

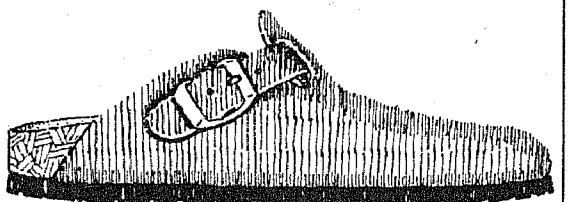
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FROM THE EDITOR

HELLO -

THIS MONTH WE have a special report on building in Key West that has been compiled and largely written by Alden Solovy. Of particularly morbid interest is the chart that shows the planned construction for our town. I'm not heartened by what I've read here; I doubt if anyone who cares about Key West could be. If after reading it you feel that there should be a slowdown on local construction, please call the Mayor to let him know how you feel.

THE THIRD ANNUAL Key West Literary Seminar was exceptionally well attended and, by and large, well appreciated by those attending. I think that the hit of the seminar was the enormously pleasant and agreeable Patrick Hemingway. He was unfailingly gracious to all who met him and continually made himself available to everyone.

There were a few glitches. Most lamentable was the amplified music that was played at the Pier House during the buffet supper the first night. There must never, never again be amplified music at a literary seminar. People come to talk and listen - at the Pier House buffet, many diners were driven out on the deck by the electronic howls within. Never again. There were complaints about the problems with the mike at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center during the Plimpton talk. This should have been properly checked in advance. Some of the scheduled speakers did not show up. A few of the events were overbooked.

THE OVERALL IMPRESSION, however, was most favorable and this event is maturing nicely. In this issue, David Kaufel singles out some of the many who deserve special praise for their work in making the days from January 10th to January 13th so eventful for our many visitors and locals who took part in the seminar (David should be singled out as well). Bring on the next seminar!

SOLARES HILL WHOLEHEARTEDLY supports the referenda on the proposed solid waste disposal plant. Alden Solovy comments on this in his column and I recommend reading it if you have any questions.

WE'RE SHORT OF space this month, so I'm going to sign off.

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"DR. NO" FOR THE AFFIRMATIVE — SHERIFF WILLIAM A. FREEMAN, JR.

By COLIN G. JAMESON

WILLIAM A. FREEMAN, JR., Sheriff of Monroe County, is a man with the courage of conviction. When he thinks a thing, it tends to stay thought.

The shape of Florida's Monroe County may be a trifle weird, but within its attenuated territories the Sheriff's uncompromising attitude is not unusual. Many other natives of the Florida Keys have collected a store of beliefs that melt only under high heat. The listener listens, but since he too has a mind of his own, it is rarely changed.

WITH BILLY FREEMAN, it's different. A man doesn't spend 30 years in public office if a majority of the voters don't agree with him. So it's clear that Sheriff Freeman must be doing things that a lot of people approve of.

We'll try to sketch how he operates and what his governmental philosophy is.

Ingredients

THE SHERIFF COMES from one of those old Conch families with roots in the Bahamas. In fact, he belongs to several of them. Jenkins Curry, his mother's father, was born on Green Turtle Cay. Jenkins came to Key West at age 13 and became active in various businesses, principally real estate. Billy's other grandfather, William J. Freeman and his wife, Mamie Warfield, were both born in Key West, where Freeman specialized in selling junk, soon thereafter to be called "second-hand goods," now quite possibly verging on "antiques."

BILLY'S FATHER, WILLIAM A. Freeman, Sr., and mother, Eloise Curry, were also born in Key West, where Billy himself appeared on May 28, 1929, at 724 Eaton Street, where he now lives.

He is thus 55 years old.

One of the sheriff's earliest memories is his fourth Christmas, when the tree with its lights glinting on the gifts underneath became the first signpost of his time. In recollection, the holiday was supercharged by the mysterious fate of the favorite present, a cuddly reproduction of Mickey Mouse. Mickey went everywhere with the boy, even to the beach. And that's where he somehow hid himself in the sand, never to be seen again in spite of his owner's endless searches. At four, you don't readily accept a loss like that. Persistence, incidentally, is still a Freeman characteristic.

BILLY ATTENDED ST. Joseph's School through the eighth grade, then

entered Key West High, graduating in 1947. More recently the education process has picked up. Freeman studied at the National Sheriff's Institute at UCLA. He has taken part in numerous professional seminars. His latest attack on formal education would up last year, when he won an Associate in Arts degree in police administration at Florida Keys Community College. As this is written, he has gone off to FBI school.

big success, and even today the sheriff is on top of the state of the art and can discuss the merits of breeds you never heard of.

THE ONLY SERIOUS crisis in this endeavor came during the war, when Billy's feed supplier in Fort Lauderdale burned to the ground. Unless you had a well-established connection, feed was almost impossible to procure at that time, but through relatives the youthful entrepreneur was able to find a supplier in Homestead who became his firm friend.

IN BOYHOOD FREEMAN'S favorite extracurricular activity was baseball. He played second base and was a pretty fair pitcher. He stayed with the game in the so-called "Tomato League" until he reached his early thirties. He also played basketball in the City League.

When it came to unorganized sports, anything to do with the sea fascinated him. The water would still be beckoning except that it is so time-consuming. Young Freeman, with innate appreciation of his environment, was equally long on fishing, swimming, beaching and boating. It was a hollow day when he decided that for anyone who had to maintain a 24-hour attitude toward his job it was impractical to own a boat. Boats, as we all know, demand time and love and will not forgive neglect.

BEFORE THIS ACT of self-denial he cruised about in a big old 36-footer built in Bethesda, Maryland, with two 110-horse Palmer engines that would deliver 12 knots if threatened. He also owned a 15'9" sailing dinghy with a live well in the bow and a 5 hp Evinrude to do the work of the wind when there wasn't any.

After high school Freeman enrolled in the Naval Reserve, enlisting for four years. In 1950, when the Korean War came along, he was not sent overseas, but President Truman was inspired to extend his enlistment by a year.

Locally he served under such far-out nautical types as Cdr. Lee Goddard, whose daily vocabulary has remained soaked in salt ever since World War II, and Cdr. Jay Quinby, railroad freak, promoter of the riverboat *Delta Queen* and one time steam-calliope-player aboard that fabled vessel.

Business "Foreground"

ON JANUARY 30, 1946, the initial session of the United Nations was convening, but Billy Freeman wasn't interested. At age 16, he had just

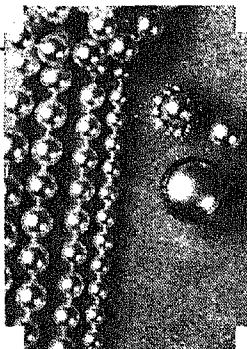


Billy Freeman

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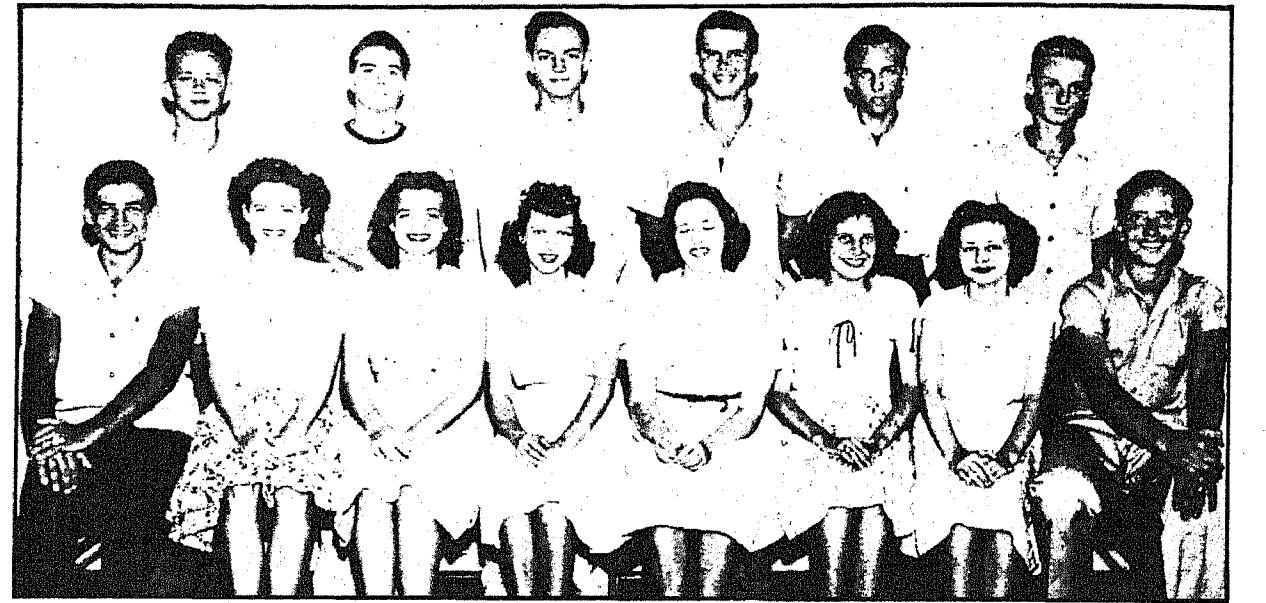
The Ancients claimed

that the god Vishnu searched the depths of the sea for a pearl to adorn his daughter on her wedding day. Since pearls were considered carriers of love, happiness and good fortune, this was indeed an appropriate gift.

Of course, even without magical powers, pearls are an excellent choice for a bride. On this special day she wants to look her best, and nothing is as flattering as the pearl's unique glow.

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The sheriff got his taste for law enforcement at an early age. Here he poses with his fellow Senior Monitors for the 1947 yearbook at Key West High School.

era, Billy had held down a number of juvenile-type summer jobs. Most recently he had spent two years in the repair department of Lucas Electric. In those days, small appliances like

rejuvenated and reassembled by Billy Freeman.

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started on a new business involvement at Porter-Allen Insurance, run by his father, William A. Freeman, Sr. During and after the chicken-raising

toasters, irons, fans, etc. were not thrown in the trash can if they so much as purped. They were constructed so that they could be taken apart,

Left to right, standing—J. W. Pinder, David Pettis, Ernest Sawyer, Joe McCullough, William Freeman, Roger Ruhsenberger.

Sitting—Leslie Sanders, Betty Spear, Bev. Spear, Marilyn Bennett, Barbara Blackburn, Mildred Tift, Jean Gardner, Joe Lowe.

the Sheriff's Department, forget it. Billy no longer gets much charge out of that line of work. Which makes sense. The motor that runs him is not geared to sticking old appliances back together. It only hooks up to the future.

But young Freeman did immediately get a kick out of the "real" job he was into at Porter-Allen. For the first time he tasted the personal fulfillment that comes from successfully completing a set task and moving on, without letdown, to face a new and broader and more complex challenge.

TO HEAR BILLY tell it, the pleasure and excitement at such a moment are of the same calibre, if perhaps not so intense, as the thrill that came when he once won a basketball game with a last-instant basket thrown from the wrong angle in cool desperation.

Work soon began to become an avocation as well as a vocation, just as it is now in wholly different surroundings. Freeman inherited his fondness for Sunday "as a day when all the other things can be done" from his father. No telephone, no casual visitors; you can think and plan and move a lot of paper, as your secretary observes glumly on Monday morning when she sees what's piled up.

NO EARLY COUP in the insurance business stands out in Freeman's memory. He does recall that his first homeowner's policy (\$400.00) was sold to a lady who had bought a house on North Beach Drive (Eisenhower). The downstairs was stacked so high with steamer trunks — the big boxy containers that theatrical personages used to travel with — that the negotiations and the signing had to take place at the kitchen table.

THIS FIRST CUSTOMER was Sally Rand, the famous fan dancer. Miss Rand didn't hang onto her Key West property long enough for her insurance account to mean much, but from this apparently insignificant springboard Freeman went on to lead the state in sales of INA homeowner policies.

Insurance was a well-designed ground for someone who would soon enter politics. Insurance companies habitually jack up the sales target for their most promising agents. Freeman points out that this in itself is a species of personal insurance against relaxation of effort by the agent. Success impels more creative planning and more expert execution. The anticipation of greater pressures becomes a habit of mind that is naturally carried over into politics or any other endeavor.

So Into Politics -

IN POLITICS AS well as business, Freeman consciously tries to "make every day its own small triumph," as he puts it. Thus any passage of time has to count, and life becomes longer.

Freeman has had plenty of scope to apply business lessons to politics and vice-versa. Aware from boyhood, through his father's 18 years on the City Commission, of the need for enlightened government service, he started at the age of 25 to deliver such service as best he could on the County Commission. In the process of keeping the public interest alive in his mind, he came out on the south end of so many 4-1 Commission votes that he became known as "Doctor No."

MANY STATISTICAL VICTORIES thus eluded him, but his reputation grew as an unhurried, incisive, logical force on the Commission; in many voters' minds he was its conscience. As a result, he was returned to office throughout 20 years, serving from January of 1955 to November 1974.

It should not be concluded that Freeman's work on the County Commission was chiefly confrontational. Quite often it is possible for a fair-minded commissioner to balance and compromise proposals to create a result satisfactory to all sides.

ONCE A PETITION was circulated to dredge the portion of Cow Key Channel intersected by the canal that runs under the South Roosevelt bridge in Key West. The County had no money for such a project, but the Road Department was in dire need of marl that the County must somehow procure, by purchase or otherwise.

Freeman arranged to have the Cow Key Channel dredged for its marl, thus solving one problem with the solution to another, and making everybody happy.

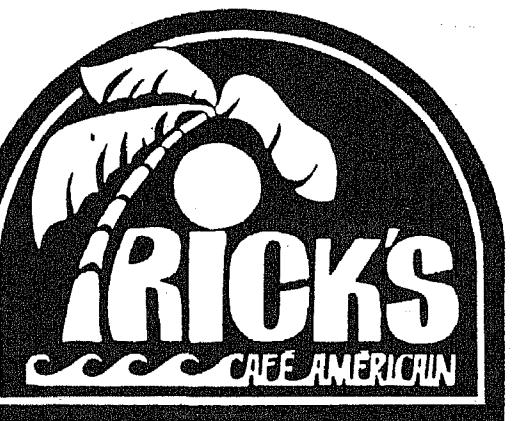
Among specific legislative ideas, Freeman affirms that he was the first (in 1973) to advance the use of trans-

lators to bring television to the extensive non-cable areas of the Keys. The translator system had to wait another decade.

AFTER HIS YEARS with the County Commission, Freeman moved up to the Florida legislature as Monroe County's representative. In politics, of course, getting elected is itself a major success. Freeman finds it hard to single out a legislative achievement that outshines all others. Perhaps nailing down the money to rebuild the Keys bridges was one of the greatest. Another was pulling the parliamentary strings to win passage of an amendment providing Monroe County with a sorely needed new circuit judge.

And Now Sheriff

FREEMAN'S KNOWLEDGE OF THE



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international interest that they arouse
make County planning of similar depth
absolutely essential. He thinks that
a comprehensible and enforceable land-
use plan of the type that he and others
suggested a dozen years ago is running
late and getting later.

MORATORIUMS ON NEW building may
stave off a reckoning. But by definition they are only a delay, useless in
the long run. The lack of a detailed
plan has already caused water and
electrical crises that could have been
avoided. Who knows what hazards lie
ahead that in the absence of a plan
can be met only by stopgaps and make-
shifts as in the past?

"If we keep blundering along this
way," the sheriff says, "the Band-Aids
will keep blowing off and the damage
will keep getting worse. Unguided
development has already hurt us enough
so it'll come back to haunt our children
and probably their children, too."

DISCUSSING THE BASIC economy of
the Keys, Freeman points out that "if
you build on fantasies, somewhere along
the line you'll have to strip these away
and put in a solid foundation." We must
remember that "a successful bean soup
takes more than beans." We mustn't pay
too much attention to a single field -
say tourism and retirement - and not
offer intelligent cooperation in others,
such as the Navy, commercial fishing
and the possibilities for light industry.

We should also recognize that
some of our land-use goals may be
incompatible. Local housing and
accommodations for rich retirees and
tourists are sure to impinge upon each
other in such a restricted land space.
Our plans must try to strike a balance.
You don't have to attend a two a.m.
City Commission meeting to know that such
balances don't come easily. But
they're the core of democracy.

Meanwhile you are promised a
stoplight.

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IN THE COURSE of running his in-
surance business and serving at various
levels of state and local government,
Billy Freeman has naturally made vivid
distinctions in the ways things are
handled or mishandled. The Sheriff's
Department, for example, must monitor
its own operations closely and keep a
check on everybody involved. This is
not because it is subject to state or
national review but because the public
demands increasingly superior per-
formance against old challenges, and
creative action against the new.

Intimate oversight is impossible
at state and federal levels and is
one of the great advantages of local
government. It doesn't always work,
but "the Sheriff's Department buys no
\$100 hammers."

Big government administrators are
isolated from the citizen and the
realities of everyday life. They are
creatures of politics, which causes
the upper echelons "to keep on
massaging national issues without
solving them." They play for super-
ficial effects that neither satisfy
nor dissatisfy, ignoring root problems
to which the future is mortgaged.

THESE LEADERS WILL, however, push
hard for expensive projects that may
attract blocks of voters needed for
reelection. Deficits can later be
blamed on opponents or inflation,
"the best friend government ever had."

But suppose you call Tallahassee
and complain that there are increasing
casualties at a given intersection
(how long has this been true at the
Hospital Triangle in Key West?).
They'll hear you. In fact they'll
make sure that your statement is
filed by hand with several hundred
others under "Highway Re-Routing,
Year 2002."

Meanwhile you are promised a
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THANKS FOR A WONDERFUL MOVEABLE FEAST

by DAVID A. KAUFELT

FOUR YEARS AGO I was sitting in the Dorset Bar in New York with Rosemary Jones and my agent, Dick Duane, talking about Key West's literary heritage, going on about how many working writers live here and I said, jokingly, that we should have an annual Key West literary festival and Rosemary, suddenly looking like a 1940s movie heroine, snapped to attention and said, fervently, we should.

NOW, OF COURSE, we do. Thanks to Rosemary's fervor and a great many other people's talent and time and energy. We couldn't have done it without Jean Trebbi, program director for Broward County Libraries, and her credibility, her persuasiveness with the Florida Endowments for the Humanities and the Arts.

WE COULDN'T HAVE done it without Key West's Tourist Development Council who saw the wisdom, early on, of A Moveable Feast. Maryanne Lancaster,

Monroe County Library librarian is another Key Wester who gave us full support as did the Friends of the Library whose president, Petronella Collins, is the sort of organizer we've been dreaming of and finally found.

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS FINE Arts Center's Arnold Mercado and his staff provided seminar space and sound and lighting while the Florida Keys Community College's librarian Maria Soule and her staff took command of the luncheon at the convention center and brought it off beautifully. Mrs. Bernice Dickson once again made the Hemingway House available for tours and for a party that was the social highlight of the seminar.

WE ESPECIALLY COULDN'T have done it this year without Paul Smith's counsel and the support of the Hemingway Society of which he is past president. We could never have done it without Bill Robertson, moderator extra-

ordinaire and the support of The Miami Herald for which he is book editor.

Naturally, we couldn't have done it without all the participants - the panelists - who have donated their time and energy and experience to making the festival as exciting and important as it is.

AND WE WOULD still be having a lot of fun talking about a Key West literary festival - instead of celebrating one if it weren't for local program coordinator Lynn Kaufelt, who somehow managed to put all the disparate elements - fireworks and room reservations and poster design and who was going to pick up George Plimpton and/or George Firestone at the airport - together while still maintaining her and her family's (though we all teetered on the sharp edge for a bit) sanity.

MOST OF ALL, we wouldn't have an annual Key West literary festival if it weren't for the founder of - among other organizations - the Council for Florida Libraries, Frederick G. Ruffner, Jr. He's a fellow who loves writers as well as books.

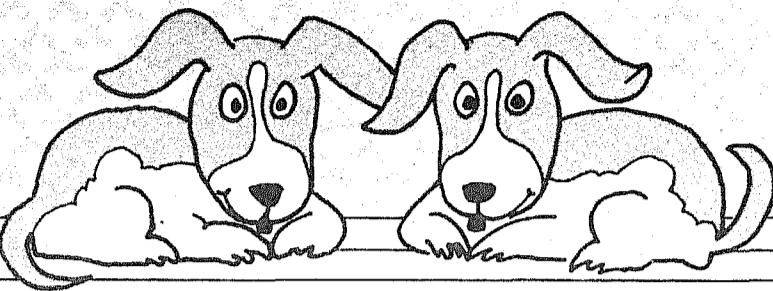
(Next year: Tennessee Williams.)

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hall and put up their own. They would not eat the flesh of animals nor any product coming off them. If they broke wind, it smelled like asparagus. He got up at six o'clock daily and cooked stir-fry cauliflower for breakfast. I can still see him standing there dissecting a cauliflower with its oval, lobed mounds, like a white brain under the morning sun rising through the east windows. He managed to dirty every single kitchen dish and pot, even going so far as to climb up and fetch down a tee-ninsey antique vase from a high shelf. He was a diabetic, though he seemed to drink a lot.

NEVER WAS HIS wife content with less than two-thirds of any conversation, however brief. She was vice president of a sweater company and wore her TWO Phi Beta Kappa pins as earrings and had a habit of relating her dreams early mornings - lengthy, complete dreams such as strange animals who suddenly changed into football coaches or politicians or who pilot airplanes. She carried a handbag in her attache case that accidentally went off and blew a hole in your head of Chopin.

NOW, IF YOUR home has always been your fortress, and if you live down here in a tender, modest hideaway retreat with the Gulf smiling and lapping nearby, and, if mainlanders and mountaineers look at snow on their shoes and suddenly can't resist your charms and keep arriving to visit...Well, here is the Old Soldier's Rule: When there's nothing you can do about it, don't get excited.

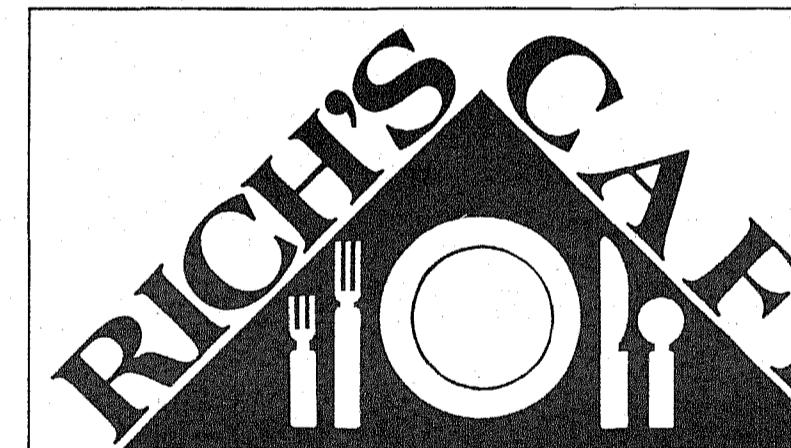


BY FRANCES ELIZABETH SIGNORELLI

THE PHONE HAS a strident ring from its shelf over the spoon drawer. It reaches out past the bright crotons to a yellow glider where you are pushing back fingernail cuticles as you read "Elizabeth Alone" by William Trevor. A little skunk, who is a pet here on Similair Sound, is pushing something with his nose along the road past your cottage.

A FLEET PREMONITION warns that this ring is from northerners en route to visit their frost-free pal down here. You like to attach people to you, however being so obsessively selective that your friends can be counted on a fork.

YOU KNOW SOMEONE here who had friend-houseguests and she can't yet get the stain out of her lavatory where the houseguests' punk rock son touched up his forelock, color of pink. Oh, visitors, where art thy sting! If you are Republican, they



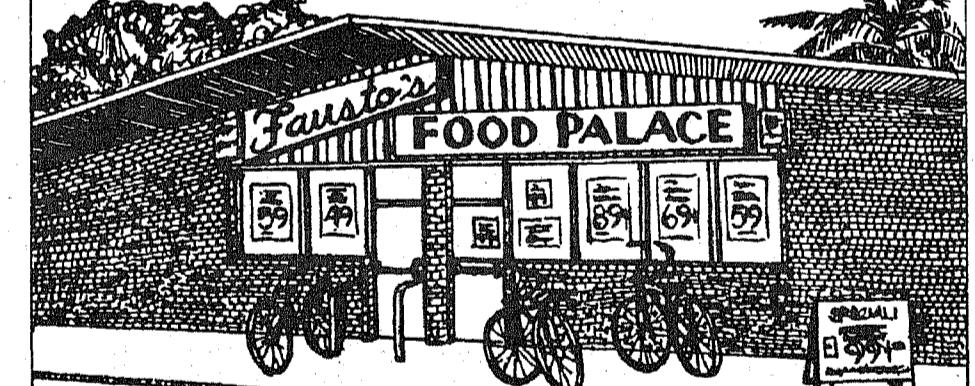
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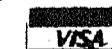
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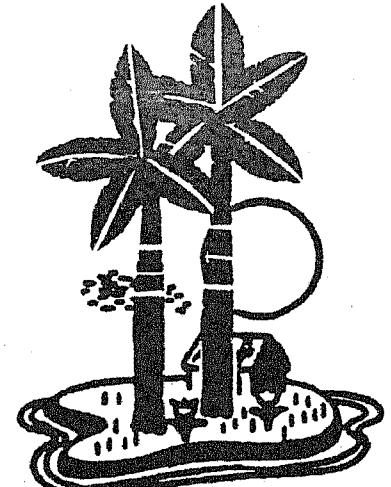
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PERUCHO — A LONG FAMILY LINE IN KEY WEST

PETER (PERUCHO) SANCHEZ, a Spanish-American Conch of the old school, is one of the many descendants of a Key West family with a heritage going back 125 years — and he's mighty proud of it.

With his Basque beret set straight forward on his balding head, a fringe of silver-grey hair showing, this compactly built elder of the city (he's '78 this year) can be seen any day striding along purposefully downtown, heading for a group of his pals where they'll talk over anything from prizefighters to politics.

"SOMETIMES WE SETTLE the fate of the world, too," Perucho smiles and winks. Like almost all of the Spanish-American Key Westers, he's a man of strong opinions and a long memory for details.

Being a member of one of the oldest settling families in Key West, Perucho can trace his grandparents (on his mother's side) to 1860 when his grandfather, Manuel Fernandez, was born in Key West. Manuel married Maria Lopez, from Cuba, and like almost all of the Spanish and Cuban descended citizens in this town, then, he worked in the cigar industry.

"HE WAS A foreman in the Serie Cigar Factory and that was in what later became the Cuban Club, on Duval," Perucho said. Two years ago, when it had been converted into a handsome restaurant and bar, The Fountains, the old historical building went down in flames one night after an explosion involving a bottled gas truck. It is still not clear whether the great old frame

building will ever be rebuilt; the cost has been estimated at close to a million.

ON HIS FATHER'S side of the family, Perucho went on to say, his grandfather



Perucho Sanchez

was Antonio Sanchez who married Atilana Martinez Casuso, and his son, Pedro Sanchez, was Perucho's father; he married Rita Fernandez.

"Antonio, my grandfather, was a reader in the Gato Cigar Factory (which is now the Navy Commissary) and he was very well liked and looked up to. The

readers, you know, they were like teachers for all those cigarmakers. Lots of those men came over from Cuba and didn't know reading and writing, so the position of the reader, he stood on a platform up above the workers, was a very respected one — my brother, Mario, did one of his wood paintings of my grandfather.

"HE WAS EMPLOYED by the Gato factory for 20 years, till about 1925. He would read every morning from the Cuban newspapers, *El Mundo* and *El Dia*, they were darn good papers, then, not like now, and he would read everything, every page. It was the only way they got to know the news. That was in the morning.

"Then he would come home for a light lunch and in the afternoon he would read novels to them, like Jules Verne, his books were favorites. It was like a big school."

THE YEARS IN the late '20s and early '30s, however, were unsettling for the Sanchez family. The Depression arrived and the huge cigar manufacturing industry that had kept Key West economically alive for so long was fast disappearing to Tampa where labor was cheaper and that city welcomed with big warehouses and tax concessions.

PERUCHO ROAMED BACK and forth for a spell and even put in some years in New York but was constantly drawn back to his hometown where he was now the senior member in the family after the death of his father.

"Mario was born a year after I was, in Tampa, and then along came my sister, Ampara Martinez, then Manuel, and my brother Blas. He was bartender in the La Concha in the old bar, the

Rainbow, it was called — the Mermaid bar wasn't there."

IN 1937, PETER Sanchez married Milagro Reyes in Tampa. She was the sister of Charles (Baby) Reyes who was a pretty nifty flyweight boxer, fast on his feet and swift with his hands, "he was ready for the championship fight in Chicago, I remember, and then his manager flew the coop." Reyes fought some battles after that, according to Perucho, but never made it up for the championship, again.

"I opened a sandwich shop in 1937, over at Division (Truman Avenue) and White where I was making bollos and mollettes and hamburgers and a Cuban sandwich with real roast pork you could get for 15¢. Bollos were five for a nickel and fresh crawfish mollettes cost 15¢."

THINGS WERE SCRATCHY in Key West but Peter Sanchez kept moving up and out, opening a restaurant in 1939 near the ice plant on Caroline Street. There was lots of activity down in that part of town with the fishing boats, the turtles coming in. People were moving around and there was a little gambling going on, so the money was in circulation.

THE CLUBS AND bars around downtown provided more employment and when the Navy came to town in the early 1940's the boom took off like a rocket. Night turned into day with the neon-lighted bars luring the military and the new civilian force of workers on the Base — the Drum Bar, the Duval Club, the Jungle Club and across Duval, the Cave Inn — Manuel (Currito) Ortega, the bail bondsman, owned "Curro's" which was next door to the Jungle.

PEPE PELAIZ RAN one of the most popular all-night eateries, "Pepe's," at Duval and Greene; he was Armando Cobo's father-in-law. Delio Cobo, Armando's brother, was gearing up for a political career that carried him to the mayor's bench in city hall.

Politics, in city hall or the county courthouse, was never far beneath the surface of everyone's everyday life in Key West. Who was in office, or who was holding key jobs in the political arena, had bearing on business decisions, jobs, locations for development — practically everything.

PERUCHO, LIKE ALL interested citizens in town, was immersed in the political flow of life as much as anyone, whether or not he took an overt stance — one of the local situations in which nearly everybody was involved had to do with their attitude toward the late Rep. Bernie C. Pappy, and his backers.

"I was never on his side, and Bernie knew it," Perucho says, "even today the ones who are left know it, and I'll admit it. Bernie knew it, too, and every once in a while I'd meet him when he was over there on Simonton Street, by his office, talking to someone and he'd call to me and tell his friends, this is Pete Sanchez and he votes against me. At least we were out in front with it; sometimes I wonder today where anyone stands."

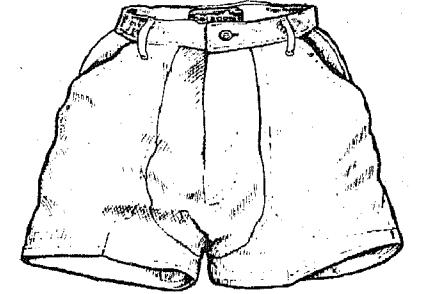
IN THE EARLY '40s, Perucho took over the management of the famed late-night club on Stock Island, called the Sugarloa. The joint was a huge wooden frame building on a tract adjacent to the old U.S. 1 as it turned south (now Malone Avenue). There was entertainment, a band usually, a dance floor, a long bar and some gambling in the back like all the bars in Key West had. The major backers for the Sugarloa, and also for the old Boat Bar, in those years, according to sources who were in the business, were two high-powered Washington lawyer-businessmen, Knox Julian and Leslie Biffle.

JULIAN, A GOOD friend of Bernie Pappy's, owned considerable acreage on Sugarloaf Key and frequently invited some of Washington's best known political personalities to the Keys in the winter months.

For 3½ years, Sanchez managed the Club Sugarloa and then one night, for some unexplained reason, it burned to the ground and never was rebuilt.

Perucho moved onward and upward in Key West, taking a job with city hall as plumbing and sanitation inspector for 14 years and in 1967 he retired to take care of his various properties here and in Miami.

EVEN THOUGH HE'S retired, and enjoys it, he's active and can operate very effectively in the political background with his extensive knowledge of Conchtown, the voters and their families.



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A VALENTINE'S PARTY FOR THE BENEFIT OF 100 KIDS!!

By KIM ROMANO POLLACK

A FRIEND TEASED ME the other day about all the press coverage Wesley House gets, saying we'd soon be edging David Kaufelt out of newspaper space. Yes, it's true, we have strived to keep those "cute-pictures-of-the-kids" before the public and for a very good reason: like all non-profit organizations, we are constantly in need of money!

I ARRIVED for work last month and noticed our wooden sign had been destroyed. It turns out that a budding Mr. Kung Fu had karate-chopped it for practice the previous night. (\$300) Neighborhood dogs transform our

front yard into a dotted wasteland which we now need as added play space. (Picket fence: \$1500)

The warranties on our air-conditioners expire right before the air-conditioners do. (\$500)

HEALTH INSPECTORS pass on with flying colors, yet insist that our loft storage is not good enough and why don't we simply install a Ted's Shed with a concrete floor? (\$400)

A toilet valve quietly breaks on a Friday night and water runs relentlessly all weekend long. (\$50)

Our red van has been on its very last legs for months now - perhaps you

too have heard it coming long before you've seen it arrive. (\$18-20,000!)

SURE, EVER SINCE the fire in 1983 resulted in a wonderful renovation job, we've received nothing but raves about our clean and sparkling school. Our maintenance costs strongly reflect our efforts; after all, imagine what having 100 kids in your home every day would do to your budget!

These 100 children, incidentally, are not all "under-privileged" anymore. I get the impression that Wesley House used to be considered a "free babysitting service for poor people" - a far cry from the reality today. Our preschool is open to children aged 1-5, and parents are charged on a sliding scale. Two nutritious meals and one sugar-free snack are included in the fee. Wesley House now attracts families from each socio-economic group, resulting in a cultural blend which is representative of the community at large. The only requirement for acceptance: the parent must be working.

OUR KIDS go to the beach, (one Michigan couple who'd seen us at Bahia Honda called long-distance to compliment us on the behavior of all those kids) they take dance, music, and art classes, (only one Cheerios necklace made it home last week - the rest were gleefully devoured) and learn right from wrong in a social context.

The staff meets weekly and on evenings to discuss kindergarten-readiness skills, constructive discipline, concepts of play, and the next plan to raise money. Many teachers here hold two jobs, staying at Wesley House surely not to get rich! - but because they are crazy about the kids and know they are playing an important role in their development. Teachers oftentimes reach into their own pocket to buy shoes or clothes for an especially needy child. They clean up accident after accident without so much as a grumble, and often agree to help a sick child (isolated, of course) under their care, if the mother knows she'll lose her job if she misses one more day of work. (My husband, tired of me bringing home every germ which floats through the school, implores me to resist the kids' hugs and kisses, a truly impossible task.)

WESLEY HOUSE helps Key West's parents and their children - and we appreciate the daily donations that arrive in the form of toys, clothes, food, and books. Yet we need a new van and our teachers definitely deserve a raise.

During this time of year many of us are still struggling to overcome Christmas debts and the rest are barraged with invitations to attend fundraiser after fundraiser. Yet Wesley House is asking anyway, asking everybody in Key West to please help us in our once-a-year all-out effort to raise money: Come to a Valentine's Day Party at Edith and Albert Amsterdam's beautiful white mansion on 511 Caroline Street on February 14th from 6-9 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres and desserts will be delicious and bountiful, thanks to local restaurants and sororities. (Delight in Mary McMinn's famous pâté again this year!) CHUBS volunteers will serve refreshments and several musicians will enhance this event. (The reason many people attended our last benefit was to wander through the Amsterdam's lovely sprawling house, which has been featured on the House Tours and is currently on the market.) The tax deductible pink tickets (\$10 each) can be bought at The Pier House Market, Fausto's, Gulfstream, Bandanas, Wesley House, at the Amsterdam's on Valentine's night, and outside of Pantry Pride and Winn-Dixie from 1-6 p.m. on the two weekends before the event.

BRING YOUR SWEETHEART -
OR MEET ONE THERE!

continued from page 35
HALLORAN SAID THE city commission could do more to control development.

"This commission has worked to put a lid on development. This commission is sensitive to problems associated with development. Here and there some of the larger developments are still getting through, and that is disappointing to me," Halloran said.

He added, "The commission has changed laws to close loopholes, but it's been a disappointing commission on the Sands, Spanish Gardens, and some of the spot zoning changes."

IDEOLOGIES AND THEORY aside, development continues in Key West, and no one seems to have a definite idea of where it's taking us. To Halloran, the city is fast approaching overdevelopment. A concrete playground, he puts it. Yet Halloran is optimistic that the trend can be reversed by a strong city commission.

Mosely, too, sees the city approaching that concrete playground. But Mosely is more pessimistic about the future, explaining that there are limits to what the city can do. Nothing short of changing the thrust of the economy will insure controlled development.

HEYMAN BELIEVES THE very idea of the city becoming a concrete village is absurd. He sees a strong renovation and restoration movement giving the city a much-needed facelift.

But even McDaniel believes the city may have gone too far. "Some of those projects at the end of Simonton Street just don't need to be there," he said. Yet, McDaniel believes the development of Truman Annex will solve many of the city's problems, from providing additional open areas and parking to generating taxes which can be used to improve city services.

WESTRAY HAS ADOPTED the skeptical wait-and-see attitude. He believes that the city has not gone beyond saving, but that the work will be long and hard. Laws must be tighter and commissioners must learn to stand their ground.

Pattison puts it this way: "We realize that growth's going to continue. You have to deal with it as it comes along."

continued from page 62

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

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

Peaceworks: Key West Citizens for Nuclear Weapons Freeze, Thursdays, 7 p.m., 521 Grinnell Street, 294-2031.

Movement Spiritual Inner Awareness: Join us for one of the positive things happening in Key West. Tapes by John-Roger. Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., 1005 Seminary Street, 294-6739.

Helping Hand Stroke Club: 3rd Wednesday every month, 2:30 p.m., classroom, FKMH. Information: Karen Coler, 6-6401.

Bulimia Group: Call 4-HELP or 6-LINE

Natural Childbirth Preparation Classes: Beginning every two months. Discussing labor, delivery, breathing, the coach's role. Call 294-3490 for information.

Red Barn Theatre: Tallulah, Jan. 30 - Feb. 24. Information: 296-9911

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Old Island Days: Information 294-2587

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GEE ... NOTHING BUT A MOVING STORY ...

On January 19th, Ed Orlando (owner of the Key West Water Company) was delivering some of his Paradise Ice to the Hukilau Restaurant. Later, this is what he told us.

"Hey, I bet I got you guys a new member. I was delivering ice to the Hukilau and talking to this guy about how great Island Club is, and he says, 'Oh yeah?' I thought it was just a scam."

"A scam?" I said. "Listen, you'd save the cost of

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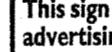
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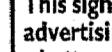
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CONTEST RULES

In the above listing of business affiliates some have been purposefully misspelled. Send in your application for ICI membership with \$36 in check or money order, by writing your name, address, phone and age (19 and over, please) on a plain piece of paper. Write Solares Hill February Contest, and list the business names you think are misspelled. We'll return to you \$1 for every right answer. Mail to ICI Membership, PO Box 4250, Key West, FL 33041. Postmark deadline February 28, 1985. Correct spelling found in ICI Directory.

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ART FESTIVAL

by FLORENCE RECHER

MORE THAN 125 artists will compete for over \$9,000 in prizes at the 20th Annual Old Island Days Art Festival, scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, February 23rd and 24th from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Front and Whitehead Streets in Old Key West.

The Festival has grown from modest beginnings in 1965 as an exhibit by few local artists to a show of high quality art by artists from every corner of the United States, an outdoor event that attracts thousands of art enthusiasts, making it a popular highlight of Key West's Old Island Days celebration.

AT THE FESTIVAL, the diversity of mediums and style represented will assure each and every one will find something to admire and enjoy. Shown will be sculpture, photography and painting in oil, watercolor, acrylic and mixed mediums.

Merit Awards totaling \$1,900 will be presented by the Key West Art Center, the festival sponsors. Four Awards of Distinction of \$150 each and 10 Awards of Merit of \$50 each will be given in the Two-Dimensional category, painting. One Award of Distinction and one or more Awards of Merit for Three-Dimensional, sculpture. Photography will receive the same awards as sculpture. The art work judge the Best-In-Show will receive \$300.

JUDGES FOR THE merit awards will be Judi Wagner-Schaeberle, James M. Couper III and Dorothy Downs. Couper is an associate professor of art at Florida International University, where he is also chairman of the

Department of Art and director of the University's art gallery. He has a master's degree from Florida State University and has exhibited his work throughout the United States and has won numerous awards and honors.



Photo by Ida Barron

display at the artists space area by late Saturday afternoon on February 23rd. The list of winners and their space numbers will be posted in the window at the Art Center as soon as final judging is completed.

Purchase Award participants will select art work of their choice for the individual \$150 awards. The Festival committee is most appreciative for the continued support and interest of the festival purchase award sponsors.

THE KEY WEST Art Center and Gallery is an organization of Keys artists dedicated to the promotion and appreciation of art. Located at 301 Front Street since 1960, in a building that had been condemned, they have over the years with community support tried to fulfill the aspirations set forth by a small group of artists, merchants and city officials, who in 1960 saw the possibilities in restoring a run-down structure. It turned out so well others followed and it was the beginning of restoration in the Mallory Square area. In 1983 the Art Center was the recipient of an award for restoration and preservation given by the Key West Historical Preservation Board.

IN ADDITION TO the festival, the Art Center has promoted the arts in Key West and the Keys in many ways. It holds an annual juried show for its members, donates funds and paint to various community causes, provides jurors for school art shows and for the Fantasy Fest Children's Day.

The Center offers art workshops, demonstrations, lectures on a regular basis. Most are free, some classes charge a nominal fee. Call the Center, 294-1241, for this year's schedule of events. Throughout the year, the Art Center Gallery is open daily from 10 to 5 and Sundays from 11 to 4. All are welcome.

THE WINNING ART work will be on

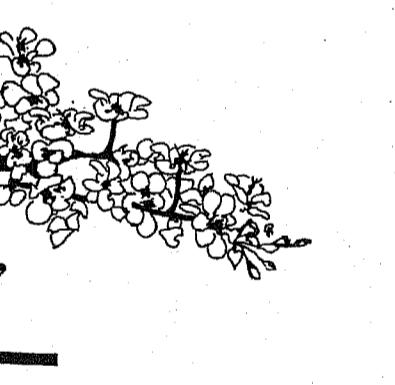
DOROTHY DOWNS IS an art dealer, a consultant and appraiser and is a member of the National Association of Fine Art Appraisers. Ms. Downs has a master's degree in art history from the University of Miami.

Judi Wagner-Schaeberle, artist, teacher and juror of many prestigious art shows, is a graduate of Briarcliff College, New York, and the Parsons School of Design, New York City, where she received a master's degree in art education. Ms. Wagner maintains a studio in New York City and her work is represented in galleries and private collections throughout the United States and Europe.

THE WINNING ART work will be on

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7TH ANNUAL KEY WEST LAST RESORT HALF-MARATHON & 10 KILOMETER RACES TO BE RUN SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1985

THE SOUTHERNMOST ROAD RUNNERS Club and The Pier House Resort of Key West will be sponsoring The Key West Last Resort Half-Marathon and 10 Kilometer races again this year. This year's event is attracting runners from around the country to participate in Key West's biggest road racing event. The Half-Marathon distance of 13.1 miles starting and finishing at The Pier House Resort, 1 Duval Street, will circle the Island of Key West as well as Stock Island's Junior College Road.

To assist the runners during this test of endurance will be over 50 student volunteers from the Key West High School's Mu Alpha Theta Math Club who will man the 8 water stations on the course. The 10 K. race will also start at 7:30 a.m. with the Half-Marathon with the runners competing for over 80 hand-crafted ceramic awards created for the race by clay artist, Lois Locklear of Key West Guild Hall and being sponsored by Burger King of the Florida Keys. Both races are expected to attract over 600 participants.

THERE WILL ALSO be a 2 mile Fun Run beginning at 9:30 a.m., also from The Pier House Resort. This distance is ideal for the beginning runner or for those who want to participate in a shorter distance. There will be awards for the overall winners and finishers' ribbons. The 5K Marathon and 10 K will have additional hand-crafted ceramic awards for age group winners. They will also receive a commemorative hand-screened T-Shirt sponsored by The Pier House Resort as well as The Pier House's famed Spaghetti Buffet dinner at the Runners Clinic and pre-race packet pick-up on Friday, February 15, from 5-8 p.m.

THIS YEAR'S HALF-MARATHON will be an exciting one to watch as the Team Kangaroo's Racing Team will be represented by Jodi Brunner (last year's winner) whose time of 1:26:06



was a course record. Also running will be Olympic Marathon trials qualifier, Jane Millspaugh, who won last year's Marathon; breaking 3 hours. Jane has a 1:22 Half-Marathon to her credit. NIKE Master runner Judy Pickert, of Brewster, New York, will also be challenging the leaders based on her 1:25:30 time in placing 1st in the Masters Division in the famous AVON Half-Marathon in New York's Central Park.

In the men's division, Rick Bourrier will return to defend his course record time of 1:09:39 and will be challenged by Curt Boitnott, who was dethroned by Rick after winning in 1980 and 1981.

MANY OF THESE outstanding athletes will be at the Pre-Race Clinic and Buffet Dinner on Friday, February 15th from 5-8 p.m. at The Pier House General Store/1 Duval Street. Runners who have pre-registered should pick up their race packet at that time. Registration will

be open from 4-9 p.m. for late race registration. The Spaghetti Buffet Dinner and Race T-shirt, both sponsored by The Pier House, are included in the \$10 entry fee.

REFLECTION

The water wakes in darkness
breathing love
his pulse
concentric circles of desire
and light
swaying in abandoned dance above
casts down upon him
her silver sequined fire

-- Marilyn Gucinski

Goldsmith Shop to be honored at Miami Awards Ceremony



The Goldsmith Shop, winner of a nationwide contest as the "Best and Most Beautiful Jewelry Store" in the United States, has once again confirmed that title, by winning yet another prestigious award. Local Jewelers John Buzogany and Greg Scorzafave, owners of Goldsmith, will be in Miami to accept the Monetary Award on live TV.

The notable "Del Rubin Art to Wear" Award was bestowed on the original brooch/necklace combination designed and executed by Master Craftsman John Buzogany.

The donated necklace, valued at \$2,500.00 is a magnificent combination of 14 Karat Gold, Diamonds, Amethyst and Pearls. It was selected from among 100 original jewelry pieces at a recent juried competition by John Bullard, Director of the New Orleans Museum of Art.

The category of "Art to Wear" is limited to unique, wearable, well designed and crafted, sculptured forms.

The original jewel will be Showcased on WPBT's Art Auction and can be purchased by call-in bids. Several pre-bids have already been entered, making for a spirited evening of bidding, with all proceeds to go to WPBT.

John Buzogany will receive the Award from Del Rubin, past Director of the Art Auction and founder of the "Art to Wear" category.

The Goldsmith Shop has been in Key West for 10 years. The main store is located at 114 Fitzpatrick Street with a second outlet inside Fast Buck Freddie's at 500 Duval Street.

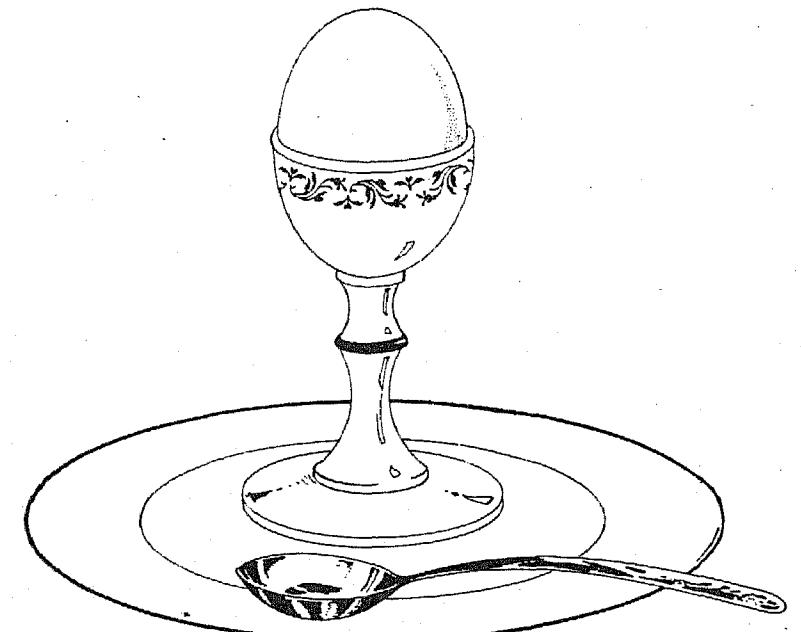
John Buzogany is a graduate of Carnegie-Mellon University and received further specialized training in Florence, Italy.

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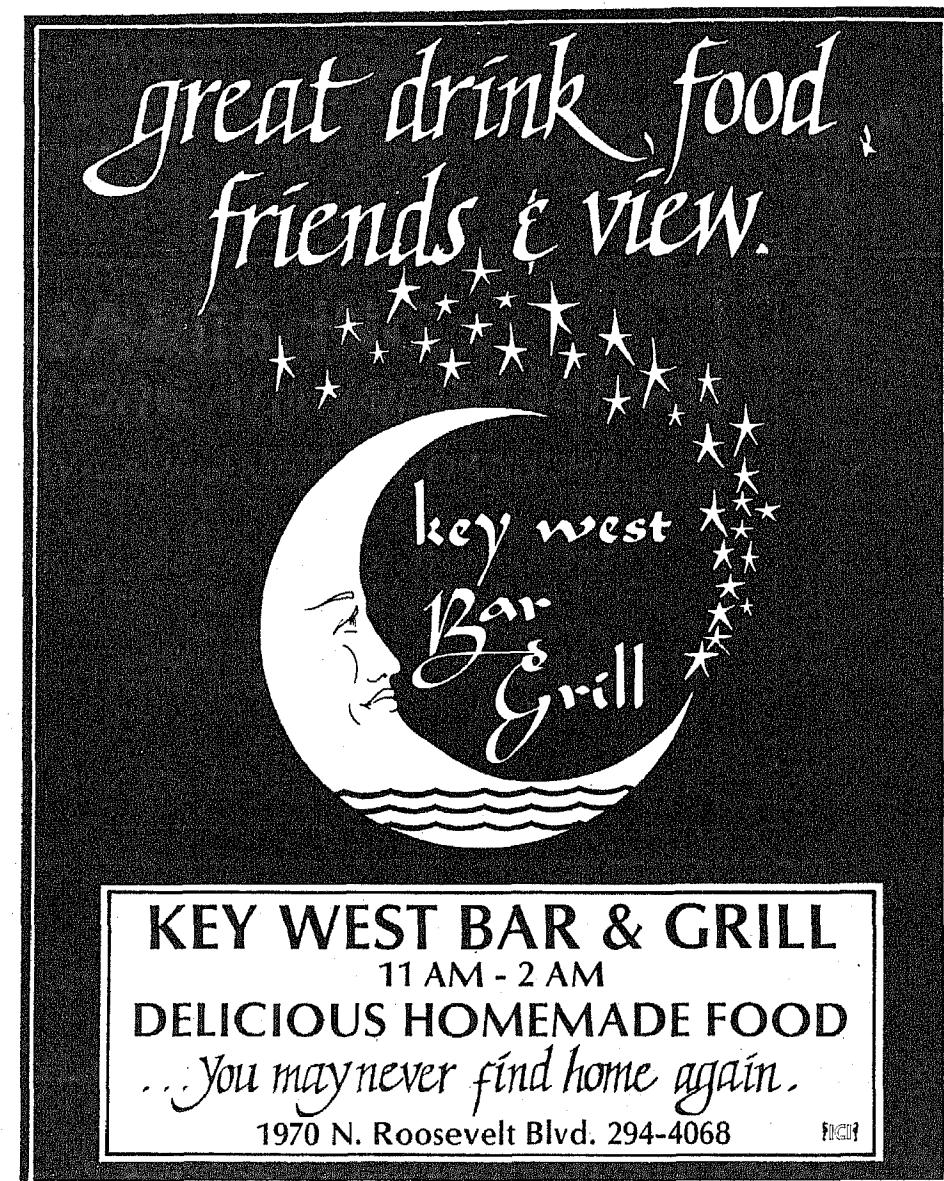
It still is — Serving every Sunday from 10 AM to 2 PM
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296-3535



THE CASA MARINA

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SOME THOUGHTS

by GUY RYDER

ALMOST EVERYONE WHO has given the matter any thought at all would agree that a sewage treatment plant in Key West is sorely needed. Where to put the plant and pay for it is another matter.

A modern sewage treatment plant enjoys the same degree of popularity as an ancient leper colony. The need and the cost are recognized, but - don't put the horrid thing where anyone, other than needed workers, can see it or smell it. (Garbage incinerators also fall into this category.)

Perhaps the placement of a treatment plant is even more important to Key West residents and visitors than the cost. Eventually, the treatment plant will be paid for and the cost forgotten, but if the plant is placed in a visible and/or smellable area, it will be regretted forever. "The sins of the fathers shall be visited upon the children even unto the third and fourth generations..." - in the case of sewage treatment plants, probably longer.

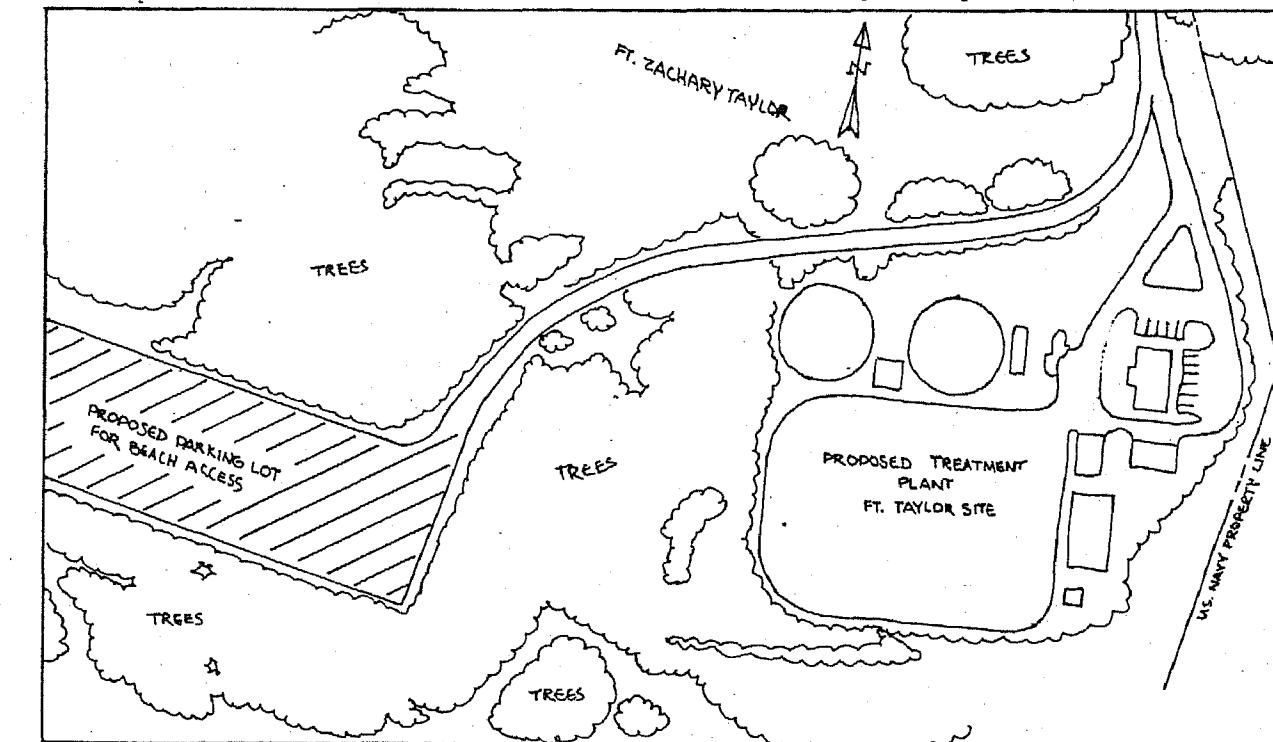
SOME YEARS AGO Tank Island was considered a logical place for a treatment plant. That location has now been superseded by a desire to put the sewage treatment in the state park area near Fort Taylor.

A conversation with Commissioner George Halloran brought out the reasoning behind the change in thinking: the Tank Island area would necessitate a brand new sewer outfall line and increase the expense, and an engineer's report indicates that the existing outfall pipe might last another ten years.

UPPOSE THE OLD outfall only
three years and the new plant
yet complete - then wouldn't
the kick themselves for not
ing on Tank Island, because the
e of the new outfall must be
even though the plant is in the
park.

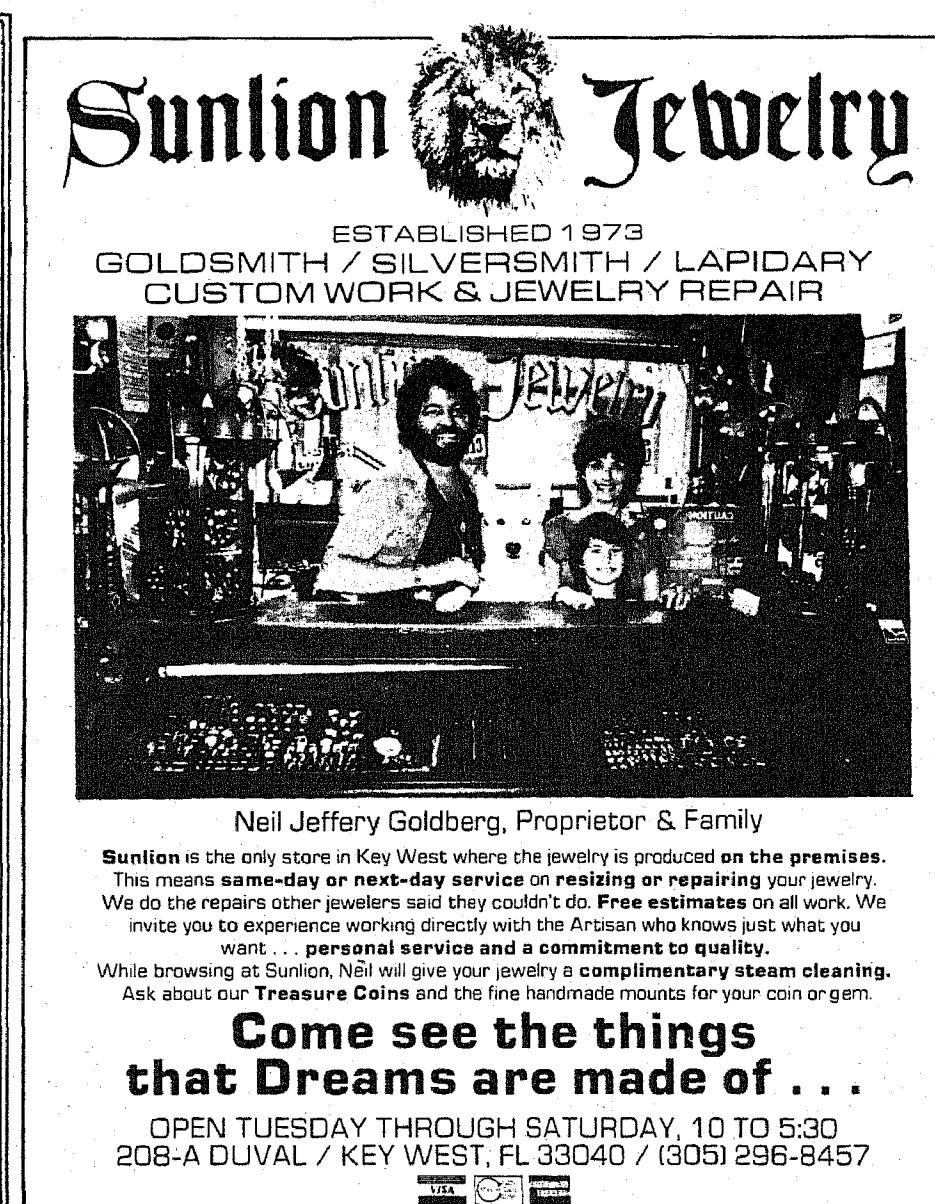
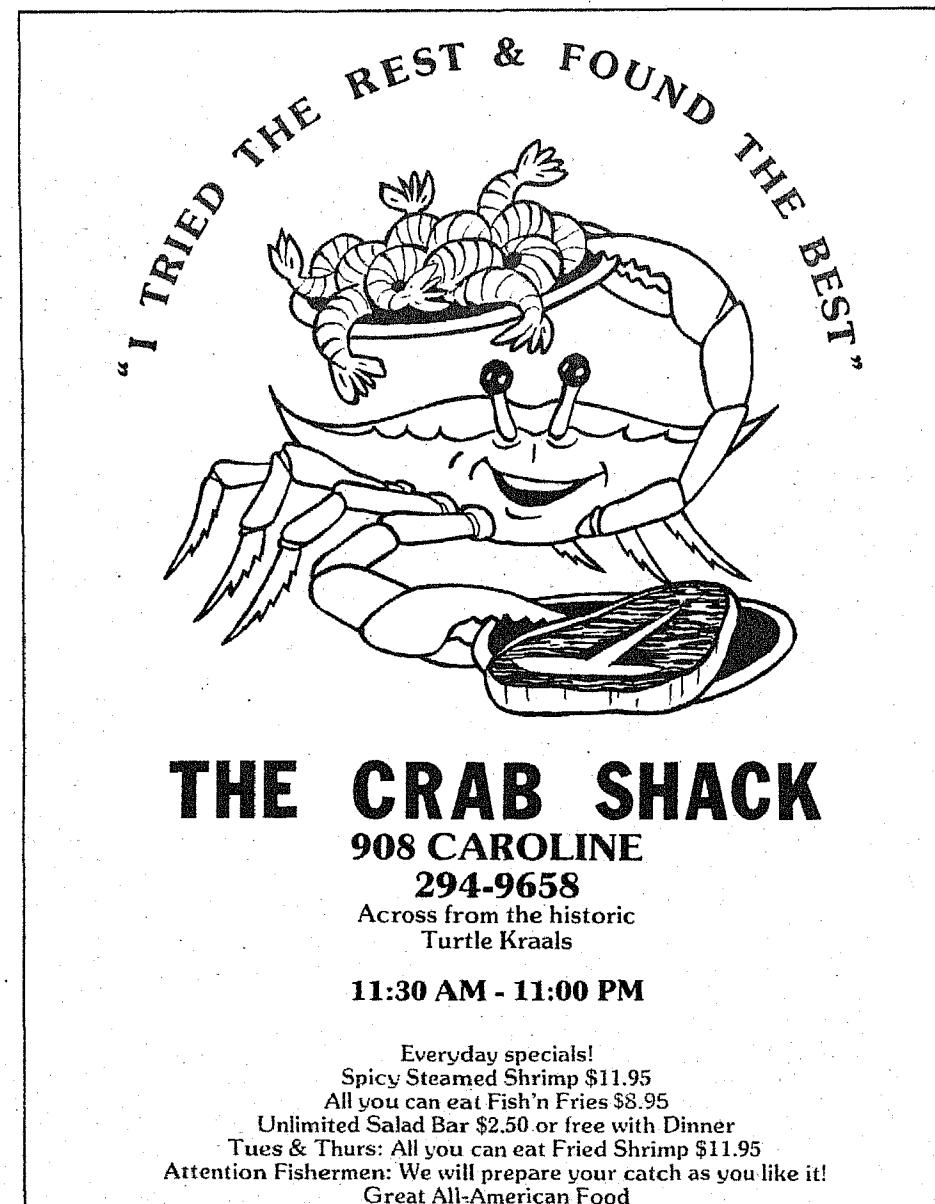
days than they intended - but not if four to ten acres of the park are occupied by a sewage treatment plant.

THINGS THAT HAPPEN in Key West are reported on and discussed in most of the civilized world. A sewage treatment plant, placed in the Howard



England State Park in Key West, will certainly be reported in many papers here and abroad. Even this article will be clipped by quite a few people in Key West and the Keys and mailed to quite a number of different places.

It may seem a waste of time and space to explore the cost of the treatment plant, since it must be constructed somewhere and it will have to be paid for. Commissioner Halloran said that



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

PAPIO EXHIBIT

AT THE REQUEST OF JUDGE DEFOOR, a group of sculptures by Key Largo artist Stanley Papio has been installed in the courtroom and the lobby of the courthouse at Plantation Key, last Friday, January 19. The group consists of thirteen pieces, ranging from some of his fishermen to the Chrome bumper figures to three bedspring screens.

Lee Dodez, director of the East Martello Gallery and Art Museum, traveled with the pieces and did the installation. With him was Grant Spradling, of the Monroe County Fine Arts Council. They also attended the opening reception held at 5:00 in the afternoon, in the courthouse lobby, where Spradling gave a talk.

"I COULD HARDLY WAIT to get up there and install these pieces," said Dodez. "Children just love them, and I love to watch kids around them. I think it's wonderful to get this art out into public places and give it more exposure."

Stanley Papio was a Canadian who had settled in Key Largo at the age of 34 and started a welding business on a lot on Route 1. He encouraged people to leave old cars and appliances on his property, because, as he put it, "A bunch of junk is a welder's glory."

Finding his huge mountain of junk less than glorious, neighbors did everything they could to force him to move. He was arrested six times for violating town ordinances. In retaliation for his treatment at their hands, Papio began to weld parodies of his neighbors and display these welded sculptures on his front lawn. He then turned his welding shop into "Stanley's Art Museum" and charged 25¢ admission.

PAPIO SOON FOUND collectors and museum people coming to his door. He was offered \$7,000 for one piece, which he declined. He had some of his work exhibited in Ottawa, Canada, and three pieces toured Europe.

PAPIO DIED SUDDENLY of a heart attack at the age of 67, in 1982. Key Largo townspeople didn't want to purchase or save any of his work. The Papio pieces were all donated by his relatives to the Martello Art Gallery, where they are on permanent display. This will be the first time Papio pieces have "traveled" to other spots in the Keys and will be on display there through February 20.

LOWER FLORIDA KEYS
DENTAL HYGIENE

THE LOWER FLORIDA KEYS Dental Society, in conjunction with the Monroe County Public Library, will be showing dental films to promote Community Dental Health Month (the entire month of February). The films will be shown every Saturday during Children's Hour, 10:00 - 11:00 A.M. A dental hygienist will be on hand to discuss the film and answer any questions.

There will be a drawing for a "FREE" electric toothbrush, donated by Teledyne Water Pic, on February 23rd. Tickets, for the drawing, will be made available only to those children attending the films. Also, on February 23rd, the "TOOTH FAIRY" will be at the library with new toothbrushes to trade to any child who brings their old one.

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Gallery Hopping

THE NICEST THINGS about the Hemingway seminar were the following: a scholarly panelist said, "Hemingway was essentially..." and when Patrick H. arose, the moderator quipped, "The Son Also Rises." What is probably best is that everyone seemed to have been inspired as I was to reread Papa to the extent that practically nothing remained of his on the library shelves for weeks afterwards. A great success. Credit and big hugs are due for the organization of this spectacular to firstly, the Kaufelt gang, both of them, and in no particular pecking order to Friends of the Library, starting with librarian Marianne Lancaster, then Petronella Collins, Lucie Adams, Bets Reynolds and especially Maria Soul of the college library.

I hear the book sales were excellent and I see Lester Collins watering the library's trees, so I expect he needs some thanking too, if not a big hug.

IN FEBRUARY GINGERBREAD is showing Alice Terry. If you miss this one, we're enemies. Afterthoughts: Ron Clemons' stylish show, attractive and tempting, and Jim Salem's Pennsylvania landscapes and Key West birds, pains-taking technically. Nice shows.

Fred Gros' Beth Nabo show was special. Surrounded by her large canvases, the impression was of serenity and silence. Magical. In February, Fred will show Jay Gogin's "Raku Vessels," many of them made



by GORDON LACY

on the spot with some William Lemki "photographs" and "fiberworks" by Ernie Mickler. Ron Van Balen's fold-up ladder sold (sniff!) to someone astute from Munich, and his scrunchchair, too, to a New Yorker, leaving Fred with Ron's "bundle."

JORDON IS GOING through a "don't-talk-about-me" phase, most vexing and probably just a cover-up for forbidden underground bridge games over Leo's chicken tandoori (wow!) or steak and kidney pie. "I don't want to talk about...or...you can say Gucinsky, tho." So, I am. Also antiques and practically anything else including John Burgess' welcoming presence.

Farrington's: Ned insists this month on "totality" which means customized mats and frames, contouring, color matching in conformity with the work.

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KAREN, NEXT DOOR to the best bread and croissants and pastry in all the state (Carole and Claude), and just up town from Dennis' wicker shop packed with goodies, old and new, about which D. assures me I can never say enough, has Prazen's "Spiderman" hugely mounted on a wall. She herself is into a new style of painting. And of course, the framing goes on and on...

John Martini at Lucky Street Gallery (Mary! Put that down, it is not lunchtime!) entranced mobs with "Dreams and Realities." 20% of the show was sold. Fred Laros' attractive collage got itself sold before the show officially opened: a feather in Gilberto Sweeney's cap for it was she who asked me why Fred had not been included in the show. Alice did all the organizing; I pulled nails out of the walls and then put other nails back in the walls. Had bandages as proof.

THE HAITIAN COMPANY will be special-showing Wilson Bigaud's work. It is noteworthy for perspective vs. volume, light and shadow in pure bright

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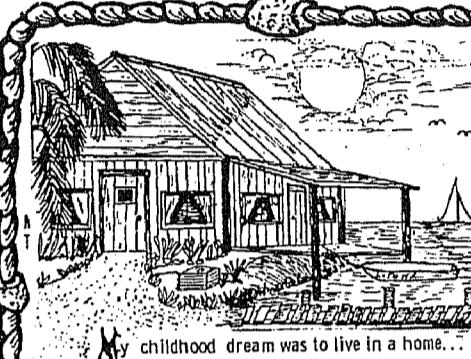
tastefully done up, unlike grungy old us, featuring Willard Bond, sailing watercolors based on his well-known book "Essentials of Sailing" and Jim Long, a naturalist whose subject is Delaware and Virginia. Barbara also represents local Al Crespo a realist who celebrates in oils the rapidly disappearing rural USA.

At the Guild, Lois Locklear now settled in, gives monthly invited shows and Judi told me that Tom Reid will display his sumi-e art and Malcolm Ross his pastel and watercolor figure studies. With a nod to Ann.

I AM BARRED from Jack Baron's; however, had him on the phone. He's uptight-secret about what he's doing, but all will be revealed for my birthday on February 15th at Fred Gros'. Not really a black-tie event; just come! I'm taking roll call.

Nice news at the Key West Art Center in that everybody's pet Martha Sauer will be having her annual watercolor show February 3-15, and she's

continued on page 47



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COMPLACENCY

by V. K. Gibson

KEY WEST was moist and personal, like an armpit, and the evening air seemed bonded with the odors and sounds it carried: the thuds of ripe mangoes falling in the tiny yard in front of the tin-roofed house, bursting into chutney as they hit; the chatter of folks on the back porch, drinking beer and talking rings around their blue collars; the screams of the dying woman next door.

"OHHHH!" groaned Mrs. Hernandez.

"SHEE-IT," murmured her next door neighbor, Roscoe Chitty, as he lifted a can of beer to his face. The condensed droplets of water fell from the can and dotted his T-shirt.

HIS DAUGHTER, Clare, noted this. She had frizzy, light-brown hair atop an unusually high brow. But her eyes were what most recommended her to others. As beside themselves with awareness as her forty-year-old father was beside himself with fat.

"V-I-T-U-P-E-R-A-T-I-O-N," she said.

"Hah?" asked the man, rubbing the cold can across his forehead.

FROM THE KITCHEN, behind the screen door, Mrs. Chitty called out softly:

"Clare..."
"You vituperate Mrs. Hernandez 'cause you can't sleep with her noise and--"

"It's just that she's got a busy busy mind, dear," said the woman quickly. He was in such a bad mood, lately. Though he hadn't laid a hand on Clare since the people from the school called.

MR. CHITTY reached out to tip some of his beer on the girl. Clare squealed and backed away.

He'd never known how to take his younger daughter. The...What was that word her teachers at school used? Projee--prodigy. Just a fancy word for smart alec.

"ROSCOE, I WAS thinking," said the man's wife.

"?" he belched.
"Might do us all some good to get out of the house, go to a movie--" "Hell, we done gone to the movies three times this week already!"

"Well...There's the park. It's so pretty by the water."

"I AIN'T goin' to Queer Pier, to watch them homo-sex's kiss themselves," muttered the man. He tilted his chair back and rested against the rail of the porch.

MRS. HERNANDEZ howled. Roscoe started, frowned, and crushed the now empty beer can in his hand.

"Bring me another six pack!" he called.
"You don't want to kill your appetite, dear."

"I want to kill my hearin'."

JUST THEN, TWO men came around the back corner of the house.
"Hey linesmen!" roared Roscoe.

"Beer's cold!"

"Hey, Roscoe!" shouted Carlo.

HE AND HIS BROTHER, Ted, said hello to Mrs. Chitty when she stuck her head out the back door. The two men were brothers; not twins, but very much alike: tall, lanky, dark-haired.

Both wore tan work clothes. Roscoe employed them at his electrical supply business. The three were pals.
"Hi, kid," Carlo said to Clare, as the pair passed her going up the steps.

THE GIRL LOOKED at him, and her

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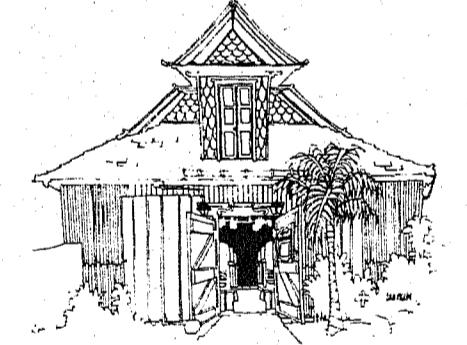
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mouth rose and fell at the corners in a humorless twitch.

"Cretinism," she recited.
"C-r-e-t-i-n-i-s-m."

Then she looked away.

CARLO BLINKED, and shrugged. Ted grinned. Roscoe frowned.

"She's practicin' for a spellin' bee at school," he mumbled.

Mrs. Chitty came out, bringing three more beers.

"SUPPER'S A BIT LATE, because I'm makin' a covered dish for poor Mrs. Hernandez. I know her sister has her hands full and don't have time to cook."

"She wouldn't have her hands so full if her sister went to the hospital where she belongs," said Roscoe.

MRS. CHITTY'S eyes became watery.
"She ain't about to let them take her. She thinks she'll never come back again if she goes to the hospital."

"An' meanwhile she's drivin' us

and everyone else in this part of the island stark crazy with her howls, an' yellin', an Oh my Gods, an..." He ran

down when he saw the look on his wife's face.

"Shee-it." he muttered, looking away.

SHE WENT BACK inside.

"Hey!" said Carlo, his face lightening up. "I heard a joke today. There was this Jew locked up with a Jesus.

Freak an' a queer Mormon, see? They gets themselves stuck in an elevator, between floors, and sooner or later don't you know they have to take a--"

He heard Mrs. Chitty in the kitchen and lowered his voice. "--leak. So they--"

CLARE interrupted him:
"Bigotry," she said. "B-i-g-o-t-r-y."

Then she ran across the porch, yanked at the screen door, and entered the house. She went to the refrigerator and opened the freezer.

"Young lady, you ain't eatin' a pop-sickle right before supper!" said her mother. "Put it back. Go play outside where it's cool, Hon."

CLARE SHUT THE refrigerator and whirled toward the back door. Through the screen she saw her father hold up a finger, grin--and stretch out his foot and press it against the bottom of the back door.

She was unable to stop. She hit the screen, rebounded, and landed on her rump.

The men roared with laughter.

"WHAT HAPPENED, honey?" asked

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Mrs. Chitty.

Roscoe removed his foot from the door and winked at his friends.

Clare glared at them, backed away, and retreated to a corner of the kitchen out of sight of the men.

"NOW FINISH THAT joke of yours, Carlo," said Roscoe loudly.

"So the Jew and the fag and the Mormon--"

A piercing shriek came from Mrs. Hernandez.

Ted said, sympathetically, "Trouble with the houses in Key West is they're too damn close up to themselves."

"I DONE FORGOT the punch line," murmured Carlo.

Roscoe belched and swore at the same time.

CLARE WATCHED HER MOTHER work over a casserole, singing to herself, oblivious to everything but noodles and tuna. The woman finished, and smiled. She picked up the dish and headed for the back door.

"WATCH THIS, BOYS," Clare heard, through the kitchen window.

"Mama--" said the girl. Too late.

Mrs. Chitty went to pass through the now immovable door. It bowed out at the top, startling the woman on that

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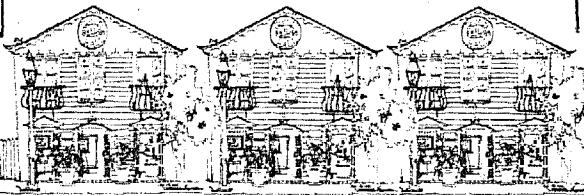
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SPONGES

by GERALD SEMLER

IN 1849, WILLIAM KEMP, a local merchant and sea captain shipped the first cargo of sponges out of Key West bound for New York City. That event could be called the beginning of the sponge industry in the United States, for when the load of sponges reached their destination they created such a furor among the New York buyers that soon afterward the demand for commercial sponges from the Florida Keys grew rapidly and spread worldwide. Buyers from England and France sought the Keys' sponge as the raw material for the production of fine cloth. But just the demand in this country alone was greater than the local spongers could supply. The value of sponges continued to rise during the years that followed and by the 1890's, sponge fishing had become Florida's most profitable marine industry. By 1900 the sponge market in Key West was known to be one of the largest in the world. In that year the "catch" by local sponge fishermen had a value exceeding three-quarters of a million dollars.

IN THOSE PEAK YEARS well over a 1,000 men and more than a hundred sponging schooners, each carrying several dinghies or skiffs, operated along the length of the Keys as far North as Biscayne Bay.

Except possibly for the wooden glass-bottom bucket commonly used by the old-time spongers, sponge fishing in the Keys today is basically performed in the same manner it was over a century ago.

FROM A SMALL OPEN boat the sponger skillfully handles a long wooden pole with "hooks" attached to grasp the sponge and pull it up from the bottom. The hooks consist of three or four inwardly curved metal prongs that

resemble the fingers of a large hand. It takes a trained eye to find a sponge on the sea bottom for the commercial sponge in its natural living state looks like nothing more than a black bulky mass that many say resembles a "hunk of liver."

AFTER THE SPONGES have been taken from the water, they are spread out on the land to dry. This drying process kills the sponge and many of the small animals that live in it. The foul odor of a freshly caught sponge lying in the sun is almost unbearable and it is for this reason that today's sponger usually skips the complete drying of the sponge. In the next step of the cleaning process the sponges are strung together on a line and tossed overboard or placed into floating wooden crates called "kraals" for several days where they are washed by the sea. When much of the small sea animals, sand, and a black skin-like covering called "gurry" have been washed away, the sponges are taken from the water and beaten with a small wooden paddle to break up any stubborn clumps of sand or bits of coral that remain with the sponge. After a few good squeezes underwater, the sponge "opens up like a blossoming flower." They are then sorted out by size and variety - sheepwool, yellow, grass and so on - and strung into bunches. In earlier times local sponge houses would hire workers to further clip or trim the sponges to make them more attractive to buyers.

THROUGHOUT THE late 1900's Key West not only profited greatly from the sponge fishing industry, but held the monopoly on it as well. But soon after the turn of the century a number of events occurred that brought all that to an end.

About 1891 a sponge market was established by Greek fishermen at Tarpon Springs, a tiny fishing community located on Florida's west coast, just North of Tampa. At first their catch was insignificant, but as time went on the market grew and the Greek spongers continued to do well around the west

coast waters. Then in 1905, when the diving suit and helmet came into use by the Greeks at Tarpon Springs, they began to expand their operations and rival the local "Conch" spongers. Sponge sales in Key West began a rapid decline. Now, not only could the Greeks cover the same grounds as the Conchs, they could go into deeper water and gather more, larger and finer sponges. Their divers would walk along the bottom, collect the sponge and place them in small nets or sacks which were pulled to the surface by men following in skiffs. The Conchs continued to use the glass-bottom bucket and the hooking pole. The Key West spongers claimed that walking on the bottom with heavily weighted shoes was breaking up the sponge and destroying the sponge beds. Some practical experiments being done at that time offered little proof that the Greek method of sponge gathering did harm to the sponges, instead it could possibly help increase productivity because any bits or pieces torn from a living sponge would eventually grow into mature sponges.

NEVERTHELESS, either because the Key's sponge fishermen actually believed the Greek divers were destroying the sponges, or because they resented the intrusion of the Greeks into what they believed to be their traditional territory, the Conch sponge fishermen protested the Greek presence in the Keys. The result was a decade-long feud that involved shootings, boat burnings and some arrests.

THE MOTION PICTURE "Beneath the Twelve Mile Reef", which 20th Century Fox filmed on location in Key West in 1954, depicts that era of Key West history and the struggle between Greek and Conch sponge fishermen.

Eventually the Greek spongers left the Keys, but Key West would never regain its title as the "Sponge Capital of the World."

IT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN the Greek

diver's weighted shoes that were ruining the sponges, but something definitely was. About 1905, around the same time the Greeks began moving into the Keys, the first malformed sponges were being discovered by Key's fishermen. As time went on, things worsened. Sponges pulled up from the bottom would disintegrate into pieces and were totally useless. A destructive "blight" was moving through the Key's waters. Eventually government biologists from the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries found that a micro-organism was the destroyer. The blight continued through the 1920's and 30's. By the early 1940's the destruction had run its course. By the time the Key's sponges were beginning to recover, the technological advances that resulted from research done during World War II had created the synthetic sponge, dealing the natural sponge industry another setback.

DURING THE LAST twenty-five years the natural sponge has made a slow but steady comeback. Those people who know claim that the physical properties of the natural sponge are far superior to any artificial reproduction, no matter what it's used for, from washing down thoroughbred horses to use as an absorbent in delicate surgical operations.

THE LIVING SPONGE, although it may seem to be a plant, is actually a member of the animal Kingdom. There are about 5,000 species of sponge in the world's waters, both fresh and salt varieties, but only a handful have any commercial value. The sponge does not possess a mouth or stomach, but is able to gather nourishment from the surrounding water by drawing it in through the many pores in its body. Water is pumped through an internal canal system where tiny cells filter out food particles, plankton, and other nutrients. Sponges reproduce by releasing minute spores that join with others which eventually grow into mature sponges. Sponges can also grow from pieces that have separated from a mature

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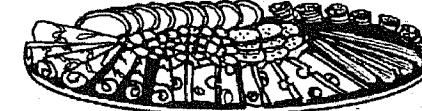
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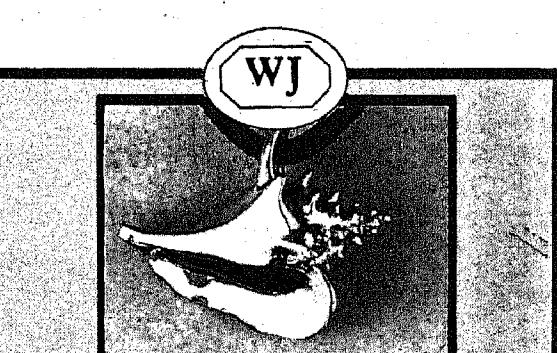
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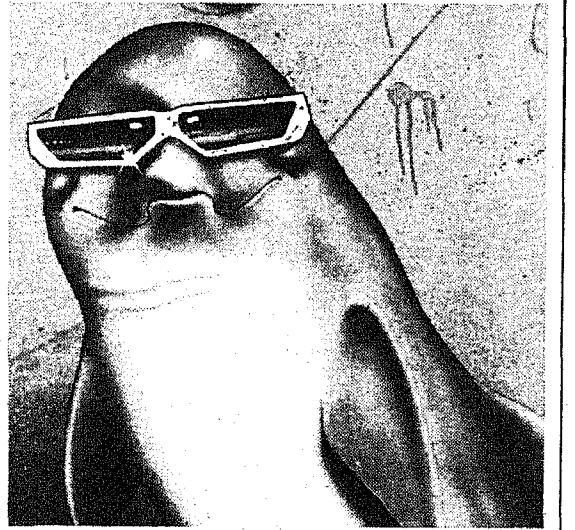


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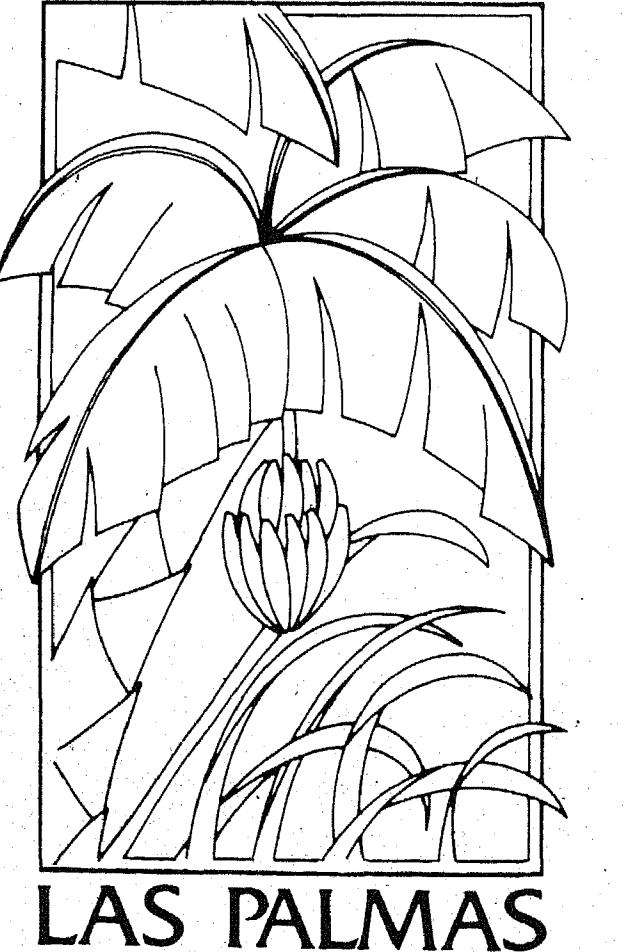


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That scrutiny stretches from the Southernmost Point more than 600 miles to Tallahassee and includes everyone from our next-door neighbors to Florida's governor.

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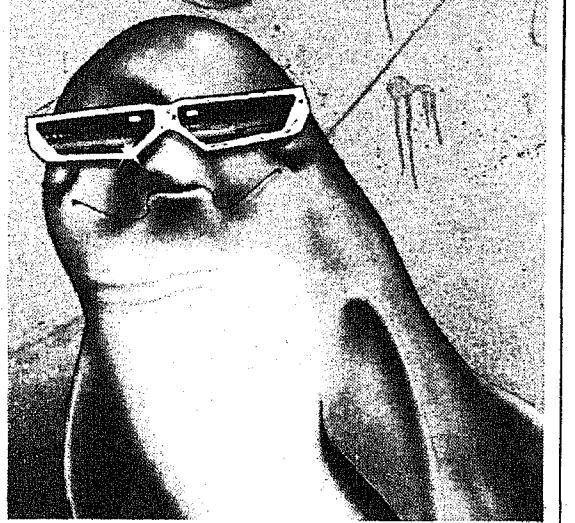
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Key West seems to be developing at a pace faster than any other moment in the island's history. Growth is the word of the day. Building projects, from restorations to new construction, are planned for virtually every corner of the city.

The future of Key West appears in question; the fate of the island in the hands of developers and planners. Civic activists also endeavor to influence the outcome. So far, the developers have won the major battles.

In this special report, Solares Hill political reporter Alden Solovy examines issues affecting development: the divergent opinions of civic leaders; the projections for growth in Key West through 1995; and the economic climate spurring on this development boom.....Ed.

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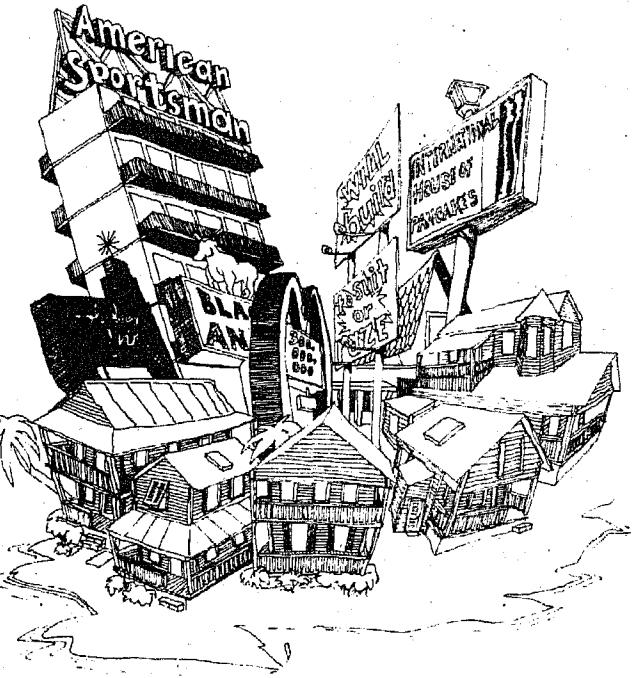
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using the "special exception" provision.

"There is no limit to height when there's a special exception in the law which can be granted by the city commission with a three-to-two vote, a simple majority," Westray said.

In fact, the first development to fall under the strictures of the new height ordinance, expansion of the Spanish Gardens Motel, was granted a special exception.

BUT MOSLEY DISPUTES Westray's opinion, explaining that with or without the special exception in the height law the city commission has the power to allow any type of construction it chooses.

"Three members of the commission can change any law governing building in Key West, including the Comprehensive Land-Use Plan. They don't need anyone's approval to do it," Mosley said.

CITY ACTION PLAN: STATISTICS SHOW GROWTH

KEY WEST HAS BEGUN a new era in the history of local development, according to Art Mosley, city planner.

That new era was heralded by the completion of the City Action Plan, a 56-page evaluation of growth and the limits of public services.

MOSLEY explains that finally the city has its own information to evaluate claims made by developers in their mandated impact statements. In addition, the city has at last brought together the information needed for effective planning, he said.

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convinced the city commission to impose a building moratorium to allow time for the citywide analysis.

It took the planning department 180 days and two moratoria to complete the first report, twice as long as first estimated.

Mosley explains that the planning department is continuing to study trends in economics, housing, and transportation. "This is an ongoing effort," he said.

TO DATE, the initial report and supplement on economics have been completed. In addition, Wilson is drafting three "discussion papers" aimed at provoking debate on economic diversification, housing, and community character.

HERE IS A SUMMARY of recent city reports and their findings:

CITY ACTION PLAN, PHASE I REPORT

Released: August, 1984.

Major findings:

1) The population of Key West is growing by approximately 2.5 percent per year, reaching almost 44,000 by 1995. The population of transients is growing faster than that of year-around residents.

2) Major development from 1980 through 1985 exceeds 1,000 residential units and 400 commercial units. Projections for 1986-1995 peg growth of about 200 residential and 100 commercial units per year.

3) There are 30 percent more multi-family dwellings in Old Town in 1984

MOSLEY CONCEDED THAT it is easier to grant a special exception than to amend zoning laws of the Comprehensive Land-Use Plan. "It takes a little longer to change the comprehensive plan than to grant a special exception, but the commission is empowered to do both," he said.

Still, Westray said the height ordinance should make granting any exceptions as tough as possible.

Another accomplishment under the Heyman administration debated by development and preservation factions is the merit of the City Action Plan, dubbed "CAP." The document details growth projections and the limits of our public services and facilities.

"FOR THE FIRST time in the city's history we have the means of evaluating the impact studies presented to us by developers," Heyman said. "Now developers are even coming to us to use

our data in developing impact statements."

Mosley added that developers are now seeking pre-application meetings with the city staff. "Developers are realizing that they have to fit into our understanding of conditions," Mosley said.

Charles Pattison, a state Department of Community Affairs planning coordinator based in Key West, called the CAP document effective. "It's laying out a data base to examine the level of growth the city can accommodate."

BOTH HALLORAN AND Westray agree that the CAP study is effective for evaluating impact statements, but that the city has not made full use of the data.

"I think we are attempting to address these issues, growth and the limits of city services, in a much more

positive method than we did before," Westray said.

Halloran said the CAP study is missing vital projections, like the number of additional sewer hookups which the system can accept.

"WE KNOW WHERE we are and where we have come from," Halloran said. "We've done a lot of research, but we aren't making any real projections for the future that I can see."

He added, "I'm a little disappointed with the CAP study. I thought it would provide some definitive numbers as to the amount of sewer hookups and other new services we can stand. Then I thought there would be some public decision-making about how we want to use our remaining capacity."

MOSLEY EXPLAINED THAT the CAP document is a planning tool which is constantly updated. Several supplementary reports are also planned. The first, a report on business and employment, was issued in December.

THE PLANNED REDEVELOPMENT District ordinance, a special zoning law passed to regulate development of excess Navy land on Truman Annex and Tank Island, gets praise from many quarters, including Heyman, Mosley, McDaniel, Pattison, and Halloran.

"I went over that with a fine-toothed comb and I think the ordinance is pretty good," Halloran said. "There is enough in there which refers to our own zoning laws. The city commission gets the authority to examine and approve a master plan. It all depends on how we exercise our approval authority."

Heyman explained that the special zoning district recognizes the importance of redevelopment on the excess Navy land. "When you think about it," Heyman said, "other than Truman Annex and out by the airport there's no place on this island for new development."

McDANIEL SAID HIS agency remains mindful of the impact of development on Truman Annex. "This project will have an impact from here up the Keys, primarily because of increased tourism," he said. "This project will probably determine the course of the city for the next number of years."

He explained that the Truman Annex redevelopment will increase the tax base of the city, county, and school district, as well as infuse money into

McDANIEL RECOGNIZES THAT the history of the Redevelopment Agency is blemished, but says public attitude is changing. "I think we've come a long way from the 'look out, here it comes' attitude. I think the confidence will continue to increase."

Two legal changes promoted by the Heyman administration get resounding praise from environmentalists. First, the city commission approved new regulations prohibiting developers from counting bay bottom in calculating density and lot coverage. "The submerged land rule has been changed for the better. That loophole has been closed," Westray said.

Second, the commission instituted a series of impact fees aimed at charging developers for their full effect on city services.

Pattison said the city took a major stride toward correcting serious sewer and solid waste disposal problems when the commission approved impact fees. "I think the city's

Heyman said the cost has already been cut from the original \$76 million estimate and that we may see further cost reductions.

"SEWAGE AND SOLID waste, these are problems which can be solved with money," said Mosley, explaining that there is one problem which money cannot solve: traffic flow.

"Of the infrastructure problems facing this city, transportation is the most difficult to solve because our roadways are fixed. Transportation is a very different kind of restriction," he said.

On this, Mosley gets almost universal agreement. "Traffic is the most important controlling factor. Physically it is very difficult to deal with traffic on this island," Westray said.

MOSLEY EXPLAINS THAT there is no room to build new roadways and no way to widen existing thoroughfares without altering the face of the city's tightly-

HEYMAN IS NOW PUSHING FOR CONSTRUCTION OF AN INCINERATOR AT THE STOCK ISLAND DUMP. THE IDEA IS TO CUT THE AMOUNT OF TRASH THROUGH INCINERATION. THE AMOUNT OF SOLID WASTE WOULD BE CUT TO ONE-TENTH; THEREFORE THE FACILITY WOULD EXTEND THE LIFE OF THE DUMP TEN TIMES... THE SEWAGE PROBLEM WILL BE MORE COSTLY AND MORE TIME-CONSUMING TO REPAIR. CURRENTLY, THE CITY PUMPS UNTREATED SEWAGE INTO THE OCEAN. THE CITY IS UNDER STATE AND FEDERAL ORDERS TO BUILD A SEWAGE TREATMENT PLAN AND TO REPLACE MAJOR PORTIONS OF THE UNDERGROUND SEWAGE PIPELINE.

made a good start. We in the state office feel very good about it."

IN SPITE OF the new impact fees Heyman and Mosley assert that there still is much to accomplish before the sewer and solid waste problems are solved.

Heyman is now pushing for construction of an incinerator at the Stock Island dump. The idea is to cut the amount of trash through incineration. The amount of solid waste would be cut to one-tenth; therefore the facility would extend the life of the dump ten times.

Since the dump is near capacity, the incinerator is crucial so the city can buy time to find another solution to the solid waste problem. Voters will be asked to approve the site and \$13.2 million in industrial revenue bonds for construction of the incinerator in February 26th.

THE SEWAGE PROBLEM will be more costly and more time-consuming to repair. Currently, the city pumps untreated sewage into the ocean. The city is under state and federal orders

packed residential areas.

Pattison adds, "As far as traffic goes, not much can be done."

McDaniel said the development on Truman Annex will do more than its fair share to alleviate traffic congestion.

"THE ONE FACTOR which will have the biggest single impact on development is traffic. That is why several garages are planned for the Annex development," he said. "People will be able to come to Key West, park their cars, and never have to get into a vehicle again."

McDaniel added that the

Redevelopment Agency has agreed to provide about 200 parking spaces for use by the Monroe County government.

Several suggestions for improving traffic flow have been made by the state Department of Transportation. Another report from the state on local traffic problems is pending.

"WE'RE GOING TO get a saturation of our traffic patterns, particularly in the Simonton Street area," said Westray.

The upper end of Simonton Street is seeing rapid redevelopment. Starting with the demolition of the old Sands Beach Club and construction of the new Sands Hotel, the once lazy motel district is seeing rapid change. On the heels of the Sands have come plans to enlarge both the Spanish Gardens Motel and the Hibiscus Motel.

"There is no doubt that that area is going to change," Pattison said.

WESTRAY IS CHARACTERISTICALLY descriptive. "This was historically a low-rise motel area. Starting with the Sands, the historical character has been completely changed. That whole end of town is going to bust into the highest possible development."

Pattison said that the city government "needs to give that area special attention" because of the impending push for redevelopment. "That section of town is going to be rebuilt. That is going to happen over time there. The city needs to look at that district as a whole."

THE DEVELOPMENT AT the upper end of Simonton Street, in its own way, is representative of the rapid growth facing the entire city. Both

areas on or near Key West must be identified and secured," the report states.

7) That City Electric System is incapable of generating enough electricity to supply demand through 1995. A tie-line to the mainland grid, currently underway, is essential to meet projected electrical usage.

8) The Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority has the capacity to supply water needs projected for Key West, but with growth planned throughout the Keys, demand could exceed supply.

CITY ACTION PLAN, SUPPLEMENT NO. 1, BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT

Released: December, 1984.

Major findings:

1) Key West is growing as a regional commercial and financial center for the Lower Keys.

2) About 3,000 non-residents work in the city. Of them, approximately 700 are transients residing temporarily in Key West. The remainder are residents of the Keys who commute to Key West.

3) Government as employer is on slow decline, while the number of jobs in tourist businesses is increasing.

4) The tourist season is apparently lengthening.

5) The average number of employees

Lists suggestions for correcting problems with traffic signs, lanes, turning radii, and signals at the Cow Key Bridge triangle intersection.

OTHER REPORTS

A series of reports specifically for Monroe County may include information and conclusions applicable to Key West. These studies, all currently in progress,

include: the Aquatic Preserve Management Plan, by the state Department of Natural Resources; the Outstanding Florida Waters Study, by the state Department of

Environmental Regulation; and, Model Water Pollution Monitoring Study, also by the DER.

the community by attracting new residents and more tourism.

"We have made it clear to the developer that any plans which show height on the water will be rejected and that the Customs House must be fully visible from the water or the plans will be rejected," McDaniel said.

RUMORS OF A 500-room hotel are untrue, he added, pointing to an agreement with the city limiting the number of hotel rooms to 250. "This project will create more open area, it will blend into Old Town, and it will provide expanded walking areas," McDaniel added.

But Westray and other environmentalists have adopted a wait-and-see attitude. "I'm very suspicious," Westray said. "Very candidly, I don't think the traffic impact and other impacts have been examined adequately for a development which will affect the city across the board."

ACCORDING TO THE most recent report, the costs are staggering. The Key West Amended 201 Facility (Sewer) Plan released in January pegs the project at \$22 to \$25 million. Heyman stressed, however, that city engineer Leighton Westlake has been working to reduce the overall cost of the project.

to build a sewage treatment plant and to replace major portions of the underground sewage pipeline.

The city commission has received bids on replacing about \$4 million in sewer lines. One purpose is to reduce the amount of salt water filtering into the system through broken and old pipes. Another is to eliminate potential sewage seepage into storm sewers and canals. The high levels of excess salt and water currently entering the system makes sewage treatment virtually impossible. Once the lines are replaced, construction of a treatment plant can begin.

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Halloran and Westray said they see this as a period of accelerated growth.

"Key West is growing more rapidly right now than it did in the last two decades," Halloran said. "Developers and builders are lined up waiting to build."

Westray explained that starting in June of 1981, after the city's first experience as an Area of Critical Concern ended, Key West saw a rapid increase in construction.

HALLORAN SAID THAT the county building moratorium has fueled the fires of development in the city. "From Key Largo to Key West, we're the only place open for new development. This is the only place they can build." Add to that a market which has remained strong, and you've got perfect conditions for development, Halloran said.

But recent development history has been checkered and has also fueled the fires of grassroots discontent. Residents frustrated with the location or sheer mass of many developments formed several active watchdog groups. Westray has been active in some of these groups.

"In my opinion many of the developments violated height or density restrictions through one or another of the loopholes in our laws," Westray said.

MOSLEY AGREED, ADDING that closing those loopholes has been a major goal of the Heyman administration.

"We have to grow," Heyman said. "You can't deny a person his property rights. But we have to make sure it's done in keeping with the character of the city and within the limits of city services."

He added, "Those people who do not want to build another thing, well, that's just not realistic."

STILL, THERE IS a point of no return, a point of overdevelopment. Surprisingly, even McDaniel, a strong pro-development voice, believes the

"KEY WEST IS GROWING MORE RAPIDLY RIGHT NOW THAN IT DID IN THE LAST TWO DECADES," HALLORAN SAID. "DEVELOPERS AND BUILDERS ARE LINED UP TO BUILD..FROM KEY LARGO TO KEY WEST, WE'RE THE ONLY PLACE OPEN FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT. THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE THEY CAN BUILD."

city may be treading close to its capacity for growth.

"Exclusive of the Annex, I think we're approaching a point, a critical point, that reaches a saturation," McDaniel said.

Halloran put it this way. "I think we're right on the edge of overdevelopment. In some ways I think we've over-developed already. There's not much room for the kind of development we've had so far."

IF THE TREND continues, Halloran predicted, Key West will soon be "a whole new concrete playground; some sort of adult Disneyland."

Mosley acknowledged the possibility of a concrete Key West. "I think that's where the trend is going," he said.

Reversing that trend, Mosley added, will not be easy simply because of the limits of the power of government. "We can create building envelopes, areas which define just what is allowed. But within these envelopes, within the limits of the law, developers can build whatever they want," he said.

MOSLEY SAID THAT tourism, as one of the driving forces in the local economy, has been responsible for much of the pressure to develop the island. One way to help relieve that pressure is to diversify the economy, to attract new types of businesses to Key West. The task, he said, won't be easy.

"A lot of that is theoretical,

and I'm not too optimistic about reversing these economic trends because they are pretty powerful," Mosley said, adding, "still, a local government can encourage economic diversification."

ON AN ISLAND where land is scarce and competition for space is intense, Mosley explained that the way land is allocated becomes critical. Tourism, for example, could close out other industries simply by using all the available spaces before the city can attract other types of businesses.

Westray cautioned, however, that too much emphasis is being placed on the importance of the tourist dollar in the local economy. An important factor in this economy, almost totally ignored, is the volume of retirement dollars entering the community, he said.

Tom Wilson, assistant city planner, explains that retirement dollars massed in local savings and lending institutions provides an important source of capital. "That money is available to loan to developers," he said.

WESTRAY ALSO EXPLAINED that retirees and locals are renovating homes for personal use. Again, allocation of land for residential use closes out portions of the island from larger development. The problem, Westray explains, is that developers often covet residential property bordering on mixed-use or commercial zones. That, he said, is exactly what happened with the Sands.

"We have gone to what is effectively a five- to six-story building in what was historically a low-rise area. Buildings were just over 20 feet. Now they're just under 60 feet," Westray said.

HE SAID THE city commission must take a harder line to protect the colorful neighborhoods of this city.

"When the city commission allowed

Duval Street and on Atlantic Boulevard, which these activists fear. Even McDaniel agrees that parts of the city have already been built up too much.

"The best example of uncontrolled development is what we're seeing in Old Town now, these projects which came in right after Critical Concern. Each one of those projects took a small parcel of land and very densely developed it," McDaniel said, adding, "in the long run nobody benefits."

PATTISON SAID THAT the city's first designation as an Area of Critical State Concern did little to correct local government procedures governing development. That designation was lifted in 1981, but the city was pegged for Critical Concern again in February 1984 for failure to adhere to the comprehensive plan.

Critical Concern, in essence, is based on the premise that there are areas of the state which are vitally important and must, therefore, be developed properly. If, in the

EDITORIAL:

LISTED ABOVE ARE THE HOTEL, motel and other residential units presently being built, sold or developed in Key West. Market surveys indicate that there is a shortage here of first class tourist accommodations and that the demand is exceeding the supply. One hotel has been enjoying the second highest occupancy rate in the United States (over 98%), according to national trade journals. New hotels are being built and old ones are being expanded, to cash in on the current market demand.

ON THE OTHER hand, sales of time-share hotel units, and condominium apartment units are lagging, and sales rates of about ten units per year each have been reported in the last year or so for three local condo developments.

The Anchorage Hotel project has not yet drawn a building permit, even though the circuit court ruled that they are entitled to one. The owner of A&B Lobster House wants to build a 135-unit hotel on the site of the Coca-Cola plant at Greene and Simonton, but this would require a Comprehensive Plan change from industrial to residential or commercial use. Both of these projects would impact local traffic rather severely.

Heyman and Mosley agreed that the city's quaint residential areas deserve special protection from overdevelopment. Still, they insist that they did as much as they could within the limits of the law to restrict the massing of the Sands.

"I think the Sands is too tall. I always did," Mosley said. "That's not my job. My job is to enforce the law."

HEYMAN ADDS THAT there is little room for more major developments like the Sands. He said the city will continue to see a strong renovation and restoration movement.

"If we do have a building boom it will be in the restoration of older buildings," he said.

Said Halloran: "There's not much room for the kind of development we've had in the past. We've got a lot of old housing stock out there waiting to be renovated."

STILL, RENOVATION OF existing structures is not the type of development which environmentalists and preservationists fear, Westray said. It is expansion touted in the form of renovation, like the plans for the Spanish Gardens Motel, which worries the citizen activists like Westray. And it is outright massive building, as seen at the foot of

A MASSIVE 864-UNIT, low-cost, multiple-family apartment project is slated for the disturbed land northeast of the airport. We understand that landowner Larry Marks has interested

estimation of the governor and cabinet, local governments are not protecting the statewide interest in these areas, then Critical Concern is imposed to get these areas back on the proper track.

AFTER A YEAR with the second Critical Concern designation, Pattison said Key West has benefited from the state involvement.

"Without the state being here, sort of as a backstop, there would not have been as much of a push to get things done, like the impact fees," he said. Pattison explained that under rules of Critical Concern a city has the chance to amend its laws and correct any problems its own way.

If the local government in an area of Critical Concern fails to satisfy the state demand for change, the state government then steps in to take control.

"THE THREAT OF state control puts the burden on the local government. The City of Key West has been given the

chance to satisfy the state on its own terms. The city is better off this way," Pattison said.

Pattison recognizes that the history of Critical Concern statewide has been riddled with failures.

"To me, this is sort of a last shot at it," he said, referring to both the city and the county designations as Areas of State Critical Concern.

"IF IT DOESN'T work this time -

Pattison points to recent revisions in city building laws, as well as efforts to solve the sewage and solid waste problems, as evidence of positive change.

"KEY WEST HAS had a history of not addressing these problems head-on and this group of commissioners and city staff members has to be commended for taking the first steps," Pattison said.

"IF WE DO HAVE A BUILDING BOOM IT WILL BE IN THE RESTORATION OF OLDER BUILDINGS," HEYMAN SAID. HE ADDS THAT THERE IS LITTLE ROOM FOR MORE MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS..HE SAID THE CITY WILL CONTINUE TO SEE A STRONG RENOVATION AND RESTORATION MOVEMENT.

Heyman said he is pleased with the efforts of his administration.

"We're striving to get control of development and I feel now we have the tools to get control. The important thing is that it be done in keeping with the rest of Key West," Heyman said.

continued on page 15

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS PROLIFERATE

by BILL WESTRAY

the Reflections builder, as well as County Commissioner Ed Swift, in promoting this project. It may have troubles because they only have about 33 acres of dry land, and the computed density of about 26 units per acre would seem to violate the new Comprehensive Plan maximum density of 16. Being over 750 units, this would also be a development of Regional Impact (DRI) requiring South Florida Regional Planning Council approval.

IF ALL OF these projects were to move along at the same time, we could end up with 3184 new units, needing about 16 megawatts of electricity, a million gallons of water daily, and producing about 3/4 million gallons of sewage. Fortunately, a number of them will probably not get off the ground for economic and marketing reasons.

THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS of projects like this are what is driving old-time residents out of the Keys, according to Dr. Jim Nicholas, who is just completing an economic study of the Keys for Governor Graham. His preliminary report given January 16 in Ed Swift's office, showed that the residential taxpayers are paying about twice what they should, and the commercial taxpayers are only paying about half of what they should in their share of ad valorem taxes! Nicholas stated flatly that the cost of utilities per capita in Monroe County had gone up 200 times in the last 10 years. "You've got to find some way to make the tourists pay their share of the load," he said. "They're getting a free ride now at the expense of the old residents. Slapping a toll back on U.S. 1 might be one way," he added. "There are over 10,000 cars coming in over Jewfish Creek, every day. Make them pay to come here."

THE OLD DePOO Hospital is slated to become an 18-apartment condo as soon as the hospital moves to its new quarters on Kennedy Drive. The new professional building on 12th Street is now in full operation - a nice facility, although traffic is a bit of a problem.

A new Hampton Inn, lower-priced cousin of Holiday Inn, has been approved for North Roosevelt west of Howard Johnson, and we hear that a PUBLIX Shopping Mall is being considered for across the street.

Two townhouse projects, one on Duck Avenue (240 units) and the other on Northside Drive (264 units) are moving along; they appear to be using innovative, low-cost construction materials and techniques that allow them to sell at attractively low prices.

"CAN'T DO THAT - against the law," quipped Bud Post, retired engineer. "I'm for that - charge admission," added Commissioner Swift.

"I'm going to try to get the state legislature to float a \$100 million bond issue to buy back unusable land," declared State Representative Joe Allen.

"I'll help!" declared Senator Larry Plummer.

THE RELATIVELY MASSIVE proliferation of new building appears to us to be unacceptable. Our city planners, Art Mosley and Tom Wilson, have been

talking about a 2½ percent per year growth rate. Here we're at about 30 to 35 percent spread over four or five years, more than double the forecast rate of growth. We don't think the city can absorb this in terms of traffic impacts, sewage disposal, electrical service, garbage, etc. We are making progress under the Community Action Plan. We can see solutions down the road for some of the problems. But the solutions aren't

here yet; we aren't even sure if they will ever arrive. We think that our commissioners should think hard before approving any more development, and if possible pull back on projects already approved but not yet built. One of the Key Areas of Critical State Concern guidelines is that local government should conserve and protect its economic resources and public facilities. We believe that the city commission should try harder to follow this guideline.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS PROJECTS - KEY WEST, FLORIDA

BUILT OR BUILDING SINCE 1980

NAME	LOCATION	TYPE	NO. UNITS	STATUS
La Brisa	S.Roos.Bldv	Condo Apts.	136	72 completed
1800 Atlantic	Atlantic Blvd.	Condo Apts.	168	76 completed, 92 building
Pelican Lndg.	Eisenhwr.Dr.	Fishing Club	16 (51)	Operating
Reflections	Duval St.	TimeShareHotl	68	Compltd.-being marketed
The Galleon	Front St.	TimeShareHotl	96	Compltd.-being marketed
Anchorage	Simonton St.	Hotel	100??	Stopped
Sands Beach	Simonton St.	Hotel	150	Under construction
Key West B.C.	Atlantic Blvd.	Condo Apts.	58	20 completed
La Concha	Duval St.	Hotel	155	Static
Cavala Rsrts.	N.Roos.Bldv.	Apt. Hotel	32	Building
Spanish Gdns.	Simonton St.	Hotel/Motel	20	Replacement units
CocaCola site	Simonton St.	Hotel	135	Requires zoning change
St.Mary'sNCCS	Duval & Va.	TH & Shops	32	Concept approved-OIRC
Hibiscus Motel	Simonton	Motel Expans.	+26=56	Approved by City Commission
RDA Custom Hse.	Truman Annex	Hotel	250	Plan submitted
DéPoo Hosp.	Southard St.	Condo Apts.	18	Conversion from Hospital
KW Estates	Duck Avenue	Townhouses	240	55 completed
Solano Village	Northside Dr.	Townhouses	264	32 completed
Hampton Inn	N.Roos.Bldv.	Motel	158	Approved by City Commission
Casa Marina	Reynolds St.	Hotel Rooms	67	Expansion on Tennis Courts
West of KWTS	S.Roos.Bldv.	Condos	6 acres	Max. poss. of 96 units
PUBLIX	N.Roos.Bldv.	Shopping Mall	10 acres	W. of Key Plaza
Isle del Sol	E.Roos.Bldv.	Apts, low-inc.	864	26 units/acre

TOTAL UNITS APPROXIMATELY 3,184 50,000 SF commercial stores, shops and offices

LISTED ABOVE are the hotel, motel and other major transient and permanent residential units presently built or building and being sold, or under development in Key West. It covers the period since the designation Area of Critical State Concern was lifted in June 1981 and reimposed last summer. Some larger shopping malls are included. Not included are the numerous guest houses converted from old, large private residences.

THREE STORIES

by CHRIS GANTRY

GLASS RAT

A GLASS RAT moved horizontally to the warehouse wall. Pigeons straddled the rusty drain pipes lining the edges lining the edges of the ancient structure. Litter and metal refuse that accompanies these districts law strews everywhere. It was early afternoon. The sun splayed off the glass rat's flanks, causing the creature at certain angles to almost disappear into its own brilliancy.

A boy sneakily entered the alley from the west side. He ate an apple, wiping his hands on the back of his brown corduroys. Some books were strapped to his back in a green canvas bag. He was passing the large trash barrels when he saw the glass rat. Momentarily startled, he leapt into the air, yelping something unintelligible. The boy was about to run when the glass rat spoke with a metallic voice.



"WAIT, BOY, WAIT."

The boy stood frozen, squeezing the half-eaten apple as the glass rat approached.

"You stole that apple," said the glass rat. "Soon the police

will be here and find you. "I gotta go," quavered the trembling boy.

A PATROL CAR slowly entered the east end of the alley. The boy whirled around in a panic. "Where can I hide?" he blurted.

"In me," said the rat, its glass whiskers twitching. "You're crazy," yelled the boy.

"IT'S YOUR ONLY chance," hummed the rat in its flat, eerie voice. "Lay your things on the ground and take your shoes and belt off."

The boy protested weakly. "Hurry," growled the rat.

THE PATROL CAR drew closer as the boy kicked off his shoes.

"Now, lean down and touch the top of your head to my mouth," hissed the rat. With a soft, sucking thud, the boy diminished in size, reappearing snugly inside the body of the glass rat. The patrol car slid slowly by.

Sniffing for a moment, the glittering rodent scuttled towards a dark hole leading to the cesspool. The boy banged his tiny fists on the glass rat's sides, as they slowly passed his shoes, belt, shoes, and the half-eaten apple.

COWS

SHE SAW THE flying cow just before daybreak. Half asleep, she'd gotten up to open the window. It was very stuffy in the room. The woman was eight and a half months pregnant. It was getting very difficult for her to move around.

As a gust of morning air flew into her face, the cow glided upside-down not more than three feet from the open window. She watched it as one witnesses one's own dream. The cow drifted in an arc, dipping over the huge magnolia trees. It twisted over to its feet, gently landing in the far west field with the rest of the herd. Her husband was sleeping. She mentioned nothing about it to him at breakfast.

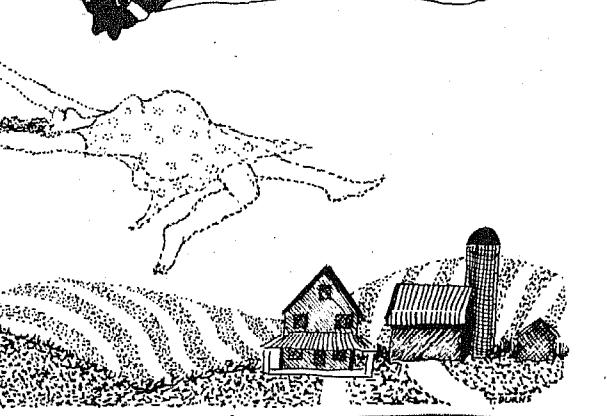
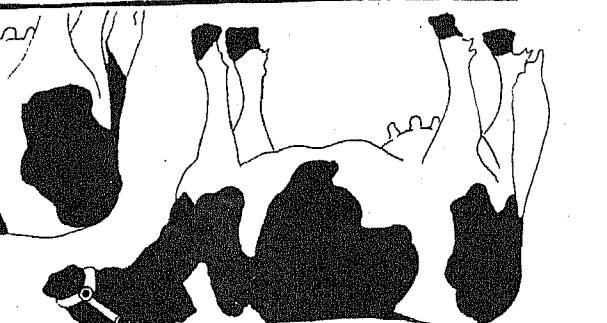
THAT AFTERNOON, SHE drove into town to the library. She looked in the card catalog and found a book about cows. Heifers, pasteurization, calving, and udders were not uncommon words to her. She'd heard these terms the past five years living on her husband's farm. There were no references, however, to flying cows.

Returning home in the late afternoon, she walked heavily down to the barn. Before her husband began

the day's milking, she wanted to see if she could spot the cow that had flown past her window. But, because they were all fat, black and white holsteins, she couldn't tell one from the other.

THE NEXT MORNING, an hour before sunrise, she got up and hurriedly dressed. Tiptoeing out of the house so as not to wake her husband, she held her swollen belly, making her way down to the west field where the cows grazed at that hour. The pasture was deserted.

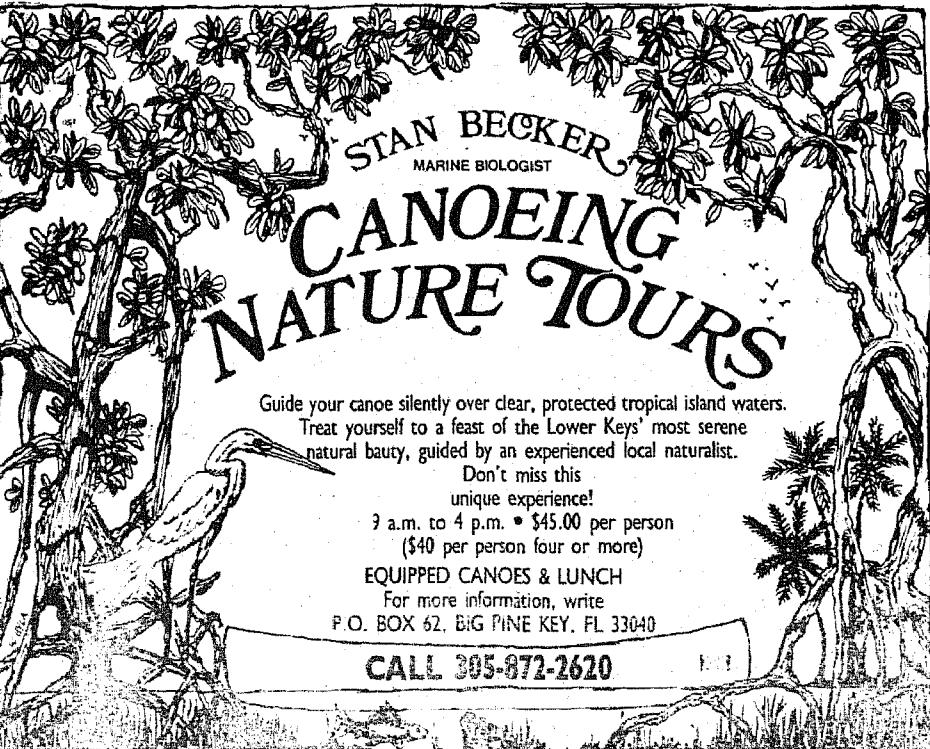
It was then that she felt the



great churning wind, and heard the deep whirring hum above her. Looking up, she collapsed breathlessly to the ground. In the light of the early morning moon, all one hundred and thirty-two cows were coasting lazily on their backs in a grand wide circle about one hundred feet in the air. Their white underbellies and pink udders glistened like polished marble in the predawn lunar hue.

SUDDENLY, THE COW that flew past her window the previous morning detached itself from the others, swooping down close to the woman. It smiled. "Moonlight makes milk, silly," said the cow. "Not grass. It's the morning moonlight we graze on...the moon." The cow floated away to rejoin the herd.

The woman felt her unborn child move. It would come at any time, she thought. She looked at the fading moon



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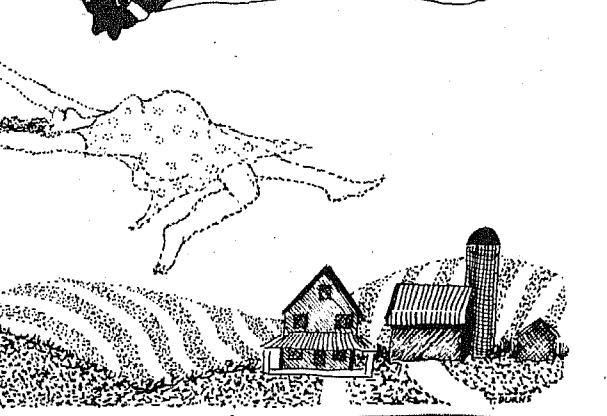
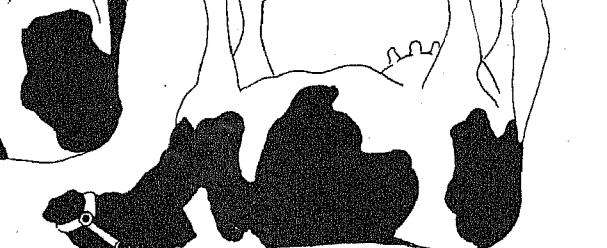
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the day's milking, she wanted to see if she could spot the cow that had flown past her window. But, because they were all fat, black and white holsteins, she couldn't tell one from the other.

THE NEXT MORNING, an hour before sunrise, she got up and hurriedly dressed. Tiptoeing out of the house so as not to wake her husband, she held her swollen belly, making her way down to the west field where the cows grazed at that hour. The pasture was deserted.

It was then that she felt the



great churning wind, and heard the deep whirring hum above her. Looking up, she collapsed breathlessly to the ground. In the light of the early morning moon, all one hundred and thirty-two cows were coasting lazily on their backs in a grand wide circle about one hundred feet in the air. Their white underbellies and pink udders glistened like polished marble in the predawn lunar hue.

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and the upside-down cows. Her breasts began to tingle.

"The little one will be hungry," she whispered.

SHE TORE OFF her shirt, dress, and shoes. Like dandelion fuzz, she weightlessly ascended. Moments later, she too was on her back, deliriously revolving with the cows under the pale bluish globe, her breasts swelling with delicious moon milk.

MALCOM

LIONEL PATCH KEPT up his non-stop chatter with the people in the waiting room at gate number two of the Miami airport. The place was packed. It was New Year's Eve, and most of the flights were either late arriving, or over-booked for takeoff.

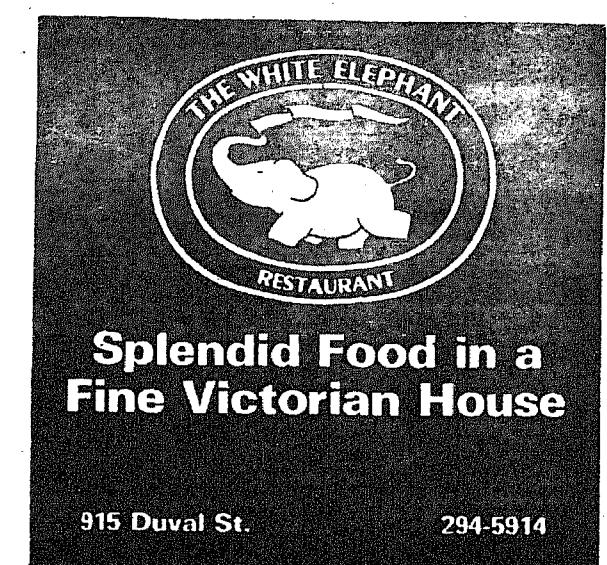
No one else had time to think of their own problems with Lionel keeping up his steady stream of babble. His dear friend Malcom was due to land ten minutes ago. Lionel was having a fit.

"What if he's airsick?" Lionel implored of a young black girl standing next to the ashtray having a smoke.

"HE'S GOT A very touchy stomach," he blurted to a tired-looking old lady sitting across the aisle from him.

Wringing his hands, and looking in quick little bird-like jerks of his head at every one in the immediate vicinity, he badgered and pestered everybody about Malcom.

Lionel stood up, gesturing like



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yet harboring some curiosities.

The plane landed forty-five minutes later. Everyone was hugging and kissing their loved ones. Lionel was darting around like a fly. No sign of Malcom. Finally, in full view of all, Lionel threw out his arms. "Malcom," he screamed. To the astounded roomful of onlookers, they saw Lionel embrace nothing but thin air.

"Oh, Malcom," he breathed, squeezing the contours of an invisible form. "I've been a wreck. Are you all right?"

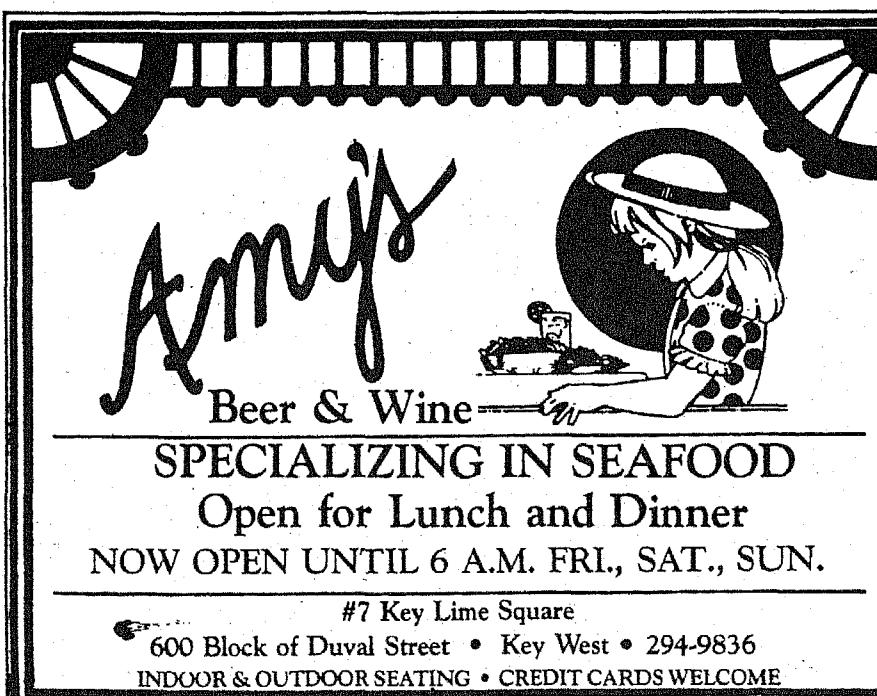
WITH THAT, HE threw his left arm over the shoulder of an empty space, heading for the luggage section, talking incessantly. Everyone followed.

Standing around the conveyor belt, Lionel kept up his rapid dialogue with the unseen Malcom. People were laughing, keeping their distance.

Suddenly, two huge suitcases were snatched off the rack, but not by Lionel. Not by anyone. They glided through the air as if being carried by someone. Lionel never stopped talking as he and the two floating suitcases disappeared out the sliding glass doors.



PEACEWORKS of Key West urges every citizen of Key West to vote YES on the Feb. 26 US/USSR Nuclear Freeze Referendum. PEACEWORKS meets weekly at 521 Grinnell St. For information, call 294-2647 or 4-2984.



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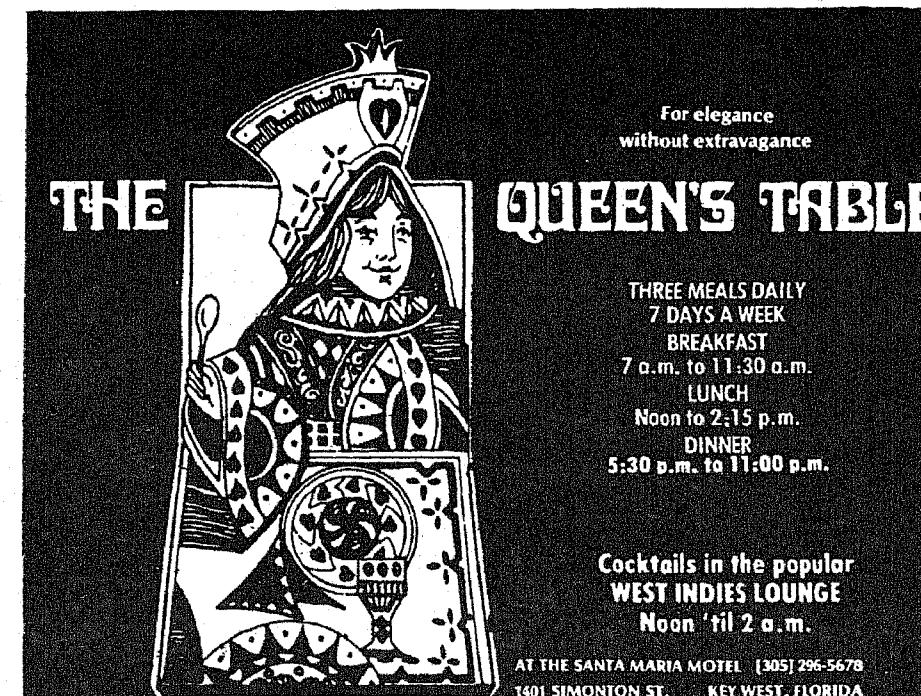
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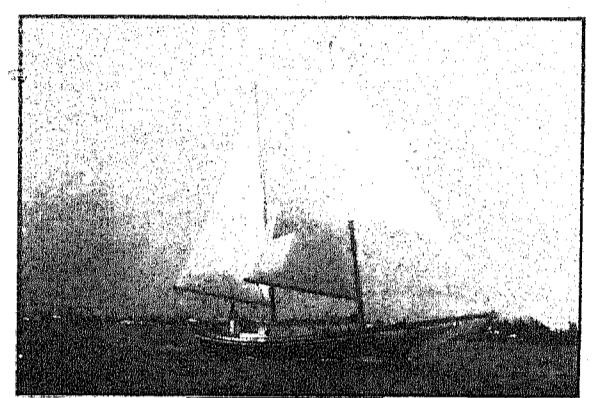
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KEY WEST MARITIME HISTORICAL SOCIETY

By CAROLE HEINLEIN

WHAT'S A CHESAPEAKE BAY Skipjack and what's it doing in the Florida Keys? That is precisely what the Key West Maritime Historical Society of the Florida Keys wants everyone to ask. "Since the loss of the Western Union last year, there has been a void in a traditional sailing vessel based in and operating out of Key West," says Capt. Bill Frank, director of the Society, a non-profit educational organization, devoted to preserving maritime history. "What we want to do is bring history into the present and pass it on to future generations."



Sea Breeze II

THIS PROMPTED HIM to select the Sea Breeze II, a reconstruction of a 19th Century Chesapeake Bay oyster fishing boat, as the Key West Maritime Society's official flagship.

The historic sailing vessel, 40 feet long with a draft of 14 feet, was built in 1968 by James Richardson of Oxford, Maryland. James Michener fans will recognize this name as the famous boat builder who assisted in

research for the novel Chesapeake. Sea Breeze II is similar to the many working fishing boats that sailed the waters of the Florida Keys a hundred years ago. At its helm is Capt. John Duke, a direct descendant of Commodore James Biddle who commanded the West Indies pirate chasing squadron in this area in the 1820s. (Biddle's successor was Commodore David Porter, the celebrated anti-pirate.)

CAPT. DUKE, who lives on Little Torch Key with his wife and two children, had been chartering the Sea Breeze II for over five years before he heard about the Key West Maritime Historical Society. "I heard Capt. Frank talk about some of the organization's goals and I knew right away that I wanted to see them happen," says Capt. Duke. "He was specifically referring to the creation of a maritime museum in Key West and educational programs for youths and adults."

"My father runs Boys' Harbor on Long Island in New York," says Capt. Duke, who was born in West Palm Beach and returned to Florida from Long Island when he was eight. "I worked there with him for several years, usually in the summer. We taught the kids to sail, fish, and camp out with any vessels donated to the program." (Boys' Harbor is an educational program for underprivileged children.)

CAPT. DUKE, who has been sailing since he was a child, has agreed to donate a percentage of his charters to the Key West Maritime Historical Society. Sea Breeze II will be available for half day, whole day, sunset, and multi-day cruises. Special charters concentrating on the maritime history of the Florida

Keys are being developed. He also intends to build a rowing craft for the Society with the help of any individuals who wish to learn more about boat building. "It will be a long boat, similar to a whaleboat but not as traditional." The boat will be 32 feet long and 6 feet wide and hold about 8

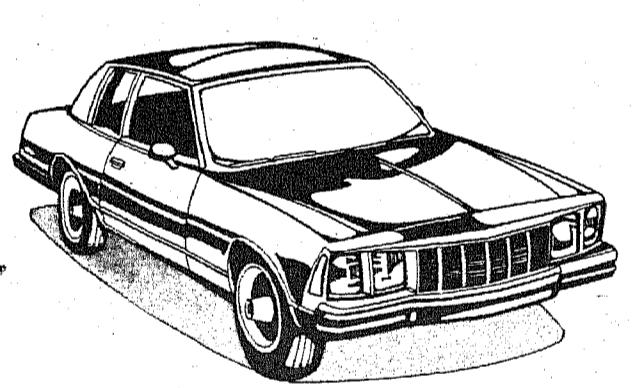


Photo by Jeffrey Cardenas

Capt. Duke aboard the Sea Breeze II persons. For the physical and mental exercise of rowing, regular outings will be held with some overnight trips to the Lakes and Boca Grande. The program is open to both youths and adults.

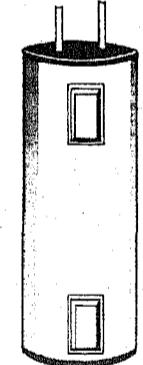
FOR MORE INFORMATION about the Key West Maritime Historical Society, write to Capt. William P. Frank, 1123 Packer Street, Key West, Florida. 33040. To schedule charters aboard the Sea Breeze II, call Capt. Frank at 294-5789 or Capt. Duke at 872-3536.

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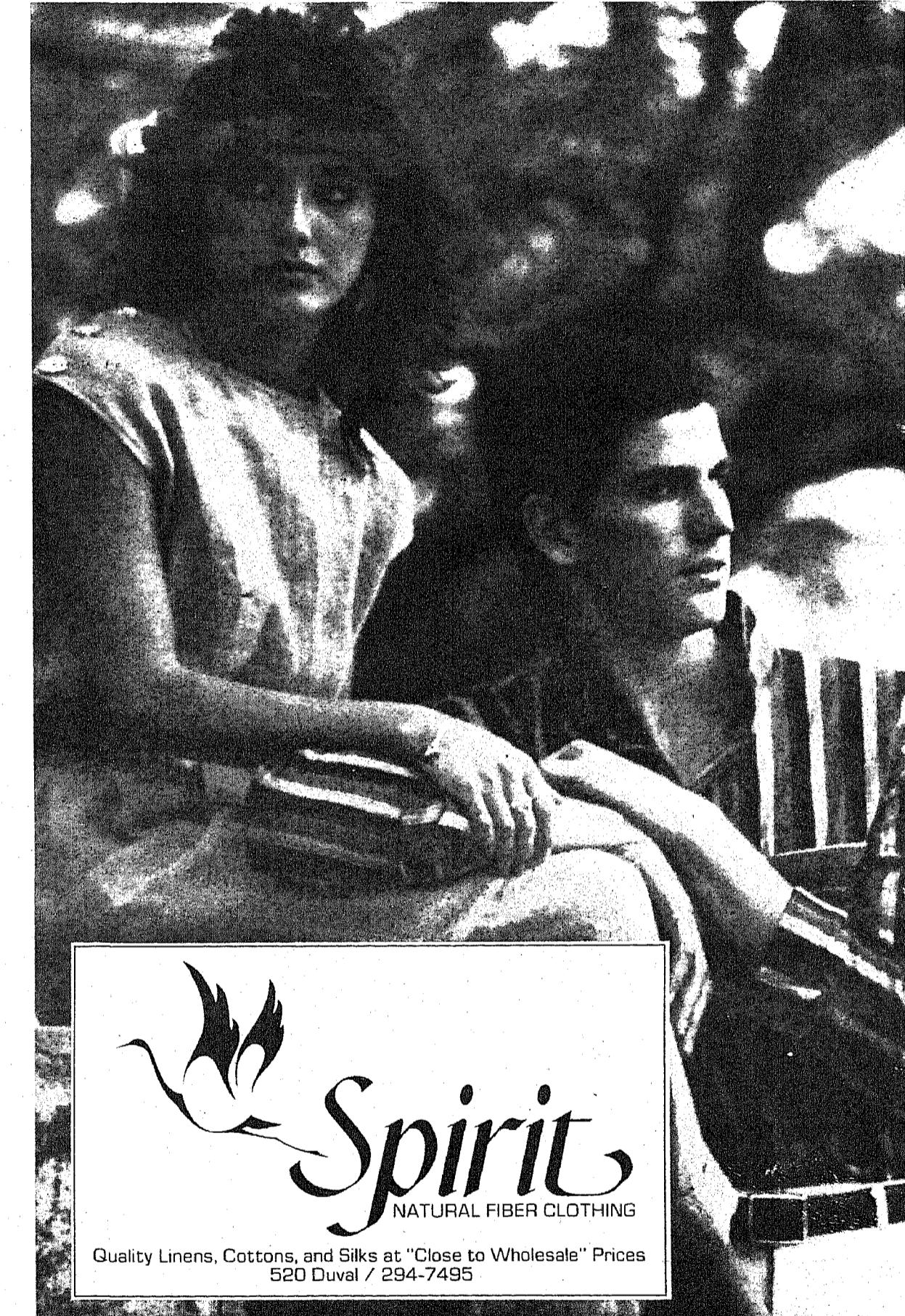
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DINING FOR DIRT

By Dusty Dora

IF ONE THING can be stated unequivocally about Key Westers, it is that they thrive on gossip. Perhaps this is true of the inhabitants of any small community, especially one isolated 150 miles from the mainland. But only in Key West can Conchs and out of towners alike trash each other with heartfelt love, give the kiss of death to a best friend, and meet at 3 a.m. at the Moon to swing harmoniously, side by side, to a Buffett tape.

Islands are often bar societies. Maybe because of subtropical heat, hours are spent attempting to cool off with a tall one. Whatever the rationalization, bars are actually the meeting place for most of the locals. Every strata of Key West culture has a particular watering hole they favour where the ambience, clientele, food, quality of drinks, or even the music help to make them feel at home. It is in these bars, on balmy nights and lazy afternoons, that gossip is traded, deals are conducted, elections are won, novels are conceived, hearts are broken, and the society CHUBS, which bestows awards annually on outstanding bartenders, was begun. It was in this spirit that "Dining for Dirt" was born.

ORIGINALLY TITLED, "Ladies for Lunch," the "Dirt Sisters" are a group of women, primarily connected with the food and beverage industry, who meet once a week at the island's diversified restaurants to eat, drink, gossip and trash. "We're actually just a bunch of girls who wanted to go for lunch together every week to try out the food at places we normally can't get to at night, because we work," Vicky Gill, a Full Moon Bartender, winner of the

CHUBS Outstanding Bartender of the Year Award, and one of the founding mothers of "Dining for Dirt" explains. "It was Freddy who named us the "Dining for Dirt Sisters." Freddy Wagoner, bartender at Kyushu's new Ninja Bar, is one of the few male "guests" permitted at the luncheons. "It just seemed a natural name for the group. Everyone likes to eat, but that is not the focal point of these gatherings," he laughed. That is also to say that gossip is the sole domain of women in this town. The men



Left to right (back row): Chicken, Tom, Ann, Peter, Debbie, Debbie, Freddy. (first row): Joyce, Yvette, Vicky, 2nd Ed. have just not mobilized...yet.

THE "DIRT SISTERS" last meeting was held at The Green Parrot, one of Key West's oldest bars and legends, and a surprising source of excellent Mexican food. The sisters also rate bathrooms, size of food portion, service, and juke boxes. "The Parrot's bathroom is amazingly clean," Chicken, a Bagatelle legend herself, pointed out, proudly showing off the graffiti free walls. "The service here is great, the music is top rate and the food is a well kept island secret." Louie's Backyard was considered one of the more fun places

to dine. The sisters have also convened at Dim Sum, The Bay Point Inn, The Bagatelle, The Top, and the Lazy Afternoon. "That was where we had our first luncheon," Vicky giggled, "do you get it, just another lazy afternoon for the girls."

There are several qualities that bind the sisters together. They are notoriously generous tippers, they are all well endowed, followers of daytime soaps, reasonably able imbibers, and hard workers at their trade. Plus, each lady is able to contribute unique tidbits of gossip from her little corner of the island.

THE SISTERS WERE meticulously attired to conspicuously avoid falling into the Parrot's "...tramp..." category, which was carefully defined by a wooden sign hanging on the wall. "If you dress like a tramp, you'll be treated like a tramp." The ladies were well behaved, and well received by the other clients. Bar etiquette, an inbred series of golden rules peculiar to the island culture, was defined. Rule one, you never intrude on another patron's privacy—no names or questions should be asked of a stranger. Rule number two, if a friend is seated solitarily in a corner, and does not make eye contact, he wants to be left alone. Number three, don't ruin anyone's good time by your own mood. Number four, don't flirt with someone else's date unless you want to bear the consequences. Number five, don't expect too much attention from the bartender, no matter how close you are to them; they have an entire bar to watch. Number six, don't expect to go to the bathroom after the lights have been turned up at four. And finally, if you want to eat, and do not like cigarette smoke wafting into your food, don't sit at the bar and demand that everyone else stop smoking.

Dusty Dora has come to the conclusion that gossip is a way of life in Key West. People wait for their tidbits as anxiously as others await for hot tips at the races. And in the summertime, gossip is endemic and epidemic. It seems as if the preoccupation with gossip stems from the fact that everyone in Key West has something to hide, and by talking about others, it distracts from the details of one's own life. This is why we islanders do not take gossip seriously.

By lunch's end, the sisters had dished as much dirt as could be exchanged in a two hour time period. And the dirt came from all parts of town, from all the bars, restaurants, and private parties. Suddenly, the paranoia level was high. Everyone denied credit for any rumour that might have been started. Finally, in an act of desperation, one of the sisters stole this reporter's tape directly out of the machine. Fortunately, I had relied on notes and had put the tape on pause, unbeknownst to the ladies. "We just wanted to make sure there was nothing incriminating on there," Debbie Smallwood, bartender at Louie's After Deck, apologized. Famous for her affinity for guys with "...big blue eyes..." but careful to check for references, Debbie returned the tape only after it had been played over the loud speaker at Louie's.

OTHER MEMBERS INCLUDED Ann Ashby, from the Bagatelle, Ellen Davis, from The Pier House, Tom Getz, the token alternative life style male, from Havana Docks, Lenore Crandall, Peter Goldsmith, the token straight male, and Debbie Clark and Joyce Carpenter, from the Full Moon.

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IF RONALD REAGAN were as well informed as the "Dirt Sisters," he'd have no trouble with Congress. Take heed,

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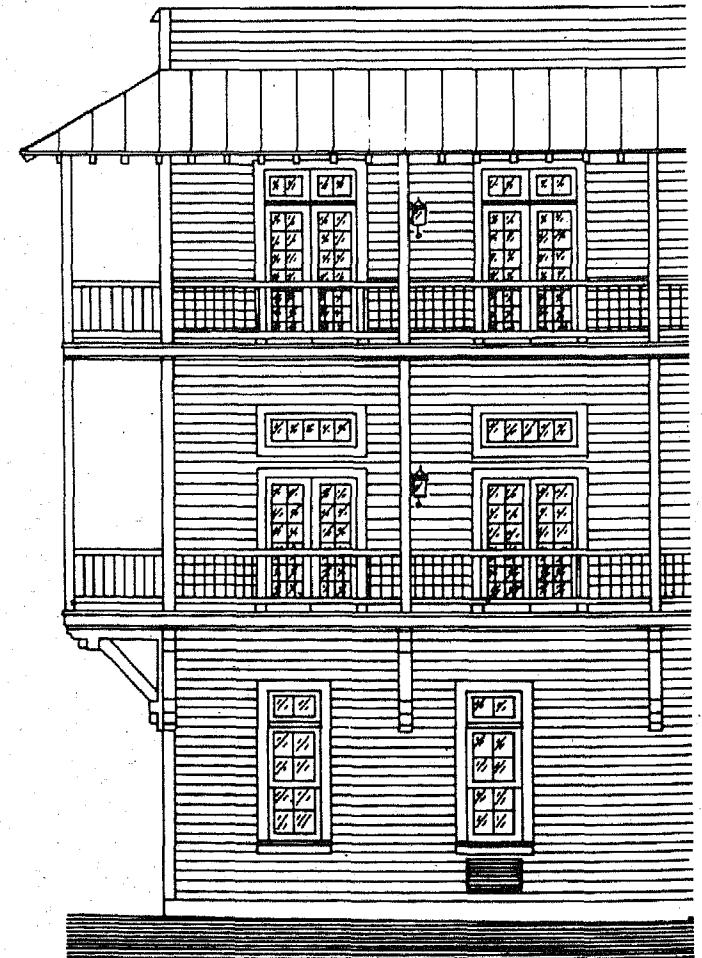
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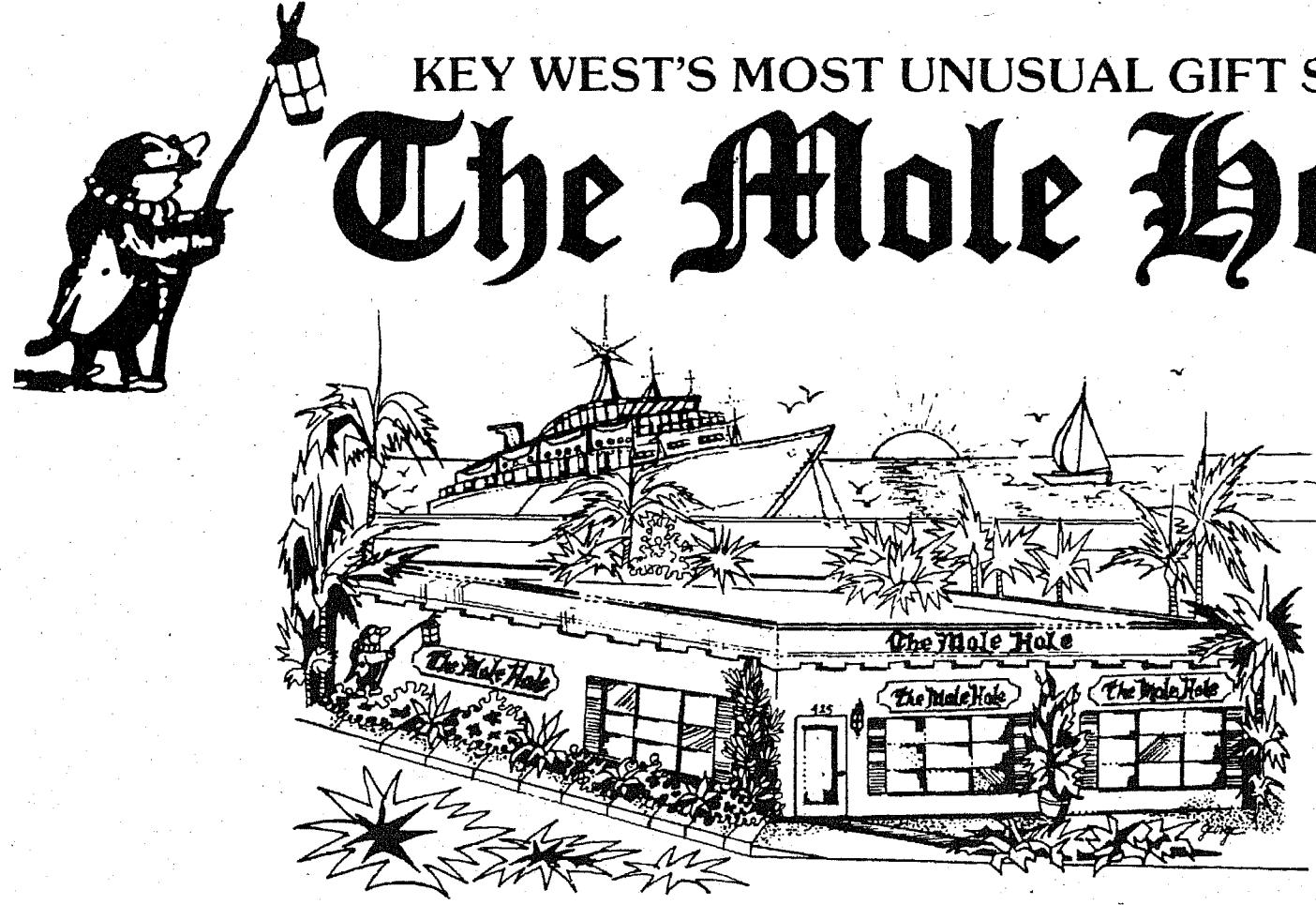
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EDITORIAL

by BILL WEBSTRAY

COUNTY GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLANNING.

Courtrooms full of citizens heard Monroe County Planning Consultants Charles Siemon and Lane Kendig give Growth Management presentations in Plantation, Marathon and Key West during the week of January 14th. These presentations focused on an analysis of existing platted lands and subdivisions: where they are, how many are there, to what extent may they be used for future building. Close to 52,000 platted lots already exist in Monroe County. A lot of them are underwater or otherwise unusable for various reasons. Some are too small to be built upon. The consultants

then explained a concept for land management called Transfer of Development Rights (TDR), whereby some density credits for unusable environmentally sensitive lands might be sold and transferred to certain non-sensitive areas.

IN ALL OF these presentations the concept of denying people the use of their land without just compensation was a central concern. Of particular concern was the idea of telling individual lot owners that they couldn't build their wanted home without buying TDRs or extra lots or some other seeming nonbeneficial acquisition, and this idea was repulsive to the commissioners and many citizens alike.

"I'll never accept that," said Mayor Harvey. "I agree that we can't build in wetlands. and we mustn't

destroy these beautiful hammocks for big developments, but we can't ever tell the little guy that he can't build a home on a lot he's been planning to retire to for years," she added.

WE AGREE WITH the County Mayor. The little guy has got to be singled out for special treatment, somehow. He has a right to his expectation to be allowed to retire and live here! Obviously, we can't accommodate 52,000 new dwelling units. The consultants are talking about 20,000 or 14,000 or 12,000 as a maximum - a population or building cap still to be decided. Looking at historical building trends for the last 10 years (2,282 residential dwelling units of all types built since 1974), we feel that economics and marketability may limit growth to 6000 to 7000 new units in the next 20 years. Only time will tell.

ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY. On Tuesday, January 15th, a group of about 25 persons heard similar advance presentations to the County Commission Planning Committee (Mayor Harvey, Commissioners Fahrer and Swift) in Swift's office. Also present were Senator Larry Plummer and Representative Joe Allen, Jr. Their purpose was to obtain information with which to write and push state legislation to help soften some of the potential tax impacts on county residents from a new environmentally restrictive comprehensive plan.

Of particular interest at the Tuesday meeting was a presentation on economic impacts by Dr. James Nicholas, Director of the Joint Center for Urban and Environmental Studies at FIU/FAU. Nicholas is under independent contract to Governor Graham's office, to analyze the past economic effects of growth in Monroe County and to forecast the future economic impacts of a new Comprehensive Land Management Plan. Nicholas reported two historical facts that were "mind-boggling":

(1) IN THE past 10 years the cost of utilities in Monroe County has risen from \$0.48 per capita per month, to a \$94.00 per capita per month. That's a 200-fold increase. "IS THAT POSSIBLE?" YOU ASK. "YES," says Nicholas. Ten years ago we didn't have many services that we expect today. Some people didn't use ANY - they used cisterns, wells and septic tanks; they burned trash and composted garbage. Some didn't even use electricity. Today they use it all, at enormous rates.

(2) IN MONROE County the residential property owner pays 75 PERCENT, that's three-quarters, of the cost of government in ad valorem taxes. The commercial sector, the hotels, motels, stores, shops, offices, etc., pay only 25 PERCENT. The state average is 47 percent from residential taxpayers and 53 percent from commercial. So while other areas of Florida collect about \$1 in ad valorem taxes from each of the residential and commercial sectors, in Monroe County the tax collector takes \$3 from residential taxpayers to \$1 from the tourist-based commercial sector.

"THE TOURISTS SIMPLY don't pay their way," declared Nicholas flatly. "You better plan to do something about it. A toll on U.S. 1 at Jewfish Creek might be considered. Impose much higher occupational licenses and other user fees for hotels, motels, recreational vehicle parks, etc.," he suggested. "Just what I've been saying," quipped Swift. "Tallahassee wants to make a state park out of all the Florida Keys. LET'S CHARGE ADMISSION!"

SOME OF NICHOLAS' economic study facts seem to confirm what a number of analysts have been discovering recently. This is that the importance of the ordinary working residents

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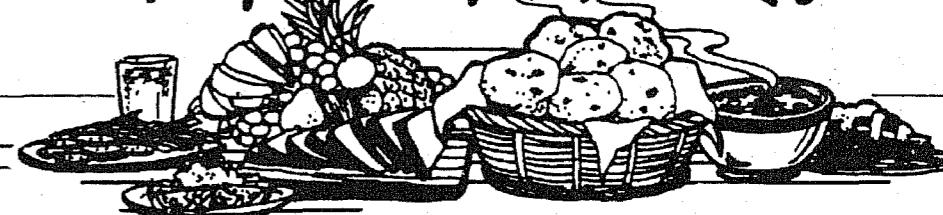
and retirees to the local economy has been overlooked and lacking in emphasis in relation to other more obvious industries. Dollar-wise, month in and month out, the retiree, bringing in over \$100,000 last year, is the number one income source in Monroe County (according to the latest Florida Statistical Abstract). Services at about \$82 million and retail trade at \$75 million are next in importance in the county. Federal government (the Navy) produces about \$68 million in personal income; state and local government about \$53 million. The commercial fishing industry at \$46 million wraps up the bottom of the list of income sources which along with lesser categories total over \$650 million in direct income dollars each year. It is usually estimated that each direct income dollar turns over about 10 times, and so has a ten-fold impact on county business activity. Tourism, which is generally recognized as our most active and important bus-

iness activity is not identified separately in the official state report, but is included under the services and trade categories. But the permanent resident, worker and retiree are the mainstay in support of the big stores, the auto dealers, the shopping malls, the realtor, the cost of government.

THE POINT OF all this is that we mustn't allow the commercial sector to duck its fair share of the cost of government and public facilities. All the new hotels, restaurants, guest houses, and other retail businesses must pay their appropriate share for new streets, sewers, garbage dumps, police protection, etc. Recently, we heard spokesmen for big hotel developments stand up in commission meetings and refuse to accept the idea of larger impact and user fees for their new resorts. "Our increased tax base will pay our share," they declared.

Obviously, according to Nicholas, they have not paid their share, and will

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not unless we change things. Key West, for example, has about the lowest median household income (\$13,242) and the highest individual cost of living in the state. The ordinary person can't afford to live here any more. Many are leaving. If the workers move away, who will be left to work?

CONCLUSION. ONCE AGAIN, WE have been impressed at the citizen turnout and participation in these planning workshops and hearings. We think that this interest is an extremely healthy sign. We urge everyone to continue to participate. THE CITIZENS OF MONROE COUNTY have the greatest opportunity that they have ever had to do something worthwhile and lasting in growth management planning. "All of Tallahassee and Washington are in love with the Florida Keys right now," said Senator Plummer.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars of state and federal monies have been channeled to the Florida Keys to finance studies, hearings, seminars, etc. Priority attention is being given to the Keys by top state and federal officials, including Governor Graham, the Cabinet, the state legislature, the secretary and directors of key state departments,

as well as U.S. Senator Chiles and Hawkins, Congressman Fascell, and various federal agency heads. Millions of dollars have and are being allocated to purchase and protect sensitive lands. Besides the Comprehensive Planning studies, large efforts are underway for AQUATIC PRESERVE and OUTSTANDING FLORIDA WATERS (OFW) management plans, MARINA SITTING CRITERIA, a HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN (HCP) for North Key Largo, a C.A.R.L. (Conservation and Recreation Lands) acquisition program, S.O.B. (Save our Beaches) program, and on and on. Some previously ill-conceived developments are finding the focus of public attention on their deficiencies too hot to handle and are ready to bail out. To us, the little guys, trying to participate and keep up, the magnitude of this attention is at times overwhelming. Sometimes, we'd like to throw up our hands and quit. But we mustn't. We must hang in there and put together the best plans and guidelines that we can possibly conceive. We'll never have a better opportunity.

LET US NOT BLOW IT!

INSIDER'S LOOK AT KEY WEST

by CHRISTOPHER LANE

YOU HAVE A golden opportunity to see 16 of Key West's finest homes during the Silver Anniversary House & Garden Tours during Old Island Days.

Three different house tours await the admiring eyes of island residents and visitors alike, with the first tour of five private homes planned for February 15 and 16 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tickets at \$8 each are available at the Hospitality House at Mallory Square for that first evening tour, with transportation provided aboard the pokey, distinctive Conch Tour Trains. You can also purchase tickets at any of the five homes on tour at 621 Caroline Street, 1230 Von Phister Street, 1209 Virginia Street and 1408 and 1410 Petronia Street.

HOUSE TOUR CHAIRMAN Nan Mirzaoff said the turn-of-the-century homes, by their design, will not be able to accommodate viewers in wheelchairs. She also discourages visitors wearing spike heel shoes, which would mar elegant hardwood floors of Dade County pine. Interior photographs also will not be permitted, Mirzaoff says.

A DAYTIME TOUR of six homes will be on March 1 and 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and a final evening house tour is planned for March 15 and 16. All proceeds from the Old Island Restoration Foundation's House & Garden Tours are given back to Key West in the form of preservation grants awarded each spring, explains OIRF President Merili McCoy.

THE HOUSE TOURS feature grand Conch-style residences that were built by Bahamian ship carpenters around the turn of the century. Included on the first tour is the former home of Pulitzer Prize-winning author Phil Caputo, who lived at 621 Caroline Street while writing "A Rumor of War," his vivid account of the Vietnam War. The tour also includes the grand Gato House at 1209 Virginia Street. The former home of the island's first millionaire cigar manufacturer, the Gato House once served as Mercedes Hospital, catering to the island's poorer residents.

RICH IN DESIGN, the home, like others being opened to the public by their gracious owners, is reminiscent of a bygone era in Key West. Still

House or Chamber of Commerce at Mallory Square. Or call 294-9501 for the nearest brochure distribution point.

continued from page 23
hoping to see many of her friends there.

Gilberte Sweeney had a fine preview of a showing of her work in her Art Modern Gallery. After all I have written about Gil there is little I can add except that if serious abstract painting reaches you, go.

ROBERTA MARKS IS taking over East



photo by Christopher Lane

A monument in wood at 621 Caroline St. wrapped in Old World charm, Key West loves to throw open its doors during Old Island Days, a nearly three month long celebration featuring the best of Key West. There's something every day during the 25th annual festival, including plays, art shows and Conch-style suppers and ice cream socials.

For a complete schedule of events of Old Island Days activities, including the charming house tours, stop by the foundation's Hospitality

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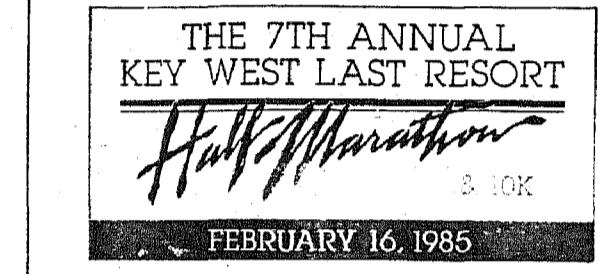
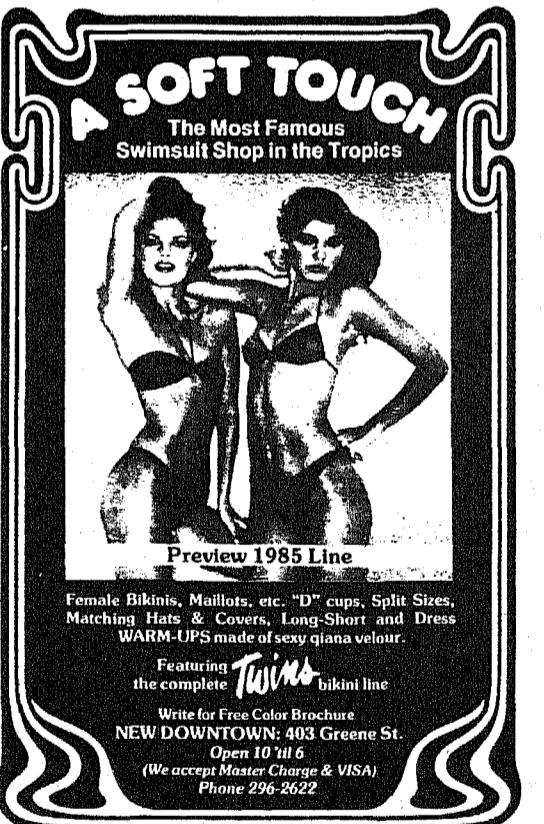
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TIME 7:30 AM SHARP — HALF-MARATHON (13.1 Mile) AND 10K RACE (6.2 miles)
9:00 AM — 2 MILE COAST TO COAST FUN RUN. SPECIAL \$3.00 ENTRY FEE — NO-T-Shirt

REGISTRATION HALF MARATHON & 10K RACE
\$10.00 until Race Day. \$12.00 on Race Day.

Registration by mail is encouraged! Mail entries must be postmarked by February 11, 1985
4:00-9:00 PM at the GENERAL STORE PATIO, sponsored by the PIER HOUSE RESORT — #1 Duval Street.

PRE-RACE PARTY All runners are expected to pick-up race packets early to avoid last minute delays or confusion.

FREE SPAGHETTI DINNER (Half-Marathon and 10K entrants) will be served 5:00-8:00 PM; DRAFT BEER, SOFT DRINKS AND ISLAND MUSIC! Guests of runners - \$5.00 each for dinner.

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ment made the wrong choice. And, apparently, that staff has made the wrong choice many times before. Some form of corrective measure is long overdue.

* * *

ON FEBRUARY 26TH the voters of Key West will be asked to vote on the proposed construction of an incinerator at the Stock Island solid waste dump. The dump is critical because our landfill is rapidly reaching capacity. An incinerator, by burning the trash, will automatically cut the amount of solid waste which must be added to the landfill. As a result, the life of the dump will be extended ten-fold. In addition, the city could "mine" the trash which has buried over the years, burn it in the incinerator, and make additional space.

APPROVAL OF THE referenda questions - whether to lease the site to Montenay International to build and

manage the plant, and whether to finance the project with \$13.2 million in industrial revenue bonds - is critical to avoid sanctions from the federal Environmental Protection Agency and to provide time to solve long-range waste disposal problems. There is no doubt that we need the incinerator.

Rhetoric about the project is flying fast and furiously. Commissioners Joe Balbontin and Jim Mira voted against the proposed incinerator and are among those urging voters to kill the project. Mayor Heyman, among the chief proponents of the incinerator, is working hard for the referenda questions to pass. Admittedly, it is difficult for the average voter to make sense of the conflicting predictions coming from these two political camps. Balbontin says the solid waste problem could be solved with more efficiency and less cost. He predicts that garbage bills will skyrocket. Heyman says that the project is the cheapest and most efficient answer. He says that over time

garbage bills could actually go down.

THE MOST CONVINCING statement comes from Heyman. He explains that any solution will cost the taxpayers. Solid waste disposal is expensive. The goal is to keep the cost as low as possible. Yes, Heyman admits, garbage bills may go up slightly at first, but estimates show a strong possibility of reduced fees over time.

According to a report by Malcolm-Pirnie, an engineering consultant to the city on the solid waste project, residential garbage collection rates would go up \$8 per year at the most. At best, rates could actually drop \$1 per year. Heyman explains that these are not pie-in-the-sky figures. "This was a purposefully conservative study," he said. Cost factors like interest and annual cost-of-living increases were estimated on the high side so that the report would remain above reproach.

"THE PEOPLE HAVE been fed pie-in-the-sky predictions so many times. We wanted to make sure this study was accurate," Heyman said. The mayor predicted that the actual cost to residents will be somewhere between the best and worst cases outlined by representatives of Malcolm-Pirnie. "It will probably come in as a \$3 or \$4 increase in the annual rate," Heyman said.

The incinerator has added attractions of producing steam to generate electricity. The electricity would be sold to City Electric System. The annual cost of marl to cover the solid waste, about \$600,000, would be eliminated since the remaining ash from incineration is so heavy it does not need to be covered. And the incinerator may produce enough methane gas to sell at a profit to the city. This is proven technology already used by other cities.

AS IT STANDS, the project is

caught in the overly-politicized dealings of this commission. Balbontin, in his announced effort to retain his commission seat in the November election, or possibly replace Heyman as mayor, is consistently using his commission seat to make allegations of financial bumbling and irresponsibility against Heyman.

Balbontin is using this issue to attack Heyman and the current administration. He is attempting to appear as the hero of the working class and the protector of the taxpayer's money. He has everything to gain from the stance. Balbontin is taking some excellent shots at Heyman and is beginning to build the image of Joe Balbontin which he would like the voters to take with them to the polls.

HEYMAN, TO THE contrary, has nothing personal to gain from his position in support of the incinerator. The mayor has opened himself to needless and unfounded criticism. In effect, Heyman gave Balbontin a political weapon which just may work. If garbage rates go up, and they probably will at first, there is no doubt Balbontin will be singing choruses of "I told you so, so vote for me."

Just comparing the apparent motivations and potential gains and losses of the positions taken by Heyman and Balbontin, Heyman's assertions seem much more plausible. Beyond politics, there are valid reasons for supporting Heyman's proposals. Let's not get caught in Balbontin's campaign rhetoric. Vote yes for the incinerator.

* * * * *

THE COMING REFERENDA on a solid waste incinerator has an interesting political angle: Can Mayor Heyman get out the votes needed for passage?

This will be the second major special election in Heyman's term. And it will be the second major test of the mayor's ability to get out the vote. On the same token, the incinerator

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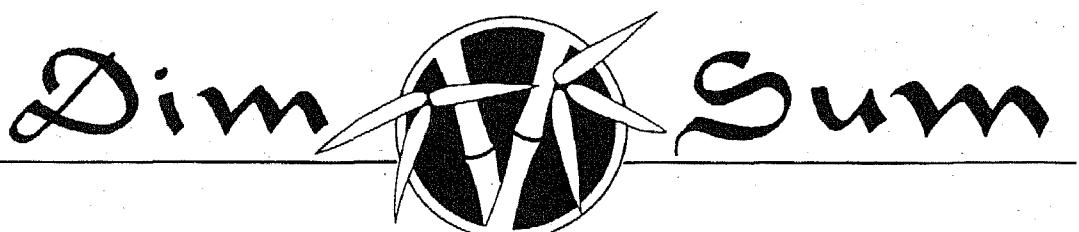
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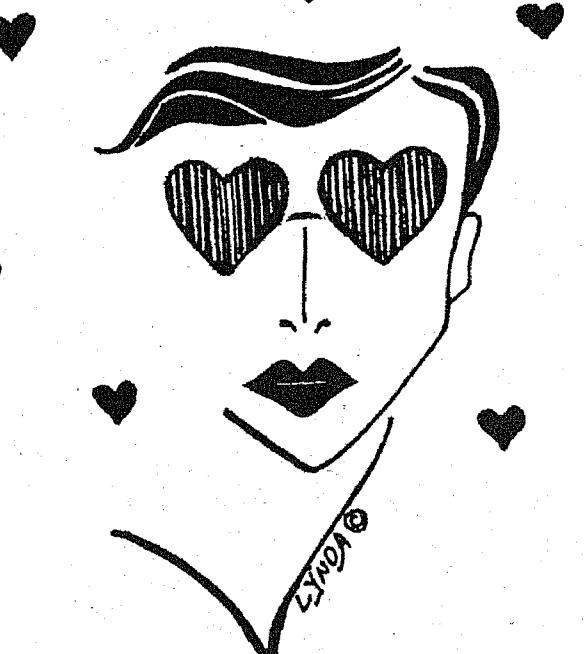
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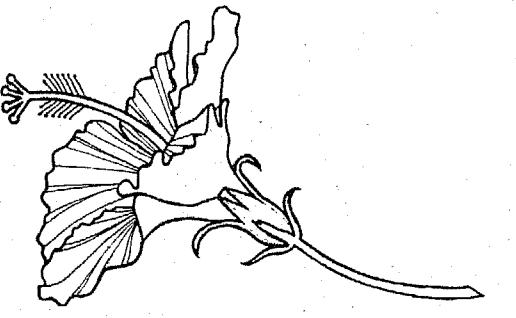
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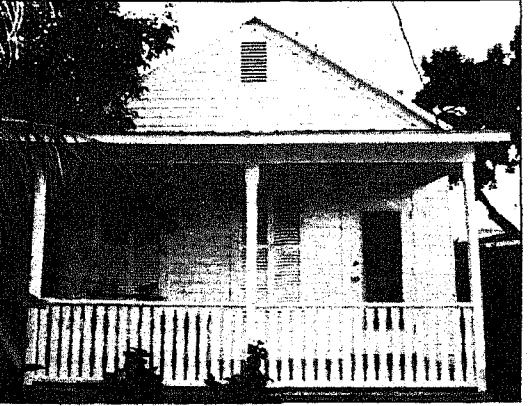


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referenda will test the limits of the voter's loyalty to positive change in Key West.

THE PROGRESSION OF the various elections, beginning with the mayoral race in November 1983 is fascinating. Heyman won on a strong wave of frustration with the old guard in Key West politics. The firing of Joel Koford as city manager by the old commission fueled the call for change, and the Heyman administration smartly rehired Koford. No doubt the efforts of political consultant Peter Ilchuk, his capable campaign manager, were critical in Heyman's election. The call for change was so strong that it also swept George Halloran and Emma Cates into commission seats, effectively shifting the balance of power to the new guard and granting Heyman the base of support needed to be an effective mayor.

THAT CALL FOR change was first tested by the March 1984 public referendum asking voters to approve a new City Charter. The charter faced stiff opposition from major portions of the city government, particularly the police and fire departments. Outspoken opposition came from Balbontin. Several community groups lined up in the opposition corner, including local unions, churches, political clubs, and the Jaycees.

The charter referendum, in effect, asked voters if they were willing to give the new guard the basic laws needed to restructure city government. Not surprisingly, the old guard politicos opposed (and feared) change. The sides lined up curiously similar to the sides which battled in the mayoral election. By a narrow margin, a mere seven votes, the public agreed to support the new guard with a new charter.

THE TIDE OF change was still in, but several things became clear after the votes were counted. In his race for mayor, Heyman garnered more than 4,000 votes. In the charter referendum only about half the number of votes were cast in support of the change. Not surprising. Public referenda consistently draw minimal voter participation. But opposition to Heyman had learned respect for the mayor's vote getting ability, and they worked long and hard to get out their vote. Yet, in most referenda, the "no" vote tends to be vocal and, usually out of fear of change or new taxes, is easier to galvanize. With stiff opposition and voting trends against him, Heyman again proved his powerful draw among Key West voters.

ALMOST A YEAR has passed since the charter referendum. The call for change has faded, and dissatisfaction with Heyman has been sown among some of his supporters. The solid waste referenda will be the toughest test Heyman's appeal at the polls has faced to date. He is asking voters to dip into their pocketbooks. Although the estimated cost to residents is, at maximum, a mere \$8 per year, voters are typically wary of casting votes which cost them cash, especially when the exact amount isn't known.

But this vote will also test the depth of commitment to change held by the rank and file of the Heyman electorate. The voters sent Heyman to the mayor's office with a charge: cure the many and complex ills facing this community as best as possible and as quickly as possible. Now, Heyman is saying he has the solution to a major problem. He needs the endorsement of the people. The electorate will have to decide whether they believe their man found the best solution. Then, they will have to commit to it with their

vote and with their pocketbooks.

A CRITICAL FACTOR in this vote will be, of course, the work of Ilchuk, Heyman's advisor and campaign manager. Ilchuk has been hired by Montenay to run the campaign for passage. His track record in city elections is phenomenal. Ilchuk took a virtual unknown, Richard Heyman, and made him mayor in two elections. He spearheaded the charter campaign. Now, his job is not only to get the incinerator referendum passed, but to make sure Heyman wins this critical election as a prelude to November's mayoral contest.

THIS IS AN election to watch, particularly since the year is shaping up as highly political. Both Balbontin and Commissioner Jimmy Mira seem to be using the commission to run for re-election and that has forced other commissioners to the defensive. The solid waste referenda are clearly prologue to commission elections in November. Battle lines, formed little more than a year ago when Heyman ran against Richard Kerr, are being drawn again. The old guard and the new guard are still fighting for control of this city. We, the voters, will pick the winner.

Waves like to play and disappear, leaving me alone to contemplate my chilled foot. I play tag with my thought and contemplate the waves.

by Jason Goodman

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of their ailments and symptoms, and the exchange consisting of one's sympathetic reception of them. In dissecting Ann Vermette and Ken Kruchten, have I discovered more than one answer? Are these the words which might apply to such survivors as they are: Resolute? The secret of perpetual curiosity? If they now have reached a sort of watershed, respected footholds on the sophisticated island of Key West - dare I name the qualities they possess, and could they be: Toughness? GRISTLE?

ANN VERMETTE

LET ME GIVE you a few quick insights with Ann Vermette. The Young College Ann: "As I grabbed my degree from my favorite dean at a small, conservative Maine college, he whispered, 'Take it and run.' Ann, run out into the teeth of life. I was an early women's libber, but I didn't know it. I had entered college at age 15, smoked, and snared 14 fraternity pins before meeting my husband. Tip-top grades probably saved me back there when I graduated in 1927."

THE MARRIED ANN: "I wed Joe Vermette, the ROTC instructor at college at age 22, discovering his bachelor habits which lasted through 51 years of a beautiful liaison. Love has to allow a lot of 'rope' - or the marriage won't last! Oh, I always had my affairs, small and large. Wonderful Joe (that's Col. Joe Vermette) stated from the beginning, 'Just don't ever leave me!' My marriage was filled with humor and love, with good friends and experiences from Army life all over the world. Joe 'talks' to me now more than when he was alive; he was the strong, silent one. He died. I lost him five years ago."

ANN VERMETTE AND KEN KRUCHTEN

BY FRANCES-ELIZABETH SIGNORELLI

THIS WEEK, I have interviewed Ann Vermette, "the colonel's lady," indomitable. To her, stories with style come as spontaneously as chirping does to a cricket. We sit in her townhouse on an island among her "bits and pieces" from her turbulent, restless, energetic Army days. (Playing leading lady in General Marshall's dramatic club at Fort Benning; holding bridge cards with General Stillwell in the Philippines.) Her style is easing up upon me as it always has. I note with amused affection her delicate hands and tiny ears of noblesse oblige. Sprinkling her conversation like pepper is candor - the insertion of an occasional dart. Yes, style is here. A racy style. Wasn't it Montaigne who said, "Style is the cloak in which we clothe our spirits." We are confronted by Ann Vermette, an indispensable, caustic cogwheel of society here.

I ALSO HAD two lovely visits with Ken Kruchten, and you shall see why I am twining together these two interviews. Ken is a stimulating conversationalist, sought out by island hostesses, for he is like a table centerpiece: He "goes with everything." We are having a snack somewhere; a plate of yellow rice the hue of his foxy, raffish bow tie, is moving past his ear propelled by a waitress. And the whole rotunda of his life is spread before me from his birth in Holland as Cornelius Derick Van Den Kruchten, scion of architects, father and a grandfather.

NOW, IN MY script for Ann Vermette and Ken Kruchten interviews, I am not supposed to speak. But, of

course you can't write without the willingness to expose yourself. Of the profiles I have authored in a crazy-quilt career of small city rags from the midwest to the Florida Keys, the Liberty, Texas Vindicator; the Carlsbad, New Mexico Current Argus; the Arlington, Virginia Daily; the Snyder, Texas Daily News; the Key West Citizen; the Highlands, North Carolina Highlander. I have listened to enough self-congratulatory anecdotes to shrivel my ears like a weasel's. Profiles are a not unpleasant, easy project, as we all know that there are many who never want to talk about anyone who is not themselves. Rule of thumb: I never write about anyone whom I do not care for. But, didn't Will Rogers state that he never met a person he didn't like?

A SHARP, DEEP look at Ann Vermette and Ken Kruchten offers a challenge and a quest or thesis that I found exciting: Neither is in the blush of youth; Ann is conversant with her seventh decade and, like a compass on a mountain, with quicksilver zest, is clocking the eighth, a straight hand pointing to how she means to handle it. She is never destroyed; never possessed, Ken has confronted his nineties. Yes, frailier, barely. Yet, stronger. More intricate and more harmonious than he ever was.

I SET OUT to explore this mammoth concern: What quality lie within a person taking him or her late into their years, flag unfurled, no disengagement from life in the mainstream? They, these two, are not broken with fatigue, mentally nor physically. Their idea of exchanging ideas is not a recital

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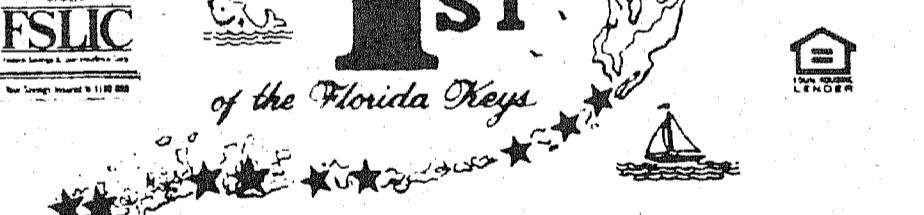
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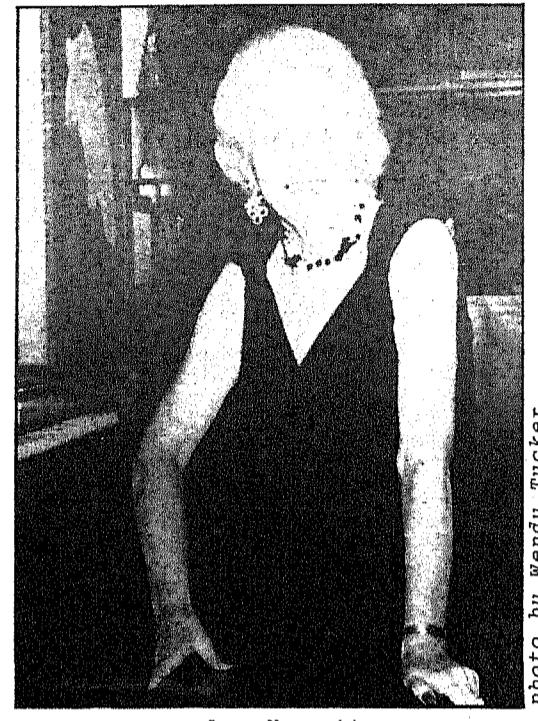
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"THE COLONEL'S LADY" Ann: "Army life suited me. I loved it. The Army wants two things from its wives - to play bridge and to act in their plays." Ann always has been a whiz at drama; she conquered both requirements. Ann's expression is wistful, recalling all the adventures in which she figured the great and the near great. A large pendant (is it the state of Maine?) stirs charmingly on her breast. "I loved Singapore, so British. Polo. The lovely club. I saw the decadence of Berlin. On the Philippines tour, I had tea with the High Lama from Tibet. I could first-name Mamie



Ann Vermette

Eisenhower. I knew persons like General Omar Bradley. A few of us were the last ones to be taken off to escape the Japanese. I was 59 days on an Army transport with two children not yet housebroken. No closets. No laundry. The officers had to dress for dinner. My allotted time was 2 a.m. for using the ironing board! You had to be young to take it."

ANN IN KEY WEST: "I named Harbor House. Walter Starcke, who bought it, came by Jessie Porter Newton's garden and said to me, 'Get in the car.' We went to see his purchase. He created Key West Hand Print Fabrics, you know. Remember, I was active on the original Old Island Restoration house tours, heading the committee. Your ex, Ernie Brooks, let us use the big Brooks buses for those first Gingerbread Tours. Oh, those Old Fort Taylor parties, how well recalled, no top on the dance floor under the tropical stars."

THE WAY IT IS WITH ANN NOW: "Since I lost Joe, I always have a man around, but less and less do I want marriage again, though I have been urged a couple times! Grief from widowhood? Time heals. There will be periods of loneliness for anyone, but oh, my dear, I say to anyone alone: Stay Busy. My interest in fine food preparation dropped with widowhood. No bread making. No more cookies. I suppose as we go along, we throw over some baggage, some flotsam and jetsam. Now: When I am at home, it's an attractive but simple tray for me." Ann always surrounds herself with friends like rings surround Saturn. "I must admit that I sorely miss women pals who have gone on ahead: Mary Malone, Jessie Newton, Isabel Knowlton, Emily Goddard, Meg Nickerson. I work with the fifth grade at Glynn Archer School. Teach them to write verse. And, I play bridge avidly, however treating it only as a game." That agile mind wins cribbage tournaments on her frequent cruises. She just came off one with her son, Johnnie, and she does dearly love two

two grandsons and two greats and her brother, Palm Beach entrepreneur George Stinchfield whose famous shop she once managed, in the days when two of his branches were here.

The Spiritual Ann: Question: How do you feel about God? "He's a very good friend! At age 10, I intended to be a minister. I wound up a Universalist; at age 16, after college comparative religion courses, I would have made a good Buddhist. There is this same power in all of them, and I feel that power very close. My grandmother and great-grandmother were metaphysical psychics, they or this divine power often advises and directs me.

An example of Ann's lighter verse:

I would like to leave behind me
Some few words worth recall,
Not only for my progeny,
But some beloved by all.

The chances, tho, are excellent
I'll be no famous bard,
Some future child will say of me,
My grandma was a card.

KENNETH KRUCHTEN

KEN KRUCHTEN AND I sit on the narrow porch of his Josephine Street cottage in the soft air off the ocean nearby where he swims, and he just has come in from working on his green peppers in his garden. His face is slightly dented, the eyes kindly over his signature, that little lop-sided bow tie. And when he goes out, there always is the breast pocket hankie exactly to match. He's a small, dapper man. He possesses such good mental subtlety. We talked of politics. Talked of noodles. Talked of faith. I find many truths, some not as I

see it, but kernels of wisdom do lie tucked in him, folded like a walnut in the shell.



Photo by Wendy Tucker

Ken Kruchten

Someone has written that man in his time plays many parts. They must have meant Ken Kruchten.

KEN KRUCHTEN, EARLY TIMES: His family moved him from the Netherlands to Wisconsin. His Dutch grandfather, an accomplished Holland architect, and his father who worked with Frank Lloyd Wright, gave family encouragement for his lifelong architectural career. "My adult architectural span: Through my classic architecture background and experiences, I was invited to Washington, D.C. in the development of The Capitol Mall and the Triangle.

It seemed in those busy times for me that 50 years just faded into the twilight. My name is on many government projects of stature - the Nashville Capitol, the sites of the Lincoln Memorial, the Jefferson Memorial, the National Archives, the National Gallery of Art, the Capitol, the new Library of Congress, the Memorial Bridge over the Potomac, many other creative works both in France and in Washington. I knew Franklin D. Roosevelt well. Roosevelt would tell you what he wanted and then say that he did it! He possessed a beautiful personality and he always took the credit from others with good humor. I learned from him that you can do a lot if you do it in good humor. We all liked him."

KEN KRUCHTEN AND LOVE: Ken has lost his three great loves. His first wife, a Finnish lady, passed away after many years of marriage, family. His second wife, too, passed away. Ken met Marjorie Conde (we in Key West knew her as Marjorie Hock) 60 years ago at the International House, then just opened in New York City of Columbia, Barnard Universities and for others qualified. They were sweethearts and thought of marriage. But, they were young and so ambitious, Margie deep in Shakespeare and Elizabethan literature, he off to Russia, Finland, India on architectural scholarships. A lifetime later, he was a widower in Key West, one afternoon having a visit at the Senior Citizen Center, when Marjorie walked in! Romance bloomed again instantly, and after this long lifetime apart, they married, to have only some short months together, as Margie died at age 80. Said Ken: "The French say that through travail in living, we learn. As for love, I know this: If you love someone, you must show consideration."

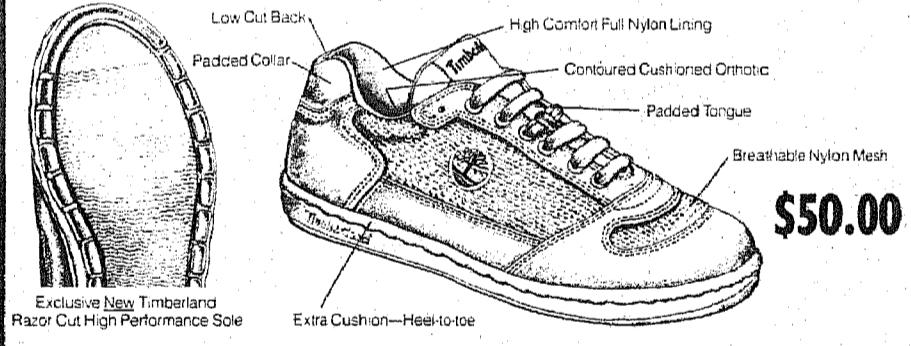
KEN, CITIZEN OF THE WORLD: "I

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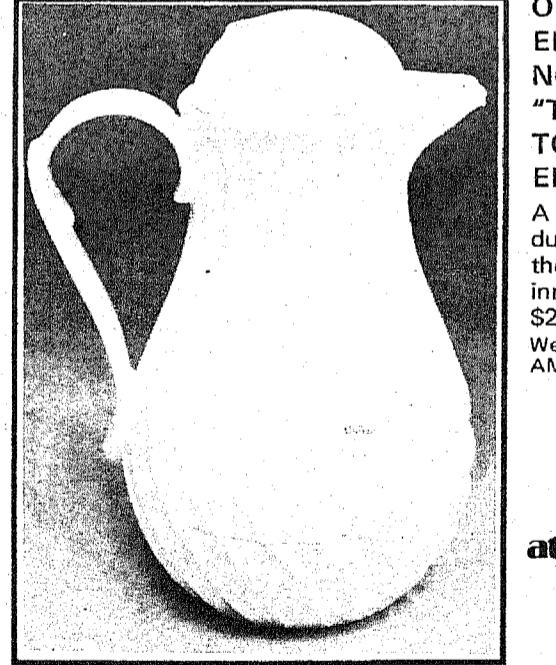


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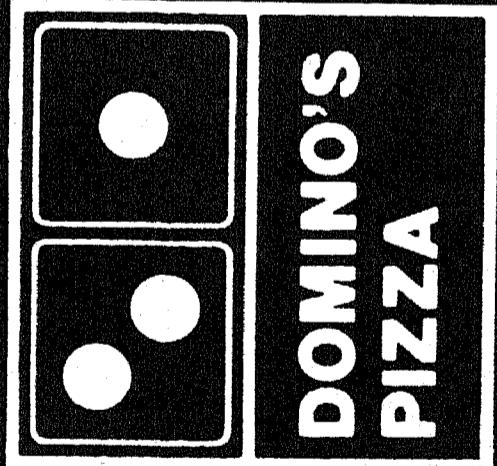
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love a breakfast cereal the Finns prepare overnight - Fill Bunka, a custard. I learned good food lifestyle from the Finns who eat an abundance of fish, vegetables, wheat, barley and corn. Such a tall, fun-loving people." He knows Turkey's dish of lamb tongue whole, Italy and Greece's goat, Sweden's sugary, spicy food. Ken's grasp of history and of the ways of almost all countries of Europe and the East is impressive. "I am for women's lib, 200% for ERA and equal rights. Men are responsible for home work, too. France has had ERA for a long time. England is the only modern country holding back. There, the men are aristocrats, or want to be, and they want to socialize and drink and lord it over others. You see, if any progress ever is made in the world, all must be considerate."

KEN AND RELIGION: "My idea of religion is that you've got to have enough to keep order in the court." Ken makes a triangle of his fingers and screws up his face. "Without religion, there is no law. That's the only use of religion; it keeps humans in line! There's not a thing in the world to it otherwise. When as a child I lived in the open country of Wisconsin, we spent half a day at a revival. My religion is letting persons look to me for needs. Friends come to me when in trouble. I was the eldest of eight, and I never got out from under. I have grandsons, great nephews, great step-nephews that I help and keep up with. I designed a little house in the garden for Margie and I to have in our young relatives."

THERE IS THE intelligence, the energy, the discipline in my remarkable friend, Ken, but I flinch at this religion statement. Marcus Aurelius said: "The flesh grows old from an accumulation of sorrows while the soul perpetually renews itself, even on a diet of sorrows."

Ken's Tips for Happy Longevity: "For arthritis, massage your hands and feet, really tweak them. Keep active and be moderate in your habits. I believe in calisthenics. Paramount: Show consideration for others. So many persons have no consideration. Don't see only your own viewpoint, but try to see from others'. It never pays to live only for yourself."

SO, WHAT MAY we take from the Ann Vermettes and the Ken Kruchtens who, sweetly, airily, are skipping along through the large numbers of age? It can't be as simple as that they selected biological parents with good circulatory systems, that they came from "good stock." Think of this: In the genes of a man or woman lies something that will unfold mysteriously into nose, lip, eyebrow, hand. And, also, in those genes may lie the character we find in them after their many years of the twists and turnings of life.

AFTER ALL THE metamorphoses of life that they go through, at long last do they then turn into the real Ann Vermette or the authentic Ken Kruchten?

I only know this: I look at Ann going sassily through all those labyrinths of island military affairs and playing the piano by ear for the university women's club merrily to sing carols. She is a Key West natural resource. I look at Ken, and I could listen all day to his provocative ideas, his tales of travel and peoples in the world. He's a force of nature.

All one can do is throw up your hands and smile fondly and learn from them that a bit of age just adds a pinch of good seasoning.

FABULOUS FEBRUARY AT THE FINE ARTS CENTER

by JERRI BROWN

WITH THE FINAL two performances of GYPSY on February 1 and 2, the month starts out with "everything comin' up roses" at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center. The Tennessee Williams Playwrights Festival, on February 9, brings DEFINE SUCCESS, the second in a series of five new American plays. VINCENT PRICE, on February 12, is followed by the TORONTO DANCE THEATRE and FROM HARLEM TO BROADWAY, a revue of Black musicals, on February 15 and 22, respectively.

DEFINE SUCCESS is to be given a premiere stage reading at TWFAC on Saturday, February 9 at 8:30 p.m. Texas-born playwright WILLIAM J. SIBLEY is a member of New York's New Dramatists. His first play, GOVERNOR'S MANSION, was produced in Texas and his plays DEFINE SUCCESS and MORTALLY FINE are under consideration for a Broadway option. DEFINE SUCCESS is the story of Dee Dee, a young woman running a cattle sales barn, whose own past is clarified by the disclosure of relationships in her parents' and her own past.

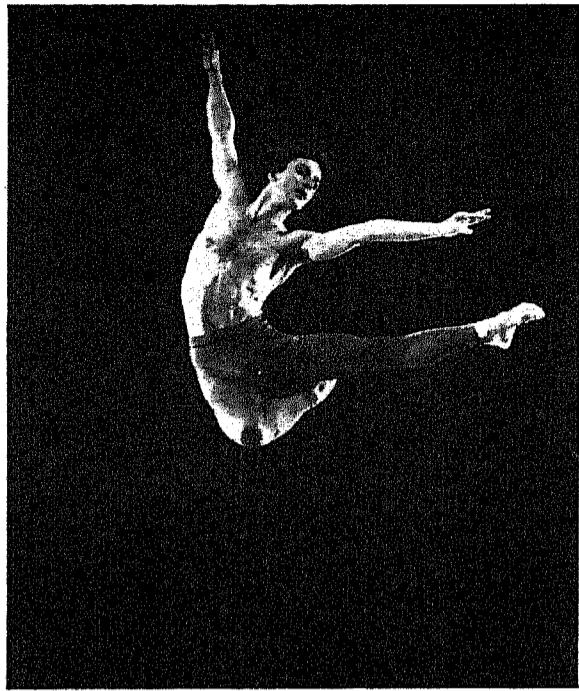
VINCENT PRICE SPEAKS on villainy at TWFAC on Monday, February 11 at 7:30 for the Founders' Society and on Tuesday, February 12 for the general public. A legendary figure from stage to screen, Mr. Price's credits need no further elaboration.

Canada's most exciting modern dance company, TORONTO DANCE THEATRE



Vincent Price takes the stage Friday, February 15. The company performs five of their best-loved dances: REWIND, QUARTET, ANIMATED SHORTS, and the spectacular finale A SIMPLE MELODY.

FROM HARLEM TO BROADWAY is an evening of the greatest hits from the best Black-oriented musicals Broadway has ever seen. Featuring a cast of six of the most talented, young Black performers you will ever see, this completely staged and costumed



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musical will be an evening of music you will long remember.

For FABULOUS FEBRUARY at the Fine Arts Center, tickets range from \$5.00 to \$12.50. Outlets are located at TWFAC, Cook's Bazaar, and The Welcome Center. Free transportation is provided on the Old Town Trolley. For further information and reservations, please call 294-6232.

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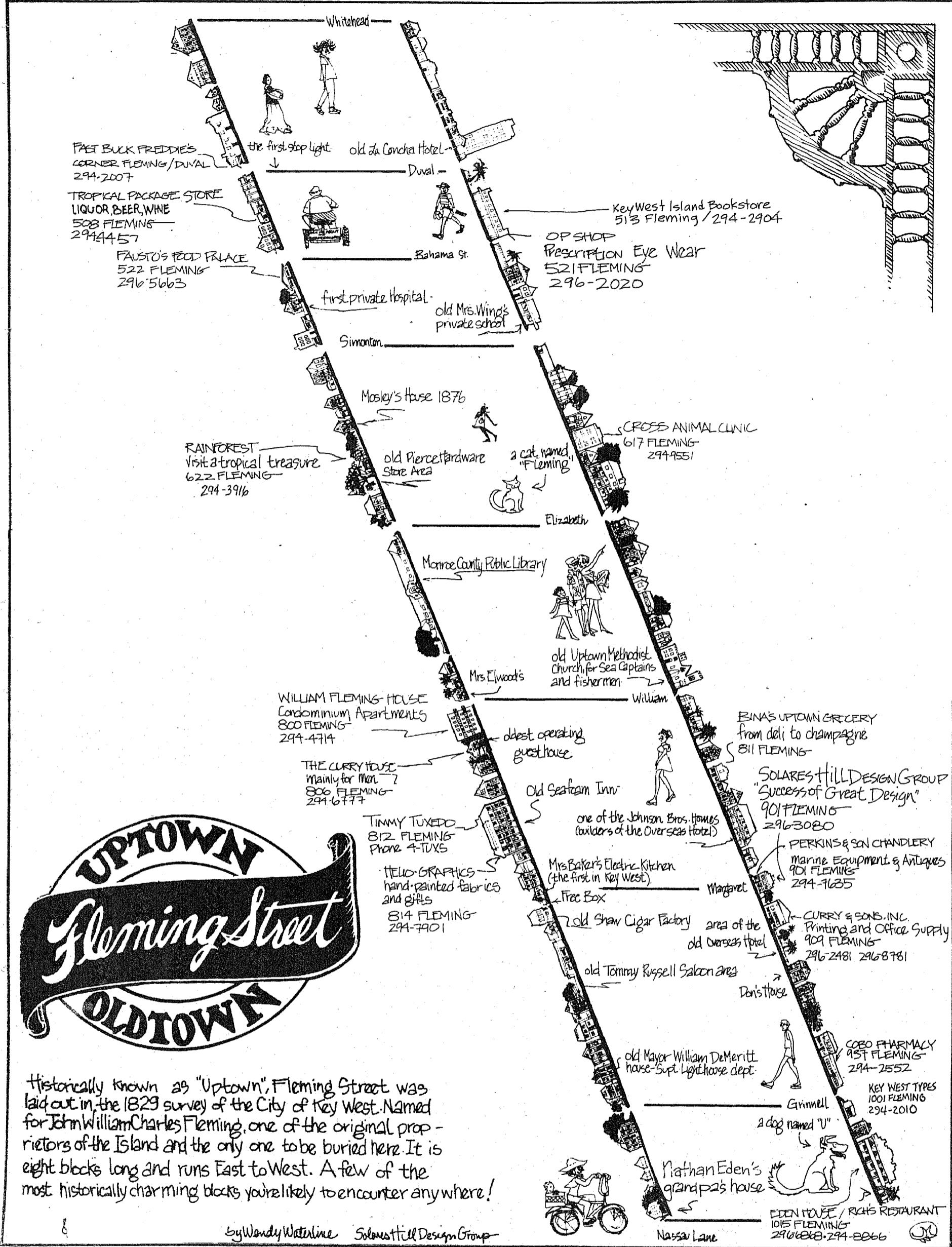


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SUNDAY

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

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

Number One Saloon - Movies and 50¢ draft beer
Club Key West - ½ price lockers, 6-11 p.m.
Old Plantation - Wet briefs contest
Lighthouse Court - Movies

WEDNESDAY

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

Lighthouse Court - Movies
Copa - Dynasty 8:30-12 p.m. - free drinks

THURSDAY

Island Circle Meeting - 9 p.m.
Number One Saloon - Movies
Copa - Cabaret nite
Lighthouse Court - Movies
Claire - "Sisters at Sea" Ladies Tea - 5-8 p.m.
Old Plantation - X-rated films, 10 p.m.
Pigeon House Patio - Lois at the Piano Bar

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

AIDS NEWSLETTER CONFIDENTIAL & FREE

This free Newsletter will tell you what is happening in Key West, as well as what the latest research is showing in the areas of treatments, vaccine development, risk reduction and other related issues that are of special concern to those at risk and for those who care.

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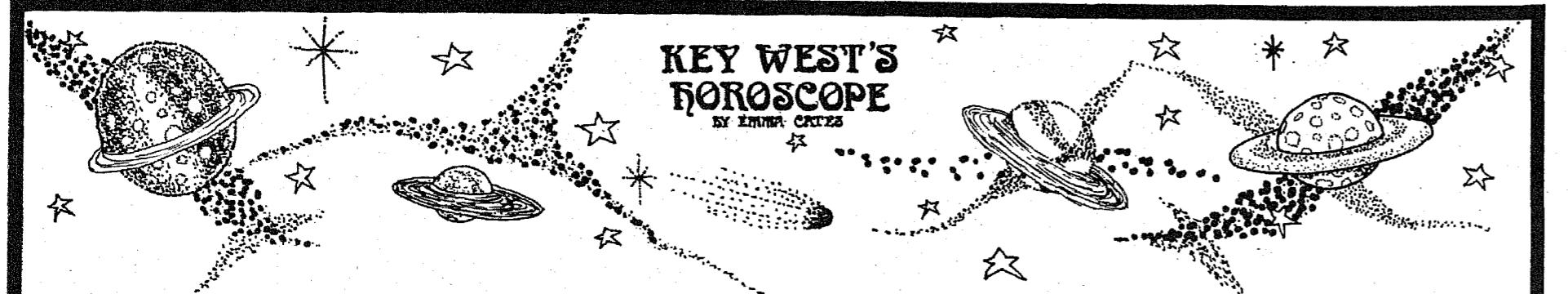
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KEY WEST'S HOROSCOPE

BY ERNEST CRUZ



Sun in Aquarius, after 18 in Pisces. Venus in Aries. Mercury in Aquarius, after 18 in Pisces. Saturn in Scorpio. Jupiter in Capricorn, after 6 in Aquarius. Mars in Pisces, after 2 in Aries. Uranus in Sagittarius. Neptune in Capricorn. Pluto in Scorpio, turning retrograde on the 5th. North Node in 23 degrees of Taurus.

THE FULL MOON on February 5 in the constellation Leo aspects the 3rd

and 9th house sectors of the Key West Horoscope. These houses rule travel, education, and the communication media. Key West will be making the "news" again, and again it may be notoriety.

THE NEW MOON on February 19 in (1) one degree of Pisces will be in the 10th or public sector of the chart of Key West. Our public image will again be receiving attention. Key West and the local activities will be getting public scrutiny and criticism.

OUR RULING PLANET Saturn in late degrees of Scorpio continues to transit the 6th house sector. Employment and health are areas that are improving in a consistent manner.

OUR CO-RULER, Mercury, will be transiting the 10th house during February, accentuating the power of the moon's positions this month. Key West will again be making the national news.

continued from page 31
Joint Center for Urban and Environmental Studies, is preparing an Economic Impact Study of Monroe County for the governor.

The most current economic report on Key West, however, is the CAP supplement. The report clearly pegs tourism as the single most important element of the local economy.

"While marine fisheries and the Navy will continue to provide employment, the area's economy is now dependent on tourism," the report states, adding "tourism is the fastest growing sector of the economy."

ACCORDING TO Art Mosley, city planner, "the economic base has become almost totally tourism." He said building statistics show more and more new construction and renovations catering to the transient — mostly tourist — population.

TOM WILSON, ASSISTANT city planner, drafted the economic report. He said one of the most interesting trends he discovered is that the tourist season appears to be lengthening. Wilson explained that the fluctuations in seasonal employment are decreasing in tourist businesses.

While the debate over the importance of different sections in the economy continues, there seems to be almost universal agreement that Key West must strive to diversify the economy.

Even County Commissioner Ed Swift, whose fortune rests in the tourist economy, has begun to speak out in favor of attracting other types of businesses to the area.

AS PART OF the city's continuing research efforts, Wilson has drafted a discussion paper entitled "Economic Diversification in Key West." The paper is aimed at examining ways to expand the local economy.

Wilson explained that the single most important benefit of diversify-

ing the economy would be to help stabilize the population. The relatively low wages, high cost of living, and few chances for advancement aggravate the transient nature of the labor force.

He states in the discussion paper draft: "The sources of instability are the lack of employment opportunities and the limited availability of housing."

THE REPORT CONCLUDES that the transient nature of the work force creates:

TOM WILSON, ASSISTANT CITY PLANNER, DRAFTED THE ECONOMIC REPORT. HE SAID ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING TRENDS HE DISCOVERED IS THAT THE TOURIST SEASON APPEARS TO BE LENGTHENING. WILSON EXPLAINED THAT THE FLUCTUATIONS IN SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT ARE

mentally clean and consistent with the image of Key West; and providing wages commensurate with the cost of living.

THE ISSUE OF wages is vital to local residents, Westray agreed. He cited a recent report which pegged median annual wages in Key West more than \$5,000 under the national median and more than \$2,000 under the median for Monroe, Dade, and Broward Counties.

He added that the question of economic diversification must be examined carefully.

The discussion paper explores the possibility of attracting various types

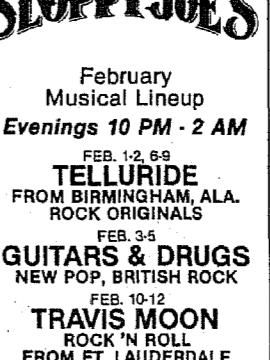
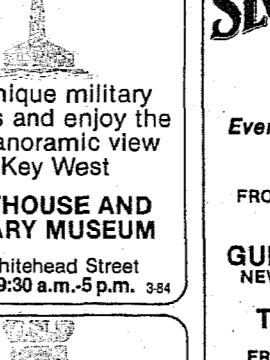
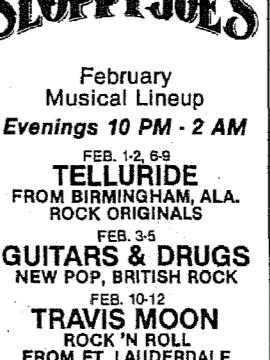
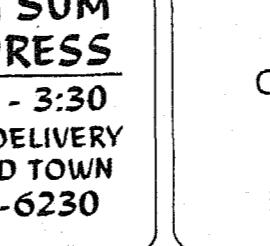
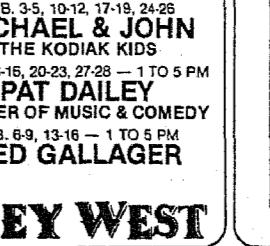
of businesses to Key West ranging from high tech and the research and development field to fine arts, food processing, and the film industry.

WILSON EXPLAINS THAT the report should serve as a starting point for additional research and discussion. He stresses that these suggestions need further study. The report suggests creating an economic development agency, much like the Tourist Development Council, to examine these issues and eventually attempt to attract new business to Key West.

There are several ways to lure businesses here, Wilson said. Such incentives range from tax breaks to providing job training. Another form of incentive is providing land to new businesses. Wilson said this might be possible if the Navy chooses to sell additional portions of excess property.

"NOT EVERY COMMUNITY uses every type of incentive," Wilson said. "We'd have to decide which types of incentives are appropriate for Key West."

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CONCH PEARL 45 FOOT PARTY PARTY BOAT Birthdays - Weddings Anniversaries Fishing: Reef & Wreck Picnics Overnights ANY CHARTER ANY TIME CALL FOR PRICES ON YOUR PARTY 294-4164 11:10	 See unique military artifacts and enjoy the best panoramic view of Key West	 February Musical Lineup Evenings 10 PM - 2 AM FEB. 12-19 TELLURIDE FROM BIRMINGHAM, ALA. ROCK ORIGINALS FEB. 19 GUITARS & DRUGS NEW POP, BRITISH ROCK FEB. 10-12 TRAVIS MOON ROCK 'N' ROLL FROM FT. LAUDERDALE FEB. 13-18, 20-24 TUG MUMBO BIG MAC IS BACK!	 SOUP EVERY DAY 99¢ Sandwiches Cuban Mix 1.59 Roast Beef 2.59 Pork Sandwich 2.75 plus many more Cold beer, Wine, Soda, Milk Ice cream, Fishing bait OPEN 7 AM - 8 PM SUNDAYS 8 AM - 3 PM OR LATER 1211 DUVAL ST. 296-6922
YOUR AD COULD BE HERE	 LIGHTHOUSE AND MILITARY MUSEUM 938 Whitehead Street Daily 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. 384	 Crossants & France 810 duval st. wholesale 294-2024 retail 294-2024 pastries french bread	 Explore the exciting history of the Florida Keys, the best preserved Martello Fort, and the extensive art gallery EAST MARTELLO GALLERY & MUSEUM South Roosevelt Blvd. (adjacent to Key West Airport) 384
YOUR AD COULD BE HERE	 OLDEST HOUSE MUSEUM Where Key West History Began 322 Duval St. 294-6230	YOUR AD COULD BE HERE	 DIM SUM EXPRESS 11:30 - 3:30 FREE DELIVERY IN OLD TOWN 294-6230
YOUR AD COULD BE HERE	 BIG & BOB TRIO COUNTRY FEB. 13-15, 20-23, 27-28 1 TO 5 PM MICHAEL JOHN THE KODIAK KIDS FEB. 13-15, 20-23, 27-28 1 TO 5 PM PAT DAILEY MASTER OF MUSIC & COMEDY FEB. 13-15, 20-23, 27-28 1 TO 5 PM RED GALLAGER	YOUR AD COULD BE HERE	 KEY WEST

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DOMINO'S PIZZA

EVENTS

GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

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

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

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

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

East Martello Gallery & Museum: 3500 S. Roosevelt Blvd., 296-3913. Group exhibit Key West artists. 2/2-2/26 Painted ceramics, paintings and constructions, by Roberta Marks

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

Fred. Gros Gallery: 901 Duval, 294-9545 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Daily. Contemporary Art and Tribal Art.

Gingerbread Square Gallery: 910 Duval St. Information 296-8900. Appointments: 294-2165. 2/4-2/17, Alice Terry; 2/18-3/3, Robert Franke.

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

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

Key West Art Center: 301 Front St., 294-1241. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Exhibition works of 90 Keys artists. Martha Sauer, 2/3-2/10.

Lacy Gallery: By appointment only. 294-7115.

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

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

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

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

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

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

FILMS & LIBRARY EVENTS

Monroe County Public Library: 700 Fleming Street, 294-8488. Children's movies at 10 a.m.: 2/2 A Bike, A Birthday; The Ugly Duckling 2/9 Sam Bang & Moonshine; Something Queer at the Library 2/16 Three Little Wizards; Mole as a Chemist 2/23 Another Kind of Music; Peter & the Wolf

Adult movies: 2/6 Pygmalion 2/13 Circus Town 2/20-27 No movie scheduled

REGULAR EVENTS

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

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

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

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

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

Florida Keys Chapter, AARP, No. 1351: Located in the Armory, Southard and White Streets, 294-4641, Ext. 361. Meetings 2nd Monday every month, 7:30 p.m.; Blood Count from 6:15 to 7:15; Bingo Wednesdays 1:30 p.m.; Duplicate Bridge 7:30 p.m. Tuesday; Thursday, 1 p.m.; Saturday bridge party 1 p.m.

KEY WEST GARDEN CLUB: Meets 1st Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. West Martello, for information 294-3210.

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

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

Big Coppitt Key Firehouse, bingo, Fri. nights, 8 p.m.

Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority: 2/22, 10 a.m., Marathon, Sombrero County Club.

VFW AUXILIARY #6021, 2nd & 4th Sundays, Post Hall, 803 Emma St., 8 p.m.

Viet Nam Vets: Thursdays, 296-6843.

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

Key West City Commission, meetings 1st and 3rd Mondays at 8 p.m., City Hall, corner Simonton & Angela streets.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Monroe County Commission: 2/8, Plantation K.W. Courthouse B, 3:30 a.m.; rathon 2/22, Plantation Key, 8:30 a.m. The Lower Keys Property Owners Assoc. Located at the west end of the No Name Key bridge on Big Pine Key, bingo, every Wednesday, 6:00. Call 745-3613. United Humanitarians, low-cost spay program now in effect, please call 296-5106 for information.

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

Self Help

AL-ANON-MEETINGS IN KEY WEST Sigsbee Park YMCA 296-6616, meets Tuesdays and Fridays at 8:30 p.m. AA meets same time. AL-ANON-Key West group St. Ann's Hall meets Mondays at 7 p.m. AA meets 8:30 p.m. AL-ANON-Memorial Group FKM, 294-5531 ext. 3495, meets Wed. at 8:30 p.m. AA meets same time. AL-ANON-St. Bede's Group meets Thurs. 12:30 noon St. Bede's Catholic Church 2700 Flagler.

KEY WEST SINGLES: Put some fun in YOUR life, meet new friends. Write P.O. BOX 4183 or call 294-6973, Carolyn or Jack.

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

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

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

The new Chemical Dependency Treatment Program (for alcohol/drug abuse) opened June 1 and f.k.m.h. For information call 294-5531 ext. 3496.

La Leche League: Every 3rd Tuesday, M.M. 24, 2, Summerland Key, 10 a.m. Call 745-2274.

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

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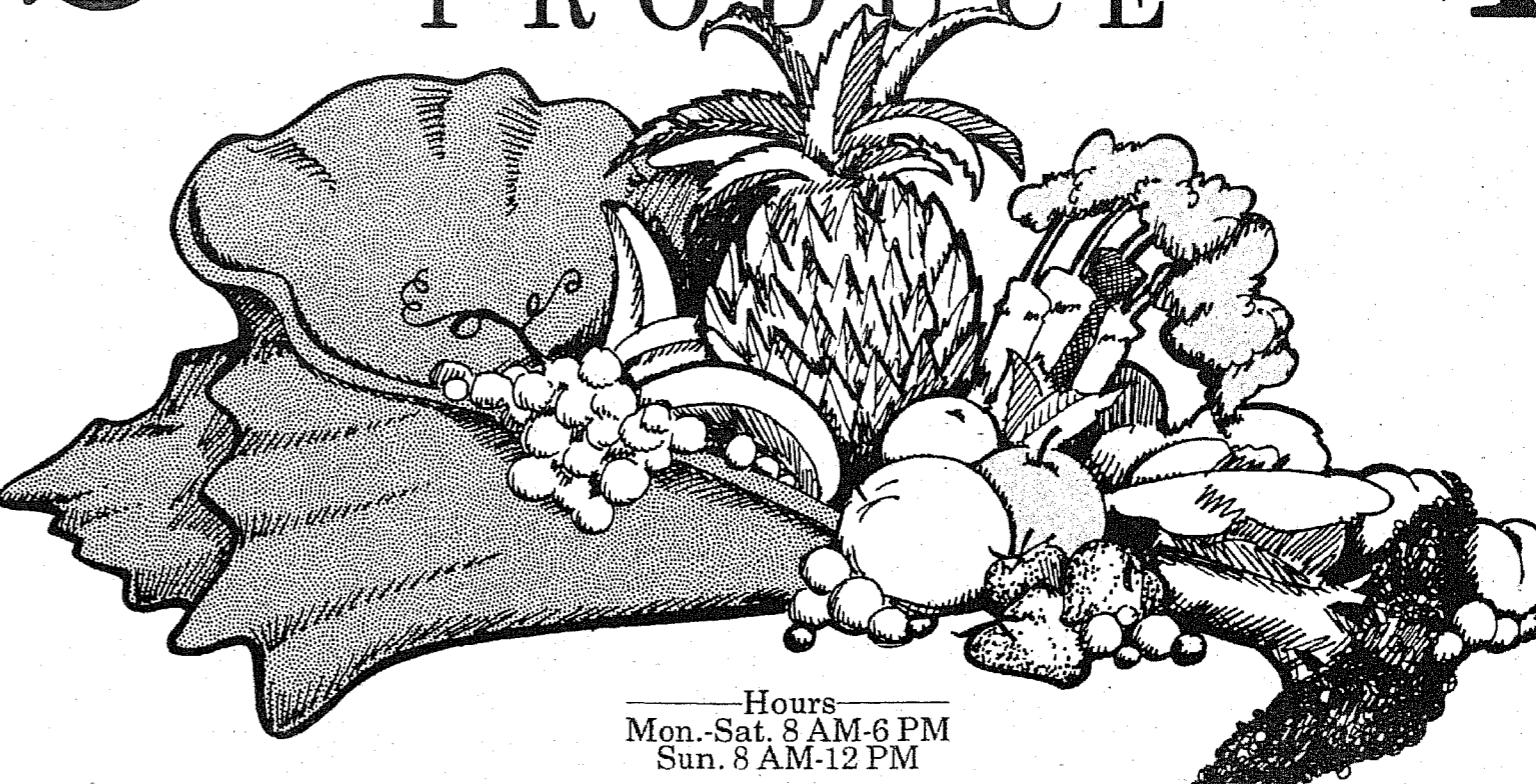
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