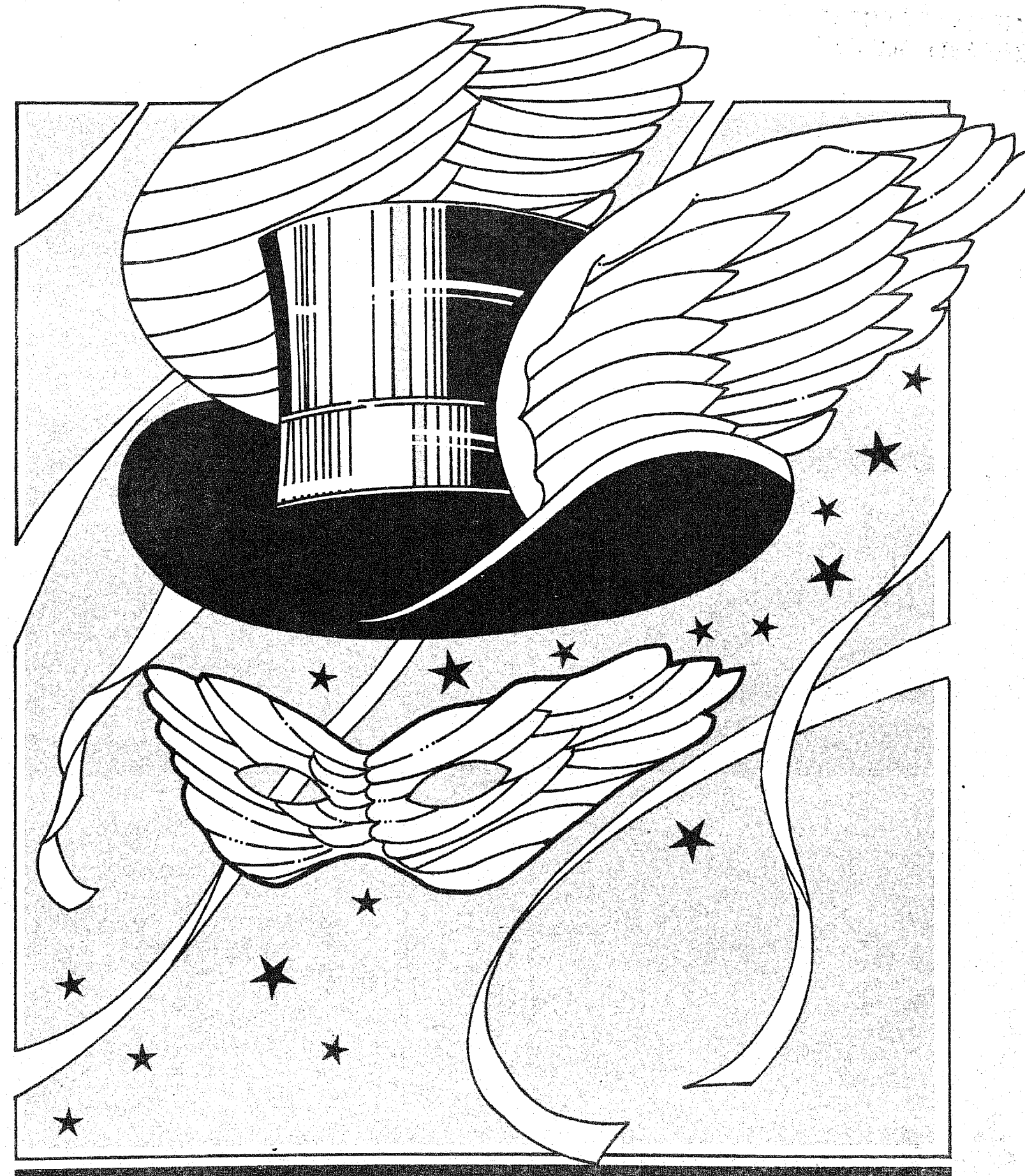


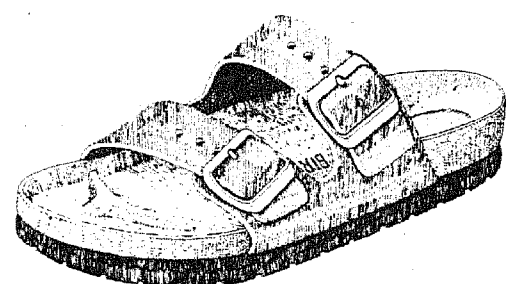
GEORGE MURPHY ON PRITAM SINGH, P. 32  
GUEST WRITER: PHILIP BURTON, P. 3

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## FROM THE EDITOR

Hello and welcome to Key West, Pritam Singh.

I read with dismay in Gordon Lacy's column this issue that he had trouble hearing the opera singers at St. Paul's during the recital presented by the Monroe County Fine Arts Council. My wife and I sat toward the front and had a thrilling time. I hate to think of anyone not being able to hear and hope that if there is another recital Gordon will sit in the front. It really was a wonderful night of music.

Here are a few thoughts on the O.I.R.C. I was very pleased when member Jim Stokes proposed to simplify procedures so that people desiring to do minor repairs would not have to appear before the board. Good. Excellent. Streamlining operations will work p.r. wonders for this board. Also, friends of mine have complained about feeling intimidated by the O.I.R.C. One friend (who has excellent taste, incidentally) submitted his plan for a fence and, while it was ultimately accepted, he said that a member had reacted very sarcastically to his fence and needlessly derided his plan. I've heard this type of complaint before and, while the O.I.R.C. has always been on excellent behavior when I've seen them, I have no reason to feel that my friends are exaggerating. I hope that any members who tend to be impatient and have difficulty suppressing ridicule when projects don't measure up would work on being gentler with the public. This is such an excellent board and it serves the community so well that it would be a shame for it not to receive the respect from the public it deserves.

I was very sorry that Mitchell Major lost his satellite dish business because of O.I.R.C. rulings. This is extremely unfortunate. However, to maintain the historic tone of this beautiful island means that there have to be

certain rules that cannot be violated. Certainly these dishes in front yards are incompatible with basic historic aesthetics and are unacceptable. I'm sorry that anyone would suffer a business reversal over an O.I.R.C. ruling, but I understand why it can be necessary.

I'm delighted that there is a proposal to purchase 10.7 acres bordering the Riviera Canal for use as a recreational area. We've got to preserve what open space we have left here. It appears it could be a no cost acquisition for the city with the federal government providing up to half of the cost of the property and possibly the Nature Conservancy, its owner, donating the other half. The property was described as being "the last hardwood parcel on the island containing mangrove, transitional lands and hardwood hammock," by Joan Borel of the Audubon Society. Let's go for it! See you next month.



Our cover artist this month is Bob Beckwith. He is a partner of Solares Hill Design Group, 901 Fleming Street.

*Solares Hill is a community newspaper published every month on the slopes of Solares Hill, Key West's highest point, by Solares Hill Company, #4 Key Lime Square, Key West, Florida 33040*

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Typeset by.....Apple Laser Writer

*With a little help from our friends...*

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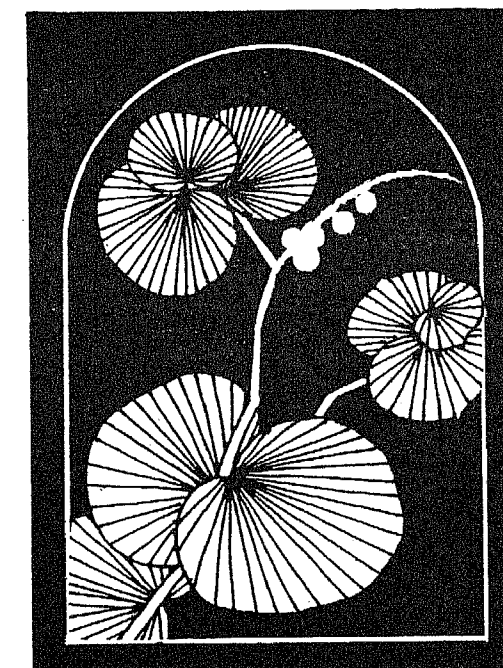
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Whitesell. Later I discovered his full name was Joseph Woodson Whitesell. He signed a photograph he gave me of a cartoon of himself, "Old Man Whitesell." He said to me, "You're English, aren't you? I knew it as soon as I saw you, even before you spoke. I can always tell. My father came from Somerset. I have always wanted to go and look at the old place. Some day I may go yet." Then he started to show me the pictures. He loved them all, even the indifferent ones, because for him the picture meant the artist. He said, "All the best artists come to New Orleans at some time or other, and they usually manage to find their way here. I've known many of them when they were young. Some of them have lived in the rooms upstairs. There's one there now. He's going to be one of the really great ones, if he lives long enough. His chest is very bad, and he easily gets tired and discouraged. They often lose heart. That's where I come in. I can't help them very much with money, but I can encourage them, and they always remember me for that. When they are successful and famous they come back to see me; at least, many of them do. They have given me these pictures to remember them by. They were all as different as their pictures. This one was very handsome and he was a devil for the women; they used to fight over him like cats; many a time he has hidden in here from them. This one was never sober, and he used to pay for his drink with pictures; the ones who kept them made a lot of money out of them. This one was too lazy to lift a brush, but when he did, look at the result; that is one of the best."

When we had been all round the walls, I happened to look at the table. On it were a lot of photographs. The little man said, "Those are mine. That's how I make my living." They were beautiful studies of the old French Quarter; an artist had held the camera. I asked if I might buy some. He told me to take what I wanted, and I had the greatest difficulty in getting him to accept some money for them. When I insisted, he was pathetically grateful. It turned out that he had no money at all, not even enough for the morning's breakfast. As soon as I gathered this, I tried to get him to take some more money, but he strongly refused. "Money breaks

friendships," he said. I did indeed feel that we were friends of long standing, and I was glad to be numbered among his friends, for there was a compelling nobility about this little man. His pictures made him wealthy, but he would go hungry rather than sell one, for it meant selling a friend. I asked him why he

make life worthwhile--no quarrels, no misunderstandings, no obligations. Just a few happy hours, then pleasant memories."

I looked at my watch. It was past midnight. Reluctantly I bade him Goodnight and Goodbye. When I got back to the hotel, I told my friends about the photographer and showed them the photographs, but they didn't seem particularly impressed.

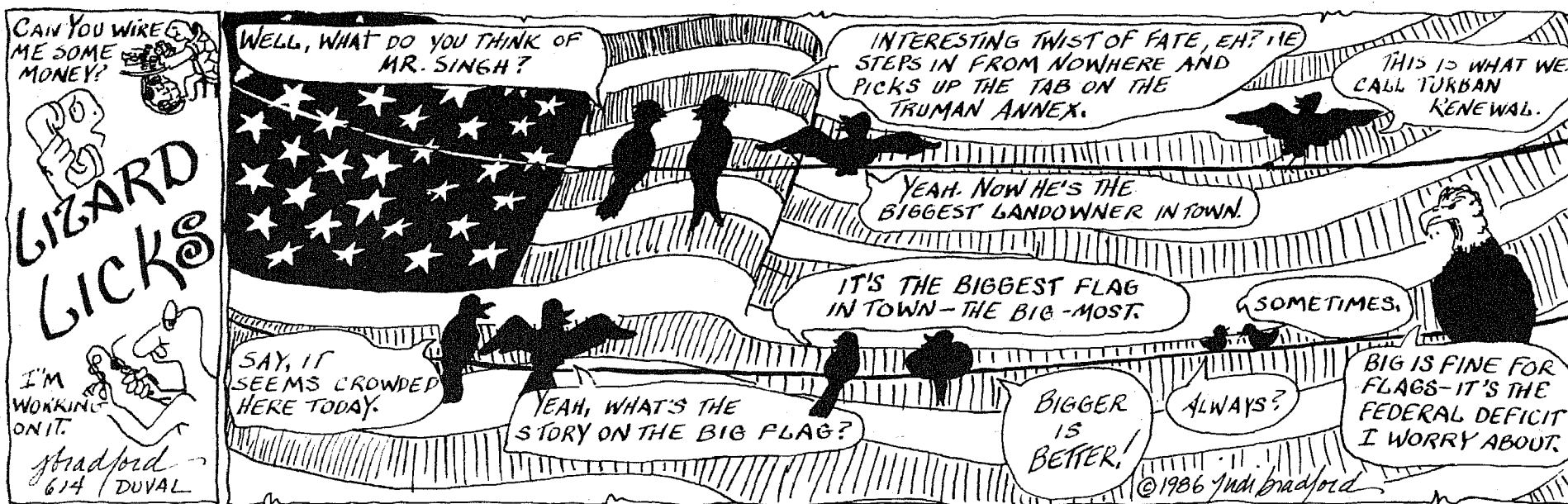
All that happened in July 1939, before the war that took me back to Europe in September, and it was not until 1948 that I went back to New York and met those friends again. We got talking about the time we had spent together in New Orleans and I mentioned the photographer. They didn't know what I was talking about. They were certain that I had not left them that night. They began to pull my leg. I must have dreamt it all. Soon I was even doubting it myself. Had I indeed dreamt it so vividly that it had become a part of my experience? This worried me more and more, not only because it made all my memories uncertain, but because I felt I would have lost so much if the photographer was not true. I longed to make the 1,000 mile journey to New Orleans to look for him again, but that was impossible. Then I remembered the photographs. I must have them somewhere still, I thought, but back in England. I was impatient to get back to look for them. It was going to be difficult to find them because I had moved several times since the visit to New Orleans. As soon as I got home I started to search, and at last I found them, tucked away in a souvenir menu from the restaurant where I had eaten that night. I had not dreamt the photographer. He was true.



*To my friend Phil  
Old Man Whitesell*

had said that he knew somebody would come tonight. He answered, "They always do. All my life I have lived to make friends of strangers, just like you tonight. People think I am lonely, but they are wrong. My mind is crowded with good friends. I don't suppose you and I will ever meet again, but we will never forget each other. Friendships like this





## Nurse's Ghost Still

### Makes Nightly Rounds

The ghost of a dedicated "nurse" is still checking her "patients" in a 90-year-old rooming house that once was a hospital, the tenants say.

They reported being awakened at night by a woman who takes pulses and feels foreheads for fever, but does nothing bad.

A tenant who researched the history of the house said the woman may be the ghost of Cuban-born Maria Valdez de Gutierrez. He identified her as the apparent administrator for 30 years of a Key West, Fla., hospital for the poor.

Maria died in 1941, a year before the hospital's closing, tenant Malcolm Ross said.

The two-story building, with its 12 large rooms overlooking an inside courtyard, has been a rooming house since 1945. It was listed as Mercedes Hospital, or Gato House, with the National Register of Historic Places, Washington, D.C., in April, 1973.

Ross recently wrote about the "strange happenings"

that have taken place in the seven years he has lived there.

Two former Pittsburgh men, 26-year-old silversmiths who roomed together in the house, related some of the experiences.

"People have moved out after living here only a few days," John Buzogany told MIDNIGHT. "They say it's because of the ghostly presence."

"I have a friend, Ann Petruska from Pittsburgh, who

moved into one of the second-floor apartments earlier this year," Buzogany said. "One night she was awakened by a woman holding her wrist — taking her pulse — and feeling her forehead."

"Ann told us the story the next day."

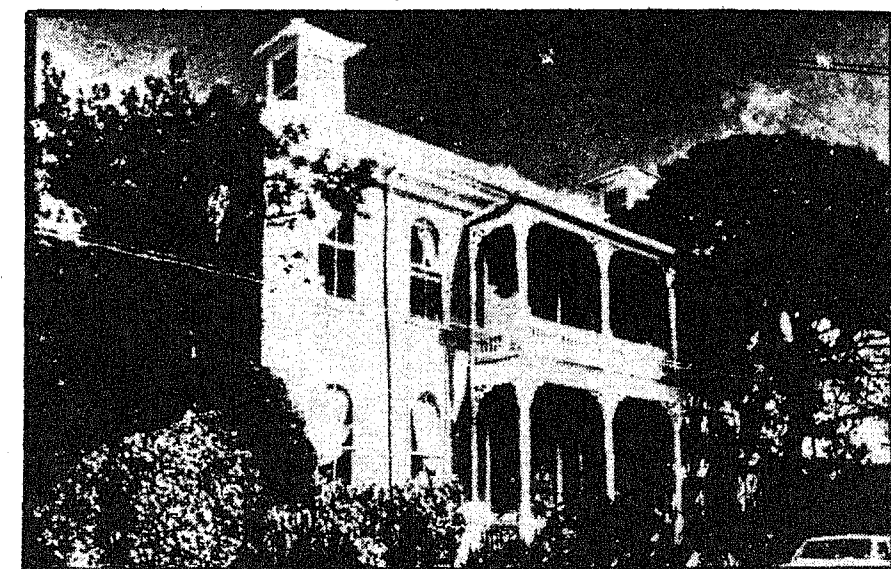
"The same thing happened to Sharon Platz, who lives directly below us and is about our age. Sharon told us that two or three months ago, during the middle of the night, she was awakened by this strange feeling of someone in the room."

"She felt her arm being held. She tried to move it but was unable to do so. Then she felt her pulse being taken and forehead being felt. She tried to cry out, but she couldn't do anything against this force."

"It lasted for a very short time and then was gone."

Buzogany said he has never seen the ghost himself, and added, "Usually, it's only women who notice this presence."

But Buzogany's roommate, Greg Scorzafave, said



THE GHOST of a dedicated nurse is still at work taking pulses and feeling foreheads for fever at Gato House, a Key West, Fla., rooming house.

he was awakened about 3 a.m. one night and saw a partially shielded, glittering light — "like sparklers covered by gauze" — float through his living room.

"It sort of hovered near the foot of the sofa where I was lying, and then continued on out the back porch," he said.

Scorzafave said another tenant, nurse Sharon Sullivan, "described what she

saw in almost the same terms — an almost subdued light floating through her bedroom."

Nurse Sullivan said she saw "a white sort of energy crossing from one end of the room to the other."

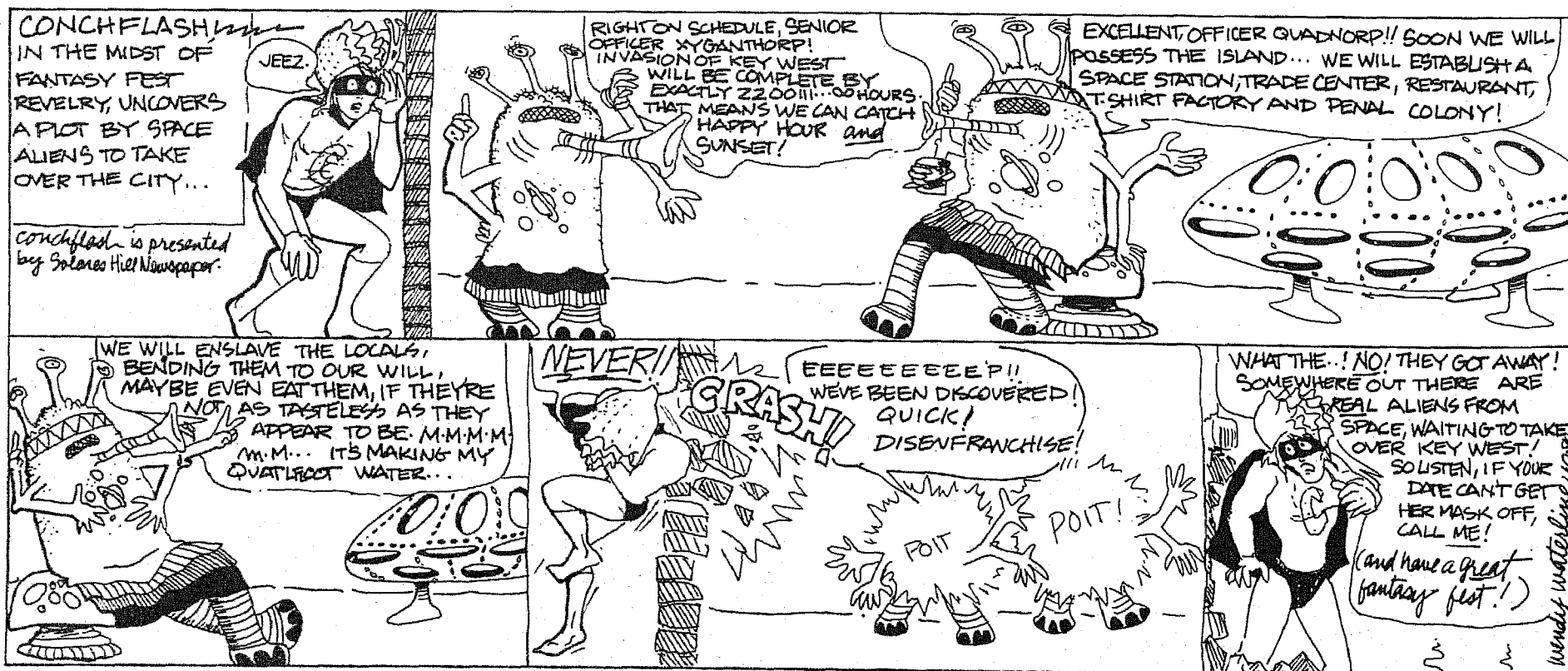
"To me," Scorzafave continued, "it confirmed what I saw. At least someone else perceived it the same way."

"I was a skeptic before, but

actually I'm beginning to believe in ghosts — at least in this particular house that's full of them," he said. "Just today I saw the apparition of a man in the hallway."

"You have to be skeptical," Buzogany said. "And for the most part, we (the tenants) are a bunch of non-believers."

"But it's strange, just the same"



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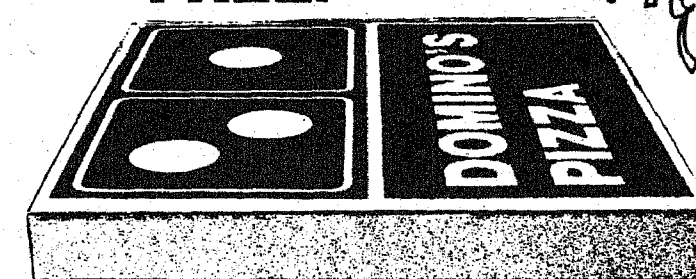


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**Q:** Months ago, you reported that RDA Executive Director Steve McDaniel had violated Navy regulations by giving free rental space at RDA Headquarters to Bill Jones, one of his mayoral campaign principles. Whatever happened? Was the back rent collected?

**A:** The Navy, in a letter to McDaniel chided him for violating regulations by allowing free space for his friend and told him to collect the rent. I called Mr. McDaniel at RDA Headquarters and asked if he'd ever collected the funds. He told me that he has had no contact with Jones for months and that he has not collected the rent.

**Q:** Earlier this year, the Jan McArt Theatre advertised "tax-deductible" season tickets. I have reason to believe that they are not tax-exempt. Can you find out?

**A:** Yes, The Jan McArt Cabaret Theatre did sell "season tickets" last winter for their first season and they did advertise them as being "tax-deductible."

The Theatre's ad for season tickets offered "6 Shows for the Price of 5 - Get One Show Free!" and contained the following text:

Season Subscriptions  
SAVE!

Six Shows \$60  
(Regularly \$72)

For a limited time only  
Shows subject to change at the  
discretion of the Management  
Tax Deductible.

In point of fact, the Theatre did not at the time (and still does not have) 501(c)3 (tax-exempt) status from the Internal Revenue Service to advertise or make such a claim or offer.

I contacted Jan McArt Productions, Inc. in Boca Raton requesting the identification number of the Key West Theatre's 501(c)3 tax-exempt determination letter and the date of that determination from the IRS.

I received a return call from Charles White, attorney for the Jan McArt American Festival Series, Inc., who informed me that the Key West Theatre [which operates under that corporate title] indeed has not yet received tax-exempt status from the IRS. He told me that they have applied for such a determination, and fully expect it to be granted at some time in the future. He explained that it was a very time-consuming process but that there was almost no doubt that the not-for-profit corporation would be granted Exempt Organization status. When and if that status is granted, he told me, it will be retroactive to the date of

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incorporation.

I spoke to Michael Isaacs of the IRS Exempt-Organization Division in Atlanta about it being retroactive. He told me, "yes, that is correct, but only if the request for tax-exempt status is filed within 15 months of the date of incorporation."

The State Division of Corporations in Tallahassee cites that incorporation date as 10/9/84. Their application to the IRS should have then been filed by 1/9/86 to assure that it be retroactive.

Though Mr. White could not precisely cite the day of filing, it was, according to his memory, not done by that date. "I believe it was early March," he told me.

If that calendar estimate is correct, their status, when and if granted, may not be retroactive, and people who purchased tickets last season planning a tax deduction may not take one.

I asked White, "Would the theatre have been in a position to advertise and make such an offer?"

His reply: "George, the answer is no."

Mr. White, in a subsequent conversation, indicated that the cost of a season ticket could not be tax-deductible. Legally, he said, only a portion could be written off as a contribution - and only that portion which would exceed the normal cost. (e.g. If one purchased a \$5 box of Girl Scout Cookies for \$50, one could deduct \$45 as a contribution).

IRS representative Issacs confirmed this tax rule. Reading from what he called a two-paragraph "caveat" which he said is sent to theatre organizations, he explained, "The purchase of theatre tickets are only deductible if the price paid is in excess of the value of that service."

Furthermore, IRS regulations require that any printed advertisement for a tax-deduction specifically state the division between the actual amount of the ticket cost and the amount of the donation. The McArt ad makes no such indications.

Said attorney White, "Someone made a mistake. Nobody ever should make an offer saying that the entire ticket price is tax-deductible."

In this case, the season tickets were actually less than the "regular" price. As such, even if the Theatre had tax-exempt status, any tax deduction would have been

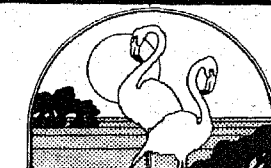
out of the question.

Mr. Isaacs also informed me that any such advertising offer made prior to taking the very first step of applying for tax-exempt status, is "absolutely not allowed."

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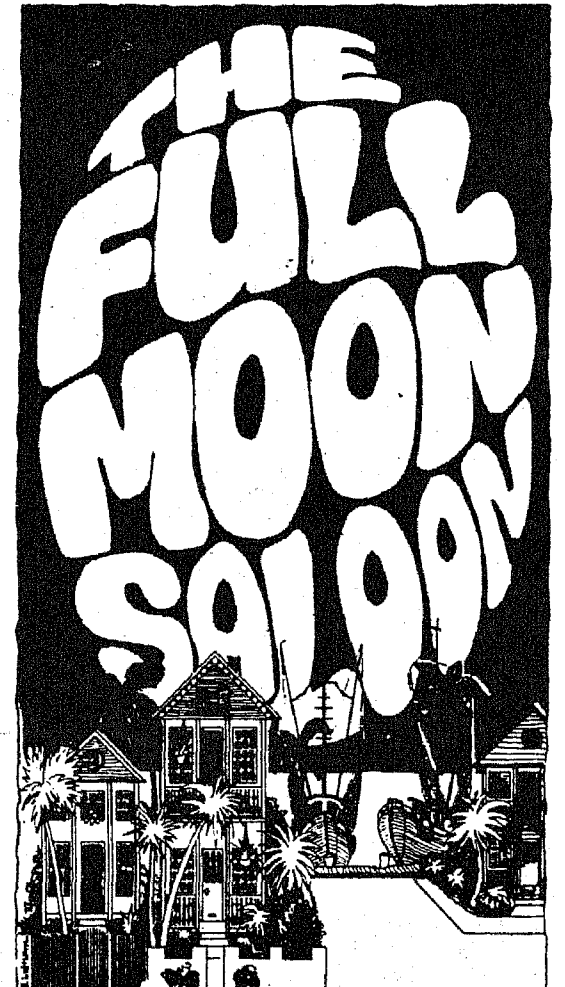
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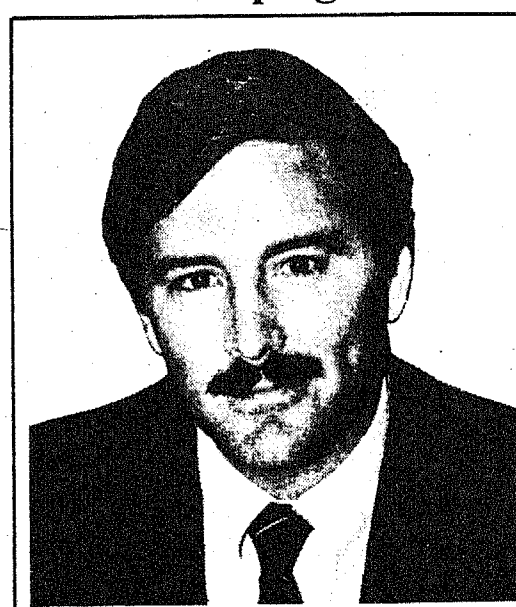
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**Editorial** by Bill Westray

Under House Bill 1405 which was adopted by the Florida Legislature in June, Monroe County as an Area of Critical State Concern (ACSC) was authorized to create a Land Authority, with an Advisory Committee and Executive Director and staff. The Act defined the powers and duties of the Authority and Advisory Committee.

The main purpose of the Land Authority will be to purchase or otherwise acquire privately-owned lands which the County Commission declared or zoned as undevelopable under ACSC. Provision is made to raise funds for the purpose by Tourist Tax, certain other surtaxes on admission fees, bonds, and by grants, gifts, etc., from federal, state, or private agencies or persons. \$1,050,000 has been appropriated to Monroe County by the state in 1987 and \$4,950,000 in 1988.

The Land Authority by law must be the County Commission; however, a 5-person Advisory Committee, appointed by the Commission for 3-year terms, must identify and establish priorities for the acquisition of non-developable lands, and accomplish most of the related work. It is to do this through an Executive Staff, consisting of an Executive Director appointed by the Authority (Commission), and such technical, legal and other staff or consultants as the Committee may decide are needed.

A great deal of money will be involved in this process: the \$6 million in appropriated funds in the first two years; plus the tourist taxes and admission fees. Complex legal and technical questions will have to be addressed and worked out. The Committee and/or the Authority will have extensive powers to enter into contracts, borrow, invest, and manage funds; acquire manage and dispose of property; enter into contracts; acquire options. One of its first tasks will be to write the rules of procedure under which it must operate.

The key to the success of this complicated new venture will be the expertise and experience of the new Executive Director. At a meeting of DCA representatives, county commissioners and staff, consultants, advisors and concerned citizens on September 13th in Key West, discussions were held to devise ways to get the process underway. Time is of the essence. The new fiscal year started October 1st. The first batch of options needs to be identified and prioritized by January 15, 1987. The rules of procedure

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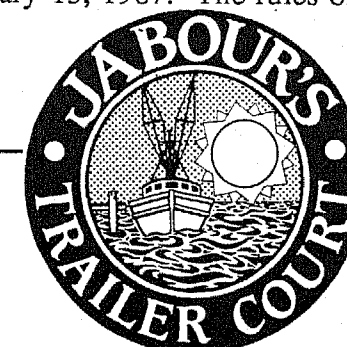
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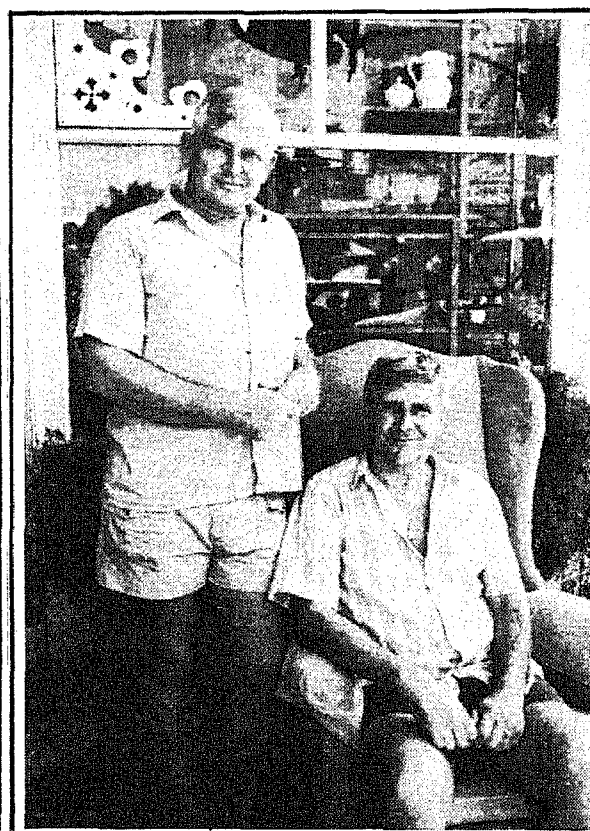
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### Sam's Treasure Chest

Welcome to Sam's Treasure Chest, Fleming Street's Antiques Row original.

Five years ago, Sam Senia and his partner Gerry Morgan opened Sam's Treasure Chest, across the street from a row of empty stores. Some folks would be concerned, opening a



Gerry Morgan and Sam Senia of Sam's Treasure Chest

business in a virtually uninhabited area, but not Sam and George. Locals passing by on their way to Fausto's would often stop in to see what these fellas had brought into the store that might be a welcome addition to their abode. In fact, many a Key Wester's home has been furnished and decorated with Sam and George's help. So, Sam's Treasure Chest continued to flourish.

As other antique shops opened, more and more folks, from conchs to tourists, would come by treasure hunting. And, since Sam and George offer such a varied selection of goodies to choose from, it's almost impossible to walk out of the store empty handed.

The ground floor of the shop is an endless array of interesting and, often, unusual merchandise. There are lamps to hang or stand on a dresser, or perhaps a chandelier is what you have in mind. Pottery, jugs, china and depression glass, baskets, bronze statues, cookie jars, carvings, oil paintings, drawings, copper molds, toys, dolls, stuffed animals, trunks, tables, mirrors, and a large collection of old apothecary bottles are just a few of the pieces you'll have to choose from.

For a truly unique addition to your home, how about an antique regulator clock, a spinning wheel that works, or a brass general store register, also in working condition. Sam's Treasure Chest also boasts a wide selection of costume jewelry, from pins and brooches to earrings and bracelets and even a rhinestone tiara.

Planning your Fantasy Fest costume? To add to the great selection of adornments downstairs, Sam's features a selection of vintage clothing, hats, handbags and feather boas -- a little imagination will certainly go a long way here!

Wander upstairs through the clothes and accessories and be sure to browse through the over 200 paperback books on display. There are also albums, kitchenwares, pots and pans, utensils and glassware. Remember that button you've never been able to match -- I bet Sam's has it! It's probably been waiting to be found in one of the four gallon jars bursting with buttons in the shop.

Come on down to Antiques Row and visit Sam and George at Sam's Treasure Chest on the corner of Bahama Street and Fleming (just below Fausto's) Monday through Saturday

Photo by Richard Wathervax

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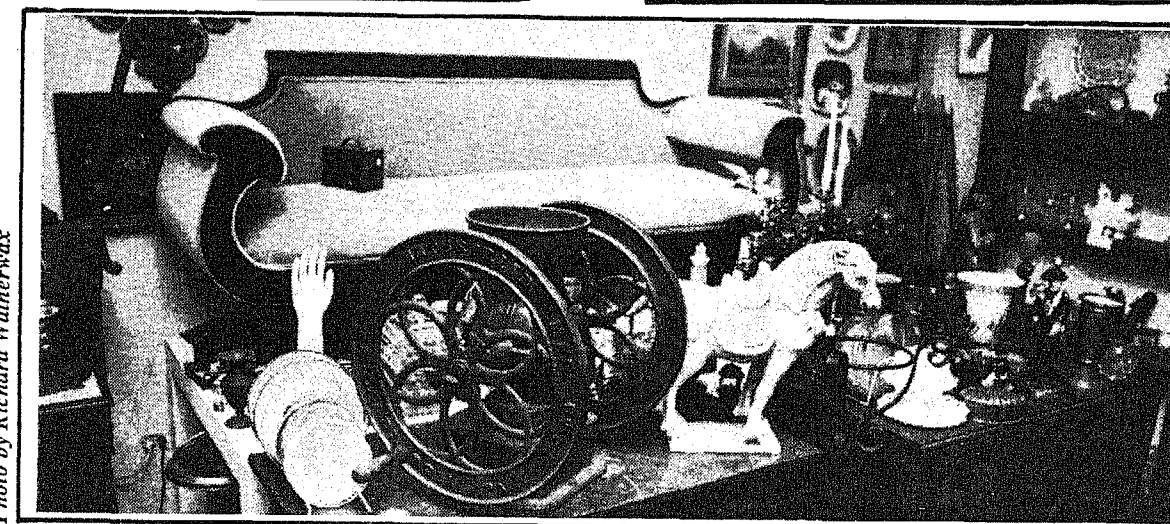
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Mahogany 18th Century empire sofa with claw legs, upholstered in pink velvet. Front left: late 1800's cast iron grinder, originally used for corn grinding. On the couch: an Eastman Kodak Brownie camera; the hand was once a rubber glove mold. Far right: assorted depression glass.

### fahr'er

n. (pronounced fair'er)

definition: responsive, respected, dedicated community leader,

a County Commissioner who listens and leads

also known as: Alison

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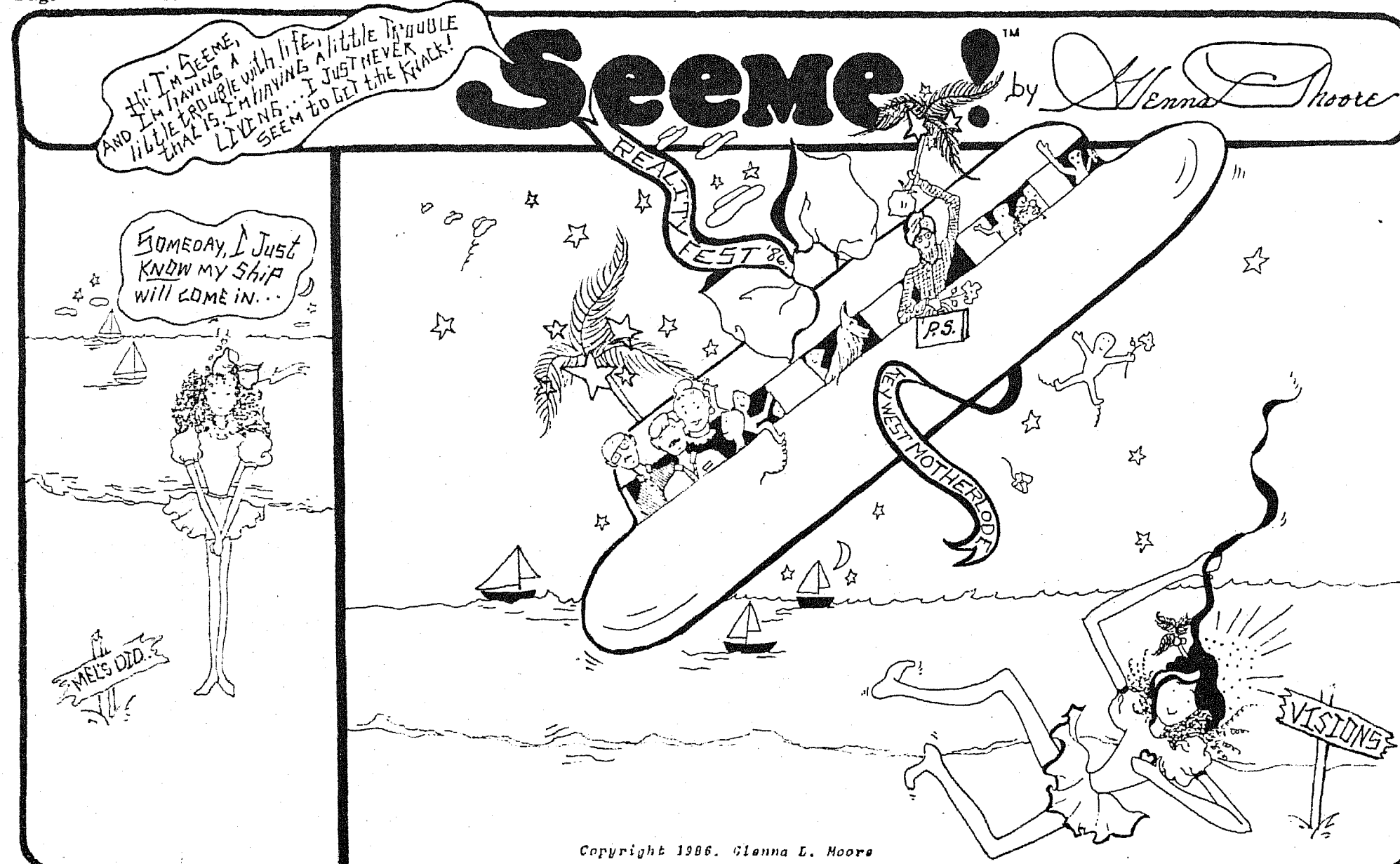
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## The Garden Club

by Emily K. Whalton

In the mid 1930s, a handful of community minded men and women, drawn together by a mutual love of gardening, started the Key West Garden Club, holding their meetings and presenting flower shows in the Knights of Columbus Hall, then located on Duval Street, and later moving to the Elks Club Annex. It is noted in early annals that notables, such as Ernest Hemingway, acted as judges at these flower shows.

The group yearned for a "home" of their own, but little did they dream that eventually, some twenty years later, the then dilapidated and derelict West Martello Tower, a pre-Civil War fort, with the beautiful Atlantic Ocean as a backdrop, would become their home.

It was the direct result of the War of 1812, in which the young and struggling United States of America had been forced to fight a second war with England, that plans were begun for a series of new, strange coastal fortifications. The military planners belatedly realized how very vulnerable we were to attack from the sea by a strong naval force. It was felt that our best defense against England (still assumed to be our enemy) was to deny her a landing on our shores from the sea.

This led to the planning of fortifications that had no appreciable firepower directed to the landward side. No one foresaw that an enemy might land a force between fortified

points out of range of the forts' fixed guns, and thus be able to go in behind the forts. This weakness was brought home forcibly when the Civil War began. Feverish efforts were put forth to strengthen the weak landward walls and in emplacing guns there.

Initial planning for fortifying Key West began with a survey of the harbor by the Navy in 1822. This produced the earliest known map of the southwest portion of the island. The survey was made to select a site for a fort whose guns would command the harbor and deny access to it by an enemy.

In 1836, a French military engineer, loaned to the Army, began drawing plans for a very ambitious set of nine forts and advanced batteries to be erected in Key West. Two large forts and seven smaller works were to be located on the island of Key West and several nearby islands. One large fort was to be located on an island west of Key West and another where the Simonton Street Government Building is today (formerly the Main Post Office). The lesser works were to be outposts or picket lines. The cost was so tremendous that a revision was quickly made that contained one large work, which is what is known today as Fort Zackery Taylor, and two advanced batteries, the Martello Towers.

Work began on the building of Fort Taylor in 1845. But the building of the advanced batteries was not started for some sixteen years later, for the owners of the land were difficult to locate, and when finally contacted would not set a price on the property.

After the Civil War began in 1861, a little preliminary work, such as site clearing,

was begun, but no further work was done until 1863 and then work was rushed to complete the two towers.

Yellow fever was but one of the many hazards that plagued the crews during the construction period. Hurricanes also struck and washed away parts of the works.

West Martello Tower was almost prevented from being built at all. When heavy growth of underbrush and trees had been cleared away and digging began for the foundations, a horrible stench arose from the black, soggy ground. At first it was thought to be only the decayed vegetable matter, but then skeletal and decomposed human remains were found. The black slave laborers then refused to work there. It is not known how many bodies had been disturbed. It was determined that the site had once held a "pest house" where people with small pox and other communicable diseases were sent. Most of them died there. Also, it was learned that the area contained the bodies of waifs left by shipwreck and some 200 to 300 slaves who had died while being brought over from Africa. These slaves, taken off captured slave ships, were already dead or died soon thereafter from disease or starvation. They were buried in unmarked graves, and the townspeople had forgotten about the burials. There are no records indicating what, if any, effort was made to relocate these uncovered remains, and it is assumed that many are yet buried in the area on the landward side of West Martello Tower.

The lime and cement used on the towers were furnished by the Newark Lime and Cement Company, and the bricks came from

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New York and Maine. Some bricks stamped "S & F" most likely came from the Sayer and Fisher Brick Yards in New Jersey.

When the two towers were left unfinished and abandoned after 1866, the gunners at Fort Taylor decided that West Martello would make good target practice for their big guns. Periodically the old derelict was blasted by shellfire. Only the building of the Casa Marina Hotel in 1920-'21 prevented the complete destruction of what remained of West Martello Tower, for the hotel rose high enough to mask the tower.

Often told in later years was the story that West Martello Tower was being torn down, brick by brick, by Key Westers for walks, patios, walls and other projects. Anyone who has ever attempted to demolish any part of a structure built in those days finds this hard to believe. The hard lime and cement mortar is stronger than the bricks themselves, and it is almost impossible to separate the bricks from it or to remove bricks intact from the walls. It is more likely that the bricks that were taken were those blasted loose by the gunfire from Fort Taylor.

During 1982 or 1893, Mr. Edward H. Gato, a wealthy cigar manufacturer in Key West, purchased this property from the heirs of the original owner and used the casemates of the seaward walls as stables for mules. He housed a number of his hired hands within the old fort, and it is said that several local families are descended from children born to families who once lived there.

The last period in the Tower's military history occurred in World War II when an

anti-aircraft battery was located on the beach. The guns were mounted on two concrete platforms that now have roofs over them. The troops lived in temporary buildings adjacent to the beach area.

With the ending of World War II the



West Martello

Photo by Richard Walker

anti-aircraft guns were removed from their mounts and all temporary buildings demolished. July 1947 saw the disbandment of the Coast Artillery Corps and the release of all Army property in Key West. Both towers, East Martello Tower and West Martello Tower, became the property of Monroe County and the Key West Barracks and the Fort Taylor Reservation became Navy property.

Very briefly the Army returned to the South Beach area of Key West during the Cuban missile crisis in October of 1962. Radar installations, barbed wire, missile launchers and search lights blossomed like mushrooms all along the waterfront. These defenses were only of an emergency nature and no changes were made to West Martello Tower itself.

In the year 1949, residents of Key West considered the old tumble-down tower to be an eyesore to Key West's beautiful shoreline. By then the old fort was nothing more than a pile of rubble, with many residents carting off the bricks for their own personal use. They

urged the County to level the entire structure and put in a new and larger beach area.

Prisoners were put to work and with sledge hammers they began to remove the brick stairway that is now part of the East tower of the citadel.

It was as Representative Joe Allen, at that time a newly elected County Commissioner, was walking along the beach that he was appalled to see what remained of the old fort being razed. He asked the prisoners to stop the demolition and told them that he thought he had plans for the old buildings.

Representative Allen told his colleagues that that was no way to treat a landmark. For him it was a part of the history of Key West and he felt it must not only be preserved but restored. He was a man of vision, and he

pled with the commissioners to at least halt the destruction of the old fort. Finally as a courtesy to him they stopped the demolition—at least temporarily.

Representative Allen had the prisoners dump truck loads of seaweed into the compound, filling it up about 18 inches, and on top of this they dumped the street sweepings. It was quite a combination and certainly one that couldn't be beat for growing flowers, trees and shrubs.

Now Allen's dream for restoring the fort had begun. Still the project was not without problems. For as fast as Allen planted trees and flowers they were destroyed by vandals. He finally asked a prison guard to sleep at the tower in order to protect the lush foliage from being uprooted and carried off.

It was about this time that the Key West Garden Club took an interest in the old fort and its surrounding property. They were tired of meeting in the halls of other clubs, so they could hardly believe when, through the

tireless efforts of Representative Allen, a land-lease agreement was entered into between the Monroe County Commission, owner of the property, and the Key West Garden Club.

The fort and grounds were a shambles, but this handful of enthusiastic men and women, members of the Key West Garden Club, began the clearing and cleaning of the grounds and restoring what was left of the old fort. They brought plants from their own gardens to beautify the grounds.

The growth of the club has been phenomenal, and today it boasts more than 220 members, men and women interested in learning more about the native plants and how to cultivate and care for them. They share their knowledge by offering, free of charge to the public as well as their members, garden shows, plant rambles, field trips, work and learn workshops, horticultural lectures/demonstrations, floral design classes and many other interesting and educational programs throughout the year.

In 1959 the Key West Garden Club was

Incorporated, becoming affiliated with both the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. and the National Council of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Through the efforts of its members, the West Martello Tower Garden Center was

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declared a National Historic Site by the State of Florida and is now listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Club is unique in that it is the only Garden Club—at least in Florida—that can claim a historical setting as its home. The Garden Center is open to the public throughout the year and visitors are invited and welcome to tour this historic site. There is no admission fee (one of the few tourist attractions that is free).

On September 13, 1984, the Key West Garden Club celebrated both the 25th anniversary of its becoming incorporated and the renaming of the Garden Center to honor state representative Joe Allen who fought so tirelessly to preserve the old fort and to secure it for the permanent home of the Key West Garden Club.

At the official ceremony, the name of the Center was changed to West Martello Tower/Joe Allen Garden Center, Home of the Key West Garden Club.

A lovely gazebo graces the lush gardens. Tables and chairs are arranged under the spreading limbs of the native trees. Visitors can sit and relax—or during the rambles, flower shows or other special events, they can sample a variety of native conch foods.

But the Garden Club's work has not stopped with beautifying and maintaining the

fort and gardens at West Martello Tower.

Land on Stock Island, originally owned by Walter Maloney, was acquired by the City of Key West in the 1920s for "recreational purposes," and later taken over by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, during the height of the depression of the 1930s.

World War II put a stop to its development. Residents were more concerned with developing their vegetable gardens than preserving trees and shrubs in this garden.

From the end of the war until the late 1960s no one showed any interest in the overgrown and neglected gardens. It then became a civic project and a number of the local clubs and organizations began cleaning and clearing and replanting the grounds which were then formally reopened to the public in January, 1961. Little by little the project was dropped as interest lagged.

The City of Key West had originally designated this area as a permanent wildlife sanctuary, botanical garden and arboretum, and since the Key West Garden Club had continued to retain an interest in maintaining the property, the City leased the property to them, with the stipulation that it must remain open to the public and available for studies by the schools, scout troops, and other state or local agencies.

After a great deal of discussion, planning and finalizing of plans for best

preserving the Botanical Garden, Maureen Shaw-Huckel of the Key West Native Plant Nursery was hired to clean and clear the underbrush and develop pathways and put the area in good repair.

Mrs. Shaw-Huckel, a lover of the outdoors and of the lovely old trees found only in the Keys, was certainly qualified to do this job and protect the valuable young seedlings that had sprung up throughout the garden area over the years.

This area is the last hardwood hammock in the environs of Key West. Strolling through the hammock is like stepping back in time—a time of peace and tranquility. Here is unspoiled beauty that leaves one breathless and enraptured.

Only here can be found in one spot the Black Ironwood, Lignum Vitae, Cinnamon Bark and Milk Bark Trees. The great dark trunks give way to vibrant greens and the Jamaica Dogwood that blooms so profusely.

And above all, where the new leaves unfurl, the birds trill a welcoming song or rise towards a pale blue sky with a few flamingo clouds drifting high above this paradise.

The Botanical Garden is a haven for bird watching; for studying the beautiful butterflies and interesting insect life that abounds in the gardens. Always fascinating is the Golden Orb spider which weaves her web of pure gold—hence her name.

Key West Garden Club members feel that as people become aware of these native trees and shrubs they will begin to enjoy them and to appreciate their important roles in nature, history and in shaping our culture. The Key West Garden Club, through the Botanical Garden and Arboretum, want to stimulate this awareness and bring people and plants together through recreational and educational programs.

The Key West Garden Club is proud to announce that the area is now cleaned and cleared and open to the public. Trees are being labeled for identification. The Club plans to continually improve the area; benches along the paths to sit and relax, outdoor classes for school children and a perfect place for the elderly to sit and reminisce. There is no charge for visiting the Botanical Garden, located on Stock Island off Junior College Road (between Bayshore Manor and Center of Hope) and the public, residents and visitors to our Keys, are welcome to stroll leisurely through the gardens for a little while or for a whole day.



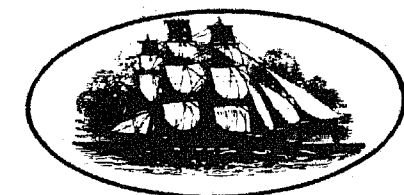
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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Category: Individual ☐, Space Fantasy Theme ☐, or Group (up to 6) ☐. Your group size: \_\_\_\_\_  
Brief summary of costume theme & design: \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be bringing your own taped music? \_\_\_\_\_

Or . . . would you like the Pier House to select background music? \_\_\_\_\_

Where can you be reached on October 23? \_\_\_\_\_

All contestants are required to attend brief rehearsal on the beach Thursday, October 23rd, at 5 PM. \$5 entry fee in advance (up to 5 PM, October 23rd); \$15 late entry (up to noon, October 23rd, then entries close). All entries must include check or money order, payable to the Pier House, One Duval, Key West, Florida 33040. For further information: 294-9541.  
The Pier House reserves the right to refuse entry to the competition.



Pier House

Don't miss the Contest  
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### KEY WEST

## FANTASY FEST '86

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I would like to reserve a space(s) for the Fantasy Fest Street Fair to be held on Friday, October 24th from 5 p.m.-Midnight and Saturday, October 25th from Noon to 6 p.m. The Street Fair will be held on the 100 and 200 blocks of Duval Street in Old Town Key West. Deadline for entry is Tuesday, October 14th.

I understand that each space measures 6 feet by 10 feet, and that any tables, electricity, or equipment needed will be supplied by me, including my own shade-making device if desired.

I acknowledge that all art/craft items have been made by hand by me, and are not pre-manufactured goods which would conflict with items sold by established merchants on Duval Street.

I further understand that spaces will be assigned on a first-come first-served basis and that I will be sent a diagram of the street showing my assigned location upon acceptance of my application. It is agreed that I may begin to set up on Friday, October 24th at 4 p.m. to sell by 5 p.m. and on Saturday at 11 a.m. to sell by Noon. I agree to strike my booth and be responsible for removal of all litter and items from my space at the close of the street fair.

Enclosed is my entry fee of \$100.00, made payable to Fantasy Fest '86. If my application is accepted, I understand this fee is non-refundable. I also understand that should I breach this contract in any manner my fee will not be refunded.

I will be selling: ☐ FOOD ☐ ARTS & CRAFTS ☐ ACTIVITIES

(BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF YOUR PRODUCT ACCOMPANIED BY SLIDES OR PHOTOS OF CRAFT ITEMS)

I hereby agree to abide by the rules and regulations set by the coordinators of Fantasy Fest '86 and the City of Key West while participating in the above named event. I agree to release and hold harmless Fantasy Fest, its coordinators, sponsors, and their representatives from any personal liabilities, loss or theft of personal property, claims or damages that may occur as a result of my participation in this event.

I further agree to release the rights to all photographs, films, or videos taken during this event.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





You already are beginning to lay things in a Samsonite suitcase atop the wedding band quilt on the spare room 100-year-old mountain string bed. Things that you move back and forth each trip, North Carolina to Florida: Daddy's last breath, caught and preserved these 45 years in a Mason jar; a King's Mountain rock touched by Bert Reynolds; the last green sprig off the Signorelli grape vine, wrestled loose, its tendrils clasping its post, its juices boiled into 13 glasses of jelly by a girl over Buck Creek Road way, wearing boots, works at the doughnut shop.

I hand out a cup of coffee to Bo, my mountain neighbor pal. Bo has a lot of mother wit, and this morning he wears his crazy Georgia onion farmer face because he is relating some comments of Florida summer residents. He eavesdrops shamelessly down on Loafer's Bench on the short main street of this village 5,000 feet up. Bo sits there where shoppers pause, chuckling to himself, his head slightly tilted like a pitcher. There is no need to pretend he is scrubbing at a snick of mustard on his T-shirt. For talkers generally absorb themselves totally in their own outputs when they are out at places like that and don't mind much if you listen. Though, I know that Bo would no more put his ear to

someone's door than he would walk naked down Cullasaga Gorge nor break a quail's egg over his head in front of the Presbyterian Church. Bo's T-shirt reads, "Jesus once was a foetus." Someway, one came to him from the Right to Lifeers who were working the folks living west of Satulah Mountain.

Bo and I sit outside where we can enjoy my bed of sweet rose-colored, pink, wine and red and white cosmos. Scuttling past is a black and white cat looking like somebody threw an ink bottle at him.

Comments Bo heard from the ladies: "He's gone to Miami to rub up his Spanish." "This fog has my hair looking like Anne Boleyn's after a month in that damp, old tower." "She had four of us to dinner. She served four wee rolls the size of eyes. There were not five rolls. She didn't take one." "May I borrow your purple, velvet mouse earrings tonight?"

Comments Bo caught from the summer resident men: "I still take Syrup of Figs like my mama gave me when I was a kid." "That's nothing. I still sleep with my old green towel with a knot in it." Two dashing, silver-haired elderly gents looking like archangels or Thirty Second Degree Masons: "Yes, she dines at the country club every night, and she's so appealing that the manager has a waiter to go over and throw cold water on all men seated nearby. There is just no way of getting to know her; maybe she is looking for something gamier."

Bo goes to his pick-up with its gun rack and search lights for hunting rabbits and foxes. A jogger stops at the abandoned red

Jeep there under the hemlock tree to get a crick out of one leg. Bo now wears his ignorant, lolling South Carolina bean grower look when he hands me my going away gift. She is a doll, seated enthroned in a twig chair. She wears a darling blue velvet dress, has long real-hair curls and little black high-topped shoes buttoned with pearls. Her wide blue eyes, color of mountain trillium, roll archly and her fat cheeks smile winningly. And, she has perfume behind her ears.

I shall name her Tegulcigalpa. I was honeymooning 17 years ago with my lovely Italian/Spanish/Conch husband and we were dining at the hotel in the capitol of Honduras. Over turkey mole, I got dreaming about the melody of that name. Tegulcigalpa. And, how wonderful and mind-boggling should I have a daughter to name her Tegulcigalpa Signorelli. After all, there was the dimmest chance: I still bore the last faint blush of youth, and I wasn't a Catholic, and and and. Daughter Tegulcigalpa never appeared, and I had to content myself with the beauteous daughter I already had.

Carrying Tegulcigalpa and her curls and her twig chair, I walk out with Bo to his truck.

"If you go back to Key West for Fantasy Fest October 25, what will the Signorellis wear?"

"Well, I may go as a leaf of mint and L. as a julep. OR -," I wave bye-bye to Bo, "I might be a stained glass window and L. an altar."

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### Pretenders in Paradise

by Mimi McDonald

By the time this issue of Solares Hill goes on the stands, the Pier House's Pretenders in Paradise costume contest will be three weeks away, which sets my knees to knocking.

As Fantasy Fest's Pretenders in Paradise Coordinator, it is my job to make sure the show is fabulous; lights, sound, set, entertainers. That to me is no problem. This year the Pier House plans to spare no expense or effort. A talented group of professional artists has been put together to bring Pretenders in Paradise to life. The resident designer at the Red Barn Theatre, Gary McDonald, will be designing a space set extraordinaire, transforming the Pier House beach into a fantasy space setting under the stars. The sound, under the direction of Bob Boyd, will fill the night, completing the transformation.

Then, of course, there are the entertainers. A five-piece band featuring a moog synthesizer, horns and drums, also under the direction of Bob Boyd, includes Deborah Sjöberg and John Wells on vocals. Penny Mollot and Allison Traddop add a male dancer with them this year in a hot jazz number. And the emcee, Bruce Steele, an actor from L.A. with a particular comic talent for working a crowd, will portray a whimsical space hero, Capt. Keith West from the mysterious planet Cayo Hueso; Art

Carlson from Eyewitness News will be his co-host.

What sets my knees to knocking is that the costume contestants, obviously the meat of the show, have until noon of the day of the event, October 23rd, to enter the contest. So I won't know how many contestants I will have until the very end. Not that we have ever been disappointed. We have had at least 30-40 fabulous costumes, ranging from Coral Reefs to Dancing Burgers to Palmetto Bugs and Birds of Paradise. People from as far as New Mexico come down to participate, spending considerable time, money and effort. Our prizes are incentive, with first prize being a \$1,000.00 cash prize along with a VCR and a tape of the show plus a bottle of champagne. For the remaining five place winners, space theme winner and group category (up to 6 people), there are thousands of dollars in cash prizes as well as cameras, stereo equipment, dinners and more.

So I am urging all you readers to dust off the wheels of your imagination and set to work on your costume creation. It's \$5 to enter the contest until the day of the show, then it is \$15. Limited spectator tickets are \$15, available at the Pier House Market and General Store, and \$20 after October 15th.

One more thing—if you are really spontaneous with your costume this year, don't forget the Saturday after the parade Walk On Costume Contest. It's free to watch and every contestant who walks on stage gets a prize. See you there!

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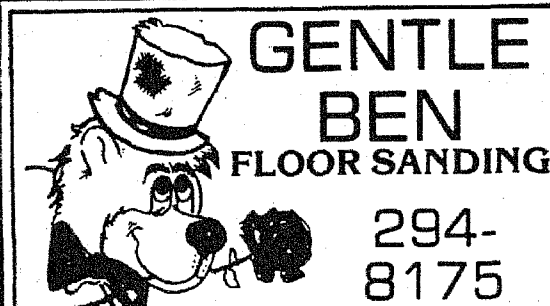
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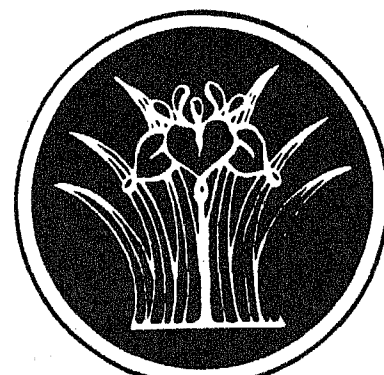
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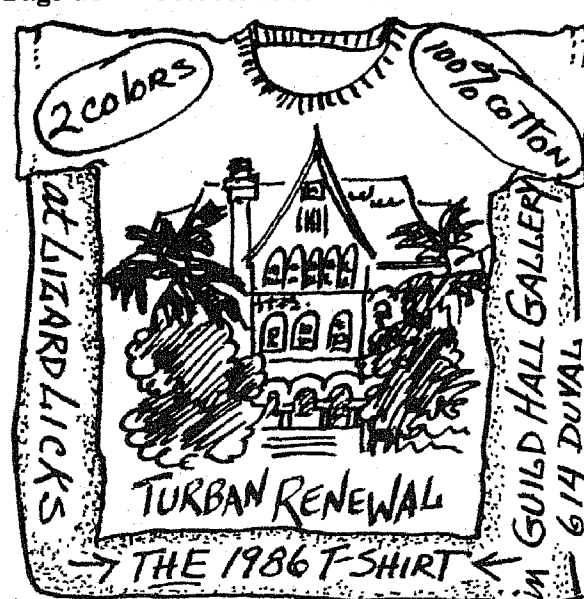
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## GALLERY HOPPING

by Gordon Lacy

The entertainment world split with the Church many centuries ago, and the wisdom of this divorce was to be seen at St. Paul's on a steamy Saturday night when the windows had to be left open on Duval and Eaton Sts. to the utter devastation of the opera singers whose performances were surely noble if hardly heard. The white altar was brilliantly lit, the audience was lit (well, the house lights were on ...) and the singers remained in total obscurity. I love the Monroe County Arts Council with almost all my heart but I will never follow them again into murky church depths because it is unfair to the artists. Furthermore, for fifteen smackers there was no program so I cannot mention the singers by name except for Vicki Roush, the ever astonishing. She sang a Menotti aria to perfection; this talent in our midst is full flowering.

With the death of Van Eno, the art community of Key West suffered the loss of more than one person; a talent, an influence, a point of view, a penchant for the perfect, a devotion to standards has left us and moved on.

We are all delighted that Kathleen Elgin's design (Hibiscus and Gingerbread) won the Casa Marina's 65th anniversary poster contest. And none of us are crying about the \$600 that went with the honor, either, though I hear that the organization of this Arts and Crafts show leaves room for

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much improvement. (This is not from Kathleen who never bites the hand ...) For the most part the galleries this



month are atypically reticent and coy; no one is particularly positive of what they are doing which makes me feel winds of change, possibly. To start with known quantities, we can say that East Martello's 7th of October opening will be a retrospective showing of the late Ann B. McDonough's oils. She and Dr. McDonough came to Key West from Chicago and lived here for 25 years. She has shown previously here at the East Martello and at the Chicago Art Institute. John Tosi says this will be an impressive opening featuring flowers and figures.

## The Oldest Newstand in Key West

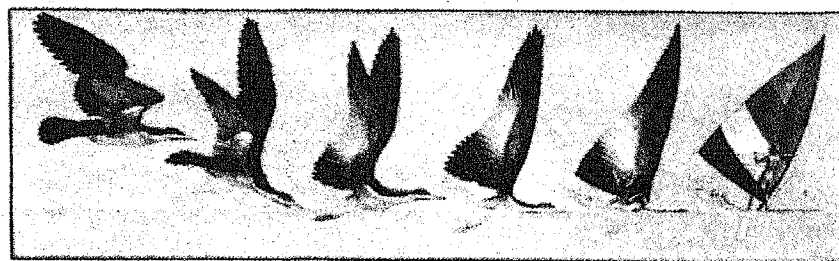
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There is no need to urge people to go; no one in his or her right mind misses a Martello opening.

Jack Baron is excited about the mid-October International Primitive/Naif Art Show in Chicago where The Yolanda Gallery will present several of his paintings and pieces.

The Fred Gros Gallery will be pulling itself back into the world of painting, although much of his effort went into his customized shirts; this summer he painted a number of large and exciting oils which will be on show this month. He also hints that the future will slant more towards the wearable arts. Ron Van Balen has made use of his summer and his new series of hanging chairs will soon be on view at Fred's.

I am loathe to mention the Guild Gallery's month of October with the 4th of July just over and Labor Day hardly digested as yet, but they are all actively into X-mas. Spasms of tree decorations and cards right down to Loys' ceramic magnets. This can only crescendo all through November. Judi Bradford is preoccupied with her new guide to just-about-anything in Key West and reports vis-a-vis the gallery "that life goes on ..."

Ned at Farrington's asked me to draw attention to a series of 5 prints on "How Boats are Born" (Comment Naissent les Bateaux) by French artist Jean Louis Heron which metamorphose birds into boats. They have a new line of mouldings for frames that may be of interest to artists. And their sempiternal free parking out back. October at the Lucky Street Gallery will

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continue to be by appointment. John Martini tells me that he has picked up a new naif painter, the Reverend Howard Finster. He spoke of him in such a way that our interest quickened.

The Key West Art Center will re-open the 6th after considerable re-doing and messing around with interiors, and will be showing their usual stable of artists, readying the November show which I shall mention next month.

The White Street Gallery will be open the usual Mon-Tues and Friday through the 15th of October when we leave for Paris to see the Fiac (one of the four big international art shows), do the museums and see the kick-off for the season in all the galleries. Our homework. And we will pick up literally two of our season's shows and bring them back, rolled up under our arms.

Jordon at Jordon-Meinster says that he has nothing special to report for the month of October. I feel very strongly that the most exciting work in SoMo is happening here even though I am seemingly muzzled. Those of you who read between the lines take advisement.

The Haitian Art Co., Ruth tells me, is doing nothing special for the month, but they have such a large stock with new shipments arriving regularly that there is always something new to be seen.

Barbara Cooper at Aristos has had a very surprisingly good summer, always heartening to hear, and while getting the season lined up will be showing the gallery's stable for this month.

With the gang back from Rio, Gingerbread will be featuring its stable of

artists.

The new Art Journal of the Keys, Island Images, seems to be finding more and more backing. The mock-ups show an opulent visual side coupled with intelligent though not hi-faluting reviews and articles. It should be a winner and if it sounds that I am pushing it because I am involved, I am. I am behind and plugging any valid artistic endeavor in SoMo. The center-piece article for the first edition is on gold and Marathon Mike Blanc's 5 color (gold!) layout was scrumptious.

For those of you who travel the Keys, stop off at the Moody's new Gallery 37 in Marathon where among many upper Keys painters you will find lots of familiar painters from SoMo as well.

I shall wind up with a plea for all of you who have enjoyed the High School flea market which fostered the school's ever mellower Band to write to Dr. Henriques, Supt. of Schools, Monroe County School Board, 242 White St., that it may continue.

## Conchette Booster Club Arts and Crafts Show

An Arts and Crafts show will be held in the Jan McArt Theater at Mallory Square November 16, 1986, 10 AM til 4 PM. The show is being sponsored by the Conchette Booster Club. Spaces are available to anyone who would like to sell their arts and crafts. There is a limited number of spaces available, so make your reservations early. Deadline is November 9. For information and reservations please call 296-6888 or 296-6400.

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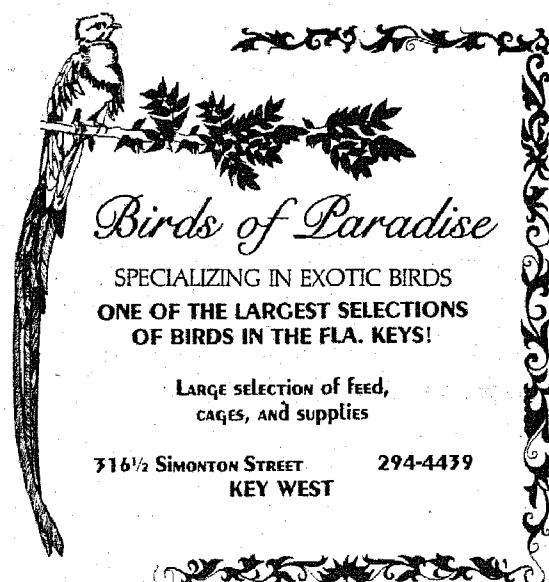
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## Knowing Everything

by V.K. Gibson

Grand sat in a rocker on the front porch of the farmhouse, cracking walnuts. She was garbed in a white dress which came all the way down to her ankles and rose all the way to her chin, with none of the mother-of-pearl buttons undone.

First she would put a nut on a stone which lay on the floorboards of the porch, at her feet. Then, rolling forward in the rocker, she would hit it with a hammer, hard enough to loosen the husk, which she then rubbed off, exposing the tough inner nut. A second whack of the hammer cracked the shell. There was a large bowl of them to one side of the rocker. Between crackings she would sit back, fan herself with a dish towel, and make a show of breathing. She was a small, thin woman with pure white hair, and looked like a doll in the chair.

"Grand!"  
Little Alice had been running through the grove of walnut trees. Now that she had used up her morning energy she wished to conspire with her great-great grandmother. She had hair as dark as the walnut shells, and sparkling green eyes which seemed to look everywhere at once.

Alice was five and the old lady was eighty-nine. They were very much the same, in that the child was just starting out and the woman was about to finish. Grand had gone full-circle and, in the last of her

days, had uncovered her youth, which had lain intact under the layers of her adulthood. "Howdy, Darlin! Done playin'?"

"I was a beautiful princess in a magic forest, and I was chased by dragons and rescued by a prince. He looked like George McLaird and he gave me his Boy Scout knife and pleated his tooth."

George McLaird lived on the farm over the hill and was an "older man," all of seven, and even went to school. Sometimes he would wander over and sometimes Alice would play with him, or chase him away, depending on her humor.

"Plighted his troth, you mean?"  
"Yeah. Ain't you hot in that dress, Grand?"

"Oh, no. You see, Darlin', it's like the A-rabs with all their robes out in the desert. They stay cool under their clothes and so do I."

Alice's eyes widened. She loved Grand because she was Grand, but most of all she loved her because the woman, unlike her mother and father, never doubted the world of dragons and princesses and pleated tooth. And Alice didn't know anyone else who dressed like the A-rabs, either.

The girl sat on the porch and watched the nut shelling.

"Kin I do it, Grand?"  
The woman handed over the hammer.  
"Now don't you go hittin' your little foot."

Alice had a hard time holding the weighty hammer, but she finally hoisted it over the nut and brought it down. The walnut flew into many pieces and scattered across the porch. She spied a piece of meat

and picked it up and put it in her mouth.

Grand only laughed. She was past the time when many things mattered. Yet, in some way which Alice could not put into words, she also knew that everything mattered to Grand. It was like the world was always getting her attention with its bright colors, its unexpected movements, the myriad sounds and smells. Look, she was bending down to pick up some of the nutmeat, to taste it herself.

"Nothing like black walnuts," she said.  
"Don't let anyone tell you the English walnuts are just as good."

"When's Daddy coming in?" asked Alice.

"Not for a while. I made him sandwiches out of last night's chicken. But he's got the west acres to plow before he gets his lunch. Your Mama won't be here. She's in town, shopping."

The farm was only nineteen acres, good Georgian hill dirt. But the secret of their material comfort was not the farming, which, God knew, brought little security in these times, but in the walnut trees. Thirty of the ninety acres were covered with them. And, with black walnut veneer so valuable, they were slowly being sold off for a hefty sum. One or two a year, going on fifteen years now, and the grove scarcely seemed touched.

"Oh!" said Grand, rising from her chair. "Just remembered. I've got to fix some lemonade for your Daddy. Come help me."

They went into the house. It was a big old place which had once housed a large

family. Now there was only Alice's Daddy and Mama, Grand, and Alice herself. A set of would-be grandparents had died young before the girl had been born.

In the kitchen they found the lemons and got out the juicer. It was an old-fashioned glass type, which required wrist power. Grand sliced the lemons in half and let Alice make the juice. The girl stood on a chair and bent over the juicer.

"Press down real hard, Darlin', so you get all the juice."

Alice pressed so hard that the juicer slipped on the formica tabletop and knocked some lemons to the floor. Grand whooped, and kicked one of them. She laughed and kicked the others, and soon there were yellow lemons rolling all over the blue linoleum floor. The girl, also giggling, forgot the juice and tried to catch the fruit.

This was the sort of play which made Alice's parents sometimes wonder if Grand wasn't ready to go someplace where she could get plenty of rest and quiet. They didn't quite know what to do about the old woman's second -- or was it third? -- childhood. It unsettled them even as it delighted Alice.

Eventually they had quieted down enough to finish the lemonade. Grand poured the juice into a glass pitcher, added water and sugar, and stirred until the sugar was dissolved.

"Get us some glasses and some ice and we'll have us some," she said.

Alice did as she was told and Grand filled the glasses.

"Ahhh!" said Grand, tipping her glass



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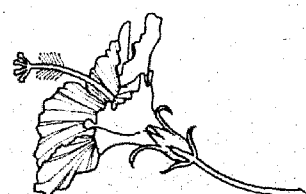
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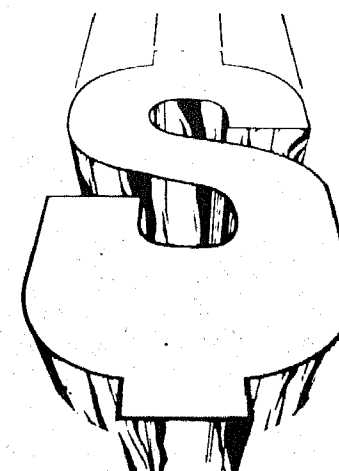
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up, drinking, bringing the glass down, wiping her chin with her wrinkled hand. Alice did the same and they grinned at each other. Neither girl had front teeth. They went back to the porch to sit down.

"Grand?"  
"Yes Darlin'?"  
"What's love?"

Grand gave her a funny look out of the corner of her eye.

"Maybe you better ask your Mama."

"Oh, Grand! I don't mean like when Lulu and Popeye have sex and make kittens!"

Grand choked on her lemonade.

"Well! I'm sure glad of that!" she said.

"I know all about that kind of love," insisted Alice, rather primly.

Grand smiled coyly.

"Maybe you just think you do."

"Oh, I do! I hear Mama and Daddy every night."

Grand choked on her lemonade again.

"Well, nearly every night," said Alice, as Grand glared at her.

"Alice! Nice ladies don't talk about

that."

The girl hung her head in mock abasement, swinging her legs under the chair.

"Mama says when I'm old enough to ask I'm old enough to know," she said, looking up with her eyes but not moving her head.

Grand put down her glass abruptly, got up, and took Alice's hand.

"Come on!"

"Where we goin'?" demanded Alice. She was not afraid, because Grand never got mad at her, not really, but she seemed awfully determined all of a sudden.

The old lady took her upstairs. In one of the unused bedrooms was a narrow door which opened to a last flight of stairs. They continued on up until they were in the attic. It was a huge but intimate space filled with abandoned junk, and with dirty windows in the gables. They old woman looked about and abruptly paused.

"Alice. Oh, look Darlin'. Ain't it lovely."

A set of old lace curtains, hung at one of

the windows and the wind, coming through a crack in the pane, rustled the disintegrating cloth. The girl thought it looked like a ghost but she didn't say so. Grand, with a tiny smile on her face, seemed to be in a trance. After a while she awoke from her spell and began to look among a row of trunks. She opened them one after the other until she had found what she wanted.

"My wedding dress. Look, just as good as ever it was."

More lace, thick, dripping with someone else's time. Someone had sewn it by hand, Grand explained. No machine had ever touched it. Not even the old foot-driven Singer.

As Alice watched in wonder, Grand took off her dress until she wore only her slip. It was like having a mystery revealed, seeing the old lady without her usual discreet clothes. Her body was just as wrinkled as her face. Alice suddenly realized what Grand had meant about the lace curtain at the window.

Grand put on her wedding dress.

"Couldn't have gotten into it thirty years ago. Too fat."

She put on the veil and draped it before her face.

"Darlin', Grand was eighteen when she got married. His name was David Hall and he was the handsomest boy in the county."

Grand bent down again and looked through the contents of the trunk. She made a cry of joy and pulled out a smaller outfit.

"Your grandmother's dress! She was my flower girl, about your age. Oh, Darlin', do you think you could maybe put

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it on?"

Alice was delighted. This was better than dragons and princes. She felt very close to the mystery of love. Soon she would know everything, which she almost did already. For what more could there be?

She got out of her frock and, dressed only in her panties, began to put on the outfit. It was also made of intricate lace. It fit her perfectly.

"What's dat smell?" she asked.

"Lavender. Sixty years in the company of lavender."

Grand went to a pair of old wicker chairs, dislodged the junk that rested on them, and sat in one. Alice took the other.

"Now," said Grand, leaning forward and putting her hands on her knees. Alice thought she was smiling under the veil.

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The girl thought it over until she had it just the way Mama had told her:

"Love is so two people will make babies, so there will be more people."

The old woman in the wedding gown sat perfectly still for a long while. Then, very conspiratorially,

"Tell you a secret, Darlin? The biggest secret in the whole world?"

"What?" asked Alice, also leaning forward. The attic was very quiet. She fancied she could almost hear the movement of the lace curtains, the fluttering of Grand's memories.

"Love..." began Grand, her voice so soft that Alice had to forget everything else in the world just to hear it, "Love ain't so people will bring more babies into the world. Listen to Grand. People make babies so there will be more love."

Grand lifted her veil and Alice suddenly knew that she was the most beautiful person she had ever known.

They went down, with Grand still in her wedding gown and Alice in the flower girl dress.

"Let's go for a walk in the walnut grove," said Grand.

Alice knew that her Daddy would think they were crazy. But, what did that matter? They knew everything! She ran down the porch steps and across the yard. Grand followed, whooping with delight, moving as fast as her magnificent gown would allow.

Ruth Green is an Intuitive Counselor, Holistic Healer, Clairvoyant Trance-Medium, and Creative Dream Analyst. She regularly conducts workshops and seminars throughout the U.S., as well as frequently appearing on radio and TV talk shows. Ruth has helped hundreds to actualize their highest capabilities by heightening intuitional awareness, releasing creative potential and increased self-love.

Ruth has studied at the Esalen Institute, the Association of Humanistic Psychology, the Edgar Cayce Institute, and other consciousness and growth centers. She has also interned with leading world metaphysicians, such as Drs. Theo Gimble and Douglas Baker, as well as psychic surgeons in the Philippines.

Ruth is presenting her Intuitive Development Workshop in Key West on October 19th, starting from 1 PM to 9 PM at our newest Wellness Center and Health Food Restaurant called The Sanctuary, located at 530 Simonton St. (right next to Insideout Health Foods). For further information about the workshops or to arrange for private consultations, contact Renate at 296-2585 or call 294-1636, and Dominick at 294-9644. Enrollment is limited.



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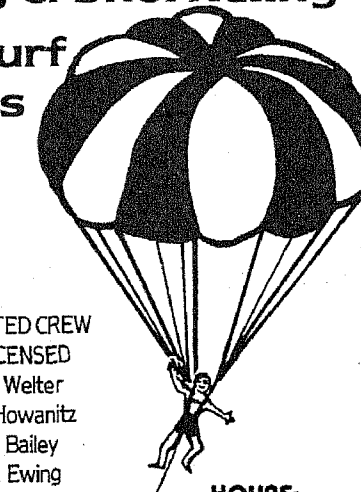
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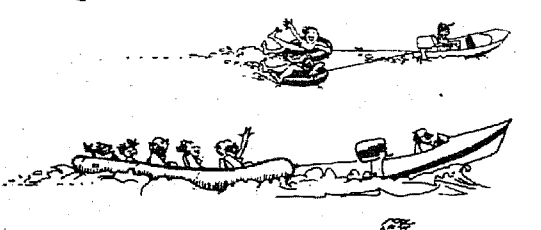
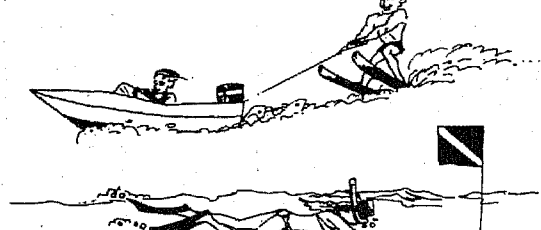
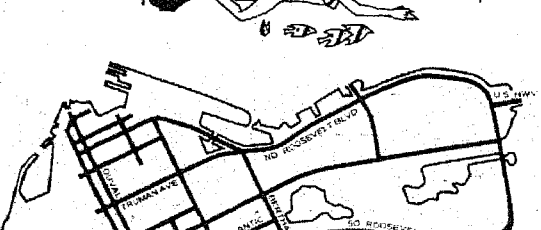
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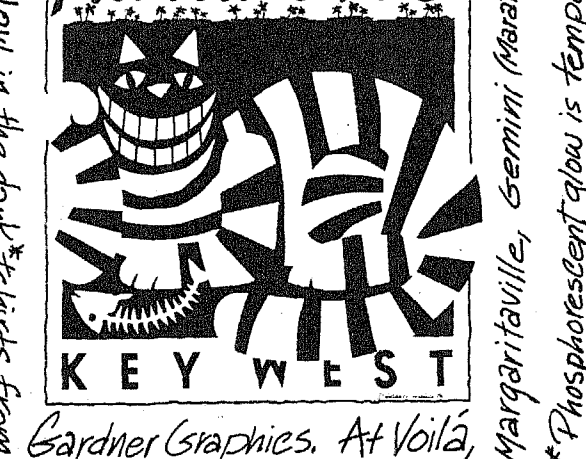
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### Keycare: Florida Keys Memorial Hospital's Prepaid Health Plan

Florida Keys Memorial Hospital has established the Florida Keys Memorial Hospital Prepaid (HMO) Health Plan, Keycare.

Keycare was established to provide prepaid case managed health care services to Medicaid eligible AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children), AFDC-related and other health care consumers living in the lower keys hospital district. Participation in the plan is totally voluntary with Keycare enrollees having the right to disenroll and re-enroll at any time for any reason. The plan coordinates, assumes responsibility for, and manages the individual provision of comprehensive health care services based on negotiated pre-paid capitation rates from the state. There is no cost to the Medicaid member. A broad range of Medicaid-covered services which emphasize preventive, cost effective health care, will be provided to Keycare members including primary care services, hospital outpatient and inpatient services (including diagnostic, medical, surgical, pediatric, gynecologic, obstetric, orthopedic), prescribed medications, laboratory and X-ray, visual, hearing, EPSDT, family planning, dental, home health and other post-hospital follow-up services. The plan does not include nursing home care.

The provision of hospital outpatient and

inpatient services will occur primarily at Florida Keys Memorial Hospital, the largest provider of Medicaid services in Monroe County. Future plans involve the expansion of the plan to other primary care centers and an expanded population base.

Opening date for the Keycare Health Plan is expected to be October 1st, 1986, at which time enrollment is scheduled to begin. Member health care is anticipated to be provided by November 1st, 1986. Medicaid recipient eligibility for the plan will be verified by the state HRS office in Tallahassee.

Health services for members will be coordinated by Keycare's Nurse Practitioner, Ann Vlaun-Ison. Ann will perform the initial health screening of the members, set up a personalized plan of care and refer members to Keycare plan specialists as necessary. Ann is an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner, who has received post-graduate education which qualifies her to provide direct patient care including health histories, physical examinations, management of acute and chronic disease, as well as providing patient education and counseling. She will work closely with the primary care physician and other health care professionals on the team to provide Keycare members with comprehensive health care.

Prior to working with Keycare, Ann had a private practice with a physician-internist in Key West for two years. Before coming to Key West, she was the Nurse Practitioner/Patient Care Coordinator for the Miami Comprehensive Hemophilia Center at the University of

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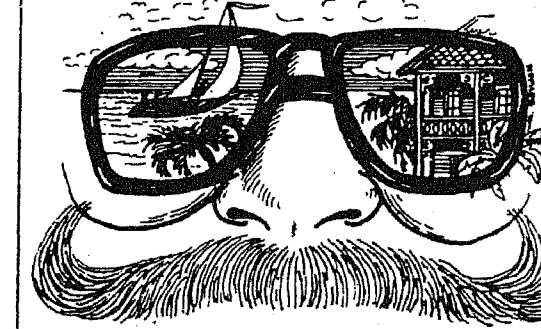
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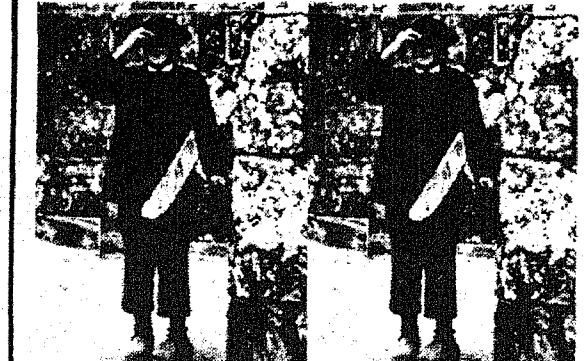
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# (T)URBAN REDEVELOPMENT PART I: A PROFILE OF PRITAM SINGH by George Murphy

A On Sunday September 7th, his morning prayers finished, Pritam Singh, of The Great Bay Co., Inc., sat in his 150+ year old stone farmhouse in South Woodstock, Vermont and entered another ritual: reading the Sunday New York Times.

Though Fall had not yet arrived, it was a chilly day, another of the predictably overcast weekends that had left most New Englanders without summer tans this year. Most agreed it was

the worst, most sun-less summer in memory.

As he flipped through the paper, he came across mention of the September 10th auction of the Truman Annex and no doubt flashed back for a moment or two to his sun-filled winter in Key West fifteen years ago.

B At the age of eighteen, Pritam Singh was known as Paul LaBombard of Brunswick, Maine. A rebellious and arrogant high school student, a "bad influence," an anti-Vietnam street protestor, a hippie.

In May 1971, he spent five days incarcerated in the basement of the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. following an anti-war demonstration. He remembers looking out at the

White House and seeing the police barricades in the streets.

"I knew I was about to reject everything that had gone before," he says. "In that moment, I knew I would not go back to Brunswick to live, that I would begin looking for something else."

Upon release, he headed South instead of back North.

When he could go no further, he pitched his tent on Christmas Tree Island.

"It was a good time, a vacation," he recalls. "I got a tan, looked at girls alot, did what any eighteen-year-old would have done ... When I needed money, I dove for shells and sold them on streetcorners. When I needed food, I bartered."

He also remembers his best friend getting arrested and having his head shaved in the local jail.

LaBombard soon headed north again, still searching for "something else."

C Singh closed the Sunday paper and decided that, though his schedule was overloaded and the opening of his new Multi-Million Dollar Hotel was six days away, it was time to return to Key West.

Within twenty-four hours, Kim Frenz, former executive Vice-President of his Great Bay Company, was on The Annex, inspecting buildings. Within forty-eight hours, Pritam Singh arrived to look for himself. "The property is beautiful, just as I remembered it," he said.

Within seventy-two hours, in a theater jammed with reporters and curious citizens, he raised a finger, said "Seventeen, Two-Five" and, with that one gesture, added Key West to a list of American cities in which he is the largest single property owner.

Within minutes, Singh was surrounded by politicians and the press.

"We are in the business of historic preservation," he told the crowd. "We are interested in preserving the architecture and integrity of the property. We want to restore and respect this unique place ... That's what makes property valuable."

"Would you have gone higher?" one reporter asked.

"Yes," he answered, "one dollar more," and smiled.

When asked if he thought he'd gone too high in his bidding, he said, "The price was fair."

He was right. In the three weeks since the auction, he has already been offered to sell the entire parcel at a profit.

But he's not selling. He's staying.

D From Key West, Paul LaBombard's travels took him to Montague, a small town in the Berkshire Mountain region in Western Massachusetts. There he entered a Sikh religious retreat, The Guru Ram Dass Ashram. He spent the next five years there. Upon leaving, he traveled to Armististar, India, to the Golden Temple, the holy center of the Sikh religion.

In the Sikh religion, he found the "something else" he'd been looking for and became a convert. He took the name Pritham, which means "God's beloved," and Singh, which means "lion." One becomes a "singh" at baptism and the surname is commonly adopted.

E Last week, Singh once again found himself looking at the White House behind barricades. But this time, it was Harry Truman's Little White

House and the barricades were the walls, fences and gates erected by the Navy to close off the Truman Annex from the rest of Key West, barricades he plans to remove.

"That property is part of Old Town," he says. "It is not a separate enclave to be set off from the rest of the city. The Navy disconnected it years ago. I'm going to re-connect it, to make it part of Old Town again."

Like the property it abuts, he says, part of it should be residential; part, commercial.

Though it should be obvious, he points out that people come to Key West, to any island, because it is an island. "Water is ..." he pauses, looking for the right word, ... magic."

"To be in Key West, in Old Town, and not be able to see and, if you will, commune with the water is a travesty. The rights of these hotels are not higher than the rights of everyone else to be able to see the ocean."

"Aside from restoring these beautiful buildings, there are some structural elements I'd like to add to Key West. Like a marina and an accessible sandy beach for the public, maybe on Tank Island ... rather than the few beaches being accessible only to the patrons of a few hotels."

"We also want to work with the city and the county on parking areas which the downtown area needs so badly."

"When you add open access to the waterfront, the historical buildings, a marina filled with beautiful boats, Tank Island ... I think it will all increase the attraction to Old Town and to Key West."

F According to "The Handbook of Sikh," The Sikh religion is practiced by some 14 Million people, approximately 2% of the population in India, mostly in the state of Punjab.

Some of the tenets of the Sikh religion include abstention from any intoxicants and from tobacco. It is a religion that espouses high ethics and honesty as a way of life. It prohibits gambling and stealing and insists that its followers earn their living through "right and honest means."

As well, a Sikh should spend 10% of his income in charities for "noble causes," such as helping the needy and the poor.

There are five traditional religious requirements made of all Sikhs: the keshas (uncut hair worn in a turban), the kanga (a comb worn in the hair), the kara (a steel bangle or bracelet), the kirpan (a dagger or sword), and the kachha (undergarments). The hair and sword symbolically assert their "forceful human potential"; the others represent "moral constraint and discrimination."

Over a breakfast of puffed rice and corn, (he is a vegetarian) Singh spoke about the Sikh religion and the symbolic nature of the turban, the sword, and the name Singh.

"The turbans and daggers are important symbols. At one time, only the princes in India carried weapons and wore turbans. The princes, the Hindu Rajas, were named Singh."

"But the Sikhs would not bow to Kings, only to God. It's your soul, not who you were born," he says with conviction, "how you behave, that makes you great."

"In the 18th century, Sikhs were the victims of genocide. By the end of the century, they were guerillas."

They were, he explained, great but sane warriors. "The Sikhs would fight and win, and that was enough. Then they'd stop and go home. But they are great warriors; in the wars of independence in 1947, they comprised only 2% of the Indian

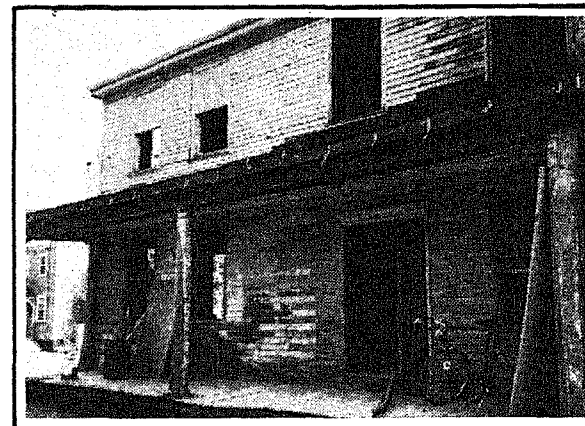


Photo: George Murphy

BEFORE AND AFTER: Great Bay Company's "Town Farm Townhouses," Pleasant Street, Portland, ME. The fire-gutted and decaying 1803 building on the left was one of the few remaining original settlement houses in the city. It, and the adjacent carriage house were completely restored and, as a result, qualified for listing in the National Registry of Historic Buildings.

population but 50% of the army."

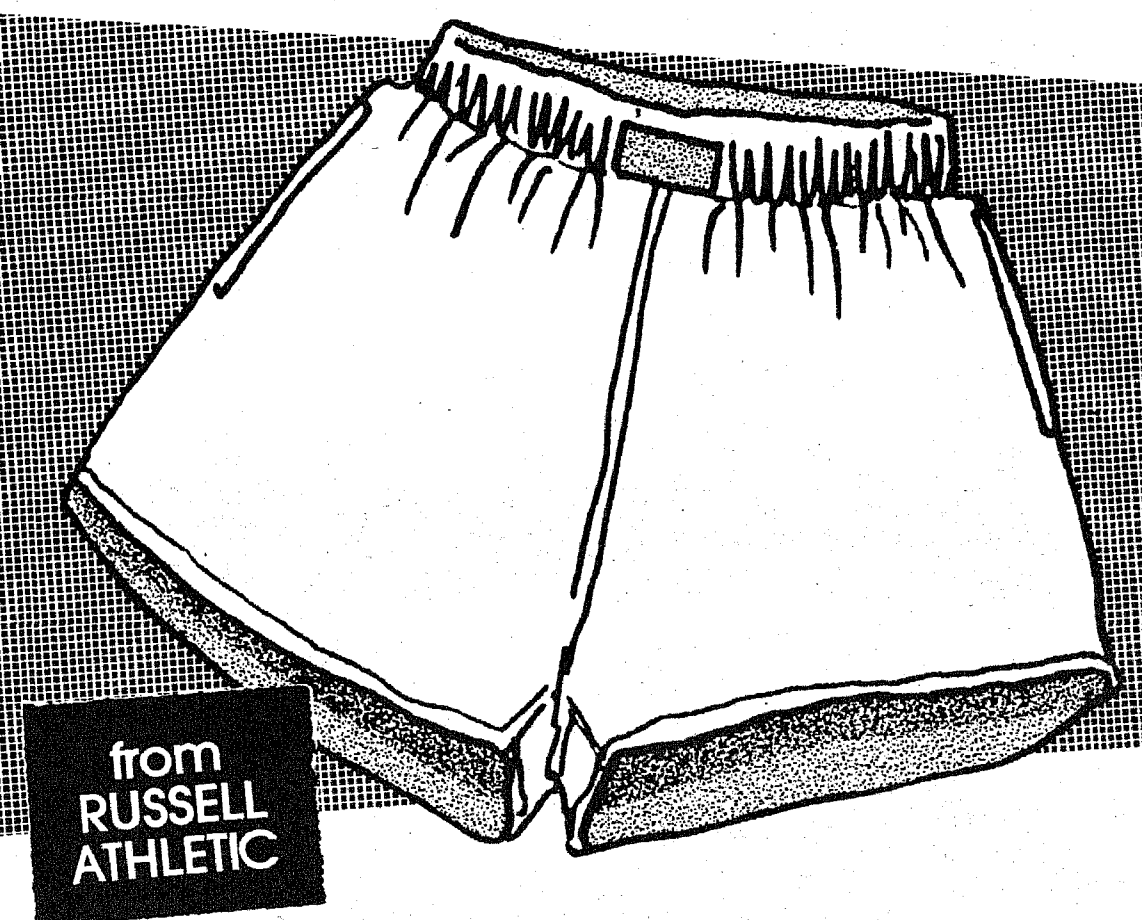
"And Sikhs are alot like Americans: very democratic and egalitarian. They believe, like us, that they are all created equal. They make themselves great by the lives they lead and" - he chuckles at this one - "they never gave up their right

to bear arms."

He adds, "But I don't have any involvement in politics, Sikh or otherwise."

G But he is not without strong political

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opinions: "The Reagan Administration has been very good for me because I'm wealthy. But I'm really a sort of 1930's left-wing democrat. I like the idea of minimum standards for everyone. Like free milk for every child. Now too many people think they need a Cadillac."

"I remember the great values of the Sixties. We were fighting dishonesty and corruption in Nixon. We were questioning a horribly destructive war. We were fighting for great goals like desegregation. Nixon was driven out. The war stopped. Blacks got to register to vote. There was a beautiful belief in the air that you could fight for - and get - justice! And it was on the upswing."

"Remember? The headlines were about social injustice. Now" he says, "they're about interest rates."

He grins: "My approach is to create the

wealth, then be able to help people create beauty, then keep making it ... Others have succeeded and dropped their beliefs but I've kept those values from the Sixties. I guess I'm an 'anachronism by default.'"

"And Reagan" - he winces speaking the name - "his solution for everything from drug abuse to family planning is 'Just Say No!' while he cuts human services. I say the same: 'No!'"

H The Sixties are still evident in Singh's sparsely furnished and airy home.

Stacked on the floor in the corner, mixed randomly with Sikh prayer recordings are the same record albums that defined a decade's tastes and, to

some extent, social sensibilities: Bob Dylan to Bob Marley, Johnny Winter to Motown, Joni Mitchell to Jackson Browne.

The farm's favorite: The Band's "Music From Big Pink."

And what can you learn about a man from his bookshelves?

First, that he reads.

Much about his religion but, like the record collection, spiced: *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, *North Dallas Forty*, *Heart of Darkness*, *Dune*.

Peter Matthiessen, Gordon Liddy, Graham Greene, George Orwell, Raymond Carver.

And Biographies: John Lennon, Douglas MacArthur, Henry VIII, Andre Malraux, The Kennedys, Hitler.

And the masters of pulp, Raymond Chandler, John D. McDonald, Elmore Leonard, Gregory McDonald, Dick Francis, Robert B. Parker, John LeCarre, Agatha Christie.

Last book read: Plato's "Republic." "It's better each time I read it," he says.

I Singh's home is Morgan Hill Farm in South Woodstock, Vermont, one of the prettiest villages in New England. From one month to the next, the acreage varies, but is approaching 210 acres.

There's work going on everywhere.

There's a sugarhouse downhill from miles of plastic tubing strung from maple tree to maple tree. Last year they produced over 800 gallons of syrup. ("I was so excited with the first results, I drank about a half gallon." His friends look at one another and grin. "I think I got drunk on sugar," he says.)

The whine and rattle of earth movers, bulldozers and backhoes, rumble through the dense pines.

This morning the sod-installers are checking the progress of a croquet court.

There are three man-made ponds on the property. A fourth, in the works, will host a Japanese tea house on stilts, accessible over a narrow bridge.

A domed Sikh temple, near completion, overlooks a spectacular vista of the Green Mountains and checkered farm plots.

There is a pottery shop nearly completed.

The in-joke at the village square is that Singh is upsetting the village labor market by hiring too many locals.

And there are the corrals, of horses, sheep, and llamas.

But the mind's eye remembers this best: A few hundred feet from his farmhouse, almost invisible from the road, stands the result of what must have been one of the great whims of all time, massive, imposing, and pretty damned amazing: his own private version of Stonehenge. Huge granite slabs (some 30' high) standing vertically in a depressed circle within a 25 foot high berm. To get to the 'earthwork,' once passes through a dog-leg cave entrance, designed so that the inner wall exit matches the outer wall entrance like pieces of a jigsaw puzzle.

"What inspired this?" I asked.

"Well, we were excavating and found these huge pieces of granite, together, intact. I had three choices. I could get them hauled out or I could blast them up or I could have some fun. I decided to have fun."

It is a striking sight and an amazing work of art. Though the word has lapsed into misuse lately, I think I did say, "awesome."

Building blocks for a full-grown kid, I thought, but with admiration.

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I wish you could see it. I wish I could have done it.

J There are people who would like to see Pritam Singh dead.

The same rebellious spirit and sense of justice that pitted him against authority figures in high school and led him into the streets of Washington, D.C., surfaced as well in the Massachusetts ashram.

The commune's leader, Yogi Bhaan, seemed, after a while, not so holy to Singh. There were, according to Singh, forced marriages between strangers and "other cult horror stories" which did not fit the humble and egalitarian righteousness of the Sikh religion.

He departed New England for India where he found a healthy reaffirmation of his religious beliefs.

Since that time, he has spent considerable time and money in efforts to expose the commune he now calls a "cult" and to help people who have been caught up in its web. He has offered them financial aid and counseling.

Stephan Josephs, a counselor who helps former commune members, says, "When you leave a cult, there's a lot of disorientation. Pritam has helped people get a new start in life."

He has a bodyguard.

Against the wall in his farm office loft, there leans an imposing bare-metal semi-automatic M-16, with scope.

K In 1982, Pritam Singh's name was mud in Portland.

The Market Street Market, a mini-mall fashioned after Boston's Quincy Market, went under.

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The Maine Savings Bank declared the controlling partnership in default on a \$435,000 loan. The city placed a liens on the project in excess of \$33,000. Lots of people were owed money.

Singh reports, "I owned 9% and I had no control. The controlling interests were in Australia. But I was still in Portland and I was in the redevelopment business. I was visible and I took the heat."

According to the Maine Times, by January, 1983, the Maine Bank was paid in full, his partners were reimbursed for their losses, and creditors were being sought.

"I was caught in the middle," Singh says. "I owned 9 percent, but I took 100 percent of the debts and paid them."

Singh says, "9% was a mistake I'll never make again."

To assure it, he now insists on two things: 51% ownership of any project or property and 100%

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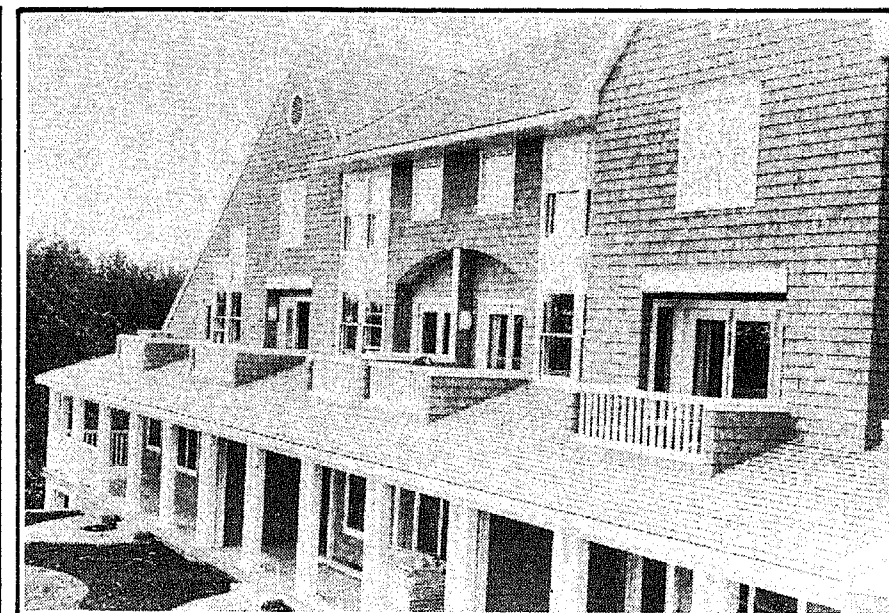


Photo: George Murphy

Detail of the 19th Century New England Shingle-Style design of the Inn by the Sea, Cape Elizabeth. The hotel is not a renovation but a completely new wooden structure.

decision-making power.

According to Singh, since that early failure, the Great Bay Company has grown to a \$100 Million business.

"Whatever I've done, I've done well. There are investors. But I insist on being in a position to know that everything we do is done right."

The Truman Annex, he says, is all his - 100%.

L Hopefully, his recently-opened Inn by the Sea is an indication of what he means by "doing things right."

The hotel houses 44 beautifully appointed suites, each with a view of the Maine Coastline.

It consists of one large main building and 4 large houses, called "the cottages."

The Inn which formerly occupied the site was burned to the ground and the current hotel was built from the ground up, in wood. Very expensive.

Each room contains original art - engravings and watercolors. The furniture is cherry and mahogany Chippendale. The silverware in the gourmet dining room is silver. There are marble floors. There is leaded glass in the doors. There are fountains and sculptures on the grounds.

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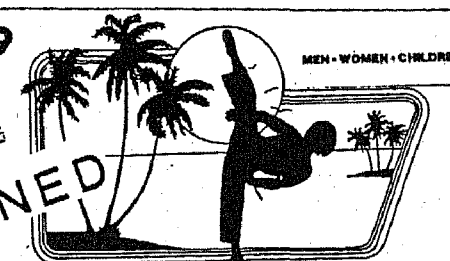
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There is a \$100,000 Audobon collection - from the last of the original 400 sets - of birds indigenous to the region, purchased from the City of New York, in the lobby and corridors. A \$100,000 Andrew Wyeth watercolor hangs in the Lobby.

"To my knowledge," Singh says, "the only other hotel with such an art collection is the Mansion in Turtle Creek, owned by the Hunts."

Singh speaks with pride of the Inn. "The architecture, the ambiance, the restaurant ... it has everything to make it a world-class resort. And I don't mean Atlantic City. I mean 'class.'"

M Singh On Key West: "It's one of the places that has the best 'sense of a place' ... one of best restored and most cohesive cities in America. It's a small city but it's very jewel-like and gem-like. It has a quality of life about it that's created by the climate, the water, the buildings, the plants. That's what attracts people to Key West. That's the reason people choose to live there. That's what attracted me."

"If this property had been in any of the other Florida Keys, I wouldn't have been interested."

N Last week, Singh was in town meeting with

members of the City Commission and local businesspeople, preparing press conferences, and doing his best to gather his own sense of 1986 Key West, taking input from all sides, seeking ideas and forming notions of the years of work to come.

When last seen, he was musing over a growing list of suggestions for what to do at the Truman Annex.

more to come...

Next Month: How he made his fortune. Plans for Phase One of the development.

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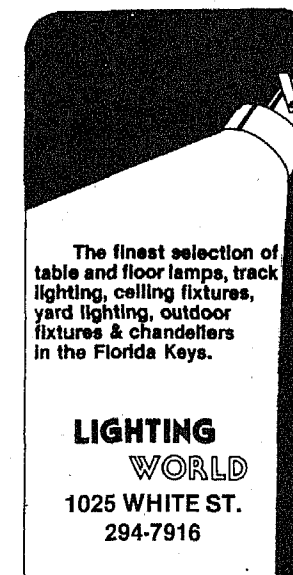
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### Flying Rifles, Electric Brigade Spark This Year's Children's Day

Key West's Children's Day, fast becoming a Halloween tradition, is held each year in Bayview Park on the Sunday closest to Halloween. Sponsored by Burger King, First Federal of the Florida Keys, Zayre and Old Town Trolley, Children's Day offers local youth and school groups the opportunity to raise funds for their projects through the operation of over sixty games, contests, rides and activities for the children of the community.

The festivities will begin this year at

2:00, October 26, with a gala costume parade. All participating children will be awarded a participation ribbon, and first, second and third place winners will be chosen in each age division, as well as a Grand Prize winner for "Best Overall Costume." After the parade, the celebration will continue in Bayview Park where the day's activities will be highlighted by several unique events.

Specially imported for the Children's Day festivities will be the U.S. Navy "Flying Rifles" Drill Team, believed to be the Navy's oldest precision drill unit in continuous existence. The team earned its name through the development and performance of various free-throw exchanges of the Mark V rifle. The Mark V

is a chromed, modified version of the Springfield ".03" which served as the primary weapon for infantrymen in World War I. A 9-inch, chrome-plated, steel bayonet is attached to the Mark V, giving the piece a total weight of eleven pounds.

The "Flying Rifles" perform a stylized close order drill. In all of their maneuvers, the team members maintain minimum separation. Throughout a performance, the bayonet-to-body clearance averages 2 to 3 inches. Unlike most performing units in the military services, the "Flying Rifles" are all part-time volunteers who have undergone an intensive nine-week training period requiring extreme concentration and commitment.

The "Electric Brigade," a powerhouse

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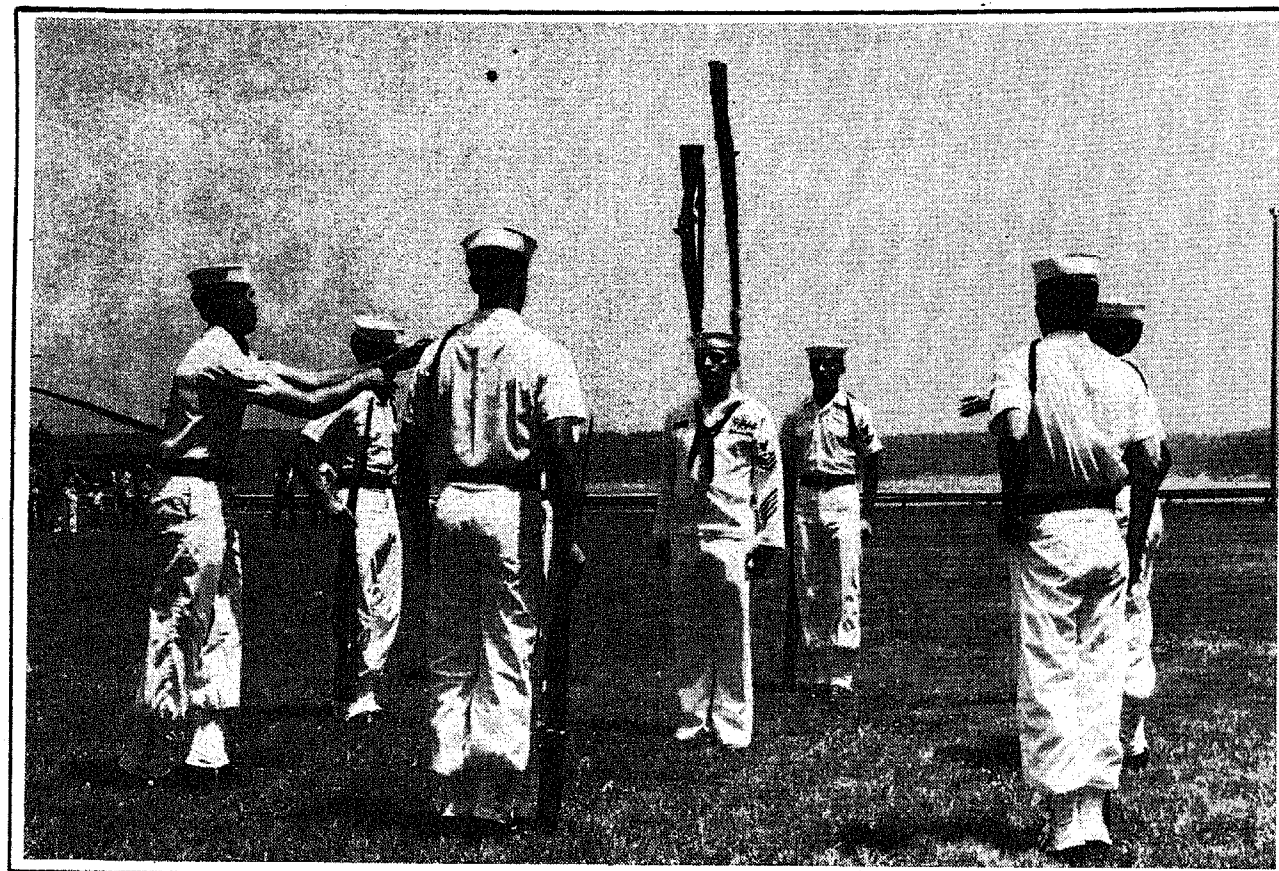
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The "Flying Rifles"

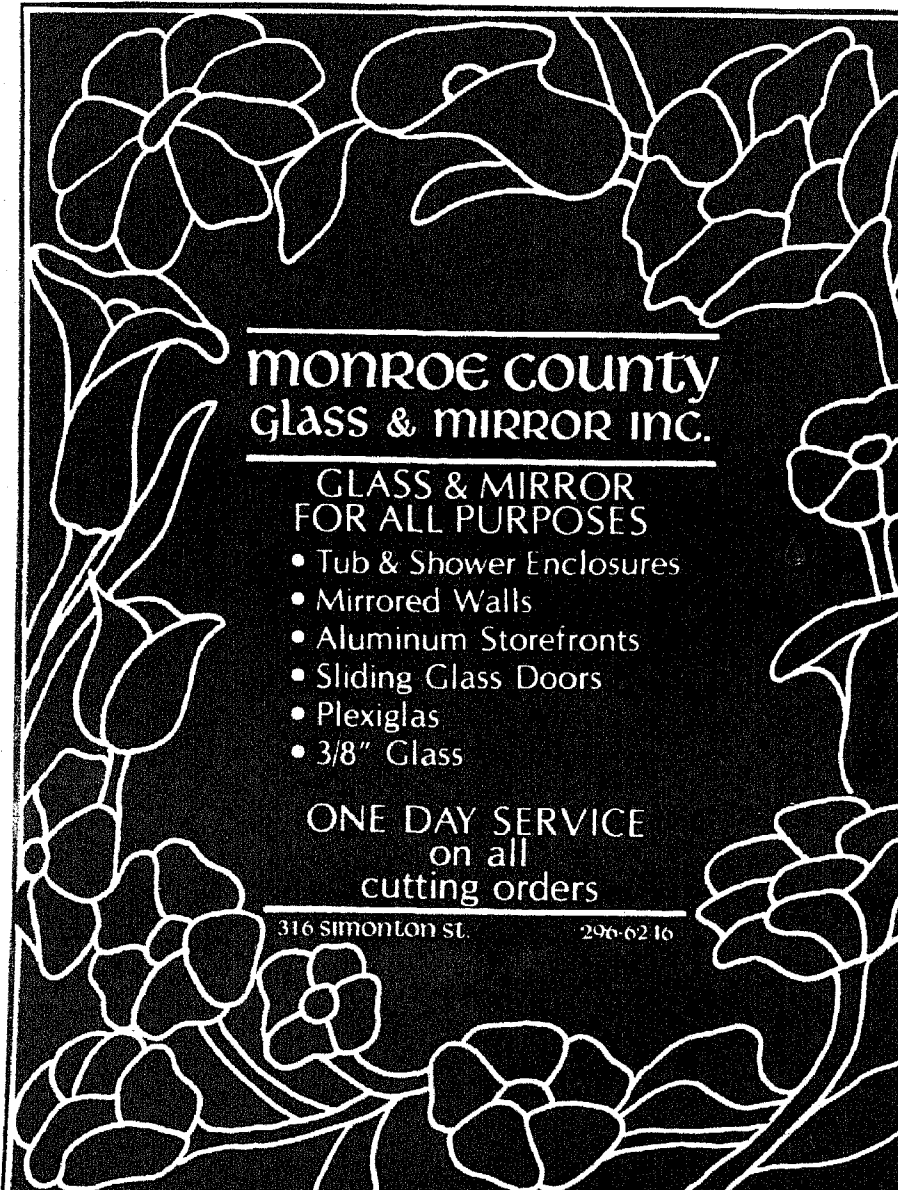
top 40 rock band, will be adding its professional impetus to the Children's Day festivities. In existence for seven years, the "Electric Brigade," under the leadership of Musician First Class Gary Seitz, is the U.S. Naval Academy's best, having recently completed tours of Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, Bermuda, and numerous tours of

the Northeast, mid-Atlantic, and Midwest states, all to rave reviews.

In addition to the professional entertainment, games and activities in Bayview Park, the annual pumpkin-carving and poster contest winners will be announced throughout the afternoon. The poster art chosen as first prize winner will

become the logo and t-shirt design for next year's Children's Day. The 1985 winner (and designer of this year's posters, flyers and t-shirts, seen all around town) was Brian Eastman. Children wishing to enter this year's contest may obtain entry forms and complete details from their school.

51



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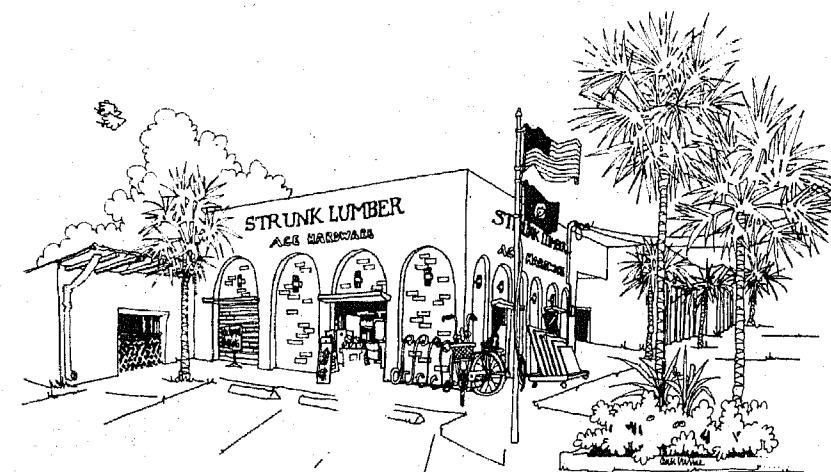
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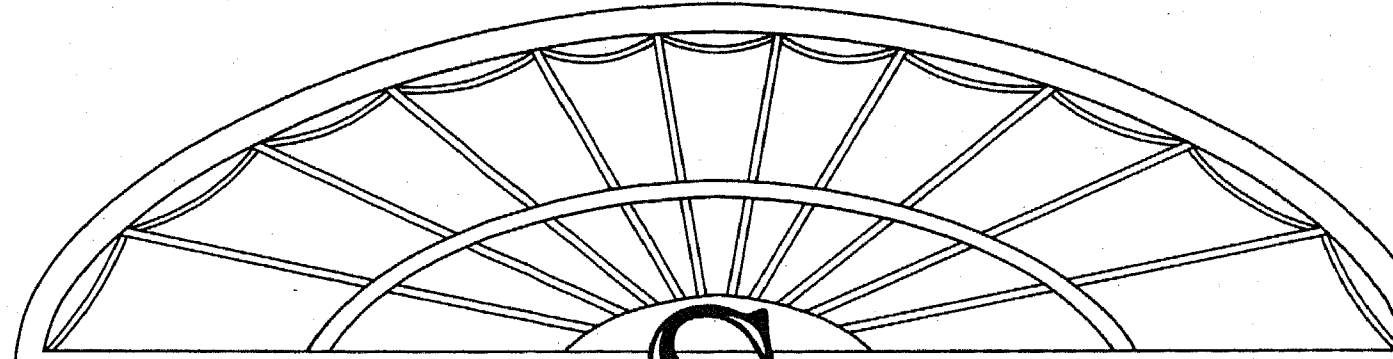
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## Church of St. Mary, Star of the Sea

by Jolene Talarico

Back in the early 1800's the first Catholic Church in Key West resided on Duval Street. Masses were often celebrated by visiting priests since there was no official pastor.

That structure burned down around the turn of the century, and in 1904 the Church of St. Mary, Star of the Sea was built on Truman Avenue at the corner of Windsor Lane, where it stands today.

Father John O'Leary became Pastor about four and one-half years ago, and he enjoys a healthy, happy relationship with his Parish.

Father O'Leary explains, "A good parish is much more than sermons and preachings. Teamwork is the single most important factor. The Catholic Church today is very different from twenty years ago. In general, we are now working in conjunction with the teachings of the Second Vatican Council which, in my mind, has two outstanding benefits to Catholic people everywhere. The Vatican encourages parishes to become actively involved in the Liturgy, creating a much stronger sense of community among the people. And, the Catholic Church has become a stronghold in the worldwide movement for human rights.

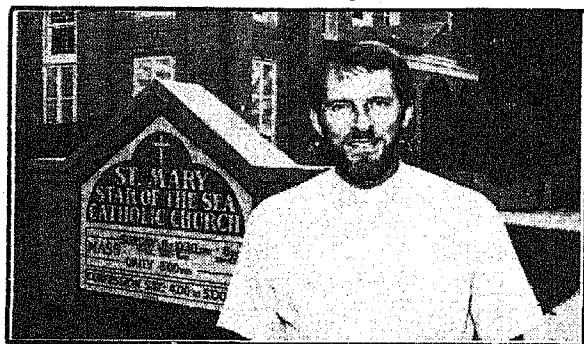
"The emphasis of today's teachings combines fact with practical application for living in the faith, which helps us to realize that knowledge enables us to intellectually know God. Combined with Love and faith,

we come to realize the truths of our religion."

Father O'Leary likes to refer to today's practices as "the fruit of 20 centuries of development; it's the people who make it all happen."

Probably one of the largest, if not the largest church in Key West, over 700 families are registered with St. Mary's, plus tourists and military visitors.

St. Mary's contains a Parish Council, a group of parishioners who represent the parish community. They meet with Pastor O'Leary and the Pastoral team, consisting of the Deacon, Reverend Kirby McClain; Music Director, Douglas Sklarski; Director of Religious Education, Jean Maun; and the school principal, Belinda Klau. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss, as



Father O'Leary of St. Mary's in Key West

representatives of the entire Parish, areas of concern to the group as a whole until a general consensus is agreed upon by all.

Programs at St. Mary's include a "Journey of the Faith" group which meets on Tuesdays to reflect on the teachings of the Catholic Church from an adult

perspective and initiates those interested in becoming Catholic. "Cursillo" is a spiritual group who meet on a monthly basis to explore their growing spirituality.

Beginning in November until shortly after Easter, the "Soup Kitchen" will be open Monday through Friday from 4:30 PM into the evening hours, offering a free meal for the needy. The Thrift Shop offers clothes to the poor for free and sells remaining items to benefit the church. Organist Doug Sklarski is in charge of the Community Services Office, which offers assistance in many ways to the needy through job referrals, some financial support and sometimes a place to stay. All of these are done in the spirit of helping people to help themselves.

For the children who attend school at St. Mary, Star of the Sea, grades K through 8, once a month is Parents' Night, a program for parents to help them continue to grow and positively interact with their children.

St. Bede's shares schooling and CCD classes with St. Mary's and Youth Minister Deacon Jacques Bernard works in conjunction with the two at St. Bede's with youths from 13 to 19 years old. Children of all denominations are welcome to contact him.

Recently, Archbishop Edward McCarthy declared "A Year of Reconciliation" in anticipation of Pope John Paul II's visit to Miami, scheduled for September, 1987.

Father O'Leary and his Parish welcome all who wish to come to the Church of St. Mary Star of the Sea. The schedule of masses is in our directory on the next page.

## Church Directory

### AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL

Bethel A.M.E. Church: 223 Truman Ave., 294-9951. Sunday worship 11 am, Sunday School 9:30 am, prayer meeting Tuesday evenings at 7:30.

### ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Glad Tidings Tabernacle: 1209 United St., 296-5773. Charles C. Elliott, pastor. Sunday worship 10:30 am and 6:30 pm, Sunday Children's Church 10:30 am, Wednesday night youth service 7:00 pm, Thursday mid-week service 7:00 pm. Nursery available for all services. Helping Hands child care center for ages 1 thru 4.

### BAHA'I

Baha'i Faith, 718 Duval, 294-2060.

### BAPTIST

Greater Keys Baptist Church, Fifth & Seidenberg, 296-3648. Dennis Clark, pastor. Sunday school 9:45 am, Sunday services 11:00 am and 7:00 pm, Thursday service 7:00 pm.

St. James Missionary Baptist Church, 312 Olivia, 296-5593. Fred L. Carter, DD, pastor. Sunday worship 11:00 am and 6:00 pm, Sunday school 9:30 am.

Big Coppitt First Baptist Church, Ave. F, MM 10, 294-4118. Randy Kitchens, Pastor. Sunday worship 11:00 am and 7:30 pm, Sunday school 9:45 am, prayer meeting Wed. evenings at 7:30.

Fifth St. Baptist Church, 2318 Fogarty Ave., 294-2255. Rev. R. Hetherington. Sunday worship 11:00 am and 7:00 pm, Sunday school 9:45 am.

First Baptist Church, 524 Eaton St., 296-8544. Charles Teagle Jr., Pastor. Sunday worship 11:00 am and 7:00 pm, Sunday bible school 9:30 am, Wednesday evening service 7:00.

Key West Baptist Temple, 5727 Second Ave., Stock Island. Morris Wright, pastor. Sunday worship 10:50 am and 6:30 pm, Sunday school 9:45 am, senior citizen Sunday service 2:30 pm, Wednesday evening prayer service 7:00.

Sugarloaf Baptist Mission, meeting at Sugarloaf Elementary School, 45-2204. Rev. Mark Beasley, pastor. Sunday school 9:45 am, worship service 11:00. Vacation bible school for children ages 3 thru 12 July 14-25 Mon. thru Fri. 9:00 am to 12 noon, at Sugarloaf Elementary School.

### CATHOLIC

St. Bede's Catholic Church, 2700 Flagler Ave., 294-2984. Rev. Thomas F. Mullane, pastor. Mass Monday 10:30 am at Senior Citizen Plaza; Tuesday thru Friday 9:00 am in the church; Sunday 9:00 am, 11:15 am, 7:00 pm in the church; Vigil Mass Saturday 7:00 pm.

### METHODIST

Cornish Memorial A.M.E. Zion, 702 Whitehead St., 294-2350. Dr. F. Isaac Lowe. Sunday worship 11:00, Sunday school 9:30 am.

First United Methodist, 600 Eaton St., 296-2392. Rev. David H. Schantz, Jr. Sunday worship services 8:30 and 11:00 am, Sunday school 9:45 am.

Fleming Street United Methodist, 729 Fleming St., 296-2812. Rev. Charles H. Ketchum.

Ley Memorial United Methodist, 1304 Truman Ave., 296-3313. Walter R. Matthews, Jr. Sunday school 9:45 am, Sunday worship 11:00 am. Bible studies: short term at various times.

### NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Cosmic Lightbearers, 721 Waddell Ave., 294-0294. Rev. Jeanette Bottoms. "We are a small group of New Age seekers who currently use the natural settings of Key West as our place of worship. Thursday 7:30 pm, Higgs Beach gazebo.

Gospel Chapel, 720 Southard St., 294-4351.

### PRESBYTERIAN

Peace Covenant Presbyterian, 2960 Flagler, 294-1223. Sunday service 11:00 am, Sunday school 9:15 am. Trinity Presbyterian USA, 717 Simonton St., 296-3318. Rev. Albert W. Moses. Sunday service 11:00 am, Sunday school 9:30 am.

### QUAKERS

Quakers, Sunday 10:30 am. Information 294-1523.

### SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

Seventh-Day Adventist, 1006 Thomas St., 294-4077.

### SYNAGOGUE

Congregation B'nei Zion, 750 United St., 296-5739. Rabbi Sol Landau. Services on Fri. evenings at 8:00.

### UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

First Congregational, 527 William St., 296-8633. Rev. V. K. Relyea. Sunday services 11:00 am and 7:00 pm. Sunday school 9:45 am.

### UNITY

Unity of the Keys, 3424 Duck Ave., 296-5888. Sunday 11:00 am, Tuesday evening course in miracles 7:00 pm, Thursday 11 am basic Unity principles.

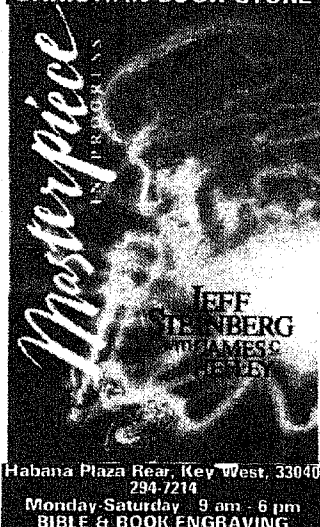
### UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP

Metropolitan Community Church, 1601 Jamaica Dr., 294-8912. Steve Torrence, pastor. Sunday service 11:00 am.

### WESLEYAN METHODIST

Holiness Wesleyan Methodist, 800 Eisenhower Dr., 294-4742. Raymond Shreve, pastor. Sunday worship 11:00 and 7:30 pm, Sunday school 9:45 am, Wednesday prayer meeting 7:30, Thursday evening service at 7:00.

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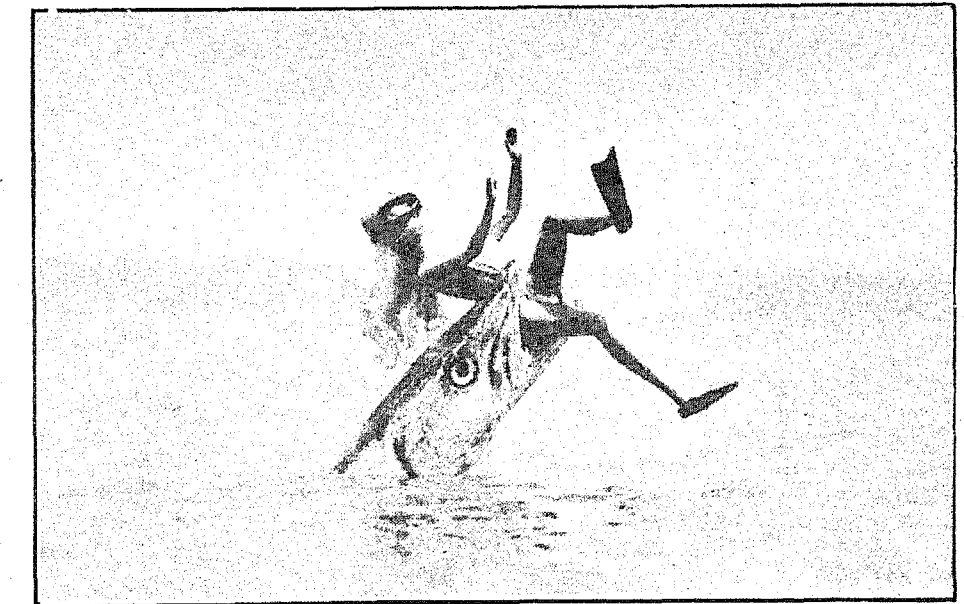
**Van Eno -- In Memorium**

Van Eno died on the 14th of September, at home, of an AIDS-related malady; with him were his mother and several of his closest friends who had supported him so diligently through the course of his treatments and hospitalizations. Van Eno was a proud man and he wanted the truth to be known in the hope that it would eventually help others.

He was born in West Palm Beach the 29th of September, 1947 at St. Mary's. His father was in the service, and both he and his wife, Betty, were from Wisconsin and Van was destined to be raised in various and different worlds. When he was three the family found itself in Newfoundland and it was there that his younger brother Michael was born. There were few resources or amusements for the children and their mother took to telling Van stories which she illustrated. At three he started drawing on Canadian rag-paper tablets with colored

pencils and crayons and he literally never stopped. Betty Eno was perplexed as to why his figures all had enlarged feet and huge legs until someone pointed out to her that it was simply a child's perspective of what he actually sees. They were then stationed in London, where Van started school. He was naturally attracted to the theatre along with the drawing and painting which overlapped with the crafts that he took up in Cub Scouts, and which obliged his mother to become a full-time Cub-mother twice over because brother

# THE ANTIC HUMOR OF RICHARD WATHERWAX



BARBIE MEET BARRY

Michael was just three years behind. Van's teachers reported that he was dreamy and overly imaginative.

There was a year and a half in Massachusetts and then Long Island. He gave up the Scouts at 16, having achieved status as a Life Scout, and settled down to Art studies, receiving a gold medal from the Commack High School, the interior of which was decorated with maturing Van Eno's.

After three years of the School of Visual Arts in New York, an 8 to 5 working school, he went to work for an ad agency in the early 70's. His work was selected for Gimbel's Christmas catalogue—in particular,

that season's logo. He did layouts for many of the top firms, Abercrombie and Fitch included.

The Enos returned to Ft. Lauderdale in 1971, where Van eventually joined them and began to work for a Miami ad agency for whom he created, among other things, the Cricket Club logo. Mr. Eno, Sr. died in 1983. Betty Eno feels that Van subconsciously captured certain of his father's attributes in his portrait of Old King Cole from his Fairy Tales series.

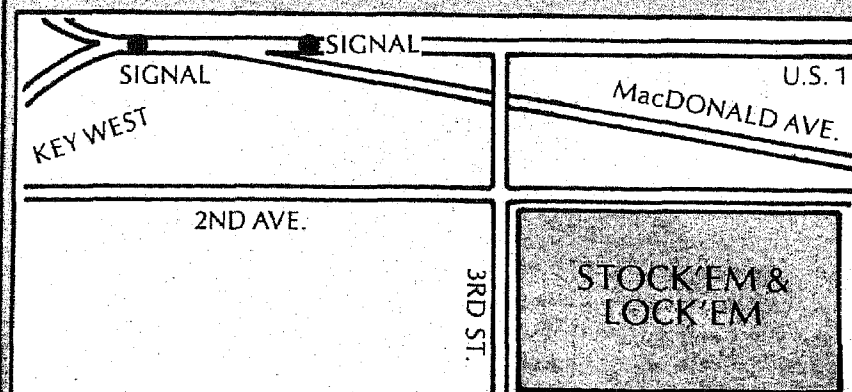
Van Eno moved to Key West ten years ago to paint and here he was taken into Richard Heymann's Gingerbread Gallery, where he received much encouragement.

He painted exclusively with Windsor-Newton gouaches and brushes and his work is profoundly detailed. He started painting in the style of ancient Flemish tapestries, eventually applying this technique to Biblical themes and all the major Greco-Roman myths. His surfaces are brilliant and the detail explicit and clear. Three Flemish ladies in elegant period dress have lacquered fingernails and one is drinking a can of Pabst. If the surfaces vibrate, the point of view is sardonic, always, although he sometimes ventures into farce. He "poked fun" but was capable of deep emotion as when the cast of "Godspell" turned their Van Eno costumes

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Maximum float dimensions for "Standard Floats" (\$100.00 Entry Fee) are 40' overall length, 15' width, and 12' height (measured from the ground). Entries in the "Self-propelled Float/Costumed Walkers" category (\$50.00 Entry Fee) must be rolled, carried, pushed, pulled or floated by any number of individuals, but cannot be mechanically powered. And "Single Being Floats" (\$25.00 Entry Fee) are those occupied by only one person using any means of propulsion.

Entry Fees for Major Sponsors are waived and \$500.00 sponsors receive a 50% reduction in fees. Any business entering a "Standard Float" must provide one unaffiliated marshal to assist with the parade, and all entries must provide one monitor who will be responsible for his/her float or group. Please fill out the form below and mail it to Fantasy Fest '86, P.O. Box 230, Key West, FL 33041, or drop it by festival headquarters at the Pier House. Entry forms must be received no later than FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10TH. If you enter a float, you will be contacted the week of October 13th with line-up area and meeting time. Please keep this information sheet as your record. Should you have any questions, contact Michael Nieland at 294-2204 or Michael Walton at 294-4440.

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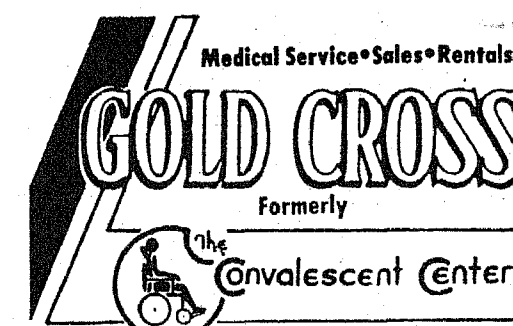
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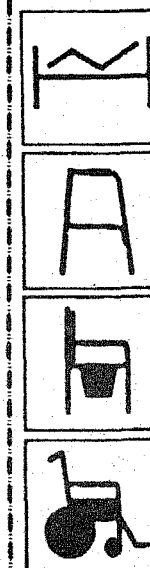
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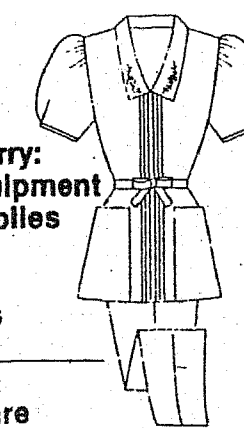
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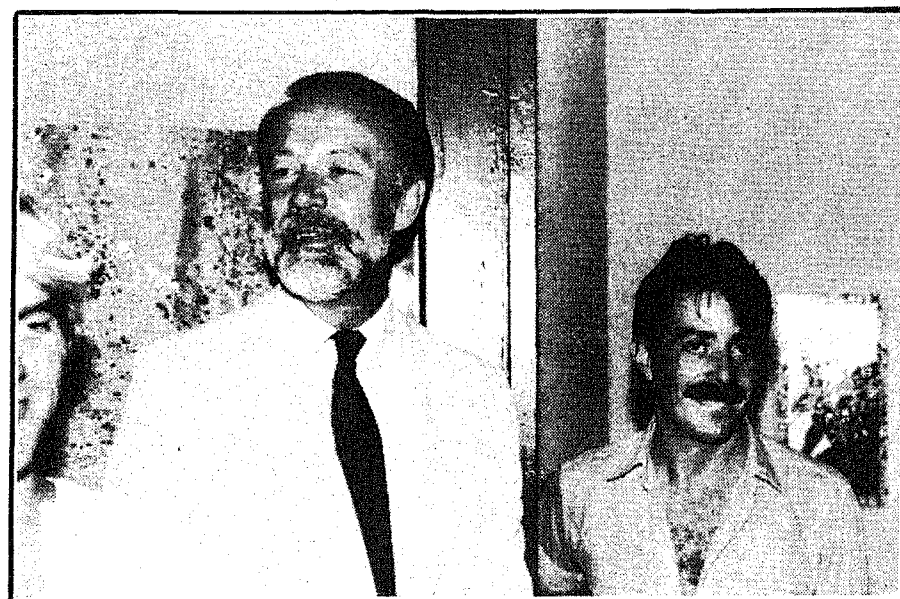
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Richard Heyman (left) and Van Eno

inside-out on staged and they were suddenly in mourning in black and blue with white doves soaring upwards. He did a series of Tarot cards and quite a lot of erotic art which sold very well. He won the 1985 Fantasy Fest contest and his design became the logo that year.

His life was lived with a small coterie of friends that did not change from year to year. He was an intensely private person who hated to think that he might be the object of gossip. He was an ardent collector and grower of orchids. He loved sailing and once sailed here from Connecticut. He could invariably be found the day before and the day after an opening sailing in the Gulf. He was also a gourmet cook and he

delighted in cooking on special occasions: birthdays, Christmas, for his family and friends. In effect, his friends and family were one and the same. Betty Eno gave up her job when her son summoned her to his side. She had four lucid days with him. The role of the Hospice in the last week of Van Eno's life was indispensable and Betty Eno feels immeasurable gratitude for their superbly human services.

Van Eno was cremated and his ashes will be scattered on the Gulf.

A memorial service will be announced at a later date for family and friends.

**Musings**

by V.K.Gibson

**1. ISOLATION**

Gore Vidal's early novel, *The Judgment of Paris*, has as its theme the isolation which is suffered by all human beings. No matter how close we may come to others, there is always that distance which lies between what we think we know, and what we actually know, about those whom we try to touch. The saving grace, Mr. Vidal seems to conclude, arises during an almost magical moment when one person manages to turn away from the obvious and surrenders to the illusion of oneness with another.

Reading *The Judgment of Paris*, I thought about the isolation which we all suffer, the ways in which we cope with life, and the darkness which lies beyond our campfires.

Fresh from the womb, infants are sponges of experience and their natures demand that they absorb the universe as it flies at them along the pathways of the senses. Life is a mystery which must be solved, and the child must possess—everything. He digs a hole in the back yard (knowing full well that China is just another spoonful away) and then cries when he cannot take the hole inside with him at bedtime. He demands the moon. He sees himself everywhere and is infatuated with the brilliances and reflections of the world in his eyes.

He is thus in love, in the Romantic sense, imbued with the heroic stature of innocence. He is still years from chronic disillusionment, the point when he realizes that his senses are deceptive, that the universe is far more than he can ever grasp. He can cry in his aloneness, but ultimately there is no one to pick him up but himself.

Children sometimes cannot tell the difference between dreams and reality. Later, if they're bright or creative, they still



cannot tell the difference, not really. Many chronically dissatisfied people are unhappy because they have no effective ways to deal with the frustrations which arise from knowing too much and too little at the same time.

Sometimes they become artists, and writers, and then chaos goes in one doorway of their lives and comes out another after being turned into paintings and sculpture, poetry and prose...

But, regardless of what he becomes, the great little prince of make-believe learns, ultimately, that life is something to be survived, because living is bad for one's health, and that the only way to face the darkness beyond the fire of life is to deny it,

ignore it, laugh at it. And, if he is lucky, to bridge the gap of isolation with an act of faith.

**2. HISTORY**

When I was four I taught myself to read, and by the time I entered school I had discovered books about ancient Greece, Rome, and Egypt. I knew the names of the Roman emperors up to Constantine (I didn't consider the rest, with the exception of Flavius Claudius Julianus, as being "true" Romans), could draw maps of Alexander's path of conquest across Asia, and, to my first grade teacher's dismay, loved to discourse upon the dynasties of Egypt.

If anyone was primed to enjoy a trip to Europe, it was I. But, when I finally went, last year—what a let down it proved to be! Oh, Greece was spectacular and the Greeks were friendly and beautiful. But, as we went from one ruin to the other I looked in vain for the drum-roll of magic which had captivated me in my youth. The old, time-splintered stones did not hold, for me, the glories of the past. Where then had history gone? I now close my eyes and—yes! There it is, inside me, glittering in the sunshine of days gone by.

Children are the real authors of history. Their partners in creation are those clever ghost-writers, the poltergeists of instinct. Later the ghosts move to the back seat of the mind, always whispering directions, thumping and bumping, often in conflict with each other.

And so we "grow up," burdened with a great load of emotional and social baggage,

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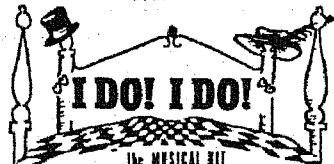
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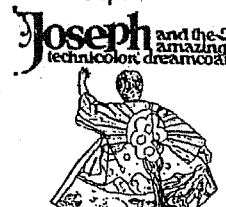


THE MUSICAL HIT

December



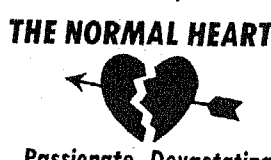
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scarcely aware that the gear under which we stagger may be less than useless in the strange worlds which lie ahead. The game becomes not wonder but—survival.

### 3. MAGIC

Another trip far exceeded what I had expected. My wife and I traveled with Jordan Meinster and John Burgess to Haiti.

Much maligned Haiti offered a perception which I never enjoyed in Greece,

the temptation to that act of faith which closes the gap which divides selves from selves. It occurred almost everywhere. When we drove to Cap Haitian, and the sun set in the mountains, we suddenly rounded a curve and there, at the roadside, was a group of men dancing about a seated lady who had a lighted candle upon her head. There was no "commercial" reason, and the brief look I got at them awakened in me my own sense of awe.

Outside Cap Haitian I went with my wife, and John Burgess, up to the great fortress of the King of Haiti, Henri Christophe, who was perhaps the first black genius in recorded history. (Jordan stayed in the city, where the quarter he visited caught fire mysteriously, perhaps causing the natives to suspect him of voodoo, much to his dismay.) It was here, rather than in Greece, that history seemed to be stored, in a Napolionic-period citadel which is "new" when compared to the ruins of the Old World.

We rode up the rugged mountain path on the backs of donkeys, led by very enterprising youths who reside in the area. Halfway up they tugged my mount to the edge of a cliff and earnestly discussed their lunch break, which would take place once they reached the top, but only if I gave them the funds which were customarily expected. Looking down to the bottom of the world, I was pleased to open my wallet, and once again we were on the way up the mountain. It was all very romantic—as long as my money held out.

History is dead unless it somehow retains the essence of those legendary passions which make even splintered stones come alive. In the shadow of their former king's castle the donkey drivers paid homage to their ruthless monarch of old, relating history as they knew it, spontaneously embellished with the greater truths of unfettered imaginations. What did these children dream of, except their daily bread? In the land of magic all dreams are merged with reality.

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This explains Haitian art, the best of it, which isn't so much haunted by pagan rites and naive perceptions, as by that sense of wonder which these people carry like a plague of hope. They draw near to the meager fires which comfort them and, defiant, confront the eternal monsters of the dark.

### 4. FALLEN STAR

I'd intended to end this piece with the above section, but the mention of Haitian art made me think, oddly enough, of Robert Franke.

He was termed a "primitive," although Robert was actually a very sophisticated, cultured man who merely chose to paint in the primitive style. He will always be remembered for his beautifully crafted, charming scenes of Key West and points north. They are both his triumph—and his failure.

Robert Franke wasn't an affluent man, and he needed every dime he got from his paintings. Yet, late in his life he broke away from the quaintness and suddenly began to produce work which surprised, even shocked, his admirers. These paintings were composed of complex images formally rendered in shades of gray and somewhat inhibited colors—not jolly, not quaint, not a decorator's dream.

His game had become not survival—but wonder.

Dreams, not in the surrealist sense but, yes, dreams. I like to think that Robert had re-discovered the child in himself, a bright-eyed being brought back to life at the very moment when he had first perceived the darkness beyond the firelight. Enriched by a lifetime of experience, and a splendid character, these works were done despite the economic realities of the artist's life.

They were shown, with pride, at the Burgess-Meinster Gallery, with part of the proceeds (sales were rare) going to the Gingerbread Gallery.

Con't on page 52

## The Whales: Two Views

## The Night of the Whales

by Glenna Moore

June 5th, 1986, began as an ordinary, innocuous summer day in Key West. Certainly nothing appeared extraordinary about it.

Except for the heat. It was *Key West* heat. The kind of heat that you could blame most anything on. The kind that gives even the most stable individual that dazed, glazed look denoting that insanity may be just around the corner. The kind of heat that could turn a warm hearted guy into a mass murderer, and afterwards - gun dangling in hand - he'd proclaim, "It's the heat...it was the heat...." And you'd believe him.

That's the kind of heat there was in Key West that day, and perhaps some of the reason that I can't remember what I was doing. But I remember that I was out in it, because I do remember returning home early that evening.

I remember walking into the house so limp and tired that I was certain rigor mortis would set in if I didn't keep moving. I shifted into automatic and slipped into a blindminded ritual which was, for me, a life-support system: Turn on the AC. Turn on the shower (cold!). And tear off my somewhat less than fragrant clothing.

After a brief dip in the shower, I plopped into a cool clean T-shirt and plopped ("plopping" being all I was physically capable of) and switched on the TV. The 6 o'clock news is also part of my little recovery ritual. Actually, I only turn on the 6 o'clock news to wait for the 7 o'clock news, which is on a national level. Or more to the point - that which is *not* on a Miami level.

I tend to forget that Key West news is not *always* of national import. And I do find it difficult to accept the fact that news of The Conch Republic is channeled through Miami. I try to throw cold water on this *haute-islander* attitude by saying to myself, "Be grateful, Bitch! It could be channeled through CUBA!" But that doesn't really work either.

Anyway, there I sat, showered and shirted, haplessly gazing at the screen...barely listening to the banter of that strange brand of articulation known only to newsmen. The ritual was working its wonders. I felt the last remnants of my heat-hangover slide on by with the news.

That is until I heard, "...Key West ...pod of whales...beached...sequestered in marina". I leapt alert! Where? Which marina? When? Oh, if only I'd been listening! I tried to think back - perhaps I'd unconsciously heard something more. Not a thing came.

Coast Guard! That was it. I'd call the Coast Guard! Surely they'd know if

anything was happening out on the water. I got a recording. I called the police. "Whales?" they said, "What whales?" It was "news to them."

I was wild. I wanted to GO! It had not occurred to me, at this point, that this was rather compulsive behavior on my part. Rather strange, in fact. For I am not particularly fond of fish. Nor was I a student of dolphins, although bits and pieces of information concerning their intelligence did intrigue me. But I did not even equate dolphins with whales at the time, so naive was my insight.

I simply WANTED TO GO SEE THE WHALES! It was more "Follow the fire truck!" response than anything else.

"Flipper's" darted through my mind.

That was it! Flipper's something...that was where they were!

I jumped into my clothes and was out the door and into my car. I had no idea where this Flipper's place was. I pulled into the first gas station I saw. One of those gas and grocery places where they don't come out - you have to go in.

I butted into the front of the line as politely as possible, asking the checkout girls if they knew where Flipper's place was - where the whales were being kept. Not realizing that I was a local and had - less than an hour ago - adequately revived any damaged brain cells that might have been affected by the noonday sun, they turned their heads toward each other with suppressed expressions of, "Oh, God!

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Another Key West crazy!"

It took a tourist to set things straight. "Lady," came a voice from the rear of the line, "do you mean Flipper's Motel? Out on Roosevelt?"

"I don't know," I said, "it has to be a place where they could have a bunch of whales."

"Sure," he said, "where they used to keep Flipper - there's a marina right next to the motel. All closed down now, deserted. Flipper's gone." Flipper always had been gone as far as I knew. Flipper lived in Miami.

I thanked this kindly Ohio-type man, and as I was flying out the door heading for my car, I heard him yelling, "Pod, Miss! Not a bunch of whales. A pod!"

Okay. I got into my car and starting mulling over the directions he'd given me. There wasn't much to mull. "Just go North on Roosevelt Blvd.," he'd said, "and you'll see Flipper's Motel not too far down the road. On the left. Right across from Bojangles Chicken. Right in there where they have the Flea Market on Sundays."

That's where I was to find a pod of whales? It was all starting to sound a little like The World According to Garp. Yet, it sounded right.

As I pulled into the parking lot I did not see the beehive of activity I'd expected. Evidently not all the residents of Key West had jumped into their cars immediately following that broadcast to go find the whales. There were perhaps only 15 to 20 cars. And in the distance I could see about the same number of people grouped around the marina.

I sat in my car quietly for a moment. The frenzy of the chase began to subside, and a different, calmer sense of anticipation began to overtake me. I felt like a little kid who was going to a zoo for the first time. I felt awed that I was going to see a whale.

I did not move. I sat there. A tranquility flooded over me, and I felt so tiny, so little, so small. And so full of love. I began to weep.

Finally I was able to move toward my destination, though still somewhat shaken.

As I passed through the marina entrance, I heard the whales before I saw them. Their breathing echoed a dull, rhythmic resonance through the thick humidity of early evening air. The heavy, laborious expulsions of breath setting a tone of caution, and gravity.

Blue plastic tarps had been rigged overhead to protect the whales from the still intense sun, and I knelt down to peek underneath. It was another world. Dark and dank. Like the waters of an underground cave, complete with monsters - gigantic monsters! But gentle, beautiful, intelligent ones...lined up under there side by side...kept afloat by divers dwarfed in size beside them. Creatures of such exquisite power - now so fragile, so helpless. Their lives now held in the gentle hands of human beings.

It was very quiet under there, except for their breathing and an occasional terse, high-frequency sound. And it was damp. Everything was damp with whale juice as they expelled water from their blowholes

with every breath they took. It looked like a series of miniature geysers erupting in mystical rhythm.

Only portions of the whales protruded, black and shiny, above the surface. Most had open sores on their backs from their earlier encounters with the sun. Many of them were bleeding. Every so often the divers would sprinkle a little water over them, to cool and soothe their ultra-sensitive skin.

Beside each whale was a diver, only one. Each had one arm swung over the whale's backside and the other underneath the underbelly. This was all it took to keep these sick, weak creatures topside - so that they wouldn't roll over and get water in their blowholes and drown.

The whales were lined up snouts facing dockside. There were 14 in all. So it was diver-whale, diver-whale, diver-whale, all the way down the line. An extended lifeline...each diver completely absorbed in his whale. So much so, that in the ensuing hours, the bonding between diver and whale became so apparent that you tended to look upon them as a unit.

I came out from under the tarp rubbing a bit of "whale juice" substance between my thumb and forefinger. I knew there would be no going home for me that night. I was there for the duration. I had somehow bonded too.

The sun was finally setting and more people had arrived - many of them with children. They were ambling about, saying hello to friends. Most of the chatter was centered on the whales - what had happened - and more specifically, speculating as to why.

By nightfall most of the crowd had dwindled, and by 10 PM only a handful remained. Basically, it was just professionals - experts who had come in from Sea World and other parts of the country to oversee the operation, the divers, the relief divers, a sampling of newsmen and a few (very few) just plain people. Like myself.

I began to get a little nervous, expecting someone to come up to me and say, "Excuse me, miss, what are you *doing* here?" I didn't want to risk being asked to leave.

I ran out to my car and grabbed my notebook and a pen. I then resumed my position on one of the dock posts, slipped my feet back over the edge of the water, and began to write. Like a writer. What I was doing was writing my name over and over - or maybe it was the alphabet, I don't remember. Just writing. Feeling like a complete fake. Yet somehow more secure.

Had I not been so immersed in that momentary fit of paranoia, I would have looked around and realized that no one really gave the slightest damn if I was there or not. The focus was the whales. And as I began to settle in, my concern for my own well-being shifted into the attentions of the night.

By now the tarps had been removed and a convivial atmosphere prevailed between the divers and those of us on shore. Some of the divers had now been in the water up to 10 hours, and although there was a

goodly reserve of relief divers waiting on the sidelines, no one seemed to be the least bit interested in relinquishing their whales.

In this atmosphere, anecdotes were exchanged, jokes were cracked (mostly about murky things underfoot, and "horror stories" about water-logged anatomy!), friendships were born, and addresses exchanged. All this was spoken in lively, yet constrained, tones. Everyone was aware of the super-sensitivity of the whales. It wasn't like a morgue. It was more like the ante-room of an intensive care unit. Caring. Cautious. Still hopeful.

Yet there was no one there who was not aware that many of the whales might not make it through the night.

As I gazed out over the water, looking at those giant, helpless creatures - so sick, so weak - being so gently and delicately supported by those tiny white creatures beside them, I was awed by this simple vision of love.

It was at that moment that I wondered who was helping whom.

I was snapped out of this quiet mood by sudden strange, high-pitched noises. They resembled the sounds of the whales, but not exactly. And the sounds didn't seem to be coming from the vicinity of the whales.

Everyone began to look around, trying to figure out what was going on. And there, down at the end of the dock, one of the people from the aquarium was stooping over a tape recorder. It was a recording of whales communicating. Apparently to soothe and keep the whales company.

After the initial disorientation, someone suggested that he turn the volume down a little and everyone slipped back into their little pattern of safekeeping. But not for long! About ten minutes later the noises on the tape became increasingly high-pitched, and the whales began to become agitated.

When the frequencies decreased, they would settle down again. This went on repeatedly until many of the whales became so agitated that they started banging their snouts against the wall of the breakfront. Harder and harder. And with this, they seemed to grow stronger and stronger, as if their desire to hurt themselves increased with the intensity of the pitch.

Oddly, no one put two and two together.

The whales were getting restless. They had much more strength left in them than anyone had realized. Finally one of the divers yelled at the guy, "Turn that damn thing off." The whales became peaceful again.

Until that moment, I don't think anyone had actually thought there was any danger involved. The whales had been so docile and maneuverable that I don't think anyone there thought they still had the strength to harm anyone - or the inclination. But in terms of sheer tonnage, it was easy to see that any one of those divers could have been easily crushed in that water, or that a back could be broken by the flick of a tail. This shed a more somber light on the task at hand.

Later that evening someone told us that the sounds from the tape were sounds recorded of Humpbacks. Ours were False

Killer Whales. They obviously did not mix.

"Like apples and oranges?" I queried.

"No," he countered, "more like apples and mice."

Around 2 AM, everyone started going to bed. The whales had remained basically quiet ever since the tape recording, and the divers, whose feet touched bottom, were virtually standing there, cheeks nuzzled against the bellies of their "babies", sleeping. Most of the whales, whose eyes were parallel with the water, had their eyes closed also.

It was very peaceful.

I was feeling very wide awake and alert. By now I had slipped off the post and was sitting on the dock itself, even closer to the wonderful creature beneath me. I felt happy.

From the moment I had arrived, I had had a private and poignant desire for absolute silence. Though most everyone was sensitive to keeping the noise level down, there had naturally been moments of outbursts and too much chatter. Whenever this happened, I became agitated - almost angry. It perplexed me that I would be so touchy about this.

Now, with everyone half asleep - the place in absolute quiet, except for the breathing of the whales and an occasional gurgle of water - I was relishing being there in that particularly private moment.

I had heard people saying earlier that whales, like the dolphins, are acutely aware of the general health and well-being of each other and everyone around them. That they can read each other's minds, bodies, and emotional makeup, so there could be no lies between them or those of us there with them. At least not on their part. They said this ability transmits through the extrasensory perceptions of their skin.

All night long I had wanted to touch one of those whales! I had helped a couple of little children lean over the sides and put their tiny fingers on the giant snouts, as their faces filled with wonder. Somehow I had felt too shy to do it myself.

Now was the time. And I didn't just want to, I must! I inched a little closer to the edge. Now all I had to do was arch my foot and touch him. My toes touched down as gently as a silken ribbon.

His skin felt smooth...like a banana peel. And warm. Very warm. Chills ran up and down my spine and I withdrew. I sat there grinning like a simple idiot! I decided to do it again. Just the same way. Only something happened this time. A faint electrical current ran through my foot. I quickly withdrew. Thinking that I might have imagined it, I extended my foot to try it again. An identical charge. This time I did not withdraw. I let my foot linger there with this gentle, sleepy giant beneath me.

And my thoughts began to drift toward where the clouds were drifting, and the stars were twinkling. Out there...where the ocean of inner space seemed to meld into one with the ocean of outer space. Out there in that vast silence where nature utters unto itself in utmost privacy. Where the cosmos confers.

And I wondered what it was saying. I still do.

## False Killers in Key West

by Bruce Soderman

It was a cloudy midnight on the fifth of June, with a warm ocean breeze ghosting in from the east. The Lions Club parking lot, usually dark and deserted at that hour, was full of cars, including two large TV trucks with ten foot diameter dish antennas. A dozen high watt crime lights bathed the entire area in a quasi-daylight glare, revealing a crowd of people clustered around the small lagoon adjacent to Flipper's Motel.

After parking in one of the last available spaces, I sat listening to the high pitched whistles, clicks, groans and soft explosions of air coming from Flipper's Lagoon, about fifty yards away. The crowd of people looking down into the lagoon were remarkably quiet for midnight in Key West.

It all looked like a bizarre funeral for the fourteen whales being tended in the lagoon. They had been rescued from a pod of twenty-seven whales who beached at Mule Key, five miles to the west. Each whale was being held in place by a human volunteer in the waist-deep water at the south end of the lagoon.

I was not really surprised to see "Sailboat Phil" standing near the edge of the dock, talking. He's an ex-cop and cab driver, and a self-taught marine biologist who now lives on his sailboat anchored out in the bay, next to my boat, a quarter mile north of Flipper's Lagoon.

"Why are are those people in the water with the whales?" I asked him.

"Some of them are too weak to come to the surface for air," Phil explained. "The people make sure the whale's blowhole surfaces for air every once in a while."

"What's that white stuff on their backs?" I asked.

"Zinc Oxide," answered Phil. "They've all been badly sunburned and need protection from further exposure."

"These are just the females and babies," he added. "They had to leave another dozen big males out at Mule Key because they were too big to carry."

"Why did they beach themselves?" I asked.

"No one really knows," he answered, collecting his thoughts. "Some authorities believe that they swim up on a beach when they become too weak to swim to the surface for air. The experts believe that some of the whales, including the leader of the pod, may have an intestinal infection and when the leader beaches himself the others follow him, due to their herding instincts."

"Who told you all that?" I asked.

"Sea World up in Orlando sent down a half dozen specialists in a Lear jet," said Phil, pointing to a few men wearing light blue T-shirts. "They seem to know more than anybody else and that's not much!"

"Suicidal whales?" I asked. "Why don't they just sink in the deep like most other whales do, while leaving the healthy ones to live on?"

"I heard someone say that their ears are

damaged and oozing pus," said Phil. "It's possible that their balance has been damaged from an infection or an underwater explosion."

"Do you mean the U.S. Navy might have accidentally injured these whales?" I asked.

"That's just a rumor going around," Phil said.

"What other rumors have you heard?" I asked.

"Ear mites!" he exclaimed.

"Wha-a-t?"

"Yes, Ear mites that eat right into their brains, driving the poor whales crazy."

"That sounds like a Flash Gordon movie to me," I said, moving closer to the dock. "They look fairly tame."

"They're in shock," answered Phil. "Plus, they are exhausted and probably sick on top of it all."

"How long do you think they'll survive?" I asked.

"A week, maybe," he answered. "Whales never survive for very long after they beach themselves."

As I gazed sadly at the fourteen doomed whales, Phil smiled and pointed at them, saying, "It almost looks like a whale race the way they are lined up with their riders beside them, all waiting for the bell to ring to start the race..."

"That's a bit weird," I said. "But I've heard worse."

"You've got to expect some weird ideas when the whales come to die in Key West," said Phil.

"Especially in the year of the comet," I agreed.

Suddenly the biggest whale began to smash her nose against the wood piling. The two people on either side of her backed away from her thrashing body. A woman screamed, men shouted, and the other whales began to thrash in a frenzy.

Feeling deep sympathy for that poor, doomed beast, I leaned down from the wooden dock to push her ballooney nose away from the jagged piling.

"Calm down," I cooed to her as if she were a long lost pet. "Calm down, Big Bertha," I named her on the spur of the moment. "Don't hurt yourself," I said, keeping my hand on her nose.

She opened her mouth, displaying a lion-sized jaw and white teeth bigger than silver dollars, causing me to move my hand quickly to the top of her nose. "Be a good girl, Bertha."

"Should we get out of here?" asked the girl who had been holding Bertha. She had seen those big teeth and was afraid the whale might go berserk.

"It's going to be alright," I said, hoping to calm down the whale as well as the woman.

"I'll take over for you," I said, sliding into the water in front of Bertha.

Sensing the danger of my position between Bertha and the dock, where she could mash me into fish bait with one good thrust of her three thousand pound body, I moved out to grab her left pectoral fin to control her.

Gradually Bertha calmed down and seemed to enjoy my gentle touching and soft words.



I sensed Bertha wanted to touch the other whales, but she accepted being handled by humans, without forcing her way. She didn't mind when I lifted her head up to see her, and moving my hand slowly along her powerful lower jaw, I teased open her mouth to see again her six or eight large, cone-shaped teeth like a killer whale's, giving her the genus name, *Pseudorca* (false killer whale) species: *P. Crassidens* (with thick tooth).

Moving backwards, I felt her heart beating strongly against her side, behind and below her pectoral fin. She was about twelve feet long, including a fluke three feet long and three feet wide at the tip.

Someone on the dock switched on a tape recorder playing "whale sounds," in hopes of soothing the beasts. The eerie music didn't seem to effect Bertha one way or the other, but after five minutes, several people complained enough to have the tape shut off.

A young woman, with blond hair and blue eyes, began talking about a previous beaching ten years ago in the Dry Tortugas, the last of the Florida Keys. "They were the same species as this time, false killer whales," she explained.

"What caused them to beach themselves in '76?" someone asked her.

"The leader had a worm infection in his right ear, so they beached with him to give him rest," she answered. "The other whales swam into shore right beside the leader to hold him upright so that he wouldn't fall over on his side at low tide and drown as the tide came in. The other whales supported the leader in that manner for three days before the infection killed him. Only then did the other whales leave the beach and return to the ocean."

"Maybe these whales could also return to the ocean," said a British voice on the far side.

"I heard these whales have an intestinal impaction," claimed a bald man wearing a wet suit.

Heads turned and someone asked: "How do you know that?"

"I was out at Mule Key this afternoon, helping to bring in these fourteen small ones," said the bald man. "I talked to a marine biologist who examined the twelve big ones we left out there. They're sending blood samples over to DePoo Hospital."

"Ze whales schooling instinct ees greater than their fear of death," interrupted a French man.

Half of the fourteen volunteer whale holders were professional divers, while the others were tourists and Key West residents.

After three and a half hours in the water, I was exhausted from wrestling with Bertha and from the late night adrenaline droop. A new volunteer slid into the water as I crawled upon the dock. The memories and theories circled through my thoughts as I rowed out to my boat to sleep.

When I awoke at 9 AM, I looked around the bay for someone to talk to about the whales. Phil had not yet returned to his sailboat, but Josh and Terry were awake on their boat. I rowed over to visit with them and tell them about the whales, but Josh

surprised me by asking, "Did you see the big one that swam by your boat at dawn this morning?"

"What time?" I asked.

"Just before sunrise. It was making all kinds of noises, whistling and clicking and spouting loudly. I could tell it was talking to the other whales inside the lagoon, because they were talking back to it," said Josh. "It was about fifteen feet long and all black, just like the ones inside, but bigger. This one swam up the deep water channel until it reached the closed steel gate (at the entrance of the lagoon) and waited there, making noises for two or three minutes, until someone on shore came over to investigate. Then it turned around and really accelerated out of the channel, the same way it came in, leaving a wake about a foot high which rocked your boat while you were asleep."

"I wonder if it was trying to lead the captured whales to safety," I suggested.

"I don't know," admitted Josh, "but it was the biggest thing I've ever seen in this shallow bay."

"Was it trying to beach itself?" I asked.

"No way!" said Josh. "It followed the channel perfectly."

"It looked healthy and beautiful," Terry added.

"So it must have been on a rescue mission," I said.

We discussed the various possibilities for another half hour before I rowed into shore and walked over to Flipper's Lagoon. "Sailboat Phil" was still in the water, this time holding the baby whale of the group, which weighed a mere fifty pounds, and was only three feet long.

He said, "See that tarpaulin shade, that's my handiwork. I had to show them how to rig it because the guy was using square knots and he couldn't pull it tight, so I had to untie them all and use half hitches."

"How long have you been in the water?"

"Huh--oh--nine hours, why?"

"You look kind of tired."

"Yes," he agreed. "Morning is my time to go to sleep."

"What's going to happen next?" I questioned.

"They're going to transport the whales to Grassy Key and Orlando to study them and try to help them."

"Can you tell me how they plan to move the whales?" I asked.

"They'll use a crane to hoist them into big dump trucks," answered Phil.

"When is that going to happen?" I asked.

"Sometime this afternoon," he answered.

Leaving Phil, I rode downtown to the docks to visit with a crafty old fisherman named Ted, the only one on the dock who catches as many fish on his artificial lures as the others catch using fresh shrimp bait. When we talked about the beached whales, he gave me his theory of what happened.

"There is a school of about twenty porpoises who rule Key West Harbor, and they chase out all schools of other species who may compete for the same food supplies," said Ted, squinting his eyes as he

looked across the channel toward Mule Key. "I bet that group of false killer whales came down the Northwest Channel, only to be ambushed by the porpoises and driven on to the shallows of Mule Key."

It was a fascinating new theory which opened up a whole world of underwater politics, but did not fit the pattern of previous beachings at Snipe Point and Fort Meyers, where the whales were able to rest and regain strength before swimming on to the final beaching on Mule Key.

To resolve this conflict of theories, I studied a detailed description<sup>1</sup> of the 1976 beaching of thirty false killer whales in the Dry Tortugas and was impressed by the extreme supportive behavior shown by the whales, who risked losing their own lives to help their dying leader. The whales immediately became agitated when they were pulled away from the pod.

Several books mentioned that false killer whales are among the friendliest and most intelligent of all ocean dwellers. They often learn by simply watching, while other species have to be taught over and over before learning the same trick.

At 4 PM, I returned to Flipper's Lagoon to find a crane in place at the water's edge, with a crew of Navy frogmen in the water, ready to put the first whale in the sling. Another crew of eight people were busy loading mattresses into a huge dump truck, while six other people covered the mattresses with plastic sheets and four others shoveled crushed ice on top of the plastic.

Slowly the first whale rose out of the water with head sticking out one end of the sling and fluke sticking out the other. She flopped a few times while her eyes looked downward as she was lowered into the big ten-wheeler.

One by one, the whales were craned up into the waiting truck until it was full and another truck was wheeled in.

A convoy of volunteer cars headed by a sheriff's deputy, with lights and siren on, followed by the big dump trucks, left town.

One month later all the whales but one were dead. It is interesting to note that all but one survived when tended on the beach, but ten years later all but one died when they were taken out of the water.

(Keeping up to date, July 24th, thirty-nine more whales beached on Marco Island. Scientists have noticed some of the whales have empty stomachs and intestinal parasites, but they still don't know what caused the whales to beach.)

<sup>1</sup>Seaguide to Whales of the World by Lyall Watson, E.P. Dutton, N.Y. 1981

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In Robert Franke's case at least, we are talking about nothing less than the final statement of a lifetime. These late paintings, wherever they may be stored—attic, basement—are turned with their faces against the wall which separates self-knowledge and that Great Unknown into which Mr. Franke has now passed forever.

## Just My Opinion

by Gil Ryder

About 30% of the registered voters in the Keys voted in the first primary this year and while that seems a shamefully small number, it is perhaps much better than having a 100% turnout with most of the



voters understanding neither the issues involved nor the positions of the candidates on those issues.

It's entirely possible that a great many more voters will turn out on September 30th for the second primary. Some may even realize that, at least for a couple of the offices, the race is over in the second primary because of lack of party opposition. An example is the race for State Representative. Mayor Harvey and Ron Saunders are both Democrats. No Republican is seeking the office; therefore, whoever wins the second primary will be our State Representative and will not appear on the November 4th ballot.

Of course, you know that as well as I do, but of all those registered voters who didn't show at the first primary, I'd bet that

## What's happening in the Lower Keys

half, at least, do not know it. The County Commission primaries for Districts two and four are over -- no further contest until November 4th when Democrat Gene Lytton must face Republican Vern Pokorski and Democrat Mike Puto must face Allison Fahrer.

School Board primaries are also over. Democrat Gerald "Edd" Adair and Republican Jack N. Denson, both area 3, will have to fight it out on November 4th.

At this point, no candidate can be considered a sure winner. The only certainty is which candidates were eliminated in the first primary. Those still in the race have a tough job ahead of them. No race is securely settled, even ones with strong leads. The State Representative race, with Ron Saunders having a strong lead, is not a shoo-in. If Saunders' supporters figure he's got it made and stay home on September 30th, Saunders will lose. If Harvey's supporters figure she's already lost the race and they stay home on September 30th, they are assuring her defeat.

Certainly no interested voter will fail to vote September 30th in the County Commission District One race between Fine and Hernandez. Here, if ever, we have a clear-cut choice between an extremely knowledgeable and well-educated environmentalist and an astute and

## Along the Lower Keys

by Bill Becker

October is here...perfect time for an "Island Oktoberfest." The Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce is planning the event for Saturday, October 18, on the Chamber grounds at mile marker 31, on Big Pine Key.



The day-long festival will feature specialty foods prepared by numerous local restaurants, and served at booths manned by restaurant chefs and personnel. Food selections will include chowders, German sausage, conch fritters, raw oysters, a pig roast and much more. Beer and soft drinks will also be available.

Musical entertainment will be provided by three groups. The Rhapsody Steel Band from Miami, featuring steel drum calypso music, will conduct a limbo contest. The Island Harmony Barbershop Quartet from Cudjoe Key will entertain with some classic favorites and a sing-along. And the ever-popular Low Key String Band will feature toe-tapping island bluegrass music. Mimes, jugglers, magicians and musicians from the Mallory Square Sunset Celebration

will be performing throughout the Chamber grounds all day long. Children's activities are also planned.

"Island Oktoberfest" will be a big day of fun, food and music, according to Chamber executive director Charles Walther. Mark your calendar and plan to attend: Saturday, October 18, 9 AM til 5 PM at the Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce, mile marker 31, on Big Pine Key.

\* \* \*

It has become a rare and precious thing when a marriage goes golden...when two life-partners have spent fifty years together.

Three Big Pine Key couples have reached that golden milestone, and will be celebrating with friends in a special reception the afternoon of October 25 at the Big Pine Senior Center.

Delmer and Vera Burrell were married September 3, 1936, in Holliday's Cove, West Virginia. Home was Uhrichsville, Ohio, where Delmer was a superintendent with the Union Camp Corporation and Vera was the manager of a credit union. They have a son, daughter and four grandchildren in Ohio.

The Burrells retired to Big Pine Key in the early 1970's...but that doesn't mean they've slowed down. Delmer loves his fishing (that's one of the reasons they picked the Lower Keys), but it's tough to wet a line when he has to try to keep up with Vera. Her level of energy and involvement is legendary on Big Pine. And it's a highly directed and very effective

experienced pro-development politician. If you don't know which is which, you've been away on vacation for a long, long time.

Politics makes strange bedfellows and, in some instances, even stranger statistics. In the County Commission District Two race, Tony Paterniti was low man in the total vote; yet, in Precinct 15 (his home area) he outstripped his opponents handily. Sellers got 84, Lytton 194, and Paterniti 243 -- a healthy edge and, no, I won't try to explain it.

So far it's been an interesting political season in spite of the poor turnout for the first primary, and it should become more interesting as we go along. All the candidates, the ones you want elected and the ones you don't want elected, are willing to spend time, money and effort to bring their various messages to the voters, and the voters in turn should realize that they, too, have a part to play, over and above just getting out to vote. If the candidates are ready, willing and able to wear themselves out running up and down the Keys, the least the rest of us can do is to attend at least one Candidate's Night or one fund-raising party, and study the ads and literature.

You may say, "If they don't like the nuisance of a campaign, they shouldn't run," and if that sentiment is expressed obviously enough and often enough, we may see the day when prospective candidates take it seriously and no one runs.

But, never fear, we'll have a government with or without candidates and

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energy. She gets things done and makes things happen (always with a smile and a kind word, too.) Vera was the guiding force behind the County's establishment of the Senior Center on Big Pine. She has introduced and promoted the Vial of Life program in the Keys. (A small vial with pertinent family medical information is kept in the upper right-hand corner of the refrigerator. Police, fire or rescue personnel are alerted to this by the "Vial of Life" sticker on the door. It can be a lifesaver.)

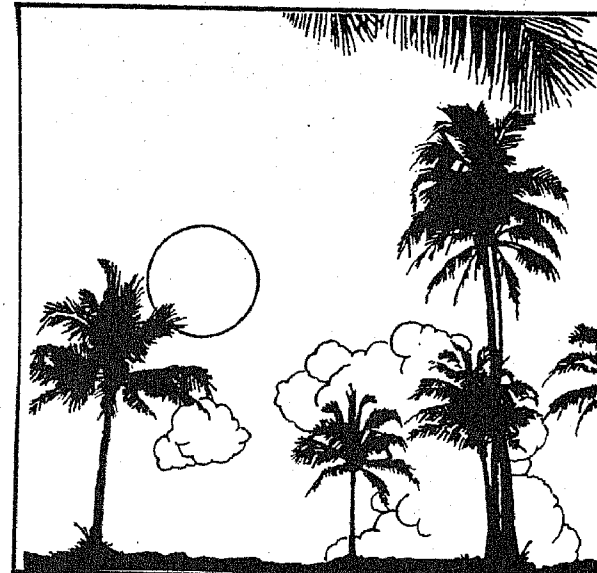
Vera is also the coordinator of volunteers for Hospice of the Florida Keys and has been appointed by the County Commission to the Older Americans Advisory Board. She is a director of the Big Pine Key Civic Association. The list is endless...much like Vera's energy.

Gil and Adelaide Ryder were married in New York City's famous Little Church Around the Corner, October 31, 1936. They lived first in Brooklyn, then Queens, then eastern Long Island before being lured to Florida in 1956, settling in the Sanford area. They retired and moved to Key West in 1971. Gil was one of the "founding fathers" of the Key's conservation movement in the early 1970's. "No Hi-Rise in the Keys" was the rallying cry, and no one waved the banner with more conviction than Gil. He is noted for speaking his mind--as any regular reader of *Solares Hill* knows.

In 1981 Gil and Adelaide moved to Big Pine Key where they have been active in the civic association and the A.A.R.P. They

Cont. on page 56





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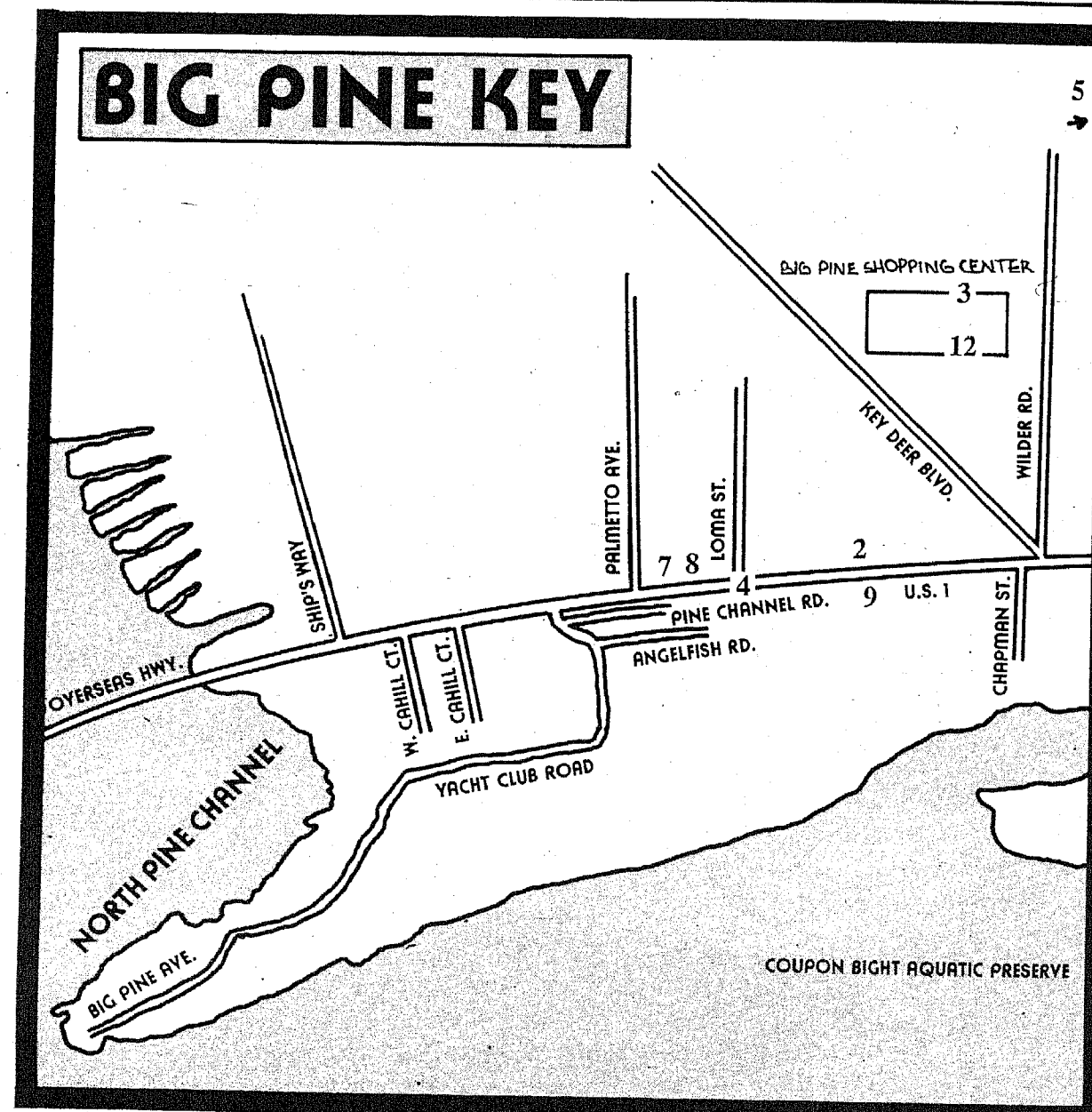
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4

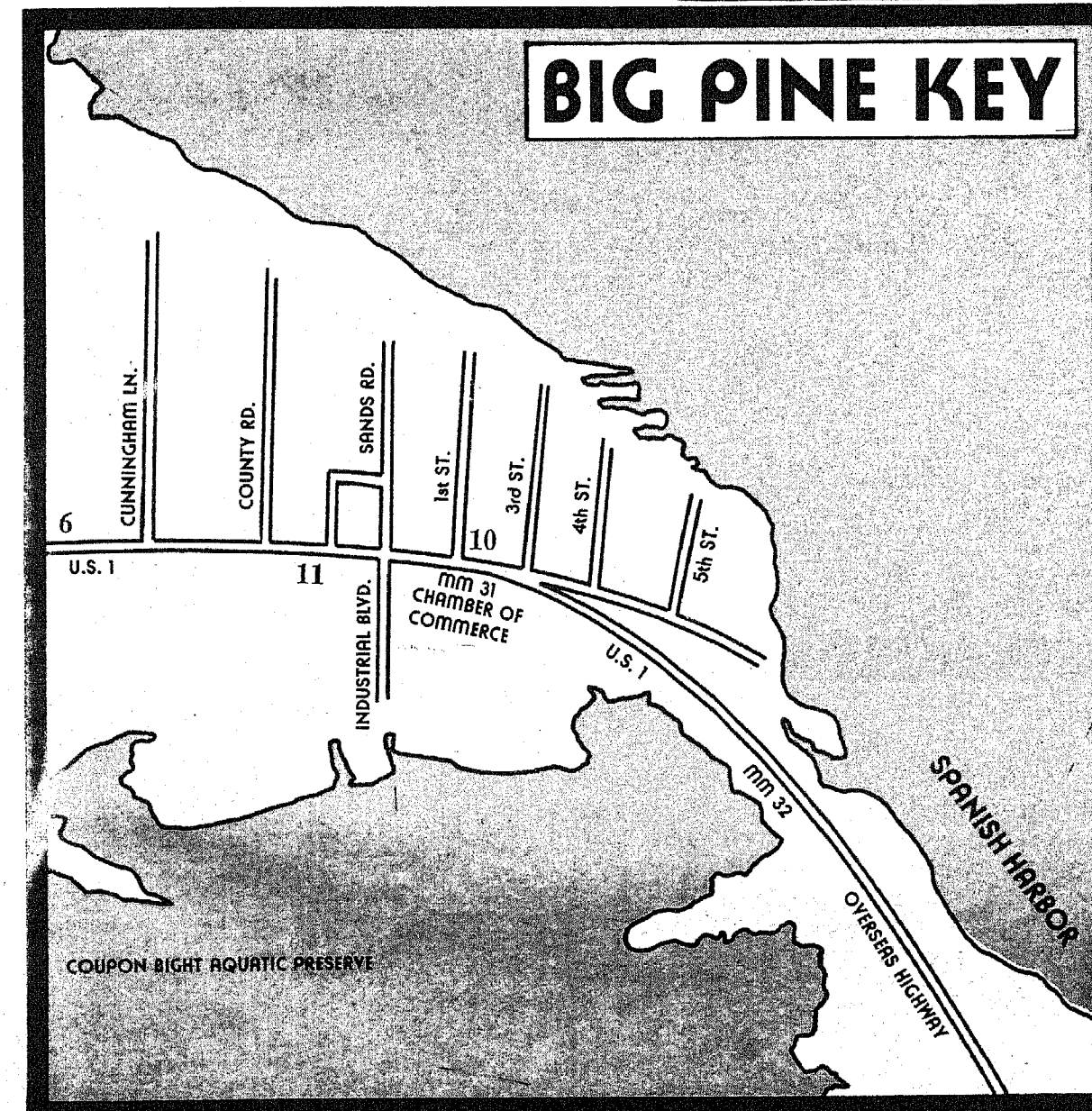
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MM 30.5  
BIG PINE KEY

6

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9



Con't from page 53

elections. There will always be enough Adolph Hitlers and their storm troopers around to favor us with their expertise on government. However, a new Hitler and storm troopers are not likely to show up this year, so what do you think should be done about education, mental health, land planning, veterans' problems, sanitary sewer systems, transportation (including traffic jams), hurricane dangers, wildlife protection, child abuse, pet abuse, spouse abuse, alcoholism, drug addiction, public health (including AIDS), environmental protection, destination resorts, and many more items too numerous to list?

Which of the candidates do you believe are best qualified to understand and address the many, varied, and highly complicated problems that will be coming before the County Commission, the School Board and the State Legislature? Which candidates, if elected, will be able, when necessary, to make unpopular decisions and stand by them in the face of rude and uncouth harassment from the more ignorant members of the community?

Which candidates would be more likely to cave in when faced with hoodlum-type behavior from the audience?

How do you make these distinctions if you don't attend candidates' nights and see and hear the candidates?

Why is each candidate running for office? The pay is poor, the hours long and the abuse is often insufferable. Why would anyone in his or her right mind want the

job?

All will tell you that their basic reason is their overwhelming desire to serve, improve, and protect the community and, to some degree, that is true. But, the degree differs with each candidate. Consider all the candidates for County Commission, School Board and State Representative. How would you grade them on this, using a scale of one to ten, one being close to flat out lie and ten being close to unadulterated truth?

Before grading, consider that there are rewards for those elected. The sense of power that goes with the job and the obvious public prestige.

Almost every candidate is well aware of these two rewards and gives them some weight in making the decision to accept office. Recognizing, appreciating, and accepting these rewards is not shameful until or unless the candidate or officer gives more weight, value and recognition to the rewards than he or she does to duties and obligations implicit in the acceptance of the office.

Now, considering the foregoing, grade each candidate and see how they shape up. I tried it and actually found one candidate that I graded 10 (wow) and another only 1 (ugh).

Some radical group in the dim and distant past marched around under the banner, "Power to the People." In this country, the people already have the power -- enough power to create a perfect government if only the majority of the people would give as much thought to

politics as they do to sports and other entertainment.

There are an awful lot of people around who can give you all kinds of data concerning their favorite ball players and there's still another group who can document the love lives of their favorite actresses, but couldn't for the life of them name their County Commissioners, much less State Representative or Congressman. (I think most of them could name the President.)

These people are neither stupid nor evil; they're just disinterested and the rest of us will have to take up the slack in the political arena, and the best way to do that right now is to get out and vote on September 30th and again on November 4th. Nobody asked me who I'm voting for in the strictly local primaries, but I'll tell you anyway. On September 30th, State Representative - Ron Saunders, and County Commissioner, District One - Roberta Fine.

Con't from page 53

have one son who lives in California, and two grandchildren: Erica, who graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis and is currently a First Lieutenant in the Marines; and Mark, who attends Florida Atlantic University.

Robert and Margaret Hartmann were married June 6, 1936. Fifty years later, to the day, at a big party organized by their son and daughter, they were reunited with the bridesmaid and the best man. The Hartmanns currently spend winters on Big Pine Key and summers in Cocheton, New York. Both are active in the Family of St. Peter's Catholic Church.

\* \* \*

Wildlife biologist Tom Wilmer of the Key Deer National Wildlife Refuge is doing an osprey survey. And if you enjoy exploring the Florida Keys' wilderness--in all its forms--you might be able to help.

The osprey, according to Wilmer, is a fairly reliable barometer of the overall health of the ecosystem. Existing at the top of the food chain (or food pyramid), the osprey population can be easily (and disastrously) affected by disruptions of the lower food levels resulting from a wide range of causes. An eight year study of ospreys in the Everglades documented an alarming 53% decrease in the number of active nests since 1980.

Realizing the need to begin gathering base-line data on the Keys' osprey population, Wilmer began with a "seat-of-the-pants" census during last year's nesting

season. Working on his own time, Wilmer counted only sixteen nests.

This year the osprey survey will be one of the main studies conducted by Refuge personnel, with a multi-year commitment to identify any trends in the population.

Wilmer needs help locating and monitoring osprey nests. Not the ones along the highway...everyone knows where they are. He needs to know about the ones few people see: the nest built low in a mangrove clump in the backcountry, or perched in the boughs of a remote pine.

Lovers of the quiet and solitude of the Keys' wilderness may know of nests that haven't been documented. Flats fishermen frequently encounter such nests constructed not more than a few feet above sea level in low, isolated red mangroves. These are the nests Wilmer is most anxious to know about and begin monitoring. At the same time, Wilmer warns boaters to give these low nests a particularly wide berth during the incubation and fledgling period (October through March). According to Wilmer, these nests are especially liable to be abandoned if boaters subject them to harassment. Regular observation of all the nests from the Seven Mile Bridge to the Dry Tortugas is beyond the resources of the Refuge. That's why Wilmer needs help monitoring these nests through the next six months.

Tom Wilmer can be reached at the Key Deer National Wildlife Refuge headquarters on Big Pine Key, 872-2239.

\* \* \*

The newly reborn Big Pine Key Bicycle Race is coming in December, courtesy of the Big Pine Athletic Association. It should be a great event...watch for it!

\* \* \*

Have a wonderful Fantasy Fest!  
Till next month...fair winds and following seas!

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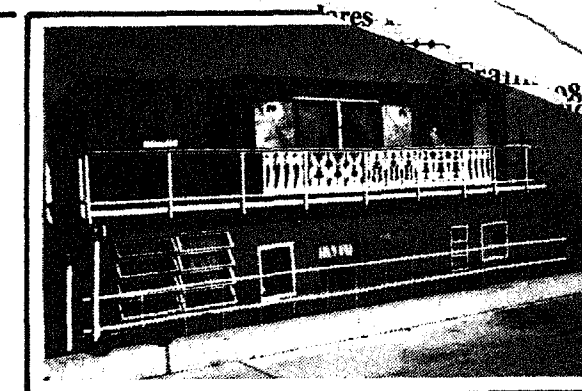
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## One Sky, One World International Kite Day

### The Purpose

The popularity of kites as an ancient and universal phenomena which in recent times has grown to include organized kiteflying associations and festivals. The rich diversity of design, flying methods, styles and customs associated with kiting around the world is a source of recreational, cultural and artistic opportunities for international education. The kite is thus universally recognized as a magical, whimsical, sometimes spiritual, enlivening and uplifting

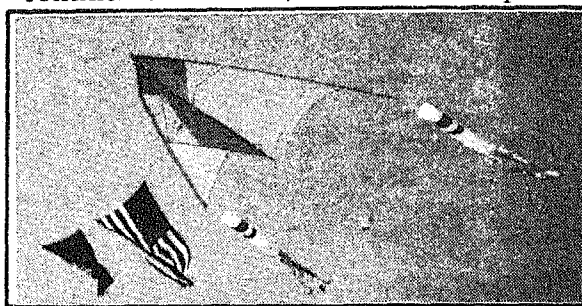
symbol. Kiting is an activity which crosses generational boundaries, enjoyed by both children and adults including many senior citizens. Kites have stimulated the human imagination for thousands of years. They have lead to remarkable discoveries in science and engineering, having played an instrumental role in the development of air and space travel and atmospheric research.

It is the purpose of "One Sky, One World" to promote the concept of global harmony between all people through an expression of the universality of kites and the wind. Through the sharing of the wind on this one day the world will be moved toward the discovery of state of peace. The great air ocean is the home in which all of

life on earth exists and the kite will be an important symbol of the need to protect and nurture it.

### The Concept

Organization of kiteflying groups to stage festivals in locations around the world has already begun. The presentation of a commemorative US/USSR Summit peace



kite by Jane Parker-Ambrose of Denver, Colorado, USA to the Soviet Women's Peace Committee in Moscow in October 1985 stimulated other kite enthusiasts to support her concept of an international kite day.

The date of Sunday, October 12, 1986 was selected for the first such event to be held in world-wide locations. Subsequent events will grow to include more widespread community kiteflying in addition to the large festivals taking place in popular and ideal kiteflying areas. Organizations in the following locations are currently either committed to or considering One Sky, One World festivals:

United States Mainland	Hungary
Hawaii	Japan
Germany	Australia
France	New Zealand
Italy	China
Netherlands	England
Canada	Belgium
Sweden	Spain

### The Program

The festivals will begin with the flying of a kite which had been flown in another country during the previous week. The exchanged kites will later be donated to the United Nations in honor of the International Year of Peace. Banners with the word peace in many languages will also be exchanged and flown. Guidelines for other activities to take place during the festival and promotional materials will be provided by the One Sky, One World organization. Each kiteflying organization will organize and carry out their respective festivals. A tally of the number of kites in the air on the one day will be made. Documentation of the events will be shared with sponsors, kite and educational organizations, and the media. Opportunities for international people-to-people exchanges exist and will be promoted to individuals, governments and businesses.

Heavenly Body Kites, of Key West, Florida, is a major sponsor for One Sky, One World, International Kite Day.

Greg Lavelle, owner of Heavenly Body Kites, invites the kite community of South Florida and the Keys to join in the kiteflying fun on October 12, 1986, at Smathers Beach in Key West. This will be a free, healthy outdoor event; the purpose of which is to promote world peace through the timeless activity of kiteflying.

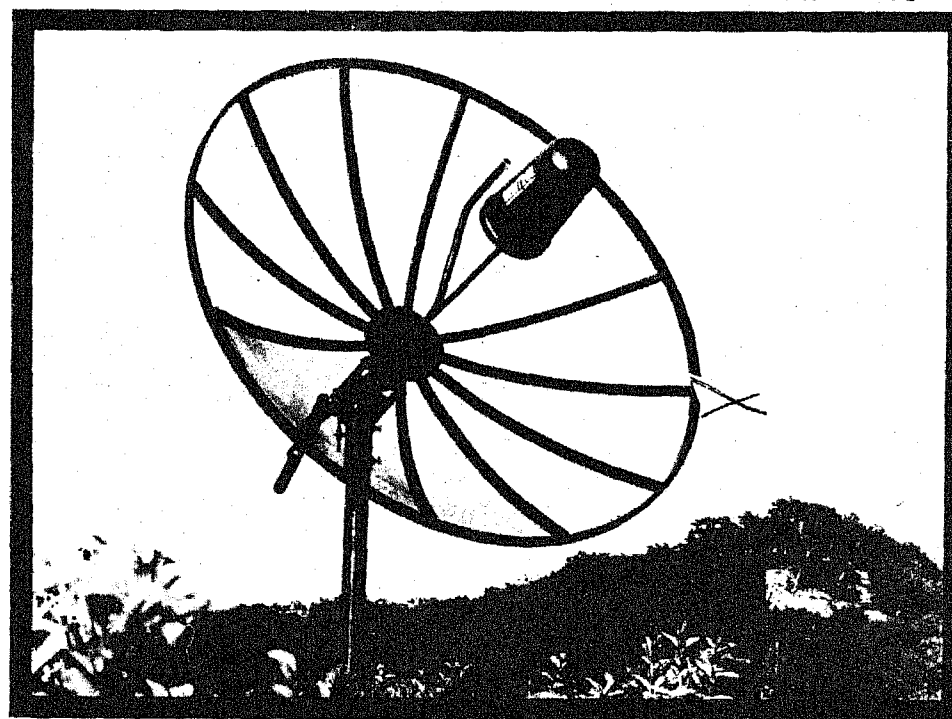
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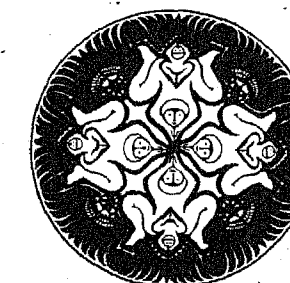
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"As a Commissioner, Mr. Lytton could create a needed bridge between Keys citizens and their county government."

The Miami Herald  
August 23rd, 1986

Recommended by:  
The Miami Herald  
Upper Keys Reporter  
Middle Keys Keynote  
REAC - All County Boards of Realtors  
VETPAC - Veterans Political Action  
KEYPAC - Taxpayers Political Action  
Fraternal Order of Police - Dist. 6 - Dade/Monroe Counties  
Organized Fishermen of Florida - Keys Chapters  
Florida Keys Contractors Association  
Mr. Tony Paterniti - Primary Candidate

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### AN OPEN INQUIRY TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS IN MONROE

1. Do you want a Commissioner or a Commissar?
2. Do you want local government or continued state intervention and control?
3. Do you want the Land Use Plan to work for people or against them?
4. Do you want the tax base to grow, through moderate controlled growth, or your property taxes to rise?
5. Do you want maximum environmental protection consistent with the legitimate needs of government and citizen?
6. Do you want the cost of living to stabilize or continue to grow?
7. Do you want four years of solutions or four years of paralysis?

VOTE NOVEMBER 4TH AS THOUGH  
YOUR FUTURE DEPENDS ON IT -- IT DOES!!

ELECT  
**GENE LYTTON**  
DEMOCRAT  
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## Family and Health Services

## EMERGENCIES

Ambulance ..... 296-2401 or 911  
 Fire ..... 296-2828 or 911  
 HELPLINE/Latch Key  
 Program ..... 296-HELP, 294-LINE  
 Missing Children ..... 1-800-342-0821  
 Poison Control (24 hours) ..... 1-800-282-3171  
 Police ..... 911 or 294-2511  
 Rape Victim Advocacy  
 Program ..... 294-5531 x4766  
 Sheriff ..... 296-2424

## EDUCATION

Adult Education ..... 294-5212  
 Child Find (FDLRS) ..... 296-7541  
 Downtown Center, FKCC ..... 294-8481  
 Exceptional Student Education ..... 296-7541  
 Florida Keys Community College ..... 296-9081  
 Monroe County Schools ..... 296-6523  
 Parenting Skills Classes ..... 296-5911

## RECREATION

Boy Scouts ..... 745-3987  
 City of Key West Recreation Dept. .... 294-3721  
 Girl Scouts ..... 745-3737  
 Monroe County Public Library ..... 294-8488

## CHILD ABUSE

Child Abuse Office, FKM ..... 294-5531  
 Child Protective Services, HRS ..... 294-9513  
 Child Protection Team, FKM ..... 294-5531  
 Coalition Against Child Abuse ..... 294-5531  
 Guardian Ad-Litem ..... 296-7518  
 Parenting Classes, FKM ..... 294-5531  
 Parents Anonymous ..... 296-HELP, 294-LINE  
 Puppet Show ..... 294-5531  
 Reporting, HRS ..... 1-800-342-9152, 294-1050  
 Volunteer Child Advocacy Team ..... 294-5531

## NAVY

Counseling & Assistance  
 Center ..... 292-2533  
 Family Advocacy ..... 296-2461  
 Navy Alcohol Safety Action  
 Program ..... 292-2555  
 Navy Family Service Center ..... 292-3152  
 Navy Relief ..... 292-2196

## DAY CARE

See Yellow Pages listing  
 for day nurseries and child care.

## SOCIAL SERVICES

Big Brothers & Big Sisters ..... 294-9891  
 Commodity Food Bank ..... 294-8468  
 Community Control ..... 294-1059  
 Developmental Services ..... 294-1059  
 Domestic Abuse  
 Shelter ..... 296-HELP, 294-LINE  
 Juvenile Alternative Services  
 Program ..... 296-7465  
 Monroe County Food Bank ..... 294-8468  
 Monroe County Social Services ..... 294-8468

## HEALTH

Al-Anon ..... 296-6616, 294-5531  
 Ala-Teen ..... 296-6616  
 Alcoholics Anonymous ..... 296-8654  
 Blind Services ..... 1-800-342-1828  
 Chemical Dependency Unit,  
 Delphos ..... 294-5531  
 Childbirth Educ/Midwifery ..... 294-4536  
 Easter Seal ..... 294-1089  
 Family Planning ..... 294-1021  
 Hello Baby ..... 294-5531  
 Helping Hand Stroke Club ..... 294-5531  
 Hospice ..... 294-8812

Improved Pregnancy Outcome ..... 294-1021  
 LaLeche Foundation ..... 745-2274  
 LaMaze ..... 294-1068, 294-4218  
 MARC House - Detox ..... 743-6551  
 Mental Health Care Center ..... 294-5237  
 Monroe County Health Dept. .... 294-1021  
 Narcotics Anonymous ..... 296-7999  
 Nutrition Program ..... 294-1021  
 Ostomy Support Classes ..... 296-8659  
 Overeaters Anonymous ..... 294-5183  
 Pregnancy Aid & Counseling ..... 296-7337  
 Up Front/Drug Information ..... 1-800-432-8255  
 Well Baby/Medicaid Clinic ..... 294-1021  
 W.I.C. (Women, Infants &  
 Children) ..... 294-1021

## MISCELLANEOUS

Adoptions ..... 294-9513  
 Birth Certificates ..... 294-1021  
 Family Resource Center, FKM ..... 294-5531  
 Foster Homes: Information &  
 Licensing ..... 294-9513  
 Legal Services ..... 294-4641 x358  
 National Switchboard for  
 Runaways ..... 1-800-621-4000  
 Red Cross ..... 296-3651  
 Salvation Army ..... 294-5611  
 Single Parent Hotline ..... 1-800-638-9675  
 Victim Witness Assistance  
 Program ..... 294-5165  
 Welcome Home Ministries ..... 296-2366  
 Zonta ..... 296-4357

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# VERN POKORSKI

COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 2

**Vern Pokorski** settled in Monroe County because of its natural beauty, clean water, and easy going lifestyle. He loves the Keys, as you do and is dedicated to preserving our quality of life.

**THE BEST IS YET  
TO COME!**



***WHILE OTHER CANDIDATES TALK OF HOPES AND PRIORITIES IF ELECTED  
COUNTY COMMISSIONER — VERN HAS ALREADY BEGUN TO MAKE THE  
FLORIDA KEYS A BETTER PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE.***

- As president of the Big Pine Key Civic Association Vern has repeatedly spoken in favor of low density, single family development in the Keys.
- As a leader on Big Pine Key, Vern helped design the Coupon Bight Aquatic Preserve Buffer Zone project for State acquisition. This program will make available compensation for landowners unable to use their property due to the land use plan.
- With his assistance the 160 unit Ocean Bluff development project on the environmentally sensitive cactus hammock was prevented without extensive and costly litigation by the County or taxpayers. This site will be preserved as a valuable environmental resource forever.
- Vern has been active in his community in the stimulation of beautification, research and recreational programs all focused around the Keys' natural resources.

***WHILE OTHERS TALK ABOUT HOPES AND DREAMS, VERN POKORSKI  
IS DOING SOMETHING ABOUT MONROE COUNTY'S FUTURE***

*The Best Is Yet To Come For Monroe County...*

**VOTE  
FOR**

# VERN POKORSKI

**COUNTY  
COMMISSION  
DISTRICT 2**