

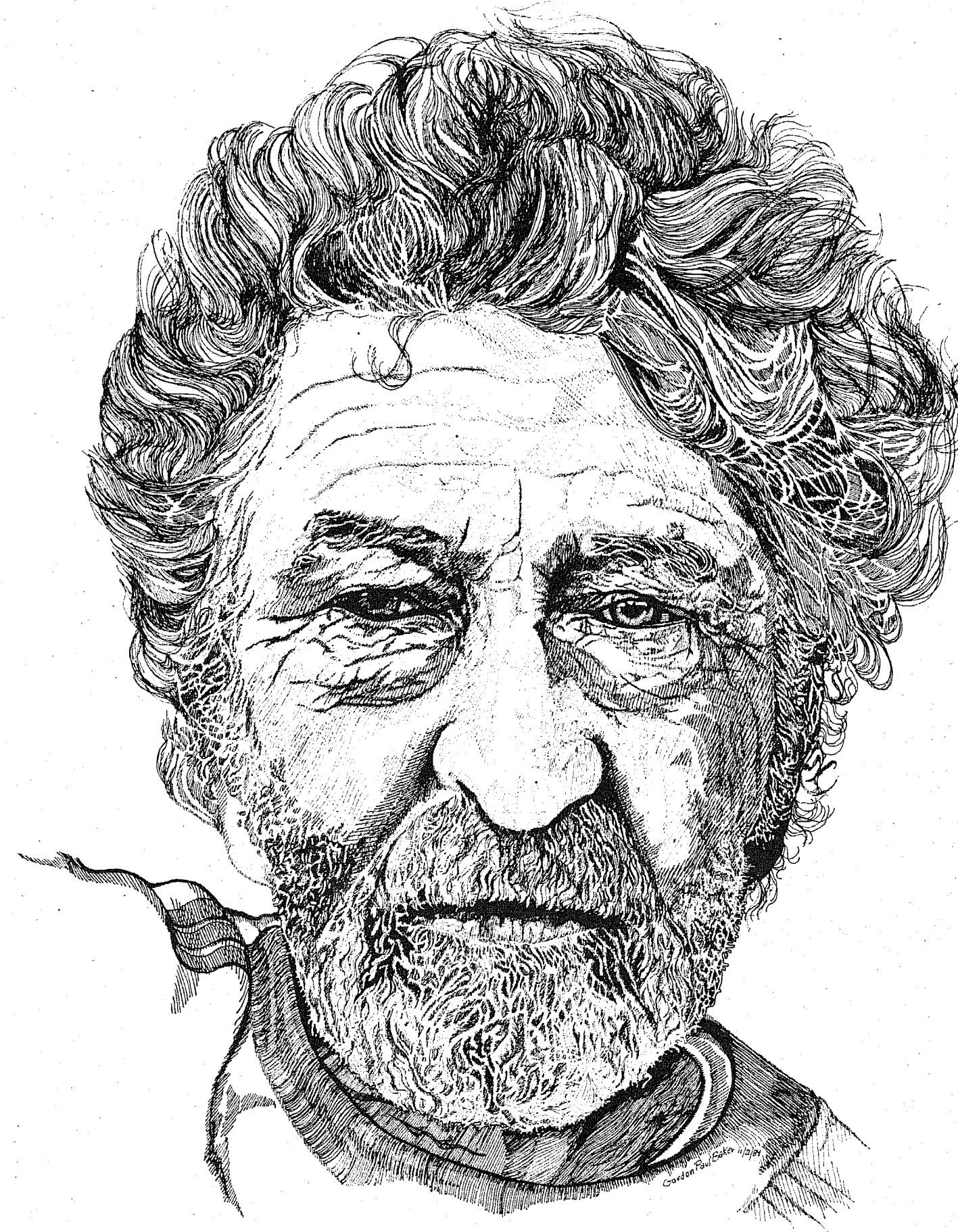
HEMINGWAY DAYS PRIZE-WINNING STORY

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VOL. 13, NO. 8 / KEY WEST, FLORIDA / AUGUST, 1985



CAPT. TONY

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FROM THE EDITOR

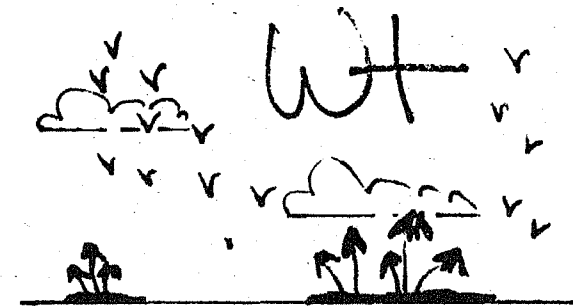
Hello --

MEL FISHER'S DAY finally arrived. A lot of local people are wearing big smiles but none top those sported by the divers and members of Mel's team. He really hung in there and turned a lot of doubters into believers. Congratulations, Mel. Richard Heyman will not be running for Mayor of Key West and I admit to mixed feelings about that. I was an ardent admirer of Richard when he was a commissioner, but cooled some when he was Mayor. He has some great qualities. He is a man of obvious and genuine courage; he has a presence that is both commanding and personable; he possesses a good intelligence made most attractive by his excellent sense of humor; and he unfailingly conducted our affairs of state with authority, conviction and fairness. To his credit (and to the credit of those commissioners who supported him) are among other positive steps, a new city charter, a winning referendum on solid waste, improved requirements for building and new requirements for the developers to pay impact fees to the city, and, most recently, calling for the needed resignation of Police Chief Larry Rodriguez.

HOWEVER, RICHARD LOST a lot of his supporters by his waffling on the Sands Beach project. He stated that he would abide by the recommendation of the Planning and Restoration Commission and then did not when they continued to have reservations about the project. He had to be persuaded to vote to move the sewage treatment plant from its God-awful proposed location at Fort Taylor. His language during the "Sunset Crisis" was disappointingly political. But most of all, Richard let people like myself down with his inability to perceive that the horrendous rush of large-scale development now occurring is going to swamp us. Winston Churchill once said something to the effect "that he had not become first minister of Her Majesties' government to oversee the abolishment

of her empire." Well, none of us who enthusiastically supported Richard thought that he, as Mayor, would oversee and approve the greatest explosion of building that this town has ever seen but that is what has happened. My God, the projects have come leaping off the boards without restraint. Where was the restraining hand of a dedicated and environmentally aware leader? Unfortunately, other than the continuing and unsupported attempts of Commissioner George Halloran to slow things down, there has been no effort in that direction. And that is what we wanted, expected and believed Richard would do and he has not. This is why I have mixed feelings about Richard not running for Mayor again. On so many counts I would like to see him run, but, of course, I would prefer to see a Mayor who was committed to saving this island from a traffic-jammed little Miami Beach. (Incidentally, we need such a candidate now!)

KANA CONSTRUCTION HAS done a beautiful job of fixing up two buildings in the 500 block of Duval. One houses Macho's Duval Street Salon and the other hasn't been totally finished yet. A very nice addition to Duval Street. For the first time I went to the new state park at Fort Taylor. Wow, what a fine experience. It was crowded with local people enjoying the picnic facilities, the beach, and the wonderful setting - can you imagine how horrid it would have been with the sewer treatment plant there? See you next month.



Our cover artist this month is Gordon Paul Baker.

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CAPTAIN TONY: SPREADING THE CHEER

by VALERIE RIDENOUR

TIME IS COMING when having been to Captain Tony's Saloon will no longer mean you can talk about your trip to Key West, even though you have met the man, and been served and entertained by his Key West staff. Very soon you'll be able to experience that laid-back feeling our island so proudly exudes in New Orleans, and not long after, you can soothe your island soul in Captain Tony's in New York, Los Angeles, and several other major cities across the U.S.A. Franchise is the name of the game, but it will be played by Key West rules, laid down by our famous Captain himself. Tony Tarracino is pleased as punch with the arrangements, as indeed he should be.

"I'M AN ITALIAN. This is a bar and this is the way I want to be," Captain Tony explained. "Under the new agreement, Captain Tony's bar in Key West will not be part of this venture. As of now we have a property in New Orleans, and I'll be flying out to the West Coast. I'm going to oversee this thing. The major thing I want is for these places to be as close to what we have in Key West as possible. This is one of my strong points. Number two: I will definitely be in charge of the final decorations." According to Tarracino, every clipping, photo, painting, or other type of significant memorabilia will be carefully duplicated to adorn the new Captain Tony's. One of the features of the duplicate clubs will be a Key West wall. Tony explained, "Before we open the first one, I'll get every brochure in Key West on Key West. It

will be a Key West wall, period." Every bar in the new chain will be called, "Captain Tony's, Originally of Key West."

to walk in these bars and say, 'hey, man, I gotta go down there.'" Although exact duplication of the fabled saloon is virtually impossible,



"The Captain & The Kid"

"IT'S GONNA BE great for our town," Captain Tony continued, eyes sparkling with pleasure and excitement, "'cause I'm sure they're going

Tony assures us, "It goes back to 1852, so we're not going to use any plastic. It will be natural aging, one of our trademarks. You know we

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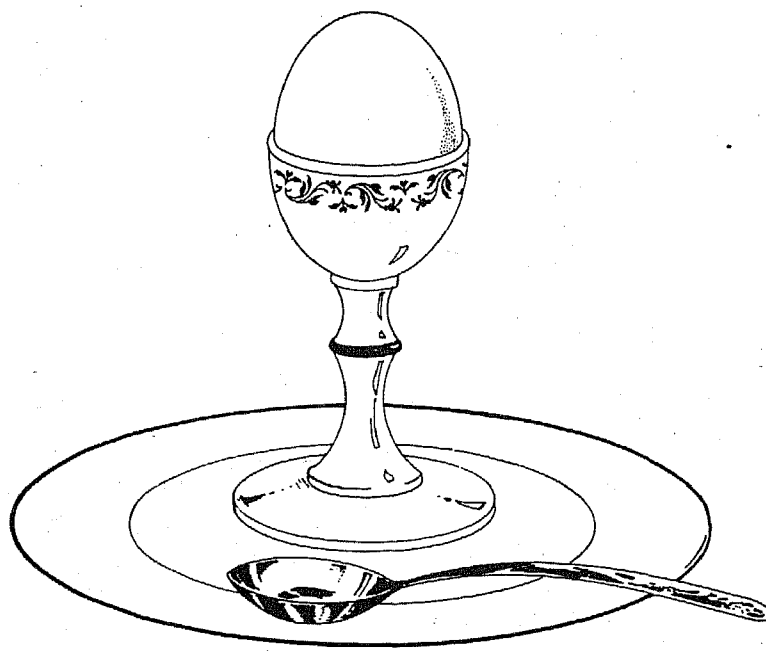
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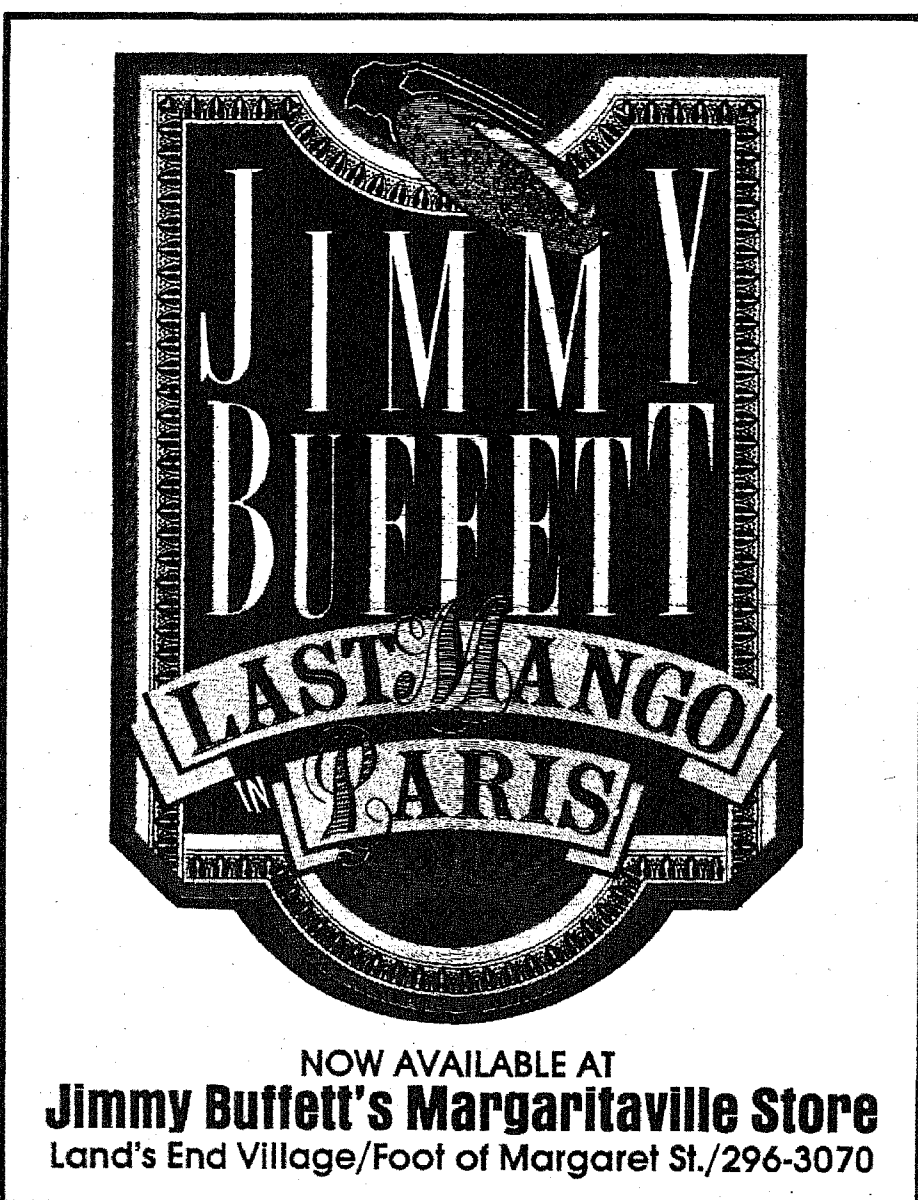
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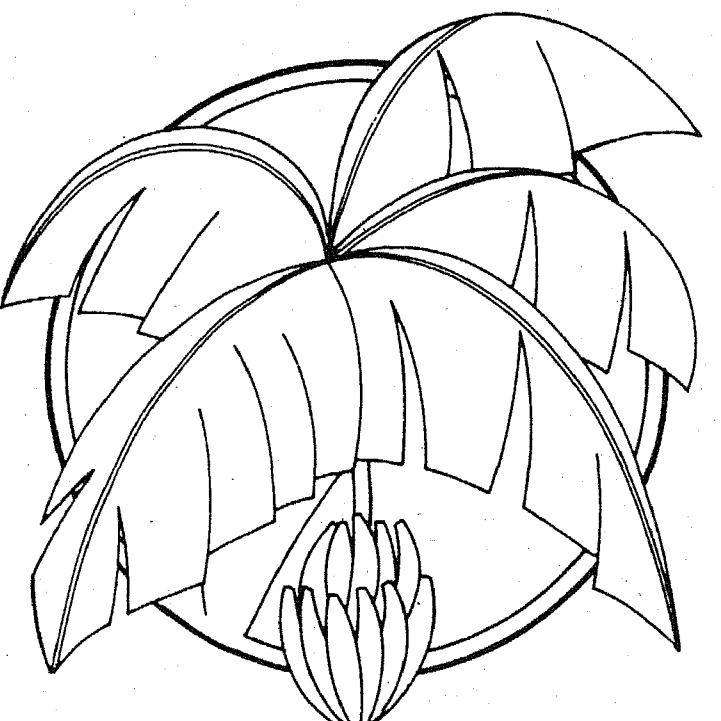
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must have ten thousand business cards stapled to our walls." Tony's grin surfaced. "It's an ego trip; everybody wants to be remembered. Our punch line will be, 'come in and be the first to put a card up. Be part of history!'"

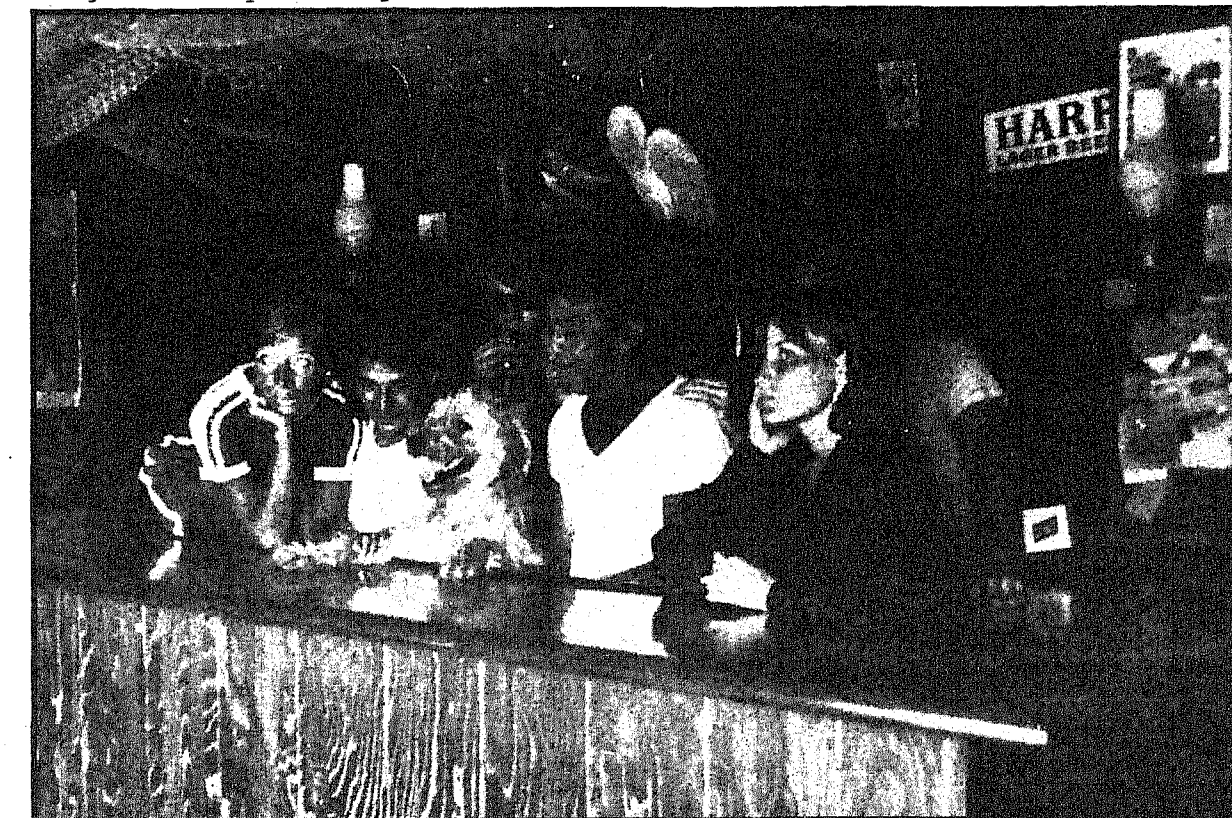
"THE WHOLE THEME will be Key West," Tony continued, interrupting our conversation only to shake a new hand, or advise an employee or salesman of his business needs. "We're going to show the 'Key West Picture Show' at least once a night... give them a taste of our sunshine. At the opening of each bar, our whole crew will come in," Tony stated. "My staff will come in, and we'll probably spend a few days each month at each bar. That's only twelve days and some traveling, so the rest of the time I'll be home where I'm comfortable. I'm not a money man," Tarracino exclaimed. "I was never interested in money, but I love the fact that this is gonna put Key West on the map."

ALTHOUGH NOT A native-born son, Captain Tony Tarracino is a dedicated Conch. "I hitchhiked into Miami from Elizabeth, New Jersey and saw this sign that said, 'See Key West.' I didn't know where Key West was, so I got on a milk truck and came down here." Stopping to swallow a cup of coffee, Captain Tony revealed, "When I came down here in 1948 it was like the Barbary Coast...wide open strip joints, bars, crap tables, even my bar had slot machines all around the bar. It was a different time," Tarracino reflected. "It was the post-war boom, and I was a little hustler from New Jersey. I thought, this town was made for me."

"I STARTED HEADING shrimp to keep alive. As time went on I realized that Key West wasn't the coconut trees, it wasn't the red snapper, it wasn't the flowers, it was the people. I found

my Utopia. It was so beautiful. It still is, regardless of what the critics say. Things change, but the Conchs are still beautiful. I don't worry about the buildings," Tony paused, then added, "I worry about the land use plan to a point, because I have to. I'd like to see more beaches saved for the kids and things like that, but I worry about the people changes. When you really come down

first people that came here, Tennessee Williams finds Key West... we were the beginning. It was power, tremendous power. I could mention Jimmy Russell and Peter Pell, and on and on. We were the first comers. We could do nothing to hurt the town. We were just so glad we were accepted. As time went on, we became part of the community; we became Conchs ourselves."



Tony and some pals in the late '60's. On the left, the immortal Tre, Gary, Beau (the dog), John, Tony, Crystal and Tim. Mostly hidden is Stacey.

to it...I think the best way to put it...in 1948 I was like one of the immigrants who came into New York City in the nineteen hundreds. The

ABOUT THE CURRENT state of Conchdom, Tony reflected, "We lost a little self-respect recently, but we have to keep changing people in office



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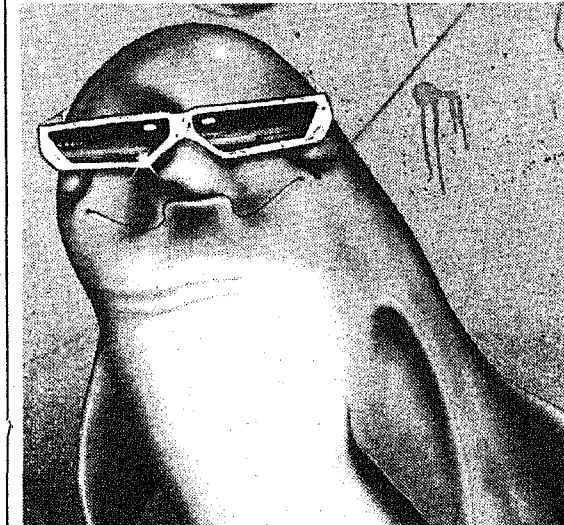
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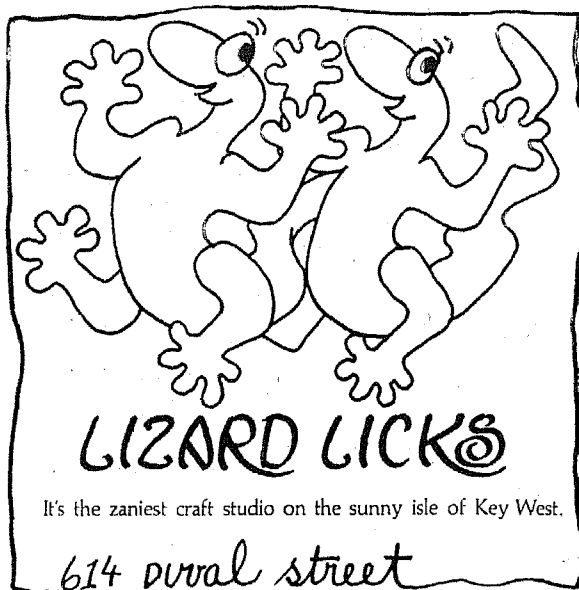
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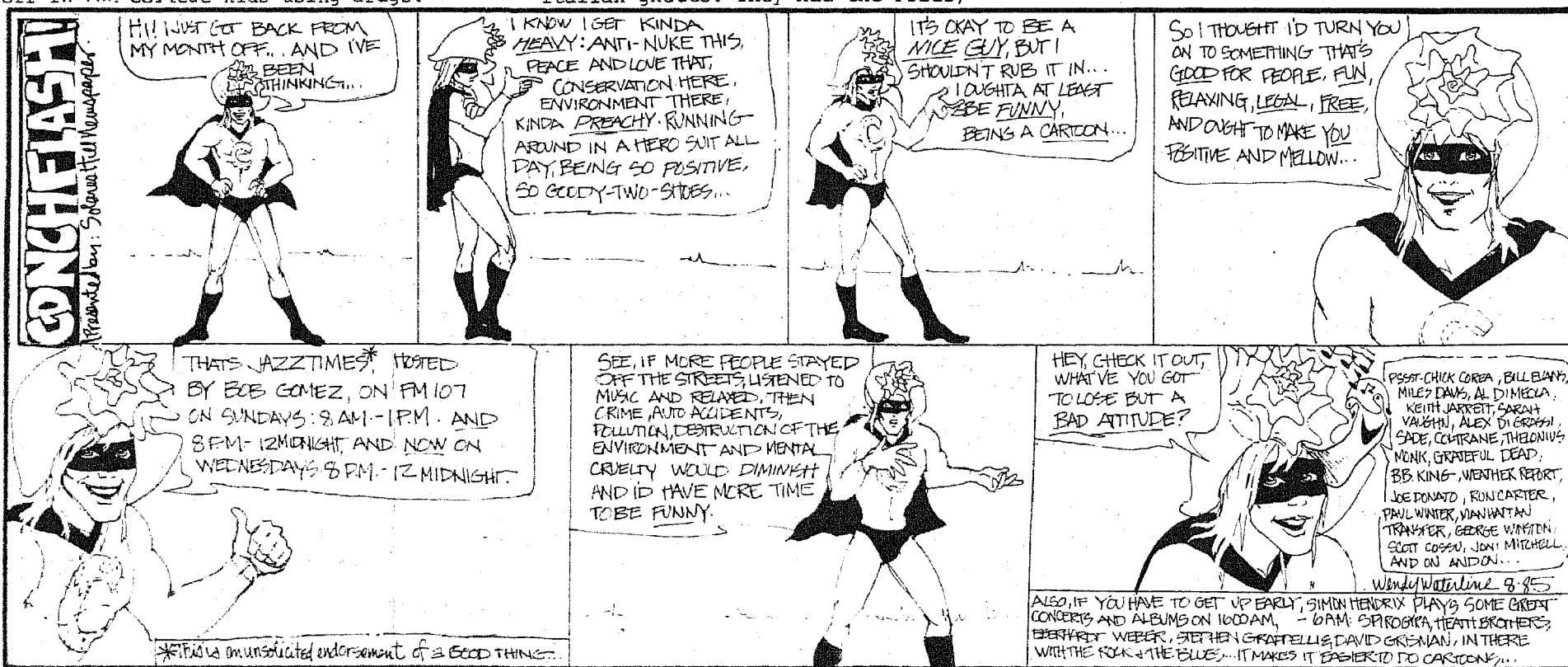
until we get the right combination. I'm not being political, but we're at a very crucial state. But the overall picture is beautiful. We've got the weather, we've got so many things going, we've got tremendous artists here. I'd say that according to the population, we've got more artists than any other city in the country. They find something here, and we've got a lot of people promoting art. Even the drugs, surprisingly, I did this on TV on the West Coast...I didn't justify the drugs, but I told them that for many, many years, all you had here was the fishing industry, the Navy, and the bars. We were the most perfect place to bring drugs, marijuana...tons of it. It was the perfect place to hide...the Keys, the islands, the canals; and when I look at many of these people going to jail, they were my personal friends. I raised these people, like little kids, so I have a tendency to lean toward them, only because in my mind it was a crime of opportunity, like the bootleggers. I'm not gonna justify it, I've seen the damage it does to kids, and it makes me very sick. I'm anti-drugs. People ask me how come I never got involved. I know the damage. But I could never deep down in my heart hate these people who are in jail today because I remember them when they had nothing. Tony believes the drug problem will be resolved eventually by legalization. "There are two great things I've seen in the last two years. We got the college kids here, and in the last two years I've seen a big drop-off in the college kids using drugs."

Now that's a step ahead. Living today, every time you pick up a paper it's horror stories. I don't think we as people are geared for this. Like this terrorist thing...where alcohol was a release for us, I think they are using drugs as an escape from reality. If you look at reality through sunglasses, it's not too bad.

"YOU GOTTA REMEMBER one thing that people forget. Without the blessings of law enforcement, we wouldn't have gotten this far. I'm talking about everybody from Tallahassee to Washington, everybody was in on the take. It wasn't just these little people; it was the lawyers and the judges, and so personally I would like to see some form of legalization. They're gonna do it anyway, and you can't stop them. We can't stop the drugs from coming into this country. It's the peons that are smoking grass. The millionaires are doing coke. They can afford it. Marijuana is for the guy on the street."

TONY TARRACINO is justifiably proud of his town where races and life-styles mix, tolerate, and accept each other, perhaps more than in any other place in the country. He hopes a taste of that happy state of mind might set an example for people in areas where such differences still sadly cause trouble. "We get good press in Key West," Tony exclaimed. "It's bound to rub off. I was born in New Jersey, near New York City, and I grew up in what they call an Italian ghetto. They had the Poles,

in Bayway, the Irish were Frog Hollow, Italians were Peterstown, surprisingly each one was their own country. Frog Hollow was Irish all the way. They didn't want us Italians over there. That's just the way it was. I grew up knowing what prejudice was, knowing what the Blacks or Cubans, or anybody has to go through. They called me a renegade," Tony remembered. Tarracino was never one to believe that such a small thing as country of origin could endow a man with either status or shame. "At the time I didn't understand it, but I couldn't accept it. If I went out of my neighborhood, someone would knock the hell out of me. I was too small; I couldn't fight, so I learned to talk. I could always hustle myself and save my life. While I was struggling very hard in my life-time, I met three people. They gave me what you call a break. I remember one fellow was an old man. I was going for a job in shoes full of newspapers (they were too big), a job with 'The Elizabeth Journal.' He said, 'You'll never get the job the way you look.' He bought me a shirt and a pair of shoes. I thanked him and he said, 'Tony, I'm gonna tell you something; don't forget what I'm telling you. I just reached out and helped you up the ladder. Now someday when someone's trying to climb that ladder, you reach down and help them.' There are many people in Key West and other parts of the world who can tell you Tony kept that promise...thousands of times."



"WHEN I CAME to Key West, this was the Duval Club," Tony glanced around his frayed yet famous establishment. "Before that it was Joe Russell's, which everyone knows. It was the Osceola Bar. At one time it was called the Blind Pig, the General Store...but in 1852 it was opened as the Morgantown Ice House and Funeral Parlor. People say, you're full on baloney; there was no ice in 1852, but what they did... in 1852 this was a great port. Our population was twelve thousand - Miami was six hundred. We had the great harbors here. They'd take the vegetables up to Maine and New York, then they'd cut the ice out of the lakes and put it in the sailing boats for ballast. When they came here, they unloaded the ice and covered it with sawdust in this building. If someone died and they couldn't bury them for a month because people were coming from somewhere, they'd lay him on top of the ice, cover him with sawdust and forget about him. I used to come in here when it was the Duval Club. Then in the early sixties a fellow named Morgan Bird came here, a very beautiful gay person who looked like Charles Laughton. Every night he'd wear a different kind of jacket. It wasn't a gay bar, because at that time gays were all closet queens. There were senators from Washington who came here who wore wigs. Truman Capote with his pocketbooks, and Roy Weeks, and Tennessee Williams. He opened up an old Victorian style place. It became probably the most famous gay bar in the world. All the great writers were here, and the artists, and Elizabeth Taylor and Tallulah Bankhead. They'd come to Tennessee's little house on Duncan Street, Rip Torn, Geraldine Page... nearly everybody was here."

"MORGAN BIRD HAD it for about three years. Now remember, this was a very big military town, and that was great for the gays. They didn't

really stand out. They danced with each other, but so did the Blacks and the Cubans. The Junkanos were doing limbo every night. It was a big peak, then out of nowhere it was put off-limits to the United States Navy, because they claimed two boys were molested in the men's room. Now if you were put off limits, that was the end of the trip. In the meantime, I'm running a party boat, and I've having a great love affair with a girl named Shirley, and she's pregnant with my child. Every day we'd come in here and they'd put on our favorite song, 'Fascination.' We loved it. I asked Morgan to open it again, by a silent partner, but he said, 'No, Tony.' He then went home to Pennsylvania and committed suicide." Tony was silent for a moment, then continued. "Oh, I forgot something. David Wolkowsky, who was doing restoration in Philadelphia, came back to Key West where he was born. This building was tilting, was falling down. David and Danny Stirrup rebuilt this bar. They used the old boards; they never changed anything. This was the first historical restoration in Key West."

AS THE STORY of Tony Tarracino's acquisition of the saloon continues, Tony recalls, "David Wolkowsky came to me on the boat." Tony laughed, "David and I, at that time, were the best PR men Key West had. I was a Captain and a showman, and David was bringing artists here. David came to me and said, 'Tony, you love this bar, why don't you and Shirley take it over?' I said, David, I don't know anything about bars." Wolkowsky finally convinced Tony that his own persona was all he needed to establish a successful venture into saloon life. After consulting with Shirley's brother, a bar owner in California, Tony decided to give it a shot. "The day it opened," Tarracino continued, "it went right back to the way it was

with Morgan. All the gays flocked in. I was behind the bar working. Because I was a very straight captain, the Navy didn't bother us. Those were the greatest years of this bar. They all came here - senators, stars..."

CAPTAIN TONY IS rumored to have been a friend of the late Ernest Hemingway, which of course he was, but as he puts it, "A lot of people misinterpret it, Hemingway doesn't come in that strong. I met him at a couple of cocktail parties in the early fifties, but we were just people that met. Tennessee (Williams) is totally different. Tennessee is," Tony paused, "I was hanging fish up on the dock one day, and this guy says, 'Tarracino, what are you doing here?' I turned around and it was Frankie Merlo, who was Tennessee's great love. From the time Frankie Merlo died, he never did anything. I think the only thing he did after that was, 'The Night of the Iguana.'"

CONTINUING, TONY SAID, "I said, Frankie, what are you doing here? How's the wife and kids? He said he'd gone gay and was a secretary and lover to Tennessee Williams. And it shocked me. He said, 'Bring the fish down. I want you to come over and meet Tennessee. He just opened a play called 'The Glass Menagerie' in New York. It's a big hit.' So I met Tennessee... never did I meet Tennessee as a playwright, I met him as Frankie's lover. We grew up in the same house in New Jersey, Frankie and I; it's the breaks. Understand? And who is there...James Herlihy, the midnight cowboy, Jamie Kirkwood, writers...Evan Rhodes, the guy who wrote, 'The Prince of Central Park.' I never met them as writers; I met them as people. I'd take them over to the house and my wife would cook a big plate of spaghetti or some fish, once a week, 'cause we didn't have much money then, but we all ate."

Truman Capote, all of them knew me as Captain Tony. They were part of the family."

ONE OF THE main attractions of Captain Tony's funky bar is the thousands of business and personal calling cards tacked to the walls. "About ten or twelve years ago...I'm a Vegas man, I love to gamble. I was sitting at the blackjack table in Las Vegas at about five o'clock in the morning, and losing about five or ten thousand dollars and this hooker comes over. I never went to bed with her, but I knew her and liked her. She asked how I was doing, and I said I was taking a beating. She said she'd change my luck, so she and her girlfriend sat on each side of me. I was the only one playing at the table. I got all my money back and won about sixty thousand dollars before twelve noon. At that time I wasn't married. I'd had two or three wives...I was very active. I said, I'm gonna bring you to Key West with me. We flew Eastern Airlines, first class. The Pier House had just opened. I put them over there. They weren't working," Tony quickly explained. "They were there for a week and just had a great time. As they were leaving they asked if they could put their cards up. There were two or three over by the fireplace, and I said yes. They said if anyone was coming to Las Vegas to give them a call. That's how it started, honest to God." Our captain's eyes twinkled merrily as he recalled the beginning of a Key West tradition.

"EVERYBODY'S GOT A little ego. People will come in from five years ago and find their card and scream, 'My God, it's still there.' I think every country in the world is up there. I had some Counts from Spain, very big political people from

Washington. Some people come in and buy a drink just because they want to put their card up there. To me, they become a part of the history of this bar. In all the thirty-eight years I've been here, the mental attitude hasn't changed. I'm me. I think it's great to be me. In Key West, I can be me."

TONY RECALLED, "I'M running a great gay bar, but it wasn't just a gay bar, and this was before Watts. The Black folks would be in here dancing with their mamas (I used to call them) and the Cubans were here. There were guys dancing with guys and girls dancing with girls, everybody was here and it was accepted. I was still the Captain. I didn't care what anybody did as long as they were suave about it; that was the rule. I remember when Truman Capote lost his teeth. I don't know what he was going in the back alley, but we had to go out with a flashlight and find them. Marie de Marsan, she was a great artist. You know what they did one Halloween night? She comes in on a horse. They paint it white with shoe polish. She was totally naked and seventy-two years old. She had on a blonde wig down to here, she was Lady Godiva. She hit her head on a beam, I thought she was dead. Her horse was nasying up the floor...what stories this place could tell."

"I HAD THE first disco bar; disco was very big. I always kept up with the times. Then a new generation started coming in in the seventies. People my age are getting older, new troops are moving in. Then the Navy leaves. We are in trouble. Tourism is sort of fifty-fifty, and most of the tourists were fisherman. Through a lot of publicity and breaking our ass we became the sport fishing center of the United States. All of a sudden,

from nowhere, like the locusts, came the gay people. They started restoring the old houses and put a lot of people to work. They were a Godsend, no matter what anyone says. They started saving old houses. People were painters who never were painters or carpenters. They had work. I don't care what anyone says, to me the gays are God's children. Show me a family of five, and you've got one gay; why, I don't know. Anyway, they become a part of our economy, and I don't think we've slowed down since." Tony spoke confidentially: "They saved the town. They saved the structures."

"THEN ABOUT THAT time we had the influx of the younger generation. They opened up a couple of gay bars in town, and we lost the young gays. The older ones stayed with us. The oldtimers are always loyal, see? So the bar becomes straighter and straighter, and then all of a sudden from nowhere come the hippies. Kids! I fell in love with them." Captain Tony's handsome face lit up under his salt and pepper curls. "I'm an idealist, and I loved it. They had no place to sleep at night, so I opened my doors. They slept on the pool tables, the benches, the floor... I just loved them. Youth was speaking up. I hope it happens again before I die. I'd buy ten pounds of baloney, ten loaves of bread, Pepsi Cola, and drop it off at the door. They started calling me the father of all the hippies. Then the locals started saying I shouldn't let these kids come into town. They raided my bar, my band was too loud. It was a hard trip, but I liked it." Tony looked up. "I was living it. I'm still living with the whole movement."

"EVERY TOWN ALWAYS has its winos. There were a few in there, but most of the kids were from any American

family. That's the way I saw them. Some politicians used them, saying, 'We gotta get rid of the scumbags, the dirtbags.' It seems in Key West the guys in the white shirts and ties are the real thieves. They're always going to jail. That's why I don't wear a tie." Tony's funky sense of humor glowed like the sun, then his countenance turned somber. "Then something horrible happened. Then came the acid. I have always deep down in my heart felt it was the government that dropped the drug on the kids. They had a great movement going, then suddenly here came the acid. Those kids stopped the war. Then after that came the hash oil and Quaaludes and it neutralized something. It was over. I always felt that the government was in it somewhere, and they neutralized the whole thing, they did such a good job of it. And I'll stick to my guns no matter how much they deny it. I feel that."

"SURPRISINGLY," TONY CONTINUED, "some kids survived. I remember Monkey Tom was one of the greats. I have a certain taste for art. He was primitive, but he saved Key West history in his paintings. There were a lot of artists and great musicians here. They stayed on. But a horrible thing happened. They lost ten years of their lives, and they can never make it up. That's the sad part of it."

Music has always been a major part of Captain Tony's Saloon... "The first band I hired was the 'Dollar-ninety-eights,' the first rock-and-roll band in Key West. They were from Pennsylvania, around Pittsburgh. Their equipment had loose wires and pieces of tape... they came in and said, 'Captain Tony, we're a rock-and-roll band, we can make you a lot of money.' I looked at the kid; I had a great disco thing going. These were the hippies again. They had beards and shabby clothes, and an old

beat-up car, half a gallon of gas left... I said okay. You start tonight. They were so loud they killed the roaches in the building with the vibrations. I put them to work the next day and they survived. Jerry Jeff Walker played here, and David Allen Coe...you know we have a new tape of Jimmy Buffett," Captain Tony spoke excitedly. "Jerry played here, and he fell in love with one of my girls, Murphy. They got married. David Allen Coe was always a rogue. I mean him and I just hit it off. He's much cruder than I am, but mentally don't let him deceive you. He's a brilliant man. Oh! Way way back during the 'love' kids, a girl came up with two guys with guitars. They wanted to play here. I said, What's your pleasure? They said give us ten bucks, a couple of beers...it was Joan Baez. She was nobody then, but she made it big. This bar was always lucky with people, I don't know why, but Jerry Jeff Walker made it right after, and Jimmy Buffett comes in out of nowhere. He's just a little kid. He's got a guitar, he shook hands, and said, 'I'm Jimmy Buffett. I'm just coming up. I did some tapes and I'd love to play here. I always said, someday I'll do Captain Tony's.' He got up there, and he was great. I gave him ten dollars and some buds; he was a kid to me."

"I'M A NATURAL musician," Tony explained. "I could tell. I said, you know, you got a lot going for you, somewhere along the line. If you're ever going to create, you'll create here. I said, walk these streets, go down by the shrimp docks, you'll find something and, when you find it...you've got it. I told him to hang in here, in Key West. A lot of things were happening. And he comes up with 'Margaritaville.'"

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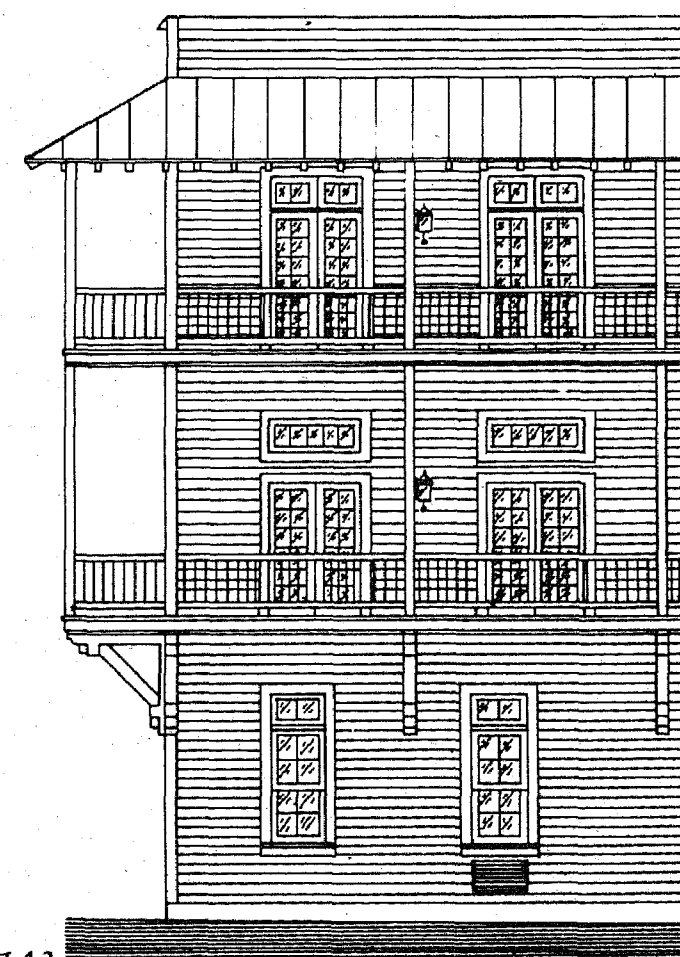
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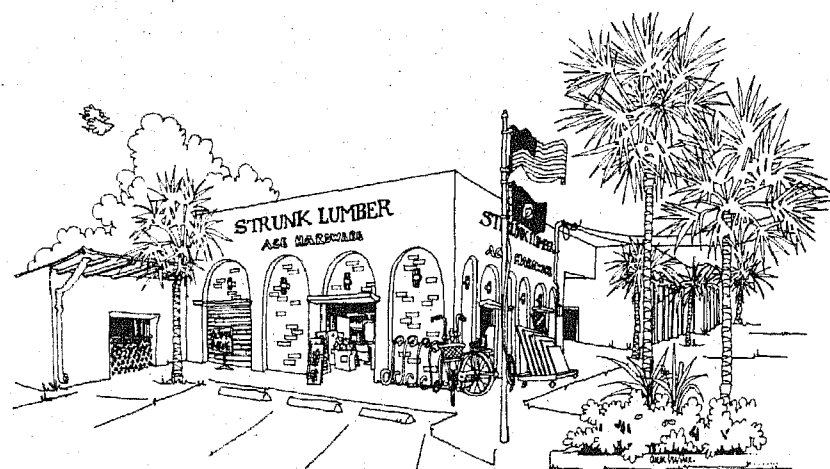
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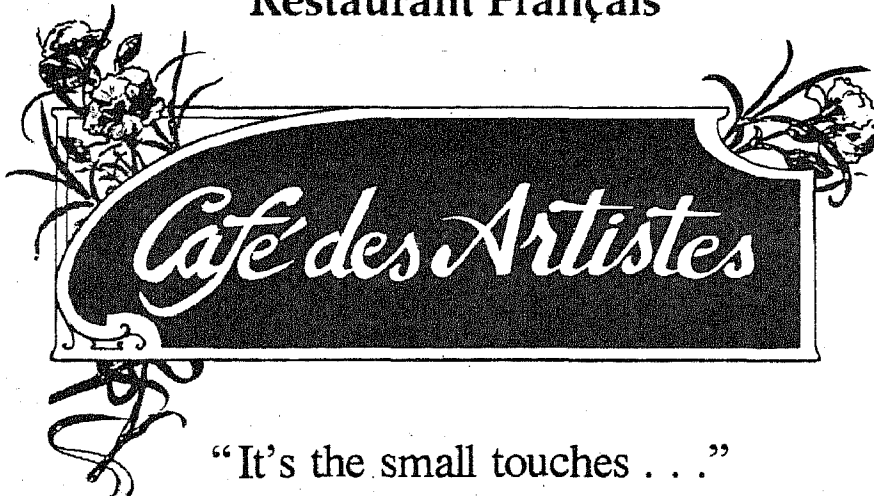
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I WANT to say something about Jimmy Buffett. He's one of the rare people. If you look in his eyes, he's always smiling. He knows something you don't know. I'll bet you when he's seventy he'll have that look in his eyes and still be grinding. He always said, 'Tony, I'm gonna do a song about you.' About three months ago, sitting in the back just before sunset, he came in. We talked about women, about our lives, about the struggle to be successful, with me not realizing he was creating 'The Last Mango in Paris.' This bar...a legend never dies. We had about two beautiful hours, then I said, Jim, I gotta go. When he came out of the men's room, I'd disappeared. When I heard that tape, I couldn't believe it. He captured one of them great moments between two guys when time stands still. That's an artist."

(AS A MUSICIAN (my real line of work), I, too, got to rock-and-roll on Tony's famous stage with the Gary Chase Band, another up and coming act. There are "Keep Off the Ice" signs, photos of people like Marilyn Monroe and Bogart, and a general assortment of funky sentimental litter, each piece important, that no musician who has played there will ever forget. Captain Tony's stage becomes a valid, yet spooky, part of your life that stays inside you forever. Our entire

band began writing songs at double our usual speed. And believe that the Captain is a man of his word. He double-booked us; we had come in and set up our equipment early to keep from bothering customers later on. Tony didn't notice our equipment, thought we were not going to show and called another band. When we came in and he realized what he'd done, he apologized to Gary and paid off the other group. We all laughed, but the impact of a man's integrity made still another lasting impression.)

"SOMEONE AT THE Galleon called me up one night and said, 'Tony, there are about twenty of the Miss Universe girls here, and some of them have asked if they could meet you. Could you come down here about ten in the morning and pose with them?' I said, my God, looking at those beautiful girls...all this and heaven too. Everybody was laughing. I was glad to do it. I wandered with Miss USA; she's gorgeous. Little animals! I don't think I could handle twenty at a time, but I'd put up a hell of a fight. Plus, The Galleon went to a lot of trouble to bring publicity to this town. You got to love people like that. You take The Galleon and the Pier House and the

Casa Marina; they gave us national publicity. You gotta love people for that." The contestants in the pageant were filmed in front of a magnificent Key West sunset in a sequence seen around the world.

WHAT ARE THE highlights of Captain Tony's fabulous life? "Gee, so many things happened. Having a movie made of my life was fantastic; watching Stuart Whitman play Captain Tony...they usually don't make a picture about you till you're dead and gone. At that time I was sixty-five, and all of a sudden they put on the arc lights and I'm living my life all over again. It was beautiful. So many great things have happened in my life. This bar thing...it's making history again. People die and go under tombstones, but I think I'll be alive for a long, long time. I've had the best years of my life in Key West, and indirectly this franchise thing...for ten years they've been pushing me...this is my way of saying, 'Key West, thank you.'"

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its wonders to themselves, Captain Tony, a diehard realist, knows the value of publicity. Although it means having to share our island paradise with visitors, Tony knows we need to keep our hotels full and our people working. He has committed himself to showing people what they can have, if only for a few weeks. Captain Tony's Saloons (originally of Key West) will open in New Orleans, Boston, Los Angeles, either Detroit or Chicago, and several other locations across the country. "The final count will be about seven," Tony added. "We should open in New Orleans probably in January. We're gonna fly our whole crew in. We'll get tremendous publicity, publicity you can't buy." He plans to thoroughly enjoy his travels. "We're going to duplicate this building even to the cistern," Tony claimed proudly. "Just about everything you see here will be duplicated, and then we'll start getting the local things. They'll bring in their license plates, all kinds of things, but there will always be a wall that is exclusively Key West. I hope to get every brochure from hotels, fishing boats, everything. We're gonna have an honest-to-goodness shark, and the shrunken heads...the only thing I know that's going to be missing is the palmetto bugs." The bottom line for Tony is to have people say, "If this is

what it's like, I'm gonna go down there and see it.

"THE HIGH IQ people come in here, and they develop kind of a reverence. They sit down and they can feel the years. A lot of psychology professors come in here...big people in their field. A psychologist told me something very beautiful one day. There were two psychoanalysts from New York. They had a four o'clock reservation to fly out of here. They asked what time the Captain comes in, and my girlfriend said about five o'clock; he's out fishing. They cancelled their reservations and rebooked their hotel rooms. I came in and met them. One of them said, 'I missed my plane on account of you!' I said, I'm sorry. He said, 'I had to meet you.' I said, why? He said, 'I'm a bar buff. I learned years ago that a bar reflects its owner. I had to meet you.' We sat talking a long time. When he left, he said, 'You were worth waiting for.'" Tony Tarracino's friends range from fishermen to celebrities. One of those is Walter Cronkite. Tarracino's face lit up. A writer who saw him at Captain Tony's wrote: "Walter is a hopping lush." Tony was furious. "That was terrible. I got so mad...that was the loudest thing in my whole life I've ever had anybody do to me. With all the great people I've met in my life, one of my great heroes is Walter Cronkite. And it happened in my bar."

Tony shook his head sadly. "I put his name on a barstool right away. He's one of the people I consider great. He IS U.S.A. He's so down to earth. He's so beautiful with people who want his autograph, so gentle. There aren't many people like that in the world."

"TENNESSEE HAD THAT; Jimmy Buffett has it. They're born with it. They say Jimmy Buffett comes into Key West and he's got a swollen head. That's a lot of bull. He comes into my bar, a hundred people jump on him. He hasn't changed one iota. He's the same kid I first met, but people won't leave you alone. You have to protect your own personal life. I can't go to a restaurant in this town," Tony confided, "someone wants to buy my meal, send me drinks, have me meet their mother...and I love the attention, but I have to rest from it...I eat where the Conchs eat. I go to the race track, people say, 'I saw you on TV with Tom Brokaw, would you autograph my program?' When I'm in my bar, I'm there for them, and I love it!" Tony Tarracino's personal life hasn't suffered enough to exclude time for his family. Beaming, Captain Tony exclaimed, "I'm sixty-eight years old. My youngest child is four,

continued on page 14

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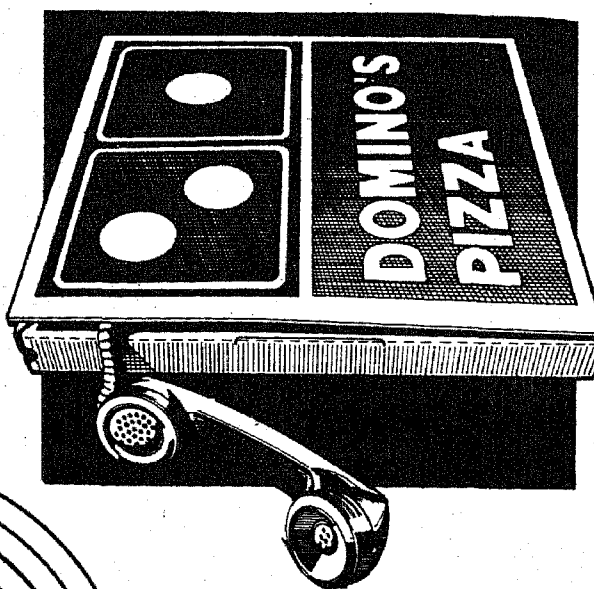
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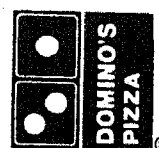
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CITY POLITICS: TRIVIA RAISED TO AN ART FORM

by BUD JACOBSON

AS WE STRUGGLE through the oppressive, muggy heat of mid-summer in Key West, there's only one game in town that prevents mass suicide: the everlasting game of politics. The ins and outs, the fancy footwork, the crazy rumors and malicious gossip, the shifting sides as voters try to figure out if there's anything serious about this year's charade, as compared to last year's, and the year before, or the year before that.

Here we are, early in August, already being pummeled by thinly veiled political stump speeches from the incumbents in City Hall, added to the sober-sided "announcements" from would-be contestants out there in what is fast becoming our own concrete jungle in Key West.

HAVING CRANKED UP the old political machine so far in advance of the actual qualifying dates, all the candidates are in for a long and exhausting run through the city's political thickets.

Election Supervisor R. L. (Bobby) Brown noted that when the time comes, the candidates will have only four calendar days in which to sign up formally and pay their qualifying fees into the till - from noon Monday, September 16th to noon, Friday, September 20th, in the Clerk's Office in City Hall.

THAT BEING THE case, all the talkers and announcers are a full six weeks ahead of the day when they have to put up or shut up. In past elections, it has not been unusual to see some of the "talkers" fade away when they have to get out the check-book.

Real life campaigning on the glory road to political stardom in Key West begins on September 20th until the first primary, Tuesday, November 5th, with the runoff on Tuesday, November 19th. City elections are nonpartisan so everyone can vote, no matter what party you're in.

While we may have a cluster of high-sounding political announcements floating around in the ether, it is still three months before the first election day.

WHAT DOES THAT mean, you might ask. To put it bluntly, dear reader, it means you can brace yourself for an onslaught of what is modestly called "political advertising," interspersed with tons of planted publicity stories favoring one candidate over another. You may want to buy some earplugs to ward off cute jingles, or thunderous commands on the radio about who to vote for, and you'll be treated to all sorts of visual delights like signs on utility poles and trees, and printed ads, displaying the "no-nonsense" look of the candidates - sincerity is the key expression.

THERE'LL BE COZY family shots including a lovable old mutt named Spot. As the campaigns wear on (and you wear out), more and more of the voters will find themselves wanting to vote for the family dog, especially after they've been clubbed over the head, repeatedly, by the outlandish claims from those candidates who will lead us politically to our collective fate.

Ah, yes, we have laws protecting the abused child and the battered wife, but nary a word to protect the victimized voter.

This year in Key West there are all sorts of fascinating angles for the

voters to explore.

MAYOR RICHARD A. HEYMAN who, we think, has shown himself to be one of the most conscientious and effective of many of our recent top political executives, has chosen not to run for reelection. Unfortunately, Heyman has been stricken with a bad case of shingles, a painful and long-lasting viral infection. There had been rumors, before his announcement, that he would resign and hand over the gavel to Mayor Pro Tem Jimmy Mira. It would have had the effect of turning some of the races topsy-turvy. That didn't happen.

AT THIS EARLY stage, then, the mayor's chair in the center of the commission bench, is wide open - and the pelicans are circling.

Taking aim on that chair are some veteran Conch politicians such as the city's building official, Purie Howanitz, and Tom Sawyer, the publicity man at First Federal of The Florida Keys, also chairman of the Port and Transit Authority. A novice in that race will be Robert (Bob) Garcia, a jeweler and businessman for many years who had been active on the fringe of some campaigns.

HOWANITZ IS A city employee. The question comes up will he have to resign in order to run a political campaign? City Attorney Joe Allen III explained that under the new Civil Service rules Howanitz would have to take a leave of absence without pay (if he qualifies) during the time he's on the campaign trail. In the meantime, Allen says, "he is not supposed to campaign while he's on the job on the city payroll." Howanitz, some years back, was a county commissioner for two terms and was the owner of a plumbing business in town.

THERE'S BEEN SOME speculation in Conch circles about three local men

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battling for the office of mayor and what would happen if, for example, one of the city's politically active non-Conchs took up the lance and entered the fray. There are no more powerful single-ruler political machines in town, as there used to be, so it is possible the "outsider" could overwhelm the old-line Conch candidates. The other commissioner who has to run, of course, is Mira and he's said he'll be in there going for another four years.

Mira, who is talking himself about running for mayor, however, might be facing a stiff run for his commission seat from businessman Jimmy Weekley, a member of the family that owns Fausto's supermarkets. Weekley has come out in favor of checking the unfettered development spree with a plan for controlled growth, along the lines of what Commissioner George Halloran has been trying, and trying to get across to the rest of the commission, including Mayor Heyman who's waffled about the issue a number of times, and then voted for more development.

ALSO OUT THERE on the political horizon are other trial balloons. Friends of Shirley Freeman, wife of the sheriff, are indicating she might look favorably on the mayor's job; other point out, however, there might arise some incidents of conflict of interest, so the prospect of Mrs. Freeman in the contest is highly speculative.

Further names popping up out of nowhere, except from the energetic rumor mill are Richard Kerr who, two years ago, lost out to Heyman almost solely on the matter of development vs. the environment. Charles E. (Sonny) McCoy, a one-time mayor, is faintly rumored on the circuit as is bar owner Tony Tarracino.

NOT TO BE overlooked, in addition to the City Commission battles, and

viewed as just important to all payers of the electric rates, will be the elections to three seats on the utility board of the City Electric System. Chairman Bill Cates, now in his third two-year term, is expected to move for reelection. Board members Otha Cox and Marty Arnold would go for reelection to their four-year terms. There have been some stories making the rounds, however, that Arnold might have his eye on a city commission slot.

Outside of the impending political battles, there have been other interesting developments inside the commission and voters are asking questions.

MANY OF THE voters who strongly supported Commissioner Emma Cates two years ago had the impression she would lean more toward planned and controlled growth in the city, rather than toward the runaway development situation which is so openly apparent. Commissioner Cates, at this point, seems to favor all development that lands in front of the commission. Without much comment.

Another point, say many of her backers, is her recent silence with regard to Police Chief Larry Rodriguez who, early in her months on the commission she had publicly denounced for his alleged failure to straighten out the police force. Now Cates is silent, even in light of the damning disclosures in the recent federal dope trial.

What happened? Nobody knows.

ANOTHER SUB-SURFACE POLITICAL movement is quietly underway, according to a few of the elder Conchs who've watched the way the wind blows at the corner of Simonton and Angela. It is rumored to be a loosely organized drive to band together voting blocs of Conchs who will "stand together against the strangers who've taken over the city," said one. The word is

filtering gradually through the Conch grapevine and the message is going home.

IN THE MEANTIME, the politicians will be out on the stump, trying to scoop up the majority part of the 13,000 registered voters - the ones who vote, that is. Two years ago the turnout was 61 percent. This year, according to Supervisor Brown it could easily top that.

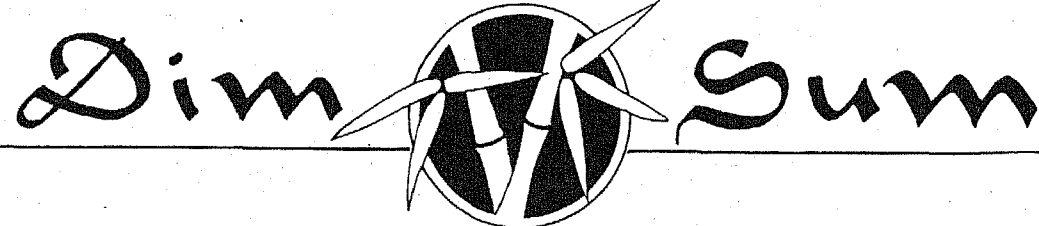
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my oldest is forty-eight, and I have ten in between. I have twelve children. It's the greatest thing I ever did in my life. I'm sorry I didn't have more. That's what it's all about, 'cause if you don't... you die when you die. You cannot die as long as you leave a child."

AS I WALKED out of Captain Tony's Saloon in my town, Key West, I was once again filled with the feeling Gary Chase and I shared on that famous stage. We played under an ancient sign proclaiming, "Everybody's a star at Captain Tony's."



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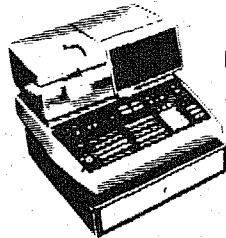
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I SET OFF driving with a Keys pal, Ellaline, who is up here in Western North Carolina for a visit with her foster mother. Spring is so thick you can lean on it, and out the windows of The Pontiac That Which Is A Lemon, you can see Jersey cows grazing the pastures and smoke from nearby farmhouse chimneys that smudge the blue, untroubled air. This is a tiny-farm locale deep in a few hills and hollows near Franklin. I can see that Ellaline's small grandson, Robert, has made a spit picture on my rear window. He has displayed to me the nearly heart-shaped, orange sea grape leaf from Cudjoe Key, with "Hi, Mammie" printed on it.

ELLALINE'S MOTHER LEFT the family early days, and Ellaline's father couldn't care for the children, so Ellaline, 9, and her sister, Anna Ruth, 11, were given over for three years to a farm widow the girls called Mammie. A yellow-jacket wasp flies against the car window. Says Ellaline, "It's not the powerful, primitive bond I suppose a real parent would generate, but Mammie did make some room for us in her affections so many years ago. So, I keep up. She's 85 years old but very independent. A social worker checks on her."

ELLALINE TELLS ROBERT to sit down. She begins to reminisce as now and then I brake for a guinea hen scuttling away from the tires. "The minute Mammie rode off with a neighbor taking

her box of cabbages to market back then in the '40s, Anna Ruth's sense of drama broke out. The occasion centered around a dead goldfinch in a kitchen match box. The funeral went forth in the sweet pea bed. Anna Ruth was the priest. Ellaline, the mourner. Anna Ruth's entrance: Garbed in a nightgown of Mammie's, set off by a pair of rubber hip boots, bearing a short, lit, white candle and a tea tray loaded with authoritative-looking objects - a cow bell (jangled at intervals); a snippet of dental floss (which Ellaline was to draw between her eye teeth); an old postcard of a library in Kansas (which Ellaline was required to kiss four times); a brilliantine bottle filled with "holy water" that the mourner must pour down her bosom while beating same; a chunk of coal to blacken the forehead and elbows; a part off the cream separator (to trace the sign of the cross in the air) and a paper horn (Ellaline to fall on her knees at each blast). The priest, Anna Ruth, kept handy an ancient cane carved from a cypress knee to jab at the earth if carried away with passion. Ellaline, the congregation, sat in a black, felt hat with a torn veil that she kept chewing and a cardboard fan she enthusiastically fluttered. And six handkerchiefs for bawling. Ceremony only shortened if they found they were in a black ant hill. On the bird's mound went a cob of garlic to ward off demons. It was gone four o'clock by then, and there was a hurried scurry to put up everything before Mammie returned. If you were caught out and lied about the brilliantine, Mammie would rub mustard on your tongue for lying.

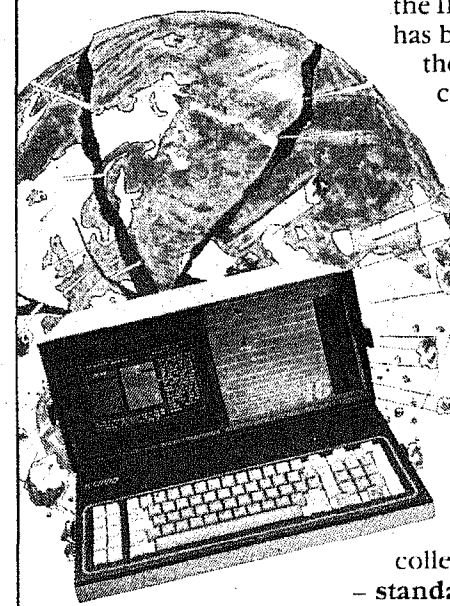
AS WE PULLED up before Mammie's little house, hidden between two folds of a valley, red geraniums in pots each side of the door, Ellaline snaps, "Robert, I absolutely forbid you to

sit on the coal Mammie keeps her bathtub full of."

We walk in. From the front door, you can see right through out the back door to Wolf Fork branch that moseys through the valley. Mammie is a diminutive figure with her hair pushed back strenuously in a bun the size of a doorknob. She has undergone some hard patches and has not worn very well. A Seth clock on the mantel, with a tinny tick, gives time 43 minutes slow. There is a large black and white poster on the wall that looks like President Coolidge or someone got up to look like him. For the three there are good and kindly feelings, arms around shoulders, fond pats for the smartly turned-out Keys pal, the old, old woman and the little young boy. Mammie wears the ice blue satin housecoat that Ellaline brings her. In the excitement, she is hopping about showing us that she can touch the tip of her nose with her tongue. Queenie, her tabby cat, the weight of a junior size panther, pushes through the door with a bird in her mouth. I light in a low chair under a calendar that hasn't been turned in four months. Having warm orange juice with a hair in it.

ROBERT IS WHIZZING around like a young tom cat or a spinning top. Tracing with a bony finger the table oilcloth design, taking a musty sip from the gourd dipper in the oak bucket on the back porch, racing around the house three times, twitching off a guest bouquet of six rusty zinnias at Mammie's request, checking out Queenie's cracked bowl. He is settled down on the hooked rug just before he puts his finger in the mantles of the gas Alladin lamp. He is served beaten strawberry jello that looks like a lung. When we must leave, Mammie rushes to the icebox to take out her shoes. There are onion

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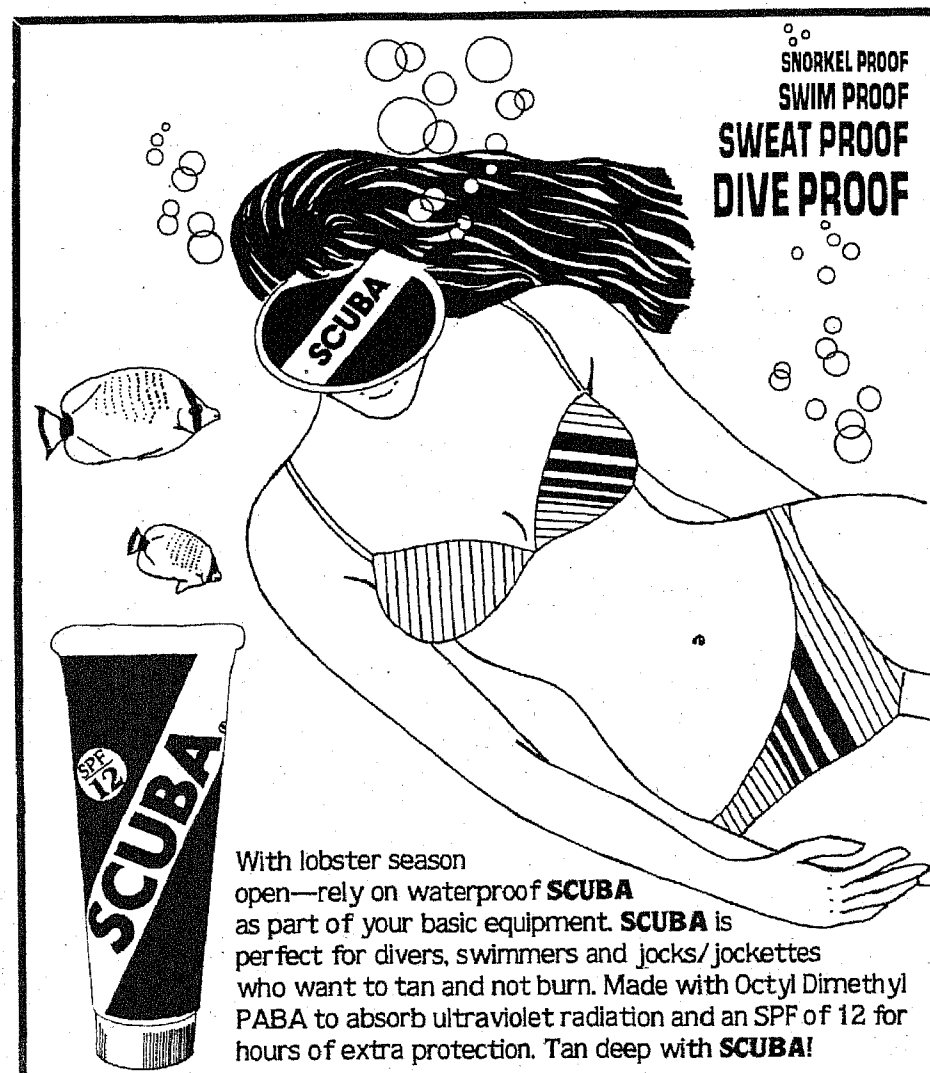
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AGAIN IN THE Pontiac That Which Is A Lemon, a few lingering sniffs from Elletine, rummaging in her bag for her Mary Kay compact. Tonight, a phone call will fly off to Anna Ruth, married to a stockbroker in Orlando. In the back seat, Robert, in an un-six-year-old voice is bellowing out, "Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so." He presses his quarter against the window so that Mammie can see it. "Robert," she cries, as the wheels start moving. "Robert, don't EVER let anyone know the bottom of your pocket."



Some Thoughts

by GIL RYDER

AS NEAR AS can be ascertained, the Land Use Plan has been sent to Tallahassee by the County - neither accepted nor rejected by the County. This makes it very probable that the Monroe County Land Use Plan will wind up being whatever Tallahassee wants it to be.

Basically, the war is over even though the battles continue - something like the Battle of New Orleans, fought on January 8, 1815, even though the war had ended on December 24, 1814.

The reasons, in both cases, are basically the same - poor communication.

BACK IN THE era of the War of 1812, there were no telephones, telegraph or radio and postal service was very slow (no air mail). In our present era of Land Use Planning, we have all the modern rapid means of communication but, unfortunately, the subject matter of the communications is, for all practical purposes, in-

comprehensible to the lay citizen. (That's most of us.)

Our problems really started when the County hired out-of-town experts to establish a comprehensive Land Use Plan for the Keys. Those out-of-town experts were: Siemon, Larson and Purdy of Chicago and Lane Kendig of Mundellien, Illinois.

HOW DO EXPERTS work to solve other folks' problems? Who knows? Presumably they have technical knowledge as taught in whatever institute of higher learning awarded them their degrees, and probably they have, or have access to, computers.

How would you do it, if you were the expert? Probably you'd find out what questions the County wanted answered and what existing relevant data they could give you. Maybe that would go something like this: We expect, or want a population of, say, 90,000 by the year 2005, but we want to preserve as much of the native flora and fauna as possible.

THE EXPERTS THEN feed this data into the computer(s) and come up with the following answers after the computers had chewed on the data for a while: #1 - Stop all future residential

construction on 50 x 100 building lots. #2 - Grant special treatment to all developers of large-scale cluster housing projects.

Those two responses should solve all the problems by jamming the human population into a comparatively small area, thus leaving the larger area for the benefit of the flora and fauna.

REMEMBER, YOU ARE the expert, and when you get these solutions from the computer(s), you, being intelligent, realize that the present residents of the area aren't going to like the computerized solution. Now you have a problem: How to make the residents accept this simple but horrible solution.

After a bit of thinking, you come up with the perfect answer: Resimplify the computer's terse simple solution into complete obfuscation by expanding it into 5 or 6 volumes of incomprehensible technical jargon that would take the average citizen years of study to understand, but put in something that appears to be really simple and easily understood and will get the residents fighting each other rather than fighting your plan.

MAYBE IT WOULD not even be in your plan - after all, Mr. and Mrs. Average Citizen are not at all likely to read thoroughly 5 or 6 volumes, so all you need is a good solid rumor. Ah! you have it! "All commercial fishermen will be permitted to operate on and out of any single-family residential area as long as there is sufficient water depth to accommodate the fisherman's needs."

THAT WILL REALLY put the cat among the pigeons. After all, how many noncommercial fishing residents will want the noise, stink, and appearance of a commercial fishing industry next door? Nonfishing

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residents will be so busy fighting off a real or imaginary fishing industry that they'll have no time or energy to spend on the real enemy - Your Plan.

YOU, THE PROFESSIONAL Plan progenitor, are now finished. You can laugh all the way to the bank. The County Commissioners are looking at Your Plan with wondering eyes and total confusion. Ordinary dictionaries are of little help in reconstructing the technical jargon into crystal clear, simple, easily understood language. How can they remember, when studying volume 3, whether or not volume 3 is in accord with volume 1, or volume 5? After all, the Commissioners also have to deal with the normal, everyday problems of the Keys. What to do?

THE ONLY ANSWER is to hire more experts who can understand the expertise of the first experts and advise accordingly, but - there's not enough money to hire important people from out of town. So - they are inspired - get expert advisors from the Keys! This they did. Some were paid, some were not, but in any case this was a lot cheaper than getting advice all the way from Illinois.

THE COMMISSIONERS AND their advisors did get together and the upshot was to send the plan to Tallahassee, neither accepted nor rejected. Perhaps the Commissioners learned at least one thing: The accepted definition of an expert is, "A fellow from out of town."

The question for you to ask now, Dear Reader (if you've gotten this far), is, "What can I do now?" and the answer is "Nothing."

The apathetic majority have been absolutely correct all along. The

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public can never win a battle against big money interests or government bureaucracy.

WE SHOULD ALL have recognized the handwriting on the wall when the new bridges and the new and larger pipeline were constructed. You didn't really believe that those millions were spent for your benefit, did you?

There's nothing to worry about, however, because just a little while back, another group of experts were assigned the task of identifying the best place in the USA to live. They gathered data, fed it into their computers, and got the expert answer: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania! Now all we have to do to be happy is to pack up and move to Pittsburgh as fast as our old Conch Cruisers will carry us!

SERIOUSLY, THOSE WHO are upset by the Land Use Plan should try to be philosophical about it. The whole world is bursting at the seams with people, some of whom are starving, and all of whom are trying to find acceptable living space. This is bound to cause some spillage into the Keys - all following the Great American Dream. Unfortunately, all Americans don't dream the same dream, and there's the rub.

SOME COME TO the Keys expecting to live in a sylvan glade and see Bambi peeking at them from behind a tree. Others come seeking nonstop honky-tonk, sexual adventures, readily available narcotics. Some seek to become romantic seafarers (red sails in the sunset), and still others seek to enhance their fortunes in what they see as a wilderness area ready for exploitation.

There is no way that the County or the State can present a Land Use Plan that will fit all the diverse dreams of these various people. The harder they try to do so, the surer they

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are to make everyone mad.

A FORCE 5 hurricane through the Keys will probably put the Land Use Plans on the back burner for a while. That brings us to another subject - a major hurricane that will make land use planning just a minor irritant.

Newspapers are carrying the usual warnings, advice concerning self-protection and property protection. Some will have special sections devoted to hurricanes, with lots of ads for various items and materials available to help secure your home, your car, your pets, and of course, your own safety.

HURRICANES SEEM TO be getting as commercial as Christmas and Mother's Day and perhaps that's a blessing in disguise. The more attention that is given to hurricane hazards, the greater the chance that people will start taking the threat seriously.

Unfortunately, there are those who have become deaf to the warnings simply because they see and hear the same old warnings year after year without ever seeing or hearing a hurricane. The whole thing eventually becomes a bore - something like the friendly life insurance man who keeps warning that death is inevitable and that many are not adequately prepared.

SADLY ENOUGH, THE doomsayers are quite correct. We ultimately die, with or without insurance, and at some time the Keys will be devastated by a force 5 hurricane and only the fit will survive. The fit are those who take the doomsayers seriously and take all the recommended precautions plus a few that are seldom mentioned, such as being prepared for a long siege of primitive survival after the hurricane has passed.

JUST TRY TO imagine the effect of a hurricane with sustained winds of 150 m.p.h., gusting to 180 or 200 m.p.h., driving towering and terrifying seas before it. Try to picture the effect of this awesome destructive power on U.S. 1 and the pipeline. The new bridges might well survive, if not hit by a large, heavy, hurricane-driven ship, but a good deal of roadway and pipeline is sure to break up and wash away.

ACCEPTING THAT SCENARIO, you might ask several questions, such as: how long will we be without running water, electricity, telephone, ambulance service, fire protection, and, with the highway and other roads rendered useless, how long before we can help the injured and bury the dead?

Does anyone have accurate, positive answers? History will give us the answers after the storm has passed, but - only the fit will survive to hear the answers.

Is all this just a big scare tactic? It sure is. But remember - it's a lot better to be scared in August than to be dead in September.

Prepare now - read hurricane articles and the special sections, even the ads. You may find something that will save your life.

ANOTHER QUESTION WE might ask is: Will the many fresh water wells in the Keys remain fresh after the islands have been inundated with sea water? It would be nice to know the answer. Also, it would be nice to know what steps, if any, can be taken to preserve the wells. They may well be the primary source of drinking water after a major hurricane for quite some time. Not a pretty picture, is it? Maybe this is the year to take the warnings seriously - take all precautions, and hope to survive.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE CITIZENS OF MONROE COUNTY, AND TO MY FRIEND, GIL RYDER

by Stanley Becker

GIL RYDER, IN his column "Some Thoughts" (Solares Hill, June 1985), took a very dim view of the County Commission's effort to reroute the Land Use Planning process toward responsibility addressing the real needs and concerns of our community. He was particularly critical of those Commissioners who hired "citizen advisers" to assist them, and mistakenly accused them of dodging their decision-making responsibility.

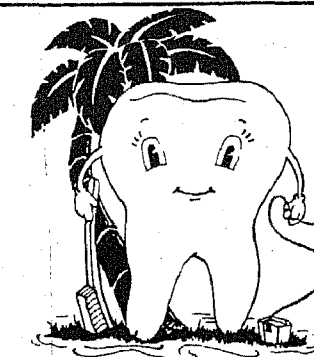
GIL AND I agree with each other more often than not but, in this case, perhaps due to his lack of direct participation, I feel that he has mistakenly done a great disservice to the Commissioners and all those actively involved in the planning process and concerned for the future of our community. Knowing Gil as I do, I cannot help thinking that, if fully informed, he would agree that his point, while valid as an abstract principle, is not applicable in a practical sense. It does not recognize the peculiar human realities of our community which demand practical, creative, highly visible, and very responsive approach by the Commission. This is no time to blindly stand on principle, Gil, and while I agree that it is important to stick by one's principles, it is equally important to select the most appropriate principles to apply in a given circumstance.

MY ASSOCIATE, SANDY Barrett, and I have participated in almost every public workshop conducted by the planning consultants and public hearing conducted by the Commission. Also, we have served as advisers to County

Commissioner Ed Swift in the review process that has been criticized, so I think I am sufficiently informed to publicly explain my disagreement with Gil's position and try to put this process in a realistic perspective.

IT IS ENTIRELY true, as Gil states, that the County Commission, under Florida Statutes, Chapter 125, has the power to "prepare and enforce comprehensive plans for the development of the County" [Ch. 125.01 (G)], and to "establish, coordinate and enforce zoning and such business regulations as are necessary for the protection of the public." [Ch. 125.01 (H)]. We have indeed elected our Commissioners to do these things but, hopefully, not in ignorance nor in a vacuum, without access to or contact with other human beings. None of our Commissioners has ever claimed to be omniscient or expert in the field of land use planning. They employed some very professional planning consultants and after one and one-half years of effort and about a half million dollars in public funds expended, we faced the thoroughly constructed framework of a Plan with its content acceptable to no one in our community. I never thought I would see the day when spokesmen for both environmental and development interests would publicly agree with each other on the same substantive issues, but that bizarre event resulted when Draft I of the Plan was released. Such an event clearly indicated that this professionally prepared plan had overlooked the human factor in its equation, and it was this very serious oversight that the Commission sought to remedy.

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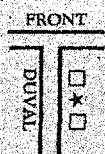


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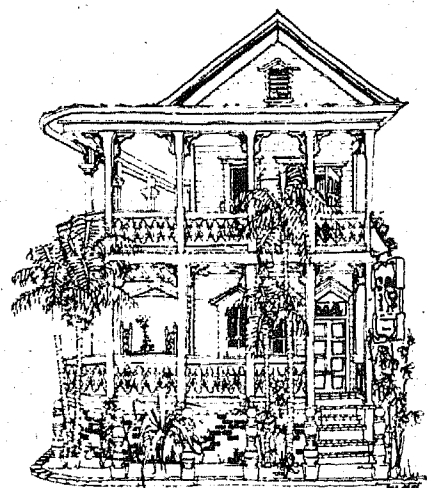
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Commissioners have abrogated their authority and responsibility to the advisers is completely unjustified. I can assure you all that the Commissioners have taken full responsibility for every aspect of this review process, and neither acceptance nor alteration in the developing drafts of the Plan are made without their informed vote. We may agree or disagree with the position taken by a particular Commissioner or with the decision of the majority on a given matter, but it is grossly unfair to these dedicated people to accuse them of avoiding their responsibility when, in fact, they are fulfilling that responsibility in the most appropriate and democratic manner possible.

PLEASE BE ASSURED that we, as advisers, were chosen for our knowledge and experience in certain relevant matters, and because we were known to and trusted by those who selected us to provide pertinent information and opinion in a reasonably fair and dispassionate manner. Certainly we all have our particular biases but that is also a part of the human equation and I think the Commission achieved a pretty fair representation of the various biases that make up our community.

THE COMMISSIONERS CERTAINLY are able to "separate the wheat from the chaff," as Gil phrased it, but if we are to require that they forego the hiring of specialized, informed assistance, why did they hire professional planning consultants in the first place? We did not elect this County Commission because they were experts in land use planning or because they personally had detailed knowledge of habitat structure, ecological function, or historic uses of specific geographic areas of the Keys. Those who voted for these

people did so, fundamentally, because they felt that these Commissioners would be sympathetic and responsive to their interests in a difficult and confusing time of change here. If you have spent much time watching this Commission in action, Gil, I think you would agree with me that the people of Monroe County chose very well, indeed.

TO DEAL WITH the criticism of being paid for our services, Gil, let me refer to your statement, "Surely these interested citizens would be more than willing to share the results of their studies with the Commission without going through the formalities of official appointment or payment of wages. Informal meetings with knowledgeable citizens would add to the Commissioner's knowledge and perspective and help them to make adequate and acceptable decisions." Baloney!! I never expected such naivete from an old New York hand, Gil. This County has suffered far too long now from "informal meetings" with Commissioners on the part of "interested parties." In its kindest and most commonly accepted form that is called lobbying, Gil, and it is usually done by paid professionals or hopeful interest groups, trying to get something for their clients or themselves. While lobbyists may assert that their self-interest is in the interest of all, that assertion is always simplistic and seldom, if ever, true. Nor am I so sure that all knowledge and wisdom in Monroe County is vested in the retirement community or among those who, for whatever reason, do not have to work for a living. While I understand that some advisers have waived their fees, there are some who cannot give up their normal remunerative work unless that income is replaced and others, like myself, who have learned a long time ago both that "free advice is usually worth exactly what is paid for it," that anything worthwhile is

worth paying for, and the denial of a fair wage is the denial of respect. If you think the County is being gouged, Gil, perhaps you will take some comfort in the fact that clients for whom I consult pay three times what the County offers, and I'm certain that the time of the other professionals with whom I worked is charged at a rate greater than mine. No one is getting rich here, and there is nothing wrong with an honorarium to symbolize respect. It is about time our County began recognizing and paying for quality.

NO, GIL, I like formal meetings, out in the open, where both lobbying efforts and advisory work are publicly and formally recognized for all to see and hear. Surely we who served as advisers are human and have our particular biases, but my observation is that we, generally, tried to advise in the long-term interest of Monroe County, while interest groups and the general public had every opportunity to lobby the Commission from the audience. In the end, the Commission moved, seconded, discussed, inquired, voted and came to a decision on every specific issue, as we elected them to do. I can only speak for myself in this matter but I felt that, as an adviser, I was being paid to make available the 24 years of professional and social experience in my community. I do not represent an interest group, I do not have a constituency, I have no "axes to grind," and I do have a heavy workload. I can hardly believe that I'm taking the time to write this, but your unjustified charges must be answered publicly, Gil, and I appreciate the opportunity to do so.

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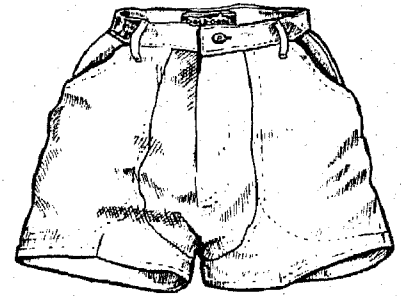
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Gallery Hopping

By GORDON LACY

AFTER MY REMARKS on the Miami Art Center's American Painters of the '70s Show, which I termed mediocre (adjective applicable to show, not artists), I received a postcard telling me in effect that I had lived too long in Europe, thus unpatriotic, and that if a Whitney curated show did not please me, then I should pack my bags and get out. Oddly enough, I thought my birthright allowed me to express my sentiments. Two weeks later I felt vindicated when Time trashed the Whitney and the same painters who are painting "jokey" and without idea or technique.

THE BASS MUSEUM at Miami Beach has through the 18th of August (hurry!) an all-paper show from the Arkansas Art Center's Foundation Collection of twentieth century American drawings. Out of the 83 works presented I could find only three that were not top quality. It is a relief to see a paper show; one feels the artist perhaps more at ease, smaller, less striving: Reginald Marsh's "Fat Lady on the Beach" is worthy in every respect of Tiepolo except that it is funny, too. Morris Graves' "Animal" is chillingly adorable, a small Tobey acrylic on paper a jewel and one (well, me) thinks seriously of theft; a vibrant Motherwell, a strong Gropper. The O'Keefe logos for the show, a banana flower, was inaccurately and surprisingly labeled 1983 when actually it was done in 1933 in the Bahamas and is a marvel of design and sensuality. Jim Dine, R. Lindner (American?), Lichtenstein are all well represented, a lovely Arthur Dove and one can understand

that O'Keefe studied there. This is a first-class show and I don't want any cheap postcard flak.

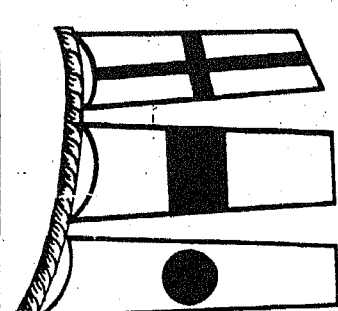
In August the SoMo galleries, like all galleries from here to Leningrad, are either closed or wishing they were. The rundown is this:



by GORDON LACY

GROS GALLERY CLOSED and Fred will be taking a breather some-indefinite-where until September.

Gingerbread will be open Thursday-Monday, the stable plus two Tennessee Williams paintings and two Henry Faulkners.



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Artist Warehouse is closed until September.

Croissants de France closed until October.

Burgess-Meister are winging it for the nonce and may close the end of the month. Or may not. Go anyway.

The Guild never closes, ever, seven days a week. They're into classes for kids and Caroline Seiler's drawing classes for adults are zipping along through September. She's very enthusiastic, so if you've ever wanted...get in touch.

LUCKY STREET GALLERY is, I am told by cassette, open Thursdays and Fridays, 5-7.

The Haitian Art Co., Ruthie tells me, is ever open and featuring for the month of August Voodoo flags and beaded and sequined bottles used in V. ceremonies.

East Martello has its usual summer members' show which will hang through mid-September.

Carrie's Notion is open as usual and Jack is engrossed in doing up functional objects à la Baron. To be seen.

SANDFORD AT SIGN of Sandford is launched into painted luggage. Also to be seen.

Alice Terry and Vaughn Gibson are

back after a month in Greece. A working holiday as Alice rang up a total of 56 pastels.

Aristos is open, showing the stable including Michael Shannon among others. 12-5 Tuesday-Saturday or by appointment. The number is 6-0218 and make note for Ma Bell seems to ignore Barbara and Aristos.

THE BIG DEAL at Farrington's Ned informs me in August is the winner of the February sidewalk art show, Bob Yealdhall. He won the judges' prize and the purchase award sponsored by Farrington, who have him in exclusivity. Moody canvases in acrylic representing dream-like houses of another year.

Dear Richard,
I think I can speak for the majority of the "art" crowd here, the gentle people who paint, write, design, photograph, embroider, tat, frame or run art galleries when I assure you of our chairin that you will not run for reelection.

You yanked Key West out of the Dark Ages. Thanks from the majority, I think, of us.

G.L.

BOB FRANKE HAS left a large and unfillable space behind him. SoMo seems uniformly glad that he was

spared suffering, but he went too abruptly, too soon. Saludos, Bob.

OUR EDITOR CALLS this a nuts and bolts column. He's quite right, as usual. There is hope for September; it cannot be bleaker.

P.S. Rose Lane Antiquities, open 11-6 for August. Anna says lots of new pre-Columbian goodies have just come in.

KNOWLEDGE

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Like the grapes upon the vine,
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-- Stanwood R. Sterling

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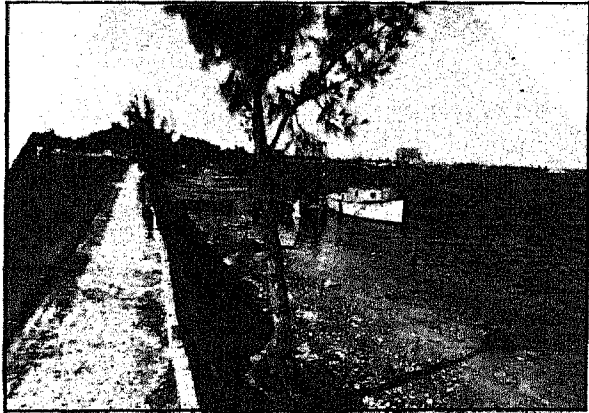
HOUSEBOAT ROW: THE "CLEAN-UP" FINALLY COMES AND/OR THE BUCK STOPS HERE

by GEORGE MURPHY

A HISTORY OF FEAR, LOATHING, AND SLANDER IN KEY WEST'S HOUSEBOAT COMMUNITY THAT MIGHT OTHERWISE BE CALLED "HELL'S ANGELS COME TO KEY WEST TO SLASH TIRES," OR "LIFE-STYLE MAN MEETS CONDO-GODZILLA"

THE 12-YEAR-OLD POLITICAL battle over the South Roosevelt Boulevard area known as "Houseboat Row" - is over.

On June 20th, under the authority of a Management Agreement between the Florida State Department of Natural Resources and the Key West Port and Transit Authority, Stu Pool, the City's harbor master, posted 8-day eviction notices on every vessel tied up or berthed at Houseboat Row - right down to the last dinghy. These eviction notices were part of a larger management plan devised by the PATA to both end the controversies surrounding the area and to fulfill its responsibilities to the Department of Natural Resources to "clean up" the area.



"Houseboat Row" in 1955. Note the Stock Island Drive-in Theater screen in the background.

THE ORDINANCE HAD teeth in it and, within two weeks, PATA cranes, like giant, voracious Pac-men, were on the site gobbling up wrecks and shacks and hauling them away in dumpsters. Gone are the plywood shacks which were such an eyesore from U.S. 1. Gone are the wrecks and the half-sunken vessels and houseboats which had been abandoned over recent years. Gone are the beat-up cruisers which had been pulled into the mangrove-lined channel that fronts Thompson Island.

But, is it the end of Houseboat Row? No.

HOUSEBOAT OWNERS WHO'D been berthed at Houseboat Row prior to November 1983 and who'd entered into a lease agreement with PATA, could stay. That is, if their boats comply with a set of marine standards established by the PATA. The lease agreement includes standards, codes, and safety regulations regarding electrical hookups, gang-planks, sidewalk obstructions, proper moorings, smoke alarms, Coast Guard-approved sanitation devices, piers, docks, and general seaworthiness.

HOUSEBOAT OWNERS WISHING to enter into a lease agreement with the PATA had to undergo (and pay for) an on-board inspection, make a security deposit to the city, and start paying a monthly fee for docking privileges. Once the lease was signed, boatowners had 45 days to make any needed improvements or repairs to come up to code.

At the end of July, PATA had installed a Houseboat Row Public Notice Board on U.S. 1 for any necessary day-to-day communication with residents on which it posted an official and final list of 23 Houseboat Row residents. Nineteen other vessels were ordered out

and, under the management plan, no new houseboats may move in.

* * *

THE POLITICAL BATTLE over Houseboat Row has been raging for years.

SINCE 1973, THE City has been involved in efforts to move the houseboats out and/or, at the very least, to gain the right to control and regulate the area facing Cow Key Channel.

During that year, the City Commission passed a resolution to evict the houseboats based on the fact that it had jurisdiction up to 300 feet from shore and that the boats in the area had docked and constructed piers without city permits.

THE ARMY CORPS of Engineers had never issued permits for any piers. The State Department of Transportation had never granted permission to anyone to drill into the seawall bulkhead to attach mooring lines. It looked like it would be a simple matter and eviction notices were posted.

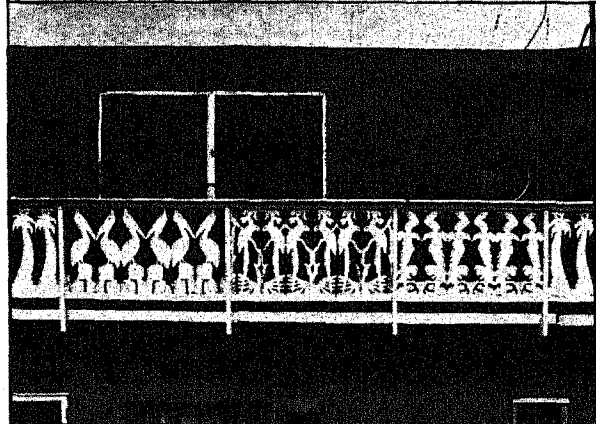
However, one houseboat owner, Margaret Dennis, who'd brought the very first boat to the Row in 1957, launched a lawsuit against the City's right to evict her - and the City lost.

AS IT TURNED OUT, some of the houseboats rested on/or were structurally attached to pilings on the "bay bottom," which was controlled - not by the City - but by the State Department of Natural Resources. The case was thrown out.

To complicate matters, the City also learned that it didn't even have control over the sidewalks along South Roosevelt Boulevard. The sidewalks, as part of U.S. 1, were under the jurisdiction of the State Department of Transportation. The battle, however, went on.

MEMBERS OF THE City Commission were naturally frustrated. As they saw it, there was a clear problem of control. People were moving to their city, building without permits, and not paying taxes.

At the time, ex-Mayor Dennis Wardlow was one of the city commissioners. He remembered Houseboat Row as a place he'd spent many boyhood hours fishing. He remembers when the houseboats started moving in and he remembers that the issues



Tropical gingerbread trim on the second story railing of "L'ile Flotile" (The Floating Island), houseboat.

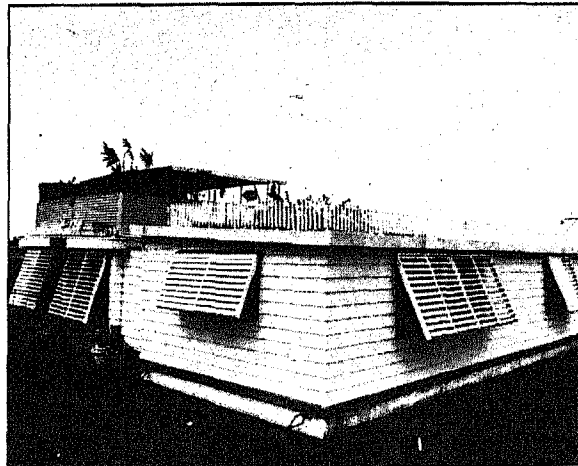
were not only issues of permits and taxes. It had, over the years, become a dangerous place.

There are two stories he tells:

1. "In the mid-seventies, we had a lot of problems over there and there were

a lot of people who wanted it cleaned up. There had been rapes, even murders down there. We even had a gang of Hell's Angels living in a beat-up boat over there. That was our first success. Since we were responsible for protecting the safety, health, and welfare of the citizens, we went in and tore out their 'clubhouse.' We found drugs and guns. Then, they tried to turn around and sue us, too. But we won that case.

2. "A couple of years ago, Oscar McIntosh, a black Key West fireman, was jogging past Houseboat Row one day when someone crossed his path, made a racial slur, and told him, 'This is my side of the street and



"The Sea Dog"

you're on the wrong side of town.' Well, McIntosh went back across town and got a few of his friends together and they were ready to go back down there and do a little 'housekeeping.' We stepped in and kept the peace but I made a vow to clean those dirtbags out."

"TYPICAL WARDLOW INFLATED rhetoric!" says one Houseboat Row resident, who preferred to be anonymous. "I don't know what exactly was wrong with him but it was clear he had it in for us all. It was some sort of personal grudge. If someone had a motorcycle, of course, he'd say they were from 'Hell's Angels.' Sure, there were motorcycles there. There are plenty of motorcycles all over town. And maybe the guy did have a gun. So what? He has a right to own one. So do I and so do a lot of people in this town. And the drugs... just his own stash of grass. Hardly anything threatening to the community. In that incident, I remember that the police crashed in like stormtroopers and tore the poor guy's boat apart."

"I HONESTLY DON'T know who slashed his tires but I can tell you there was a lot of anger around here. There are only so many mornings you can wake up, pour yourself a cup of coffee, open the paper and find yourself being unfairly and publicly maligned by your own mayor before you lose your temper. To him, we were never 'houseboat residents,' we were 'drunks, dirtbags, boat bums, freeloaders' - you name it. There was never any good will on the part of that man. As I see it, he used his public office to carry on an unnecessary and personal fight."

OSCAR MCINTOSH, THE fireman, remembers his incident differently too. "I was out there for a walk and there was a woman sitting on the seawall with a dog. And when I got close it started toward me like it might want to bite me, so I picked up this stick and told her to call her dog because, if he tried to bite me, I would have to hit him. And, yes, there were these two guys who came out and did say that to me - as well as another guy in a black van I'd seen around town with New York plates on it. But nothing like that other stuff ever happened. I just walked away. I reported it to the police but I'm not the sort of guy to try to create trouble, though for weeks I did have my eye out for that van."

HE ADDED, "IT'S too bad the story got to be used against the whole place. There are some nice people out there with nice boats. These were just some of those characters who hung out in the man-groves up by Thompson Island. I'm sure the rest of the houseboat people are glad to see them go too."

IN 1981, WARDLOW ran for mayor and won. One of the platforms on which he ran was a promise to "clean up" Houseboat Row. Once in office, he wrote to General Gay of the Army Corps of Engineers and received a letter stating that no permits were ever issued and that the docks and boats were indeed there illegally.

However, Houseboat Row was a "low priority" as far as the Army Corps of Engineers was concerned and, apparently, nothing was to be done. "I got so upset about that, I've thought about filing a lawsuit against the Army."

Worse yet, says Wardlow, in the interim, he became a target of some Houseboat Row residents.

"Though I had no personal problem with the folks over there, I definitely got off on the wrong foot with these people. As Margaret Dennis put it to me, it was black or white. Either I was on their side - all of them - or I wasn't. Well, things weren't so black and white for me, so I came down on the other side. During my term as Mayor, I ended up with 8 slashed tires and two sugar-filled gas tanks, not to mention the night when one houseboat 'citizen' showed up at my door at 1:30 a.m. to pound on my door and call me out because he wanted 'a piece of my ass.' As far as I'm concerned, these incidents were all connected to my opposition to Houseboat Row. My fight became a personal fight when I became a target. I called it as I saw it; I started saying 'bums, reprobates, and shanties.'"

EVENUALLY, A DEAL was struck with the DNR. Key West could take over control of the "bay bottom" from the State. They were entrusted with the task of "cleaning up" the area. To the DNR, this meant returning the bay bottom to its "natural state." As part of the arrangement, the City had to agree that, if it was to move the houseboats, it had to provide a place for them to move to.

Plans were made to build permanent houseboat docks in Garrison Bight but, once again, nothing was to happen. The new City Commissioners apparently didn't share Wardlow's fervor and saw the construction costs of the new docks as money that the City might better spend elsewhere.

The proposal was shelved for further study.

ONE QUESTION REGARDING the need for the new docks and the eviction of the houseboats is a thorny one: What is the need for the houseboats to be moved at all? If Houseboat Row can be "cleaned up," why spend much-needed money for new docks?

ONE ANSWER HEARD from suspicious Houseboat Row residents is "More condos! What else?" And, this time, it looks like they're right.

Slated for development right across the street on the land north-east of the airport is a massive 864-unit apartment project. As was reported in Solares Hill in February, Larry Marks has interested the Reflections builder as well as County Commissioner Ed Swift in promoting the project.

HOW BIG A project is it? It is THE LARGEST project under development in Key West - 327% larger than any other project built, building, or under development in Key West since 1980! It is so large that it is likely to be in violation of the new Comprehensive Plan maximum density of 16 units per acre (or 1 unit per acre where there are salt ponds - and there are salt ponds). Some filling of the area, according to City Commissioner George Halloran has already been halted by the Army Corps

project, but he did not return my call.

AS SUCH, IT is not surprising to have heard suspicion voiced by residents of the Row as to any possible involvement on the part of Dennis Wardlow in such a project. However, Wardlow vigorously asserts that he has no financial or personal interest in any such planned development. "In fact," he said, "I'd like to go on record as being against any condos out there - at all."

"What I was after was cleaning the place up - and fairness. There was a fellow here in town who was made to pull down a \$30,000 structure because of permit violations while the people on Houseboat Row had docked and built for years without anyone regulating them or taxing them."

WARDLOW CLAIMS THERE was a lot of stalling and buck-passing when it came to getting the job done:

"When I left office, I left them with everything they needed to do the job. There were four different resolutions that I know of that passed unanimously. None of them were acted on. I remember Joe Balbontin saying, 'I'm going to take the bull by the horns and get those boat bums out of there.' Nothing happened. The city ain't worth the powder to

I LIVE ON HOUSEBOAT ROW

by GEORGE MURPHY

I LIVE ON Houseboat Row where I'm typing this article on a hot July night on a Macintosh computer. The curtains are billowing with a soothingly cool sea breeze few others on this



The author in his living room aboard "The Sea Dog"

island are feeling right now. It's 10:30 p.m. The airport is closed. It seems like 10 minutes or more since I last heard a car drive past. Outside the door next to my desk, the water is gently lapping against the rear deck. The moon's reflection is rippling across the water a mere 10 feet from the foot of my bed. The only sound I can hear is the tinkling of wind chimes.

I WAS BORN and have lived in New

England seacoast towns most of my life, places like Winthrop, Humberston, Rockport, Scituate, Marshfield, Green Harbor, Ocean Bluff, and Nantucket. My last home sat 20 feet back from a seawall overlooking a 30-mile stretch of rocky coastline. I thought, "this is as close to the ocean as I'll get." Well, now I'm closer than that. I love the ocean and I like living here as much as any place I've ever lived. It's a peaceful and a beautiful place.

NONETHELESS, AS A result of years of bad publicity and public furor over city rights and citizen responsibilities, there seems to have developed a popular vision in Key West of the folks who live on South Roosevelt Boulevard on the strip known as Houseboat Row. The terms used most often in a long history of Key West Citizen "Letters to the Editor" seem to be "dirtbags, drunks, criminals, and freeloaders." On the other hand, anyone who wants to look closely, as I have, can see a vastly different picture. And I think it's about time another side of the Houseboat Row got told. Here it comes:

1957: THE BEGINNING OF HOUSEBOAT ROW. In January of 1984, I visited Key West for the first time and I fell in love with the island. Six months

continued on page 27

blow him up with. All he's got to do is say 'move 'em.'... I fired him myself before I left office."

Wardlow chose not to seek reelection.

NOW THAT THE "clean-up" is underway, he has mixed feelings about the current PATA move. "On one hand, I'm glad to see that something is finally being done to clean up the area. On the other, I'm not

convinced that the current plan will fulfill our responsibility to truly return the bottom to its 'natural condition.' I think that the lease agreements they're offering to houseboat owners are illegal."

NOT SO, SAYS PATA Director Tom Sawyer: "The lease agreements have been offered with the full approval of the DNR."

"Our plans for permanent houseboat dock space are still moving forward. We've budgeted the money for the construction of new docks in Garrison Bight and we expect city commission approval of that budget and for construction to start soon."

Plans call for the construction of three new T-piers adjacent to Dolphin Pier. Sawyer said that once the budget was passed by the City Commission, work would soon

be underway. When asked how soon he expected the docks to be completed, he replied, "I'd like to see it in '86...if not '86, then '87."

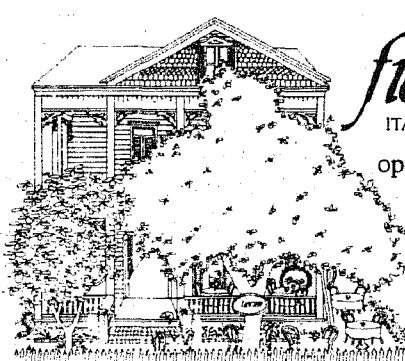
MOST INTERESTING IS the attitude of good will being expressed by houseboat owners and the city officials involved in the "clean-up."

Harbormaster Stu Pool, whose responsibilities have recently been expanded to include management of Houseboat Row, says, "I couldn't be happier. My reception has been just outstanding. The folks on Houseboat Row have been terrific through this change, much more cooperative than we ever expected. It seems that they wanted the place cleaned up as much as we did and they made the job real easy. Apparently, in the past, they've been

threatened and bullied and called names. My approach was to address the problem with good will, to treat the people sincerely, to listen to their concerns and to try to be as accommodating as possible - a little bit of honey instead of vinegar - and it's worked. There are some great people out there and I think I've even found some new friends."

SAWYER SAYS THAT the "cooperation of the houseboat owners in these matters really speaks for itself. It's a real positive statement about what everybody wanted to achieve." Sawyer said he felt that there were two key problems: certain boats and structures in the area were an eyesore that citizens resented; two, houseboat owners weren't paying taxes and citizens resented that even more.

"As long as they pay their fair share, I have no problem," he said.



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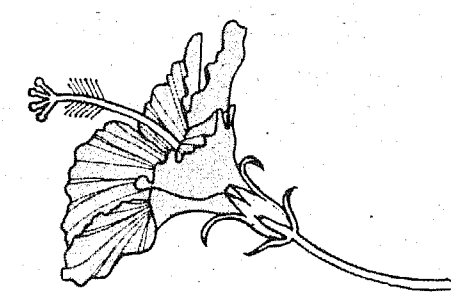
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"One thing I don't ever want to see
leave is the flavor of this island...
and the houseboats are part of that."

CITY COMMISSIONER GEORGE Halloran shares that feeling. "I think that a majority of Key Westers would agree that the houseboats, like the Conch houses, are part of the distinctive flavor of this town which we don't want to lose. They're one of our tourist attractions. With the bad actors and beachfront shanties gone, if they're kept in ship shape, we can all be glad they're there. If we can control it with the State's permission, I'd even say, 'go ahead and have a houseboat marina.'"

Even Dennis Wardlow said, "I envy them. I'd like to live on a houseboat myself...Obviously, things have changed out there. I'm glad to hear it, but those people with nice boats have to take the initiative to keep it clean."

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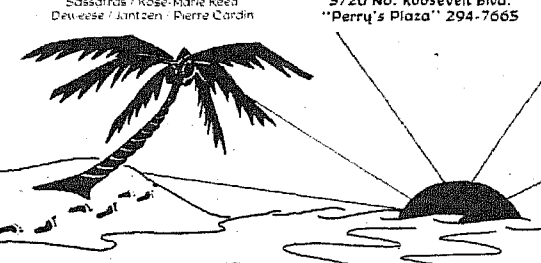
Take a leisurely tour of the home and gardens of the late Nobel Prize winner, Ernest Hemingway. It was here that Mr. Hemingway wrote *For Whom the Bell Tolls*, *Green Hills of Africa*, *A Farewell to Arms*, *The Fifth Column*, *The Snows of Kilimanjaro*, and *The Macomber Affair*. Mr. Hemingway was the first important writer to discover and make Key West his home. He owned the home from 1931 to 1961.
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continued from page 25


later, I returned for a second visit and bought The Sea Dog, a large double houseboat which has been moored at the seawall on "Houseboat Row" since 1957, when its original owners, Morgan and Margaret Dennis, successfully petitioned the city for permission to dock it there. Other houseboats were to follow, giving the location its nickname, but The Sea Dog was the first.

MORGAN WAS A member of a well-known family of illustrators and authors. I'm still turning up brochures in closets and drawers announcing exhibits of his drawings of animals at large hotels and galleries in Manhattan. There was at one time a cocktail lounge on Park Avenue in New York's Sheraton-Russell Hotel called "The Dog House," which featured murals by Morgan. I understand that one of his brother's paintings hangs in the White House. His own black and white scottie dogs are the trademark for Black and White Scotch.

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There are also children's books about the adventures of a scruffy canine character called "Himself." There's even a children's book about my new houseboat home weathering a hurricane in Key West years ago. It's called *The Sea Dog*.

MARGARET, FROM WHAT I know of her was, among other things, something of a political activist - at least as far as "Houseboat Row" was concerned. In recent years, she successfully battled town officials' efforts to move her houseboat from the location where, decades earlier, she'd docked. It was as a result of her efforts that the city's plans a few years ago to eliminate "Houseboat Row" were overruled by State agencies in Tallahassee. From what little I've heard, she seems to have been a determined, if not crusty and eccentric, woman who also devoted much of her time to raise funds for sheltering animals. I also understand that she stepped on some of the wrong toes in town resulting in,

GIRL FRIDAY

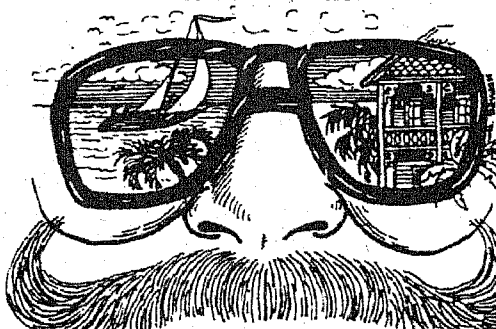
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among other things, the removal of her husband's books from the Martello Museum's Author Room.

WHY I CAME HERE.

To find such interesting history attached to a new home is, of course, charming - as was the place itself when, after having been stabbed and robbed in New York City one night last September, I decided it was time for a big change in my life. I abandoned the notion of The Sea Dog as a "winter retreat" and decided to move out of the New York publishing arena down to this island I remembered so fondly. Why not? As a writer and editor, I can write and edit any place I can plug in my typewriter. Better yet, the houseboat was larger and much more comfortable than my last apartment. The Sea Dog has five rooms, a galley, two full baths, lots

of closets and bookshelves, a rooftop deck and garden, even a city power hookup with a solar backup unit which heats my water and spins my ceiling fans. I've got city water, cable TV, a motion-sensor burglar alarm system - even phone lines which connect my computer to the rest of the world.

A KEY WEST GHETTO?

Once my moving in was completed, I found myself involved in social situations I did not understand. My mentioning to new acquaintances that I'd moved to Houseboat Row often brought a quick and sometimes frosty end to conversation. In late November, the Key West Citizen ran a small article about my having moved to Key West. It was a nice sort of public welcome but I had only to turn the page to find a Letter to the Editor

from ex-mayor Dennis Wardlow referring to "Houseboat Row" residents as people who "decide to freeloard, collect food stamps, and live on welfare." There was a larger and more insidious implication in his adding "maybe they (Houseboat Row residents) can explain 10 flattened tires and two gas tanks filled with sugar" during his mayoral tenure.

The next afternoon, as I was watering my plants, the Conch Tour Train came by as it does each day. But on this trip the tour guide was departing from her usual packaged recitation, making extemporaneous comments about the houseboats being "filthy," about our being undesirable, tax-dodging squatters who would soon be evicted and, as she passed up the street, I could hear her amplified voice adding a theatrical announcement, "Get out of here. We don't want you here anymore."

That's when it suddenly dawned on me. I had moved into a Key West ghetto.

MEETING THE NEIGHBORS.

But then I began meeting my neighbors. Though the Cow Key Basin, where Houseboat Row exists has, for years, been a haven for passing sailors and itinerants of all sorts, there are some permanent residents.

Next door, toward the west, aboard the Sun Star, was a widow, E. W. Slater, who has visited for the past twenty winters from Canada. From her, I learned the neighborhood watch rule: always meet visitors on your dock where the neighbors can see you. Otherwise, they're assumed to be unwanted trespassers. We had an immediate and easy, but special bond; her husband had passed away a few years ago in the room I now call my living room.

BEYOND HER LIVES A. G. "Slim" Delones, a retiree, whose boat The Aquarius is impeccably maintained. There's not a chipped or peeling spot on its turquoise gingerbread trim. Every week, like clockwork, the engines are fired, checked, and tuned though the boat has not left its mooring here in years.

"Next door" to Slim are Elyti Kristina and Wesley Waters aboard The Grauwolf. Elyti is a boatbuilder, taking courses at the Community College. Wesley is an artist and T-shirt designer. As you read this, you may be wearing one of his designs. If you own a Sloppy Joe's T-shirt, Wesley probably printed it.

FURTHER ON DOWN the row is David Lettrick and Julie Cant's boat, The Spray, which hums past my bedroom window some mornings, headed out to the Tortugas for a week of fishing which will provide the yellowtail, grouper, and mutton

for the A&B Lobster House.

THEN THERE'S JOHN and Denise Moeller's houseboat, The Daisy, which is often mistakenly called the "Benevida," because of the Puerto Rican welcome sign posted by the door. John and Denise came here from Ohio where John was a high school science teacher and where Denise served as the director for the runaway center in Medina County. John came here to work with the Florida Marine Institute in a pilot program for runaway children and Denise now works at the Florida Keys Community College Emergency Shelter for abused, neglected, runaway, and delinquent children.

AS THE WINTER season passed on, new neighbors, young couples, some with children, began settling into the smaller houseboats with names like The Periwinkle and The Rainbow. Joseph Dipane, a local electrical contractor owns The Periwinkle. A friend of his, Kathy Garvin, is living there now. Kathy is an artist whose work has been exhibited at the Martello Museum, The Artists Warehouse, and the Sidewalk Art Exhibit.

Beyond them, at the end of the row, sits the geodesic-dome-topped and solar-powered Sunflower owned by Jackie McCorkle, Monroe County's Teacher of the Year for 1985.

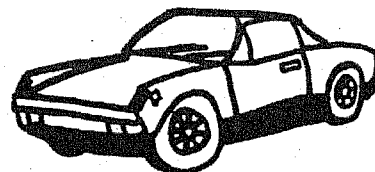
MY NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBOR to the east, aboard The Brigadoon, is Barbara Jaquillard, a journeyman carpenter who moved here three years ago from New Orleans. Barbara thinks it's ironic that so many references to Houseboat residents have suggested that they're freeloading off the town, collecting welfare and food stamps. "When I first came to this town," she says, "I didn't have much money and it takes a while to establish your reputation as a carpenter and start getting jobs. At the time, if I'd had to rent a more expensive place in some other part of town, I might have had to apply for public assistance of some sort - but I chose not to. I couldn't afford anywhere else to live and now, I wouldn't trade it for anywhere else. I love my boat and I love my neighbors."

NEXT TO HER is the only other double houseboat on the Row, The Lobster Trap, owned by real estate developer and electrical contractor Richard Westlake.

Easy Does It, the next boat down the Row, is shared by Albert Fouet and Vincent Masterson. Albert is the Group Home Manager of Pendleton House, the long-term residential facility of the Monroe Association for Retarded Citizens (MARC), a non-profit agency under the County Health Rehabilitative Services. Vincent is a Public Assistance Specialist for the Health Rehabilitative Services in the Food Stamp Office.

FURTHER TO THE west sit three more

KEY WEST WINDOW TINTING



ENERGY CONSERVATION PRODUCTS
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boats - Aqua Casa, The Interlude and the Bitches' Barge - currently owned by Key West's new premier citizen, Treasure Salvors' Mel Fisher. When Mel first moved to Key West, this was his home too. Mel's family uses two of the boats and a young couple, Tim and Donna Campbell, are in the process of taking possession of The Interlude. They've lived here since December with their son, Shane, and their infant twin daughters, Misty and Miranda. Tim is a self-employed carpenter.

Do these people sound like "dirtbags" to you?

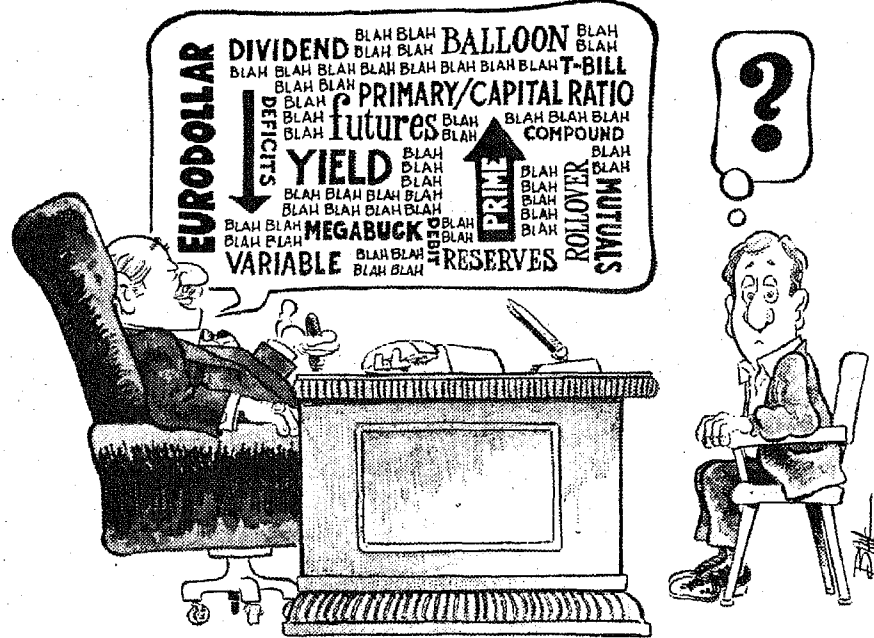
LIFESTYLE.

Lifestyle seems to be the key word on the lips of most of these people when they speak about why they live here. "I come out here to find peace," says Albert Fouet, Director

of the MARC Pendleton House. "There's an incredible amount of stress on my job and this is where I come to get away. It's so quiet out here at night and there's nothing in the world as soothing as the sound of water lapping against my boat. Everything's a little bit calmer here, a little bit easier. Hence the name of the boat - Easy Does It. I can't tell you how many tourists come walking by and stop to talk as I sit out on my deck. So many of these folks are headed back from here to some Midwest office job and you can see the envy in their eyes as they tell me they'd give anything to be able to dump it all and trade places with me."

IN SPEAKING ABOUT the recent PATA leases, he added, "I love being 'legal' in the eyes of the city though I've been a productive citizen

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for years, but I sure hate the idea of moving to Garrison Bight. It's not that I simply want to live on a boat, I want peace and quiet. Moving from here to Garrison Bight would be like moving from paradise into a condo development."

LIFESTYLE ALSO MAKES victims. As far as I can tell, everyone in the Houseboat Row community is upset about the eviction of one of its more visible neighbors, Joseph Fitzpatrick, a retired and disabled veteran of two foreign wars who shares his boat The Rocket - and his disability checks - with his three canine companions, Tinkerbelle, Lady, and Boozer. If you've ever been out this way, you've probably seen Joe walking the dogs, looking, in his white beard, as much like Santa Claus as anyone I've yet to see in town.

Joseph is a sailor and, by nature, something of a

philosopher. "As a disabled veteran of two foreign wars, I've paid my dues. I'm a five-star citizen of this country and I've had to pay dearly for it. After years of hospitalization, I sailed the islands looking for the place where I could live the most peaceful, quiet, most noble, low-consumption life I could. I was looking for some tranquility. I'm not here because I've got no place to go. I'm here because I sailed here. I 'discovered' Key West in my own way and it is a beautiful place. I'm not loitering here; this is my home. I'm here totally by choice.

"I don't have much, but I get by, and I resent being treated the way I've been treated."

This place is one of the last bastions of the free spirit and the bu-reaucrats and land developers in this town won't rest until they've killed it. It's like an onion, you know, layer after layer of semi-transparent deception and greed. This place is a little bit of paradise but the beauty of the islands is being lost to land developers. The politicians in this town wouldn't even let it stop for six months!

"Like everything, the simple life can't last but my efforts have been to delay its end. The issues down here seem to be issues of conscience - the way I live my life versus the way others live theirs. Isn't it ironic that I'm being called a threat to the environment while all over town the environment is being absolutely raped?"

Joseph was evicted from the Row and then received a summons for re-anchoring too closely to the shoreline. His hearing comes up soon and his friends are planning to go to court with him.

THE FUTURE?

It's too soon to tell - but at least the citizens of Houseboat Row can finally stand up at a city council meeting and say, "I'm a tax-paying citizen and I refuse to be ignored."

THE EATERY



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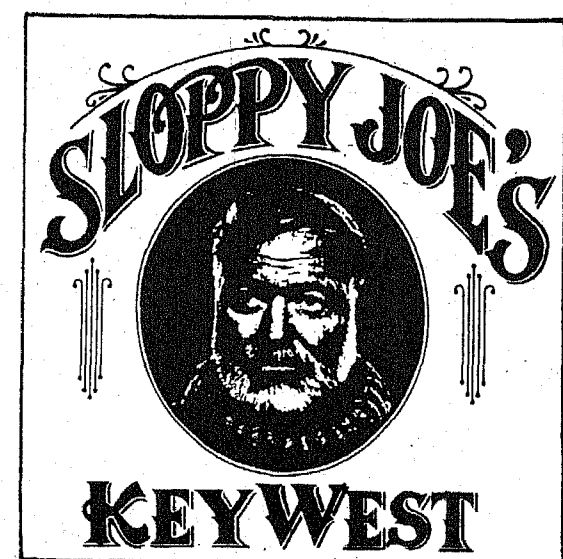
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EDITORIAL

By BILL WESTRAY

WE'VE BEEN GIVEN the opportunity by City Planner Art Mosley to review the draft of a supplemental study by the Department of Transportation (DOT) on traffic circulation in Key West. The new study recommends measures to improve traffic flow along U.S. 1 from MacMillan and North Roosevelt Boulevard to Fleming and Whitehead Streets. Involved are new traffic signals for all eleven signalized intersections, and major changes in traffic lanes at First Street, Eisenhower Drive, and White, Simonton, Duval and Whitehead Streets. Specific improvements are recommended for the entire two-mile corridor, as well as for the intersections at Kennedy Drive, and Cross Street and MacDonald Avenue on Stock Island.

MOSLEY WAS ALSO able to give us an update on construction plans for signalization and rearrangement of the entrance triangle at U.S. 1 and AlA. Bids are about ready to go out for work to commence in April 1986 and be completed in December 1986; let us hope that there is no foulup so that we don't have construction going on during the 1986-87 tourist season.

AT THE FOOD Fair bridge (which is called Salt Creek Bridge) on North Roosevelt, DOT has been able to avoid closing it down for trucks by restricting heavy truck traffic to 15 m.p.h. in the outer lanes only. Our observation is that most truck drivers are observing the new restrictions. It's in their own interest to do so, because if the restriction doesn't work, trucks will have to be rerouted along South Roosevelt Boulevard and Bertha Street. DOT has advised that this bridge will

still have to be replaced and is scheduled to go under contract in December 1987 and be completed November 1988. A temporary bridge will be put in place during removal of the old bridge and construction of the new one.

DOT IS CURRENTLY working on engineering plans and bid specifications for the U.S. 1 intersections; these will be paid for mostly by DOT gasoline tax monies. The City will be responsible for the cost of replacing at least ten new traffic signals at a cost of about \$40,000 each; City Manager Koford plans to phase these over about a five-year period to spread the cost.

Meanwhile a number of new developments are coming along; Duval Square (old NCCS Hall), Front Street Hotel (old Coca-Cola plant), Hilton Hotel (next to KWBTS at Smathers Beach), Village of Key West Resort (at Murray's Marine site on Stock Island), Scotty's new location next to Howard Johnson's.

continued on page 45

Come see why.

"The niftiest casual clothes in the Keys..."
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BUSINESS DIGEST

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CALOOSA COVE MARINA

Your full service marina in this area is CALOOSA COVE MARINA (Len Garner, General Manager) located at M.M. 73.5 lower Matecumbe Key in Islamorada, phone 664-4455. They offer complete diesel and gas engine repair by expert mechanics. Hull repairs and maintenance are available as well. Caloosa Cove Marina also offers guarded moorage, in and out storage facilities, a boat launching ramp and boat lift. If you're in the market for a new boat, they handle a number of new and used boats of various sizes. And, they can supply you with marine equipment, navigational charts, foul weather gear, fuel and other accessories you may need.

The 1985 Business Digest recommends this marina.

GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL

GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL, located at 2713 Flagler Ave. in Key West, phone 296-8262, offers an exceptionally good program for children Pre-Kindergarten Through the Sixth Grade. They make a special effort to help your child grow and prepare for school. They have the newest teaching materials which help young children learn numbers, colors, words and ideas while they play. Registration for the 1985-1986 school year is now open for pre-kindergarten through 6th grade. Please call or drop by to apply!

We, the staff of this 1985 Business Digest, wish to make special mention of this well managed school and suggest you call the Principal, David Rose, for more information.

WOMEN'S MEDICAL CENTER

Many women in this community have come to appreciate the fine services offered by WOMEN'S MEDICAL CENTER, located at 7821 Coral Way, Suite 131 in Miami, phone 264-2633. This health clinic caters to the special medical needs and concerns of women and offers complete family planning and birth control services.

They have been serving this area for some time and pride themselves on providing a needed service in a confidential and caring atmosphere. Birth control devices are available here as well as complete counseling and education services. In addition, they offer child birth education and self-help birth classes and pregnancy tests are given free of charge.

We urge women of all ages to stop in and inquire about their services. The Administrator, Doris Gomez, and a staff of professional counselors are available to help with those problems that you, as a woman, face. Rather than facing them alone, let Women's Medical Center help you make intelligent decisions about your future.

The 1985 Business Digest is pleased to represent this fine clinic and recommends their services to all of our female readers.

NATIONAL SECURITY ALARM CO.

Many homeowners and businessmen have come to enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that their home or place of business is fully protected with an approved alarm system, guarding their property with the utmost of reliability for only pennies a day.

The people to see in Key West for complete burglar and fire alarm systems are NATIONAL SECURITY ALARM CO., located at 514 Southard in Key West, phone 294-1271. Have them come out anytime and give you an estimate on a system that will protect your home or business.

They carry NASA alarms and feature silent police alarms, fire and smoke alarms and much more! Their years of experience in this field has taught them exactly what type of alarm system is best suited for each individual need, and you can be assured of expert installation by experienced workmen with a system from National Security Alarm Co.

The composers of this 1985 Business Digest invite our readers to look into the proper system for their home or business. You will enjoy doing business with this reliable firm who has served this area faithfully and well.

THE LOBSTER MAN FISH HOUSE

In this area most people that enjoy the true flavor of seafood prefer to buy their fresh fish and seafood items from THE LOBSTER MAN FISH HOUSE, located on U.S. Hwy. 1, on Stock Island, phone 294-4923. This seafood shop carries a wide variety of fresh seasonal seafood. The OWNER, DENNIS DALLMEYER, purchases seafood from local fishermen to insure the finest in freshness and quality. THE LOBSTER MAN FISH HOUSE has built an excellent reputation in this area for serving the public honestly and offering the freshest, choice seafood. From crab to shrimp, you'll find their selection complete. Their hours are Tues. - Sat., 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; closed Sunday and Monday.

The 1985 Business Digest highly recommends The Lobster Man Fish House and suggests you make them your seafood headquarters.

KEY LIME REALTY INC.

Solid property values and strong appreciation continues to attract investors to Key West internationally. The town's keen awareness of its history and its efforts to preserve it's past and protect its future is paramount to it's islands newcomers. Essential to investment in Key West is a thorough knowledge of zoning codes, ordinances, and the policies of our preservation and planning boards, and we place our many years of experience in these areas at your disposal.

We also offer a free prospectus on all available commercial and residential properties in Key West. The BROKER, RAYMOND J. KAPAS, LOOKS FORWARD TO YOUR CALLS; PHONE 296-8516, office located at 507 Whitehead St. in Key West.

ONE HOUR PHOTO LAB

HAS MOVED TO SEARSTOWN

Where do you take your film to be developed? May we suggest you try ONE HOUR PHOTO LAB at their new location in Searstown and under the new management of George Ziegler, phone 294-3597, where fast and professional service are more than just standards. Your photos will be ready in 59 minutes and they use Kodak paper only! They have 2 convenient pick-up and drop-off locations at Reef Raider Dive Shop, M.M. 4.5, Stock Island and 109 Duval St., Key West.

The 1985 Business Digest recommends you try One Hour Photo Lab. We think you'll become a regular customer once you see the quality and reasonable cost of their work.

GREEN ACRES LANDSCAPING

There is a definite art to creative landscaping. GREEN ACRES LANDSCAPING has that skill that makes a difference. They have been serving both residential and commercial customers with distinctive landscaping in Key West and the lower Keys.

Let them handle your landscaping. They receive the recommendation of the 1985 Business Digest, so call Victor at 294-4078 for estimates.

Interiors By Wanda

For those who take pride in their home and office surroundings and demand the very best in quality and professional service, the 1985 Business Digest recommends that you contact INTERIORS BY WANDA for outstanding interior designing services, for residential, commercial or industrial needs.

This company is owned by Wanda Wilcox and located at 500 Simonton St. in Key West, phone 294-9600.

BUDGET TRAVEL

When planning a trip anywhere in the world, be sure and consult the travel experts at BUDGET TRAVEL, conveniently located at 1107 Key Plaza Shopping Center, in Key West, phone 294-9531. Telex # 810 007 048 7.

This travel agency will arrange in advance your entire trip at no additional cost to you. They offer escorted, independent and custom tours, and complete passport and visa information. In addition, hotel, motel, car and train reservations can be made through them along with total travel insurance coverage.

If you're contemplating a cruise, contact the Manager, Joel Good or one of their helpful consultants - Paula Salter, Lynn Marie Roberts, Sally Harden, Charles Kasda or Clara Del Rio. They will be more than pleased to recommend the right cruise for you. Break down the cost of a cruise and compare it to what you'd spend on rooms, meals, transportation and entertainment for a similar vacation on land! All of these things, and many more, are included in the price of your cruise ticket.

The superior services offered here have been proven by the many satisfied customers who regularly turn to them. Their vast knowledge of the travel industry is always at your disposal and courteous and helpful personnel will assist you in whatever way they can. Their hours are Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sun., Noon to 4 p.m. All major credit cards are accepted here.

It is with great pleasure that this 1985 Business Digest recommends this fine travel agency to our readers.

FLORIDA DISPOSAL CO.

A WASTE MANAGEMENT INC. COMPANY

Business owners, contractors, homeowners and others have learned to rely on FLORIDA DISPOSAL CO. (a Waste Management Inc. company) for a complete and reliable garbage collection service. Their growth is an indication of the fine service they offer. For your convenience, they supply and maintain 2-8 cubic yard trash containers which are sprayed and disinfected regularly. Florida Disposal Co., located in Key West, phone 294-3787, serves commercial, industrial and residential needs.

This 1985 Business Digest is pleased to recommend the specialized services of this reliable company. Their service is of benefit to us all.

BUSINESS DIGEST

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PIGEON HOUSE RESTAURANT AND BAR

"THE BIRTHPLACE OF PAN AM"

We all have our favorite restaurant where we go on those special occasions when we want really good food and exceptional service. On your next special evening, the management and staff of PIGEON HOUSE RESTAURANT AND BAR invite you to dine with them. They would like to become your favorite restaurant.

When you arrive, you will be greeted with a warm and friendly welcome. You'll find that they will go out of their way to make your evening relaxed and to serve you in exactly the way you wish to be served.

When it comes to their food, you'll have an extraordinary array of gourmet dishes and standard favorites to select from and the preparation is outstanding. This is the kind of food you'll want to come back for - and all very reasonably priced. Cocktails are served, of course, and a selection of wines are available.

The Pigeon House Restaurant and Bar, located at 301 Whitehead St. in Old Key West, phone 294-1034, is a place you owe it to yourself to try. The 1985 Business Digest believes they will become your favorite.

ED'S WELDING SERVICE

ED'S WELDING SERVICE, owned by Ed Brown, phone 294-0301 or 294-5444, is equipped for most classes of work. They have added heliarc (aluminum) dockside service, repairing of fuel tanks, water tanks, pipe rigging, anchors of all sizes, cable guides, stabilizer springs, structural cast iron and stainless steel welding, hitches, security bars for windows & doors and more.

This 1985 Business Digest recommends them.

BEACHCOMBER JEWELERS

Key West is fortunate to have a jeweler that has spent many years of offering only quality merchandise of original and attractive styling.

We are talking about BEACHCOMBER JEWELERS, located in the Key Plaza Shopping Center in Key West, phone 296-5811, where you will find their stock has been selected with professional judgement and taste. You'll find breathtaking diamonds, distinctive jewelry and 14 and 18 K. gold and silver, rings of every description, custom designed jewelry and men's and ladies watches. You'll find they do the best jewelry and watch repair and do expert diamond setting.

The 1985 Business Digest suggest that you stop in and let the courteous staff help you select a remembrance for your loved one.

CATES ELECTRIC INC.

For any electrical wiring and repair work you can count on CATES ELECTRIC, INC., located at 1020 Von Phister St. in Key West, phone 294-1777. They are experts in residential and commercial wiring. You can rest assured you're getting the best contractors available in the area.

This 1985 Business Digest salutes William T. Cates, President, and the staff of Cates Electric, Inc. for their professional work.

PAINT TAIT

by Helen R. Chapman

AMERICANS DO SILLY things, especially en masse. I suppose this can be said about other nationalities, but I think we deserve first prize. I didn't just come to this conclusion, but a recent item in the newspaper convinced me. In New Rochelle, New York, they want to make it illegal to sell spray paint to anyone under 18. It seems that New Rochelle is getting blasted with graffiti.

Now first of all, what makes them think that all graffiti artists are under 18? The cleverest ones are well over 30. And what makes the good folks of New Rochelle think that these 17-year-olds and under do not have fathers with a garageful of spray paint already? However, this law, if passed, could well shift the teenage hangouts from drugstores and video gamerooms to hardware stores. "Psst, mister, could you slip me a can of

red spray paint?"

NEW ROCHELLE IS not all that far from the Connecticut and New Jersey borders to prevent smuggling across state lines. As the Connecticut and Jersey kids are driving into New York to drink, the New York kids are zooming in the other direction to get paint. There's absolutely no way to keep a teenager from getting what he wants.

The kids could turn this to advantage, of course, when a parent recruits their help, under duress, to paint some ancient dresser or rusty lawn chair. They'll have to do it in the basement where the long arm of the law can't see them. Then the parents are accessories after the fact. This could get really heavy. Big fines, maybe even jail sentences, could be enforced on the parent who allowed his teenage child to touch a

McMULLEN REALTY

When it comes to real estate, McMULLEN REALTY knows your way around. That's their business...knowing what suitable new and pre-owned homes, condominiums, vacation properties etc., are on the market and where. They specialize in every phase of real estate and are familiar with the availabilities in this area. Real estate is their business. And, as real estate professionals, they are qualified to assist you in seeking out possible assumptions, in obtaining affordable financing and, in all the other intricate details of home buying. Team up with J. R. McMULLEN - LICENSED REAL ESTATE and MORTGAGE BROKER, along with 24 agents to serve you. They are located at 1217 White St. in Key West, phone 296-9074 and at 727 U.S. Hwy. 1, Big Coppitt Key.

This 1985 Business Digest recommends them to all of our many readers.

The Pampered Pet

Your dog or cat deserves special attention every now and then, especially when it comes to his or her skin and coat. The Florida climate tends to promote dry skin and itching problems as well as fleas, but regular professional attention can keep your pet comfortable year round.

Complete pet washing and grooming services is available locally from THE PAMPERED PET, managed by Michael Chaffin, and located at 1104-C in the Key Plaza Shopping Center, in Key West, phone 296-6912 for pet shop and 294-3261 for grooming services. They specialize in all breeds of dogs and no tranquilizers are used.

This fine pet grooming shop is preferred by many pet owners because of the professional service and the loving attention they give to every animal they care for. They will advise you on things you can do to improve the condition of your pet's skin and coat and their grooming services you will find very reasonable in cost. They are your full service pet shop featuring tropical fish, small animals, pups and kittens, exotic birds, a full line of pet supplies and much more.

The 1985 Business Digest is sure you won't find a friendlier or more competent pet grooming shop anywhere.

GRANNY'S KITCHEN

For a home cooked meal that's delicious and a restaurant that's friendly, go to GRANNY'S KITCHEN, located at 3412 Duck Ave. in Key West, phone 296-8870. Here you'll find a home-like atmosphere and courteous service that you are sure to enjoy. They feature home-style foods, like Grandma used to make. They offer delicious meals cooked to order, or if it's just a snack you want, you will find many sandwiches, salads and soups that are just the thing to take away that hungry feeling. They have daily lunch specials and serve breakfast, lunch and dinner. Many people make them a regular stop in their daily routines because their food is so good and so reasonably priced.

This 1985 Business Digest highly recommends them.

SARA COOK, INC.

Professional and complete residential property management is offered in this area by SARA COOK, INC., located at 529 Easton St. in Key West, phone 294-8491. This firm specializes in the management of residential properties, including homes, apartments and mobile homes, providing complete leasing, rental and management services. Their reliable handling of these and all related matters have led many residential property owners to place them in charge of their property. The additional costs are more than offset by the savings that result from increased management efficiency. And, most people have found that rental incomes increase since Sara Cook, Inc. can insure a higher occupancy rate.

The 1985 Business Digest recommends Sara Cook, Inc.

can of spray paint. What a gray town New Rochelle could become!

IT DOESN'T TAKE spray paint to create graffiti. Finger paints would work, and then the little kids could get in on the fun. And as we all know, chalk works beautifully on sidewalks from which, until it rains, one can learn every four-letter word there is.

Personally, I'm all for graffiti. It's the only way some people have to express themselves, and although it's anonymous, the perpetrators feel a lot better. Without spray paint, a lot of kids' frustrations might vent themselves by smashing the Waterford or digging up the begonias. Some grownups just don't know when they're well off. And just think if Tom Sawyer were alive and well and living in New Rochelle, Aunt Polly would be painting the fence.

THE TROUBLE IS people just don't take the time to understand their kids' needs. And just as soon as I get this horrible chartreuse off my windows and whip the kid next door, I'm moving to New Rochelle.

HEMINGWAY DAYS PRIZE-WINNING STORY

MY LAST DEER

By IRENE ZIEGLER

ON MY THIRTEENTH birthday, in September, Father gave me a 30.30 rifle. Mother gave me an Instamatic camera. Mother was outraged with Father's gift. She pressed her face right up to Father's thick glasses and fogged them with her screams.

"She's just a little girl!"

"SHE'S A crackshot!" he screamed back. "She's Annie Oakley!"

IT WAS TRUE I was a crackshot. Father was a patient and articulate teacher although the poorest marksman ever to be licensed. Since I was ten he had stood behind me, head bent to my neck, whispering small truths with the reverence of the untalented. "Hug the gun, Annie. Squeeze the trigger once you're sure. Cushion the kick with your shoulder." When Father stepped from the house sporting a rifle, neighborhood dogs ran for cover. Crows screamed in the air. The leaves on trees rustled. "Hide! Hide!" Not so with me. With bare aim, I could sink the bobbing bottles Father tossed in the drainage ditch. I could pop cans off fence posts, but I did not enjoy it much. There was nothing beautiful in this sport, and I longed for the beautiful. I sensed myself on the verge of some great change, one secreted inside my body, and it made me yearn for greater, unseen things. Squinting down the barrel of a rifle did not move me, and I felt drawn to my mother with her sense of finer things. Father's enthusiasm for my talent overflowed, however, and I basked beneath his praise. "You may be just a girl, but you're a regular Annie Oakley," he spouted. "You're a crackshot!"

MOTHER'S GIFT interested me much more than the rifle. You have the eye," she told me while hiding Father's ammunition in a shoebox. "You see things." I held the camera to my eye and pointed the lens out the window. The small world framed inside my viewfinder was dense with information and beauty. I saw it all as I had never seen it before.

The bushes outside, as familiar to me as breathing, shrunk into new focus. I closed in on a leaf, then moved away from it to watch the world beyond the perimeter of my lens seep in and change my view. First a branch, then a bush, then the garden unfolded, and with each new composition came a new understanding of context, contrast and statement. I swooned under the influence of art's profundity and went mad with the camera. I couldn't help it. I shot everything, from the refrigerator with its door in various stages of open and closed, to my parents in bed. I had no scruples. I danced around the house and scrambled up trees, click-clicking that shutter button as if my sight, long blinded, had been newly restored. My world had condensed, and I strained to see it all as it truly was. I terrorized my family right up into fall when father slapped my rifle into my other hand and said, "Enough with the pictures. Now you're a deerhunter."

MY FATHER HAD never shot a deer. He wanted to shoot one very badly. To my mother he listed the merits of a dead deer. "Venison is delicious. I'll stuff the head. The skin will be a rug."

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"You'll shoot yourself! You'll shoot my baby! Your brain has gone soft!" Mother cried, and ran from the house with the shoebox. Father wiped his glasses with bored calm, for Mother had long ago run out of fresh hiding places. To me he said, "You're not going to give me any of that Bambi crap, are you?"

"No, sir," I said, and sealed my fate.

MY FATHER and I hunted at dawn in the Tomoka Forest in central Florida. This was before Disney World rolled over the land and reshaped the bushes to resemble circus seals. There the grass was short and pointed. It ran the edge of the path like whiskers. Beyond a stretch of pines was the drainage ditch. I could always smell it well before we reached it. Tramping through the palmettos, I stayed always behind my father. That way he could not shoot me. He lead me to an Indian shell mound heavily concealed by overhang. "Mind your barrel," he said, pointing his own up and away. We toed holes in the mound's crumbling side. In the near distance palm fronds jabbed the horizon. Craggy brown vines tangled through the brush. Dogs barked.

"HUNTING DOGS," my father whispered as we scuttled to the top. Father opened his gun's breech and thumbed a cartridge into its chamber. He cocked the lock up and back. I reached inside my pocket and pulled out my Instamatic. "Put it away," Father said with a nod at my hands.

"But I just--"

"PUT IT AWAY."

We sat Indian-legged upon the mound, concealed behind the hanging growth, our rifles across our knees. The sun's yoke broke and sizzled in the sky. I looked at my father in a way that hid I was looking, and put away my camera.

THEN AT THIRTEEN, I had feelings for my father that could not be explained by respect. I let them wash over me as my eyes scanned his face, patient behind the thick glasses. I longed to take a picture of him. In his company, I had learned many things; the names of fish, the parts of a rifle, how to spell words backwards. I was not interested in any of these things, but at times like this, when I was alone with him and could hear his breathing, I desperately wished that I was. My inspiration was of another sort, one my father would not allow, and I felt his loss even before he slipped from me completely.

"YOU'LL NOT BE my little girl much longer, I know, Annie," Father said, shattering my stare.

I SAW HER THEN, haloed in green, standing at the edge of the woods fifty yards away. All my blood rushed behind my eyes. I thought they would pop out of my head. "A deer!" I whispered and scrambled to my knees. My rifle slid from my lap.

She nosed her way out of the woods, head low, one ear cocked awry. Never had I imagined such a picture. She shivered in the breeze and I felt the life of her in my every muscle. Her neck craned forward. The moist black nostrils flared in the orange light.

"WHERE?" MY FATHER whispered behind me. "Where is it?"

"Right in front of us!" I went for my camera.

"To the left of the big oak, or the right?"

"To the right." I opened the back of my camera and slid in a film cartridge. The doe lifted her head.



"BY THE stump?"

"Just in back." I closed the hatch and cocked the film forward. The doe froze in her stare.

"How big?"

I HELD THE camera to my eye. Through the viewfinder the doe was suddenly small and far away. "Big."

FATHER'S 30.30 cracked and roared behind my head. The doe's slender neck spiraled upward. One eye gaped too large then dropped from my camera's sight. There was a crash, as her body broke brush.

"Did we get it?" Father shouted in a voice hoarse with excitement. "Yes."

FATHER HUGGED his gun to one shoulder and crushed me to his other. "You're my best deerhunter!" he bellowed, then kissed me hard on the temple. "You're an eagle eye!" I wiped away his kisses and closed my eyes, and when I opened them again, Father was gone. In his place was a shadow dashing down the mound in short skip-steps. I blinked in the early morning light, but still it dashed, that shadow, bellowing, down the mound.

FATHER HAD NO car. "Wait here," he said to me at the edge of the woods. He trotted away and came back with Mr. Rednik, a divorced man with delinquent sons. "Finally bagged some jailbait, eh?" Mr. Rednik said, winking at the doe as he poked Father with an elbow. I climbed into Mr. Rednik's jalopy and we bounced homeward. Father and Mr. Rednik praised the carcass roped onto the hood before us. We reached our drive and I fell out of the cab. Mother banged from the house and gasped at the dead creature splayed across Mr. Rednik's hood. She hooked me around the neck, cooling my name, and ran her hands about my head looking for wounds. Finding none, she drew herself to a terrible height and approached Father with her hands clenched.

"YOU'RE SATISFIED?" she spat through clenched teeth. "The death of innocents pleases you?"

"Our Annie!" Father protested, pointing at me, but Mother scowled and turned from him.

MR. REDNIK PUSHED the limp doe from the hood and strung its neck in a noose. "You women are all the same," he said to Mother. "You'll spit out the meat dragged home to feed you." He clapped Father on the back and handed him the rope. "Hoist your trophy for the girl. She needs teaching before her female blood starts to run. Once they bleed, there's no teaching them anything."

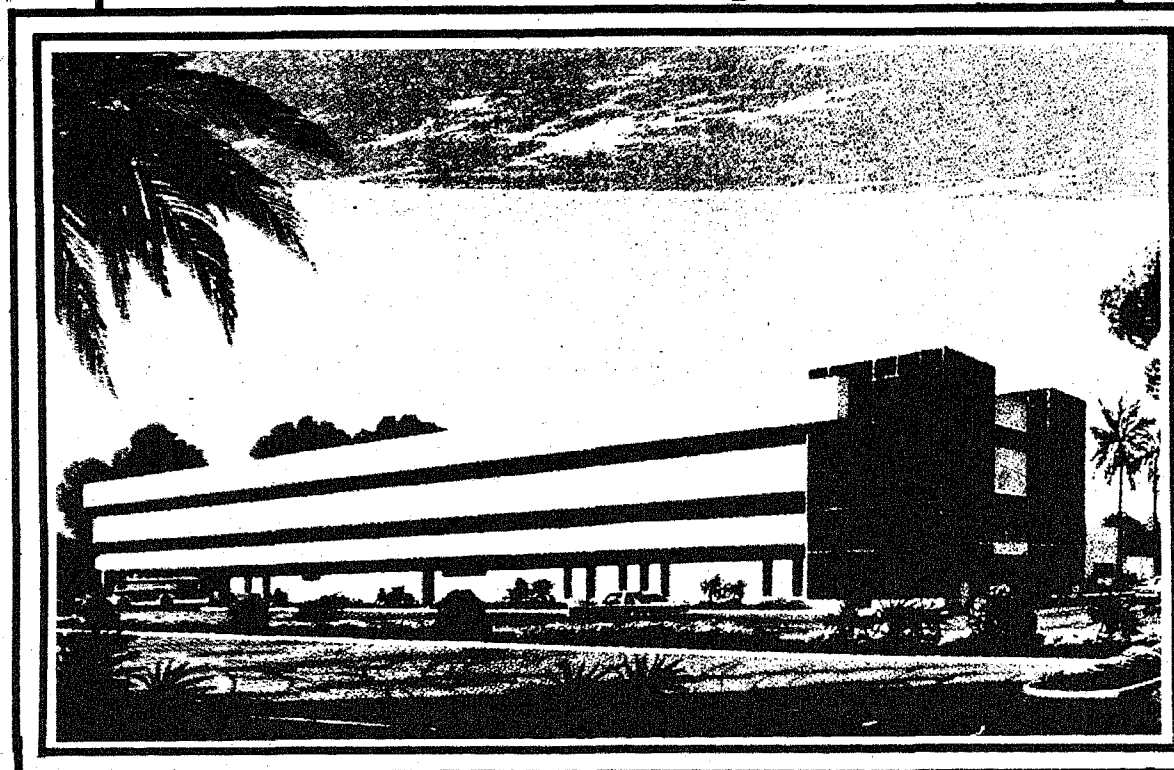
HE SAID MORE things about my female blood, but I heard nothing of

it. I stood rooted to the ground and watched my visual world grow small. Mother shrunk on her way to the house and banged a tiny door behind her. I heard her call me but I could do nothing about it. I thought if I lifted a foot I would collapse into myself like a black hole. I saw the rope snake over a branch then pull taut with the weight of the doe. The doe's neck jerked upward like a toy, and her body twirled, first this way, then that, twirled while her blood pooled and her eyes bulged with blackness. Her forelegs dangled, lifeless, and she twirled. I closed my eyes so as not to see it, but she was etched behind my eyes as vivid as a snapshot, small and stark. I pressed my arms in tight and felt the camera in my pocket. The world I

had seen through its lens had in no way prepared me for this world of blood and death and complicity. I had been deceived, for I knew this world to be the true world, and all, all was awful here. My father laughed, and I opened my eyes, but could not marvel at what I saw. Father's broad smile made him small, and his smallness made me shrink from him. Mr. Rednik placed a pail beneath the doe, and Father slit her from neck to crotch with a gleaming blade.

NOW, ANNIE!" my father's voice said, tinny and far away. "Now take my picture!" and I, wretched, obeyed.

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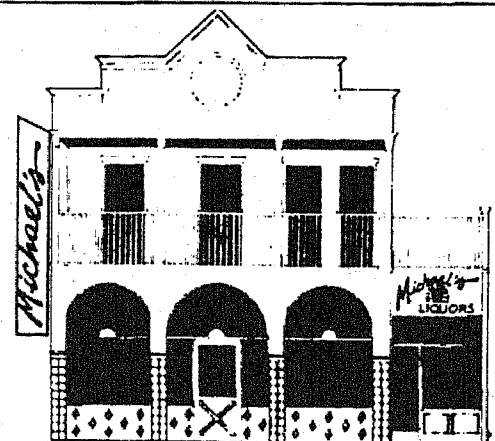
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UNITED (THE AMERICAN) WAY

by COLIN JAMESON

SIX HUNDRED YEARS before Christ, a Greek slave named Aesop related a fable about a bundle of sticks. The moral of the story was that "in union there is strength."

Two centuries ago the founders of this republic were familiar with Aesop's tale. They knew that it, like all fables, was based on solid truth.

They saw that the thirteen American colonies shared only one priority, the preservation of the liberties newly won. They realized that if each fledgling state were allowed to substitute for this goal its own special interests, the general freedom could be jeopardized. The new nation must seek strength in unity.

THE UNITED WAY was born of a similar conviction. It's not too long since every organized charity - local or nationwide, religious or secular - was forced to rely on its own separate efforts to raise money. As with the thirteen colonies, the underlying priority for each was the same - to help others. But piecemeal administration and fund-raising were far more expensive and far less efficient than a combined endeavor could be.

The situation was improved with the formation of community chest-type organizations, mostly in the larger cities. There was no national operation, however, until United Way came on the scene and took over the basic financing of diverse agencies.

IT IS EASY to see why charity

works the United Way. If "Help the Children," say, can depend for most of its funds on United Way, much of its overhead is erased, along with the expense of promotion. Its income, on the other hand, will surge, since United Way, with the lower cost-per-dollar of its large-scale operation, can carry out administrative and fund-raising activities more economically.

Today in Monroe County 12 charitable organizations depend for most of their finances on United Way. For those that have been involved for a period of time, United Way's efficiency and aggressive promotion have produced constantly increasing allotments. In the past six years, for example, United Way has been able to more than triple its goal, from \$60,000 to \$200,000, yet the participating agencies have increased by only three.

THE INCREASE IS testimony to the validity of the Aesop principle. As one of the many causes for it, one might cite the fact that civic and business organizations can be approached with a singleness of purpose impossible when a dozen agencies are competing for contributions. Companies can be persuaded to authorize voluntary payroll deductions, unavailable under the fragmented system of other times.

Like every other commodity, money flows more freely when there's full cooperation in speeding it along.

UNITED WAY DOES not act solely as a funnel for cash. Allotments to individual charities are based on scientific analysis of needs and opportunity. The whole is greater than the parts in more than a monetary sense. There is a special motivation, almost a mystique, in a drive where people with different backgrounds and purposes are molded together in a single effort to do the most good for the greatest number.

THERE IS THUS a secondary effect on the members of component charitable groups. Voluntarism is promoted; you're not door-to-dooring on your own; dozens of others are doing the same sort of thing in this and other ways. In your heart you know that your united effort is going to make it. For that very reason, it has a far better chance.

Specifically how does the United Way work? Whom does it help? A point-by-point outline follows:

How Does United Way Operate?

UNITED WAY COMBINES many agencies and programs into an effective charitable services system, with concentrated fund-raising impact and much lower costs than the national average for non-profit enterprises. It acts as an "umbrella," allotting funds on the basis of prior service and present requirements. It provides continuity for organizations in temporary trouble. It also offers support to new types of charitable enterprise that fit the needs of Monroe County.

It is responsive to local influence since it is run by local people aware of who has to have what or else. All the money stays at home.

Why is United Way?

CAPSULIZING, UNITED WAY is valuable because:

1) Its "Helping Hand" is recognized nationally. As in every other endeavor, success makes news and opens doors. TV viewers can tell you that United Way is backed by billions of prime-time, big-name messages every year.

2) UNITED WAY chops costs of raising the charity dollar by cutting

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KEY WEST'S HOROSCOPE

BY LARRY CRUZ

Sun in Leo, after 22 in Virgo.
Venus in Cancer, after 27 in Leo.
Mercury in Leo, retrograde, turning direct August 21.
Saturn in Scorpio.
Jupiter in Aquarius, retrograde.
Mars in Leo.
Uranus in Sagittarius, retrograde, turning direct August 23.
Neptune in Capricorn, retrograde.
Pluto in Scorpio.
North Node in 13 degrees of Taurus.

THE NEW MOON on August 16 in Leo aspects the 4th House of the chart of Key West. The Full Moon on July 31 was directly on the nadir of the

chart. This is a propitious time for new beginnings. We can look forward to a positive environment for the city.

JUPITER, THE GREAT Benefic, has been transiting the 10th House sector of the Key West Horoscope, and will continue in this area until early 1986. Our public image is improving, and the professional areas of the community are favorably aspected.

OUR RULING PLANET, Saturn, turned direct on July 26, and has moved into the 7th House of partnership matters. Many new alliances

will be made by November 16 when Saturn will move into the sign of Sagittarius for a 2-1/2 year transit.

THE FULL MOON on August 30 in Pisces again aspects the 4th House. This aspect will be also felt during the month of September which will be very activated this year, in contrast to a usually quiet time in Key West.

THIS WILL BE the last column on Key West's Horoscope that I will be writing for Solares Hill. I have enjoyed writing this column for you astrology aficionados for approximately 10 years. Bill Huckel has been a great editor. Thank you all!

continued from page 47

Prenatal Exercise at the Coffee Mill,
916 Ashe Street, Thursday, 4-5 and Saturday 9-10. Call 294-3490 for information.

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

Movement Spiritual Inner Awareness:
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overhead and all other expense.

3) Funds raised are allocated by local people for local use after local decision on comparative requirements.

4) ABOUT 40,000 Monroe County residents and visitors were helped by United Way last year. If local generosity had not provided help in this efficient manner, government could not have taken up the slack for more than a small proportion of the needy.

5) As noted, one of the visible advantages of raising money the United Way is that voluntarism is thereby encouraged. A large cooperative enterprise generates a psychological power over and above individual effort, and

this general enthusiasm is infectious. Involved people get people involved, including some who had thought "it wouldn't work."

What Does United Way Cover?

THROUGH THE INDIVIDUAL agencies, United Way deals with disaster relief, crime prevention, family assistance (including marital troubles, child abuse, delinquency), health and age problems.

United Way, unlike charities controlled from a distance, is able to help with specific difficulties in the area, as addressed by cooperating

Special Events

Dedication of 40' Peace Pole, noon,
Tuesday, August 6, City Hall, Peace
vigil, Mallory Square, starting August 6.

agencies. In Monroe County some of these are loss of jobs, inability of low-pay service jobs to cope with soaring rent and utility rates, increasing domestic abuses and the problems brought to persons on fixed incomes by health, old age and rising cost of living. Individual cases can be handled because they are part of the environment to which local agencies are attuned.

What are the United Way Agencies? What Do They Do?

THE GROWING LIST of United Way agencies includes the following:

1. Armed Services YMCA. Educational, recreational, religious and social needs of military personnel and the community at large.
2. Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Monroe County. Provides volunteers to supply adult friendship to children in one-parent homes.

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4. Carrier Alert. Daily assurance to the elderly and homebound through letter-carrier monitoring.

5. Catholic Community Services. Counseling, referral and emergency financial aid.

6. Domestic Abuse Shelter. Supplies refuge, emergency aid, counsel to victims of domestic violence.

7. Girl Scouts. Development of living skills and intelligent appreciation of people, art, science and environment.

8. Key West Helpline. Help by phone in times of need. Crisis counseling, information referral, daily phone contact with the elderly and latchkey children.

9. Monroe Association for Retarded Citizens. Service to mentally retarded adults.

10. American Red Cross. Disaster, military liaison, relief of destitute, development of water skills appropriate to the area.

11. Salvation Army. Emergency aid and spiritual guidance to citizens and visitors.

12. Wesley House. Day care for low-income working families.

What Does the United Way Need?

YOU - AS CONTRIBUTOR and volunteer, preferably both.

Call 296-3464 today!

THE MONTESSORI CHILDREN'S SCHOOL OF KEY WEST, INC. - AN UPDATE

SUNSHINE SMITH IS very glad today that she sent her children to the United States Southernmost Montessori school - The Montessori Children's School of Key West. Robin and Cayman Smith-Martin, 10 and 8 years old respectively, are now enrolled in classes for gifted students at Key West's Poinciana Elementary School.

"They are self-motivated, they are independent thinkers and they have always received wonderful grades," says Smith, who is quick to attribute much of their success to



Group lessons

the experiences each received at the Children's School.

"When I realized that there wouldn't be enough children enrolled at the school to support an elementary class at the Children's School by the time my children would be old enough to continue, I really panicked," Smith says.

NOW SHE IS very happy with the public schools in Key West.

"But," she quickly adds, "certainly if I had a choice they would be in a Montessori program."

The Montessori method of education was developed by Dr. Maria Montessori, an Italian physician, at a preschool she founded in Rome in 1907. Techniques used in today's Montessori schools were originally designed for teaching deprived and underprivileged children. The method, which is largely based on sense training and muscular coordination, was found to work for all children and quickly spread throughout Italy and Europe after the turn of the century.

THE MONTESSORI METHOD of teaching also stresses independence, self-motivation and the children's involvement in and awareness of their environment.

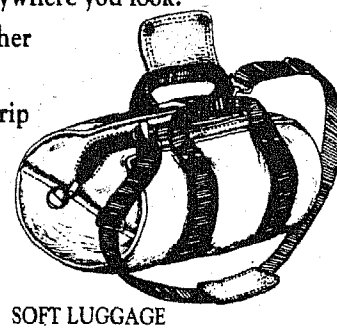
Montessori schools, such as the Children's School, differ from traditional preschools in several ways. Often, children attending nursery schools spend a year at each age level; one year with a two-year old group, the next with a three-year old group, and so forth. In the Montessori classroom, children between the ages of 2-1/2 to 6+ share the same space. The older children help the younger ones, as they would in a family situation, and, in so doing, reinforce what they have already learned.

WHEN THEY BEGIN the program, the youngest students will spend only the morning at the school. Later, when the directress feels they are ready, they will stay for the full day, until 2:30.

The Montessori method assumes that children learn best by discovering information about the world by themselves. Although there are group activities for the total class, the children work mostly at their own pace. They work in small groups or by themselves on projects of their own

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The classroom is a prepared environment designed to support the needs of the child for purposeful activity. Everything in the Montessori classroom is child-size. The furniture is small so that they may easily move it, the pictures hang at children's eye level and all work materials are within reach on low shelving.

PRACTICAL LIFE EXERCISES make up the foundation of the program. These exercises are designed to aid the child in adapting to the environment. The child learns to buckle, tie knots and bows, polish silver and other similar activities that develop their attention, concentration and muscular coordination. The Practical Life exercises form a comforting link between home, family and school activities.

Children learn to shake hands,

not interrupt and to be courteous to others. They take part in the upkeep of their surroundings by taking turns at preparing for and cleaning up after snack time. They clean up their areas after each activity, careful to replace the various materials in their proper places.



Letters of the alphabet

SENSORIAL MATERIALS ARE designed to order and classify the sense impressions the child has already experienced. Each piece of apparatus isolates a single quality. The materials, which serve as the keys to all other areas of learning, include the Pink Tower blocks (which demonstrate 3-dimensional size), cylinders, sounding boxes, threads and cloths of various textures and colors, beads and sandpaper letters. The skills developed through Practical Life and Sensorial exercises are then utilized in the study of language and mathematics.

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The teacher, or "directress," as she is called in the Montessori school, observes and directs students to the materials she feels the child is ready for. She does not correct or grade the students' work as the materials have a built-in correcting factor which the children discover by themselves.

Of prime importance in the method is the cooperation and communication between the parents or guardians and the directress. Parents meet with the directress at least twice per school year, or as often as they wish, for discussions about their child's development. Also, they receive written evaluations by the directress during the year.

THE CHILDREN'S SCHOOL is a parental cooperative, as many Montessori schools are. Parents are expected to work as a team at keeping the building in good repair, assisting with fund-raising activities and helping with field trips. All parents are members of the corporation, which is governed by a board of directors elected by the corporation. The board hires the directress and her assistants, regulates salaries and manages the financial affairs of the corporation.

THE CHILDREN'S SCHOOL was incorporated in April of 1972 with \$500 donated by writer Thomas McGuane. The money was a prize won by McGuane for his book "92" in the Shade. McGuane's son, Tom, who was 5 years old at the time, is credited with giving the school its name. The school was founded utilizing Montessori principles and has served countless Lower Keys families since then.

The current board of directors has made a commitment to expanding this year's program. For the first time, the Montessori's Children's School will offer extended care for

the students attending both the half-day and full-day programs. The day care program will begin at 11:30 for children who attend the morning session and will run through 5:30 p.m. The program will be staffed by a qualified operator and an afternoon assistant. This program is open to all current students, their school age siblings and alumni. The hope is to make the Montessori program available to more working families in the Lower Keys by offering this day care program. Also, the board is exploring the possibility of acquiring adjacent property, renovating the existing building or relocating to a new facility in order to offer at least two primary classes in Key West. The Montessori method has also developed an elementary level and as enrollment increases the possibility of offering higher levels of schooling will grow.

THE 1985-86 SCHOOL term will be running under the direction of Elizabeth Shewan who is moving to Key West after 13 years of teaching experience at the Falls Church Children's House of Montessori in Virginia. Elizabeth is a graduate of the Washington Montessori Institute in Washington, D.C. with an Association Montessori International certification to the age of 7+. She was co-owner of the Falls Church

school for the last four years. Elizabeth is a gifted musician, having studied for 15 years at the Royal Conservatory of Music at the



Sensorial exercise

University of Toronto. She brings to the classroom experience, fluency in French, talent in the arts, enthusiasm about Montessori and an inspiring love of teaching.

THE CHILDREN'S SCHOOL is most fortunate that Delia Appleby is returning to her fourth year as a member of the teaching staff.

Delia's experience with Montessori education is complimented by a B.S. degree from Nova University and a Florida Teacher's Certification, grades K-6th. The third member of the teaching staff is Beverlee Wang, who has her Masters degree in Education and a Florida certification for grades K-12th.

Maria Montessori urged parents who had little money to spend on the education of their children to spend it on early education.

Children educated by the Montessori system, she promised, would develop a love of learning and would be able to find their way to a complete education. She believed that the "...education of a very small child...does not aim at preparing him for school but for life."

"Cayman and Robin are everything that the Montessori method said they would be," said Sunshine Smith.

IF YOU WOULD like to know more about the Montessori method or the Montessori Children's School of Key West, Inc., contact the school by writing to them at 1214 Varela Street or phoning 294-5302.

Two excellent books by Maria Montessori are: *The Montessori Method* and *The Secret of Childhood*.

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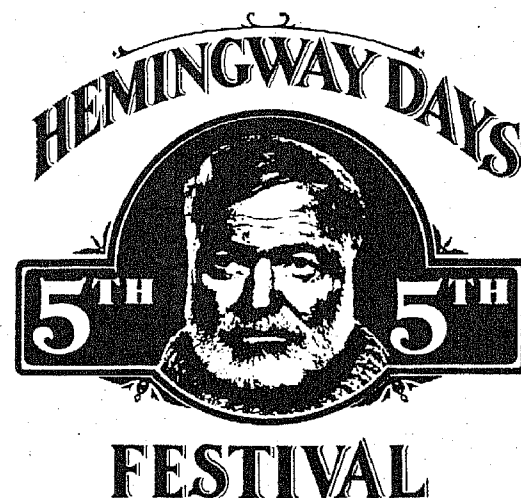
• BILLFISH TOURNAMENT •

Largest Sailfish • David Grubbs
Most Points Angler • David Grubbs
Most Points • Gun Moll II
Outstanding Captain • Alex Kitchens
Largest Wahoo • Mark Herre
Largest Dolphin • Ron Campbell
Largest Tuna • James Anfernton
Les Hemingway • Capt. Jim Sharpe
"Boat Sea Boots"

• ARM WRESTLING COMPETITION •
1st PLACE WINNERS

Andrew Amunategui
Dominic Recio
Todd March
Mark Weigel
John Felton
Nick Reeb
Nila Tanner
Hilary Hemingway

OCEANSIDE MARINA • MALIBU RUM • PERRIER • KEY WEST ALOE
OCEAN KEY HOUSE • PBA • MARRIOTT'S MARCO BEACH RESORT
NAPLES BEACH CLUB • CASA MARINA RESORT • NICK'S GYM



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FLORIDA GOLD COAST BOXING ASSOCIATION • J & B SCOTCH
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WINNERS • WINNERS • WINNERS

SHORT STORY CONTEST

1st • IRENE ZIEGLER
Charlottesville, Va
"The Last Deer"
2nd • MICHAEL BATTRAM
Evansville, In
"A Sparing Session"
3rd • THOMAS SULLIVAN
Lathrup Village, Mi
"To Walk the Earth"

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BARBARA BROWN • WASHINGTON D.C.
TERRY A. ALBRITTON • WALNUT CREEK, CA
JAMES D. KEY • CHATANOOGA, TN
HELENE HETTICH • KEY WEST, FL
GAIL SMITH • SAN DIEGO, CA
CONSTANCE ANN RABIN • TEMPLE TERRACE, FL
JODI KOUMALATS • AMARILLO, TX
PAUL PROACH & CHARLES KAUFFMAN • BROOKLYN, NY
MARCIA GARNER • CINCINNATI, OH
BARRY WALDEN • ASTORIA, NY
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RANDALL SILVIS • RUNERSBURG, PA
BE. ERLY McFARLAND • COCONUT GROVE, FL
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DOROTHY M. FARNELL • RIVERTON, UT
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MP GAGNON • TEMECULA, CA
MARIE READY • ENGELWOOD, CO
MICHAEL COLLARD • KEY WEST, FL
GARY TILLERY • WAUKEGAN, IL
TERRY ALBRITTON • WALNUT CREEK, CA
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ALTERATIONS ANNAS 505 Southard Street 294-1334	PRINTING \$\$\$ SAVE \$\$\$ Printing Needs (i.e., letterheads, business cards, caps, pens, calendars, party favors, etc., etc.) can be accommodated at affordable prices. National Coast-to-Coast Agency offers the highest quality printing for all your needs. A professional local representative has been engaged to serve you: LEON W. EDWARDS 800 Elizabeth St. Key West, FL 33040 (305) 296-3304	FLORISTS TOP FLORIST SHOP WE DELIVER NATIONWIDE 925 WHITE ST., KEY WEST 294-4651	SINGLES CLUB MEET A FRIEND New dating service in town. Let me introduce you to quality people to share experiences with. Call Judy at 294-7097 for information.	LIGHTING The finest selection of table and floor lamps, track lighting, ceiling fixtures, yard lighting, outdoor fixtures & chandeliers in the Florida Keys. LIGHTING WORLD 1025 WHITE ST.	OFFICE SUPPLIES Need An Office Machine? RENT ONE! Adding Machines Typewriters Cash Registers Many brand names BUY OR LEASE Our own complete service department ALSO COMPLETE LINE OF OFFICE SUPPLIES, FURNITURE KEYS OFFICE EQUIPMENT 535 Eaton (corner Simonton) 294-3036 294-0030
BOAT SALES LUHRS 29 ft. FG, low hrs., gas V-8 chev., VHF, CB, depth finder. Sleeps 4. Extremely solid. Fish, charter or cruise. Well below book at \$9,500. Nego. 294-1493, Eric. Or PO 4544 KW. See off Houseboat Row.	PRINTING PRINT IT AT THE TOP SHOP IN THE KEYS Graphics OF KEY WEST NEW LOCATION: 1010 TRUMAN AVENUE 294-9922	FORMAL WEAR COCKTAIL & EVENING WEAR BRIDAL SALON TUXEDO RENTALS 1019 WHITE ST. / 296-5567 (FORMERLY HOUSE OF JEANS)	NEWSTAND OUT OF TOWN NEWSPAPERS MAGAZINES PAPERBACKS STATIONERY CARDS TOBACCO GUM & CANDY Open 8-8 7 days THE LAST NEWSTAND IN PIRATE'S ALLEY ACROSS FROM KING PLAZA 294-6652	STAINED GLASS Key West Glass Works HANDCRAFTED STAINED GLASS 106 MON. SAT. 1018 TRUMAN AVE. 294-0538	NEED AN OFFICE MACHINE? RENT ONE! Adding Machines Typewriters Cash Registers Many brand names BUY OR LEASE Our own complete service department ALSO COMPLETE LINE OF OFFICE SUPPLIES, FURNITURE KEYS OFFICE EQUIPMENT 535 Eaton (corner Simonton) 294-3036 294-0030

Entertainment • Nightlife • Dining • Attractions

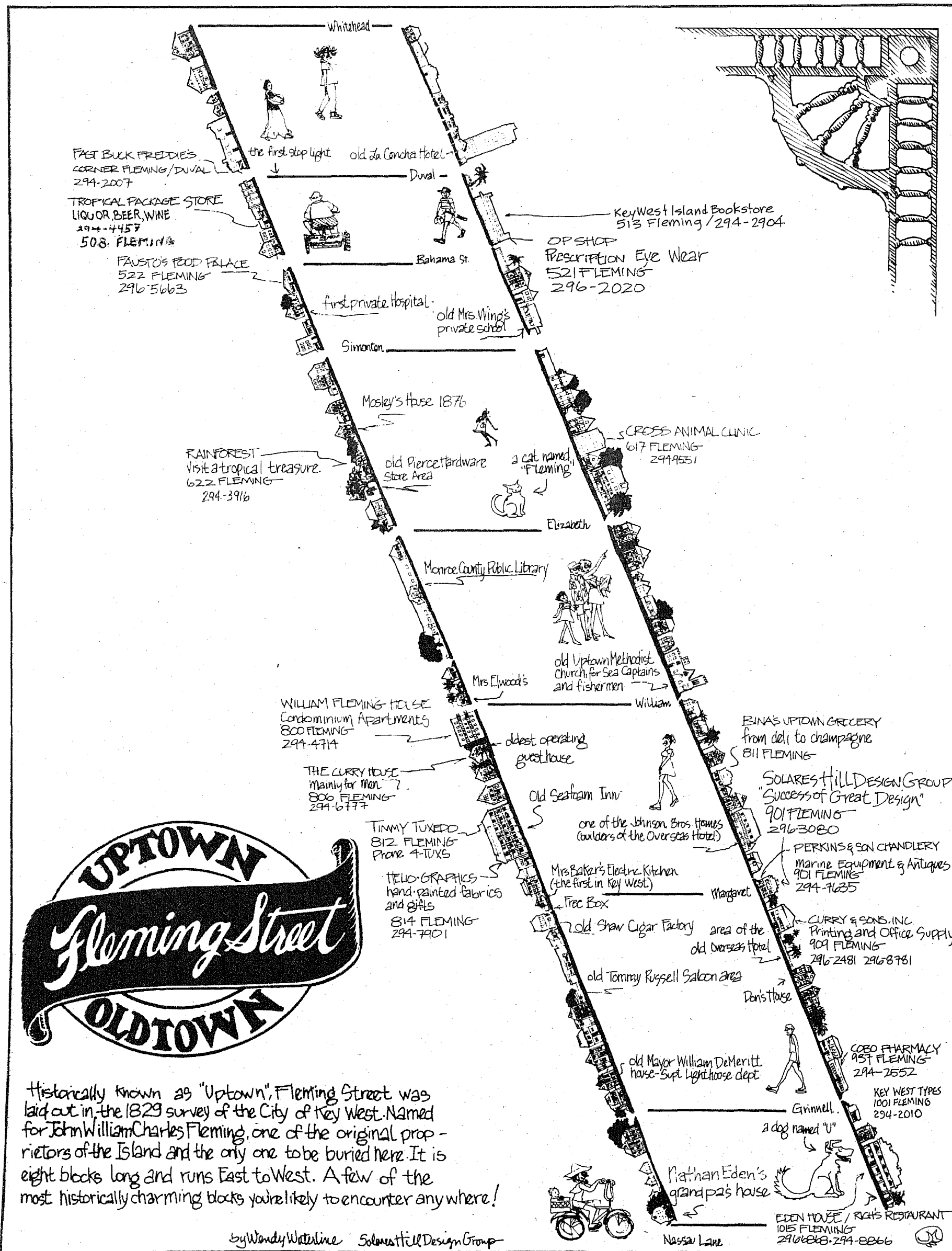
 YOUR AD COULD BE HERE	 LIGHTHOUSE AND MILITARY MUSEUM 938 Whitehead Street Daily 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. 384	 EAST MARTELLO GALLERY & MUSEUM South Roosevelt Blvd. (adjacent to Key West Airport) Daily 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. 384	SLOPPY JOE'S August Musical Lineup Evenings 10 PM - 2 AM GUITARS AND DRUMS AUGUST 1-4 OVERSEAS EXPRESS AUGUST 5-6, 12, 13 ARMOOLY AUGUST 7-11, 28-31 GRAPHICS AUGUST 14-17, 21-24 SWING SET AUGUST 18-20 HOT HEADS AUGUST 25-27 Afternoons 1 PM - 5 PM CARL DAVIS AUGUST 3-4 DAVID REGAN AUGUST 8, 14, 16 FELLS POINT AUGUST 10-12, 17, 24, 26, 28-31 TONY CLIFFORD AUGUST 15 Afternoons 5 PM - 9 PM TONY CLIFFORD AUGUST 3, 8, 14, 17 JOEL NELSON AUGUST 4, 9-11, 18, 23-25, 31 BRIAN HUSKEY AUGUST 5-7 KEN MCGEE AUGUST 13, 20, 27 CARL DAVIS AUGUST 15, 21, 22 KEY WEST	 DOMINO'S PIZZA CALL 296-7795 922 TRUMAN AVE. 294-9584 3128 FLAGLER AVE. Fast, Free Delivery! (Limited Delivery Area. Drivers carry less than \$20)
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SPECTRUM SCHOOL is proud to celebrate their sixth year in existence by offering education to pre-schoolers. Starting in September, Spectrum School will be open to children ages 4-12. Students are taught a complete academic program in an environment that is friendly and secure and one that captures the imagination, curiosity and intellect of each child. Each student receives an individual program of study, best suited to his or her learning pattern. Self-confidence and a positive self-concept are important aspects of the teaching philosophy at Spectrum School. Each child learns to feel good about him/herself and their work, no matter if they are learning math or how to make bread. Each of the two teachers are state certified and are aware of diet as it pertains to learning. Parents and children are taught how too much sugar and artificial substances can disturb a child's diet and how they learn. Awareness of a balanced diet and a sound, healthy body are important points that children learn by cooking wholesome, nutritious foods. Cooperative games are played and enjoyed by all. Occasionally we all go "fieldtripping" out into the community to learn about the artistic, historical, and business aspects of our unique environment. Parents are encouraged to participate actively in their child's education and are welcome at school to share their experiences with the students. Despite its rural setting at 10 Ave. F, Big Coppitt Key, Spectrum School keeps up with the computer age and children experience modern technology in an environment that helps them learn from day to day living. Classes resume September 3. For more information about this unique school, phone (305) 296-3252.

Honey Bee Apiaries
 a tropical treat from Key Bee
 Little Torch Key

General Construction and Hole Drilling
 also
 Land Clearing
 Tractor Work
 Grading and
 Hauling

Boca Chica Bill 294-7996 or 296-3252



FOR OUR GAY COMMUNITY ...

GAY EVENTS CALENDAR OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

SUNDAY

Papillon - Tea by the Sea Dance, 7-10 p.m.
Number One Saloon - Movies
Copa - Complimentary Buffet
Metropolitan Community Church - 319 Duval, 11 a.m.
La Te Da - Tea Dance, 4 p.m.
Lighthouse Court - Movies
Old Plantation - Movies and Dancing

MONDAY

Number One Saloon - Movies and all night happy hour
Old Plantation - Show night
Lighthouse Court - Movies

TUESDAY

Number One Saloon - Movies and 50¢ draft beer
Club Key West - 1/2 price lockers, 6-11 p.m.
Old Plantation - Wet briefs contest
Lighthouse Court - Movies

WEDNESDAY

Number One Saloon - Movies and #One Saloon T-shirt nite
La Te Da - Tea dance, 4 p.m.
Old Plantation - Dynasty
Pigeon House Patio - Lois at the Piano Bar
White Elephant Restaurant - special dinner.

Lighthouse Court - Movies

Copa - Dynasty 8:30-12 p.m. - free drinks
Island Circle Meeting - 9 p.m.
location posted at Inside Out.

THURSDAY

Number One Saloon - Movies
Copa - Cabaret nite
Lighthouse Court - Movies
Claire - "Sisters at Sea" Ladies Tea- 5-8 p.m.
Old Plantation - X-rated films, 10 p.m.
Pigeon House Patio - Lois at the Piano Bar

FRIDAY

Number One Saloon - Movies
Lighthouse Court - Movies
Old Plantation - Contest
Copa - Dancing
Pigeon House Patio - Lois at the Piano Bar

SATURDAY

Number One Saloon - Movies
Lighthouse Court - Movies
Old Plantation - Amateur Strip Night and Tammy's Old Southern Bar-Be-Que, 4-8 p.m.
Copa - Dancing
Pigeon House Patio - Lois at the Piano Bar

continued from page 31

Mosley has been able to get commitments of traffic impact fees totaling about \$350,000 from most of these developers. These new projects are in addition to La Brisa, 1800 Atlantic, Key West Beach Club, Reflections (Ocean Key), Galleon, Sands, Cavala, Hampton Inn, Casa Marina addition, Anchorage, etc., which are still far from being built and sold out. Further down the line is the massive planned development at Truman Annex, Key West Redevelopment Agency.

WE HAVE LONG predicted that traffic circulation would be the most immediate restriction on further development in Key West, and our predictions seem to be rapidly coming true. We wonder what will happen to the traffic problem when all these new hotels, resorts and condominiums become fully operational. With the U.S. 1 corridor already at saturation in many spots during afternoon and evening traffic, with more and more tourists piling in for longer and longer periods, with major road construction projects looming ahead for

prolonged periods, will we soon reach the point where traffic can't move at all along U.S. 1 and in Old Town?

WE WEREN'T SURPRISED when the City Commission turned down the Resolution by Commissioner George Halloran a few weeks ago to declare a six months' moratorium on accepting new major developments projects. Traffic alone would have justified a slowdown. The speakers who spoke for the moratorium, including declared Commission candidate Jimmie Weekly, gave reasoned, rational reasons for the moratorium. With Mayor Heyman absent, Halloran couldn't even get a second on his motion, but the other commissioners took occasion to heap abuse on Halloran anyway.

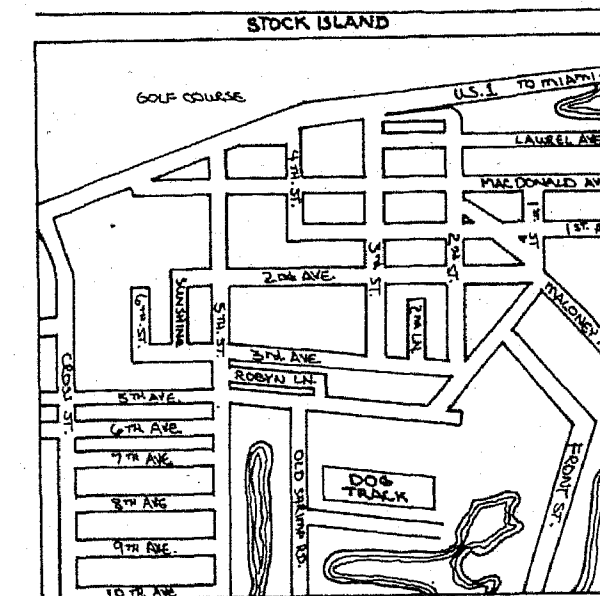
WELL, THERE'S AN election coming on very soon. Let every candidate declare exactly where he stands on the growth issue. Then let the voters decide exactly what they want for the future of Key West.

THE LOBSTER MAN FISH MARKET WE PACK IN ICE TO TRAVEL

Shrimp specials weekly!

LARGE SHRIMP
MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE OYSTERS & CLAMS
FLORIDA OYSTERS
SMOKED FISH & SHRIMP
YELLOWTAIL
SNAPPER
GROUPER
and, of course,
LOBSTER

NEXT TO BOCA CHICA BAR
U.S. 1, STOCK ISLAND 294-4923



Here's What We've Got

THE TROPICAL DISCO

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

THE GRAND PIANO BAR

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

THE GARDEN DISTRICT

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

THE SHOW STAGES

Wet briefs, game shows, drag, cabaret, dance — every Monday and Thursday at midnight.

WEENIE WONDERLAND

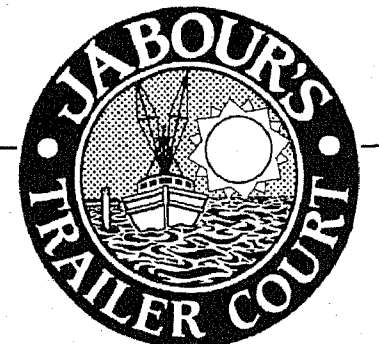
Deli Sandwiches, hot dogs, and exotic tropical drinks all day long.

MICHELLE'S

Intimate Women's Bar with touch-dancing, pool and quiet conversation. Cabaret & Special Shows Wednesday & Sundays

Michael's

Where Key West Comes Together
218 DUVAL ST • 294-4383



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CAMP & WALK TO OLD TOWN ATTRACTIONS • MOBILE HOME, APARTMENT, COTTAGE RENTALS
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RESERVATIONS WELCOME

**WHEN YOU
JUST
DON'T
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Boca Chica Bar**

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Today, a Most Amazing Machine has come to Key West.

Traditionally, typeset words are static and rigid. Digitally Generated characters from the Varityper 6400 are not only incredibly clear, but, as amazing as it sounds, they are "plastic"! Type Technician John Fay can **stretch**, condense, *italicize* and mold your favorite typeface into thousands of unique variations.

This state-of-the-art service, called TypeTech, is in action at

Solares Hill Design Group

Come explore the possibilities.

Galleries & Museums

Art Moderne Galerie, 516 Amelia Street, 296-3156. Open 1-5 daily. Contemporary art.

Art Unlimited, 217 Duval Street, 296-5625. Hours 12 to 5 p.m. or by appointment. Quality local and Haitian art.

Artists Warehouse: 814 Duval, 294-7141. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Featuring local artists, Karen Clemens, and Rudy Prazen. Framing shop also.

Burgess-Meinster Gallery, 810 Duval St., 296-7382. International and local art, folk art.

East Martello Gallery & Museum: 3500 S. Roosevelt Blvd., 296-3913. Mid-June on: works of Mario Sanchez.

All members art show.

Farrington Galleries: 711 Duval St. 294-6911. An artist-supply gallery featuring new work by Mario Sanchez, including his woodcarving "Bucket of Fish" and the new biography on him by Kathryn Proby.

Fred Gros Gallery: 901 Duval, 294-9545. Closed for summer.

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

Guild Hall Gallery: 614 Duval Street, 296-6076. Exhibiting an outstanding array of original art by Key West professionals: Judi Bradford, Ann Irvine, Fran Kehschull, Loys Locklear, Maxine McMullen, Wayne Pelke, Irma Quigley, Norma Renner, Carolyn Seiler and Sonia Robinson. Featuring oils, acrylics, ceramics, watercolors, drawings, prints, woodcarved paintings, wood sculpture, fine leather and soft sculpture.

Haitian Art Co.: 600 Frances St. on the corner of Southard St., 296-8932. The largest collection of Haitian art in the country featuring paintings, metal and wood sculptures, watercolors and papier-mache.

Key West Art Center, 301 Front St., 294-1241. Local artists.

Lacy Gallery: By appointment only. 294-7115.

Lighthouse and Military Museum: 938 Whitehead, 294-0012. The highest view of Key West can be had here, along with a survey of aircraft and wartime mentos.

Lucky Street Gallery: 322 Margaret St., 294-3973, 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Contemporary art.

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

Rose Lane Antiquities, 524 Rose Lane (off Duval), 294-1873. Pre-Columbian pottery and gold; primitive art from Africa; antique gold jewelry.

EVENTS

Oldest House Museum: 322 Duval St., 294-9502. Antique lovers will enjoy this excursion into the furniture, housewares and decorations of Old Island interiors "way back when." Be sure to visit the kitchen out back.

Ernest Hemingway Home and Museum: 296-5811 or 294-1575. 907 Whitehead St. Open daily 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. A registered National Historic Landmark. This site possesses exceptional value in commemorating or illustrating the history of the United States. Greenpeace, 612 Duval, Key West. Sculpture by Gloria Shaw.

Films & Library Events

Monroe County Public Library:

294-8488, 700 Fleming. Summertime Story Hours: Preschool-7, Thursdays 9:30-10:30.

Adult movies, Wednesday evenings:

8/7 6:00 Proud Rebel

8/21 6:30 The Emperor Jones

Children's movies, Saturday mornings from 10-11 a.m.: 8/10 Mole in the Desert

The Concert

8/17 Blueberries for Sal

Big Henry & The Polka Dot Kid

8/24 Miss Nelson Is Missing

Winnie the Pooh & The Blustery Day

8/31 Happy Lion

Curious Geo. Goes to the Hospital

REGULAR EVENTS

The League of Women Voters of Monroe County: Lower Keys meeting every 4th Sat. For info call Dore Skinner 296-6254. Middle Keys unit meets every 3rd Thur. For info call Doris Abram at 743-4166. Upper Keys unit meets every 3rd Thurs. For info call Evelyn Gilsey at 664-4134.

AL-ATEEN: Friday, 8:30 p.m., Sigsbee YMCA.

BINGO: Starting 7:15 p.m. Thursday nights at Sugarloaf firehouse at mile marker 17.

Coffee Mill: 915 Ashe St., 294-8072. Call for information on our many classes.

Single Again: a group for single adults to meet and socialize. Information: 294-0533 or 296-3423.

Florida Keys Chapter, AARP, No. 1351. Located in the Armory, Southard and White Streets, 294-4641, Ext. 361. Meetings 2nd Monday every month, 7:30 p.m.; Blood Count from 6:15 to 7:15; Bingo Wednesdays 1:30 p.m.; Duplicate Bridge 7:30 p.m. Tuesday; Thursday, 1 p.m.; Saturday bridge party 1 p.m. **KEY WEST GARDEN CLUB**: Meets 1st Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. West Martello, for information 294-3210.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS: Friday night, 7:00 p.m., 2318 Fogarty Ave., 5th St. Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. If you have a drug problem, come to us.

City Electric Utility Board: meetings 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 5 p.m., Board Room, 930 Caroline.

Big Coppitt Key Firehouse, bingo, Fri. nights, 3 p.m.

Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority: 296-2454.

8/16 Cheeca Lodge, m.m. 82½, 10:00 a.m.

VFW AUXILIARY #6021, 2nd & 4th Sundays, Post Hall, 903 Emma St., 8 p.m.

Viet Nam Vets: Thursdays, 296-6843.

Friends Worship Group (Quakers), inquiries, Sheridan Crumlish, 294-1523.

Key West City Commission: Meetings, 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 8 p.m., City Hall, corner Simonton & Angela Sts.

Child Abuse: Question, referrals, reporting information and general information. Call Barbara Hunt at F.K.M.H., 294-5531.

Duplicate Bridge weekly; Tuesday 7:30 p.m., Thursday, 1:00 p.m., AARP Building. Call Martha Kiplinger, 296-5766.

Key West Womens Club, regular meetings 1st Tuesday of each month, 2:30 p.m. 319 Duval St.

Mail-a-book program, costs you only 29 cents, for mailing. Library, 4-8488.

Marathon Lions Club, dinner meetings 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, Indies Resort, Duck Key, 7:30 p.m.

Marathon Shrine Club, luncheons every Friday, at high noon. All Shriners welcome.

Monroe County Commission: 8/16, Plantation Key Gov. Center, 8:30 a.m.

The Lower Keys Property Owners Assoc. Located at the west end of the No. Name Key bridge on Big Pine Key, bingo, every Wednesday, 6:00. Call 745-3613.

United Humanitarians, low-cost spay program now in effect; please call 296-5106 for information.

Wesley House Board of Directors, meetings second Tuesday of the month, 5 p.m., 1100 Varela St., 296-5231.

Self Help

AL-ANON-MEETINGS IN KEY WEST

AL-ANON Key West group St. Ann's Hall meets Mondays at 7 p.m. AA meets 8:30 p.m. **AL-ANON Memorial Group** PKMH, 294-5531 Ext 3495, meets Wed. at 8:30 p.m. AA meets same time. **AL-ANON** St. Bede's Group meets Thurs. 12 noon, St. Bede's Catholic Church, 2700 Flagler.

Key West Mobilization for Survival meets Tuesday, August 13 and 27, 7:30 p.m. at the Blue Heaven Community Center, 729 Thomas. Information 4-2647.

Alcoholics Anonymous: 404 Virginia St. Clubroom open 10 a.m. - 11 p.m. daily. Meetings: 8:30 p.m. nightly; 7 p.m. Sun., Wed., Fri., noon Mon. - Sat.; 10:30 a.m. Sun.; 11 p.m. Fri., Sat.

Domestic Abuse Shelter, Inc., call 6-HELP, 4-LINE.

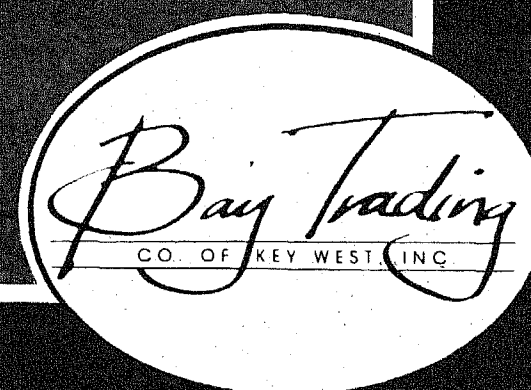
Zonta Help Line: 296-HELP. Call any time when you need help or referral service. 296-4357.

Delphos alcohol and drug treatment center at F.K.M.H. Information call: 294-5531, Ext. 3505.

La Leche League: Every 3rd Tuesday, M.H. 24.2, Summerland Key, 10 a.m. Call 745-2274.

Classes on the Ovulation Method of Fertility Awareness: Avoid or achieve pregnancy naturally. Instructor Registered Nurse certified by The Ovulation Method Teachers Association. For information, call 296-7214.

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501 DUVAL ST., KEY WEST, FL 33040
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