

The highest point in Key West

Solares hill

FREE

Vol. III, No. 5

Key West, Florida

May 1978



FOR SALE La Plaza Grocery

**1206 White St.
296-9300**

**GREAT OPPORTUNITY!
NEED TO SELL**

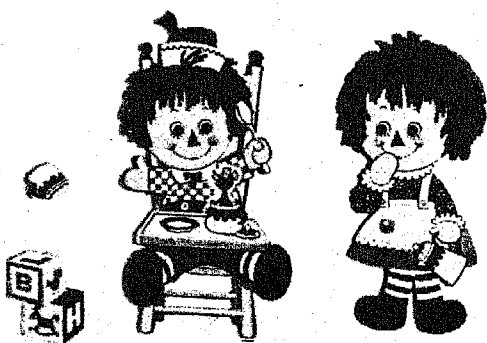
**The Key West
Tile Workshop**

custom
designed
tiles and murals

POOLS
KITCHENS
BATHROOMS
Etc.

For information call or write Meather Elston
822 Fleming St. (Key) - 296-8038

TOYS and THINGS



Upstairs
At the Harbor House Arcade
Front Street, Key West

**SPANISH, FRENCH,
PORTUGUESE, ENGLISH**

Group or Individual



294-8110
KEY WEST, FLORIDA

From the Editor

Hello -
We have an article and an editorial on the Salt Ponds this issue. We devoted a lot of space to report the attempt of the County Commission to place the new weather station there because we feel very strongly that there should be no construction in these ponds. Please read the editorial and the article and see if you don't agree with us.

It's no fun to try and run a meeting of the Greater Key West Chamber of Commerce these days. There are two hostile camps dividing the group and little that one group wants is pleasing to the other group. I've watched President Billy Appelrouth in action at two big meetings and I feel he's been doing a good job of giving each side a fair chance to present its point of view. I really doubt that the Chamber will accomplish much of anything until one or the other of the camps dividing the Chamber prevails or until - miracle of miracles - a compromise between the groups is achieved.

Looks like Island Renovations, Inc. found help in its efforts to keep the South Beach concession. We'll bring everyone up to date on this affair next issue.

Go and see The Real Inspector Hound at the Greene Street Theatre if you haven't already. It is a thorough delight.

I called the Gerald Adam's School and spoke with a teacher there whose students had written letters of complaint to the mayor about the stink and the flies coming from the dump. The teacher, Ms. Lillis, said that the situation

had improved somewhat. I will check back with the school the beginning of their next school year.

The County jail is a real hell-hole. I'm glad that the Grand Jury reported this to the public, but I wonder why didn't they choose to investigate it instead of leaving it for the incoming Grand Jury? In any event, the Sheriff is trying to get some other temporary facilities for some of the prisoners, but this will not be a final solution. We need a stockade here. We have too many prisoners who are picked up on minor offenses, stashed away in that dark pit of a County Jail, and thrown in with professional criminals. I hope that the pressure is kept up on the County Commission by the Sheriff to correct this disgraceful condition.



WJ

The cover this time is by Cecelia Johnson.

Save your cover!
Send us a postcard
with your subscription.

**THIS
IS OUR
SUBSCRIPTION
FORM**



HERE IS \$10.00 FOR MY
SUBSCRIPTION TO 11
ISSUES OF SOLARES
HILL.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Our mailing address:

821 Duval Street
Key West, Florida
33040

Phone numbers are
294-1044 & 294-2400

In Marathon call
872-2915

Solares Hill is a community newspaper published every month on the slopes of Solares Hill, Key West's highest point, by Solares Hill Company, 821 Duval Street, Key West, Florida 33040. Annual subscription rate (11 issues) is \$10.00.

EDITOR.....BILL HUCKEL
ASSOCIATE EDITOR.....RICHARD MARSH
EDITORIAL CONSULTANT.....BILL WESTRAY

COPY EDITOR.....DONNA MARSH
ART DIRECTION.....TOM POPE
LAYOUT.....WALT HYLE

With a little help from our friends . .

Solares Hill Co., Inc.

© Solares Hill 1978

BOB DANIELS

by Phoebe Coan

photo by Kim Wise

"I'VE TRIED to be good to Key West, and Key West has been good to me," says Bob Daniels, sitting one afternoon on a folding beach chair in front of the B & B Bike Shop on Fleming. Known to children as "Uncle Bob," he also has a

experiences as landlord and friend to young people...aside from keeping many an ailing Key West bike on the road make him a likely candidate for SH.

PEPPERY HAIR - sparkling eyes -



way with wild animals which not too many people possess.

A matter-of-fact benevolence, a desire to help others (that has extended into organizing many groups), and his

he once was commander and is a lifetime member of the American Legion. Now at 70, he's still game for adventure "and perpetrating a little craziness of mind," according to his son.



Years ago Bob used to take his 1st grade boy for rides up the Keys before school in the mornings. Now Ray, his son, has been looking for someone to take a truck innertube with a sail on it, out to Boca Grande. None of his young friends have a willing spirit, "But Dad does," asserts Ray.

BOB FIRST came to Key West in 1929 from Minnesota. He met a girl, La Dorna Louise Saunders, from Key West while in Miami, and came for a week's visit. He ended up staying and marrying her. Frank Saunders, her father, had a grocery on Southard and Grinnell. She's in Colorado now...he stays on. "I like Key West and I like the people," he says. Daniels has been in the bike business since getting out of the Army in '44, when he bought out Gould Curry's business on Simonton Street. For \$100 he got seven rental bikes and a handful of tools.

BOB HAD BEEN tinkering since an early age, he used to repair bikes as a kid. The man who had the bike shop in his home town got angry because Bob was getting so much business and charging only ten cents for flats while he was charging fifteen cents. The cops were called since Bob was only 14 and operating without a license.

He had learned in early days from the big workshop that was in the family's barn. He'd even built a little car (though it had no engine) and always did his own mechanical work.

ON NEW YEAR'S DAY of '45, the bike shop moved to its present site, and he has passed along this mechanical knowledge to his two sons. Frank, who has always repaired biked good naturedly, runs the B & B, Ray (who used to have a pet shop) has Ray's Bike Shop on Truman.

Bob has always had pets of some kind and is as protective as a mother hen with them, sensing any discomforts or possible disturbances from those who may not understand animal signals and needs.

HE HAS LIVED with chickens, turkeys, ducks, raccoons, monkeys, rabbits, sheep, and other animals.

The sheep came from Cuba, and at one time he had five. One tenant didn't believe there were sheep in the back yard until he got rammed by a ram! Bob sold the flock eventually, and next day the market advertised "spring lamb."

He's had some exotics, for sure. There was the Woolly monkey (Suzie) and a silver langor (Trixi).

NOW HE LIVES with Sassy, a dog (little fellow with wrinkled up face and very enormous round black eyes),

**ROSIE'S
ON DUVAL**
good used furniture

720 Duval
294-3398

Perhaps we have something for you!

FREE PARKING
Open 11 AM to 9 PM
Tel. 294-4000



EL GACIQUE RESTAURANT
specializing in
SPANISH FOOD & CUBAN SANDWICHES
125 Duval St. • 1/2 block from National Bank

"For that special friend,
a special gift"

Fran-qi-Pani
If you'll go a little out of your way
to find us,
We'll go way out of our way
to serve you!

Phone 294-3929
Hours: Mon-Sat 10-5
Closed Sundays

WE DELIVER
Pots, plants, baskets, and macrame

NEW ADDRESS! 1514 BERTHA ST.
GIFT CERTIFICATES
MASTER CHARGE — VISA — LAYAWAYS

and Kinky, a kinkajou, from South America, also known as a honey bear. "They're a lot of fun, real friendly if you don't abuse them. If you do, they won't forget it," Bob says of his long-haired friends.

In the late 1920's, Bob was into charter boats and captained his own for four or five years. "There were just a dozen of us operating then and everyone worked together." He helped organize and became the first president of the still existing Charter Boat Association.

HE AND THREE other captains kept a fish car with live fish in it for indigent people who would come to get the seafood. Fish were distributed according to how many family members were involved.

Daniels recently went to Boulder, Montana, to a uranium mine which is not in operation now, but is open for healing purposes. Seems that the gases that still hang in there are beneficial for many ailments, especially arthritis, which has been a real problem to Bob.

"You go there into that mine for one and a half hours a day, sit down and breathe that air. People have gone there in wheel chairs and walked out," he declares.

General Omar Bradley was there and apparently benefited. Bob was considerably helped, too, with his emphysema problem.

CONCERNING BIKERS, Bob says that he'd like to see people riding with the traffic and obeying traffic rules and using lights. As for the bikes, he says a tire wiper cuts down on the glass problem.

He advises against jumping curbs (it bends the rim), and suggests oil on the chain and a complete lubrication twice a year, adding, "A new bike should be waxed."

MOVIE STARS have rented bikes from Bob and people have asked to buy their rental slips for autographs. But he is not sentimental that way and doesn't like sensationalism either.

He and his second wife, Dorothy, were very active in the American Cancer Society and helped keep it going for many years. He also organized a walking blood bank. "We had a drive and typed people's blood. Then when it was needed we'd make the contacts. That was the only way you could get blood in Key West, in other years."

"The cancer stricken often are immediately indigent, even back 20 years ago when things were cheaper. Now more are being helped," he says.

Every Friday, either Bob or his wife would drive patients to Miami for treatment. There were no cancer society doctors here, and no free treatment in the past.

DANIELS SPENDS a lot of time these days sitting out in front of his shop. Friends come by, among them Monkey Joe. At night Bob sits with his pet, Kinky, who is nocturnal, and watches the evening hours pass by. There was a spectacular sunset splashed against the sky up the street from us when I spoke with him and his son, Ray, that evening about the Fogarty House which he had rented as a rooming house for two years in 1969-70.

"It was a catch-all," said Ray. "We got all the people nobody else wanted to rent to. It was the time of the first wave of hippies to Key West. We ended up feeding half of them, too."

THE BOYS and their dad also ran a restaurant adjacent to the old Fogarty House, Daniel's Native Sea House, which featured fresh fish, crushed ice fruit drinks and salads. "Most of the time we got along pretty good," says Bob of his tenants then.

There was a complaint once at Fogarty House about a ghost in the attic. When Ray offered to change the fellow's room, he backed down...saying there would probably be a worse one in another room.

ONE TIME, "Dutch" (a roomer there), was the creator of giant soap bubbles which he sent floating on Duval Street. He used glycerine (made bubbles stronger and more able to reflect colors) and wafted the bubbles from a bent wire hanger. The enormous size of one foot across, and three feet long, amazed people.

"AT FOGARTY HOUSE, the biggest problem," claims Ray, "was where to put all the extra bodies that ended up in the halls at night. Many took showers there. We never really objected unless they left a real mess."

He recalls that once he rented a room to a couple of guys of whom someone said: "Hey, you got some strange people up there." He checked, and through the already opened door saw these guys chanting, with candles lit. About 20 people were there, bones through their noses. They killed a chicken. Voodoo drums were sounding in the stillness of the night.

"We asked them politely to leave," says Ray.

BOB NOW OWNS 822 Fleming, which is the bike shop, and up above, another "easy going apartment house." His standards for tenants are "good vibes and nobody who will tear the place up."

"FATHER HAS a natural ability with wild animals," says Ray. "He trains them on word command. They become his babies." There was Mr. Bad, the badger (as far as they know, no one has been able to train a wild badger before or since) who would roll over, sit up and

do somersaults on command. He would lie on his back and leave his tummy vulnerable, showing complete trust. Bob has taken other animals no one could train and done wonders with them. I saw Kinky eating an apple and then kissing Bob in his ear, and on his cheek. When Bob was small, chickens would perch on his shoulder, and although his mother prohibited animals, Bob finally did get a cat and later a raccoon.

HE GAVE his sons three rabbits for Easter once and built a fine hutch for them. The rabbits had babies, and they ended up with about 80 rabbits.

Ray says he got to know each one since he fed and watered them and gathered weeds and herbs for them. "When Pop came home we'd let them all out. Thumper was the most enormous one and at 10 o'clock at night - a ritual - he'd thump the floor of the cage for 20-30 minutes. Nothing could change his behavior."

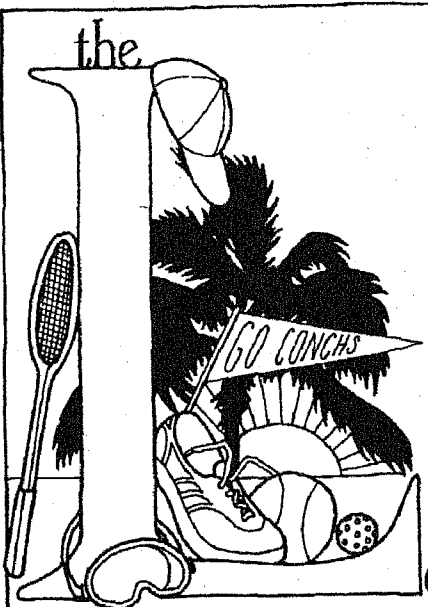
IT IS Bob's desire to tame a wolverine (badger family, but ten times meaner) and a Tasmanian Devil, which will attack unprovoked. He says you can do it if you "get them young, be kind to them - don't fear them or let them know you're afraid of them. The worse thing an animal can do is bite you. A bite usually means you're not paying attention."

Both Bob and Ray agree that you must never disturb a wild animal while he is nibbling (Bob gets a nip every once in a while himself); and they both advise not to give alcohol to animals.

Bob even had a pet grouper for about three months. It came into the live well of his boat. He would feed the fish, pat his head, and talk to him.

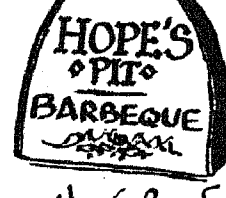
Ray intoned, "There's no generation gap between Dad and me. We're buddies."

the



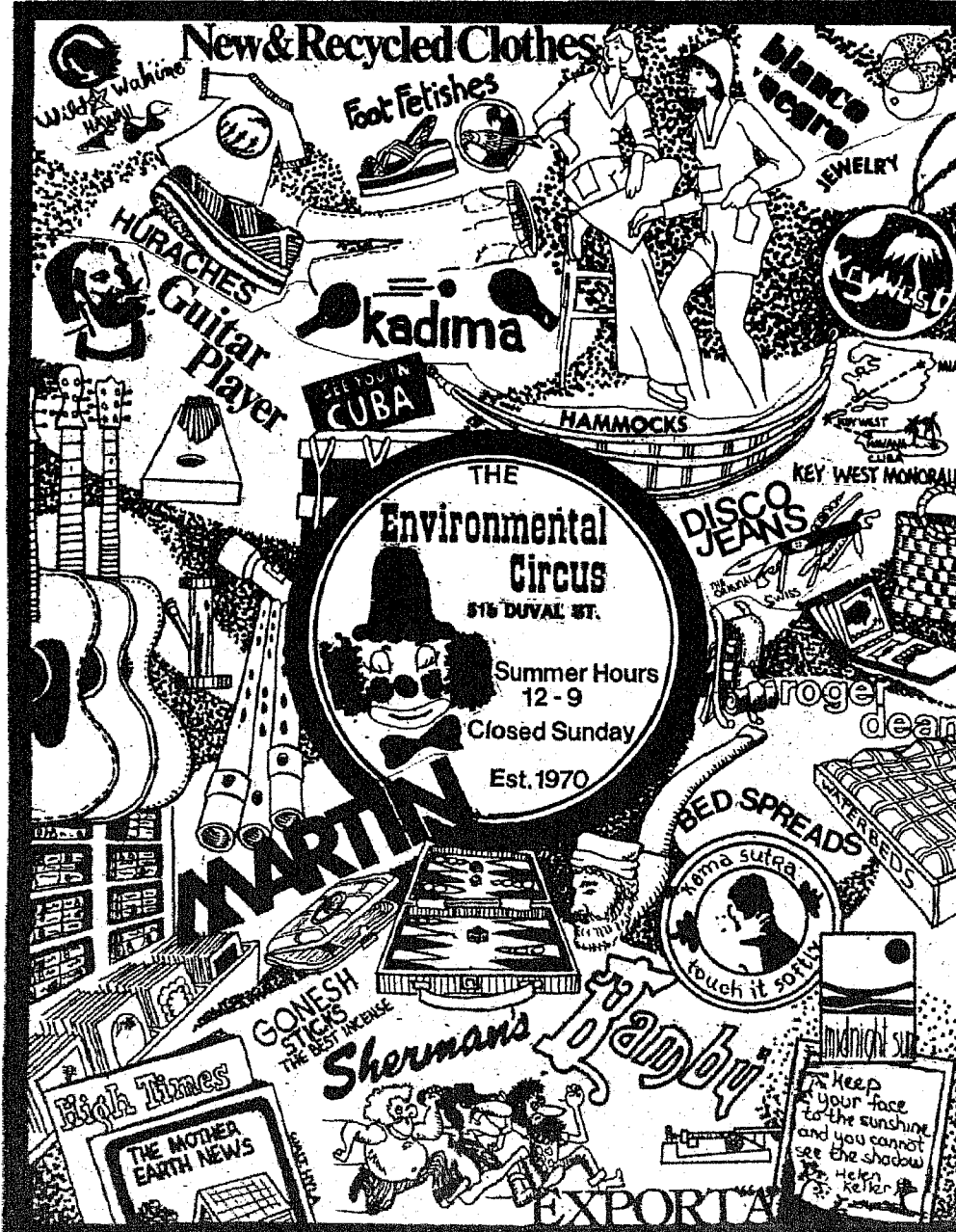
A full line of sporting goods
Key West's team outfitters
Located in Searstown
294-7645
ettermen

Draft Beer,
Imported and domestic wines.
222 Duval St.



294-5424
Barbecue ribs & chicken
Sandwiches

New & Recycled Clothes



Washers
Kadima
HURACHES
Guitar Player
CUBA
HAMMOCKS
DISCO JEANS
KEY WEST MONORAIL
GONFISH
SHERMAN'S
THE MOTHER EARTH NEWS
EXPORTA

THE Environmental Circus
516 DUVAL ST.
Summer Hours 12-9
Closed Sunday
Est. 1970

RED SPREADS
KING'S SUITS
ouch it soft

Keep face to the sun and you cannot see the shadow

HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR SUNBURN?

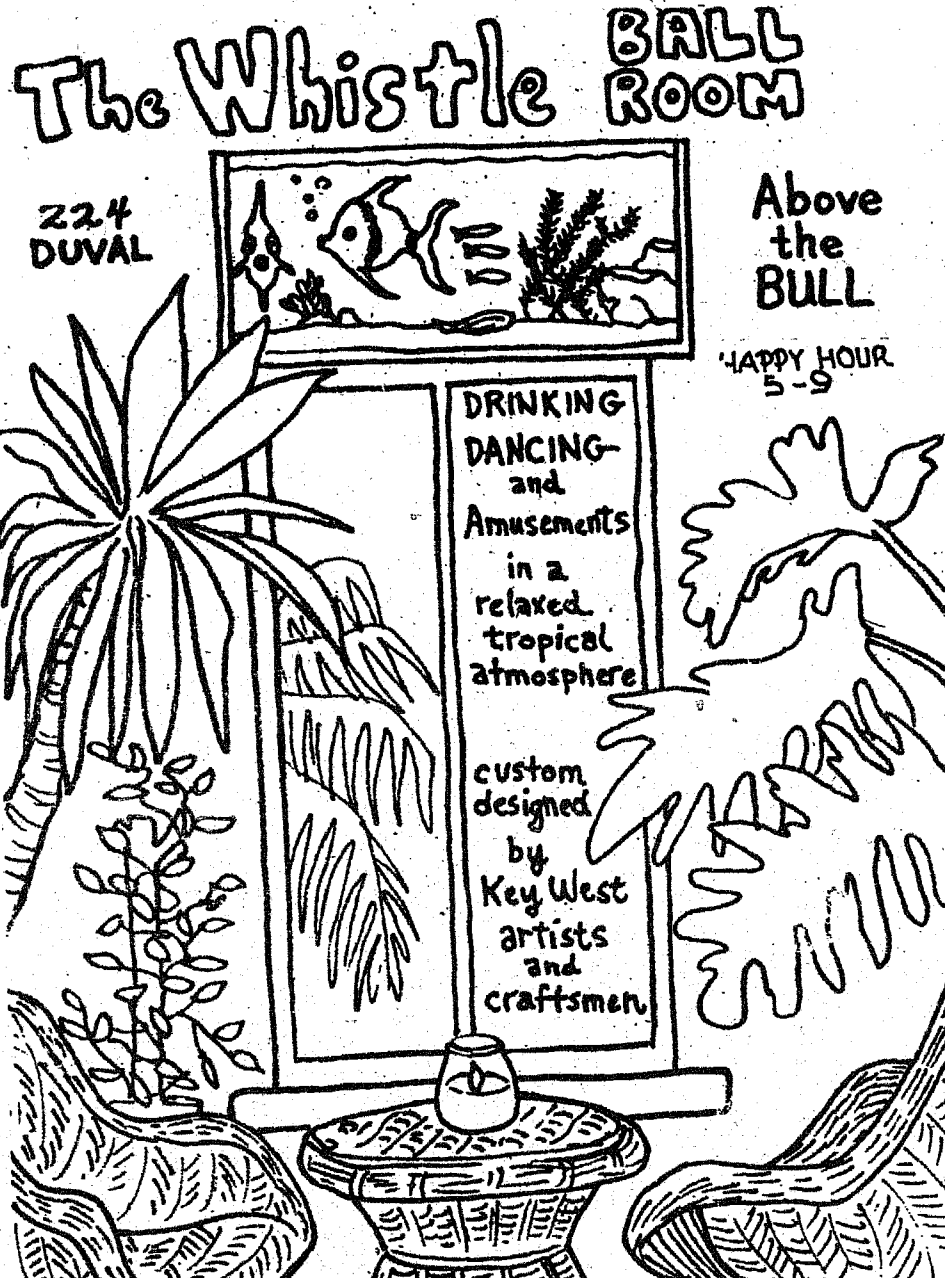
☐ RARE? ☐ MEDIUM? ☐ WELL-DONE? ☐ PAINFUL? ☐ PEELING? ☐ NONE OF THE ABOVE?

Of course, a handsome bronze tan is the ideal tan for your skin. But for those times when you forget to use any of our beautifully effective Aloe and Paba suntan lotions, stay out in our tropical sun too long, and wind up with a burn, there's Key West 80% Aloe Tan-A-Ray. Feel the stinging burn fade as you smooth this luxurious cream over your burned skin. Apply often enough and you may help prevent peeling. You will even turn your red to tan. There's nothing like it anywhere. Key West 80% Aloe Tan-A-Ray ... \$6.50. To preserve the tan you have now, Key West 40% Aloe Tan-A-Ray ... \$3.15.

KEY WEST FRAGRANCE AND COSMETIC FACTORY
524 Front Street • Key West, Florida 33040



The Whistle ROOM
224 DUVAL

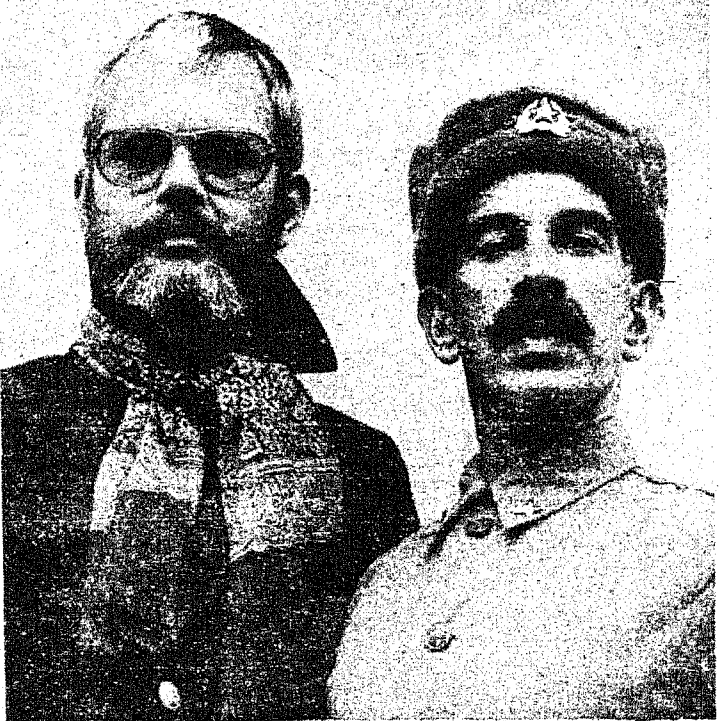


Above the BULL
HAPPY HOUR 5-9

DRINKING DANCING and Amusements in a relaxed tropical atmosphere

custom designed by Key West artists and craftsmen.

"The only thing I missed in Moscow



were sandwiches at **LaBodega**"

Bill Mulholland, world traveler

A Soft Touch

the exciting south island array of styles... experience the animal/jungle prints and bring a bit of the tropics home together with a tan...

Plan a visit to The Soft Touch before leaving Key West. We specialize in D-cups, split sizes, matching coverups, shirts, hats, robes and warmupsuits etc. See Kathy, 704 Duval St. - 296 2622-

ANGELO'S OASIS

294-4532

PIZZA SUBS

TAKE OUT SERVICE AVAILABLE
OPEN DAILY 'TIL 4 AM
208 DUVAL ST.

THE QUEEN'S TABLE

For elegance without extravagance
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

DINNER
with Johnny Pritchard at the piano
5:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

LUNCH
Noon 'til 2:15 p.m.

BREAKFAST
7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Brunch
Cocktails in the popular
WEST INDIES LOUNGE
Noon 'til 2 a.m.

AT THE SANTA MARIA MOTEL (305) 296-5678
1401 SIMONTON ST. KEY WEST, FLORIDA

notes and antic-dotes

by Dorothy Raymer

"WHY DOESN'T Key West put on an annual pageant based on its colorful history?" was a question asked me by a friend who has seen several such events in various parts of the country including the Cherokee Indian pageant set in the Great Smokies. The answer probably lies with the staging of a local pageant some years ago. The effort was tremendous, but the results were farcical.

LET ME RECALL the pageant which was planned as the main attraction for La Semana Alegre, or Week of Joy celebration, which took place traditionally in February. This particular performance was in the early 1950s and was designed to be a cultural exhibition.

Appointed as pageant director was a woman known as Mme. Irma Labastille. She was large, energetic and had an expanded imagination to match her upholstered, continental-shelf bosom. She came here from Miami at the request of officials to whom she had been recommended as an expert. On arrival, much feted by local society fixtures, Mme. Labastille made a hurried study of material for the pageant. Her conglomerate knowledge was incorporated with what must have been previous experience in the more classic forms of dance, drama and historical productions. Accent was on mob scenes. She had a Cecil B. deMille penchant for these and might have been good at composing a banquet scene for Roman revels.

BUT KEY WEST adults, being the independent segment as usual, did not respond to the call for participation en masse, so local school students were recruited for the casting.

On with the show! More than 500 spectators turned out at West Martello Tower (now the Garden Center), where bleachers were set up on the grounds with the center stage in what is now an outdoor display area. The evening began serenely, but wind velocity continued to increase. Mini-gales kicked up a caper at a minimum of 23 miles an hour and havoc resulted!

FIRST, a contrived galleon, which was to furnish offshore background, broke its moorings and since it was only flimsy scenery, it took off for points unknown along with other hunks of impressionistic backdrops -- gone with the gusts.

Undaunted, the audience huddled on the board seats, clamping on to caps, hats, capes, stoles, shawls, and mantillas, and the show went on in the best the "show biz" tradition.

THERE WERE some highlights in the opening setting with a Fountain of Youth structure, complete with two huge goblets and giant seahorses as the central design. Around this creation danced nymphs in filmy garments subject to the whims of the wind. Much Southern exposure resulted in appreciative whistles from the males in the audience.

MUSICAL BACKGROUND was excellent, a chorus of about 50 vocalists directed by the late Tom Whitley. The singers were accompanied by pianist Millicent Taylor. The sound of the sea and wind blended in with enchanting results, for part of the time. Unfortunately the blend was not consistent. Without adequate sound equipment, as the wind velocity increased, voices were carried away in sporadic puffs.

Up on an embankment, 60 high school students chanted the stories of historical sequence with some difficulty, since they held fluttering scripts and flashlights in order to read the overlong lines incorporated into the pageant by the director.

AFTER THE PROLOGUE, as described, Scene II burst in on the outdoor stage with piercing screams and war whoops, delivered with enthusiasm by more students got up as tribes of early

DAPHNE BETTLE'S NURSERY

620 Fleming Street
Key West, Florida 33040

we have everything for patio & garden care
hanging baskets a specialty (birds, too!)

EPISCIA
"PINK BROCADE"
\$3.25

Indians, Calusas versus Caribes.

The savages entered into the fierce combat with zest. Outside of football scrimmages, Key West had not seen such riotous frenzy in years.

Scalping action was easy. The wigs of long black braids didn't have to be "lifted" by the warriors. Nearly every one of the fighters flipped and lost his wig as the struggle went on and on, until there was complete annihilation. All those loose scalps, strewn willynilly on the battleground, "slayed" the audience.

AND TO MAKE it all the more hilarious, a small band of strangely calm Indians sat on the sidelines and beat on their tomtoms. You couldn't "hear them for miles." The drumtones were just barely audible in the noisy melee.

IN THE SEQUENCE, a few Spaniards in helmets and armor, appeared on the scene and discovered what was supposedly a pile of bones, aftermath of the tremendous conflict between native tribes. Scarlet banners of Spain and a white one of the Church, were planted on the soil. The name of Cayo Hueso, Isle of Bones, was pronounced by a black-robed priest. This scene was truly dramatic, with the armor gleaming in the moonlight, but, alas, the effect was marred because the moonlight also reflected with a glitter on modern eye-glasses worn by some of the explorers.

PIRATES were depicted next, landing not like Marines with the situation well in hand, but with careless abandon, rolling in, roistering and guzzling bottles of rum (synthetic, of course). The motley crew (and never was an expression more appropriate) kept taking swigs between bouts of burying a treasure chest, along with a couple of their own men, after flashing displays of earrings, gritted teeth and swordplay. Some wag in the audience cracked, "Looks like an overflow delegation from Sloppy Joe's."

YEARS OF THE WRECKERS were marked by a witty sermon delivered by Fr. John Armstrong of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. He portrayed "The Wrecking Parson" who kept his congregation enthralled while he, having spotted a wreck from the elevation of his pulpit, made his way down the aisle to the door, and then put on a dash to his salvage vessel shouting "Wreck ashore!" At least so goes the legend.

ACTORS in this part of the pageant were attired in 1825 costumes and one couple arrived in a creaking buckboard drawn by an equally creaky horse. At one point the horse balked and seemed to want to stay in the limelight. There was a little confusion about getting him offstage. He left "souvenirs" of his appearance.

ETHNIC GROUPS fared better with interludes of a rumba band, a calypso unit, and a choral insert by students from Douglass High School, plus the Key West High School band. These musical treats were esteemed as toppers of the evening.

Ironically, the ballet on the 1935 Labor Day Hurricane proved to be almost as disastrous as the devastation of the Flagler Railroad. A handsome and popular couple portrayed the "Spirits of the Hurricane." They stood high on a fort embankment. The robes they wore were windtossed and the performers were hard put to maintain a semblance of dignity and modesty, not to mention precarious balance. Between classical posturing, the tableaux figures were given to madly clutching their garments, with the wind fighting to tear the robes not only asunder, but completely away.

continued on page 29

East Buck Predalie's
THE FUNCTION STORE

roll 'em!

our natural bamboo matchstick or tortoise rollups (complete with all hardware) dress up every room from early attic to donghia deluxe. choose unobtrusive natural matchstick or our dramatic 1/2" slatted wood-burned tortoise bamboo. measure your windows & roll 'em to fast buck's!

size	matchstick	tortoise
2 1/2 x 6'	8.50	12.50
3 x 6'	10.00	15.00
3 1/2 x 6'	11.50	17.50
4 x 6'	13.25	20.00

and now, for sliding glass doors, 6 x 7 rollups, matchstick 24.00, tortoise 39.00.

we deliver in key west! call 294-2007 to order. 524 duval. open 10-7 pm every day.

525 Caroline St.
Key West
294-4818

1st Generation Catering Inc.

WE ORGANIZE
PARTIES-MEETINGS-SPECIAL EVENTS

COMPLETE REACTIVE ULINARY ONCOCTIONS OMFORTABLE ONVIVIAL AVORTING HARMING ANDLEIGHT ULMINATIONS HORDS LOWNS LASSY CLEAN UP

ZONE 10
photography
at Lands End

ILFORD
Film - Paper & Chemicals.

CIBACHROME
Darkroom now completed
and available for rent.

NEIL LUKAS - #6 LAND'S END VILLAGE - KEY WEST, FLA. 33040 - 296-3881
(across from the Half Shell Raw Bar)

chezNANCY
RESTAURANT

We have it all! Sumptuous recipes from the continent, a tropical waterfront atmosphere with music to match, and your own private view of the famous island sunsets.

At the Ramada Inn on the Gulf of Mexico • 3420 North Roosevelt Boulevard • 294-5541

THE TOP FLORIST SHOP

"a beautiful wedding tradition"

CORNER OF TRUMAN & WHITE

Call us for a Consultation Appointment
294-4651

CARLOS FOOD CENTER

invites you to
visit our new
soup and sandwich shop

- Conch Chowder
- Key Lime Pie, etc.

701 Caroline St. 296-2321

some remarks

THE NEWLY FORMED Key West chapter of the National Organization For Women, the Monroe County Commission on the Status of Women, American Association of University Women and the Human Rights Ad Hoc Committee are organizing a march and rally with local and national known speakers to kick off several days of events in support of ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. Colorful posters with the following message read in part:

EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (ACTUAL WORDING)
"EQUALITY OF RIGHTS UNDER THE LAW SHALL NOT BE DENIED OR ABridged BY THE UNITED STATES OR BY ANY STATE ON ACCOUNT OF SEX."

IMAGINE! Women who represent 51% of our population and who are 90% of the single parents, do not have the protection of equal rights under the United States Constitution. People have been struggling for this right since 1923 when another bill, which said "Men and women shall have equal rights throughout the United States and everywhere subject to its jurisdiction," was presented to the United States Congress and was defeated. This occurred just after women had won the right to vote. The time is NOW, after 55 years, for the United States to recognize that WOMEN MUST BE FREE to participate fully and equally as citizens of this country and that their rights must not be denied by any unjust State or Federal law.

COME AND JOIN US Thursday, May 11, at 4 p.m. on the County Court House steps and show your support for a basic

right for women. The march will proceed from the County Court House steps down Duval Street to Mallory Square. At the square there will be a rally with speakers.

For further information or if you wish to donate your time and/or money to organize this demonstration, please phone 294-7474.



photo by Kim Wise

The Fogarty House looks awful these days. There has been widespread damage to it by vandals, garbage and bottles are littered in the yard, and the fence pickets are routinely broken off. It would be nice if the city could find some way to force the owners to clean it up.

continued on page 29

Capt. BOB'S

SHRIMP DOCK

RESTAURANT

Fresh daily,
right-from-the-ocean
SEAFOOD

Raw Oysters
Shrimp Steamed in Beer
Conch Chowder
Lobster & Turtle Steak
Homemade Key Lime Pie

DESERVEDLY FAMOUS FOR FRESH SEAFOOD

Open 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Daily
908 Caroline St. 294-9005

Kitchen Gallery

open 10 to 6 • 294-0770
sears town key west

GOURMET COOKWARE
Utensils, Tabletop Accessories
Locally Handpainted China
AND
Many Personal and Gift Items

Endangered Salt Ponds

photos and article
by Richard Marsh

CIVILIZING THE SALT PONDS

IN THE BEGINNING Key West was strictly for the birds. A collection of shallow salt ponds, mangroves, and spots of dry ground bred mosquitos. Killifish and other small, shallow water fish and marine life fed off the mangroves and mosquitos and mosquito larvae. Herons, egrets, roseate spoonbills, shorebirds like plovers and sandpipers, and migratory waterfowl feasted freely on the banquet that abounded here, thanks mainly to the island-building red mangroves.

Indians came here to trade with Cuba, but apparently were only seasonal visitors with no fixed settlement on the island. The European explorers were welcomed with arrows and did not press the matter. The Indians came later when the white invaders moved into Florida and pushed the Creeks, Catawbas, and Seminoles, who pushed the weaker Calusas and Caribs south through the Keys. Unsubstantiated rumor has it that there was a final pitched battle on Key West which left the island strewn with bones, hence one of the Spanish names for the island -- Cayo Hueso or Cayo Huesson, the Isle of Bones. No one ever testified to seeing the bones, and reliable historians doubt the story.

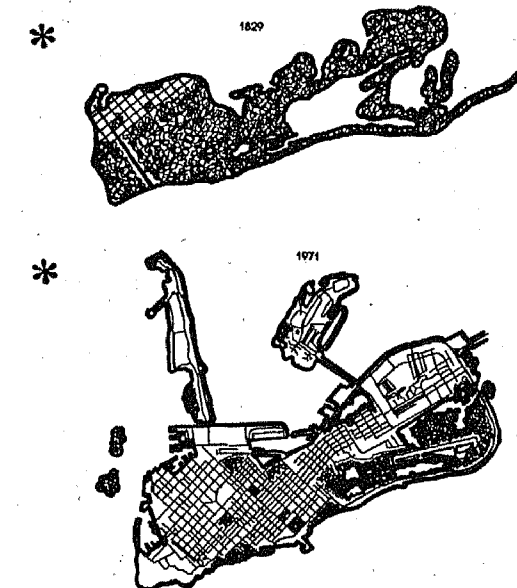
Pirates liked Key West, but only because no one else did. They were left alone here to lie low while the heat was on, until Commodore Porter chased them out when the United States claimed possession of the Keys.

THE KEYS were not specifically included in the 1819 treaty with Spain which gave Florida to the United States. Nobody really wanted the Keys until the U.S. recognized the military importance of this "Gibraltar of the Gulf," and a sharp businessman bought the island for \$2000. Even then, a yellow fever outbreak in the 1820's nearly caused the

island to be abandoned by the Navy, until Porter identified the origin of the fever as the Cuban islands.

Since then, Key West grew slowly and naturally, with the exceptions of the wrecking, cigar, shrimp, and various military booms, when there were sudden fluctuations of the economy and immigrants. Between the booms, things slowed down to a comfortable Caribbean pace.

DEVELOPMENT of the island started near the harbor and spread slowly throughout the rest of the island. Wet places were bridged, then filled, as land was "reclaimed" from the sea and the salt ponds, as if the water had stolen the land from the people and the people were only recovering what was rightfully



theirs. The birds kept moving over as the settlement spread out.

STAN BECKER'S CANOE TRIPS

9am to 4pm

INCLUDES
LUNCH
EQUIPPED CANOES
GUIDANCE

EXPLORE THE LOWER KEYS
WITH AN
EXPERIENCED LOCAL NATURALIST

\$20.00 PER PERSON

P.O. BOX 62
BIG PINE KEY, FLORIDA 33043
OR
PHONE
(305) 872-2620

Harbor House
423 Front Street



"IMPOSSIBLE" JEWELRY REPAIRS

Jewelry restored

• made to order •

ask for Malcolm!

ANSA-RITE
Telephone — Answering Service

WE ANSWER YOUR PHONE WITH A VOICE THAT CARES... COURTEOUSLY AND INTELLIGENTLY. WE TAKE MESSAGES, ORDERS, SERVICE CALLS, AND GIVE CALLERS ANY INFORMATION YOU WISH. AND CARE A LOT!

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL MEN & WOMEN HAVE RELIED ON OUR SERVICE FOR YEARS.

* COURTEOUS	* PROFESSIONAL	* WAKE UP SERVICE
* PROMPT	* COMMERCIAL	* CLASSIFIED ADS
* EFFICIENT	* RESIDENTIAL	* 24 HOUR SERVICE
* EXPERIENCED	* OCCASIONAL	* PART TIME SERVICE

LATEST & MOST MODERN EQUIPMENT, Not A Recording PERSONAL SERVICE TO SUIT YOUR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

"Where All Calls Are CONFIDENTIAL" FOR COMPLETE — DETAILS — ABOUT OUR MANY SERVICES — CALL

294-1044 or 296-8866

DAILY SPECIALS

Where You Get Good Value Every Day

SPECIAL EVERY DAY 10:30 AM TO 3 PM

Lunch \$1.19

Choice of Chicken, Shrimp, Fish or Hamburger
Choice of Fr. Fries, Mashed Potatoes, Corn or Salad

SPECIAL EVERY DAY 10:30 AM TO 10 PM

Hamburger Deluxe... \$1.35

Quarter-Pound Burger on a Toasted Bun,
with Cole Slaw and Fr. Fries

SPECIAL EVERY DAY 10:30 AM TO 10 PM

Chicken Dinner \$1.59

With Cole Slaw, Fr. Fries or Mashed Potatoes,
Roll and Honey

SPECIAL EVERY DAY 10:30 TO 10 PM

Fish Dinner \$1.79

With Cole Slaw, Fr. Fries or Mashed Potatoes,
Roll, and Tartar or Cocktail Sauce

DINING ROOM — TAKEOUT SERVICE

EAT IN

Chicken UNLIMITED
Family Restaurants®

TAKE OUT

1102 Key Plaza, US #1 Ph. 294-2204

627 Duval
296-5777
Mon-Sat 9-6



PETE'S FISHMARKET
Fresh shrimp, lobster, stone crabs,
grouper, snapper, conch & jewfish
We ship anywhere in the U.S.A.

A Traditional Old'e Pirates Bar



Beer:
Imported & Domestic
Wine and Wine Coolers
Chess and Darts
Pinball and Pool
Sandwiches and Pizza
Cable TV
Live Parrots

Hermit Crab Races Sunday Nights
"Surfer" — Manager Ph. 305-294-7234
615 DUVAL STREET, "OLD TOWN"

Southern Comfort Waterbed Island

Waterbeds & accessories
Hammocks
Pyramids
Etc.

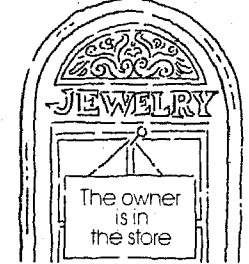
511 Duval St. 294-2260



the ISLAND GUITAR Co.

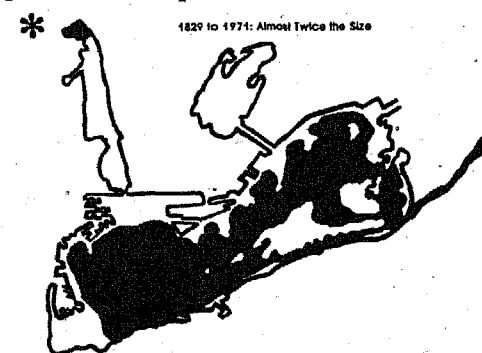
LESSONS • SALES • REPAIRS
"EVERYTHING FOR THE GUITAR PICKER"
REASONABLY PRICED LESSONS—
WITH EMPHASIS ON CREATIVITY
—CORNER OF SOUTHWARD & DUVAL
294-6038 8AM-7PM

WILLIAM GAMBLE JEWELER, INC.



600 DUVAL STREET
KEY WEST, FLORIDA 33040
MEMBER AMERICAN GEM SOCIETY

The original 1500 acres of Key West has grown to about 3000 acres, excluding the man-made islands, as shown in the comparative maps.

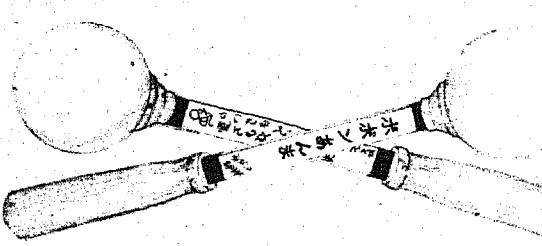


Most people agree that this is good, but public opinion is increasingly vocal in saying that this is enough. Both locally and nationally the public is becoming aware that our country, "beautiful for spacious skies," does not have unlimited land and resources, and that the time has come to call a halt to unlimited growth and development.

WE HAVE HAD 400 years of expanding, cutting down trees, clearing land, and filling in wet spots to make room for a vigorous, growing population to live, work, and grow food. There has always been enough room left over to play, stretch the legs and the imagination, and simply get away from it all. It has been a healthy and necessary growth for the culture which we have developed into the American way of life.

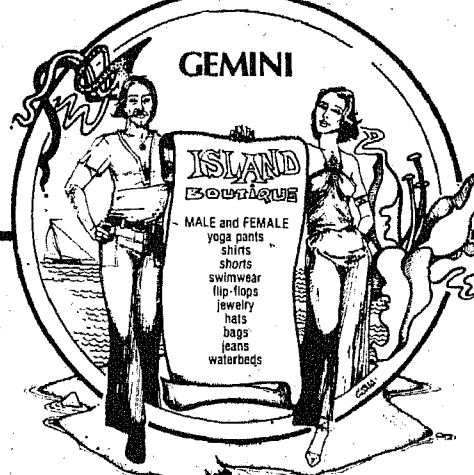
But now the time has come to review our culture and philosophy. We have settled the land from sea to sea and thereby accepted the responsibility for its care. The health of the land, and

*From Key West, The Last Resort, © 1978 Key West Book and Card Co. Used with permission.



NOW THAT YOU'VE TANNED YOURSELF SILLY...
Have (or give) an invigorating massage with this JAPANESE MUSCLE RELAXER!
Made of soft rubber balls, wooded handle, and with a flexible metal band to bounce you back into shape. At GEMINI BOUTIQUE, 517 Duval St., open until 12 midnight, telephone 294-2260. Also at SOUTHERN COMFORT, 511 Duval.

GEMINI



517 DUVAL 294-2260
Open 7 days, Mon-Sat till 12, Sun till 6

therefore of its people, seemed incapable of harm because of its enormity and robustness. Now that the land is no longer so many times larger than its population, its human inhabitants must take upon themselves the active care of the property they depend on for their life and welfare.

IN KEY WEST it is time to stop replacing nature with man-made structures.

A quarter of our island is relatively undeveloped, except for the airport. The area bounded by South Roosevelt Boulevard on the south and east, by Flagler on the north, and by Bertha on the west, contains the airport, the Key West-by-the-Sea condo, a few motels, the high school, a subdivision, and several other buildings. These structures surround, and the airport runway goes through, what was originally about 340 acres of natural salt ponds.

Illegal fill for a projected marina complex called Islands in the Sun has seriously impacted or destroyed part of the salt ponds between the east end of the runway, the canal, and South Roosevelt Boulevard. The Army Corps of Engineers is attempting to get a court decision to force the owner to restore the area as much as possible to its natural state.

THE SALT PONDS are not as healthy and productive as they would be if the airport runway, South Roosevelt Boulevard, and other developments had been carefully built; that is, if culverts had been installed under the runway and the road to allow regular flushing of the ponds with tidal action. The ponds have apparently been seen as merely wet land, which needs only to be filled to become usable dry land.

PROPOSED WEATHER STATION
MONROE COUNTY wants to fill a portion of the salt pond south of the air-



Wall-to-Wall Interest
Fine Art Prints
• Originals • Reproductions
Expert Custom Framing for all your framing needs. Large selection of moldings and mats. Needlework—Photographs—Shadowboxes.
In your own home. COMPLETE
ARTIST'S MATERIALS DEPARTMENT
Farrington Galleries
711 Duval 294-6911 parking in rear

Bluefingers



296-9476
and **Clanier** Specializing in.....
Jewelry used clothing and antique clothing 601 Duval Street
Imported Clothing Moroccan Imports Indonesian Imports Indian Imports

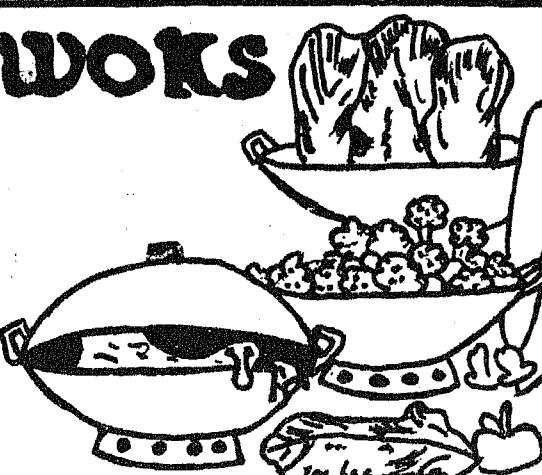
port runway (see map) to build a weather station, which it will lease to the Weather Service. Applications for fill permits have been sent to the Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Regulation (DER). A recent alternative plan requests permission to build the weather station on pilings with minimal fill.

Since the pond in question is severely impacted by the airport runway, South Roosevelt Boulevard, and the county access road off the Boulevard, and the pond is not considered to be significantly productive for wildlife (although birds currently feed, roost, and apparently nest and breed there), it would be difficult to hold off the bulldozers solely on the basis of its biological productivity. Not many people sleep, lounge, or reproduce in the kitchen, but how many of us would willingly allow the removal of our living rooms and bedrooms simply because we don't eat our main meals there? The birds may feed primarily in the more biologically productive ponds, but a good selection of herons, egrets, and amphibious surface feeders and divers may be observed standing, roosting, and paddling around, snacking on whatever is available.

THE MAIN ARGUMENT in defense of leaving this pond undeveloped is that the pond is valuable for people. Although there are several places in the salt ponds where even the uninstructed bird watcher can get close to rare and unusual birds without even wetting his feet or walking far from his car, no other pond exhibiting such a great variety of birdlife is so accessible to so many people.

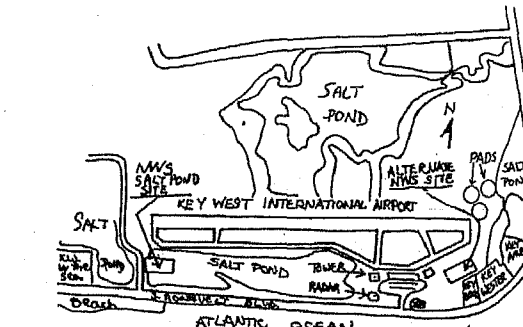
Any time of the day (although some times are better than others) you can park your car anywhere on the parkway on the land side of South Roosevelt Boulevard (called the Old Bridle Path)

WOKS



The Cook's Bazaar
611 Duval • 296-6656

between Bertha and the Highway Patrol Station, walk a few feet to the bushes, and see sights that photographers and




avid bird fanciers travel hundreds of miles to see. It is just as easy to visit the mini-salt pond on Rest Beach. Some 200 different species of birds may be seen around Key West at one time or another, most of them in the salt ponds. A partial listing accompanies this article.

NO ONE has been heard to disagree that the Weather Service needs a new station. The only argument is its location. Richard Urbanak, Chief Meteorologist at the local station, explained that the Weather Service needs to "co-locate" its two operations at the Key West airport and at the Naval Air Station for greater efficiency. Neither of the facilities currently in use is adequate. Combining both operations into a new facility at the Key West airport with sufficient space should be done almost immediately, Urbanak said, because the Key West station is scheduled to receive a new type of communications system in February 1979. It would be impractical to install the new system in already inadequate quarters.

But why does the county insist that

Spare Changes



Fine Antiques: Clothing: Jewelry:
307 DUVAL

LIL' HOLE THINGS
Mini - Donut Factory
AT THE CONCH TRAIN STATION
DUVAL & ANGELA
SOFT DRINKS/COFFEE

SOUTHERN STAR Talent Agency

John M. Coley
Thomas S. Woodruff

528 William St. Phone-296-8866
Key West Fla. 33040 Appt. Only

KEY LIME SQUAIRE

the galley in the Alley LUNCH & DINNERS
• LUNCHEON SPECIALS DAILY
BEER & WINE - SNACKS TO DINNERS
SPECIALIZING IN LOCAL SEAFOOD
INFORMAL OUTDOOR DINING
294-5367
613½ Duval Street, Key West

THE FUDGE FACTORY
CHOCOLATE
WALNUT
PECAN
KEY LIME
CHERRY

Canvas Creations
CUSTOM WORK IN
11-OUNCE WATERPROOFED
COTTON MARINE DUCK •
DUFFLE AND DIVE
BAGS • SEA BAGS
AND TOTE BAGS
IN STOCK —
OR MADE TO
YOUR NEEDS
#14 KEY LIME SQUARE

600 BLOCK of DUVAL ST.

Holm
Floor Covering Co.
Oldest floor covering
company in the Florida Keys
521 Fleming St. 296-2091

Floor Sanding
and Finishing
vinyls and carpets

END OF SEASON SALE
May 1st. to 20th. - BIG DISCOUNTS

GALLERY 419

Kare rugs - tapestries.
Antiques - Works of Art

Tues to Sat 12-6; Sun to Mon 4-7
421 Simonton St., Key West, FL 33040 USA
Close May 21st. Reopen Dec. 1st.

WORLD WIDE TRAVEL SERVICE
AIR
RAIL
STEAMSHIP

SIMONE TRAVEL AGENCY

KEY WEST
514 Southern St.
296-5722

MARATHON
Winn Dixie Plaza
10950 Overseas Hwy.
743-5274

**FRESH JUICES
SQUEEZED**

NIBBLES II

400 SIMONTON ST.
Key West, Fla. 294-7040

KEY WEST
CUSTOM MADE CABINETS, COUNTERS, DOORS ETC.
TELEPHONE 305-294-0538 ASK FOR PALMERED
1018 TRUMAN AVE. INSIDE KEYWEST CUNY WORKS

**KEY WEST
GLASS WORKS**
Specializing in
stained glass shades and
windows, custom on
traditional designs, art
glass supplies, classes
and restoration.

1618 Truman 294-0538

the new weather station be located in the salt pond? Because it's in the airport master plan which was approved last year, according to County Commissioner Jerry Hernandez, and any one objecting to that location should have said something last year.

Because that is the only place approved by the Federal Aviation Authority, according to County Development Director Jack Burke.

Local environmentalists would like to see the new weather station placed anywhere but where the county wants it, except in another salt pond.

WHAT ABOUT those pads near the east end of the runway, suggested one of the regulatory agency staff members I spoke with. What pads? Sure enough, on an aerial photo of Key West taken about 1960 there appear an unusual northerly-running runway and three circular pads lying north of the east end of the present runway. I tramped around the area and found the pads, the old runway, and a 40 x 40 foot building foundation that looks like it was laid several years ago and abandoned.

I could not be sure whether these pads were on the airport property or private property. They appear to be included in either the Conley or the Con-text-Marks (Islands in the Sun) parcels or both. The most recent assessment of the Conley parcel, which is about 50 acres, is \$128,000, making it worth about \$256,000. This value is speculative, since under current environmental regulations there is little that can legally be done with that property.

This area seems a logical alternative site for the new weather station, subject to FAA approval. The site is already filled, and purchasing a few acres of this parcel should be cheaper than filling in part of a salt pond.

ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE seems to be the ideal location: the County's compound just east of the terminal building where impounded vehicles are kept.

Urbanak says that it makes no difference to him where the new station is built, and he guesses that building the station where the county's compound is located would save \$75-80,000, since there would be utilities close by to

BIRDS KNOWN TO OCCUR ON SALT POND OR IN THE FRINGE GROWTH, FOR FEEDING OR BREEDING. Those marked "" are thought to breed there.

Pied-billed Grebe, Brown Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Anhinga, Magnificent Frigatebird, Great Blue Heron, Great Blue Heron (white morph), Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Reddish Egret (including the rare white phase), Cattle Egret, Louisiana Heron, Little Blue Heron, Green Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Glossy Ibis, Roseate Spoonbill, Pintail, Blue-winged Teal, American Wigeon, Northern Shoveler, Lesser Scaup, Red-breasted Merganser, Ring-necked Duck, Fulvous Whistling Duck, Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Osprey, American Kestrel, Clapper Rail, Common Gallinule, American Coot, Semipalmated Plover, Wilson's Plover, Killdeer, Black-bellied Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Willet, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Short-billed Dowitcher, Sandpiper, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Herring Gull, Laughing Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Bonaparte's Gull, Gull-billed Tern, Forster's Tern, Roseate Tern, Bridled Tern, Least Tern, Royal Tern, Sandwich Tern, Caspian Tern, Black Tern, Black Skimmer, Mourning Dove, Ground Dove, Smooth-billed Ani, Common Nighthawk, "Killykadiok", Belted Kingfisher, Gray Kingbird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Water Pipit, Black-whiskered Vireo, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Swamp Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow.

Any Sofa & Chair

Sofa only \$50. chair only \$30.

STOP - throwing good money out of the window for new furniture, call us first for a free estimate on furniture upholstery.

EXTRA 10% DISCOUNT WITH THIS ADVERTISEMENT

BANKAMERICARD MASTERCHARGE

CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY AND INTERIORS

HOURS-Tues-Sat-9:30-5:00 296-3453
Offer expires 6/20/78 - plus our fabric

De Marco Tile Distributors

2nd. Avenue
Stock Island, Key West

Ceramic and Quarry tiles,
vinyl, slate, brick, pavers,
terrazzo, Cuban tile, marble
sills, adhesives, grouts,
tools and installations.

296-2188 294-0298

**CHRISTINE'S
House of Flowers**

819 Simonton Street 294-2546

hook into (which there are not at the proposed site), and any fill required by the building code would be much less than in the pond. Also, it would be more convenient to private air traffic.

ACCORDING TO the DER, the proposed site is in a salt pond which is not biologically productive enough to save. The DER is considering approval of the fill with mitigation, which means that damage to the environment would be allowed if an off-setting improvement is made.

In this case, the DER would require the county to do one of two things to make up for the damage caused by constructing the weather station in the salt pond: culvert South Roosevelt Boulevard to open the pond to tidal action, or improve the tidal action from the Gulf through the canal that runs into the salt ponds from the north and passes under North Roosevelt Boulevard and Flagler.

County Development Director Jack Burke says that all the county has to do is culvert the access road and connect the disputed salt pond with the pond directly to the west. Culverting South Roosevelt would be prohibitively expensive, he says.

BUT ENVIRONMENTALISTS say that connecting the two ponds would damage the pond to the west. The disputed pond is not productive because it receives fresh water from rain runoff from the runway, and, since it is not open to tidal flushing from the ocean, it is not salty enough to support salt water life and not fresh enough to support fresh water life. If the two ponds were connected, the disputed pond might be improved somewhat, but damage to the other pond would not make it worthwhile.

APPLICATIONS FOR fill permits are currently under consideration by regulatory agencies. Their decisions will be made according to various rules and

The PAMPERED PET
UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP
Key Plaza 296-6912

LET US FIND THE RIGHT DOG FOR YOU!

Plus our full line of colorful varieties of birds and fish

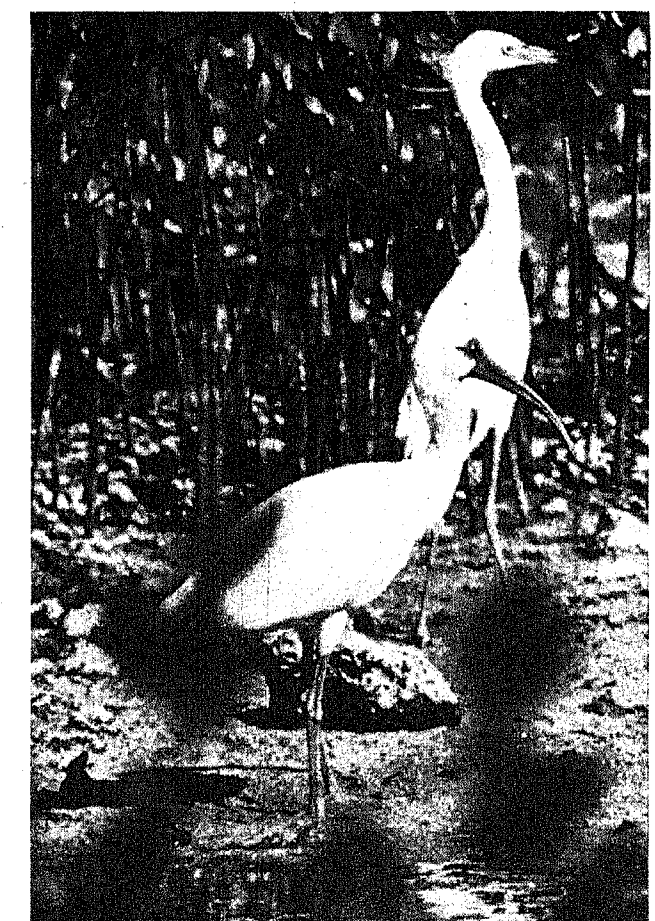
We do
dog and cat grooming

"The Full Service Pet Store"

**INDULGE IN YOURSELF
SELF-EXPRESSION**

TRAVELING ART GALLERY DECORATOR ART SERVICE

CALLS
JACQUE'
294-7366



A white ibis, foreground with the down-curved beak, and a reddish egret in the white phase feed together in a muddy pond (or a wet mudhole) just west of the access road to the projected weather station. The reddish egret is rare, and the white ibis is a species of special concern. The white ibis is as easy to identify as a pelican. His beak and the front of his face are a bright red.

guidelines. Staff members I spoke with seemed genuinely concerned, but they emphasized that even though they might

OPEN DAILY
EQUIPMENT
RENTALS
REEF TRIPS
BAIT

THE DIVE SHOP

1990N, 700SEVELT

**fine
crafts
gallery**
400 SIMONTON STREET
KEY WEST, FLORIDA 33040
(305) 294-0550

QuickSilver

Fine Hand-Crafted *
Silver & Gold
210 B Duval St., Key West

**TWO FRIENDS
BAR
PATIO
RESTAURANTS**

BREAKFAST
LUNCH AND
DINNER

INFORMAL DINING ON OUR OPEN AIR PATIO
ACROSS FROM CONCH TRAIN DEPOT
512 FRONT STREET

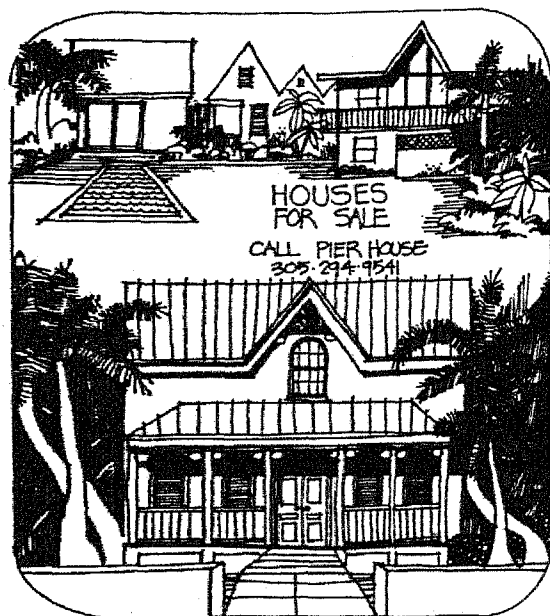
G O

gentlemen's quarterly
march, 1978
says
"for well-known labels
house of burgess
501-a front street"

FABRIC WORLD



613 SIMONTON
TEL. 294-1773/KEY WEST, FLA.



personally favor denying the permit for intangible reasons like esthetics, education, scenic beauty, and appeal to tourists, scientists, and bird watchers, they were required to judge by the rules.



Reddish egrets in the rarely seen white phase perch in the wasteland at the eastern end of the airport. Photographers and bird watchers travel hundreds of miles to see a reddish egret in the white phase. This bird disappeared from Florida for several years and was never very numerous in the state until relatively recently. Now it occurs frequently in the keys, but rarely elsewhere in Florida. Its range in the United States is confined to Texas, Louisiana, and the Florida Keys. It breeds in March and April. This pair was photographed April 2 this year. Its scientific name, *Dichromanassa rufescens*, means "two-colored queen becoming reddish." It is categorized by the Audubon Society as rare, which means that it is not endangered or threatened, but may become so.

However, there is one variable factor that may influence the decisions

of all government agencies involved in the fate of the salt ponds -- public reaction.

No one is going to pay attention to a staff person of a regulatory agency in Marathon, Vero Beach, Punta Gorda, or Tallahassee who says, "I think the Key West salt ponds should be protected from development because the birds are pretty." But anything that one or a dozen or a hundred residents of Key West have to say on the subject will be heard. One agency staff member told me that when a permit application is under consideration the developers and those with a vested interest in development are extremely vocal in support of the permit, but that the agency rarely hears from the general public. Apparently as a result of our March article on the weather station, in which we printed the address of the Army Corps of Engineers, the Engineers received more mail opposing the filling of the salt pond than supporting it. So far the Engineers have not made a decision, but public reaction will be a factor when they do.

A RECENT EXAMPLE of public pressure affecting a governmental decision is what happened to the proposed city ordinance regulating garage sales. Both the *Key West Citizen* and *Solares Hill* editorialized strongly against the ordinance, which had passed unanimously on its first reading.

Key West residents were so adamantly and vocally opposed to the ordinance that the City Commission, with obvious embarrassment, quickly withdrew the ordinance. Commissioner Bruce Esquinaldo explained, "Actually what we did was to take a hot potato and throw it into cold water as fast as we could." The people spoke, and their government listened.

LOCAL BIRD WATCHERS, beach strollers, and many residents, whose esthetic senses were offended, wrung their hands in silent distress while the Rongo town-

houses were being constructed on Rest Beach. The same people are wringing their hands over the proposed incursion of a weather station into the salt ponds and the precedent that its construction will set. This time, however, they are not silent. Some have written protests to the Corps of Engineers, the City Com-



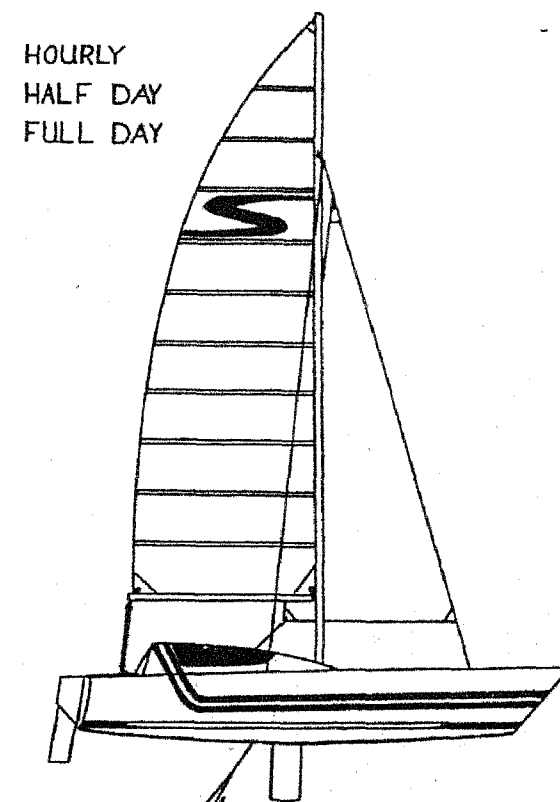
Black skimmers, foreground, and laughing gulls face the early morning sun in the salt pond northeast of the Key West-by-the-Sea condo. Black skimmers, a species of special concern, can be seen feeding on the ocean close to shore, in the salt ponds, and in Garrison Bight. They fly just above the surface of the water and skim the water with a fixed lower mandible, or jaw, picking up fish and other food on or just beneath the surface. Some of the laughing gulls shown here -- those with the black heads -- are coming into their breeding plumage.

mission, and the County Commission.

The Florida Keys Audubon Society has sent a written protest to the Engineers. Its "Keys Kingfisher" newsletter dated 23 March 1978 says, "The area is one of the few remaining natural wetlands in Key West and is important to both resident and migratory bird populations. The area is well known to bird-

SAIL THE BEAUTIFUL WATERS OF THE KEYS BEYOND U.S. 1

HOURLY
HALF DAY
FULL DAY



Afternoon
Delight
SAIL CHARTERS KEY WEST FL
294-3106

ers from throughout the U.S. and enjoys considerable recreational useage by local birders."

THE FLORIDA KEYS Citizens Coalition, representing about 4000 county residents, including several hundred in Key West, protested the fill. Here are excerpts from their letter to the Army Corps of Engineers.

"This project would permanently alter a portion of one of the few remaining parcels of natural wetlands in Key West. The application states that this project will reclaim land in an artificial salt pond. This is an error. This site is located in a natural salt pond area, and is part of approximately 40 acres of natural salt pond south of the airport runway, all of which are environmentally sensitive and important..."

The letter mentions an adjoining parcel for which the Engineers previously refused a fill permit.

"This salt pond is an important bird sanctuary for many types of wading birds, waterfowl and other species. It is the habitat of a number of rare and unusual birds...Key West and the Lower Keys are important areas for bird-watchers from all over the United States and many other parts of the world. This specific area is part of one of the few accessible wading bird observatories in the Florida Keys. It is a stopover on the Eastern Flyway and a feeding and roosting area for several resident species.... The value of this natural attraction to the tourist-based economy of Key West is incalculable...."

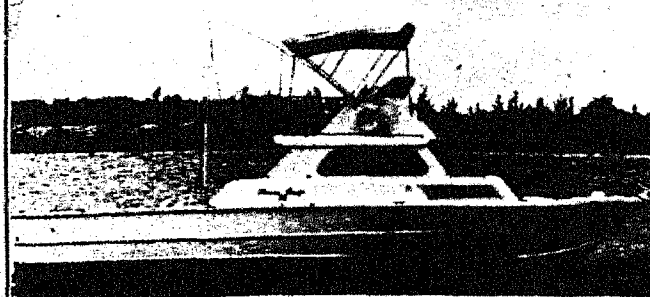
"It is a fish breeding area, and a protected area for small and larval fish...."

THE LETTER suggests that alternative sites be investigated.

Public opinion started the Spanish-American War and stopped the Vietnam War, elected President Nixon in a land-

continued on page 22

Personalized
Charters



YACHT CORAL SANDS

32' SPORTFISHERMAN

- Deep sea fishing
- Adventure the out islands
- Scuba dive and snorkel the living reefs

ALL or HALF DAY CHARTERS

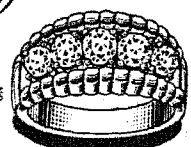
- Flexible arrangements to suit your needs
- Transportation provided
- Groups or split parties accepted
- Families and children welcome

Excellent rods and reels, fighting chairs, radios, depth finders, and more. The Coral Sands is a spacious, comfortable boat, safety inspected and insured.

TELEPHONE (305) 294-7896
BRING YOUR CAMERAS

OPERATED BY
TWO COAST GUARD LICENSED CAPTAINS
Both scuba certified

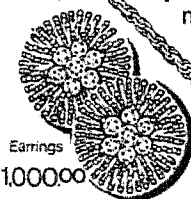
The most precious
gift for Mother



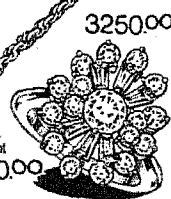
1240.00

A DIAMOND

Diamonds are for everyone... especially mothers. Choose from our fabulous selection of diamond jewelry...from the modest to the magnificent.

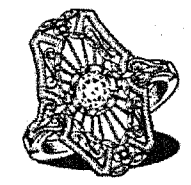


Earrings
1,000.00

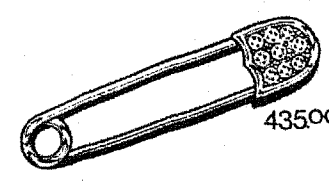


Pendant
500.00

Mother's Day is May 14th



275.00



435.00

BEACHCOMBER JEWELERS

House of Fine Diamonds
PHONE 305-296-6511 • P.O. BOX 1519
KEY PLAZA SHOPPING CENTER
KEY WEST, FLORIDA 33040

WET
&
WILD

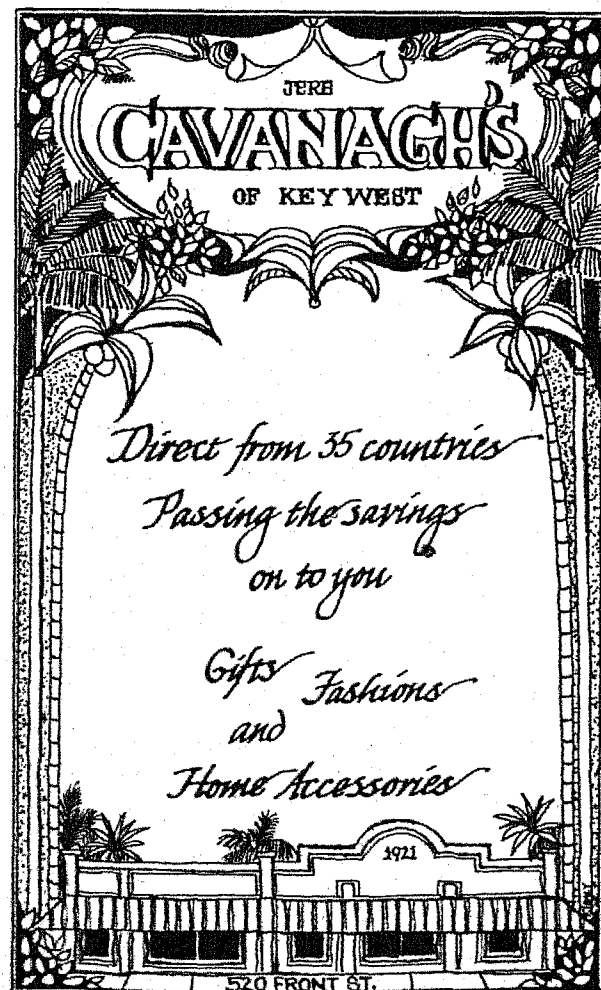
with



THE WATER SPORT PEOPLE

PROFESSIONAL INSTRUCTION
SCUBA ... SAILING ... SWIMMING

Located at the Sun & Surf Motel
508 South Street
Key West, Florida 33040
305-296-5612



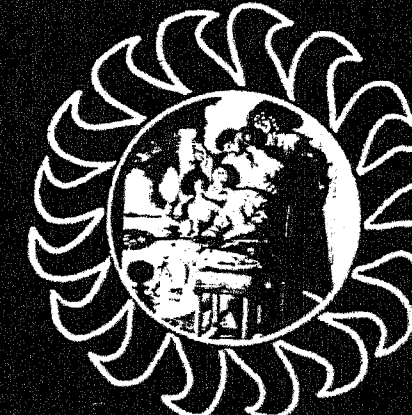
HERE NOW!
THE EXECUTIVE
VOODOO DOLLS

BIRD IN HAND

where the unusual is usual ...

400 front street • (305) 296-6324 • key west, Florida 33040

* Chez Emile *



CUISINE FRANCAISE
Selected Wines

DINNER SERVED SEVEN NIGHTS A WEEK
FROM 6 TO 11 P.M.

RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED
423 Front St. • Key West • 294-6252

OPEN FOR DINNER
Monday - Sunday 7:00 - 11:00

WHO IS ROBERT WATSON?

written and illustrated by Malcolm Ross

THE FOLLOWING is the second installment of the Civil War Journal of Robert Watson who left Key West to join the Confederate forces in the fall of 1861. Although Watson's initial enlistment was in the Coast Guard, the account of his day-to-day experiences generally covers the period spent in the Army and his subsequent transfer to the Confederate Navy.

Upon his return to Key West after the war, Watson set up a carpenter shop on Ann Street, married and reared a family. He built several houses in the older section of Key West. Watson is survived by several grandchildren and countless great and great-great grandchildren. Watson Street in the city was named for him and his brother.

THE FIRST installment of the diary dealt with Watson's enlistment in the Coast Guard, his subsequent transfer to the Army, and his activities in Tennessee, particularly in the area around Knoxville. After engaging in several skirmishes (and retreats) in Tennessee, his detachment, Company K of the 7th Florida Infantry Regiment, marched for several days in a southerly direction towards the Georgia border. Watson did not know it, but the game in which he was a pawn developed into the battle of Chocomauga, one of the bloodiest confrontations between the north and south.

IT IS difficult to pinpoint the exact location of Watson at the times of his diary entries, but it appears that he was in the general area around Chattanooga where the states of Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina and Tennessee come together.

(His journal continues:)

SEPTEMBER 13, 1862: Our brigade started early this morning to meet the enemy, marched about 4 miles and halted for 1 hour, cannonading in front. Started again and marched back to the place we left in the morning and camped for the night.

SEPTEMBER 14: Started at daylight and marched about 1/2 mile and halted in an open field for about 1 hour, then marched about 3 miles to the top of a hill, halted and remained all night.

SEPTEMBER 15: Drew 1 days rations of corn and flour bread which was not half cooked, having been cooked during the night by the wagoners of the Regt. The corn bread musty and the flour bread burnt outside and raw inside and very heavy. No meat.

(Food is only one of the problems that the fighting man must contend with.)

SEPTEMBER 16: I must here state that nearly every man in the Regt., officers and all, are blessed with some of "Job's comforters," the itch, head and body lice and bed bugs. I am one of the number and although I hunt for them every day I can't get clear of them. It is a common thing to see officers and men almost in a nude state hunting for the infernal devils.

At 9 p.m., just as we were all turned in we were ordered to pack up and march and had it not been for the fires along the road we never could have got down the mountain. We had to go in single file. The fires looked grand. Arrived at our old camping ground.

SEPTEMBER 18: Marched this morning towards the enemy. Cannonading began at 12 M (sic). Halted and rested 1 hour and again advanced. Double quicked 1 1/2 miles. Dust so thick that we could not see the ground. Halted at 6 p.m., stacked arms and broke ranks to the rear, gathered wood, and just as we were light-

ing our fires, we were ordered to fall in.

Marched by divisions through a thick wood and halted in line of battle among the woods, stacked arms and sent a detail after water. Heavy skirmishing in front. Turned in and at 10 p.m., just as we were sound asleep, we were ordered to fall in without noise and marched about 300 yards and camped in line of battle. Slept with our accoutrements on and our guns in our arms. So cold that I could not sleep.

SEPTEMBER 19: Fell in and marched off at 5 a.m., very cold. Formed line of battle in a large corn field, built fires to warm ourselves. Ate my breakfast of sour corn bread and water. Heavy cannonading and musketry on our right and left; we are in the center. Moved at double quick and changed positions several times, pieces of shell falling among us several times. At 4 p.m. we engaged the enemy and charged them through an open field. When within about 400 yards of their battery, we

fore he could fire his gun, therefore the Yankees took it for granted that we were their own men!

We then proceeded to the top of the hill within about 50 yards of them and halted and took 30 prisoners when the Yankees opened a fierce fire upon us. We soon silenced them. They tried to escape by running but they ran into the 6th Florida and were all captured. Our company captured a colonel and several officers and horses belonging to the general's staff. All the prisoners except the officers were armed with Colt's 5 shooting rifles. Our brigade took 470 prisoners including those we took.

We then marched to the rear and camped on the battlefield which we occupied in the morning. We were nearly all dead for want of water and were very tired and sleepy.

SEPTEMBER 21: At 4 a.m. we turned out and at daylight marched off about 1 1/2 miles and halted, formed line of battle, stacked arms and remained there all day, the enemy being completely



"IT WAS A TERRIBLE SIGHT, FRIEND AND FOE LYING SIDE BY SIDE."

were ordered to right flank and marched at double time quick to the right. The enemy threw a complete shower of grape, cannister, shell, and musketry among us, but although we were exposed to their fire for some time our company did not have a man hurt, but the Regt. was not so lucky for it lost a good many.

THE BATTLE lasted until 9 p.m. and ceased, but there was heavy skirmishing all night. At 4 p.m. we drew some bread and bacon which was greatly needed for I have had nothing to eat all day except a little sour corn bread. Very cold all night and no fires were allowed. I scarcely slept a wink all night but lay shivering with cold. The groans and shrieks of the wounded and volleys of musketry and falling of trees made it impossible to sleep.

SEPTEMBER 20: But little sleep all night. Built some small fires in the morning to warm ourselves. "Iron-clad" and bacon for breakfast. (Apparently a type of biscuit so named because of its resemblance to the iron-clad vessels of the day.) Proceeded to a point 1/2 mile distant where we planted a battery and opened fire accross (sic) a large field but received no reply.

At 4 p.m. we were ordered to the front at double quick, distance 3 miles. We arrived there in 1/2 hour. In going there we had to pass through an open place on the brow of a hill and the enemy opened a heavy cross fire of grape, cannister, shell and shot but did not hurt any in our regiment. We rested a few minutes and then we were ordered to charge a hill 1/2 mile distant. We went at double quick and got to the foot of the hill at dark.

THE ENEMY seeing us sent a man towards us to see whether we were their own men or not with directions to fire if we were enemies but we took him be-

routed. The ground was solidly covered with dead and wounded. Our troops were occupied carrying off the wounded and burying the dead all day. It was a terrible sight, friend and foe lying side by side.

SEPTEMBER 23: Started for Chattanooga at 8 a.m. and halted 2 miles from the city, formed line of battle and lay down on our arms. The enemy shelled us for some time and had we been standing up many of us would have been killed for the pieces of shell flew around our heads very close and plentiful. We did not reply to them but remained here all night, no fires allowed.

SEPTEMBER 24: At daylight the enemy began to shell us but did not hurt any of us. At 8 1/2 a.m. marched off a short distance and halted in line of battle. Remained about 1/2 hour and marched a short distance, halted, stacked arms and sat down. Remained here all day, the enemy shelling us occasionally but without effect. We made no reply. At 11 p.m. we were aroused by heavy picket firing and soon after the enemy opened their batteries on us. Our battery opened in reply and soon silenced them. We then lay down and slept till morning, very cold and no fires allowed.

SEPTEMBER 25: All quiet in front. At 9 a.m. we moved about 1/2 mile and stacked arms under the lee of a high hill and remained there all day. At 5 p.m. we commenced building breastworks of fence rails and worked till dark, when we were ordered to fall in, but did not move away. At 10 p.m. just as I was asleep the sergeant major called on me for 3 men to picket guard and a few minutes after, the adjutant gave me orders to have one third of the company up at a time all night so that in case of an attack we could all be aroused

quick. All quiet through the night except an occasional volley of musketry fired by our pickets.

SEPTEMBER 26: Could hear the Yankee bands playing this morning quite plain. At sunrise our pickets and the Yankee pickets had a lot of engagement and we fell in and marched to their support, halted in sight of them for we were not needed. The enemy opened a battery on our pickets and one of our batteries returned the compliment and kept it up for some time.

Marched back to the place we came from and stacked arms. Remained there until 2 p.m. when we were relieved by the 63rd Virginia Regiment. We marched about 3/4 mile to the rear, stacked arms ... and prepared to stay here all night. Some of us had just turned in when we were ordered to fall in, march a short distance and halt behind some breastworks where we had 2 batteries. Remained there all night.

SEPTEMBER 27: Just two years today since I left home. We are behind the breastworks this morning, all quiet through the night. Some of the boys that were lucky enough to steal some ears of corn from the horses last night are busy grating it and making mush of it for we are almost starved to death. We draw enough in 2 days to make one good meal. Firing through the night. Our men at work all night throwing up earthworks for our artillery.

SEPTEMBER 28: Everything quiet this morning. I have been very unwell for several days. I have witnessed the shooting of a man for desertion and joining the Yankees. He belonged to a Tennessee regiment and was taken prisoner yesterday. He deserted on our retreat from Tallahoma. It was a very solemn affair. Quiet all night.

(Although the battle has quieted there are other problems that beset the Confederate forces:)

SEPTEMBER 29: Drew 1 days rations of corn bread and bacon, just enough for one meal and we ate it up immediately although it is for tomorrow. There is some rascality about it for our full rations are drawn from the brigade commissary and then cooked at the wagons. We think that our commissary sergeant sells it.

SEPTEMBER 30: All quiet through the night. Our men at work all night building breastworks. Nothing to eat but we are all well supplied with lice. Many of the Regt. sick from drinking bad water and poorly cooked food. I think we will all be sick soon if they don't give us more food.

(October begins with rains and mud ankle deep. Watson's health is complicated by diarrhea and the cold October nights. Sporadic cannon fire occurs, but there appears to be no major fighting for several days as the troops dig in and wait.)

OCTOBER 10: At 1 p.m. our brigade fell in and marched about 1 mile and halted in line of battle in an open field to be reviewed by President Davis. At 3 p.m. he came up escorted by all the generals and their aides in this army. As he stopped opposite each Regt. he received 3 cheers and on returning received a regular "Rebel" yell. I saw Genl. Bragg for the first time.

(Watson's health improves somewhat, but rain continues to complicate the situation.)

OCTOBER 13: Rained all day and oh what a fix we are all in, wet to the skin and everything we have are soaking wet, rations, blankets, guns, and everything else. Mud ankle-deep. Rained all

night and of course I got no sleep. Some of the boys have made tents of their blankets but mire is so small and thin that it is of no use but to throw over my shoulders.

OCTOBER 14: It still continues to rain and I feel none the better for it, have had no sleep for 2 nights and my clothes have been wet for 2 days and nights.

OCTOBER 16: I feel greatly refreshed this morning having had a little sleep for the first time in four nights, but I have a violent cold and pain in the breast. Nothing to eat for the roads are so bad that the wagons can't get along. All hands as hungry as wolves. I went to bed but was so hungry that I could not sleep. For when I would doze off I would dream that I was at my mother's table eating all sorts of nice things, then wake up and find it all a dream. Very cold and a heavy frost. Suffered very much with rheumatism in my hip and pain in my breast.

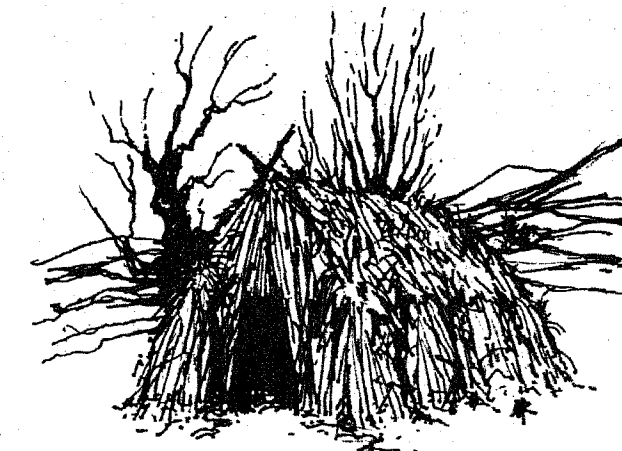
(Hunger and illness follow the men from day to day. Rations, when and if they did come, were barely edible. Watson was plagued by a violent headache and hot fever. Nineteenth century medical assistance is available to the regiment:)

OCTOBER 20: I reported sick this morning and the doctor gave me 2 powders and rubbed my breast with croton oil.

OCTOBER 21: Sick this morning. Took a blue pill about half the size of a pigeon's egg and rubbed my breast with croton oil. Sick all night, violent pains in my breast, head and bowels and severe cough.

OCTOBER 22: I feel some better today. My breast is one mass of blisters caused by the croton oil. Took 2 more pills.

(The folks at home had not forgotten the men at the front, and on October 26, each man received 1/2 gill of molasses, sent to the Florida troops by the people of Florida. Watson and his comrades constructed huts of any available material in an effort to protect themselves from the harsh October elements:)



"IT MAKES A HUMAN AND CONVENIENT HUT BUT I DON'T THINK IT IS HEALTHY."

OCTOBER 27: Busy all day on our hut which is built of poles, corn stalks, straw and dirt. It makes a warm and comfortable hut but I don't think it is healthy.

(His annoyance with the military is quite clearly expressed by his next entry:)

OCTOBER 28: At 3 a.m. we were ordered to fall in and march to the left which we did very reluctantly, for we have all been hard at work since we've been here building huts, then just as we got tolerable comfortable we have to leave. But this is the way a soldier is treated!

After marching and countermarching and hugging half the forenoon we camped on a hill between the first and second row of breastworks.

(Watson gave vent to his annoyance and paid for it!)

OCTOBER 29: Several of us were drilled today for swearing. I was one of the number. Our captain has got very pious and particular lately. I told him that when I joined the Confederate Army that I did not intend to become a Methodist preacher and if he thought that he could make a preacher or hypocrite of me by punishment that he was mistaken, for the more he punished the worse I would be for I was neither a slave or a school boy. He thought it strange that nobody else said anything about it but me. I told him that I was talking for my rights.

(The rains continued intermittently, and although there was no direct combat, shelling from both sides became a daily occurrence. In the absence of the company's Captain Smith, who had gone to Atlanta on some business -- much to the relief of the men who have come to regard him as somewhat of a tyrant -- and the illness of the two Lieutenants Bethel and W.C. Maloney, also of Key West, Watson was left temporarily in command. A small ray of hope breaks through the cold and rain:)

NOVEMBER 7: Received a letter from S.R. Mallory (then Senator from Key West) in answer to the one we wrote him from Glade Springs, Va., requesting a transfer to the Navy. He said that whenever there was a call for seamen that we would be transferred.

(Captain Smith returns to his company from Atlanta but his men are not glad to see him:)

NOVEMBER 8: Captain Smith offered us some brandy but we declined drinking any. He seemed very anxious to get into our good graces again but he can't until he does better.

(Food supply was still a problem and Alfred Love, Watson's chum from Key West, acquired seven cows' hooves which were used for the following delicacy:)

NOVEMBER 10: Made a fine cheese of the cows' hooves, which are boiled into a jelly, a little corn meal, pepper and salt are added to it and then poured into pans to cool.

(The regiment relocates:)

NOVEMBER 14: We are now in a brigade composed of all Floridians. Our new camping ground is a low, wet, nasty, muddy place...

NOVEMBER 18: We have been hard at work for the last four days building a log chimney and additions to our hut. Have to carry the wood 3/4 mile on our shoulders. Heavy firing on the right yesterday. Nothing to eat all day.

(The location of Watson and his company becomes more clear from the following references:)

NOVEMBER 19: All quiet except an occasional shot from Lookout Mountain which was returned by the Yankees. The southern forces are in control of this height.

(The rains continue again and Watson's company is detailed to work on roads six miles away. Cannonading increases as the detachment gets closer to northern positions and Watson is now detailed to cook rations for the rest of the company.)

NOVEMBER 23: The enemy advanced



Biggest selection and best prices of 14K and 18K yellow gold chains in the Keys

Tired of impersonal jewelry? Describe your ideas directly to the artist who crafts your needs. Any stones cut any shape - mounted in silver or gold. All stones natural - untreated. Write or call today and receive a free estimate on your creation. Guaranteed immediate response.

silversmith • goldsmith • lapidary

Sunlion Jewelry

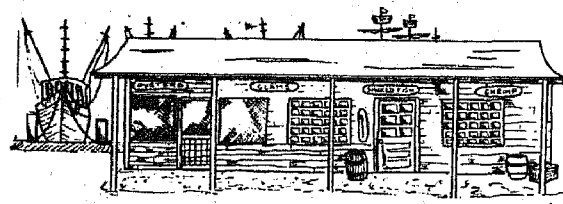
custom work

jewelry repair

neil jeffery goldberg
305-266-8157

208-a duval street
key west, florida 33040

HALF SHELL RAW BAR



GUESS WHAT !!

In addition to our famous selection of seafood specialties, we are now featuring a **SPECIAL CHICKEN DISH** that is out of this world!

ENTERTAINMENT

WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY, SUNDAY NIGHTS
SATURDAY AFTERNOONS

BIG COPPITT COWBOYS

Lands End Village
Foot of Margaret St.
Key West, Florida

Near the Turtle Kraals
Phone 294-7000

Bellissima FASHIONS INC.

329 Duval Street

Key West, Florida

294-4533

at 2 p.m. and drove our pickets in and just as I was about to eat my dinner we were ordered to fall in and march to the breastworks at double quick so I had to go without any dinner. At 3 p.m. our Regt. was detached from the brigade and went to the right 4 miles. We went up on Missionary Ridge at 5 p.m. and remained there in line of battle until 8 p.m. when we were relieved and marched back to the breastworks, distance 1 mile. Remained there until 12 midnight. During the time I went back to camp and got my blanket and knapsack and started back to the Regt. When I got within a half mile of it I met them going back to camps. We arrived at camps at 2 a.m.

NOVEMBER 24: At daylight we were ordered to fall in and go to the breastworks. Very foggy, cold and misty rain. ...Our Regt. went on picket at 6 p.m. Fighting all day at Lookout Mountain and continued until 2 a.m. when our forces evacuated the mountain. ...At 11 p.m., just as we had got nicely started in baking bread, we were ordered to carry our cooking utensils to the top of Missionary Ridge, it being too steep for the wagons to go up loaded. Two of us carried them up and hard work it was for the hill was very steep. By the time we got through it was nearly daylight.

(oft misquoted General Sherman's statement that "war is all hell" is vividly portrayed in the following entry:)

NOVEMBER 25: At 7 a.m. some of the boys came in from the company to get the rations. The enemy were shelling our quarters at the time and some of their shells fell among our huts but nobody hurt. We carried the rations to the Co., who were then in the breastworks about 3/4 mile to the right of us, and issued it to them, the enemy shelling us all the time.

At 2 p.m. the enemy advanced on us in 4 columns. They played us a Yankee trick by bringing out their artillery

covered with ambulance covers and we all took them to be ambulances until they opened fire on us. They advanced on us in fine style. We held our fire until they were within about 300 yards of us and then poured a deadly fire into them and made many of them bite the dust. But we were few in number, merely a line of skirmishers in single rank and scattered at that.

I JUDGED from the looks of their numbers that there must be all of 100,000 men. We mowed them down until they were within 30 yards of us and then we retreated up the hill and made a short stand at the second breastworks. But it was of no use, for although we mowed them down, yet they advanced on us and we were again forced to retreat.

Then came the worst part of the fight, for the hill was dreadful steep and the enemy kept up a continual fire



"I STOPPED SEVERAL TIMES AND TOOK A SHOT AT THE D--D YANKEES AND AT THE SAME TIME IT RAINED ME."

and threw a continual shower of bullets among us and I only wonder that they did not kill all of us. Many a poor fellow fell exhausted and was taken prisoner.

I DID NOT think that I should be

OLD ISLAND MASSAGE AND THERAPY CLINIC

* Therapeutic Massage
* Colon Irrigation Therapy

* Whirlpool Bath
* Paraffin Bath

* Steam Bath

Appointments Scheduled alternately
to accommodate both men and women
Evening & weekend App. Available

GIL ADAMS RMT

294-4444

3225 Flagler (Rear) Across from Flagler Post Office

able to reach the top for I had on a heavy knapsack and 3 days rations in my haversack and a canteen full of water. I stopped several times and took a shot at the d--d Yankees and at the same time it rained me. The bullets flew around us so thick that it seemed impossible to escape unhurt. I would have thrown away my knapsack but could not get it off and it was lucky for me for a bullet struck my knapsack at the right shoulder and came out at the left shoulder making 23 holes in my blanket.

WHEN I reached the top of the ridge I was so much exhausted that I fell down and lay there for several minutes to recover breath. Then I got behind a log and went to work with a will shooting Yankees. They advanced slowly, keeping up a continual fire.

We mowed them down by scores, when unfortunately for us our artillery ran out of ammunition and retired. But we held the ridge until the enemy were on the top and had their flags on our breastworks. We then retreated down the hill under a shower of lead, leaving many a noble son of the South dead or wounded on the ground, and many more shared the same fate on the retreat.

WE RETREATED in great confusion, men from different companies all mixed up together. I arrived at Chicasauga Station at 8 p.m. and there the different brigades formed. After searching around for some time I found our Regt., that is, a portion of it, for many of them were missing.

We crossed the pontoon bridge and marched for Dalton, Georgia. I marched until about 10 p.m. when I and several more of our Regt. fell out and built a fire and remained there all night. My messmate, A.B. Lowe (see above) stopped with me. Poor fellow he had to throw away everything he had except his gun and

accoutrements when he was going up the ridge.

(Watson, and other survivors of the battle, withdrew into Georgia where they met Lieutenant Maloney and other men from Company K. They learned that the unpopular Captain Smith had been wounded, as had many other men from the unit. They also learned of the high number of casualties in the Regiment as well as the loss of a colonel who was taken prisoner. Many of their comrades are missing. The following entry depicts the mood shared by those who were involved in the battle:)

DECEMBER 1: At night we were informed that General Bragg was to be serenaded and that any of us that wished to go could do so. The Gen'l is relieved of his command by his own request and Gen'l Hardee is now temporary command. I did not go as it was too cold. Some of the Co. went and said it was a nice affair. Speeches from different Gen'l's, etc.

(The food situation was as bad as ever and corn bread seemed to be the only commodity in supply, and not too good supply at that. Watson received his pay for the past two months: \$40. This did little to lighten his dark mood.)

DECEMBER 7: Our Lieut. Col. undertook to drill us, but made an ass of himself. He knows no more about tactics than my old grandmother. After humbugging us a while we went back to camps...

(This portion of the diary ends with his entries for Christmas and New Year's Day.)

DECEMBER 25: Christmas Day, and a very dull one, but I had a tolerable

continued on page 29

Tropical Trips
invites you to **Sail Away**

All vessels comply with U.S. Coast Guard safety regulations

SAILING, SNORKELING, REEF TRIPS
Moonlight Sails, Sunset Sails
Group or Extended Charters Available
P.O. Box 1153, Key West, Florida 33040 294-2131

EXTERIOR SHUTTERS

MAKE THE MOST OF KEY WEST LIVING



MOVABLE LOUVER white pine shutters.
Custom made to fit your windows or doors.

All prices based on size. Frames 1 1/8" thick; 1 1/4" louvers.

Examples: 15"x55" 25.00 ea.
16"x59" 26.00 ea.
17"x63" 28.00 ea.
18"x67" 30.00 ea.
18"x80" 35.00 ea.
18"x84" 36.00 ea.

(Shutters with 2 1/4" louvers also available at additional cost.)

CALL WITH YOUR WINDOW SIZES FOR EXACT QUOTE.

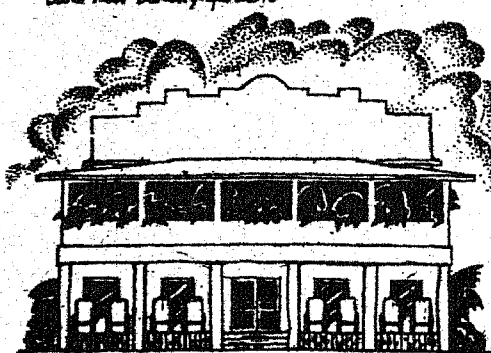
DARBY & MITCHELL

U.S. 1, STOCK ISLAND

294-7377

Eden
HOUSE

Push in 1944, the Eden House is a traditional Key West hotel. Tropical yet lively and very comfortable. The lobby, bar, main dining room and private art gallery is the place to mingle. The rooms - clean and simple, individually decorated and come with tropical views over the Sound. Your balcony is private.

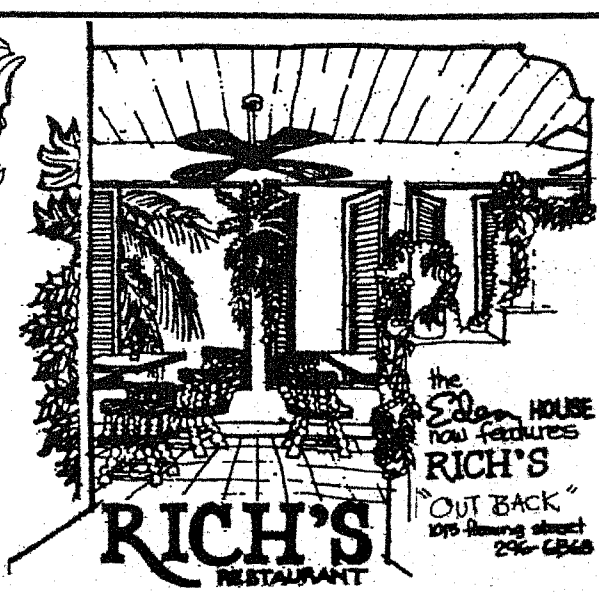


DINNER

served 6:30-9:00 Thursday-Monday

Introducing Specialties by our new Chef
• Seafood • Teriyaki Chicken
• Veggie Plate • Chef's Salad
• Delicate Sauces
• Homemade Desserts
• Fine Wine and Imported Beer

Breakfast and Brunch
8 AM - 3 PM 7 days
Informal Dining



OMNI LE BARON NEW YORKER NEWPORT ST. REGIS ASPEN SPORTSMAN WAGONS SAPPORO RAMCHARGERS

Bob Chango's

KEY WEST
CHRYSLER
PLYMOUTH
DODGE
INC.

NOW OPEN!

Big Cars • Small Cars • Pickups
Vans • Imports • Wagons

YOU NAME IT
WE SELL IT
RENT IT OR LEASE IT
WITH PRIDE & PLEASURE
From 9 am to 8 pm Mon.-Fri.
and
From 9 am to 4 pm on Saturdays

(There is no longer a need to take
a valuable day from work)
Complete financing & insurance service
is available

1720 N. Roosevelt Blvd.
Key West 294-5178

VOYAGER TRAIL DUSTER ARROW DIPLOMAT MONACO TRADESMAN VANS TOWN & COUNTRY MONACO FURY COLT



OPEN 9 AM - 11PM

310 Front St., Key West, Florida ☐ Ph. 294-2042

Beef ~~~~ Sandwiches ~~~~ Chicken
Fresh seafood from Key West waters.
Real key lime pie and desserts made on premises. Our famous cole slaw, potato salad, and baked beans.

DEL RESTAURANT

YOU CATCH 'EM WE COOK 'EM. DAILY SPECIALS

BREAKFAST, LUNCH, & DINNER

Corner of Truman and Simonton. Closed Tuesday.
A pleasant atmosphere to enjoy.

Watch for the
GRAND OPENING
of

Lee-Lynn Classics

3100 Flagler Avenue Habana Plaza

editorial

by Bill Westray

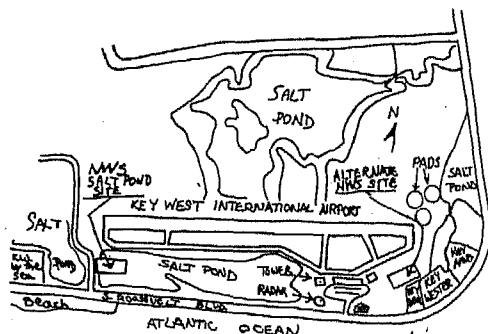
SALT POND

ON TUESDAY, April 18, the Board of County Commissioners at their Marathon meeting, voted to investigate alternate sites for the new National Weather Service (NWS) facility at the Key West International Airport. The decision to seek another site rather than fill in a portion of the salt pond at the south-west corner of the airport, came after the commissioners heard the writer's presentation arguing against the environmentally sensitive salt pond location.

Solares Hill's interest in this project was first aroused last fall when several Key West naturalists expressed concern about the possible loss of the few remaining acres of salt pond south of the airport. These ponds have become nationally famous among the bird study community because of their easy accessibility, and because so many of the 66 separate species of birds observed there are on the endangered or threatened species list.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR Richard Marsh collaborated with naturalist Thurlow Weed in an article in November to inform our readers of the county plans to fill the site, and to voice our objections to it. We reported at that time that the project seemed to violate the City of Key West bird sanctuary ordinance, and that it had been adversely reported on by the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation (DER).

It was a surprise to receive an Army Corps of Engineers (C of E) "green sheet" in February, indicating that the salt pond location for the weather station was still being pushed by Monroe County.



AFTER CONSULTATION with Marsh and Weed, I commenced my own investigation and quickly concluded that the site was not only environmentally deleterious and technically substandard, but would set a dangerous precedent for filling the few remaining acres of salt pond south of the airport along South Roosevelt Boulevard.

In 1974, private owners of parts of these same salt ponds had been denied fill permits by both DER and C of E. Our concern was that if the county weather project were approved, the private owners might then reapply with the argument that they should be treated the same as the county. We had visions of high rise condominiums or townhouses all along the southern edge of the airport runway.

AFTER EXAMINING airport maps and doing a preliminary on-site survey, I concluded that alternate locations certainly appeared feasible. Several inquiries were made to county officials about alternate sites, and the vague, guarded replies produced the inference that alternate locations were indeed feasible, but were not being considered for political reasons.

EARLY IN MARCH, the influential Florida Keys Citizens Coalition (FKCC) and the Florida Keys Audubon Society took strong positions in opposition to the salt pond site with C of E and DER, and called for public hearings. Decision on the hearings is still pending.

Meanwhile, Marsh, gathering material for his articles on wildlife habitat in the Key West area, suggested that a county-owned site behind Key Bowl Lanes appeared usable as an alternate site. He passed this information on to me for further investigation.

Suddenly, there appeared on the county commission agenda for April 18, a resolution calling on DER and C of E to approve the salt pond location in spite of the opposition. Pressed for time, I made a concerted effort to complete my investigation before the commission meeting. The alternate site behind the bowling lanes was examined and measured and indeed looked highly suitable.

LOCATING THE project file proved somewhat more difficult. Initial inquiry was made in the office of the Senior County Planner, where one would normally expect to find the file, but the planners had had no part in the project. Henry Weinkam, senior planner, was out of town on other business, and his assistants were only vaguely aware that the project existed.

I next went to the Planning and Zoning Director's office, Kermit Lewin, and got the same result...no files, little knowledge of the project. At the suggestion of Lewin's secretary, I then went to the airport manager's office, George Hoagland; there I found the files. Hoagland was absent but his secretary was most cooperative.

I FIRST REVIEWED the airport master plan, having been told previously by a county commissioner that the weather station location was included in the master plan. It was not. No reference to a new weather station is contained in the master plan. However, the master plan did state, "Any construction as proposed by the master plan is not expected to affect the local wildlife or behavior patterns of any animal or bird species in or around the airport."

I next reviewed the project file, which became important as much for what it didn't contain as for what it did include. Nothing in the file indicated that any alternate sites were considered. The consulting engineer's report started with the premise that the salt pond site was "it," and then proceeded to develop a site plan around that location.

In its environmental section the plan stated that aquatic and plant communities would not be significantly affected. The plan ignored the effect on birdlife in its conclusions, in our opinion the most serious environmental concern.

Nothing in the file indicated that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approval was either sought or obtained. Indeed, in its initial letter to the county in 1976, the NWS established a criteria for the site: that it must be within a 1,000-foot cable run from the present weather radar tower. The salt pond site, being some 3300 beeline feet from the radar tower, requires relocating the radar.

ARMED WITH the knowledge elicited from the project files and the on-site inspections, I proceeded to the Marathon meeting where I joined Dr. Arthur Weiner, chairman of the FKCC.

When the subject resolution came up, I secured permission to speak to the commissioners. I started by expressing concern that alternate sites had not been considered.

County Mayor Purie Howanitz replied that the salt pond site had been selected and approved by the FAA. This was refuted, based on my review of the file. The Mayor then stated that the remote location was selected to avoid radio interference. Again this was refuted on the basis that the consulting engineer's report stated that there had been no frequency interference from the weather radar in the past and that none was expected in the future.

I THEN RECOMMENDED that the commissioners direct the senior county planner to investigate the county owned site behind the Key Bowl Lanes. Speaking on behalf of the FKCC, it was pointed out that the salt pond site, besides being important as a wading bird and waterfowl feeding and roosting area, does not meet the criteria originally set by NWS in their initial letter to the county in 1976. This required that the weather site be within 1,000-feet cable run of the present weather radar tower. The salt pond site would require about a 3000-foot cable run, besides requiring extended runs for water lines, electricity, sewerage, and access road.

The site behind the bowling lanes would need no filling of wetlands, therefore Corps of Engineer approval would not be required; it is about 1000 feet from the radar tower with no intervening structures. Water, electric and sewer connections would require a much shorter run and a much shorter access road would suffice.

THE ALTERNATE SITE would also be much more accessible to pilots desiring weather briefings. I ended by stating that I thought considerable money and time could be saved by using the alternate site, and that this would preserve the salt ponds as a very important bird sanctuary.

Commissioner Jerome Shipley stated that he had already been investigating the site behind the bowling lanes and that a representative of the consulting engineers had indicated that it looked promising. Shipley then proposed the resolution that the county investigate the bowling lane site and other alternatives, which was adopted unanimously. (Commissioner Jerry Hernandez was absent.)

ON THURSDAY, April 20, representatives of the consulting engineers for the new weather station, examined the bowling lane site in more detail, and advised Commissioner Shipley that the alternate site appeared quite suitable. They are now proceeding to develop the new site plan.

As was said earlier, one of the concerns that the Florida Keys Citizens Coalition had expressed in opposing the salt pond site to the Corps of Engineers and the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation, was that approval of the salt pond site, even to meet a public need, would set a dangerous precedent that might allow owners of the privately-owned adjacent salt pond areas to secure fill permits.

SOLARES HILL has learned that private owners had submitted applications to DER for fill permits for three salt pond parcels around the airport. One of these is for the 2.5 acres immediately south of the weather station site for the construction of townhouse apartments.*

The other two applications were projects so large that they had to be sent to Tallahassee for processing. Copies could not be viewed in the local DER office.

IN SUMMARY, we feel that the salt pond site is far from the best site for the weather station, and that alternate sites, not having an environmental impact, have not been adequately studied and documented. We have an uneasy feeling that the site selection might have been contrived using public need as an excuse

continued on page 31



208 DUVAL ST.
CUSTOM SANDALS MADE IN ONE DAY

PORT OF CALL

KEY WEST'S MOST INTIMATE RESTAURANT

Serving Dinner 6-11 P.M. Daily
Closed Tuesdays
Beer & Wine
425 Front Street
294-6707

KEY WEST'S MOST INTIMATE RESTAURANT
MASTER CHARGE
BANKAMERICARD
AMERICAN EXPRESS

KEY WEST

FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS

Fausto's FOOD PALACE

NOT JUST A GROCERY ... BUT A SOCIAL CENTER

522 Fleming St. • Ph. 296-5663
Open 8 am - 7 pm Mon-Sat 8 am - 6 pm Sundays



Dead and dying red mangroves, the builders of islands like Key West, show the result of the illegal fill at the eastern end of the airport runway. The fill project for a resort complex called Islands in the Sun was stopped by the Corps of Engineers, who are trying to get a court order to make the developer restore the site as much as possible to its original condition.

Salt Ponds continued from page 15

slide and threw him out of office, and forced the City Commission to reverse itself on the Garage Sale Ordinance.

National public opinion caused the government to concern itself with protecting the country's environment, and

local public opinion can cause the city and the county to preserve the salt ponds from development. The state and federal governments can be prodded into providing grants for public purchase of environmentally endangered lands for public use.

There are many alternatives from which to choose for the purpose of reserving land for public enjoyment. We will investigate some of those possibilities in the June/July or the August issue.



HICKORY HOUSE

RESTAURANT

Home of the World-Famous
Raisin Baked Potato

KEY WEST

STEAKS • NATIVE SEAFOOD • BAR-B-QUEED RIBS
PLUS
SOME ALL NEW HICKORY HOUSE SPECIALTIES
KEY WEST'S NEWEST SALAD BAR
CONCH CHOWDER • CONCH FRITTERS
GREEN TURTLE STEAK • STUFFED DEVILED CRAB

Located adjacent to King's Point Marina
STOCK ISLAND — KEY WEST, FLORIDA — 294-1788

BOYD'S CAMPGROUND

Hickory House

MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

CLOSED MONDAY

BEVIS-LEWIS

3500 ROOSEVELT BLVD.
KEY WEST
294-1003

YOUR SOURCE FOR
CHEVROLET
Cadillac
OLDSMOBILE

CHEVROLET
Cadillac
OLDSMOBILE
BEVIS-LEWIS

GM

Poor Richard's Buttery and Italian Garden

1208 Simonton
Key West, Fla.

The Cabaret
at Poor Richard's
features
Live Entertainment Nightly
11:30 — 1:30
Phone 294-0717

Visit your beauty aid supply store
The store that cares about your hair
and
gets your hair looking its best

HEAD HUNTER

906-C Kennedy Drive
4-4906

THE DECK

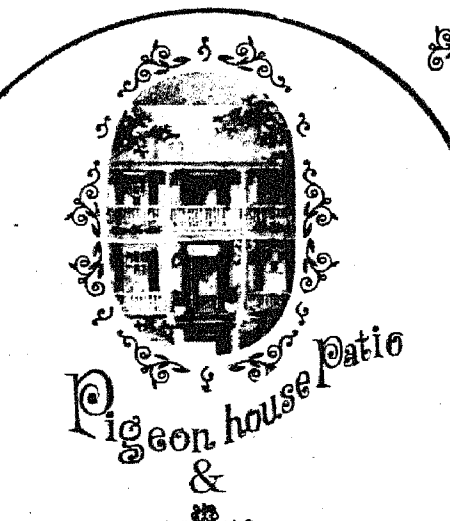
(Formerly THE SANDWICH DECK)

Fresh Quiche Daily
Fresh Shrimp Daily
Escargots
Shrimp Coquille

Plus regular menus
for lunch

OPEN
11:30 - 4:00 Monday-Saturday
(Closed Sunday)
CHEF RENA BOREL

124 DUVAL PH. 294-7677



Pigeon House & Old Island Trading Post

"There should be special awards for restaurants that manage to combine quality food with historic surroundings, buildings that proudly proclaim their heritage and encourage diners in their own remembrance of things past..."

"The Pigeon House Patio is clearly among the front runners in Florida's historic house-restaurant weepstakes."

— N. Y. Times Sunday, January 22, 1978

Lunch 11-3
Dinner from 6:00

294-1034
301-303 Whitehead St.

Reservations suggested



THE FULL MOON SALOON AND LUNCH ROOM

UNITED AT DUVAL



Garrison Bight Marina

boat and equip. rental, sales,
Service and Storage.

711 Eisenhower Dr.
294-3093

Wkdays 8-6
Wkends 7-6

poetry

IT'S TOO BEAUTIFUL DOWN HERE

Well, now your mama disowned you
And your queen, she dethroned you
And all your friends seem to say
"Hey, man, what ever happened to him?"

So you head for the little Keys
Stop in at the Southernmost
And your Pa says "Son, it's good to see you
But I just can't be your host."

So you try to make the best of it
You invite guilt and seek regret
But those blue skies that please
And that ocean breeze won't let you.

Lord, it's too beautiful down here
For a man to cry in open fear
And that Key West sun just evaporates
my tears
Before they appear. Lord, it's too beautiful
Down here.

Well, now you can contemplate leaving
So you can commence grieving
In a place where the sun don't shine
And the sky won't welcome you.

But, it's easier said than done -
Key West won't let you go!
Not with her lovely Atlantic
Nor her sun-setting smile in the
Gulf of Mexico.

Yes, Lord! It's too beautiful down here
For a man to cry in open fear
And that Key West sun just evaporates
my tears



BITNER-MOSELEY INTERIORS

Visit our showrooms and browse through our large inventory of wicker and rattan furniture and the largest selection of fabrics in the Keys.

Custom Draperies & Slipcovers
Rattan & Wicker Furniture Wallpaper Lamps

BITNER-MOSELEY INTERIORS

For your complete professional interior decorating service.

1025 White Street
Key West
Telephone 294-1278

Before they appear. Lord, it's too much, much
Too beautiful down here.

by Ronnie Sands

Ronnie Sands, who is the son of well-known Key Wester, "Pop" Sands, has just returned to Key West after a twenty year absence.

GREEN PAPER

Seagull sails across the sky
Men below don't wonder why
No, oh, oh, time to.

Blossom grows upon the vine
Turns to grapes, then turns to wine
Man who drinks it thinks it fine?
Hell no, no time to!


Sun comes slowly out the sea
Think all men would look to see
Breathe the morning virgin air
Take the time to stop and stare.

Green paper keeps 'em running round
Keeps 'em dashin' 'bout the town
Makes 'em old before their young
Nervous chevin' on their tongue
Never stop to see a bird
To view the sky would be absurd.

Don't you know you mustn't do it
If there is no money to it?
Oh, oh, oh, green paper.

Cram it all into one day
You know there is no other way
Measure of the time and just
In green paper do they trust
Oh, oh, oh green paper.

by Jody Adams



Daffy Dilly's Deli

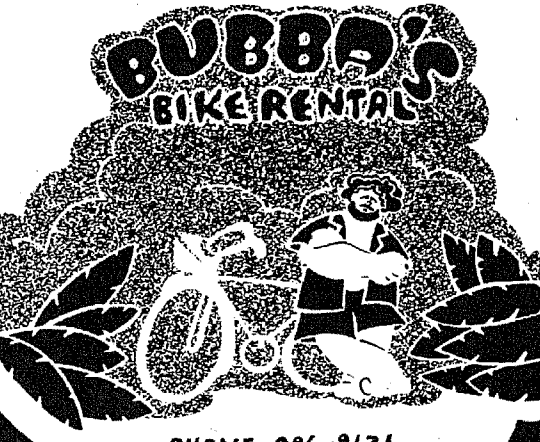
SAUSAGE SHOP

NOW OPEN 24 HOURS EVERY DAY

Serving Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner

Phone 305-296-9908

917 Duval Street Key West, Florida 33040



BUBBA'S BIKE RENTAL

PHONE 296-9131

**705 DUVAL STREET
KEY WEST, FLA.**

THE RETURN OF THE BALLOON MAN

photo and article by Richard Marsh


TIMOTHY WEGMAN, the Balloon Man, is back in business, licensed and legal this time.

We wrote about him two years ago when he and a partner were arrested and jailed for selling balloons at Searstown without an occupational license. The fine was about \$15 more than he gained from his heinous crime.

(Newcomers to Key West may be surprised to learn that selling balloons in public without a license is considered a major threat to the security and moral well-being of our citizens. Only banjo-playing on the sidewalk and a two-year-old swimming nude pose greater dangers to the public safety, except for the one or two days each year -- chosen by a mysterious process known only to the City Fathers -- when the paddy wagon roves up and down Duval Street arresting unlocked bicycles to save us from City Hall only knows what unimaginable fate.)

BUT THE Balloon Man got his revenge. There is no law (yet) against going from door to door giving away balloons, so that is what he did. I wrote an article about the balloon he brought to our house ("It Was A Gas While It Lasted," June 1976), and Bill Huckel raged in an editorial about the "ponderous seriousness" with which the police dealt with a "nit-picking situation."

WEGMAN WAS sculpting a flock of his tame clouds one day last month in front of the picturesque Fine Crafts Gallery - Nibbles building at Eaton and Simonton. Like autumn leaves trying to fall up, like tropical fish swimming and dodging around an aquarium, like a



THE MONSTER

RESTAURANT
DISCOTEQUE

305-294-1616

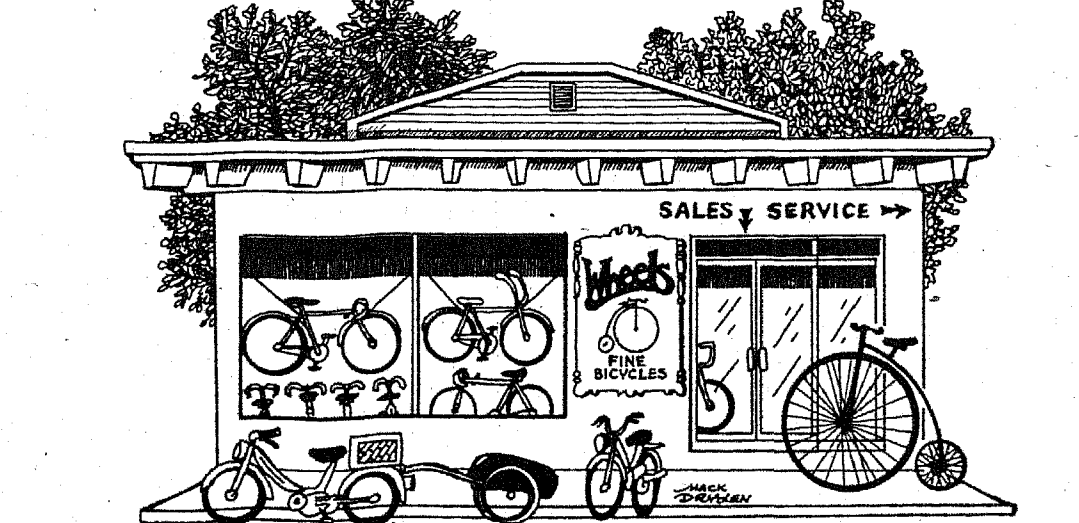
400 FRONT STREET KEY WEST

litter of roly-poly puppies squirming and tumbling, like the New Year's Eve crowd on Duval Street or the



winter people at Mallory Sunset or the disco dancers at the Monster, the balloons floated and jostled in a bunch tethered to the tamarind tree, fleeing each other, yet joined almost umbilically, and softly re-turning again and again.

WEGMAN BOUNCED up and down



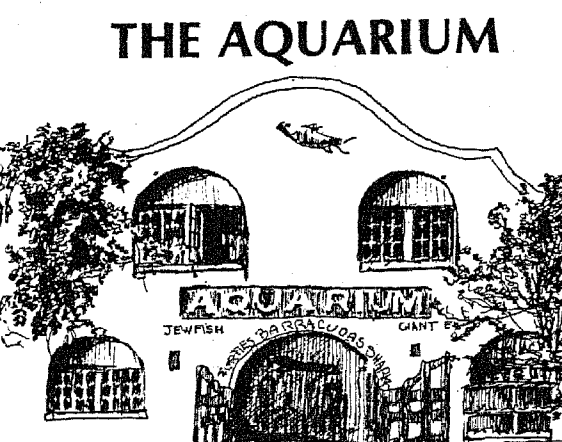
Wheels

SALES & SERVICE

FINE BICYCLES

1209 Truman Mon-Sat 9-6 294-6542

This must be the place!



THE AQUARIUM

Green Turtles
Sharks Eels
LARGE SELECTION OF
Reef Tropical Fish

Daily shark feeding 3 pm
Also next door ...

SHELL WAREHOUSE
QUARTER OF A MILLION DOLLARS IN SHELLS
ON HAND AT ALL TIME

SHELLS FROM FLORIDA AND
AROUND THE WORLD

SPECIMEN SHELLS AVAILABLE

MALLORY SQUARE

Free Parking and Free Admission
For Shell Warehouse



LOGUN'S LOBSTER HOUSE

ON THE OCEAN!

ONE OF
**KEY WEST'S
FINEST**

MARKO

Mon.-Thurs. 9:30 - 2:30
Fri.-Sat. 10:30 - 3:30

Dance Contest Every Tuesday Night!
AL PORTER
on piano for your dining pleasure

DINING - ENTERTAINMENT
Casual Dining Directly On The Ocean

5 TILL MIDNIGHT

Featuring ★ Native Seafood ★ Prime Beef & B.B.Q.
★ SALAD BAR ★ STEAK PIT ★ BANQUET FACILITIES

294-1500 — 294-2262

IN THE OCEAN MOTEL AREA - FOOT OF SIMONTON ST.

NATURAL FOODS

HERB GARDEN
KEY WEST

It requires up to 80 times as much land and over 100 times as much fossil fuel to produce meat as it does to produce tubers or rice. If the U.S. were to adopt a whole-vegetarian diet the cost of feeding a family would be at least 50%. Moreover, the nation's farmers could avoid the use of farm chemicals and still be able to supply our domestic food needs with only 5% of the country's arable land; the remaining land could be used for raising crops for export and for refurbishing our vast wastelands with trees that could be used for building materials, fuel, recreation and exports.

from "Vegetarian World" No. 12

294-9103

AMERICAN Sportsmen's Inn

3820 N. Roosevelt Blvd. Key West

Gerry's Cayo Hueso Dining Room

Open Daily 7 A.M. to 10 P.M.
Serving Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

3 Breakfast Specials 99¢
Daily Dinner Specials from \$3.95

Buddy Chavez Combo
Friday & Saturday, 9:30 p.m. 'til

NO COVER CHARGE IN LOUNGE

The PINK PELICAN

A unique shop featuring clothes for every occasion: formal, and casual wear.

425 FRONT STREET
Old Town Square
Key West, Florida

294-7030

the steps to the porch, where he keeps his helium tank, filling a blue or orange balloon with helium and his life's breath and adding it to the company where a hole needed filling or balloons of one color needed a complementary-colored balloon for variety. It would have been hard to say whether the balloons had taken on the rhythm of the Balloon Man, or the Balloon Man had joined the tempo of the balloons, but they moved to the same beat.

It was like a chapter out of Mary Poppins.

PEOPLE KEPT stopping their cars and taking pictures, riding up on bicycles and taking pictures, and walking up and taking pictures. Some people bought balloons, but mostly not the ones taking pictures. The photographers were observers, not participants. One young woman who did not take a picture or buy a balloon approached Wegman and said, "I just wanted to tell you what a beautiful sight all those balloons are. That's all. I think it's really neat. I just wanted to tell you that."

The woman who lives in a grocery cart came by and watched the balloons and the Balloon Man.

"There's something I always wanted to know," she said.

"What's that?" asked the Balloon Man.

"I always wondered why, when you hang onto a bunch of balloons like that, you don't just go right up in the air."

THE BALLOON MAN put his mouth close to her ear, cupped his hand, and said secretively, "I wear special magic shoes that keep me on the ground." He lifted up a foot and pointed to his shoe as proof.

PAC

THE PORTER ALLEN CO., INC.
Insurance since 1891

WILLIAM A. FREEMAN SR.
WILLIAM A. FREEMAN JR.
DAVID W. FREEMAN

513 Southard St.
Key West
Phone 4-2542

Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner

TWO BROTHERS
RESTAURANT & BEER & WINE
SPANISH-AMERICAN FOOD

Fresh shrimp from our own boat:
plus salad and fries: 1.99
722 Duval St.

"Oh," said the lady, nodding her head in understanding. "Would you like a balloon?" the Balloon Man asked her.

"Oh, yes, but I can't afford it," she said hopefully.

WITHOUT A WORD, the Balloon Man chased down one of the balloons in the flock and separated it as expertly as a cutting Quarter Horse extracts a calf from a herd. After some discussion about which protuberance from the grocery cart to tie it to, the Balloon Man finally fastened it to the back of the cart.

LATER THAT DAY, the lady was observed to have two or three balloons floating from her cart. They must have made her load lighter in more ways than one.

Wegman and I discussed balloons and the effects they have on people, but it was a private discussion and does not need repeating.

THE BALLOON MAN then strode off, the balloons like airy afterthoughts tagging along behind him, and wandered down Duval Street. I saw him later at a distance, standing tall under a multi-colored cloud, surrounded by upward-staring, open-mouthed children and adults with childlike smiles on their faces.

The balloons brought awe and wonder to the eyes of the children and memories of childhood to the adults. And, like steeples and stars, they drew all eyes upward, away from earth.



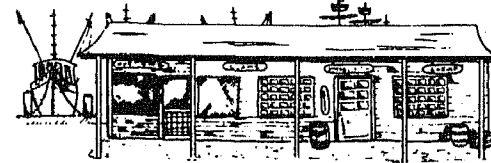
WIIS
FM 107.1 STEREO

Now In Key West

ASSOCIATED PRESS
RADIO NEWS SERVICE

P & H OFFICE SERVICE

Manuscripts • Resumes • Reports
Forms & Agreements • Correspondence



Bookkeeping • Secretarial Service
Foot of Margaret St. Lands End Village
294-7404

TV DISPUTE

by Mack Dryden

BARRING UNFORESEEN delays, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will decide this summer whether or not Monroe County can build a translator system that would bring over-the-air television service to all the keys for the first time.

The Tele-Media Corporation, the cable tv system that has a monopoly on service in the keys, is fighting the county's proposal tooth and nail, claiming that a translator system would destroy the company and all the good it has wrought.

NO ONE can guess how the FCC will rule, of course. But the facts indicate to us that the county will win and that Tele-Media's legal maneuvers have already served their purpose by prolonging the company's monopoly as long as possible. Pressed to predict, we'd guess that "getting on the cable" will soon become an option rather than a requirement for tv-watchers on the keys.

INDEED, the county is so confident of victory that it has already appropriated \$575,000 for the translator system this fiscal year. Construction costs for the five translator stations are estimated at \$497,471, and first-year operating costs are estimated at \$2,000. The remaining \$45,000 was appropriated for a "cushion" to take care of unforeseen expenses. A Tele-Media spokesman called the cost estimates "baloney," and the county's attorneys said Tele-Media's contention that the county can't pay for the system is "frivolous."

IRONICALLY, one of the most concise and qualified arguments for the translator system came from the least likely source imaginable. Guess who said:

Key West Tobaccos

PIPES, CIGARS, CUSTOM BLENDED TOBACCOS AND SMOKING ACCESSORIES

"UPSTAIRS"
HARBOR HOUSE ARCADE
423 FRONT ST. [305] 296-8371

The CANDY QUEEN
Telephone 305-296-7285

FOR YOUR FRIENDS AND LOVERS
KITCHEN FRESH - HAND DIPPED CHOCOLATES
Large Selection of Imported Hard and Filled Candies & Gifts
"WE SLEEP ANYWHERE"

Fruit Baskets
and
FRUIT SHIPPING
We Ship Florida's Citrus All Over The United States
Canada, Europe & Locally
PIRATE'S ALLEY
KEY WEST

"I know of no translator ever hurting any cable system nationwide. I mean they're not competitors."

Give up? Robert E. Tudek, president of the Tele-Media Corporation said that in August, 1975, at a meeting of the board of county commissioners. A commissioner had asked Tudek why his company was spending \$4 million for the cable system (then called Cable-Vision, Inc.) when the county was pushing hard for a translator system. Tudek referred to a situation in Pennsylvania that was "just like yours" (Monroe County's). Translators were built where a CATV was in operation, he said, "but they have not hurt that cable system one iota. I don't think there was one single person that I know of or ever met in that community who was drawn to the translator rather than the cable. Not one."

THAT'S SURPRISING, considering that Tele-Media claims in its petitions to the FCC that it would lose about half its subscribers to the translator.

Regardless of whether Tudek's implied prediction or the petition's claims come true, precedent is on the county's side. In 1971, the FCC said, "We are convinced that the public interest...requires that the public at least be given the opportunity to choose between competing services and should not be limited to a single service when a choice is possible."

TWO YEARS earlier, the FCC ruled in an Oregon case that "We cannot protect a CATV system against translator competition on the basis of an expectation that the CATV system may, someday, complete an expansion of its system."

Tele-Media admits that even its long-term expansion plans would exclude about 15 percent of the keys population from tv service, and the translator system would reach everybody.

THE COURT HISTORY of the contro-

HUKILAU RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE

Polynesian Cuisine and Rum Concoctions in a Tropical Island Atmosphere

294-6912
U.S. 1 at Garrison Blight

dine where the sun sets
pier house restaurant
at the pier house motel
entertainment nightly
reservations
(305) 294-9541
1 duval street

Pier House Restaurant

DRINK & DINE at the **BEACH CLUB** Located in the **PIER HOUSE**

1 Duval St. (305) 294-9541

KEY WEST
Cigar Factory
Pirates Alley Key West

SEE QUALITY HAND-MADE
CIGARS ROLLED DAILY

we fill
mail orders

PIRATES ALLEY
in historic
OLD KEY WEST

the hair people
2325 rosewood boulevard
6-2040

Treasure Ship
Atocha Coin Sales

Take a guided tour of a 168-foot Spanish treasure galleon built by Treasure Salvors, Inc. of Key West, the world's largest treasure hunting organization. See what life aboard ship was like in the 1600's. See some of the treasure that has been found in Florida waters. See the cannons from the "Nuestra Señora de Atocha" which sank in 1622 off Key West. She carried a cargo valued at over 100 million dollars. See the techniques Treasure Salvors is using to recover her gold, silver and gems.

WRECKERS WHARF
633 Front Street

Marlon Stevens
unique
ARTISTS UNLIMITED
at 221 Duval St.

...dieres people should
ve quality art work
-also that
people need people.
So
t's get it together!

SAHE OLE WOOD SHOP

.. Custom ..
Carpentry Gingerbread
Driftwood Frames Hardwood Furniture
Furniture Repair

907 Caroline Street 296-9688

versy is also a pretty good indication that Tele-Media is fighting a losing battle. When the county applied to the FCC for a license to build translators in 1973, the cable company filed suit, lost, and appealed. In 1975 the Third District Court of Appeal of Florida found "a valid county purpose" in the translators, and further appeals were dismissed by the Florida Supreme Court and then the U.S. Supreme Court.

Its legal arguments all but demolished, Tele-Media is begging the FCC not to license the county's proposed system on the grounds that the translators would cause Tele-Media's "demise."

TELE-MEDIA vice-president and general manager Robert Shepherd said the threat of the translator "has already slowed our progress." He said the banks are now "hesitant" to loan money for capital improvements to the cable company since its future is in doubt. He said the translators would cause such a high loss of subscribers that it is "probable" the company would go bankrupt in a year. "If you can't meet your principal and interest payments, you're bankrupt," he said. "It's as simple as that."

SHEPHERD SAID the county has put out "misinformation" and "twisted the facts" concerning the cost of the translator system and its maintenance. "They're talking about \$20,000 to \$40,000 annual maintenance costs," he said, "and that's baloney. They can't do it. They haven't laid the facts on the table."

"We're working to build the finest cable television system in the United States," said Shepherd, "and we hope the government doesn't force us to abandon this goal."

He said the "heart of the issue" is government versus free enterprise, and that the county "wants to be in the

JIM PICKING

Prescriptions Filled
Lenses Duplicated & Repairs
Specialized Sunglasses

The Key West Optician
817 Peacock Plaza, Searstown • Ph. 294-7411

KEY WEST
TENNIS & SCUBA CENTER

Starting May 15
Group Swimming Lessons
Totals: 0-3 yrs, 1 wk. session, 1-130, Mon-Fri.
Beginners: 4 per gp, 2 wk. session, 2-245, Mon-Fri.

Starting June 15
Intermediate & advanced lessons
Private Instruction - All Ages
Poolside
Key Wester Hotel S. Roosevelt 296-3029

television business."

COUNTY COMMISSIONER Jerome Shipley, a vocal proponent of the translator system, said, "The bottom line is that we have a company that claims a monopoly and franchise to provide a certain service, but both it and its predecessor have failed to provide service to everybody in Monroe County who wants it. So it's a monopoly that claims privileges without responsibilities, and it's well documented that service has been abominable in the past. I don't see it as government versus free enterprise at all. I see it as the government providing a service that the overwhelming majority of the public wants."

AND NOW a word from one of the 5,000 residents who signed the county's petitions for the translators: "I came from the Sarasota area. I think we paid about six dollars a month and we had about 16 stations. There were cartoons for the kids, an educational station...just about anything you wanted to see. I still own three televisions, but we're not hooked up because that's too much money for what you get." (Tele-Media charges \$9.10 monthly for the service.)

"What You Get" is improving, no doubt about it, as Tele-Media expands its system and its program selection. Its new earth-satellite receiving station on Duval Street will go into operation this summer, bringing in more channels. The studio has been completely redone and can now transmit color.

THE COUNTY thinks that's just wonderful. "With the improvements Tele-Media is planning," says the county's petition to the FCC, "there is every reason to expect most Monroe County residents will choose both. The translators will provide only the programming of five Miami stations. CATV will provide

Red Beard's Tee-Shirts

Tell it like it is!
from a single word
to an original painting
Custom Airbrushing

Key West
Sunsets

Custom air-brushed shirts
414 Greene St. Just 3 doors from
Capt. Tony's Key West

SNORKELING & SCUBA
DIVING TRIPS
FISHING BOATS
AIR BOATS
HOUSEBOATS
WATERSKING
SPEED BOATS

The Blue Lagoon
MARINA
294-3403

VISIT OUR
QUARTERDECK BAR
U.S. 1
ACROSS FROM
SEARSTOWN

all that and much more. No appreciable loss of CATV subscribers can reasonably be expected."

THE PROPOSED translator system would rebroadcast Miami stations WTVJ (CBS), WPLG (ABC), WKBT (NBC), and the share-time educational stations WPBT (PBS) and WTHS. The county has no plans to engage in commercial originations.

Tele-Media, on the other hand, would broadcast all of the above plus local programming, a 24-hour movie channel, probably a Spanish-language station, an educational station, and as-yet-undetermined channels beamed to the earth-satellite receiving station. A 20-channel, five-directional system is Tele-Media's present goal.

Notes and Antic-Dotes continued from page 7

CLIMAX CAME when a quartet of Navy men sang old sea ditties including the ancient chantey, "Blow, Blow, Blow the Man Down."

The irony of the whole situation was too much and the audience responded with whoops of laughter.

TO CAP the climax, announcement was made next day that a local physician had been hospitalized with a broken leg. He had aspired to take part in the drama and to advise on action. He climbed one of the higher battlements at West Martello, surveyed the scene, made a magnificent gesture appropriate to his role of pride and toppled down a steep embankment. "Fride cometh before" -- and all that.

Robert Watson continued from page 19.
good dinner. I had one drink of whiskey in the morning. There was some serenading last night, but I took no part in it for I did not feel merry as my thoughts were of home. We have been very busy building winter quarters since last date, and they are now finished and

REAL HOME COOKIN'
CAPTAIN CONER'S
SEAFOOD STAND

- Conch Fritters
- Fish & Chips
- Conch Chowder
- Scallops
- Shrimp
- Key Lime Pie

Daily 11-6
Closed Tues.

Mallory Square at Sunset Pier
296-3178

SALES, APPRAISALS & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Old Town Realty, Inc.

CONSUELO H. LOSLEY, Realtor
294-5525
RENTALS 294-1012

MEMBER MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE

quite comfortable.

JANUARY 1, 1864: Bitter cold all day, nothing but corn bread to eat, and to make matters worse, I am barefooted and have been for some time. We have had no snow yet but it has been raining for the past five days.

(NEXT MONTH: WATSON'S TRANSFER TO THE CONFEDERATE NAVY AND THE END OF THE WAR.)

Some Remarks continued from page 8

RIDERS NEEDED TO SHARE EXPENSES

PLANS ARE being made to organize a group of Key West gays to attend the 3rd Annual Florida Gay Conference to be held Saturday and Sunday, May 27 & 28 at Florida State University in Tallahassee.

Here's your chance to raise your consciousness by exchanging ideas and learning from various workshops on alternative gay lifestyles. Speakers will include the dynamic Rita Mae Brown.

Transportation and lodging are being arranged. For details please write 1716 Bertha #1, Key West, or drop by anytime.



RECORD and TAPE SALE

\$7.98 LIST PRICE NOW.....
\$5.00
THRU MAY

AT THE
Environmental Circus
518 DUVAL STREET

Summer Hours 12-9 Closed Sunday

TOP
of the
LA CONCHA HOTEL
430 DUVAL STREET
OLD TOWN

Panoramic View
All Key West

FAMOUS
TOP MENU
Mon-Thurs
11am to 3pm
Fri-Sat
11am to 2am

Favorite Cocktails
Daily 11 a.m. - 4 a.m.

foxy lady
APPAREL
BIKINIS

CORNER OF
GREENE & DUVAL

★ Lyly's Back At ★
THE CHINA STAR RESTAURANT

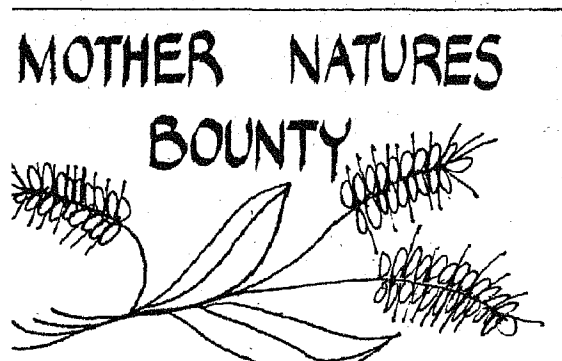
Come in and enjoy the relaxing atmosphere of our tea room or tropical garden. For a really different surrounding, you will love our waterfall. Take advantage of our convenient take-out service.

HOURS
11:00-2:00 Lunch
5:00-10:00 Dinner

294-4596 Simonton & Truman

the house of burgess
has
linens by pinky and dianne
for private label
501-a front street

MOTHER NATURE'S BOUNTY



**Health foods
Natural Vitamins
Fruit and Vegetable Juice Bar**

6 Duval St ~ 294-1808

PAE

IN THE SKY PIZZA
osing for the Summer.
Reopening in the Fall
New Menu, Seating
air conditioning

AS PALMAS EL MUNDO
9 SOUTHARD ST.

Specializing in
Seafoods &
Natural
FoodS
Dinner 6-10
Tues-Sat
Brunch 9-2
Sat & Sun
Closed Monday

HAIR POLAROID

FULL SERVICE
SALON
REDKEN

I 6 GREENE ST. UPSTAIRS 294-6326
II KEY WESTER HOTEL POOLSIDE 294-5326
III OPENING SOON!

THE PICTURE SHOW

NETWORK
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
"MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS"
A Film By Humberto Solaz
LUCIA
The Queen of Love & Seduction


SHOW TIME 9:00 P.M. PHONE 2943826
CLOSED TUESDAYS 620 DUVAL ADMISSION \$2.50

KEY WEST'S HOROSCOPE
BY EMMA CATES

Sun in Taurus, after 20th in Gemini
Venus in Gemini, after 21st in Cancer
Mercury in Aries, after 15th in Taurus
Saturn in Leo
Jupiter in Cancer
Mars in Leo
Uranus in Scorpio, retrograde
Neptune in Sagittarius, retrograde
Pluto in Libra, retrograde

on the problem of the care and housing of small animals and pets. This area of contention may find an amiable solution. Key West continues to be aspected favorably in the 10th house of business careers and national exposure. This very positive aspect continues through September of 1978.

The new moon in Taurus on May 7th occurs in the twelfth house of the chart of Key West. There will be much behind the scenes maneuvering going on. Legal matters, and federal government and agencies will be getting the impact of this aspect. Key West's natal sun in the sign of Capricorn conjoining Uranus may bring some sudden and unexpected occurrences. Some surprises may be in the offing. This may concern some secret deals that have been made in the past, which will now see the light of day. Jupiter in Cancer is bringing positive vibration to our public image; not only in the area of recognition and fame for the City of Key West, but in monetary profits. The full moon in Sagittarius on May 22 may bring some final agreement between the governing board and the Humane Society



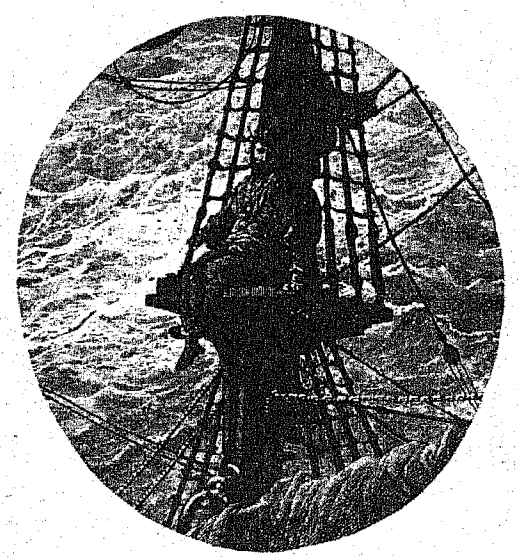
The Ancient Mariner
Seafood Restaurant & Raw Bar

COMPLIMENTARY GLASS OF WINE SERVED WITH DINNER
Serving ...

Broiled Lobster, Stone Crab (in season)
Fried Shrimp, Oysters, Scallops
Fish Stuffed with Crab
Oysters and Clams on the Half Shell
Steamed Shrimp — Corn on the Cob
Conch Chowder — Conch Fritters
Salads and Sandwiches

NOW SERVING BREAKFAST FROM 7 TO 11

Open Mon. - Sat. 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. 132 DUVAL ST 294-0505



Editorial continued from page 21

in order to set a difficult-to-deny precedent for private developers to secure fill permits.

Of course the submission of the private applications for fill permits at this time may have been pure coincidence, but regardless, if the latter are approved, the people of Key West will surely be the losers of a valuable natural resource.

OUR CONCERNS SEEM WELL FOUNDED.

*It was recommended in the DER appraisal that this request be denied because this was a highly "valuable feeding and roosting habitat for birds and is still biologically significant."

SALT POND UPDATE

AS WE WENT to press, the County Commission in its Plantation Key meeting on April 25, reversed the position taken at its April 18 meeting, and in a sharply divided decision, voted to press for the salt pond site for the weather station at Key West International Airport. Commissioners Hernandez, Kerr and Howanitz voted for the salt pond site with Commissioners Shipley and Schloesser dissenting.

The vote came after consulting engineer Andrew Daniluk presented a proposal for an alternate site on county property, just west of Key Bowl Lanes, which he described as a "viable site." But he went on to state that the salt pond site still seemed "ideal," seeming to ignore the problems associated with securing fill permits from the Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Regulation (DER), and in spite of the questionable availability of adequate electrical power, water, telephone service and sewer facilities.

WHEN PRESSED by Commissioner Shipley for the negative aspects of the alternate site, Daniluk could give none, stating vaguely that NWS would prefer to have the new facility out of public view.

Daniluk described a meeting he had in Vero Beach, on April 20, with various state and federal regulatory agencies involved in giving the fill permits for the salt pond site. He said that he felt he could resolve their environmental concerns, and that he had received off-the-record assurances from C of E and DER representatives at the meeting, that they would probably approve the salt pond site if there were no better alternate. However, this would be only after a public hearing to be held in July.

COMMISSIONER KERR then stated that NWS must have a firm commitment from the county by June in order to meet their equipment installation deadline of February 1979.

In the discussion, it developed that they planned to relocate the present weather radar to the salt pond site in order to avoid a 3000 foot cable run, but if the alternate site were selected, the radar could remain where it is.

Commissioner Shipley, supported by Schloesser, pressed for an immediate decision to approve the alternate site next to the bowling lanes, because it would require no fill permits or other approvals by any other agency.

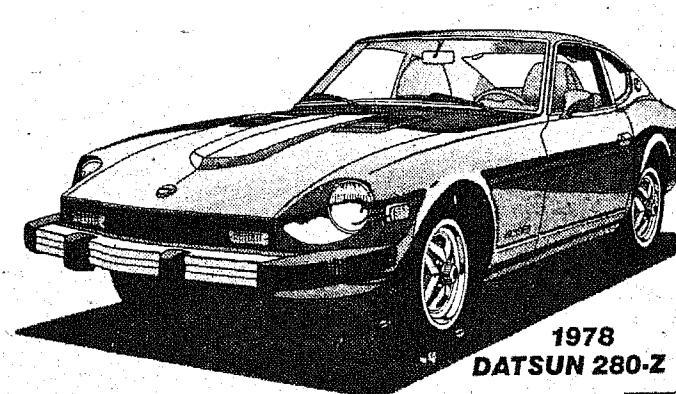
Schloesser added that the commission could make a final decision and give a firm commitment to NWS at that meeting.

COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ, however, opted for the original site for various seemingly invalid reasons, and was joined in the split vote by Kerr and Howanitz to go ahead with the salt pond site in spite of the obstacles.

As the salt pond site was approved, Schloesser concluded, "This motion is essentially saying to the weather bureau, we don't want your station."

SALES · SERVICE · PARTS
ISLAND IMPORTED CARS

DATSUN
AUDI
VW



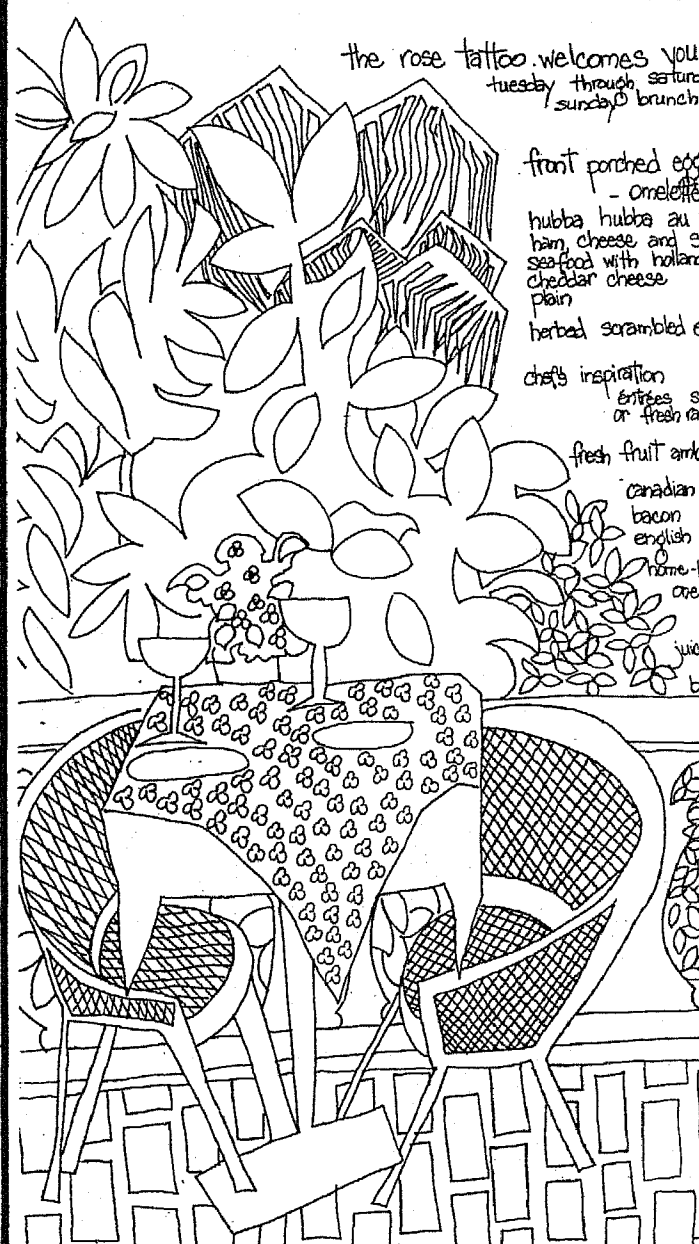
1978
DATSUN 280-Z

1111 EATON ST. 294-5151

the roe tattoo welcomes you to breakfast
tuesday through saturday 8:30 a.m. till 12:30 p.m.
sunday brunch 11:30 a.m. till 3 p.m.

front porch eggs (eggs benedict) 3.75
omelette 2.75
hubbards au gratin 2.50
ham, cheese and sprouts 2.50
seasoned with hollandaise 2.50
cheddar cheese 2.50
plain 2.50
herbal scrambled eggs 2.50
with cheese 2.50

chef's inspiration
entrees served with bright potatoes
or french onion wedges, homemade bread and jam
fresh fruit ambrosia cup 1.50 coffee 2.50
canadian bacon 1.50
bacon 1.50
bacon muffin .50
home-baked bread and jam .50
ore-bake grapefruit .50
baked with Grand Marnier .50
juice milk coffee tea perrier
smoothies minceals



Key West Pro Dive Shop, Inc.
1605 North Roosevelt Boulevard
Key West, Florida 33040

296-3823
DAILY REEF TRIPS

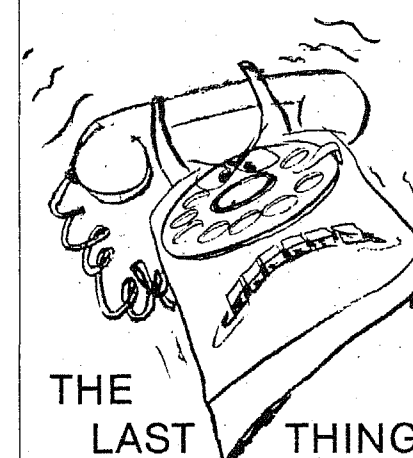
"Professional Skindiving School"

SALES — SERVICE — RENTALS — AIR
COMPLETE SELECTION OF MAJOR EQUIPMENT





Salvation Army Lady

MACK
DRYDEN










THE
LAST THING
YOU NEED
IS A LOST
CUSTOMER
DUE TO AN
UNANSWERED
TELEPHONE!

Courteous, inexpensive, (not a machine)
answering service. Save a customer, call NOW!
Key West Telephone Answering Service



(305) 294-5586

BUYERS

-  1851 LOWE HOUSE
-  1885 SAWYER HOUSE
-  DUVAL STREET STORES
-  SEASONED BUSINESS
-  SHOPPING PLAZA
-  MOTEL
-  GUEST HOUSE (CONVERSION)
-  HP-2 BUILDING SITE
-  MANY MORE!!!




CHRISTOPHER C. BELLAND
ASSOC. - KEY LIME REALTY INC.

SELLERS

HIGHEST PRICES NOW BEING PAID

I HAVE PRE-QUALIFIED LOCAL
AND OUT-OF-TOWN INVESTORS
WHO ARE IMMEDIATE BUYERS OF
CERTAIN: HOMES • STORES •
APARTMENTS • BUSINESSES •
MOTELS • OFFICES • WAREHOUSES

★ ★ ★ CALL NOW FOR INFORMATION

-  NATIONAL MARKETING
PROGRAM
-  TAX DEFERRED EXCHANGES
-  SALE LEASE BACKS

CALL
294-7322 or 296-8516