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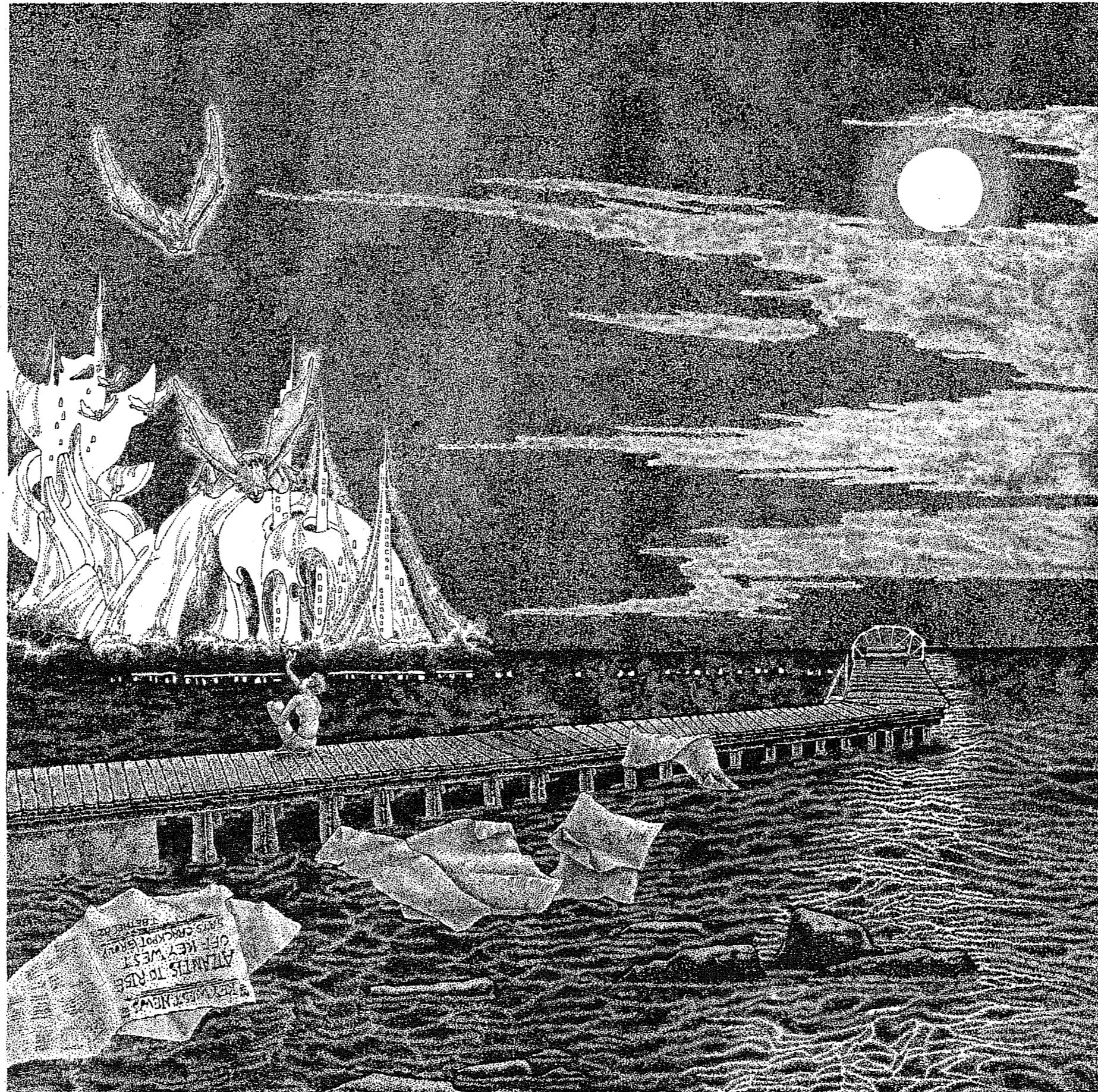
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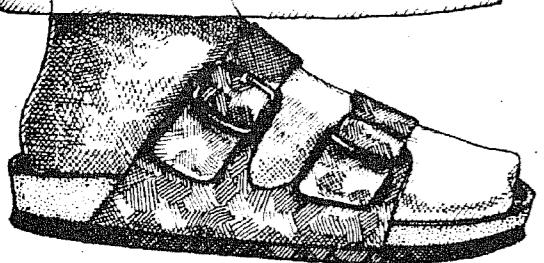
VOL VIII, NO. 7

KEY WEST, FL

AUGUST 1982



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FROM THE EDITOR

Hello-

I'M SORRY TO report that our gallant, talented, extraordinarily spirited, marvelous Dorothy Raymer



Photo by Don Pinder

died in June. Dorothy had written her column Notes and Antic-Dotes for Solares Hill since our first few issues and had had a great reputation in Key West for years before that as one of the Key West Citizen's premier columnists. In her column space this issue there is a fine tribute to her written by her ex-managing editor at the Citizen and good friend, Margaret Foresman. In a future issue of this paper, we will have a reminiscence of this great lady.

THREE CHEERS TO the Miami Herald for its excellent series on the run-away development in N. Key Largo. Our Bill Westray has been sounding the alarm for our readers for years about the need for proper enforcement of the building laws we have in the county. The Herald dramatically pointed out how "watchdog agencies of state and local government stumble in confusion and impotence" under the great wave of new condominium construction being planned. This series should wake up

our county commissioners and state officials to the enormity of the despoliation planned for this remaining area of pristine land. Reporters Brian Duffy and Carl Hiaasen have done the residents of Florida a great service with this series.

I'M PLEASED THAT the county commissioners are going to vote on removing the engineering firm of Post, Buckley, Schuh and Jernigan as official consulting engineers to Monroe County. I feel it is a conflict of interest for them to represent private developers at the same time as they do the county. I hope Post, Buckley, etc. get voted out at the next County Commission meeting.

I ATTENDED THE now famous City Commission meeting this July on noise abatement. The meeting started out reasonably enough with Jean Poirier, a 6th generation Conch, making a calm but strongly felt plea for an effective noise ordinance. She was followed by Charlie Ramos, who, unfortunately, chose to deliver a rabble-rousing, "us against them" (the new people brought the noise in!) emotional harangue that had the effect - the desired effect - of stirring up everyone present to rally for what turned out to be an unenforceable noise ordinance.

MAYOR WARDLOW AND Commissioner Richard Heyman had put together a compromise noise ordinance that permitted greater decibels of sound in the touristy bar area of town than in the residential areas. This, of course made sense. But as the evening progressed the speakers for a noise ordinance became more and more emotional and less reasonable. Police Officer Bill O'Neill took the podium to plea for the commission to pass the ordinance as it was written because lowering the permitted decibel range would make the ordinance unworkable. He explained that a city wide 65 decibel cap - which is what the speakers began to clamor for - was unrealistic since background night sounds alone often read in the 50 decibel range. Inter-

continued on page 26

Cover artist this month is Jeremy Bethel. Those interested in his work should contact him through P. O. Box 4202, Key West.

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so we took no food," says David, compelled to tell his story to the utmost.

The evacuation of the city's youth initiated the beginning of a long journey that would ultimately lead the young man to the end of U.S. 1.

"WE TOOK UNDERWEAR, handkerchiefs and socks, was all. The highway was crowded with refugees. There weren't trains anymore. We walked by the highway the long way north towards the city of Minsk, capital of White Russia."

David says he saw many friends from Vilno on the way. He teamed up with his friend Leo (who had a troublesome, thick, Jewish accent). At that time there was much anti-Semitism even among the soldiers fighting side-by-side with Jewish soldiers against the same foe. "The Jews have crooked rifles," they would say. David spoke many languages without sounding particularly Jewish. This was kind of protection at that point.

A CATTLE TRAIN was sighted along the way to Minsk as the two young men wandered anxiously. They ran to jump on. At a central railroad point, they observed the last train from Vilno. The young men moved to that train and continued on to Minsk.

About fifteen kilometers before the city, the train stopped in a field and people were ordered off by Russians with bayonets. Documents were checked. Only Russians were allowed to remain on the train. The 2,000-3,000 Jewish youth left behind decided to split up (on foot) to avoid air attack. The train was being reserved for native Russians only.

WHEN APPROACHING MINSK, German planes had started bombing in waves. The whole city was already burning. The earth trembled from the three waves of 50 planes that zoomed overhead. "I was there to see," David said.

The city was inaccessible now.

The well-dressed young men were soon after suspected of being spies by a Russian patrol. They were taken to headquarters three or four kilometers from Minsk at a little town known as LaHoisk. As it so happened, the Russian major in charge was also a Jew. He asked them: "Why you not in the army?" David relates how the major then spoke to a corporal named Latish, as the two men tentatively waited. "Give them uniforms," the Jewish major said. "You are mobilized.

THUS BEGAN FOUR hectic years of military service for David, who had no formal training--years that would reshape his character and influence him deeply.

"I didn't know how to use a rifle," David remembers sadly. Latish was instructed to show them how. As soldiers they were sent into the forest and suffered many hardships. A German attack

ON THE ROAD TO MINSK: DAVID CWEI

BY PHOEBE REDNER COAN

reading his books. My mother would scold him." David remembers that even without proper sleep his father would continue to work next day. He was an artistic furniture maker for the uncle of Czar Nicholas II of Russia. David's father was a real craftsman. Later on, even though in the concentration camp, he carried on his tradition, hand carving beautiful wood boxes in the "pesage" method (like mosaic with small wood pieces inlaid to depict flowers, trees and rivers). One surviving friend of the same camp related to David how his father's art was acknowledged even by Germans.

DISHWASHERS FROM TIMES past call to say hello and "check in" with David when they return to town. He has been a friend to many Key West locals and transients. His happy life in America was earned by hard work and tenacity. His is a hearty nature that because of

VILNO WAS ONE of the most cultural Jewish centers in the world, David re-



PHOTO BY JO ANN SAVIO

Rachel and David

the distorted times was caught in a crossfire of events. "I'm not a hater. In war time I couldn't kill the harmless and unarmed as some soldiers did. I saved lives where I could, even Germans sometimes," says this unwarlike and humanistic man.

DAVID WAS BORN in 1916 in the town of Vilno, once capital of Lithuania, of a working family. He lived a happy normal life until the age of about 23 when the war started. Prior to this time he had been in his second year of college, considering law school.

"My father was a scholar. He'd study the stars all night long from a small telescope. He'd be at it until two or three o'clock in the morning, "We thought it was a temporary measure,

calls. The city was a home for a rich Jewish learning center. It was considered also an art, music and intellectual community.

The population numbered 300,000. There were 70,000 Jewish people there. Five daily newspapers and two daily Jewish theaters for dramatic works thrived. The city was democratic in spirit.

IN 1940, HOWEVER, the three Baltic countries (Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia) accepted being incorporated into a "Lithuanian/Soviet Republic."

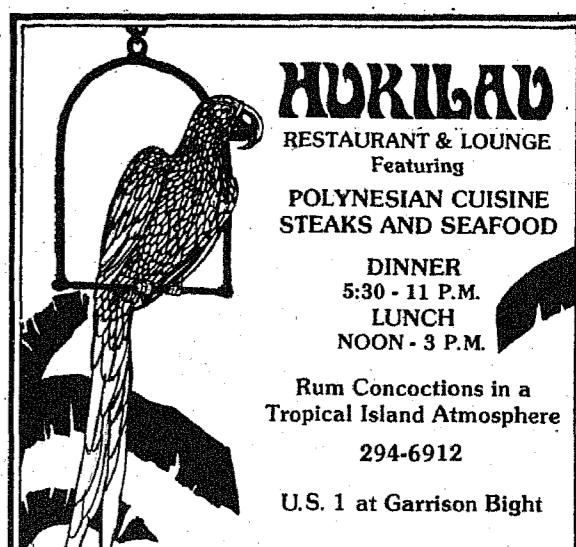
It was when Germany attacked Russia in June of 1941 that many families in Vilno decided to send the youth out of the city as a safeguard for the future. "We thought it was a temporary measure,

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ensued, which initiated them into the grim realities of war.

IT WASN'T VERY long into the battle before the Russians told their men to surrender as there was "no way out." The Germans had advanced with tanks and planes and destroyed everything in their path.

David told Leo: "We're not going to surrender. We have to continue fighting to survive. Let's go!" There were not many Jews who had opportunity to do battle against the Germans and live to tell of it.

THE TWO YOUNG men grabbed their bundles of fine civilian clothing and trudged on through the forest at night, back towards Minsk.

Food was scarce. As matters were, they ended up wandering through the wilderness for two long years, as Russian underground partisans. Everywhere they went, they were cautioned not to return home, nor to reveal their identity as Jews.

THERE WERE KITCHENS set up here and there for distributing food--but not for the likes of them. It was a great torture to be so hungry. At one point, however, the young men came upon an encampment where they were offered a variety of food David had not seen. "I'm Jewish," he blurted out without thinking. He was cautioned kindly by the Austrian officer in charge, and made welcome. It was the first time David had ever dined on tuna. They also had the luxury of bread and marmalade. He remembers to this day how good that food tasted.

"IF SOMEONE CAME into the Charcoal Hut without money and they were hungry and not drunk, I'd say 'Give him a hamburger, fried potatoes and a coffee!' I'd let him sign a check.

"If a person is in need, you have

to help him, any way you can. It could happen to you. I saw with my eyes, people giving away big diamonds for a loaf of bread."

ONE TIME, AFTER four hungry days in the forest, Leo and David came upon a house and found a piece of stale bread in a corner of it. But at the same time a woman with a small child approached. David, without hesitation, gave their bread to her. Leo asked why the food couldn't have been divided. But David felt this was right.

IT WAS not long after that the Spirit must have been looking after them for their kindness, for in another abandoned house they found a small pot of cooked potatoes under a stove.

"I WAS LUCKY to survive," says David Cwei. "I couldn't imagine the killings. At least I was able to fight back for the survival of my people and for all people who love freedom and democracy!"

In the forest David had heard that one other partisan had successfully arranged to get his wife into the forest with him. This gave David the idea of trying to roust his sisters from the ghetto in Vilno.

THE DETERMINED YOUNG man, toughened by battle and defiance, went to see Polish friends and was able to arrange a bus ride back to Vilno, which was under German occupation. By this time it had been a year and a half since he had been home.

He was not recognized by an old friend on his arrival, since he was now disguised like a farmer. He had a moustache and had changed a lot. In order to see his family, he walked through the gate with workers, pretending to be one of them. He managed to smuggle a gun in his sock. He had come a long way from the cultured young man who did not know how to shoot a gun.

HE FOUND HIS parents and sisters after a while, living with 10 people in one room. He was able to spend three weeks with them, but then he had to move on. His sisters would not leave the mother and father.

This was the last time he would see any of them again.

While in Vilno he had seen how the SS was checking people as they came into the ghetto from work. Some smuggled potatoes. One girl dared put some peas into her brassiere. She was caught and killed on the spot. "There were many such incidents," David said.

"DEMOCRACY IN THE United States is the greatest power. We can change our officials legally if we want. We can bring up a generation on love; we can regenerate the good to overcome the bad. As a child I listened to my father. I knew what I could not do.

"I was never brainwashed.

"The Germans used psychology to mold a generation into such sadists."

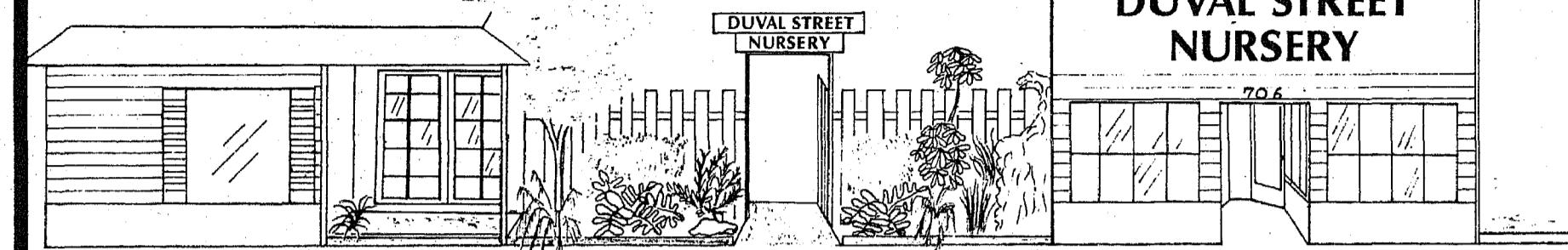
HE RETURNED TO the rugged life of a soldier. There was no medicine and no good clothing, and food was minimal. The men slept in the forest out in the cold winter air. One time David developed a painful toothache. He tried such remedies as salt, vodka and even the pliers. But he had no success and got no relief from the pain. He suffered with it for many long weeks and could stand it no longer.

A farmer told him about a dentist who was living in an area under German domination. He had no choice but to take a chance. He followed the farmer's instructions and by nightfall crawled to the designated house, carrying a machine gun and a hand grenade for protection.

"I wouldn't let them take me alive. I'd kill myself first!"

THE OLD DENTIST agreed to do the

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in the restaurant business before, he believed: "You can learn anything you really want to know about."

HE HAD NO IDEA how he would come up with a large sum of money. He felt fortunate to have managed to save even a couple of hundred dollars by that time.

"Destiny is what has to happen," says David. "And this was meant to be." At the Key Wester was a man from El Paso, a builder named Brenner. "I could communicate with him, and my English had also been developing by that time." (David speaks seven languages.)

The men ended up partners, David being the working half. Family members helped with some of the money, and David began a new life as a Duval Street businessman.

HE WORKED AS hard as a man could to make a dollar, and he was glad and thankful for the opportunity. By 1963, David had bought the restaurant outright. It took him just six years to do it.

The Charcoal Hut was the second home for many Navy people. They loved it. The place was famous for steaks, and had a reputation for "good chow." It was popular by word of mouth. "I believe in honesty," David said of his business. "Give the people what they pay for."

THE RESTAURANT WAS like a melting pot. "Not just a place," as David describes it. "There were discussions,

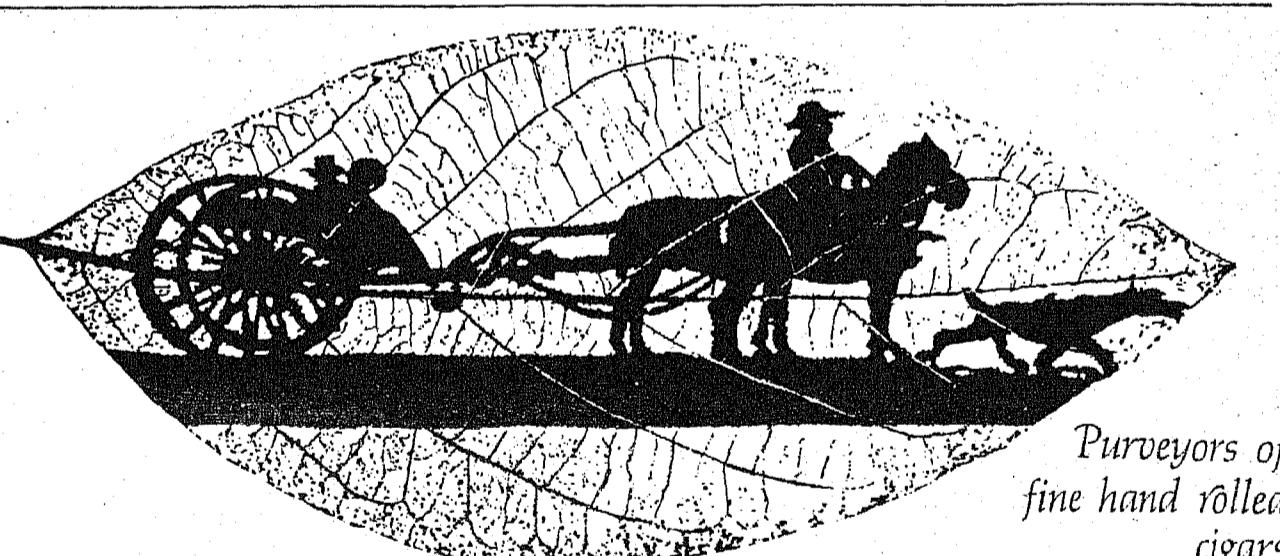
emergency extraction. There was no light. So the dentist burnt pieces of wood like a horizontal torch for illumination. He was frightened as he worked and his hands trembled. When he pulled, it was the wrong tooth! Poor David had to let the old man take another crack at it, and this time he got the right tooth. Only some vodka was available for the discomfort. He gulped down the strong drink and left.

IT WAS WHILE fighting in Berlin that a sniper's bullet caught up with the brave David. He had been wounded before, but was always back fighting after a short time. This time however he was laid up many months at a hospital in the Caucasus Mountains.

At the war's end, the army discharged him to Vilno. The now much older young man, with the great spirit to survive, had time to wonder if indeed he had any relatives left anywhere. He heard from his Uncle Naum and his Aunt Rebecca in Poland. Heartsick, he traveled there for a family reunion and some sense of identity to replace at least a part of the horrible loss he felt.

Next he visited Czechoslovakia, and then on to Vienna to apply for a visa to the states in 1951.

DURING THIS PERIOD of his life, David worked at whatever was available. He was trying everywhere to find a normal way of life. All over Europe people were picking up pieces of their life, trying to fit them together again. It was a few years before the visa



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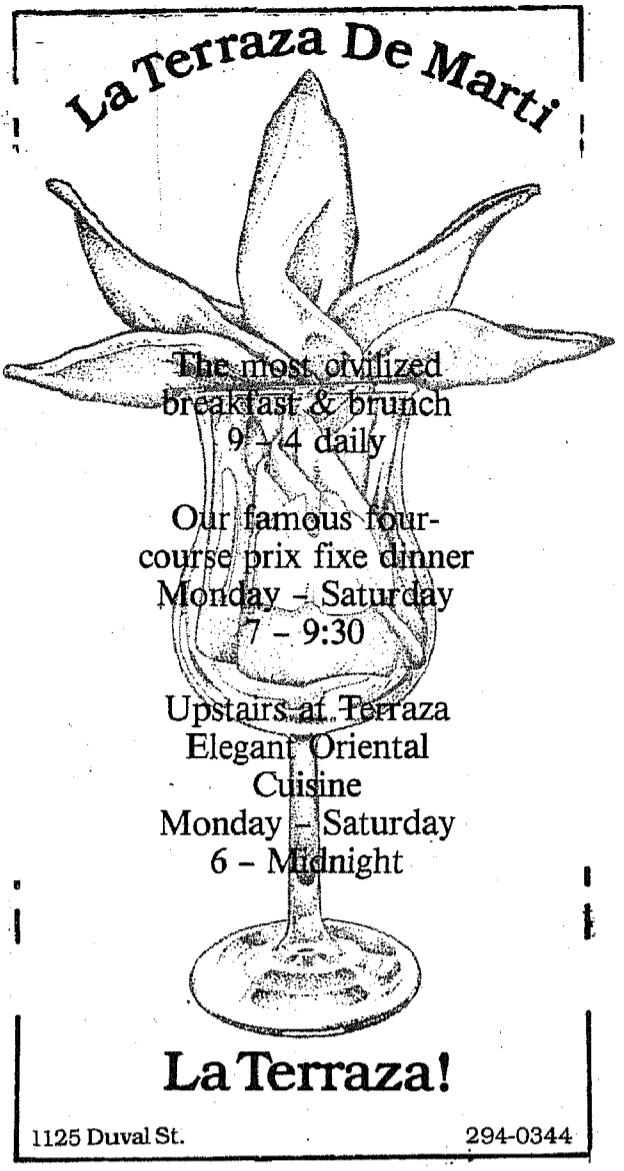
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classical music in the juke box, and coffee."

Young people came to the Charcoal Hut for advice from the couple who had such willing ears and open hearts. Drunks were spoken to kindly. "We'd help out," David says of himself and Rachel during those years. "Many young people met and married--waitresses and sailors," Rachel remembers.

IT WAS IN 1967 that David's Polish Uncle Naum wrote that he was living in Capetown, and wanted David to come and visit. So, David took a vacation and went to South Africa. At this time he first encountered the urbane and idealistic Rachel Chajet. Raven-haired and beautiful, she had come from Buenos Aires and was visiting her uncle too. He loved her at first sight.

He had had some girlfriends previously, but there was never anyone who captured him so completely.

As it turned out, they both had something vital in common--the same Uncle Naum!

David says his aunt and uncle were not purposely matchmaking!

WITH THE RAPPORT they both felt, David and Rachel decided after a month's time to marry. Now they complement each other with "European courtliness," as one old friend has put it. It is a graciousness that reaches out to others and makes them feel welcome.

This was 15 years ago, and though she suffered "cultural shock" the 41-year-old Argentine adjusted to her new lifestyle, thanks to the understanding of her husband.

SHE LEARNED ALSO to cook commercially and always worked alongside David with respect and mutual love. "He has survived so much!" she exclaims. "He has a very strong mind."

"We never fight," says David. "No

one's giving up ground to fight. The most important thing is to see the good side of the other person, for harmony's sake."

"Sometimes you may feel you're right, but you say you're wrong so you don't have to get angry and fight. Once you do scratch someone, the wound just swells and smarts."

"Let it go," I say. The peace between you and others is more important," he says.



David with a relative in Poland just after the war.

"WE HAVE GOOD communication," Rachel concurs. "Let yesterday go. Look for tomorrow and how you can be better instead. It's more important to be healthy and to live in peace."

"If there's a conflict, give the other person time to grow into understanding," adds David.

"There's always something to learn. I'd rather learn than teach. Life is shorter than you think it is. So, go make from your life what you want."

WHEN I ASKED how the war affected his life, he said, "The war affected my character. I got better."

I asked what he meant by this. "It opened me up to my feelings. I became a more opened-up person as a result. I really LOVE people, animals ... I love life more now that I have seen what I have seen."

DAVID AND RACHEL live with two friendly dogs. There is a poodle named Kier and a cocker spaniel called Lady. The couple also care for two pussycats who dine at their very own outside table.

We talked more about war. "History shows that war never helped anybody. If people want peace, there is always a solution. All you have to do is keep talking it over and trying to communicate (like in a marriage). Look on the good side. Time changes situations and people moment by moment. People mellow. Time will change your mind."

NOW DAVID AND Rachel have time to relax. "We are adjusting to our new freedom, and enjoying every minute of it." It has been four months since their retirement to the house on Fogarty Avenue. It is a very lovely, comfortable and modern home. The walls are adorned with tasteful things of beauty, works of art.

"Now I am satisfied," says David. "It is a time to stop and say, ENOUGH. I love to read a good book and to listen to classical music. I like to travel."

DAVID AND RACHEL have strong feelings about Israel. He says, "They are still having to fight for their right to be where they are. They have to survive."

so, they have had to train themselves militarily. The Jew will always sharpen his mind to be better when he is put to the test."

"I don't believe in the superiority of one race over another. Jews were not called "the chosen people" to denote such superiority. We were to be given the Bible and the laws through Moses, and that's what we were chosen for!"

NOW THAT THEY are retired, the couple hope to get involved in cultural pursuits. David can envision an outside shell in Key West for classical music concerts.

"Come over for a coffee," they were saying.

WE HAD BEEN talking for a time about the relationship between the wars of yesterday and today. Rachel was saddened at the Falkland Islands conflict and the shameful loss of lives. "Even one life lost is too much. I feel both sides have been wrong."

"The Argentines are such a sensitive people. I know how they suffer. They don't know war. They don't know what this is to lose a son in war. They will suffer their losses for a long time to come!"

David commented interestingly: "Maybe when people have cause to restrain themselves, they will stop killing each other."

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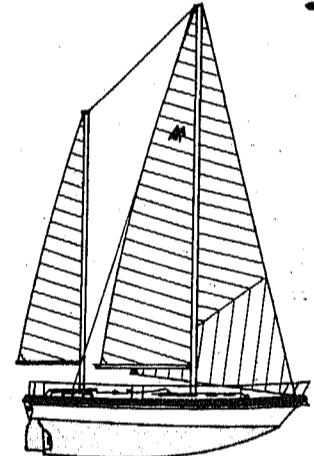
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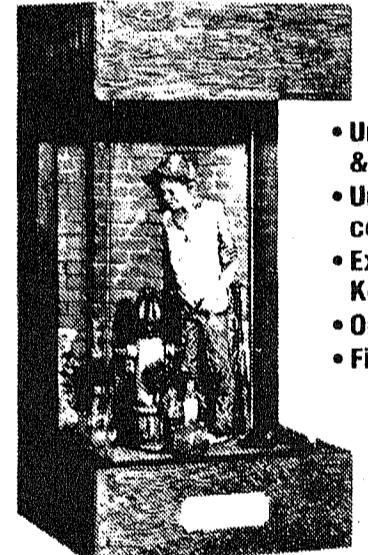
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NOTES AND ANTIC-DOTES

(Dorothy Raymer, whose column Notes and Antic-Dotes has run in the Solares Hill for over 5 years, died suddenly in June. Margaret Foresman, ex-managing editor of the Key West Citizen, wrote these very special words on Dorothy and they subsequently appeared in the Sunday Citizen, June 27, 1982.

For years, Dorothy had written a column for the Citizen called Conch Chowder. Conch Chowder, and in smaller type, Finis, was the heading used by the Citizen for Margaret's words.

With the kind permission of Margaret Foresman and the Key West Citizen, we at Solares Hill will use Margaret's words to say Finis to our very special column written by a very special lady. And we join Margaret in saying, "Goodbye, Dorothy. Vaya con Dios"W.H.)

WE'RE ALL HERE today to say goodbye to Dorothy Raymer, each in our own inner way remembering this woman who meant a lot to many people, either as a co-worker, a sister, a neighbor, a newspaper writer, a person we said Hello to on the street or in some way made contact with, but to all of us a friend.

THE DOROTHY RAYMER I knew and want to talk a little about was a mixture of all these things, a mature woman when I first met her but a person with more than a little of the wide-eyed wondering child still a part of her.

I THINK IT WAS this part which made people Dorothy's life interest. She wanted to know all about people, and being blessed with intelligence and ability, she was able to write about them and to share her interest with the reading public.

AS A JOURNALIST, Dorothy covered a wide range of newspaper activities, writing almost every kind of newspaper story - obituaries, wedding reports, hard news stories, interviews, feature articles, sob sister pieces, night club reviews, restaurant criticism, drama reviews, concert critiques, book reviews - the whole gamut of newspaper coverage - and she did it all well.

DURING MY TIME of working with her, Dorothy wore many hats (to say nothing of many flowers over her ear to conceal her hearing aid.) She could go to the police station in the morning and gather up all the crime news, come back to the office and write it up for that day's paper, interview a visiting VIP, and then turn out in the afternoon a meticulously crafted wedding story calculated to sell lots of extra Sunday papers to the families of the bride and groom and all their friends. She put together the Woman's Page of the Citizen daily for a number of years and later was in charge of the entertainment section, happily returning to a function she had previously carried out for the Miami News, keeping readers of the paper posted on what was going on in town.

SHE KNEW THE glamour aspects of newspapering, and she also knew the drudgeries - keeping the clip file, researching to be sure her facts were straight, proofreading, and the myriad of other tedious jobs which are all a part of the newsroom - or were in Dorothy's and my day - but she never learned to change a typewriter ribbon.

BUT I'M SURE her most memorable contribution and the one which readers of the Citizen most closely identified with her was her daily column, Conch Chowder. Producing a readable column six times a week is a feat which few people have ever achieved, and especially doing it in addition to many other tasks as her job always required.

IN FACT, AT one time back in the Fifties, two other persons on the Citizen staff felt that they, too, should be allowed to be columnists, so they were given the go-ahead. At first, they both intended to do a daily column, but as I recall, this was quite soon changed to every other day, then once a week, and before very long - a matter of a few months - both these columns faded into history.

BUT CONCH CHOWDER continued. Dorothy used a wide variety of subject matter, and sometimes the columns were just so-so, but more often than not, they were quite interesting, and now and then they were truly great.

I REMEMBER ONCE when there wasn't much going on around town for her to use as subject matter, she wrote a column describing, of all things, a vacant lot which she passed on her way to work. That sounds like the pits, doesn't it?

BUT DOROTHY MADE a work of art describing tiny, tiny blossoms on the weeds, making them each clear and colorful in the mind's eye.

She told about the miniature animal life she saw in the lot - lizards and ants and beetles scurrying about their daily or hourly business - the scraps and trash denoting the passage of humankind, the springing up of a new plant life stretching toward the sun.

ALL IN ALL, it was a masterful piece of writing which made a little old Key West vacant lot take on beauty and meaning to the reader. (And a not very sentimental old ex-editor still remembers it.)

CONCH CHOWDER WAS sometimes jubilant, sometimes mournful, sometimes routine, but it was always on my desk at about the same time every day to be copyread and sent to the typesetter.

Dorothy's interest in people and a phenomenal memory were noteworthy in all her relationships. She not only remembered faces and names, but she kept stored for instant recall such little particulars about people she had only briefly known as how many children they had, the state of their health the last time she saw them, and other intimate little items like that. I have seen her display this talent of memory concerning a mere acquaintance she had not seen for some 25 years.

DOROTHY'S RANGE OF friends was wide - from Tennessee Williams and the late Tallulah Bankhead and other stars in the literary and entertainment world to her grocer, cleaning woman and the persons who waited on her in restaurants.

HER INTEREST in people was pretty well matched by her interest in animals, particularly horses and dogs, although she added cats to her menage in later years.

A familiar sight in Key West for a long time has been Dorothy walking her dog - or vice versa.

I KNEW HER through the course of four dogs, a collie and three German shepherds, Claude, Torpedo, Geronimo, and Fuzz. These made up her Key West family each in his turn. I think they took the place of the children she always wished she had been able to have.

I MENTIONED EARLIER a certain childlike quality which Dorothy never lost, as I am sure many of you who know her will agree.

Despite all her exposure to the seamy side of life which her newspaper work gave her, despite all the hard knocks she took in her personal life, and even when she faced old age with ill health and financial insecurity haunting her, Dorothy retained her sense of humor, her perceptiveness, and a sort of naivete which kept her from deep depression by seemingly letting her believe that tomorrow really might be a little better than today.

I FOR ONE, and I expect most or all of you join me, hope from the bottom of my heart that Dorothy is finding today better than the days of her most recent life when pain and suffering felled her.

SHE WAS UNDAUNTED to the last, keeping her sense of humor even in the hospital. Her close friend, Eleanor Walsh, told me that shortly before Dorothy lapsed into the deep coma which preceded her death, Eleanor was allowed to go into the intensive care room to help the nurse feed the patient who really did not want to eat. Both Dorothy and Eleanor are of Welsh descent, and Dorothy grinned at her friend and said, "I'm staging a hunger strike for Welsh nationalism."

DOROTHY'S GONE NOW. She's left that terrible silent world in which she lived for many years after losing her hearing. She doesn't have to face the dark world which was threatening her already as a result of her diabetes affecting her sight.

SHE WAS RIGHT when she told me not long ago that she had to have her dog Fuzz put to sleep and that she would not get another dog to replace him.

But I have a feeling and a hope that the little girl Dorothy still was in many ways is the person or the spirit which was released by death from that aging and troublesome body.

I'LL EVEN RISK being banal and say that I think Dorothy, with all her joy of life and eagerness to see what good thing might happen tomorrow, is probably now somewhere over the rainbow, like her namesake from Kansas who went to Oz. It won't be a Toto running along there beside her, but it just may be a Claude or Torpedo or Geronimo or Fuzz capering along with his own youth and faculties restored.

I LIKE TO think of Dorothy being able to hear all the joyful sounds of the universe without a hearing aid, and to see the beauties of some Elysian fields.

Dorothy's life, like the messy copy she used to turn in for me to edit, may have been filled with smudges and corrections and additions, but it was good and meaningful.

HER HEARTY LAUGH, her endless love of Key West, her friendly fascination with people, all these things are now gone from our lives. There doesn't seem to be anything more for me to say except Goodby Dorothy. Vaya con Dios.

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SPECTRUM School

BY JIM COAN

SPECTRUM SCHOOL ON Big Coppitt Key is a unique private alternative school astutely administered by three wise and loving teachers, Carol Anderson, Jan Hubbs and Pepper Kellum. Located in the old parish house of the Big Coppitt Methodist Church, the school has from 15 to 20 students from Little Torch, Sugarloaf, Cudjoe and Big Coppitt. The white frame conch house, surrounded by grass and pine trees and flowers, seems like the perfect setting for an old-fashioned, "Little House on the Prairie," one-room schoolhouse. The building is now being painted with a fresh coat of white with bright red trim.

THE IDEA OF Spectrum School dates

back to the fall of '79 when a group of parents in Key West started an after-school program. Their first site was the old USO building at Whitehead and Southard which they rented from the Latin American Chamber of Commerce. However, when the Mariel sealift started in May of 1980, the building was immediately needed to process the refugees. Abruptly left without a schoolroom, they didn't start up again until March of 1981 when they obtained the present building in return for cleaning it up and maintaining it. From that March until June, they began anew with only four students.

THE GOAL FOR next year is three teachers and 20 students--the maximum number they feel they can work with effectively. (At this writing, they have 15 students.)

The tuition is \$140 per month and each child receives a lot of attention

and help. Needless to say, any donation to help with scholarships or additional learning materials would be appreciated and put to good use. The address is: Spectrum School Inc., 10 Avenue F, Key West, FL 33040.

ALTHOUGH REGISTERED WITH the Board of Education, Spectrum is a non-profit entity and there are no state or federal funds involved. However, the Monroe County Bookmobile stops once a week and is very helpful. And the County Health Department regularly checks the children's eyesight, hearing, etc. as they do at all the schools.

IN ADDITION TO the three Rs (the minimum state requirements are exceeded for each grade level) a lot of basic self-survival techniques are taught--basic carpentry, how to build and sell bikes from spare parts to make money for other projects, sewing, cooking, fishing, fixing a broken toilet, checking the oil, water and battery on a car. Math skills are translated into practical things like cooking and measuring.

There's a large terrarium, some squash is growing now and further gardening projects are planned. Also, pottery and creative writing are offered.

THE RULES OF the school, which the children themselves decided on, are: (1) No running inside; (2) No fighting; (3) No writing inside books; (4) Don't run out on the road; (5) Be polite; (6) Clean up after yourself; (7) Do your best.

CAROL AND JAN (both state-certified teachers) say that the textbooks are for them rather than the students. The students have copious reference books and materials; the teachers see their main role here as reference source guides rather than lecturers. This makes the whole learning atmosphere more flexible and the children's "guides" are

open to any area the kids want to explore. The children learn that by following directions they can accomplish practically anything.

THERE ARE MANY field trips. Every



Friday afternoon, the school week ends with a visit to nearby Boca Chica beach.

Tony Gregory (who has been involved with Spectrum School from the beginning) showed them how to print T-shirts at Art Attack. They've visited U.S. Marble, the Key West fire station on Flagler St. and the Aquarium, and they regularly visit two houses being built nearby to understand their construction at various stages.

THERE'S A LOT of parent participation at Spectrum School and the students get along exceptionally well with each other. There is no failure, since students simply stick with something until they learn how to do it. So after three years of tremendous effort and determination by a small group of local parents, this noble experiment appears to be a wonderful success--especially for the lucky students.



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HURRICANE SIGNS, OR: Wooly Bears, Anyone

BY MALCOLM ROSS

JUNE 1st MARKS the beginning of the annual rainy season, known less affectionately as "The Hurricane Season," and coincident with the arrival of this event one question seems to be predominant in conversations among the local populace: "Will this be THE year?" One is prone to overhear such retorts as, "Well, we're certainly DUE for one!" or its frequent variant, "We're OVERDUE!"

EVER SINCE MAN began to walk this earth he has always looked to nature--the stars, plants, animals--for some means of predicting the unpredictable. In Roman times the entrails of birds were consulted; in more northern latitudes of the U.S. much energy has been expended on collecting and speculating about the width of the colored stripes of certain caterpillars; to wit: the "woolly bear" caterpillars. Narrow black bands are likely to indicate a mild winter and wide black bands a severe winter--or is it the other way around? Some folk weather prognosticators believe the future winter can be determined by the husks on corn ears or the thickness of animal fur. None of this of course matches the attention paid to watching the activities of certain rodents around early February and worrying over whether the sun will cast a shadow to frighten the poor creature back into six more weeks of hibernation!

KEY WEST WINTERS are less to be dreaded than the northern varieties, so not much thought is given to trying to predict their severity or duration. Nevertheless there is some local concern--and rightly so--about the counter-clockwise churning "tropical cyclones" named for a West Indian evil spirit:

called "Huracan." As a result of this deadly property-destroying threat, a new sport called "hurricane tracking" has arisen--to the extent that banks and radio stations frequently give away free hurricane tracking charts--but some local people still look to nature (rather than the Natural Weather Service) for the answer to that big question: "Will it be this year?"

CONCHS HAVE WAYS and notions which often appear mysterious to outsiders, but they have been here a long time and there is something to be said in favor of experience. For that reason the ears of this writer perked up a number of years ago when a local casually remarked that the oncoming summer would bring a hurricane because the poinciana leaves were falling off in great numbers and "drifting like snow." I left town that summer--not from threat of hurricane--and was surprised and relieved on my return that no storms had struck or threatened Key West. (Incidentally, the local term for hurricane is "storm" just as the term for avocado is "pear"!) This dubious prognostication was summarily dismissed from my mind--until--another remark from a Conch set my mind to thinking again. This time it concerned the land crabs which share the island to some degree--more or less--with us humans. (The Chinese have developed a science based on animal behavior in regard to earthquake prediction--fish jumping out of lakes, etc.,--so why not Key West land crabs?) It was stated to me with great authority (or what I thought sounded like authority!) that if land crabs (which prefer areas in close proximity to the ocean) are seen moving to higher ground it is a sure sign of a hurricane. Curiously

ous, I watched carefully to see if I could ascertain any indication of a migration. After days of fruitless watching I spied a large crab in the middle of Virginia Street (definitely far from his accustomed habitat) so I knew that this would be the year! I waited, the summer came and went, but it turned out to be another "no show."

THE NEXT FOLK prediction also concerned the poinciana tree, so loved by some, so maligned by others. This particular spring the poincianas did not bloom as usual. The first of May, the customary blooming date, came and scarcely one poinciana blossom was to be seen. Most of the trees in Key West remained without blossoms, although a scant half-dozen on the island did have some color. This aberrant behavior on the part of a conspicuous annual event caused a great deal of speculation, and paramount in every discussion of the barren poinciana trees was the topic of hurricanes. This would surely be the year, I was told--and repeated! I didn't exactly run right out and buy plywood, but decided to wait and watch. Slowly and shyly the trees put out their delicate fern-like leaves, summer came, stayed awhile and departed, and the predicted storm did not materialize. Another "no show." It was enough to make one lose faith in folk knowledge!

OVER THE YEARS some other weather prognostications surfaced and I listened with patience and growing skepticism. One evening as I was conversing with a friend who had settled in Key West 30 years ago, we were dive-bombed by a flying creature that slammed into lights and windows. I was told on the spot that roaches fly only when there is to be a storm or a severe change in the weather. Another folk prediction, interesting enough certainly, so I listened quietly and decided to test THIS too. During the subsequent months it was my observation that roaches do not fly often, but when they do it is a

startling phenomenon and apparently with little consideration for (or effect on) the weather. Another bum steer!

THE NEXT PREDICTION that came to my ears was from a third generation Conch who was one of the first people I had met when I arrived in Key West. One evening she said to me quite blankly: "My daddy says we're going to have a hurricane this year. He says the ants are climbing straight up the wall!"



"THE ANTS ARE CLIMBING STRAIGHT UP THE WALL!"

Well, this was certainly something unusual, something I had not seen for myself, but I was determined to watch and observe if I could. I watched, but the only ants I observed were interested in my honey jar or drinking water from the bottom of my shower. They never seemed to climb straight up the wall, but then we didn't have a hurricane that year either.

WHAT HAS ONCE been mild skepticism now grew into a monster and I began to feel that a game--a credibility game, if you will--was being played at my expense. I scarcely batted an eye

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when another friend, also a Conch, informed me that her mother always said that it was a "sign of bad weather" when the orange blossom jasmine bloomed. It happened to be in bloom when she told me that, and it also happened to be raining. I noticed a couple of times that the curly white flowers seemed to presage storm weather, but then again I noticed that it also bloomed when the weather was fine, I am likewise unaffected when another Conch friend gets apprehensive and starts muttering about hurricanes when the termites in her house start to swarm.

OF COURSE, THE Indians (those native Americans whose wisdom and decorum are virtually unchallenged today) didn't exactly do so great either. Those of south Florida, particularly the Seminoles, believed that a hurricane could be expected when the sawgrass was in bloom. There is some truth in this because the sawgrass always blooms in September, the month when many hurricanes have been recorded than in any of the other 12 months. True, many hurricanes have hit Florida in September, but there have been many Septembers when there were no hurricanes. The hitch is that the sawgrass blooms EVERY September!

WELL, WHAT IS a person to believe? Even Judge Jefferson Browne in his history *Key West—the Old and the New* (published in 1911) goes out on a limb and finds the fact remarkable that Key West was struck by a hurricane both in 1835 and 1909, both years when Halley's Comet was putting in its appearance. In a few years that theory can be tested, too, for the comet is due to return in 1986.

THERE IS, OF course, one school of thought that maintains that Key West will never again suffer the ravages of a direct hit by a hurricane and that

this is a result of a shrine on the grounds of the Convent of Mary Immaculate. This shrine, which is in the style of the rock grotto at Lourdes, France, was constructed in 1922 under the guiding influence of one Sister Louis Gabriel, who had come to Key West in 1897 only to experience three major storms which devastated the island in 1899, 1910 and 1919. The rock grotto with a statue of the Madonna was built with donations of time, labor and money on the 25th anniversary of Sister Louis Gabriel's arrival in Key West, with the express purpose of protecting the island from the devastation of future storms.



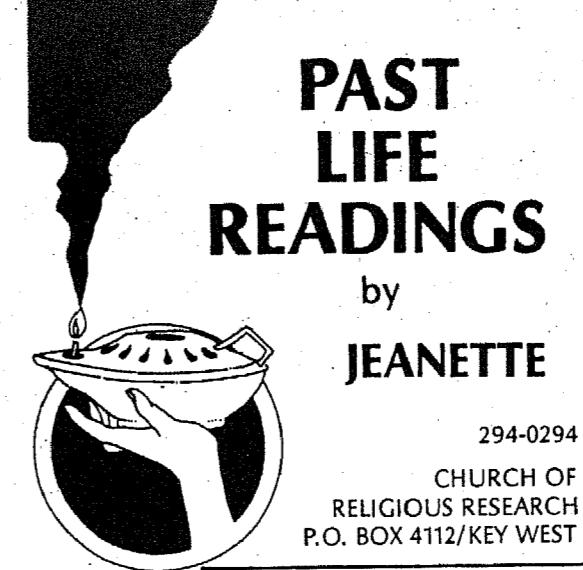
Strangely enough, Key West has been spared the brunt of a direct hit since the shrine's construction.

THE MOST POWERFUL hurricane of the century, the Labor Day Hurricane of 1935, which was estimated to have winds in excess of 200 miles per hour, wiped out the Middle Keys (and Henry Flagler's

railroad!) with an 18-foot storm surge, but Key Westers didn't realize anything untoward had happened until the departing train returned, actually backing into Key West! The train tracks on Long Key had vanished. In the 1960's Hurricane Donna struck the Middle Keys, devastating Marathon, but only bringing strong winds and rains to Key West. Two other hurricanes of the 60s, Betsy and Inez, were gentler ladies likewise having little effect on Key West.

THE 80s WERE ushered in by two rather nasty gentlemen named David, which went east of us, and Frederick, which went to our west. As someone was heard to say on that occasion: "This time God rolled two gutterballs!"

MOST CURRENT TO the endless collection of local folk predictions concerns that familiar old tree again, the Biscayne. This year the trees bloomed quite profusely—but a full month early! Each year had different predictions and different storms that threatened or not. If you want to find the answer to THE question, you might look to nature and speculate on the number of lizards you've seen this year or how frequently or irregularly the garbage men collect your garbage. Or you just might ask the National Weather Service. They have the latest methods of forecasting and perhaps they might have the answer.



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by
JEANETTE

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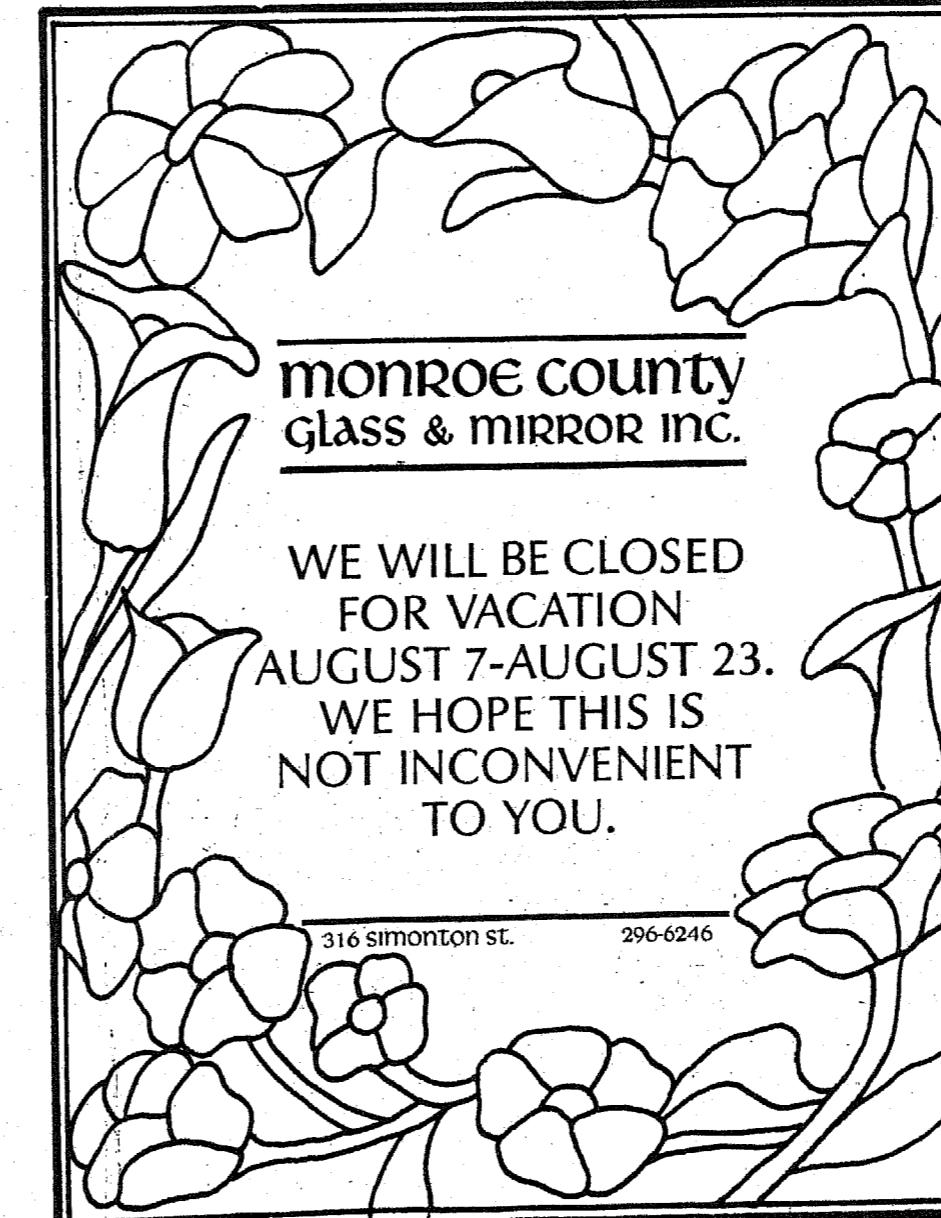
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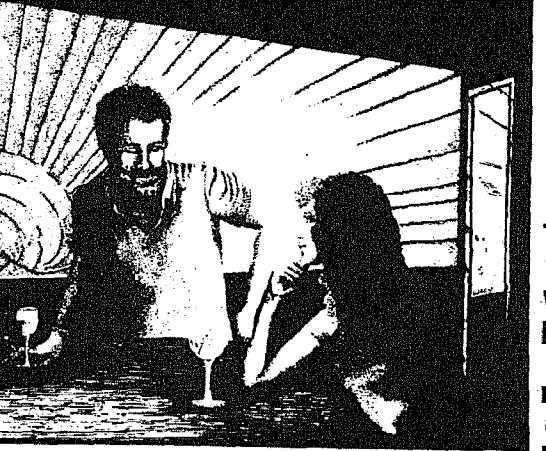
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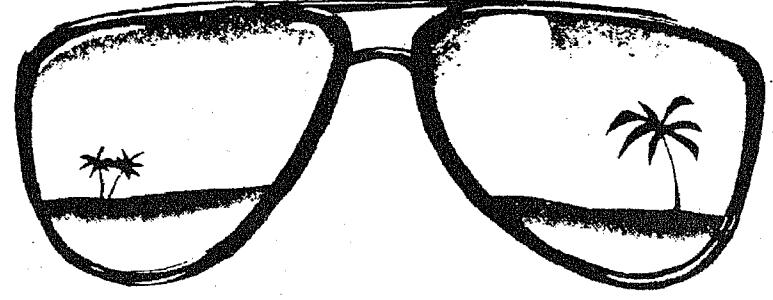
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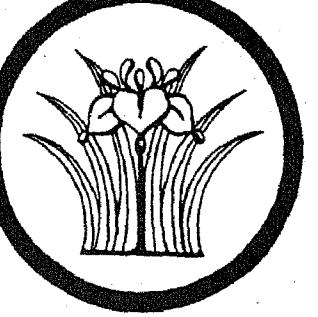
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IT WAS ALSO in the area of madcap politics and elections in Key West when, at various times, ballot boxes turned up mysteriously missing. Once, in the 1920s, local officials with the help of some fishermen from Thompson Enterprises located a couple ballot boxes floating in the harbor--but all the votes were gone. Pity the fishes.

CONCH BANANAS: A little craziness
 NEVER HURT

BY JOE CRUMPET

MAYBE IT WAS a fact of island living many years ago, long before this crazy age of affluence and camera-toting tourists, when Key West was remote and not so easily touched by the mainland, that its natives were highly individualistic, nicknames were common, and wacky personalities made impressions that are recalled with gusty laughter even today. Many of the stories are apocryphal, but here are a few anyway.

Key West was not the home of the Roxy and didn't have Broadway and Hollywood, but it sure as hell had "character."

BOLITA, THAT LOVABLE numbers gambling game so popular with the Cubans and Conchs for generations going back into the 1800s (and still going strong today), was frowned on during the stewardship of Gov. Leroy Collins in the 1950s. Collins, one of the best-liked and most-respected men to hold that office in years, had no truck with illegal folderol like gambling. At the same time, he wasn't a strait-laced politician; he possessed a high sense of humor and human outlook.

WHEN THE GOVERNOR showed up in Key West in 1957 and was escorted with fanfare and blaring trumpets down Duval Street by Sheriff John M. Spottswood and his merry crew, bands and officials were all over the place.

Among his stops was the county courthouse for the usual handshaking and palaver. The old "courthouse gang" was there to meet him--County Clerk Earl R. Adams, Tax Collector Howard E. Wilson, Tax Assessor Joe Allen, County Judge Raymond R. Lord, and Election Registrar Billy Freeman.

IN ONE OF the offices was the large walk-in vault for county records --and on Fridays a couple of the now-deceased county officials, Frank (Pilot) Roberts and Gerald Adams, would sort out bolita tickets from many of the workers. They were thus busily engaged the day of Collins' visit when another Conch poked his head in the door and in a loud whisper told them to break it up -- "The governor's coming through!" "Ah-h-h-h, don't worry about it," came the quick answer. "John's fixed it so Leroy wins!"

IN THE LONG gone days of County Judge G, in the 1930s, so the story goes, a city election got particularly tight and the candidate the old Conchs wanted to win did not look too promising. The absentees would have to decide it. The judge was wearing a large, loose, blousy shirt the evening they counted the absentee votes, the story goes, and suddenly "the lights went out." The canvassing board yelled and people got up and moved around the room.

Lo and behold, when the lights came back on there was a whole stack of mixed-up ballots scattered on the floor near the judge's chair and the table.

"We'll have to count 'em all," commented one of the officials, and sure enough they did.

And sure enough the "right guy" won the election--in the absentees.

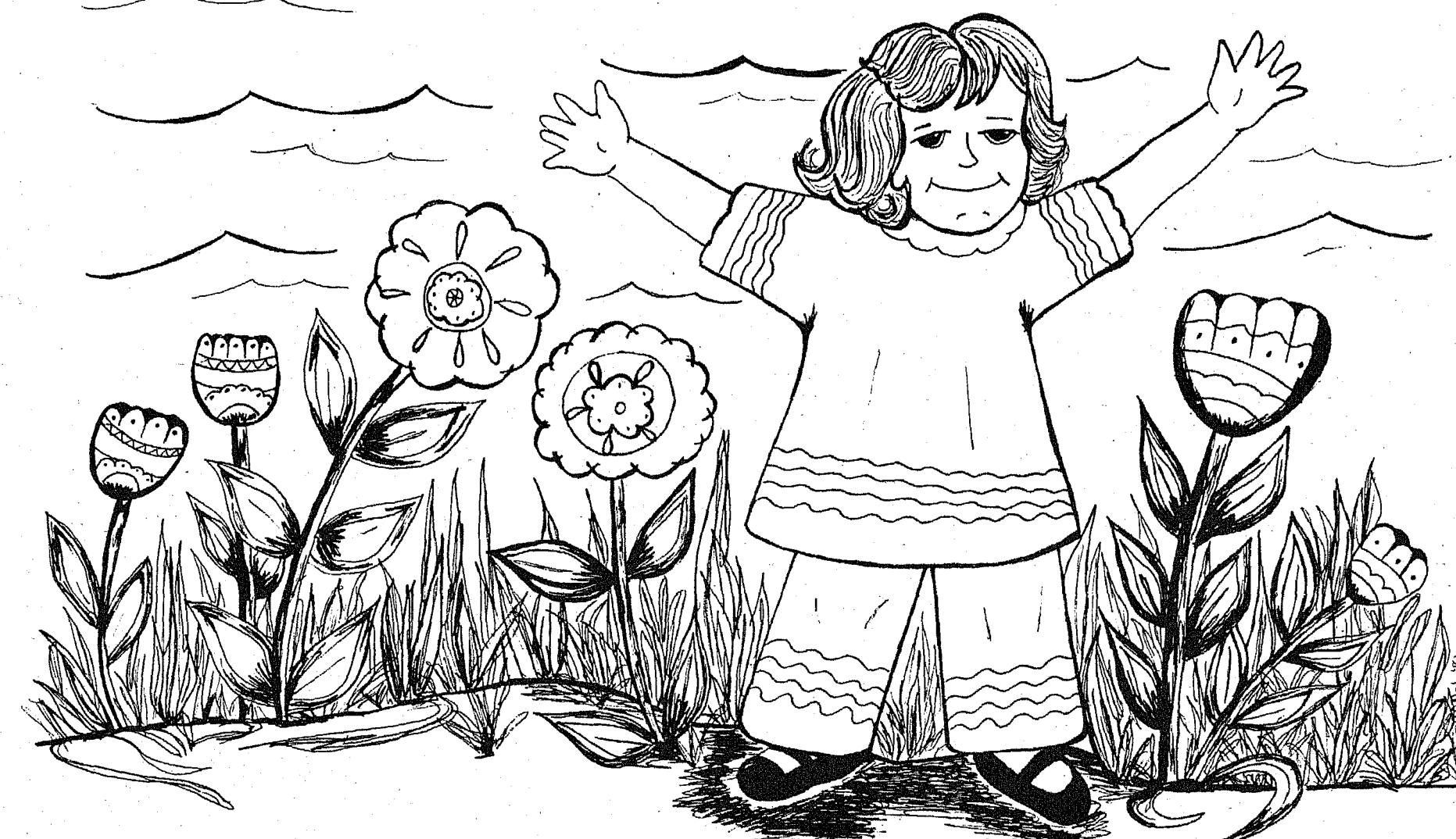
solares  **hill**

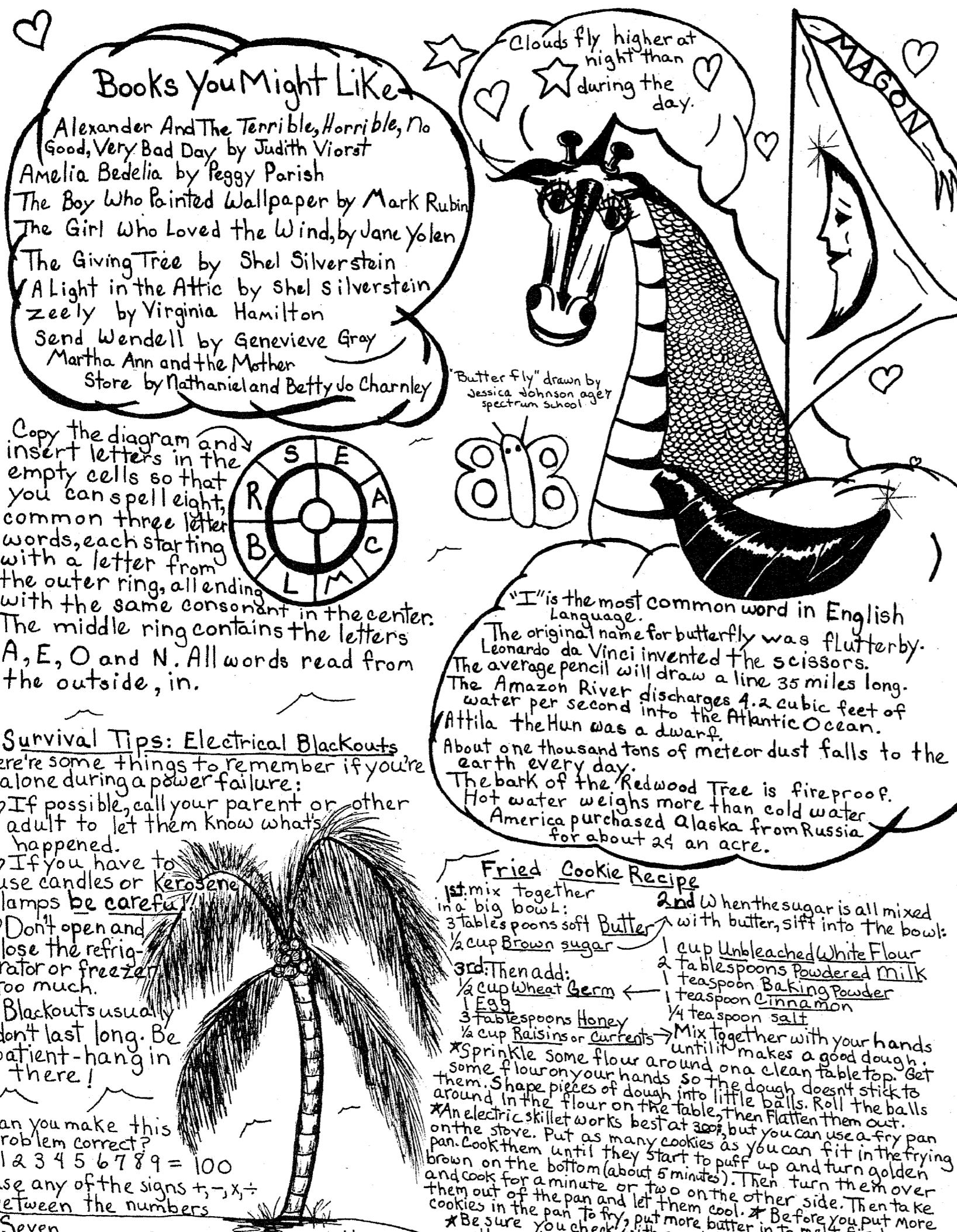
presents:

Especially
 for
 Kids -

a collection of fun, facts, stories
 poems, recipes, survival tips, drawings
 and things for Kids of all ages.

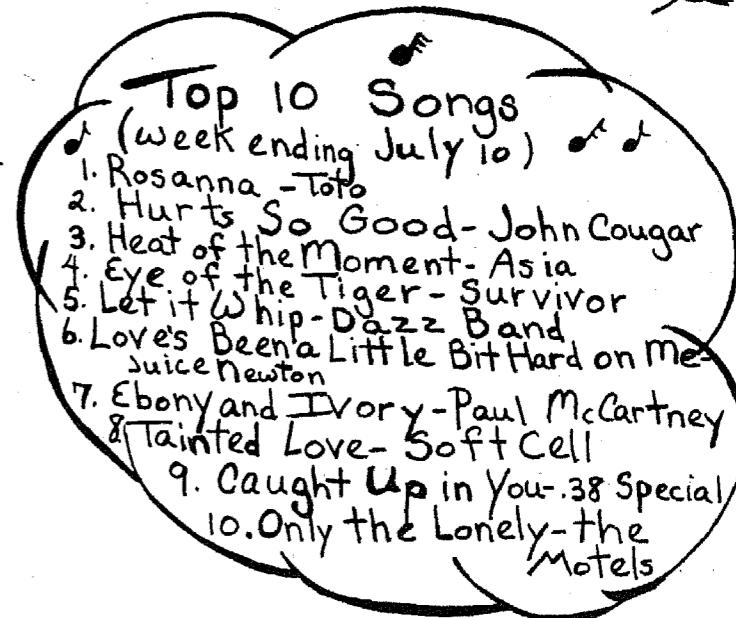
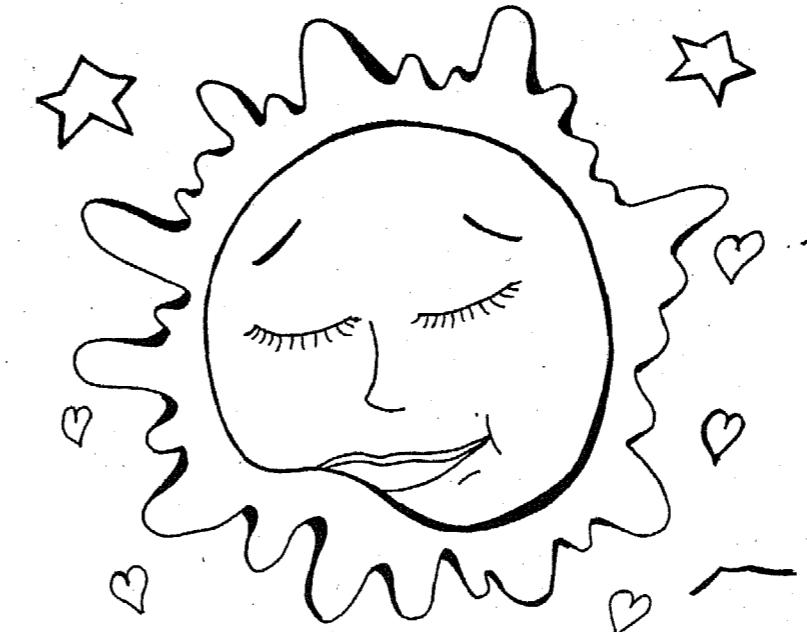
(with some help from the folks at Spectrum School)





Seven
Orange
Llamas
Are
Reading
Each
Solares
Hill
In
Llama
Language

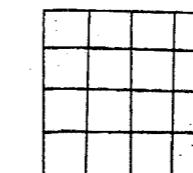
How quickly
can you write down a
list of action verbs in A,B,C,
order? (to "x-ray" is allowed for X) example: act, barge, catch...
Rate yourself like this:
1 minute-Remarkable 3 minutes-Good 5 minutes-need practice
2 minutes-Excellent 4 minutes-Promising 6 minutes-Not your day



From Our Readers:
Hi! I'm 10 years old and I think Especially for Kids is great! I like working the puzzles while my mom reads the rest of Solares Hill. You have some good stories and drawings too! How can I get some of my stories and drawings put in your paper? Your friend, Raisinhead ☺

Dear Raisinhead,
Thanks for letting us know how much you like this section of Solares Hill. We want all of our friends to let us know their ideas and suggestions. If you have any stories, drawings, ideas, comments or whatever, send them to us folks at Spectrum School, #10 AVE F, Big Coppitt Key, 33040. The drawings should be in black and white and, of course, all work should be original. We're looking forward to hearing from you! Your friends at Spectrum School ☺

Quickly now-
Jot down this 5 digit
number twelve thousand
twelve hundred and twelve



How many
squares do you
see?

Answers: (+ lots of ways to show 24)

$$(4 \times 4) + (3 \times 3) + (2 \times 2) + (1 \times 1) + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + 9 = 24$$

$$8 \times 8 = 64$$

$$7 \times 7 = 49$$

$$6 \times 6 = 36$$

$$5 \times 5 = 25$$

$$4 \times 4 = 16$$

$$3 \times 3 = 9$$

$$2 \times 2 = 4$$

$$1 \times 1 = 1$$

3	3	3
3		3
3	3	3

You see a square containing eight 3's. Notice the sum of the eight 3's is 24 and that the sum of the numbers on each side is 9.

The problem is to construct 4 similar squares in which the sum total of the second square is 28, that in the third square is 32, and in the fourth square it is 36. The sum on each side of the square must still be 9.

Survival Tips: Babysitting
No babysitting job is ever the same, so before you're left alone with the kids you are watching, be sure you have answers to questions like these:

- ★ Do you have to prepare a meal or snack; if so, what should you feed them?
- ★ Is there anything special you should know about any of the children, such as medication to be taken while you're there?
- ★ What time should the kids go to bed?
- ★ When will the parents be home?
- ★ And where can they or someone else they trust be reached, just in case?
- ★ Have a list of emergency numbers-police, fire department, doctor-near the phone, 911 in this area.
- ★ Be firm, but don't act like a drill sergeant in a bad movie.
- ★ Play games that are not too rowdy.
- ★ When the kids are asleep, check on them every 1/2 hour.
- ★ Behave yourself-remember, you're getting paid to do a job, not talk on the phone for hours, or eat everything in the house!
- ★ Can you arrange these Sea biscuits so that the point of the triangle is pointing down, by moving only sea biscuits?

Good Luck!

<p>General Construction and Hole Drilling also Land Clearing Tractor Work Grading Hauling</p> <p>BOCA CHICA BILL 294-7996</p>	<p>Little People's Nursery 3247 Flagler (across from Flagler Post Office) call 294-0397</p> <p>Monday-Friday 7:30 A.M.-6:00 P.M. Friday and Saturday evenings 7:30 P.M.-3:00 A.M. "Kids Are People Too" Reasonable Rates Clean, pleasant atmosphere</p>
<p>Outboard Motor Trouble? call: 294-6580 for</p> <p>Big Coppitt Joe's Mobile Outboard Motor Repair Quick and Dependable Service</p>	<p>Free Lance Photography I take color or black and white photographs in environmental surroundings. Post cards from pictures also done. call evenings 294-5761</p> <p>Gwendolyn Cassaw</p> <p>Special Mold candies © ©</p> <p>Birthdays Weddings © ©</p> <p>Patticakes has: cake and candy classes all necessary supplies "rent-a-pan" available say it with candy instead of flowers 3249 Flagler 296-2005</p>



One of the best-known of the county officials, County Solicitor Allen B. Cleare Jr., had a brother named Joe Cleare. Joe, so the story goes, weighed over 300 pounds and on election days he would be stationed at a key precinct keeping an eye on the ballot box.

"If anybody tries to steal it, Joe," he was instructed, "we want you to fall on the box." Nobody, but nobody, ever stole a ballot box from under Joe Cleare.

PERHAPS ONE OF the best-known practical jokers, and certainly a matchless mimic of other people's voices and Conch idiosyncrasies, was John DePoo, the adopted son of Dr. Julio DePoo and Belle Anti, and also a one-term city commissioner whose wisecracks and performances in the august chambers at city hall were classics in comedy. Nothing and nobody was spared the sarcastic tongue of Johnny DePoo. His wife is the well-loved Suzy and his daughters are famous in their own right.

At one point in his varied career in Key West, Johnny DePoo worked for Sheriff John M. Spottswood. He was a thorn in the sheriff's side because of his love for spoofing high officials and on more than one occasion, Spottswood gritted his teeth and held his temper when stories about DePoo's clowning came back to him. If DePoo stood a watch on the dispatcher's desk in the old sheriff's office the word got around and it was "Katie bar the door"--no one knew whose voice they might hear over the radio.

SPOTTSWOOD AND DEPOO mixed like oil and water. One Christmas the sheriff gave his deputies ties for their present.

DePoo immediately doffed his uniform tie, the ordinary black one, and put on his new Christmas tie. Then he walked into Spottswood's office, saluted, took a scissors out of his pocket, cut the tie in half and gave half of it back to his boss. He applied for unemployment benefits the following week.

IN THE YEAR that Col. Mitchell Wolfson dedicated the Audubon House, and unofficially triggered the birth of the Old Island Restoration Foundation, Key West society's dowager grande dame, Jessie Porter Kirk Newton, thought that Wolfson should at least have a street named after him. On her own hook, Miss Jessie had a wooden archway built at the Caroline street end of Telegraph Lane and in big gold letters against a blue background was the legend: "Mitchell Wolfson Way."

THAT SORT OF thing raised hackles and tempers all through the shady streets of Conchtown. Wolfson may have been a native son, snarled the old Conchs, but he went to Miami to seek fame and fortune (which he found in abundance) and "now he's one of them." Miamians were not overly loved in Key West.

Johnny DePoo, then, was on the city commission and the commission had never okayed the change of the street name. There was a rumpus in city hall about what Miss Jessie had done, so one night, disguising his voice, DePoo called up Miss Jessie.

In a thick Conch accent, DePoo said:

"My name is Ruby Metzger and I live on Peacock Lane . . ."

FBF ORIGINAL!
...From our Key West Collection, the Petal Dress. Our own figure-flattering one-size creation that doubles as a long skirt. Crepe, \$65.00

East Buck Freddie's
500 Duval Street, Open 10-6 seven days, 294-2007

WELL, THAT WAS the start of a long harangue about Telegraph Lane, Henry Flagler's railroad, what "she" thought about Miami, and what it meant to be true-blue Conch which certainly ruled out anyone who lived in Miami (meaning Mitchell Wolfson).

Before Jessie could recover her wits for an answer, "Ruby Metzger" DePoo hung up the phone. Later that night, with friends, DePoo dismantled the wooden archway sign and it never was replaced. Telegraph Lane settled back with a sigh.

AS ONE OF his final gags while still in office, DePoo went to city hall to qualify for re-election. The day was squally and a heavy rain the night before had flooded Angela Street and Simonton -- drainage was non-existent in the hollow formed by those streets and a lake had formed with waters lapping up to the doors of the fire station. DePoo in his sou'wester surveyed the scene.

"Never say die!" he exclaimed, and from nearby he took a canoe and paddled up "the Angela river" to the front door of city hall--incidentally, he called the local newspaper and the photo, by Don Pinder, made page one that day.

AT THE END of Simonton at the ocean, at that time, was a very popular club called the Sun and Sand (no resem-

blance to what's there now) with a fun-loving clientele drawn mostly from the town's self-styled upper-crust, a gaggle of Navy officers, lawyers, car dealers, retired folks, and with a liberal mixture of young heirs of some of the city's prominent families.

Next door (in what is now a dusty parking lot) was a sleazy rooms-by-the-night motel called the Rose Crest, a favorite playground for slinky ladies and the proverbial "tired businessman."

But off they went like good little people. Except they made a phone call to the local boys in blue.

They imitated the voice of a very well-known official's wife, hollering for all the world to hear over the phone in the police station:

"I'M BEING RAPED on top of the juke box in the Tradewinds! Help! Help!"

With that they raced back to the corner and watched gleefully as squad cars and cops on motorcycles roared up to the Tradewinds, breaking up a profitable evening for the club's owner and bringing tears to his eyes.

For further Conch madness, consult your local friends.

sh

The Butterly

Key West, Fla.

Leisurely Dining

DINE IN ONE OF OUR
FOUR UNIQUE DINING ROOMS
OR JUST RELAX WITH A COCKTAIL
IN THE "BUTTERY GARDEN BAR"

Judy Aldridge
"music with a heart"
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in the lounge

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THE TRADEWINDS WAS another popular nightclub in the late 40s and 50s, located at the corner of Caroline and Duval where an insurance company now stands. It was operated a couple years by a man whose sense of humor was undeveloped if judged by Conch standards.

One night a bunch of well-connected political locals were whooping it up and the owner of the club took a dim view of the hilarity. He invited the group to leave and that did not sit well with them.

But off they went like good little people. Except they made a phone call to the local boys in blue.

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Cocktails in the popular
WEST INDIES LOUNGE
Noon 'til 2 a.m.

Palm Pelicans

BY FRANCES ELIZABETH SIMONETTI

THE YEAR 1972

BEYOND ALL QUESTION, that was the worst time--that three weeks while Doc "Eyeball" Smith (may he rest in peace) fought to save my youngest son's eye. Detective Harry Sawyer came in and plucked me out of a grand jury I was serving on. This son, Buddy Brooks, filled with resolve and suffering after his freak accident, was at the hospital. For days and nights, all our thoughts centered upon that wonderful, minuscule bit of blue eye. And it all was futile. Crushed like a grape, that eye. They closed it off, leaving an empty socket. This is not to be a transfixing account of excruciating pain, the eye being the crossroads of the most sensitive nerve endings. But, I promise you, all of those days, time inched along perilously. It seemed like moving a mountain by spoonfuls.

It was not a banner time for us. I

knew that we had passed the hard sieve when I could chuckle at the nurse's phone call: "I wish you could keep this little black-eyed hippie girl out of that room!" Shelley and Buddy were a big item then, and it seems that Shell would hide away when visitors were being whisked out. One night, when they discovered her under his bed, she gave a tiny squeal like a gull that has laid a double egg. After a long, little while, all of this passed, of course.

THE YEAR 1982

I AM SMILING like a millionairess. Son Buddy Brooks upon arrival issued me a kiss that lands on my ear and slides off up to my temple. I climb into the car, Buddy at the wheel, off for a spin up to western North Carolina. There could be so much ink spilled re adult offspring. Any mother will present a face like she just got an idea for a poem if a son is lavishing some time on her. However, don't be on the lookout for testimonials of sociological relevance. Is this trip necessary? Answer: Profoundly, yes, as it is a trip with a son.

I sit there with the entitlement, Mom. But I must regulate my position, because I have moved far away from the tough, cross, kind, sassy young mama who was a tiger for making them do their

homework. I sneak a look at him, but it's his blind side. Strange feeling, that he misses my facial expressions, they are so much part of communication. But his strong, blue, fearless eyes all alone is turned on the road ahead. Buddy is very good-looking in a whiskeyfied way with a splendid blond beard. When Buddy bothers to wear his eyepatch, he must look like the blind poet Milton or Moishe Dyan.

I steal another glance at the profile of this hybrid. He is rather like his father, an Early Husband. The bond a mom entertains for an adult son goes beyond the thin cobweb veil of the senses into the neighborhood of a substantial, vital life interest. Buddy Brooks' driving is a bit unsettling, though very skillful and stylish. He has not got a wide-angle vision. He drives at never-mind speed, swerving his head elegantly at abrupt turns to find his peripheral vision. The trip is uneventful except for this sonship. The air grows brisker as we climb, stopping now and then for coffee that is part varnish....

This was just a mother's musings.

sh

under new ownership and management

A DAY THAT SHALL NOT BE FOLLOWED BY NIGHT.

The dominant features of life in this latter part of the 20th century are anxiety and uncertainty. In spite of all science has learned about our world, it has not been able to teach us how to live together. The more we discover about the past, the less idea we have where the future is taking us.

The second process is

the message of the Baha'i Faith. It is a Divine Plan created by Baha'u'llah with a clear and simple message and no possible doubt the practicality of the brotherhood of man. Through a global organization of local assemblies in which man's rich diversity is accepted and practiced. The building of its spiritual and material institutions and new spiritual resources is the greatest adventure of our age, and of all ages. There is a part for every man, woman and child in earth.

As God's purpose is carried out, two clear processes stand out in sharp

contrast. The first is basically destructive. Through its influence all the barriers that have been holding broken down: religious, racial, social and national.

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MON.-FRI. 9-5

SAT. 9-12

BAHAMA VILLAGE: A coming of age

BY PHOEBE REDNER COAN

"I WAS OVERWHELMED by the support and cooperation from Key West," reports Roy Grant of the June 18th Bahama Village street fair. "We are deeply appreciative for the turnout of over 2,000 people." Grant is project director for the sponsoring Neighborhood Improvement Association (NIA).

Duval to Whitehead was blocked off for the five groups that played continuously during the evening. It was as if the entire black community opened up its heart in response. The streets were filled with the air of something happening--of celebration. Odors of exotic Bahamian foods filled everyone's nostrils. The 25 booths practically sold out. "There was not one negative incident," Roy attests. "Only a feeling of harmony."

ALL IN ALL it was a rousing evening! A sense of community prevailed. The monies collected from the fair will be used for paying expenses of importing a 34-piece Bahamian band. The band is slated to arrive in Key West for the dedication of the Bahama Village archway during Fantasy Fest week (October 27).

Groups performing for this initial street fair were: the MVP (Most Valuable Players), The Islanders, Junkanoo, Island Junkanoo, and the Bahama Village dance group (of teenagers) and Ladies of Today.

BAHAMA VILLAGE IS a \$2 million dollar project to resurrect the two-block area on either side of Petronia at Duval, to make it economically feasible, with a park-like atmosphere people could be proud of.

By popular demand, there will be

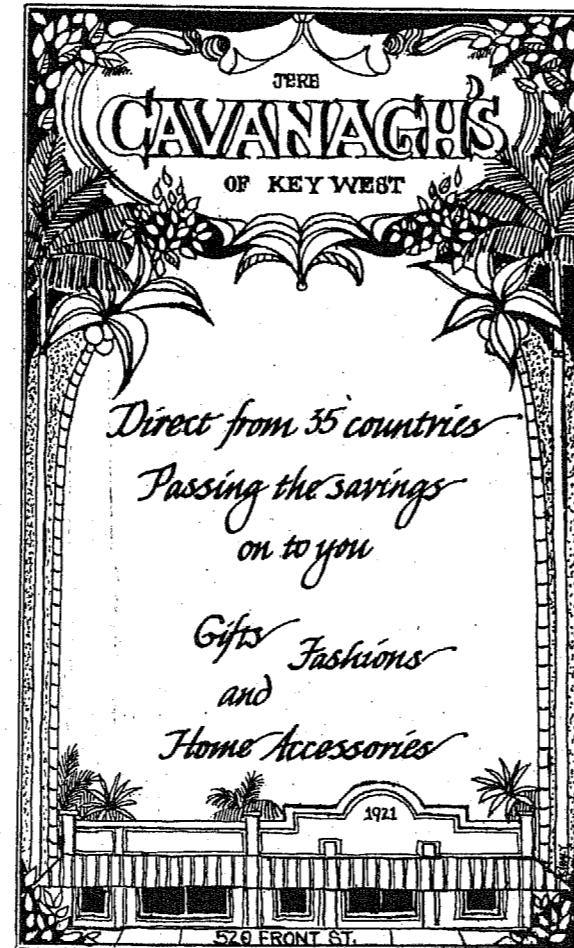
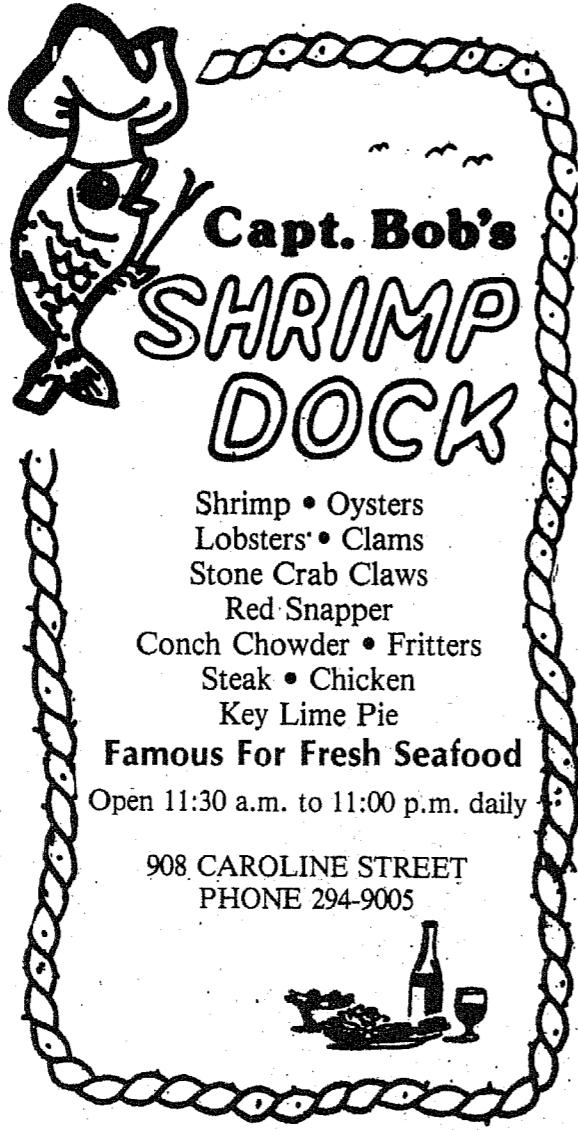
another street fair held on August 6th, from 7 to 12, with Petronia to Thomas blocked off for the festivities. Grant foresees that there will be more booths, more entertainment and the Bahama Straw Market will be making its debut.

THE PRIVATE INDUSTRY Council (PIC), in a joint effort with the NIA, is promoting a youth cleanup of the Bahama Village area (which runs one square mile). Since C.E.T.A. has dropped the youth program, this helps take up the slack of kids on the streets with nothing to do.

PIC has approved \$10,000 for salaries. This money was enough to hire 28 workers. However, 78 signed up. It was therefore decided they could assist a city-wide cleanup as well. Building and zoning officials got together a listing of lots in need of being tidied up. They notified the property owners that a fee would be charged. This way they can pay salaries of teenagers wanting to work. So far everything is falling into place. Roy hopes for continuity, if they get funded. He feels other cities could do the same sort of thing.

OTHER BAHAMA VILLAGE news includes word that over \$10,000 in total has been collected. There was a first phase presentation made for the Chamber of Commerce on July 14th. A successful presentation was also made to the Realtors Board with a \$500 check being received in approval. The City Commission also okayed \$5,000 on June 28th in support. Congratulations for the concept were forwarded by Dante Fascell.

REPRESENTATIVES OF BLACK churches and black organizations, along with friends of the Bahama Village project, are meeting to hear updates. "The feeling and the time are ripe," says Roy affirmatively. "We cannot do this alone. We need everybody's help."



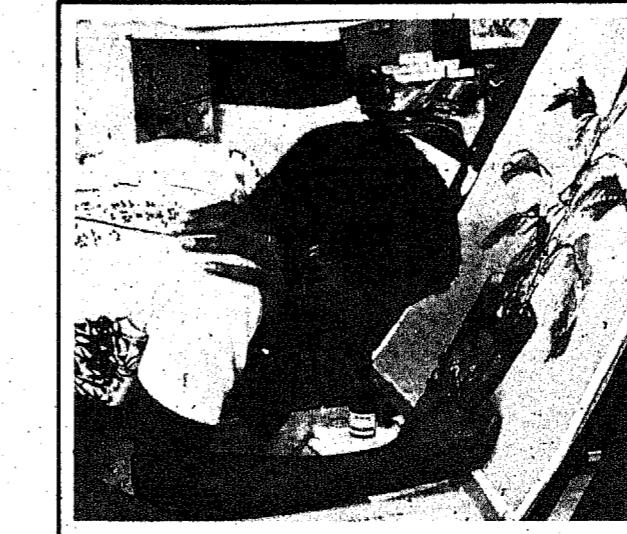
21



It was high noon. The right time for high jinks? I couldn't stop myself when Coconut Joe yelled "Push him in!" So I did but we still looked great thanks to our clothes from

ONYIN SKINS 310 Front St.

FLORIDA KEYS COMMUNITY COLLEGE



*See us today...
Have a better tomorrow.*

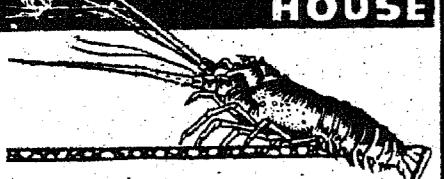


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Baked Stuffed Shrimp 8.95

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1½ lbs. live Maine Lobster
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12 oz. N.Y. Strip Steak 10.95

Saturday
Filet Mignon with Alaskan King Crab 13.95

Sunday
Prime Rib of Beef au Jus 10.95

ALL SERVED WITH OPEN SALAD BAR & CHOICE OF POTATO

LOS CABALLEROS SATURDAYS
Simonton Street at the ocean
294-1500 or 294-2262

Good News



THE ICONOCLAST

BY JIM KOGAN

A CONSTITUENCY FOR KEY WEST

THIS PLACE HAS no inherent wealth of its own--it must rely on people bringing enough money to keep it green. Mostly, this is tourists and seasonal people. And the matter is not helped any by xenophobia left over from Navy days. But that is not the big end of the problem--those stragglers will die off, leave and/or be swamped or educated.

THE BIG END of the deal is luring in bearers of spending money--and there is just no good alternative. What remains of commercial fisheries cannot support the place in the manner to which it has become accustomed. Yes, I know, we must dispose of one other idea that sounds, superficially, good enough to excuse delay in getting down to business. That is to rely on pensioners. Go look at South Beach and drop that one. On with the problem.

WE HAVE TO round up or create a constituency for Key West. Sure, glib types say "Oh, we get 'em from all over". Fact is that KW does not have the resources to promote and advertise "all over". And if it did, the sheer capacity of the place would not sustain advertising "all over". And then "the State runs an ad operation, why should we have to; we pay State taxes, don't we?"

YES, THE STATE does. For instance it has a visitors' center at the Georgia border but there are a lot of

competitors between here and there. Try placarding that place with "drive right to the main spot and check out the lesser ones on the way home" and see how long the poster stays on the wall. In State terms, KW has neither clout nor buzz-words to demand serious attention. Not all the others are as tourist-attractive but at the State government level that is not the only or even main criterion.

SO, NOW I'M near half-way into this piece and all I've done so far is show the need to do for ourselves for no one will do for us. Now, how? Some ideas are in order.

ONE POSSIBILITY IS to cater specifically for the art world--Greenwich Village, Provincetown, some (not all) college towns, etc. They have ad media that reach them directly--in NY for instance the Voice and Soho News and such. Some are of the gay world and the more successful in that world do spend money and will bring it where they are welcome. Sure, some of the art people are "far out" as viewed by traditional crew-cut, gray flannel suit types and some of the pensioners and such in our midst. But they are a constituency with money to spend and neglected by some of our richer competitors.

TO FURTHER THIS one, here's a specific thought. Start with the outdoor art fair in late winter--it is the earliest of a number of them on the East Coast--granddaddy of them all is the big one in NYC. Most of them including Key West (except the one in NYC) are primarily local. Now why can't KW do a bit of missionary work, encourage artists to make the "tour", starting here, of course and perhaps ending back here in the Fall.

THE PITCH IS bring a bit of

cosmopolitanism to less fortunate places up the line, give struggling not-yet-established artists a way to reach a market. And, of course, create an identity for KW as where it all begins all over again every year and which offers first chance at selling what was done over the winter, presumably in KW.

YOU DON'T LIKE that one? There are others but the idea is to pick a specific target and aim at customers' wants (or needs if he knows what they are). Like looking for a job. "I'll do anything" seldom works. A job-seeker must find out what, if anything, he can do and work on potential employers who can use that ability. If he has none, his problem is as obvious as its solution--learn to do something people will pay for.

THE OTHER HALF of the contrast is also clear. A person or community unable or unwilling to do or learn to do anything people will voluntarily pay for turns to robbery. Either independently or by seeking the aid of government via its tax/welfare system to rob for him (for a commission, of course)--to "hire" him when no one will do so voluntarily.

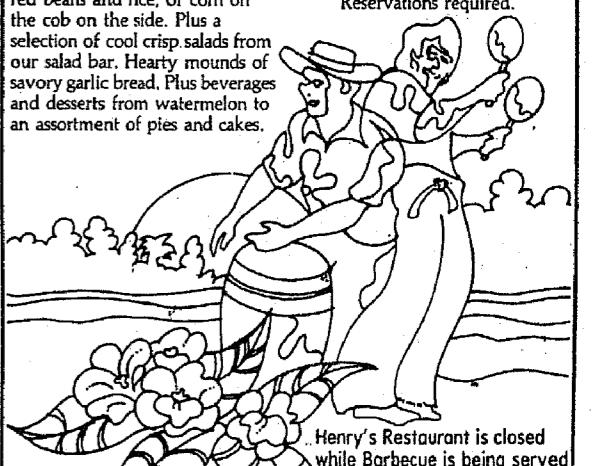
IT'S THE SAME with communities--find a constituency where we can compete with bigger operators or go hungry or become a ward of government. And an occasional "good" season is not enough to rely on.

(The opinions of Jim Kogan do not necessarily reflect those of Solares Hill)

This Wednesday is
Key West Barbecue Day
on the Beach at the
Casa Marina.

So is every Wednesday.
An open-air feast, with ocean-side
dining and live entertainment
with an island flair.

Choose from a Sirloin Strip
Steak, Scallop Brochette, Grilled
Whole Yellowtail, or Barbecued
Ribs along with baked potatoes,
red beans and rice, or corn on
the cob on the side. Plus a
selection of cool crisp salads from
our salad bar. Hearty mounds of
savory garlic bread. Plus beverages
and desserts from watermelon to
an assortment of pies and cakes.



Henry's Restaurant is closed
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Marinelli's Reynolds Street on the Ocean
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And The New Raw Bar
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Lunch at the new Sand Bar
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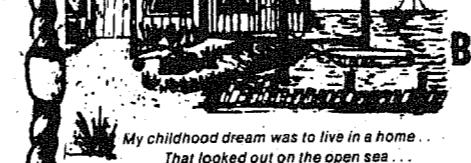
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Terms!
Finest Contractor built new CBS homes on Big Boat Canal, \$97,500 and up!
Near St. Augustine, 19 Acres, lovely trees, Only \$30,000.
New Luxury Ocean Condos! Club house, pool, beach, tennis sauna,
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Editorial

BY BILL WESTRAY

IN THE TWO months since we last published, we have continued to monitor numerous actions and activities affecting potential development in the Upper Keys. These include:

•Action of the state cabinet to continue the designation of Area of Critical State Concern for the Florida Keys and to require a more active role by state agencies in monitoring and controlling further development.

•Lawsuit by Audubon Society and Florida Keys Citizens Coalition (FKCC) against the Monroe County Commission challenging, on constitutional grounds, all zoning and major development decisions made by the county zoning board since it was created in 1961.

•Extension by the county commission for another three months of the moratorium on accepting new major development project (MDP) applications. However, this does not affect MDPs already in process—a more serious problem.

•Transfer by the U.S. Navy of about 224 acres of the surplus 269-acre HM-40 missile site along Route 905 in North Key Largo to The Trust for Public Lands for subsequent conveyance to the Interior Department for the Crocodile Lake National Wildlife Refuge, thus blocking the ill-advised attempt by some county officials and their developer friends to put a jet-capable airport in the refuge to support major developments across the road.

•Dismissal by Circuit Judge Helio Gomez of a lawsuit by attorney Fred Tittle on behalf of the Carysfort Yacht Club against the Florida Keys Citizens Coalition to prevent the latter from pursuing its administrative appeal to the county commission. FKCC is seeking to overrule the final approval of the zoning board for the 512-unit Carysfort project in North Key Largo. Tittle's suit would have denied FKCC due process.

•Failure of the county attorney to secure a temporary restraining order against the New Port Largo Development Corporation to prevent closing the Port Largo Airport at MM 100 when the lease ran out on July 15. The developer wants to close it down and build condos or other residences on the 3000-foot oceanfront site. The case has not been finally settled, however, and we have been advised that the airport continues to operate since the lessee has not vacated the premises.

•At its last meeting in late June, the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority (FKAA) presented a proposed "rule change" that prevents FKAA from providing pipeline water service to any development in certain designated wildlife habitats including the Crocodile Lake refuge, the Big Pine Key Deer Refuge, and some 18 other smaller ones including a number of offshore keys. This rule change is required by the Farmers Home Administration as a condition for final approval of the \$63 million pipeline loan. Final hearing on the rule change (addition) will be at the FKAA board meeting in August.

•Also in June, the FKAA heard a proposal from its engineers to embark on a 10-year, \$12 million distribution improvement program. In our opinion this is long overdue. Our readers may recall that we had continually argued for a smaller new pipeline, and for concurrent improvement of the distribution system with the money thereby saved. Now, the disto-system improvements will entail a 60 cents per thousand gallons increase

in water rates for about the next 10 years.

•City Electric System approved a rate increase up to 13% to finance a \$27 million bond issue planned to secure funds for the new 50-megawatt tieline segment from Big Coppitt Key to Big Pine Key. Still pending and unresolved is an agreement with the Florida Keys Electric Cooperative for use of their tieline by CES between Seven Mile Bridge and the mainland. Also up in the air as to financing and authority to construct is the 13-mile, mostly over-water segment from Big Pine Key to Marathon.

WE HAVE BEEN greatly impressed at the professional approach that the new county planning director, Alan Lessler, has taken toward bringing some order out of chaos in reorganizing and expanding the county planning and zoning department. Besides the moratorium on accepting new major development applications, we would like to see a moratorium on approving any new major developments until a capital improvements plan can be completed covering all public service needs, and until a Land Use Plan (LUP) Map covering the full length of the Keys is adopted. We suggest that the original LUP Map, proposed in 1978 and blocked by certain Marathon real estate interests at that time, be adopted forthwith. This five-part LUP Map, which was already subjected to required public hearings, would form an immediate basis for major development decisions, until it could be reviewed and updated in light of the present situation.

WE HAVE SEEN a couple of proposals lately for dividing our county into two separate counties with a view toward making Upper Keys residents pay for all Upper Keys development while saving all Lower Keys tax dollars for use only in the Lower Keys. While the economics of these proposals might seem attractive, the other impacts on loss of control of Upper Keys developments that vitally affect Key West are considered overwhelming. We believe that the linear nature of our geography, and our common dependence on one two-lane road from Homestead to Key West, dictate the continuation of a single county government for all the keys.

LET US CONCENTRATE on nominating county commission candidates in September and electing them in November, who have the vision, mental capacity, articulation, and wisdom to make sound decisions in the best interest of ALL, not just the privileged few.

S.O.S. WOULD LIKE to fix up the Simonton Street area as a park and beach area for all to use. It is hoped that from the money available in the trust fund, which is usable only in that area for HUD-related improvements and restoration, some could be allocated for this purpose. According to Anderson, a restored beach with a landscaped park and mooring facilities for public use would alleviate many of the Pier House problems and enhance all property in the area.

The borrower [Pier House] is presently negotiating with the city of Key West to acquire an irregularly shaped parcel of land containing approximately 30,000 square feet contiguous to and east of such 2.5 acre parcel, and such additional parcel, if and to the extent so acquired will be included as a part of the project."

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continued from page 2
 estingly one of the most stubborn supporters of the 65 decibel cap had a voice that registered in the 70's on the meter while he was arguing with the ever patient and sensible Officer O'Neill.

COMMISSIONER HEYMAN CALMLY explained that they should try the ordinance for 3 months and if it didn't work then change it. By this time however, Commissioner Balbontin had taken up his cudgel and destroyed any remaining common sense to be found. In a rambling and "us against them" diatribe which again blamed "new people"



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for noise violations, Balbontin called for the 65 decibel citywide cap to be passed as the new city ordinance. Commissioner Heyman, standing his ground, voted against the first reading of this ordinance but the other commissioners caved in. Maybe by the second reading common sense will reappear and a workable ordinance that will not put almost every bar in town out of business will be passed. Incidentally, though I didn't approve of how he voted on that ordinance, Mayor Wardlow ran this potentially unruly meeting very smoothly.

IT LOOKS LIKE the petition drive to place the Casino Gambling referendum

on the ballot in November has failed. Hard work by Gov. Bob Graham and the others at No Casinos, Inc. has successfully thwarted the gambling interests once again - but look out, they'll be back!

FANTASY FEST PREPARATIONS appear to be rolling along. The Fantasy Fest committee reports that interest is at an all time high. Hope so - we need the business.

SEE YOU NEXT MONTH.

WT

KEY WEST TAEKWONDO

Karate training for: Classes:
 - exercise M 7:45 pm
 - competition W 5:15 pm
 - self-defense F 5:30 & 6:45
 - self-discipline S 10 - 12 am

Start any time at any age. But get started with THE most challenging experience of Your life.

You'll get a
 Kick out of it
 3
 FREE CLASSES
 NEW SCHOOL OF DANCE 4-3509

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sanctioned by American Taekwondo Association

PEPES CAFÉ
 Breakfast 6:30-1
 Lunch 11:30-5
 Dinner 6-10
 806 Caroline • 47192

POETRY

SISTER LOU

(dedicated to my sister Lou)

I do not understand you,
 Sister Lou,
 I do not understand the things
 you do.
 To me, it seems you run-round
 in a dither
 A-searching you and then
 a-searching hither.
 What is it that you lookest for,
 oh Lou?
 I do not understand the things
 you do.

By Carolyn Gorton Fuller

A Key West Event!

Key West Collection

by DOROTHY RAYMER

A COMPILATION OF COLUMNS THAT
 ORIGINALLY APPEARED IN SOLARES HILL

"Nobody can tell you more about the Key West that I first knew as long ago as 1941 and all the changes which have occurred since then. She keeps in touch with everything about our much loved land ... Read her book if you want to know the warm and intimate, but always tasteful story of Key West for the past 40 years or more."

— TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

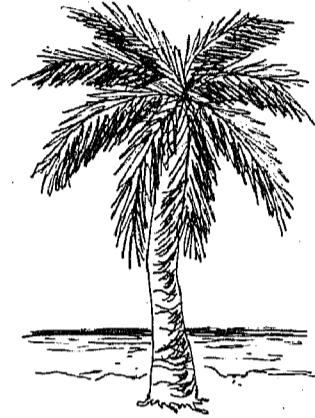
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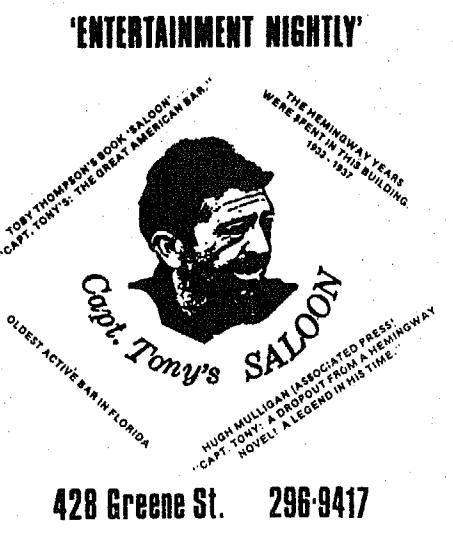
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KEY WEST'S HOROSCOPE

BY EMMA CATES

Sun in Leo, after 22 in Virgo.
Venus in Cancer, after 13 in Leo.
Mercury in Leo, after 8 in Virgo,
after 27 in Libra.
Saturn in Libra.
Jupiter in Scorpio.

Mars in Libra, after 2 in Scorpio.
Uranus in Sagittarius, retrograde,
turning direct on the 9th.
Neptune in Sagittarius, retrograde.
Pluto in Libra.
North Node: 11 degrees of Cancer.

OUR CO-RULER, Mercury will
transit three (3) signs during August.
There will be a lot of "talking"
going on this month. Much of it will
be politics.

THE FULL MOON on August 4th in
Aquarius aspects the Houses of Travel
and communication in the Key West
Horoscope. There will be much
activity in these two areas this
month.

THE NEW MOON on August 19 in Leo
aspects the exact degree of the NADIR
of the Key West chart. This signals
significant new beginnings for Key
West. New starts and definite
changes will be the scenario.

Changes in the Key West chart
are also featured in the fact that
the progressed Sun will move into the
Sign of Cancer by the end of 1982;
this follows a 30 year transit in
Gemini. Some of the changes noted
will be shown by Cancer traits, such
as: home; mother; family; nurturing.
Much stress will be put in these
areas in the coming years. Additional
emphasis will also be placed on money-
income. Cancer is placed in the 2nd
House of the Key West chart.

SATURN, OUR RULER is now in
direct motion in our 5th House. The
progressed moon also in this sector
features creativity and speculation.
Long term efforts will pay off at
this time.

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Book Review

BY JOHN LESLIE

A NEW VOLUME in the ever-expanding history of this island is a publication by Joan and Wright Langley entitled, KEY WEST - Images of the Past. It is a gem of a book, sparkling with a succinct but intelligent narrative structure and filled with some of the finest photographic reproductions of Key West ever published - indeed, the majority of the images, according to the Langleys in their introduction, have never before been published.

THE CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY is divided into four distinct time frames: The Early Years 1820-1880; Heyday 1880-1900; Mainland Ties 1900-1930; and, Transition 1930-1950. The husband and wife duo acknowledge that, "in general, the writing was Joan's responsibility; the images, Wrights," but that each was "looking over the other's shoulder and making suggestions," a potentially dangerous undertaking for a book, let alone a marriage, but one that has proven thoroughly successful on both counts.

IN THE FINAL section, Transition 1930-1950, Joan writes, "By 1930 Key West was hurting... jobs were scarce... there was talk in Washington of abandoning the island altogether and resettling its people elsewhere." She goes on to describe Julius F. Stone, Jr. of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) in Florida who came up with the idea of developing Key West as the "Bermuda of Florida," providing that, "FERA was allowed to function without interference from the city and county."

AND SO WAS born the tourist industry. "Seeing no other way out, a desperate city council and county commission agreed with Stone's proposal, and on July 1, 1934, drafted the surrender of the city: 'The 'surrender of Key West' (Reminiscent of our more recent 'succession') gave [Stone] the vital publicity necessary to his project of encouraging tourism. 'The idea of a colorful, tropical island where the air was clear, the streets clean, the natives friendly - and the prices reasonable - took shape rapidly. [Stone] wore Bermuda shorts and rode a bicycle to work - and urged everyone else to do so, too... It all paid off."

AND HAS CONTINUED to pay off with predictable, ups, and downs ever since.

KEY WEST - Images of the Past, published by Chris Belland and Ed Swift, with 132 photo-packed pages, is a "must" for anyone unfamiliar or partially familiar with the history of this singular city. And, those who "know-it-all" are sure to be diverted by the superb quality photos.

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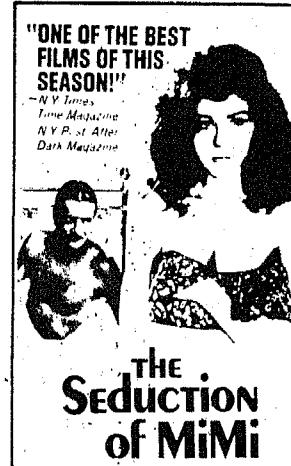
Summer showtime is 9:00 only



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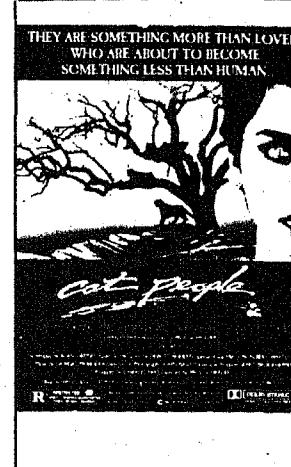
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GALLERIES
& MUSEUMS

Artist Warehouse, 8 Charles St. (in Old Sponge House off Duval St.) Mon. thru Sat., 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and by appointment. A unique "work" gallery representing works by Lois Locklear and Karen Clemens along with other local artists. 294-7141.

Artists Unlimited, 221 Duval St., 296-5625. Hours 12 to 5 p.m. or by appointment. A delightful gallery in a Conch-style setting with an international reputation.

East Martello Gallery & Museum, 3500 S. Roosevelt Blvd., 296-3913. A "fort-museum" with some of the most interesting facts of Key West history and lore.

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

Gingerbread Square Gallery, 901 Duval St. Information 296-8900; appointments 294-2165. This art gallery blends the modern and primitive styles in the works of Robert Franke, John Kiraly, Tennessee Williams, and many more. Thur.-Mon., 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Guild Hall, 614 Duval St., 296-9359. Open 9:30 to 5:30 daily. Exhibiting an outstanding array of original art by Key West professionals Walter Ashe, Barbara Bauer, Sharon Cobb, John Cryer, Joan Howe, Ann Irvine, Fran Kebusch, Maxine McMullen, Irma Quigley, Norma Renner, Bee Sackett, and Carolyn Seiler. Featuring oils, acrylics, watercolors, drawings, prints, porcelain, weaving, basketry and other media.

Haitian Art Co., 600 Frances St., 296-8932. This gallery is like a trip to Haiti itself, replete with paintings and metal sculpture. Owner Ruth Kravitz encourages all interested to stop by and see her selection of a "little bit of Haiti."

Key West Art Center, 301 Front St., 294-1241. Open 10 to 5 daily; Sundays 11 to 4. This is a membership gallery, featuring individual wall shows every two weeks. Public lectures given from time to time on subjects pertinent to art and artists.

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

Moira, the art gallery in Key Lime Sq., 294-1254. Oil portraits by Bob Birbeck. 11:00 to 5:00 Monday through Saturday; Noon to 4:00 Sunday; or by appointment, 296-9560.

Perkins Chandlery, 218 Whitehead St., 294-7635. Showing the following artists: Roland Baker, A.S.M.A.; Commander J.A. Cryer.

EVENTS

Street Fair, August 6, from 7 p.m. to midnight, Bahama Village. Booths, food, entertainment.

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

FILMS

Key West Picture Show, Duval St. Shows "The Key West Picture Show" Thurs.-Sun. at 2, 3 and 4 p.m.

Monroe County Public Library, Fleming St., 294-8488.

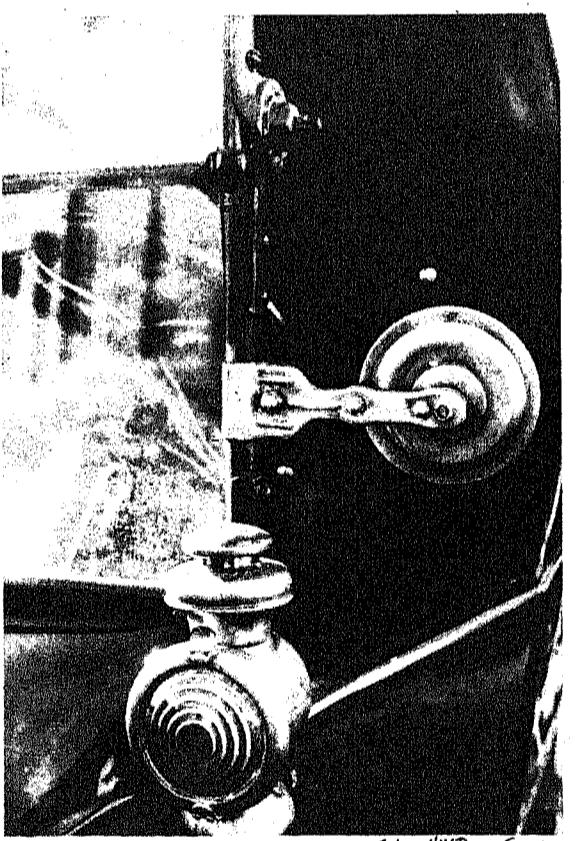
Children's activities are scheduled for 10 a.m. every Saturday; one or more films, usually followed by an arts and crafts activity. The movies are:

Aug. 7 "Astronauts," "The Giving Tree," "The Haunted Cat," Aug. 14 "Moviemakers," Aug. 21 "The Mole and the Flying Carpet," "The Red Balloon."

A special children's program for ages 8 and up, Wednesday mornings from 10 to 11. Arts, puppets, costumes, plants, acting. Aug. 4 "The Lion," Aug. 11 End-of-the-summer party.

Activities for preschoolers are scheduled for 9:30 to 10:30 Thursday mornings.

Movies for adults will be shown on Aug. 18: "Shock, Terror, Truth and Death," "Shivering Spooks." 7:00 p.m.



Solares Hill Design Group
REGULAR
EVENTS

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

Flea Market, Saturday mornings, American Legion Home, Stock Island.

Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority, meeting at Sombrero Country Club in Marathon, Aug. 20, at 10 a.m.

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

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

Key West Poetry Guild, meetings 1st Sundays at 121 Duval, Mostly Magnificent, 8:00 p.m.

Key West Singers, meeting at the Sportsmen's Inn (Tortuga Veranda) for happy hour every Friday night. Singers are invited to join them there. Call 296-6977.

Key West Woman's Club, regular meeting 1st Tuesday of each month, 2:30 p.m., 319 Duval St.

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

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

Monroe County Commission, meetings Aug. 9 at the Government Center on Plantation Key, 10 a.m., and Aug. 23 at the Sub-Courthouse in Marathon, 10 a.m.

National Association for Retired Federal Employees: meetings last Sunday of the month at the Senior Citizens Plaza, 1400 Kennedy Drive, 3:45 p.m.

United Humanitarians, low-cost spay program now in effect; please call 296-5106 for information.

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

SELF
HELP

Alcoholics Anonymous, #4 Peary Court (clubroom), 294-9062. Meets nightly at 8:30; Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 12 noon; 10:30 a.m. on Sunday; 7 and 11 p.m. Friday.

Emotional Health Anonymous, meets Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., at First Congregational Church, 527 William St.

Overeaters Anonymous, meets Mondays at 7:30 p.m. at the Fleming Street Methodist Church, 729 Fleming St.

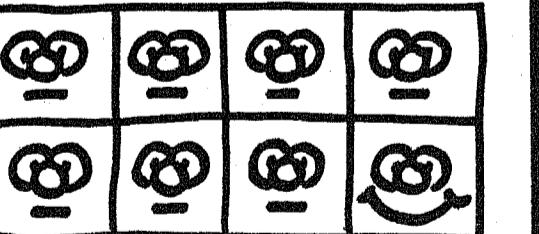
Volunteer Domestic Abuse Shelter, 294-5586.

Conscious Pregnancy Classes, 296-6259.

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Workshops in Life Painting and Drawing. For information and times and locations, call Malcolm Ross at 294-8301.



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AS THE DROWSY denizens of this continent's southernmost contingency awaken from a Summer's rest...yawn and stretch and scratch themselves and survey their tropical surroundings, they contemplate the frenetic activity of another Season-soon-to-come. Snowbirds and Fantasy fest, and costumes to be sewn, and something else is in the air...Some new piece of business...an electric tingle down the spine...but what? and who?

SENSING ADVENTURE, OUR curious crustacean strolls out of his shaded garden and heads for a local watering hole in search of answers, and probably something to quench a Summer's thirst.

PUTTING OUT FEELERS, testing the waters and the air (certainly the latter being safer than the former!) he begins to pick up the first waves of excitement, whispers and chuckles and talk of new fun and sport...A Race...a seaport extraordinaire! He listens at first with incredulous ear, and then with rapt attention as our hero hears the amazing tale.

A PLAN BEGINS to form within his eager mind...a plan to win...a plan to build...to build the fastest, most ingenious, most wonderful water craft of all...a watercraft powered by man, by beast, by magic, by any manual means...to win...to win the glory, the kudos, the adulation of them all, and above all, to win the \$1,007.00, the Trophies and the 107 cases of beer! A plan to win the Conch Republic's First Annual Rambunkshus Raftin' Regatta, three months away...His mind begins to spin with dreams of glory and of glee!...he he he, this time he's got it! You can tell by the gleam in his eye!

BACK IN THE privacy of his garden, you can see the lights burning into the night as our noble compatriot designs, plans and plots. But heed the sign upon his gate that warns "BEWARE, HIPPOPOTAMUS WITHIN". Our friend is serious, he plots to WIN!

AND SOON WE see signs of others taking up the challenge with a grin. Carpenters are carpenting, rubber freaks create craft of ingenious design, housewives have retreated to their garages and closed the doors, bicycles are dismantled, inner tubes disappear from tires and cars are left half-shod. Balloonists run trials with "eureka-ish" results, Fat Albert is put under guard! People are seen scouring the streets and vacant lots for scrap lumber, there is a run on rope at Strunk! Softball teams desert the field to band together and build.

EVERWHERE CONCH'S ARE busy, and sawdust fills the air, as the Citizens of America's last stronghold of the independent...the bold and the fun...cut and glue and nail and saw, and create a craft so strong! Each group building the most glorious entry of them all. A raft for all seasons!...A Winner in each class! Conch Cruisers with eight participants aboard. Refugee Runabouts to hold no more than four, and Paddlin' Pirates by the score. And no matter what the outcome, there's fun in store for sure. Parties, fun and merriment on a Trans-oceanic scale! What a wonderful way to start the Season! The Great First Annual Conch Republic Rambunkshus Raftin' Regatta, October 23rd.

(The Conch Republic Rambunkshus Raftin' Regatta, another brainchild of Radio Station FM 107, is planned as an annual event to stimulate business and tourism during the slower Summer season. Billed as "The World's Only Trans-Oceanic Raft Race", the publicity for

(no sails).

There are numerous prizes and awards, Fastest in Fleet, Slowest, Most Creative Design, and the Rube Goldberg Award for "most Ingenious Method of Propulsion".

Boats will race from the Sands to the Pier House and will be judged on elapsed time in each class. An Awards Ceremony, Sunset at the Pier House will conclude the race events.

National sponsors are being invited to participate and local charitable organizations will benefit by the profits from this new festival event.

Complete information and a full list of Race Rules and Regulations, specifications, etc. and entry forms are available at FM 107, 527 Southard Street.)

BY PLUMERIA DE NOM



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