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# SOLARES SHAHILL FREE

VOL. 15, No. 11 • August 1991



**W**hat with the hot weather, the beginning of a steamy political season and the travails of everyday off-season life in Key West, the community pool offers relief—180,000 gallons of cool clear water in which to bring the mercury down.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center reopened in July after a \$350,000 renovation. Pool supervisor Lee Thompson says as many as 221 kids have shown up in one day. The pool is the Kids Central of Bahama Village from June to September.

According To Webster  
Page 3

Roadside Attractions  
Page 8

Developers: Getting It  
While They Can  
Page 14

Japanese And  
The \$600 Tank Top  
Page 32

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## Rumors and Roadside Attractions

After a flood of rumors to the contrary, Tom Webster is out of his job as police chief, and City Manager Felix Cooper is still sitting at his desk at city hall. The situation, however, isn't simply a turn through Key West's revolving political door.

Allegations that local business figures were pressuring the city manager to oust the chief have left citizens questioning who's in charge on this island. This question was recently posed to Tom Webster during an interview the former chief granted to *Solares Hill* after he was fired (see Page 3). His answer pointed to others than those in elected and other political positions, which is always, at least in part, true.

Good news at city hall: Commissioner Jimmy Weekley's efforts to engage the Trust for Public Land in the purchase of the Singleton property, commonly known as the Key West Bight area, have proven successful. The city now has an opportunity to own that last piece of waterfront property, and to preserve it for citizens and tourists. This arrangement is significantly more desirable than a new tower of condominiums to most. We applaud Weekley and the other commissioners for their actions here.

Weekley also is trying to put into effect an ordinance that would place restrictions on the activities of out-of-town truck vendors, whose sales are putting stress on certain segments of the local business community. Greenhouses, nurseries and garden shops,

in particular, feel the squeeze. To these businesses, a steady loss of just a couple of customers over time can make the difference between staying open or being forced to close.

In "Roadside Attractions: Moms, Pops and Gypsy Travelers," writer Anne Carlisle looks at the impact of these truck vendors as well as possible solutions. It seems that Miami's vendor ordinance might, with adaptations, work well in Key West. Weekley says that the efforts of city staff toward preparing an ordinance may be "on the back burner." Considering, however, that the truck vendors are expected to begin flooding the island next month, it might be in the city's best interest to speed those efforts up.

*Solares Hill* applauds the city's recent hiring of Rickey Tribble as minority community relations director. Tribble, who holds a degree in criminal justice with a minor in political science and is well-respected in the community, seems an ideal person to implement the city's plan to enhance Bahama Village and to provide equal opportunities for the city's black residents.

Ann Boese

*The cover photograph of pool director Lee Thompson and several local swimmers was shot by J.D. Dooley. The community pool, located at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center, opened last month after 18 months of renovation work.*

## According to Webster

by Ann Boese

Occasionally wiping beads of sweat from his brow, Tom Webster recently talked about his termination as Key West's police chief, a move which he contends is unfair and unwarranted. Indeed, two stories—or two sides to one story—have emerged from the flurry of discussion surrounding the firing this past month.

City manager Felix Cooper, who did the firing, says that the chief is out of a job strictly for financial reasons, and that he would definitely have been retained on the city payroll had he agreed to a new contract based on the city manager's own contract. Webster's \$105,000 salary and benefits package is simply too high.

Webster says that money can't be the reason. He sees the influence of an underhanded segment of the business community behind Cooper's decision. To hear the chief tell it, he's done too good of a job for this town.

In an exchange of letters between the chief and the city manager last month, the city manager's frustration—particularly over the chief's ambiguity concerning the new contract proposal—is apparent. The contract would have put the chief's salary in line with the city's other top administrators. Instead of accepting the idea of an



FIRED: Tom Webster at the podium.

all-new contract, however, Webster has chipped away at the money barrier from the other end; the chief made an offer to contribute \$10,000 to a charity of the city commission's choice or to take a two-year

salary freeze. Cooper found both compensations unacceptable.

Cooper, who earns about \$70,000, including benefits, says the city charter requires that the city manager be the highest-paid city employee. Webster challenges that, saying that what Cooper is referring to is "an obscure ordinance that alludes partly to it." The chief recommends that the commission change the ordinance, because, after all, "the commission has changed the ordinance many times for developers."

To Cooper's charge that the chief has refused to negotiate, Webster says that the city has afforded him only "one 30-minute meeting." Cooper refers to another meeting to which he said Webster never showed up.

Finally, in a letter dated July 17, Cooper informed Webster that his "employment with the city of Key West is hereby terminated."

Webster claims his contract has been terminated without the statement of cause as required by the city's charter.

Cooper says his action is in compliance with a new city ordinance that requires him to negotiate a new contract with the chief and that it is supported by a judicial declaratory statement that the chief's contract can be terminated at will. He insists that Webster is history.

The quality of Tom Webster's work over the last four years, since he took about a \$4500 cut in pay to leave his position of chief of police in the town of Lake Oswego, Oregon, does not appear to

**sh**

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is an issue. The chief says that many, including Cooper and former City Manager Richard Witker, have commended him on doing "an admirable job." And while Witker did mysteriously request Webster to resign (before he himself did a few months later), Cooper has steered clear of Webster's performance.

On paper, at least, it's the \$105,000, which Webster negotiated with then-City Manager Joel Koford and former City Attorney Steve Stitt, that's bringing down the ax.

If there is one outstanding feature about Tom Webster, it's his vagueness. The controversial police chief is not an easy man to pin down.

**SH:** First, do you think it is fair that you make \$106,000? Second, when you negotiated in 1986 for a base of \$46,000, did you know what you would be making in '87, '88, '89? What did you expect to be making?

**TW:** First question: absolutely fair. Second question: absolutely not. I took a cut in pay and it was a gamble. I had no idea what the unions were going to settle on. My increases have been the same percentage of any other police officer.

**SH:** So what you're saying is that you were comfortable with \$46,000 plus benefits in 1986, you didn't know you were going to reach a total of \$105,000, and now that you have, you are comfortable and unwilling to negotiate a salary that the rest of the city feels is more in line.

**TW:** One, the city won't negotiate. Two, I've offered the city \$10,000, and I

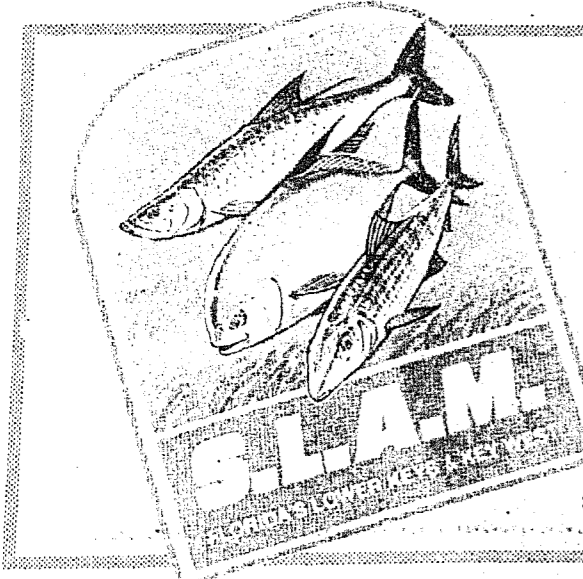
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offered them an option to freeze my salary for two years [on June 14] . . . The perception of this case is, "Webster makes too much money." And to a lot of people it is a lot of money. But nobody looks at the job description. It's easy to say, "Webster makes more money than the police chief of some city . . ."

**SH:** Look at Detroit, Dallas, Chicago. They make [a base salary of] \$79,000, \$75,000 and \$78,000; you make [a base of] \$75,000.

**TW:** Where did you get those figures?

**SH:** We called the cities and asked.

**TW:** But what you didn't ask was, "What do they have to do, what do they have to work with?" For instance, I do not have the staff—by comparison or by ratio—of any of those chiefs. I don't have the facilities, the equipment.

**SH:** Pay scales and cost-of-living are relative to an economy. Felix Cooper does not necessarily have the machines and personnel that the city manager in Detroit has. Do you agree that this is true?

**TW:** But Felix Cooper cut his own deal. And without a doubt, I was going to cut the best deal I could for myself and my family. And I was going to be very open about it. Cooper's predecessor [Richard Witker] was making nearly \$20,000 more than Felix Cooper is making. Should I be penalized for that? I have no other sources of income.

**SH:** Could you be persuaded to be rehired, and to stay here?

**TW:** It's been a tough four years. I'm not prepared to answer that question. From Mr. Cooper's standpoint I don't think there is any margin for that. The man has told me that no matter what I negotiate that I will not be acceptable to certain members of this community at any price. He specifically named certain merchants on Lower Duval Street and [members] of the Hotel/Motel Association.

**SH:** Who are those people?

**TW:** He would not name them, and I asked him. I wish he would disclose that.

**SH:** Then you think that Felix Cooper is under the thumb of the Hotel/Motel Association.

**TW:** I think that historically, and particularly by this last chain of events, there's something that's driving the man,

and I can't figure out the reason or the logic behind it.

**SH:** What about pressure from the city commission?

**TW:** Virginia Panico has been a constant critic, and I might add that it has been verbal, rhetorical criticism. She's never in four years come up with anything specific that I can address.

**SH:** What about the declaratory judgment?

**TW:** The declaratory judgment states that my contract could be terminated. Now why that has been interpreted as my job, I do not know.

**SH:** I think your contract is your job; that's why you have a contract.

**TW:** I know plenty of department heads here who work without a contract.

**SH:** But the reason you have a contract and the reason you wanted one was so you were locked into certain agreements.

**TW:** Negotiating in good faith is a give-and-take proposition. The judge says the contract, not the job, is terminable at will. When you take property away from someone, the Constitution says you must do this in a certain proper procedure—it's called "due process," and it's guaranteed everybody by the 4th, 6th and 14th Amendments to the Constitution. Contracts are specifically talked about as property.

Somebody has miraculously said, "Tom Webster makes too much money," and they have stopped right there. They haven't addressed contractual obligations or due process obligations, or other rights afforded to me by our Constitution . . . There have been no good-faith negotiations, unless you consider one 30-minute meeting a negotiation.

**SH:** What are you going to do about that? Are you going to take legal action against the city in form of suing for damages?

**TW:** I have to talk with my legal counsel and my family about that decision . . . I think my counsel may have a plan, but he hasn't divulged it to me yet.

**TW:** Do you think a police chief with four and a half years of [local] experience should get the same salary as say another lesser department head, who manages less

people and who has been here less than a year?

**SH:** Of course, the longer time, the more money. But I don't think that one outstanding salary is good—especially in government. I think that you should be in line with the other department heads.

**TW:** But I was with the last city manager.

**SH:** Let's talk about the last city manager. He did at one point ask you to resign, also. It was three summers ago, and the citizens never were told the reason for that. What was the reason?

**TW:** Mr. Witker, as I recall, told me in front of the rest of staff at one of his meetings that he thought I was doing a great job and was very well qualified, but that he just thought it was time for a change—period.

**SH:** Well, he also said that he found it impossible to work with you. And several people—commissioners, the city manager, the former sheriff, and members of the black community—have concurred on that. Why do you think they have said that, and how do you think you achieved that reputation?

**TW:** Totally unfairly. None of those people have ever disclosed to me what they were talking about. It's the same old crowd, singing the same old song. They apparently have some political reasons or personal dislike for me. I label it vague, general, political, unfounded rhetoric. Mr. Witker never said anything to me, and Sheriff Alison deFoor was on a political campaign, self-centered. I have never started a disagreement or a crusade or anything like that since I have been here. I have merely done a good job, and come up against the same people over and over again.

**SH:** When you say it's political, what do you think is the motivating force behind it? And what is this so-called conspiracy we've been hearing about?

**TW:** I've been told by very many people that the police force is doing too good a job. We're trying overcome the stigma of the past, and I don't think that's agreeable to everybody. Some segments want it just where they can control it. Tom Webster cannot be controlled.

**SH:** By segments, do you mean the Hotel/Motel Association?

**TW:** Well, who did you just mention there—"certain members of the black community." As I recall, those members of the black community have all been put in jail.

**SH:** In reference to doing your job so well: What about the \$400,000? Remember the time the commission asked you and the sheriff what each of you would do with \$400,000, if it were given to you, to help make Bahama Village a safer place? You said you welcomed the opportunity for the sheriff's people to come down. Then that arrangement fell apart.

**TW:** I don't think the money was ever there.

**SH:** Harry Knight said it was.

**TW:** We never got any money.

**SH:** Are there any deputies in Old Town now?

**TW:** Not on a regular basis.

**SH:** That leaves only the police in Bahama Village, and some people might say that the police could benefit from that, just as well as people in the drug trade could.

**TW:** How is that?

**SH:** It's the old system of the police being involved in the drug activity.

**TW:** Sure, anybody can say what they want to say. It might make good copy, but it doesn't have anything to do with the

facts and circumstances.

**SH:** Who would not want you to do your job as well as you have?

**TW:** People involved obviously in criminal activity. Narcotics, stolen property. People who perceive they have or actually do have standing in the community, that are not only criminal but are corrupt.

**SH:** Which of these people would have enough influence to be able to affect your staying in your job?

**TW:** The people who have been tenured in these positions for years and years.

**SH:** Like who?

**TW:** I'm not going to name anybody on



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## The Upscale End of Town

gone away. Police chiefs are good copy—we're getting it all over the country. If you want to know the truth I haven't been too to the rest of the department that bothers me. The constant attack was a real downer.

There has never been, in my opinion, any in-depth reporting on the matter. You say you've read the articles; what you read were what Felix Cooper said. The media in this town does not have the resources nor the personnel to look into matters. It seems that I carried [Solares Hill writer June Keith] single-handedly. She never [thoroughly] interviewed me. In most cases, if a reporter in this town can't get ahold of somebody after one phone call, that's the end of it . . . I ask reporters all the time: 'Do you have a copy of this?'; and they say: 'No, I only have a copy of that.'

**SH:** Who's calling the shots here?  
**TW:** Felix Cooper, being pressured by Virginia Panico and, perhaps, Jimmy Weekley. Here in the paper Virginia is talking about my firing as being in the best interest of the city.

### A SHORT STORY

by lido

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**SH:** So you don't think Panico is talking about a \$106,000 salary not being in the best interest of the city. You think she's saying that your effectiveness as a police chief is not in the best interest of the Hotel/Motel Association.

**TW:** I think that's very simply put. It doesn't make any sense that money is the issue here. Not at all. I've dealt in good faith. But when you take a look, historically, at how these people spend money.

It gets back to this: Why get \$10,000 or \$15,000 from Webster while millions are flying out the door? We lease properties for a dollar a year, the property we give away, we pay people's taxes who are in private enterprise, we grant variances. And they want \$10,000 or \$15,000 from me, while we spend \$2.5 million on a sports complex that wasn't even bid on properly? It makes me very suspicious. Why aren't they going for the big bucks, here?

**SH:** It seems the commissioners are concerned with what their constituents will think, and they've gotten pressure. Don't you think that makes sense?

**TW:** I've asked the city manager, Look, if there's a beef with the Hotel/Motel Association or any downtown merchant, let me talk to these people. I've said this to commissioners.

**SH:** Why didn't you approach the association yourself?  
**TW:** Because I never get any names.

**SH:** What about the FBI investigation?  
**TW:** Which one? There is one? The last time I heard about this was police brutality [in Bahama Village].

**SH:** Was that completed?  
**TW:** I don't know. But whenever we have a problem, we take action to clean it up.

**SH:** What has this ordeal meant to you professionally and personally, and how has it affected your life? How do you feel about it?

**TW:** It's been as tough on my wife as it has been on me. It cannot be construed as anything other than personal. No one will stand up and say: This what I think is wrong. I'm angry and I'm frustrated.

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**SH:** How do you feel about Key West? Is this area still a desirable place for you to live?

**TW:** I've always loved the Keys. I was born and raised in Miami. From the ages of 12 to 22, I spent half of my leisure time here. I love the water, am a water person. Of course, it has changed. And I also think as a city we air too much dirty laundry.

**SH:** What's going to happen on August 15?

**TW:** I haven't thought that far ahead, but I'll be here. He hasn't asked me to vacate the premises. I've got some personal decisions with my family to make.

**SH:** What about some of the rumors about you that have circulated around town: DUI [driving under the influence of alcohol], racist, homophobe . . .

**TW:** All vicious lies, and they haven't worked.

**SH:** You've never had a DUI.

**TW:** Never. The DUI story persisted for about a year. It took several forms, including that I had two teenaged sons who got the DUI and were caught with marijuana. I have one son, and at that time he didn't drive, and he's never had a DUI.

**SH:** Are you a party animal, or have you done something that has led people along this idea?

**TW:** To the contrary. I am not a party animal. I don't do the cocktail circuit, bar circuit. In fact, Commissioner Sally Lewis and I actually got an apology from somebody who perpetuated that rumor.

**SH:** If there is a new chief, what do you think will be his biggest problem?

**TW:** Playing ball politically. [Laughs.]

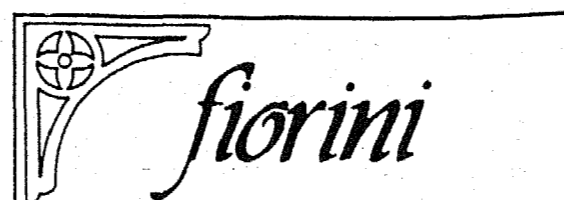
**SH:** If you leave, do you think that you will be able to get another \$105,000 job?  
**TW:** There are no jobs on the horizon.

**SH:** I know what the salaries are in my line of work, and I'm asking you if it is possible to get another \$105,000 salary.

**TW:** Yes, taking into consideration the cost of living.

**SH:** Every police chief on CNN has been asked this: L.A. Police Chief Darryl Gates and the Rodney King video. Gates will be retiring in 1992. What are your thoughts? Was he responsible?  
**TW:** Absolutely.

**SH:** Should he have been forced to retire?  
**TW:** Absolutely not.



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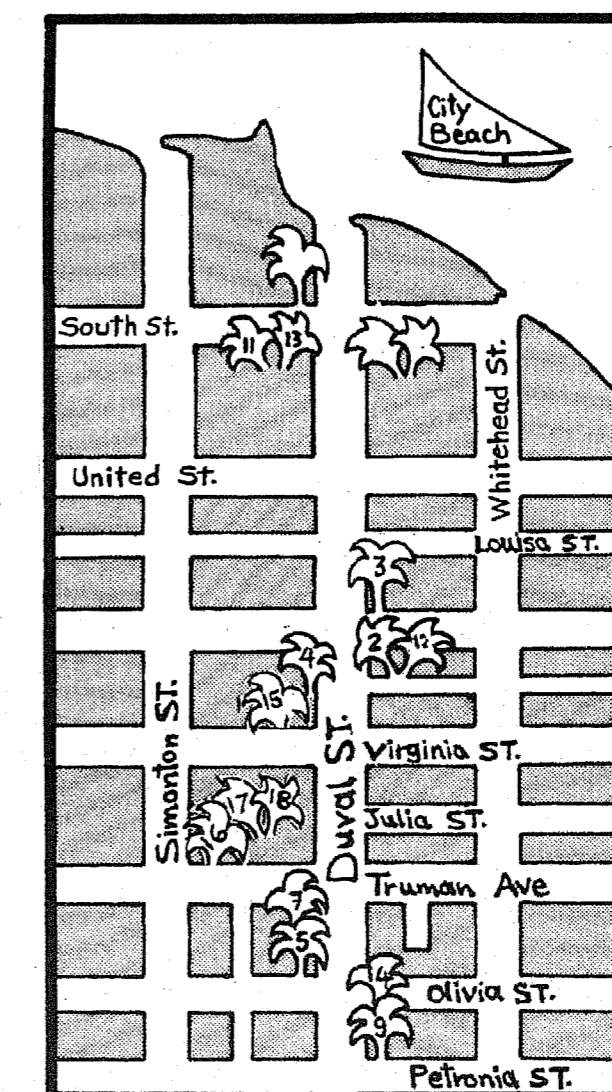
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# Roadside Attractions: Moms, Pops And Gypsy Travelers

by Anne Carlisle

In Tom Robbins' novel *Another Roadside Attraction*, God returns to earth in the form of a hot dog stand, an indication that among the more robustly honored and protected of American institutions are mom-and-pop operations. They spring up alongside the road, offering succulent home-grown produce or hubcaps or Halloween pumpkins at tempting prices.

Within the scenario of Keys roadside attractions, however, there is a fly in the down-home ointment. It is the fly-by-night snake oil salesman, whose only motivation is making a quick buck and slithering out of town—fast.

He takes money from the community but puts nothing back. He has no overhead save for his rented tent or space in someone's parking lot, often arranged with out-of-town landlords. And because of the peninsular



**VEGETABLE VENDORS:** The sale of low-priced items from open vehicles is common along North Roosevelt Boulevard.

geography here and the narrow margins dictating supply and demand, his presence can send an entire segment of the local economy into a tailspin.

Mr. Snake Oil drives his truckload of furniture, clothing, produce (even cars, boats and spas have been sold here this way) down the Keys, parks, unloads, sells and sometimes takes orders and delivers—all for the minimal cost of \$50 he pays for

a general occupational license fee. As long as he has the permission of a property owner to be on private premises, he is under no further obligation and is seldom subject to the scrutiny of code enforcement officers, who may be hard to rouse on a Sunday by irate local business people.

Come nightfall, the out-of-town entrepreneur is back in Homestead, and, having successfully undercut local businesses who must pay workmen's comp, building insurance, high utility costs, etc., he makes a large cash deposit in the bank. By selling at little over his costs, he can clean up.

The result, however, may be devastating to fixed operations who employ locals.

Last season, when an out-of-town operator came into Searstown plaza to sell spas

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## Flea Market Vendors Are City's Friends

Several Sundays ago at the flea market, where a few stragglers were braving out the summer heat, I talked to Betty Steward, the mom of mom-and-pop operations personified. There she sat, her umbrella shading little plants, which she grows at home. I asked her why there were no out-of-town vendors on N. Roosevelt Boulevard. She said they take July off because it's too hot.

"They'll be back when it cools down," said Steward. "Their plants wilt going back up. Even going to Stock Island I have to worry."

Stewart and others like her are not the vendors area nurserymen at Greenleaves on Duval and Bayshore at MM 27, among others, are complaining about.

"I used to give some of my plants to the

plant lady to sell," recalls Don Stuart of Greenleaves. "But the impression people have that all those trucked in operations are little guys is just not so. The out-of-town pirates take hundreds of thousands of dollars out of the community. And it's been going on for years—like the guy who sells two pairs of pants for a dollar across from Scotty's."

"Now Scotty's may beat my pants off in pricing plants," says Stuart, "but that's business and I'm not complaining about that. I have a problem with people who take a lot of cash out of the local economy, while the local businesses are going out of business or can't afford to hire."

—Anne Carlisle

and gazebos off a truck, proprietor Terry Odum of Spas Plus on Eaton Street nearly went under. While Odum, who sells top-of-the-line spas, sold none in two months, the newcomer on the boulevard slapped together and sold 70 spas in two weeks.

The quality of the construction was very low, according to Odum and others. The plumbing and wiring was done incorrectly. The city, at Odum's request, came out and inspected the out-of-towner's operation, but there was nothing circumscribed by the code. The business was legal. The county, which according to Odum might have shut the interloper down on a technicality, would not come out and inspect.

Bill Snyder, who leases space from Sears to sell Vita spas and plants, said that

he knows of one case where the spa delivered to a local residence by the itinerant vendor was so shoddy that the buyer refused delivery and requested reimbursement. The vendor's check was bad, and the case ended up in the state attorney's office. Other disgruntled customers were unable to reach anybody at any of the three bogus phone numbers given. (Several

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lawsuits are pending.)

Which brings up a point: Do municipalities and counties have a moral obligation (certainly they have the legal right) to protect citizens from pesky vendors and local employers from unfair competition? And can legislation be enacted that keeps the gypsy traveler at bay, without shutting down mom and pop?

These questions are being asked by Key West officials in the wake of an increased influx of weekend entrepreneurs from Broward and Dade counties. The stringent legislation that has been recently enacted there is driving the vendors down here.

"In essence, by not having any restriction placed on these vendors, we have created a very attractive tax-free zone for them," says City Commissioner Jimmy Weekley, who favors enacting legislation along the lines of Miami's and Dade County's. "I think we need to restrict the

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length of the temporary licenses. We all agree with free enterprise, except where it starts infringing on the rights of others."

"This is a many-sided issue," cautions Chief Building Inspector Ray Archer, who oversees code enforcement. "However, people in the community need to understand they have to support the community. A guy can repair your roof for \$100, but if he leaves town and it leaks, who are you going

to call? That's what people need to realize when they save a dollar on a hibiscus."

"On the other hand," he points out, "when it comes time for Fourth of July, and a local business wants to sell fireworks under a tent, we all want that to be able to happen. Instead of making a lot of rules we should sit back and think."

Miami has been working on controlling the "gypsy travelers" for seven years.

It has an ordinance, Chapter 39 of the City of Miami Vendor's Ordinances, which bears the folksy title of "Peddlers, Vendors, Itinerant Manufacturers, Locksmiths and Tool Grinders."

This document, with locale-specific "amendments thereto," according to Joel E. Maxwell, Miami's chief assistant city attorney, places fairly stringent limitations while affording loopholes for mom-and-pop operations. The 20-page document covers everything from the number of food vendors who can operate in the Miami arena area to restrictions on "open-flame cooking."

Each amendment to the umbrella document is different in some way, designed to deal with particular problems. For instance, in Coconut Grove only handmade arts and crafts may be sold by itinerant vendors.

"It is difficult to do," Maxwell admits, "because of politics and the immigrant population. In imposing restrictions we don't want to be accused of discriminating and prohibiting people from making an honest living. The umbrella is not as specific, but it does away with the barbecuing and the fricasseeing. However, it still allows for

some innovative things; people always find a way around."

The ordinance is enforced by the police, and the licenses range up to \$400. "Motor vehicles are prohibited from stopping on the roadside—period," says Maxwell, who adds that this rules out the trucked-in nursery business that plagues local merchants.

Terry Stevens, proprietor of the Greenery, a business that operated in Key West for ten years, attributes the demise of her business partially to the unfair competition presented by Sunday vendors parked on the boulevard.

Larry Strunk's Garden Center closed shop last week after providing service to locals from its Williams Street location for years. Though he says his closing is "not at all related" to the proliferation of roadside vendors—"If it affected us, we didn't know it; they carry a different line altogether, so it's like comparing apples and oranges"—he is quick to agree that some legislation restricting roadsiders would be "terrific."


"I have always thought there should be something to protect the local businesses from the gypsy traveler," says Strunk. "I can see that there is a problem. For instance, the furniture trucks from North Carolina who pull up and park."

There have been efforts made to correct the situation. About a year ago there was a move afoot to restrict tent sales.

"Carolyn Walker, who is in charge of licensing at the city building department, called and said they were going to put a moratorium on tent sales," says Odum. "But I didn't agree that it was fair that only local merchants could put up a tent. The commissioners agreed that the ordinance wasn't well done; not much work was put into it. In retrospect, I probably should have supported it. It would have spared me a lot of personal grief."

Says Commissioner Weekley of the possibility of imminent relief: "I had talked to the city attorney and asked her to look into the possibility of restrictions. It's been awhile since I've talked to staff about it, and it may be something that is on a back burner." (Weekley has been busy with the proposed Singleton property purchase by the city.) He also made it clear that anticipated legislation would not affect the long-established flea market.

"They would be exempt from it," Weekley says.



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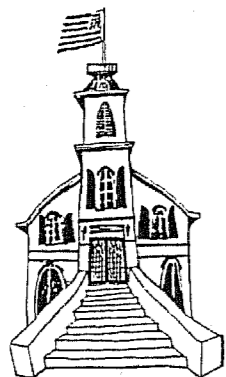
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## Key West School of Budgeting

In the next few days the city commission will be hashing out Key West's ad-valorem tax rate for the coming fiscal year. At this date, the odds are that the rate will end up identical to this year's: \$5.08 per thousand of assessed valuation.

At a special meeting July 26, the commissioners came perilously close to adopting the rate, and held back only when Sally Lewis—often the swing vote these days—backed off. "I'd like to withdraw my motion," she said. "I don't think that it is fair to our staff to set the millage rate at \$5.08 right now."

Virginia Panico had started the ball rolling when she said that she wanted to "cut a little

more" than the \$5.45 per thousand the city commission had trimmed the rate to. Lewis, sympathetic to Panico's goal of \$5.08 per thousand (an 8% increase in spending, spread over a larger tax base), mentioned some items.

City manager Felix Cooper didn't dissuade Panico and Lewis. In fact, he gave them support. The city, which got by with practically no contingency funds this year, has put aside almost \$1.2 million for next year's rainy-day funds, he said. The \$480,000 the city needed to keep the ad-valorem rate constant could come from those funds, Cooper continued, if that's what the commission wanted to do. There'd still be \$720,000 left.

Harry Powell noted that the commissioners had already cut the budget from a 28% hike to a 16% increase. Was it prudent to cut more?

Panico, Lewis and Jimmy Weekley seemed disposed toward going for the lower rate, looking toward a cut in the contingency funds plus modest savings the city manager might recommend. But Powell and mayor Tony Tarracino were for holding off. "We need to see what the repercussions will be," said Powell. That's Key West language for whose city job might be imperiled.

The commission's proposed cuts, which meant some positions would remain unfilled, call for elimination of only one job. Cooper thought he had the assent of all five commissioners in his plan to simplify the management structure of Key West government. But the bureaucracy's fighting back.

"I find it hard when employees are going to commissioners, and commissioners are making certain statements," complained Cooper. The embattled city manager of fifteen months' standing didn't go into details.

Mayor Tarracino was feeling the heat. "I want to know who's going to get laid off, how long they've been there," he told Cooper. "They come into my office crying. I run into them on the streets. I'm dealing

with human beings, not numbers."

Finance director David Fernandez reminded the commissioners they could "pass a number and then cut it later." After adoption, the millage rate could be reduced but not increased, he said.

"I'm unwilling to accept what we're going down from," replied Lewis.

Powell argued again that it wasn't wise for the commission to lock itself in. He wanted to keep the contingency accounts intact. What if there was "even one small hurricane"?

Powell went on for a while.

"If that's a sacred cow [the contingency accounts]," Weekley finally interrupted, "you can go back and cut employees."

"I don't want to cut off our retreat," replied Powell, adding another metaphor.

The commissioners finally decided to instruct Cooper to come up with some alternatives to attain the \$5.08 millage rate.

Powell couldn't resist a final metaphor. "Give us a recipe," he told Cooper. "We not only want to know what we're eating but how it's made."

### Butler vs. Key West

On January 14, the city failed to approve the community impact assessment statement (CIAS) which would have allowed Key West Fairways to build condominiums around the Key West municipal golf course. That action, promised Jim Hendrick, attorney for the developers, would land the city in court.

This week, Judge Sandra Taylor is expected to request oral testimony from the litigants and proceed towards a judgment.

In January, the commission, largely guided by public opposition, failed to approve the impact assessment for the \$60-million, 533-unit development. The commissioners said they weren't satisfied with the CIAS contention that there would be little impact on traffic and solid waste removal.

The city voted 4 to 1 (Virginia Panico opposed) not to approve the plan until a comprehensive plan which would address the pertinent issues were completed.

Then-acting city attorney Leslie Dougall said, "The city has a responsibility not to approve a development agreement or community impact assessment statement until they are satisfied with the conditions."

New city attorney Ginny Stones is

singing a different tune.

At the Monday July 29 special city commission meeting, Stones all but advised the city to settle the suit. "If the court determines that the city did not follow the law, then the city may be forced to review the CIAS in accordance with the law," Stones told the commission. "What that means is that the city could lose items of concession spelled out in the original development agreement."

During the tense three-day CAIS discussion in January, the city hammered out concessions to be offered by the developer: a traffic signal, road improvement impact fees and construction of a bicycle path.

"The city has to determine what it is willing to lose," Stones said. "I believe Mr. [Jim] Hendrick's allegations are valid. His clients stand a good chance."

But even if the city prevails against Bob Butler and Key West Fairways, it could still lose in the final outcome.

Lurking behind the 1991 proposal remains a ten-year-old proposal for a larger development on the same property, with city commission approval.

Key West Resorts, current leaseholders of the property and managers of the Key West municipal golf course, has filed a separate suit against the city.

Key West Resorts vs. Key West will ask the court for permission to build the larger development in the event Butler is unsuccessful in his attempt. Stones said Key West Resorts will discontinue the suit if the city settles with Butler.

According to Stones, the city code is vague as to whether the city can stop the development.

"The only sure way to stop development of this sort is zoning," Stones said. "This is zoned R2H—large hotel—with a density of 16 units per acre."

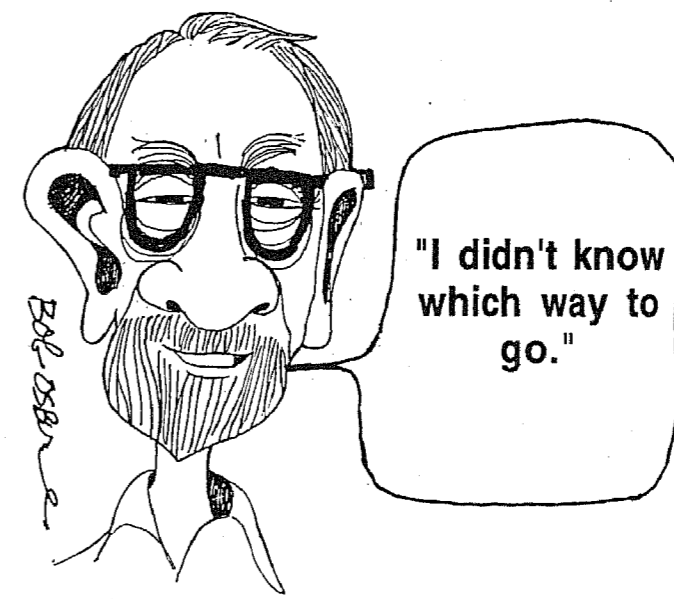
Plaguing the issue is the spectre of the now-accessible public course becoming exclusive. Art Moseley, ex-city planner turned developer, said plans have been made for private memberships, preferential treatment and price hikes for golf rounds.

"We may not be able to stop them," Stones said. "They have a 99-year lease. That's tantamount to ownership. That lease was struck when the city was in dire straits for money." The city signed the lease in exchange for a million dollars in 1981.

The city commission is expected to discuss the two suits at an upcoming meeting.

### Cooperville

The applause from the 200 people crowded into the commission chambers began just after Mayor Tony Tarracino stopped speaking. The sound was similar to that made by an opera crowd after the delivery of a particularly affecting aria. A



few people stood up and continued to clap. Others joined them, until more than three quarters of the audience was on its feet.

The occasion occurred at the special city commission meeting July 29. As might be expected, the enthusiasm was not for something the city commission had done, but something it hadn't done. It hadn't fired its city manager Felix Cooper.

Tarracino called the special meeting for the purpose of "reviewing the actions of the city manager, making findings and taking actions."

Tarracino spoke briefly at the beginning of the session. "This has nothing to do with the firing of the police chief," he said. "There were budget changes, taxes were going up and people's jobs were at stake. I didn't know which way to go."

He said for the first time in his political life he had taken the phone off the hook.

"After many hours of soul searching I withdraw my resolution," Tarracino said. That's what started the tumult.

Commissioner Harry Powell was asked what he thought had brought out the crowd. His answer consisted of two words: "Virginia Panico." Many in the audience were members of the Hotel/Motel Association and Chamber of Commerce. One citizen who wished not to be named said that she received a phone call from the chamber asking her to come to the meeting and support "their side."

When asked why the resolution was dropped, the mayor said that he had been approached by the local "power structure" and persuaded to drop the action. When asked to describe the power structure, the mayor replied, "The Chamber of Commerce, Hotel/Motel Association and several prominent business men."

Though the resolution was abandoned, the fact remains that Cooper's 18-month tenure as the Key West city manager has

The Wicker's Field Athletic Complex contract, for instance, was awarded to Toppino's construction company without going through the competitive bid process after the city declared an emergency need to replace the softball fields no longer available at Peary Court.

"This has been fully investigated by the Key West Police Department," Cooper said. "If the city thought that there were staff improprieties or kick-backs involved they could have stopped the process at any time."

Another questionable contract award involved the rebuilding of a road on the landfill closure site. Rather than bid the project out, Cooper's office suggested that the \$27,253 contract be awarded to Toppino's. And so it was. According to the city charter, however, all expenditures more than \$7,500 are required to go out for bid.

When asked why the contract had not gone for bid, Commissioner Virginia Panico said Toppino's was never paid for landfill work. A day later, she said Toppino's was paid for the work through a city resolution and that the commission voted to waive the bid. Panico said that she did not recall who suggested that the commission waive the bid and award Toppino's the contract.

City Engineer Paul Mitchell, who is responsible for overseeing the project, would not comment. It is Mitchell's policy not to answer questions from the press unless they are submitted to his office in writing prior to any interview. The policy makes deadline questioning an impossibility.



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# Developers: Getting It While They Can

by Geddy Sveikauskas

At a time when awareness of the consequences of development continues to grow, it's a paradox that this crowded little island continues to see proposals that skirt the boundaries of what's possible, relying on engineering and design solutions to maximize density and lot coverage. With revisions of the city's comprehensive plan in the offing, the rules are about to change. That situation seems, if anything, to have spurred more proposals that are on the outer fringe of reasonable. But who can blame the developers from seeking their city approvals while they can get them?

Key West's planning board voted at an almost-six-hour meeting July 25 to pass along to the city commission three Community Impact Assessment Statements (CIAS) and site plans. All three projects are by Key West standards substantial but not huge.

Atlantic Villas on Atlantic Boulevard, a 96-unit project between 1800 Atlantic and Casa Casselles, appears to face trouble in its present form.

A 74-unit expansion of the 222-unit Holiday Inn Beachside plus a 117-berth marina seems by comparison more likely to get to approval. The project may be controversial because of the severe traffic problems at the location, and the difficulties

of a new curb cut on Route 1 near the Cow Key Channel.

A new proposal is on the table for the Thornburgh parcel. Though the planning board expressed few objections to the proposal to build 21 units of transient housing plus a 6000-square-foot restaurant and deli-bakery along the bridle path near the salt ponds on South Roosevelt, this project is likely to face practical difficulties. In addition, Last Stand, a local citizen group which has opposed previous development proposals for this parcel, may not like this one, either.

All three projects must seek permission from a variety of state and federal authorities—the so-called higher-order approvals. The city commission, which is likely to review them in August, may find other problems, too.

As the city is finding out at the Key West Fairways project, which involves questions about the sufficiency of a CIAS, mere dislike of a project on the part of a city commission is not enough for rejection. According to City Attorney Virginia Stones, a government must look for "sufficiency, completeness and accuracy" in a CIAS.

The irony appears to be that Key West has in part only itself to blame for its predicament. Again according to Stones, state law does allow a local jurisdiction to review a CIAS on policy grounds, and not just sufficiency. But the local authority has to have a law that allows the exercise of such powers. "That's not in our law," says Stones.

It is also helpful if a local government has adopted a comprehensive plan that clearly buttresses its policy choices. In the case of Atlantic Villas, the first of the three CIAS's examined by the planning board last week, for instance, there was specific language that suggested the comprehensive plan denied something that the zoning allowed.

The central issue in Atlantic Villas is density. The seven-acre parcel is now wetlands, although there is some question about how long it has been in that condition and how it got that way. Based on the zoning, the developer was applying for 96 units. In the case of wetlands, however, a developer is entitled to only one unit per acre. There's also a requirement that no more than 10 percent of a wetland can be disturbed.

Attorneys Henry Morgenstern and Jim Hendrick crossed swords. Morgenstern said the planning board shouldn't base its decision on whether there would be a lawsuit about Atlantic Villas. The board shouldn't give in to

what he characterized as "zoning by threat." Approval, he said, would be a violation of the comprehensive plan. He added that the planning board could take pending land-use changes into account in making its decision.

Hendrick, who was employing a court stenographer to take notes, bristled at Morgenstern's remarks. "The purpose of our being here," he said, "is to show that [the owner] has development rights."

Hendrick and his associate explained that they had no illusions as to the development of the property. They needed to get turned down so that they could sue someone. "Every agency wants some other agency to deny permission for developing a property," the

## The central issue in Atlantic Villas is density.

lawyers explained. "We'll be involved in litigation against the first agency to turn us down. We want to claim there'll be a taking of our property."

This frank statement of legal goals was disarming to the planning board, which on its third try was able to build a majority in favor of a resolution by member Jim Farrell pointing out the inconsistency between the zoning density and the comprehensive plan. Hendrick wanted his CIAS, and no more, it appeared. "You can say the project stinks," he said, "but the CIAS may be complete."

The development of the Thornburgh parcel, next door to the so-called "hotel from hell" and hemmed in between the salt ponds and South Roosevelt Boulevard, seems at first blush an unpromising site. Indeed, even the developer claims that only about 1.35 of its 13-plus acres is usable for development. The developable land, 60 to 150 feet deep but averaging only 75 feet in depth along its 610-foot length, is across from Smathers Beach.

Hendrick and planner Don Craig said they had determined the boundary of wetland vegetation, and that the project, to be called Beachside Inn, was entirely outside that wetland area. Citizen Joan Borel disagreed. She said the project was on wetlands, and called for a determination by the state as to what was wetlands and what wasn't. Hendrick said he wouldn't seek that determination. He had consulted reputable experts, he said. Since he didn't need a permit, he didn't need DER determination.

Since this was the last CIAS on the agenda, the planning board didn't spend much time on it. Manny Boa's motion was that the planning board approve it subject to planner Ted Strader's recommendations and subject to higher-order approvals.

Though a close examination of the site plan is not usually part of the planning board review of a CIAS, this one seemed especially thought-provoking.

There was no specific application yet for

the three exits shown on the site plan, conceded Craig. "If they don't approve it, we could do it with one," he said.

A May 1 letter from engineer Debora Rivera in the CIAS folder states, "Access to the site will be limited to no more than one driveway."

A letter from Paul Mitchell, the city engineer, says: "I strongly urge a single driveway, with a right-in, right-out. I don't think FDOT guidelines will permit three driveways on this frontage."

All right, one driveway. So what? The site plan shows 79 parking places that would be served by the driveway or driveways. Nineteen of them are under the proposed buildings, ten under the three-story hotel or motel and nine under the 150-seat restaurant (plus, the CIAS says, four other small businesses).

The restaurant is on the thinner or 60-foot-deep portion of the property. With 79 cars parked perpendicular or diagonally to the roadway and no room to turn around, one can readily conjure up a claustrophobic scene, particularly if some of the guests appear in delivery trucks, buses or vans.

Even if one accepts at face value the plausible assumption that 20 percent of the traffic would be internal, the difficulties of a peak-hour use of 43 vehicles turning around, backing up, passing each other and emerging unscathed out of one narrow driveway might give even a planner pause.

This troubled byway between the two rows of parked cars will also serve as a public access, it appears. The developer promises that the right of public passage enjoyed in the form of the bridle path will be continued.

Says the CIAS, "Access by the public along the entire length of the equestrian bridle path is assured by allowing only the drive, parking and partial building overhang together with landscaping to be the only above-ground uses within the easement area."

"It's white-knuckle city!"

Commissioner and planning board liaison Sally Lewis expressed concern about the loss of parking for Smathers Beach. City Planner Ted Strader's comments in his project memo say: "Any reductions in parking will make it much more difficult to get state and federal funding for the beach nourishment program."

It's ultimately for the courts to decide at what point the design problems of a project working within such acute constraints constitute an incomplete CIAS. But many planning experts argue that local governments need whatever residual powers over health, welfare and safety state laws can provide them. Otherwise, developers can go from agency to agency, obtaining segmented

approvals for various parts of a project while the cumulative impact of the project as a whole isn't ever thoroughly considered.

The restaurant for Beachside Inn needs a special exception. Owner Marc Thornburgh has applied for one.

Ray Allen and Sullins Stuart appeared on behalf of Holiday Inn Beachside. They will require a special exception for the 117-berth marina they seek, and a density variance as well. Although their proposal for development of the 4.89-acre parcel in back of the present facility is less than the 16-units-per-acre zoning allows, with the contiguous 222-unit property included the density is higher than what's allowed.

The impact on the traffic situation at that already difficult location is likely to be the most controversial part of this application. Sally Lewis looked down at the site plan calling for a new access on Route 1 before the Cow Key Bridge and exclaimed: "It's white-knuckle city!"

Stuart tried to dissuade the commissioner. "It's not as bad as you think," he said. "Go out and take a look."

Lewis was not mollified. "I'm coming from the beach road, and trying to get into the left lane at Junior College Road, and here's this guy with a boat [swinging into traffic]," she said. "Aren't we adding to a problem that's already horrendous?"

The FDOT appears to think that an exit directly on Route 1 would be preferable to dumping a greater amount of traffic on North Roosevelt. But FDOT's thought that traffic coming out of the new driveway should be able to turn left was met with skepticism. "Two rights are your best shot," said board vice-chair Ken Alderman.

"If the city objected strenuously to Route 1 access," said Strader, "then I think the DOT would listen."

City Engineer Paul Mitchell is opposed to a Cow Key access point on Route 1.

Last Stand's Jim Farrell was concerned about the fragile nature of the backcountry

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area to the back of the lot, which is otherwise already stripped.

There was discussion of the cumulative impact of the new jail on traffic in the area. Ray Allen promised an updated letter from FDOT.

The planning board voted to pass on the CIAS with its approval subject to higher-order approvals, Farrell's suggestion for educational materials, an update from FDOT, and "encouragement" of a traffic light at Junior College Road.

The traffic issues at this unique site are challenging and complex. Though the CIAS provides only a general understanding of the issues, it is not easy to know how to go beyond it. Is the marina an appropriate additional use? Does the Route 1 exit make sense?

"Of all the impact issues raised by this proposal, traffic is perhaps the most difficult to assess," sums up Ted Strader in his analysis for the planning board. "As a part of our comprehensive planning process we will be establishing a concurrency management system which will allow us to evaluate impacts systematically and system-wide. Right now, however, we are somewhat limited to a piecemeal approach on a project-by-project basis, depending heavily on developer consultants, FDOT and common sense."



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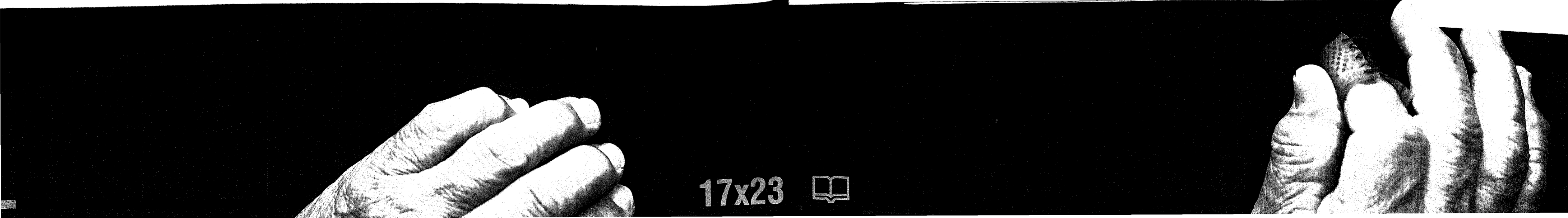
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# More Than A Statistic

by Dagmar Miller

In February of 1988, *The Washington Post* published an article I had written about learning to drive at a mature age. The need (not explained in the article) had arisen while I was taking care of my terminally ill husband, who had been given six to eight months to live. The prognosis was accurate.

Two and a half years later, Michael Leckie, the friend who had taught me, died of AIDS at the age of 46. And despite all the attention devoted to this subject, the cause of his death tells us nothing about the kind of man he was (though there are judgmental people who will think it tells us everything).

My husband and I moved to Key West in 1978, the same year Michael came here, and from the outset we three became good friends. He had grown up in West Virginia and, after graduation from college, worked with the Peace Corps in Africa. His work there was rewarding, including an unexpected plus—the adoption of an orphaned chimpanzee whom he named Nelson.

Michael once rescued Nelson from a rabid dog, which in turn attacked Michael. While recuperating from injuries, he and Nelson ended up in adjoining beds in the hospital. Michael brought Nelson back to

the States with him, and they traveled around the country in Michael's car while he worked for Vista, then the domestic branch of the Peace Corps.

Michael's last job in Washington, where he lived for eight years, was as a congressional aide on Capitol Hill. But the three-piece-suit, attaché-case life was not for him. One day he packed it up and headed for this southernmost city.

He worked at a variety of jobs—first taking care of private gardens, then a stint as concierge of the Pier House. But Michael hit his stride when he began working for Sanford Birdsey, a fabric designer (and painter) who also produces handbags, pillow, chairs and other goods. She taught him the job from start to finish, and a world of texture, color and latent artistic ability opened for Michael. (He designed and hand painted a rug for me that always elicits admiration from those seeing it for the first time.)

When my husband became ill in the fall of 1987, Michael was totally supportive, telling me that if I ever needed him, even if it were at three in the morning, I was not to hesitate to call. And, most important of all, he taught me to drive. We had Michael to dinner to celebrate my newly acquired license. Although my husband's stamina was low, he enjoyed the evening tremendously. Michael was to be our last guest.

After my husband's death in May of

1988, Michael phoned me frequently—sometimes every night—just to see how I was. We became movie-going companions. He was a film buff, I less so, but before seeing any-thing, he always checked first to see if it was on my list.

The last movie we attended was "The Fabulous Baker Boys." As we critiqued it driving home, part of the pleasure of movie-going with Michael, I admitted having had a secret ambition—that of being a nightclub singer, perched on a piano, belting out torch songs a la Michelle Pfeiffer. Michael got a kick out of sharing my fantasy.

We met often for croissants and coffee at a local French café, exchanging books and ideas. He also took care of my house and cats whenever I was out of town, which was not an inconsiderable test of friendship since he was a dog, not a cat, man.

While some friends distanced themselves after my husband's death (a common experience for widows), Michael still saw me as the same person I had been when my husband was alive. Nothing changed in our relationship. He had no hesitancy in telling me to "pull up my socks" if I started feeling sorry for myself. But, above all, his friendship and concern was constant.

In January of 1989, I made my run up to Miami—the "Grande Corniche" excursion I had promised myself in my 1988 article. I

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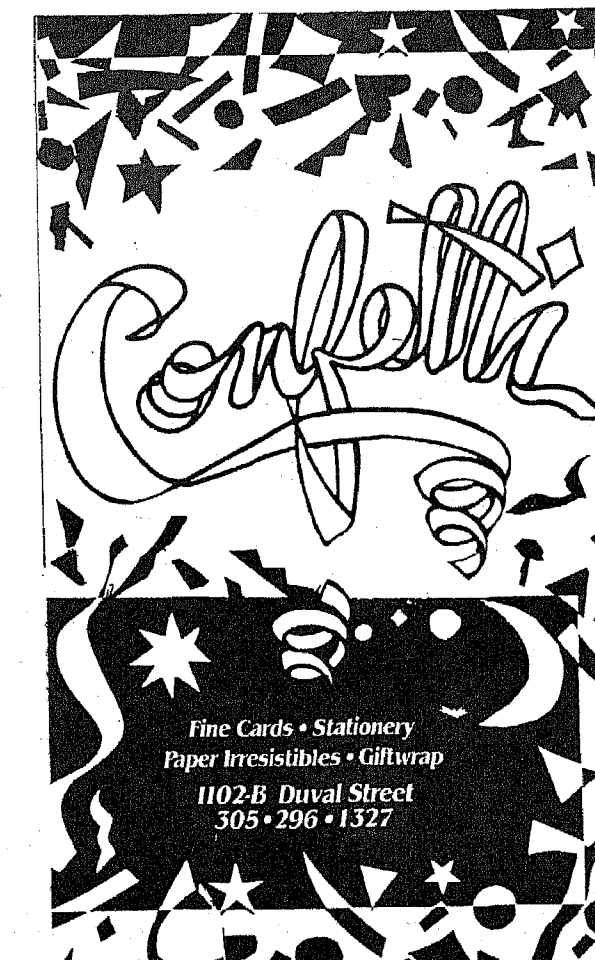
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# Key West Days & Nights by Bill Manville

"I don't know how it is in your life, Bill," said the poet, Jim Palm, when I met him on April Fool's Day at Fast Buck Freddie's, "but I fall in like often enough, in lust sometimes, but the other ..." He was

telling me he had fallen in love with the luminous Coco Davis.  
"Those guys who wrote the song about across a crowded room, they knew what they were talking about," Jim said. "Part of Coco's niftiness ... two minutes after we met at John Leslie's, she knew we were on. 'You know what the next step is in the magic that never ends?' she said. 'Ritual flight to a dark cave. Let's go somewhere we can listen to music and be alone.'"  
They went to the Crystal Room, upstairs at Larry Formica's La-Te-Da.  
"Coco said this was another part of the great universal sex fantasy," Jim went on. "The new couple finds a condemned nightclub, elegant but decadent, black marble, high ceilings, white walls and candles—

too many people, but those who are there silent, understanding; people who have stared at infinity too long. Also John Mercer.  
"Do you know Bruce Kirlie? He plays Cole Porter and Rogers and Hart, late at night, an ebony baby grand, people making one last stop to top off the evening. And Bruce, a fantasy piano player if there ever was one, something between Gary Grant and Humphrey Bogart, world-weary and wearing a throwaway New York tuxedo from a previous life—no ruffles, no blue shirt—bitterly chain-smoking Camels cigarettes for vitamins. He plays in a way that tells you he learned all he needed to know about women and life before he ran away to Key West."  
The news is that Bruce and Jim decided to write a musical together about the world before dope, when John Kennedy had eleven months left to live and the Beatles had not yet come to New York. Here is their opening song, called "Nineteen Sixty Three."

*"One year ends / Another begins.  
Remembered pleasures / Forgotten sins.  
Funny about 1963. / It never ended for me.  
Hair was short / Skirts were long  
Smoking cigarettes / Drinking gin.  
Cole Porter wrote the songs.  
You live on Jane St. / Greenwich for me.  
You fell in love / With someone else.  
So did he. / You were twenty one.  
I was twenty two. / The year was sixty three.*

*Nights torn into confetti / Days of love and pain.  
We kissed and came together / Kissed and went away,  
Swearing to ride the lark together  
Again, some other, later day.  
Life was green / Life was gold.  
We swore to each other / Never to grow old.  
In Sixty Three / In Nineteen Sixty Three."*

"What happened to the love affair with Coco Davis?" I said to Jim the other day when I found him at the Conch Café.  
"She fell in love / With someone else," Jim sang, quoting his own words to Bruce's melody, "So did he."  
Jim sighed. "Coco sings her own songs," he said, and hurried off up Duval St. to the La-Te-Da, where he was to meet Bruce and go over another tune they were putting together, "In Lust, In Like, In Love."



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7-Day Food Store  
Malboxes Etc.  
Barnett Bank  
Pro Fitness-1111 12th St. Prof. Bldg.  
Aqueduct Authority-110 Kennedy  
DePool Hospital-1200 Kennedy
- Luant Plaza - New Town**  
Chiropractor
- Perry Plaza - New Town**  
Raymond James  
Wanda's  
Duncan's Daily Rental  
Keys Cleaners
- Upper N. Roosevelt Blvd. - New Town**  
Famada Inn-3420 N. R.  
Bayside Inn-3444 N. R.  
Perry's-3800 N.R.  
Ecological-3820 N. R.  
Denny's-3810 N. R.  
Travelodge-3924 N. R.  
Welcome Center-3840 N. R.  
Hertz-3840 N. R.  
Quality Inn-3850 N. R.  
Day's Inn-US1 & N. R.  
Holiday Inn Beachside-N. R.
- Airport Area**  
Boca Chica NIAS  
West Cove Isle-Duck Ave.  
Key West Club Apts.-Duck Ave  
Key Ambassador  
Las Salinas  
Key West-925 S. Roosevelt  
Benhana/Martha's-S. Roosevelt at A1A  
East Martello Tower-3501 S.R.  
Conch Flyer-In the airport  
Airport Lobby  
Key West by the Sea-2601 S. Roosevelt  
1600 Atlantic  
Casa Marina-1500 Reynolds
- Stock Island**  
Key West Diver  
Lages-217 MacDonald  
Sirco Hardware-340 Ave.  
Vicky's  
Oceanside Marina  
Oceanside Tackle  
Adventure Charters  
FKCC Library (lobby in season)  
TWFA  
FK Memorial Hospital  
Lay's Auto Body
- Lower Keys**  
Navy Exchange  
Bobalu's  
Tom Thumb, Big Coppitt  
Circle K, Big Coppitt  
Pier 15, Bay Point  
Sugarloaf Restaurant  
Sugarloaf Lodge  
T J Sugar Shack  
Sugarloaf Post Office & grocery  
Tropical Marine  
Lelaure Club Steakery  
Mangrove Mama's  
Stop N Shop Deli  
Coco's Cantina  
Venture Out  
Neptune Divers  
Murry's  
Kelly's Kut/Kurt  
Galley Grill  
Quik Chic, Summerland  
Barnett Bank  
Pepperoni's  
Reel Runner Dive Shop  
Salvation Army Store  
Blue Water Printers  
Loose Key Dive Shop  
Loose Key Motel  
Reel Room TIB Bar  
Little Palm Island  
Betty Brothers Real Estate  
O'Berry Real Estate  
Good Food Health Food  
Bush Animal Clinic
- Big Pine Key**  
Blue Moon Trader  
Pro Dive  
Big Pine Coffee Shop  
Samantha's  
Dominio's  
Fisherman's Hospital  
US 1 Radio  
Cut Above  
TIB Bank  
Tom Thumb  
Baltimore Oyster House  
Chamber of Commerce  
Black Swan  
Cedar Inn  
Dr. Zimmerman's Office  
Classic Carpet  
Big Pine Florist  
Big Pine Video Store  
C & S Bank
- Big Pine Shopping Center**  
Laundry Mat  
Co Co's Kitchen  
Dr. Oppenheimer's Office  
Island Styles  
Edie Hallmark Shop  
Winn Dixie  
Walker's Pet Shop  
Tropical Appliances  
Lower Keys Animal Hospital  
Lil's Restaurant  
Roger's Wicker Rattan  
Pine Needles  
Pine Dreams  
Yogurt Shop  
Sheriff's office  
Dr. Jose Castillo's office

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Duval Books and Cards-817 Duval  
Andrews Guest House-Whallon Lane  
Morrell Muske-901 B. Duval (Olivia)  
Gingerbread Gallery-901 Duval  
Viva Zapata-903 Duval  
Wicker House-913 Duval  
Great Southern Gallery-910 Duval  
Lucky Street Gallery-919 Duval  
Tootsie's-Truman & Duval  
Adventure Scooters-Truman  
Halfred Motel-612 Truman  
Dell-Truman & Simonton  
Truman Medical-Eckerd's Plaza  
Video to Go-Eckerd's Plaza  
Cafe des Artistes-1007 Simonton  
Mr. Video-Simonton  
Moped Hospital-601 Truman  
Full Moon Saloon-1202 Simonton  
Buttery-1208 Simonton  
First State Bank-1201 Simonton  
The Grocer's-Simonton/United  
Hibiscus Motel-United & Simonton  
The Blue Marlin-Simonton  
Greg O'Berry Real Estate-Simonton  
Aunt Lolly's-728 Simonton  
Parcho & Lefty's-632 Olivia  
The Real Estate Co.-701 Simonton  
Island Wellness-530 Simonton  
Remax Real Estate-Simonton  
Walton House-525 Simonton
- Bina's-811 Fleming**  
Perkins & Sons-901 Fleming  
Curry & Sons-909 Fleming  
Solares Hill Design Group-901 Fleming  
Coco-937 Fleming  
Eden House-1015 Fleming
- Truman & White Street Area - Old & New Town**  
Sunbeam-500 White  
Harrison Gallery-825 White  
The Palms-820 White  
Dion's Quik Mart-Truman & White  
Chevron-Truman & White  
7 Days-1119 White  
United Street Laundry  
M&M Laundry-White and Virginia  
Gulfstream Market-1105 White  
Old Town Garden Villas-921 Center  
Marmad & Alligator-729 Truman  
El Rancho Motel-630 Truman  
Sara Cook-905 Truman  
Kiyushu-921 Truman  
Restaurant Store-925 Truman  
Key West Trading Post-1014 Truman  
Currency Exchange-1007 Truman  
Bargain Books-1028 Truman  
Book Rack-1114-A Truman  
Records and Rags-1018 Truman  
Wheels-1209 Truman  
Property Management of KW-1213 Truman  
Lato's Interiors-Eisenhower & Truman
- Audio International**  
Sunbeam Market  
Sands Real Estate
- Habana Plaza Area - New Town**  
Video to Go  
Uncle Garlin's Food Store  
Island Florist  
La Lechona  
Lower Keys Animal Clinic  
C&S  
Sawyer  
URCOK Plumbing  
Dion's Quik Mart  
Southwest-Truman & White  
Healthcare for Women  
Budde's
- Searstown - New Town**  
Bavarian Bakery  
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Conn's Card Shop  
Waldenbooks  
Island Freeze  
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Robert Garcia Jewelry  
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by Frances-Elizabeth Signorelli

Hostess asks me to drop by and meet her twin sister. Her house lies off Elizabeth Street in the famous Solares Hill arrondissement, sticking out at an acute angle off the six-foot slope. I supply myself with kleenex as a provision, for Key Westers have been known to break out in nose bleed at the ascension.

Hostess, with her lovely dark red hair, is unutterably concerned. She says, "The house mouse here has a nasty cough. I can hear him back of the baseboard, and I've put out for him a dab of Vick's salve in a saucer."

Hostess just got a postcard from her baby sister who is a wrestler at a Detroit coliseum. The p.c. says, "I'm to be on the mat with Ms. Cherry Cone July 4. Hope you can come." Hostess, herself, is a sales rep for Swiss toilets that flush silently. Any time I am with her, she teaches me about joy in the work you love, about respect for the earth and its growth and the people on it, and about possessing nothing that you don't know to be useful or that you believe, according to your lights, to be beautiful.

She seats me in a big, long window trough, which is upholstered, in a costly way, with tan fur. It's like being in a camel's coffin.

Now enters Hostess' flamboyant, identical twin with her escort, a hawk-faced senator from Tallahassee. Twin has orange-red hair. At the same moment, from the kitchen emerges Hostess's companion, with whom she seems to have a fierce and lasting alliance. He's a red-headed Irish entrepreneur. A little finger grows out of his arm below the elbow. As he lifts his arm to shake hands, it beacons.

When you confront this in a human, be vigilant.

It is told around Key West that he has six million dollars hidden in vaults in San Salvador. I look around at Hostess, at Twin and at Hostess's companion, and I am very put out. I recall that, unfortunately, I have promised myself since childhood that if I ever were to see three red-haired persons together, I would give a hundred-dollar contribution to the Republican party.

Twin's description: Physically as unlike as she is with her sister—she, brash-looking, Hostess, gentle-looking—perhaps their likenesses are more important than their differences. Twin is clad in a navel-length hot pink microskirt that looks like a source of scandal to the Solares Hill enclave. She's not young enough for this outfit. She is so obsessed with germs that she refuses to touch door handles. Unwisely, she has "drink taken" around at parties so often that

here friends, at evening's end, just put her into a taxi, labeled. Hostess says, "Remember, Sis, you're now up in Solares Hill society, which upholds overtones of propriety."

The senator's description: He has a red tie and is blasphemous. He is a self-absorbed man walking stiffly, wearing a corset. This statesman isn't in his senatorial offices at the state senate building much at all. He's off at Aspen skiing or Pebble Beach golfing or on yachts following the jet set. At this stately office, he has a clever arrangement so that visiting constituents can see his "real life" image in mirrors with a tape saying, "Darlings, I'm due on the floor of the senate instantly for a vote." Voters seem to be satisfied with the way they are received.

At this point, the house cat wobbles through, and Hostess explains that she had to take her to the vet for an abortion. Right-to-Lifers of Solares Hill environs march past with sandwich boards, "Kitty killers are cloven devils."

The cat hangs around rubbing Hostess' leg, wanting appeasement. Hostess says, "A cat is a cat. It's inadequate as a substitute for a girlfriend, for a boyfriend, for a spiritual adviser or for a psychiatrist."

Hostess' companion brings in brandy apples. He puts brandy into the apples, where he had hollowed out the cores. It soaks overnight up into the apple and gives people something nice to munch the next day. He once was a master chef on a Merchant Marine vessel, and he must have been good, as in the Merchant Marines, if chefs don't please with food, they are thrown overboard.

He passes around plates of appetizers. Some of the things look like ears. There are others look like elbows. All are tasty.

Conversation is quite familial. It seems that the brother of Hostess and Twin has left his wife and is living like an alligator at the pond on Big Pine key.

The senator needs to come through with an axiom. He does so: "If you have one true friend, you have more than your share." This utterance falls upon the assembled with the weight of a delightful, unexpected, ridiculous, incontrovertible statement.

Twin walks along the hall and tells Hostess, "We're leaving now." Then, she catches on that this lady she sees is not her sister; it's herself, her own image, that she sees in a long mirror.

The cat sits and ponders her loss. The mouse gives a wee, wheezy cough.



## Community Notes

### \$15,000 to Oldest House

The Old Island Restoration Foundation received a \$15,000 matching grant from the Florida Historic Preservation Trust Fund to begin restoration work on the Oldest House/Wreckers Museum at 322 Duval Street. The house, built in 1829 by wrecking Captain Francis B. Watlington, is the oldest structure standing in the Keys. OIRF plans on matching the grant to provide the historical research, engineering and architectural design necessary to complete an authentic renovation.

### Mangrove Pays the Price

Local businessman Frank Romano has won a libel suit against the *Mangrove*, a small Keys newspaper that published defamatory statements about him last year. Judge Richard Fowler found the paper and its agents guilty of both libel and invasion of privacy in a column which contained accusations about Romano's alleged political and social activities. Fowler's judgment ordered the defendants, publisher Angus MacPhearson (a dog) and columnist Winnie Cates (a pseudonym), to pay punitive and compensatory damages, as well as court costs and attorneys' fees.

### Your Recipe in Print

The Metropolitan Community Church of Key West is accepting recipes for its special *Key West Collection* cookbook, which it plans to publish this fall. The collection will include several hundred recipes from local residents, part-time residents, public officials and celebrities. Anyone is welcome to submit a recipe. Entries may be mailed or brought to the church located at 1215 Petronia Street. Each recipe should include ingredients, directions for cooking and the name of the person submitting it. All proceeds from the cook-book will be used by the church for its local ministry work, including its pantry program to feed the hungry. For information call 294-8912.

### The Old Switcheroo

Two captains in the Monroe County Sheriff's Office recently switched command positions. Captain Joe Leiter, formerly commander of the special operation's division, has taken command of the Upper Keys Pa-



CAPTAINS: Joe Leiter and Bob Wilkinson. Leiter Division at the Plantation Key Sheriff's Substation. The substation was run by Captain Bob Wilkinson, who now holds Leiter's former position. Leiter has been with the department for 11 years; Wilkinson 17 years.

### LVA Needs You

Literacy Volunteers of America desperately needs tutor volunteers in the Middle Keys. According to Bill Clift, the program's executive director, "More and more people are becoming aware of our program and are asking for assistance for themselves or somebody they know." Clift says that the program loses many of its volunteers during summer months, when they return to second homes up North. Volunteers are also needed to work on community awareness and support programs. For information call Barbara Heim in the Upper Keys at 852-9984; Marguerite Solomon in the Middle Keys at 743-9144; and the LVA office in the Lower Keys at 294-4352.

### Democrats to Select Delegates

The Monroe County Democratic Executive Committee will select eight delegates to represent the county at the Florida State Democratic Convention in Orlando from December 12 to 14. All registered Democrats are eligible to serve as a delegate. Those interested must apply to the executive committee no later than August 15. Delegates will be selected at the county convention October 5 at Hawk's Cay Resort. Applications may be obtained through Lou Hernandez, Chairman of the Monroe County Democratic Committee, Post Office Box 6333, Key West, 33041. For information on the convention contact Hernandez or Ellie Cameron, c/o Middle Keys Democratic Club, 10888 Overseas Highway, Marathon, 33050.

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### The 10th Annual Literary Seminar

"Literature and Film" will be the theme of the 10th Annual Key West Literary Seminar and Writers' Workshop held January 9 to 13, 1992. During the week of workshops, presentations, film screenings and gatherings, noted writers, screenwriters and critics will discuss classic and contemporary literature as it relates to film. Among those that will participate, schedules permitting, are Bill Cosford, Blythe Danner, Molly Haskell, William Hanley and others. For information call (305) 745-3640.

### Bahamian Settlement Restoration

Work has begun on the next major phase of conservation at Marathon's Crane Point Hammock. Adderley Town, named after George Adderley, a black Bahamian who immigrated to Florida in 1890, is scheduled for complete restoration of its 10-acre townsite. The area has been lauded as an irreplaceable historic and archeological resource. It is an example of African-American architecture whose style can be traced to Africa through the Caribbean. The Adderley home, located deep within the tropical hardwood forest of Crane Point Hammock's 63.5-acre tract, is the only known example of Bahamian Masonry architecture in southern Florida.

### Emergency Room Expansion

The Lower Florida Keys Health System began major renovation of its emergency room as part of the comprehensive plan to improve conditions and consolidate medical services. When finished, the room will provide more efficient patient services.

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TAKE OUT AVAILABLE

**AIDS Help Elects Officers**

AIDS Help, Inc., the nonprofit, organization that provides services and support for Monroe County residents with HIV-related diseases, recently elected officers for 1991-1992. They are: Carol L. Rogers, president; Albert H. McCarthy, vice-president; Charles W. Kesler, secretary; and John B. Holder, treasurer. All four were re-elected into the same positions they held last year. In other business, AIDS Help was

recently granted \$850 from the Burroughs Wellcome Co., a major pharmaceutical firm, to purchase an overhead projector.

**Audubon Society Needs You**

The Florida Keys Audubon Society urges public participation in the upcoming hearings concerning the proposed lease of state lands to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Society (FWS). During the hearings, scheduled for August 8 and 9, the lease agreement between the Florida Department of Natural Resources and the FWS will require approval by the governor and cabinet. The federal government will then have jurisdiction over state waters within the refuge

boundaries, enabling one resource agency to manage and protect both islands and surrounding waters. For information contact the Audubon Society at 294-4927.

**CES Joins War on Drugs**

Under a new policy recently instituted by the Utility Board of the City of Key West and based on the Business Against Drugs (BAD) Program and Policy Forms, all job applicants for CES must undergo screening for the presence of illegal drugs or alcohol. The policy states that CES will not discriminate against applicants for employment because of past abuse of drugs or alcohol. However, CES will not tolerate current abuse of drugs or alcohol, which is preventing individuals from properly performing their jobs.

**Reef Relief Gets Busy**

In mid-July Reef Relief, assisted by John Halas of the Key Largo National Marine Sanctuary, began re-installing 15 reef mooring buoys and added new buoys to the current Key West-area reef mooring buoy program. A new design, called a manta ray, was installed at rubble areas where original core-type installations have been pulled out. Craig Quirolo, executive director of Reef Relief, hopes to be able to raise the funds necessary for completing the installation. Local charter boats are being asked to donate a days' charter revenues from Reef Awareness Week (July 21-27) to fund the reef mooring project and the Environmental Education Center.

**Talking Turtle**

According to a recent update from the Save-A-Turtle foundation in Islamorada, about one-tenth of sea turtle deaths are caused by shrimping practices. However, with the recent seasonal requirement of TEDs (turtle excluder devices) in shrimp nets, the mortality rate should be dropping. The Coast Guard reports that overall compliance is 85 percent and improving. Currently, TED regulations are being modified to improve enforcement and increase the areas of coverage.

**Massive Stock Island Clean Up**

Deanna Lloyd, the Monroe County grant manager, along with 101 volunteers recently cleaned up 146 tons of trash and 25 tons of recyclables from Stock Island. Entire families participated in the clean up.

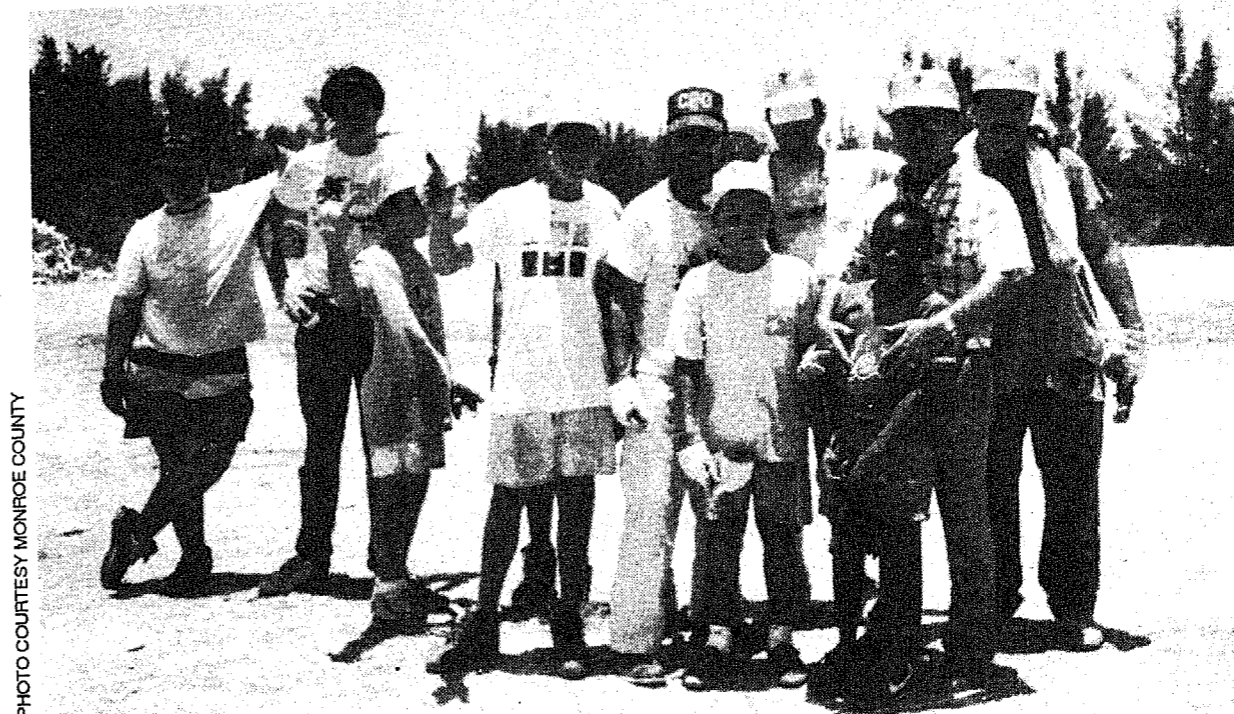


PHOTO COURTESY, MONROE COUNTY

A FAMILY AFFAIR: Young and old worked to make the Stock Island Clean-Up a success.

Environmental Management and Waste Management spent another day hauling the waste away. Lloyd said the effort included clearing vagabond homesites.

**AIDS: Women Are at Risk**

In a recent newsletter of the National Lawyers Guild AIDS Network, AIDS was cited as the fifth leading cause of death for women aged 15 to 44 in the United States. According to this data, which came from the Center for Disease Control, women represent the fastest growing segment of people with AIDS in the country. The newsletter also featured articles about social and epidemiological views of the epidemic as it relates to women and the criminal laws and quarantine initiatives invoked to regulate women thought to be HIV-positive. Copies of the articles are available at the AIDS Help office in Key West. Request articles 14 and 15 from the February 1991 issue.

**Adopt a Block**

Daughters of the Conch Republic, along with Friends of Florida and Margaritaville, are urging individuals and organizations to "Adopt a Block" for Earth Day. The most improved blocks will be awarded prizes on Earth Day, April 21, 1992. For information on the project, contact Shellie at the Margaritaville offices at 424-A Fleming Street or call 292-8413.

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**PROTECT LIVING CORAL BE A SEA FAN!**  
REEF RELIEF is dedicated to "Preserving the Living Coral Reef of the Florida Keys." Programs include maintaining 83 reef mooring buoys, operating in the Environmental Education Center in Key West, and oversight of threats to the reef. Tax-deductible membership is \$20/year and includes a "Be A Sea Fan" poster, bumper sticker & pin, decal, quarterly newsletter & action alerts. Send Check to: REEF RELIEF PO Box 430, Key West, FL 33041 or stop by the Reef Relief Environmental Education Cntr. 201 William St.

**Conservancy and NOAA Join Hands**  
The Nature Conservancy and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration have entered into a cooperative

agreement to engage in joint programs for the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. The purpose is to provide all the essentials necessary for understanding and maintaining the National Marine Sanctuaries and National Estuarine Research Reserves. The agreement will allow the conservancy and the sanctuary programs to collaborate on scientific and educational activities. Initial projects will focus on outreach, education, and volunteer programs.

**Photography Contest for Kids**

Children aged 5 thru 19 years—get your cameras ready! Olympus Corporation has announced a summer photo contest. Age groups are broken into three divisions: 5 to 11 years, 12 to 15 years, and 16 to 19 years. All entries must relate to the contest's conservation theme to be eligible. One individual in each division will win an Olympus Infinity Twin Camera. Slides, which can be taken with a 35 mm lens, should be sent to Olympus Photo Contest: Box 213, Tavernier, Florida 33070. The deadline is August 30, 1991. For information call (305) 852-8813.

**Deck The Floors Sale.**

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**On The Town**  
with Jane Phillips

**Around the island ...**  
Photographer Richard Watherwax wore them to his opening with white tie and tails; artist Kathleen Elgin ties little gold bows on them for dress-up occasions; Russell House skin consultant Allegra Kessler has them in a variety of colors for every day in the week. Madonna and Harrison Ford love them, too. They are Birkenstock sandals. People can't leave home without them.

When the German-made products first set foot in the U.S. in 1967, they were sold only in health-food stores. Today Rob Crust, who sells them in his Duval Street shop, reports that sales are brisk.

"That's due to word of mouth," he says. "People hear about them from somebody else and come in and buy a pair. It's a radical concept in shoes. They fit."

Congratulations to Founders Society prexy June Girard, recently elected secretary of the board of directors for the Florida League of Women Voters. She received best wishes from Governor Lawton Chiles. Girard perfectly illustrates the adage: if you want to get a job done, ask a busy person.

Clearwater resident Nancy Murrin was a volunteer at the T-shirt booth annual Clearwater-Key West Yacht Race. How does she feel about our town? "I love it here," she says. "This is where I come to vacation. I'd never send anyone to Clearwater for a vacation."

Reach Resort exec Shiela Sands is off to the wilds of Montana to visit the man in her life, fishing guide Michael Pollack. Michael has the best of both worlds, Montana in the summer; Key West



ARTISTIC GATHERING: Tracey Livesey, Thom Joris and Dan Finley at Joris' surprise birthday party, which was thrown by his wife, Carrie Disrude.

in the winter.

David Kaufelt has been elected to the board of directors for the Art and Historical Society. He's in charge of publicity. "My job is to get people back to Martello," David says. Does that mean the lines at the buffet table will be even longer?

World traveler and current Key West resident Jerry Van Horn loves to quote his favorite ad from the personal's column: "Wanted, a good woman who can cook, clean fish and has a job, boat and motor. Send photo of boat and motor." You can recognize Jerry by his blond hair and the lion tattoo on his foot.

Susan and Jimmy Weekley missed the annual Hospice Fourth-of-July benefit celebration at the Casa Marina this year. Instead they enjoyed a Yankee-style holiday in Brunswick, Maine.

Man-about-town Rex Brumgart is summering in one of the most beautiful spots on the Maine coast—Boothbay Harbor. If you're in the area look him up at

Pier 6 on Fisherman's Wharf.

Artist Errol Etienne has temporarily given up the wild life of Key West to paint the wild flowers of Maine in preparation for a Labor Day show in Bayside, Maine. He took a farewell cruise on the Schooner Wolf before departure.

Don't expect to see "Noodleman" Ron Carter around town. He's off to Washington, D.C. for a A.C.L.U. conference, which he'll follow with a Rainbow Gathering in Vermont. In case you don't know, the Rainbow Gathering is a convention of hippies from the Seventies.

See it like a tourist ...

Key West residents Randi Delby and Dan Sullivan, who are also one of the nicest couples in town, hopped aboard the Reel Serious charter boat docked at Garrison Bight. Touring the back-country waters with Captain Paul, they explored an island and enjoyed the peace and serenity of the area.

Hemingway Days gets bigger and better every year. Organizer Michael Whalton announced that it was chosen by Vacation Magazine as one of the top ten festivals this summer and that it's getting lots of national attention. Artist/writer Vaughn Gibson, winner of the first Hemingway Short Story Contest, has left the island to take up residence in Mexico.

After Dark ...

Singing waitrons Sally O'Boyle, Carmen Rodriguez, Robin Deck, Joan O'Dowd, Mimi McDonald, Danny Weathers, Melody Cooper and Stuart Parker on piano helped make the AIDS fundraiser—The Conch Republic Dinner at Pier House—a big success.

Al McCarthy hosts some of the best parties in town at his beautiful William Street home. The latest was a special event in honor of Joe Pais, who is planning to run for city commission. The gathering, which was co-hosted by Lucio Petrocelli, gave everyone a chance to talk politics and, of course, to have a good time. Lucio doesn't have wings, but he's been an angel to the Key West Woman's Club with his continuing generosity toward its restoration projects.

Michael Stuart is a terrific host at his Square One Restaurant. It's the place to "see and be seen," especially during Happy Hour when all the regulars drop in. Presiding over the bar is one of the most popular (and best-looking) bartenders in town—Patrick "Patty Cakes" Hayes.

Taking over for Patrick at Papillon is Bill Miroy—just ask for "Dorothy."

Artist Carrie Disrude threw a surprise birthday party for hubby sculptor Thom Joris. A great time was had by all, in and out of the pool. Guests included Tracy Livesey, Dan Finley, John and Debbie Vagnoni and Gazelle and Quint Lange. The Joris family is off to Chicago for an Art in Public Places project.

After weeks of debate, we hear the Reach has finally settled on a new name for Emma's Restaurant. It will soon become Bovary's—at least that keeps it in the family.

"Summertime and the livin' is easy ..."

There are fewer people, more parking spaces and time to smell the night blooming jasmine. It's the perfect opportunity to treat yourself to one of those fancy pastel drinks with the little umbrellas on top. For a really special day, tuck a copy of Joy Williams' book Escapes in your beach bag and spend a day at the Sixth Best Beach in the U.S.A.—Bahia Honda. See you in the fall ... ☺

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# A Back-To-School Report

by Elizabeth M. Smith

As the new school year gets underway there is, of course, both good and bad news. First the bad news: the continued budget crunch will likely translate to further increases in class size. Now the good: our local school system is fortunate enough to be implementing some new programs this year.

*Classroom of the Future*  
A \$395,000 grant from the Department

of Education will enable the establishment of a new program that Dr. A. J. Henriquez, superintendent of schools, describes as being "one of the most exciting new thrusts in our schools this year."

The grant, which is just \$5000 shy of the maximum available to schools, will be used to set up "state-of-the-art" computerized science labs in each district's elementary and middle schools. The new technology that will be made available to students includes laser printers, microscopes and

weights. The students will also pilot-test new IBM software. At year's end, the schools will assess which products best suit their needs and purchase accordingly.

Teachers who have been selected to operate the new labs have completed intensive training at the Dade County Museum of Science this summer.

Henriquez envisions the program as a "venture into the 21st century" that will be the envy of other school districts. He hopes his enthusiasm will be contagious.

"We want our kids to be excited about science," he says. "We need to train our students for a new world; to prepare them for jobs in the technology fields. These will be very attractive classrooms for the kids."

The program's "hands-on" approach to science involves setting up the labs—a deliberate maneuver to avoid using textbooks for science.

"Research shows that science is turning over every three to five years," says Henriquez. "Therefore, a textbook is out of date by the time it is purchased. These labs will utilize videos, software, compact discs, encyclopedias."

### Writing for Fun

This year, the "Writing to Read" program will be expanded to include all elementary schools within Monroe County.

Gerald Adams Elementary School, on Stock Island, piloted this program for two years in kindergarten and first grades. Phyllis Allen, the school's principal, was part of a team of educators investigating technology within the curriculum. She was impressed by IBM's "Writing to Read" program and decided to operate it on a trial basis within her school.

The premise of this phonetically based system is that a student's experiences in turning his own abstract thoughts into concrete language will encourage him to read further. It is not necessary to spell correctly at first, since increased exposure to books and words in print will help students make the transition from the phonetic to dictionary spellings.

Students progress through a cycle of ten books, which provide a vocabulary with which to begin sentence construction.

As the young writers create their own stories on the word processor, they are encouraged to read them to each other back in the classroom. Principal Allen reports that the students have found this sharing process to be highly motivating.

"They can't wait to go back to the writing lab to work more on their stories," she says.

The results of the two-year trial period are good. The measurement criteria were: feedback from students and teachers and standardized test-score results.

Did the kids like this program?  
"They loved it," says Allen. "They looked forward to this class and were very eager to go to the computer lab."

Ultimately, the test scores are the

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strongest indicators of how the program is working. Prior to implementing it, the mean test score for Gerald Adams kindergarten and first grade students in language skills never rose above the fourth stanine in the Metropolitan Readiness Test (the SAT's of the younger set). This year, the score was high, in the fifth stanine. English as a Second Language (ESOL) students, who used the program, also scored much higher than in previous years. The school attributes this dramatic increase, in large part, to the success of the *Writing to Read* program.

This year, Gerald Adams will pilot the follow-up program, *Writing To Write*, for the second grade. IBM has devised the software as a system of consecutive steps, to operate through third grade. It may be further expanded to include higher grades at a later date.

### Crisis Intervention for Stressed-Out Students

Why are our students under stress? Dr. Henriquez believes there are several reasons: economic pressures on the family; single parent households; dysfunctional families. In the pressure-cooker of adolescence, substance abuse sometimes appears to be a re-

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Schools are trying to help students cope with these pressures. Through parent-education programs and life-skills counselors, they hope to meet emotional and psychological needs as well as educational needs.

Locally, a hundred trained peer counselors offer a support system to students and refer to professional help when necessary.

Also, coming on-line this fall is a new 800 number: a telephone service that will offer counseling on an anonymous basis to students and parents alike.

This national service is staffed by trained sociologists and psychologists. It will be available around the clock, 365 days a year. Described as a "warm line," it addresses a more specific group than "hot lines."

Principals throughout the district have become aware of a growing number of students being counseled within the schools. At a principal's meeting, tapping into a nationwide resource was unanimously agreed as something worth while. The cost to the district for the first year of this service will be

\$4500. Next year, grants will be sought from the private sector to keep the program if it proves effective. Further details about this resource will be made available through the local media and school bulletins.

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# A Century in Business: Porter Allen Co.

by Bud Jacobson

One hundred years and they're still doing insurance business under the same name. The Porter Allen Co. is the longest-established establishment in Monroe County.

In 1891, William R. Porter, whose friends and business colleagues knew him as "Willie," and George Allen were among a tiny band of original Bahamian settlers who controlled this island town's economy and politics. Their wives held sway over its social affairs. Together with their tight-knit group of friends, they were the upper strata. They made the wheels go round.

Between them, the two men owned the major portion of the stock in the First National Bank of Key West (now the Southeast Bank). With that as the core of their holdings, they bought extensive properties in the commercial center of the city. All of it—docks, a warehouse, boats and various businesses—involved the bustling shipping trade that dominated that corner of town.

A century ago, Key West—an eight-square-mile island—was populated on only the west and north sides, where the high ground and freshwater wells were located. It was the richest and most prosperous town in Florida. Except for a couple of towns up



MAIN MEN: (l to r) David Freeman, Bill Canals, William Freeman, Sr., Frank Bell & Billy Freeman.

near Tallahassee, nothing compared with it.

Porter was a young man, imaginative and aggressive, who saw numerous advantages in business on the island, and it was he who took Allen aside one day, saying something like:

"There's an opportunity here, George, for an insurance office as an adjunct to our bank. We could run it in an office away from the bank and represent big companies up north, insure homes and businesses, offer bonds and perform other services for the people."

"What do you say? Let's team up as partners, and we'll call ourselves the Porter Allen Co. We'll be the only insurance company in Key West."

"Hmm-m-m-m," mused Allen, an older man, more conservative, inclined to puff on his Havana cigar (made in Key West, of course) and stroke his whiskers.

Through the open window in George Allen's office (he was president of the place), they could hear the sounds of the town, the voices calling out, the clang-rattle

of the streetcar as it came down Duval Street. They could see the dust rise from streets, which were paved in crushed rock and shells.

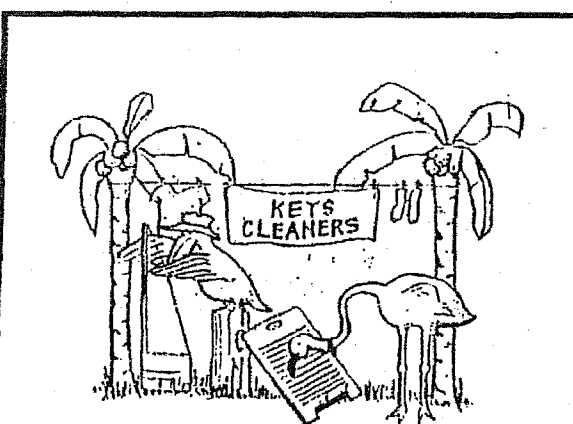
It was late afternoon and over the Porter docks they had a view of the water and ships.

"Almost time for sunset, George," Porter remarked. "It sure is beautiful from here."

The next day the two men signed the partnership papers, and within a few weeks the Porter Allen Co. opened its first business office in a tall handsome red-brick building at 319 Duval Street. The building was one of many erected by the state's first millionaire, William Curry, for a member of his family. Today it houses, as it has for many years, the Key West Woman's Club.

Willie Porter, it just so happened, lived across the street, next door to the Oldest House. Members of his family, by blood and marriage, clustered in homes along the street and around Caroline toward White-

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## ISLAND ECONOMICS



required to furnish, prior to commencement of work, a written statement to all customers requesting custom work with the following information: price of basic item, price of custom work (labor and materials), and total cost to customer."

Persons who violate the ordinance on retail sales of custom made wearing apparel can be fined up to \$500. And, "the business name of any person found to have twice violated this Section shall be forwarded to the city commission for consideration of occupational license revocation."

The signs are not required to be posted in German, French, Spanish, Italian or Japanese—only English

As the Monroe County Tourist Development Council (TDC) spends more money to attract affluent Japanese to the Florida Keys, hotels also focus on accommodating them. Major resorts, such as, the Reach, Casa Marina and Pier House, have menus written in Japanese.

The Reach attracts many young Japanese visitors are on their honeymoons, says Vanessa McCaffrey, travel industry sales manager for the resort.

Casa Marina has installed a telephone line which gives instant Japanese-English translation, according to Gailanna Matthews, the resort's sommelier. "Some nights the whole dining room is Japanese," says Matthews. "We look forward to seeing the Japanese."

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## Business Tides

The National Association of Dealers in Antiques, Inc. (NADA) has granted active membership status to Antiques Key West, located at 423 Simonton Street. NADA promotes and enforces a code of professional ethics as well as provides an educational forum for its members. To date, Antiques Key West is the only NADA member in Dade and Monroe Counties.

Toby Nichols and his sister, Susan Brander, have announced Regency Travel's recent opening in its new Overseas Marketplace location. The original office at 827 Simonton Street will continue to operate. The hours of both are 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. In addition to providing information on travel destinations around the world, Regency's staff can customize tours for individuals and groups alike. Spanish-speaking staff members are available.

Unity of the Keys Church announces the opening of its Opportunity Shop and Gallery at 627 Eaton Street. The store's entire inventory was donated by Solita Robinson. Several local artists, including Ruth Cade, Lois Giffen, Edie Costa and Morning Star are displaying their work. Donations are welcome, and pick-up service can be arranged. Store hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Call 292-1774.

The first mayor of Monroe County, Gerald Saunders, made a special trip to Key West to initiate Ed and Anita Clark as Honorary Conchs. The Clarks, who own



FIRST FLIGHT: (l to r) Gerry Tinlin, County Mayor Wilhelmina Harvey, Senator Larry Plummer, and Chalk's International Airlines general manager, Bill Jones.

Chalk's International Airlines has begun seaplane service between Miami and Key West, with two daily round-trip flights from Miami, Fridays through Mondays. The airline flies 17-passenger Grumman Mallard

Re/Max Paradise Real Estate Company in Key West, are pleased with the declaration.

Life Center's "Freedom House" announced the addition of Capt. Karl J. Koch to its staff. Koch is a graduate of both the U.S. Naval Academy, Georgetown University and Brooks Institute of Photography, where he earned a certificate in underwater photography and television. He is also a PADI open-water instructor with 10

turboprops. Chalk's flights operate from the Watson Island seaport in downtown Miami to Key West's international airport. Airline officials are hoping to establish a water landing site in Key West in the near future.

specialties, including underwater photography and video. Koch has worked on such films as "Thunderball," "The Deep," and in several documentaries with Jacques Cousteau and the National Science Foundation. At present, he is working in conjunction with Freedom House on a comprehensive water-oriented operation in the Key West area.

Charlene Borck recently pulled up stakes and moved her fish shop to the heart of Old Town. After working in the business for six years at a fish shop in Habana Plaza, Charlene struck out on her own to open the Waterfront Fish Market three years ago. Her marinated mussels, scallop cerviche and smoked fish salad became favorites among locals. At her new location, Borck has added a menu of prepared hot items. Charlene's Old Town Fish Market, located at 513 Greene Street, is open daily except Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 294-8046.

Interstate Hotels Corporation, operator of the 314-room resort and 45 other properties nationwide, has named Marriott's Casa Marina Resort in Key West as the "1990 Hotel of the Year." The Casa Marina was honored for its overall superior performance, outstanding financial achievement and achievement of company objectives. According to George Fetherston, regional vice-president of Interstate Hotels for Florida and North Carolina, "Not only do guests find the resort an outstanding place to visit, they're telling us it provides excellent value."

Christine Smith, victim services coordinator for the state's attorney's office, announced that six volunteers have recently



# ISLAND ECONOMICS



completed a 25-hour training course offered by the Rape Victim Advocacy Program. With the help of its volunteers, the program has greatly expanded its ability to serve the community. Call 292-3400.

Bruce M. Zabov has joined AIDS Help, Inc. as a member of its case management team. Zabov comes to AIDS Help with two decades of background in social work, adult and family counseling and therapy. He hopes to use his wealth of experience to enhance the lives of people with HIV illnesses living in the Keys. "Communities like ours that have been severely touched by AIDS must use and develop flexible, innovative approaches to care for those with this illness, and it means a great deal to me to be part of that here," Zabov says. He has lived in the Keys resident since 1989.

Remember Sean Akron, the college student/entrepreneur who recently came to Key West to shoot a calendar—"The Men of Ohio State?"—for his university. Well, Akron is scheduled to return July 28 to August 4. This time he plans to shoot "The Women of Ohio State." Property Management of Key West is assisting Akron and his entourage by providing housing for the group at the restored Casa Gate Condominiums, which will also serve as the setting for many of the photo shoots. Akron also plans to expand his market and sell the calendars here in Key West in September. Call 296-7744.

The Sugarloaf Leisure Club (MM 19 1/2) has announced that it is under new management for the summer. Hosts Pat and Gretchen Cooper explain that the Club's amenities include a swimming pool, jacuzzi, tennis, weight room, air-conditioned racketball, volleyball, bar and restaurant. The club is open daily, except Tuesday, from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Highly acclaimed chef Tom Emerick, featured on the PBS series "Great Chefs of the Southwest," prepares deliciously different culinary treats Thursday through Sunday. Call 745-3276.

Paradise Promotion, a new marketing, advertising and public relations service, is now open in the Keys. Founder Dexter Simmons and his wife, Alyson Simmons, have over 25 years of tourism experience. Both have extensive education and experience in tourism marketing and journalism. They arrived in Key West in early July, relocating from Crystal Mountain, Washington. Paradise Promotions is prepared to help Keys businesses develop tourism promotions, create special events and aid in consumer research.

Southernmost Credit Consultants, located at 517 Whitehead Street, announces that it has enlarged its loan portfolio offerings to meet the increased demand for refinancing Keys properties. They now offer new, more flexible options for refinancing

first mortgages, balloon mortgages, and easy-closing seconds. Specific programs have been developed to allow homeowners to combine their refinancing and home improvement goals. Call 292-0064.

Dan Lee, president of First State Bank of the Florida Keys, recently handed over a check for \$1000 to Reef Relief. The money represents initial proceeds from the bank's Coral Reef Check Program, which encourages new memberships and contributions for Reef Relief. In other news, Reef Relief will now be able to meet the demands of those requesting copies of their "Household Guide to Coral Reef Protection." Don Nettleton and Graphics of Key West donated printing of 1000 copies of the guide on top-quality recycled paper.

Florida Keys Community College Library recently held a luncheon honoring Peter de la Garza, a retired librarian from the Library of Congress, who is FKCC's representative for the Library of

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Congress Gift and Exchange Program. De la Garza has already donated more than 1000 books with an estimated value of over \$35,000 to the library. The ongoing donations have been an invaluable addition to FKCC's collection. De la Garza was honored by Dr. William A. Seeker, FKCC president, with a Plaque of Appreciation.

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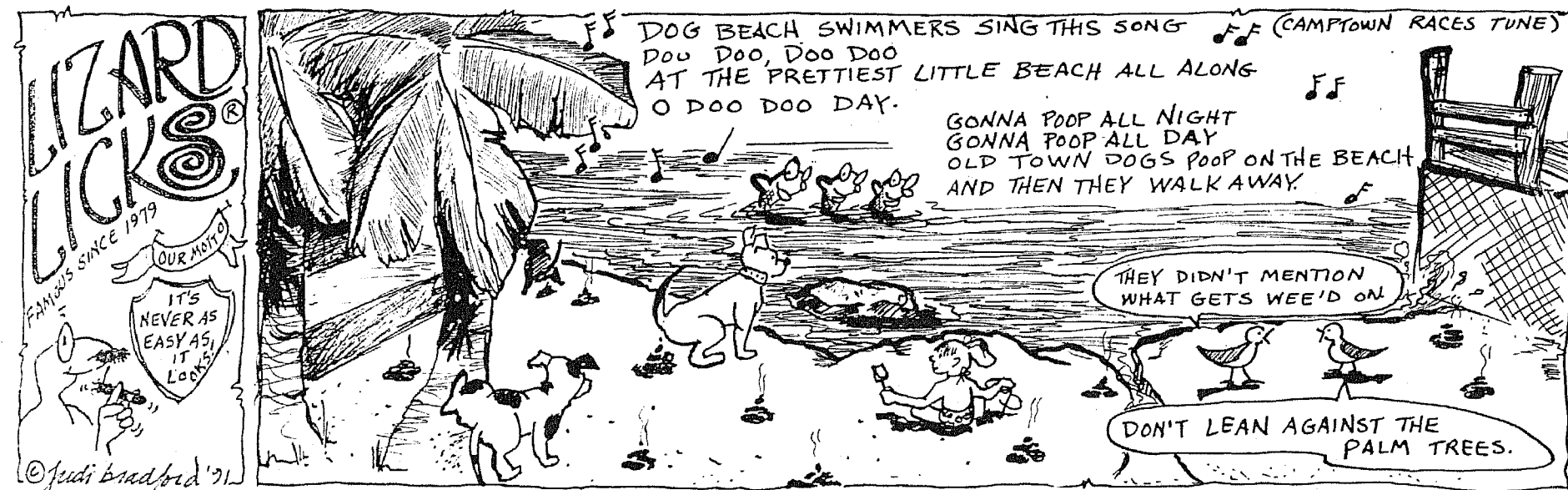
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## Desperately Seeking Mab

Dear Editor:  
John Cole's, "Tarpon Quest," which ran in the July *Solares Hill*, was exciting reading, and that type of literary effort would surely enhance your publication. However, I miss Bill Manville. Where has he been for the past two issues? Somehow, life isn't the same not knowing what new adventure has befallen Mab.

Ronald O. Fisher  
Winter Park

Bill Manville's column, "Key West Days and Nights," can be found in this issue. Unlike Mab, *Solares Hill* is sometimes inconsistent.

## In Absentia

Dear Editor:  
Praise be! With the recent absence of our two time-wasting, money-wasting, wrong-voting members of our city government, Captain Tony Taracino and Commissioner Harry Powell all kinds of good things have happened.

The city has finally done the right thing and provided its citizens a waterfront that will belong to them forever. With proper management and planning it can become a crown jewel of Key West.

And we've finally fired our illegal police chief, who refused to obey orders (in the service he would have been court-martialed and dismissed). His boss is the city manager

and his salary, by city charter, can not be higher. It's the law! His extra \$100,000 plus is the result of a year of wasted time caused by an illegal walk-out on a vote by Powell. The chief is an arrogant law-breaker who should join his old cronies, ex-City Manager Joel Koford. Good-bye and don't come back.

And lastly we had an awesome, inspiring traditional Navy "Change-of-Command" take place to install the new "Naval Air Station, Key West." As Wilhelmina Harvey can attest, it made the heart beat faster with pride on being in America and an American. We're safe in Navy hands.

Vic Dahn  
Key West

## Questions DER Ability

Dear Editor:

Behind the scenes and little known to the public, the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation is lobbying (evidently with success) to take over the water-quality program citizens believed was to be designed and implemented by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as part of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.

The DER has had their chance to protect water and natural resources of the Keys, and they haven't been too successful. The local office is not provided with the staff, resources and guidance necessary to do what needs to be done.

This is the same agency that recently

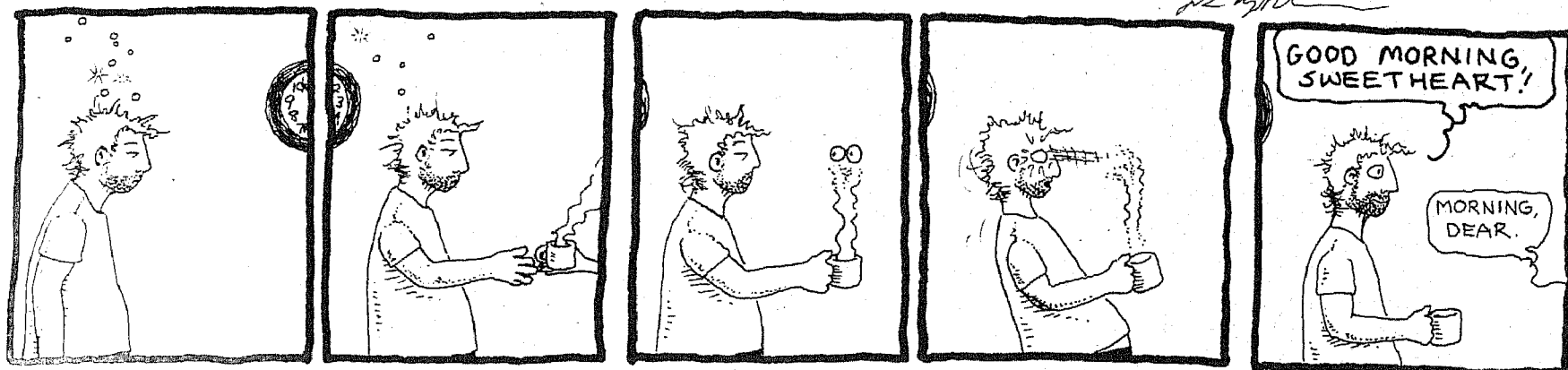
announced an intent to issue a permit for 1500 feet of fill road in tidal wetlands on Big Torch Key in an out-of-the-way area known to be frequented by Key deer. Fish swim across the property during predictable spring high tides. The only mitigation here is a conservation easement on an area of wetlands already regulated. The real kicker is that an improved road already exists up to the property line near the building site.

The DER is also the same agency that:

- tried to issue a permit to allow the building of a restaurant and condos on pilings in mangroves on the edge of the Key West Salt Ponds;
- tried to issue a shallow injection well permit for treated sewage from a condo at a site surrounded on three sides by water in Key West;
- failed to implement a phosphate ordinance in the Keys;
- has evidently permitted 120 more large boat slips in an already polluted Garrison Bight;
- recently permitted 182 boat slips up to 50 feet long in a dredged marina on north Stock Island;
- is apparently close to issuing a permit for 4 acres of seagrass to be filled with sand at Smathers Beach with little identifiable mitigation;
- has issued shallow injection-well permits for sewage disposal all over the Keys with little information on the long-term consequences of this method of disposal in our type of limestone geology.

Understand that all of these decisions

## EYE OPENER



## Chiles on Hate Crimes Act

Dear Editor:

As president of the Key West Business Guild, I had written to Gov. Lawton Chiles regarding the recent bill placed before him. Senate bill 1482 proposed an expansion of the Hate Crimes Act, which increase the harshness of a sentence upon anyone who victimizes another because of his or her sexual orientation.

I would like to share with the community of Key West the response from Gov. Chiles, who wrote:

"Thank you for your recent communication regarding Senate Bill 1482, the Hate Crimes Amendment regarding sexual orientation, which I have signed into law.

"The United States has a long and proud history of not discriminating against those whose beliefs or orientation may differ from the norm. The Hate Crimes Act and Senate bill 1482 is a significant reaffirmation of this tenet, which I strongly endorse.

"I believe it is essential that government sends a clear message that society will not tolerate crimes of hatred against any of our citizens. This new amendment to Florida's Hate Crimes law ensures that all people will be treated with the dignity all human beings in a civilized society deserve."

Gov. Chiles closed by saying that he felt this is an important matter.

Richard A. Van Hout, President  
The Key West Business Guild, Inc.



Understand that all of these decisions are being made in Ft. Myers and Tallahassee. Only when these permit actions are explained should a decision be made as to whether the DER is up to the task of insuring the maintenance of water quality and the protection of wetland resources necessary for the true health of a coral reef ecosystem.

It's the bottom line that counts, not how hard an agency says it's trying to do what's necessary.

Curtis Krueer  
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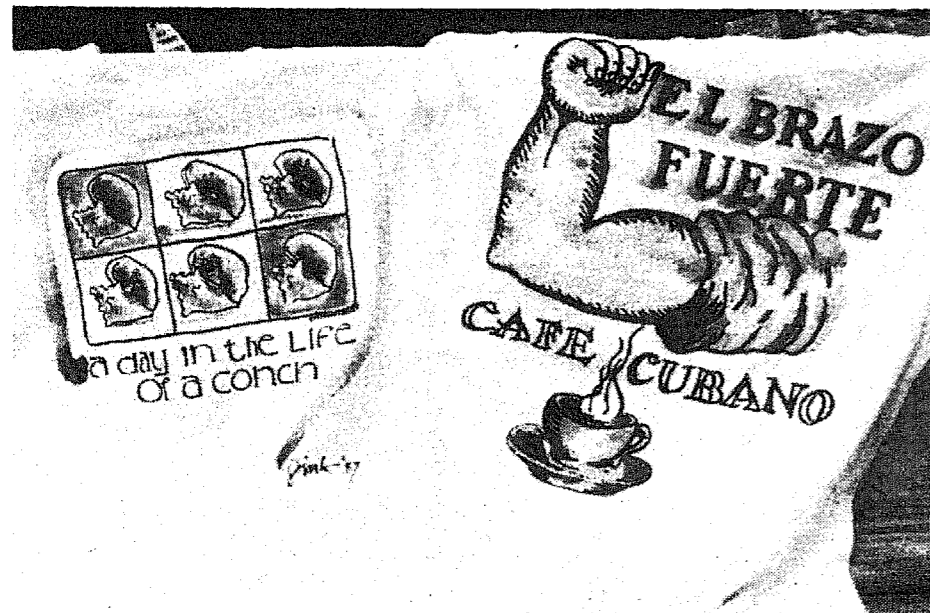
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# Grabbiti of the chest

by Judi Bradford

It's a T-shirt town. But you knew that even before there were two, three, four or more T-shirt shops on every block of Duval Street. There are also T-shirt emporia on White Street, at Land's End Village, on Greene Street, on Front Street, and down little side streets. The local Yellow Pages lists 36 establishments under the heading "T-shirts." There are also wholesalers and printers.

If each shop carries an inventory of a thousand shirts, that's more shirts than there

are Key West citizens. We're not counting the stockpiles awaiting design treatment at the silkscreen studios, nor the shirts from restaurants and bars that maintain sideline T-shirt businesses—the profits from which sometimes eclipse food and beverage earnings.

No longer considered underwear, T-shirts are now a fashion statement. Today they're tie-dyed, painted, airbrushed or printed, and influenced by anything from MTV to underground publications.

Locally, every artist in town seems to be producing T-shirts. They can be profitable.

Fred Gros' hand-painted shirts, for instance, are selling like crazy at Cody, a signature shop established for the sole purpose of selling his shirts.

"What we're selling," he says, "is a painting in a form that is practical. We're selling the painting and throwing the shirt in for free."

The T-shirt business boomed in the '80s. At first there were decorative designs and "membership" shirts that declared one's attendance at an event—"I was in on this," a T-shirt told others. Then your chest became prime advertising space—only you paid extra for it!

Above left: Dink Bruce artwork.

Above right: Katie Zimmerman in a Lizard Licks tee; Roma Rispoli in a Rose Tattoo shirt; Elizabeth Hogan in a "See You C.U.B.A.—90 miles from Cayo Hueso" shirt.



PHOTOS BY JUDI BRADFORD

UNIQUELY KEY WEST: Joshua Bashore in a Key West Runoff tee (1985); Stephen Blackburn in a Halley's Comet shirt produced by Latitude 24 (1986); Danielle Bertocci in "Save the Fisherman's Cafe" shirt.



FROM THE LATE '70s: Roma Rispoli wears "PIE Pizza Key West"; Samir Patel in "Air Sunshine"; Robbie Killen in "Sail Away."

Admit it. Almost every one of you has a shirt from Sloppy Joe's or Half Shell Raw Bar. If not from those two most popular places, or perhaps from the No Name Bar: "It's a nice place if you can find it." Or how about the Green Parrot's bottom-line message: "See the Keys on your hands and

## A Cut Above The Rest

The slash-and-wrap is a new breed of T-shirt that has nothing to do with color or line, inks or dyes. Created with scissors, slash-and-wrap designs have evolved from the lantern sleeves on T's of the '80s. Intricate patterns of tiny cuts, folds, plaits and weaves turn the modest T-shirt into a modern-day piece of art.

Experience counts here. The stretchy quality of the fabric can be tricky to cut, leaving the novice slasher with a garment too revealing to be worn, even over leotards.

knees."

In the mid-'80s, sales for Irene Grant's "It's the Heat" shirt paralleled thermometer peaks. A rash of editorial shirts were also created during that era, when local politics was at its most amusing and the city commission was the best show in town. (People took their out-of-town guests to watch the meetings. Really.)

Think back over nearly two decades of



TEE TRIO: Daniel Curtis wears "Bubba Shop Quartet"; Katie Zimmerman in "Sell Time-shares Other Places"; Lilly Cardenas in "No Nudes is Good Nudes."

T-shirt designs: How many of you remember the old Pie in the Sky Pizza Shop T-shirt? It showed an air-brushed multi-colored sun with "Pie Pizza Key West" in its center. Or how about the Air Sunshine shirt—a simple DC-3 against a huge sun?

Or what about Dink Bruce's "A Day in the Life of a Conch"? (The artist's personal archives feature a Brazo Fuerte Shirt, which should have Key West nostalgia fans drooling with envy. He says a friend who borrowed it was offered \$200 for it while

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passing through Palm Beach. Where's the blue book on this stuff?)

Of course, there's the palette shirt from Heliographics. And the Rose Tattoo.

Today the top commercial shirt in Key West, according to results from an informal poll, is the Hog's Breath image.

To amuse future anthropologists, perhaps Key Westers should bury a time capsule with nothing in it but T-shirts. ☐

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## Community Notes

### Buying Electricity

City Electric System will purchase at least 45 megawatts of electricity from Florida Power and Light beginning in 1993, the Utility Board decided during a regular meeting last month. The board voted to enter into a 20-year agreement with FP&L after CES's consulting engineers, Southern Engineering, recommended the agreement. A letter from the senior vice-president of

Southern Engineering, Janjai Chayavadhanangkur, stated, "The agreement for firm capacity and energy . . . will provide savings compared to other options investigated."

### 90,000 Backcountry Brochures

The Florida Department of Natural Resources recently published 90,000 copies of "Planning a Backcountry Trip?" The brochure, which outlines the proper way to explore the backcountry, is largely the result of local efforts. Among those who helped are: Tom Wilmers, from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Robin Bjork, from the National Audubon Society; Ross Burnaman, from the Wilderness Society; Don Gallagher, from Seacamp, Inc.; and Curtis Krueger, from the Florida Keys Audubon Society. Wilmers, the project coordinator, is looking for individuals and businesses that are interested in helping to distribute the

brochure. He may be reached 745-2719.

### Bank Survey

The *Veribanc News Release* recently reported the results of a Veribanc survey. The company, which follows activity in the banking world, found that 89 percent of those contacted believed their personal, retirement and business bank deposits are safe, and 11 percent believed they are not; 35 percent would be surprised if they found out that their bank is in financial difficulty, 59 percent would not; 66 percent said an unexpected tie-up of business funds for a few days would cause them problems, 33 percent said it would not; and 44 percent said if their bank had problems, they thought it would cancel their line of credit or call in their loans, regardless of their payment histories, 43 percent thought it would not. To order reports call 800-442-2657.

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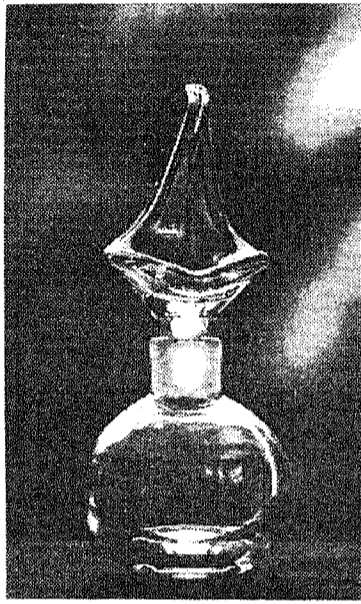
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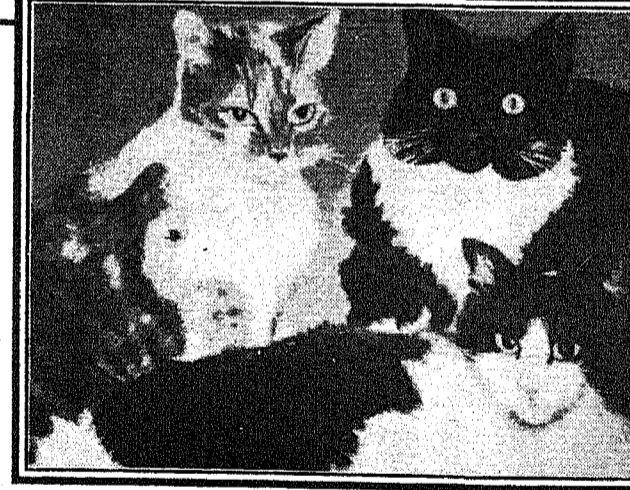
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## AUGUST ART CALENDAR

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

**Art Safari Gallery & Key Largo Antiques** • Museum-quality collections, including beaded masks and spears from four continents. MM 98.6, Gulf-side, Key Largo. 852-5933.

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

**Banana Boat Batik** • Hand-painted silk and cotton by Key West Attitude. New ceramic work by Walt Hyla—animals, fish, lidded vessels, functional ware and hanging fish sculptures. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 419B Duval St. 296-2380.

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

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

**East Bank Gallery** • Closed for summer. See you in the fall. Daily, except Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 706 White St. 296-2679.

**East Martello Museum & Gallery** • History of the Key West Customs House through summer. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$3 admission for adults. 3501 S. Roosevelt Blvd. 296-3913.

**Farrington Gallery 711** • New watercolors by Sylvia. Serigraphs by Igor Galanin. Daily, except Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 711 Duval St. 294-6911.

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

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

**Grand Collection** • Paintings, Asian antiques, ancient artifacts, tribal arts, jewelry. New hours: Sunday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 810 Duval St. 292-1331.

**Great Southern Gallery** • Antique prints and maps of Key West from 1840-1890. Caribbean people in oil on canvas by Gay Cunningham. Summer hours: Thursday through Monday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 910 Duval St. 294-6660.

**Guild Hall Gallery** • Ink, pastel, watercolor, acrylic, prints, gyotaku fish printing, soft sculpture, fabric piecwork, printed and handpainted cards, ceramics, painted clothing, leather bags, photography, stained glass, ironwork, painted mirrors, collage, painted woodcarvings by 17 Key West artists. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. 614 Duval St. 296-6076.

**Haitian Art Company** • Annual storewide August sale begins August 2 through end of month. Spirit flags, papier mache, paintings, wood sculpture, metal cut-outs by Haitian artists. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 600 Frances St. 296-8932.

**Harrison Gallery** • Susan Thayer, Andre Henocque, Matthew Lineburger and Helen Harrison. Daily, noon to 5:30 p.m. except Sunday and Monday or ring the bell. 825 White St. 294-0609.

**Is It Art?** • Hand-painted art-wear, prints and wall-hangings. Summer hours: closed Wednesday, otherwise open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 913 Duval St. 294-0411.

**Island Arts** • A unique selection of local arts, crafts and painted objects. Weekdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1128 Duval St. 292-9909.

**Island Wellness** • Paintings by local and Caribbean artists throughout the summer. Daily, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and by appointment. 530 Simonton St. 296-7353.

**Kennedy Gallery** • New sculpture by Peter Otfinoski. Etched glass pieces by Susan Pellish. Vibrant oil paintings by Michele Kennedy. Watercolor

streetscapes by Robert E. Kennedy. Daily, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., maybe later. 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.

**Key West Art Center** • Nurigh Gordon watercolors to August 9. Davy Lou Brumgart acrylics, August 10 to 24. Summer hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. 301 Front St. 294-1241.

**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 \$3 adults, \$1 children 7 to 15, under 7 free. 938 Whitehead St. 294-0012.

**Kudu Gallery of Tribal Arts** • Oriental rugs, kilims, collectors textiles, international folk art, ethnic musical instruments, tapestries, toys and African art. Summer hours: Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., except Tuesday and Wednesday or by appointment. 1208 Duval St. 294-3771.

**Lane Gallery** • Various works by our regular artists. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1000 Duval St. 294-0067.

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

**Lucky Street Gallery** • New Cuban primitives by Dagoberto. New oils by Michael Haykin and new constructions by Roberta Marks. Summer hours: daily except Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 6 p.m. 919 Duval St. 294-3973.

**Mosquito Coast Island Outfitters** • Old Key West engravings from Harper's Bazaar. Errol Etienne watercolor alligators and other critters. New paintings from South America. Back country paintings and prints by Michael Shannon. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. 1107 Duval St. 296-6124.

**Out on a Whim** • Decorative arts services. Shop open by appointment for the summer. 512 Olivia Street. 294-4650.

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

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

**Plantation Potters** • Functional and decorative ware from some of America's finest potters. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 717 Duval St. 294-3143.

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

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

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

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Music Review

# Terry Cassidy At Rick's

by Christine Naughton

*Tennessee River and the mountain man  
We get together every chance we can  
Big Tennessee River and the mountain man  
We get together—Mother Nature's band*

"Tennessee River"  
Alabama  
Tennessee River, 1983

Terry Cassidy, a Yankee from Ohio, says he walked into a music store when he was 17 for his usual classical guitar lesson, and some guy was there picking "Sailor's Horn-pipe" on a banjo. Cassidy walked out of the store with a five-string banjo and a heart full of bluegrass. It was, as they say, the start of something big.

These days, Cassidy can be found with a room full of avid fans during the sunset hours at Rick's on Duval Street. People bring their dogs, their honeys and kids, and have a beer after work. The room is ruggedly comfortable and homey, the service quick and friendly. On a recent Wednesday evening, in the summer heat only a Key Wester could love, most said fans are indeed locals. For three sets, Cassidy keeps the tables full. And we all have a blast.

First of all, the guy just plain plays his ass off. Whether flat- or finger-picking, playing guitar or banjo, and/or singing and/or kicking bass pedals, Cassidy plays solidly one hundred percent of the time. If he never said a word, told a joke or recited poetry, it would still be a good show, because Cassidy's stage presence is hugely magnetic. Openly friendly, boyishly sexy and down-home gracious, he has a gift for making



BLUEGRASS: Terry Cassidy brings a touch of hillbilly to Key West.

every woman feel gorgeous and all the guys feel like mutual buds.

He starts one set with a country-swing tune written by Carl Martin, called "The Vegetable Song." Sinking comfortably into the groove on his guitar, he recites the first chorus' funny lyrics about a bunch of farm vegetables going to a barnyard dance. Then he sings it, keeping the time right in the pocket with his percussive strumming and base pedals.

Through the hour-long set, Cassidy plays a lot of bluegrass. A singular genre, bluegrass is soulful, uplifting and organic, its Celtic roots evident in every bar. Well played, it lifts a room to life, and incites people to tap their feet, clap their hands, laugh and dance.

One of Cassidy's bluegrass highlights comes during his solo on Doc Watson's "Way Downtown." His interpretation of the long, quicksilver eight-note phrases which are the basis of bluegrass picking evokes a visceral excitement similar to being astride a horse at full gallop. Clearly, his appeal is more than a technical mastery of the form—he imbues his playing and singing with heart, and lights up the music like fireworks.

Cassidy is joined early in the set by his good buddy and fellow Big Pine Cone, Dan Mulberry. The Big Pine Cones—Cassidy,

Mulberry and banjo picker Mark Bolin—are a popular bluegrass band here in town and up the Keys.

"Whenever two or more of us are gathered together, we are the Big Pine Cones," says Cassidy as he introduces Mulberry to the stand. They exchange the Big Pine Cone Handshake—index fingers and thumbs extended, meeting between them and forming a pine-cone shape. Then Terry gives Dan his guitar and picks up his banjo—and they're off.

Johnny Cash's "Folsom Prison," Bill Monroe's "Go Away, Little Maggie," Cassidy's "Huff's Hollow," Earl Scruggs' theme from the "Beverly Hillbillies," "Tennessee River," "John Hardy," "Rocky Top," "Columbus, Georgia": the two keep the bluegrass coming, hard and fast.

"I ain't had this much fun since the hogs ate my little brother," roars Mulberry, grabbing his beer and wiping his brow after they cross the finish line in "Huff's Hollow."

Mulberry plays well throughout, rhythm and lead, and takes a particularly nice solo on "Folsom Prison," flat-picking so fast and clean it sounds like he *must* be finger-picking.

Later on, Cassidy plays his newest composition, "Hooked on the Easy Life." The tune displays another side of his musicality, more laid-back than bluegrass, less intricate, gentler. This is a musical groove he favors in other tunes he's written, and it's a nice contrast to his stronger, sharper angles.

Cassidy is obviously a guy of abundant talent—one set doesn't scratch the surface. But if this column gave stars, this first-class musician would get them all. See him for yourself. You'll be dazzled, I promise.

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## RESTAURANT DIRECTORY

**Antonia's Restaurant**, 615 Duval Street. Excellent Northern Italian cuisine in friendly, elegant atmosphere. Dinner served from 7 to 11 p.m., nightly. Visa, Mastercard. 294-6565.

**Bill's Key West Fish Market and Restaurant**, 2502 N. Roosevelt Boulevard. Serving the finest local seafood from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., daily. A local favorite. 296-5891.

**The Buttery**, 1208 Simonton Street. Praised by *Gourmet*, *New York Times* and *Bon Appetit* as one of the great restaurants in South Florida. The Buttery is truly a must-stop for the gourmand in Key West. A complete bar and wine list complement the distinctive Buttery menu, with nightly specials. Open for dinner, nightly; reservations are suggested. 294-0717.

**Camille's**, 703 1/2 Duval Street. A local restaurant with the casual Key West touch, serving high-quality fare for breakfast and lunch. Daily specials. Entrees are reasonably priced, made of only the finest ingredients and cooked to order. The Sunday Brunch has become a tradition for many locals. Open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays; Sundays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; closed Thursdays. 296-4811.

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

**Conch Flyer Restaurant and Lounge**, located in the Key West International Airport. Featuring The Conch Republic peel & eat shrimp, specialty sandwiches and a wide selection of appetizers. Open everyday. Monday through Friday, 5 a.m. to midnight, Saturday and Sunday 6 a.m. to midnight. Breakfast, 6 a.m. to 11 a.m.; lunch, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. 296-6333.

**Conch Café**, 1211 Duval Street. Charming sidewalk café serving home-cooked meals. Desserts, beer, wine, sundries, eat in or take out. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday brunch, served from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Tuesday through Saturday open 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Closed Monday. 294-7227.

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

**Dim Sum**, 613 1/2 Duval Street in Key Lime Square. A gourmet Asian restaurant serving exotic Chinese stir-fries, Indian curries and Thai, Indonesian and Burmese specialties. Wine and sake bar. Open 6:30 to 11 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. 294-6230.

**Duval Square Yogurt**, located in the center of Duval Square. Offers the ultimate in "sinless indulgence," featuring no-fat, no-cholesterol yogurt. Daily special flavors, including non-dairy fruit twist. Also serving health drinks and salads. Open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Saturday; noon to 10 p.m., Sunday. 296-2900.

**El Loro Verde**, 404 Southard Street. More than a Mexican restaurant, El Loro Verde presents innovative yet authentic variations of both Mexican and Caribbean dishes. Popular for its cafe' atmosphere, El Loro Verde now features a full liquor bar in its new dining room. 296-7298.

**Emma's Seafare**, The Reach, Simonton at the Ocean. A flavorable mix of Europe, Asia, and the Caribbean combine to create savory regional American favorites—hearty stews, snappy salads, local seafood, prime steaks, yummy desserts and the quintessential Sunday brunch beachside. Open seven days. **The Sand Bar**, overlooking the beach and the Atlantic serves conch chowder, oysters, grilled fish, chicken and sausage sandwiches, cocktails and frozen yogurt daily from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 296-5000.

**Fiorini**, 523 Eaton Street. One of Key West's oldest and most romantic restaurants. Fiorini's menu is unmistakably Italian with a hint of the tropics: yellowfin tuna *putanesca*, shrimp Diane, yellowtail in cucumber caviar cream sauce, fettucine with basil, walnuts, and garlic. And for dessert try a genuine cannoli made fresh by Mama Fiorini. Open for dinner 7 to 10 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Closed Sunday and Monday. 294-4720.

**Flamingo Crossing**, 1105 Duval Street. The local's favorite dessert spot features fresh-made-daily ice creams, sorbets, honey yogurts, sundaes, shakes and all-fruit *vitari*. Also enjoy Florida Keys finest Key Lime pie, all in a tropical garden setting. Open daily from noon to 11 p.m., and midnight, Friday and Saturday. 296-6124.

**Full Moon Saloon**, 1220 Simonton Street. "Where locals always visit, and visitors always feel local." Serving 11 a.m. to 4 a.m., daily. Lunch, dinner and late-night specials. Featuring a moderately-priced American menu, including fresh seafood, pastas, salads and sandwiches. 294-9090.

**Mary's**, 808 Duval. Offers delicious burgers—most notably the Mary Burger—in addition to other daily dinner, lunch and breakfast specials. Everything is fresh and made to order; beer and wine are available. Indoor and outdoor seating. Breakfast is served from 12 a.m. to 12 p.m. Open 24 hours. All major credit cards accepted. 296-7554.

**Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville Café**, 500 Duval Street. Opens 11 a.m. for Lunch, Dinner, and Late Night Rock and Roll starting at 10:30 p.m. Serving fresh seafood, meats, salads & Key West favorites: Conch Chowder/Fritters, Squid Rings and the famous Cheeseburger in Paradise. 292-1435.

**La Lechonera**, 3100 Flagler Avenue. One of the oldest restaurants in Key West, serving Spanish and Cuban cuisine with a full liquor bar. Daily specials. Happy Hour 4 to 7 p.m. Take-out available. 296-7881.

**La Ta Da**, 1125 Duval Street. Superb food, sophisticated but relaxed atmosphere. Breakfast, lunch, dinner. Poolside. Crystal Café late night. 294-8435.

**La Trattoria Venezia**, 524 Duval Street. Featuring Italian and French cuisine. Dine in an elegant European atmosphere complete with Italian music and friendly, warm service. Open 7 nights 6-11 p.m. 296-1075.

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

**Louie's Backyard**, 700 Waddell on the Atlantic Ocean. Featuring international cuisine in a restaurant ranked among South Florida's best. Dining inside or outdoors on the water. Enjoy cocktails on the Afterdeck Bar. Open from 11:30 a.m. to 2 a.m. 294-1061 for dining reservations.

**Paradise Café**, corner of Eaton and Grinnell Streets. Home of the famous island Monster Mix. Featuring the biggest sandwiches and the lowest beer prices in Key West. Open for breakfast and lunch. Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free delivery. 296-5001.

**Pier House Restaurant**, One Duval Street. *Travel & Leisure* said the Scampi in Amaretto was well worth the trip. The *New York Times* called it "Key West's premier restaurant." Reserve a table with a waterfront view. 296-4600.

**Quencher's Café**, 934 Truman Avenue at the corner of Grinnell. Serving breakfast and lunch from 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., daily. Along with a complete breakfast menu they offer 62 varieties of fresh ground coffee. Lunch menu includes soup, sandwiches, quiche, veggie plate and fresh desserts. Catering is also available. 293-9555.

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

**Rich's Café**, at the Eden House, 1015 Fleming Street. Under new ownership and management. The most seductive café in the Florida Keys. A relaxed tropical garden setting with outdoor dining. Daily breakfast and lunch specials. Breakfast and lunch, Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dinner 6 to 10 p.m., daily. Sunday brunch 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Full bar. Ten percent local discount. 296-2961.

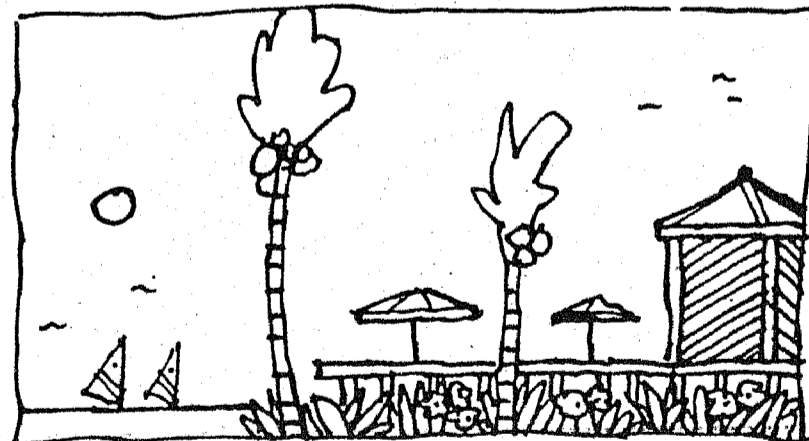
**Savannah**, 915 Duval Street. Fine southern home cooking featuring dixe delectables like mouth-watering fried chicken, cornbread, collard greens, fresh fish, and unbeatable mash potatoes. Dine in a grand old conch house or outside in a tropical garden setting. Open for dinner daily at 6:30 p.m. Shut Thursday. 296-6700.

**Square One Restaurant**, Duval Square. Superb food and service in a warm and elegant setting—all at affordable prices. The owners are present every evening to ensure your meal is completely satisfying. We invite you to try our innovative Duck. Square One—a bit of excitement in a classic setting. Open Monday through Saturday; lunch 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Happy Hour 3 to 6:30 p.m.; dinner 6:30 to 11 p.m. Reservations suggested. American Express. Visa. Mastercard. 296-4300.

**Tootsie's Deli and Bar**, 925 Duval Street. Serving overstuffed deli sandwiches, bagels, salads and desserts. Also serving beer and wine. Open 10 a.m. to 2 a.m., everyday. Delivery, catering, and take out. 292-1433.

**Turtle Kraals**, Land's End Village, foot of Margaret Street. Harbor view dining for lunch and dinner. Great hamburgers, seafood—check out the music. Visa/Mastercard. 294-2640.

**Yo Sake**, 722 Duval Street. Neo-Japanese inside or torchlit garden dining; traditional Japanese and original island creations. Full sushi bar. Lunch, Monday through Saturday, noon to 2:30 p.m. Dinner nightly, 7 to 11:30 p.m. 294-2288.



# Key West made him

by Gerry Wood & Carol Shaughnessy

Many Key West characters are now in jail, dead or wearing suits. Not Captain Outrageous, born Norman Smith in Cleveland, Ohio.

Norman and some of his friends were cruising aboard a Boston Whaler on Lake Erie. The throttle was up front. A powerful motor and the steering, in Norman's hands, were in the back. His friends decided to play "chicken" and held down the throttle until the Whaler was whizzing over the waves across the eerie depths of Lake Erie.

"They wanted me to say uncle or something," he says. But Norman held on and pretended that it was just a typical, breezy sail. After surviving the high-speed motor-sailing ordeal, one of the boatmates came up to Smith and proclaimed admiringly, "You're Captain Outrageous."

Smith couldn't get the name out of his mind. He painted it on vehicles, signs, posts, clothes, everything. "I decided that I would stick with it," he says. "I was looking for something that I could take and



## more Outrageous

promote forever."

Though he says he's considering changing his name, Outrageous is not his identity—not his sole identity, anyway. "Captain Outrageous isn't me," he says. "It's a statement and a philosophy that I believe in. Everybody can be Captain Outrageous."

Six years ago, at age 45, a mid-life crisis aimed the captain in a southerly direction. Going to Florida seemed to make sense in the wee hours of the morning at an Ohio bar. So he took off. He bounced around both coasts of Florida and then headed some advice to try Key West.

"Key West was a real change in my life

because I fell in love with it," he says. "I've been traveling most of my life—everywhere, all the time—and this is the only place I ever fell in love with. It's where I fit."

He's become the island's latest restaurateur.

Initially, he divided his time between Ohio and Key West, but moved here permanently last year with his new wife, Bengta, a native of Illinois who has a passion for animals, particularly horses.

To the outside observer, the captain appears a regular kind of guy, almost, except for his truck. Painted red on one side and blue on the other, it would be the perfect hit-and-run vehicle. (Witness #1: "It was a blue truck." Witness #2, from the other side of the street: "It was a red truck.")

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# A Biography in T-Shirts

Never have so few T-shirts said more about the life and philosophy of a person. Captain Outrageous sets out four of them, carefully in order, like chapters of the Great American Biography.

**Shirt No. 1:** Gray with a red-and-green, rifle-clutching Indian riding a brown horse, and bearing the captions, "I'll See You in Cayo Hueso" and "Captain Outrageous." Explains the captain, "This idea came from a [Charles] Russell painting. I saw myself as that guy in the painting, and I had an artist from DMZ come up with something

similar. I said I envision that this is what Captain Outrageous looks like. I've always been into cowboys and Indians."

**Shirt No. 2:** Hot red background. A black cat with one paw on a mouse's tail, surrounded by the motto, "We Never Sleep, We Never Forget." A friend in Bahama Village came up with this one.

"When I first came down here in '85, I didn't have any money and I worked two or three jobs 'round the clock," says Outrageous. "I slept during the daytime for a couple of hours in a hammock at Zachary Taylor, then I'd get up and go peddle bicycles around the island trying to sell them; then to Mallory Square with Conch-Fritter Sam—we started that conch-fritter stand

together. Then I'd go to the Pier House at night as a security guard. I was always pretty tired, and one night I fell asleep on the job and got fired. I was always falling asleep and always forgetting."

**Shirt No. 3:** Biker black, with a fiery cow skull, framed by the words "Evil, Wicked, Mean & Nasty." "I was in one of those places where they have clothes and props from movies and TV shows. I saw that saying, and it stuck in my mind—I knew there were some promotional aspects to it. I had always been riding a bike and had friends who had biker bars. There are not many shirts that have good artwork that don't say Harley-Davidson. I made this one up so people can read their own meaning into it. It could be

for a biker or for a housewife getting up on a Monday morning doing laundry. We're trying to gear these shirts to the masses."

**Shirt No. 4:** Tan with two Indians—Geronimo and Sitting Bull. "Two of my favorite Indians—I never saw them together. I see Indian decor at most of the Cuban restaurants here."

The back of every shirt reads: Captain Outrageous. "That's good promotion for more creative ideas," he explains. "I guess I'm trying to emulate the old Key West. If I see somebody like something or laugh at it, I want to take it further and see how far we can go with it."

a 70-cent "bad, bad burger," which, for 14 additional cents, comes adorned with a slice of cheese (thus, the "bad, bad burger with cheese"). Also available are "mighty dogs," "mighty dogs with cheese," "chili soup" and soda pop.

The approach is motivated by the best of intentions. Take the name and motto, for example: The Last Straw—Worst Food and Drink in Town. The name came from a short-lived restaurant in Youngstown, Ohio. For the past 20 years, Smith says, he hasn't been able to get that moniker out of his mind.

And the motto? "I was thinking in terms of a Don Rickles-type training program ... that we insult everybody ... the food will be there when we can ... that type of thing. I don't know how far we're going to push that, but I do like the idea of a real laid-back atmosphere."

"I'd rather say it's the worst food and drink in town," he says. "If it turns out to be the best, that's fine, but we'll still call it the worst. People will get a kick out of

that." The captain intends to fill a niche he says is sadly lacking. "It isn't going to be a joint, but a place where local people can talk, meet other people, and have something reasonable to eat and drink. If they want to get crazy they can go down to Duval Street to the bars. If they want to have fancy food or spend a lot of money, there's all kinds of places in town to do that."

The sign over the door will say: "Next Time Bring Your Wife."

Outrageous would like to expand into an all-night operation. "With all the partying and drinking down here, some of these people ought to have a little food in them before they go home," he says. "We'd love to cook them a breakfast at two, three or four in the morning. It might save somebody's life."

Didn't someone once say that "a good restaurant man worries about the people who come in through his door, a great one also worries about them when they leave"?

The jagged rust bites are interspersed with crudely painted graffiti: "Congress of Rough Riders of the World ... You Are My Horse If You Never Win a Race ... This Vehicle Not Purchased With Drug Money ... Tacky Truck for Tacky Island ... Last One Into Town Has To Buy the Drinks ... Bubba ... Reality Isn't Near as Bad as Anticipation ... If You Don't Like the Way I Drive, Then Stay Off the Sidewalk ... and (over the right front door) Right Front Door."

The paint, advises Mrs. Outrageous, is what holds the truck together. The 1977 Suburban is the survivor of more than 170,000 miles and 19 round trips to California which took place back in the days when Captain Outrageous was in the business of running antiques and collectibles.

The captain inherited the rattletrap after moving a friend to Florida. "It runs well, but I can't stop the rust," he says. "It's gone too far, and I don't think it's ever going to leave Key West." He wants the mother of all trucks to rust in peace: "The day it ever does stop and we can't keep it going, we want to put it on top of a building somewhere."

Perhaps that building will be the Last Straw, the restaurant he opened in early June at 1116 1/2 White Street after a battle with the City of Key West. Outrageous admits he did a little work without getting the proper permits, but says he has learned his lesson—the hard way.

"The truth of the matter is that I will never, ever do anything again in this town without a permit first," he says. "I don't really see a problem if you buy a place, fixing it up. However, that's not the way it works here, and I've learned that the hard way. Once I get started, I do get carried away."

He promises a T-shirt emblazoned with "Pirate Construction, No Address, No Phone, No Permit."

The restaurant's philosophy is simple: cheap food, a simple stick-to-the-ribs menu, cheap drinks, low-key, high-care. The menu itself is a no-frills Xerox list boasting

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# AUGUST CALENDAR

## Well-Being

**8/1-8/15 • Childbirth Classes** sponsored by FKCC and the March of Dimes every Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Big Pine Methodist Church. \$5 registration fee. Call 296-9081, ext. 282.

**8/7 • Diabetes Support Group** meets from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the first floor conference room of South Miami Hospital. Call Ruth Mihm at (305) 662-8115.

**8/11 • AIDS Help Volunteer Training Session** 4 to 8 p.m. at the AIDS Help offices, 2700 Flagler Avenue. Call 296-6196.

**8/12-8/13 • AIDS Help Buddy Training Classes** 6 to 8 p.m. at the AIDS Help offices, 2700 Flagler Avenue. Call 296-6196.

## Meetings

**8/1 • Tree Commission Meeting** 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

**8/1 • Marathon Business and Professional Women's Meeting** 11:45 a.m. at the Marathon Yacht Club. Meeting will feature guest speaker Carla Schworer, business development specialist with the Small Business Administration of South Florida.

**8/1 • Monroe County Planning Commission Meeting** 10 a.m. at the Key Largo library. Call 292-4422.

**8/4 • Poetry Club Meeting** 7 p.m. at 812 Caroline Street, next to Pepe's. All are invited. Call 294-1848.

**8/6 • City Commission Meeting** 3:30 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

**8/6 • Board of County Commissioners Meeting** 9 a.m. at the Key West Lion's Club. Call 292-4422.

**8/7 • City Board of Adjustment Meeting** 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

**8/7 • Monroe County Development Review Committee Meeting** 1 p.m. at the Marathon library. Call 292-4422.

**8/7 • Board of County Commissioners Meeting** 9 a.m. at the Key West Lion's Club. Call 292-4422.

**8/7 • South Florida Water Management District Board of Review Meeting** concerning interviews of candidates for executive director. Scheduled for 9 a.m. in West Palm Beach. Call 1-800-432-2045.

**8/8 • Blood Drive** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the city chambers, 525 Angela Street. Call 292-8100.

**8/8 • U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Land Leasing Hearing** 5 p.m. at the Marathon Jaycees Club. Call 294-4927.

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

**8/9 • U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Land Leasing Hearing** 5 p.m. at the Key West Old City Hall. Call 294-4927.

**8/12 • HARC Meeting** 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

**8/13 • South Florida Water Management District Board of Review Meeting of the Audit Committee** scheduled for 3 p.m. in West Palm Beach. Call 1-800-432-2045.

**8/13 • South Florida Water Management District Board of Review Meeting of the Human Resources Committee** scheduled for 6 p.m. in West Palm Beach. Call 1-800-432-2045.

**8/14 • Pension Board Meeting** 9:30 a.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

**8/14 • South Florida Water Management District Board of Review Monthly Governing Board Workshop** scheduled for 9 a.m. in West Palm Beach. Call 1-800-432-2045.

**8/14 • TDC Meeting** tentatively set for 10 a.m. at the Ocean Reef Club in Key Largo. Call 296-2228.

**8/15 • Key West Planning Board Meeting** 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

**8/15 • Monroe County Planning Commission Meeting** 10 a.m. at the Marathon Jaycee. Call 292-4422.

**8/15 • South Florida Water Management District Board of Review Monthly Governing Board Meeting** scheduled for 8:30 a.m. in West Palm Beach. Call 1-800-432-2045.

**8/16 • CES Bid Opening Session** 10 a.m. in the Louis Carbonell Board Room in the service building at 1001 James Street. Call 294-3685.

**8/20 • Moped Task Force Meeting** 10 a.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

**8/20 • City Commission Meeting** 3:30 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

**8/21 • Contractors Exam Board Meeting** 2 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

**8/21 • Citizens Advisory Task Force Meeting** 6:30 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

Hall. Call 292-8100.

**8/21 • TDC District Meeting** tentatively set for 3 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Beachside in Key West. Call 296-2228.

**8/22 • Code Enforcement Board Meeting** 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

**8/27 • HARC Meeting** 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

**8/27 • Board of County Commissioners Meeting** 9 a.m. at the Key Largo library. Call 292-4422.

**8/28 • Board of County Commissioners Meeting** 9 a.m. at the Key Largo library. Call 292-4422.

**8/29 • Monroe County Planning Commission Meeting** 10 a.m. in the City Electric System Conference Room. Call 292-4422.

## Ongoing

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

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

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

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

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

**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 (305) 662-8118.

**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 (305) 662-9611.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Community Learning Center**, at Harris School offers Adult Basic Edu-

cation, 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 (305) 662-8118.

**Depressive and Manic Depressive Eating Disorder Group** meets every Friday from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

**Early Recovery Group** meets Wednesdays from 3 p.m. 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.

**Guardianship of Monroe County** helps disabled adults and elderly residents in decision-making. To volunteer or for more information call Elizabeth Covino at HRS; 292-6728, Betty Cambell at Florida Keys Memorial Hospital, 294-5531; or Liz Kern at Hospice, 294-8812.

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

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

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

**Key West Garden Club** holds lectures the second Wednesday of the month. On the third Wednesday of each month, the Club will give practical demonstrations in gardening. Open to members and guests. Call 294-3210.

**La Leche League** of Big Pine Key meets at Big Pine Methodist Church 9:30 Monday mornings. Call 872-2148.

**The Law and You** with Attorney Fred Butner, Live from Key West. Wednesdays from 8 to 9 a.m. Radio debates. Guests include judges, attorneys, law enforcement officers and lawmakers. News analysis of law-related issues by co-host A.C. Weinstein. Broadcast on AM 1600 WKWF Talk Radio. Number to call in during broadcast: 294-1600.

**Literacy Volunteers of America** meets 7 p.m. on the last Monday of each month and offers volunteer training programs as well as workshops. Call 294-4352.

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

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

**Lower Keys Friends of Animals** helps animals that are victims of misfortune. For membership information call 296-8682 or 296-3926.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Preschool Story Hour** for 4 and 5 year olds 9:30 a.m. every Thursday at The Monroe County Library, 700 Fleming Street. Call 292-3595.

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

**Problem Solving for Teenagers Group** meets Mondays 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

**Psychotherapy Group** meets 3 to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

**PWA's Living Room**, a support group for PWA's, HIV +, friends and family, is held every Monday night at 5:30 p.m. at 816 Fleming Street, Suite 2. Call 294-5332.

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

**Schizophrenia Support Group** meets alternate Tuesdays 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

**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.

**Stress Management Group** meets every Friday from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

**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.

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

**T'ai Chi Ch'uan 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.

**Toddler Story Time** for 2 and 3 year olds 9:30 a.m. every Friday at The Monroe County Library, 700 Fleming Street. Call 292-3595.

**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.

**Understanding Family of Origin Group** meets Tuesdays 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

**Viva Zapata presents Matthew Jampol**, classical guitarist, every Friday and Saturday night, poolside.

**Writers' Walk**, about one mile, takes place every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. The cost is \$10. Meet at Ocean Key House, 0 Duval Street. Make reservations. Call 745-3640.

**Women's Issues Group** meets Thursdays from noon to 1 p.m. at the Mental

Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

## Entertainment

**Answer Café** • Duval Square, corner of Duval and Virginia Streets. Call 296-3371.

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

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

**Captain Hornblower's** • 300 Front Street. Jazz on the patio every night. Call 294-4922.

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

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

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

**Emma's Late Night** • The Reach at Simonton and the beach. Call 294-3474.

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

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

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

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

**Harry's Hideaway & McCarthy's Rose Cabaret** • 618 Duval Street. *Phil Sampson, Terry Kiev and friends* 8 p.m. Wed-Sun. Call 294-7787.

**Havana Docks Late Night** • The Pier House, 1 Duval Street. Call 296-4600.

**Havana Docks Sunset Deck** • The Pier House, 1 Duval Street. Call 296-4600.

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

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Shouldn't you be listed in the Entertainment Calendar? Call Kathy at 294-3602.

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

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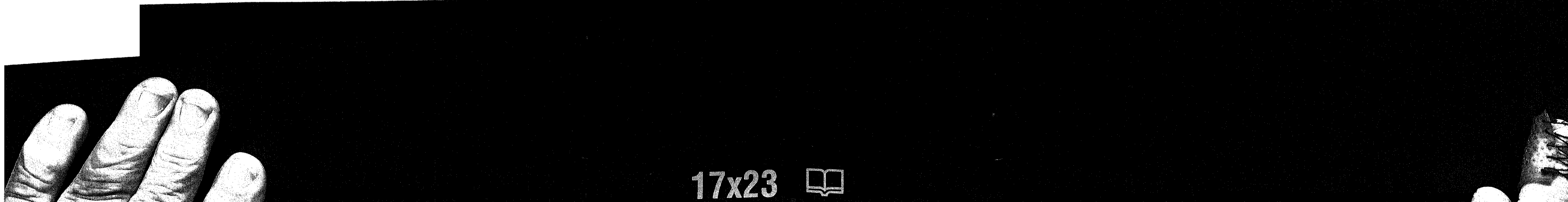
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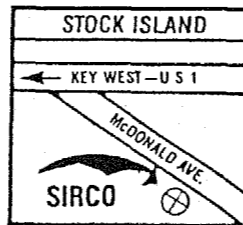
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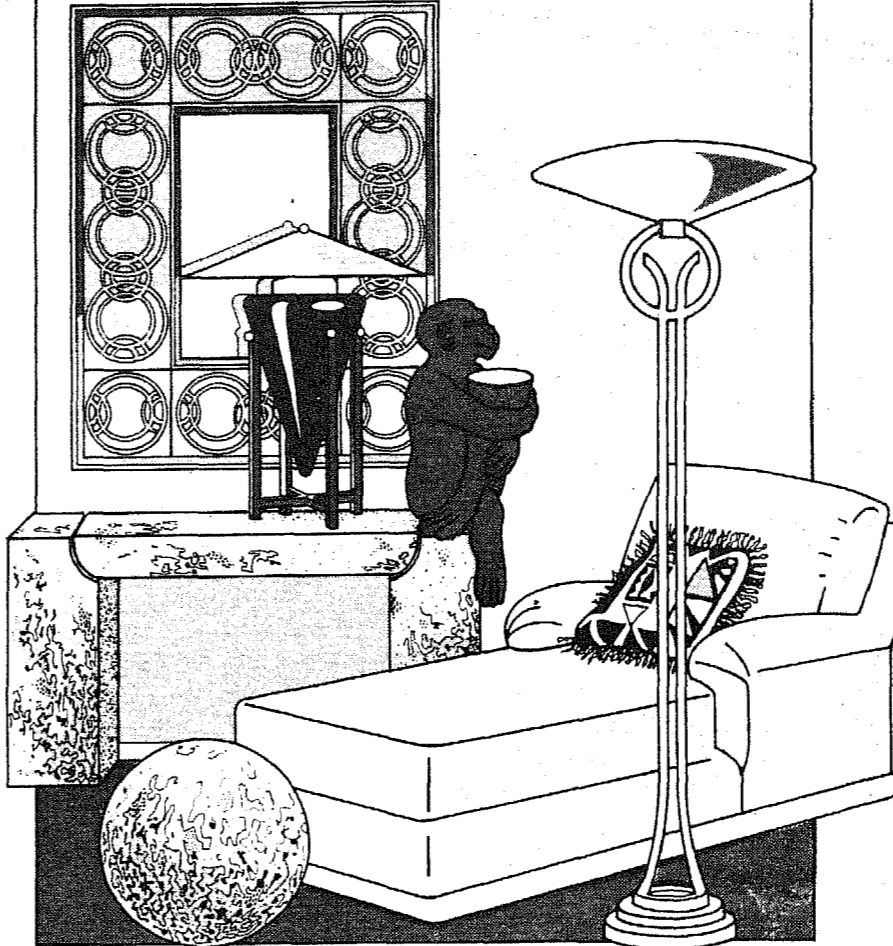
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