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ENDORSEMENTS

The 1991 elections have brought a diverse group of candidates into the city's political arena, but, as yet, no candidate has stood heads above his opponents. At the local forums, which are hosted by local special-interest and civic organizations, candidates churned out a steady stream of rhetoric. Citizens are once again reminded that municipal elections are glorified popularity contests, where the people with the most powerful friends win.

Solares Hill's recommendations for the October 1 election are not for the candidates that appear to have the most friends. We are extending our votes to those who we feel will round out the commission to make it a board truly representative of the island's citizens.

We feel that it is time for Key West to focus its energies on portions of the population who have not benefited from Key West's spurt of development and tourist popularity; on those issues that have been buried beneath the successes of a destination resort; and on those aspects of our unique environment that have been the basis of what Key West is today but that have been put at risk.

While we believe Dennis Wardlow has excellent administrative qualities and a sound understanding of the function of the mayor and the city commission, we are supporting the incumbent, Mayor Tony Tarracino. Throughout his first two-year term as mayor, Tarracino has kept his promise to do what he feels is right for all the people of Key West. He has resisted pressures from both conservative and lib-

eral factions of the community, and when he has had second thoughts about his actions he has not been afraid to change his mind. We admire his integrity, and we hope he gets the chance to "finish what he has started."

Repeatedly, the commission and the city have voiced their intents to improve conditions for Bahama Village residents. The hiring of Ricky Tribble as community liaison, adoption of the 42-point plan and installation of the Main Street program in Bahama Village are good starts in this direction. But it will take a vote on the commission to maintain momentum in favor of the black community and for others who have similar concerns. To fill what was formerly Virginia Panico's Group 4 seat, *Solares Hill* makes its mark in the Noah Coakley-Allen box.

The present commission has made progress toward preserving our natural environment and our historical heritage with its efforts to preserve Peary Court and its agreement with the Trust for Public Lands to purchase the Singleton property. We believe, however, that at least one commissioner should have a solid understanding of the fragile position Key West is in because of its uniqueness. We also support a "think globally, act locally" attitude. To fill Harry Powell's Group 5 seat, Jim Farrell gets our vote.

In the only Utility Board contest, we find all candidates very able; however, we support Henry Lee Morgenstern.

Ann Boese

The cover photograph was shot in the Green Parrot by Kevin Crean.

Mayoral Candidates Run The Gamut

by J.D. Dooley

As election day draws near and the 14 candidates prepare to square off on October 1, the tone for this campaign can best be described as quiet. Noticeably missing from the races thus far are the mud-slinging and boisterous repartee that have been associated with Florida municipal elections. Absent are the constant radio ads and pound-the-pavement campaign strategies. The calm is almost eerie.

Part of the reason the campaign appears to lack fervor could be linked to the number of candidates who have qualified to run. With at least four candidates in each of the major races, there hasn't been the opportunity to zero in on anyone's dirty laundry. Just making it through each of the many forums hosted by island organizations has seemed to satisfy citizens.

Should no candidate secure 51 percent of the vote on October 1, a run-off election will be held November 1. Although each of the candidates would like to carry the election on October 1, they all appear to be pacing themselves for another four weeks of campaigning.

Incumbent Mayor Captain Tony Tarracino, seeking a second term, appears to retain his popularity. He has the advantage



(CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT) KEY, WARDLOW, TARRACINO, KOKENZIE.

of being not only a political figure but a character of Key West. The long-time saloon keeper is considered a legend by many, including Jimmy Buffett, who immortalized Capt. Tony in song and told a packed colosseum, "We got fed up with all the alternatives, and elected our favorite bartender mayor."

While enjoying the advantage of notoriety, the mayor is disadvantaged by being

held accountable for the commission's performance over the past two years. He is haunted by the recently published cost overrun of \$500,000 on the Wicker's Field Athletic Complex.

He claims, however, that taxes did not go up during his administration nor were any new land development projects approved.

For the past two years, Tarracino has had to deal with many problems he inherited from past administrations. Without the benefit of a completed comprehensive plan and with the handicap of working with a new city manager, the mayor had his work cut out for him this last term.

Each of Tarracino's opponents wish to defeat him on election day. Each believes that he can better run the city than Tarracino. All agree, however, that Capt. Tony will forever be an irreplaceable piece of Key West heritage.

A former Key West mayor and commissioner, Dennis Wardlow once made the statement that he was finished with Key West politics. Now he says he simply can't sit back and watch any longer.

"The experts have been running the show, and now it's time to bring it home," Wardlow said on the cost of city government. "We can't afford it any longer."

Wardlow proposes an organizational

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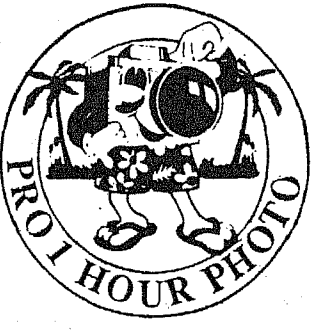
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flow chart for the city.

"The [existing] commission has not quite understood the position of the commission, which is to set good policy and not to micromanage the city," he says. "The city manager should run the city. Also the city manager must manage the city staff and contracts that we can't reduce so they must be managed efficiently."

On Peary Court, Wardlow said, "If the Navy wants to build there, there is nothing we can do to stop them. I was a commissioner here in 1976, when the Navy pulled out. This was a ghost town. We must protect our interest with the tourists and the Navy. If we don't, we will be left with a tremendous amount of overhead and no way to pay for it."

Wardlow seemed to score points at the VFW candidates forum on Emma Street in Bahama Village. Appearing poised and confident, he tackled the issue of youth leaving Key West, stating that programs should be instituted whereby young people

could actively learn about government service.

At that forum, Wardlow's turn at the podium illustrated his enthusiasm for his views.

"When people say 'Old Town,' I say, 'I don't know where that is!'" Wardlow exclaimed. "When people say 'Bahama Village,' I say, 'I don't know where that is!'" When people say 'New Town,' I say, 'I don't know where that is! There is only one town, and we are all in it together.'"

Also giving Capt. Tony a run, Hank Kokenzie, U.S. Army Ret. and Commander of American Legion Post 28, had little trouble mustering supporters in the VFW Hall.

Kokenzie, who announced his candidacy in May, bases his platform on strong leadership. Based on his military ties, he says he has the leadership to manage the commission as a single unit.

"With 23 years of government service, I am the best qualified of the candidates,"

Kokenzie said.

He said the city lacks strong leadership. Likening the commission to a five-headed dragon, he said commissioners have been allowed to run off in separate directions, which he believes accomplishes nothing.

"I know that I have the leadership ability to bring the commission together," he said.

Kokenzie says tourists do not duly compensate the city during their visits. To remedy this, he would pursue a restructuring of the bed tax or a redirection of the use of bed-tax revenues.

In an effort to lower costs, Kokenzie would support a partnership with the county to handle the problems of sewage and solid-waste. He is, however, opposed to consolidation of law enforcement agencies.

Kokenzie told the predominately black crowd at the VFW forum that Bahama Village should be redeveloped but only if it could be done without raising the assessed value of the properties to the point of

running long-time residents out.

"It does no good to revitalize an area for the people if they are forced out by taxes," Kokenzie said in a separate interview.

The candidate possesses a certain military bearing, which is characteristic of many long-time officers. He's almost stolid, with an "I-am-in-control" attitude and a steady gaze. He does not appear to be given to frivolity and, during the forums, he seemed to weigh each question carefully before answering.

Kokenzie supports straight-forward ef-

ficient government, including such practices as quarterly budget reviews with published findings.

Write-in candidate Leonard "Cookie" Key offers an approach to running the city, which differs significantly from the other candidates.

Key would like to abandon tourism as a revenue source and switch the emphasis to industry.

"We should build electric cars," said Key. "They would be perfect for Key West and probably Marathon, too."

Key said he would implement a plan to hire the elderly. Stating that at age 65 he has had trouble finding work, Key believes that the young women working in city hall spend all their time on the phone and should be replaced by senior citizens.

During the Metropolitan Community Church forum, Cookie Key could be seen circulating through the crowd, passing out Oreos and saying, "My card."

Key lost points during the VFW forum, when he referred to Bahama Village as "colored town." It was a tense moment.

Group Four: Pais Is Most Visible

In the Group 4 race, each candidate agrees that taxes should be lower, that the city manager should handle the day-to-day operation of the city and that the city faces tremendous budgetary problems.

Each says that he is against large development and that the city needs to generate more revenue without cutting service.

Allen for this seat, Pais seems to enjoy a certain respect from that community. In Bahama Village, Pais has worked on the Frederick Douglas School project, and he wrote the \$40,000 survey and planning grant, which came from the Florida Department of State, Division of Historic Resources to investigate Bahama Village revi-

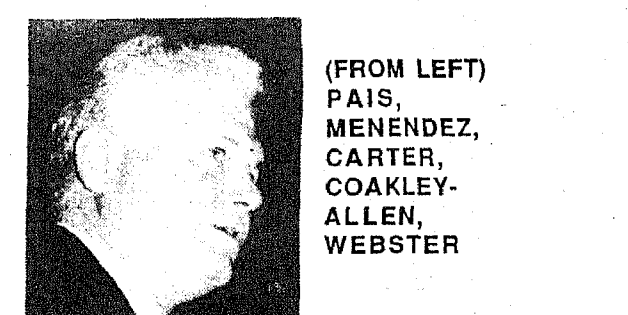
lowing in the business community. He believes in strong business on Duval Street.

Though attempting to appeal to every citizen, Pais has done his homework and seems to have a firm grasp on the issues.

Former Key West city commissioner José Menendez is the quiet, soft-spoken



JO DOOLEY



(FROM LEFT)
PAIS,
MENENDEZ,
CARTER,
COAKLEY-
ALLEN,
WEBSTER

The candidates seem to agree on the problems. What the voter must decide is which solution he prefers.

Assistant director of the Key West Art and Historical Society and a local gallery owner, Joe Pais has been the most visible candidate. He words his speeches to each group of voters very carefully. He makes each statement count, maximizing podium time at each forum.

Though a large portion of the black community openly supports Noah Coakley-

talization.

When Pais could not attend the Friends of Animals forum, a member of his camp read a prepared statement. In that statement Pais charged that the city had been negligent in its policy of handling abused and abandoned pets. Pais suggested educating city personnel in recognizing abandoned pets and in enforcing the licensing laws. The suggestion appeared to please to the special-interest crowd.

Pais also seems to have a strong fol-

gentleman who seems genuinely concerned for the locals who are being forced to move from Key West because of the high rate of taxation.

He believes that recent commissions have not fully understood the plight of the locals who are trying to make a future for themselves in Key West. He adds, however, that he identifies with the lower and middle working classes as well as small businessowners and the unemployed.

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FOR CITY COMMISSIONER

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"Taxes, sewer and solid waste fees are too high. Eliminating just 10% of City staff, through attrition, will save more than \$1,600,000.00. Tightening the budget to eliminate excessive cash reserves will put money back in the citizen's pockets."

"Our police effort must be directed to preventing crime. That means foot (or bike) patrols in congested Old Town areas. That means working with businesses and residents to eliminate opportunities for crime."

ELECT JOE PAIS
VOTE OCTOBER 1ST

Pd. Pol. Adv., Paid for by the Joe Pais Campaign Fund, P.O. Box 5925, Key West, FL 33045, G. Joan Miller, Treas.

Leonard H. Knowles
for
Utility Board
Group 5

- With 28 years experience City Electric, Leonard Knowles is the educated candidate the voters need as a member of Utility Board of the Keys.
- Leonard Knowles served with distinction on church and community committees is an active member of Masonic organizations and the Loyal Order of the Moose Lodge.
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- Expand energy conservation programs
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Pd. Political Adv. - Leonard H. Knowles Campaign Fund

ELECT FARRELL
City Commission - Group 5

The politics of yesteryear are dead. Farrell has the leadership to prepare Key West for a bright future.

Paid Political Advertisement, James Farrell Campaign

Menendez served as city commissioner from 1969 to 1971 and has unsuccessfully run for office on several other occasions.

He supports an audit of the city funds to maximize the efficiency of each expenditure.

A conversation with José Menendez is more like a chat with someone's grandfather than with a candidate, except that Menendez tends to talk of the past in terms of how it relates to the future.

"We must take the tourist dollar and spread it further," Menendez said. "That is our only economic base. If the workers are forced to relocate from Key West, the base would collapse. In order to protect the tourism trade we must protect the citizens who make it work."

Ron "Noodleman" Carter, who calls himself "the homeless, pot-smoking, non-violent radical hippie candidate," first focused his election effort on a fight against what he refers to as stupid laws: no open containers, no marijuana smoking and no sleeping in public places.

He has since narrowed his campaign to focus on just the homeless.

Calling for reforms on how Key West police handle the homeless, who are forced to seek shelter wherever available, Carter has made himself homeless and now resides on the White Street Pier.

Although admittedly unorthodox, Carter claims that his campaign has heightened public awareness concerning the plight of the homeless. He says that the working homeless could be an asset to the community, and he hopes to see a shelter open in the near future.

"The population of actual working homeless could help support a shelter," says Carter. "These individuals could perform work in the community. Those who are jobless could perform community service projects like street cleaning and landscaping for the city. Everyone would be better off."

Carter says his program is based on the "trickle up" theory.

He maintains his seriousness in seeking a commission seat and claims to be a candidate for the entire island.

Noah Coakley-Allen believes the city staff should run the city and the commission should set policy and monitor the process.

"City manager Felix Cooper is an expert," Coakley-Allen said. "We should let him do his job. We pay the city staff a lot of money, and the only way to see return on that investment is to let them do what they are paid to do."

Coakley-Allen says that waste management and city financing are the two greatest problems facing the city. Most other problems are off-shoots, he says, relating to finances and solid-waste management.

Although born and raised in Bahama Village, Coakley-Allen is not focusing entirely on the black community. He believes strongly in the cultivation of all Key West youth, so they will return after college.

"We have a 30-year gender gap here," Coakley-Allen said. "If we don't start programs for the youth, give them a safe place for recreation and give them reason to stay in Key West, they won't. Part of the problem is affordability. We have to make a long-range planning effort to make Key West affordable for the people who decide to live here. If we don't get our act together as a city, how can we expect others to come here and enjoy it?"

Coakley-Allen says drug abuse is an island-wide issue that has not been properly addressed. He would approach the problem from educational and law enforcement angles.

He also says that he would support a tenant-landlord arbitration board to hear housing disputes.

Although he believes in less commission interference in the day-to-day operation of the city, he says the commission must closely watch the process and set policy that will guide future commissioners

and lead the progress of the city.

Former Key West police chief and 20-year city government veteran Tom Webster has more city government experience than the other Group 4 candidates.

Webster says he knows the inner workings of the city and that he can translate that experience into leadership on the commission level.

According to Webster, the toughest issues facing the city are providing competent and efficient management of the taxpayers dollars and safeguarding against corruption.

Webster was the local police chief from March 1987 until August 1991, when his contract was terminated by city manager Felix Cooper because of his unwillingness to negotiate a new contract. Since the city manager answers to the city commission, Webster's candidacy poses an unique arrangement.

The candidate says, however, that the termination of his employment shouldn't enter into the equation. He maintains he has a long-term commitment to the community and that his knowledge of budgetary issues and city government would be an asset to the city. He is calling for tough controls on city spending.

"The city manager should run the city, but the commission must hold [the manager and city staff] accountable," says Webster. "Time after time when an issue like Wicker's Field blows up, you will hear the city staff say, 'The commission approved it.' Then you will hear the commission say, 'Well we passed it on the recommendation of staff.' We have a problem with accountability here that I would see stopped."

Webster speaks with total confidence when he addresses the issues and he does not have a reputation for catering to special interest groups.

"I bring no baggage to this office," Webster said. "I will not owe anybody anything, and I will decide each item on its own merit and on how it will affect the island as a whole."

Group Five: Black Mark Surfaces For Bethel

by J. D. Dooley

Diverse best describes the field of Group 5 hopefuls. There is Harry Bethel the stereotypical conch, Roy Grant the grant finder, Joe Rimkus the successful businessman and Jim Farrell the environmentalist.

While titling the candidates may make for easy grouping, the actual people behind those titles are a concoction of personal and professional histories and background affiliations. With the lack of mud-slinging in



this election, voters must rely on what is printed and what happens at the forums to determine the positive and negative aspects of each candidate. To date, only one black mark has surfaced, and that one is in Group 5.

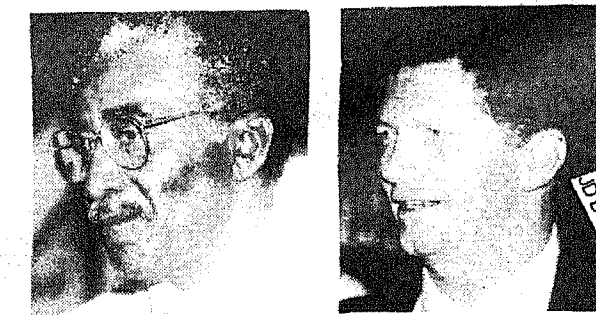
Harry Bethel, chairman of the Key West Housing Authority and a Florida Keys Aqueduct employee, has a strong following, if the signs along Flagler Avenue are any indication.

Bethel's day-glo orange campaign signs are highly visible there and down Duval Street. While other campaign placards are

scattered about town, Bethel's can be encountered almost any street.

Bethel said he plans to study the city budget in hopes of creating a more cost efficient city government. He supports publishing the budget quarterly and believes that the city should be run by the city manager.

Like a cloud hanging over Bethel's campaign, a memorandum from the personnel files of City Electric System concerning Bethel's position there has surfaced.



Dated September 25, 1987, the memorandum to Harry Bethel, supervisor of customer accounting, from Paul Esquinado, finance and administrative services manager, outlined five serious infractions on Bethel's part in the handling of over \$350,000 of customers money.

According to the memo, a police investigation was launched when Bethel's department was short \$4,825.14. The investigation recommended an audit of Bethel's department.

According to current CES manager Robert Padron, the missing money later

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OWNER OF TROPICAL SCREEN SERVICE



BACKGROUND

Born in Buffalo, New York June 20, 1936. Relocated in Key West in early 1949 with Navy family. Married the former Sandra Lee Daughtry June 1958 and have lived on Von Pfister since 1960. Son, daughter and four grandchildren were all born and are now living in Key West.

EDUCATION

Graduate of Key West High School - Class 1955. High Tech training for peaking diesels - Electric Motive Division of General Motors. College credit for EPA Hazardous waste for handling and disposal of PCB 1986.

FRANK CARTONIA SAYS:

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- City Electric's budget is \$46 million with a revenue income of \$55 million.
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- Fuel adjustment rates are still there. How can they tell you what power over the tie line is fuel generated?
- The City Electric's budget is up almost \$1 million. Can we afford this?
- The manager's contract with benefits each year for two years is approximately \$90,000.00! When is it going to stop?
- Can we lower the rates? I say yes! Look at all the waste.
- When have the Utility Board members ever said to hold the line? Cut cost? Lower rates?

WORK EXPERIENCE

City Electric System November 19, 1964
Electrician July 26, 1967
Advanced to Supervisor of Electrical Department March 4, 1983

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Constructed 5 substations from ground up and built 40 transformer vaults throughout the city and county. Worked in all phases of City Electric Power and Peaking diesel plants; supervisory control, dispatch center, traffic light, relaying, 13.8 KV, 41.60 KV, 69 KV, 138 KV switch gear, oil circuit breaker and transformers. WELL VERSED ON ELECTRICAL POWER DISTRIBUTION. Retired from City Electric January 1, 1988. PRESENTLY: Pres. owner and operator of Tropical Screen Service since Feb. 1982.

The Choice is Yours!
VOTE FOR FRANK CARTONIA FOR UTILITY BOARD GROUP 5 FOR COMMITMENT & DETERMINATION TO LOWER YOUR ELECTRIC BILL!

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Campaign fund

A SHORT STORY

by lido

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the end

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HENRY LEE MORGENSTERN

Intelligence and Experience

Bachelors Degree & Juris Doctor, University of Michigan

Boards of Directors:

- Wesley House Community Center, 1981 - 1986
- Friends of Florida, 1985 - Present
- Florida Wildlife Federation, 1989 - Present

Co-Chair of Florida Bar Public Interest Committee of Environmental Land Use Section

Key West Resident, Business Owner and Homeowner for 15 years

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- Provide energy saving technology.
- Introduce incentives for energy conservation.
- Clean up wasteful pollution

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GOOD BUSINESS SENSE — GOOD ENERGY SENSE
Vote Henry Morgenstern. October 1, Key West Utility Board, Group 5

Pd. Pol. Adv.



Vote For Utility Board, Group 5

turned up in an unlocked safe and the investigation was discontinued.

Another of the infractions Bethel was reprimanded for in the memo included unprocessed final billings dating back as far as July 20, 1987. CES policy mandates a 45-day limit for the refunding of customer's deposit after paying final bills.

Following the Chamber of Commerce forum on September 23, *Solares Hill* inquired about the memo.

"I know what you're writing about," Bethel said, "and you better stay off my ass!"

Bethel cancelled an interview and failed to return phone calls.

One of two black candidates, Roy Grant says that he would like to be thought as a representative of the entire city, not as solely a commissioner for the black community.

From 1983 to 1987, Grant was the director of federal programs for the city. He says that he raised over \$6.5 million in grant money for the city during that time

and that he believes that grants are the first avenue worth exploring for city project funding.

Grant believes that the city could effectively increase revenues with an active cruise ship port.

"Those tourists get off the ship and spend money without impacting our services," he said.

Grant says that he would actively push for youth programs and assistance for the elderly and small businessmen.

James Farrell has emerged as the environmental candidate, but he doesn't want to be thought of in that light only.

Farrell believes that alternative revenue sources should be sought in order to help relieve citizens of the current tax burden.

He says that the Tourist Development Council funds should be redirected to help relieve infrastructure burdens created by tourists, such as clean up and police costs.

Farrell says that the city needs to carefully guard against overbuilding and that the Growth Management Ordinance should be adhered to.

As a board member of Last Stand, a local citizens organization, Farrell said of the suit against the Navy over Peary Court: "I think some people have misunderstood the issue. Last Stand is not challenging the Navy's right to build their housing, we are challenging the document that they submitted as an environmental assessment."

Farrell says that a concerted effort should be made to clean up the city in order to improve our image.

Joe Rimkus, guesthouse owner and former budget analyst, believes that every action taken by the city commission affects everyone and should be weighed carefully before a decision is made.

Rimkus is an active member of the Key West Business Guild and the Chamber of Commerce.

Rimkus has been questioned lately about a statement he made in his initial press release which contained the following: "Our city sidewalks shouldn't belong to panhandlers and solicitors."

To qualify the comment, Rimkus said he was referring to panhandlers who pursue people on the street, not the homeless, street performers or OPCs.

Rimkus proposed to adopt enforceable ordinances to solve these problems.

At the Friends of Animals forum, Rimkus strayed off the campaign trail and used his allotted time to praise the Friends of Animals for their help in capturing stray cats around his guesthouse in order to have them spayed and neutered.

He said he would have attended the function even if he weren't running for office.

San Carlos: Worth The Wait



by Richard Hatch

For nearly two decades, the heavy wooden doors guarding the arched entrance hall to the San Carlos Institute have been locked to the public. The doors will remain locked on October 10, one of several dates set for the grand opening of the historic building. As was the case in May and last October, the \$3-million restoration project simply is not finished. Funding delays and the time involved in detailed restoration work have kept the San Carlos in transition.

Despite pessimism expressed by local critics, Rafael Peñalver, Jr., president of the San Carlos Board of Trustees, says Key Westers can definitely count on the validity of yet another opening date. On January 5, 1992, he says, the sounds of the zarzuela will fill the opera hall as the grand,

old Cuban cultural center comes back to life.

According to the Miami attorney, a Florida symphony will perform and dignitaries will give speeches from the same stage where Cuban patriot José Martí delivered a stirring speech exactly 100 years earlier. Visitors will admire the grandeur and craftsmanship of the 67-year-old Spanish baroque-style building at 516 Duval Street. From the relief work on the vaulted ceilings to the intricate tile wainscoting on the walls, the spacious building projects the aura of its rich Cuban heritage.

The San Carlos, which Martí called "La Casa Cuba," is definitely worth the wait, Peñalver said.

Seven From Key West
Headed by Peñalver, the San Carlos project is directed by a board of 15 trustees.

Of these, seven including Key West architect and former mayor Charles "Sonny" McCoy, State Rep. Ron Saunders, and Latin-American Chamber of Commerce President Arturo Espinola.

McCoy concurred with Peñalver that the San Carlos would open in January. He said an elevator for handicapped access to the second floor must be installed and that other "little things" remain to be done. He admitted the board has taken criticism because the Institute has seen other grand opening dates come and go.

State Rep. Ron Saunders, who chairs the House Appropriations Committee in Tallahassee, had slightly less promising news. He said the San Carlos board is seeking \$180,000 for work, which will include the elevator. Saunders said the state is experiencing a budget crunch and that funding is not guaranteed. The project is

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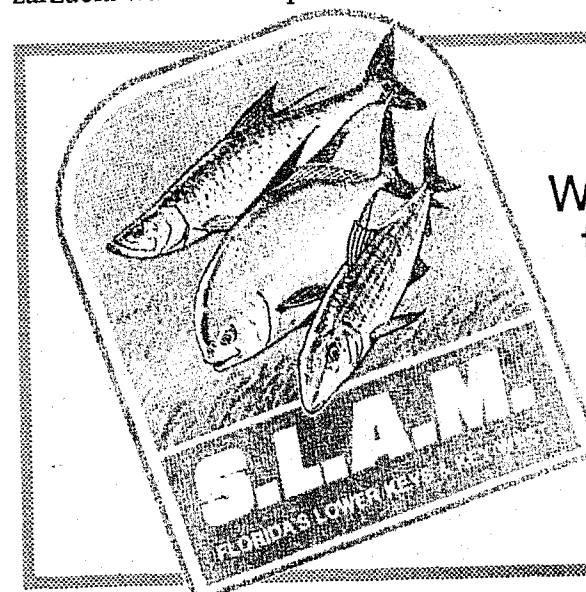
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currently ranked 8th on the state's historic preservation priority list.

Peñalver said the restoration project has stretched over five years, because the \$2.85 million from the state has come in four allotments during that period. In addition, he said much of the restoration has been detail work, including the black-and-white tile floors, which took two septegenarians more than a year to complete.

McCoy gave some credence to persistent rumors that the opening date had been moved in the past in hopes of having President Bush attend. "There was a little conversation with Jeb Bush and a quasi-understanding that the president would come down," he explained.

But Peñalver, who said he is a close friend of the president's son Jeb, insisted that although the president had been invited, the opening had never been delayed because of him.

Even if the San Carlos had been ready to open on May 20, McCoy said the president would probably have been too preoccupied with the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait to attend.

At least two prominent members of the Cuban community in Key West have questioned why the project has taken so long to complete. One critic, who asked to remain anonymous said he would have nothing to do with the "outsiders who took the state money."

Peñalver dismisses the charge. "Every penny from the state was exclusively for construction. Not a penny was for salaries, administration or stationary," Peñalver said. He said all the legal work was done pro

bono by his law firm.

Local newspaper publisher José Cabaliero, a former president of the San Carlos board is also no fan of Peñalver. He believes the board of trustees should consist exclusively of people from Key West.

But of the trustees, Peñalver appears to have put the most effort into the project. "I have devoted six years of my life to this project," he said. "It's such a special thing."

It Fell From the Sky

Interest in renovating the San Carlos Institute was sparked in the early '80s, when a piece of masonry from the building's facade fell on a woman's head, McCoy said.

The city ordered scaffolding to be constructed, and, during the mini-renovation that followed, engineers used epoxy injection to glue the facade back together. When the work was completed and the scaffolding removed, a beautiful building was unveiled, McCoy said.

In 1985 a group of Key Westers traveled to Tallahassee and called on the state's Committee on Hispanic Affairs for help in furthering restoration. This marked the beginning of the involvement of Peñalver, who chaired the Hispanic Affairs Committee.

At the time, the management at Jan McArt's Cabaret Theatre had plans to lease the building, but strong opposition from prominent members of Key West's Cuban community halted the arrangement.

Local publisher Jose Cabaliero cited his reason for opposition: "There can be no bar in the San Carlos," Cabaliero said. In 1986, Florida Governor Bob Graham presented the San Carlos board a \$1-million check to the San Carlos restoration effort. Peñalver said \$2.7 million has already been received from the state, and \$300,000 has been raised locally. He is now seeking a \$1-million endowment to be used to operate the Institute.

A Cultural Center

Plans call for the Institute to function as a multi-purpose cultural center. The first floor will house a museum, which will premiere with the José Martí centennial exhibition now being created by historians at Florida International University. The museum will be open to the public at a minimal charge (\$2 or \$3).

Afternoons the "School of Enrichment will be open and free to school students of all ages," Peñalver said.

The library will stack many of the San Carlos' original books, which are now housed at the University of Miami.

He also envisions the San Carlos serving as a conference site, bring "top scholars" to the Institute.

"You have to think big," he said.

Perhaps the San Carlos' biggest draw will be the theater, which will operate nightly. Decorated in the red, white and blue of the Cuban flag, the 400-seat theatre is spacious, yet intimate, and is ready to open. Through the years it has been the site of varied performances, including a visit by the Russian Ballet. Its acoustics are considered superb.

Key West Mayor Tony Tarracino recalls: "I took my first wife Mary to the operetta. You don't need speakers because the acoustics are so good."

The Citizen reported the late conductor and composer Leonard Bernstein calling the acoustics in the theater "the finest he had ever heard."

Who Owns It?

According to the 1990 property location map for the City of Key West, located in the Monroe County Property Appraiser's office, the Republic of Cuba owns the San Carlos property at 516 Duval.

A warranty deed, dated January 6, 1920 indicates the Republic of Cuba took trusteeship of the property for \$5000 from the Bates family. The next recorded document in the property title file is a quit-claim deed from the San Carlos Institute to the address of the Cuban-American Foundation in Miami.

Property Appraiser Ervin Higgs says this ambiguity over ownership and the incomplete files create what is called "a cloud" on the deed.

Peñalver says the property is now legally owned by the Instituto y Docente San Carlos, Inc.

It's a matter many want resolved.

A Phoenix

The San Carlos Institute was founded in 1871 by Cuban tobacco workers in Key West and by Cuban exiles who came to the island planning Cuba's independence drive from Spain.

The first San Carlos structure was a wooden building on Anne Street, which was partially funded by donations from tobacco workers.

In 1883 a larger structure was built on Fleming Street but was destroyed by the fire of 1886. The wooden building was rebuilt in 1889 but was later damaged by hurricanes.

On October 10, 1924, the building on Duval Street was opened and served as a school and theater; it also housed the Cuban Consulate. From the 1930s to 1961 the theater was leased as a movie house called Palace Theatre.

When the United States severed its relations with Cuba, Cuban funding for the San Carlos school stopped. The school, which had been operating with volunteer teachers, closed in 1972.

When the Historic Florida Keys Preservation Board attempted to lease the building to the McArt Cabaret Theatre group Peñalver became involved.

"It's like a Phoenix," Peñalver said. "Fire, hurricanes, abandonment . . . but it keeps coming back."

He believes that when the San Carlos comes back to life, its primary purpose will be to educate people about the struggle for Cuban Independence.

The finished Institute, however, which includes plans for a Cuban turn-of-the-century park on Applerouth Lane, will also offer an exciting cultural magnet on a block of Duval Street which now attracts primarily shoppers.

Homicide Investigation

by Kip Blevin

"I can't talk now. Meet me behind Cow Key Marina. I gotta go. Bye."

The words rang in his ears as he thought about the aborted phone conversation he'd just had. He'd been making drug deals for years, but somehow this one seemed different. He thought he'd gotten over the adrenaline rush, the suspicions that gnaw at your gut, the unadulterated fear that leaves your throat dry, your voice shaky.

Was the voice on the phone a narc? Was he being set up by the cops, or by someone who didn't like dealers on his turf?

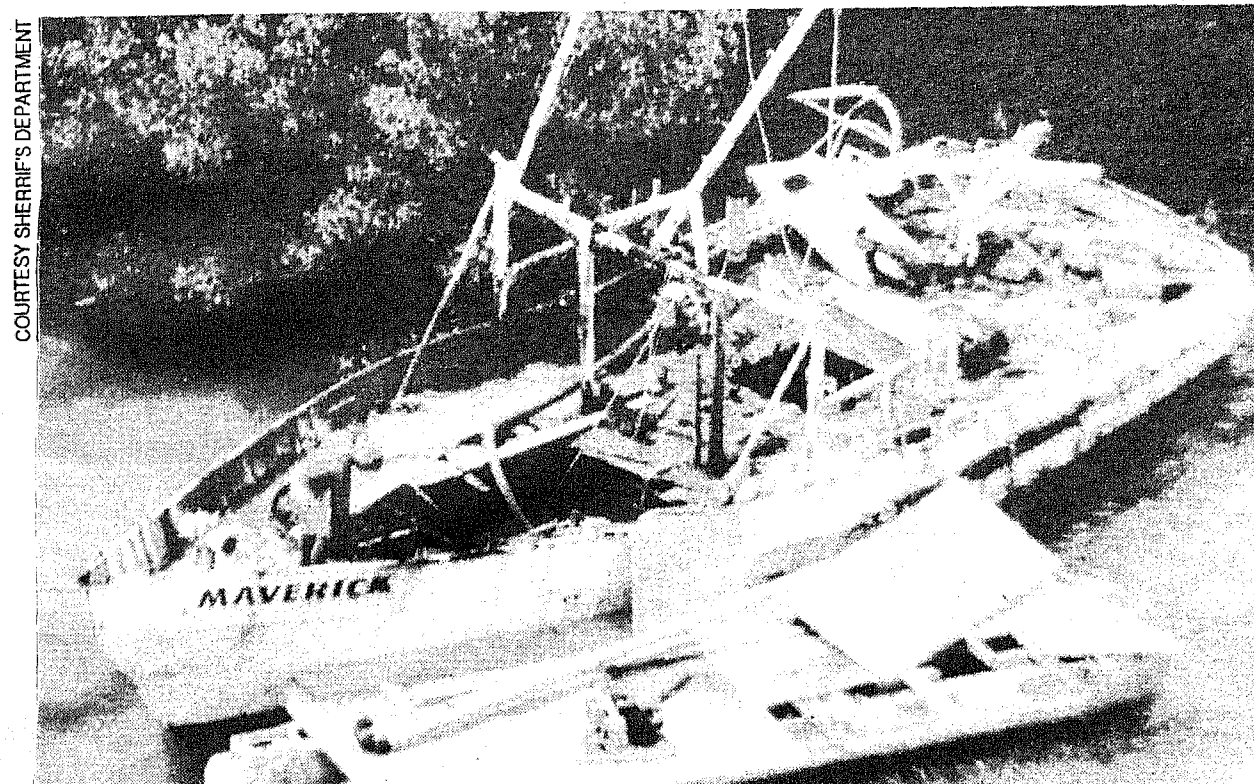
No one knows if this wild and fanciful scenario took place. No one knows or, as yet, has disclosed what actually happened to the nameless, faceless person whose bones were found a couple of months ago in the hold of an abandoned shrimp boat off Stock Island.

Identified only as male, he might have gone to the corner store for a snack and been spirited away by someone who thought he had money. Or, he might have been a hitchhiker on his first trip to the Keys. Was he an innocent victim or a not-so-innocent one?

Investigation is a fascinating process that pairs fact with speculation to recreate what might have been. To piece together this unsolved crime, experts in law enforcement, forensic medicine and marine salvaging have been brought together to create an investigation team and search for answers.

To date, the only concrete evidence in the investigation is based on studies of the bones. Authorities believe a 35-year-old male, possibly Hispanic, was clubbed a couple of times on the head before being shoved into a sleeping bag doubling as a body bag, trussed in chains and then tossed into the hold of an abandoned boat.

With that shred of evidence in hand, let's look at some of the events that might have led to the time of the murder, the leads that investigators are currently following, and a little about the investigators themselves.



CRIME PHOTO: This shot of the abandoned *Maverick* was taken after a human skeleton was discovered inside.

Over four years ago, a boat named *Maverick* was seen plying the shallow waters between Cow Key and Safe Harbor Channels in search of small bait shrimp. Shortly after, the boat was reported abandoned. Perhaps the cost of maintaining a 45-foot steel-hulled mini-trawler had become too great for the owner. Whatever the cause, he would probably have been surprised to learn that about two years after he abandoned it, the stricken shrimp boat was to become a watery tomb, a makeshift mausoleum for the man chained inside.

It seems unlikely, however, that the owner will ever know about the body. Authorities have been unsuccessful in tracking the owner's name. In an October 1988 derelict vessel report, Marine Patrol Officer R. Steven Dion, now a sergeant, wrote: "I have checked with the Coast Guard to run the name *Maverick* to find an owner. They advised that there are a considerable number of steel-hull fishing vessels with that name."

Dion says the only other way to

identify the boat was through a documentation number. But the vessel had deteriorated, and he was unable to find one.

Stripped of most usable parts, the vessel is believed to have shed its original moorings, drifted, finally coming to rest tipped over and partially submerged in one foot of water off the southwest side of Stock Island.

It is likely the skeleton would have never been discovered had not A&D Marine Salvage been hired to relocate the vessel. According to Chuck Hamlin, director of the Key West Port and Transit Authority, the local firm was the low bidder, at around \$21,000, to remove nine derelict vessels from Key West waters.

"The wood vessels go to the dump," said Hamlin, "while the fiberglass and metal-hull ones go to the artificial reef about four to six miles west of Key West."

The marine's derelict removal methods are being credited with saving the body.

Bobby Andresakis, A&D's tough-

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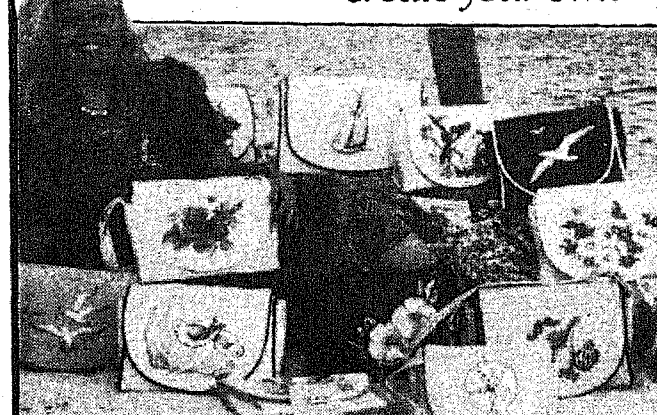
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talking president and owner, has been moving dead boats from tug-size to super-tanker for years. Intense blue eyes, blond-grey hair, he cuts stocky image with a body honed from 28 years as a commercial diver.

When A & D began methodically removing the silt in order to lighten the *Maverick* for flotation, Andresakis, the war veteran, spotted the first bone.

"I'd seen enough of them in Vietnam," he says. "When I found another one that matched it, I shut the job down and called the sheriff's department and the Marine Patrol. They came out and said, 'Whoa, I guess they look like human bones to me, too.'"

Andresakis praises the law enforcement agencies for the way they conducted the recovery of the skeleton. He is also convinced that the typically more ham-handed salvage companies would have never found the body.

The nearly complete skeleton was removed from the vessel and turned over to Dr. Robert Nelms, the Monroe County medical examiner. Nelms' preliminary examination pointed to the likelihood that the victim had been struck on the head.

"There were fractures in the skull that could have occurred either right before or any time after death," Nelms observed. "But since none of the other bones are broken, it's unlikely the fractures occurred after death."

(It appears that even a coroner's grim business has its humor, black as it may be. "There is another bone not related to the

others," said Nelms. "A T-bone, possibly a last meal.")

When Nelms was unable to determine the gender, the skeleton was shipped to Dr. William Maples of the University of Florida's human identification laboratory. Badly decomposed bodies are generally sent up state to the lab.

Maples is a foremost specialist in unlocking the mysteries of the long-dead; he is one of the world's 45 certified forensic anthropologists. Not only has his expertise been called upon in the recent Gainesville murders, he has been asked to study the dusty remains of Francisco Pizarro, the 16th century Spanish explorer.

Three months ago, Maples was involved in the exhumation of Zachary Taylor, the country's 12th president, in an attempt to determine if he had been poisoned. Last year, he examined the body cast and skeleton of Joseph Merrick, also known as the Elephant Man, located at the Museum of the London Royal Hospital.

This marks Maples' fifth consultation since 1981 on Key West homicides. He concluded this latest study when he determined the bones discovered on the *Maverick* to be those of a male.

The next step in the investigation is to match the bones with a name. It may take a while. Detective Ed Rochelle of the Monroe County Sheriff's Department says it could take months or years, if ever, to identify the skeleton.

Led by Rochelle, the department is currently poring over a list of seven persons reported missing in the county since 1989.

"Bodies are found all over the Keys," notes Nelms.

This year the bodies of two women were found floating near Houseboat Row. Three men who lived on a boat just off Cow Key were convicted of their murders.

Another apparent murder occurred recently when Capt. Rolf Backer's blood-splattered shrimp boat, the *Ocean Clipper*, was discovered aground off Cottrell Key near Key West. The body was never found, but Backer's crewman, Ricky Flowers, has been jailed and is awaiting trial on a first degree murder charge.

Meanwhile, the skeleton from the *Maverick* still has no nametag. It's clear that most murder mysteries can't be solved in a half-hour like Jack Klugman did in his

coroner's role as "Quincy"; even the two hours Jodie Foster required during "Silence of the Lambs" isn't enough.

Both Nelms and Maples laugh at the comparison.

"Those are shows," says Nelms. This is real life.

On September 12, 1991, Andresakis and his assistant lashed three other vessels together with the *Maverick*, opened all the seacocks. One burst from a small shot of dynamite fractured the hull, sending the vessels 190 feet onto the artificial reef.

Who's Responsible for Derelict Vessels?

The Florida Marine Patrol, working as an arm of the Florida Department of Natural Resources, provides the City of Key West and Monroe County with listings of derelict vessels. Vessels south and west of Boca Channel come under city jurisdiction; those north and east are the county's responsibility. Each governmental entity then applies to DNR for a grant, which entitles it to advertise for salvors.

Does the Key West area harbor many abandoned boats?

Chuck Hamlin, director of Key West Port and Transit Authority likes to tell the story of when he attended a Tampa meeting about eight years ago. At that time, the responsibility for disposing of the vessels was being shunted to the municipalities.

"They handed out to the different jurisdictions lists of derelict vessels," said Hamlin. "While the others got one sheet a piece, they gave me three damn boxes."

Capt. Doug Smith of Marine Patrol District 9, which includes the Key West area, complained recently about the overwhelming number of complaints to which his officers are asked to respond.

"We get 4000 complaints a year, but we have only 36 officers to cover 25,000 square miles of water in the state jurisdiction," he said. "Plus we have federal authority out to 200 miles offshore."

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Not-So-Simple Arithmetic

Key West city commissioners once again found themselves approving the cost overrun of a completed project.

On August 19, 1991, then-city engineer Paul Mitchell requested payment processing for \$3240 for Toppino's, Inc. for the construction company's work on the Butler Park drainage improvement project. The payment brought the total cost of the project up to an even \$45,240.

According to a document Mitchell sent to the city finance department, the cost overrun was due to "a plan and quality error" and to the discovery that the planned limerock fill material was inadequate for the job, which mandated the purchase of additional fill.

In the memo, Mitchell explained that he approved the work without commission approval "based on the grant deadline," and that "this still keeps us well below the \$50,000 grant amount."

The grant, however, which came from the Florida Department of Natural Resources, was for \$30,000.

On September 17 city manager Felix Cooper placed the payment request on the city commission consent agenda, calling for approval of and requesting payment to Toppino's.

Items on the consent agenda are routinely voted on without discussion unless a commissioner pulls an item off. In this case, commissioner Harry Powell removed the item for discussion.

Cooper explained that when there is a cost overrun, or if it is determined that additional work is needed, and a work crew is in place, then it is less costly to let that crew complete the job without commission approval than it would be to halt the project and seek proper approval.

The commission approved the payment request.

"I hope this is the last example that we will see of doing business this way," said Powell in response to the situation.

Paul Mitchell is now the director of engineering for the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority.

Down on Main Street

The Main Street revitalization program, which will bring state assistance to Bahama Village, was met with guarded enthusiasm during a meeting of community members,

city staff and delegates from the program to discuss the program on September 19.

Held at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal church on Truman Avenue, the meeting got off to a shaky start when Rick Tribble, the newly hired community liaison, referred to the target area as "Bahama Village." Citizen after citizen took offense to the name, equating the description to the likes of "black town" or "colored town."

After Tribble agreed that he would not support any title that would stigmatize the community, discussion shifted to the Main Street program.

The city's historic planner, Gene Burr, applied for and was accepted into the state-run program designed to provide redevelopment guidance to selected areas.

There are 26 Florida cities participating in the program; this year, Key West was selected along with Winter Garden. Cities are chosen by Florida Secretary of State Jim Smith, based on a state selection committee's recommendations.

Locally, the program targets the Bahama Village business district, which will be based around Petronia Street.

The standing-room-only crowd at the meeting seemed leery of the program.

"We have seen it all before," said longtime civic activist Charles Major. "People coming in here, spending money, paying each other, consulting this and consulting that. And when they leave, nothing has changed."

The discussion along this line continued until a large well-dressed man, who had been sitting quietly in the back of the room, rose and said, "Let me introduce myself."

The room fell silent. "My name is Thadious Cohen, and I am an architect," he said. "Two years ago I was at this same meeting—except we were at the Tabernacle Baptist church in West Palm Beach. We had the exact same discussion. There were shootings on this street and drugs on that street. The people had heard so many times that they were going to be helped and that things would be different."

"Who believes that they live in the best community in the world?" he inquired of the crowd.

Slowly, everybody in the room raised their hands.

"The ones that do can stay and change things," he said. "The ones that don't should move away. This program will be controlled by you, and only you can decide what is to be changed. But if you don't try it's guaranteed that nothing will change."

Cohen, who was invited to attend the meeting by city staff because of his experience with the Main Street program, went on to describe how the citizens would participate in the redevelopment process as active participants, not spectators.

Bob Trescott, the Main Street coordinator, who works for the Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation in Tallahassee, explained that a steering committee of community volunteers would be formed to direct the project. When Trescott mentioned that the city commission would appoint the steering committee, the crowd again voiced displeasure.

Community activist Louis Fisher rose

and launched into an emotional argument. If only "experts" were appointed to the committee, he said, they would not have a clear understanding of the issues and the problems.

"We need young people on the committee, who will tell the truth about what it is like to live here," Fisher said. "We need old people trying to hang onto their homes. If you bring in a bunch of bankers and lawyers, they won't really know what's going on."

After allowing the discussion to continue for several minutes, Tribble quieted the room and suggested that the residents pick the committee members.

This seemed to satisfy the group, and the meeting soon broke up. Each resident was to return to another meeting in the near future, with input from other local residents.

The program should be underway in the next few months; it is designed to be ongoing. In other words, Bahama Village will benefit from the program as long as local citizens participate.

Beautification without Gentrification

Although urban renewal is a popular concept, Main Street administrators will have to gain the trust of the residents before they can proceed. A genuine concern circulating though Bahama Village is that revitalization could mean a rise in taxes.

If Bahama Village were to be revitalized to the point of higher tax assessment, current residents would be forced to sell as have been many other Key West residents, who once lived in other areas of the changing island.

"My little conch house is assessed at \$100,000," said one elderly gentleman during the meeting. "The taxes are high, but that house is all I have."

Main Street administrators claim that no changes will be instituted without community support, and that tax breaks for the affected area will be studied at length.

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Benildes Sanchez: A Teacher Of Understanding

by John N. Cole

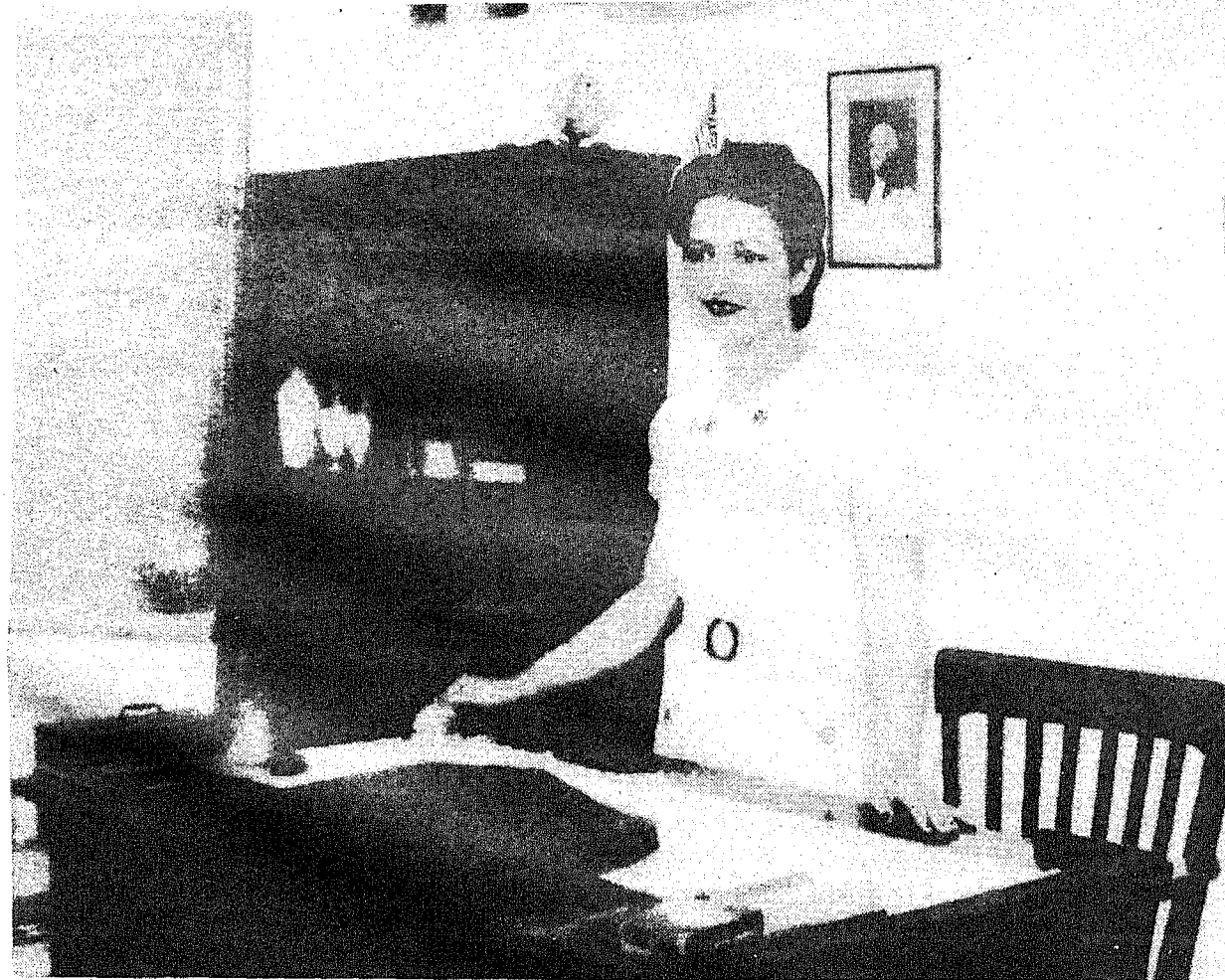
The "grand opening" of the expansively restored San Carlos Institute on Duval Street was scheduled first for October 10, 1990, then for the same date, 1991. But, given the turbulent and complex history of one of Key West's most imposing architectural landmarks, few observers seem surprised as the date slips by and the massive cedar doors of the *Instituto Patriótico y Docente San Carlos* remain shut as tightly as ever.

The one person in Key West who has spent the most time inside those doors since they were first opened in 1924 is not discouraged by the postponement.

"It will open," says Dr. Benildes Remond de Sanchez in a clear, gentle voice. She smiles from her sofa in the front parlor of her bright, immaculate Varela Street home. "Whatever happens, the San Carlos will reopen soon."

The various opening dates originate in the Miami offices of attorney Rafael Pañalver, chairman of the 15-member San Carlos Institute Board, the governing group which has helped fund and administer the more than \$3-million restoration. Since 1986, when the board was formed in the wake of the Florida Legislature's initial restoration appropriation, debates about the landmark's future functions and the finances needed to support them have swirled around various Cuban organizations, factions and individuals from Key West to Miami.

But throughout the cultural turbulence, Benildes Sanchez has remained serene. For her, keeping calm is an occupational skill practiced for more than a half-century. Ask any school teacher, especially one who greeted classrooms crowded with children between the ages of five and 11 each and



MAESTRA: Dr. Benildes Sanchez at her teacher's desk at the San Carlos in 1949.

ever morning for five days a week, year after year after year.

Dispatched to Key West by the Cuban government from her Havana classroom in January, 1937, the 22-year-old Sanchez arrived in the city with a single, official assignment: to teach Spanish to the island's Cuban children. But that assignment, given the energies, enthusiasms and concerns of the talented young woman, was merely a beginning.

Believing from the outset that the bigotry, bias and ignorance that spawned so much social and intercultural violence could be diminished by communication and the perception of common interest, Sanchez expanded her San Carlos classes, first to include English-speaking preschoolers, whom she taught to speak and understand Spanish. Then she organized classes for Key West adults in which she taught Cuban men and women to speak English and provided the same, in reverse, for English-speaking Key Westers who wanted to learn

Spanish. Benildes Sanchez persuaded her students that both they and their community would be the better for it.

"Language is the mirror of our cultures," she explains. "When you teach children a new language, you are also helping them to understand another culture." Among the students from her language classes who gained insights into "another culture" are former city Mayor Tom Sawyer and the current House chairman of Florida's Appropriations Committee, Rep. Ron Saunders of Key West.

For the quarter-century from 1937 to 1962, the high-ceilinged classrooms of the San Carlos were the center of Benildes Sanchez' professional and personal life. So total was her dedication to her profession that she found neither the time nor the inclination to think of her teaching as a job. For her, it was a total commitment, and it moved her efforts into wider and wider circles of communication that included special Spanish classes for U.S. Navy personnel.



ROOTS: The Cuban-American school was founded to teach children of Cuban revolutionary patriarchs.

Eventually, the woman who began life in 1914 in Manzanillo in Cuba's Eastern Province had become so involved in her profession that she thought nothing of teaching almost around the clock: classes for children in the morning, special classes in the afternoons, and evening sessions for adults. Somehow, she also found the time to contribute essays and papers to a number of intercultural and Hispanic publications.

If it had not been for Fidel Castro and the revolutionary government he led to power in Cuba in 1959, Dr. Sanchez almost certainly would have made the San Carlos her headquarters class for another 25 years. But in 1962, after a series of contentious and unsuccessful negotiations with the governing boards of San Carlos at that time, Fidel Castro ordered an end to all Cuban financial and cultural ties with the institute. That was the start of the building's gradual decline and loss of purpose, a situation which was not remedied until 1986.

Even the turmoil of a dictatorship could not keep Dr. Sanchez from her singular commitment. When those big doors at the San Carlos were closed, she opened new ones in the Key West public school system, where she taught Spanish in both the junior high and high school until her "retirement" as a full-time teacher in 1974.

As you might expect, this was neither the end of her teaching career nor her efforts at improving intercultural understanding in Key West. Married early in the 1970s to optometrist Dr. Jose C. Sanchez, an active community citizen for whom one of the city's eye clinics is named, the teacher kept on teaching adult classes and, until her husband's death in 1983, worked energetically on the boards of a number of public-interest community organizations.

"This is a woman who has contributed enormously to Key West's intercultural vitality," says Frances Froelicher, conservationist and seasonal Key West resident. She is another of Benildes Sanchez' students who learned something more than idiomatic Spanish in her classroom.

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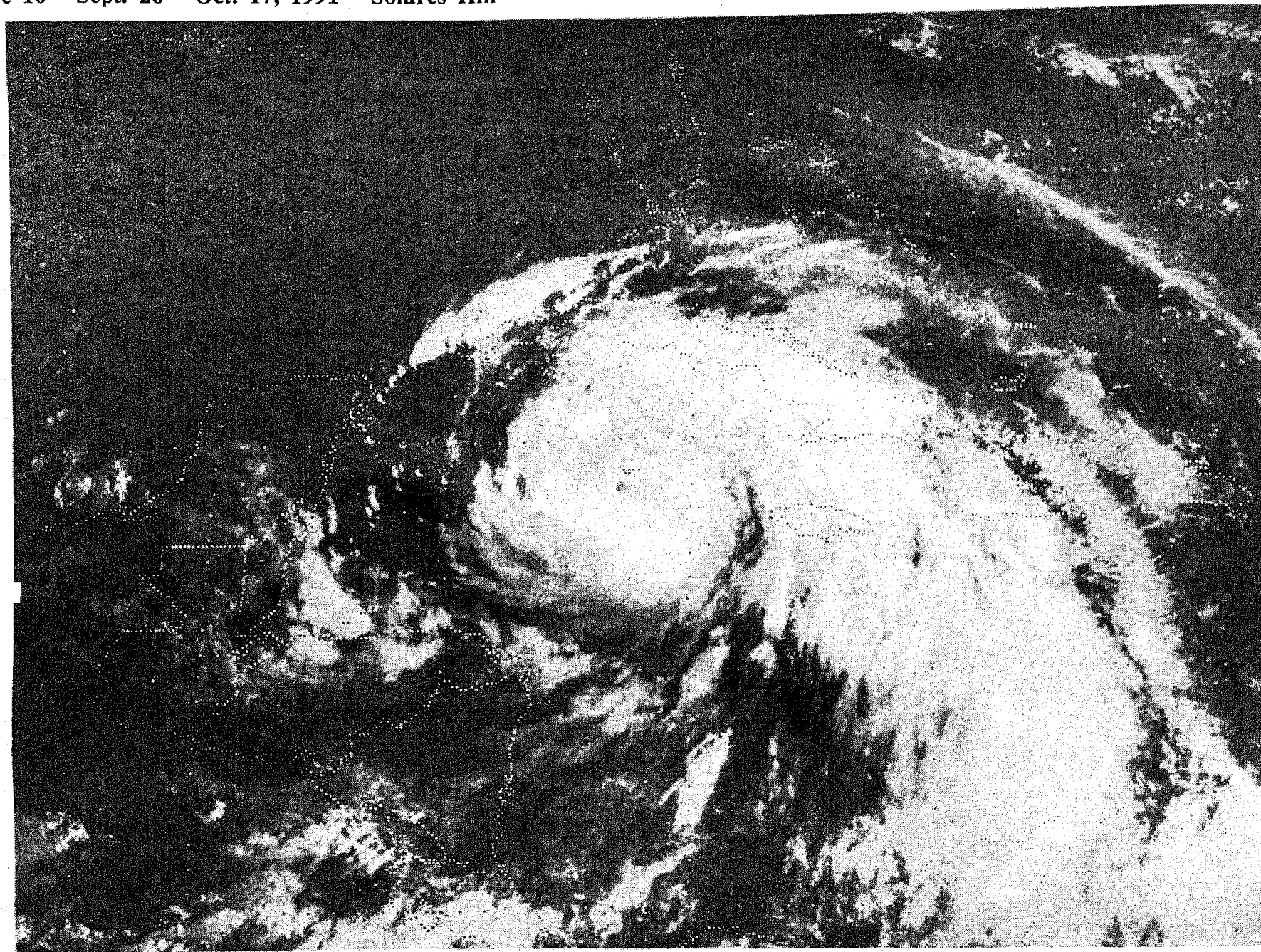
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Hurricane Donna: Nature's Maniac

A newspaper journalist recalls the 1960 disaster

by Bud Jacobson

If there is one word to describe a hurricane it might be "noise."

From the beginning when you start to listen seriously to the weather reports, you can hear, around town, the sounds of hammers tap-tap-tapping as boards are nailed to windows, and, in some places, large hammers pounding large planks into place. Those are a few of the beginning noises.

From that time on, radio reports of an approaching storm tell about winds at the center, forward speed, the size of the monster over hundreds of miles, the direction it's moving. In a gloomy tone, the announcer tells you latitude and longitude, and you notice more and more cars making trips to grocery stores for candles, water, food. That's another noise.

Boat owners get serious and begin hauling their boats up on dry land, or checking the lines and staring at the sky where pale gray has replaced blue, and

where thin, raggedy-edged clouds keep moving faster and faster, mostly heading away from the huge low pressure area many miles behind, pushing winds gradually up, slowly bending tree limbs which scratch and rasp against each other. The sound is eerie.

On Labor Day weekend in 1960, the weather bureau at the Key West International Airport was a much smaller and more casual operation than it is today, loaded now with the wonder of high technology. In 1960, however, it was among a few to have an early-warning weather radar scope, set up in a dark room across the hall from the main office.

Weather watchers were keeping track of a young low-pressure system forming up near the Cape Verde Islands, off the west coast of Africa—the traditional spawning grounds for autumn hurricanes.

The holiday weekend ended, and on Wednesday the weathermen, acting on information from aircraft and ships, crowned the depression Hurricane Donna.

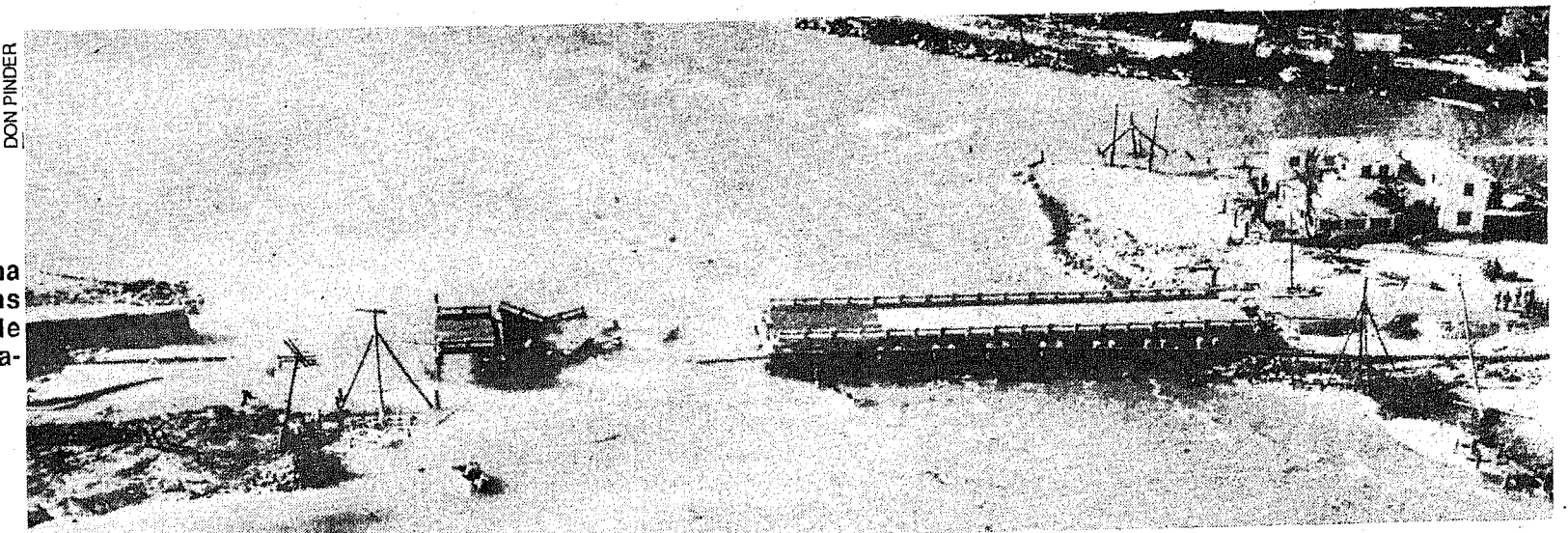
Winds were close to 80 mph and circulation was well-defined. Forward speed was close to 15 knots and barometric pressure was falling.

Bernie Seward, one of the bureau's weathermen, pointed out that, after a summer of hot weather, the waters of the Atlantic Ocean, at latitudes near the equator, are superheated. As the earth revolves and approaches the autumnal equinox, all the factors are in place for a towering storm.

Vast quantities of steam-heated water are poised for the circular motion which sucks it up in a funnel miles high to create nature's most gigantic self-generating engine. The hurricane is on the move—ponderous and deadly.

In Key West and up the Keys, the year-round residents had the local radio station tuned for weather reports. Many citizens were marking weather maps, tracking Donna. It was Wednesday of the week after Labor Day, and Donna had picked up forward speed. From the tracking lines it looked to be headed unmistakably for South Florida, like a deadly arrow.

CLEAN CUT: Donna wiped out portions of the Tea Table Bridge in Islamorada.



In Miami, the National Auto Show had closed down and a number of newspaper reporters from some of the big national dailies were alerted by their editors to "get down to the Keys and cover the hurricane," according to Jim Turner, a writer from the *Denver Post*.

Turner showed up in Key West as did about a dozen other staffers, wire-service men and photographers, including one of the old *Key West Citizen* reporters, Jim Cobb, who was covering for the *London Times*, as a freelancer.

By late Wednesday night, most of the newsmen and a few ladies who covered for magazines and AP and UPI were hoisting a few hurricane toddies in the West Indies Lounge at the Santa Maria Motel, opened only a few months earlier. They were all on expense accounts, so their rental cars were all over town. They seemed to meander from Sloppy Joe's, across the street from the local newspaper where AP had set up its phone lines and ticker, to the Santa Maria.

Winds in Key West gradually climbed to gale force by Thursday night, and on Friday they strengthened even more. Tree branches were crashing against each other and weakened ones were flying across streets and yards. Rain squalls lashed anyone who was outside. Hundreds of residents managed to get to grocery stores, and in no time the shelves were almost bare of staples and canned goods.

On the ocean side of the island, from where the full force of the howling wind came, brownish ugly-looking waves pounded the beaches and seawalls. Choppy waves moved so fast they were literally

running over each other, vomiting tons of salty seaweed on the shore. Police had roped off much of South Roosevelt Boulevard which, by then, was piled high with sand and pools of water.

The endless high roar of the wind was magnified as it barreled down lanes and swept through deserted streets.

On Caroline Street, at the corner of Peacock Lane, the old weatherbeaten hardware store of Lumley & Roberts, for many years merchants to Thompson's shrimp and turtle boats in the Key West harbor, had a yardarm rigged on the peak of its second story roof; and from it, whipping straight out in the wind, were the dreaded hurricane flags—big squares of blood red with center squares of jet black. Two of them were clipped to the halyard, one over the other, flags of doom.

By late afternoon of that Friday it was nearly dark and the news people were rushing out to the weather bureau to check the radar. The two small offices were packed with raincoated reporters, dripping water all over and asking questions by the dozen.

The weather guys were good natured about it, and one of them piped up: "Hey, I wish I had a liquor license up here—I'd make a mint." But the newsmen had brought their own booze in cups and bottles.

The track of Hurricane Donna, by that time, had shown that she had slipped into the Florida Straits between Cuba and the Keys and was on a direct, murderous course for Key West. Winds were up to

150 knots in a steady blow, with gusts reaching 170. In Key West, winds were gusting at about 65 mph.

"This is a number one bitch," muttered Seward.

Around 10 p.m., with the wind battering the windows, Seward yelled from the radar room that he "had the damn thing on the scope."

There she was. Hurricane Donna, almost as round as a doughnut with its hole as the eye of the storm. Rightly coiled and packed like an insane evil eye, the hurricane had stopped its forward motion and was jammed in a freak weather notch just south of Marathon, with storm winds trailing to Islamorada.

"Check the pressure," Seward called out, "compare the storm pressure up there in Marathon against ours; storms like these follow the low pressure front." Barometric pressure in Key West was a few millibars higher than in Marathon, indicating that as long as it held, the hurricane would not penetrate a higher front.

In the black of that night, Hurricane Donna, the killer, remained motionless for hours, just south of Marathon.

In a generous mood, George Bonamy, the original owner of the Santa Maria Motel, invited all the press to stay in rooms in his new addition. No one had to be coaxed. It was the most luxurious hurricane shelter on the island.

The next morning, Saturday, filthy black-grey clouds made the sky look like it was filled with dirty laundry, raced over the island.

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It's October. Do You Know Where Your Hurricane Shelter Is?

Monroe County has 13 shelters which may not provide enough shelter space to accommodate people during Category 1 or 2 hurricanes—storms in which people will not be likely to evacuate. This is especially true in the Lower Keys and Key West.

• For the most deadly hurricanes—Categories 3, 4 or 5—the Red Cross, which manages the shelters, does not plan to open shelters in the Keys.

• The purpose of a Red Cross shelter is to provide a safe haven from the storm. Do not expect substantial meals or comfort items. If you want special foods, bedding or entertainment, you must provide it yourself.

• No medical care will be available at these shelters. If you expect to need medical care, you should make your own arrangements to evacuate to a medical facility on the mainland.

• Absolutely no pets, alcohol, illegal drugs or weapons will be permitted in shelters. A shelter manager is in charge, and all shelters will be manned by a law enforcement officer. Laws will be strictly enforced.

• Citizens will be identified according to the zone in which they live. Key West and the Lower Keys comprise Zones 1 and 2. Zone 1 boundaries run from Key West

through Shark Key and include Stock Island and Big Coppitt. All the shelters may not be open. Listen to local radio stations for announcements.

• Zone 1 shelters are: Glynn Archer Elementary School, 1302 White Street; Key West Federal Building, Simonton and Caroline Streets; First Baptist Church, 524 Eaton Street; and Scottish Rite Temple (Masons), 533 Eaton Street.

• Zone 2 boundaries include Saddlebunch Keys through Sunshine Key, as well as Bay Point, Sugarloaf, Cudjoe, Summerland, Ramrod, Big Pine and Bahia Honda. Zone 2 shelters are: Sugarloaf Elementary School, one block north of U.S. 1 on Crane Boulevard, Mile Marker 19, and Big Pine Christian Center, one block north of U.S. 1 on County Road, close to Mile Marker 30.

Hurricane Hints

- Your home should be stocked with a minimum of two quarts of water per person for three days for drinking and cooking.
- When the electricity goes out, gas pumps will not function—they're electrically powered. Fill up in advance.
- Alcohol, illegal drugs and firearms are strictly prohibited in all hurricane shelters.

Sheriff John M. Spottwood and a spokesman for the Navy announced that "we've lost radio and phone contact with Upper Matecumbe and Key Largo and can barely hear Marathon—very little radio contact with the mainland."

The lower Keys and Key West were absolutely cut off from the mainland. From the world? What had happened up there on the Keys? Were all the people dead? Did the islands wash out?

It was an eerie feeling standing out there in the whipped up rain and cold air, hearing only the whistling sound and the blowing of debris along a deserted Whitehead Street.

A Navy and sheriff's convoy of trucks and buses was forming at Fleming and Whitehead. Spottwood told us: "You're invited to go along but I can't promise a round trip; we leave at 7 a.m."

The convoy, loaded with food and clothing, Navy Seabees and deputies and Civil Defense guys, began a slow and tricky run on U.S. 1, seeing the wreckage in trailer parks but not even imagining what was to come.

Power lines were all over the place, tangled like spaghetti across the road, in the bushes and trees; poles were bent in prayer. City Electric had cut the power so we could ride over them, sometimes catching and dragging them along like black snakes.

We reached the Bahia Honda bridge (the old one) in about two hours, and as we rode slowly up to the humpback top we could see the anger of the Atlantic Ocean, roiled up and spewing foam across its face.

Wind gusts boomed against the buses.

The great expanse of water was no longer blue, emerald or green; it was the color of milky paste. The white sand bottom had been so thrashed by the incredible force of the storm surge that it filled the ocean water around us and colored it white.

The convoy struggled on to the Key West end of the old Seven Mile bridge and stopped. A number of the Navy people and reporters got out so they could get a look and grab a smoke. They looked at Flagler's railroad bridge where clumps of seaweed hung on the old iron rails. The road surface was literally crawling with thousands of blue crabs hurled onto it by the tidal surge.

Once across that bridge, you could see the effects of the full fury of nature gone insane. Parts of Marathon were still there, but not much of it.

Tom Hanley's famous restaurant (now a barbecue joint) on the bay side was standing, and in what had been the doorway, was Tom himself, yelling: "Free drinks for everyone." He and Ziggy, his partner, and Junior, the bartender, had spent the crazy night barricaded on the second floor inside their not-so-secret gambling room.

Across the highway, Walter Trandel's Seven Seas restaurant was there, and down the road, the American Legion Hall was converted into a shelter.

But U.S. 1 through Marathon looked more like something from a sci-fi movie. Shrimp boats and charter vessels were dumped in the middle of the road, thrown there around 3 a.m. by the unimaginable force of the ocean's waves and screaming



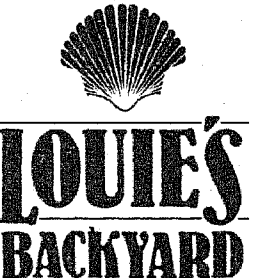
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winds at the peak of the storm.

"I never heard such noise in my life," Hanley said. "In the middle of it, the water in the canal behind the restaurants lifted a utility pole and threw it through a plate glass window. My boat's there, up on the

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dock—dry docked, you could say."

Mobile homes from all the different parks were tossed into trees, and some were up in the branches. Hundreds of them, totalled.

"Most of those people didn't have a drop of insurance, either," pointed out David Freeman, who, together with dozens of adjusters from Porter Allen and other casualty firms, roamed the Middle Keys for weeks.

One of the strangest sights was the weird damage done to all the two-foot thick utility poles, most of them on the ground. They had been twisted around and around and broken like matchsticks by the ripping force of the tornadoes inside raging winds that gusted to 170 mph, and up.

Barometric pressure had slipped to 27.4 inches, creating vacuums and violent tornadoes. (Hurricane Gilbert, in 1988, however, holds the record for the lowest ever barometer reading—26.2, inches, from an Atlantic storm. Winds were logged at 185 mph.)

In one of the motels, Casa Mañana, families had climbed on top of kitchen cabinets and small children were huddled inside on shelves. Ocean water flooded them as high as four feet, survivors claimed.

Pat Barrett, a tourist from Indiana who had brought his family down for the fishing, told reporters:

"I never want to go through a night like that, again. It was pitch black in there. We stood on the counters, and we could hear the water rising, coming toward us."

At Conch Key there was another scene of stark devastation. Boats up on the land, houses and trailers broken apart. One person said the wind-speed indicator on the volunteer fire house had broken off in a gust over 175 mph. Trees along the highway had their bark peeled off from the force of the wind, and their leaves were blackened by saltwater.

On Lower Matecumbe, the convoy met up with Tom Grundy, a heavy-set man in dripping torn clothes. "I lost my wife, I lost my wife," he said.

The Grundys had been caught outside trying to secure their car when a powerful wave slammed into them. Mrs. Grundy was torn from her husband's grip and swept into the Florida Bay in the middle of the night. Her body was found about a month later in the mangroves and sand of Joe Kemp Key.

(In the Great Hurricane of 1846, eight people were swept into the ocean and drowned; 18 people were missing or presumed drowned. The Labor Day hurricane of 1935 claimed hundreds of lives.)

Finally, still in dirty grey daylight, the convoy reached Indian Key Fill, between Lower and Upper Matecumbe.

The Blueberry Hill, a small popular grill and coffee house had been on a spit of land on the Gulf side: it was obliterated, only a trace of land was there.

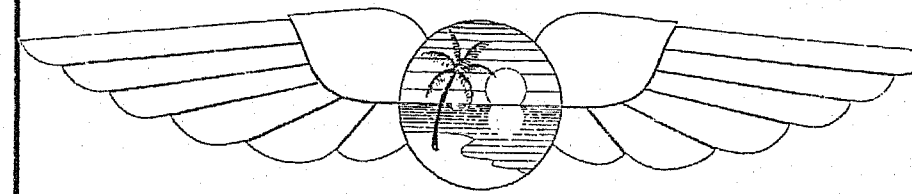
It was at the Islamorada end of Indian Key Fill, however, where the most shocking discovery greeted the weary eyes of the men in the convoy.

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Tea Table Relief bridge leading onto Upper Matecumbe had been destroyed. Jagged ends of reinforced concrete stuck out from each side. The Navy's freshwater pipeline, the most vital link to the mainland, had been torn asunder. From the ends of the pipe leaked a stream of precious water into the sea below.

That was the end of the trip. In blowing rain and whipping wind, no one could cross, no one could get out of the Florida Keys. Hurricane Donna, nature's maniac, had cut us off from the mainland.

Across the open space where the concrete bridge had been, you could see broken and fallen palm trees strewn onto the highway; part of what was Papa Joe's bar and grill had been blown into the ocean.

Hours later the convoy, leaving behind Navy Seabees to begin work at Tea Table, came into Key West with the news. Wire service photographers began sending pictures back to the rest of the world; reporters started phoning and writing. It was Saturday night, and the old *Key West Citizen* had a deadline for the Sunday edition, which, filled with Don Pinder's and Jim Cobb's dramatic photos, was a sellout.

The Florida Keys Aqueduct had a reserve water tank with about one million gallons on Stock Island. All the Keys were on strict rationing—water one hour at 7 a.m. and one hour at 6 p.m. That was it. For two weeks the ocean became a huge laundry tub, while Standard Marine sold out of saltwater soap.

Swimming and bathing in the evening twilight around sundown, using saltwater

soap, turned into a highly popular pastime and was something of a social hour. Many new friends were made.

That was when the saying was coined: Save Water, Shower with a Friend.

The last tribulation for all the suffering islanders occurred a few days after the Navy announced, with some deserved pride, that the waterline was fixed. Turn on the faucets, let 'er rip.

At Vaca Cut, at the east end of Marathon, a loaded barge filled with cement, broke loose at the north end of the Cut one night, and, in a fast current, swirled down the narrow passage and rammed into a bridge post.

Crash! The waterline, weakened by the storm, sagged and swung and then, *cra-c-c-ck, splash,* and it was in the rushing ocean water, mixing fresh water with salt. The accident added further time to the water rationing.

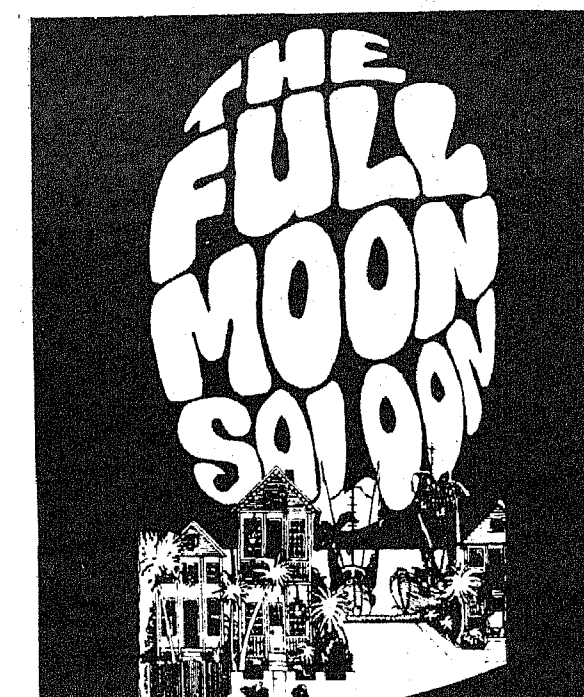
Property damage from Hurricane Donna was estimated at about \$100 million for all the Florida Keys.

Asked to give a guess damage figure if a hurricane like Donna clobbered the county today, Freeman shakes his head. "I wouldn't event try," he says. "The numbers are too high."

Recently, Bill Wilkinson, president of the Marathon and Lower Keys Board of Realtors, was quoted in *The Miami Herald* as saying:

"It's over-exaggerated what damage a hurricane does and how many people die."

And the best of luck to you, sir.



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HEART AT WORKERS: (l to r) Russell Brittain, Donna Hoey, Kay Bahleda, Anita Smith and Joe Liszka.

Heart at Work

The American Heart Association recently offered a program to Key West business representatives, teaching them how to bring wellness to their workplaces at minimal cost. The program, entitled Heart at Work, provides businesses with information and activities in the workplace to promote cardiac health. Studies show reduced absenteeism and lower healthcare costs as well as increased productivity and morale as a result of the program. Each Heart at Work module focuses on a single heart-related topic," says Dr. Bruce Boros, president of the Key West AHA division. Topics include nutrition and weight reduction, exercise, smoking cessation, high blood-pressure control and stress management. The program is available to all employers. For information, call 294-3158.

Volunteers Wanted

The next training session for those interested in becoming Rape Victim Volunteers will begin at 7 p.m. on September 26 at the Big Pine Methodist Church. For information, contact Christine Smith, Victim Services Coordinator, at 292-3400 or (305) 872-0041 in the evenings.

Affordable Therapy

The Mental Health Care Center of the Lower Keys is forming the following groups: problem solving, stress management, assertiveness, and self-esteem. Those interested in participating in any of these groups should contact Pam Soucy at 292-6843.

Bookworms Take Note

Thanks to recent donations, a large supply of books, hard-cover and paperback, are on hand at AIDS Help, Inc. Authors range from Melville and Solzenitsyn to Erica Jong and Andrew Holleran. All are welcome to browse and choose Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For address, call 296-6196.

Fresh Fish on Mondays

Charter boat captains in Islamorada are providing a nutritional, economical bonus for abused, neglected and runaway children in the Keys. Every Monday they supply the Florida Keys Children's Shelter with a minimum of 10 pounds of fresh fish, meaning dolphin in the summer and kingfish and

marlin in the winter. Whale Harbor, Holiday Isle and Bud and Mary's Marina supply the fish on a rotating basis.

FKCC Special Support Services

According to a recent FKCC newsletter, there are several community support services available through the college. The RAVE (Renewing and Advancing through Vocational Education) Program provides support to eligible single parents, displaced homemakers and single pregnant women, who enroll in "high wage" vocational education programs. Disabled Students Services provides personal and career counseling, information/referral services and advocacy to disabled students. Additionally, the counseling office is available to all students and maintains a job referral book, which lists jobs available in the community. For information, contact Mary Blair at 296-9081, ext. 216.

Pro-Choice Action Alert

The Monroe County Coalition for Choice has issued an action alert to protest the gag rule and support the freedom of choice act. The coalition urges the community to work aggressively to pass the "Title X Pregnancy Counseling Bill" and any other initiatives supporting pro-choice for abortion. For information, contact or write The Coalition at: 2806 Fogarty Avenue in Key West.

Get Ready for "Junglemania"

There's still time to become a sponsor for Fantasy Fest '91. Local businesses are encouraged to take advantage of the exposure offered by the festival, which usually receives coverage from all three television networks as well as cable channels, *USA Today*, and many other major newspapers. This year's "Junglemania" is expected to attract some 30,000 visitors to the island. Several sponsorships are available, ranging from grand sponsorships to festival contributorships and can boost business through participation in official activities, mentions in radio commercials, and other excellent promotional tools. For information, contact Linda O'Brien at 296-5596.

Nature Conservancy Wish List

The Nature Conservancy of the Florida Keys needs the following items: picnic

tables and benches, 17- to 20-foot outboard motorboat and trailer, VCR, video camera, microwave oven, Macintosh computer, and laser printer. Call 296-3880.

No More Falsies

Monroe County is cracking down on false alarms with a new False Alarm Ordinance. As of September 1, alarm owners will be allowed six false alarms a year, with fines from \$10 up to \$75 for false alarms thereafter. "The aim is not to go out and collect a lot of service charges," said Sheriff Rick Roth. "Our goal is to reduce the number of false alarms by helping alarm owners in any way we can. We will not, however, hesitate to charge if someone goes over the limit of six alarms." False alarms cause patrolmen to lose their edge.

Zap Electricity Costs

Learning to use your hot water heater efficiently can save you money. "Next to air conditioning, your water heater is the largest user of energy in your home," according to Raymond Rodriguez, customer service manager at City Electric System. Rodriguez offers the following tips to trim your hot water heating bill: 1) select a water heater sized to meet your family's needs; 2) insulate your water heater and pipes; 3) take quick showers instead of baths; 4) install water restrictors in shower heads and faucets; 5) fix dripping faucets. A faucet that drips 60 drops per minute wastes 192 gallons of water per month.

Customs House Restoration

The historic Customs House in Key West is one step closer to be restored to its original 1888 condition thanks to funding approved at a September meeting of the Monroe County Tourist Development Council. The funds will allow the Customs House Preservation Project to secure the building under the management of the Key West Art & Historical Society and to protect the building from water intrusion and vandalism, both of which could cause additional deterioration. When completed, the Customs House will serve as a museum and major attraction in Key West.

Solutions in Water Management

The 16th Annual Conference on Water Management will take place at the Hyatt Regency in Tampa October 2 through 4. The event features lectures plus field tours, banquets, and additional activities. Distinguished leaders such as Governor Lawton Chiles, Lieutenant Governor Kenneth "Buddy" McKay and Andrew Young will speak at the conference and address issues concerning the Everglades, water conservation, state water policies and water management. For information, call (904) 385-1790.

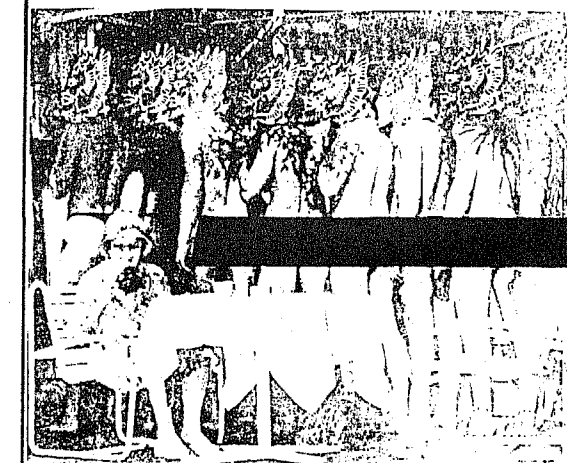
Late Hours for Absentee Voters

The Monroe County Election Office will be open two extra hours each evening for absentee voting. Qualified voters should bring their identification and vote absentee if they are going to be out of their precincts on election day. During this special program, the election office will be open 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Expanded hours will run until election day. For information, call 292-3416.

• COMMUNITY NOTES • COMMUNITY NOTES • COMMUNITY NOTES •



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and the stars...



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Censor Those Buns...

The photo seen on last month's cover of *Solares Hill* was designed and produced by Incentra International Advertising in New York City in conjunction with Peter Ilchuk in a 1981 ad campaign for La Te Da. The masks were designed by Incentra. The ad read: "Dear Cousin Millie: Staying at La Te Da. Having a wonderful time. Glad you're not here. Tillie." Incentra's owner and creative genius Gayl Hoftiezer, is a resident of Key West and Greenwich Village. The ad was originally placed on the back cover of Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center playbill, but the center's Founders Society protested the bare buns. After rejecting several censored versions, TWAC management ripped the back cover from thousands of playbills.

Heartwalk '91

Competition is heating up for the 4th Annual Heart Walk, scheduled for Saturday, October 19. Last year nearly 250 people participated in the 10K walk, which stretches from Bayview Park past Smathers Beach and back. The event benefits the American Heart Association raising funds for research. Several prizes are available including flights and accommodations for two to Disney World and a year's membership to the Pier House Caribbean Spa. All walkers who collect \$15 in pledges will earn a Heart Walk T-shirt. For information, call the AHA office at 294-3158.

Auditions for South Pacific


Musical director Bruce Kirle and director Joy Hawkins will be holding auditions for the production of "South Pacific" which will be staged at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center in November. Auditions will be held by appointment on October 1 and 2 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Call 296-9081, ext. 327.

Preschool for Kids and Parents
New moms and dads struggling with their parenting responsibilities are encouraged to contact the Key West Preschool Cooperative. A weekly play group for parents and children under the age of two is forming now. There are also openings for the pre-kindergarten class (four-year-olds) scheduled to begin in September. The not-for-profit preschool is located at the Peace Covenant Church on Flagler Avenue and offers parents the unique opportunity to participate with their child's early school experience.

Call 745-1210.




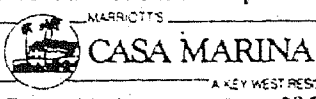
Sign Language for Beginners

The Easter Seal Society and registered sign-language interpreter Maureen Freedman will be offering a sign-language class for beginners starting October 1. The course will run for six consecutive weeks, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., at the Center of Hope, 5220 Jr. College Road. The cost of the course is \$36 for 12 hours of instruction. For information, call 294-1089.



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ISLAND ECONOMICS

ISLAND ECONOMICS

The Eatery Waves the Days of Gluttony Goodbye

by Kip Blevin

When its doors closed in September, a page was turned in the 40-year history of one of Key West's most durable eating establishments. The Eatery set the standard for fine buffet dining for years and turned the quieter ocean end of Duval into a mecca for hungry locals and tourists alike. The location on South Beach featured the "best conch chowder in town."

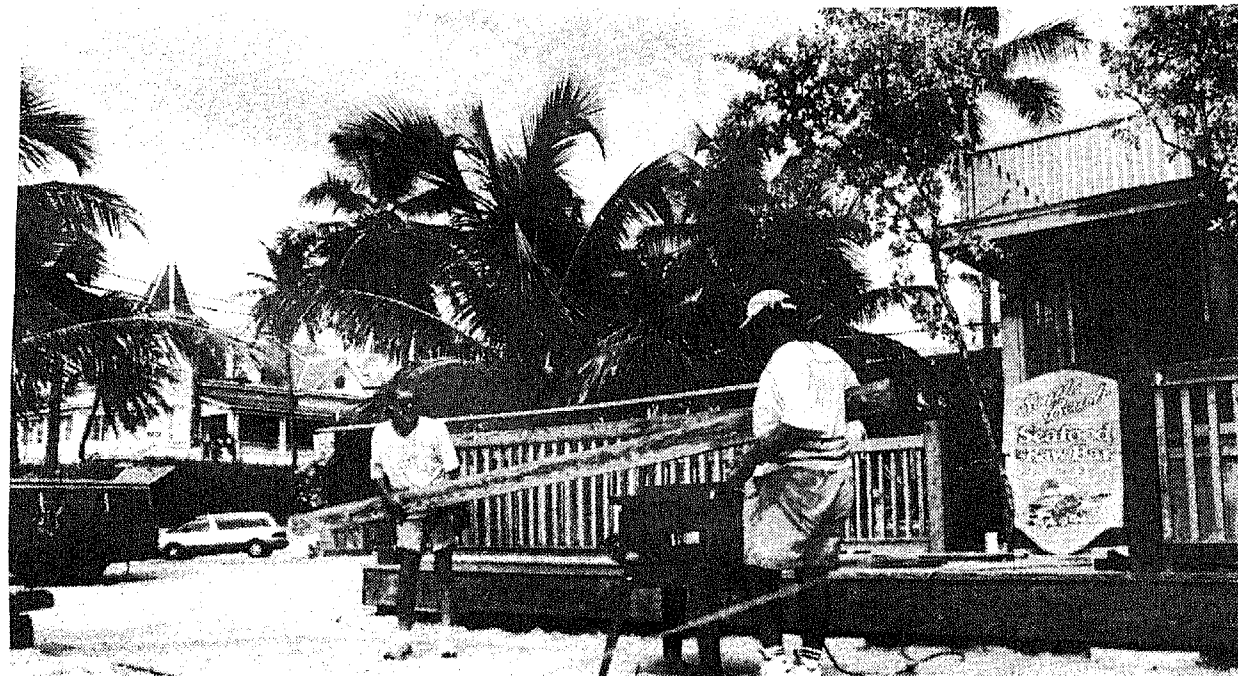
Its reopening, which will be in the form of a seafood restaurant and raw bar, indicates a change in people's eating habits. For many buffet-only restaurants, the days of the gargantuan appetite (when the only limit to food intake was the notches on your belt), may be numbered. Gone is the diner who relished sitting down to a meal intended for a 300-pound defensive lineman.

Chalk it up to the new health consciousness where four carrot sticks and a second cup of decaf is considered overdoing it. Or maybe it's the economy. Whatever. It's just not the same.

Owners Bill and Gail Everson took over the business in March of 1982. In the typical tradition of Key West survivors, the ambitious couple worked hard at several jobs before taking the lease of the city-owned property. They sought to create that perfect balance of quality and quantity at affordable prices. For the tourist whose eyes tended to glaze over at prices that seemed to barely fit the display window of his pocket calculator, the Eatery offered relief.

The Eatery's breakfast, lunch and dinner buffets were the talk of town.

Everson is proud of the fact that in nine years the only increase he instituted was an extra buck for breakfast. In addition to the



CHANGES: The old Eatery buffet is being converted into a sit-down restaurant.

buffet, the Eatery offered a menu of eight breakfast platters for those timid souls who worried there was a representative from Weight Watchers keeping a running tally of their trips to the serving table.

The "Lite Lunch" buffet for \$5.49 plus tax and gratuity may have been the best deal in Monroe County. The burden for making it a true "lite lunch," however, was solely yours. With such selections as salad fixings, fresh fruit mix and peach cobbler, two homemade soups, two entrees, three puddings, four cold salads, four hot vegetables, four fresh breads (and a partridge in a pear tree), your chances of emerging lighter than when you entered were slim.

The dinner buffet was the Super Bowl of Suppers, the Disney World of Dinners.

It were as if hostess Rhonda Kahle took every variety of food from all manners of restaurants and brought them to your table. There was little distinction to be made between the "authentic gourmet" and the "certified glutton." From 4 to 9 p.m., one entered a world where no Earthling had gone before; there was even a 4 to 6 p.m. "earlybird special," which knocked \$2 off the regular \$13.99 price.

Don't worry if you missed the restaurant's closing date, because the chapters in this epicurean saga are still being written. When the doors swing back open sometime this month, there will be no more Eatery as we know it. Instead, you'll find the new South Beach Seafood and Raw Bar.

"The tourists are just looking for fresh seafood," says Everson, who recently hired a chef from Maryland, who specializes in preparing seafood meals. While the new restaurant will still offer the breakfast menu, "lunch and dinner will be 85-percent seafood."

The old restaurant is currently undergoing a facelift on a grand scale. Besides a retiled kitchen, Everson's building an outside deck. He also plans to make South Beach "one of the finest in Key West," and has backed the claim up with an infusion of 280 tons of new sand.

"It's a simple philosophy," explains Everson. "The more people on the beach, the more people in the restaurant."

Speaking of philosophy, the energetic, 50-year-old restaurateur also wants to continue his winning formula for repeat business. While some restaurants are pushing prices through the stratosphere, he says, "Do it in volume [with lower prices] and make up the difference."

A postscript to this story helps to illustrate that Everson is not just another hard-boiled businessman fixated on the bottom-line. For a year-and-a-half, he brought fresh dolphin to a one-legged great white heron, nicknamed "Ron" after a local politician. The bird showed up every breakfast and dinner for his off-the-menu special.

"We never learned where he went for lunch," quips Everson.

Then about two months ago a storm blew in from Cuba and Ron didn't survive the tempest.

There's no question that Everson's dolphin dinners helped prolong the life of a severely handicapped bird. By the same token, if Ron's contribution was to hasten the transformation of the Eatery into a fishery, then one may never know the depth of gratitude seafood lovers will soon be owing to the late one-legged bird.

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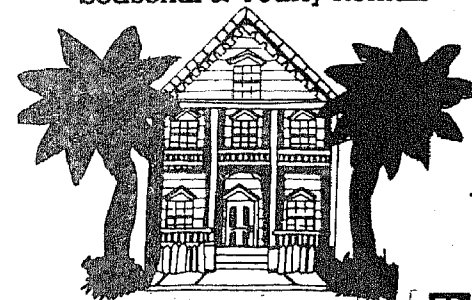
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ISLAND ECONOMICS

The Wire Wizard Can Electronics Survive the Salt Assault?

by Brent Litch

Most places near the ocean offer excellent business opportunities for electronic repair technicians. Key West is no exception. The island's volatile weather combined with the less-than-constant voltage supplied by the local power company results in an abundance of malfunctioning electronic equipment.

When you moved to Key West or bought a stereo, VCR or TV here, you assumed an increased risk based on three factors which are inherent to the Key West area: salt in the atmosphere, line voltage fluctuations, and the ever present danger of lightning. There are, however, precautions the average electronic consumer can take to protect his or her investment.

Air conditioning is the prime factor in minimizing the effects of heat, salt and humidity. Anyone who has a large enough investment in consumer electronics to be concerned with electronic longevity can probably afford air conditioning as well. This happy coincidence will lend itself to a vastly improved quality of life for both you and your electronic possessions.

Salt is a corrosive crystal (as anyone who owns a car in the Keys can attest). It is also electrically conductive so its long-term effect on electronic circuits, connections, and mechanisms can be devastating. Unfortunately, consumer electronics can be defined as a collection of electronic circuits, connections and mechanisms. Add to this collection the drying effect of salt on rubber drive surfaces, which are used in cassette decks, VCR's, etc., and it's a wonder anything works at all down here.

The best way to combat these symptoms is moderate use of your equipment. Don't think you're doing your stereo any favors by using it as little as possible. Too little use is as bad or worse than too much use, because lubricants tend to congeal and rubber drives will form a memory if not used from time to time.

It is highly recommended that you protect any valuable equipment with a surge protector or line conditioner. These can range from the six-gang AC strip available at the hardware store to elaborate line conditioners that maintain a constant 120 volts regardless of the incoming line voltage.

The cheap six-gang AC strip will not

maintain line voltage, but it will protect to some degree against spikes and surges sent your way by City Electric System. The more elaborate (i.e., expensive) line conditioners contain circuitry that will maintain a constant 120 volts regardless of fluctuations in the incoming line voltage. These are recommended for sensitive electronics such as computers, P.A. consoles and recording studios.

None of these protective devices will protect against that most dreaded of all electric phenomena—lightning. Consider that it takes a potential of 50,000 volts to jump an arc across one inch of air. Then consider the distance a lightning bolt travels in its light speed journey from the clouds to the tree in your backyard. That adds up to some serious voltage. I've always been amazed it doesn't kill everything in a 200-yard radius.

There are several ways lightning can assault consumer electronics. If it happens to strike the power lines (which it often does), it will travel through the power cable and into your TV. No amount of surge protection will stop it; the only way to protect against AC-born lightning damage is

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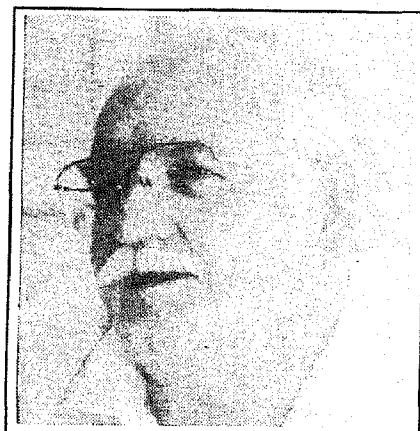
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ISLAND ECONOMICS

Business Tides



IMPRESSIONS: (l to r) Mark Colona, M.L. McCarthy, Walt Marlowe and Bill Hawkins.

Walt Marlowe and Del Brixey founders of Impressions Unlimited, an advertising/public relations agency located in Key West, announced the addition of Bill Hawkins, M.L. McCarthy and Mark Colonna to their staff. Hawkins, who brings in 25 years of journalism/public relations experience, was named office manager/account executive. McCarthy was appointed account executive in charge of promotional activities for

to physically unplug anything you value during a storm. Simply turning the equipment off will not work. Much of modern electronic equipment operates in the "stand-by mode" when it is turned off, and lightning will happily blow through this circuitry and turn your TV to toast.

Even flicking off an old manual on-off switch is insufficient protection, because, as previously mentioned, a lightning bolt will laugh at the puny distance between the contacts of your power switch.

Lightning can also strike cable lines and enter your system through them. I recall one incident where lightning struck the cable system feeding a large hotel and blew out the front ends of over 200 TV sets. That was a bad day for the hotel and a good day for me.

The third way lightning can ruin your day is by a nearby strike (the tree in your backyard). There is an enormous electrostatic discharge surrounding a lightning bolt, large enough to destroy the sensitive front ends or radio frequency receivers of stereo tuners or TVs. Sometimes this potential is large enough or near enough to blow out your front end—even if the equipment isn't plugged in. Fortunately, this is a rare occurrence, and you can console yourself with the knowledge that there was nothing you could do about it.

I've guess I've spread enough joy for a month. In the next column, which will appear in an upcoming issue, we'll examine some of the happier aspects of Japanese ingenuity and answer reader questions.

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the Key West Business Guild and the International Gay Travel Association. Colonna, a graduate of Hussian School of Art in Philadelphia, joined Impressions in 1990 as art director.

Harry Wooley, CEO of Barnett Bank of the Keys, announced that local businessmen James R. Dean, William Sellers and Karl Walters have been appointed to Barnett's board of directors. In addition to the new members, the board consists of president and CEO Harry Wooley, chairman John Koenig, John Parks, William Spottswood, Jean E. Collins, Susan Johnson, and Dr. J. A. Hayes. Robert Feldman and Timothy Koenig act as corporate counsels to the bank.

The crew at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center are back in the saddle. Artistic director Ken Bryant spent the summer wheeling and dealing for the best possible entertainment at the lowest price. Nineteen events have been scheduled, ranging from the Martha Graham Dance Company, the London Ballet, A Christmas Carol, South Pacific as well as big-name entertainers such as Herbie Mann and the Inkspots. The season opens October 31 with the folk music group Trapezoid. For season subscriptions and ticket information, call 296-9081, ext. 326.

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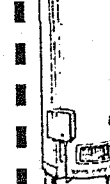
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ISLAND ECONOMICS



Michael MacIntyre, owner and operator of the Brass Key Guesthouse located at 412 Frances Street, is now remodeling an historic Provincetown inn, which will become the Brass Key Provincetown in 1992. MacIntyre purchased the Shipwreck Inn in Provincetown, Rhode Island earlier this year and is in the midst of major renovations. He plans to create 12 luxury guestrooms, featuring a colonial decor. Key West architect Thomas Pope is overseeing the project.

First State Bank of the Florida Keys has promoted Brigitte Sears from customer service representative to assistant branch manager of the bank's Searstown branch. Sears has been employed at the bank 11 years, starting at the Simonton Street branch, then Key Largo and eventually to Searstown. She will be working as an assistant to branch manager Joan Miller. Sears is also a volunteer with the American Cancer Society, mother of two and grandmother of two. She and her husband live on Big Pine Key.

The National Guild of Hypnotists, a professional organization of over 3000 hypnotists and hypnotists, announced that Madge Sutter of Key West recently met the requirements to become a certified hypnotist. She is licensed to practice in Monroe County, and, beginning this month, she will be

teaching self-hypnosis to people who want to overcome habits such as insomnia, tension, obesity and addiction. Call 296-7100.

The Mel Fisher Maritime Heritage Society announced it will present a week-long event entitled "Discovery '92: A Quindecennial Celebration" this upcoming June. The event will include lectures, seminars and workshops conducted by experts in the fields of marine archeology, maritime history, underwater photography, numismatics and marine architecture. Additionally, there will be readings by noted authors, tours of Key West maritime museums, a national photography contest, environmental lectures, free open-air classical music programs, children's events and a trade show of related maritime hobbyist disciplines.

The summer television advertising campaign for Perrier Sparkling Mineral Water, which featured "The Lion," won the 1991 Cannes Festival Grand Prix Award for best overall commercial. Perrier recently created a new television spot entitled "Cosmic Dance." Created and directed by Ridley Scott, who directed box-office hit "Thelma and Louise," the new spot will run during prime time and the late news. Perrier reports that it's certain "Cosmic Dance" will send sales skyrocketing.

Originally from Bradenton, Florida, Ann and Bal Smith recently opened AES Gallery in the Cuban Club at 1108-B Duval Street. The gallery features artwork by Florida west coast artists Beth Arthur, Janis Rankin and Anne E. Smith as well as pottery by Julie Barker and ceramics by Fired Fantasies. Artsy gifts, ties, watches, books, notecards and other notions are also available. Framed posters and prints complete the gallery's eclectic collection. AES Gallery is open daily, noon to 6 p.m. Call 293-3086.

Michele Neumann, aka "The Blind Lady" at Tropical Window Treatments, invites the public to tune into U.S. 1 Radio, 104.7 F.M. weekdays at 8:50 a.m. to hear her show. "Energy Tips" informs Keys residents about how to cut energy costs. Tropical Window Treatments specializes in custom blinds, shades and verticals at prices Neumann says are designed to fit anyone's budget. Call 745-1110.

Jon Graskewicz, general manager and director of marketing for Best Western Suites of Key Largo, has been appointed to the Monroe County Tourist Development Council by Monroe County Commissioner John Stormont. Graskewicz replaces Neil Boyce, whose four-year term expired in August. "My prime objectives are to make sure the

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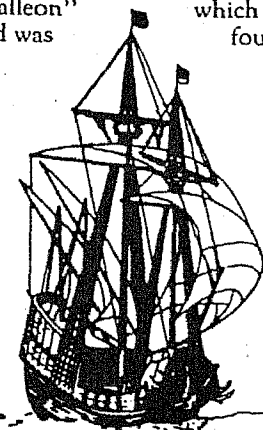
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ISLAND ECONOMICS



TDC continues developing the hospitality industry of the Keys and that it carries on the traditions of the last year-and-a-half," Graskewicz said.

Island Dental Associates has promoted Brenda K. Sutton, a native Floridian, to business staff supervisor. Sutton has 18 years of dentistry experience, the last five of which have been spent at Island Dental. The businessowners say she has been a great asset to both her patients and staff, who have benefited from her knowledge and commitment to her profession.

Duval Square shopping center and Elliot Rittenhouse announce the opening of the Rittenhouse Deli at the Simonton entrance. The deli opens at daily at

7:30 a.m. for breakfast on the outdoor deck. Owner Rittenhouse says the menu includes Cuban and American coffee, omelettes, waffles, pastries, croissants, bagels, etc. Also available throughout the day are soups, fresh salads, sandwiches, crepes and desserts. Open daily until 11 p.m., the Rittenhouse Deli features free delivery by calling 292-8350, or by fax at 292-8346.

Cyndi Hayes recently opened Island Audio Video at 1222 White Street. She says her store offers the best prices in Key West on car stereos, home stereos, televisions, VCRs, boomboxes, walk-mans, video cameras and camcorders, car alarms and radar detectors. Stereo specialist David Ogg is on the premises to provide car stereo installation. Island Audio Video offers "GECAF" financing, which is available in five minutes.

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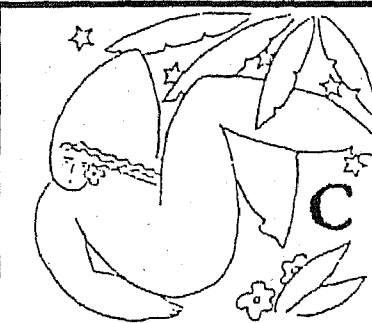
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Readers Write

The People's Choice?

Once again, right now, in front of our eyes, the same old story is happening: What is being decided for the City of Key West is *not* what the people of Key West want. This time, it concerns the Mallory Square design competition and the process by which the city selected an architect to renovate the square.

Recently, the city did not choose the best and favored design solution for implementation at Mallory Square. No, instead a few city bureaucrats are imposing their personal taste, choice and preference on the people of Key West and its future. Are we living in the former Soviet Union or in a democratic society in the U.S.A.?

Why hold a design competition to select a design solution that reflects the choice of the people and then allow a few city employees (who have been on city payroll for less than two years) to hand-pick an architect who is not favored by the Cultural Preservation Society and who is not liked for the image he has imprinted on the Key West cityscape in the past?

Once more we are witnessing the new bubba-system at work: Personal business interests and who-knows-whom at city hall.

The request for qualifications (RFQ), which was made available only a few days before the submission deadline on July 15, was written-up in a way to eliminate any small, creative firm, like that of one of the winning architects.

Furthermore, the deadlines, requirements and timing were set-up during the middle of summer vacations, when hardly anyone could meet them. Later, these same strict rules and requirements were changed to suit the whims and desires of those who wrote them.

Reading through the RFQ one gets the impression that it was composed by an engineer who was *not* interested in the design esthetics of a tropical park but was interested in the construction of a huge three-story parking garage, right on the waterfront on one of the most valuable pieces of public property.

The RFQ was not written to find a sensitive and qualified architect to design a tropical park with plazas, fountains, sundials and promenades for the sunset people and the people of Key West; it was not written to restore the few historical existing facilities; no, it was written to hire a big-shot commercial architect for a commercial venture.

In fact, the RFQ was not even mailed to one of the winning architects. Why? "Oh, we couldn't find your address," and "the secretary was ill."

A parking garage on Mallory Square? Professional planners agree that a parking garage should *not* be a prominent feature in a historical downtown. It should be tucked-away somewhere, ideally invisible, or hidden behind buildings.

Driving cars right into pedestrian downtown Key West is not part of the Comprehensive Master Plan of Key West. A three-story parking garage on Mallory Square serves only the short-term interests of a few powerful downtown real estate owners. It will increase their retail business—not the long-term interests of Key West. We should create a pedestrian downtown, which is undisturbed by traffic, air, and noise pollution.

Tunnel vision. Can't they ever learn from other successful pedestrian areas in other cities? "No," they say, "what's good there is not good here"; or, "No, people want to park their cars where they do their shopping"; or, "The city makes a lot of revenue from this parking facility."

And nobody wants to understand that the same (and even more) revenues can come from a parking facility linked by trolley, nearby, let's say near the old City Electric System or on Eisenhower Drive. A trolley could bring into downtown many more people than can ever be accommodated by a parking garage on the waterfront of Key West.

party boss

system is coming to an end. Maybe our time has come to insist that the commissioners and the mayor we elect soon require our city employees and staff to be professional and accountable.

Let's stop this system of favoritism and demand that our government officials abide by the democratic process. Are the people we choose for our government supposed to serve us or just serve themselves?

Manfred Ibel
Key West

Remember Dying In Will

Dear Editor:

I think that it is time to bring to the attention of wealthy gays, HIV positive or negative, just how much compassion they, as a group, have for their fellow gays dying of AIDS.

Recently a very wealthy gay left a mere \$10,000 of a \$1 million estate to a local hospital for AIDS uses. I not only call this amount insignificant, but doubly insignificant when one knows that this amount helps one AIDS patient under hospital care for about one week.

This example is not alone, for in the past few years several very wealthy local gays have died of AIDS and left no funds to any AIDS organizations to help their fellow dying gays. What on earth is this world coming to, so full of selfishness!

If nothing else, I hope that this letter will open the hearts of wealthy gays, whether HIV positive or negative, as well as wealthy non-gays. I believe a person with a great surplus of funds not needed by relations, should by all means leave in his or her will a decent amount for the use of not only gays dying of AIDS, but for non-gays of both sexes who are dying from AIDS—a group which now includes children.

John Palmeter
Key West

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SHOOTING STICK



BY
MICHAEL
HOGAN

They came to shoot. By 8:30 nineteen of them had signed up for the Green Parrot's Thursday night pool tournament, and you just knew it was going to be tense. Even the practice tables were hot as the underside of an electric iron.

Coming in early I'd gotten the straightest, heaviest stick off the rack, plus one of the big swivel chairs at the pool table end of the bar. I played a couple of practice games, concentrating hard, feeling the stick slide across the chalk-whitened fingers of my left hand, studying every nick and scratch on the balls before I sank them, banking a four-ball combo into a corner pocket.

That felt pretty good. I smacked in the eight ball and went back to my beer.

To my left, ten of them from Bogart's were huddled together like shipwrecked sailors in a rubber lifeboat. They come up most every week now. Joe, who owns the Sea Shell Motel, stood at the dart board. Ron sat beside me at the bar. We play a lot together, late night, banking too-easy shots to make the games stretch out, laughing like we're on acid trips when the balls go down.

By 9:15 there weren't three people in the joint not entered in the tournament, and two of those were Pat, the bar's night manager, and his wife. Everybody was down at this end of the bar. The first two games were underway, unspectacular and edgy, kind of like the first two serious games of the night always are. I hardly bothered to watch.

Up on the television screen Terry Olson's manager was talking about the welterweight's 17th straight win, moving his lips while the jukebox hammered out Jim Morrison. Out on the street a Harley Davidson chewed a line down the asphalt. On the left-hand table Cuong was fixing to rack.

Did you ever see Cuong shoot? He sets his legs real solid and well apart, flexing at the knees, rifling his shot down the table with a force that can send the white ball bouncing across the room. He sets himself for a delicate shot exactly the same way—so you never know when a hard one's going to come. Right now he's shooting hard. I watch the white ball roll up against the door connecting El Loro Verde and catch Cuong's eye out of the corner of my own. He grins.

Ron was up on the other table. Stripped

to the waistband of his blue jeans he looked like a construction worker on lunchbreak. He had six balls on the table when the other guy was down to one, and came over to the bar to light a cigarette.

"Guess I better get busy," he said, taking a swig of beer.

"You got a lot to get busy with," I told him.

"That's part of the fun."

Outside it was a close, rain-slick night, and the headlamps of the cars stopped at the light on Southard painted the road an oily yellow. The light had barely changed when Ron was back beside me. "Goddamn," he said.

He was beaten by five balls.

The Green Parrot pool tournament is double elimination, which means you have to lose two games before you are out. I stood up to play my first. My opponent was Bender, who organizes the tournament and whose style is opposite Cuong's. Bender keeps his legs dead straight and bends from the waist, resembling a heron in shallow water poised to strike. This time he struck out, sinking the eight ball halfway through the game.

I'd completed my first game with two lives to spare and ordered another beer. Bender, concealing his disappointment behind a lopsided grin, took on a tequila with salt and lime. I didn't say anything, just watched the tequila hit the back of his throat—*bang*—like the eight ball hitting a corner pocket.

Bender's been organizing this tournament for about three months now. Brother, I wouldn't do it—not after seeing the way it's screwed up his game. He took over for Roddy, who started the whole thing back in February, then quit because his work schedule at El Loro Verde changed. You know Roddy? Short, dark, with sloping shoulders, he looks like he bowls a mean bocce ball. I guess he probably does.

My beer bottle was halfway empty already, so I put it back on the bartop and swiveled my chair around, trying to concentrate on something so I wouldn't drink so fast. One thing about this place—there's enough crazy shit on the walls to stock a medium-sized art gallery.

On a beam in the Green Parrot are two paintings of skeletons playing violins. One hangs over each table. I never figured out what they mean, either, and I wasn't about to figure them out now. I guess they must be symbolic, though; I just ain't caught onto it yet.

Underneath them, Joe, who had a cigarette screwed into his mouth like a bit into a drill, was winning against one from Bogart's crowd. Ron was losing his second straight game. He was still laughing, but I guess he felt plenty bad. Five minutes later so did I. Dale, who had come down from Stick & Stein with the sole, express, undeviating purpose of taking the \$80 first prize, took me out as neatly as a surgeon performing a minor operation. I made only two balls. Holy shit.

Cuong lost his second straight game; Joe won one and lost one; I came up against Bender again and beat him on the eight. There were a few more people at the bar now, and a couple of Navy guys were playing the pinball machine. Both T.V. screens were showing a college football game. Don't ask me what the teams were because I couldn't have told you even then. I was too busy watching Sunny shoot.

Sunny plays one-handed, right-handed, holding an ever-burning cigarette in her left hand. For regular shots she slides her stick across the rail; for bridge shots she rests the stick on her shoulder, holding it in the same way a field athlete holds a javelin.

She won the toss and broke off, spreading the balls as well as you can spread them without actually sinking any. Man, I tell you, she was going pretty good there for a while, taking three balls in a row and none of them dead-cert easy, oblivious to the fact that most everybody in the whole damn place was watching while she did it. Some girl, huh?

I shot my next game against Steve, a nice-looking Irish kid who played well below his best—which was fortunate, because I played a second-rate game myself. Either one of us shooting well would have taken the other five or six balls. We ended up chasing the eight ball around the table before I eventually fine-cut it into a side pocket.

But it wasn't satisfactory. I split a fresh pack of cigarettes and wondered where Ron had got to. Then I saw him off around the other side of the bar, talking to some girl

with a tight dress and not a whole lot underneath it. Losing early sure has its compensations.

The Bogart's crowd had been reduced to three or four, though most of the rest of them stuck around for moral support. By the time I'd smoked another cigarette the whole tournament was down to five people. Dale, who hadn't lost a game, was sitting at the bar, waiting to find out which of the four of us he'd meet in the final. Whoever got through that final would have to win two games; Dale would have to win only one.

I was up next against Joe. We know each other pretty well and have played a lot of pool together, neither giving the other an inch. It was me who lost it. I had the 15 ball out in the open and three others out. Even as the 15 was making the subterranean clunk and rattle of a ball rolling around in the depths of the table, the eight ball slid neatly, cleanly, sweetly, sickeningly into the opposite corner pocket.

Goddamn.

I went back to the bar and drained my bottle of beer without tasting it. That big rectangular bar looked as hollow and empty as I felt. Behind me those two damned skeletons were still playing their two damned fiddles, and the jukebox was playing "Stairway to Heaven." Again. I turned around to see Joe breaking off against Helene. That, at least, was a pretty tight game. Helene won it on the eight. I guess Joe had his good luck for the night against me, just as I'd had mine against Bender. Helene played Alan for a place in the final. Alan won.

I guess by now Dale must've thought his ass was glued to that chair. That's the trouble with winning straight through; you get a long wait at the end and kind of go off the boil. Dale lost the first game six balls. Whatever he felt about that pasting it sure as hell woke him up. Ten minutes later he was champion of the Green Parrot: young, slim, dark curly hair, mustache, and \$80 richer. He was smiling, too: the thin smile of someone who got what he wanted but knew he deserved it anyway. It's the kind of smile that stops at the

upper lip and never hits the eyes.

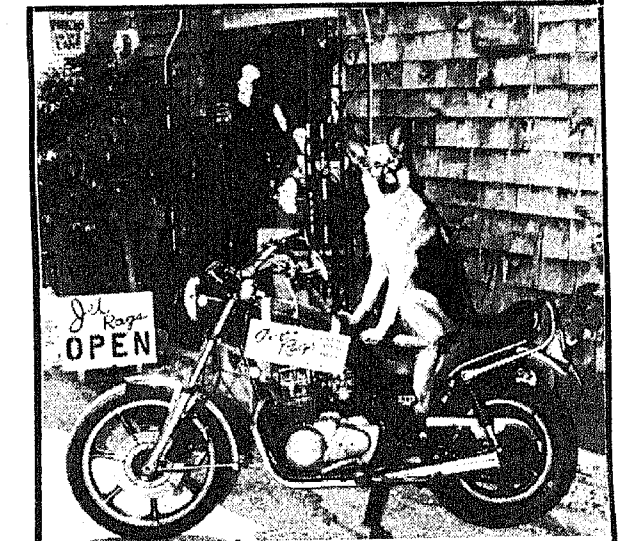
I swiveled my chair around and lit a fresh cigarette. Mike, the bartender, who is also a friend of mine and one of the nicest guys in Key West, came over with a bottle of Rolling Rock.

"On me, Mikey," he said. "Consolation prize. I thought you had it there for a while."

"Me too," I lied.

I'd played lousy. I was lucky to get as far as I did. Outside, through the wide open doorway, the rain had started again, and the cars were making a hot wet *slish* as they glided down Whitehead Street. I picked up my stick and turned to Ron, who had somehow let the girl in the tight dress get away from him and was drowning his sorrows with a Bombay and soda.

"Okay, Ron," I said. "Let's shoot." ☐



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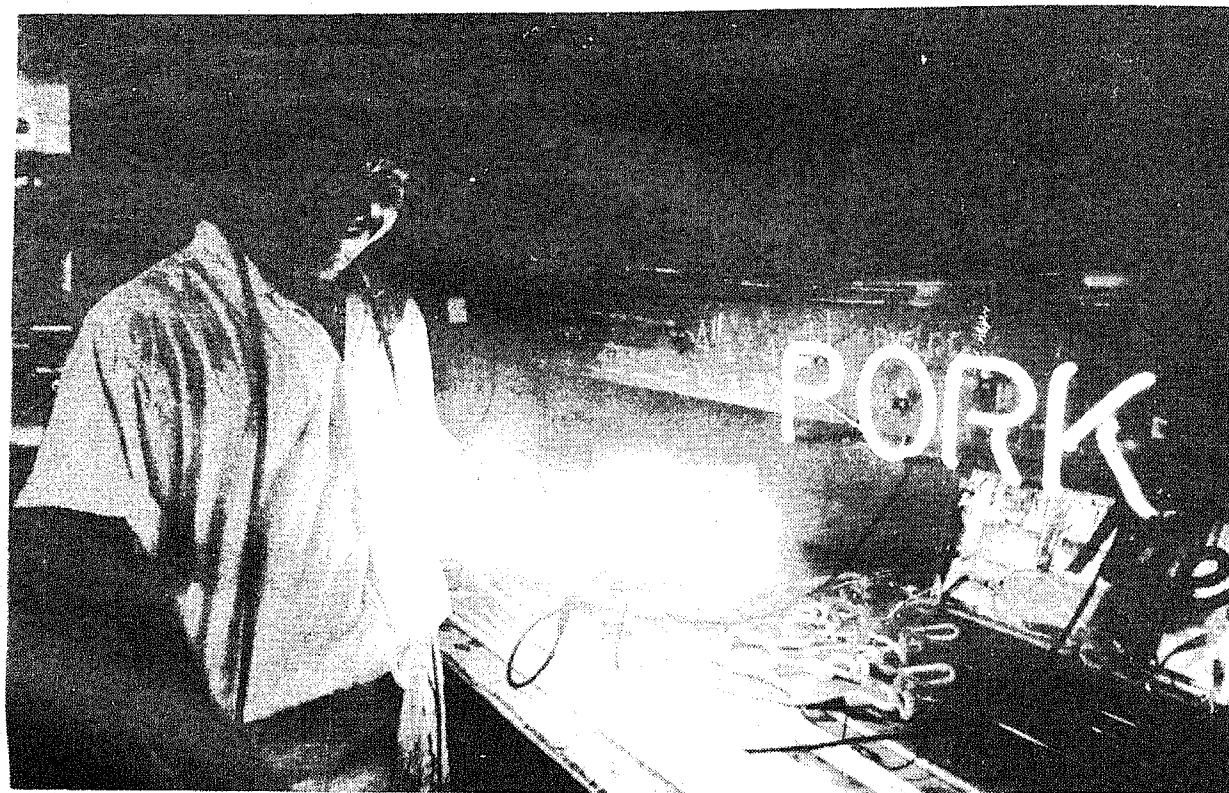
After a drive through Stock Island, I step into DelValle's signs around the corner from the famous and somewhat notorious landmark, the Tom Thumb.

It's quiet. Light streams in with the breezes through doors on three sides of the building. There is no radio. Only the sound of the overhead fans stirring the air into a pleasant nostalgia for simpler times.

Enrique DelValle stands at a huge, spotless drawing board, patiently and effortlessly lettering a lawyer's shingle. He loves to letter. He's been doing it since 1956, when he worked as an apprentice in Neil Sander's Key West sign shop.

Lettering drives many signmakers up the wall. They devise machines and computer programs to do the lettering, which leaves them free for what they refer to as "the more creative" parts of the business.

But for Henry ("they called me "Henry" in Cuba, too, because my mother was



NEON CLASSIC: Carl Reid show off a classic Coca Cola sign fashioned by previous Southernmost Signs owner, Luis Figueroa.

American—a Key Wester") lettering is a form of meditation. He is completely at ease with the forms his hand and eyes have known intimately for decades. He produces them like Gershwin produced melodies.

DelValle is a published illustrator as well. He also paints on canvas in oils—portraits, landscapes and seascapes. He painted the original El Cacique Indian head that was admired on the side of the restaurant in the 200 block of Duval for years. He created the four landscapes featuring tall palms and grand vistas that hung in the restaurant dining area until recently.

His list of customers reads like a history of Key West business in the last half-century: Hawaiian Tropic, Anheuser Busch, Key Lodge Motel, Circus Snack Shak, Logun's Lobster House, Coca Cola, Moore's Paint & Body, Fast Buck Freddy's (the windows), the old Moe's Barber Shop window lettering (in P.T. Barnum outlined typeface), Air Sunshine, Capt. Tony's portrait station wagon, Sturtz

Locks, Blue Angels, Schlitz.

He's painted a good percentage of the trucks, vans, planes and windows in town.

His secret of success is simple: work steady, do a good job. He doesn't do electrical signs or any of the fancy newer plastic forms. He is a sign painter. And although he says he's gearing down after all these years, it took this reporter three days to wedge herself into his schedule. He would not jeopardize a customer deadline.

Southernmost Signs

It could be called Southernmost Neon. Its original owner Luis Figueroa, worked with neon since before neon actually began. His father had a large sign shop in Cuba called Opalina, a term that referred to the pre-neon luminous signs that used backlit pearlized glass. The lettering or design was cut out of an opaque panel fitted in front of the glass.

When neon came along, Figueroa operated sign shops in Key West and Cuba that

specialized in neon. He had the prestigious Coca Cola account, and made many neon forms in that name with the words "5 cents" trailing behind.

Carl Reid came to Key West from the frigid north on his annual Caribbean sailing vacation. He saw Southernmost Signs for sale and bought the business. Now he and a small crew work in the conch-house shop on Eaton Street, producing neon as well as painted and wood-carved, metal-fabricated, plastic and silk-screened signs. (It seems the city's new anti-neon ordinance won't hurt Reid much.)

The shop also puts out computer-generated vinyl graphics. The signmakers do bevel-cut lettering and gold-leaf detailing, and they work as sub-contractors for national companies. Southernmost's sky-hook truck is busy installing their work all over the Lower Keys. Reid studied commercial art in Minneapolis, and worked there and in Wisconsin painting custom cars and vans. He seems right at ease with his new business and takes pride in his work.

He also respects the background of the business he bought nearly four years ago. In fact, he has maintained the shop in much the same way the previous owner did. The walls and floors are covered with splatters and drips that chronicle decades of customer jobs. Sketches from long-ago artists hang in inexpensive frames over ancient drawing tables.

In the large back room, Reid and his assistants cut the sheet aluminum and

plastic and construct the fabricated pieces to be used in pylon signs like the one at the entrance of Overseas Market.

Leaning against the walls are some of the signs Southernmost has made for the film industry: the "aged" Eden House sign that helped the 1960s Key West scene for Goldie Hawn's movie "Criss Cross," and the sign that turned the Harbour House into the Barrelhead Bar for the James Bond movie, "License To Kill."

The neon room has elements dangling like sides of beef in a slaughterhouse. Some are parts of current accounts, other could be from an order placed in Havana in 1950. It's an interesting mix of old and new.

Rockwell Signs

Now here is the signpainter of the future. Walls and furniture are painted white. Spotlessly clean ("It makes it easier," says owner Don Rockwell), this could be the sign shop of the spaceship *Enterprise*. The "executive suite" is air-conditioned and houses the computer lettering, the Xerox copier, the bottled water stand, and, nearby, the Nerf basketball hoop. Oh, and don't forget the design and business offices.

Through the door is the main works of the company—a high-ceilinged room with garage doors that open along one whole side. It is here that Don Rockwell and his four employees create the signs for their customers. They do electrical, plastics, painted pictorials and neon (they farm the neon out).

"Sales and service," explains Rockwell. "We do it all."

His products can be seen all over Old Town: Capt. Hornblower's, some of the Trolly signs, Leto's Interiors, the new Duffy's, several businesses at Duval Square and the sand-blasted sign for Scarebee's in the Old Cuban Club. Rockwell has also done the boats and vans for Crime Buster and Sunset Water Sports, among others. They are particularly proud of the new Carpet and Casuals sign on Northside Drive.

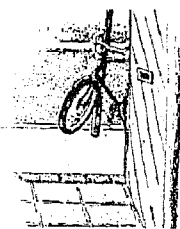
Rockwell was directed into sign work during a high school career-planning class. His counselor sent him to a sign shop when he expressed an interest in art. The old sign painter liked him and offered him a permanent job.

Then it was off to college, studying commercial art, and an apprenticeship in a Seattle sign shop.

Rockwell's been in Key West 11 years. At first he worked alone to leave time for 20 or 30 hours of sailing each week. For the last five years, however, he's been going "full bore."

It's obvious he enjoys the work. Despite of the hassles from increasing regulations and skyrocketing overhead, he likes the sign business because there is "a lot of praise and recognition. You get the pay and pats on the back, too." □

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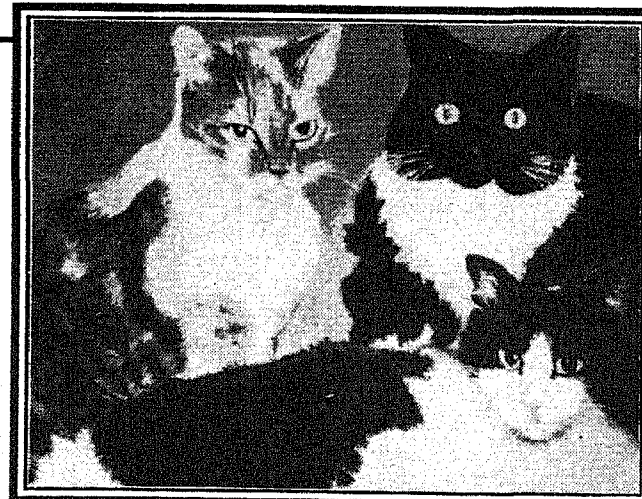
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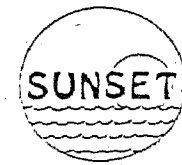
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OCTOBER ART CALENDAR

A.E.S. Gallery • Florida and other artists working in clay, watercolor, constructed paper collage, and mixed media. Janis Rankin, Ann Smith, Julie Barker, Carol Grigg, Beth Arthur, plus posters, cards, gallery watches and other items. Daily, except Sunday, noon to 6 p.m. 1108 Duval in the Cuban Club, 293-3086.

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

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

Audubon House • Historical documents and photographs of the Geiger family and their life in the Audubon house, Oct. 15 through January. Admission \$5, children under six free, AAA discount. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. 205 Whitehead St. 294-2116.

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

Bohem • Hand-painted furniture. Lots of new stuff. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 706A Duval St. 292-4035.

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

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

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

Florida Keys Community College Library Gallery •

"The Influence of Art in Print Advertising," coordinated by Jack Church and Florence Miller. Gala opening Oct. 18, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Show runs through Nov. 14. Open Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Junior College Rd., Stock Island, 296-9081, ext. 202.

Gingerbread Square Gallery • Opening November 1 in our new Uptown Key West location at 1207 Duval. Moving sale Fantasy Fest week at the 901 Duval location. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 901 Duval St. 296-8900.

Grand Collection • Paint-

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

Great Southern Gallery • Harry Greene's parrots, Tricia Hurt's Key West oils, Charles Bradley's cut-paper reef scenes. Antique prints and maps of Key West from 1840 to 1890. Summer hours: Thursday through Monday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 910 Duval St. 294-6660.

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

Haitian Art Company • Spirit flags, papier mache, paintings, wood sculpture, metal cut-outs by Haitian artists. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 600 Frances St. 296-8932.

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

Is It Art? • Hand-painted artwear, prints and wall-hangings. Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., daily, except Wednesdays. Duval St. 294-0411.

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

Island Wellness • Paintings by local and Caribbean artists throughout the summer. Daily, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and by appointment. 530 Simonton St. 296-7353.

Kennedy Gallery • New wood sculptures by Boston artist John Vliet. Animal sculpture by Peter Otfinoski. Etched glass pieces by Susan Pellish. Vibrant oil paintings by Michele Kennedy. Watercolor street-scapes by Robert E. Kennedy. Daily, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., maybe later. 294-5997.

Kennedy Studios • Watercolor street-scapes by Robert Kennedy. Daily, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. 133 Duval St. 294-5850; 511 Duval St. 294-8564.

Key West Art Center • Closed Sept. 25 through Oct. 5. Paintings by art center members. Daily, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 301 Front St. 294-1241.

Key West Lighthouse Museum • History of Keys light-houses and technology of light-houses. Also, life of a light-house keeper. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission \$3 adults, \$1 children 7 to 15, under 7 free. 938 Whitehead St. 294-0012.

Kudu Gallery of Tribal Arts • Oriental rugs, kilims, collectors textiles, international folk

art, ethnic musical instruments, tapestries, toys and African art. Summer hours: Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., except Tuesday and Wednesday or by appointment. 1208 Duval St. 294-3771.

Lane Gallery • Special Fantasy Fest exhibit. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1000 Duval St. 294-0067.

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

Lucky Street Gallery • All's photography (reception Oct. 23 from 7 to 10 p.m.). John Flemming masks. Gallery closed in first part of month, opening again on Oct. 10. Daily except Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 6 p.m. 919 Duval St. 294-3973.

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

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

Pandemonium • Re-opening Sept. 30. Unique art fashions and furniture, tile tables and a new line of ceramic house numbers. Sale items. Daily except Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday noon to 5 p.m. 704 Duval St. 294-0351.

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

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

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

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

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

Whitehead Street Pottery • Stoneware, porcelain, Raku vessels. Daily, except Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1011 Whitehead St. 294-5067.



That fact that Baronessa is a witty old lady who hasn't left her upstairs apartment for three years would give you only the slimmest idea of her. In fact, the great and near-great come to her place, which is located over a Key West boutique in Duval Square. They wipe their feet on the well-worn hall matt, and they ease up the stairs to her incomparable lair. They are seeking her comfortingly magnificent wisdom. Like all counsel, her wisdom exhibits a tiny thread of mischief.

When you get up there, first two sights are stunning—priceless, original paintings hammered onto the ceiling. Georgia O'Keeffe's sensuous, black irises is there as is Marc Chagall's "Fiddler With a Green Face."

A stairway, which shoots up to the roof, is posing as a bookshelf. Books are Baronessa's consolation.

Skinny, her corpulent 40-pound cat, perches between a book by J.P. Donleavy and one by Kingsley Amis. Tiers of Baronessa's religious, philosophical and stylistic readings reach heavenward. Music, soft and swishy, emerges from a silver-lined console.

Baronessa, stationed in a velvet, violet-colored chair, sits with such grace, arranged like nobody else. Outside, slightly south, a pelican lifts itself heavily into the sun off the Casa Marina grounds.

Having attained the late '80s, she looks fierce as a cactus. Pain and splendor are seen in the aquiline nose. These elements are quite eclipsed by the kindness thriving in the bottom soil of her persona.

She has sustained some connection with the Mayflower ship; has four-and-a-half university degrees, though refuses to be called Doctor, for she might have to set an arm. She married a Bulgarian financial magnate and, in time, left him, taking along the nine bottles of wine so aged that he wouldn't allow them to be dusted. He had a rat's nose for money, she says.

She is said to be opulent. A young daughter of a South American ambassador climbs the stairway at 2:30 p.m. Her North American grandfather was a poor fisherman who lived for his beloved fishing in Lake Okeechobee. In hard times, he's on welfare, but bait is so dear. All of his friends thought him very fortunate; he married a woman with worms.

His granddaughter, Young Guest, kisses Baronessa's large, handsome hand, which is lifting a white-and-gold coffee cup to her lips. Baronessa studies her tiny guest consideringly. She has known her all her life.

Young Guest throws herself down like a little bag of corn husks. She is such a swift, darting little person that she must have shot from her mother's womb, snapping out as fast as lightning. Baronessa pats the beautiful chestnut hair hanging like Spanish moss. Oh me, she thinks, it's about the never-satisfactory arrangements

that women make with men.

"I suppose you are seeking a mate?" asks Baronessa. Young Guest now weeps winsomely.

Baronessa: "I tell you right now, coming onto a good husband is usually a matter of serendipity as much as anything else."

Young Guest displays a diamond ring. It looks to Baronessa a small and very young ring.

Young Guest: "My boyfriend is a trombone player who fell in love with me."

Baronessa: "As only a trombone player can."

Young Guest: "I suppose I love him so. But I am a painter. A good painter! When he kept finding a brush in a can of turpentine accidentally in the refrigerator, he hit me. I ran through the streets of downtown, over Petronia, down Simon-ton. He followed me, and now is having the big fruit salad plate at the Queen's Table."

Baronessa reaches for a bit more coffee from the silver pot given to her by a Saudi king.

Baronessa: "The psychologist Jung had this theory. After age 35 or so, a human being needs to remake his or her life, as by then she has become a different person. It means: don't behave like what you have been as a child. Go on discovering what it is you are to become."

"The trombone player apparently believes that women should still have bound feet. You are trying to please him. Old Russian proverb: Turn yourself into honey, the flies will eat you. Word of advice: were a male to get sight of you galloping downtown, nights, he would need to make himself run dry, unsexual items through his mind, like cold boiled okra, toothpicks, the electric chair."

"Now push that button. My house-keeper will give you a coke and hazelnut cookies."

The Banker comes up the stairs at 6 o'clock. He's a nice, medium-sized man of good age. He has a tie pin like a little pine cone. His reading glasses are clouded.

Baronessa characterizes him as cautious as a sparrow's fart. He keeps grabbing her hand. He likes lightly to touch things and persons he trusts. He gets right down to what ails him.

Baronessa now is in a Parisian black cocktail gown with a 20-inch rope of pearls from Princess Grace of Monaco. Rest in Peace.

Baronessa's thought: "Poor darling. I know it's about a woman. And he believes women to be genetic imperfections."

Banker: "She is ready to throw herself off the old Seven-Mile Bridge. I must really be fond of her. I hate to think of salty water seeping into her little ears."

Baronessa: "She wants the flames of a passionate collaboration with you?"

Banker, quivering: "I'm just not up to

this kind of thing! She has social energy. I'm miscast at parties. She counts on a seductive friendship in wedlock. I'm not marriagable."

Baronessa: "Now, look here. Your courageous, aggressive thoughts on a banking board are respected by thousands of investors. I'm having my dinner, and you, with your shrewd mind, must work it out. Old Portuguese proverb: He who has no dog hunts with a cat. Work it out."

Baronessa dissolves a Tylenol tablet in her partridge soup as per medical advise. She puts a bulb of garlic on her bedroom windowsill to appease her Latin Catholicism, and turns in with a good novel by Margaret Drabble. A dim, affectionate sound is two of the apartment mice coupling discreetly under the oak chiffarobe.

Last sleepy thought, page seven—Human love seldom brings human happiness.

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by Jeanne McCLOW



Roasted Chicken

If there is a common thread running through the various cuisines of the world, it would have to be the humble but glorious chicken. Until recently, these entrées-on-the-claw were so common in the backyards of America that when I moved to Key West only five years ago, chickens still ambled about freely. Even my yard harbored a magnificent Titian red for a while—until I brought home a puppy.

My childhood memories of chickens were less fond, though, and they all derive from family visits to my grandmother's farm. Although her land had long been idle, my grandmother still kept a flock of chickens, which resided on tiers of nests in the shed which contained the outhouse.

Rest assured that by the time this knee-high city slicker had made it past the terrible turkeys standing guard at the back door and slipped into the horrible din of the frenzied chickens just on the other side of the thin shed wall, she had usually forgotten the purpose of her trip.

Dinner at grandma's often featured one of those, no doubt, older-than-spring chickens, and I remember only that the meat was hard to cut, stringy and gray. It wasn't until I was making my first foray through southern France that I tasted the "real" thing—fresh-killed, free-range "road hens," which were young enough to be still succulent but old enough to have been permeated with a wonderful meaty flavor.

My Americanized palate was stunned; it was amazing what a little muscle could do. I discovered then how much we on the other side of the Atlantic had sacrificed for the sake of tender meat.

Although most of us no longer have easy access to free-range chickens, one can still get the next best thing—fresh, whole, preservative-free birds. (Padron's gets two shipments a week). And the best way to savor them is simply roasted with some herbs or citrus.

In fact, an aromatic, well-browned bird on a garnished platter cannot be surpassed as the main event of any meal no matter how elegant. Yet, roasted chicken is absurdly easy to make, economical (about 40 percent is edible), and healthful (don't worry about the skin—recent studies show that chicken cooked with the skin has no more fat than those cooked without).

Since "company season" is already upon us, here are a few words about chicken safety along with the no-fuss, no-fail recipes for one of my favorite repasts.

Chicken, like red meats, eggs, dairy products, seafood and even produce, can harbor bacteria and viruses. Since these can cause food poisoning—some 80 million cases a year according to a recent government estimate—it behooves the cook to know how to handle raw chicken safely.

Furthermore, since the USDA admits

that probably at least of a third of the nation's chicken supply is contaminated with viruses (there are no standards for bacterial contamination yet), it also behooves the cook to take these precautions routinely.

Start by shopping for chicken last and immediately dropping the package into a plastic bag to prevent any contaminated juices on the exterior from infecting other foods. As soon as possible (no longer than two hours) refrigerate or freeze the bird, in its package, on a plate. Thaw in the refrigerator, too, on a plate.

Use plastic (not wood) cutting boards, and wash everything that has made contact with the raw chicken with hot, soapy water. If you are marinating, make extra for basting near the end of the cooking or boil the original 5 minutes. Finally, cook the bird (at 180 degrees to 185 degrees F.) until the juices run clear and the thickest part is no longer pink. To be really safe, buy only whole chickens; the parts often come from unhealthy birds.

Now on to dinner, which offers two versions of roast chicken—one with fresh lemon, the other fragrant with garlic and rosemary. Choose one or, if you're feeding more than four, make one of each. Both reflect the simple goodness of Mediterranean cuisine and both are also delicious cold.

For a side dish, make stir-free, creamy Italian risotto with parmesan in your microwave. If you can't find the arborio rice called for (the Waterfront market usually has it), you can use other varieties but the result won't be as creamy. If you don't have a microwave, try one of the new boxed risottos or serve orzo, the rice-shaped pasta, with parmesan.

For a vegetable, I like the bitter tang of fresh-chopped greens—spinach, chard, Romaine, etc.—sautéed in a tablespoon of olive oil in which several cloves of minced garlic were cooked first. For an early-autumn dessert, I would opt for an apple dish—fritters or a tart—or pears poached in spiced red wine.

Roast Chicken with Lemon Serves 3 to 4

I was given this recipe years ago by a cohort at Food & Wine magazine, and I think the result is the ultimate in roasted chicken—a succulent bird lightly brown all over and infused with lemon.

1 3 1/2-pound chicken
2 lemons that will fit inside chicken cavity

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Roll lemons on a hard surface until soft and then prick each about 15 times with a fork. Place in chicken cavity and, to seal in juices, sew or skewer cavity and neck opening; tie legs together to hold bird's shape. Place breast side down on a rack in a roasting pan, add 2 tablespoons water, and cook in the center of the oven 15 minutes. Turn breast side up, baste, and cook 25 minutes. Increase heat to 450 degrees F., baste, and cook 15 minutes more, or until bird tests done. Let stand 10 minutes, carve, and, if desired, pour defatted pan juices over bird.

Roast Chicken with Garlic and Lemon Serves 3 to 4

There are countless Mediterranean recipes for garlic-roasted chicken, but this one was inspired by Marcella Hazan. If you are making both chickens, you will find this one results in a browner, crispier skin and that its heady herbs provide the perfect foil for the lemony tang of the other.

1 3 1/2-pound chicken
4 cloves garlic, peeled
4 tablespoons olive oil
1 tablespoon minced fresh rosemary (1 teaspoon crumbled dry)
Salt and freshly ground pepper (optional)

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. Place garlic in cavity of chicken and close openings; tie legs together. Mix half the oil with the rosemary and optional salt and pepper and rub over the exterior. Place bird in a rack in a roasting pan and add remaining oil. Turning and basting every 15 minutes, roast about 1 1/4 hours, or until chicken tests done and skin is brown and crisp. Let stand 10 minutes, carve, and, if desired, pour pan juices, with or without garlic from cavity mashed in, over.

Classic Risotto with Parmesan, Microwave-Style Serves 4

This recipe was adapted from Microwave Gourmet by Barbara Kafka.

2 tablespoons olive oil
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
1/2 cup minced onion
1 cup arborio rice
3 cups unsalted, homemade or canned chicken broth (available from Healthy Valley at Faustos' and Winn-Dixie)
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
Freshly grated Parmesan

Place butter and oil in shallow, microwave-safe dish, such as a deep pie dish, large enough to hold at least 4 cups, cook 2 minutes uncovered at full power. (Keep dish uncovered and use full power throughout recipe.) Stir in onions and cook 4 minutes. Stir in rice and cook 4 more minutes. Add broth and cook 9 minutes, stir, and cook 9 minutes more. Remove and, stirring occasionally, let stand 5 minutes. Season with optional salt and pepper and serve with Parmesan.

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# RESTAURANT DIRECTORY

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

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

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

**Conch Café**, 1211 Duval Street. Charming sidewalk café serving home-cooked meals. Desserts, beer, wine, sundries, eat in or take out. Open for

breakfast, lunch and dinner from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday brunch, served from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Tuesday through Saturday open 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Closed Monday. 294-7227.

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

**Dillinger's Steakhouse**, North Roosevelt Boulevard in Key Plaza (next to K-Mart). Featuring an impressive selection of steaks varying from filet mignon, chopped sirloin, grilled teriyaki steak to the "Fat Chanley Makley"—a T-bone that just about covers the plate. Also available is fresh seafood, chicken, and, on the lighter side, a mouthwatering choice of sandwiches

and appetizers. Open daily for lunch and dinner, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. At 10:30 p.m. Dillinger's becomes a dance club open until 4 a.m. All major credit cards accepted. 293-0759.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Lighthouse Café**, 917 Duval Street. Specializing in wonderful Southern Italian and seafood dishes, served in a beautiful garden setting or

cozy indoor dining room. Open for dinner 7 to 11 p.m. Reservations suggested. Diner's Club, Visa. 296-7837.

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

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

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

**Rittenhouse Deli**, Duval Square at Simon-ton Street. Serving breakfast, lunch, light entrees and desserts on our lovely deck. Open daily from 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Free parking and delivery. Call 292-8350 or fax your order to 292-8346.

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

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

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

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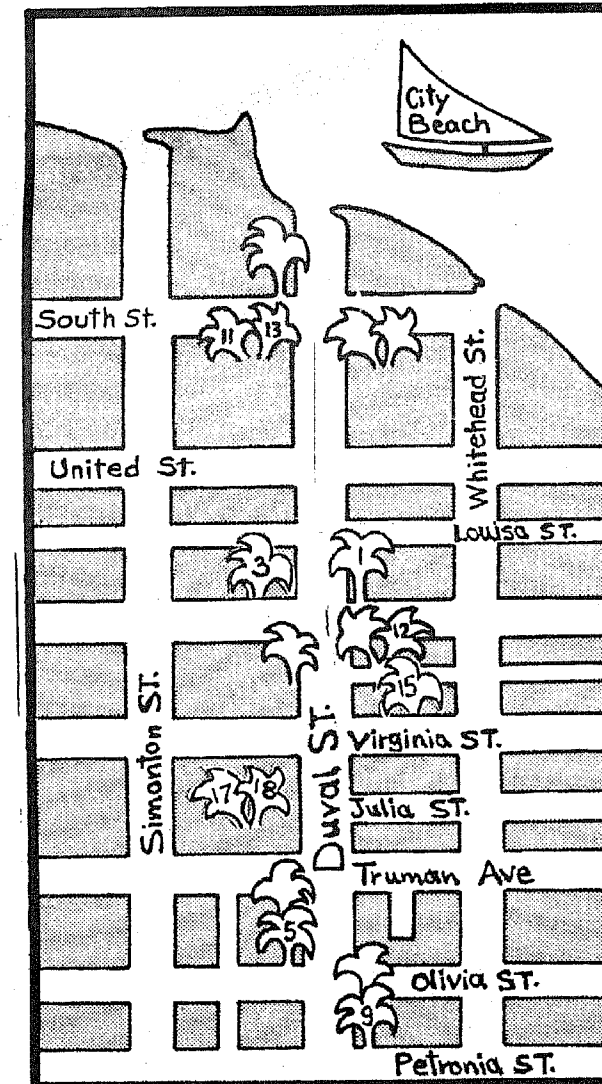
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# OCTOBER CALENDAR

## Events

10/5 • AIDS Help, Inc. "Indian Summer" hosted by Meir Klapper and Michael Romberg 7:30 p.m. at the Coconut Grove Guesthouse. Featuring a mediterranean buffet, open bar, and live entertainment. Proceeds go to benefit AIDS Help. For tickets, call 296-6196.

10/11 • The Order Sons of Italy in America 7th Annual Columbus Day Auction 7 p.m. at the 19th hole of the Key West Resort Golf Club. Tons of items up for auction benefiting many local charity causes including birth defects and Cooley's Anemia. For information, call Carrie Trumbo at 296-0132.

10/13 • The Key West Hotel & Motel Association Hospitality Expo '91 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Marriott Casa Marina. Call 296-4959.

10/13 • The Order Sons of Italy in America 7th Annual Columbus Day Festa 10 a.m. until dusk at Bayview Park. Featuring fun, prizes, entertainment and food all benefiting local charity causes including birth defects and Cooley's Anemia. For information, call Carrie Trumbo at 296-0132.

10/14 • Annual March of Dimes Celebrity Golf Classic at Don Shula's Hotel and Golf Club in Miami. Featuring over 40 NFL alumni and other sports and media personalities. Call (305) 895-3800.

10/18 • 8th Annual Islamorada Budweiser 100 Offshore Race Meet the Racers Party at the Holiday Isle Resort. Call (305) 664-2321.

10/19 • 8th Annual Islamorada Budweiser 100 Offshore Race at Holiday Isle Resorts and Marina. Call (305) 664-2321.

## Meetings

10/2 • Tourist Development Council Meeting 10 a.m. at Hawk's Cay Resort in Marathon.

10/2 • Monroe County Development

Review Committee Meeting 1 p.m. at the Marathon library. Call 292-4422.

10/2-10/4 • 16th Annual Conference on Water Management at the Hyatt Regency in Tampa. Featuring lectures and activities with several distinguished local leaders. Call (904) 385-1790.

10/3 • Tree Commission Meeting 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8252.

10/7 • Pension Board Special Meeting 9 a.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8252.

10/7 • HARC Meeting 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call (305) 872-0177.

10/7 • Key West Women's Aglow Meeting 6:30 p.m. at Gerald Adams Elementary School on Junior College Road in Stock Island. Featuring guest speaker Debra Phillips on the subject of healing. Call (305) 872-0177.

10/8 • City Commission Meeting 3:30 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8252.

10/9 • Board of Adjustment Meeting 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8252.

10/9 • South Florida Water Management District Workshop 9 a.m. in West Palm Beach. Call (407) 686-8800.

10/10 • South Florida Water Management District Meeting 8:30 a.m. in West Palm Beach. Call (407) 686-8800.

10/10 • HARC Meeting 5 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8252.

10/10 • Monroe County Planning Commission Meeting 10 a.m. in the CES boardroom at 1001 James Street. Call 292-4422.

10/14 • Florida Keys Audubon Meeting 5:30 p.m. at the Indigenous Park. Featuring guest speaker Tom Wilmsers from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service presenting slides of the backcountry ecosystem.

10/15 • Civil Service Board Meeting 7:30 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8252.

10/16 • Monroe County Development Review Committee Meeting 1 p.m. at the Marathon Library. Call 292-4422.

10/16 • Pension Board Meeting 9 a.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8252.

10/16 • Contractor's Exam Board Meeting 2 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8252.

10/16 • Citizens Advisory Task Force Meeting 6:30 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8252.

10/16 • Monroe County Special Board Meeting concerning the comprehensive plan. 10 a.m. at the Key Colony Beach City Hall. Call 292-4422.

10/17 • Key West Planning Board Meeting 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Old City Hall. Call 292-8252.

## Well-Being

10/8-11/12 • A Series of Six Childbirth Classes in Key West. \$5 registration fee. Call 296-9081, ext. 282.

## Ongoing

Adult Children of Alcoholics meets Mondays at 7 p.m. and Thursdays 8:30 p.m. at Holy Innocents Church, 901 Flagler Avenue.

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

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

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

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

Blood Pressure Screenings (free) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in the registration area of the emergency room of South Miami Hospital. Call (305) 662-8118.

Breast Cancer Support Group holds meetings at South Miami Hospital the fourth Tuesday of every month from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Call (305) 662-9611.

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

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

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

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

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

Radio debates. Sponsored by The March of Dimes and FKCC. The course is affordable for everyone. Call 296-9081, ext. 282.

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

Community Learning Center at Harris School offers Adult Basic Education, Job Preparation and Placement, English as a Second Language, GED Preparation, Vocational Evaluation and Coun-

seling, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Free to eligible applicants. Call 292-6762.

Community Education Series dealing with the disease of addiction meets every Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon in the Tower Building of South Miami Hospital. Call (305) 662-8118.

Community Guitar Orchestra meets in Key West at the Share School of Music on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. beginning September 11. The Big Pine Group meets at the United Methodist Church on Mondays from 6 to 7 p.m. beginning September 9. All guitar players are invited. Call 294-5299.

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

Early Recovery Group meets Wednesdays from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

Florida Right to Life meets the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Key West Baptist Temple, 5727 Second Avenue, Stock Island. Call Patti Baldwin at 296-7337.

Guardianship of Monroe County helps disabled adults and elderly residents in decision-making. To volunteer or for more information call Elizabeth Covi- no at HRS, 292-6728; Betty Cambell at Florida Keys Memorial Hospital, 294-5531; or Liz Kern at Hospice, 294-8812.

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

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

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

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

Key West Sports Car Club meets at 8 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of every month in the back room of Wag's restaurant on N. Roosevelt Blvd.

Kiss AA (gay preferred) meets Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 8:30 p.m. in the rear of Metropolitan Community Church, 1215 Petronia Street. Call 294-8912.

La Leche League of Big Pine Key. Call 872-2148 for meeting information.

Last Resort Codependents Anonymous Group meets Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in the rear of Metropolitan Community Church, 1215 Petronia Street. Call 294-8912.

The Law and You with Attorney Fred Butner, "Live from Key West." Wednesdays from 8 to 9 a.m. Radio debates. Guests include judges, attorneys, law enforcement officers and lawmakers. Broadcast on AM 1600 WKWF Talk Radio. Number to call in during broadcast: 294-1600.

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

Literacy Volunteers of Monroe County is seeking volunteers to help in working with the media

and in teaching others to read. Call Bill Clift at 294-4352.

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

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

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

Meditation and Relaxation Support Group for Oncology Patients meets the second Tuesday of every month from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the 6th floor family lounge of the South Miami Hospital. Call (305) 669-0400.

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

Monroe County District School Board Meeting is held the second Monday of each month in the board room of the Administration Building, 242 White Street. Call 296-6523.

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

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

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

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

Overeaters Anonymous meets in the chapel at DePoo Hospital Tuesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8 p.m. Use Emergency room entrance. Call Sharon 296-8802 or Patti at 745-2033.

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

Pool and Dart Tournament at Stick & Stein in Key Plaza. Blind Draw Tournament every Saturday at 8 p.m. Eight ball every Thursday at 8 p.m. Nine ball every Sunday at 8 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Small Business Counseling third Friday of each month at Barnett Bank of the Keys, Tavernier. To make an appointment, call 352-2661. Counselors are members of SCORE.

Southernmost Group of Codependents Anonymous meets Thursdays at 6 p.m. in Suite E of Perry's Plaza, 3706 N. Roosevelt Blvd. Call 294-8912.

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

Stress and Anxiety Management Group meets every Tuesday 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

Survivors of Incest Anonymous meets every Wednesday from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the rear of the Mental Health Center. For details call 296-4357.

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

T'ai Chi Chu'an Exercise Class, instructed by Will Jones, is a "soft" form of physical conditioning. Classes are at 10 a.m. Tuesday and Thursdays at Island Wellness.

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

Transportation Program, available to those over 60 years old, weekdays 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. In Key West call 294-8468; Middle Keys call 743-9089; Upper Keys call 852-3204.

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

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

Women's Issues Group meets Thursdays from noon to 1 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

## Entertainment

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Green Parrot • 601 Whitehead. Call 296-6133.

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

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

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

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

Islander Restaurant • 528 Front Street. Call 292-7659.

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

Martha's • S. Roosevelt Blvd (A1A). Call 294-3466.

Memory Lane • The Econolodge 2820 N. Roosevelt Boulevard. Call 294-5511.

Nick's Coastal Café • Hyatt Key West 601 Front Street. Rick Steffen acoustic guitar and island music. Tues. to Sat. 7 to 11 p.m.

Nightfall • The Reach at Simonton and the Beach. Call 296-5000.

Pirate's Den • 300 Front Street. Adult entertainment nightly, 8 p.m. to 4 a.m.

Peek A Boo Lounge • 300 Southard Street. Live adult entertainment nightly, 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. Call 294-0959.

Poinciana Lounge • 3432 Duck Avenue. Call 294-6800.

The Quay • 12 Duval Street. Call 294-4446.

Ramada Inn Top O'Spray • 3420 N. Roosevelt Boulevard. Call 294-5541.

Red's • Caroline Street off Duval. The Jokers play blues, Tues. Wed. Thurs., 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Call 296-9911.

Rooftop Café • 310 Front Street. Call 294-2042.

Schooner Wharf • 202 William Street. Call 292-9530.

Sloppy Joe's • Corner of Duval and Greene Streets. Entertainment beginning daily at 2 p.m. Call 294-5717.

Square One Restaurant • Duval Square. Call 296-4300.

Stephen's Bayside Café • 1970 N. Roosevelt Blvd. Call 294-5066.

Sun Sun Pavilion at The Casa Marina • 1500 Reynolds Street. Call 296-3535.


The Top at La Concha • 430 Duval Street. Call 296-2991.

Turtle Kraals at Lands End Marina • 1 Lands End Village. Call 294-2640.

Two Friends Patio Restaurant • 512 Front Street. Call 296-9212.

Viva Zapata • 903 Duval Street. Matthew Jam-pol, classical guitarist, every Friday and Saturday night, poolside. Call 296-3138.

The Wine Galley • The Pier House at 1 Duval Street. Call 296-4600.




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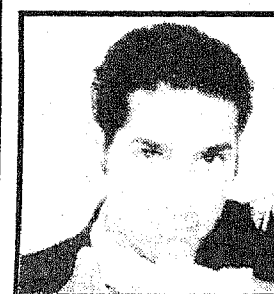
## 294-2640



## LANDS END VILLAGE

"On the Gulf at the foot of Margaret Street"

## Vidal - King For Fantasy Fest



Help vote in Vidal for King of the Jungle for the Fantasy Fest Parade & Junglemania 1991!

This isn't on looks, poise, personality or talent...obviously, or Vidal would have won before!

This is a fundraiser to benefit  
**AIDS Help Inc.**

This is how you help me to win:

1. Every \$10 donated counts as one vote.
2. You can be as generous as you want, but remember - all amounts count and are appreciated.
3. Make checks payable to AIDS Help Inc. &
4. Mail to Vidal, 1523 Von Phister St., Key West Fl 33040
5. Deadline Oct. 16, 1991 (so checks can be post-dated).

Don't pass up this regal opportunity to return Vidal to his majestic throne as King of the Jungle... Besides, who else do you know with a wardrobe fit for a King?

Your Conch King - *Christopher G. Vidal*

P.S. Thanks in advance - Don't delay. Send your donations today. For \$50 or more you receive an 8X10 glossy of Vidal with his royal jewels!

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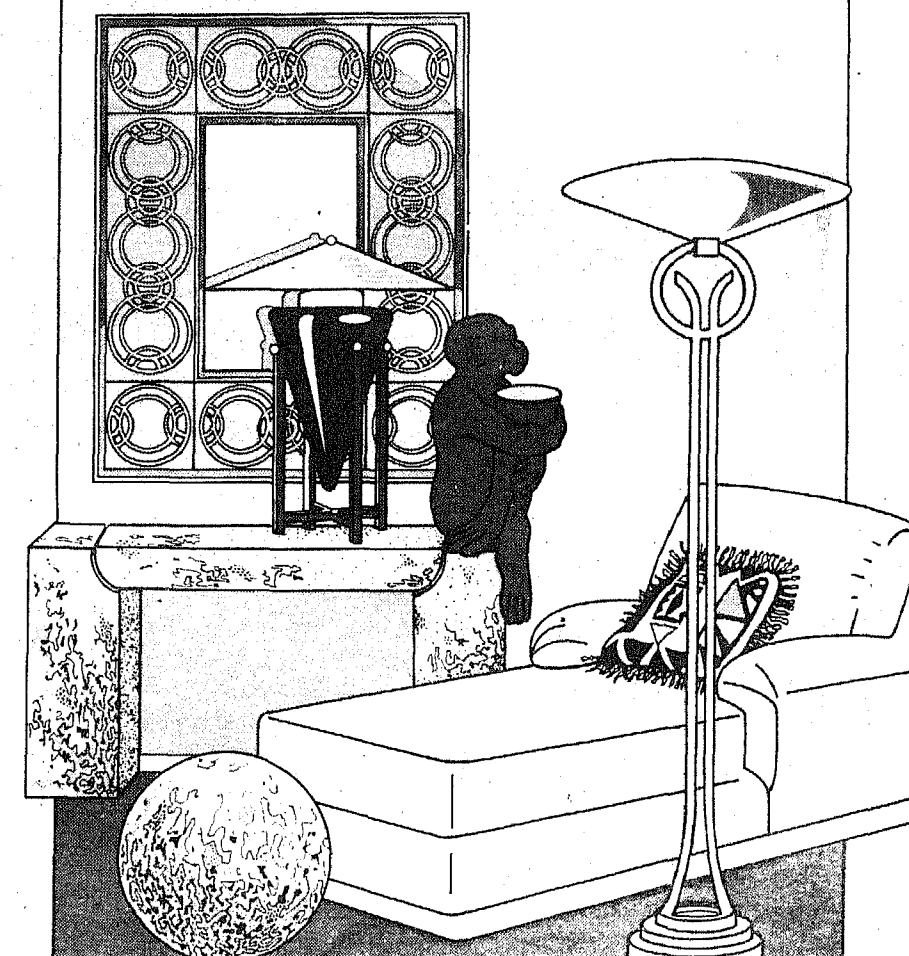
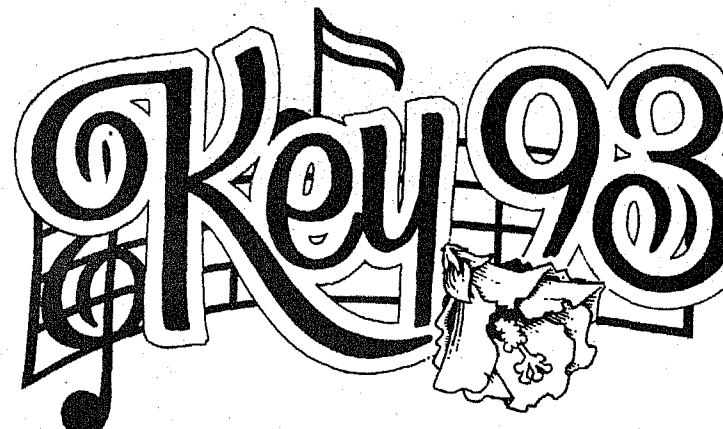
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October 18th-20th  
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Join us for the weekend of October 18th. - 20th.  
and make some \$\$\$\$ at the same time!  
Vendors are needed for the  
**GOOMBAY FESTIVAL STREETFAIR**  
to sell food, arts or crafts, taking place from Duval to  
Emma Streets on October 19th. and 20th.  
from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m.  
Your investment is just \$150.00  
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For applications and information,  
call Blue Heaven Caribbean Bistro  
at 296-8666, Tracey at 294-3824,  
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