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Vol. 1, No. 21

Key West, Florida

September-October, 1976





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From the Editor

Well, we feel that we have an important issue here this time. We've been followers of politics in Key West (even joiners, sometimes) but this is the first time that Solares Hill has endorsed candidates. We really mulled over the candidates before coming up with our selections. We are not trying to back winners; merely trying to give the readers our feelings about which candidate is best. In any event, it has made for a very interesting month. I hope that our guide will prove to be an aid for many voters.

We'd like to remind our readers again that we are combining this issue with October. We will reappear November 1 for 11 issues through September, 1977. We've lost more weight around our middle - we are down to twenty pages for this issue. With a drop off in ads at the end of the summer, we've had to cut some corners to save money, and this is one way. I imagine that we will be stout in size come the Fall.

Sonia Robertson of Leather Soul will be featured in a book called American Folk Crafts by John Coyne and Jerry Miller to be published by Bobbs-Merrill. Jerry Miller, as many of our readers know, was instrumental in the success of the earlier Solares Hill, and we have had the pleasure of reproducing many of his fine covers in our present Solares Hill.

We don't like the sounds of that new anti-hitchhiking ordinance for Monroe County. It sounds like this new law is expected to stop all kinds of crime and undesirables from coming to Key West. For one thing, most of our crime is local, not imported. For another, many very lovely people have no recourse but to hitch, because they lack the ever-increasing fare to go to Miami and back. The fact that one arrives by thumb and not by Cadillac is no measure of a person's lack of worth (other than money worth, of course!). Another point that should be remembered is that it is wholly up to the driver whether he wishes to stop for a rider. Sure, there are more cases of violence associated with hitching, but then there are very many more young people on the road, and it's only common sense to expect a proportionate rise in unpleasant statistics.

Legislating against this type of free choice is not in the best interests of Monroe County in the long run. It won't stop crime; it will be just another hassle for the police; it doesn't mean that all of a sudden Key West will be host only to superior people; and it does mean that uptightness will have claimed a very American way of travelling.

Hooray, hooray. After four months (almost to the day) since the submission of the Administrative Appeal on West Beach, it will be heard during the regular City Commission meeting the night of September 8th.

There certainly have been some remarkably beautiful breezes at night during the last couple of weeks. We are continually reminded of how special it is here and how lucky we are to be here.

There have been a number of complaints recently about the efficiency at the Post Office. Hopefully, the problems (if they are here in Key West) can be worked out. One thing remains for sure, however - we must have the nicest group of people in any P.O. working here in Key West. We miss Miss Watkins at the front window, of course, but the consistent niceness of everyone up front helps make up for that. It is a nice part of the day when we find that we have to go to the P.O.

The cover this time of lobster traps to by Thom Szuter. He did another wonderful one for us a few years ago.

We will re-run it soon. Our continuation of the Community Pool article and also the series on water will have to be held over to November.

See you in November.

W. Huckle

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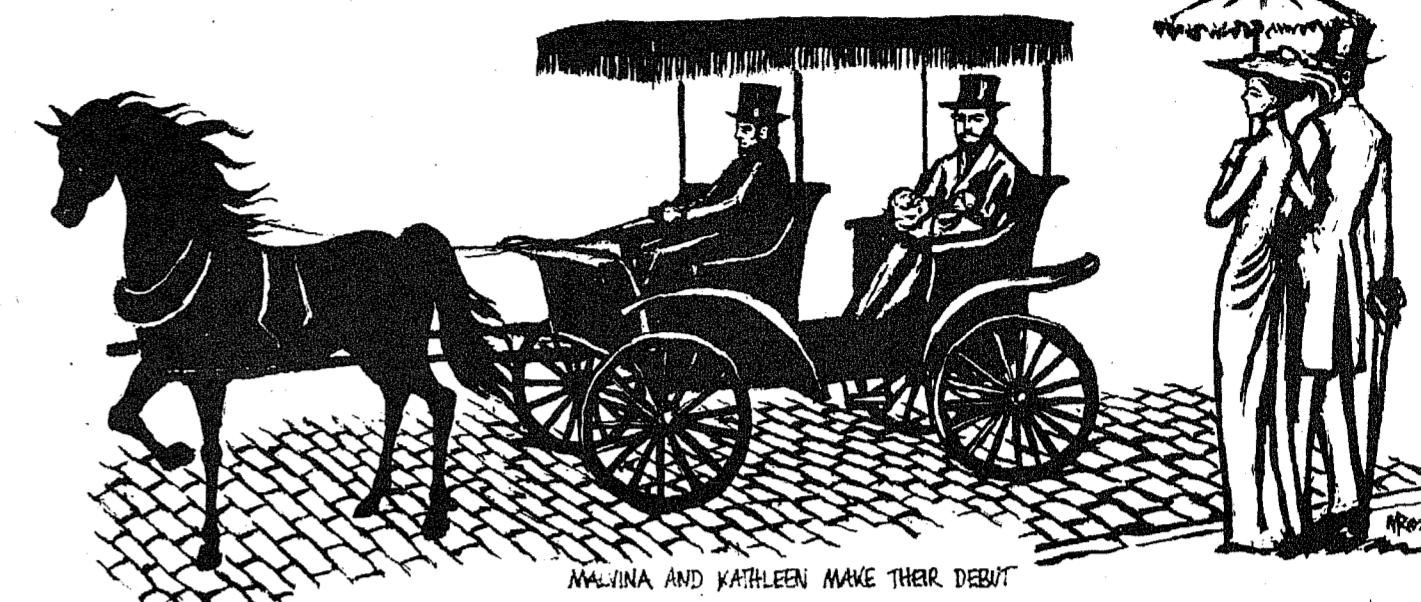
Solares Hill is a community newspaper published every month on the slopes of Solares Hill, Key West's highest point, by Solares Hill Company, 821 Duval Street, Key West, Florida 33040. Annual subscription rate (11 issues) is \$10.00.

EDITORIAL..... BILL HUCKEL COPY EDITOR..... DONNA MARSH
ART DIRECTION..... TOM POPE

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"Miss" Malvina

written and illustrated
by Malcolm Ross



MALVINA AND KATHLEEN MAKE THEIR DEBUT

On Flag Day, June 14, 1885, France presented the United States with one of its most famous landmarks, the Statue of Liberty. At the time the historical goodwill between the two nations was being so tangibly expressed, Julia Williams (with the help of a Dr. Sweeting) presented her husband Peter of 522 Elizabeth Street with a pair of twin girls. This was not the first occurrence of twins in the Williams family (it had happened twice before) and the tiny premature infants who were scarcely more than a handful were named Malvina (pronounced Mal-vee-na) and Kathleen.

Malvina received her name from her maternal grandmother who had been born in Nassau (her mother was also born there) while Kathleen was named after her mother's favorite song "I'll take you home again, Kathleen." A few years later another sister, Ileen, was also born to the Williamses as well as a brother who died when he was three days old. Due to the size of the twins (they were so small and frail that they were pinned by their clothes to pillows and thus carried around) a great deal of concern centered about the survival of the two babes. Key West had no hospital with an obstetric ward at that time and baby incubators were unheard of in that day and age. Twice during the early weeks of their lives the twins became weak, all obvious signs of life ceased and it was feared that they were dead. The babies were placed in burial garments, but at the last minute evidence of life was noticed again and funeral arrangements were put off. Because of their size and weight (at three weeks each weighed in at three pounds!) many efforts were made to restore the twins to health and vitality. Noteworthy among these remedies was that of rubbing down the pair with Aguardiente, a Cuban liquor. This seemed to have some effect of stimulating life in the twins, but it is unclear as to whether this alcoholic rubdown was responsible for their longevity (Kathleen lived until about two years ago). Something certainly made for the blooming of two of the most vital young ladies ever to hit Key West society.*

After gaining some weight the charming duo made their debut in twin baby carriages, the first such vehicles to be seen on the island. A good friend of the twins' grandfather, a Mr. Told, who was a cattle baron from Fort Meyers, presented the family with a black surrey (undoubtedly with fringe on top as so musically described by the Messrs. Rogers and Hammerstein) and a matching black mare (named "Rena").

*Something also was responsible for making the twins lifelong teetotalers!

With this means of conveyance the grandfather circulated through the town, showing off the twins and passing out cigars. The frailty of the twins persisted through their childhood and Malvina in particular was under the constant care of a doctor until she was in her mid-twenties.

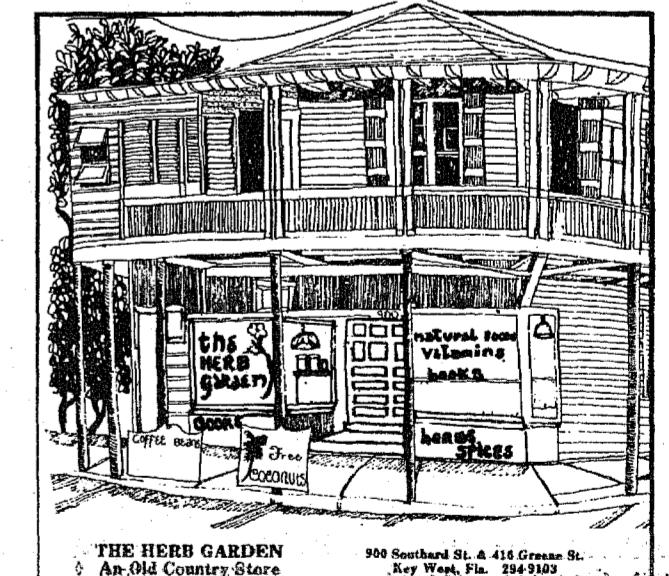
The Williamses were devout Methodists and Victorian manners dictated strict behavior for blossoming young ladies so days were predictably dull by modern standards. Sunday was a day of rest and after church the day was spent reading the Bible and doing little else. The public schools even at that time were highly criticized and labeled unfit places for impressionable young minds. So, putting their Methodism temporarily aside the twins were enrolled in the school of the Convent of Mary Immaculate. Their grandfather, Peter A. Williams who was a co-founder of the Masonic lodge in Key West along with Dr. J. M. Porter, was suspicious of the Catholic sisters and preferred to make his own judgement regarding the educational program of the convent school. For that reason Saturdays were set aside for the twins to spend at the house which the Massachusetts-born furniture dealer and undertaker built at 613 Eaton Street. (The environment was pleasant enough. Beautiful Spanish tile salvaged from a wrecked ship ran the length of the house from the front door to the rear of the kitchen and an ingenious backyard windmill circulated water in a fishpond and fountain at the front of the house. Only a large urn and the sculpture of a bird remain of the original fountain.)

Daily life in Key West was quiet and simple in those times and the golden days of childhood were filled with memories of quaint environment provincial in some respects yet cosmopolitan in others. Much food originated locally and trees abounding in tropical fruit were everywhere. Seafood was readily available and Malvina even remembers catching crabs in the high tides which came into the backyard of

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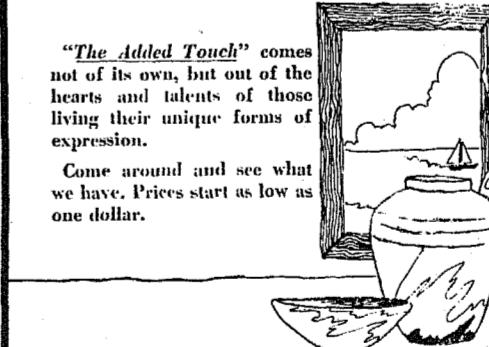
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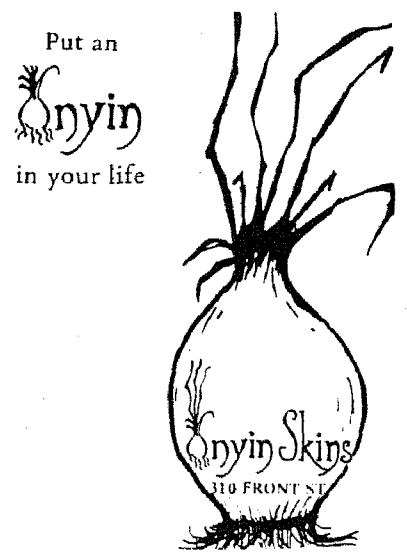
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the grandparents' home in the 400 block of Frances Street. Sailing ships, which were the only contact between the island and the outside world, brought in an interesting assortment of people and cargoes from all over the world. Many commodities which were not available required resourcefulness to create or else were just done without. Toys for young girls were scarce and Malvina remembers dolls made from crawfish carcasses which a clever aunt fashioned for the twins.

Friend and confidante of the two girls and very instrumental in the upbringing of the Williams girls was a woman named Mary Ann. For years she worked for the Williamses and was an important fixture in the Williams household. An amusing anecdote involved the frequent "tumors" that Mary Ann developed during the years that she worked for the family. Periodically it was noticed that Mary Ann was gaining weight and starting to swell in the area of the abdomen. When questioned about this increase in her anatomy Mary Ann replied to the charge of pregnancy (she was an unmarried lady at the time) that it was "just a little tumor." When the swelling became greatest Mary Ann would suddenly disappear. After several days she would reappear remarkably slim and hale as ever. No further word was ever said about any of these mysterious "tumors", but they seemed to occur with a curious nine month regularity.

After one such "tumor removal" Mary Ann returned with a cardboard box which she placed in the backyard to the house. To the girls surprise and pleasure it contained a baby boy. During the years the child lived in the house and became a playmate and the brother that the girls never had. After reaching manhood the youth went on to New York City where, it was said, he embarked on a successful career in banking.

Around 1910 while attending the Methodist Church Malvina met George Rice, a young man from Minnesota who was in the Army and stationed in Key West. (Church was about the only proper place for young couples to meet at that time.) Malvina's proficiency on the church organ blended well with George's shaky virtuosity on the coronet and it was not long before the two were making beautiful music together. They were wed (after the proper period of courtship dictated by the time) and soon moved into a house on Elizabeth Street. Rice went on to become Captain in charge of the Key West barracks (he also served as Key West's first scoutmaster) and in a short time the family grew to four; two daughters, Barbara and Ann were added to the roster.



Few jobs for women other than those as servants existed in Key West around the turn of the century. Cigar factories were practically alone in offering employment to women of the island and some female members of the Williams family worked in the environment -- pleasant by many standards -- as both "pickers" and "packers". About the time of World War I Malvina did her bit for the war effort by taking what would probably be considered the forerunner of a Civil Service job as a "yeomanette" with the U.S. Navy. She also spent some time as a census worker in the Census Bureau in Key West and acted as a representative for the first powdered milk to be sold in this country, KIM (which of course is milk spelled backwards!)

An interesting pet which Malvina owned (it was said that she had a way with birds!) was a very gifted parrot. This talented bird that appeared to be just the ordinary garden variety of green parrot was adept at mimicking everything from the crying of daughter Barbara to the yells of paperboys and crawfish sellers. In a time when the local housewife depended on the wares of the street vendor (no supermarket chains existed at that time) it was a great annoyance to many women in the neighborhood to come running out of the house for crawfish or a newspaper to realize that they had been victimized by a clever prankster in green feathers. Another accomplishment of the bird was that of singing (on key) popular hymns and songs of the day. Included in his repertoire were such standards as "I'm

Forever Blowing Bubbles" and it was not unusual of an afternoon to hear the strains of a familiar hymn: "At the cross, at the cross, where I first saw the light and the burden of my soul rolled away." Despite his faults the talents of the bird did not go unrecognized and he received acceptance in the neighborhood.

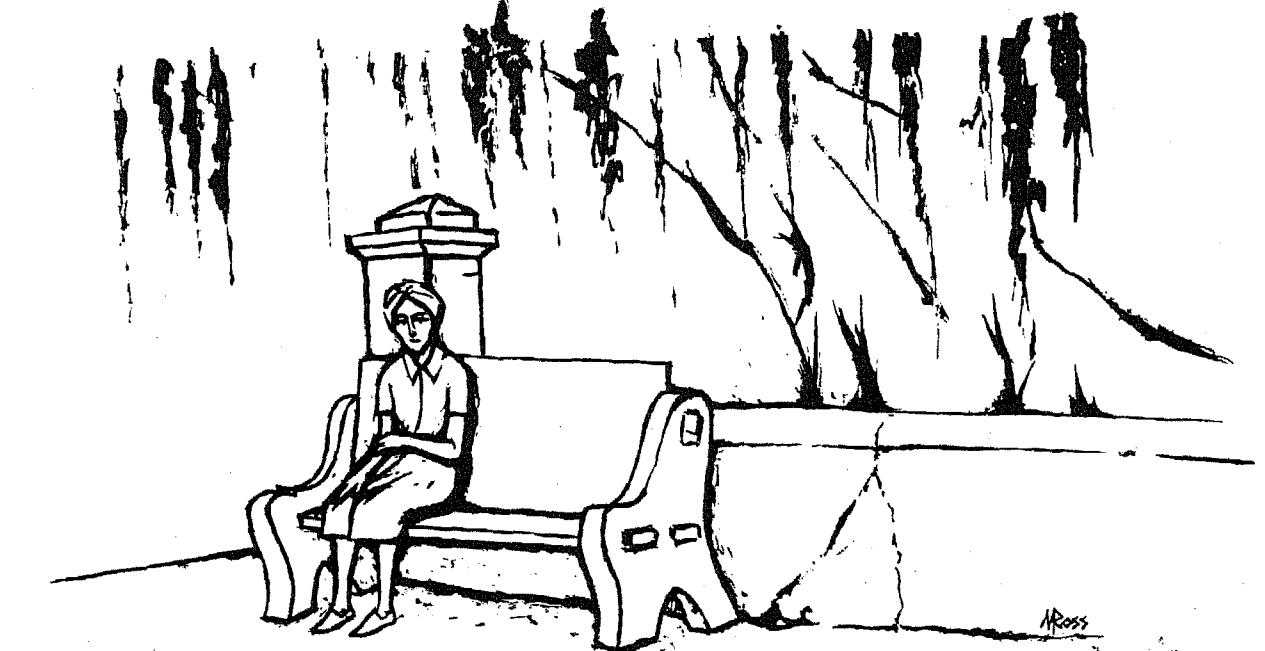
A familiar sight a few years ago was "Miss" Malvina and a large doll's carriage, which she pushed on her frequent walks around the island. At first glance one saw what would appear to be a normal scene of a grandmother wheeling her grandchild around town for a bit of fresh air. Tourists and locals alike were shocked to look in the carriage expecting to see a sleeping or cooing infant and then have their sensibilities assaulted by the grinning hyperthyroid stare of a toy pekingese.

"Ping", who had been beloved family pet had lost his sight and life out of doors became a constant danger to the unfortunate canine. A family symposium decided that a suitable way for the dog to get some fresh air and relieve the dullness of his confinement would be to move him about in some sort of small conveyance. The resulting vehicle turned out to be a doll's carriage and "Miss" Malvina became the means of its propulsion. It apparently proved to be an effective means, for the dog made no protests, but it did

create some strange responses from onlookers.

"Miss" Malvina says her secret of long life is this: "I was a poor eater but a great sleeper!" She is no longer the active person that she used to be, her children now grown and her housekeeping responsibilities reduced to a minimum. Most of her day is now spent in an equally reduced environment, a two or three block area centering about the junction of Simonton and Eaton Street Her home, at 322 Simonton Street, which was once a real estate office ("Old Island Realty" catering to such notables as John Kaitenborn, Ernest Hemingway and Tennessee Williams), is in this area as well as the residences of her remaining family, daughters Ann Carmouche and Barbara Freeman. They now reside in the original home of grandfather Peter A. Williams, where "Miss" Malvina spent so many Saturdays. The beautiful house with its big urn is now back in the family after a thirty year period under other ownership and it is here that "Miss" Malvina spends nights.

Refusing to allow herself to be shut up within doors she can often be seen taking the gentle island breezes on her corner (Simonton and Eaton) sometimes paused in reverie or sitting on bench savoring the shade of the luxuriant laurel tree by the Old Stone Church.



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Some remarks

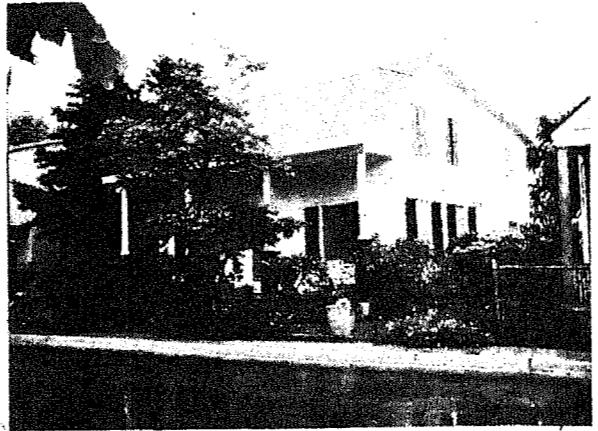
by Bill Westray

One of the most promising programs in recent years for revitalization of our local construction industry and preservation of our unique Key West architecture is a pilot project of low cost home repair loans initiated early this year by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The program is a HUD revitalization project. The local director of the project is former Navy construction inspector, Paul Roberts. Roberts, with his secretary Judith Chesher, occupies an office in the new Port and Transit Authority Building on Palm Avenue.

The purpose of the project is to provide low-interest (2%) loans to owner-occupants and lessee-occupants of single and two-family dwellings in a designated urban renewal or concentrated code enforcement project area. The urban renewal area is roughly that area north of Truman Avenue from White Street westward to the old Naval Station.

The program is funded from a HUD grant of \$100,000 with which a revolving fund known as the Key West Mayor's Rehabilitation Loan Fund has been established. Mortgage loan money up to a maximum of \$12,000 is available to applicants, "who by reason of advanced age, limited income and resources, limited credit rating, are unable to secure comparable terms..." Their homes must be in such location that their appearance affects the image of the city.

Applications are initially screened by Roberts who then recommends approval of those considered most worthy to a review board. This board consists of Roberts as chairman, and James Hansen, chairman of OIRC, Joseph Chambers, Vice



720 Thomas

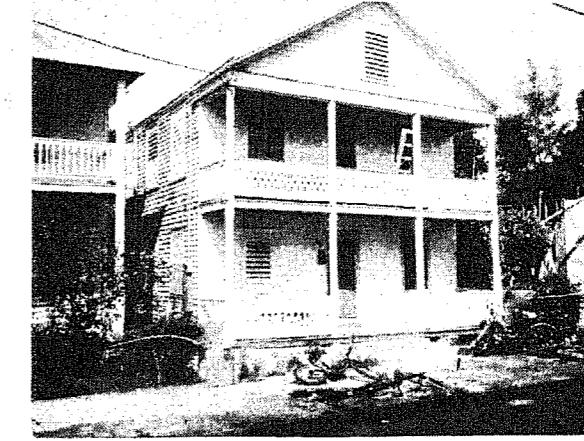
President of First Federal Savings and Loan, Willie Ward, pressman for the Key West Citizen, and Jamie Bishop, the mayor's secretary.

Approximately 70 applications have been received so far since the project received its HUD funds about May 1, 1976. The first loan was approved and issued on June 7, 1976. Since then a total of 12 loans have been approved and 11 have been issued and are in work. The writer made a tour of all project houses with Paul Roberts on August 13th, and found work well underway on all projects, with several nearly completed. "This has been a real boon to the small contractors," Roberts remarked. "These contractors seem to be enthused about the program and are bidding low and doing good work." The writer was greatly impressed with what he saw as the accompanying photographs illustrate. The few small houses whose exteriors had been repaired and painted stood out like jewels. Approximately \$80,000 of the available \$100,000 has been approved for the 12 loans so far. The remaining 58 applications are still under consideration. Roberts said that he was hopeful of funding all or nearly all of those remaining, and perhaps others as well. He said that he hopes to get another \$200,000 from HUD about the first of January.

Mary LeMire, member of the Historic Key West Preservation Board, commented that she is greatly in favor of this kind of project. However, she added that a number of these project homes are in the Key West Historical Preservation District, and none had been submitted to the Old Island Restoration Commission (OIRC) for approval before work started in accordance with OIRC guidelines. "Of nine project homes that have been inspected," she said, "only three seem to comply completely with OIRC guidelines." Two of these have subsequently been submitted to OIRC for after-the-fact approval. One has been

approved; the other is tabled pending receipt of further information. "It would be a tragedy to jeopardize such a worthwhile program by bypassing the commission that has been established to oversee such work," Mrs. LeMire added. The writer checked and learned that six of the twelve project homes are within the Key West Historical District.

Mrs. LeMire noted that an on-site survey team of five members from the Florida Division of Archives and History, have now identified over 1300 Key West structures of architectural significance. "We can hopefully expect to see the historic area of Key West greatly expanded," she declared.

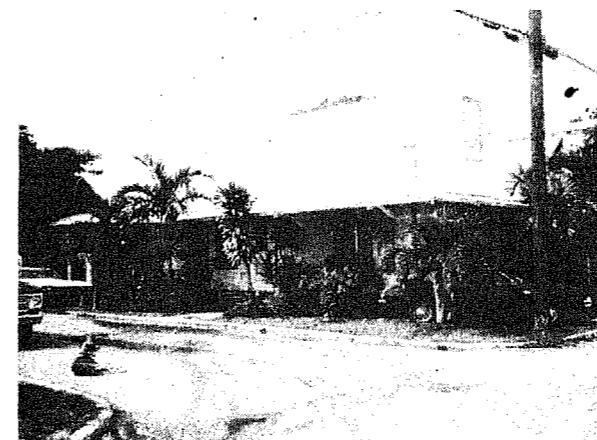


409 Grinnell

There seems to be no limit to the breadth and depth of historic restoration potential in Key West. During the Critical State Concern hearings in Tallahassee in 1975, Secretary of State Bruce Smathers expressed particular interest in historic preservation and restoration in Key West, and he was joined by the Governor and the other cabinet members in pledging their full interest and support in helping local people achieve this commitment.

Key West is one of the oldest, and was once the largest, wealthiest and most thriving city in Florida; it is a place people from all over the continent want to see and live in. Restoration is worthwhile and rewarding. It can provide jobs for many, if not all. These low-cost loans can allow even the poorest to afford a decent place in which to live.

A 20-year mortgage loan for \$7,000 at 2% can be repaid for about \$35 per month, or \$5 per month per \$1,000 of loan. The working class, the middle class, the retired, the wealthy can find comfort and gracious living in old restored homes. Restoration became a way of life for an entire city in Williamsburg, Virginia. Here is a way for private enterprise and government bureaucracy to move hand in hand to achieve something truly worthwhile. The way has been shown, the potential is here, the guidelines are available ... let's get on with it ... the reward will be great for all of us.



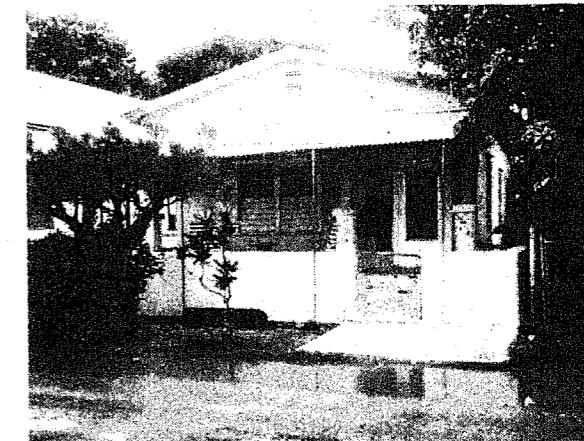
848 Olivia

In checking, the writer found that the Key West Comprehensive Development Plan, prepared by Milo Smith in 1968, identified 1328 substandard residential buildings in and around the historic district.

According to Paul Roberts, the average loan size of the new HUD project has been \$6,000 to \$7,000. If all the 1300 odd architecturally significant buildings in Key West were to undergo restoration at an average cost of \$7,000 each, we would need about \$9 million. The writer drew nods of agreement from Roberts and secretary Judy Chesher when he suggested that the program ought to have about \$2 million now to really get moving.

Mary LeMire remarked that she felt that historic preservation work could employ every single person in the construction trades. "Carpenters, electricians, plumbers, apprentices, laborers ... we would need them all for five years at least ... maybe longer," she declared.

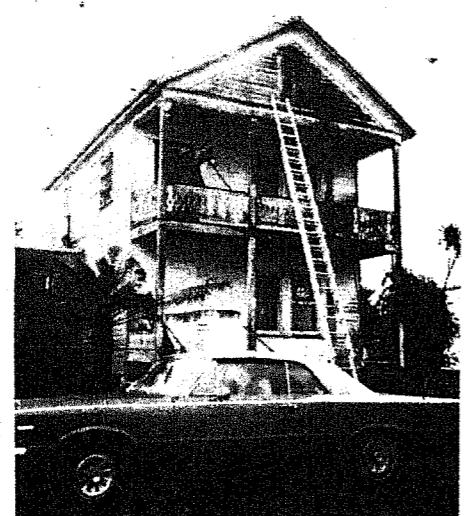
"I do all the inspecting for the owners to make sure they're getting their money's worth," Roberts explained displaying his chart showing the progress of each project and his inspection schedule. "I hit every one every couple days ... more often if necessary. I must approve all work before any contractor is paid and I've been in the building business for 37 years. Any time I have any doubts I can get back up from the regular city building trades inspectors."



308 Amelia

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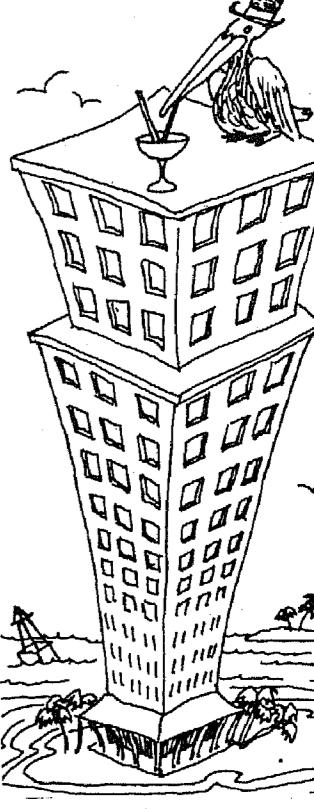
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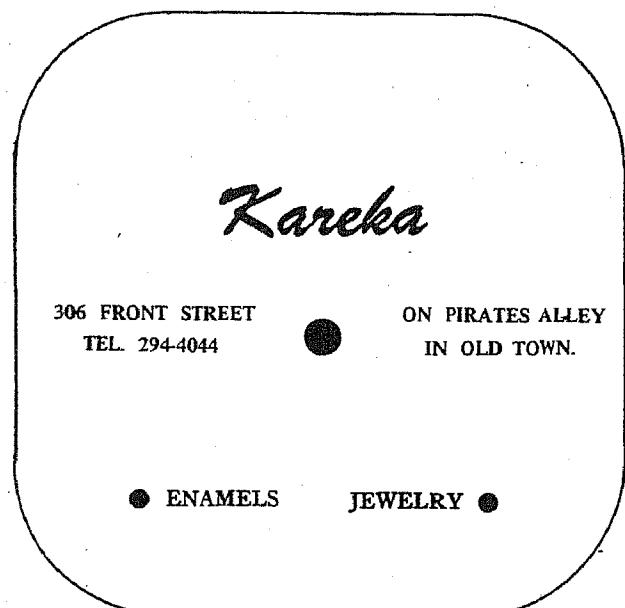
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Key West: A Dark Future?

by Ernest Szetela

I recalled when one could get an undisturbed view of the sunset while driving into Key West. You could still catch a glimpse of it between the clusters of condominiums which lined U.S. 1, (now a limited access superhighway) and the roadways which paralleled it. U.S. 1 was actually an extension of I-95, completed during the Big Deal, the last ditch effort during the second Carter term to provide jobs for the illiterates.

As I sped across Boca Chica, it struck me that this is where it all seemed to begin -- with the phasing out of the Naval Air Station. Passenger and cargo jets now roared off the runways of the relocated Key West International Airport, generating at least as many decibels as the military jets they replaced.

Apparently what happened was that with the exodus of most of the military and their dependents, as well as many civilians whose jobs depended upon them, the Aqueduct Authority found itself with a surplus of water. Emergency federal aid became available, and, with the issuing of water hookups for single and multi-unit dwellings, a rash of mid-rise condominiums began to spring up, much as they had earlier in the Upper Keys. Soon it began to look as if the concrete canyon of Miami Beach had been transplanted, except that I-95 replaced Collins Avenue, and the water pressure wasn't as good. And, even though fresh water was more plentiful during the construction boom, because of salt in the sand or water used in mixing concrete, the reinforcing steel in some of the buildings had rusted, as was made evident by the hurricane which finally side-swiped the Lower Keys, and also exposed weaknesses in many of the new bridges. Only the few remaining old railroad bridges seemed to hold up well.

The hurricane had also devastated several sections of the new oil and water pipelines. Luckily, cheap water could now be shipped by barge and tanker from Cuba. Key West already had excellent storage facilities, and, with the oil boom in the Big Cypress, deep water port facilities were expanded here and refineries similar to the one on Grand Bahama, had sprung up.

The dangers of nuclear power production had been exemplified by the "accident" at a nuclear facility in Vermont. Long stretches of the Connecticut River were still tinged with radioactivity. Consequently, the nearly completed nuclear plants in central Florida were abandoned. Instead, huge turbines harnessed the constant flow of the Gulf Stream off Sand Key and Marathon, as well as off the Gold Coast. Before their completion, many of the higher condominiums installed windmills, which

could produce emergency power and produce enough water pressure for the upper levels.

The reefs off the Keys were almost dead. However, the Jaycee's drive to obtain junk cars and tires from all over Southeastern Florida to build up a new artificial reef proved to be a tremendous success. For a while the fishing was great -- the record catches bigger and bigger, until the rash of supertanker accidents, including one just off the Lower Keys, made the fish disappear.

How about the people of Key West? For a short while, after the final closing of the NAS, it seemed that there would be plenty of jobs as military dependents, including many wives who worked, began to leave. And, for a while, rents dropped, and housing became cheaper. Sigsbee Park was bulldozed, and piles of rubble still remain, as they do just off lower White Street. More Conchs were able to get jobs for a while. But then the real estate bargains, the fresh air, the excellent fishing, and everything that is so unique about the Lower Keys and particularly Key West attracted so many that real estate skyrocketed to new heights. Condominiums seemed to be the only answer. With them came the need for new access roads, and the unended streets of Key West began to develop bigger and deeper potholes, guaranteed to awaken a dozing driver, and to slow down the potential speeder.

With time, the economy of Key West changed quite radically. The fishing industry had disappeared, as did the charter boats. Of course, the old Conch houses kept needing repairs, providing work for a good many. The condominiums provided work for many as maids, waiters and waitresses, as maintenance and security personnel, etc. Many of those employed in the service industries lived in trailer parks surrounding the new solid waste disposal facilities on Stock Island and Big Coppitt. Luckily, perhaps because of the reef, most of the trailers here had escaped the devastation caused by recent hurricanes in the Middle and Upper Keys. Now, new federal subsidies enabled trailer owners to raise and reinforce their homes.

By now, most of the Black community had moved to Stock Island, mainly because of skyrocketing real estate values in their part of Old Town. For a while, real estate values remained depressed in the section of Old Town nearest Fleming Key. But, when the animal quarantine station became obsolete, real estate values jumped there as well, making it impossible for people of ordinary means to live in Key West.

cont'd on page 19

Solares Hill is going to endorse some of the candidates running for office this election year. We will endorse in some of the races, express preference in others, and have no comment in still others. (Since we are a monthly paper, we will endorse only for the primaries.) It is a sobering experience to realize that we can have an effect on some of the voters. We do not know if we will have an effect on fifty, five hundred, or five thousand voters. But we do know that it is one thing to express a choice to a friend and a totally different thing to express a choice to over ten thousand readers in a widely-distributed newspaper. However, what matters even more than the numbers reached is the responsibility of impartially selecting candidates for this public endorsement.

Friendship means a lot to all of us. We have friends who are seeking office. We have a loyalty to our friends but we feel that our greater loyalty and our responsibility is to the office being sought. And sometimes we have found that a person running for an office is not a friend nor well-known to us but, nonetheless, this person has convinced us that he is the person for the job. Therefore, this is the person whom we have endorsed or expressed a preference for.

Who are "we"? Solares Hill is a collection of like-minded people. We share a philosophy on the Keys. We feel that the Keys are exceptionally beautiful, exceptionally uplifting, and exceptionally unique. We also feel they are exceptionally threatened. For too long a

time unwise leaders have been taking from this environment in such a way that now our superior life here is threatened. The ugly clumsiness of indiscriminate building has both marred the beauty of our surroundings and escalated local costs to provide services for them. These same incautious builders have flung up condominiums at a time when water has been a doubtful resource. The restrictions against such people for too long had not been enforced until finally an aroused citizenry went around its leaders and got a ruling of "critical concern" for our county.

No one wants bureaucrats from Tallahassee telling us what to do if we can take care of ourselves. After all, locally-elected officials are supposed to be our watchdogs, and outsiders are superfluous at best and meddlesome at worst. But the citizens of the Keys discovered that these very watchdogs were permitting a wholesale robbery of our beautiful natural resources here. Area after area became dredged and filled, cleared and built-up, and there appeared on how capably these positions could be filled. And, we would like to add, the fact that we did not choose a particular person for an endorsement does not necessarily mean that he is not fit for it in our opinion. Not at all. Sometimes the choice was a hard one to make.

When we endorse it means that we all generally agree that this person is the best for this job. When we indicate a preference it means that we all do not agree on this person but that he or she is the more favored by our group. In some races we have no comment. This means that we couldn't come to any decision about who would be the better of the two for Monroe County.

ability, foresight, integrity, and whether a candidate is a hard worker all played a part in our selections. Also, not all the positions sought have much input into how the county behaves environmentally and here we endorsed more on how capably these positions could be filled. And, we would like to add, the fact that we did not choose a particular person for an endorsement does not necessarily mean that he is not fit for it in our opinion. Not at all. Sometimes the choice was a hard one to make.

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•Candidates We Recommend.

For State Senator, District 39, we endorse MIKE SIMONHOFF

For State Representative, District 120, NO COMMENT

For County Commissioner, District 1, we endorse ART WEINER

For County Commissioner, District 3, we prefer JERRY HERNANDEZ

For County Commissioner, District 5, we endorse DON SCHLOESSER

For Sheriff of Monroe County, we endorse RALPH SWEENEY

For State Attorney, we endorse MIKE CATES

For County Court Judge, we endorse DAVID KIRWAN

For Public Defender, 16th Judicial Circuit, we prefer JOHN KEANE

For Supervisor of Elections, we endorse WILLIAM "BILLY" FREEMAN

For School Board, District 2, NO COMMENT

For School Board, District 4, we endorse ROGER SWIFT

For Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority, District 4, we prefer J. BURTON FRIERSON III

For Supreme Court, Group 1, we prefer FREDERICK B. KARL

For Supreme Court, Group 2, we endorse ALAN C. SUNDBERG

For Supreme Court, Group 3, we endorse JOE HATCHETT

For Mosquito Commissioner, District 4, NO COMMENT

On REFERENDUM QUESTION 1 (to elect members of the Aqueduct Authority rather than have them appointed) we vote YES.

On REFERENDUM QUESTION 2 (shall all Aqueduct Authority bond issues be subject to popular vote) we vote YES.

Ernest Hemingway Home and Museum

A Registered National Historic Landmark
This Site Possesses Exceptional Value In Commemorating or Illustrating The History of The United States



OPEN DAILY 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

907 WHITEHEAD STREET KEY WEST, FLA.

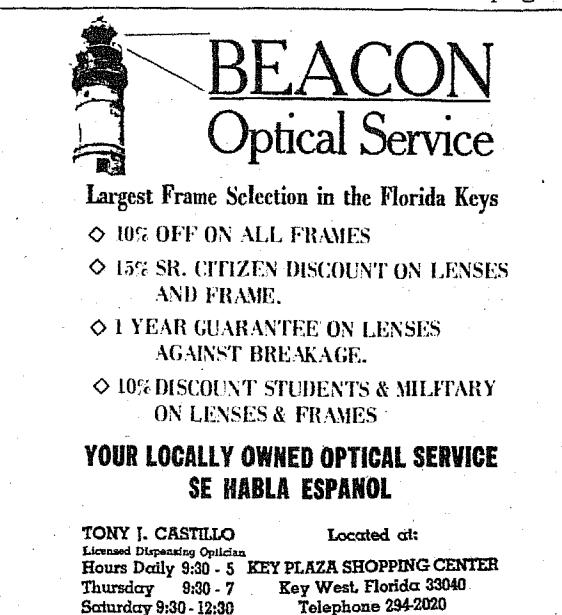
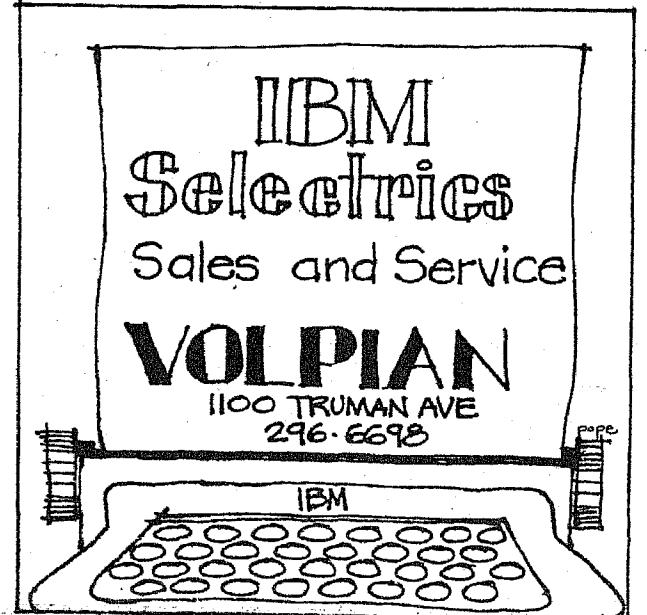
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TELEPHONES: 296-5811 or 294-1575

A leisurely tour of the home and gardens of the late Nobel Prize Winner, Ernest Hemingway. The home was built in Spanish Colonial Style of native rock hewn from the grounds with family and friends, and later decorated by Hemingway from Spain, Africa, and Cuba. Luxurious exotic plants and trees are from all over the world. It was here that Mr. Hemingway wrote For Whom the Bell Tolls, Green Hills of Africa, A Farewell to Arms, The Fifth Column, The Snows of Kilimanjaro, and The Macomber Affair. Mr. Hemingway was the first important writer to discover and make Key West his home. He owned the home from 1931 to 1961.

Covers One Acre Including Pool And Guest House
Bring Your Camera

For further information contact Berica Dickson, 907 Whitehead St.



THE CANDIDATES

We asked all the candidates to give us their name, age, address, H.S. or college graduated from, present occupation, qualifications for the job sought, and number one objective if elected (re-elected) to this job. We asked this of all the candidates in Monroe County with the exception of the Mosquito Board (we felt that we wouldn't have enough room for everyone). The response was very good.

STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 39

Vernon Holloway, incumbent; resident of Dade County; University of Miami; Electrical Contractor.

Qualifications: Served 8 years in the Florida House of Representatives and 2 years in the Florida Senate.

Objective: Senator Holloway has expressed as high priority aiding Monroe County in the area of transportation. This includes the four laning of the 18 mile stretch between Florida City and Key Largo and the reconstruction and/or repair of the deteriorated bridges.

Vincent Jude Brennan, resident of Miami, Florida; 52 years of age; Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio; Juris Degree from the Salmon P. Chase College in Cincinnati, Ohio; retired from Internal Revenue Service.

Qualifications: I have 27 years in the practice of tax law and administration both as an employee of Internal Revenue Service and as a Defense Attorney. I am of good moral fibre and of unblemished reputation and character.

Objective: If elected my first objective would be to undertake raising funds from existing laws, which funds are sorely needed for our schools, roads, and critical shortages for our aged. One readily available source of funds is the State Documentary Tax for the transfer of real estate. The law since 1963 (Chap. 201 of the Florida Statutes) exacts 30¢ for each \$100.00 of the consideration paid.



STATE SENATOR
MIKE SIMONHOFF
ENDORSED

Mike Simonhoff, Coconut Grove, Florida; 39 years of age; Cornell University, Architect.

Qualifications: I am an activist and a fighter who knows how to get the things done. I drafted the tree ordinance for the City of Miami and have worked with all levels of government on environmental issues, including serving as Chairman of the City of Miami Environmental Review Board. I spend much time in the Keys and know that planned growth is the key to building our economy.

Objective: First, I will make sure that Monroe County is not ignored by the senate delegation that also represents Dade County. I will be your Senator. Second, I will work for more funding and local district staff for the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 120

Emery Major, resident of Key West; Key West High School; attended Florida Keys Community College; age 26; Manager of Lopez Properties.

Qualifications: Elected to the Civil Service Board, appointed to serve on the Florida Keys Memorial Hospital. Has long been involved in community affairs.

Objective: Major believes that this is the year for change and for the voters to restore honesty and integrity to our state and local governments. He therefore supports the Full Financial Disclosure laws and the enforcement of the government in the Sunshine Laws. Emery Major believes in planned growth, so that our Florida Keys can remain clear, clean and beautiful and still support a reasonable building industry.

Joe Allen, resident of Key West; Key West High School; age 62; County Tax Appraiser, Monroe County.

Qualifications: My 28 years experience in public life -- 8 years as a Monroe County Commissioner and 20 years as county tax assessor (property appraiser) -- has been devoted to working for the best interests of the citizens and taxpayers of Monroe County. As a member of the legislative committee and former president of the Assessors Association of Florida, I have come face to face with the leaders of our state and with the large majority of representatives and senators of other counties. As editor of TAX VIEWS IN THE NEWS, a state-wide publication, I have worked diligently for controls on property taxation. As an individual I have devoted my life to improving the lifestyle of this county through my work in civic, fraternal and religious organizations.

Objective: My number one objective would be to supply needed leadership in the county to bring together the geographical, philosophical and other divisions in population to where we understand each other and work for the best interests of all who make our homes in the Florida Keys. To provide those things necessary for our health and welfare within the bounds of those with limited incomes.

4. I try to keep government out of competition with private enterprise.
5. I am available and I will listen.
6. I do plan for the future.

Objective: My number one objective is to lick the solid waste problem in the Keys and clean up the Keys. I plan to continue to serve the people of Monroe County as I have in the past.



COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1
ARTHUR H. WEINER
ENDORSED

Art Weiner, resident of Key West; University of Miami, PhD; age 33; Environmental Consultant, Keys Tropical Homes.

Qualifications:
a) My university training.
b) My experience working with state regulatory and land planning agencies in the production of several land use studies on the Keys and in the development of regulations to protect our natural resources.

c) My experience applying for, obtaining and administering federal and state grants.
d) Three years as chairman of the Florida Keys Citizens Coalition, working with numerous citizens groups, the Monroe County Commission, Monroe County employees and citizens advisory groups.
e) Eleven years working on the reefs, in the mangrove wetlands, hardwood hammocks and other natural areas of the Florida Keys, as a research scientist and teacher.
f) 3 years as a teacher in Monroe County.
g) A working knowledge of the construction industry in Monroe County.

Objective: In a few words -- I would stress a closely linked on-going program that would keep economic and tourist-oriented development in tune with the natural life systems of the environment in the Florida Keys; and see to it that development keeps in step with the availability of essential human services such as water, electricity, waste disposal, fire and police protection.

Wilhelmina Harvey, resident of Key West; Mary Immaculate High School; Florida State University (A.B.); presently a member of the Monroe County School Board and has been for the past 8 years.

Qualifications: I am a candidate for Monroe County Commissioner, District 1.

I have been a civilian employee relations officer for the U.S. Navy, a businesswoman, a school teacher and for the past 8 years I have been a member of the Monroe County School Board -- whose budget, incidentally, exceeds that of the Monroe County Commission. In the past 2 years, School Board funds, invested in time deposits, have earned better than \$1 million for County taxpayers. This represents sound fiscal responsibility. During my tenure on the School Board, four new schools were built in the County, together with an equal number of vocational and other buildings -- all without raising taxes. During that same period,

the standards of Monroe County Schools have risen to among the highest in the nation.

Objective: My first objective when I become County Commissioner will be to do everything in my power to expedite the bringing of free television to all of Monroe County. My over-all objective will be to function as a full-time County Commissioner, whose door is always open to anyone with a problem -- no matter what the problem. And the problem that concerns us all is jobs -- jobs for anyone willing to work. These jobs can be created -- not by turning the Keys into a little Manhattan or another Coney Island -- but by advertising and promoting our advantages skillfully and thoroughly throughout the United States.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 5

Tom Fouts, resident of Islamorada; University of Florida; age 48; Realtor.

Qualifications: Tom Fouts' qualifications for office started in college where he majored in history and political science and was elected to the student government Executive Council. Tom Fouts served 4 years in the U.S. Army, 1-1/2 years as an officer, he is a 32 degree mason and a practicing Methodist, he served as State Secretary to the Florida Jaycees, Administrative assistant to the Florida Secretary of State, Mr. R.A. Gray, and ran for that position in 1960 state-wide, he has served 4 years on the Monroe County Mosquito Commission, Monroe County Mental Health Board, and was organizer of the Upper Keys Guidance Clinic, charter president and founder of the Upper Keys Rotary Club, past president of the Coral Shores PTA. Tom Fouts was the only voice to stand against the unfair waste district tax and carried it to the people in the 1972 election and defeated the tax and the appointed Commissioners.

Objective: Tom Fouts' number one objective when elected to office will be to get cooperation between the various agencies in the county so business can start moving again. Business people cannot invest or plan from one day to the next because they do not know what will be allowed and what will not be allowed in this county. We are living in one of the most historic and beautiful places in the country and we are not cooperating and planning its proper development. Key West and the Keys have some of the most interesting places to visit in the country but it seems the people in charge locally don't appreciate what we have.

Harry Harris, incumbent; no response.



COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 5
JERRY HERNANDEZ, JR.
PREFERRED

Jerry Hernandez, Jr., resident of Key West; Key West High School; attended University of Florida; 4 years USAF; age 43; owner and operator of the Golden Nugget Jewelry Store.

Qualifications: I attended almost every Commission meeting in the last 2 years.

I also attended Zoning Board, Aqueduct, Electric Co., Mosquito control, School Board, Regional Planning Council and Coastal Zone Management meetings. I am a member of the Ridge and Lower Gulf Coast Water Management District. The County Commission is only a part of a vast network of agencies and Boards who affect our daily lives.

Objective: To get Monroe County out of the fiscal mess it is now in. The simple services that people of this county want have not been given to them, with the excuse that there is not funding for them. This is nonsense. The money is there, but it has been continually wasted on senseless projects, such as Boot Key and No Name Key bridges, over spending -- such as the \$500,000 courtroom (less than 5000 square feet) in Marathon, etc.

In short, my number one objective if elected, would be to put a stop to all the foolishness that has gone on in this county, and give the citizens what they are truly asking for, a better and more economical place to live.

STATE ATTORNEY


STATE ATTORNEY
MICHAEL H. CATES
ENDORSED

Michael H. Cates, resident of Key West; Key West High School; Valparaiso University, B.S. degree in Engineering; Masters Degree in Engineering at Texas A & M. College; attended University of Washington and obtained a Juris Doctorate Degree in Law; age 39; Attorney at Law, Attorney for Lower Florida Keys Hospital District d/b/a Florida Keys Memorial Hospital. Businessman, member of Salvation Army Board, Key West Power Boat Race Association, Director of Rotary Club of Key West, member of Moose Club and Elks Club.

Qualifications: Mike Cates is the most experienced and qualified for the position of State Attorney. Cates has been engaged in private law practice since 1967. He has 9 years of successful civil and criminal trial experience in State and Federal Courts at all levels. Mike is licensed to practice in the highest court of all, the United States Supreme Court. Cates served as City Attorney for the City of Key West from 1971 until 1974. While City Attorney, Mike handled every criminal appeal for the city, as well as acting as City prosecutor when required. Cates has been the attorney for the Lower Florida Keys District from 1970 until the present time. Mike handles all trials and litigation for the hospital as well as providing administrative and legislative legal direction.

Objective: Cates believes that an absolute change in the administration of justice in Monroe County must occur to assure protection of the citizen -- not the criminal. Mike states that his number one objective is to stop the flow of narcotics and organized crime in Monroe County, and strongly supports establishing a combined task force of all agencies in our county. Cates believes in positive prosecution of crimes -- enforcement of the laws. Mike Cates feels that you, the citizen, should receive the services that the State Attorney's office of justice is required to provide.

Jeff D. Gautier, resident of Key West; University of Miami, B.B.A.; University of Miami, J.D.; age 41; Attorney at Law.

Qualifications: My qualifications for this job include 13 years of trial experience and 4 terms representing Dade and Monroe Counties in the Florida House of Representatives. While in the Legislature, I served as Chairman of the Judiciary Committee and Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Criminal Code Revision, which revised the entire criminal code of the State of Florida. All of this work came after intensive consultation with top prosecutors on the local, state and national level. It probably made me as well informed on the subject of prosecuting major crimes as any official in Florida. Although I have been known as a hard-liner on hard drugs, crimes of violence and public corruption, I have also led the fight to lessen penalties for possession of marijuana and pushed legislation to grant adult rights to 18-year olds.

Objective: My number one objective, if elected in September, would be to provide all of Monroe County's citizens with confidence in the State Attorney's Office. I believe that the laws of the state of Florida will be prosecuted by a competent team of attorneys who will pursue the duties of this office with fairness and objectivity to all.

COUNTY COURT JUDGE GROUP 2

Lester A. Garringer, Jr.; resident of Key West; Hawaii Baptist Academy, Honolulu, Hawaii; Trinidad State Junior College, Trinidad, Colorado; Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia; Florida State University, College of Law, Tallahassee, Florida; age 31; Chief Assistant State Attorney, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida.

Qualifications: I have extensive trial experience in all areas of criminal law and have more than 3 years experience in civil litigation. I have been certified to the Governor of Florida as qualified for the position of County Court Judge by the Judicial Nominating Commission in Monroe County.

Objective: My primary objective and pledge is to faithfully render a fair and impartial decision in each and every instance by applying the constitutional and statutory protections afforded to every individual.



COUNTY COURT JUDGE
DAVID P. KIRWAN
ENDORSED

David P. Kirwan; resident of Marathon Shores; Providence High School, Clarksville, Indiana; Florida State University, B.A. in history; Florida State University, College of Law, Juris Doctor Degree; age 28; Practicing Attorney; Chief Assistant Public Defender.

Qualifications: Practicing attorney in Marathon since my graduation from Florida State University Law School in 1972. I am currently Monroe County's Chief Assistant Public Defender having been employed by that office for the past 3 years. I have practiced law in all Courts of Monroe County, especially in County Court. I am an honor graduate of the National College of Criminal Defense Lawyers and Public Defenders, Member of the Florida Public Defenders Association, the Florida Bar, Secretary of the Florida Keys Bar Association and member of the American Bar Association.

Objective: My primary objective would be to serve as a fair and impartial judge and to have an open mind and a willingness to listen to every person who would appear in Court. A secondary objective would be to make emergency judicial services available to residents of the Middle Keys in off-duty hours.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Marshall Gifford; resident of Key West, Florida State University; age 36; Attorney.

Qualifications: Gifford is a trial attorney with a designated specialty in criminal law.

Objective: There is a great need for change in the Public Defender's office here in Monroe County. Your local government official and personal attorney know of this need and I urge you to consult them. I pledge effective representation and responsible administration. I will apply the funds of the office in a correct and proper manner and will see that capable clients contribute to the expense of their representation as delineated by Florida Law.



PUBLIC DEFENDER
JOHN H. KEANE
PREFERRED

John H. Keane; incumbent; resident of Key West; Stuyvesant High School, New York; University of Florida; age 49; Public Defender.

Qualifications: In addition to more than the minimum legal requirements, I feel the most important requisite to holding this office is the desire to serve the people of Monroe County, and particularly, the indigent accused. That desire and my proven legal and administrative abilities has been more than amply demonstrated by my performance in the Public Defender's office over the last 4 years.

Objective: If re-elected, my one main goal will be to continue to expand the availability of dedicated and competent services to the citizens of Monroe County. Additional expansion of these services will be even more necessary when the Key West Municipal Court closes at the end of this year and those cases are transferred to our office.

SHERIFF

Ronnie Rondeau; resident of Marathon Shores; Lawrence High School, Lawrence, Massachusetts; graduate of FBI Finger-print Identification Course, and the Dale Carnegie Course; Florida Keys Community College; age 51; owner-operator of Rondeau Electric, Inc. Licensed Electrical Contractor.

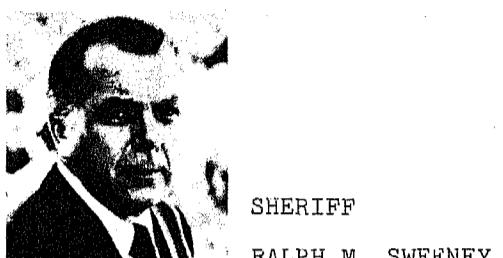
Qualifications: I have 10 years law enforcement experience, 7 of them with the Monroe County Sheriff's Department in Key West, with experience in both enforcement and administration. I am a 30-year resident of Monroe County and a successful businessman, with complete knowledge of the city and county law enforcement structure.

Objective: My number one priority, if elected, would be to return to the Sheriff's Department the sense of pride, the morale and morality that is needed to effectively battle the problems of the widespread importing and use of drugs in our county.

Jerry Giroir; resident of Tavernier, Florida; Stetson University, DeLand, Florida; post-graduate work at Western State College, Gunnison, Colorado; and the University of Miami; age 50.

Qualifications: I feel that I am qualified for the Sheriff's position by education, experience and ability. My experience includes personnel management, expenditures and budgeting, guidance, the successful operation of my business for many years, and the ability to effect change when change is necessary.

Objective: If I am elected I will go to the County Commission and request an anti-hitchhiking ordinance which will be the first of many steps to reduce vandalism, stealing and drug usage in Monroe County.



SHERIFF
RALPH M. SWEENEY
ENDORSED

Ralph M. Sweeney; resident of Key West; William and Mary College, Virginia; age 46; restaurant owner.

Qualifications: 20 years of "hard nosed" corporate management experience that produced "first rate" talent in Planning, Budgeting, Labor Relations, Administration and Control.

Objective: Return to basic Police functions of Patrol and Prevention. Use of outside agencies for long term investigations and undercover work.

R.L. "Bobby" Brown; incumbent; resident of Key West; Key West High School; University of Louisville.

Qualifications: Extensive law enforcement experience which has resulted in numerous honors. This 20 years in law enforcement includes 8 years as Sheriff. Many improvements took place while he has been Sheriff including a criminal laboratory, and an authorized new communications system which will consolidate communications of his office and the police department.

Objective: To keep this totally dedicated uniquely qualified and experienced Sheriff in the job especially now when crime is so threatening to all our lives.

William A. Freeman, Jr.; resident of Key West; Key West High School; age 47; State Representative.

Qualifications: In the past 22 years I have served as your County Commissioner and State Representative, helping to write the laws that affect Monroe County. Who is better qualified to enforce the laws than the person who helped write them. In addition, I have been in business for the past 31 years.

Objective: My number one priority is to make Monroe County a safe place for its citizens to live in. A citizen should feel safe in his home or on the streets in Monroe County. To accomplish this, we must take a hard-nosed attitude to those citizens who make the majority of us uncomfortable. I would first of all like to put a junior deputy program in our schools and work with our young citizens showing them leadership and the values of obeying our laws. Crime prevention is a most important and least expensive item.

SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 2

E.H. "Johnny" Walker; resident of Key West; Florida Professional Academy of Miami Beach; retired from U.S. Navy, served 21 years in Navy and attended many Navy schools; manager of Key Plaza Apartments; incumbent.

Qualifications: I feel I am qualified to serve on the Monroe County School Board as I have served 12 continuous years there and because of my training in Financial Planning and Budgeting, and my experience in working with people. I am a concerned taxpayer, father, grandfather and the husband for 32 years of a school teacher.

Objective: If I am re-elected I will continue to serve the people to the best of my ability. I believe my number one objective is the control of narcotics and discipline in the schools. There are so many issues that it's hard to say what is number one.

Rafael Andres Lopez; resident of Key West; Key West High School; AA Degree Florida Keys Junior College; BA Degree University of West Florida; Master's Degree Florida Atlantic University; AA Degree Florida Keys Community College; age 34; owner of R. Lopez Distribution Co.

Qualifications: I am a young, honest, just man who will investigate and combat all evils and injustices done to students, teachers, administrators and the public in general.

Objective: Reduce student-teacher ratios so that there will be more time to combat the drug pushers culture and advance the moral objectives of the American society with justice and equality for all. These objectives will give the kids the tools of a good education with a moral code to use those tools for a better, honest society.

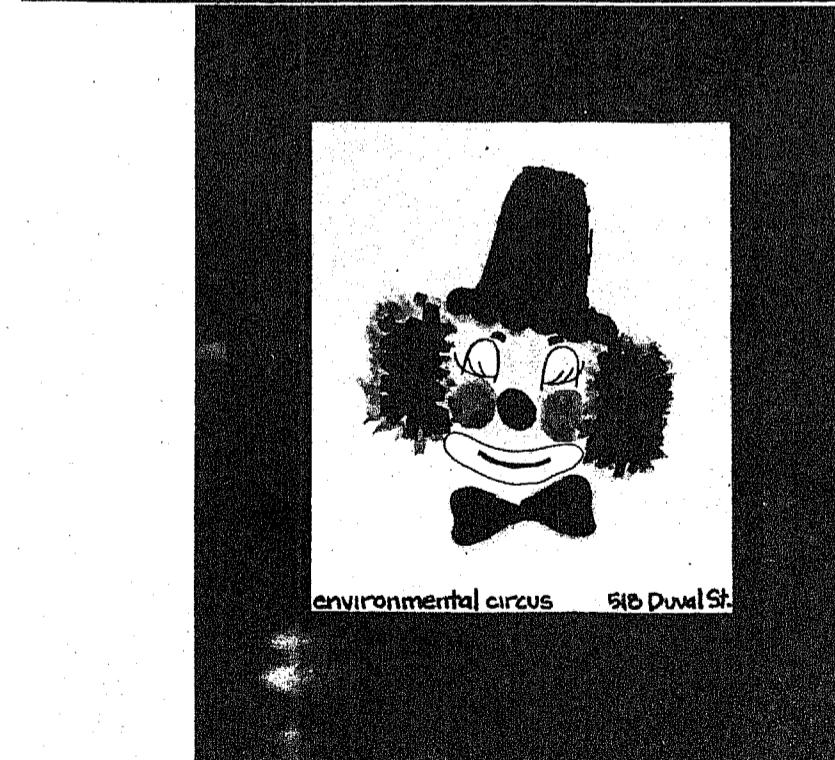
SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 4

Ed Jackson; resident of Sugarloaf Key; Key West High School; age 44.

Qualifications: My 4 years as a member of the Utility Board from 1969 to 1973.

Objective: My prime objective for the schools of Monroe County is quality education. This can be achieved at an early age with the proper amount of parental input.

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Monroe County. I am an active church member of the Key West Baptist Temple and have been married 22 years to my wife Joyce and have 3 children and 1 grandson.

Objective: Quality education is my number one objective. I also stress vigorously strict drug enforcement, quality pay for all personnel, tighter security and alternate night meetings.

Dr. Michael "Dr. Mike" Nathanson; University of Miami and Palmer School of Chiropractic; resident of Key West; age 34.

Qualifications: Nominated one of the ten outstanding young men in the State of Florida by the Florida Jaycees, Past National Director - Florida Jaycees, Past Chairman - St. Lucie County Council on Drug Abuse, Chairman - Advisory Board of Life Chiropractic College, Consultant to the John F. Kennedy University Institute on Drug Abuse and Research.

Objective: Dr. Mike feels very strongly about busing and about the need for a viable vocational educational program for the community, along with the concern about duplication of services and costs. His conviction is that the young people are the life blood of the community, future citizens and voters. It is our obligation and duty to provide the best possible educational system at the lowest cost to the tax payers.



SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 4
ROGER L. SWIFT
ENDORSED

Roger L. Swift; resident of Key West; Key West High School; Bachelor of Science in Vocational Education, Master of Science in Vocational Administration; age 34; Director of Sanitary Sewers.

Qualifications: My qualifications stem from my 4 years as a teacher in Monroe County. I have the experience as a teacher. I have the educational background. I have 3 young children in the schools of Monroe County.

Objective: My prime objective for the schools of Monroe County is quality education. This can be achieved at an early age with the proper amount of parental input.

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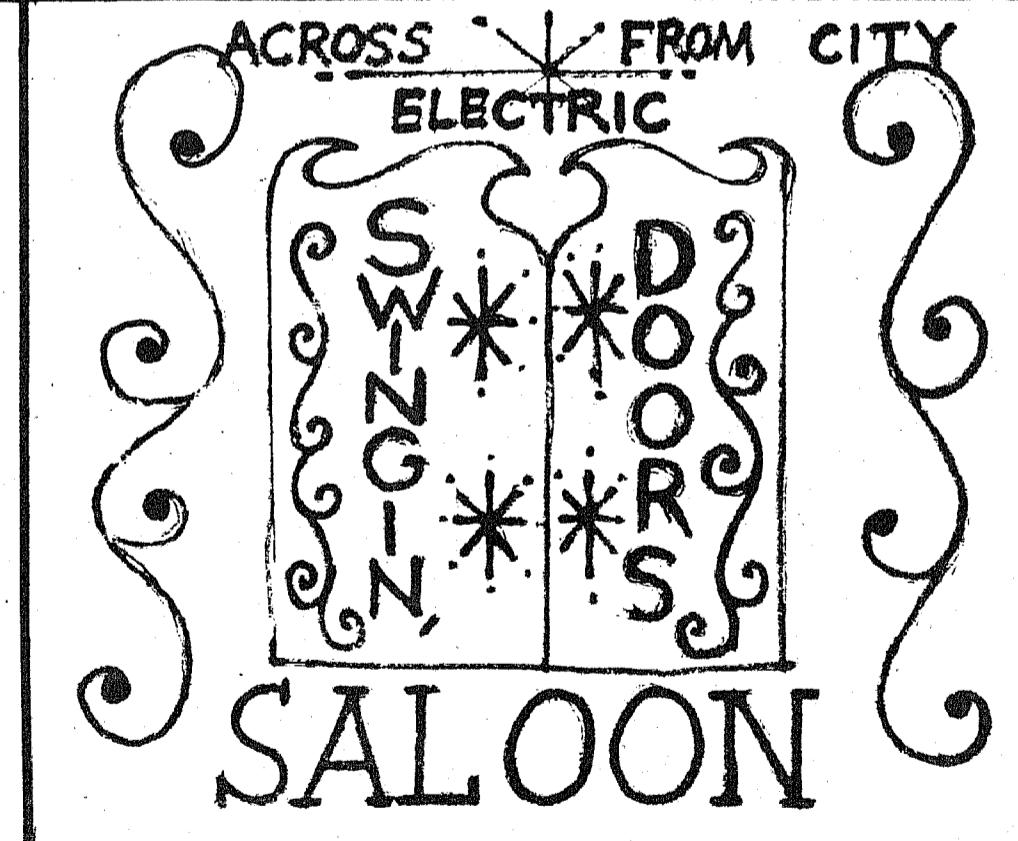
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TWO LETTERS

(In the August issue of Solares Hill, we wrote about a "problem" fence that we felt was out of place in the old part of town. We mentioned the work and the aims of the Old Island Restoration Commission (OIRC) in this article. This first letter was in response to this article. We asked Jim Hansen, the chairman of OIRC, to respond to this letter. Both are reproduced below...ed)

Dear Editor:

The point I wish to refer to is that of last month's editorial. I want to talk about the need and/or the desire for existing guidelines set up by the OIRC with special attention drawn to the purpose of OIRC; i.e., that of retaining historical preservation of Old Key West.

Granted - the old island architecture and character is a part of Key West's charming appeal. It's definitely appealing to the eye and it's nice to see and feel this atmosphere so long as it is a reflection of a general community desire - which it most apparently seems to be. But to retain it by the use of political and/or economical clout, by means of legal threat, harrassment, and manipulation is detrimental to the very emotion by which this island city has been known for. How few can tell the masses how to build, beyond structural and safety and hygienic codes is beyond "historical preservation." This is especially so when it seemingly preserves the status of an elite and their bank accounts.

If this is a "real" community, then all of the community are concerned and not just those with the money and hustle that seem to have sprouted everywhere. Many are buying old buildings and cosmetically renovating them and asking ridiculously absurd rents for them. In answer to the question of why the rents are so high, most of the monopolistic landlords say their buildings are geared towards the tourist industry. Well, that's just fine - take limited space on an island and paint it with a cosmetic face, rent it out part of the year at sky high costs and at sky high costs the rest of the year. The rents are definitely out of reach for the greater populace. I'm getting carried away with the right of others to invest just as the OIRC has gotten carried away with the right of others to live. And just as I have no real right to tell these investors how to invest nor does the OIRC have any real right to tell individual homeowners how to live within their homes with regard to historical preservation. Their aims are admirable; i.e., to keep Key West as beautiful as it has been in the past - but to legally enforce this aim is off target. Beauty, as we have been nurtured since childhood,

comes from within, which then manifests itself externally. To enforce these aims by means of legal machinery, to me, shades the initial beauty sought after. After all, if the community wishes to maintain that historical image, it will by itself maintain it through collective thought. Rather than waste taxpayers' energy on what should be a unified spirit, we should direct that energy in a much more constructive and practical application; i.e., adequate medical services - housing, etc.

Rather than tell a community how to live architecturally with the right (left) hand of the law to back them up,

perhaps the OIRC should set themselves up more as a suggestive committee sharing their admirable aims with the community. After all, if you took Mayor McCoy's house in Hilton Haven and relocated it to the Old Town area, it would be sure to be an eyesore to those who don't share his personal architectural taste (though I'm sure he would defend his right to live in the abode of his choice). Although his house is not in the Old Town area, just as are not all the CBS modules all over the northeast part of the island, still they are all within the community and so they also have the natural right of setting up their own abodes.

But - perhaps only hypothetically - this is 1976 and they have no historical value to the OIRC now. Hmmm - what about the OIRC of 2026? With regression seemingly being a part of modern mankind's progression - who knows? - perhaps crackerbox cement modules will be historically (or economically) in vogue fifty years hence. Now all this may seem blown out of proportion (which I'll admit to), but so, too, is the present day thought of personal rights. What about high rise condominiums and other present day ecological blunders our community revels in? That seems much more important to me than what color a house should be painted. Painting a house is first for the practical necessity of preserving the natural resources used to construct the house. If individuals procrastinate in painting their houses because of restrictions on color choice then the resources used on these buildings will deteriorate sooner.

Again this is blown out of proportion but so, too, is the harmony which a community needs to function at a civilized pace and I really can't see how harmony can be achieved with a few telling a majority how to live.

A friend

To the Editor: In reply to the letter by "a friend" I am sending to him (or her) through you a copy of the OIRC guidebook. In a sense it is by itself the best reply to the points he makes.

He agrees that if the community in general wants to preserve its architectural character it should be done. Sixteen years ago in an area of around 1,000 residences, 669 residents and homeowners in old Key West signed a petition addressed to the City and State asking for the establishment of a Restoration and Preservation Commission. This was a remarkable expression of community opinion on the question. The OIRC was appointed in 1969.

Community groups such as this throughout the country have objectives aside from preserving the architectural character. A major objective is to preserve and safeguard the financial value of the average homeowner's largest asset, namely the value of his house.

What happens to the house next door is of enormous importance to the homeowner.

If it is abandoned, neglected, enlarged, or added to in make-shift manner or painted in colors starkly incompatible with the traditional neighborhood tastes it becomes the beginning of a downward trend in dollar value.

An individual can do little about the house next door without the help of established guidelines supported by his neighbors. When such guidelines are given to the new owner by the building department before he starts work, he is alerted to what the community considers of value. The OIRC has found the great majority then proceeds to work within the guidelines.

To be sure, there are a few who find such standards irksome. They are generally new arrivals or absentee owners who have not had the time or the opportunity to read the guidelines and thus discover that they have bought into an area considered by its inhabitants worthy of preserving. At this point even most of this group find the guidelines helpful, not restrictive.

And so, contrary to what your "friend" implies, the OIRC has never found it necessary to use "political or economical clout, by means of legal threat, harrassment" etc. to achieve its goals.

A recent much-published violation of the Building Department Fence ordinance may well have confused your "friend" since the publicity on the case referred also to OIRC guidelines. The stop orders posted by the building department were posted because of a city fence ordinance that was in effect long before the OIRC

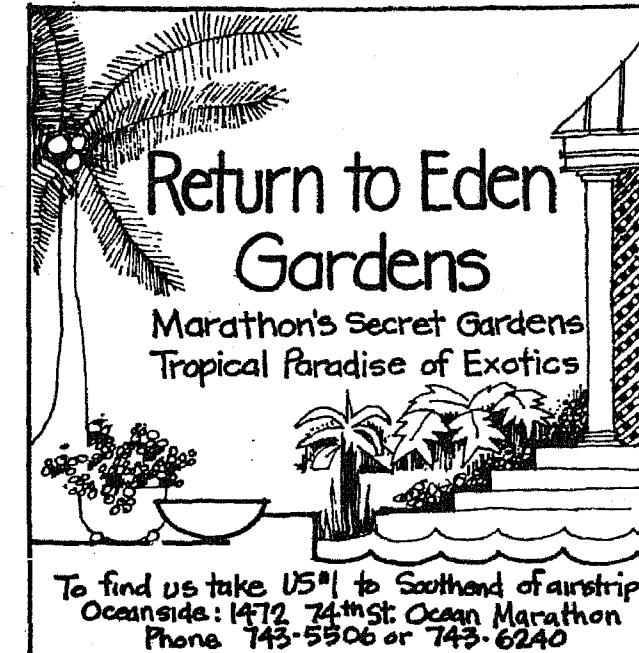
guidelines were even under consideration. The OIRC guidebook was conceived as a way to impress a variety of people with the beauty of the Old Key West houses. I have spent a life time in all phases of the construction industry and it is my opinion that no residential construction in the entire country can equal the structural beauty of the "Conch" house; also its esthetic appeal is of the best. It was apparent to me that many owners of these old houses quietly accepted them as just another house. But, to the stranger like me, they were something special in the field of excellence.

The small house and the large, all 1,000 of them were all of a family and together they made a community of "quaint and distinctive character." There was no money to tell this story. It needed to be told in color. But there were many volunteers to help tell it and there was one who agreed to pay for the telling. So the guidebook went to press. This was therefore a labor of love. Love for the future of the hundreds of small houses, to show how they were, how they could be and how they would be.

This was obviously an effort not to help the absentee investor as implied by your "friend," but to help and encourage the homeowner to continue to live in a comfortable home in a beautiful and kind environment. And the suggestions made toward that end were not dreamed up by "a few" or by the OIRC, but were taken from the original builders of these old houses and from long accepted alternatives.

James H. Hansen, Chr.
Old Island Restoration Commission
August 21, 1976

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Caroline Street

by John Hellen

Stretching from the embossed iron gate opened only for presidents to the sooty industrial pinkness of City Electric, Caroline Street exemplifies the two separate but dependent mainstays of our local economy. Caroline is six city blocks in length, and is evenly dividable into two 3-block sectors. Elizabeth Street is the boundary sectoring Caroline into west and east, and from there a glance left or right will reveal an abrupt change in the style, tempo, and priorities of the two halves.

Western Caroline is well shaded by large old trees, but eastern is nearly treeless — absorbing the full brunt of the sun on its flat roofs. Traffic on the three blocks west is of every description, and features, particularly, out of state vehicles; while Caroline east is burdened with a predominance of heavy trucks and commercial vans. At no point along her six blocks is Caroline a very smooth street, but routine bumps and depressions in the west give way to the wholesale undulations caused by repeated heavy cargos along the easternmost two blocks.

The western half, or 'gate' side, of Caroline is the radial centerpoint for thousands of visitors to Key West. Edged with stately homes and impressive public buildings, it conveys the impression of mint-julep leisure and domestic tranquility. These three blocks from Elizabeth to Whitehead are the core of 'old-town,' and their grandeur bespeaks an age when quality work was not measured in man-hours. Hewn by shipwrights and beaten by a hundred years of wind and rain, these stout structures rival the island's very climate for the admiration of the tourist.

The eastern three block sector of Caroline is a repository of industrial practicality. It is a labyrinth of squat cement block which houses pragmatic businesses concerned with the complexities of work-day technology. Directly or indirectly, these no-nonsense merchandisers are the lifeblood of Key West's shrimp and fishing industry. Purveyors of marine hardware, electronic repair shops, fuel storage tanks, wood shops, chandlers, inexpensive restaurants — dispensers of the quick-energy coffee so helpful to proletarian laborers — and honky-tonk taverns all sit tight together, as if on a monopoly board, overshadowed by the blinking stacks of the Electric Co.

One can easily pass from the east zone to the west and back again, for the zones are not so much ideologically separate as they are aesthetically polarized. The 'gate' sector, with its handsome carpentry and shade trees serenity, produces revenue by means of its appearance, while the east or 'work' zone earns its



bread by the sweat of the brow and has a work-to-do preoccupation that leaves little time for frills.

Despite the stark differences in the two zones, each has a beach-head in the other, with the Red Doors and the shuttered home beside it constituting an extension of the gentle sector, and the Florida State Employment Office (appropriately) being the plate glass representative of the 'work' zone within the 'gate' sector.

The very name Caroline hints at the quality of roles followed along that street. The origin of Caroline (as a name) is masculine, even though its present day association is generally feminine. Margaret, Elizabeth, Angela, Louisa, and Caroline — all street names as well as girls' names — even though 'Caroline' descends directly from the Latin 'Carolus' or Charles. A masculine name, but now of a woman, bequeathed to a hard travelled street where refinement and productivity abide peacefully together.

A leisurely tour of Caroline may begin at Whitehead Street where the Presidential Gate stands forever closed. This gate, with its overlapped U and S resembling a dollar sign, admits only Chief Executives, but its grim rigidity looks as if it might of itself swing open when approached by a team of Clydesdales pulling a long wagon of beer kegs.

Across Whitehead from the Gate are two former homes being remodeled into professional office space. The other corner has a quaint straw shop and is shaded by tall palms. Huge shade trees crowd the front yards of several houses recessed off Caroline along the first third of the western sector. Moving eastward on the first block, the large square Porter mansion draws the prolonged

gaze of most visitors. This prestigious building was the life-long home of Joseph Yates Porter who eradicated the dread yellow fever from the Keys. Across from the Porter House, on Caroline, is the recently renovated Bull and Whistle which is wrapped with an iron balcony and has wide, open windows looking out of both its taverns. No fewer than ten structures along the three blocks of the 'gate' zone have undergone renovation in the last few years — setting the pace for the now widespread restoration movement.

Caroline's second block is perhaps its prettiest, with eight splendid wooden homes and one entirely of brick. The wooden ones are all dressed in tropical white, elegantly trimmed with gingerbread, and hemmed with burgeoning foliage. All these homes feature extensive verandas which are much used by their occupants. At the intersection of the second and third blocks sits the ponderous but attractive Post Office and Custom House which was constructed of large limestone blocks in 1930, and has immense windows that look in on heavy office furniture.

Across from the Post Office on Caroline is the Kemp home — a grey weather beaten house built in 1867 that recently has been renovated but not painted.

This third block in the 'gate' zone has homes and apartment houses of smaller stature than those nearer the Gate, but of no less quality in soundness of construction or detail of gingerbread.

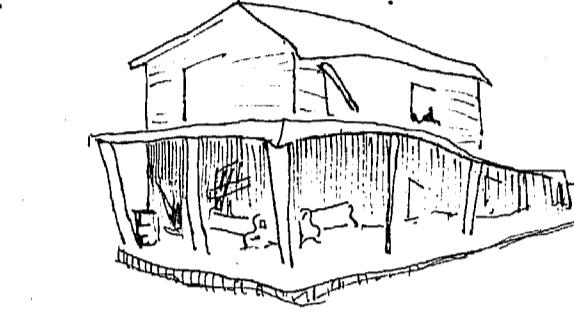
Western Caroline terminates at a diagonal line drawn from the three story 629 building — multi-gabled, grey and simple — to the stark and barn-like Carpenters and Joiners Union Hall which is soon to be renovated. This boundary is by no means the end of the tourist's route, for two fine seafood restaurants, the turtle kraals, and general waterfront curiosities draw substantial numbers of visitors down the whole length of Caroline Street.

The daylight traffic along Caroline is heavy and continuous, and its sound invades the square-rigged homes as thoroughly as it does the ramshackle businesses. But at night the eastern part becomes quite quiet, with only the occasional motorcyclist rasping by. As

is perhaps the case everywhere else, the silence becomes nearer to absolute proportionate to the lateness of the hour. By midnight Caroline is usually curfew quiet in the 'work' sector. Except for the muted laughter and sudden explosion of a billiard ball upon break coming from a single neon lit barroom, the silence there is disturbed only by the faithful drone of the Electric Co.

The residential 'gate' zone, however, does not enjoy that increasing silence that usually comes with the late-hours, because its three blocks are the southern boundary of the 'nite-club' zone — a close grouping of bars and discotheques in oldtown, which communally disgorge enough racket and attract enough nite

lifers so as to prolong the all day din of human activity well past midnight. As if the late evening arrival of the fun seekers were not enough, between 2 and 4 a.m. the sated 'partiers' begin a scattered procession homeward, careening down Caroline Street singing with abandon or arguing with the rigid self assurance that besets so many folk with twelve beers in them. This disheveled promenade of booming-voiced soliloquists and supplicant lovers often pauses in its homeward meandering to emphasize a point or rebut an accusation, but tempered residents of Caroline have learned to ignore the verbal intruders and to take smug revenge in the knowledge that tonight's uninhibited celebrant is tomorrow's hungover penitent. Suspicion has it that in his evocative ballad about a woman going crazy on Caroline Street, Jimmy Buffet sought to include not only that poor lone woman but an unprejudiced spectrum of souls who, at one time or another, have been crazy on Caroline Street. The overextended tippler, upon hearing his own voice perhaps for the first time all evening, usually can not resist braying a few echoing hoots off Carolines wooden canyon walls.



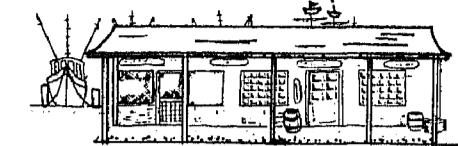
Four of Caroline's six blocks are interspersed by narrow lanes, two of which join the street from the north and two from the south. Telegraph Lane, Peacock Lane, Sawyer's Lane and Ann Street are all little one or two block adventures that contain the same charm and individuality found on Caroline. They divide the large city blocks in half and show the walker some of the inner workings behind Caroline, a kind of brief peek at life in the back yards of the formidable facades.

These two self contained yet interdependent industries represented along Caroline Street are the two irreducible elements in the economic life of Key West. One gears its efforts toward an efficient and profitable waterfront, the other preserves the treasured craftsmanship of a century ago — a three block museum of inhabited art. In spite of her much trod asphalt and the different activities that line her sidewalks, Caroline, at least half of her, is the 'grande dame' of Key West's thoroughfares, with her opposite pole being the vital taskmaster that keeps the wheels turning around. The two halves are not really sectorized after all, for in different ways they both typify the ingrained independence that makes this island unique — a stubborn resiliency seen in microcosm along Caroline Street, but characteristic of the whole island.

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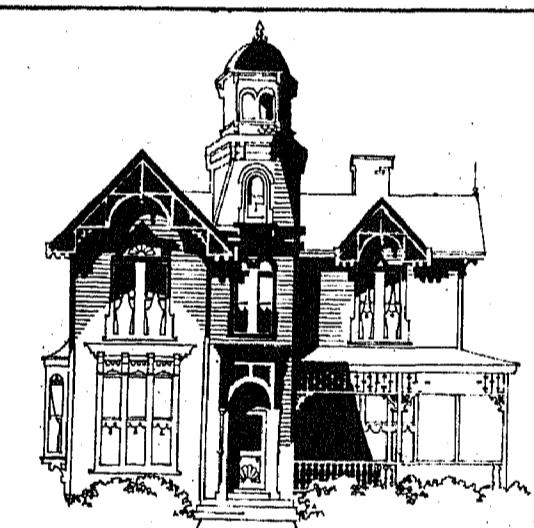
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Don't from page 13

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J. BURTON FRIERSON III

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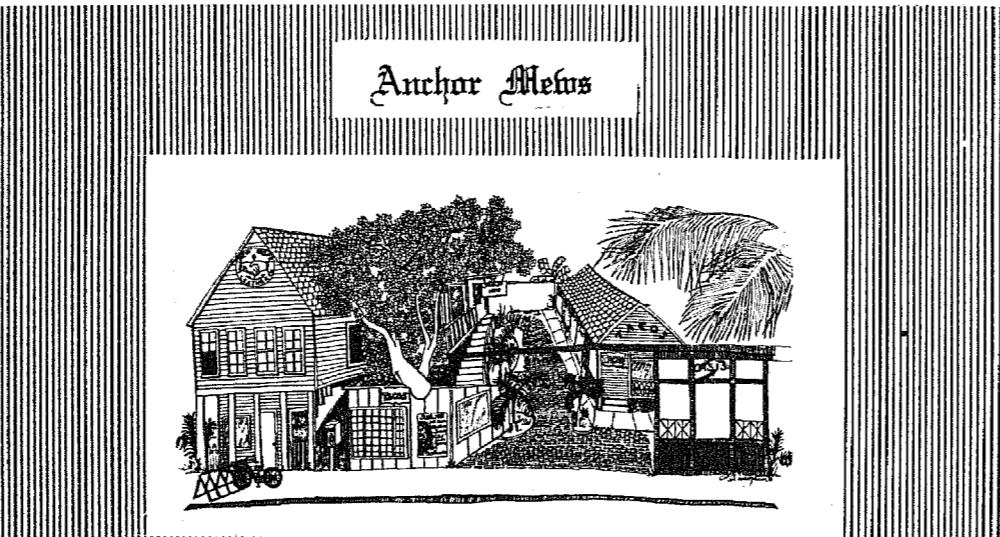
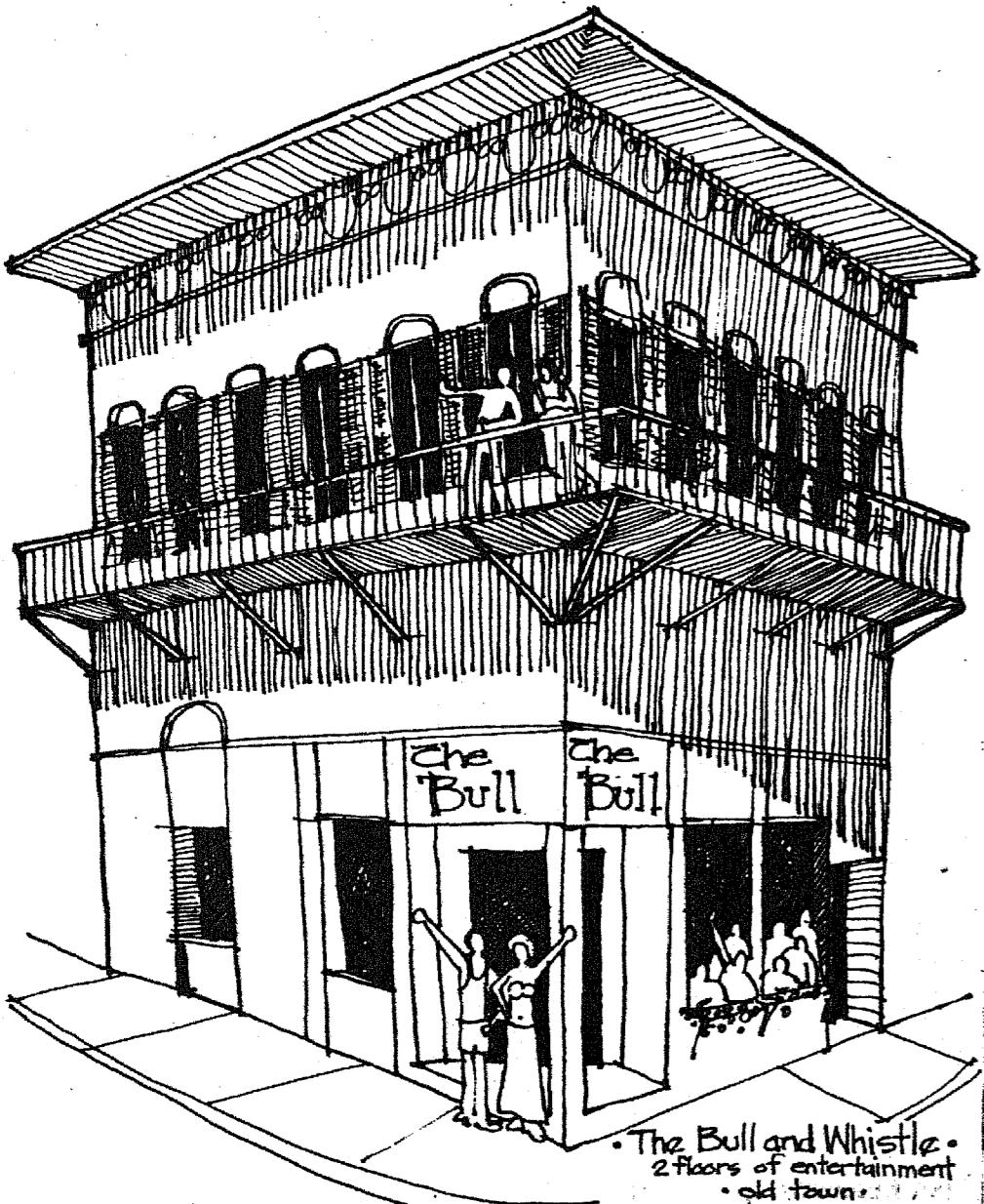
Matthew Kackowski; no response.John R. "Tanker" Craig, Jr., no response.J. Burton Frierson III; resident of Key Colony Beach; University of Chattanooga; age 41; management consultant.

Qualifications: My background and experience in business are the qualifications needed to participate in these decisions for F.K.A.A. policy. Jobs include several years in plant supervision in Textile Processing. Worked in cost accounting, Methods and Standards, Time and Motion Study, Labor and Cost Efficiency. Ran own business in dairy farming, using the most modern techniques of management.

Objective: We must see that the future supply of water is adequate to meet the needs as they arise. However, the future plans must be predicated upon the wisest choices in cost so as not to place undue hardship on the customers of F.K.A.A.

Charles A. Gregory; resident of Marathon; age 56.

Qualifications: I have attended all meetings of the Aqueduct Authority since February, so I am not a stranger to the problems facing me. I spent 12 years with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on water control structures and sewage disposal plants.



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WILLIAM "BILLY" FREEMAN
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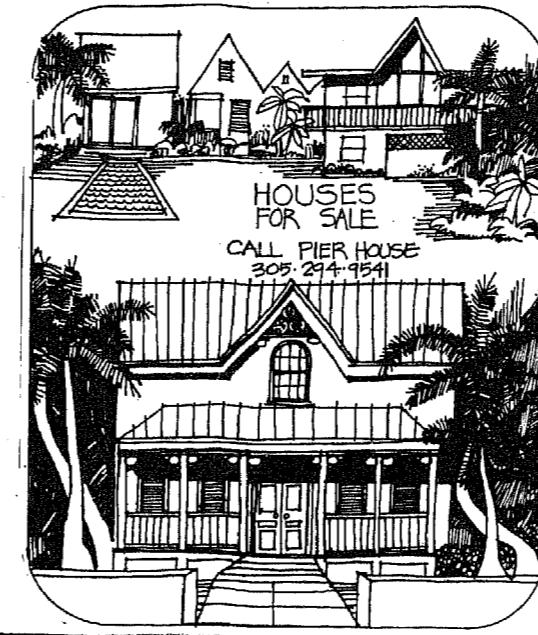
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Wm. "Billy" Freeman; incumbent; resident of Key West; member of the American Legion, Post No. 28; member of the Old Island Restoration, Inc.; served as commissioner of Key West Housing Authority for 8 years; member of the Board of Directors of the First Federal Savings and Loan Association for the past 22 years; age 63.

Qualifications: 20 years on the job.

Objective: If I am re-elected to the office of Supervisor of Elections, I will continue to follow the election laws in all instances by maintaining complete control of the duties which relate to the supervisor's office. The office of Supervisor of Elections is not, in no sense of the word, a part time job, but it is a job that should be handled by someone who has had the experience and ability to do the job.

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JUNKANOOS 1965

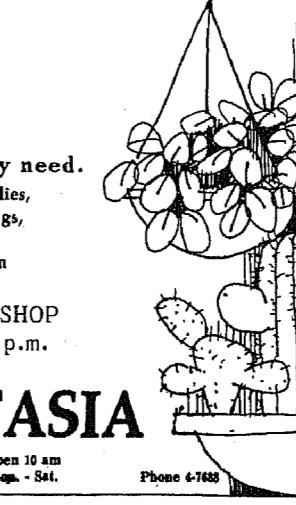
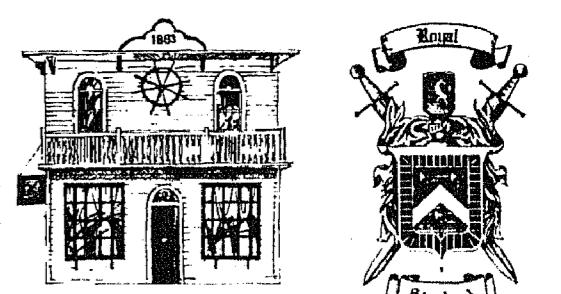
by Tom Corcoran

I have taped the 1965 Junkanoos record. I can't stop listening to it. Run the cassette fast reverse; start it up again. Tap the fingers or toes. Dance all over the place.

To the ear more attuned to commercial recordings, this one, in monaural and taped with "hands off" direction, might sound like noise in the kitchen. I am no musicologist but I could be easily convinced that the Junkanoos' sound has its roots in kitchen noise, and that the rhythms of the spoons, potbottoms and breadbasket drum moved out to the back porch so more people could have room to dance. Now the band uses conga drums, claves, bells, and a more piercing version of the thimbles on the washboard: a screwdriver chattered upon the teeth of a saw blade.

The Junkanoos record is fun yet not without its faults. I am recommending it, and my complaints are minor. A man with great knowledge of music named Marshall Stearns had the foresight to tape record the Junkanoos. I know nothing of what equipment limitations may have faced the man, but the record I heard was mono. For the Junkanoos, the stereo should be mandatory for one main reason: if you've ever heard the Junkanoos you know that audiences get involved easily, and suddenly are dancing in the middle of the music. The performers and the audience become a tight group. I wish the Folkways record could create that all around illusion. As I said, a minor complaint, and the only big complaint I have about the whole situation is that no one recorded the Junkanoos earlier, and no one has done it since. Hmm. idea?

The performance is practised; it is not polished. That's a compliment. It means that energy counts more than mechanical perfection. To make rhythm instruments talk to listeners requires more than just a feeling for that rhythm; what is required is a knowledge of what makes people shake and laugh. The Junkanoos hold that knowledge, and the recording shows it. Bravo.

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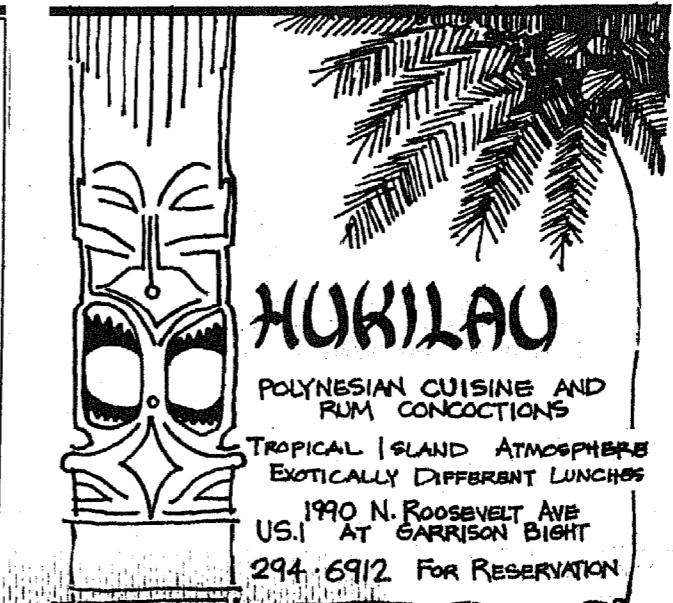
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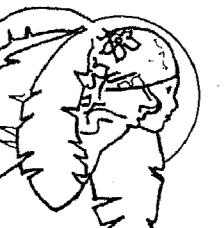
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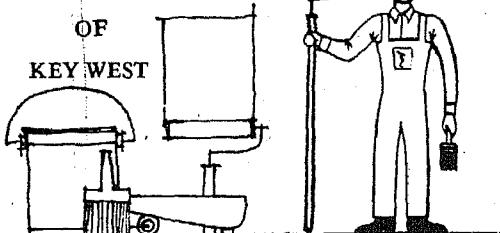
HUKILAU

POLYNESIAN CUISINE AND
RUM CONCOCTIONSTROPICAL ISLAND ATMOSPHERE
EXOTICALLY DIFFERENT LUNCHES
U.S. 1990 N. ROOSEVELT AVE.
GARRISON BIGHT
294-6912 FOR RESERVATION

foxy lady

APPAREL
BIKINISCORNER OF
GREENE & DUVAL

**DANDY MAN
OF
KEY WEST**



Dandy Man of Key West is a house painting specialist and will paint inside and out. Local references furnished. call 294-6440 between 7:30 am - 8:30pm

THE PICTURE SHOW

Sam Peckinpah's **PAT GARRETT AND BILLY THE KID** **BREWSTER MCCLOUD** "PLAY IT AGAIN, SAM"

FELLINI SATYRICON **THE UNDER THEY CAME** **Something else from the director of MASH**

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

poetry

TAKING THE AIR FROM FLEMING KEY

Late in the evening, when long day is through,
We sit on the porch, and we all say, "Ow! Ooh!"
When the wind's in the north; the day seems unending,
We try to retreat, but the fence is unbending.
Our outhouse was illegal, the City told us,
It's hard to perceive why they made such a fuss
When they solicited every available flack
For an animal party on the island outback.
"Nothing's too good for you folks," it was said,
And nothing we get, just a kick in the head.

THE SUNSET WATCH

The crowd would gather on Mallory Dock
Each day when they had read the clock,
To watch the evening sun go down;
It was the thing to do in the old, old town.
'Til the breeze brought in the Fleming brew,
Some folk were felled, the rest withdrew
In vexed and gasping disarray,
Ne'er more to view the sun's display.

Anonymous

(The articles on the Cattle Quarantine Station planned for Fleming Key prompted these poems)

Key West Players



Present
"YOU'RE A GOOD MAN"
CHARLIE BROWN"

SEPTEMBER 20th to 25th

1976-77 SEASON
Season Subscription \$12.00

"A THOUSAND CLOWNS"

"THE CHILDREN'S HOUR"

"CAMELOT"

"THE GOOD DOCTOR"

"WALTZ OF THE TOREADORS"

WATERFRONT PLAYHOUSE

MALLORY SQUARE

Admission \$3.00

Friday & Saturday \$3.50

Ticket sales at the Playhouse start
September 9th, 11 AM - 4 PM
Every day except Sunday

Telephone 294-5015

DAYS INN
BUDGET LUXURY MOTELS

*The place to stay
at the end of the day*

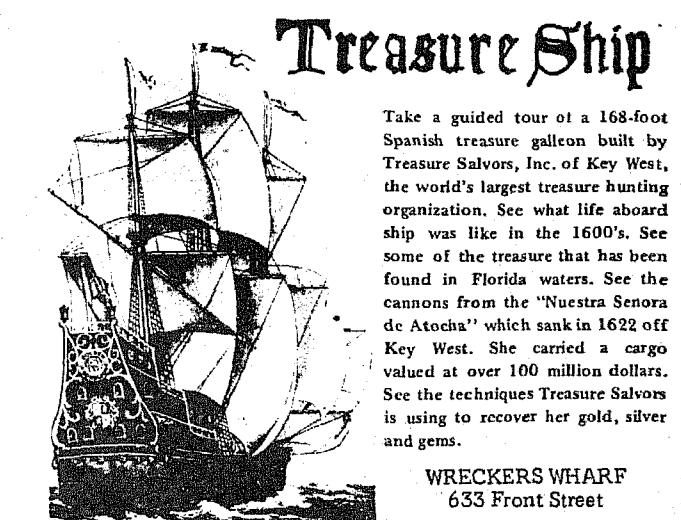
3852 North Roosevelt Blvd.
Key West, Fla.

TASTY WORLD
RESTAURANT

We're Getting It All Together...

Salad Boat
Country Breakfast
Daily Specials

6 a.m. until
10 p.m. **DAYS INN**
3852 N. Roosevelt 294-3742



Treasure Ship

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

WRECKERS WHARF
633 Front Street