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## EDITORIAL

With this issue, *Solares Hill* is in new hands. A company consisting of Richard French, David Ethridge and Frank E. Taylor bought out us previous owners on December 10. The new owners were kind enough to ask me to write a farewell editorial.

David Ethridge, who will be both editor and publisher of the new enterprise, has had journalistic experience both with *Florida Keys Magazine* and elsewhere. Well known in the community, Ethridge looks forward to his new opportunity. The prospect of running *Solares Hill*, he says, makes him feel "like a kid in a candy shop." As well it should. It's a fun opportunity and a great challenge. In small-town journalism, there can never be enough energy and enthusiasm.

I have not previously known Richard French, the principal owner of the new enterprise. He seems to have seen his share of the world during a distinguished career in advertising, and his heart seems to be in the right place.

Frank E. Taylor, who had been a partner with me and Thomas P. Geyer in the previous company, will remain involved. You can be sure that Frank Taylor will remain Frank Taylor.

Personal reasons weighed heavily in my own decision to sell. Children freezing in the snow, and a newspaper business elsewhere left unattended. I console myself in the feeling that *Solares Hill* will be left in the hands of people who care about its mission and understand its important role in Key West.

Contemporary Key West has a lot of the problems

common to one-industry communities. We need an independent voice which understands from where the economic livelihood of the community stems, but is still willing to speak out in a responsible and balanced way on political and societal problems. That's always been *Solares Hill's* role.

This is a community without strong local media. I hope that over time *Solares Hill* will evolve into a stronger publication, and then go weekly. (This is a personal belief, and may not reflect the views of the new owners.)

No one knows better than I the weaknesses of *Solares Hill*. Though the paper's stronger than it used to be, there's still enormous room for improvement. During our watch, we have been constrained by a lack of resources. It takes either a long time or a lot of money to build a solid base. Too few people realize how much patience is required in the development of high-quality community institutions.

I wish the new owners all the luck in the world in their task. From my point of view, what they're embarking on is the most interesting job in Key West.

My kids need help brushing the snow off the firewood. I'm outta here.

—Geddy Sveikauskas

### ON THE COVER:

This home on Duck Avenue boasts over 2000 lights! Photo by Janet Marcantonio.



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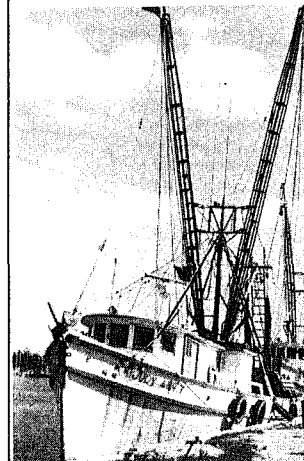
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### 4 A Shrimpers' Christmas

Christmas on the high seas.



JANET MARCANTONIO

### 6 Tank Tops and Keyrings

The city commission put restrictions on t-shirt shops—or did they?

### 8 Elves named MARC

This annual tree sale brightens up the entire year for MARC House.

### 31 Science Dives into Murky Water

Two theories try to point the blame at delcining Keys water quality.

### 39 Accessing Key West

The island city can be difficult if you're disabled.

## ALSO

510 Greene	10
Island Economics	11
Community Notes	12
On the Town	13
Readers Write	14
Cynthia Says	14
Peary Update	15
New Owners	15
Almanac	16
Grits, Grunts, & Gruyere	17
Key West Days & Nights	24
Art Notes	26
Arts Calendar	28
Aisle Seat	29
Gigs	30
Keys Calendar	37

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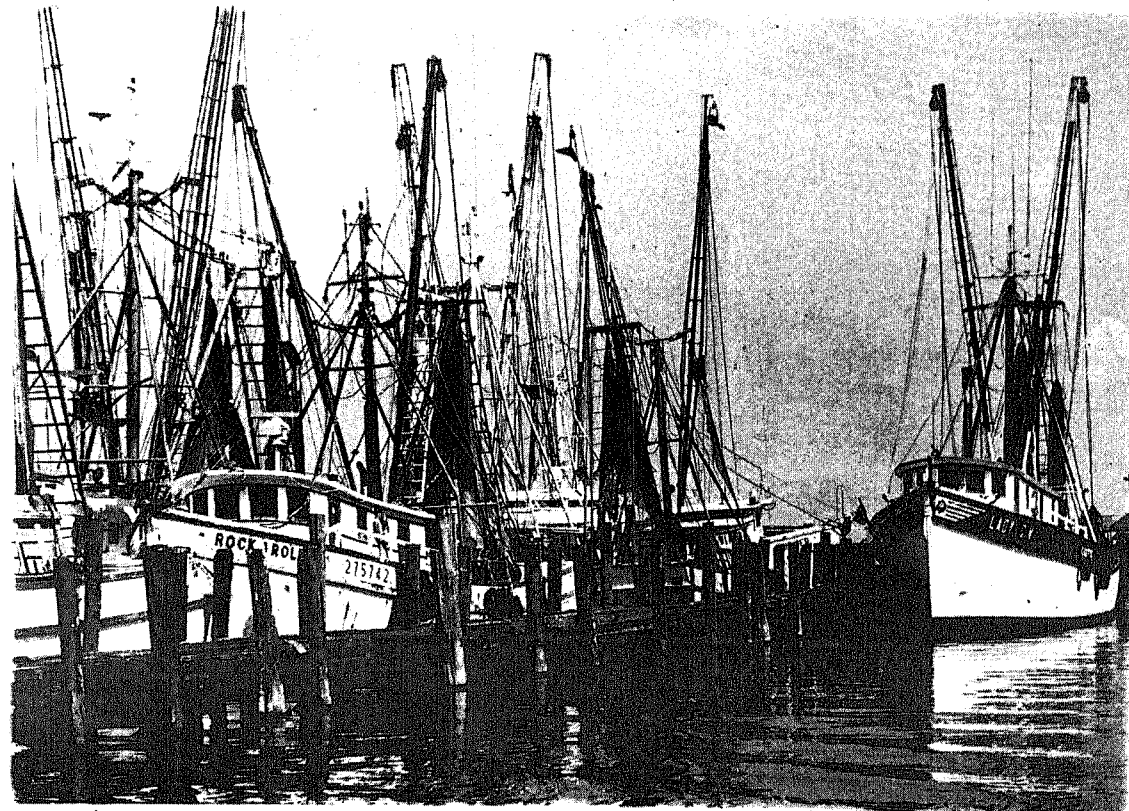


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# COVER STORY

## A Shrimper's Christmas



A scene from shrimpers' Christmas past.

by Robin Shanley

Christmas in Key West has become a little disappointing over the years. Of course, there is the eagerly awaited boost to commerce—an economic powerhouse—lighting the windows and faces of many merchants. But, to a transplanted Northerner, the traditional requirements such as, for one, snow and a tramp in the woods to cut down a tree are missing. The fact that Santa wears cutoffs and is probably gay, has never set entirely right with us. In the Nuevo Cayo Hueso, Christmas seems to be ranked somewhere on the fiesta scale between Fantasy Fest and Powerboat Races.

Back when there were shrimp docks instead of marinas or excursion departure points Christmas meant more, even to the Yankee crews. Maybe not in a religious or Currier and Ives sense, but it was the start of the important winter season, with the larger catches showing up in December. Also, if you had spent the summer working the Texas coast

it meant a return to your home port. There were the powerful stimuli of homecoming and money to party with. The docks were great white walls of bows and anchor chutes. Every boat had a party going. Everyone who lived on Caroline Street had a freezer full of shrimp, lobster and stone crab claws. It was an exciting time of drinking, celebration, drugs, fighting and loving.

When the great shrimp decline started, however, local boats would sometimes choose to prolong the Texas season, rather than face the dwindling stocks back home. Florida trawlers are mostly constructed of wood and fiberglass and smaller than their Texas cousins, the big steel "slabs." And what reaches the Keys as a blustery Norwester begins in Texas as a howling gale, tearing down across the Plains. Staying off Texas was not a decision taken lightly.

I remember the first winter we overstayed our welcome. It was mid-December and everyone had escaped to Key West except us. We were off the stormy coast of Louisiana,

working our way home. There was no moon and, stretched out to the invisible horizon, were the oil platforms, each one a blinking city of colored lights. I was watching the wheel, too nervous to be sleepy. I could hear the slabs talking on the radio. It was too rough for them, even, and they were anchoring up. When I reported this to my captain, he snorted contempt and recalled a dream where a boat working a storm had filled their holds with shrimp in one night. He was a stubborn captain and we set our rigs out.

The wind continued rising until it was like a door slamming against us. The waves had risen to steep hills and on their crests all you could see were the oil rigs, like crazy Martian carnivals against the black sky. Then the boat would shudder and roller coaster down the slopes, piling into the trough in a cable-snapping, spray-sheeting descent, then pause in a lonesome valley of cold water, feeling like the Pharaoh's chariots before the Red Sea re-closed.

Finally, on one turn we were hit, side to, and far below on the industrial-trash laden bottom our nets tangled. The wind was shoving

us so badly we didn't feel it at first, but when it became apparent we couldn't straighten out we knew we were snagged.

Nets are easy to set out in a storm but getting them back is another matter. This emergency, however, required retrieval. The captain managed to get the rigs up without fouling the wheel. But instead of returning like graceful pale ghosts they arrived in an ugly dripping ball on one side of the boat. It was very bad. We tried to snag the lines of retrieval with an aluminum pole but the seas tore it from our hands. The winds blew the rain gear from our heads and soaked our clothes. The dip tank tore loose and slammed about. Somehow we got gear aboard and the anchor out. The next labor was separating the 35 foot nets and sewing the tears and holes, but that would come tomorrow. Now I was sent aloft to replace the light bulbs shattered in the struggle. This was to avert collisions at sea.

I started up the ladder, soaked to the skin and sick at the work yet to be done. When I rose above the protection of the boat the cold wind ambushed me. My body shook so violently that my feet shuddered off and I had to grab the ladder to keep from being flung into the sea. It was now officially Christmas morning as I held on for dear life wishing for nothing more than to see my dear Key West docks again.

The following Christmas found us tied up in a small Louisiana fishing town. We were trying to get home when a foul front trapped us and three other Key West boats, one of which was the Liberty Belle owned by Captain Marion. With the flat parish marshes around us, gray skies and poverty as far as the eye could see, it was a bleak prospect. To brighten our situation, we elected to have Christmas dinner aboard the Liberty Belle. Marion was an old sea dog from North Carolina, and like most Tarheels he could cook just as well as he could locate shrimp. There was a giant turkey, trussed and stuffed with oyster dressing. From the oven came hot cornbread and sweet potato pie. Hard boiled eggs were sliced and swam in a rich giblet gravy. You could step out the door where there was a burlap bag full of fresh plump oysters. Outside it was raw Louisiana but inside it was warm and Florida.

Next year the winter season was equally depressed both sides of the Gulf. If you're going to be broke you might as well be broke at home. It was so slow off the Keys that my captain decided to take a vacation and, being a legitimate rigman, I took the boat out for a trip.

It was Christmas Eve, all was calm, and the full moon sequined the water. In addition to the usual loneliness one feels being responsible for a boat, there was a fiancé sleeping alone somewhere thirty-five miles southeast of me; I was certainly lost in a fog of feeling sorry for myself.

"C'mon back, cap'n Robin."

It was Captain Marion on the radio. He and the Liberty Belle were a bright light off to the northwest of me.

"Go ahead," I replied.

"Where you at, son?"

I had gotten used to the fact that "son" was not used as a diminutive in the old man's conversation. It was an affectionate term applied to everyone he liked that was younger than himself.

"Just south of the Community Hang."

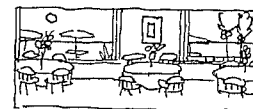
"Hmm," my VHF grunted, in Marion's voice. "What do you make of that boat off to the Eastern?"

I looked out my windows. I'd been halfway watching this guy for miles, as he had the right of way and if he stayed on his present course I'd have to change mine. Now that he was closer I was surprised to make out the amazing array of lights on his mast. When you fish the busy shipping lanes of Texas, you quickly learn that every vessel displays a unique light arrangement. These can warn you of a freighter bearing down on you or if a research vessel is towing miles of scientific cable behind it. Knowing these arrangements is critical.

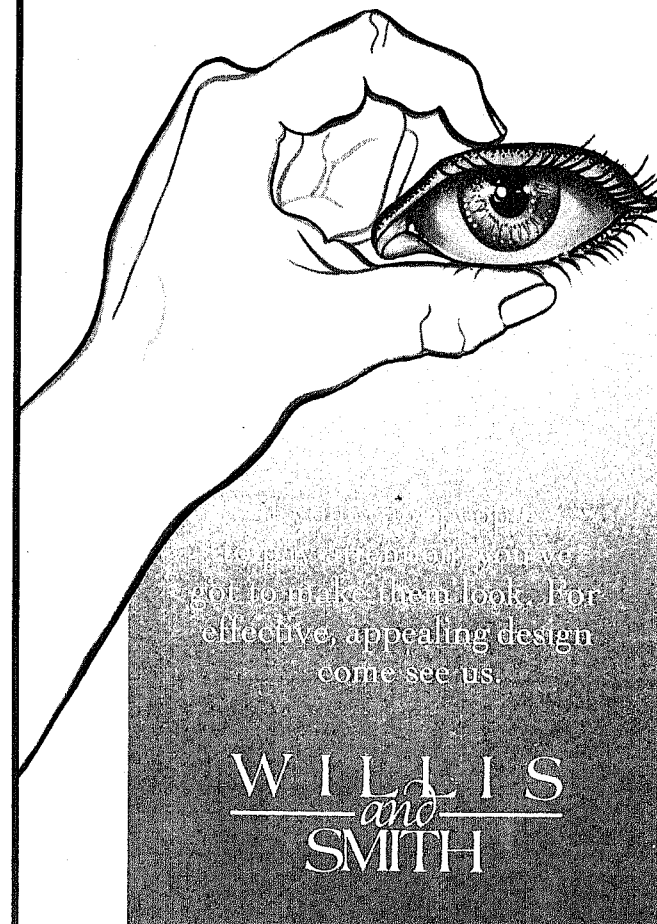
But this was the Keys. Sticking my head

outside I saw lights blinking in every color. Must be carrying nuclear wastes or monitoring UFO's. I grabbed the binoculars. As the knob focused on the distance, the lights diffused then snapped into view. It was a shrimp boat, no worry there, and on it's wheelhouse roof was a Christmas tree, all lit up and blazing Noel across the watery fields where fishermen watched their pink flocks at night.

"Merry Christmas, son," were the glad tidings on the radio.



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# Tank Tops and Key Rings

Is the t-shirt ordinance working?

by Lee Irby

Bruce thinks back to a simpler time, the Duval Street of the Carter presidency, before it all started. "You want history?" he asks, laughing. "Okay, how about this. In 1976 I paid my landlord \$350 a month to rent this place."

Later Bruce (whose last name has been withheld at his request), acquired the property. Now he's entertaining a rental offer of \$50 per square foot for the same piece of real estate—which translates to \$5,000 monthly. "I don't know what I'm going to do," he confesses. "That's a lot of money."

Bruce's store, which features a variety of items, would be replaced by what many regard as Key West's most lethal scourge: another t-shirt shop that sells what many regard as tacky goods unbefitting the island's unique ambience. From the 700 block of Duval down, there are 62 such shops.

Should Bruce take the money and run, knowing that there are too many t-shirt shops? Or should he personally sacrifice a king's ransom and forego financial security in the name of community goodwill? A better question is: why is Bruce in this position?

It's been two months since the city commission passed the so-called "t-shirt" ordinance, and the early results are in. Most say

it's not working as intended. Some think it'll never work.

The original intent of the ordinance was to slow the proliferation of t-shirt shops, discount jewelry stores, camera/electronics stores, and adult bookstores on Duval Street by making it illegal to have similar businesses open within 200 feet of each other. But even the ordinance's main sponsor, Jimmy Weekley, admits that the law is inadequate as written.

"There appears to be a loophole," he said. "We need to revisit the issue and tighten it up."

The loophole Weekley referred to grew out of the inability of the commission to define exactly what a t-shirt store is. Like pornography, you know one when you see it. But to describe it in words—that was another matter.

After much debate, the commission determined that a t-shirt store is one whose inventory includes 30% or more of t-shirts by count. The important words are "by count." If you count up everything in your store, every battery, every postcard, and 30% or more is t-shirts, you own a t-shirt shop.

But 10,000 postcards can fit in the space of 10 t-shirts.

"Sometimes they'll buy 5,000 keychains," said Kent Henry, an outspoken critic of the t-shirt stores. "The ordinance doesn't work."

Thus, using the city's definition, no store is technically a t-shirt store. Nothing has changed. All stores are free to move and open where the owners please. Retail space remains valuable and expensive.

The discount jewelry portion of the ordinance operates under percentage of display area. This approach seems to be working. According to Carolyn Walker, many merchants wishing to sell less than 14 carat gold must "modify their stock" when learning that at least 70% of their goods must be 14 carats or better. "Some just don't bother opening up," she said.

Weekley said that applying the same system—basing the definition on a percentage of retail space instead of inventory—will close the loophole and provide the ordinance with some punch.

Enforcement is another problem the ordinance faces. Just who exactly is going to go around and count up every item in every t-shirt store to determine if it meets the 30% of inventory threshold? The storeowners themselves, that's who.

In a classic case of hiring the fox to guard the henhouse, the city sent out survey letters to all retail merchants on Duval Street asking them to conduct an inventory count. "That letter was a joke," said one storeowner. "I threw it away. It'll take a week to count everything. Will the city pay for that?"

Ed Swift, long-time Duval Street maven, echoed these thoughts. "A lot of people thought it was the funniest thing they'd ever seen," he said.

Swift doesn't think that the city should be regulating what goes on inside someone's store. "The public sector cannot tell the private sector what to sell," he said. "As long as people want t-shirts, there'll be t-shirt shops."

Swift suggests that the city strictly enforce current statutes that regulate heat pressed imprints, as well as forbid hawkers from standing in doorways and handing out discount coupons. "That creates an atmosphere on a public street," he argues.

Many critics of the t-shirt stores have trouble figuring out just how some of them stay in business. Bruce calculated his profit margins based on a rent of \$5,000 monthly. His conclusion: "I'd have to go out of business."

Rumors abound on just how some establishments operate and manage to stay open. Without question, one technique employed is your garden-variety rip-off of a foreign tourist. One former employee of a Duval Street store in the 200 block alleged that a group of Swedes was charged \$1800 for three t-shirts and a hat. They spoke little English, and, though upset, paid the price and left. The employee quit the next day.

The city's code enforcement has made similar busts of stores who do not follow the city's laws requiring receipts before the print is pressed and a sign clearly stating the prices. The offense is classified as criminal, not civil, and thus the stores face no financial sanctions. They are free to continue operating. Swift thinks the

stores who repeatedly violate the law should be closed.

According to Bruce's arithmetic, the stores have no other choice than to resort to nefarious methods. Those who don't face hard times with the increased competition. One storeowner held out a big stack of unpaid bills. "Ask my suppliers how I'm doing," he said. "I can't afford to pay them."

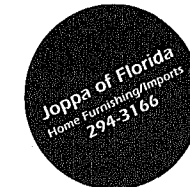
Some think that many stores harbor Israeli draft dodgers who pay a price for safety. One Israeli scoffed at the notion. "You can't escape the draft in Israel," he explained. "If you do, you can never return."

The Israeli consulate in Miami confirmed that Israelis aged 15 and older who leave the country must return and serve. No exceptions.

Other rumors abound, involving everything from money laundering to gun-running. But the fact is, most Duval shops work hard to sell their goods.

Swift thinks that the market place will correct itself. "Many stores have closed recently," he asserted.

But like a phoenix, out of the destruction usually comes another to take its place.



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## By Joe Silva

Long before the first snowfall, the cries of Christmas commercialism usually precipitate all over the nation. The spirit of the holiday has been tainted for some time, and there are no signs that the coming century will bring with it a drastically different flavor to the season.

It's probably more difficult to wring any Yuletide cheer from the season if you're not accustomed to Caribbean Decembers, where the smell of burning charcoal is far more common than that of roasting chestnuts. But MARC (Monroe Association for Retarded Citizens) may be the one spot in Key West that successfully bears the union of island life and the conventions of Christmas.

For the ninth year in its twenty-six year existence, MARC is holding its annual Christmas Tree Sale and Fundraiser at the Old Harris School on Southard and Margaret. The proceeds from the sale are fed back into the agency where they are a substantial portion of the organization's fiscal makeup.

"It makes up about 10% of our annual budget," says Mark Lindas, who is MARC's workshop coordinator for the day work program. "Most of our visibility comes during Christmas and many people choose to contribute to MARC this way."

Lindas is MARC's pleasant and whiskered principal who came to Key West six years ago from Wisconsin. He's worked with the



These faces will make your holidays merry.

handicapped for 22 years.

Don Moore, the association's executive director, originated the notion of selling trees. But, according to the Mark, the sale began on a much smaller scale. "The first year we sold a couple of hundred trees, but the idea took off and last year we sold about two thousand trees, and two thousand poinsettias."

**A**lthough some people prefer artificial trees, nearly 35 million Americans still prefer the scent and ambience of the real thing, according to statistic compiled by the National Christmas Tree Association. Real needle-shedding, water-chugging holiday trees are a 150 year old tradition that got it's start in Williamsburg, Virginia.

As Mark heads toward the tree lot, the plain concrete walkways of the Harris School have erupted in a flourish of scarlet poinsettias and gilded tree decorations. There are wreaths

and doves made of palms by an artist in Big Pine hanging from the walls. Some of the Fraser Fir, the most aromatic of the trees MARC sells, extend more than ten feet high. Mark refers to billowy White Spruce as the "huggable" tree. He calls the spiny Colorado Spruce "Decorator unfriendly."

MARC's trees are carted down by semis in three loads from the mountains of North Carolina. This year's second load was delayed when the tractor-trailer hauling the trees turned over in the mountains. While there were no injuries as a result of the accident, some of the volunteers that were to help with the unloading of the trees were unable to show up.

"We sent out a general alarm out on public service announcements on radio and the community responded," Lindas reports, "We've been real successful in bringing groups to help. For three weeks now the volunteer schedule has been virtually filled."

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In addition to volunteers and the MARC employees, the clients play an integral role in staffing the Christmas tree sale. MARC provides work opportunities in and around the community for 30 handicapped people, and half of them also reside at the MARC house on Windsor Lane.

The city has awarded a few subcontracts for projects that serve Key West as well as MARC clients. Those involved with the association provide grounds maintenance at the city cemetery as well as early morning cleanup of Duval Street. MARC clients can also work in a horticulture program that cultivates about 80% of the bedding plants that MARC sells year round.

"They have a great attitude and do very well in their work," says Myndi Field, a MARC house employee who also donates her spare time as a volunteer at the Christmas sale. She has been constructing grapevine wreaths in a former classroom now littered with pinecones, dried flowers, and big spools of ribbon.

Like many others in the island community, the people who live at the MARC house have to get up early to face the work day. "They're probably the best morning people I've ever met," says Field.

**W**hen the last of the Freightliner tractor-trailers brimming with trees maneuvers into the MARC lot, a new thick waft of pine-smell cancels out the odor of diesel exhaust. Volunteers and the MARC people then don gloves and pull old socks over their forearms to protect themselves from the tree needles.

As assembly line forms with some of the clients wearing elf caps with names like "Milton" and "Herb" inked on the fuzzy white brim. The work is steady and the atmosphere tree placement as they come off the truck bed. Some of the clients hold hands with their partners and hurriedly shuffle back into the line after depositing a tree in it's proper batch. Even Sokah Seng, whose one hand is withered, helps to stack the trees with his functioning arm and the help of his partner.

**D**uring a break, what's most striking beyond the family atmosphere, is the normalcy of the MARC clients. They gathered around the small pickup that brought out refreshments, slugging back cold sodas like any other work crew taking five to recoup their energy.

A few individuals have regular jobs in the community. MARC's care is geared to the "normalization" of their client's lives.

"Some of the people here have served in Mom and Dad's or Grandma's home," says Mark, "but when they can no longer be provided for then the community-based program can take over. It gives them an opportunity to interact with regular people and have regular people interact with the handicapped. But at the same time (the community programs) is our idea of giving something back for what we get."

In addition to espousing holiday cheer, MARC is encouraging those who buy trees this year to be responsible in their disposal.

"Tree recycling is a recent thing the county came up with. More and more people are turning their used trees into mulch. And just by putting your used tree out in the yard, it can become an excellent habitat for birds," says Lindsa.

The MARC Christmas Tree sale is open daily from 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

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# 510 GREENE STREET

By Lee Irby

## Tag Team

Opposites attract, in physics and in affairs of the heart. Perhaps that explains why commissioners Harry Bethel and Joe Pais found themselves locked together in mortal combat with Mike Pitts of the Life Center Foundation during the December 1 city commission meeting.

The Life Center is home to a small group of recovering drug and alcohol abusers, which is pretty normal for Key West, except that these folks made the mistake of trying to organize themselves into a functioning unit. Actually, the fatal mistake was moving from their drug-infested lair on Whitehead Street to the more sedate milieu of Southard and Elizabeth.

That move irked their new neighbors, who besieged the commissioners with cries of fear and loathing to the point that the Life Center was called before the commission to account for itself. When the Life Center was located near a notorious drug trafficking area, no one seemed to care. But to live near "real" people, that, said the commission, amounted to a security threat.

"People are wondering what will happen to the neighborhood," said Jimmy Weekley, who lives only four houses away. "People hear 'Halfway House' and think it's a shelter for so and so.

Pitts said that the 10 occupants were "transfiguring." Apparently Bethel confused the term with some low act and declared that the shelter shouldn't be located in that neighborhood. Or any neighborhood in Key West.

"Where should we live then?" asked Pitts.

"Wherever you live," was Bethel's parry. "I live at the Center," Pitts countered. Then Bethel bemoaned the plight of Key West in its role as the lone human trash receptacle in Monroe County, taker of troubled youths and unwed mothers. "They always locate in Key West," he said.

Pais, however, masked his NIMBY (Not in my Backyard) attitude behind a litany of legal questions, none of which were answered. He wondered whether the Center needed certain HRS permits to operate, and also thought a fire inspection might be in order. Of course, answers to these questions could've been gleaned BEFORE the meeting—but then they would've had no use as thinly veiled threats.

As it turns out, the Life Center needs no HRS permits. According to city staffer Carolyn Walker, who called HRS offices in Miami, the Center needs no HRS review because it isn't offering anything except a 12-step program.

The best news is that the neighbors seem to be calming down. An open house on December 11 helped. "People had concerns," said Weekley. "The fears have subsided."

## Puff-Puff

A proposed miniature golf course for upper Duval Street was recently approved in concept by the Historic Architecture Review Commission, but the project is "on hold," according to developer Steve Walker.

According to HARC guidelines,

approval must first be sought in concept before a final approval is granted.

Wrecker's Cove would be located at 1325 Duval Street. All of its landscaping would be natural and contain many water falls and pools. The office would have a tin roof with clapboard siding.

"The main concern was the office's set back off the street," said Gene Burr of the city Planning office. "Typically the buildings are much closer to the street. But the landscaping of lush foliage made up for it."

That the project is on hold will likely prevent an intense battle over the soul of Duval Street. Some aren't thrilled with the idea of such a pedestrian undertaking. "It's not a positive step," said store owner Kent Henry. "It'll make Key West just like everywhere else. We need to be different."

For the moment, Walker has no plans to go forward with the project. "It may never happen," he said.

## Tag Team II

It is often said that Americans love sequels, and we here at "510 Greene" are no different. Thus, with much ado, ecce Tag Team III! Both Pais and Bethel refused to go along with a settlement agreement that gives \$20,000 to Billy Wayne Roberts, who alleged in a lawsuit that his civil rights were violated after being arrested by two of Key West's finest—in other words, Billy Wayne got the fecal matter kicked out of him in 1989, in front of witnesses.


Settling the suit, according to City Attorney Ginny Stones, means the charges would be dropped and the officers would be cleared of any further civil liability.

Yet Pais and Bethel arrived at their destinations via two different routes, sort of. Bethel disagreed with settlement on principle. "It's not the right attitude," he said. "Then people'll think they can sue the city and always collect. Plus, it's an admission of guilt and it harms the reputations of the officers involved."

Pais also worried about the possible innocence of the officers, and he thinks that settlement is "only sweeping it under the rug. It might excuse excessive brutality." Some might call that sitting on both sides of the fence.

Lucky for the Key West Police Department, there will be no trial. The charges of brutality will never be weighed in a public forum.

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Edward J. Kolesar of Olde Island Realty, Inc. has been installed as President of the Key West Association of Realtors of 1993. President elect is Dawn Thornburgh of Beach Club Brokers, treasurer is Tim Henshaw of Key West Realty, Inc., and secretary is Marilyn Wild of Coldwell Banker/Curtis H. Wild Real Estate.

Elected to the Board of Directors are Lila Williams and Frank Dudek of Richard Padron Real Estate, Inc., Sara Cook of Sara Cook Real Estate, Inc., Michael Larson or Century 21, Gloria Sellers of Prudential Knight Realty, Inc., Kathy Moorman of Tropical Land Title, Inc., Dennis Perry of Key West Realty, Inc., Peter Batty of Greg O'Berry Real Estate, Inc., and Tim Koenig of Feldman & Koenig.

Phillip M. Sasinek has been named new manager of Barnett Bank of The Keys' Kennedy Drive office. A vice president for Barnett Bank since 1986, Sasinek comes to the Keys from Palm Beach County. An avid boater, Sasinek has lived in Florida since 1978. A former board member of the Palm Beach County Association for Retarded Citizens, he has also been involved in areas chambers of commerce and Rotary clubs. Now that he has relocated to Key West, he is eager to begin contributing to his new community.

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Covers One Acre Including Pool & Guest House

## ISLAND ECONOMICS

**Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU)** recently announced a new administrator of its Key West campus. **Katheryn F. Hesse** was named Center Director for the local ERAU program. Hesse is a graduate of Louisiana State University with extensive management and marketing experience.

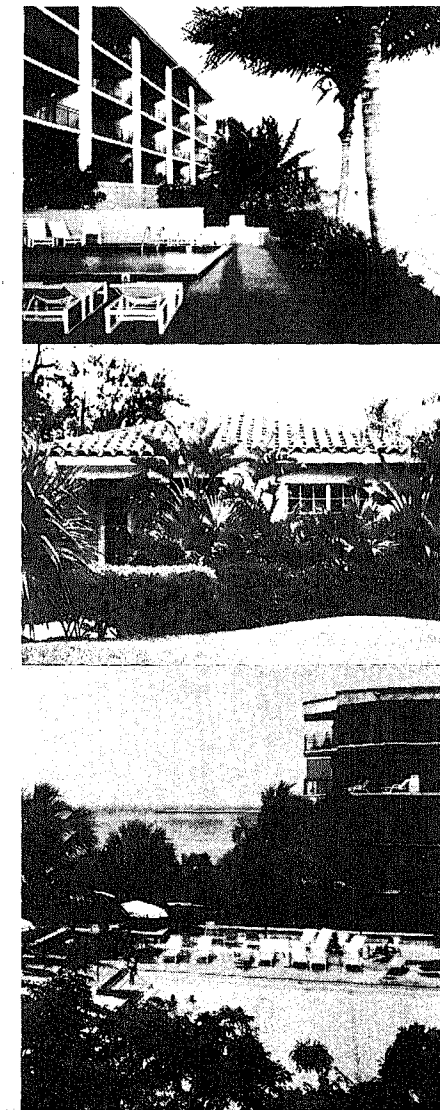
Hesse says the university intends to expand its program in Key West. she plans to work with students to accommodate individual needs. Registration is currently under way for the winter term.

Camille's is not just great food. Camille's Restaurant at 703 1/2 Duval is a place to hang out over a cafe con leche and a raisin-nut-apple-cinnamon muffin, melting with butter while you

wait for friends to join you. Now you can wait for friends to join you for dinner, too; the old town locals' favorite is open for dinner Tuesday through Saturday.

But it's not just the food—the place is a magnet for interesting people, whether it be local artists or the entire production staff of the Key West TV series.

On the walls are art and movie posters, a set of Tony Gregory paintings, stained glass pieces by Fritz and ViAnn Stange, Richard Watherwax postcards, movie star photos, an assortment of primitive masks and some funky wood and cloth jungle creatures.



## Exceptional Properties



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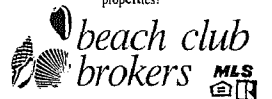
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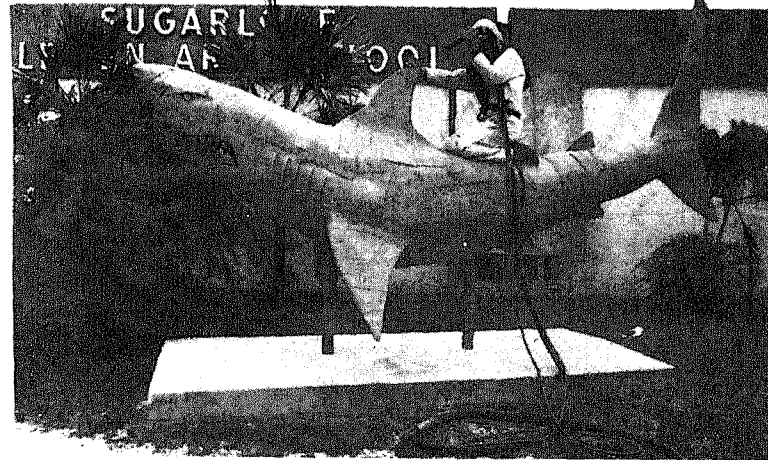
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# COMMUNITY NOTES



BUTCH AND TOM SAVE THE Sugarloaf Elementary Mascot.

## Save the Shark!

The Sugarloaf Elementary School found some good neighbors recently when it came time to give their mascot shark a facelift. Anna and Butch Schutt, owners of the Sugarloaf Club, stripped the mighty fish in preparation for its new coat of paint. Tom from Island Propeller will give the shark that menacing gray coat of paint—paint donated by Ken at the Sawyer Wells Co.

## "Red Ribbon Christmas"

Mangos Restaurant at 700 Duval will be hosting its first annual "Red Ribbon Christmas" party to benefit AIDS Help, Inc. on December 18. Food will be provided by Mangos, and the entertainment will be coordinated by "Ma" Evans who says that party-goers can dance the night away in the Voodoo dance club adjacent to Mangos.

AIDS Help staff will be collecting the \$15 admission at the door—all of which will directly benefit AIDS Help, Inc. to provide services and support for Monroe County residents with HIV and AIDS.

1993 Youth Arts Competition  
Informational sheets for the 1993

Monroe County Youth Arts Competition are now available at the offices of the Monroe County Fine Arts Council.

The competition is for young people ages 7-18, and has categories for piano, orchestral & band instruments, and painting and drawing. Call 296-5000.

## CES & Crime Stoppers

City Electric is aiding and abetting Crime Stoppers of the Florida Keys. They have hung more than 30 signs on utility poles around Key West and Stock Island. The bright yellow signs offer rewards for reporting crimes to the Crime Stoppers hotline. In case you're not near a utility pole, the Crime Stoppers number is 1-800-346-TIPS.

## Father Quinlan Honored

Very Reverend Eugene M. Quinlan, V.F., was recently recognized by the Board of Directors of AIDS Help, Inc. for his work on behalf of people with HIV disease throughout the Keys.

Father Quinlan served a long term on AIDS Help's board and is now an honorary board member. A beloved figure in the Keys, Father



VERY REVEREND EUGENE M. QUINLAN accepts a plaque for his services with AIDS Help, Inc.

Quinlan is pastor of San Pablo Catholic Church in Marathon, having previously been pastor of St. Mary Star of the Sea Church in Key West. He is Dean of Monroe County for the Catholic Church.

## Children's Shelter Opens

Nearly 300 onlookers and a group of public officials were on hand recently for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to launch the Florida Keys Children's Shelter's new Key West center. The much-needed residential facility will shelter up to ten abused, neglected, and runaway children.

The new facility, located at 2221 Patterson Avenue just behind Waldenbooks, will help make programs like the Children & Families in Need of Services Residential Program accessible to Monroe County children.

Over the next three years, FKCS hopes to raise the needed \$500,000 to retire the mortgage on the facility. Although there are state and federal funds for renovation, capital funding traditionally comes from the grassroots efforts. Since the Upper Keys facility was able to raise \$1.3 million, FKCS anticipates similar success in Key West.

## Santa Claws

Santa Claus is coming to town on Saturday, December 19 from 1 p.m. til 5 p.m. Santa will be at The Pampered Pet at Key Plaza Shopping Center. You can have your picture taken with your furry friend and get two prints for \$5. All proceeds go to MARC, the Monroe Association for Retarded Citizens. So stop by, bring your pets, bring your kids, bring your camera! Call 296-6912.

## House Tour Additions

For the first time 410 Caroline Street, on of Key West's most historically interesting and significant home will be available to the public. Jessie Porter's Heritage House and Robert Frost Cottage is opening its door as one of five homes showcased on the Holiday House Tour.

Log familiar to locals and tourists as the site of the island's "Pirate's Well," this Caribbean colonial mansion was built in 1832 by wrecker/ship captain George Carey. It has been occupied by members of Jesse Porter Newton's family since 1930.

After the subscription Holiday Home Tour, Heritage House will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. for a \$5.00 admission fee.

# ON THE TOWN • WITH JANE PHILLIPS



PAULA JO CHITTY, ARMANDO LODIGIANI AND DAVID ETHERIDGE chat at Red Barn party.

by Jane Phillips

The British are coming ... the British are coming ... Arriving at Key West International Airport recently was the glamorous Richard Branson (anyone who makes their first million by the time they're 17 qualifies as glamorous!) Alighting into the 75° weather were 28 fellow travelers - this was no "give me your tired, you poor, your huddled masses yearning to be free" group. Vintage Air Tours (circa 1940) plans to bring good fortune and big bucks to the colonies via round trip flights from Orlando to Key West. Like so many before, Branson has "fallen in love with Key West."

Speaking of the Brits ... Friends were beginning to think sunny Jane Vandergriff might be dipping into the cooking sherry too often with all her talk about her marvelous Englishman. Well he finally made it to the good old USA and everyone adored Robin Nichols as he and Jane made the round of social events. Robin kept saying "I can't believe I'm in American (being in the Conch Republic isn't exactly like being in American but he'll find that our eventually).

"Oh no, I can't even look at my wiggles!" ... Patty Cakes had the flu and couldn't do a "Vanna White" at the Art and Historical Society Christmas Party at Martello Museum. Pal Bob Warren confided, "He can't even wear boy shoes and could never get into high heels!" Big Tim was there though and made a big hit as a very loveable Christmas tree. Our own royals Vicki Roush and Tom Luna pitched in.

Let them eat cake ... The Key West Womens Club hosted their annual community Christmas party. While the ladies of the club posed prettily on the veranda another club member was posted at the gate keeping out the rabble until the opening ceremonies and entertainment took place. Mayor Wardlaw dedicated the lighting of the Christmas tree to the late Peggy McClain saying "Let there be light." The best Christmas gift the mayor ever received was a horse. He was 10 years old and has fond memories of riding that horse to school. Other favorites: Two ladies who know the value of dirt and diamonds Nancy Holtkamp "The

deed to a new house on the Christmas tree." And Sheila Sands "my diamond earrings." Bob Warren flashed a diamond ring and a smile to match and said "This is my best Christmas present." Greenie Harry Powell pointed to pretty Diane Russo and said "This is it! We're getting married December 28th." Bank exec Theresa Russell "getting a Betsey-Wetsey doll



BLACK TIE & BIG SMILES: Founders Society President Charles Monroe with Sheila Sands at apre "Good Evening" party hosted by Impressions Unlimited.

when I was 10. We were living in Morocco at the time. I don't know how my mother ever arranged it." Another banker Joan Miller said she got her best present last year when her mother gave her the Beatrix Potter "Peter Rabbit" anthology. Designer Sonia Robinson was a bit more practical "My boyfriend installed a new clutch in my car—I'm thrilled." Episcopal priest Patricia Geerdst "The best gift I ever got was the time I traveled from Philadelphia to New York to meet my fiancé's family. My Jewish mother-in-law to be opened the door with these words "Welcome daughter." Pulitzer Prize winning poet Richard Wilbur "I asked my grandparents for the works of poet Hart Crane. They didn't think all that much of him but bowed to my wishes. Crane had written a poem about Key West and that was my first connection with the island. I was 15 years old." Ann Dickinson "A daisy my son picked for me because he knew I loved flowers." Topping Richard Magesis' list was dining certificates to the Forum of the Twelve Ceasars and the Four Seasons in New

York City. Richard is directing the new show at the Red Barn "Bad Habits" which he insists is not the story of his life.

Some of us know that the best aerobic exercise has little to do with steps or machines, but a little toning never hurt anybody. Lots of beautiful bodies turned out for the Reach Resort Body Shop party. Kathy Shultz planned the events along with Denise Bazo, Debbie Goodwin, Michelle Ufer, Monica Matrocu and Pam Waldman. Music was by the Survivors and Chef Patrick Kemmanche planned the menu. No one looked more fit than the three Chorleys, Dwan, Colin and Adrian.

Actress Billie Kaye got a little help from her friends at the Pier House Havana Docks where a benefit was held to help Billie meet staggering medical expenses from an injury she sustained. British performer Barbara Kinghorn did her "Riots and Roses" act (a wacky romp through four centuries of English theatre) and Skipper Kripitz, Vicki Roush, Tom Luna, Steve Green, etc. added their talents. In the audience were Rae Coates, Joan O'Doud, Denise Brosby, George Fontana, Pat Lamberton and Jim McLernan etc.

Jim recently hosted a party at his ocean front home for the Red Barn Honorary Board members including Phillip Burton, Frank Taylor, Kathleen Elgin, Richard Wilbur, etc. You get the picture, this is a classy bunch. If anyone asks you to serve on an honorary board—say "yes"—you don't have to do any work and you get to go to parties.

"I'll be 85 years old tomorrow - good by youth" said bike riding lady-about-town Teena Rice as she departed for her new digs in Venice, FL. She'll be missed.

"The fat lady hasn't sung yet" dept. ... As of this writing a stop-work order for Peary Court was issued by the South Florida Water Management District. To be continued ...

Here's mud in your eye ... The ceramic club at FKCC, Mud Pi, is having a Christmas Party/Grand Raffle at Sonny McCoy Indigenous Park, December 18 at 7 pm. Lots of prizes by top clay artists including Jay Gogin, Jerry Cash, Roberta Marks, etc.

Angel Bears are still available at Pier House with 100% proceeds going to AIDS, Inc. You're never too old for a cuddly bear - they guarantee sweet dreams.

Happy Holidays to all ...



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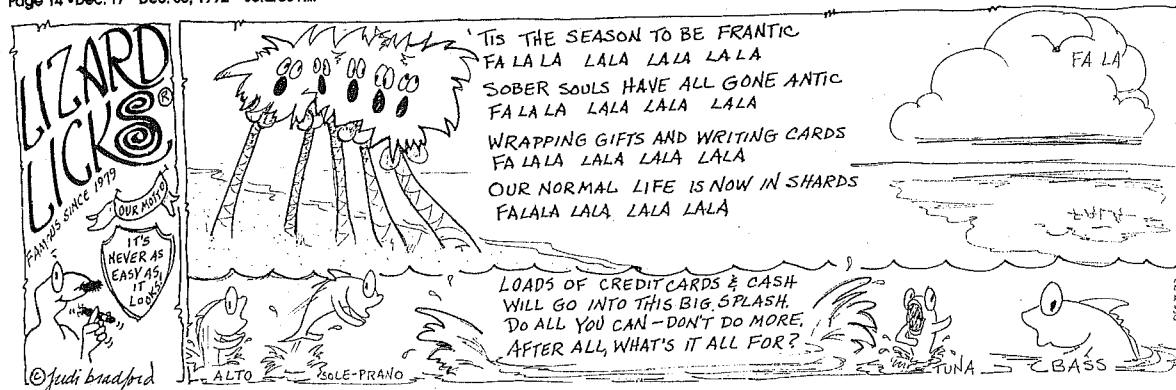
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## READERS WRITE

### Key West should be thankful

Dear Editor

Jack Lawson's lengthy article on the ludicrous community opposition to the Navy's redevelopment of its Peary Court tract is full of misstatements regarding both the use of the tract (it certainly is not and never has been "parkland"), and the nature of the Navy's redevelopment. (The much needed housing to be erected there can by no undistorted stretch of the imagination be described as "luxury"). Instead of thanking the Navy for generously allowing the public to trespass on its property during the period that it has been temporarily cleared, people like Lawson and publications like *Solares Hill* clearly prefer ill-mannered expressions of ignorance and ingratitude to those of well deserved appreciation.

If, upon clearing the tract, the Navy had exercised its right to erect a high fence with a

locked gate, all this ill-founded opposition to the redevelopment would not only be non-existent, the public—even rabble-rousers like yourselves—would actually be rejoicing about the redevelopment and the spendid purpose that will be served.

Dr. T.J. Rademaker  
Key West

### Good luck

Dear Editor,

Good luck to the new owners, and entire staff. Please go easy on the changes! Happy Holidays.

Doris Triebig  
N. Miami

## CYNTHIA SAYS

Cynthia,

Why don't some men like to give massages, scratch your back, rub your feet, and just kiss or hug you, out of the blue? How do you get a man to have some romance in a relationship?

**No Affection or Romance in my life**

**Dear No Affection or Romance:**

When you stop doing things, you have a tendency to forget how the monotony of every day life sets in. Same job, children, finances, same problems. I'm assuming there was romance during the early stages of your relationship, so get back to the basics, take some time out for yourself!

Start to make changes: a new hobby, something fun to make you feel good, a nice walk or bike ride in the evening, a new lesson of some kind. Let your children or husband help with dinner, so you can stay in a relatively decent mood, especially if you've worked all day. Tell him you want to go out, and when yes crosses his lips, get dressed up. Perfume, silk stockings, garter belt, high heel shoes, that dress that used to make him smile, or a new one if you can afford it. The minute you walk out the door together, be all over him like a plug in a socket, fasten yourself to the console if need be. I guarantee

sometime during the evening you'll be able to suggest ways to enhance your relationship.

Cynthia,

Where did kissing actually originate, and why is kissing so enjoyable for some and others think it's just darn stupid and silly?

**Bored with kissing**

**Dear Bored:**

It is not known precisely when and where the practice of kissing first began, but in India the practice may have been introduced as early as 1200 B.C. The early Greek historian Herodotus revealed that, among Persians, equals in rank kissed on the mouth, whereas unequals greeted each other on the cheek. If kissing is not enjoyable and fun or you find it stupid and silly, try doing it another way. For instance, start with a small kiss at the top of the forehead, continuing with a series of small kisses, counter clockwise down to the cheek, detour to the nose, softly, slowly, sensually, then around to the mouth, keeping your hands busy while your lips are busy will definitely make kissing more enjoyable.

## Peary Court A chronology

by Jack Lawson

Exempting itself from most state, county and city laws, the Navy has waged a four-year campaign to put up family housing in Peary Court.

The Navy fought the state's archeological experts, finally agreeing to preserve any artifacts they found; they designed a sprawling housing project which looks more like upscale Omaha than a tropical seaport, and declared it historically compatible. They even tried to build on a Civil War cemetery. They lost that one.

The Navy successfully defended two federal lawsuits charging environmental irresponsibility by invoking an environmental assessment. Only a few vague paragraphs refer to the site.

The only thing the Navy lacked was money.

Before Congress adjourned in late September, it passed the Department of Defense's appropriations bill for the coming fiscal year. Included in the bill was nearly \$14 million of Coast Guard funds to build Xanadu on the Keys.

A few days after President Bush signed the bill, the project began.

**Tuesday, September 29:** The Department of the Navy, Southern Engineering Command in Charleston, South Carolina applied to the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) for a permit to conduct "works" to manage stormwater runoff on Peary Court. The application was approved the same day.

**Monday, 5 October:** Naval Air Station, Key West, broke ground in Peary Court to construct 160 housing units on the 29-acre site. There was no ground-breaking ceremony.

**Thursday, 22 October:** Arlan Pankow, director of SFWMD's Field Engineering Division in West Palm Beach, informed the Navy that citizen complaints had voided their construction permit. "All works in progress should be secured, and further construction should cease," Pankow wrote. He scheduled a hearing for January 19 and 20 in old City Hall.

**Friday, 23 October:** The Navy notified SFWMD that "all work on the SFWMD was reported stopped at 4:00 p.m."

**Friday, 6 November:** Pankow wrote to Commander T.C. MacNamara, the Navy's liaison with the prime contractor, Caddell Construction, complaining that not only had work not ceased, but huge earthworks and improper berms (barriers) left Garrison Bight vulnerable to a heavy rain.

**Wednesday, 18 November:** Engineers and technicians from SFWMD conducted a comprehensive field inspection of the construction site.

**Friday, 4 December:** As a result of the field examination, aerial surveillance and

citizen input, SFWMD issued a second directive, formally directing the Navy to stop all work: the "Department of the Navy does not currently possess a valid surface water management permit."

**Wednesday and Thursday, 9 and 10 December:** An inspection team from the Atlanta office of the Environmental Protection Agency conducted a comprehensive inspection of all Navy property in the Lower Keys, including an unscheduled survey of Peary Court. EPA has not announced when it will make its findings public.

**Wednesday, 9 December:** Curry told reporters work would continue until he received notification from the Navy's lawyers in Charleston regarding Pankow's letter.

**Thursday, 10 December:** The Board of Governors of SFWMD agreed to seek an immediate injunction in federal court, forcing the Naval Air Station to stop violating Florida law.

**Friday, 11 December:** Curry ordered all work stopped on retention ponds, channels, berms, pads, roadways, and grading halted. Work continues on water and sewer lines.

**Monday, 14 December:** Demolition of perimeter and interior stands of trees began.

"Why did they have to take all the trees?" the woman gasped, pointing out a hundred foot void in the row lining the Palm Avenue boundary of Peary Court to her companion. The man mumbled something, and tried to steer her away.

## New Ownership for Solares Hill

"The last few years of the paper were exciting," said Taylor, "and we hope to continue the tradition. It's a great opportunity."

That tradition is one of irreverent social commentary, investigative reporting, offbeat features, and reviews. All three new owners admire the paper and have no plans to alter its function within the community.

"I've always thought it was a very thoughtful newspaper," said French, who moved to Key West a year ago after a successful advertising career. "It's going to be fascinating to deal with truth instead of dreams."

Ethridge will become editor and publisher, jobs that he's long coveted. "I've wanted to be the editor of Solares Hill for 16

years," he said. Previously, Ethridge was editor of the Florida Keys Magazine from 1980 to 1990. He's also a former editor of the Delta Democrat-Times in Greenville, Mississippi.

Ethridge plans on expanding the editorial content of the paper as well as infusing the writing with a little of what he calls "attitude."

"We want the paper to be something people rush out and pick up to see what's in there," he said.

The *Solares Hill* of December 31 will be the first edition with the new owners' stamp on it.

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Solares Almanac

December 18 -  
December 31

by John Cole

What a great opening when the curtain went up on December. As if Cecil B. DeMille were directing, November's record-setting warmth and humidity were dispelled on December's very first day. Cerulean, cloudless skies followed, skies filled with stars and a half-moon after sunset, and skies quite without a ceiling one blessedly cool day after another.

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Photo Courtesy of Campus Calendars

Water temperatures dropped ten degrees in those three days and the creatures of the shallows and flats quickly began adapting to the shift. Oceanic barracuda cruised in from the depths and parked their impressive torpedo torsos over scooped saucers of white marl where coral sands absorbed maximum heat from the cloudless sun. How deceptive these great fish are as they take their apparent ease, basking in shallows five or ten degrees warmer than the channels that feed them. As still as fallen columns the cuda lie, ancient predators who have mastered the art of absolute suspended animation. But as heedless houndfish flicker within range, the cuda flashes in an instantaneous moment of silver mayhem. Geranium clouds blossom to memorialize a houndfish severed and swallowed as the ancient predator slides back to its solitary station.

Each creature has its December patterns, behaviors suited to the climatic shift, routines that will continue now until the sun's return in late March. Turkey vultures kettled over Key West by the hundreds on the morning of the third, soaring in circles drawn against the sky by a hand beyond our comprehension. For there is no easy explanation for these great gatherings of these impressive riders of the updrafts. One moment there are hundreds, literally, overhead. Minutes later, they are gone and the sky is without its company. The turkey vultures and their less numerous brethren, the black vultures, seem to kettle shortly before the solstice. Are the birds anxious about the shortening of our days?

They needn't be, for on the 21st, albeit imperceptibly, the sun halts its slowing declination and begins, ever so hesitantly, to end its tumble and begin to regain its lost arc in our heavens. Four days after that momentous event - a time pegged as the beginning of winter, but in my view a time that should be heralded as the start of a splendid renewal - a new moon will arrive on Christmas Eve. If skies are clear, as they should be, that sliver of a moon will appear ever so briefly in our western sky just as the carollers begin their singing in our streets.

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Merry Christmas!

As slight as it seems to be, that new moon will invigorate the tides for most of the holidays, with the first moderation of ebbs and floods arriving with the new year. Winds will hold in the northeast and rainfall should be a nonentity. These are, after all, the year's driest days.

By my own verified count, over the year or so that this report has appeared here, I am certain of at least three readers. One has written, another has telephoned to correct one of my several errors, and a third has passed along, via my wife, some encouraging comments. With this as a gauge, I must assume there are several more of you who are interested in the natural presences of our Keys, overhead, beneath the seas, and alongside us on the land. If you are, or someone you know is, then you also know how difficult it is to find reference reading with a specific Keys focus.

Thanks to Bill Ford at the Sea Store on Greene Street, I have good news. There is a book titled "Wildlife of the Florida Keys - A Natural History" by James D. Lazell, Jr. that is crammed with more information about the animals, birds, insects, reptiles and amphibians who are our neighbors on these small and fragile islands than any other volume in existence. Dr. Lazell, a controversial voice in some quarters, writes with a point of view (he wants our natural presences protected) that livens his prose, but never interferes with his scientific objectivity. Now that I have this book, I won't be making quite so many errors, and, what's more, I'll learn a thing or two. It's fascinating. If you have a friend who's interested in the natural acts that help make this place so fine, then give him (or her) this book. Bill Ford can help you find it.

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

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# Happy Holidays

## Vegetable Mosaic Antipasti

In just one afternoon!

by Jeanne McCrow

Let's just say, hopefully in jest, that it is the afternoon of Christmas Eve and that you, as you collapse into your peacock wicker chair mopping the 80-degree heat from your brow, have just realized that you have yet to come up with something to take to tomorrow's big feast. The reason for your being in this awful state of affairs is that you wanted so desperately for this something to be different, have some flair, some élan. So you put off thinking about it until it was very nearly too late. I am quite familiar with this particular scenario—and the sinking feeling that goes with it—because I suffer chronically from the "last-minute syndrome."

Well, okay, so a plate of your sour-lemon bars or another loaf of zucchini bread just isn't going to do it this time, any more than just a bottle of wine you can afford. You just must arrive with some sort of one-of-a-kind, very tasty but also very tasteful treat that will create nothing short of a sensation. And you need to be able to turn it out in a matter of mere hours, so you need something real quick and easy.

You know that, out of consideration for the cook, any gift of food should be something that needn't be served at this dinner, or even tomorrow's. You need to make something that will keep awhile, and it would be very nice if it were, in keeping with the current trends, light in calories or even downright healthful, it would



and desires can be easily realized in the artfully arranged glass jars of colorful preserved vegetables shown here. As sophisticated as a bunch of mistletoe, these simple mosaics of marinated vegetables require little more than cutting up fresh vegetables into a variety of shapes, marinating them for a couple of hours in a pickling solution or brine, and then arranging them by means of fingers and/or chopsticks, in wide-mouthed glass jars with lids. Other than the brief blanching that some require, no cooking is involved. Refrigerated, the results will keep up to two weeks, so you might want to do up a number of jars while you are at it.

The idea is so fabulous, I do want to take a minute here to credit it properly to old friend and food-writer extraordinaire Jim Fobel who created it for an award-winning book that my company, Genie Books, published back in 1983 and called "Beautiful Food."

So now on to prepare these delightfully different sort of antipasti. Start by selecting those vegetables mentioned in the text following that appeal most to you and that look best at the market, particularly keeping color in mind. Then you will need to clean them and blanch any or all of the following that you've chosen: broccoli flowerets cut lengthwise into 1/4-inch slices, whole green and yellow wax beans, shelled peas and lima beans, baby eggplants and artichokes split lengthwise and mushrooms, sliced if large. Blanch by adding them one at a time to boiling water to which 2 tablespoons salt have been

also be nice not to have to heat up the house by using the oven. And, finally, it would be wonderful if it didn't require investing the rest of that Christmas bonus in ingredients, something less than the \$40 it cost me recently to make a chocolate cake.

Well, get that bell on your Santa hat a-jinglin' because all these aforementioned needs

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added for every 2 quarts water—you will need to reheat the water each time you add a new vegetable.

Cook the broccoli and peas 2 minutes; wax and lima beans and baby eggplant, 3 minutes; the baby artichokes about 15; and the mushrooms, depending on size, from 2 seconds for the little Japanese enoki to 30 for the larger ones.

But first you will need to prepare the pickling solution by combining in a large, non-corrosive pan the following ingredients:

- 2-1/2 cups dry white wine
- 1-1/2 cups distilled white vinegar
- 1/4 cup sherry or cider vinegar
- 2 tablespoons salt
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 tbl dried basil, crumbled
- 1 tsp dried oregano, crumbled

- 1 tsp black peppercorns, coarsely cracked
- 2 garlic cloves, sliced
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 to 2 dried hot red chili peppers

Bring this mixture to a boil, remove from the heat and let rest while you do the blanching according to the times given. Then, as each vegetable is finished cooking, remove it from the water with a slotted spoon and place it in a noncorrosive bowl. Reheat the pickling solution to boiling, pour it over all but the lima beans and mushrooms, and set aside for about 2 hours. For the lima beans and mushrooms, simply cover them with distilled white vinegar to which some salt has been added and let them marinate, too.

Meanwhile, prepare such vegetables as bell peppers of different colors, pickling

cucumbers (kirbys), carrots, celery, cabbage, and/or white turnips by cutting all but the celery, cabbage and some of the carrots into thin wish—hearts, flowers, etc. (see photo for ideas.) To fill the spaces between petals and the like, cut small pieces from vegetables of a contrasting color and/or use slices of green and black olives and jarred pimientos. Use the celery and more carrots to make horizontal bands and stripes for your design.

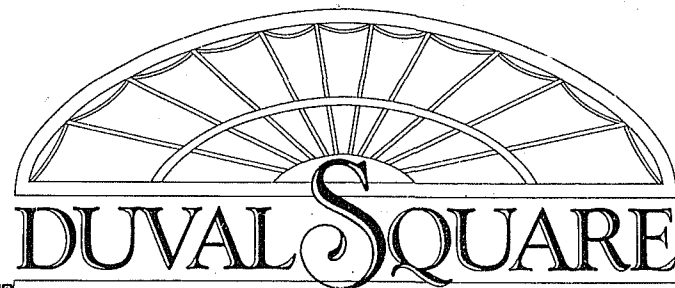
To make creating your masterpiece easier, keep the vegetable pieces that you want to show through the glass in separate piles and also chop some more carrots and celery, the cabbage, and the trimmings from the other vegetables to pack the centers of the jars so as to hold the designs pressed against the glass.

First, however, you will need to preserve each of these still-raw vegetables (not the olives and pimientos because they've already been treated) by tossing them with 2 teaspoons salt for every 2 cups and letting them rest for 2 hours along with the others.

Now it is time to assemble your design. You can use any jar that has a mouth wide enough to accommodate the hand—or a pair of chopsticks if you're good with them—and tight-fitting lid. You may find a skewer helpful for positioning, too. Next, using a slotted spoon and reserving the liquid, carefully remove all vegetables from the pickling solution, separating them by type. Do the same with the vegetables in the vinegar but discard the solution. Finally, rinse those tossed with salt, as well as the olives and pimientos, under running water, drain in the colander, and keep separate.

Notice that in the photograph, the vegetables are shown arranged in bands, so begin by placing a ring of one type around the bottom of one of the jars packing in the chopped vegetables to hold them in place. Continue adding bands of different vegetables in widths of your choice, using color and texture to differentiate them as well as the strips of celery, carrots, etc., that you cut earlier and working in the vegetable shapes as you go along until the jar is packed tight—otherwise, the veggies will rise to the surface and ruin the design. Finally, fill the jar with the reserved pickling solution, screw on top tightly and refrigerate for up to two weeks.

To serve, remove vegetables with a slotted spoon, drizzle with a good olive oil, and accompany with prosciutto, salami, Provolone, mozzarella, and deviled eggs for the absolute ultimate in antipastos.



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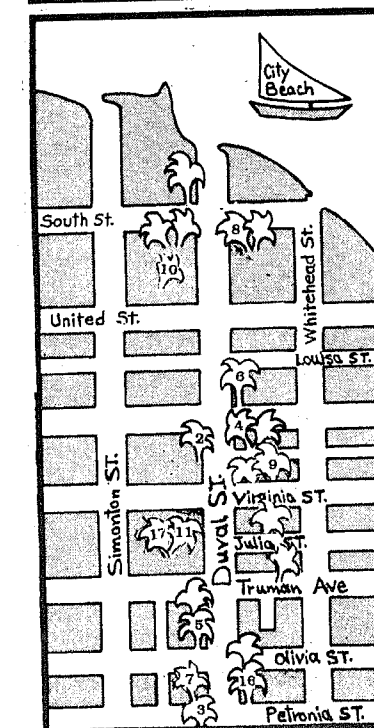
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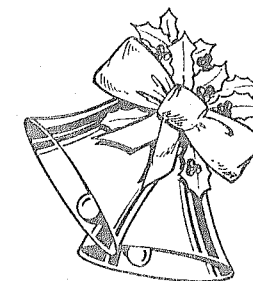
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christmas  
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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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

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## Key West Days & Nights by Bill Manville

by Bill Manville

Champion Jack Dance and true love, Peaches (Ms. Married-to-Someone-Else), were in town last week, down from what I had better call the greater Key Largo Area. "Listen," the Champ said, "we do a lot of sneaking around in Islamorada, out-of-the-way entertainments in Tavernier and Plantation Key, abandoned ballrooms and condemned diners in Dadeland Mall. We come down for a few days visit here East of Sodom and West of Fantasy Fest, we want to go out. We want to get dressed up and show off, we want to hold hands in public, we want to smooch on the dance floor, we want to be together out loud! Where do we go for noise?"

Betty Bennett's Red Cross volunteer stint in Florida City had just ended and she joined us for dinner at the nifty new La Te Da. Afterward the evil Children Bar upstairs ("Gilt-framed portraits of Victorian moppets grown too accustomed to opening the champagne for Mother too many times, in bed with too many

men," said Betty.) Jack bought a fleet of stingers for everyone within sound of his voice. ("Make mine Diet coke, please, bartender.") Mab came in, celebrating his first paycheck at the new job in full Rita Hayworth dazzle: blue-sequin ball gown, tight at the hips, flared down from the knee ... high-heeled blue sequin shoes ... red, bouffant pageboy fall—and his lucky papier-mache-and-rhinestone tiara on top ("Happy New Year, 1937").

"Like the gown?" said Mab. "I got tired looking like I bought my clothes at the Occupational Therapy Shop at the local lunatic asylum. There's this little place up in Boca ... *Transvestite Dreams*. I saw Jim Palm's ex there, Big Foot? She has to get her shoes in the Female Impersonator's Department." Mab suggested we go to the Havana Docks at the Pier House.

"If it's noise you want," he said to Champion Jack, "music is the most divine noise of all. Is it Wednesday? The Incomparable Christine Naughton is going to sing, plus Skipper, and all that jazz. Let's go!" Straightening his tiara and throwing a white feather boa across a shoulder, Mab swept from the room. "I'm so high on love," said Jack, lifting the beautiful Peaches in his arms, "only dogs can hear me." We left the cars where they were and tumbled into cabs. Mab, who is a banker and a Republican, began telling the Champ (who once ran for office in Chicago for the GOP), that now his campaign for President is over, he's thinking of getting ready for 1996 by joining forces with Ross Perot.

"We have to win the party back from the Radical Reagan wing," said Mab. "Until he came along, the historic slogan of Republicans was

always conservative fiscal integrity. Our argument against any new spending trick was always, 'That's Not How They Did It In The Good Old Days!' Reagan used to call the Democrats 'Tax-and-Spend.' Right enough. What he didn't say, his plan was borrow-and-spend. Look what he did to the National Debt! Taft and Eisenhower would turn over in their graves. They didn't do things like that in the Good Old Days."

Into the Havana Docks, the water black outside, the moon shining through the windows, a flight of night herons, and the wonderful Christine Naughton singing. ("Oooh, look at her Funky Punk shoes!" Mab said. "I'm going to run on stage and trade with her.") Christine gave us her patented heart-breaking smile and began one of these songs that make you want to fall in love. ("I'm ready," Mab said. "I cut my fingernails shorts, and all!")

I leaned across the table to Peaches. "You and your husband don't get along?" I said. "The Lie mothers tell their daughters," she said, "is they leave out about the kind of men who make good husbands, the longer the marriage goes on, the more interested the wife becomes in sex, and him less."

Mab was on stage, throwing mistletoe out to the audience, and blowing kisses to the band. "Merry Christmas, everyone," sang Mab. "And a Happy New Year, too," sang Christine. And yes, they had switched shoes.



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# ART CIRCLE • BY JUDI BRADFORD

## Windows on the Island

Up in the Real World Christmas is heralded by the arrival of vast displays in the acres of window glass fronting huge department stores. Here in Key West this consumer-oriented art form is somewhat limited, partly due to window size, and partly because we like to do things a little differently on our island. Even the two most spectacular holiday window displays—Fast Buck Freddie's and Perkins and Son Chandlery—have a distinctly Key West flavor that defy the glitz and greed of a typical city and punctuate the season with style.

Their approaches are as different as night and day, but the results are similar in quality and public interest.

When Mary and Reef Perkins first bought the building, all the windows were broken and boarded up. As they could afford it,



MARY PERKINS and her famous window.

they replaced one pane of glass at a time in the Perkins and Son Chandlery.

Mary created a little display for the first glassed window, then the displays grew as the window space did. Now they have one of the

biggest display windows in town and they put it to good use.

Perkins and Son is primarily a Mom-and-Pop operation—with "Mom" doing the displays. Mary Perkins is a natural with arranging things. She says she changes things just to keep the interest with the locals. "I get an idea and that's it. Not much to talk about."

She may not talk much about them, but the rest of the town does. Her windows have won the Chamber of Commerce Christmas awards three years in a row and have turned up in Italian fashion magazines, Fox and CBS networks, and movies filmed here. Southern Living is putting together something for an upcoming issue and a Disney crew cruised through recently.

Antiques figure prominently both in the windows and in store's merchandise. The seafaring provisions they sell often inspire the window designs. Wharf rats from the Bight drift by with ideas and items for her to use.

"I'm highly critiqued by the folks from the Bight," Mary says. "They like the ultra nautical displays."

"We judge the windows by the number of face prints on the glass," adds her husband and partner Reef.

The current window is called "Captain Hook's Sleigh." Mary borrowed the image of the skeleton maidenhead of Captain Hook's ship from the recent Robin Williams movie and attached it to Santa's sleigh.

"Captain Hook is bad enough to steal gifts from kids," says Mary.

Opposite the skeletal Santa is a Dickensian Christmas tree wrapped with twine (recalling the Welsh tradition of inventing Christmas trees from feathers bound together) and trimmed with oyster shells, old fashioned glass ornaments, handmade fishing lures, tiny dinghies, and a copper conch made by Dink Bruce.

When she learned of the now faded tradition of surrounding the Christmas tree with a tiny picket fence, Mary had Doc Palumbo, a local boat model builder, construct one for her window. Some tin lighthouses Mary had collected became the corners for the fence.

Mary's design education came through the door of the shop. As she followed her instincts, passersby began to catch the spirit and stop to help her. Kyle and Sarah Wickware applied their mechanical skills to motorizing



PERKINS & SON'S Christmas window.

parts of the display—the skeleton's jaw gapes, then closes.

Local artists loaned their skills: Rick Worth, David, Harrison Wright and Scotty Hillman are at the top of the list. "A cast of millions," Mary calls her mentors. Jacques Ramon, a very talented artist-about-town in the seventies, helped her get started.

She learns wherever the lessons are to be found. Her visit to Roberta Marks' sale inspired her. She immediately picked up on the similarities between creating an environment in a box the way Marks does and creating a window. "The window is really a box—it's just a different dimension or scale."

Meanwhile, downtown in the old Kress Five and Dime building is Fast Buck Freddie's, with the most visible windows in town. The structure was built for display generations ago and Fast Buck's has used it extravagantly.

To those of us who remember FBF as a tiny gift boutique on the corner of what is now Applerouth Lane, their expansion is a "hometown-shop-makes-good" story. They have an actual display department boasting two fulltime employees: Ann Lorraine and Kevin Peterson.

The duo changes the windows each

month as well as creating the interior displays, signs, lighting and outdoor decorations. They work about three months in advance with sketches and meetings with Tony Falcone and Bill Conkle, FBF owners. They have a lot of latitude for creativity and they take advantage of it.

Perched on blocks of styrofoam and overturned milk crates in the topsy-turvy display loft at the store, Peterson and Lorraine go through albums and reminisce about their favorite windows from the past.

August is the month for local fun windows. "Roosters from Hell" was last August. In 1991 it was "Alley Cat Lane."

Valentine's day is always a crowd-pleaser. "Love Hurts" featured barbed wire hearts. In "Eternal Love", a marital history of Liz Taylor last February, a different husband was portrayed in each window. Another sweetheart motif reproduced Gustav Klimt paintings.

The display artists are challenged to portray the Fast Buck image to tourists who are not familiar with the store, present merchandise and produce a creative theme with high technical standards.

Humor and patience are crucial to good windows. Lorraine and Petersen invent themes that delight and then work long hours in tortured positions within the narrow windows.

Watching Lorraine maneuver through the display reminds one of the statue mimes from Mallory Square. It's a painfully slow, cautious balancing act executed through expensive merchandise. It involves stripping off outer shirts that might catch on a zillion pricey little things and precise placement of each cross-training-shoed foot. Her scales and arabesque are worthy of balance-beam gymnasts.

They make most of their props, haunting hardware and marine supply stores and junk shops for materials they can convert to their purposes. This season's Christmas deer are made from branches of Lorraine's sapodilla trees, sprayed, glittered and wired into shape.

Both artists have degrees in commercial design and have spent plenty of time in two dimensional work.

"Window display is very physical," says Lorraine. The current windows involved bringing four vanloads of materials from the warehouse to the store. Then there's the crawling around in exhibits. "After doing this," she says, "I could never go back to sitting at a drawing board." Peterson nods.

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# ART CALENDAR

DEC. 3 - DEC. 16

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

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

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

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

**Lee Dodez Showroom •** The clay showroom has closed down. Jay Gogin's work can be seen at Guild Hall Gallery and at FKCC.

**Donkey Milk House •** Victorian paper dolls. Books for kids. Historic china, country vases, scented candles and potpourri. Old town watercolors. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 613 Eaton Street. 296-1866.

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

**Florida Keys Community College Library Gallery •** The college will be closed for holiday vacation until January 8

when a new show of women's work will hang in the Library Gallery. Junior College Rd., Stock Island, 296-9081, ext. 202.

**Gingerbread Square Gallery •** Annual incredible Christmas and AIDS benefit through December 19. New John Kiraly limited edition serigraphs. Thursday through Monday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Tuesday, Wednesday. 1207 Duval St. 296-8900.

**Goddesses •** Mink-to-Lace fashion show at Aphrodite's Boutique December 19 from 9-11 p.m. The boutique is open 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. In the Temple, an interpretive multimedia artistic journey into the ancient forces of the feminine including portraits, sculpture, performance art and art services. 717 Duval Street in the courtyard. 292-5058.

**Grand Collection •** Paintings, Asian antiques, ancient artifacts, tribal arts, jewelry. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 610 Duval St. 292-1331.

**Great Southern Gallery •** Intricate patterns of Lon Michaels on canvas. Ray Mabry concrete garden sculptures. New works by Melba Cormane. Ask about our art classes beginning this month. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 910 Duval St. 294-6660. Eighteen keys artists in a cooperative featuring the island's widest variety of arts and fine crafts. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and often later. 614 Duval St. 296-6076.

**Haitian Art Company •** Pre-Christmas sale until December 24. Spirit flags, papier mache, paintings, wood sculpture, metal cut-outs by Haitian artists. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. We will be open until 9 p.m. December 18-25. 600 Frances St. 296-8932.

**Harrison Gallery •** Special showing for the month of December of works by Norman Aberly, Nancy Bender, Marc Caren, Bill Ford, Wendy Gell, Helen Harrison and Susan Thayer. Daily, noon to 5:30

p.m. except Sunday and Monday or ring the bell. 825 White St. 294-0609.

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

**Island Arts •** Artist cooperative and consignment shop with a unique selection of local arts, crafts and painted objects. Monday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., sometimes later. 1128 Duval Street. 292-9909.

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

**Joy Gallery •** Works of Lucie Bilodeau, Jim Warren, Irma Quigley and Douglas Greenwood. Open 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., sometimes later. 128 Duval St. 296-3039.

**Kalypso •** A new gallery featuring the work of Carrie Disrud, Suzanne Pereira and Jean Disrud. Painted fabric garments, quilts, artwork. Jewelry of painted paper and beads, silver and semi-precious stones and collage. Daily except Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 609 Whitehead Street. 296-0977.

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

**Kennedy Studios •** Graphics, limited edition prints. Daily, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. 133 Duval St. 294-5850; 511 Duval St. 294-8564; and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 306 Front St. 293-0999.

**Key West Art Center •** Paintings by member artists. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 301 Front St. 294-1241.

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

**Key West Lighthouse Museum •** History of Keys lighthouses and technology of lighthouses. Also, life of a lighthouse keeper. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission \$4 adults, \$1 children 7 to 15, under 7 free. 938 Whitehead St. 294-0012.

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

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

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

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

**Lucky Street Gallery •** "New Artists/New Works" through January 5. Open daily 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday noon-6 p.m. 294-3973.

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

**Mud Pl •** Second Annual Christmas Party and donation drawing, Friday, December 18 at Sonny McCoy Indigenous Park starting at 7 p.m., drawing at 9:30 p.m. Proceeds benefit the FKCC ceramics department.

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

**Pearl-Beal Studio •** New handpainted furniture by Jeff Beal and Lenny Adorisis.

Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 531 Whitehead St. 294-0815.

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

**Plantation Potters •** Come see our new arrivals. Functional and decorative ware from some of America's finest potters. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., except Friday and Saturday 'til 9 p.m. 717 Duval St. 294-3143.

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

**Robinson Gallery •** Featuring the art of Wyland and other international artists. Daily, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 711 Duval St. 292-1855.

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

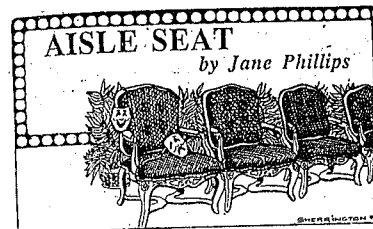
**Studio 227 •** Small active gallery of local artists, featuring island images. Custom framing using archival and museum techniques. Also professional restorations. Call about clay classes. Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 227 Petronia St. 294-7141.

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

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

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

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



by Jane Phillips

## Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center

A lukewarm reception greeted the opening night production of "Good Evening" directed by Ken Bryant at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center. The review was written and originally performed by Dudley Moore and Peter Cook—tailor made for the two British comedy stars—but ill-fitting for actors William Brockmeier and Paul Desandro in this version.

The Moore/Cook show may have made a successful trans-Atlantic crossing. One only has to look at the success of "Monty Python," "Are You Being Served," etc. to recognize that as a nation we are fond of British humor. In spite of that, this production left many of us disappointed.

"Good Evening" consisted of 11 sketches of varying length, performed by Brockmeier "I'm the tall one" and the almost petite Desandro. The physical contrast between the two was a plus.

Both actors have good credits. Brockmeier graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston and was on the faculty of the University of Tennessee. He made his New York debut in the Off-Broadway production "The Gift of the Magi" and played leads in "Carousel," "Man of La Mancha," "Sound of Music," and others.

Desandro, who has a natural mime-like grace on stage has given over 5,000 performances at the "Murder She Wrote Mystery Theatre" at Universal Studios in Orlando. Two of his favorite roles are "Benny Southstreet" and "Big Jule" in "Guys and Dolls."

The material was difficult at best. "Hello" in Act One was a series of cliché remarks that took place at the mens room urinal—an amusing situation but not enough to sustain the sketch. "On Location" dealt with a father-son relationship. Dear old dad takes a snooze mid-sentence as the two discuss indoor toilets, chamber pots, false teeth and "mum's" death. "One Leg Too Few" depended on Desandro's dexterity playing a one-legged man auditioning for the role of Tarzan. Again, this oddity was not enough to carry the sketch. One can only imagine how Moore and Cook would have handled this material. Certainly Moors' natural charisma would go a long way—he could probably read the yellow pages and get a laugh. If it indeed was "a madhouse of hilarity," as quoted in pre-production publicity, when it starred Moore and Cook, we surmise that the two exceptionally talented stars relied on broad comedy antics and stage business.

The two scenes that worked best in the local show were "Tea For Two" and "Gospel Truth." In the first the two men have an amusing conversation about women—Gloria Steinman, Diana Dors—they talk about

erogenous zones (which the one mispronounces as "erroneous.") The latter was an in-depth profile on the life of Jesus by a reporter from the "Bethlem Star" and it had some clever dialogue. "An Appeal" in act two was deadly.

Unfortunately this was the only locally produced show at TWAC for the season. We can, however, look forward to The National Shakespeare Company's productions of "Othello" and "The Comedy of Errors" and a touring company production of the Broadway musical "Romance/Romance." There are many other events planned and season subscriptions available. Call the box office for more information 296-1520.

## San Carlos Institute

"The Gift of Christmas" a musical and dramatic presentation took place at the beautifully restored San Carlos theatre. The combined choirs of the First Congregational, Fleming Street and Ley Memorial United Methodist Churches raised their voices in a glorious Christmas tribute. San Carlos president Rafael Peñalver welcomed the audience to the "spiritual home of Cuba" and everyone stood for the national anthems of the United States and Cuba. The stage was aglow with tiny white lights, flowers and an impressive Christmas tree. Wrapped gifts added to the festive mood as red-clad choir members sang contemporary and traditional carols. Pam Darst sang a lovely rendition of "O Holy Night." Another program is planned for December 18 and 19. "Christmas At The San Carlos" will combine the holiday traditions of Cuba and the United States. Excerpts of "The Nutcracker" by the Ballet School, under the artistic direction of Denise Plouffe, will be featured. For information call 294-3887.

## Coming Up

Now through January 17 "Bad Habits" the award winning play by Terrance McNally and directed by Richard Mageis is at

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the Red Barn Theatre 296-9911. On the boards at the Waterfront Playhouse beginning December 22 is a mystery farce "The Murder Room" by Jack Sharkey directed by Carole MacCartee. For more information call 294-5015.

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# Gigs

## Nightfall with Christine Cordone

by Christine Naughton

**N**ightfall at the Reach Resort is a sweet little hideaway on the fourth floor deck, overlooking the Southernmost Point and cooled by soft ocean breezes. An awning with ceiling fans over the bar and an umbrella at each table offer shade from the late afternoon sun and lend a festive note to the ambience. Service is attentive and friendly, and the drinks, though a tad expensive, are poured with a generous hand. As its name implies, Nightfall is open only for the sunset hours.

With all its inherent charm, Nightfall's best feature is the music of Christine Cordone. Strumming her electric guitar and singing, Cordone makes the sunset complete with her singular vocal style and an excellent repertoire of hits from the 1950's to this week.

A recent evening's set by Cordone

included "Tko Iko" by the Dixie Cups, Buddy Holly's "When Will I Be Loved," and another real blast from the past, one of Paul Simon's earliest hits, "I Am A Rock." Tribute was paid to the more current hit parade with "Time After Time," by Cyndi Lauper and a particularly nice treatment of Sade's "Smooth Operator."

There is an unassuming quality about Cordone that makes her genuinely loveable on stage. She makes liberal use of her friendly smile and gracious, casual manner. These serve to break through the imaginary wall between entertainer and audience. One feels completely at ease in her presence. She banters gently and freely with her crowd, and keeps tunes coming with little or no pause between.

Cordone's voice is flexible and full of life, with a soft, kittenish touch around the edges. She accompanies herself just fine on guitar, with steady rhythm and accurate changes, and lets her irresistible voice carry the weight of the tunes.

Other highlights were a clean, straightforward delivery of Linda Ronstadt's "Different Drum," and a beauty from Juice Newton, "The Sweetest Thing I'll Ever Know." Later on, Cordone showed her rock and roll band roots with a couple of Janis Joplin gems, "Piece of My Heart," and "Mercedes Benz." On these tunes, Cordone's voice was, in fact, eerily reminiscent of Joplin's husky, heart rending wail. For us baby boomers, these pieces evoke the heady, free feeling of our youth. How often does anyone hear these songs anymore?

After Cordone packs up her ax, around 8 p.m. she often stops downstairs to sing a few with her husband, pianist Larry Smith, on the



CHRISTINE CORDONE

romantic waterfront deck of the Ocean Club. Here, she displays a completely different repertoire of standards and jazz, accompanied by Smith's colorful, uplifting piano style and vocal harmonies. The two musicians' efforts make for thoroughly enjoyable listening.

A couple of recent transplants from upstate New York, Cordone and Smith have thoroughly endeared themselves to the Key West musical community. They are a welcome addition, and hopefully here to stay.

Christine Cordone appears in Nightfall at the Reach, Wednesday through Saturday evenings from 5 to 8. As a duo, Smith and Cordone also perform for La Te Da's Sunday Brunch, from 11 to 3.

RICHARD WATERMAN

## A Little Off Beat....

By Jack Hackett

**E**manating from dark and light souls, a thunderously melodic rhythm reaches your senses. A deciphering begins in your mind - DRUMS, many drums; forty some to be near correct. Wood construction drums, cardboard drums, tin drums, timbals, congas, bongos, maracas, bones and clavi, all combining to announce a spirit on this full moon. This total eclipse nite.

Oh Mickey Hart/Man, Mickey Hart/Man .....

Surely, this famed drummer from the "Grateful Dead" band would have included the sounds of this KEY WEST DRUM SAIL in his anthropological collection of percussion, had he heard it. Even before the casting off of lines, those aboard the schooner "WOLF" began to play beats- African beats, jungle beats, West

Indian beats, American Indian beats, beat-beats. Beats that lulled and crescendoed as waves across a reef. Beats interspersed with abandoned gleeful howls at or for that moon.

This cultural Key West phenomena occurs at every full moon aboard the "WOLF"-bring a drum, cost ya a fin (\$5.00), so spoken in honor of Captain Finbar, gracious owner of this vessel docked in the Key Bight. Once aboard, you'll run into the likes of such locals as Will Soto, reknowned "jugal" of street theatre, who now, with a conga, might conjure up the spirit of Pedro a once well known solo drum performer on Mallory Square.

Then too, you might hear mellow West African Michele Delgado, otherwise often seen behind the counter at Environmental Circus on Duval, do the roll upon yet another conga, spicing up and augmenting an already solid flow of sound. Or you could witness the drum rhythms and techniques of Quint Lange percussion class. There seemed to be an

abundance of them aboard. Quint can be heard displaying his talents with "favourite sons band" The Survivors around town.

You might, as I did, begin a discussion about alcohol aboard on such an occasion. "Hope there's no alcohol allowed" said one girl dressed in a mode which had me "flash backing" to 68' Why?

"I just don't like that vibe" she responded and then backed away as I let out with a litany of rituals utilizing that substance, starting with Roman Catholicism, back through Greek Orygism and Egyptian Goddism, on up to Christmas Cheer and all that. [Tongue in cheek naturally]. Yes! So you see there were personalities as diverse as the age group present, seven to seventy, right within your grasp for sight and sound aboard this sail, and all, all felt the BEAT OF THE DRUM, all marched to it - PA RUMM PA PA RUMM.....

## Science Dives into Murky Water

(First of two parts)  
by Jack Lawson

**O**ne of the most exhilarating things about environmental science is that most researchers are conspicuously afflicted with intellectual tunnel vision; they rarely agree on the scope of the problem, and almost never accept another's solution.

Such is the discussion affecting the fate of the Key's near-shore waters.

On one side, the once pristine tropical waters of the Lower Keys, fouled with stormwater runoff and partially-treated sewage, are turning green from microscopic plant life. To the north, Florida Bay, an estuarian cul-de-sac, has become a warm stagnant brine, choked with miles of repulsive, spinach-like algae.

Both conditions threaten the waters surrounding the Keys, and the coral reef—the bottom of a very complex pollution chain.

Last March, the National Center for Marine Conservation, and more than fifty environmental groups—ranging from EPA's prim Region IV, to once-radical GreenPeace—formed the Reef Coalition.

The fragile reef is dying. Everybody said so. Everybody blamed somebody else. The only point of agreement was that North America's only living reef is sick, dying or already moribund from polluted water. Each presented a detailed catalog of complaints to prove it.

But deterioration of water quality and the problems bedeviling the reef, go back centuries.

### The Atlantic reef as tourist attraction

**T**hreatened for decades by errant shipping and Washington's lust to authorize oil exploration in the Gulf of Mexico, the reef and

the crystal tropical waters which nourished its growth have only recently been revered.

For centuries the 160-mile underwater range of organic coral mountains, some three to eight miles south of the Keys, was more an unappreciated peril to sailing ships and trade, than a natural marvel or colorful tourist attraction. Skippers of clipper ships and coastal schooners saw the complex reef as a hazard to navigation. A sudden storm, an unexpected current or a simple piloting error resulted in an abrupt grounding. A stranded boat would quickly be pounded to splinters on the incoming tide. "Wreckers," local watermen who made salvaging into a thriving industry, pillaged the cargo. During the Civil War (Florida seceded from the Union, the Keys didn't), the practice was made respectable by ingenious buccaneers who lured Confederate supply ships onto the reef with sham beacons.

Ordinarily, coral is tough stuff. A living composite of millions of microscopic living plants and animals, Florida's barrier reef has existed for centuries.

Each year, parts grow, and parts die. It's a dynamic system.

Until recently, however, few people worried about or even saw the reef. When SCUBA gear was invented in the 1950s, divers were able to stay submerged for long periods. Thousands of tourists flocked to the Keys to dive into or snorkel above the wondrous reef.

That's where modern problems began—they took souvenirs.

All over Florida, delicate sea whips and purple fan coral were pasted on walls, orange tubeastrea were packed into brandy glasses, finger coral and bulging brain coral decorated end tables.

Officials at John Pennecamp Reef, America's only underwater national park, estimate that modern-day looters anchored over, broke off, stepped on, or fell into so much

coral that as much as 40-percent of the reef was destroyed or ravaged before effective legislation could protect what was left. Then pollution struck. The politics of blaming the other guy followed.

"The Keys were my home (before leaving) in sadness and disgust," wrote Phil Caputo, Pulitzer Prize winning author of A Rumor of War. "I hate what's happening to the Keys. Greed and stupidity are killing them (and) watching a beloved place die evokes the same emotions as watching a loved one die: grief as well as rage."

The development boom of the '70s and '80s brought more residents to the Keys—nearly 50 percent in twenty years. Each subdivision caused more turbidity, sewage, garbage and vehicles. The Department of Transportation (DOT) brought better transportation and more tourists, more boats, divers and jet skis—more of everything. More pollution than the delicate ecosystem could handle.

Reflecting this, parts of the reef began to fade and lose color. Sea grass died. Tropical water, once a transparent aquamarine is now clouded with turbidity. Fishing has been decimated, and taking the once plentiful Conch shell now carries a \$500 fine. Deforestation is endemic. The herd of endangered Key Deer shrinks yearly. There are fewer birds.

But algae and phytoplankton thrive in the shallow Atlantic shelf.

And hypothesis abound.

It's a classic environmental dilemma, a permutation of battlefield triage; something has to be done but, with meager resources, what to do first? What's doing the most damage? Where? What's politically sound?

Politics in Monroe County is as individualistic, bitter and iconoclastic as the rebellious history of the archipelago. Original settlers, loyalists run out of New England

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during the American Revolution, migrated first to the Bahamas before settling in the Keys. Key West, the largest city in Florida during the 1830s, was the logical choice to be the capital before statehood arrived in 1845. It lost out to Tallahassee, but native Conchs retaliated by seizing Fort Jefferson for the Union during the Civil War.

The penultimate chapter in the Keys war with the mainland came in 1982, when the federal government's half-hearted war on drugs heated up enough to blockade US-1 to search for contraband cocaine. Immediately, the Keys seceded, formed the Conch Republic, declared war on the United States and surrendered, demanding foreign aid. They didn't get war reparations, but the feds razed the checkpoint.

With a truce, came the understandable urge to make a buck. Typically, Monroe County developers have the reputation of being especially rapacious. But the Keys are about built-out. Less than one percent of the total remaining land is available for development. The rest is refuge, parkland, sanctuary or otherwise "protected" by federal or state agencies. And while most of Florida is at least trying to gain some control over runaway growth, pro-development county and municipal politicians—unaffectionately known as the "Concrete Coalition"—are doing their best to avoid, stall or gut limitations provided for by the Growth Management Act (1985).

In already-developed areas—Key West, Marathon, Key Largo—the infrastructure to

process sewage and stormwater runoff is inadequate, badly maintained and in desperate need of modernization. Injection wells, once thought to be a panacea for dealing with pollution in closed ecosystems, are now suspected of spreading more pollution than they process.

#### DER hits reef—takes on water

At the Reef Conference, Dr. Brian LaPointe, a biologist with the Harbor Branch Marine Institute on Big Pine Key, provided all the fireworks the conference needed. He charged that the state is unaware or uninterested in land-based water pollution which nourishes coastal algae. LaPointe insists that the flotillas of algae growing in Florida Bay are getting too much attention, that they're a secondary threat.

Admittedly, outdated waste facilities dump partially-treated sewage directly into shallow local waters, trapping about 700 tons of nitrates and phosphates each year, on or inside the reef. But DER, says LaPointe, neglects this problem because newly-centralized testing procedures make it all but impossible to detect pollution.

"Obviously, if they can't measure what the ambient water quality really is, they're just wasting their time and our money going through this frivolous exercise, and getting useless information. Their readings are coming back undetectable."

"My greatest fear is that they're trying to misinform the public (saying) 'don't worry, we have no phosphates building up in the water.' Their data, lack of data really, could be used to

indicate there are very low phosphate levels in the water and send out a false reading about the health of our state's waters."

#### Attack from the Everglades

As if runaway pollution from overdevelopment wasn't enough, last summer scientists turned their attention to a huge algae bloom in Florida Bay.

Florida Bay is a "dead zone," some say, a thick, salty soup, choked with blue-green algae, decaying sea grasses, rotting fish and organic nutrients.

Once a productive fishing area and fertile nursery for marine life, the bay's water quality has gradually declined in recent years. When bay water began to warm last May, however, the growth of algae accelerated dramatically. The bloom now covers many hundreds of acres, and is being compared to the infamous 5,000 square mile "petroleum dead zone" off the coast of Louisiana and Texas. Now many scientists and environmentalists fear the estuary (an area where fresh and salt water mix) is plagued by so many ills, that dying algae may drift into the Atlantic through channels between the Keys, and contributing to disease and decay on the coral reef.

There is little that residents of the Keys can do but watch as thick colonies of algae smother sea grasses and immature marine life in the bay, and hope that state environmental managers can modify conditions which foster algae growth.

Most of the deterioration of water quality in the bay isn't a local pollution problem—it's from the mainland, proponents of the salinity theory say.

dark, depriving the sea grasses of light. There is a constant die-off and regeneration of the algae colony. The dead organisms decay, creating turbidity (clouds of organic debris suspended in the water), and robbing the water of oxygen.

Deprived of light and oxygen long enough, everything dies, a process called eutrophication. Sea grasses, water plants, shrimp, crustaceans, juvenile fish—the whole ecosystem turns green. Only algae can live.

#### Ecology: then and now

The nutrients algae thrive on are not coming from the Keys (not in significant amounts); nor are the Keys responsible for excessive salinity, warmer water or lack of wind.



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Instead, the source of these afflictions span many miles, and half-a-century. They are rooted in a place and time when the historical Everglades, which controlled the water quality in Florida Bay—all of south Florida, were first fragmented to provide water to growing coastal cities, and irrigate huge agricultural plantations.

"There are no other Everglades in the world. They are, they have always been, one of the unique regions of the earth—remote, never wholly known," wrote Marjorie Stoneman Douglas in her masterpiece, *The River of Grass*, first published in 1947.

Nothing anywhere else is like the Everglades: their vast glittering openness, wider than the enormous visible round of the horizon ...

"They are unique in the simplicity, the diversity, the related harmony of the forms of life they enclose. The miracle of light pours over the green and brown expanse of sawgrass and of water, shining and slow moving, the grass and water that is the meaning and the central fact of the Everglades of Florida. It is a river of grass."

With these words, Douglas singlehandedly changed the idea that the Everglades were merely a massive swamp breeding alligators and hindering development of south Florida. Instead, stunned scientists and naturalists acknowledged that her description of the Everglades as an integrated ecosystem was accurate.

Mrs. Douglas, now 102, proved that the headwaters of the Everglades watershed sprang from Reed Creek in Orlando. And last month, Alan Millage, a Harvard lawyer and chairman of the board of governors of the South Florida Water Management District, described how the ecosystem used to work. Rainfall meandered through the once-convoluted Kissimmee River Valley before draining into Lake Okeechobee. South of Okeechobee—the largest freshwater lake in America south of the Great Lakes—is what Mrs. Douglas called the river of grass: hundreds of miles of shallow freshwater, washing slowly southward from the lake; through Broward, Dade and Monroe Counties,

through the Everglades and parts of Big Cypress, the water finally draining into Biscayne Bay, Florida Bay and the Atlantic Ocean.

This native system has been almost completely destroyed.

The Everglades ecosystem filtered and delivered fresh-water runoff from the summer rainy season to Florida Bay, flushing and mixing with the natural salinity of the near-shore waters of the Keys. Clean water from two major sloughs (drainage areas where the definitions between land and water are sometimes blurred), entered Florida Bay from the Shark River Slough and Taylor Slough. It kept algae growth in check, fisheries healthy and the coral reefs clean.

The sloughs are mostly dry, and this life-giving water no longer flows.

Defined as biological balance, ecology—the study of ecosystems—postulates that any change, no matter how small, in any part of a natural area, will result in a corresponding alteration of the original environment. Modifications of the original ecosystem of ten has unforeseen consequences, sometimes surprisingly severe.

Such may be the genesis of the ills besetting Florida Bay.

"Diverting water from the lower Everglades and Florida Bay has been going on for years and years," says Dr. John Simon, a research biologist in Vero Beach. "It's typical of an ecosystem—especially one as massive as the Everglades—to be very tolerant of environmental insult. Eventually, though, the roof falls in."

Special interests expropriate water upstream.

In 1947, while Douglas was brilliantly detailing the workings of the Everglades, stressing that each part of the ecosystem was related to and dependent on the others, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was effectively cutting the 186-mile-long mile system in half.

Arguing that Lake Okeechobee needed to be tamed for flood control, the Corps, instigated by sugar plantations south of the

lake, constructed a 151-mile long, 250-foot thick levee, 44 feet high in some areas. After two decades of work, Lake Okeechobee's treacherous waters were finally sealed, costing Florida taxpayers upwards of \$24 million in post war dollars.

Combined with a system of intricate irrigation ditches and canals, water from the northern watershed was diverted to irrigate sugar-cane fields, or to drain into the Atlantic Ocean. As a result, the water which once nourished the river of grass was diverted, and 200,000 acres of the historical Everglades was drained for sugar plantations; an area of "muckland" which Charles Lee, president of the Florida Audubon Society says "should never have been planted with any crop, especially sugar."

Fresh water, which once sluggishly filtered through 62 miles of sawgrass and cypress bays before draining into the Shark River or directly into Florida Bay, was reduced to a trickle.

In 1962, the Army Corps of Engineers launched a 10-year project to dry out the meandering 103-mile Kissimmee floodplain. A new, 56-mile long ditch, 200-feet wide and 30-feet deep, was dug to replace the entire river. Laser straight, the great rut was fabricated with locks, dams and other flood-control devices. It bypassed the natural wetlands which had slowed and filtered water throughout the entire watershed. This, Marjory Stoneman Douglas says dryly, is "perhaps the greatest single mistake in the whole course of Everglades drainage."

Completion of the Kissimmee channelization project made available tens of thousands of acres of ranchland ... the bed and watershed of once the sluggish Kissimmee. Heavy rains which had percolated into groundwater and the Florida aquifer, now blitzes into Okeechobee, carrying everything upstream with it. Fertilizers, pesticides, cattle feces, road runoff, acid rain (mean pH in area is 4.63) and other nutrients have so polluted the lake that it is now in a state of cultural eutrophication (deterioration of aesthetic and

life-support qualities in a waterway).

In the intervening 35 years, the canal system in what is now euphemistically called the Everglades Agricultural area, has increased fourfold. By the 1970s, water for irrigation and drinking was being diverted throughout South Florida. From Homestead to Fort Myers, every community and many businesses had its own informal waterway. Private canals, sluices, sloughs, ditches, swales, and other jerry-built devices proliferated. Alligator Alley, a concrete arrow bisecting the Everglades east to west, has drainage ditches on both sides. The Tamiami Trail (Rt 41) running through Big Cypress Swamp and the Everglades National Park, block any water which might have made it that far.

Today, it's worse.

There are more than 1,400 miles of

waterways gouged out of land which was once the headwaters of the Everglades. Four major dams and 18 pumping stations can move water laden with phosphate fertilizers almost anywhere.

And the Everglades, once a unique, world-class environmental wetland, dehydrated. Now it must be force-fed with water pumped from the same crusty irrigation ditches a farmer might use on a cabbage patch.

Undoing the damage

Former U.S. Attorney Dexter Lehtinen startled sugar growers and former governor Martinez in 1988 when he filed suit against the South Florida Water Management District and the State of Florida for failing to keep fertilizer-laden runoff from polluting federal parklands in the Everglades. After four years of litigation and negotiation, the state and sugar interests have reached a tentative plan to undo some of the damage, but LaPointe says some of

this pollution may be washing into Florida Bay.

"You can't blame all this algae bloom on warmer water and excessive salinity," LaPointe says. "There's been algae bloom in Florida Bay since 1978. After the state and the federal government reached agreement last year, the Army Corps of Engineers, ever helpful, began to restore the Kissimmee River's original floodplain. The cost and schedule, however, is stupefying: \$518 million with completion not expected until well into the next century. In an effort to clean up the pollution in Lake



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Okeechobee, the state is compensating cattle ranchers in the valley by buying their herds; total cost so far, almost \$13,000 million.

There are no plans to release water from Lake Okeechobee

### Help from Mother Nature

**H**urricane Andrew focused attention on the multitude of problems which have stemmed from man's tinkering with the waters of the Everglades, and runaway algae is not the least of them.

Instant solutions ... immediate re-diversion of waters into the historical Everglades, for example, could deliver such a rush of nutrients into Florida Bay that algae might completely take over. Better flushing of the bay, and its estuaries, will eventually drive out the algae—possibly washing dead reddish-brown mats over the reef to the south.

There are other factors: loop currents pick up contamination washed down the Mississippi River and carried along the west coast of Florida by the offshore Gulf Stream; thousands of oil tankers, freighters and cruise ships sail within thirty miles of Key West each year; treated sewage in Biscayne Bay are contributing to overall water degradation; global warming has indeed raised temperatures and salinity in Florida Bay.

There are as many micro-solutions as there are problems.

LaPointe, however, urges caution, "We have no real idea of how much of what pollution is going where. We don't even have a permanent monitoring of the waters around Key West."

Next issue: Answers... or environmental Armageddon?

## Holiday Safety

### Holiday Shopping Safety

**S**hopping for holiday gifts is one of the pleasurable aspects of the season, but it can turn in to a nightmare if a few simple precautions are not taken.

When shopping, put your purchases into the trunk of the car so they are not visible to people passing by the vehicle. If a crook sees packages sitting on the seat, he may be tempted to break in and steal them.

While you are shopping, be aware of the people around you. Thieves are often out in droves near malls and shopping areas just looking for a vulnerable target. If possible keep money and credit cards in your pocket or somewhere on your person. If you must carry a purse, keep your hand on it at all times and make sure it has a flap or opening, it is turned towards your body, and not turned outwards where it is more accessible to thieves. Also, if possible, only carry small amounts of cash and be careful not to show your cash in public.

Never leave the keys in the car, or leave your car running, even if you are "just going in for a minute". This is tantamount to inviting thieves to steal your car, and having your car taken during the holiday season is not a pleasant prospect.

If you go shopping after dark, park as close to where you are going as possible, and

make sure you park in a well lighted area. If you park in a dark corner of a parking lot, a criminal can easily break in to it without being seen. In addition, walking back to your car in the dark is dangerous. It makes you vulnerable to robberies and physical attacks.

Criminals know people often carry more cash during the holiday season, and Christmas shoppers make profitable prey, so keep your self safe by following the above guidelines for personal security.

### Don't drink and drive during the holidays!

**C**elebrations and parties are an integral part of the holiday season, but the last thing anyone needs during this time is an arrest or a death from drinking and driving.

When you go to a party, or out for the evening, appoint a designated driver, or take a cab. That way you can enjoy the time without worrying about getting home safely.

If you have a party at your home for family or friends, don't let anyone drive away drunk. Offer them a place to sleep, find someone sober to drive them home, or offer to call them a cab. It may be inconvenient, but if it keeps someone alive it is worth it.

When driving during the holidays, remember, not everyone is as conscientious as you are. There will be an increased number of drunk drivers on the roadways, so keep an eye out for them. If you see someone driving erratically or unsafely, get their license number and call your local law enforcement agency to report it. You may be saving someone's life.

Enjoy the holidays in the Florida Keys safely. Don't drink and drive!



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## Cultural

11/20-12/6 • **The Murder Room**, A mystery farce by Jack Sharkey. Witty, sophisticated; murder has never been this funny. At The Waterfront Playhouse. Call 294-5015.

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

12/17 - **Holiday Concert**, Key West High School 7:30 p.m.

12/19 - **Lighted Boat Parade** - A spectacular highlight to Key West's unique celebration, Christmas by the Sea. 8 p.m. at the Gulf of Mexico Harbor.

12/16-1/17 • **Bad Habits** An uproariously mad theatrical event with no obvious redeeming social value. Winner of the Obie Award. At the Red Barn Theater. Call 296-9911.

12/20-5/5 - **Writer's Walk**, a one hour, one mile guided walking tour of literary Key West. Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Call 293-9291.

## Events

12/17-12/20 - **Lighted House Tour**, sponsored by the Jaycees. At 6, 7, & 8 p.m.

12/19 - **Mini Concerts**, from 1-3 p.m. on Duval Street.

12/17-12/19 - **Woman's Club House Tour** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Woman's Club

12/19-12/20 and 12/22-12/25 - **Santa at Sunset**, The jolly one visits Mallory Dock from 5-9 p.m.

12/20 - **Annual Christmas Concert**, at St. Paul's Episcopal church at 7 p.m.

12/21-12/23 - **Live Nativity Scene**, at the Old Stone Church from 6-8 p.m.

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

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

## Meetings

12/22 • **HARC Meeting**, 5 p.m. at Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

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

12/28 - **Board of County Commissioners Meeting**, 10:30 a.m. at the Monroe County Courthouse, Courtroom A. Call 294-4641

## Ongoing

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

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

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

**Anchors Aweigh Club, Alcoholics**

## KEYS CALENDAR

Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings daily at 404 Virginia Street. Call 296-7888.

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

**Blood Pressure Screenings** (free) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in the registration area of the emergency room of South Miami Hospital. Call 662-8118.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Childbirth Classes** begin monthly at Key West and Big Pine locations. Sponsored by The March of Dimes and FKCC. The course is affordable for everyone. Call

296-9081, ext. 282.

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

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

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

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

**Florida Right to Life** meets the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Key West Baptist Temple, 5727 Second Avenue, Stock Island. Call Patti Baldwin at 296-7337.

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

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

**Helpline South Dade Switchboard**, churches or other organization seeking vol-

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unteers, individuals interested in volunteering may call 296-HELP or 294-LINE to link up with a team.

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

**Island Wellness** at 530 Simonton Street, offers regularly scheduled courses and activities. Monday: Daily R & R at noon; Tuesday: Tai Chi Chuan at 10 a.m. and Daily R & R at noon; Wednesday: Daily R & R Thursday: Tai Chi Chuan at 10 a.m. and Daily R & R at noon; Friday: Daily R & R at noon; Sundays: alternating schedule. Call 296-7353 for details.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**KWAMI Come Back Club-Project Return**, a self-help social club where people with emotional disturbances and mental illnesses gather with KWAMI members.

Group meets Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Peace Covenant Church, 2610 Flagler Avenue. Call Helen Gerbracht at 294-4875.

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

**La Leche League** of Big Pine Key meets the second Monday of every month at 10 a.m. in the Big Pine Baptist Church. Call Joanne at 872-2661 for meeting information.

**La Leche League** of Key West meets second Monday of every month 6 p.m. at 2505 Flagler Avenue. Breastfeeding classes for pregnant moms begin at 5 p.m. Call Joanne at 872-2661 for meeting information.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Call 296-6523.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Positively Sober** is a 12-step Recovery Group for men and women who are HIV-positive and a member of another 12-step Recovery Group. This group meets Thursdays at 6 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church, 1215 Petronia Street. Call 294-8912.

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

**Problem Solving Group** meets Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Care Center for Mental Health. Call 292-6843.

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

**Quality Time—Parenting News** for the Keys, a half-hour television talk show

focusing on family issues presented by MOMS inc. on TCI Channel 5 Wednesday nights at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 294-4837.

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

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

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

**SHARE Support Group** for parents grieving the loss of a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth or newborn death. Meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 7:30-9 p.m. at South Miami Hospital. Call 305-662-8120.

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

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

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

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

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

**Sweet Adelines**, Presbyterian Kirk of the Keys, Marathon, Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. T'ai Chi Chuan Exercise Class, instructed by Will Jones, is a "soft" form of physical conditioning. Classes are at 10 a.m. Tuesday and Thursdays at Island Wellness.

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

## Entertainment

**Beach Club Bar** • The Pier House, 1 Duval Street. Call 296-4600.  
**The Bull & Whistle Bar** • Corner of

Duval and Caroline Streets. Happy Hour at The Whistle, 5 to 9 p.m. daily.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Islander Restaurant** • 528 Front

Street. Call 292-7659.

**Mango's** • 700 Duval Street. VooDoo at Mango's for the month of April: *Insomnia* with deejay Curtis Lee Friday nights; *Vision* On sound by London Loudboy Tony V Saturday nights; *Meister Lee & phonic phind* Utopia Monday nights; *T.V. Rush into Liz's spaceship* playground Tuesday nights. Call 292-4606.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Ocean Club Lounge** • The Reach at Simonton and the Beach. Ocean-side entertainment Wednesday-Saturday evenings with *Larry Smith* on piano. *Phil Sampson* on piano during Sunday Brunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 296-5000.

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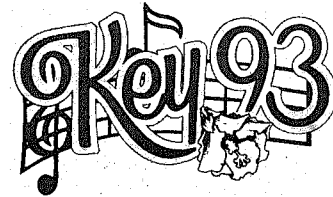
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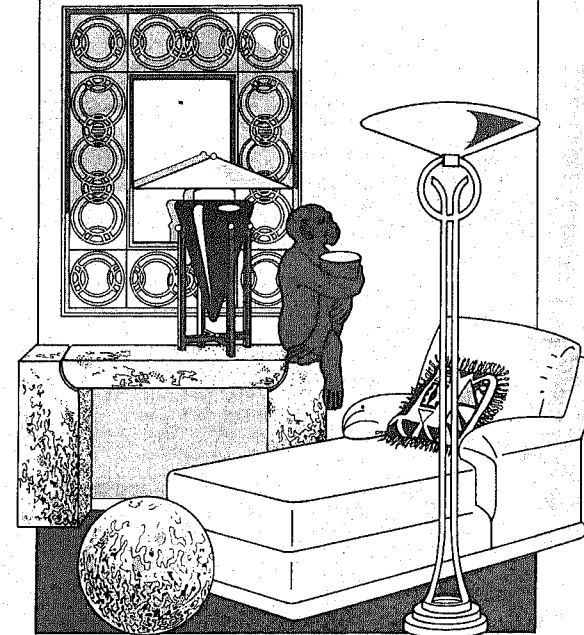


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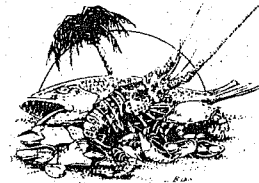
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