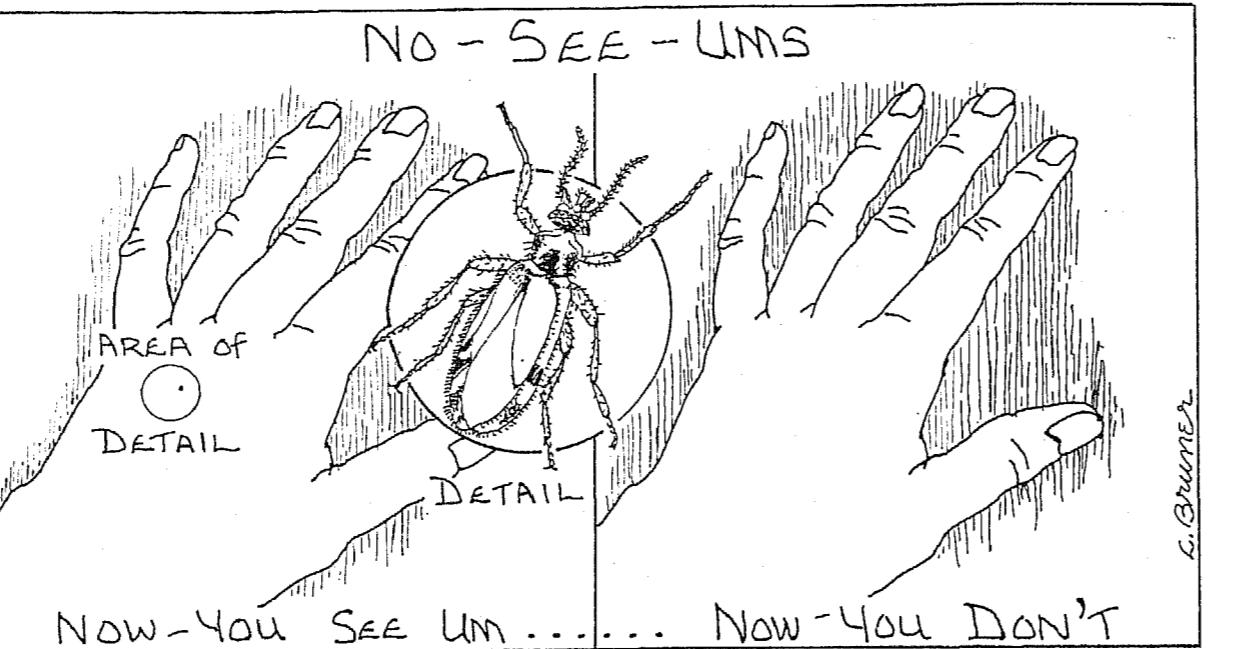
This is a gardening question only in the sense that if one gardens at dusk or dawn, one will be slapping one's epidermis far more often than one will be pulling weeds, or whatever, in an attempt to kill the thousands of no-see-ums that have decided to dine on your blood.

And, of course, in order to answer this question I should be an entomologist—not a horticulturist, etiologist or etymologist, such as I am. With the assistance of Mike Miller at the Monroe County Extension Service, however, I did get some information.

I'm certain you'll be less than thrilled to know there are 35 species of *Culicoides*, also called no-see-ums, punkies, sandflies, and biting midges—*insect order Diptera (two-winged flies)*, family Ceratopogonidae. (Put that in you pipe and smoke it.)

The eggs of these seemingly invisible bugs are usually laid on wet mud around mangrove swamps and salt marshes and can't live if the mud dries up (break out the hair dryers). The eggs hatch about three to five days after being laid. The no-see-um remains in its larval form from three-to-five weeks in the summer and six-to-ten weeks in the winter. During that time it eats something other than people.

When mature, the larvae change to pupae for two to three days and then metamorphose, spread their wings and fly—ready to suck blood from anyone they can. Only the female bites. She has tiny cutting teeth that sever the skin and a tiny capillary. Then she shoots her prey with saliva, which is loaded with a chemical anticoagulant capable (in large enough doses) of turning us all temporarily into hemophiliacs. If we allow her,



the female will drink for up to five minutes.

What does she want with all this blood, you ask? To provide protein for her little babies. One female, depending on the size of her bloodmeal, lays between 50 and 100 eggs per meal. (No, I couldn't find out anything about their mating habits. Would you really want to know?)

Here's more to endear you to no-see-ums: They can be carriers of *Mansonella ozzardi*, a nematode which is parasitic to humans. This worm rarely produces symptoms of disease, but lives in the blood and in the skin.

And as for what eats them, I couldn't get any information on that, but I'd like to know myself so I can raise whatever it might be.

Now, how to avoid no-see-ums. In general, of course, it would be a good idea to stay indoors at dawn and dusk, and don't go fishing on a bridge near the mangroves on a rainy day. Skin-So-Soft from Avon mixed 50-50 with water has long been known as a mosquito repellent, and it works for no-see-ums, too.

The Mosquito Control people say the same spray that kills mosquitoes also kills no-see-ums. The latter, however, will move in right afterwards, and they will not die unless they also are sprayed. Someone told me to apply diesel oil to the screens at home (right!), because that keeps the flies from coming into the house. But I've decided, instead, to stop vacuuming the screens. Eventually, the dust will clog the holes and insects won't be able to fly through.

Whew, this was a tough. Thanks, Harry, for sending in the question.

Q. I'm so frustrated, I could scream! I just spent about \$1000 about a year ago putting all different kinds of palms in my

yard. I've been faithfully watering them, but about half are looking poorly. Am I doing something wrong? —No Kind of Palm Reader, Balding Key

A. Oh, dear, I don't want to disillusion you about our wonderful Keys, but the soil down here stinks big time; watering is simply not enough. Your problem is nutritional deficiency, which can show up in six months or a year—even years.

Let's think back. First, did you plant your trees correctly? You dug a hole 50 percent larger than the pot the palms were in, lined the hole with good dirt, planted the palms at the same level in the soil as they were before, and watered the heck out of them (unless Nature provided us with as least one inch of rain a week, which is a *lot*), right?

Then, most assuredly, you fertilized about one month after planting with a well-balanced fertilizer, which was formulated especially for palms, and followed up about every two or three months thereafter—a process which must continue forever.

Curing nutritional deficiency may take time, depending on how long they've been neglected. Nutritional problems in palms are hard to determine, because the yellowing of leaves, the brown spots, the yellow flecking, the frizzing, the burned look, and so forth can all be signs of various mineral deficiencies—and these can overlap.

Get yourself a granular fertilizer (*not* a houseplant fertilizer) such as a 12-6-8 which contains minor elements, particularly manganese and magnesium, boron, chelated zinc and copper. As always, follow directions. You can provide additional nutrition by spraying the foliage with Peter's blue fertilizer or a similar product. You need the "heavy duty" stuff, however, to solve actually problem and keep the palms in good health. Expect signs of recovery after the second application, if not the first.

I've been fertilizing (and mulching) regularly for eight years, and everything looks great.

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Pier House Restaurant, One Duval Street. Travel & Leisure said the Scampi in Amaretto was well worth the trip. The New York Times called it "Key West's premier restaurant." Reserve a table with a waterfront view. 294-2288.

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Mediterranean Classics

by Jeanne McClow

I am often asked what I eat when I'm home alone. Anything that promises to be delicious! I rarely prepare anything elaborate. The simplest dishes almost always taste the best to me. I rely on the quality and freshness of ingredients for their gustatory appeal rather than on any sort of culinary wizardry. These dishes, I might add, are often the quickest and least expensive to make, too.

With its naturally light, colorful and wonderfully unadulterated flavors, Mediterranean cuisine suits the climate and lifestyle of the Keys. It is healthful cuisine, too, with an emphasis on fresh produce, seafood and grains. In fact, saturated fats and cholesterol rarely intrude on this simple fare. Even the use of sugar is minimal, with dessert often consisting of a ripe fig or two.

All that's needed to "cook Mediterranean" is some good olive oil, fresh lemons, garlic and fresh herbs. I always have pots of basil and mint on the porch. I also keep scallions and vine-ripened tomatoes on hand, fresh Parmesan, mozzarella and feta; plain yogurt, tuna, pine nuts and almonds, white cooking wine, and several pastas. Beyond that, whatever looks best at the market will determine the next meal.

Paradise Café

Corner of Eaton & Grinnell
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Sandwich Menu

Prime Roast Beef.....	.75
Sliced Turkey Breast.....	3.75
Ham & Cheese.....	3.75
Steak Sandwich.....	4.50
Cuban Mix.....	4.00
Fresh Cooked Pork.....	4.00
BBQ Pork.....	4.25
BBQ Beef.....	4.00
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Cheese Toast.....	1.00
Egg Sandwich.....	2.00
Egg & Cheese Sandwich.....	2.25
Egg, Ham & Cheese Sandwich.....	2.75
Coffee.....	Lg. .50
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Following are some cold Mediterranean dishes that will help you enjoy the tropical nights. Although Mediterranean cooking is always "to taste," all these recipes have been tested.

Iced Tomato/Leek Soup

This lovely herbed soup from Provence is a delightful alternative to the ubiquitous red *gazpacho*. Serve chilled with garlic-rubbed croutons sizzled in olive oil or "finish" it with a little heavy cream. It may also be served hot over cooked pasta or rice.

3 tablespoons olive oil
3 small leeks, white portions only, split lengthwise and washed thoroughly
3 to 4 large firm-ripe tomatoes, peeled, quartered, seeded, and roughly chopped
1 clove garlic, minced
1 tablespoon chopped fresh thyme leaves
2 tablespoons chopped fresh basil leaves
2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley, preferably flat-leaved
Bay leaf
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

Heat oil in heavy, non-corrosive Dutch oven. Coarsely chop leeks, add to hot oil, and quickly sauté. Stir in tomatoes, herbs, and seasonings, bring just to a boil, add about 4 cups water, and simmer, covered, about 20 minutes. Purée till smooth. Makes 6 to 8 cups.

Chilled Avgolemono Soup

The lemony tang of this palate-soothing soup from Greece makes for particularly revitalizing hot-weather fare.

1 quart chicken stock (preferably homemade)
1/4 cup uncooked rice
2 eggs
1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

Bring stock to a boil, add rice, partially cover, and simmer about 20 minutes. Beat eggs in small bowl, beat in the lemon juice, and then gradually beat in a cup of the hot stock. Slowly stir into remaining soup and simmer gently -- don't boil -- until thick and smooth. Season and chill. Makes about 8 cups.

Daily Blackboard Specials • Call for TakeOut

Cool Yogurt and Cucumber Soup

Dishes that combine cucumber with yogurt are common in Greece and all the Mediterranean countries east of it. You can vary this one by adding chopped, cooked shrimp and using dill for mint, or if you'd prefer to serve it as a dip or salad, drain the cucumber and yogurt and omit the water.

2 cups plain yogurt
2 medium cucumbers, peeled, quartered, seeded, and grated
2 cloves garlic, minced
3 or 4 scallions, minced
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice or to taste
1 tablespoon olive oil
2 tablespoons chipped fresh mint leaves
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

Mix ingredients well, stir in 1 cup cold water, and serve chilled with lemon wedges if desired. Makes about 4 cups.

Tapenade

This intensely flavored spread of black olives, anchovies and capers from southern France was once the fare of shepherds who ate it on coarse brown bread. Today, it is popular on bruschetta -- loaves of French or Italian bread split in half, rubbed with garlic, brushed with olive oil, and grilled. It is also delicious as a dip for raw vegetables, on hard-cooked eggs, and as a flavoring for mayonnaise. Canned tuna may also be mixed in.

1/2 cup chopped, Mediterranean-style black olives
1 tin (2 ounces) anchovy fillets, rinsed, drained, soaked in hot water for about 15 minutes, and drained
2 tablespoons capers, rinsed and drained
2 teaspoons fresh lemon juice or to taste
1 teaspoon Dijon-style mustard
Freshly ground pepper and cayenne to taste
1 tablespoon Cognac (optional)
1/4 cup olive oil

Blend all ingredients except oil to a paste and then add enough of the oil in a slow, steady stream to produce the desired consistency. Makes 3/4 to 1 cup.

Hummus

The flavor of this creamy, healthful chickpea/sesame spread from the Middle East is bright with lemon and goes well with pita, unsalted crackers, and crudités.

3/4 cup tahini (sesame-seed paste)
About 3 tablespoons olive oil
3/4 cup fresh lemon juice
2 or more cloves garlic, crushed
1 can (1 pound) chickpeas (*garbanzos*), rinsed and drained
Salt, freshly ground pepper, cayenne and paprika to taste
Olive oil for garnish, warmed if desired

Purée tahini with olive oil, lemon juice, and garlic; gradually blend in chickpeas and then seasonings. Pack into small bowl, turn out onto

lettuce leaves, and drizzle with olive oil. Makes about 2 cups.

Pesto

Most Americans are familiar with this glorious basil/pine nut/Parmesan combination from Italy but usually only as a sauce for pasta. It can also be a delicious alternative to butter, topping steamed vegetables, stirred into soups, and spread on hot breadstuffs. Vary the flavor by using other leaves and nuts, or make it a sauce by adding some heavy cream. If you want to freeze it, omit the cheese and olive oil until ready to use.

2 packed cups chopped fresh basil, cilantro, flat-leaved parsley, watercress, or spinach leaves
About 1/4 cup pine nuts or roughly chopped walnuts, hazelnuts, macadamias, etc.
2 to 3 cloves garlic, crushed
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
1/2 cup fresh, grated Parmesan or mixed Parmesan and Romano
1/2 to 1 cup olive oil

Purée basil with pine nuts, garlic, and salt and pepper, blend in cheese, and then add enough oil in a slow, steady stream to produce the desire consistency. Makes about 2 cups.

Middle Eastern Eggplant Salad

The Mediterranean countries offer endless variations on this sumptuous, silky eggplant concoction. This one is sharpened with cumin and garlic, a combination said to be addicting. Serve it as a salad or a spread/dip for seeded crackers, pita, or raw vegetables.

2 eggplants, about 1 pound each, peeled
1/2 to 1 cup olive oil for frying
3 to 4 cloves garlic, minced
1 teaspoon paprika
Pinch or two cayenne
1 teaspoon or more ground cumin
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice or to taste
Salt to taste

Slice eggplant 1/2 inch thick, salt each side, stack in a bowl, weight with a heavy plate, and let drain 1/2 hour; rinse and pat very dry. Heat about 1/2 cup oil till quite hot in a heavy skillet and, in batches, fry slices until light brown on each side, adding more oil if necessary. Drain on paper towels and then mash or blend with garlic and spices. Heat about 2 tablespoons more oil, return mixture to skillet, and, shaking skillet occasionally to prevent scorching, fry until all liquid had evaporated. Pour off any remaining oil and season salad to taste with lemon juice and salt. Makes about 2 cups.

Tabbouleh

Long a favorite all over the Middle East, this delicious salad is made with bulgur -- the whole grain of wheat that has been steamed or parboiled, dried, and cracked. Nutritionally, bulgur leads the grains category. The dish may be served hot or cold as an accompaniment to cumin-roasted lamb, lemon chicken, or seafood; as a stuffing for pita pockets, tomatoes, peppers, and squash; or topped with yogurt, grated cucumber, and chopped scallion on lettuce leaves.

1 cup bulgur, soaked according to directions
1/2 cup minced scallions with part of green portions
2 firm-ripe tomatoes, peeled, quartered, seeded, and chopped
2 to 3 tablespoons chopped fresh mint leaves

1 cup chopped parsley
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
About 6 tablespoons olive oil
About 6 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
Mediterranean-style black olives, chopped

Mix vegetables, herbs and seasonings into bulgur. Blend oil with lemon juice and mix into salad. Let rest a few hours and serve garnished with olives. Makes 4 to 5 cups.

Ratatouille Provencal

The star of this rich, fragrant vegetable stew is the beautiful *aubergine*, or eggplant, but the rest of the vegetables in the garden also play key roles. Traditionally, each is cooked separately. However, the result of simmering them together is just as satisfying and less bother. After cooking, allow the dish to rest a day and then serve it, cold or hot, as an accompaniment to chicken, beef, or lamb; as a bed for cooked fish -- Jacques Pépin recently used it with pan-fried catfish; as an entrée with pilaf or over *polenta* or on a pizza round topped with fresh mozzarella; or as a filling for omelets and quiches.

About 8 tablespoons (1/2 cup) olive oil
1 medium onion, chopped
3 cloves garlic, finely chopped
2 large, firm-ripe tomatoes, peeled, quartered, and seeded

5 to 6 small, unpeeled zucchini or yellow crookneck squash (about 1 pound), cut in 1/2-inch slices
2 medium green peppers, cut into julienne
2 eggplants (about 1 pound each), peeled
1/2 cup chopped fresh basil leaves
Salt, freshly ground pepper, and cayenne to taste
2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
Soft, Mediterranean-style black olives

Slice eggplant 1/2 inch thick, salt each side, stack in a bowl, weight with a heavy plate, and let drain 1/2 hour. Rinse and pat dry. Heat about 6 tablespoons oil in a heavy, noncorrosive Dutch oven, add onion and garlic, and sauté just until turning golden. Add vegetables and sprinkle with remaining oil, basil, and seasonings. Cover and cook slowly about 45 minutes. Pour off liquid into heavy saucepan and, stirring over brisk heat, reduce

Sunset Dinner Specials

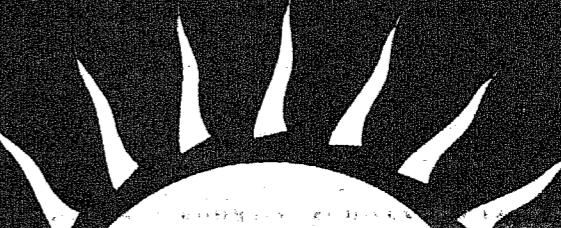
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Rooftop Grille

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to about 1/4 cup; return to stew. Serve garnished with parsley and olives. Makes about 6 cups.

Fagioli con Tonno Salad

This simple combination of white beans with cold tuna in vinaigrette is greatly appreciated in southern Italy for good reason.

1 can (8 ounces) cannellini beans, rinsed and well drained

1/4 cup chopped red onion
1/4 cup olive oil
1 to 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
1 can (6 1/2 ounces) high-quality tuna in olive oil, drained
2 teaspoons chopped fresh oregano leaves
2 tablespoons chopped Italian parsley

Mix first five ingredients in serving dish, mound flaked tuna in middle, and sprinkle with herbs. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

The Best Tomato Salad in the Mediterranean

Let about 1 tablespoon fresh, chopped basil stand in 3 tablespoons olive oil several hours. Then peel and slice garden-fresh, firm-ripe tomatoes and overlap with thin slices of deli-fresh mozzarella. Spoon basil oil over and season lightly with salt, pepper, and red wine or balsamic vinegar. 

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JULY CALENDAR

Cultural Events

7/1-7/7 • The Miss Firecracker Contest by Beth Hanley 8 p.m. at The Red Barn Theatre. Call 296-9911.

Entertainment

Answer Café • Duval Square, corner of Duval and Virginia Streets. Call 296-3371.
 Beach Club Bar • The Pier House, 1 Duval Street. Call 296-4600.
 The Bull & Whistle Bar • Corner of Duval and Caroline Streets. Happy Hour at The Whistle, 5 to 9 p.m. daily.
 Captain Hornblower's • 300 Front Street. Jazz on the patio every night. Call 294-4922.
 Captain Tony's Saloon • 428 Greene Street. Call 294-1838.
 Coconuts Comedy Club • The Top at La Concha at 430 Duval Street. Call 296-2991.
 Crazy Daizy's at La Concha • 430 Duval Street. Call 296-2991.
 Emma's Late Night • The Reach at Simonton and the beach. Call 294-3474.
 Flagler's at The Casa Marina • 1500 Reynolds Street. Call 296-3535.
 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.
 Harry's Hideaway & McCarthy's Rose Cabaret • 618 Duval Street. Phil Sampson, Terry Kiev and friends 8 p.m. Wednesday. Call 294-7787.
 Havana Docks Late Night • The Pier House, 1 Duval Street. Call 296-4600.
 Havana Docks Sunset Deck • The Pier House, 1 Duval Street. Call 296-4600.
 Hog's Breath Saloon • 400 Front Street. Nightly entertainment from sunset until 2 a.m. No cover charge. Call 296-4222.
 Hukilau • 1990 N. Roosevelt Blvd. Call 294-2188.



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

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

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

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

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

Nightfall • The Reach at Simonton and the Beach. Call 296-5000.

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

Peek A Boo Lounge • 300 Southard Street. Live adult entertainment nightly, 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. Call 294-0959.

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

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

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

Rooftop Café • 310 Front Street. Call 294-2042.

Schooner Wharf • 202 William Street. Call 292-9520.

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

Square One Restaurant • Duval Square. Call 296-4300.

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

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

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

Turtle Kraals at Lands End Marina • 1 Lands End Village. Call 294-2640.

Two Friends Patio Restaurant • 512 Front Street. Call 296-9212.

Viva Zapata • 903 Duval Street. Call 296-3138.

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

Meetings

7/1 • South Florida Water Management District Board of Review Meeting 1 p.m. at the Metro-Dade Government Center, room 18-3. Call (407) 687-6322.

7/2 • City Commission Meeting 3:30 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

7/2 • Board of County Commissioners Interim Growth Ordinance Meeting 5 p.m. at the Key Colony City Hall. Call 294-4641.

7/3 • South Florida Water Management District Critical Water Supply Area Meeting 1 p.m. at the SFWMWD headquarters auditorium. Call (407) 687-6322.

7/3 • Board of Adjustment Meeting 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

7/3 • Technical Services Meeting 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the library on Fleming Street. Call 292-8100.

7/3 • TDC Meeting 10 a.m. at the Marathon Crane Point Hammock Main House. Call 296-2228.

7/8 • HARC Meeting 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

7/10 • County Development Review Committee Meeting 1 p.m. at the Marathon Library. Call 294-4641.

7/10 • South Florida Water Management District Workshop 9 a.m. in West Palm Beach. For information, call (407) 686-8800.

7/11 • HARC Meeting 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

7/11 • Code Enforcement Board Meeting 7:30 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

7/11 • South Florida Water Management District Meeting 8:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. in West Palm Beach. For information, call (407) 686-8800.

7/11 • County Planning Committee Meeting (tentative) 10 a.m. at the Marathon City Hall. Call 296-2228.

7/17 • Contractors Exam Board Meeting 2 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

7/17 • Citizens Advisory Task Force Meeting 6:30 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

7/17 • Board of County Commissioners Meeting 9 a.m. at the Key Colony City Hall. Call 296-2228.

7/18 • Key West Planning Board Meeting 5 to 10 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

7/18 • County Planning Committee Meeting 10 a.m. at the Key West Teen Center. Call 294-4641.

7/22 • HARC Meeting 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

7/23 • Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Reef Mooring Buoy Planning Meeting at Hawks Cay featuring speaker John Halas, inventor of the reef mooring system. Call 294-3100.

7/24 • County Development Review

Committee Meeting 1 p.m. at the Marathon Library. Call 294-4641.

7/24 • TDC Meeting 10 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Beachside in Key West. Call 296-2228.

7/25 • Code Enforcement Board Meeting 6 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

7/27 • Reef Relief Annual Membership Meeting 8 p.m. at 319 Duval Street. Everyone is invited. Call 294-3100.

Family Fun

7/13 • The Seventh Annual Underwater Music Festival from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Loo Key National Marine Sanctuary. Call 1-800-USA-ESCA.

7/20-7/21 • Hemingway Days Street Fair 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days on Greene Street (from Duval to Whitehead) and on Fitzpatrick Street.

Well-Being

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

7/2 • Impotents Anonymous meets 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Classroom E of the new education center at the South Miami Hospital. Call (305) 598-3837.

7/3 • Young Heart's Club meets 7:30 p.m. in the Tower Building Penthouse of the South Miami Hospital. Call (305) 662-5335.

7/8 • Teen Positive Gains a two-hour, ten-week course at South Miami Hospital designed to give young people a positive perspective on weight control. Call (305) 662-5335.

7/9 and 7/11 • Standard First Aid Course 6 to 10 p.m. at the Old Armory Bldg., 600 White Street. Held by the American Red Cross. Call 296-4033.

7/11-8/15 • Childbirth Classes sponsored by FKCC and the March of Dimes every Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Big Pine Methodist Church. Cost is only a \$5 registration fee. Call 296-9081, ext. 282.

7/11 • Adult CPR Class meets from 7 to 10 p.m. in Classroom E and F of the South Miami Hospital Education Center. Cost is \$15. Call (305) 662-5335.

7/15 and 7/17 • Infant and Child CPR 6 to 10 p.m. at the Old Armory Bldg., 600 White Street. Call 296-4033.

7/20-7/21 • Red Cross Instructor Training Workshop at 724 Truman Avenue. Call 296-4033 for free registration.

7/22 and 7/24 • Standard First Aid 6 to 10 p.m. at the Old Armory Bldg., 600 White Street. Call 296-4033.

7/24 • Second Annual Environmental Film Festival 8:30 p.m. on TCI Channel 5.

7/30 • Adult CPR 6 to 10 p.m. at the Old Armory Bldg., 600 White Street. Call 296-4033.

7/24 • County Development Review

Ongoing

Adult Children of Alcoholics meets Mondays at 7 p.m., Tuesdays 5:30 p.m. and Thursdays 8:30 p.m. at Holy Innocents Church, 901 Flagler Avenue. Call 294-8912.

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

AIDS Help Support Group Meetings for PWAs, ARC, HIV+, families, friends and lovers are held each Thursday at 8 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Community Learning Center at Har-

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

as well as workshops. Call 294-4352.

Literacy Volunteers of Monroe County is seeking volunteers to help in working with the media and in teaching others to read. Call Bill Clift at 294-4352.

Lighthouse Program, 5825 Jr. College Road, Key West offers drug and alcohol rehabilitative services for adolescents (age 13 to 17)—individual and group counseling, education, prevention, tutoring, vocational, day treatment and outpatient services. Call 294-5237.

Lower Keys Friends of Animals helps animals that are victims of misfortune. For membership information call 296-8828 or 296-3926.

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

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

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

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

Open Poetry Reading meets the first Sunday of the month. Bring original work only. Also prose, music, dance; listen or perform. Free, refreshments served. 296-0785 or 294-1848.

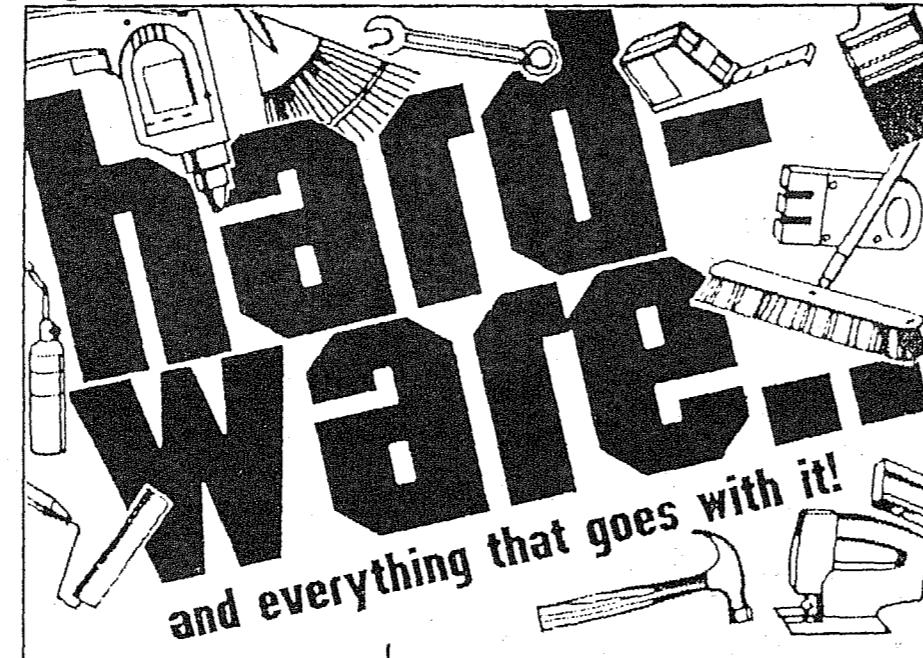
Ovarian Cancer Support Group meets the first and third Wednesday of every month from 7:30-8:30 p.m. at the South Miami Hospital. Call (305) 662-7146.

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

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

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

Preschool Story Hour for 4 and 5 year olds 9:30 a.m. every Thursday at The Monroe County Library,



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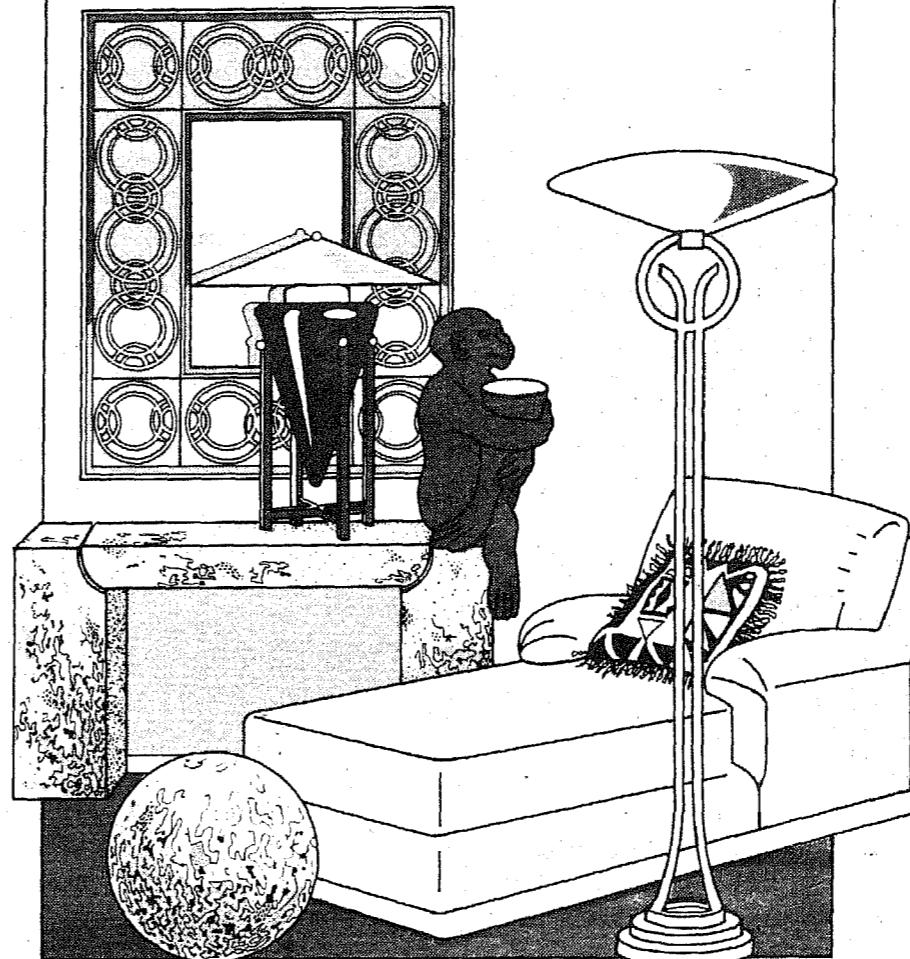
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